

MOAB SUN NEWS

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EMS

Grand County EMS grows into new building

By ALISON HARFORD

Moab Sun News

Andy Smith, director of Grand County's Emergency Medical Services department, recently recalled a conversation he had with a long-term Moab resident: the resident had been a boy scout in the 1950s, he said, which at the time meant that he and his scout group were responsible for rescuing people in the back-country. 20 years later, in 1973, Grand County EMS was started by a group of friends who wanted to "provide better prehospital care" to locals and visitors who need rescue.

In the past decade, since Smith started in 2012, EMS calls rose 76%—in 2021, the department received 1,675 calls. The increase in calls meant the department needed to hire more people, but the department found itself suffering a common issue in Moab: a lack of available housing for its workforce.

"I think we're just trying to keep up at this point," Smith said.

Smith hopes the department's new building on the top of 100 North will alleviate those challenges.

Grand County EMS employs 15 full-time and 35 part-time employees. Almost 30% of those employees travel in from places other than Moab, Smith said, from as far as Salt Lake City and Flagstaff, Arizona. In the past, on-duty employees slept in the Melich House, a small building constructed in 1905 with two bedrooms that could house four people. Some of the responders would sleep in tents in the front yard.

"When I started in 2012, it was very clear that the staff needed something new," Smith said.

Department leaders began thinking about a new station in 2005, but true momentum for the new building came in 2018. Where the new building now sits, there used to be office space for Sand Flats Recreation Area and Grand County Trails. EMS had been using the space for training, and was eyeing it as a potential new headquarters. The county offered the department the land for free, Smith said.

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"Every year it gets worse."

HANK POSTMA



[Photo illustration by Alison Harford]

SCHOOLS

Nationwide teacher shortage evident in Grand County

By RACHEL FIXSEN

Moab Sun News

On May 31, the Grand County School District had 30 positions open; 13 of those openings were for teachers, including special education teachers and teacher assistants. Grand Preschool has six total positions; four of them are currently vacant.

"We really weren't struggling to the extent we are now until COVID hit," said Sherrie Buckingham, director of Grand Preschool. Over the last couple of years, she said, recruiting teachers to fill vacancies has been a challenge. She thinks the pandemic may have created some culture shifts; she's also sure that the housing crisis is contributing.

"The housing situation is critical for people who fall into the income brackets that the district can afford to pay," Buckingham said.

It's not just Grand County that's dealing with teacher vacancies: the entire country is facing a teacher shortage. A widely-cited 2019 prediction from the Economic Policy Institute suggests the country may be 200,000 teachers short in 2025. (For reference, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, there were 3.2 million teachers in public

schools in the 2019-2020 school year.)

In 2021, a performance audit of teacher retention in Utah's public education system, submitted to the state legislature by the Legislative Auditor General's office, listed four key findings: While overall teacher turnover in Utah is among the lowest in the country, new teacher turnover in Utah is higher than in most other states; teacher shortages are more frequent in rural districts; the Utah State Board of Education hasn't done enough research on the issue; and teacher salaries are a priority for state and local leaders.

Housing crisis, pay and other factors

Buckingham worked with the district's business administrator and superintendent to increase compensation for positions working with children with complex developmental needs—a challenging job, Buckingham said. "From my perspective, we've worked very hard" to make the positions more appealing this year, she said. However, the effort hasn't increased the pool of applicants.

Grand Preschool was originally established to exclusively serve

See Schools Page 6

SCIENCE

Criollo cattle could save ranching

Research started in 2018 continues today

By ALISON HARFORD

Moab Sun News

The Raramuri Criollo cattle are easy to identify, once spotted in the pastures at the Canyonlands Research Center: they're smaller than the typical Red Angus cattle, and have tall, curved horns. They're descendants of the cattle that were introduced to the Americas by Cristopher Columbus, that originated in the arid climate of southern Spain. These are the cattle that researchers at CRC hope can save the future of ranching in the desert.

"I would guess that it'll be a necessity to run smaller animals that are more resilient to the changing conditions we're already experiencing."

MATT REDD

Since gaining the national spotlight in 2018—Matt Redd, manager of Dugout Ranch, where CRC is based, was on the cover of National Geographic's November issue that year—the Criollo research at CRC has gained momentum. The research project ties together research on climate change, rangeland ecology and grazing, movement ecology, livestock nutrition, beef production, and soils.

The first project, established by Redd, Mike Duniway, and Andreas Ciblis, is in collaboration with researchers from New Mexico State University and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Jornada Experimental Range. The goal of the research is to determine whether "Criollo rangeland use and behavior will lead to more sustainable ranching in Canyon Country rangelands, as compared to more traditional cattle breeds," according to the project summary; basically, whether or not having a Criollo herd on desert landscapes is more sustainable than an Angus herd.

Research gathered from that initial project allowed researchers to apply for grants to create

See Cattle Page 4



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We love community submissions!
Email your photo or letter to the
editor to moabsunnewseditor@
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considered for publication.



Governor's Spirit of Service Award

On May 27, Rhiana Medina and the Moab Valley Multicultural Center staff were awarded a Governor's Spirit of Service Award, given to four individuals and four organizations to recognize their "dedication to serving the people of Utah." Gov. Spencer Cox visited the center to deliver the award and chatted with Medina about the services MVMC provides. "What makes this place so special is the spirit of volunteerism and giving back," Cox said. "You are changing lives, and you are saving lives."

[Alison Harford/Moab Sun News]



**Moab – Tomorrow
Together**
a community visioning project
Visioning Workshops

June 6 - June 9
(1-hour workshops)

**Community Vision Workshops will be organized
by interest sectors:**

- Arts • Recreation • Seniors • Young Professionals
- Business Owners • Spanish-Speaking residents
- All Moab Residents

Workshop Goals

- Examine preferred and expected futures generated in the Think Tank.
- Build a deeper understanding of the potential future of Moab.
- Examine what currently works and what doesn't in the community
- Complete a Vision Survey in each session.

Please participate. Your voice is important!

Workshop schedule and registration:
bit.ly/MoabTomorrowTogether

*(The Community survey results and Tomorrow Together
Think Tank Report are also available at this link)*



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Odd But True

MAN THROWS CAKE AT MONA LISA

A little old lady visiting the Louvre suddenly stood up and tossed a piece of cake at the Mona Lisa, shouting at the crowd that they should think of the planet Earth. The bizarre scene ended with Paris police detaining a 36-year-old man, disguised as the little old lady, to be sent to a police psychiatric unit. An investigation has been opened into the damage of cultural artifacts, The Associated Press reported. Glass surrounds the famous work by Leonardo da Vinci, which wasn't damaged.

FIRE WORKERS RESCUE "CINDER" THE ELK CALF

Firefighters rescued an abandoned newborn elk calf found in a fire-ravaged forest in New Mexico surviving the nation's largest wildfire. Missoula, Montana-based firefighter Nate Sink found the exhausted calf on the ground. "The whole area is just surrounded in a thick layer of ash and burned trees. I didn't think it was alive," said Sink. The calf still had its umbilical cord attached, but no mother in sight. The 32-pound bull calf, dubbed "Cinder," was taken for care to a nearby ranch and is now regaining strength at a wildlife rehabilitation center in Espanola, north of Santa Fe.

CALIFORNIA MAN, 78, GETS HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA 6 DECADES LATER

For 60 years, Ted Sams regretted missing his high school graduation. Now 78, Sams can finally call himself a graduate after donning a cap and gown and receiving his diploma with the class of 2022 at Southern California's San Gabriel High School. Back in 1962 when he was a high school senior, Sams got in trouble and was suspended five days before the end of the school year. He said he missed a crucial final exam and had to make it up over the summer. "When I went back with my grade, they wouldn't give me my diploma because I owed \$4.80 for a book," Sams told KABC-TV. "And so I just walked away and said forget it." The school still had Sams' original diploma locked away in an old filing cabinet.

Best quote

"The exhibit is all about inscriptions, but it's also highlighting the experience of these two best friends traipsing all around on these same paths that we do, to find all of this stuff."

MARY LANGWORTHY, PAGE 19

News



Moab Community Cycles

Moab Community Cycles is an organization that fixes, sells, and donates bikes at affordable prices—bike opportunities are announced on the Instagram page, @moabcommunitycycles. Pictured, a "tuneup night" on May 19. [Courtesy photo]

ENVIRONMENT

Campfire ban put in place amid drought

Serious fire restrictions took effect June 2

STAFF REPORT

On June 2, fire restrictions were put in place for much of public land in southeastern Utah, due to hazardous fire conditions due to prolonged drought and extremely dry vegetation.

A total campfire ban, including in developed campgrounds, will be in place on Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, State of Utah and unincorporated private lands in the Grand and San Juan county areas. The U.S. Drought Monitor currently lists almost all of San Juan County as in extreme drought. Most of Grand County remains in severe drought status. The U.S. Forest Service's restrictions carry into Colorado's Mesa and Montrose counties, too.

The restrictions will also include bans on smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, developed recreation site or roads that are away from any vegetation. Metal cutting and welding are also banned from vegetation areas.

While all campfires are banned, campers can still use propane gas-fueled devices with a shut-off valve in areas at least 3 feet away from vegetation.

Maps and specific information about the restrictions can be found at utahfireinfo.gov/fire-restrictions.

EVENT

City invites public to create City vision

Registration required for workshops held June 6-9

STAFF REPORT

Nine workshops, each aimed at a specific segment of Moab's community, will be held from Monday, June 6 through Thursday, June 9, asking Moab residents and community members to share their vision for the future of the arts, local business, recreation and more. Two community-wide workshops will also be held.

These hour-long workshops will include an examination of the results from the Moab—Tomorrow Together visioning project to date. In March, almost 800 residents completed a community vision survey about residents' hopes and concerns for development and changes to Moab and Grand

County. In April, more than 60 residents spent two evenings participating in the Community Think Tank process to rough out some potential futures.

"The community vision workshops aim to build a deeper understanding of the potential future of Moab and will culminate with the Vision Survey at the end of each session," City of Moab officials said in a press release, identifying these events as the third phase of the city's strategic action plan.

"This project will help City government better understand and serve the needs of our residents and businesses," said Moab City Manager Carly Castle. "We hope more members of our diverse community will actively participate in the next

phases of the process."

To see survey results or register for a workshop, go online to bit.ly/MoabTomorrowTogether.

Seniors: Monday, June 6 from 1 to 2 p.m.

Moab Residents/Community: Monday, June 6 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Arts Community: Monday, June 6 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Young Professionals: Tuesday, June 7 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Recreation Community: Tuesday, June 7 from 7:30 to 8 p.m.

Spanish Speaking Community: Wednesday, June 8 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Moab Residents/Community: Wednesday, June 8 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Business Community: Thursday, June 9 from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Local

BEACON AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM EXPANDS

Starting with the 2022-2023 school year, the BEACON Afterschool program will expand program offerings in order to fulfill the needs of more families. Starting in August 2022, BEACON Afterschool will synchronize the start of afterschool programming and the academic school year. BEACON will start on August 22 at Helen M. Knight Elementary School and at Margaret L. Hopkin Middle School and conclude two weeks before the end of the school year. Kindergarten programming will start on August 29. This will create an additional three weeks of afterschool programming available for students in first to eighth grade and two additional weeks for kindergarten students. "This offering of additional weeks of programming will make it so families will not need to obtain additional childcare services at the beginning of the school year," program administrators pointed out in a press release.

