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CV WEEKLY

THE SOUND AND VISION AWARDS

A LEGENDARY EVENING HONORING ROCK & ROLL HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

MONDAY MARCH 2 2026

Paul Rodgers
(Free, Bad Company)

Geezer Butler
(Black Sabbath)

FEATURING AN
ALL-STAR BAND LED BY
Matt Sorum
(Guns 'N Roses, The Cult)



INCLUDING:
Glenn Hughes (Deep Purple)
Lzzy Hale (Halestorm)
Corey Taylor (Slipknot)
Nuno Bettencourt (Extreme)
Robert DeLeo (Stone Temple Pilots)
Phil X (Bon Jovi)
Steve Stevens (Billy Idol)
Charlie Starr (Blackberry Smoke)
Stevie Salas (Mick Jagger)
Tanya O'Callaghan (Whitesnake)
Mike Mangan (The Cult)

ADOPT THE ARTS

Tickets at AdoptTheArts.org
Proceeds benefit Adopt The Arts
music education program.

THE Plaza THEATRE
Est. 1936

128 S. Palm Canyon Dr, Palm Springs, CA

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BIT N TONGUE PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

FOR TIX & INFO
SCAN QR

Burnt Bits
Comedy Fest
Palm Springs
2026

AGUA CALIENTE: FRIDAY MARCH 20TH
TOM ARNOLD

HOTEL ZOSO: SATURDAY MARCH 21ST
ALI MACOFSKY · SARA WEINSHENK · ALEX AVILA · BRIDGET SELL · CAITLYN ALYN
CHAD BRADBURY · DOMINIC HOUGHTON EDGAR GUTIERREZ · IZZY ORTIZ
JONATHAN FRASER · MIKE BAKER · PIERCE AMARO · RYAN STALDER
SHADI MATAR · CRAIG APPELBAUM · COMEDY COMPETITION ROUND 1

HOTEL ZOSO: SUNDAY MARCH 22ND
JASON STUART Q&A · GEORGE FERIDO · JULIE SHEPPARD
KATIE FRANK · NATE WYCKOFF · NICKY DAVIS JR · OZZIE GARCIA
PIPPI LOVESTOCKING · RICKY LUNA · SANDRO IOCOLANO · WES GAINEY
NO LLORES ROAST BATTLES · COMEDY COMPETITION ROUND 2

AFTER DARK: FRIDAY MARCH 20TH
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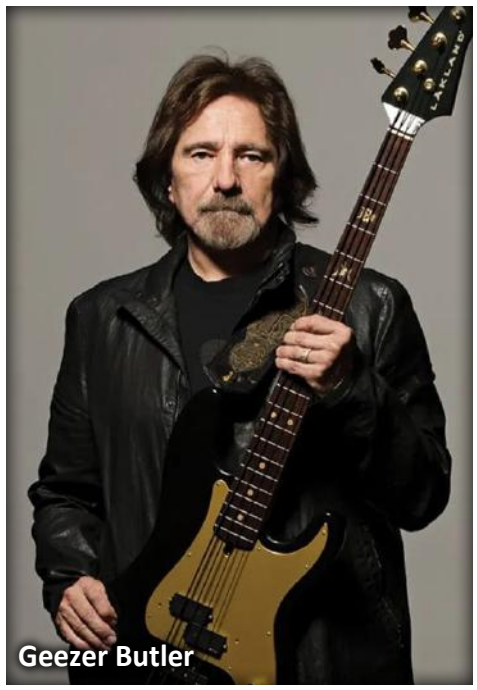
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ADOPT THE ARTS SOUND & VISION AWARDS BRINGS ROCK ROYALTY AND PURPOSE TO THE PLAZA THEATRE

BY TRACY DIETLIN AND PHIL LACOMBE


Geezer Butler


Paul Rodgers

On Monday, March 2, the iconic Plaza Theatre in downtown Palm Springs will host a night where legendary music, philanthropy, and education collide. Adopt the Arts Presents: Sound & Vision is more than a concert — it's a celebration of rock history with a mission that looks firmly toward the future.

This year's Sound & Vision Awards will honor two true icons: Paul Rodgers — the unmistakable voice behind Free and Bad Company — and Geezer Butler, founding bassist and lyrical architect of Black Sabbath. Together, their influence has helped shape decades of rock music, inspiring generations of musicians across genres.

Musical direction for the evening comes from Matt Sorum, drummer for Guns N' Roses, Velvet Revolver, and The Cult, and the founder of Adopt the Arts. Sorum will lead an all-star house band joined by a lineup of Rock & Roll Hall of Fame inductees and celebrated artists, delivering live performances that pay tribute to the honorees' legendary catalogs.

While the performances promise to be unforgettable, the heart of Sound & Vision lies in its purpose. Proceeds from the event benefit Adopt the Arts, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and expanding music education in public elementary schools — including programs serving students in the Coachella Valley. At a time when arts education continues to face funding challenges, the event underscores the importance of keeping music alive in classrooms.

Every ticket sold directly supports music education programs that give young students access to instruments, instruction, and creative expression.

Set against the restored grandeur of the Plaza Theatre, Sound & Vision promises a rare blend of intimacy and spectacle — a night where rock legends are honored not just for what they've achieved, but for how their legacy continues to give back.

For music fans, philanthropists, and anyone who believes in the power of the arts, Sound & Vision stands as one of the most meaningful live music events to hit Palm Springs this year.

Sound & Vision Awards at Plaza Theatre, Palm Springs Monday, March 2 at 7:00 PM

Tickets available at adopttheARTS.org.

We had a chat with Matt Sorum to talk about putting this event together.

Coachella Valley Weekly: You're bringing a stacked lineup to Palm Springs for the Sound & Vision Awards — honoring rock legends Paul Rodgers and Geezer Butler. What's it like curating a night that celebrates not just music, but legacy and community impact?

Sorum: "Well, for me it's bucket list. I grew up with Bad Company and Black Sabbath. That music had a huge impact on me as a kid growing up in the greatest era of music — the '70s. I pay huge respect to these guys and their legacy and want to always teach our kids about these great artists."

CVW: Adopt the Arts has been your passion project for years now — helping keep music education alive for thousands of kids. What moment or student story has hit you hardest and reminded you why you do this?

Sorum: "There are so many stories. Our kids come from diverse backgrounds, economically and socially, but what we bring with ATA inspires them. I've seen so many kids come to life when they discover themselves through music and working in a group setting with other kids. Life-changing moments happen with mentors who believe in them, like I do."

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SOUND & VISION AWARDS continued from page 3



CVW: You've got everyone from Lzzy Hale to Nuno Bettencourt in the lineup — all powerhouse musicians with their own unique styles. How do you approach blending that energy into one cohesive, all-star performance?

Sorum: "I'm a band leader in this setting, and after my last band, Velvet Revolver, disbanded in 2009, I never looked back and have forged my own way. I've been running my own band, Kings of Chaos, for over 12 years with some of the greatest singers and musicians alive. Somehow, they trust me with all the moving parts, including a set list that I envision for each of them."

CVW: The show's happening right here in the desert — in the Coachella Valley. What makes this the perfect place for an event like this, and how has the local creative community inspired your work?

Sorum: "The desert inspired me to live here, and I married my wife and had my daughter here. With that, the community has opened their arms to ATA — as we now have six schools in the Coachella Valley. It's our first local fundraiser to get more community financial support."

CVW: The "Changels" choir is such a beautiful part of your work — the name itself combining change and angels. How did that idea come about, and what does it represent to you personally?

Sorum: "I had an early musical collaborator who left Hollywood behind and went off to help kids in Afghanistan. He called my first choir at my pilot school Changels - "angels of change" - and it stuck."

CVW: When you see The Changels perform — these young voices uniting through music — what goes through your mind? What emotions hit you the hardest in those moments?

Sorum: "Moments like that, they will remember for a lifetime. They have been given the opportunity to be heard and seen. It builds confidence and self-esteem. Those little voices will go on to be big voices. That's a fact."

CVW: What's one performance or rehearsal with The Changels that completely blew you away or reminded you why you started this program?

Sorum: "The kids just get better and better. They take pride in their group, and the kids are pillars of the community. It's powerful and brings a lot of hope to our kids and their families."

CVW: The Changels are proof that music can heal and inspire. What do you hope these kids carry with them long after they leave the program?

Sorum: "Like I said before, we start them young — the formative years of discovering who they are. Music shaped me young, and I've gone on to do many other things because of it. They will as well. We're not helping shape the next rock star unless that's what they want. They will form that passion through art and music to create a world all their own."

CVW: If you could get one major rock legend to collaborate or perform with The Changels, who would it be — and what song would you want them to sing together?

Sorum: "Well, we've already had Ringo and Paul Rodgers, and we plan to continue that series. I have a large Rolodex, and it's a simple ask that most of them understand. These kids are the future."

CVW: Is there anything else you would like to talk about that we didn't cover?

Sorum: "Keep rockin'!!!"

We also spoke with Paul Rodgers about the event.

CVW: You were recently inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and now you will be honored again at the Sound and Vision awards. How does it feel to still be receiving these accolades after such a long career?

Rodgers: "Music has given me many gifts. Just the fact that I was blessed to do what I love and making a living doing so. When I started out some 63 years ago, I was 14, I never imagined that music would have taken me all around the world many, many times or given me awards such as being inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, or receiving the Sound and Vision award from the Adopt the Arts program.

It amazes and surprises me that the music I wrote and continue to write still resonates with people and every once in a while, I get the tip of the hat from my peers and contemporaries and receive awards."

CVW: I know there will be an All-Star band that night, will you be performing?

Rodgers: "You can't help but be impressed by the list of musicians that have stepped forward and stepped up to play and help raise funds for the program, which helps kids experience music. Unfortunately, and sadly, music programs are no longer offered in schools. I must admit that had music not entered my life when it did chances are I would have been running the streets and getting into nothing but trouble. So big thanks to the musicians, like Glenn Hughes from Deep Purple, Lzzy Hale from Halestorm, Charlie Starr from Blackberry Smoke, Corey Taylor from Slipknot, Nino Bettencourt from Extreme, Robert DeLeo from Stone Temple Pilots, Steve Stevens from Billy Idol, Mike Mangan from The Cult and everyone else, the list is long! It will be a night to remember. I have started rehearsing to perform on the night."

CVW: How does it feel to be semi-retired, retired from performing?

Rodgers: "It's safe to say that I have semi-retired from performing and that I have happily entered the acoustic, Zen phase of my life. However, on this special occasion I am gearing up to hit the stage and perform with these gifted, selfless musicians and celebrate the children that make up The Changels."

CVW: Is there anyone that even you get starstruck by when you meet them or perform with them?

Rodgers: "Absolutely. When I met one of my heroes, Sam Moore from the duo, Sam and Dave. I first heard his voice when I was about 14. When I met him, all of a sudden I became that 14 year-old school boy standing before the great Sam Moore. He could not have been more kind or gracious, knowing that I was so nervous to meet him. We ended up becoming very good friends and performed and recorded together. Dreams really do come true, again another gift from music."

CVW: What is your connection with the Changels?

Rodgers: "My friend Matt Sorum, former drummer with Guns N' Roses and cofounder of the Adopt the Arts program with actress Jane Lynch, mentioned the charity to my wife, Cynthia. She recommended that we get involved and felt that it would help the children and bring me a lot of joy. Once again they were so right. It filled me with so much joy meeting the children and singing with them, answering their questions, mentoring them. I recorded 'Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy' with The Changels last year. You can hear it and see our video on YouTube. I think the kids did an amazing job. See what you think?

There is a sweetness and innocence that is so precious and heart melting when you are around children and then add hearing them sing. Matt Sorum is an inspiring leading for this cause for the kids. His devotion is something to behold.

Matt and coordinator Laurie Baker, have a great team of teachers who volunteer, together they get it all done.

We will continue to support their mission here in California and help children learn, grow and explore through the arts."

We hope to see everyone on Monday, March 2 at 7:00 at The Plaza Theatre in Palm Springs to support Adopt the Arts at The Sound and Vision Awards. Tickets available at www.adoptthearts.org. CV





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Amy's Purpose, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization IRS Tax Exempt **EIN #86-1898526** dedicated to pet safety and predator awareness by providing community-based education programs and offering full scholarships to local individuals to attend College of the Desert Partnership and Community Education Veterinary Assistant program to help rectify the current emergency veterinarian care crisis. As of August 2025, Amy's Purpose has awarded 32 full scholarships.

CONSIDER THIS

LILY ALLEN "WEST END GIRL" (BMG RECORDS)





BY ELENI P. AUSTIN

Yeah, I know, you've been able to stream Lily Allen's *West End Girl* since last October. But, what can I tell you, I'm an analog Bitch Goddess living in a digital world, so I had to wait until it arrived on vinyl and CD to really take a deep dive. Man, what a record.

Just ahead of Adele and Duffy, and concurrently with Amy Winehouse, Lily Allen first made a splash in the early aughts. The London native was born in 1985 to Welsh actor Keith Allen and film producer Alison Owen. Her parents divorced when she was four, but she had been bitten by the showbiz bug early on, appearing the year before in the television series, *The Comic Strip Presents.*

Growing up with her siblings, Sarah, Alfie and Rebecca, Lily attended 13 different schools as a kid. Something of a rebel, she was expelled from several schools for drinking and smoking. When she was 11, an older student, Rachel Santesso, overheard Lily singing the Oasis song, *"Wonderwall,"* and recognized her undeniable talent. From then on, she received informal singing lessons. Rather quickly, she learned piano, violin, trumpet and guitar, and even joined the chamber choir. By age 15, she dropped out of school, hoping to pursue music full-time.

During the first five years of the 21st century, her career trajectory felt like one step forward, two steps back. She recorded a demo, record labels were interested, until they weren't. Finally, she began sharing her music on Myspace (ahh, the innocent days of Myspace), and gained a passionate fan base. She wound up self-releasing *My First Mixtape* and *My Second Mixtape.* Pretty soon, the music press took notice and the label she had already signed with was forced to play catch up.

By jump-starting her own career, with some help from her label, Regal Recordings, she was given more autonomy. She insisted on recording her debut in the U.S. with soon-to-be hot producers Greg Kurstin (Sia, Adele, Foo Fighters, Beck) and Mark Ronson (Adele, Bruno Mars, Paul McCartney, Lady Gaga). *Alright Still* arrived in 2006, laced with Ska and Reggae accents, it was a critical *and* commercial success. Storming the charts, it hit #2 in the U.K. and reached the Top 20 in the states. It also earned a Grammy nomination for Best Alternative Record.

Three years later she returned with her second effort, *It's Not Me, It's You,* which side-stepped the dreaded sophomore slump by integrating traces of Electropop and Jazz into her sound. More records followed, *Sheezus,* in 2014 (which debuted at #1 in England), and *No Shame,* four years later. She also penned a cheeky autobiography, *My Thoughts Exactly,* began acting in film, theater and television, married builder Sam Cooper. The couple later welcomed two daughters, Ethel May and Marnie Rose.

A year after she and Sam amicably split up, she married *Stranger Things* actor David Harbour. After meeting cute on the exclusive dating site Raya, the pair were swept up in a whirlwind, 21st century romance. PDAs on the red carpet and Halloween dates at Disneyland were breathlessly chronicled on social media. Engagement rumors swirled during the Covid lockdown and the couple tied the knot in Las Vegas in late 2020. They set up house in Brooklyn.