Regional

NAVAJO SIGN WATER RIGHTS SETTLEMENT WITH UTAH AND FEDS

A long-awaited agreement between federal officials and leaders of the Navajo Nation was signed this week, providing funding for clean drinking water infrastructure for reservation residents and clarifying Navajo water rights claims, as reported by The Associated Press. The Utah Navajo Water Rights Settlement, which became law in 2020, committed the federal government to pay the Navajo Nation \$210 million for drinking water infrastructure in San Juan County. The state of Utah will pay the Navajo \$8 million as part of the settlement. The agreement also recognizes the Navajo Nation's right to a portion of Utah's water rights.

LAWSUIT FILED AGAINST UTAH'S BAN ON TRANSGENDER ATHLETES

This week two Utah families filed a legal challenge against House Bill 11, which passed the Utah State Legislature during the 2022 session despite Governor Spencer Cox's veto. The law prohibits transgender girls from competing in school sports. The two anonymous families include a 16-year-old high school volleyball player and a 13-year-old swimmer. The suit, in which the families are represented by the ACLU of Utah, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and the firm Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, alleges that HB 11 violates multiple provisions of the Utah Constitution by singling out transgender girls for disfavored treatment.

Correction

In last week's Moab History column, a photo from the Moab filming of John Ford's "Rio Grande" (1950) was misidentified as being from Howard Hawks's "Rio Bravo" (1959). We regret the error.

Cattle

Continued from Page 1

an even bigger project, now led by Kari Veblen, a researcher based at Utah State University. Veblen and her team are researching whether Criollo cattle are better able to adapt to climate change, and within that, if Criollos could have a lesser impact, or maybe even a beneficial one, on desert landscapes being affected by climate change. The project is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Agroecosystem Management program.

In February, The Guardian found that “more than a third of the American population is currently experiencing rapid, above-average rates of temperature increase.” The 10 counties in the country with the largest pre-industrial temperature increases (from 1895 to 2021), were in California, Colorado, Minnesota, Michigan, and Utah: Grand County had the second-largest temperature increase (2.57°C, or just over 36°F) in the country. A study published in the science journal Nature this year found that the American West is experiencing its worst drought in over 1200 years.

As temperatures rise and the drought continues, the grasses that traditional cattle eat are predicted to become more scarce. If there is a cattle breed that can survive climate change, give back to the land instead of destroy it, and still produce enough beef to be economically feasible, the future of cattle production in the desert lies within it. Criollos might be the answer.

Why Criollos?

The Raramuri Criollo breed is one of 33 known heritage Criollo cattle that exist throughout the Americas today, according to the CRC. The breed comes from the Tarahumara communities in Copper Canyon, Mexico, who have been raising the cattle for close to four centuries—in 2005, a few of these Criollos were brought to the USDA Jornada Experimental Range in New Mexico.

In 2018, CRC introduced 10 Raramuri Criollo cattle from the New Mexico herd into its own herd. Research on these cattle is taking place at five ranches in the U.S.: Dugout Ranch, Corte Madera Ranch in southern California, Evergreen Ranching and Livestock in South Dakota, and the Jornada Experimental Range and Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center in New Mexico. There are also collaborative sites in Mexico, Argentina, and Uruguay.

The initial research conducted in New Mexico found a few promising characteristics about the Criollos: they’re extremely hardy. There, Criollos spent more time traveling than Angus cattle, meaning they can travel further from water. They also ate a more varied diet and were less prone to heat stress.

At CRC, researchers are studying the cattle by tracking their movements and grazing patterns with GPS collars and through visual observations on horseback. In 2018, the 10 Cri-

ollos and 10 Angus cattle were collared, though since then, one of each breed died.

So far, the traits observed in the Criollos in New Mexico “have held true,” Redd said. He’s seen another beneficial characteristic from his herd: they’re eating the brushy species that have popped up on the landscape as other grasses died out.

The ability of the Criollos to travel and to eat a varied diet is what Veblen is most interested in with her research. Typically, Angus cattle are transferred to grain feedlots to finish gaining weight. From a sustainability standpoint, ideally, cattle could be on rangelands their whole lives.

“The idea is that if Criollo are going father and having broader diets, that’s effectively more forage that would be available to livestock operators in difficult shoulder seasons,” she said. “That would be great for ranchers, or for anybody who has cattle.”

Data collection using the collars has hit a few snags, according to Duniway, a researcher with the USGS who started working with the cattle initially. The biggest issue is the collars’ battery life. GPS doesn’t work easily, if at all, when the cattle wander into a canyon. The Criollos are more “mountain climber cows” than the Angus, Duniway said—as they’re learning about the landscape, they’re wandering to places the Angus don’t. The more the collar tries to get a location, and can’t, the quicker the battery dies.

Despite challenges, Duniway is confident that with Veblen’s project up and running, the CRC will have a much better idea of the impact of Criollo versus Angus cattle in the next three years, he said.

The future

The problem with introducing Criollos on a larger scale is their marketability. A fully-grown Angus cattle is 1,200 pounds, Duniway said—a fully grown Criollo is only 900, meaning it’s sometimes too small to even consider being sold at a stockyard.

“The Criollo may have a lighter footprint in the desert,” Duniway said, “but if they’re not gaining the weight—if the economic pieces aren’t put together—they won’t get adopted.”

The researchers have been studying a hybrid breed as a potential solution, Redd said: cattle that are half Criollo, half Angus.

“You’re getting the benefit of the Criollo on the landscape, but then you also have a calf or a product that you can market,” Redd said. The hybrid calves take cues from their Criollo mothers: they learn to cover a wider landscape and eat less grass, while also putting on weight similar to their Angus fathers.

Redd said he thinks Criollo cattle—or at least, incorporating heritage breeds into cattle herds—will be the future of cattle ranching in arid landscapes like the Colorado Plateau.

“I would guess that it’ll be a necessity,” he said, “to run smaller animals that are more resilient to the changing conditions we’re already experiencing.”



A Criollo cow at the Canyonlands Research Center. [Courtesy of Mike Duniway]



The Criollo cattle were fitted with GPS collars to track their movements. [Courtesy of Will Munger and Mike Duniway]



Andy Smith has been the department’s director since 2012. [Alison Harford/Moab Sun News]



The new building is 12,500 square feet, with two floors. [Alison Harford/Moab Sun News]

EMS

Continued from Page 1

“It got to the point where the best option, and the best solution, was to tear down [the old building] and start over,” he said.

During an open house on May 19, EMS staff showed visitors around the 12,500 square foot building, which has two floors and an equipment bay to house the department’s ambulances. On the first floor are six admin offices and a training room, with space for staff to practice CPR and ventilation on a state-of-the-art CPR dummy—the dummy has yet to be named, but can

emit realistic screams and grunts while it’s being worked on.

On the second floor is where responders will stay. There’s a kitchen, complete with three refrigerators and pantries for each staff rotation, and an espresso machine; a lounge area with comfy chairs and a TV; an outdoor patio with a view of the Moab valley walls to the west; and best of all, eight bedrooms, each with a window, bed, closet, and desk. Full-time EMTs work 48-hour shifts, during which they live at the EMS station.

“The department’s pretty tight-knit,” Smith said. “It’s a pretty close group of people that really get along—and that’s what we want to keep, we want

to keep a nice culture in the organization, because growth can sometimes ruin that.”

Looking forward, Smith is keeping an eye on the I-70 corridor, which he’s noticed has gotten busier. The EMS department responds to everything within the 3,600 square miles of Grand County, plus some of San Juan County—but the farther a call is, the longer it takes to get there.

“We would really like a second station,” he said.

But until that happens, Smith is just glad EMS can be in Moab.

“We’re happy to be here serving the community,” Smith said. “And we’re interested in having a bigger reach.”

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RACHEL MOODY TEAM

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Schools

Continued from Page 1

children with delayed development. It later expanded to serve both developmentally delayed and typically developing children. It's enrolled as many as 60 students in the past, but because of low staffing and child-teacher ratios required by federal law—no more than ten students per adult—the school has had to cut its enrollment in half. This past year the preschool served 30 kids. It's a lost opportunity for developmentally delayed children, Buckingham said, who benefit from interaction with neurotypical peers.

Grand County School District Superintendent Taryn Kay acknowledged that staffing is an ongoing issue in the Grand County School District, and she traces the problem back to the housing crisis. Even for middle-income earners, finding housing in the Moab area is extremely difficult, especially for prospective employees considering moving to the area from elsewhere. When the district interviews applicants, they ask about the person's plan for housing.

"Some people would love to accept, but they can't afford to live here, or can't find a place," Kay said. The district is currently establishing a committee to assess all its facilities, and Kay expects that housing will be a discussion topic in that evaluation.

Hank Postma agreed that school staffing is a challenge, and said it has been for 20 years. He's the president of the Grand Education Association, the local chapter of the Utah Education Association, which he said has a good relationship with the Grand County School District. He also teaches the CAD design program at the high school. At the state level, UEA advocates for more funding for education and supporting teachers' salaries. In 2020, the UEA in Grand County supported teachers who showed up in force to a school board meeting to protest a proposed

teacher salary freeze, and were ultimately successful in securing promised salary raises. [See "Teachers rally for promised raise," Aug. 27, 2020 edition.-ed.]

"Every year it gets worse," Postma said of the staffing problem. He attributed the trend to a variety of factors, from the 2002 No Child Left Behind Act, which he said took trust away from teachers and imposed a philosophy of constant testing (the act was repealed in 2015), to the 2008 recession.

Auditors reviewing teacher retention in Utah surveyed 212 teachers around the state and found that even more than salaries, teachers were worried about job stress, workload and administrative support.

"There's one obvious solution," Postma said. "They always say, 'you want more applications and better applicants, pay more.' That's the closest there is to a panacea." While the district has some discretion over teacher salaries, he noted, they are limited by the resources they're allocated from the state.

Postma explained that each school district has a very prescriptive salary schedule that determines pay based on a teacher's education and experience. Grand County School District's schedule can be found on its website; for certified staff, salaries range from \$39,839 for "level 0" to \$82,695 for "level 43." Teachers may have a professional license, which requires a college level program in education and demonstration of knowledge in the teacher's field. Teachers can also work using an associate license, which requires a bachelor's degree, demonstration of knowledge competency, and the completion of "pedagogical mod-



Grand County Preschool. [Alison Harford/Moab Sun News]

ules" produced by the Utah State Board of Education. Teachers may also use a Local Education Agency specific license—a kind of "emergency" measure to allow someone to teach while that person pursues a more standard teaching license.

The auditor's report also said that along with having more vacancies and higher turnover, rural Utah school districts also have a higher proportion of non-professionally licensed teachers.