Four years later, the bloom was off the rose. Lily discovered that her husband had committed a string of infidelities. The couple broke up, and now she's chronicled the experience in her 5th long-player, *West End Girl.* Something of a song-cycle it sorta recalls Elizabeth Kubler-Ross' five stages of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Only stretches across 14 songs, and relies heavily on the word "Fuck,"

The record kicks into gear with the title-track. A breezy, Bacharach-flavored Bossa Nova, it features lush strings. whirring woodwinds and percolating percussion. Lily seems to be floating on clouds as she recounts her Brooklyn Brownstone fairy tale: *"And now we're all here, we've moved to New York, we found a nice rental near a sweet little school, now I'm looking at houses, with four or five floors, and you found us a brownstone, you said 'you want it, it's yours.'"* But rather quickly, a few chinks begin to appear from her knight in shining armor: *"Later that evening you said how was my day, I said 'I got some good news, I got the lead in a play,' that's when your demeanor started to change, You said I'd have to audition, I said 'You're deranged…' and I thought that was quite strange."* Once she's in London for the play, the giddy arrangement is dialed back and we're treated to a one-sided phone conversation where she quietly reacts as he asks permission to engage in non-monogamous sex. The woozy instrumentation exists just beneath the awkward discussion before sputtering to a stop.

The mood radically shifts on *"Ruminating,"* as gauzy strings are supplanted by a mechanical clank, a thumpity heartbreak beat and Lily's heavily processed vocals. Fight-or-flight instincts kick in as she tries to comprehend what's been agreed upon: *"I told you all of this has been brutal, you told me that you felt the same, it's mutual, and then you came out with this line, so crucial, yeah, 'if it has to happen, baby, do you really want to know?'"* And she reacts, *"What a fucking line..."* The tempo accelerates, as her robotic acquiescence gives way to outrage: *"Why can't you wait for me to come home, this conversation's too big for a phone call."*

Part sad lullaby, part breathless Girl Group homage, *"Sleepwalking"* hurls accusations with deadly accuracy: *"Course I'm angry, course I'm hurt, looking back, it's so absurd, course I trusted you and took me at your word, who said romance isn't dead, been no romance since we wed, 'why aren't we fucking baby?' that's what you said, but you let me think it was all in my head, and nothing to do with them girls in your bed."* Bloopy keys, blurred guitars and staggered synth pulse frame Lily's vocal flights of fancy, even as the lyrics reveal this cheerless epiphany: *"I know you've made me your Madonna, I want to be your whore, Baby, it would be my honor, Please Sir, can I have some more, I could preserve all your fantasies, if only you would act them out with me….you won't love me, you won't leave me."*

In the '70s, they called it, "sport-fucking." Lily settle's for *"Tennis."* A stuttery piano chord disrupts an otherwise creamy Philly-Soul throwback. Shang-a-lang guitars connect with a buttery string section, crushed velvet keys and a rumpity beat. The first verse paints a portrait of familial bliss: *"Daddy's home, for the first time in weeks, got the dinner on the table, tell the kids it's time to eat, and I made my baby's favorite, but he didn't seem to care, I just tell myself he's jet-lagged and I'm glad to have him here."* Things quickly sour, as Lily tries to get to the truth, she echoes one refrain: *"And who the fuck is Madeline?"* The piano acts like a Greek chorus repeating insistent chords of inquiry.

The arrangement for *"Madeline"* lands in that sweet spot between a Spy-tastic *James Bond* theme and a dusty Spaghetti Western. Rippling castanets, fluttery Flamenco guitars, fluid bass lines and stentorian synth-horns are tethered to a galloping beat. After some detective work, Lily confronts her husband's paramour, spewing questions with rat-a-tat precision: *"How long has it been going on, is it just sex or is there emotion, he told me he would stay out of hotels and never be open…. we had an arrangement, be discreet and don't be blatant, there had to be payment, it had to be with strangers, but you're not a stranger, Madeline."* Madeline's self-serving mea culpa is delivered in a grody-to-the-max Valley Girl cadence. It begins by insisting that the agreement is *"only about sex, I can promise you this is not an emotional connection,"* and ends with drippy New Age aphorisms like *"light and love,"* and an offer to act as a sounding-board in case Lily needs to vent. Eeek.

Over a skippity click-track, Lily worries she'll jeopardize her hard-won sobriety on *"Relapse."* The first verse feels as though she's falling into an emotional abyss: *"The ground is gone beneath me, you pulled the safety net, I moved across an ocean, from my family, from my friends, the foundation is shattered, You've made such a fucking mess, I tried to be your modern wife, but the child in me protests."* Luckily, she summons her inner-strength in time to reactivate her rapier wit on the following track.

"Pussy Palace" is simply the cat's meow. Feathery synths blip and bloop across a pillowy arrangement. Lily's deadpan vocals wrap around verses that confirm the worst and confront the situation head on: *"Don't come home, I don't want you in my bed, go to the apartment in the West Village instead, I'll drop off your clothes, your mail and medication, I'm already on my way, headed to the station."* She immediately knows something's amiss: *"I found a shoebox full of handwritten letters, from broken-hearted women wishing you could have been better, sheets pulled off the bed, strewn on all the floor, long black hair probably from the night before, Duane Reed bag with the handles tied, sex toys, butt plugs, lube inside, hundreds of Trojans, You're so fucking broken, how'd I get caught in your double life?"* Her trenchant kiss-off is simply cutting and sublime: *"I didn't know it was your Pussy Palace, Pussy Palace, Pussy Palace, Pussy Palace, I thought it was a Dojo, Dojo, Dojo, Dojo, so am I looking at a sex addict, sex addict, sex addict, sex addict, oh, talk about a low blow, oh no, oh no,"*

By *"4Chan Stan,"* she has mastered the art of rebuke and invented a new term for an obsessive douchebag. Bleating keys tangle with rubbery bass lines, slinky synths, lithe guitars and a buoyant beat accompany Lily as she discovers a new layer of betrayal: *"I went through your bedside drawer, you know I've never been inclined to do that before, never been to Bergdorf's, but you took someone*

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LILY ALLEN continued from page 6

shopping there in May, '24/You bought her a handbag, it wasn't cheap, I was in London, probably asleep, did you go to Montauk for the weekend, was there an encore, did it pay dividends?" The lilting chorus puts it all in perspective: *"Why won't you tell me what her name is, this is outrageous, is she famous, say that it's over, do you mean hiatus? Why won't you tell me, what a sad, sad man, it's giving 4chan stan, what a sad, sad man, it's giving 4chan stan."* This song is the musical equivalent of an Orchiectomy.

The record turns a corner with *"Nonmonogamummy."* Drafting off a raucous, Dancehall Reggae groove, guest vocalist Specialist Moss offers up some rapid-fire toasting as she considers a polyamorous change, in order to keep her marriage intact. Wiry guitar riffs ping across tensile bass and stinging keys, strafing a Rebel Rocker riddim. She considers her options: *"We fell in love, I landed on my feet, I was the cat that got the cream, we built a palace on a perfect street, you really sold me on a dream, and now I'm looking at my Tinder, or maybe I'm more of a Hinger, he wants to take me out for dinner, hope he looks better than his picture."* Even as she confides *"I've been trying to be open, I just want to meet your needs, and for some reason, I prefer people-pleasing, I'll be your Nonmonogamummy, I'm just trying to be open,"* she doesn't seem fully convinced. You think Shakespeare envisioned dating apps when he coined the phrase "to thine own self be true?"

The final few tracks here find our heroine trying to navigate this unexpected sea change. Dulcet harps and shimmering strings underscore the forlorn Torch song, *"Just Enough."* She confronts a new at every turn: *"Did you fall in love, with someone who isn't me, why are we talking about vasectomies, did you get someone pregnant, someone who isn't me, did you take her to the clinic, did you hold her hand, is she having your baby?"* The emotional whiplash continues with *"Dallas Major."* when she contemplates dipping her toe into the dating pool, but only under an assumed name: *"I go by Dallas Major, but that's not really my name, you know, I used to be quite famous, way back in the day, yes, I'm here for validation, and probably should explain, how my marriage has been opened, as my husband went astray."*

Finally, the final triptych of tracks restore a bit of order. *"Beg For Me"* is a last-ditch effort that feels perfunctory. Plucky strings are wed to a mechanized anvil beat as Lily sets her terms: *"I want to be held, I want to be told I'm special and unusual, I want your desire, I want your desire, I want to be told I'm beautiful."* But she quickly realizes it's never to happen: *"I feel embarrassed, I feel ashamed, you're so indifferent and that's insane, where's all your empathy for all my pain, my friends all tell me that you are deranged."*

She turns a page with *"Let You W/ in."* Sunny guitars lock into a pastoral arrangement shadowed by an elliptical beat. Pain finally gives way to indifference: *"I will not absorb your shame, it was you who put me through this, I could tell myself you'll change, do it all again, be deluded, never get your sympathy, I don't think you're able, but I can walk out with my dignity, if I lay it on the table/Lie to the children the ending was mutual, I'll shoulder all the pain, I'm sick of carrying, suffering for your sins, I've already let you in, so why should I let you win, you've taken everything."*

With the closer, *"Fruityloop,"* there's light at the end of the tunnel. Latticing whistle-synths and a hiccoughing brrr'ed beat, Lily's deceptively sweet vocals are juxtaposed by the lyrics' caustic kiss-off : *"You're just a little boy, looking for his mummy, things have gotten complicated, what with all the fame and money, playing with his toys, he just wants attention, he can't really do attachment, scared he's gonna be abandoned, and I finally see, it's not me, it's you."* Still, she shoulders some of the blame, conceding *"I'm just a little girl, looking for a daddy, thought that we could break the cycle, thought that I could keep you happy, it is what it is, You're a mess, I'm a bitch, wish I could fix all your shit, but all your shit's yours to fix."* Equal parts wispy and wistful, it shifts the balance of power, finally closing a chapter. It's a stunning end to a watershed record.

Lilly Allen has put it all on the line for this record, and the gamble has paid off. *West End Girl* is roller coaster ride of emotions that play out across a luxuriant sonic soundscape. From chaos comes creation, from catastrophe comes catharsis. CV

THE CRUZADOS TO PLAY PAPPY & HARRIET'S

MUSIC

BY ELENI P. AUSTIN



The Cruzados are playing at Pappy & Harriet's on Wednesday, March 11th, 2026. Originally, The Cruzados rose from the ashes of The Plugz. Along with The Zeros, The Plugz were one of the first Latino Punk bands in Los Angeles.

The Plugz featured Tito Larriva, Charlie "Chalo" Quintana, Tony Marsico and Steve Hufsteter. They made their bones playing alongside acts like The Weirdos, X, The Germs and Fear in dingy clubs like The Masque, Madame Wong's and The Music Machine. The four-piece recorded two classic records, *Electrify Me* and *Better Luck.*

They became best known for contributing two indelible songs to the soon-to-be cult classic film, *Repo Man,* starring Emilio Estevez and (the late-great) Harry Dean Stanton. Not long after, The Plugz were playing a gig at The Music Machine and none other than Bob Dylan caught their high energy set. He became an ardent fan. Soon after, he invited the band to his Malibu estate to play music. Sometimes those jam sessions lasted for days, and their mercurial host put them through their paces. When Bob agreed to perform on *Late Night With David Letterman* in 1984, it was The Plugz that backed him for an incendiary three-song set. (That epochal moment recently became available on one of Bob's bootleg box sets, *Springtime In New York: The Bootleg Series Vol. 16 (1980-1985).)*

By the mid '80s, Punk was being edged out of the Los Angeles scene by Hair Metal acts like Motley Crue, Poison and Ratt. Bands like X and The Blasters had already begun incorporating Blues, Country, Folk and Soul into their sound, while Los Lobos took it a step further honoring their Mexican heritage by including traditional *Nortenos* and *Corridos* in their high voltage sets. That confluence of styles appealed to Tito, Chalo, Tony and Steven. Ditching The Plugz moniker, they became The Cruzados.

Courted by major record labels, they signed with Arista Records and their self-titled debut arrived in 1985. They were on the fast track, by the time their sophomore effort, *After Dark* was released, the band had a number of well-connected fans, like Brian Setzer, John Fogerty and David Byrne cheering them on. In turn, they were added as the opening act for big names like Joe Cocker, Billy Idol and INXS. Stevie Nicks became so infatuated with their song, *"Bed Of Lies"* that she invited The Cruzados to open for Fleetwood Mac for their *Tango In The Night* tour. Even though the music press consistently hyped the band as "the next big thing," those predictions never came to fruition. The band quietly called it quits in 1990.

Fast-forward 30 years to 2020, during the COVID lockdown, Tony Marsico was itching to play some maximum Rock & Roll. He had made a name for himself as a touring and session musician, along with fronting bands like Cisco & Dewey and The Martini Kings, and playing musicians in films like *Roadhouse* and *Georgia.* He began writing songs specifically with The Cruzados in mind. He contacted Tito and Steven, but they were busy with other projects. Sadly, following stints touring with Bob Dylan and Social Distortion, Chalo suffered a fatal heart attack in 2018.

With Tito and Steven's blessing, he decided to form a new iteration of the band. He reached out to guitarist Mark Teralgia, who ten reconnected Tony with his and Chalo's old friends, guitarist Loren Molinare and vocalist Ron Young. Back in the '80s, they were part of the band Little Caesar. Drummer Rob Klonel was the final piece of the puzzle. Tony was hoping to find someone with the skills and finesse that Chalo possessed. Rob quickly passed the test.

Their debut, *"She's… Automatic"* arrived in 2021, and the band quickly followed up with *Land Of The Endless Sun* and a live set, *Live From Marseille,* which was released following their first European tour. Coming in May, *The Best Of The Cruzados* will be on vinyl via the Rum Bar Records label.

Pappy & Harriet's Present The Cruzados with The Glimmer Stars.

Wednesday, March 11th 2026.

Doors at 8pm. Show at 9pm.

53688 Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown, CA 92268.