Administrative support

Auditors reviewing teacher retention in Utah surveyed 212 teachers around the state and found that even more than salaries, teachers were worried about job stress, workload and administrative support.

"For example, teachers cited large class sizes and heavy workloads as leading concerns," the report reads.

Two math teachers who have recently left Grand County High School say their primary com-

plaint isn't pay or housing—it's the work environment and administrative support at the school.

Both Anna Sprout and Teddy Anderson are relatively new to teaching: Sprout started her first teaching position at Grand County High School in 2019, and Anderson started in 2020. Sprout resigned on March 4 of this spring; on April 20, she spoke during the citizen comments section at a school board meeting to explain why she left. She said the school's principal, Dr. Mary Marable, had bullied and intimidated her, and that she felt unsupported by the administration. She emphasized that she loved teaching and she loved the students.

"I can best describe the type of bullying I experienced by the principal as relational aggression, which includes but is not limited to covert manipulation, psychological torture, and attempted coercion," Sprout told the school board.

In a later interview with the Moab Sun News, Sprout elaborated on her allegations, say-

ing she felt she was repeatedly harshly reprimanded for what she considered to be trivial matters or non-issues. She sought support from the local UEA, in line with district policy, and also from the district superintendent. While she said she got some measure of support from those parties, she still felt vulnerable at work.

Grand County School District Superintendent Taryn Kay said she could not comment on the issue in detail, as it's a personnel matter, but she did say the allegations of bullying were investigated.

"We thoroughly investigate every single allegation of bullying or harassment, and then take action if and when investigation reveals that bullying or harassment has occurred," Kay said. She noted that Sprout's comment represents just one perspective; district staff are unable to respond in detail because of policy surrounding personnel issues.

Marable will not be returning to the school district next year, but Kay said her departure is

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Grand County Middle School. [Alison Harford/Moab Sun News]

her own choice and is unrelated to the allegations. The district recently hired a new high school principal. Marable also declined to comment on the allegations of bullying but said she has enjoyed her time with the Grand County School District.

“There’s good people here—good kids, good families,” Marable said.

Sprout was also chagrined that a substantial cut to her salary—a revision based on a state-level auditing of teacher licenses—was communicated to her through email with no warning or discussion.

Anderson, who taught Junior math and is leaving the Grand County School District to teach in the Salt Lake City area next year, said she felt similarly picked on at the school, especially during her first year of teaching. She said administrators could be inflexible or unresponsive when she asked for help.

“I was always in trouble. I was always getting called in to the principal’s office,” Anderson said.

She added that when she started as a new teacher, she was surprised there were no existing curriculum materials. As she created her own from scratch, she said she often worked until 8 p.m. and was putting in 60 hours a week.

“Nobody cared, nobody helped or did anything to support me,” she said.

Both Sprout and Anderson have stable housing situations.

Other district staff members have reported positive experiences with the school district at public meetings: middle school guidance counselor Marva Lewis, who is leaving the district, told the school board at a May 18 work session,

“I’ve been treated very well by this district—I’ve been given lots of opportunities, so thank you.”

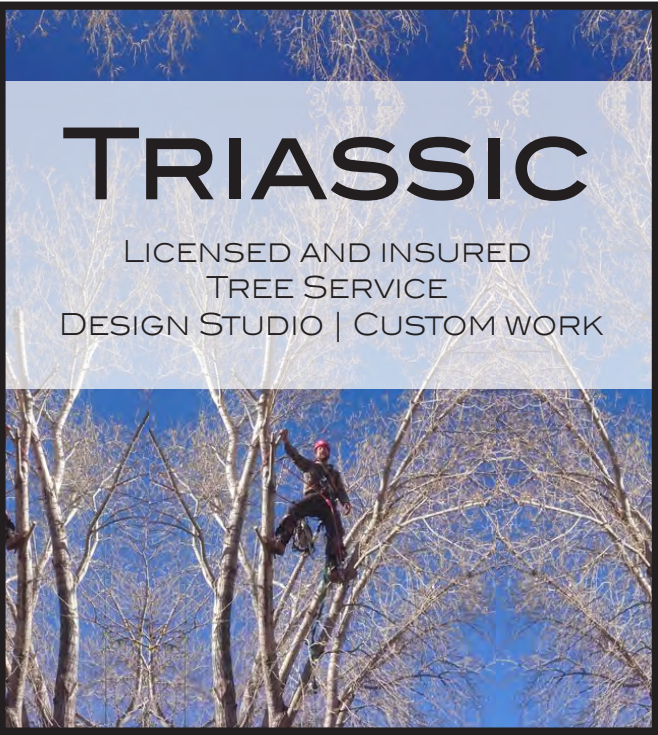
One challenge of many

At a May 18 school board work session, participants noted that there have been no applicants for the high school math teacher vacancy. Participants joked that

they might have to employ a human billboard along the highway to recruit applicants; someone pointed out that there was only one house in the area listed on the real estate website Zillow that came in under \$600,000. If there are no applicants, the school may have to spread students across available classes, increasing math class sizes; this prospect caused concern for students present at the April 20 school board meeting.

While the Grand County School District has seen some encouraging numbers this past year—for example, more students have been taking full advantage of the high school’s concurrent enrollment program, which allows high schoolers to earn college credits—it also has pressing issues to address, including low student math scores and graduation rates. Attracting applicants for teacher vacancies in the midst of a national labor shortage and housing crisis presents another challenge.

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ENVIRONMENT

Powell's looming power problem

Drought and demand threaten a critical component of the Western grid



Aerial view of houseboats moored on buoys on Lake Powell at Bullfrog Bay. The water is shallow enough to see the bottom. [NPS]

By **JONATHAN THOMPSON**
High Country News

Thirty-nine years ago, due to record-breaking snowfall in the Upper Colorado River Basin, Lake Powell rose substantially, catching river managers off-guard. By late June, the reservoir was nearly overflowing, forcing operators — for the first time ever — to rely on the spillways. Instead of giving relief, that precipitated a new crisis, as a phenomenon called cavitation sent shockwaves through the spillways' innards, tearing through the concrete and then the sandstone, putting the colossal Glen Canyon Dam in peril.

The spillways were repaired, and the dam survived. But now it is threatened yet again, only this time for the opposite reason. In March, Lake Powell's surface level dropped to within 33 feet of the minimum needed to generate hydropower, for the first time since it was filled in the 1960s. If — or when — it hits that critical point, the Southwest power grid will lose one of its biggest electricity generators, as well as an indispensable backup power source. And, it might even lead to a sort of low-water repeat of the 1983 incident.

When the reservoir is full, Glen Canyon Dam's eight giant turbines have 1,300 megawatts of capacity, equivalent to a large coal power plant. The dam serves as a "baseload" power source, cranking out a steady stream of juice, which the federal Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) sells at below-market prices to Southwestern utilities, tribal nations and municipalities. It is also valuable as a "load-following" resource, meaning operators can ramp output up quickly to meet a spike in demand or a sudden loss of supply, contributing to grid resilience and helping to smooth fluctuations in wind and solar generation. Glen Canyon Dam was originally constructed primarily to store water during wet times and release it during dry periods. It also provides flood

control, acts as a silt catchment basin for Lake Mead, and is a watercraft playground, drawing as many as 4.5 million visitors per year. But its role as a power source has risen to the top of its uses over the years.

Over the last two decades, climate change-induced drought and increasing water demand have depleted Lake Powell substantially: It is now less than one-fourth full. As water levels drop, so too does the potential energy of the falling water. That, in turn, lowers the turbines' generating capacity and power output. In the 1990s, the dam produced as much as 7,000-gigawatt-hours per year, enough to power nearly 600,000 homes. Last year, it was down to just 3,000-gigawatt-hours.

This chronic decline in generating capacity is about to become more acute. As the reservoir approaches the 3,490-foot minimum power pool, air could get entrained in the turbine-feeding penstocks, wreaking all kinds of havoc. At that point, operators have no choice but to stop sending water through the turbines, killing power generation and depriving the grid of enough electricity annually to power about a quarter of a million Arizona homes. It would also drain between \$100 million and \$200 million annually from dam electricity sales, a chunk of which goes to fund endangered species recovery, salinity control and water studies on the Colorado River.

That would force WAPA to purchase more expensive power, including electricity generated from natural gas or even coal, to supply its millions of customers. The average utility customer might not even notice the dollar or two this adds to their monthly bill, but it could amount to a substantial price hike for the tribal nations that rely on WAPA for most or all of their power. The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority's yearly power bill could jump by as much as \$1.3 million, according to a 2016 consultant's study, and nine other tribes would also

see significant cost increases.

Equally worrisome is how grid operators will fill the generation void left when the dam goes offline. New wind and solar power, paired with batteries or other energy storage, can replace some or all of the baseload power. But any extra generation capacity is going to be in high demand as big coal and nuclear plants retire in the next few years. Meanwhile, solar and wind can't follow loads like a hydroelectric dam, so utilities are likely to turn to greenhouse gas-emitting natural gas plants instead.

Over the last few months, federal officials have attempted to stave off the power plant's obsolescence by increasing releases from upstream dams and by sending less water downstream. But that failed to buoy reservoir levels, so now they have embarked on an effort to install turbines river outlet tubes lower on the dam, which would allow hydroelectricity generation to continue below the minimum power pool—for a while.

That approach brings its own challenges, however, since the tubes have only been used for short stints and were never intended for long-term use. No one knows what will happen if they become the only release valve for the reservoir's water. Running the dam at such low levels raises a lot of "operational uncertainties," Tanya Trujillo, the Interior Department's assistant secretary for water and science, told attendees at a seminar last year. She even harkened back to the 1983 spillway tunnel deterioration and the resulting near-disaster. "The engineers use words like cavitation," she said ominously, "and that gets my attention."

This article was originally published by the High Country News (www.hcn.org). Jonathan Thompson is a contributing editor at High Country News. He is the author of Sagebrush Empire: How a Remote Utah County Became the Battlefront of American Public Lands.

ENVIRONMENT

Western courts grapple with climate change

Rocky Mountain teens sue over fossil fuel-friendly policies

By KYLIE MOHR
High Country News

In Montana, wildfires are destroying ranchland, drought is killing fish, and heat is harming traditional tribal food sources. To the south, Utahns are inhaling a toxic concoction of tailpipe and smoke-stack emissions made worse by wildfire smoke. Young Westerners say these states are infringing on their rights by boosting fossil fuel development and causing the changes in the climate that accelerate these problems.

The West is a hotspot for lawsuits arguing that climate change-inducing policies are at odds with state constitutions: Three out of five pending state climate cases brought by young plaintiffs originated in the Western U.S. In March, several young Utahns filed a complaint in Utah’s 3rd Judicial Court, declaring that dangerous air quality and climate change are harming their health and safety, interfering with their development and shortening their life expectancy. A similar case in Montana made news earlier this year, when a court date was set for February 2023.

Held v. Montana marks the first time in U.S. history that a youth-led climate change lawsuit will go to trial, and Natalie R. v. State of Utah could follow suit. Both cases face a legal system that has for years stymied and punted on similar cases, including their best-known predecessor, the federal case Juliana v. United States, along with state litigation from Alaska to California.