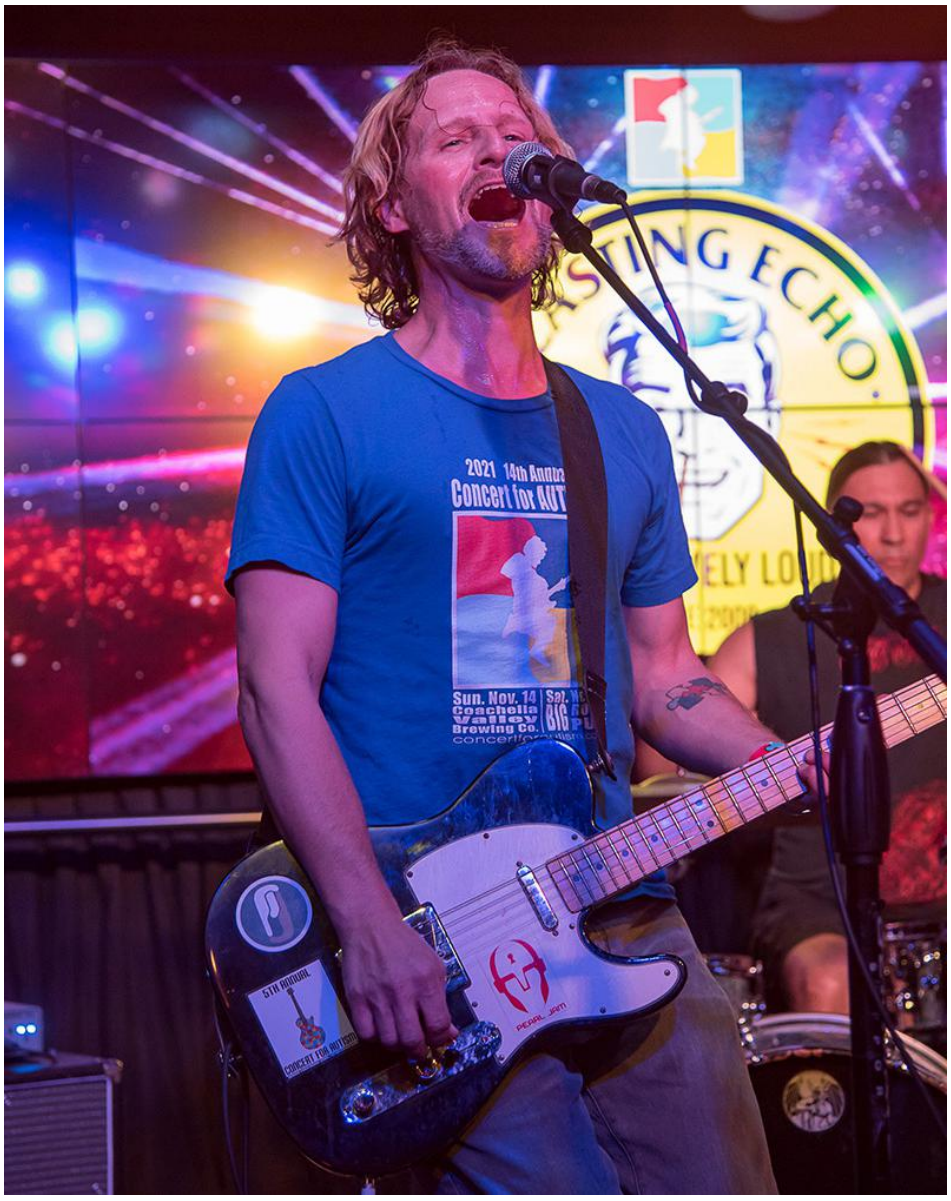
All Ages – Indoor Show.

pappyandharriets.com. CV



LOCAL MUSIC SPOTLIGHT WITH JOSH HEINZ

LOCAL MUSIC



BY PHIL LACOMBE



From gritty Memphis roots to becoming a cornerstone of the Coachella Valley music scene, Josh Heinz is more than a frontman, he's a force of passion, purpose, and persistence. Known for his raw vocals, emotionally charged songwriting, and leadership in bands like Blasting Echo, 5th Town, Wyndom Earle, and Dufreign, Heinz has spent decades carving out a sound that's honest, heavy, and heartfelt. Beyond the stage, he's equally impactful as a community builder and autism advocate, helping produce the annual Concert for Autism, turning music into meaningful change. Josh Heinz represents what the local scene does best: music with soul and a mission.

CVW: You've played in several influential Coachella Valley bands, how has your sound evolved from your early days to where you are now as a songwriter and frontman?

Heinz: When I was younger, I was pretty set on "I wrote this song. This is the way it goes. And let's do it that way." Yes, I'm ok with adding an extra part here or there, but I wanted the songs to stick to my original vision. But over the years I learned the value of embracing other's creativity. It was really in Blasting Echo where I would start bringing only a piece of music to the band and then say "Hey, where does this take each of us to." Maybe someone else's influences can steer the song into a direction that is more interesting and fulfilling than mine. Most of the time, that proves to be true. Plus, it gives each band member an ownership of the song. You may be the person that births the idea, but it's the other members that nurture that idea and guide it to its full potential.

In Dufreign, I've learned to be more open to a type of song that I wouldn't write and it has challenged me to be a better musician and singer. I'm grateful for that. In a nutshell, I've learned to be more open.

There are a ton of acoustic songs I do that are still my own, but if either of the bands wanted to do one of those, I'd welcome ideas that would make them better in a full band context.

As a frontman, I feel I'm pretty much the same. I try to give an honest performance, regardless of who or how many people are around when it is being played. I try to reach for the intensity of the feeling when I first wrote the lyrics. They may have been about something long ago, but visiting it for a few minutes to express that feeling is therapeutic.

CVW: Coming from Memphis, a city with deep musical roots, what lessons or influences did you bring with you that still shape your music today?

Heinz: At that time, the history of Memphis music wasn't a big influence to me. We wanted to make our own history. It really was only after I left there that I began to appreciate it. I never toured Graceland or Sun Studios. I regret that now. Sometimes you can be near-sighted in your youth. Certainly, Johnny Cash's music and life - though it may not be evident - has been a meaningful influence on me.

The lesson I learned from Memphis was that we - the band I was in called Wyndom Earle - were young suburban guys. The music scenes were in midtown, downtown, the Pinch District, the North End, the Highland strip, Beale Street. It took us a bit to realize we had to participate more in the scene. We had to go to the shows. We had to go hang out. Support the other bands. Meet people. And when we did, we were rewarded with great experiences and relationships.

So, when I moved here and knew absolutely no one, I realized I had to go find the music. And eventually I did. And I'm glad I did. I found an incredible music scene with incredible bands and musicians. In a way shorter answer, I learned from Memphis that I had to 'network'.

CVW: Blasting Echo and Dufreign both connect deeply with audiences, what do you think people feel when they hear your music live that they don't get from the studio recordings?

Heinz: The power and intensity of the moment. It's great to crank up a song in the car going down the freeway. But it's a different animal when you are in a room with all the sound hitting your entire body and you can see the face of those creating it. That's much more exciting.

CVW: Your lyrics often feel personal and emotionally raw, where does that vulnerability come from, and how important is honesty in your songwriting?

Heinz: It's just the way I do it. Some songs are deeply autobiographical, some are semi-autobiographical, some are stories influenced by personal relationships and the lives of people I know or have known. Some are reflections on current events, the state of our community and the dark heart of power, greed and lies that continue to destroy our society. Some are inspired by other art that I consume. At the end of the day, it's my thoughts and reflections on this thing called life, and the only way I know how to present them is with honestly and passion.

CVW: You've balanced being a musician, husband, and father while staying active in the scene, how has family changed the way you approach music and success?

Heinz: I've tried to balance it. Sometimes well. But sometimes maybe not so well. I would love to make a living making music, but I don't make music for that reason. I make music to express how I feel. With a family there is a responsibility and you have to be present. I love that and embrace it. So, at this point, I don't seek out success on that level as much as I did before. But I'm thankful for every opportunity I get to create, play and perform. Playing music is what completes the balance. I feel like I'm a much more centered person when I am playing music regularly.

CVW: The Concert for Autism has become a powerful annual event, what inspired you to turn music into advocacy, and what does that night mean to you personally?

Heinz: Having children on the autism spectrum is what inspired me. I saw other benefit shows for meaningful causes happening and I thought it just made sense to blend my passion for music with the need to help others on the spectrum and their families. What it has become is beyond what I ever imagined. Every year having the music community come together to make a meaningful and positive impact on something so personal is a fulfilling experience. I'm grateful for it.

CVW: The Coachella Valley music scene has grown and shifted over the years, what excites you most about where it's headed right now?

Heinz: It certainly has grown and shifted. In ways I didn't expect. Sometimes in ways that have been good. And sometimes in ways not so good. Certainly, this younger generation of musicians and fans have created a new scene. Matt King has been instrumental in nurturing it. As well as Miguel Abrallo, Billy Gargan and I'm sure other folks I just don't know. You've got great young bands like The Divines, Salton City Surf Club, Whitewater, Julian and the Band, and so many others. I very much appreciate how those younger guys have kept me in the loop and asked me to play shows. All of that is great.

What isn't great is the lack of venues in the low desert that welcome and support live original music. We are hurting for that in a big way.

I'm thankful for those few places that do consistently offer a space for original music

continue to page 9



JOSH HEINZ continued from page 6

shows to happen. But it is way too few. I don't even need all five fingers to count them.

CVW: What's one misconception people have about being a long-time local musician that you'd love to set straight?

Heinz: To be honest, I'm not sure I know what misconceptions people have. I can only say that I continue to do what I do because it feeds my soul. It makes me a better person. It gives me an outlet to express and work through things. Hopefully, when I do that live, it provides a positive experience for those in the room.

CVW: Looking ahead, what's next for Josh Heinz, new music, new collaborations, or new ways to give back through the scene?

Heinz: Looking ahead we will continue the rebirth of Dufreign. I'm grateful to have this opportunity with these guys again. It's something I never expected would happen. To play the songs again, create new music together, and just hang out, has been incredible fun. I look forward to what we will do in the future.

With Blasting Echo, we've taken some time off, but we will be playing again later this year. I look forward to being together and giving the songs life again.

Solo wise, I will continue to play acoustically as much as I can, as long I get the opportunity to do so. I've got a lot of material and I need to play. Again, it's good for me.

I'd like to record and release some of these acoustic songs this year.

Of course, the 19th Annual Concert for Autism will be happening in the fall. We've already locked the Main Event date for Saturday, October 17th at Big Rock Pub again. I'm starting to work on that, which is crazy. I've never started in February before, but you got to get things rolling quickly these days. And even though it is 8 months away, it will be here before you know it. So, If you are a business reading this and want sponsor or donate to this year's concert, please go to **www.concertforautism.com** or email me at: contact@concertforautism.com.





For the scene, I will certainly continue to advocate for the support of original music. As I said before, we need more venues that provide opportunities for original music to be played.

And it works both ways. We need the consumers of music to be more open minded to original music. There are so many talented musicians and bands in our scene. If you go check them out - and take a moment to listen - you will find music that moves you in all the ways that familiar music does.

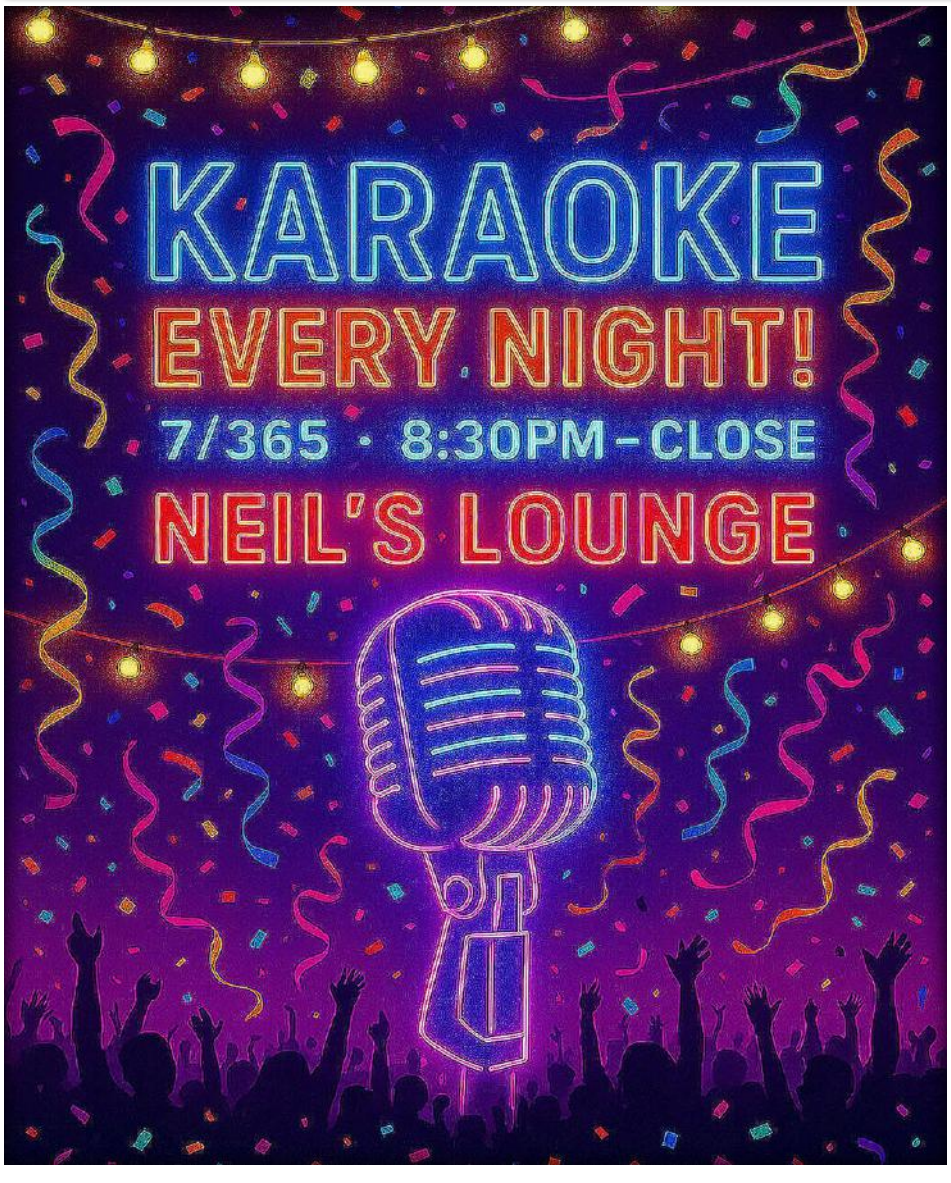
CVW: Where can fans find you?

Heinz: You can find Dufreign and Blasting Echo in all the usual places and platforms. I also have a solo record out there called *Josh Heinz Made in Memphis 2003*. Just put in any of the names in the search box and the music will come up. You can do the same on YouTube, Instagram and Facebook.

Follow the socials and see when the bands are playing and when I'm doing solo gigs. I hope to see you at the shows and at the 19th Annual Concert for Autism events in the fall.

Josh Heinz's story is proof that music can be both a creative outlet and a catalyst for connection. Whether he's commanding the stage, writing songs that cut straight to the core, or using his platform to uplift families and causes close to his heart, Heinz continues to leave a lasting mark on the Coachella Valley. As the local scene moves forward, voices like Josh's remind us that authenticity, community, and passion never go out of style.