“I think that everyone just has to keep trying different approaches to see what ultimately will be the thing that courts can latch onto,” said Jennifer Rushlow, associate dean for environmental programs at Vermont Law School.

In Juliana, youth plaintiffs wanted the court to order the federal government to adopt a plan to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. But the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals dismissed the case in 2020, writing that the request was outside its authority and that climate policies must come from the legislative and executive branches, not the judiciary.

Lawyers for the Utah and Montana plaintiffs are now taking a narrower approach, asking for what’s called “declaratory relief,” or court rulings declaring that the state’s policies violate the rights of those bringing the cases. (Juliana plaintiffs are now taking the same approach in an amended complaint pending in Oregon U.S. District Court.)

A victory would mean that state governments in Montana and Utah couldn’t legally continue specific policies that maximize, promote and authorize fossil fuel development. The Montana case also contends that the states must take action on climate change

due to the public trust doctrine, a legal concept that says natural resources should be held in trust by governments and managed for the benefit of both current and future citizens.

The lawyers for the two lawsuits are also tailoring their arguments to fit differing legal landscapes. Attorneys representing the plaintiffs in Held v. Montana argue that two Montana fossil fuel-friendly policies violate the right to “a clean and healthful environment.” Montana is one of six states—and the only one in the West—with constitutionally based environmental rights protections.

“Courts in Montana have interpreted the right to a clean and healthful environment to be really important and meaningful, and have shown a willingness to invalidate statutes and agency conduct when it violates that right,” said Nate Bellinger, senior staff attorney at Our Children’s Trust, an Oregon nonprofit law firm that solely represents youth plaintiffs in climate cases. Explicit constitutional language could help youth climate cases.


“It’s certainly possible that the existence of a constitutional right will give an individual judge some greater comfort in making a bold decision,” said Michael Burger, the executive director for the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia Law School.

Utah’s Constitution lacks explicit language on the right to a clean environment. The young plaintiffs in Natalie R. v. State of Utah argue that five Utah policies bolstering fossil fuels create conditions that violate their right to life, health and safety per the state constitution—and they’re leading the fight because younger generations will bear the brunt of climate impacts. While the Montana case covers a litany of climate concerns, the Utah case focuses on air pollution.

“We know that Utah’s dangerous air quality is taking years off of the lives of its citizens, particularly children,” said Andrew Welle, a senior staff attorney on the case from Our Children’s Trust. “So we’ve drawn a direct line to say, ‘This is a pretty clear-cut violation of the right to life.’”

Federal litigation and nationwide climate action may stall, but state cases like these could bring progress that adds up. “Even though climate change is a global problem and we need global coordination and federal leadership, ultimately, a lot of action is driven at the state level,” Burger said. “There are important, critical gains to be made in advocating for and achieving more ambitious state climate action.”

This article was originally published by the High Country News (www.hcn.org). Kylie Mohr is an editorial intern for High Country News writing from Montana.



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PAGE TEN

SCIENCE MOAB

Peaches on the Plateau

Science Moab talks to Reagan Wytsalucy about traditional agriculture on the Colorado Plateau



SCIENCE MOAB

This week, we talk with Reagan Wytsalucy about traditional foods on the Colorado Plateau. Wytsalucy is actively working to reestablish traditional food crops, specifically looking at peaches as the first food crop to identify and bring back to Four Corners communities.

Science Moab: What drew you to peaches specifically?

Wytsalucy: I didn't fully understand the importance of the peach tree when I started the research, but there has been curiosity in my mind as I remembered some of the things that my dad would talk about. When he first brought up that we grew peaches, I was so intrigued. The first time that he took me to Shonto [*a community on the Navajo Nation -ed.*], he showed me where they had their farms and where his dad and mom planted their crops and garden. The fruit trees were in the back alongside where this canyon wall was. When we go there, the only thing that's there now is Russian olive trees. People in the community, as I started to search and look for the peach trees themselves, said they remembered peach trees long ago but there are none now.

I started looking for literature to see what historical information there is on fruit trees grown in the southwest regions by Native American tribes and came to find a recently published document produced for the Hopi Nation about its vast orchards. In that publication, they mentioned that less than 2% of the original orchards or the fruit trees remained. I started using it in my early research, and it became an adventure to be able to understand my family history: where I come from and where my ancestors roamed and worked.

Science Moab: How are fruit trees able to survive in this relatively harsh environment?

Wytsalucy: These types of peaches are more drought tolerant. Traditionally, they have been planted in sites where they would be collecting only annual precipitation and any water that would run off from mesa tops or canyon walls would ideally flood into these orchard spaces. The same thing took place with garden spaces



[Courtesy photo]

since the gardens were often planted around the orchards.

I worked with multiple tribes including the Hopi, Zuni, and Navajo to do this research, and each tribe had unique practices of their own. We have a lot of clay soils in the area, and the trees seem to be readily adaptable to that, as well as the harsher temperature changes on a daily basis. The elders that traditionally cared for them mentioned that they never irrigated them. There was complete trust in what Heavenly Father was going to offer for any given season. And they produced and became an abundant food resource. These trees have been planted in closed-off areas or areas where the wind is not so harsh, and they have a lot of radiating heat coming off of the canyon walls where they're planted in. That helps buffer the air temperature to help prevent frost occurrences from killing all the flowers.

Science Moab: So what does your research look like?

Wytsalucy: I got support in searching for these trees, for the seed sources. We wanted to see if any of their genetics were unique, so we did genetic studies. We also look at the history of how the trees were managed, talk to the elders, and document their stories. As we started studying this tree, we started to look at how we can preserve all of this history to be a resource to give back. The last thing that we did was do a full nutrient study on the peaches. We compared them to the USDA standard food nutrition label for fresh peaches and found out that they're higher in calcium, they have more fiber, and they're higher in fats and

calories. And there were a few things that weren't changed, like sugar and potassium. We saw that these are a bit more of a benefit to the diet.

Science Moab: What future do you see for traditional foods in this region?

Wytsalucy: We learned that these peaches are genetically different from others, so we want to try and keep that genetic resource alive and thriving, not diluted. We have seen some of the seeds that we've collected have been cross-pollinated with modern cultivars, and we can see that in their genetic makeup. I also want to make these peaches an abundant food resource in our communities again, like they once were. I want to protect the growers that currently still have them. They are in their elder age and this is their way of living and what they live off of. I want to make sure that as these trees are distributed, they're used in an appropriate manner that is culturally respectful to our communities. Ultimately, we'd love to have orchard spaces that would be a space for educating our youth and for community gatherings, and then eventually giving back that seed to them with resources on how to grow them so that one day, we'll have full orchards again.

Science Moab is a nonprofit dedicated to engaging community members and visitors with the science happening in Southeast Utah and the Colorado Plateau. To learn more and listen to the rest of this interview, visit www.sciencemoab.org/radio. This interview has been edited for clarity.

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COSMO'S CORNER

Library swimming day



Hello everyone, it's Cosmo the library cat here! There's a common misconception that cats don't like to swim. I sometimes like to swim and I have a mean kitty-paddle technique. I tend to avoid swimming pools because the chlorinated water turns my beautiful black fur a funny green color. However, I know most humans don't have to worry about this and love to go swimming, especially when it's hot. With this in mind, on Friday, June 10, Grand County Public Library is partnering with the Moab Recreation and Aquatic Center to offer free swimming from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the MRAC (374 N. Park Avenue, Moab) for people of all ages who register for our 2022 Oceans of Possibilities Summer Challenges!

Starting at 1:30 p.m., library



staff will have tables set up at the MRAC for you to pick up your free swimming tickets. You can register beforehand by going to tinyurl.com/gcplreads, or our staff can help you register when you arrive. In case you haven't swum at the MRAC before, I suggest looking at their website for rules and policies. Here's a couple of good ideas I saw when I checked it out: Bring your own pool chairs, because sometimes there are not enough to go around, and remember to bring your own towels. I hear people like to play swimming games like Marco Polo, or Sharks and Minnows, which sounds more like lunch to me. Also, I hear they have a water slide, which sounds very exciting! Let me know if you try it. Meow and goodbye for now, friends. Stay cool out there!

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MOAB HISTORY

Tex McClatchy: Colorado River outfitter extraordinaire



Tex McClatchy aboard the Canyon King paddlewheel tour boat, which he had built and operated for a couple of years out of Moab. [Moab Museum Collection]



A legend among Colorado River outfitters and one of the fathers of Moab’s recreation industry, Warren Gordon “Tex” McClatchy (1927-2006) left a tangible impact on the Moab community. McClatchy arrived in Moab during the uranium boom in the 1950s to teach in the schools,

but he soon left the classroom for a life earning a living on the Colorado River.

“Back in the uranium days, it was just that: uranium. Then as time got on, tourists started feeding in and finding out what this area was all about,” Tex recalled in a 1999 interview with Jim Page, published in the Moab Museum’s publication Canyon Legacy. “Of course, the magic around here that made [tourism] grow was the variety!”

McClatchy himself was instrumental in making this variety of options accessible to visiting tourists. He ran the rivers with a variety of watercraft, introducing popular jet boat and canoe trips to the confluence of the Green and Colorado

rivers. Tex’s Riverways, formally founded in 1958, continues teaching adventurers how to enjoy and protect southeastern Utah’s pristine environment.

McClatchy’s lifetime and career spanned a time of remarkable change in the Moab community; he witnessed the uranium boom and bust and had a hand in shaping the tourism boom that eventually grew up after.

The Moab Museum is dedicated to sharing stories of the natural and human history of the Moab area. To explore more of Moab’s stories and artifacts, find out about upcoming programs, and become a Member, visit www.moabmuseum.org.



Tex McClatchy in his element: on a boat in the river. [Moab Museum Collection]



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THE CONVERSATION

The ancient history of adding insult to injury

By **ANDREW M. MCCLELLAN**
Lecturer in Classics and Humanities, San Diego State University

At one point in the latest James Bond installment, “No Time To Die,” the henchman Primo has the upper hand on 007. But Bond has a wristwatch that can trigger an electromagnetic pulse keyed to local circuitry. Primo, conveniently, has a biomechanical eye, so when Bond activates his watch next to Primo’s head, it explodes. Bond’s gadgeteer, Q, radios in, and Bond delivers the rhetorical goods: “I showed him your watch. It blew his mind.”

This sort of witty quip after killing someone isn’t unique to the Bond franchise. From “Dirty Harry” to “Django Unchained,” they’ve become staples of the action film genre. Audiences might assume action films invented these one-liners. But as I’ve demonstrated in my work researching ancient Greco-Roman epic poetry, the origin of this sort of rhetorical violence goes back thousands of years.

A perverse eulogy
The one-liner is in many ways a calling card of action films. The motif took off in the 1960s and peaked in the mid-1980s and early 1990s. Today you’ll see occasional nods to the tradition in action films like “No Time To Die.” Earlier James Bonds also delivered post-kill zingers. In “Thunderball,” Sean Connery’s Bond spears a foe with a harpoon gun, then jokes: “I think he got the point.” After “Live and Let Die” villain Dr. Kananga balloons and explodes from ingesting a gas pellet, Roger Moore’s Bond gloats, “He always did have an inflated opinion of himself.”