That's a wrap on this week's Local Music Spotlight, but the party doesn't stop here. Hit the shows, feel the beats, and keep the valley's music scene thriving. Because around here, the next song that changes your life might be playing tonight. CV





CLUB CRAWLER NIGHTLIFE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Babaloo Lounge – Steve Sanders Pianist – 4pm, Roger and the Rebels – 7pm
Bart Lounge – DJ – 8pm
Carousel @ Agua Caliente P.S. – Louis Armstrong and Jack Teagarden Tribute – 7pm
Casuelas Café – Lisa Lynn and the Broken Hallelujahs – 5:30pm
Coachella Valley Brewery TP – Open Mic Night – 7pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – Throwbacks w/ DJ Rapmarz – 9pm
Eddie V's – AJ DeGrasse Trio – 6:30pm
Hunny's - Cowboy and Lace w/ Brian Scott and Siobahn Velarde – 7pm
Kitchen 86 – Krystofer Do – 8:30pm
Lavender Bistro – Abie Perkins (Inside), Patrick Mahon and Carrie Wilson (Patio) – 6:30pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – Noeline Hofmann w/ Cole Phillips – 9pm
Plan B Live Entertainment and Cocktails – Thirsty Thursday Dance Party w/ DJ Tone – 8pm
Purple Room – La Vie en Rose w/ Jeremie Levi Samson – 6:30pm
The Roost Lounge – Jeff St. Germain – 6:30pm
Sandbar – Bill Baker – 6pm
Shanghai Reds PS –TBA– 6pm
Twelve @ Fantasy Springs – HWY 111 – 8pm
V Wine Lounge and Martini Bar – Jason Weber – 6pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – Richard Turner Jr – 6pm
Wildest – Live Music – 6pm

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Babaloo Lounge – Steve Sanders Pianist – 4pm, Off Da Cuff – 7pm
Bart Lounge – DJ – 8pm
Big Rock Pub – Electric Feel – 6pm
Cascade Lounge @ Agua Caliente – A Night of Neil Diamond and Linda Ronstadt – 7pm, Cascade Nights Dance Party – 10pm
Casuelas Café – The Myx – 7pm
Coachella Valley Brewery – TBA – 7pm
The Dune Room – DJ Lost Cafe – 8pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – TBA – 8pm, DJ Rapmarz – 11pm
Eddie V's – Johnny Meza Trio – 6:30pm
Giuseppe's @Shadow Ridge – Live Music – 8pm
The Hood – Drag Queen Bingo – 9pm
Indian Wells Resort Hotel – Marc Antonelli – 6pm
Kitchen 86 – Dueling Pianos – 9pm
Lavender Bistro – Abie Perkins (Inside), Scott Carter (Patio) – 6:30pm
Lit @ Fantasy Springs – Smooth Touch – 9pm
The Local on 50th – Live Music – 7pm
Macario's Grill Cantina – Karaoke – 7pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – Rose's Pawn Shop w/ The Far West – 9:30pm
Plan B Live Entertainment & Cocktails – Red's Rockstar Karaoke – 9pm
Purple Room – Rose Mallett – 8pm
Sandbar – Bill Baker – 6pm
Shanghai Reds PS – Barry Baughn Blues Band – 7pm
Spotlight Casino – Frankie Gonzalez Comedy Show – 8pm
Twelve @ Fantasy Springs – Moonchild – 7pm, Steel Rod – 10:30pm
V Wine Lounge and Martini Bar – Siobhan – 7pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – Doug MacDonald – 5pm, John Stanley King – 7:30pm
Wildest – Live Music – 6pm

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Babaloo Lounge – Judy Wolman Pianist – 4pm, Michael D'Angelo – 7pm
Bart Lounge – DJ – 9pm
Big Rock Pub – The Refills – 8pm
Cascade Lounge @ Agua Caliente – Cascade Nights Dance Party – 10pm
Casuelas Café – Los Garzaz – 6:30pm
Chef George's Picasso Lounge – Saturday Night Fever w/ Gotti – 9pm
Coachella Valley Brewery – Taproom Tunes – 8pm
The Dune Room – Avenida, Whitewater and Quivero – 8pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – DJ Rapmarz – 9pm
Eddie V's – Danielle Alexander – 6:30pm
Giuseppe's @Shadow Ridge – Live Music – 8pm
Grnd Sqrl – Live Music – 6pm
The Hood – TBA – 9pm
Indian Wells Resort Hotel – Marc Antonelli – 6pm
Kitchen 86 – Dueling Pianos – 9pm
Lavender Bistro – Abie Perkins (Inside), Scott Carter (Patio) – 6:30pm
Lit @ Fantasy Springs – Smooth Touch – 9pm
The Local on 50th – Live Music – 7pm
Macario's Grill Cantina – Karaoke – 7pm
Mojave Gold – Dance Mojave Dance w/ Tina Turntables – 8pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – Matt Pryor w/ Small Uncle – 9:30pm
Plan B Live Entertainment & Cocktails – Red's Rockstar Karaoke – 9pm
Purple Room – TBA – 8pm
The Roost Lounge – Gennine Francis Jackson – 6pm
Sandbar – Bill Baker – 6pm
Shanghai Reds PS – Barry Baughn Blues Band – 7pm
Sullivan's – The Myx – 6pm
Twelve @ Fantasy Springs – Moonchild – 7pm, Steel Rod – 10:30pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – Rose Mallett and Co – 5pm, John Stanley King – 7pm
Wildest – Live Music – 6pm

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

Augustine – The Myx – 6pm
Babaloo Lounge – Inka Kings – 7pm
Bart Lounge – DJ LF – 8pm
Big Rock Pub – The Myx – 10 -2pm
Cascade Lounge @ Agua Caliente – Latin Nights – 9pm
Casuelas Café – Las Tias – 1pm, Paul Douglas – 5:30pm
Coachella Valley Brewery PS – TBA – 4pm
Coachella Valley Brewery TP – Acoustic Afternoon – 3:30pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – DJ Rapmarz – 9pm
Eddie V's – Chris Cerna Group – 6pm
Fisherman's Market, PS – Live Music – 6pm
The Hood – Drag Queen Bingo – 5pm
Kitchen 86 – Krystofer Do – 8:30pm
La Quinta Brewery (PD) – Live Music – 3 -7pm
Lavender Bistro – J Dee (Inside), Scott Carter (Patio) – 6:30pm
The Local on 50th – Live Music – 4-7pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – Sleazy Cortez w/ The Afterlashes and daj Trio – 9pm
Plan B Live Entertainment & Cocktails – LNA Karaoke – 7pm
Purple Room – The Judy Show – 7pm
The Roost Lounge – Hootenany w/ Desert Hot Things – 6:30pm
Shanghai Reds PS – Stanley Butler – 6pm

MONDAY, MARCH 2

Babaloo Lounge – The Evaro's – 7pm
Casuelas Café – Desert Suite Band – 5:30pm
The Dune Room – Motown Mondays – 7pm
Eddie V's – Chris Cerna Group – 6:30pm
La Quinta Brewery – Trivia Night – 6pm
Lavender Bistro – J Dee (Inside), Abie Perkins (Patio) – 6:30pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
The Roost Lounge – Open Mic – 6pm
V Wine Lounge and Martini Bar – Leanna and Miguel – 5pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – Fun with Dick and Jane – 6pm

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

Babaloo Lounge – Judy Wolman Pianist – 4pm, Hotwyre – 7pm
Casuelas Café – Johnny Meza and Wallee Larson – 5:30pm
Desert Fox – Karaoke – 8pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – Banda Night – 9pm
Eddie V's – Rick Taylor Trio – 6:30pm
Fireside Lounge – Red's Rockstar Karaoke – 9pm
Lavender Bistro – Abie Perkins (Inside), Patrick Mahon and Carrie Wilson (Patio) – 6:30pm
The Local on 50th – Trivia Night – 7pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – Joseph w/ Sarah Klang – 8pm
Plan B Live Entertainment & Cocktails – Trivia w/ Esther Sanchez – 9:30pm
Purple Room – Rose Mallett – 6:30pm
The Roost Lounge – Karaoke – 6pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – Slim Man Band – 6pm

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

Babaloo Lounge – Steve Sanders Pianist – 4pm, Live Music – 6:30pm
Cascade Lounge @ Agua Caliente – Black Market III – 7pm
Coachella Valley Brewing Co. – Trivia Night Hosted by Derek Wade Timmons – 7pm
DJ's Sports Bar and Grill – Country Night – 9pm
Eddie V's – Rick Taylor Trio – 6:30pm
The Hood – Open Mic – 9pm
Hotel Zoso – Desert Soul Club – 6pm
Indian Wells Resort Hotel – Patrice Morris – 6pm
Lavender Bistro – Scott Carter (Inside), Abie Perkins (Patio) – 6:30pm
The Local on 50th – Live Music – 7pm
Melvyn's – Live Music – 6pm
Mojave Gold – The Lounge "Unplugged" w/ Ty French and Amanda Davis – 6pm
The Nest – Live Music – 6:30pm
Pappy and Harriet's – The Brothers Comatose – 9pm
Plan B Live Entertainment & Cocktails – Red's Rockstar Karaoke – 9pm
Purple Room – Charles Herrera, Darci Daniels and Michael Holmes – 6:30pm
V Wine Lounge and Martini Bar – Karaoke Hosted by Julian – 6pm
Vicky's of Santa Fe – John Stanley King Cowboy Songs – 6pm CV

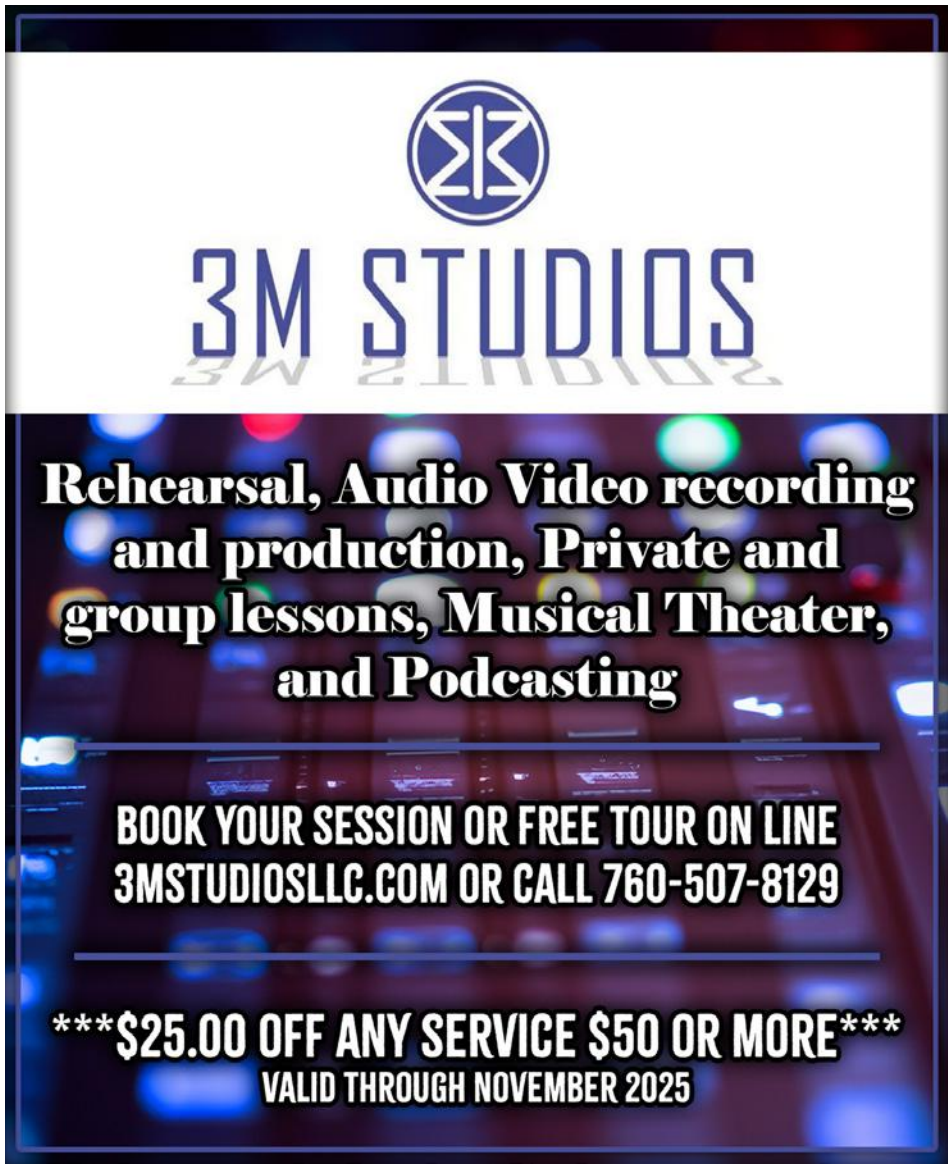



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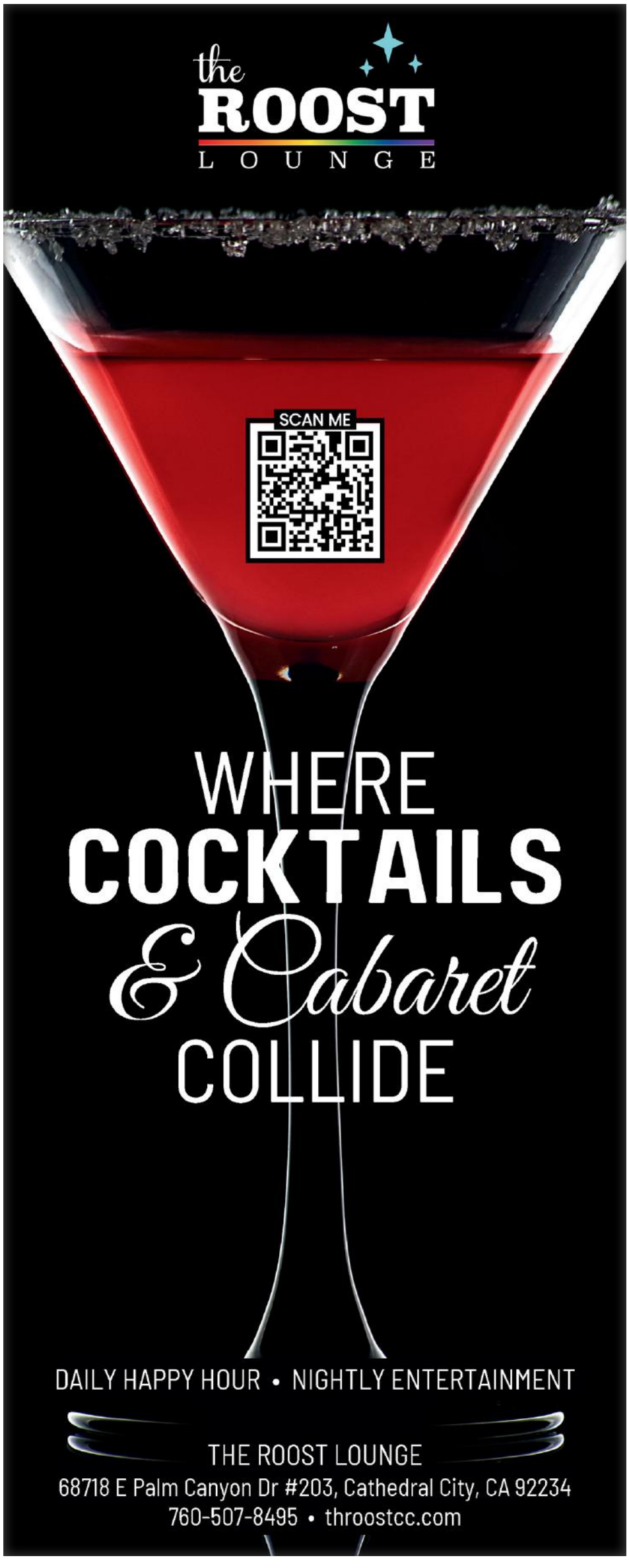

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FROM CLASSIC CARS TO RESCUE DOGS: A FEEL-GOOD BLOCK PARTY IN RANCHO MIRAGE

EVENTS

BY CRAIG MICHAELS

Get ready for a colorful, feel-good celebration as Angels Designer Spaces and JR Thomas Golf Cars present a lively Block Party in the heart of Rancho Mirage. Taking place at 71418 Highway 111, this all-day community gathering brings together classic cars, fresh coffee, adorable canines, live music, and local businesses for a festive day built around connection, creativity, and giving back.

The fun begins in the morning from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with a relaxed block party atmosphere featuring vintage and classic cars, complimentary admission, and fresh coffee to kick-start the day. Guests will have the chance to meet adoptable dogs and connect with the inspiring team from Rescue Lyfe, whose mission centers on rescuing, rebuilding, and rehoming animals in need. Music and community vibes fill the air, creating the perfect backdrop for mingling with neighbors and supporting a meaningful cause.

Adding even more sparkle to the morning festivities is special guest Candi Quaid, bringing her signature charm and smile to the celebration. With wagging tails, friendly faces, and a welcoming atmosphere, the morning portion of the event sets the tone for a day that's equal parts fun and heartfelt.