These one-liners had become de rigueur by the 1990s. In “Universal Soldier,” Jean-Claude Van Damme’s Luc Deveraux kills Andrew Scott by feeding him through a woodchipper that hurls bits and pieces of his corpse through the air. Deveraux’s companion asks where Scott is, to which Deveraux laconically replies, “Around.” After killing Screwface in “Marked for Death,” John Hatcher, played by Steven Seagal, discovers there’s another Screwface – or, rather, that it has been twin brothers running the criminal organization he’s fighting. Hatcher then executes the second Screwface in one of the most violent, prolonged death scenes in film history.

Hatcher catches his breath, before muttering, “I hope they weren’t triplets.” But Arnold Schwarzenegger, who rose to fame during the golden era of action films in the 1980s, was the king of one-liners. “Commando” ends with John Matrix, played by Schwarzenegger, impaling the villainous Bennett with a massive metal pipe that travels through Bennett and, inexplicably, into a boiler.



A 1688 engraving depicts Turnus taking Pallas’ sword belt after killing him. [Bavarian State Library]

The blast of steam travels back through Bennett and out the end of the pipe. Surveying the carnage, Matrix quips: “Let off some steam, Bennett.” In “Predator,” Schwarzenegger’s character pins an enemy to a wall with a knife, inviting him to “stick around.” And in “The Running Man,” he chainsaws his adversary Buzzsaw vertically, crotch up. When asked what happened to Buzzsaw, he reports: “He had to split.” These quips literally add insult to injury, defaming the victim immediately after their demise, emblazoning the death with a caption, like a perverse eulogy. Film heroes deliver the best taunts because their rhetorical skill is linked to their physical prowess. This might seem incongruous. But the link between martial and rhetorical skill goes back to Western literature’s beginning.

The ‘vaunts’ of the ancient epics
Ancient epic poems are the antecedents to today’s action flicks; they were the violent, thrilling blockbusters of their era. Homer’s heroes in the “Iliad,” written sometime between 750 and 700 B.C., are not just deft fighters but also adroit talkers. Achilles, for example, is lauded as both the best fighter and the best speaker among the Greeks at Troy. The parameters of ancient epic duels mirror action film fights. When two warriors square off, they taunt each other. When one warrior wins, typically the victory is punctuated by a witty defamatory “vaunt” that signals the champion’s prowess and the loser’s now-verified inadequacy.

In Virgil’s “Aeneid,” Turnus avoids damage from a spear cast by the young warrior Pallas thanks to his thick shield. After hurling a spear of his own that pierces Pallas, Turnus boasts of the performance of his weapon by comparison. The taunt is soaked in innuendo: “See whether my weapon can penetrate better.” Turnus later sneers over the slain Eumedes, whose throat he’s severed: “Hey, Trojan, the Western land you hoped to conquer, measure it with your corpse.” Since Eumedes sought to colonize parts of modern-day Italy, he would have surveyed the land for

settlements; Turnus sardonically suggests using his dead body as a measuring stick. In the “Iliad,” Polydamas spears Prothoenor in the shoulder. He falls and dies, whereupon Polydamas jokes that the spear will be useful to lean on “like a staff when he descends to the underworld.”

At another point in the “Iliad,” Patroclus kills the Trojan charioteer Cebriones by smashing his face. The force of the strike ejects Cebriones’ eyes from their sockets; they hit the ground, and Cebriones’s body follows them headfirst onto the battlefield. The bizarre situation elicits Patroclus’ zesty bon mot: “What a spring the man has! Nice dive! Think of the oysters he could come up with if he were out at sea ...”

In this vaunt-cum-metaphor, Cebriones’ eyes, which he “chases” into the sand, have become precious pearls in the oysters he’s imagined to be hunting.

Breaking the fourth wall
What value does wit hold in genres defined by brute strength? Never mind the fact that a corpse is hardly a suitable target for clever punchlines. The jokes are for the audience, and it’s as close as the genre gets to breaking the fourth wall. Viewers are attuned to these witticisms not simply because they are funny, but because they’re self-consciously ridiculous. They help distance the audience from the often horrific levels of violence on display.

Epic poetry has traditionally held a highbrow status in literary criticism, while action films are regarded as puerile and brutish. These designations collapse at the level of rhetorical violence. In truth, epics like the “Iliad” skew more “action film” than most literati would like to admit, and vice versa. The larger-than-life heroes from John Matrix to James Bond are ultimately the silver screen progeny of warrior-poets from antiquity.

This article was previously published by The Conversation (www.theconversation.com), which connects scientists and journalists to tell better stories.

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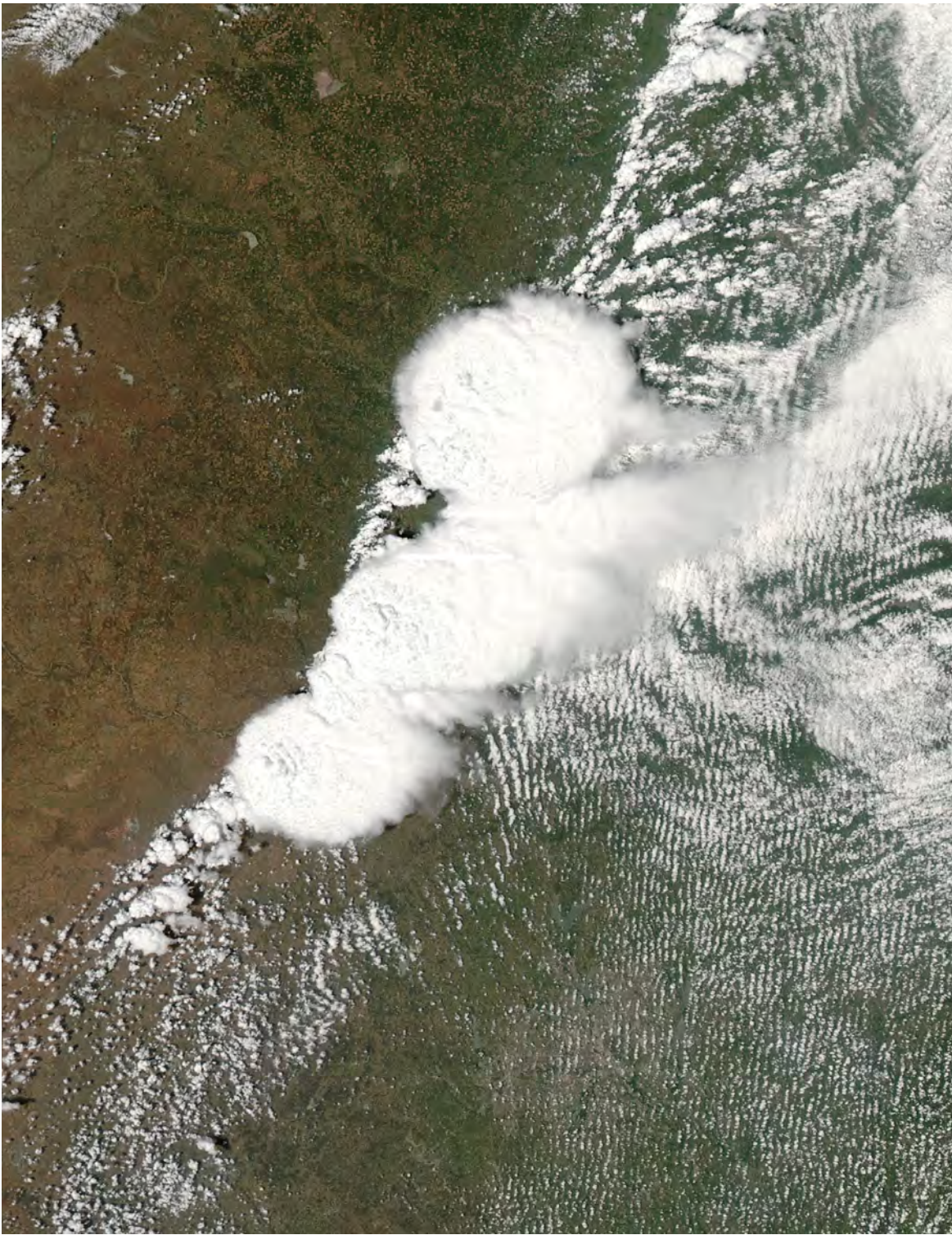
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CURIOUS KIDS

What do tornadoes look like on the inside?

A question from Madison, age 7, Noblesville, Indiana



On May 20, 2013, a supercell thunderstorm in central Oklahoma spawned a destructive tornado that passed just south of Oklahoma City. [NASA]

By JANA HOUSER
*Associate Professor of Geography,
Ohio University*

Scientists really don't know the answer to this question. There are no visual observations from inside of a tornado, because these storms create very violent and dangerous conditions on the ground.

If we placed cameras in the path of a tornado, they would either be damaged by the strong winds and swirling debris, or become so caked with mud and water that they wouldn't produce any useful pictures. And of course, it's not safe for humans to try to observe tornadoes at close range. It's important to always seek shelter when tornado conditions develop.

We do have some ideas about the structure of the inside of tornadoes from instruments called mobile Doppler radars. Scientists can drive these instruments to locations near the tornado, but stop at a safe distance.

The radar sends energy toward the tornado, and when it hits the storm, some of the energy is bounced back. Researchers can analyze that reflected energy to detect important characteristics about the tornado. These include

where there is and is not rain within the storm, where there is debris, how fast the winds are, and how these properties change moving away from the center of the tornado toward its outer edges and up vertically through the storm cloud above it.

From these radar observations, we have learned that tornadoes usually have a clear area in their centers, or at least a zone that is rain- and debris-free. This area also has intense vertical winds that sometimes are strong enough to suck pavement up from roads.

This clear space is surrounded by a ring of heavy rain and debris that is often moving outward, away from the tornado's center. That's because the winds are spinning incredibly fast and creating centrifugal force that pulls these objects away from the middle of the storm. Sometimes areas of heavy rain that are a little farther removed from the tornado spiral inward toward the area of rotation, like the spiral bands that extend outward from the eye of a hurricane.

Some tornadoes have only one main funnel cloud. Others have multiple small funnels that rotate around each other. There are even tornadoes that

don't have a funnel cloud at all. As long as winds are rotating in a tight circle all the way from the storm cloud down to the ground, it's a tornado, even if atmospheric conditions haven't condensed water vapor in the air into a visible funnel.

Scientists have also learned that many tornadoes don't actually descend from the cloud to the ground. Rather, they form at the ground and quickly build upward – often in less than a minute.

When that happens, your eyes may fool you if you're watching for a funnel cloud coming down from the sky. There could already be tornado-strength winds at the surface, even without that funnel cloud. So be careful – when it comes to tornadoes, looks can be deceiving.

This article was previously published by The Conversation (www.theconversation.com), which connects scientists and journalists to tell better stories. Do you have a question you'd like an expert to answer? Ask an adult to send your question to CuriousKidsUS@theconversation.com. Please tell us your name, age and the city where you live.

HOROSCOPES

Week of June 2

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A blogger named Sweetlikeacherry reminds us, “Some epiphanies are only possible when you put away your phone and go completely offline for a while.” She adds that sometimes you also need to at least partially avoid your phone and the internet if you hope to incubate new visions of the future and unlock important discoveries in your creative work and summon your untamed genius. According to my astrological analysis, all these possibilities are especially likely and necessary for you in the coming weeks. I trust you will carry out the necessary liberations to take full advantage.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Poet Carolyn Kizer (1925–2014) won a Pulitzer Prize for her poetry. She was smart! But when she was young and still studying her craft in college, a professor objected to one of her poems. He said, “You have pigs in this poem; pigs are not poetic.” Kizer was incensed at such ignorance. She testified, “I got up and walked out of that class and never went back.” Judging from the astrological omens, I suspect you may have comparable showdowns headed your way. I advise you to be like Kizer. You are the only one who truly knows the proper subjects of your quest. No one else has the right or the insight to tell you what your work (or play) should be about.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Leo author James Baldwin said it wasn’t often “that two people can laugh and make love, too—make love because they are laughing and laugh because they’re making love. The love and the laughter come from the same place: but not many people go there.” Your assignment, Leo, is to be the exception to Baldwin’s rule during the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, there’s a high possibility that interesting eros can converge with humorous fun in a glorious synergy. You will have a knack for conjuring up ribald encounters and jovial orgasms. Your intuition will guide you to shed the solemnity from your bliss and replace it with sunny, carefree cheer.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): I’m worried you will over-indulge in your pursuit of perfection during the coming weeks. It’s fine to be exquisitely skillful and masterful; I hope you do that. But if you get obsessed with flawlessness, you will risk undoing your good intentions. As an antidote, I offer you two pieces of advice. The first is from actor and activist Jane Fonda. She said, “We are not meant to be perfect; we are meant to be whole.” The second counsel is from philosopher and psychologist William James, who wrote, “Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence.”



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Author Mustafa Mahmoud described the signs of love between two people: 1. feeling a comfortable familiarity; 2. having no urge or need to lie; 3. being natural, not trying to be different from who one is; 4. having little or no possibility of being embarrassed in front of the other person; 5. experiencing silence as delicious, not alienating; 6. enjoying the act of listening to the other person. I bring these pointers to your attention, Libra, because the coming months will be a favorable time to define and redefine your understandings about the signs of love. How do you feel about Mahmoud’s ideas? Are there any more you would like to add?

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): “We do not love each other without changing each other,” wrote author Madeleine L’Engle. Meditate on that gem, Scorpio. Now is a perfect time for you and your loved ones to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate the ways your love has changed each other. It may be true that some transformations have been less than ideal. If that’s the case, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to correct those trends. As for the positive changes that you and your allies have stimulated in each other: I hope you will name them and pledge to keep doing more of that good work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): “I always deserve the best treatment, because I never put up with any other,” wrote Sagittarian novelist Jane Austen. Sagittarian politician Stacey Abrams said, “From the moment I enter a room, I am clear about how I intend to be treated and how I intend to engage.” You’ll be wise to cultivate those attitudes in the next seven weeks, Sagittarius. It’s high time for you to raise your self-respect in ways that inspire others to elevate their appreciation and regard for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In 1963, Jim Munro and Alice Munro founded Munro’s Books, a store in Victoria, British Columbia. After being on the job for a few months, Alice found she was not impressed with many of the products they sold. “I can write better books than this,” she told Jim. Five years later, she published her first collection of short stories, *Dance of the Happy Shades*. Fourteen books later, she won the Nobel Prize in Literature. Will the coming months bring your equivalent of Alice Munro’s pivotal resolution? I suspect they could.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): “True love for whatever you are doing is the answer to everything,” proclaimed performance artist Marina Abramovic. Amen to that righteous attitude! I hope you will embrace it in the com-

ing weeks. I hope your heart and imagination will reveal all you need to know to bring tender fresh streams of true love to the essential activities of your life. Now is an excellent time to redefine the meaning of the word “love” so it applies to all your relationships and pursuits.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A homeless woman in a wheelchair stopped where I was sitting outside a café. She was pushing her belongings in a small shopping cart. “Would you like to go dancing?” she said to me. “There’s a nearby park that has a great grassy dance floor.” “Maybe another day,” I told her. “My energy is low. I’ve had a lot of personal challenges lately.” I’m sure the expression on my face was less-than-ebullient. “Cheer up, mister,” she told me. “I’m psychic, and I can tell you for sure that you will live a long life and have many more fine adventures. I’ll be in the park if you change your mind.” My mood instantly brightened. “Thanks!” I yelled toward her as she rolled away. Now I predict that you, Pisces, will have comparable experiences in the coming days. Are you willing to welcome uplifting surprises?

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Who loves the truth better than you Aries people? Who has the greatest potential to speak the real story in every situation, even when it requires extra courage? Who has more fun than you in discovering and defining and expressing the raw facts? In my *Book of Life*, you Rams are radiant beacons of candor—the people I go to when I need accuracy and honesty. And all I’m saying here will be especially crucial in the coming weeks. The whole world needs concentrated doses of your authenticity. Now read this pep talk from Aries philosopher St. Catherine of Siena: “Let the truth be your delight; let it always be in your mouth, and proclaim it when it is needed. Proclaim it lovingly and to everyone, especially those you love with a special love—but with a certain congeniality.”

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Before the 20th century, you couldn’t buy a loaf of bread that was already sliced into thin pieces. Then in 1912, the American inventor Otto Frederick Rohwedder developed a slicing machine. But all his work, including the blueprints and the machine prototypes, was destroyed in a fire. He had to seek new funding and begin again. Sixteen years later, his innovation was finally ready for broad public use. Within five years, most of the bread in the US was sold sliced. What does this have to do with you? I am picking up an Otto Frederick Rohwedder vibe when I turn my visions to you, Taurus. I suspect that in the coming months, you, too, will fulfill a postponed dream.

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Calendar

Continued from Page 20

Creation of Canyonlands National Park,” which will explore the visions of Charlie Steen, Bates Wilson, and Stewart Udall in the creation of Canyonlands National Park. 5 p.m. at the Moab Information Center (25 E. Center St.)

Ken Waldman Performance
Ken Waldman, an Alaskan fiddler, writer, and storyteller, will put on a program at the Grand County Library that ties together all three skills to tell a story of Grand County and Alaska. He will also discuss his new book, “Now Entering Alaska Time.” 6 p.m. at the Grand County Public Library (257 E. Center St.)

Ongoing
Event details may change; check with the organizers before you go.

Bluegrass Night
Quicksand Soup will play at the Backyard Theater. Free admission, outside food and drink are welcome. Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Backyard Theater (56 W. 100 S.)

Swing Dance Classes
Drop-in beginner swing dance class. No partner or experience necessary; masks and COVID-19 vaccination required. Donations accepted. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. at the MARC (111 E. 100 North)

Moab Speaks
Practice public speaking and leadership skills with a welcoming group! First and third Wednesdays from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bierschied Building (301 S. 400 E.)

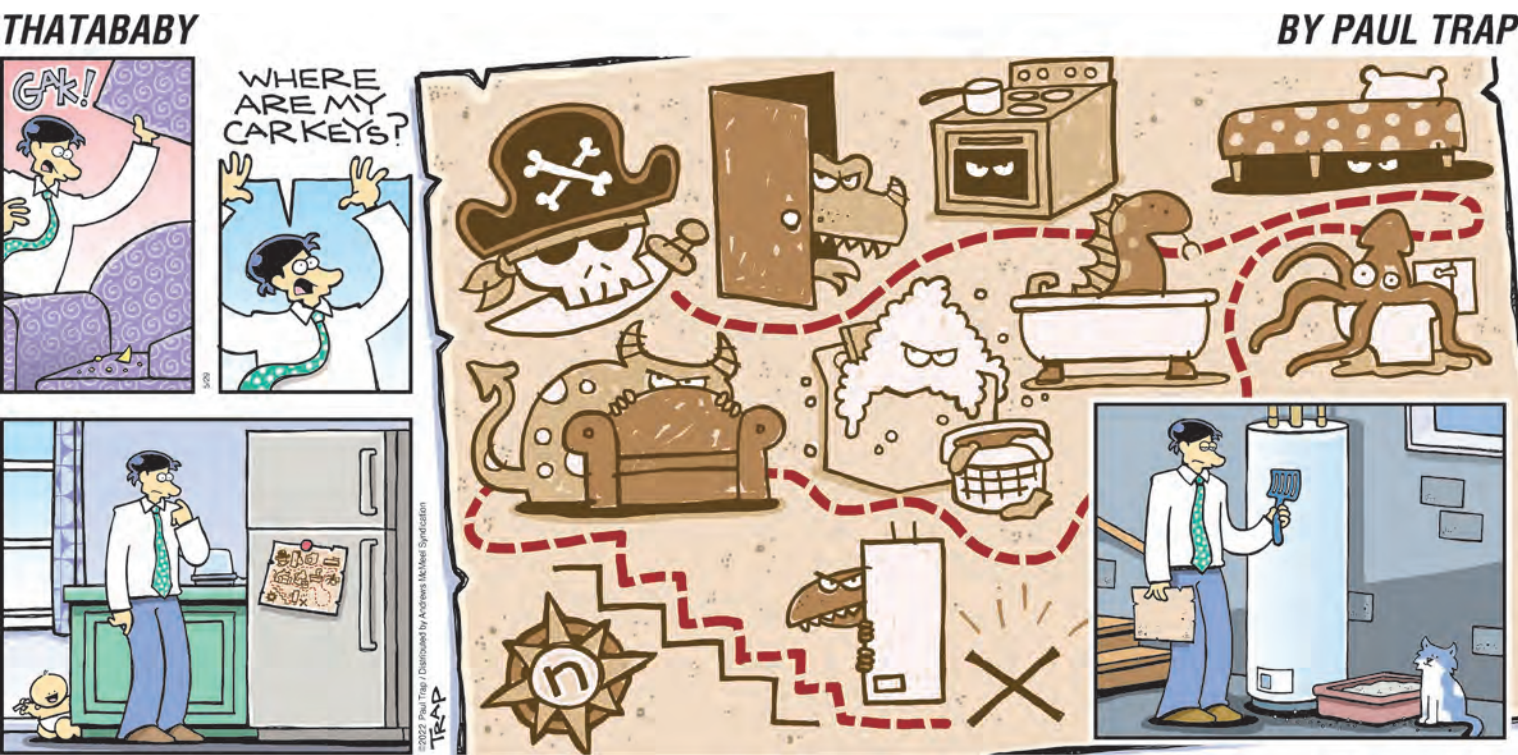
Yoga in Old City Park
Yoga in the park is back, with alternating instructors: Star Kolb, Angela Houghton, Kristi Paul and Kelley Michaud. Classes by donation. Sundays at 10 a.m. at Old City Park

Community Food Pantry
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Coffee & Recovery
An all pathways to recovery meeting where attendees share their personal journeys to recovery. Hosted by USARA. Mondays at 5 p.m.; Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.; Fridays at 11 a.m. In person (23 S. 100 W.) or online at www.global.gotomeeting.com/join/625504653.