From 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., the block party shifts into a vibrant afternoon celebration. Guests can enjoy live entertainment by Kristi King, joined by her talented pianist and saxophonist. The afternoon also features local vendors, tastings, and unique shopping opportunities, making it easy to discover new favorites while supporting small businesses and community partners.

Throughout the day, attendees are encouraged to support Rescue Lyfe by bringing donations such as dog food, supplies, or funds. Every contribution helps continue their life-saving work and gives rescued animals a second chance at loving homes. Whether you're a car enthusiast, an animal lover, a music fan, or simply someone who enjoys a great neighborhood gathering, this block party offers something for everyone.

With festive décor, smiling faces, live music, classic cars, and lovable pups, the Block Party promises to be one of Rancho Mirage's most joyful community events of the season. It's a celebration of togetherness, generosity, and the spirit that makes the desert community so special.

Block Party: Cars • Coffee • Canines • Community – 71418 Hwy 111, Rancho Mirage, CA

Sat, Feb. 28 – Morning Block Party: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. – Afternoon Celebration: 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Admission: Free. Donations Welcome: Dog food, supplies, or monetary gifts for Rescue Lyfe. CV





PALM CANYON THEATRE PRESENTS SUNSET BOULEVARD

THEATRE

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S TONY AWARD-WINNING MASTERWORK OF DREAMS AND DESIRE IS COMING TO PALM SPRINGS. MARCH 13–APRIL 5, 2026

Palm Canyon Theatre presents *Sunset Boulevard*, the evocative musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, with book and lyrics by Don Black and Christopher Hampton, running March 13–April 5, 2026. Based on the Academy Award-winning film by Billy Wilder, *Sunset Boulevard* explores the dark underside of Hollywood glamour and the devastating cost of living for the spotlight.

The story centers on faded silent-screen legend Norma Desmond (Se Layne), who clings to the illusion that her glory days are far from over. When struggling screenwriter Joe Gillis (Christian Quevedo), fleeing debt collectors, stumbles into her reclusive world, he is drawn into her fantasy of a triumphant return to the silver screen. Persuaded to help shape her self-proclaimed "masterpiece," Joe becomes seduced by Norma's wealth and her desperate ambition, finding himself trapped in an increasingly claustrophobic existence. As their volatile relationship deepens, ambition, obsession, and denial collide—especially when Joe falls for another woman, Betty Schaefer (Tara Howard), and dares to imagine escape. Featuring iconic songs including "With One Look," "As If We Never Said Goodbye," and the haunting title number, "Sunset Boulevard" captures the glamour and darkness of Hollywood's golden age.

The creative team bringing this iconic musical to life includes direction, choreography and costumes by Derik Shopinski and music direction by Steven Smith. Scenic and lighting design are by J.W. Layne, with projection design by Nick Edwards. Additional cast featured include Mark Almy as Max von Mayerling, Norma's butler and manager; Stephen Giboney as Artie Green; Darin MacLoed as Cecil B. De Mille, plus a talented ensemble. Together, cast and crew create a visually striking production with emotional depth.

Sunset Boulevard runs at Palm Canyon Theatre from March 13–April 5, 2026. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets (including fees) are $46 for adults and $20 for students with I.D. Group discounts are available. For tickets, sponsorship opportunities, or more information, call the PCT box office at 760-323-5123 or order online at palmcanyontheatre.org. PCT is located at 538 N. Palm Canyon Dr. at the corner of Alejo Rd. and Palm Canyon Dr. Box office hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.



Sunset Boulevard is presented through special arrangement with Concord Theatricals. CV





THE VINO VOICE

BY RICK RIOZZA



DEDICATED AND ADDICTED TO DUCK!

Goodness! Aren't we wine folk a dramatic bunch! *All right*—let's calm down and sensibly discuss eating duck: Delicious in flavor and high in nutrients, ideally we'd like to claim that duck has proven to be the new standard in savory poultry options.

Back in the day, duck was reserved for special occasions. I remember when I was 18 and wanting to impress my girlfriend, we would occasionally hit the fancy French restaurants in town; with a penciled-in moustashe, I'd order a very dry Martini along with Duck à l'Orange as one of my go-to dishes.

Fortunately now, duck, we hope, is quickly becoming a staple among those who enjoy dining out or at home. If you adore chicken as one of your main meals, it's time to start thinking about adding duck to your plate. We'll mention some of the usual ducky suspects and some wine pairing suggestions below.



Not that we need to convince anyone to do this or that, but, we'd like to present some info to consider: Duck is the perfect option for those who are mindful of their food choices. This lean meat is rich in protein and fat and has the same calories as turkey and chicken breast. Rendered duck fat has comparable health benefits to olive oil and is lower in saturated fat. It can also be used as a substitute for other oils when cooking and provides wonderful flavor, i.e., deep fried duck fat french fries—*the bomb!*

I ducked right into the internet and found this piece: Duck is chock full of vitamins and contains almost as many Omega-3s as chicken. It is a plentiful source of vitamins B5 and B12; both of which are essential minerals for your body's nervous system. It also contains zinc, an immunity booster, and selenium, a vitamin necessary for proper thyroid function. Duck also provides a good source of iron because it is a red meat.

Not only is duck a simple dish to cook, it is versatile. Duck has a hearty and naturally robust flavor and requires minor seasoning. The fat from the duck itself will provide enough flavor that you may only need a few dashes of salt and pepper. Cooking duck doesn't require a culinary degree; just a watchful eye and a few flips to sear the sides.

Duck isn't just for the main entrée anymore. It can be used in just about any dish including casseroles, soups, appetizers and salads. Purchase a whole duck and divide it into parts for a variety of dishes throughout the week. The breast can be cooked in the slow cooker or roasted in the oven, while the wings and legs can be baked and used as a *confit.* No matter how you choose to prepare it, you will have a variety of tasty meals.

Okay—the duck sermon is over. And one can find wonderful recipes all over the phone and in books.

But Honey don't! Let's quickly mention what *not* to do with duck: cooking the entire duck at once could be problematic: The most important thing to bear in mind when cooking duck is that different parts of the bird cook uniquely. For instance, ***the legs, which are darker than the breast, take longer to cook***. That's why when you cook a whole duck, it's possible that the breast might overcook and dry out.

Good news though—the breast can be eaten pink, unlike chicken, which is considered a health hazard. Duck breast can, of course, be cooked well done and be tasty enough. However, preparing the breast separately allows you to cook it until pink, which results in juicier meat that's tender and succulent.

Duck has darker meat than chicken and is higher in fat. The fat is almost entirely under the skin, making it a relatively lean piece of meat covered in a thick layer of fat. As ***there's no need to use any extra oil,*** the point is to ensure the fat on your duck renders properly. When heat is applied to it, it's going to melt for sure, but it needs pathways to escape in order to drip down onto the meat and beyond. ***This is why it's important to score or pierce the skin. If you don't, the fat will get trapped in the skin, making it greasy and not crispy,*** while your duck meat dries out because it's not getting basted enough. Making these little cuts creates air holes and a way for the fat to come out successfully.

When talking about ***duck and wine pairing,*** **Pinot Noir** tends to be the duck-feathered pillow and blanket answer. And there is certainly a lot of sense in that recommendation. Duck tends to be a little fatty, rich but not as strong as game, and either pan fried or roasted. As a result, choosing a wine that has good acidity and freshness will help to balance the fat. Fruity and smoky aromas will pair well with the meat flavors.

But because the fat content isn't very high, you want to keep the tannins medium to low. And there you have it, we've just described the taste profile of Pinot Noir, generally speaking. But we know there's so much nuanced wine around the world.

So—we're going to get all of our ducks lined up in a row and next time specifically discuss the some of the more versatile and sexy wines we enjoy with ***Duck Confit, Duck a l'Orange, Roast Duck, Asian Duck***, and other ducky stuff***. So please stay tuned!***

Cheers! CV

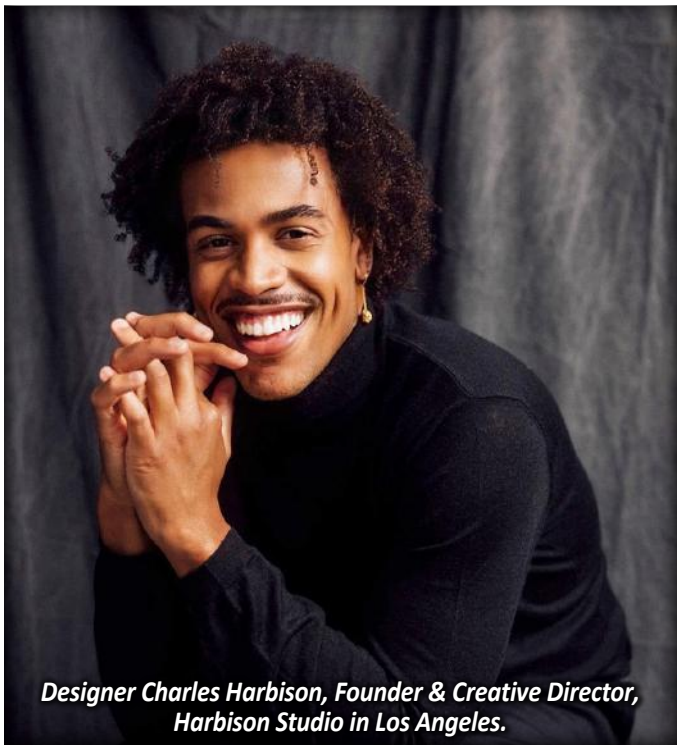




SOCIETY SCENE

MAMA'S HOUSE MINISTRIES SELECTED ONE OF FOUR LEADING NONPROFITS TO BE BENEFICIARY OF DIAMOND WISH FASHION WEEK EL PASEO




Designer Charles Harbison, Founder & Creative Director, Harbison Studio in Los Angeles.



BY MADELINE ZUCKERMAN

Mama's House Ministries is proud and honored to be one of four Coachella Valley nonprofits chosen to benefit from this year's spectacular Diamond Wish Fashion Week El Paseo, commencing on Friday, March 13, 2026 and running through Wednesday, March 18, 2026. Organized by Palm Springs Life, Diamond Wish Fashion Week El Paseo is a total fashion experience, with six days of shows, receptions, after parties, pop-up shops, in-store events, and celebrity meet and greets. Some if this year's featured designers include Charles Harbison, Kevin Hall, and Sergio Hudson. This spectacular, not-to-be-missed fashion event is recognized as the West Coast's largest fashion week, sponsored by California Bank & Trust.

The Mama's House Ministries ***"Runway For A Purpose" Fashion Show, featuring designer Charles Harbison of Harbison Studio,*** will be held on ***Saturday, March 14, 2026,*** on the Upper Level Terrace of the iconic Gardens on El Paseo located at 73545 El Paseo in Palm Desert, California. Mama's House will be hosting a fun private party at The Gardens that evening at 7:00 pm, featuring scrumptious hors d'oeuvres sponsored by Wally Desert Turtle, a silent auction, and music provided by DJ Bryan Eguez. The Fashion Show will commence at 8:00 pm.

"Runway For A Purpose" this year will spotlight the breathtaking creations of Los Angeles Designer Charles Harbison, making his Palm Desert debut. Charles Harbison is redefining what it means to create with intention in American fashion. The designer and founder of Harbison Studio builds collections not by seasonal demand, but by story, intuition, and artistic integrity. His garments – – bold yet tender, architectural yet fluid – – reflect a deep reverence for craft, community, and sustainability. Shaped by a background in architecture and textile design, Harbison is known for blending classical lines with global texture traditions to redefine luxury with a joyful elevated spirit. With art, culture, and sustainability at its core, Harbison Studio has garnered international acclaim, as well as, clientele. Harbison is celebrated for his bold silhouettes and modern effortless elegance. With fans like Beyoncé, Ava DuVernay, among other icons from both the fashion and entertainment worlds, Harbison's show will definitely be a fashion-forward evening you will not want to miss, with a meaningful impact on the lives of young women and their children.

"As a local organization serving vulnerable pregnant women and their babies, partnerships with businesses like Wally's Desert Turtle mean everything to Mama's House," said Maurae Quigley, President of Mama's House Ministries. "Wally's recently hosted our VIP dinner ahead of our annual luncheon with such excellence and generosity, and we are honored to continue that partnership during Fashion Week El Paseo. Their support reflects the very best of our community – – local businesses coming alongside nonprofits to help families find stability, hope, and a path forward."

A portion of the evening's proceeds will benefit Mama's House Ministries, which has been providing for the past 13 years a safe, supportive, loving, and nurturing residential home for women in crisis, whether pregnant and/or with an infant or small child, who have no place to go and no means of support. Mama's House continues to provide HOPE and brighter futures to these at-risk women in our community. The new and expansive Anne Silverstein Campus for Mama's House today offers these mothers and their children shelter and an extensive one-of-a-kind program, equipping these mothers with the necessary life skills for stability, recovery, and self-sufficiency. Mama's House helps mothers find the courage to carry their babies to term when facing uncertainty and challenging hurdles. With its highly successful, faith-based ***Pathways To Success Program,*** Mama's House offers a once-in-a-lifetime "hands up" opportunity for these vulnerable women wishing to change their situations.

Tickets to this highly--anticipated Mama's House ***"Runway For A Purpose"*** Fashion Show are $100 and $200 per person. Reserve your seats by contacting Melissa at Mama's House at melissa@themamashouse.org or by calling Mama's House at 844.232.8622 ext. 5. Parking is available in the parking lot behind El Paseo Village with complimentary shuttle service to and from The Gardens on El Paseo. There is also limited parking in the parking garage on San Pablo.

PLEASE JOIN MAMA'S HOUSE MINISTRIES ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026, AT DIAMOND WISH FASHION WEEK EL PASEO TO CELEBRATE FASHION, COMMUNITY, AND PURPOSE! CV









PET PLACE

THE PET OASIS, PETS LOVE THIS PLACE



BY JANET McAFEE



A local gem for pet lovers who want to keep their animals healthy and happy, The Pet Oasis is tucked away in the Ralph's shopping center in Bermuda Dunes. This pet supply store caters to our special animals, seeking to meet their nutritional, recreational, wardrobe, and travel needs. An increasing number of health conscious pet owners seek pet foods that keep their animals healthy and extend their life span. A healthy and happy dog or cat means fewer veterinary bills.

The American Pet Products Association estimates that Americans spent over 60 million dollars annually on their pets, up 25% from five years ago. Domestic pets are increasingly regarded as family members. These consumers often treat their animals with the same respect and love they demonstrate towards other humans, and want the very best for them. The Pet Oasis seeks to fills the niche for pet owners seeking quality and innovative products.

Shana Holman, an animal lover with a degree in Business and Finance from the University of Arkansas, purchased The Pet Oasis in March, 2018. She owned several businesses in her native Arkansas before moving to the Coachella Valley. An avid dog lover, Shana adopted Ellie, an adorable long haired Chihuahua, after Ellie was rescued from an Arkansas puppy mill. Like many puppy mill survivors, Ellie was initially terrified, malnourished, and had medical problems. Shana explains, " I found The Pet Oasis carried the healthiest foods and supplements that Ellie needed during her recovery. I was a customer for about a year before I saw the Pet Oasis business online in my search for businesses for sale. I always had a great experience with the employees, and thought it would be a great fit as I loved the store. My passion for animals has always been an important part of my life. I am now a proud business owner and full time resident in the Coachella Valley."

As a customer of The Pet Oasis, I personally am impressed with the excellent customer service provided by their knowledgeable staff. They have good information about pet nutrition and pet supplies. They are efficient and friendly, and clearly care about their 4-legged customers.