Narcotics Anonymous
An anonymous support group. Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and Fridays at 7 p.m. at USARA (23 S. 100 W.)

Moab Community Grief Support Group
Sponsored by Moab Regional Hospital and Grand County Hospice. Contact Antje Rath to register, 435-719-5563 or antjer@mrhmoab.org. First and third Wednesdays at 5 p.m. at the Grand Center (182 N. 500 W.)



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9					6		8	7
		7			4		6	
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	9		8			7		
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Sudoku
Fill out each row, column and square with the numbers 1-9, without repeating any numbers within the row, column or square.

Difficulty rating of this puzzle: Fiendish

Solution:

6	1	9	2	5	4	3	8	7
3	2	8	1	7	6	4	9	5
4	5	7	3	9	8	2	6	1
8	9	3	5	2	1	9	7	4
9	4	2	6	3	7	1	5	8
1	7	5	8	4	9	6	3	2
2	9	6	4	8	5	7	1	3
7	8	4	6	1	3	5	2	9
5	3	1	7	6	2	8	4	9

NOTE: Note: The circled letters, reading clockwise starting at the bottom, will reveal a hint to this puzzle’s theme.

- ACROSS**

1 One inclined to go in and out

5 “Peace out”

10 Certain vipers

14 Where one may purchase a sectional with a side of meatballs

15 Cover story

16 “Star Wars” general with the line “If you see our son, bring him home”

17 Stuff

18 Deals with fries and a beverage, maybe

20 Hornswoggle

21 County north of the Firth of Forth

22 Three or more on a semi

23 It may lead to a “no catch” ruling
- 27 Not square, in a way

28 Screen, as a potential running mate

29 What’s often kept undercover?

30 Cygnus constellation, with “the”

32 Put (down)

36 Fight a needless fight, metaphorically

39 Thrill-seeker’s acronymic motto

40 Top 40 songs

41 Ring around a lagoon

42 Hairstyle that sounds edible

43 Swings around

44 One with a quintessential McJob

49 “Same with me”
- 51 Director Kazan

52 Bruce on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

53 Extra-bountiful harvest

56 Two in a two-car garage

57 Singer Rexha

58 Community far from a city’s center

59 Playing extra minutes, briefly

60 Parched

61 “___ on the igpay atinlay!”

62 Heater meas.

S	U	I	B		A	V	N	X	I		D	I	R	V
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PUZZLE BY ALEX BAJCZ

- 21 Fruity soda brand

24 Hook up with

25 Jazz pianist Bill

26 Be in limbo

29 Place for mucking around

30 29-Down residents

31 Drollery

32 Like festive houses during the holidays

33 Potted succulent

34 “Until we meet again”
- 35 Cable alternative

37 Rap’s Young ____

38 Onetime presidential daughter with the code name Radiance

42 Cheeseboard staple

43 Evade capture

44 Thumper’s forest friend

45 Cried foul?

46 Any “Scrubs” or “Friends” episode, now
- 47 Regional greenery

48 Takes time off

49 Group with the tribute band Björn Again

50 One alleging injury, perhaps

54 Big retailer of camping gear

55 Roman numeral equal to 12% of M

56 Chest protector

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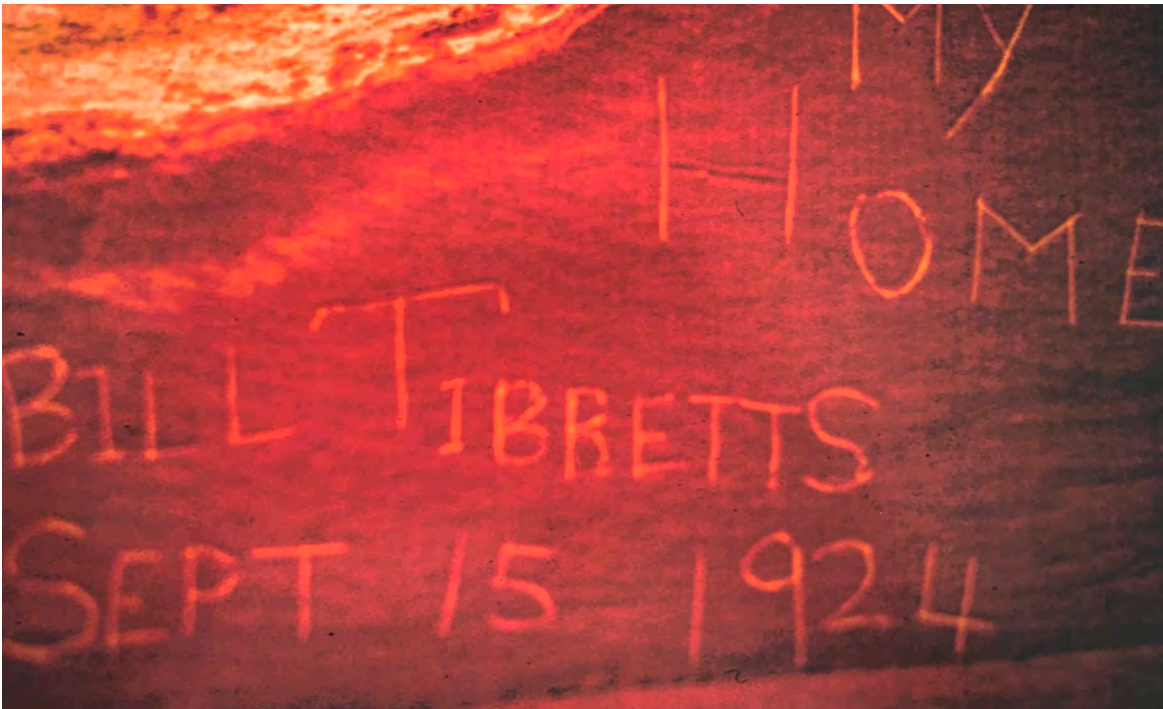
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James William (Bill) Tibbetts Jr. ran cattle near the Maze District of Canyonlands in the 1920s. He is believed to have been one of the last of the Robber’s Roost outlaws. Tibbetts later served as a consultant to the USGS, providing names for many prominent features in and around the park, including Turks Head and Grays Pasture. The date of this inscription is six weeks after Tibbetts broke out of Moab’s jail, and it’s located in a cave thought to have served as his temporary hideout. This photograph is by James Knipmeyer. [Courtesy photo]

Museum

Continued from Page 20

photographs will be displayed to show his and Knipmeyer’s travels through the region. A few items that Knipmeyer and Ford brought on their adventures will also be on display.

“Ford, Knipmeyer, and Doty, all collectors of history, embody the curiosity of the human spirit and common desire to connect with the land, its history, and its people—past, present, and future,” reads the museum’s description of the exhibit.

The exhibit also connects to “many different chapters of history and so many different journeys that have transpired on this landscape,” said Community Outreach and Membership Coordinator Mary Langworthy.

The inscriptions the museum

will display include those from Indigenous people, ranchers, fur trappers, outlaws, Spanish explorers, missionaries from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and markings left by the iconic bank robber Butch Cassidy.

“I describe it as a collage of stories and people and journeys, all from different times, that all overlap on the landscape,” Langworthy said. The exhibit will invite visitors to reflect on those peoples’ lives, and “their reasons for leaving messages for those who come after,” the exhibit description says.

The inscriptions will show more than just names and dates—some also expressed sentiments of the time, Beresh said, and are written in multiple languages.

“It speaks to a different place in time, where people were deal-

ing with real issues between different groups that were vying for the same land or the same water rights,” she said. “It’s a pivotal story about history.”

Beresh worked closely with Knipmeyer to choose which inscriptions and stories should go on display. The exhibit draws largely from Knipmeyer’s book of the same name as the exhibit, Beresh said.

“The exhibit is all about inscriptions, but it’s also highlighting the experience of these two best friends traipsing all around on these same paths that we do, to find all of this stuff,” Langworthy said. “They were adventuring and amassing their collections. It’s something people can relate to.”

The exhibit will be on display at the Moab Museum (118 E. Center Street, Moab) through August.

Artwalk

Continued from Page 20

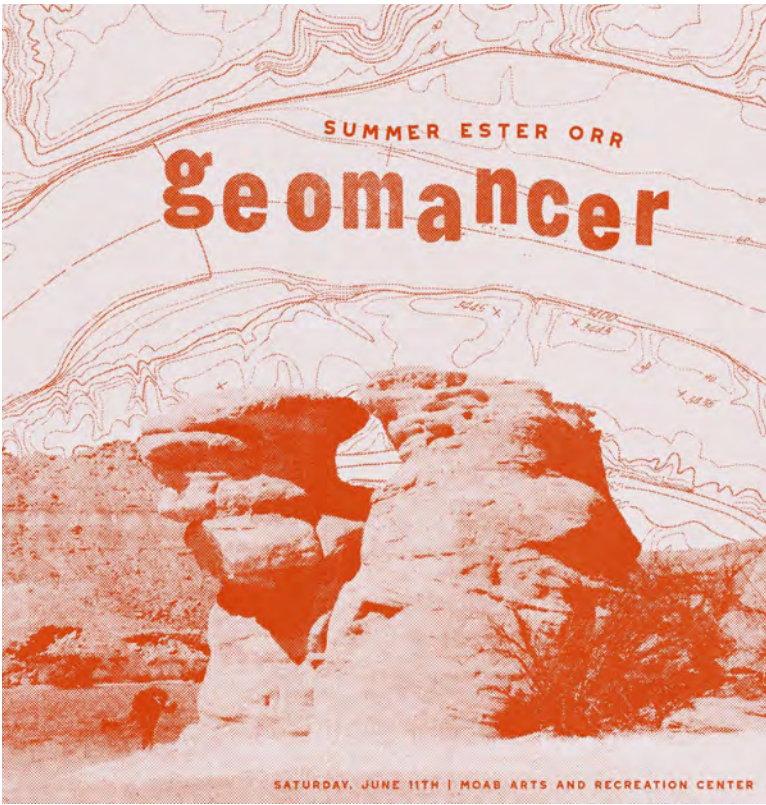
sees every day in the landscape,” according to Gallery Moab.

Tom Till Gallery will showcase Till’s new photo, “Arches Spring Primrose,” which captures a field of primrose flowers in Arches National Park at sunrise. Visitors to the gallery during the Artwalk will be entered to win a Tom Till print.

Andy Savarese, a landscape oil painter, is Moonflower Co-op’s featured local artist. Savarese will be present at Moonflower during the Artwalk to chat about his work; light refreshments will also be provided.

The final location, the MARC, will display a new exhibit created by Summer Ester Orr, a multidisciplinary artist based in Green River. Her work “often utilizes ceramics, illustration, and printmaking to document living in an increasingly hostile environment—the American West,” according to the MARC.

Orr’s exhibit, titled “Geomancer,” will explore and document a hypothetical future where the American Southwest has succumbed to the ever-continuing megadrought. The exhibit



The title image of Orr’s exhibit. [Courtesy photo]

uses found-object, made-object, illustration, and photocollage to tell the story.

“As institutions and companies collapse, remaining fringe-dwellers have taken up folk magic traditions and occult-based rituals to find sources of deeply-hidden water and other precious objects underground

the surface of an inhospitable planet,” the exhibit description reads.

If you miss this month’s Artwalk, don’t worry: most exhibits will be on display throughout the month of June. The next Artwalks will take place on September 10, October 8, and November 12.

MEMORIAL DAY

Moab’s American Legion Post 54 marks Memorial Day



Post 54 Commander Ron Irvin presents a “Post Everlasting” certificate to Konnie Pacheco, widow of local veteran and pastor Dick Pacheco, who served in the U.S. Navy. [Mary Irvin / American Legion Post 54]



Conor Duniway, Tanner Crane, Natalya Castillo, Catherine O’Quinn, Ellie Burton, Rhiannon Hren, and Kadence Kasprick (pictured left to right) and Allie Jones, Tanyon Griffith, Hallie Packard, and Brendan Moore (not pictured) helped pack up the display after the ceremony. “They were a tremendous help, and we appreciate their enthusiasm!” said Mary Irvin, from the Legion. [Mary Irvin / American Legion Post 54]



Helping set up memorial markers, pictured from left to right, are GCHS librarian Carol Stephenson, Rhiannon Hren, Kylee Coleman, Catherine O’Quinn, Natalya Castillo, and Ellie Burton. [Mary Irvin / American Legion Post 54]

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Community&Events

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

Events Calendar

Events are free unless noted!
Email event information to moabsunnewseditor@gmail.com to get on our calendar.

Friday, June 3 to Sunday, June 5
Canyonlands PRCA Rodeo
Moab's annual rodeo is back! Doors open at 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$12 for kids; on Sunday tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids, and \$8 for seniors and vets.
Old Spanish Trail Arena (3641 S. Highway 191)

Friday, June 3
Movie screening
The Grand County Public Library is putting on “Luca,” for free! Bring blankets and chairs, popcorn will be provided.
8:30 p.m. at Swanny City Park (400 N. 100 W.)

Sunday, June 5
Contra Dance
Join the Moab Community Dance Band for a contra dance! No partner or experience needed; mask and vaccination or recent test required; \$10 suggested donation.
Beginner's workshop at 7:30 p.m., dance at 8 p.m. at the Moab Arts and Recreation Center (111 E. 100 N.)

Friday, June 10
Science on Screen
Science Moab will show “Waterworld” and discuss Lake Powell with watershed scientist Jack Schmidt.
8 p.m. at Swanny City Park (400 N. 100 W.)

Saturday, June 11
ArtWalk
The Moab Museum (118 E. Center St.), Gallery Moab (59 S. Main St. Suite #1), Tom Till Gallery (61 N. Main St.) and The MARC (111 E. 100 N.) will show new art and host artists during the Moab Art Walk.
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Moon Walk
Observe the moon with a group of stargazers! Email stargazemoab@gmail.com to sign up.
9:30 p.m. at Sand Flats Recreation Area (Sand Flats Rd.)

Wednesday, June 15
Weed N’ Feed
Weed the Youth Garden Project garden for an hour, then enjoy a dinner prepared by YGP!
6 p.m. at the Youth Garden Project (530 S. 400 E.)

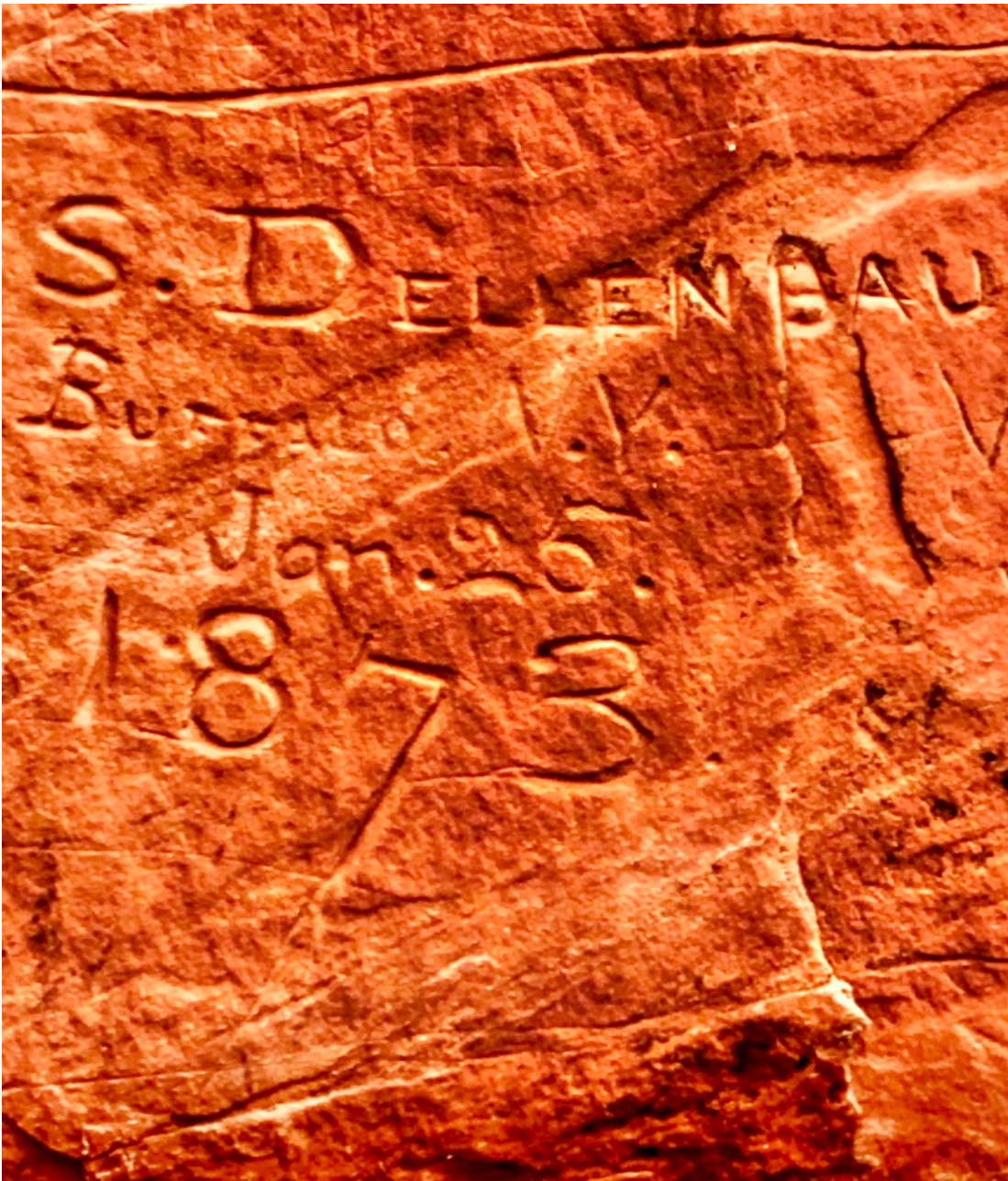
Thursday, June 16
Arts & Ag Market
Produce and artisan vendors will sell their wares.
5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Swanny City Park (400 N. 100 W.)

Lecture Series
As part of the Canyonlands National History Association's 2022 lecture series, Robert Anderson will present his talk, “Founding Fathers: The
See Calendar Page 17

EVENT

Leaving a mark

Museum’s next exhibit, opening June 7, will explore inscriptions from the past



Frederick S. Dellenbaugh was a member of the second Powell expedition down the Green and Colorado River canyons in 1872 and 1873. While stationed near Kanab to map their route, Dellenbaugh traveled up Kanab Creek and carved his name. This inscription was photographed by James Knipmeyer, canyon country adventurer and rock inscription expert.

[Courtesy photo]

By ALISON HARFORD
Moab Sun News

“Why do we want to leave our mark?” asked Tara Beresh, the Moab Museum’s curatorial and collections manager.

It’s a very human thing to do, she said: nowadays, people wanting to leave their mark may use location tags on social media but, historically, visitors to the Moab area would leave inscriptions on sandstone, boulders, and trees to tell each other where they had been and what they had done there.

The museum’s upcoming exhibit, “Butch Cassidy Was Here: Historic Inscriptions of the Colorado Plateau,” will explore the idea of marking memories through the work of two friends, James Knipmeyer, and the late Mike

Ford, who cataloged the inscriptions and the history of the Colorado Plateau through photographs and literature.

The two first visited the Colorado Plateau area in the 1960s, when they visited the Grand Canyon. In 1976, Knipmeyer set a goal to locate and photograph “all the historic inscriptions left before 1900 in the Colorado Plateau region of southern Utah and northern Arizona,” according to the museum. The collection is now comprised of over 1,600 images of these inscriptions and their stories.

The exhibit will also pay homage to Ford, who died in 2015, and Skip Doty, who entrusted Ford’s collection of Colorado Plateau literature to the museum. In addition to collecting books, Ford was a photographer: his landscape

See Museum Page 18

EVENT

June Artwalk showcases new exhibits

Participating locations throughout Moab

By ALISON HARFORD
Moab Sun News

This year’s third Artwalk will take place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 11. Art browsers are encouraged to wander to the Moab Museum (118 E. Center St.), Moab Bag Co. (55 E. 100 S.), Gallery Moab (58 S. Main St.), Tom Till Gallery (61 N. Main St.), Moonflower Co-op (39 E. 100 N.) and the Moab Arts and Recreation Center (111 E. 100 N.). The Fiery Furnace Marching Band will be playing at various locations throughout the night as well to accompany any walkers.

The Moab Museum will showcase an exhibit called “Butch Cassidy Was Here: Historic Inscriptions of the Colorado Plateau” [See “Leaving a mark” in this edition. -ed.] The exhibition displays “the confluence of history and photography,” according to museum staff: it’ll display photographs of inscriptions created in the Colorado Plateau area before 1900, while also paying homage to the photographer, Jim Knipmeyer, and his friend, Mike Ford.

Moab Bag Co. is a company started in Moab years ago that’s only recently made a resurgence. The company will showcase its own work—zippered bike pouches—as well as art from various other local artists. The space is also shared with local artist Suzy Williams, a jewelry maker. Her studio will be open during the walk, and she welcomes any questions about her process.

Each month, Gallery Moab picks a guest artist and a featured artist to showcase. This month, the gallery chose two artists as the guests: friends Bruni Mason and Sue Rydman. Both paint with watercolors, and usually at Rydman’s kitchen table—their art is abstract, an experiment of what watercolor can do. The featured artist this month is Carolyn Tibbets, a landscape painter, who “enjoys the challenge of painting cliffs, skies, and river reflections she

See Artwalk Page 18



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