The Pet Oasis carries premium nutritional items including raw food, goats milk, bone broth and raw bones. Their pet food brands include Primal, Stella & Chewy, K9 Natural, Small Batch, Canidae, Origen, Nulo, Natural Balance, Nutrisource, and many others. The dog food brands they carry never contain corn, wheat, soy, raw hide, or byproducts. Fluffy and Fido will want to pick out a fun toy during their visit. Folks wanting their pet to look glamourous will find a good selection of dog apparel and gorgeous collars. The shop has a name tag machine, an important item to keep dogs and cats safe.

Allergies are a common and troubling problem for many canines. The shop offers the Glacier Peak Holistics Pet Wellness Lifescan Stress Test, a hair and saliva scan that identifies over 300 stressors and triggers in your dog's diet and environment. Their cost is $89.99, less than the online price. The results are sent to the customer and The Pet Oasis so their staff can help select products to alleviate your dog's allergy symptoms. I plan to order this one for my dog, Enzo Ferrari.

This business supports the adoption of rescue dogs and cats. They host adoption events for two local rescue organizations. Cathy Borrego with BFF4pets and Susan Cole from Hope Ranch are frequently there on weekends with rescue dogs and cats seeking forever homes. The windows of the shop display flyers of homeless animals in need of loving homes.

Contact The Pet Oasis at (760) 345-3199. Come by and check out their fabulous pet supplies, adorable accessories, and healthy supply of foods or look online at www.thepetoasis.com. The shop is located at 42-220 Washington Street in Bermuda Dunes. Their mission statement is **"Your pet's health is our priority."**

Janetmcafee8@gmail.com CV



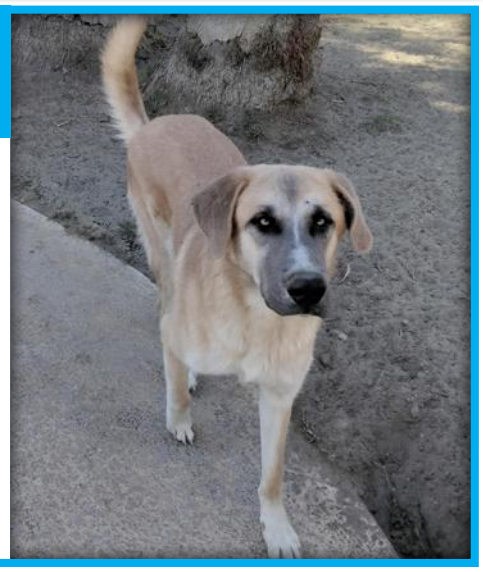
MEET PHOEBE

Beautiful 2-yr-old Lab/ Shepherd girl Phoebe seeks a loving home where there is another dog for her to play with. Call Loving All Animals at (760) 834-7000 to schedule an appointment to meet her with you and your dog!



MEET COBIJO

This "Gentle Giant" enjoys playtime with the other dogs of all sizes in his Loving All Animals foster home. He's almost 2-yrs-old & 90-lbs of doggie love. Call Loving All Animals at (760) 834-7000 for an appointment to meet this handsome fellow.





Here is a partial list of animal shelters & rescues:

COACHELLA VALLEY ANIMAL CAMPUS – Open 11:00am-6:00pm Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Open 10am to 4pm Sat, Sun, Closed Monday. LARGEST SHELTER IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY! View animals online at all 4 county shelters www.rcdas.org, 72-050 Pet Land Place, Thousand Palms, (760) 343-3644. (Public)

PALM SPRINGS ANIMAL SHELTER – Open to the public, closed Tuesday. View animals online at www.psanimalsshelter.org, 4575 E. Mesquite Ave, Palm Springs, Call (760) 416-5718. (Public)

DESERT HOT SPRINGS ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL - Open daily 9:30-4:30. www.cityofdhs.org/animal-care-control.com, View animals at www.petango.com/dhsacc. 65810 Hacienda Ave, Desert Hot Springs, Call when you arrive (760) 329-6411 ext. 450.

ANIMAL SAMARITANS – Open to the public. View their animals at www.animalsamaritans.org. Email volunteer@animalsamaritans.org to foster or volunteer. Located at 72307 Ramon Rd, Thousand Palms, (760) 601-3918. (Private)

KITTYLAND – Open to the public 12noon to 2pm to adopt cats and kittens. Located at 67600 18th Avenue, Desert Hot Springs, www.kittylandrescue.org, (760) 251-2700. They also have cats at PetSmart in Palm Springs (Private)

PRETTY GOOD CAT – Foster based rescue for cats located in La Quinta. Contact them at www.prettygoodcat.com, (760) 660-3414 (Private)

LOVING ALL ANIMALS – Call for appointment to adopt dogs. Located at 83496 Avenue 51, Coachella, www.lovingallanimals.org, (760) 834-7000. (Private)

ANIMAL RESCUE CENTER OF CALIFORNIA (ARC), Foster based rescue for dogs and cats in Indio. www.thearc-ca.org, (760) 877-7077 (Private)

DESERT PAWS SANCTUARY – Foster based rescue for dogs and cats in Indio, www.desertpawssanctuary.org, P.O. Box 342, Indio, CA 92202, (760) 574-9284 (Private)

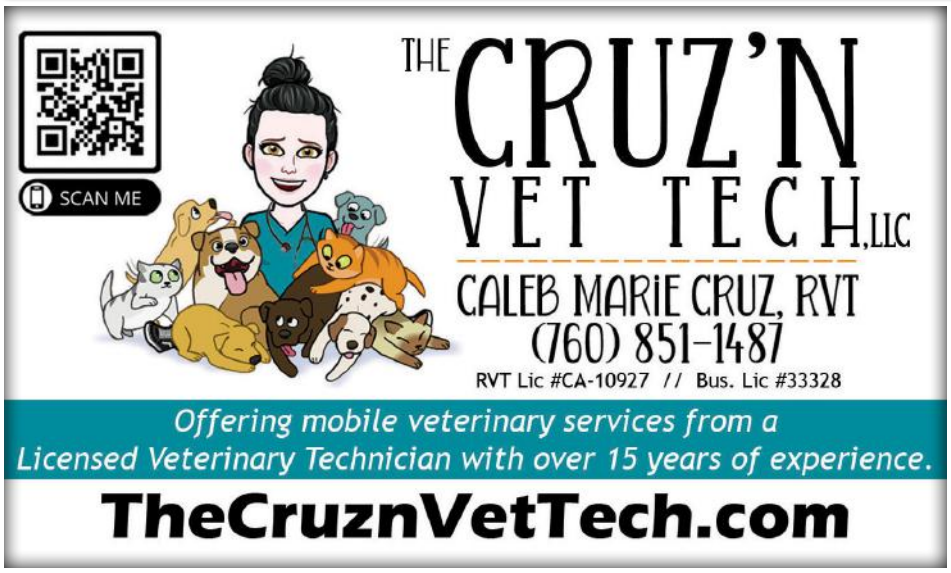
FOREVER MEOW - Foster based for cats & kittens, Palm Desert, www.forevermeow.org, (760) 335-6767 (Private)

FLUFFS & SCRUFFS – Foster based rescue for small dogs in Cathedral City. FLUFFSANDSCRUFFS@AOL.COM, (310) 980-3383 (Private)

SOCIETY'S OUTKAST ANIMAL RESCUE – Foster based rescue for dogs in Rancho Mirage, www.societysoutkasts.com, (760) 832-0617. (Private)

LIVING FREE ANIMAL SANCTUARY – Large outdoor shelter for dogs and cats up Hwy 74, Mountain Center, www.living-free.org, (951) 659-4687.

CV



These friendly dogs are at the Coachella Valley Animal Campus waiting for homes. Come meet them at 72-050 Petland Place, Thousand Palms, and www.rcdas.org for more info.

RIVERSIDE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SERVICES









TAX SEASON

HADDON LIBBY





BY HADDON LIBBY

With tax season underway, most of us are looking for ways to reduce what we pay Uncle Sam.

One of the most straightforward and impactful ways to reduce taxes is to contribute to a retirement account. Traditional (pre-tax) contributions lower your taxable income in the current year. For 2025, the limit for employer plans stands at $23,500, with an additional $7,500 catch-up contribution allowed if you are age 50 or older. As most employer plans do not allow contributions in 2026 for 2025, you will need to use a traditional IRA to make contributions that count toward 2025. You can contribute up to $7,000 ($8,000 if 50+) and count this money toward 2025. The only condition is that you make this contribution prior to April 15th. This helps those who didn't max out workplace plans or who want extra flexibility to reduce adjusted gross income (AGI).

The **One Big Beautiful Bill Act** made key 2017 **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act** provisions permanent while adding new deductions for tips, overtime, auto loan interest, and seniors. The new law adds several above-the-line deductions that don›t require itemizing. Qualified tips can be deducted up to $25,000 with phase outs for higher income levels. Qualified overtime pay can be deducted up to $12,500 ($25,000 for married filing jointly). Auto loan interest of up to $10,000 can be deducted so long as the car is for personal use and you earn less than $100,000 ($200,000 for couples).

Seniors, (65+) receive one of the most generous new breaks this year. Each senior receives a $6,000 above-the-line deduction. This amount is in addition to the standard deduction of $15,750 for a single filer or $31,500 for a joint filing. Seniors continue to receive an extra deduction of $2,000 (single) or $1,600 per spouse on joint returns. For many retirees, this combination pushes the total effective deduction to approximately $23,750 (single) or $46,700 to $47,500 (joint). For most seniors, these tax breaks will eliminate federal taxes on Social Security benefits. The deduction begins to phase out at modified AGI of $75,000 (single) or $150,000 (joint), and disappears completely at $175,000 or $250,000, respectively. This senior-specific relief is temporary and set to expire after the 2028 tax year unless extended.

Beyond deductions, prioritize tax credits that deliver dollar-for-dollar reductions. The Child Tax Credit offers up to $2,200 per qualifying child (with refundable portions), while the Earned Income Tax Credit provides substantial help for lower- to moderate-income workers, particularly those with dependents. Education credits (American Opportunity or Lifetime Learning) can also apply if you are funding college expenses.

Most people will use the standard tax deductions when filing taxes. A single filer needs to have more than $15,750 in deductions ($31,500 for a couple) to benefit from an itemized tax return. The typical deductions that lead to an itemized tax return are mortgage interest, charitable contributions and medical expenses. In a high tax state like California, the Big Beautiful Bill doubled the SALT cap from $5,000 (single) and $10,000 (joint) to $20,000 (single) and $40,000 (joint).

As you plan this year for next year's tax filings, use this year's tax filings as a springboard. For example, one of the simplest things to keep your taxes down is to contribute to a retirement plan. If you have access to a 401(k), 403(b) or 457 plan, start saving now.

Seniors cannot contribute to retirement accounts unless they have earned income. Earned income does not include dividends, interest or social security. That type of income is referred to as passive income and passive income cannot be contributed to a retirement account. Part-time work can be contributed.

Whenever in doubt, talk to a tax professional.

Haddon Libby is the Founder and Chief Investment Officer of RIA-firm, Winslow Drake Investment Management. For more information on our services, please visit www.WinslowDrake.com. CV

WINSLOW DRAKE
INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

"IT DEPENDS" IS THE ANSWER TO MOST CLIENT QUESTIONS

DALE GRIBOW ON THE LAW



If you've ever asked a lawyer a legal question, you've probably heard the most honest answer: *"It depends."* That's not a cop-out—it's reality. Variable control **Accident and DUI cases.**

Do I need a PI or DUI lawyer? Should they be a specialist? Does my lawyer need to be local or top-rated? Yes—and maybe. Ideally, you want an attorney who focuses on the *critically injured or criminally accused*, with experience and top-tier ratings. A **local lawyer matters**. You want someone who knows the judges, opposing attorneys, courthouse culture, and unwritten rules. Knowledge matters—but so do relationships.

Will my case settle or go to trial? How long will it take? What percentage will the lawyer take? Again—it depends. Some cases settle quickly; others drag on due to medical treatment timelines or insurance company *deny-and-delay* tactics. Most PI attorneys work on a **one-third contingency fee**, meaning no fee unless you win.

Does the courtroom/judge matter? Absolutely. Some judges are plaintiff-friendly; others are skeptical. Some know and trust your attorney; others don't. These factors can influence rulings, evidence, and even the tone of the courtroom.

Does it matter which doctor I see? Yes—*dramatically*. A strong **medical-legal report** can significantly increase the value of your case. I've been honored to serve on the faculty of the *International College of Orthopedic Surgeons*, teaching physicians how to write effective med/legal reports—something missing with most local doctors. I bring that expertise directly to my clients' treating physicians—creating a strategic advantage that leads to stronger cases and larger recoveries.

An experienced trial lawyer doesn't just choose a doctor who treats injuries, but one who understands how medical records must *communicate* to juries and insurance companies. Medical records, in essence, **testify**.

Does my lawyer really make a difference? Yes—because **facts are open to interpretation**. A good lawyer doesn't invent facts; they shape how facts are understood. **Prior injuries?** Insurers say your pain is old. A trial lawyer argues the crash *reactivated or worsened* the condition. **No ER visit?** Defense says you weren't hurt. A trial lawyer explains it wasn't a medical emergency, not proof of no injury. **Gaps in treatment?** They claim you're faking. A trial lawyer argues that life interferes, but pain lingers.

What about DUI cases? Don't Drink and Drive! Uber is Cheaper than me. Sentencing is where a lawyer truly makes a difference. I presenting the client's full story, who they are, what led to the arrest, and what they've done since. Sentencing is about *fairness*, not just punishment.

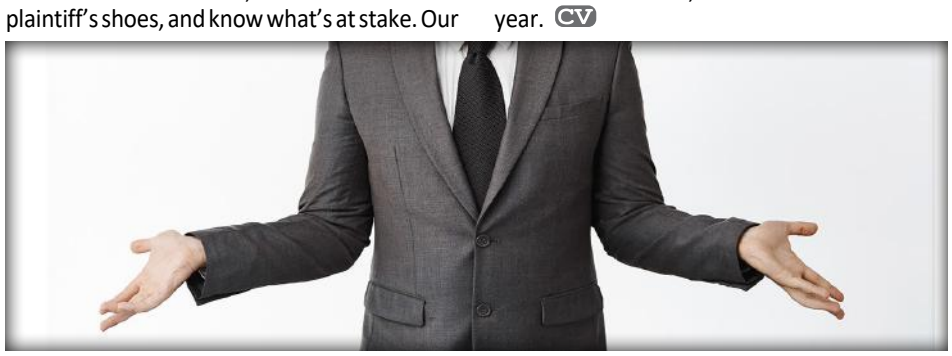
Should I talk to the police or insurance adjusters? No. **Remain Silent.** It's not what's said. It's what *they thought* you said. They are not on your side. Say as little as possible and politely state that you would be happy to talk after they call your lawyer for an ok.

What affects my case that I might not even consider? A lot. How you dress in court. How likable you are. What you told your doctor, or forgot to mention. Jurors are human, and impressions matter. I've seen juries turn against plaintiffs because they appeared "too wealthy." Even how you park matters—don't take two spaces. I advise clients not to cut anyone off or flip anyone off within five miles of the courthouse—that person could end up on your jury.

Documentation is everything. Keep an **Accident Injury Diary**. Treat consistently and document missed appointments. Details tell a story and juries believe stories.

So how much is my case worth? It depends on fault, treatment, documentation, credibility, jurisdiction, and yes, sometimes luck. Judges, opposing counsel, clerks, and courtroom dynamics all matter. If the jury sees that I believe in my client, they may believe the client deserves to win.

In closing: I'm law-and-order oriented, but I make the DA prove their DUI case. As an accident victim too, I've walked in the plaintiff's shoes, and know what's at stake. Our practice is built on referrals, not advertising**. Expecting great results from advertising attorneys is like expecting luxury linens at a Motel 6. Billboards don't win cases, lawyers do**. Catchy slogans and easy-to-remember numbers may look appealing, but they can be misleading. Many heavily advertised firms are no longer run by the lawyers whose names appear on the signs. In some instances, the named attorney may be deceased, retired, no longer practicing, Larry H. Parker and Jacoby and Myers.



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40 Top Lawyer | 5-Star | 10.0 | Accident | DUI | Career *Awards* | 10 *Man of the Year* | *5 Dale Gribow Days* | PALM SPRINGS LIFE "TOP LAWYER " 2025-26, for the 15th consecutive year. CV

MUSIC

BY CRAIG MICHAELS



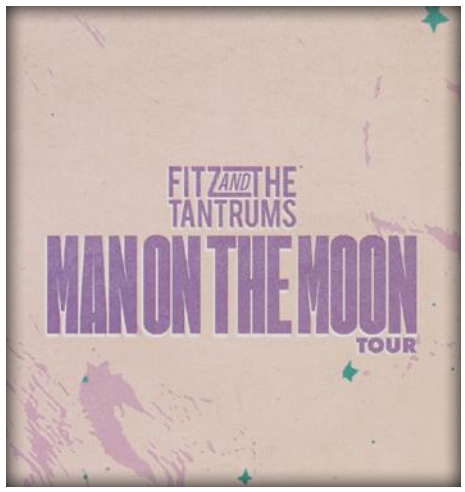
A NIGHT YOU WON'T FORGET: FITZ AND THE TANTRUMS COMING TO AGUA CALIENTE

If there's one band that never fails to make me hit repeat, it's Fitz and The Tantrums and I couldn't be more thrilled that they're headed to the desert this Friday night, February 27 for a live show at The Show inside Agua Caliente Casino Palm Springs.

For years I've loved watching this LA-born band evolve from a buzzy indie act into one of pop's most irresistible live performers. Their sound a buoyant mix of soul, indie pop, and irresistible hooks hits that sweet spot between feel-good nostalgia and modern energy in a way few bands can match. Whether it's blasting "HandClap" on a road trip or singing "Out of My League" at the top of my lungs, their music has soundtracked countless moments in my life.

While Fitz and The Tantrums have played major festival stages like Coachella in the past thrilling desert crowds under open skies, this will be their first time bringing a headline show to The Show at Agua Caliente in the greater Palm Springs area.

Fans attending Friday's concert can expect the hits that helped define the band's rise, from the 4x-Platinum "HandClap" and 3x-Platinum "Out of My League" to Platinum "The Walker" and Gold "Moneygrabber." Known for their dynamic live energy, the group has also lit up television stages on shows like The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Good Morning America, and Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve and has headlined venues ranging from



Kia Forum to Red Rocks Amphitheatre.

They're also previewing material from their forthcoming album Man On The Moon, setting the stage for their 2025 Man On The Moon Tour. If the new songs are anything like their classic anthems, this show promises both nostalgia and fresh excitement.

For anyone who loves pop with heart and energy that hits straight to the soul, this is the show to be at. I know I'll be there buzzing on every beat and ready for one unforgettable night in the desert.

Get tickets here: aguacalientecasinos.com/agua-event/fitz-and-the-tantrums-man-on-the-moon-winter-tour. CV





C.V. RESCUE MISSION CELEBRATES 55TH ANNIVERSARY WITH GALA MARCH 19

EVENTS

The Coachella Valley Rescue Mission invites the community to join in "Celebrating 55 Years of Building Hope + Changing Lives" with CVRM's 55th Anniversary Gala, to be held at the Agua Caliente Resort and Casino in Rancho Mirage, on Thursday, March 19, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

"For 55 years, the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission has been a beacon of hope for our community's most vulnerable residents," said Amanda Galindo, CVRM executive director.

"This anniversary gala is more than a celebration. It's a testament to the compassion and generosity of our partners, donors, and volunteers who have stood alongside us in changing lives," Galindo said.

"As we gather on March 19, we're not just honoring our past, we're investing in a future where everyone in our valley has the opportunity to rebuild their lives with dignity and hope."

"Stories of hope and successes" will be brought to life in an inspirational special video of CVRM "graduates" who have changed their lives and begun anew.

The gala will begin with a reception with hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and a silent auction. A full dinner and program features music by sensational entertainers Night Shift, an extraordinary band of music students from Citrus College.

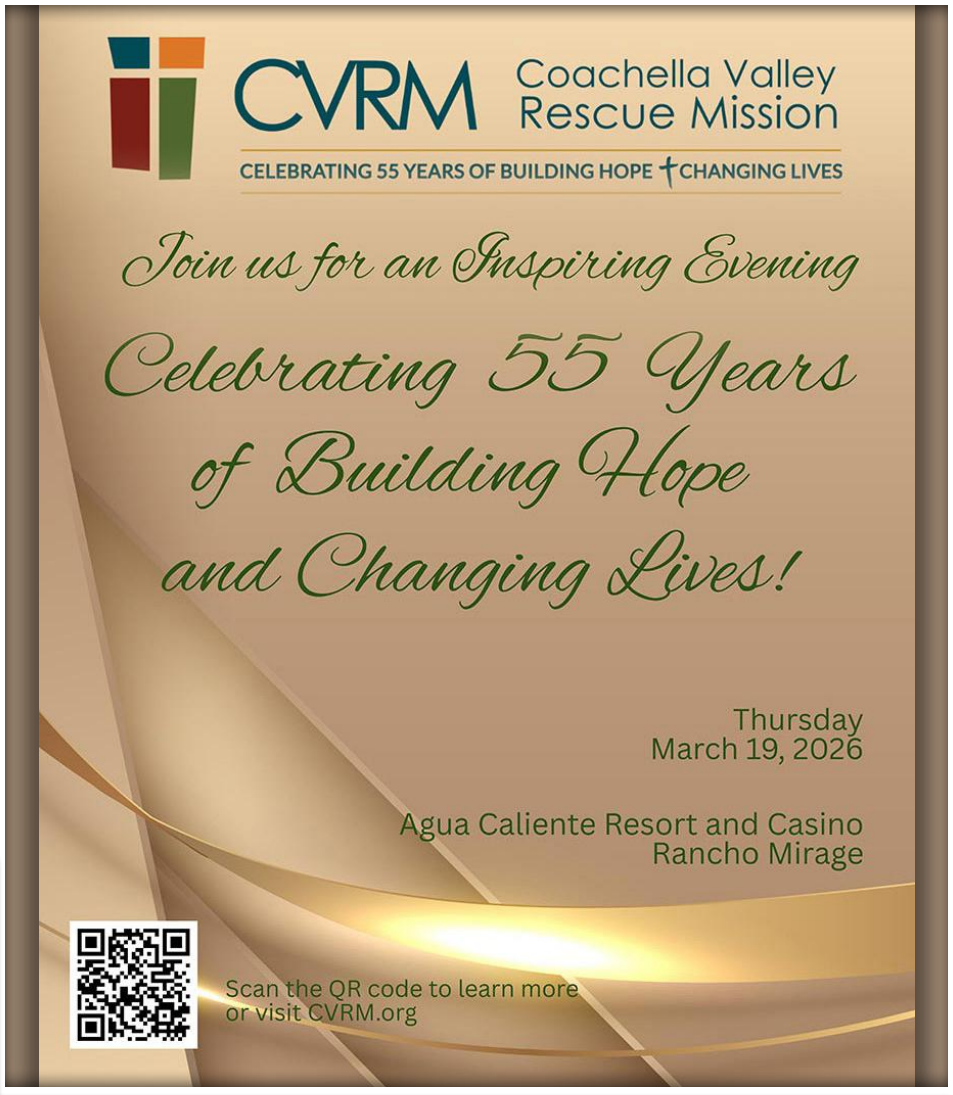
A special live auction will be included during dinner, including a fabulous vacation in Mexico and a helicopter ride-along with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department.

Auctioneer extraordinaire Brad Kinney will host the event. Seats are $200 with tables of 8 or 10 available. Reservations can be made at cvrm.org/annual-events/gala. The deadline for reservations is Thursday, March 12.

The Indio-based Rescue Mission was founded in 1971, offering food, clothing, and safe shelter to anyone in need. CVRM is the only emergency shelter between Blythe and San Diego that offers over 320,000 meals and 108,000 bed nights of shelter. CVRM helps people end their cycle of homelessness with extensive counseling, job training, and job placement services.

CVRM's success rate for those entering residential programs and emerging employed and having housing is above 80 percent.

To learn more about the Rescue Mission or to donate, visit www.cvrm.org. CV



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We at *Clark's* believe, and as should all of you, that optimal health is the birth right of every United States citizen. The question then looms – *Why are so many struggling to find it?*

All things great health begins and end in the gut. Gut health is the most important part of the body to get healthy, as gut health determines how the rest of your body and organ's function and operate. Additionally - *healthily,* is as God intended.

Since the advent of fast-food, microwave dinners, plastic water bottles, and artificial sweeteners in fizzy and sports drinks, our country's health has seen a substantial decline. The previous offenders mentioned all contain brutally harmful toxins which, if consumed on a regular basis, will eventually upset gut health, and consequently, the rest of the body's health.

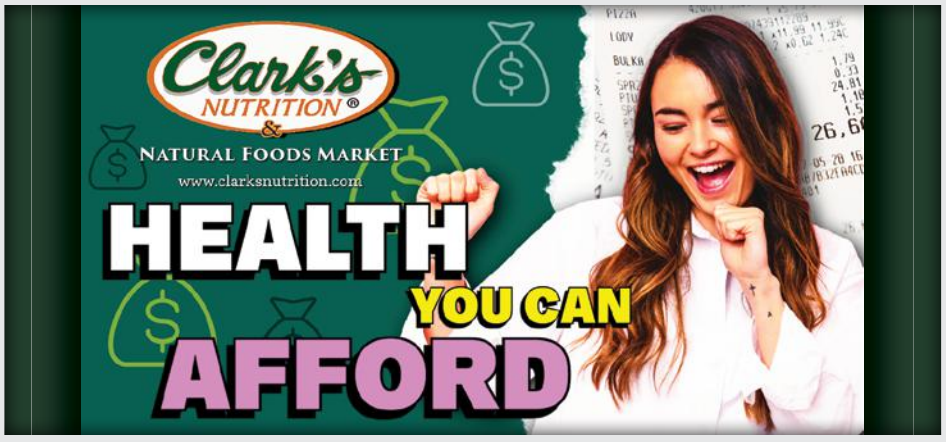
Most people don't believe they can achieve optimal health. These folks feel that the only way to obtain optimal health is by spending hundreds if not thousands of dollars on medications, and supplements at overpriced health markets or wellness clinics. These types of businesses gouge customers "Whole Paychecks" month after month limiting customers on their level of health success. This is what separates us at, ***Clark's Nutrition & Natural Foods Market*** from the rest…

Since 1972, we have focused on community health and wellness over excessive profit. Our foods, produce, and supplements are the best the US market has to offer, yet we maintain our prices so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of eating and drinking healthy products that don't destroy health.

There is plenty to learn about gut health and how it affects the rest of the human body. Fortunately for *Clark's* customers, they have free access to our expert team of Nutritional Consultants. Our expert staff are available on the shop floor seven days per week, and at no additional charge to you. You can learn how to be healthy, and buy the items you need to be healthy with us.

Optimal health is achievable. It's not out of reach, and it is never too late. Keep in mind that the body is a highly advanced organism that wants to repair itself. All you need to do is give it the right ingredients to get it back on the road to help you live a quality life filled with achievement and positivity.

Make sure you head to *Clark's Nutrition & Natural Foods Market* in Rancho Mirage today. Since the early 2000's, we have been helping the Coachella Valley find and maintain its health. **FOR GENERATIONS. FOR LIFE.** CV





CBD AS PREVENTIVE MEDICINE FOR HEART DISEASE

CANNABIS CORNER





BY RUTH HILL R.N.

Raphael Mechoulam, PhD, is known as the father of marijuana fxxxxxxxxor his research at the Institute for Drug Research Hebrew University Jerusalem, Israel. Mechoulam research on marijuana led to the discovery of our endogenous molecules anandamide and 2-AG which are identical to Δ-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD), the molecules in the marijuana plant. In an editorial to the Mayo Clinic, Mechoulam explains the long-term use of cannabidiol (CBD) on lowering blood pressure. The immunomodulatory capacity of cannabinoids as a valuable drug for preventive medicine is "well established" in science. Today's article will reveal the real science on long term use of marijuana/cannabis affecting the vascular system.

While numerous studies in the past twenty years besmirch the plant by promoting all the negative effects of taking THC and CBD, those authors fail to appreciate the complexities of titrating a drug that has so large a variability. North Americans and Europeans today generally smoke cannabis and can titrate (i.e., finely adjust) the level of the psychotropic effects and thus do not typically reach the high psychotic state. CBD modifies the effects of THC by blocking anxiety provoked by THC; cannabis with high CBD content is associated with fewer psychotic experiences than cannabis with low CBD content, and CBD attenuates the memory-impairing effects produced by THC.

Bradley E. Alger, a leading scientist with a Ph.D. from Harvard in experimental psychology, explains how the endocannabinoid system (ECS) which includes our immune system, nervous system, and virtually all the body's organs, is a bridge that connects brain activity and states of physical health and disease.

A 2013 study measured data from 4,652 participants on the effect of cannabis on metabolic systems. It compared non-users to current and former users and found that current users had higher blood levels of high-density lipoprotein (HDL-C) or "good cholesterol." The same year, an analysis of over seven hundred members of Canada's Inuit community found that, on average, regular cannabis users had increased levels of HDL-C and slightly lower levels of LDL-C ("bad cholesterol").

Atherosclerosis is a chronic inflammatory disorder involving the progressive depositing of atherosclerotic plaques (immune cells carrying oxidized LDL or low-density lipoproteins). A growing body of evidence suggests that endocannabinoid signaling plays a critical role in the pathology of atherogenesis. The condition is understood to be a physical response to injuries in the arterial walls' lining, caused by high blood pressure, infectious microbes, or the excessive presence of an amino acid called homocysteine. Studies demonstrate that inflammatory molecules stimulate the cycle leading to atherosclerotic lesions. Existing pharmaceutical treatments are moderately effective though carry numerous side effects. CB2 receptors triple in response to inflammation, allowing anandamide and 2-AG, the body's natural cannabinoids, to decrease inflammatory responses. The CB2 receptor is also stimulated by plant-based cannabinoids.

A 2005 animal trial showed that low-dose oral cannabinoids slowed the progression of atherosclerosis. A 2007 animal study with CBD showed it had a cardioprotective effect during heart attacks, by the involvement of the CB1 and the CB2 receptors in cardiovascular illness and health.

In 2020 the American Heart Association published a *Scientific Statement on Medical Marijuana, Recreational Cannabis, and Cardiovascular Health,* which recommended removing cannabis from Schedule I so reliable research can be conducted. The Statement reviewed the torturous path marijuana took in the early 1900's to be legal, then illegal, then legal again in most States. Currently, research in the U.S. can only be conducted for opiate addiction and with the flower from the University of Mississippi. Which research would you rely on: an observational study using flower from our Emerald Triangle in CA or flower grown by the Federal Government marijuana farm at the University of Mississippi?

Yeung BG, et. Al. conducted a study at the University of California Irvine, showing: *Cannabis Exposure Decreases Need for Blood Pressure Support During General Anesthesia in Orthopedic Trauma Surgery.* "The physiological basis for this phenomenon is unclear, but possible causes might include the downregulation of vascular cannabinoid receptor 1 and/or altered endocannabinoid levels after exposure to cannabis."

More details on these and others can be found in Leonard Leinow's book: CBD: A Patient's Guide to Medicinal Cannabis

For comments visit www.ruthahillrn.com and sign up for my newsletter. CV

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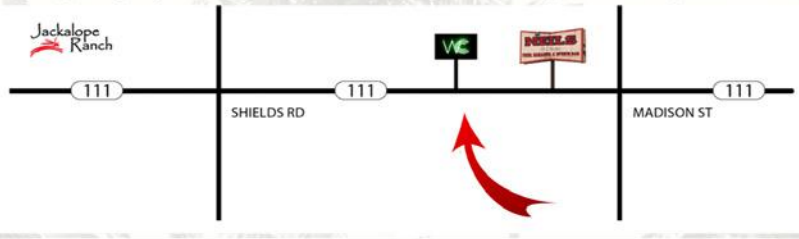
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SWAG FOR THE SOUL



BY AIMEE MOSCO

NAVIGATING UNSEEN FORCES

We are all intuitive in one way or another because human beings are wired to receive and process etheric communications. It is part of our nature. Some, though, are more sensitive to these communications than others. The most sensitive of us can feel even subtle emanations and energy streams that others would not notice.

Whether or not you are a person who picks up on these subtle transmissions, they affect you. The electrical field that encases your body is able to translate this energy into language. Your energy field then delivers the message to your physical body, your emotional body, and your mental body. All parts of you are impacted and potentially altered by these transmissions.

Imagine someone is talking unkindly about you behind your back. Those words generate energy. When the offender focuses their attention on you, their words are sent as a message to you through etheric channels. Even though you may not hear the words or feel the vibrational dagger thrown at you, the energy still finds you. This is why it is important to set some energy communication ground rules.

A daily ritual can help you navigate these unseen forces. When you set some rules of energy engagement on a daily basis, you effectively activate an energy shield. Your shield acts as a filtration mechanism to reduce the impact of unfavorable energies sent to you.

So, how do you create a daily ritual?

There is no one "right" way to create a daily ritual. If you have a personality that puts you in adversarial positions, an effective daily ritual is likely going to be more detailed than the daily ritual of someone who is a people-pleaser. Either way, there are a few basics to cover with a daily ritual that addresses your receipt of subtle energy transmissions:

Claim your energy field as your sacred space.

Decide what types of energies you will allow to permeate and circulate through your sacred workspace. (Energies based in love? Respect? Higher truth?)

Intend to send energies away that do not meet your criteria.

Invite oversight from your inner spirit to maintain your sacred space.

Acknowledge that you have the power and divine right to shield your energy field.

Express the expectation to maintain balanced energy flow by receiving in equal measure the good vibes you send out.

Agree to use your wisdom in practice to take care of your energy field. (Such as heightening self-care practices and self-talk.)

State a command that meets each of these basic objectives as your daily ritual. Depending on the nature of the energy you believe you are processing, you can choose to build out these basics to create a daily ritual that offers more security over time. Just remember to be thoughtful with the words you use in your commands, because words generate energy.

***Aimee Mosco** is an Author, Intuitive Channel, Spiritual Teacher and Co-Founder of **Intentional Healing Systems, LLC.** Aimee's desire to help others inspired her first of many co-authored books, "Gratitude + Forgiveness x (LOVE) = Happiness". Aimee serves in a charitable capacity as the Special Events Director and executive board member for the **Coachella Valley Horse Rescue**. Visit Aimee at **www.ihsunity.com**.* CV





EVENTS

AMY'S PURPOSE 4TH ANNUAL MIXER MARCH 3

Amy's Purpose, a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit, is holding its 4th Annual Mixer on Tuesday, March 3, at Willie's Modern Fare from 4:30-6:30. This is always a fun, casual event applauding those who have long supported this organization and those who wish to learn more about its missions.

"So many worthwhile fundraising events this time of year," said novelist and writer, Kathy Strong, "but this spring event for Amy's Purpose is one you can easily squeeze into your social calendar if you love animals! Enjoy Willie's fabulous appetizers and drinks while honoring our outstanding veterinarian, Linda Colburn, DVM, and shopping the beautiful one-of-a-kind animal-themed jewelry by Alexis Hunter, plus picking up your "auto-dogged" book hot off the presses by Sophia the princess dog and her parent, Craig Prater! Hope to see you there."

Dr. Colburn, owner of Companion Animal Clinic, will be joined by one of Amy's Purpose's veterinarian assistant scholarship winners, Kaylee Maraeles. Kaylee completed her externship with Dr. Colburn, who later hired her full-time. "Becoming a veterinarian has been my dream since I was five years old," shared Kaylee. I find joy in helping others. I always give my best."

On the evening of March 3, Amy's Purpose will introduce DeAnn Mix, who will be honored at the Amy's Purpose annual fundraiser on Sunday, October 11, at Agua Caliente from 4:30 to 8:30. Also, in attendance on March 3 will be the Hero Dog of the Year, Miss Ernie Banks, with her owner, Winston Gieseke.

The "open house" mixer promises an evening of celebration and camaraderie. Willie Rhine will be serving his delicious heavy appetizers along with complimentary wine and beer, all for only $55.00. To order tickets, please go to www.amyspurpose.net or call 760-220-8713.

"Amy's Purpose got its start after three coyotes killed our little rescue terrier, Amy, in our backyard one sunny day in December 2019," said Amy's Purpose's Founder and President DeAnn Lubell. Not wanting other pet owners to experience the heartache of losing a beloved pet, we founded Amy's Purpose, a nonprofit organization. The organization became an official 501 (c) (3) on December 21, 2020. This little but mighty organization just celebrated its fifth anniversary".

As Amy's Purpose grew, so did its missions. A health crisis affecting animal care has crippled veterinary clinics and hospitals nationwide. Amy's Purpose partnered with the College of the Desert's Partnership and Community Education Veterinary Assistant program three years ago, aiming to help fill the gap by offering full scholarships to qualified candidates. In four years, 36 full scholarships have been awarded to local individuals. Their futures in animal science were in the hands of generous donors who cared about pet safety.

Amy's Purpose is dedicated to protecting pets through public safety awareness education programs and empowering future veterinary professionals through educational scholarships to help rectify the current emergency veterinary care crisis. We save pets' lives and enhance humans' lives.

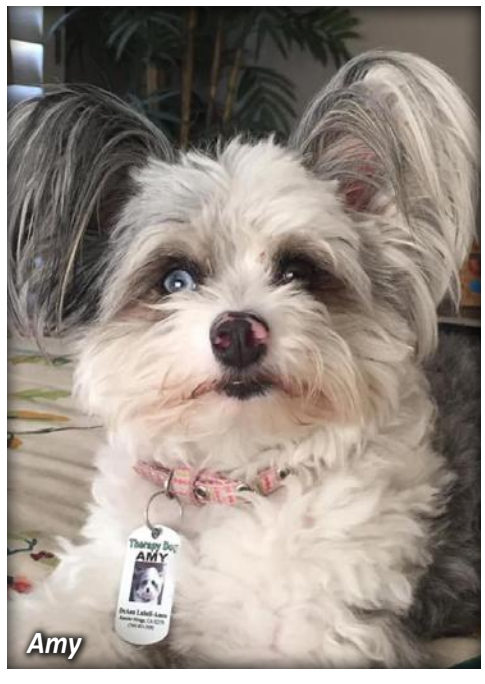
Board members like Annette Bonetti, Mara Brown, Elaine Church, Edward Corrick, Susan Francis, Patti Gribow, Jo Ann Horwitz, Lisa Karr, Mary Steele, Kathy Strong, David Sullivan, Judy Vossler, and Atma Wiseman – along with Founders DeAnn Lubell, Jeffrey Clarke, and Tanya Martin-Yee, as well as our hero advocate, ex officio Bruce Fessier – are a passionate team.

Amy's Purpose is more than an organization – it is a promise. A promise to protect the animals we love, and to invest in the people who care for them.

www.amyspurpose.net. CV



Linda Colburn, DVM



Amy

A SOLUTION IN SEARCH OF A PROBLEM

EDITORIAL



BY DEE JAE COX

Coverture, a legal doctrine, originally established as a part of English common law, was adopted by the founders of America. It dictated that once married, a woman's legal existence as an individual was eradicated under "marital unity." *Coverture* considered husband and wife a single legal entity: **that entity being the husband**.

The law stripped a woman of all legal control over her property, her possessions, her children and even her physical person. She was in essence the property of her husband with no legal recognition as an individual.

It was not until the mid-nineteenth century that women began to break from the subjugation and oppression that was implemented under coverture and establish individuality. Legal rights were slow to follow, but thanks to the Women's Movement, by the 1970's women gained financial independence and could actually get credit cards in their own name, open bank accounts, buy property and sign legal documents without a male signature. Women began to receive an education at a higher level than they had ever been allowed to do. They began to develop careers and had the freedom to achieve personal goals. Women had the choice to be a full-time house-wife… or not.

For some men, these achievements were not considered progress. A full-time in-home house wife, birthing children, cooking meals and taking care of her husband's needs, was viewed as an ideal marriage, for him. There has always been a sense of entitlement for many men that their power and importance was greater. Many saw women's progress as a personal affront and have diligently worked towards reversing these achievements.



One of the most significant legal rights women finally achieved was the right to vote. The nineteenth amendment was passed in 1920. Voting gave women a legal voice to elect legislators and have a say in the world they lived in.

One hundred and six years after winning that right, the *Safeguard American Voter Eligibility* (SAVE America) *Act* now potentially threatens that progress. The *Save America Act* requires voters to provide documentary proof of citizenship at the time of registration and a photo ID at the time of voting. Federal data shows that only 0.04% reports of non-citizens attempting to register to vote and zero information on any who have actually achieved voting illegally.

The purpose of this legislation is to make it much more difficult to vote. And it will especially impact women the hardest. Recent studies show that 9% of all voters do not have or have easy access to proof of citizenship. 52% of Americans do not have a valid passport with their current legal name. And 11% do not have access to their birth certificate.

While on the surface it appears to be a simple request to require ID cards when voting, providing proof of American citizenship can be very complex for a vast majority. Primarily for women, who through a tradition stemming from the historical legal doctrine of *coverture,* changing their surname remains popular due to reasons like family unity.

In America, 80% of heterosexual women choose to take their husbands last name upon marriage. That means that 80% of married women do not possess birth certificates that match the name on their current ID. This will force them to seek out additional documentation for verification of citizenship and in many cases discourage them from voting. Perhaps this being the objective.

The *SAVE America Act* also exposes election officials to legal and personal risk. It establishes criminal penalties for officials who register an applicant who fails to present documentary proof of citizenship, even if that applicant is in fact a U.S. citizen. This will impact the number of election volunteers who have already been greatly harassed in recent elections.

For voters who register by mail, the *SAVE Act* requires documentary proof of citizenship to be delivered in person to an election office, effectively nullifying the benefits of mail registration.

This is a solution in search of a problem. Call your representatives. CV

FIREBIRDS SPLIT WEEKEND SERIES WITH EAGLES

SPORTS SCENE

COACHELLA VALLEY FALLS TO COLORADO IN SECOND GAME OF BACK-TO-BACK, 6-3



The Coachella Valley Firebirds, proud American Hockey League affiliate of the Seattle Kraken, the Colorado Eagles on Saturday night at Blue Arena by the final score of 6-3. Jagger Firkus, Jani Nyman, and Jakov Novak each scored for Coachella Valley in the loss, resulting in a split in the two-game weekend series with Colorado.

After going the first 57:30 without a goal in last night's game, the Firebirds opened the scoring just 5:05 into the opening period on Saturday night. Lukas Dragicevic moved the puck to Tyson Jugnauth at the left point. Jugnauth found Jagger Firkus at the left-wing circle, who then closed in on Eagles' goaltender Isak Posch, beating him five-hole to make it 1-0. The goal was Firkus' 19th of the season.

Colorado tied the game on a 4-on-4 as defenseman Jack Ahcan snuck behind the Coachella Valley defense at 16:32 of the first period. The Eagles took their first lead of the weekend with a powerplay goal from Jacob MacDonald, his 100thAHL goal at 4:08 of the second.

The Firebirds found the tying tally on another 4-on-4. Lleyton Roed backed off on a rush into the offensive zone and fed Jani Nyman. Nyman drove to the front of the net and beat Posch on the backhand for his 15th of the season to make it 2-2 at 16:18.

The Eagles regained their lead and added some insurance as they scored twice in the first 4:09 of the third period. Jason Polin (:47) and Ivan Ivan (4:09) each hit the back of the net to make it 4-2 Colorado. Jakov Novak pulled the Firebirds within a goal with his third of the season, set up by Lleyton Roed and Lukas Dragicevic at 8:11.

Coachella Valley pulled their goaltender Nikke Kokko in the final 2:30 of the third period for the extra skater but Colorado scored twice on the vacant cage to pull away with a 6-3 victory.

Goaltender Nikke Kokko, in his first action since January 10th, made 39 saves on 43 shots. The Firebirds were outshot by the Eagles 45-24. Coachella Valley finished the game 0-for-1 on the powerplay and 3-for-4 on the penalty kill. With the loss, the Firebirds' record moves to 27-18-5-0.

Next Game

The Firebirds return home to Acrisure Arena as they face off against the Henderson Silver Knights this Thursday, February 26th! Fans are encouraged to arrive early for Happy Hour on The Oasis beginning 90 minutes prior to game time, featuring $5 beers, $10 wine specials, the Pocket Friendly Pick of the Game, and Singles Night! Puck drop is set for 6:30 p.m. PT.

Secure $20 parking by purchasing in advance through the ParkWhiz app. Parking rates will increase on the day of the game.

2026-27 Season Ticket Memberships Are On Sale Now!

There's never been a better time to lock in your seat and join the Firebirds Family. Season Ticket Memberships for the 2026–27 season offer unbeatable value and flexibility, along with exclusive perks like 25% off select concession items around Acrisure Arena. With a variety of ticket plans designed to fit your lifestyle, Season Ticket Members enjoy the best access, savings, and year-round benefits all season long. Don't miss your chance to be part of another unforgettable year of Firebirds hockey! Secure your membership today and experience game days the way they're meant to be enjoyed.

Fan-Centric Gameday Enhancements

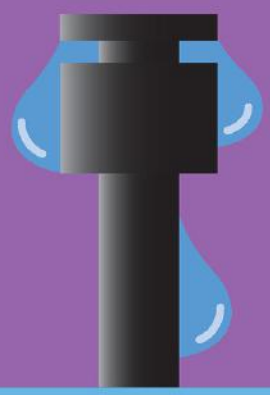
For the 2025-26 season, the Firebirds have rolled out a series of fan-first enhancements designed to make the gameday experience more accessible, convenient, and enjoyable. Highlights include advance-purchase parking savings, new Pocket-Friendly Picks food and beverage options, earlier weekday start times, and pregame Happy Hour at The Oasis, and more!

Stay up to date on the latest Firebirds' news and info by visiting CVFirebirds.com and by following the team on social media @ Firebirds. CV

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CV WEEKLY

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