

the SCENE

The Times-Independent
Jan. 26 - Feb. 1, 2017

events, shows, nightlife,
and mayhem in Moab

email free listing to calendar@moabtimes.com

Thursday, Jan. 26

Toddler Gym

Parents and kids age newborns up to 5-year-old are invited for free play at the Center Street Gym every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. Toddler Gym continues through February.

Center Street Gym, 203 East Center St.

Adult Coloring at the Library

Every Thursday in January from noon to 3 p.m. adults are invited to drop in and express their creativity. The library will provide the art materials and hot drinks. Meets at the library board room.

Grand County Library, 257 E. Center St.

Spanish Conversation Tables

Join the conversation Thursday nights from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. It's an opportunity to converse and learn correct grammar. Practice and learn in a casual, fun environment during this free class.

Moab Valley Multicultural Center, 156 North 100 West.

Live Music and Karaoke

Live music starts at 6 p.m. at the Blu Pig.

The Blu Bar, 811 South Main St.

Friday, Jan. 27

Children's Story Time

Grand County Public Library hosts story time for kids with crafts and sing-a-longs every Friday at 10:30 a.m. Grand County Library – Castle Valley Branch, 2 Castle Valley Drive.

Bread and Broth Workshop: Youth Garden Project.

Warm soup and bread is the perfect combination of food for cold winter days. Join instructors Susan Kittler, a past owner of Paradox Pizza and local expert of making bread, and Mary Franklin, a longtime Moab resident with expansive cooking experience, for an evening of learning how to make homemade breads and broths. Participants will get hands-on experience working with common kitchen ingredients, leave with a loaf to bake at home, and learn the fundamentals for fresh out-of-the-oven bread. The workshop is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and costs \$10 per person. To register call 435-259-2326, or email kate@youthgardenproject.org. Space is limited.

Youth Garden Project, 530 South 400 East.

Monte Carlo Night

Bowl to win cash prizes starting at 6:45 p.m. every Friday at Gravel Pit Lanes. No average needed, all skill levels welcome. Cost is \$20. Call 435-259-4748 to reserve a lane.

Gravel Pit Lanes, 1078 Millcreek Drive.

Karaoke at Gravel Pit Lanes

Come down and show us what you've got! You may be the next "Voice" at karaoke! The fun begins at 8:30 p.m.

Gravel Pit Lanes, 1078 Millcreek Drive.

Yo Mama Un-Canned

Forget politics, environmental crises and social injustice — Yo Mama is here to remind us who's really in charge, the source of infinite power and how to navigate space without a puffy suit. Presented Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 2-4, this one-woman shamanic performance with musical accompaniment, was created by and stars Moab's Kaki Hunter.

Shows begin at 7 p.m. each evening and cost \$10 at the door.

Star Hall, 159 E. Center St.

Saturday, Jan. 28

Children's Story Time

Grand County Public Library hosts story time for kids every Saturday at 10:30 a.m.

Grand County Library, 257 East Center Street.

Moab Gear Trader Dodgeball Tournament

This fundraiser for the BEACON Afterschool Program is presented in partnership with Moab City Recreation. The fifth annual Community Dodgeball Tournament lasts from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the middle school gym. Teams formed by civic organizations, businesses, and various community members will compete during this fun-filled afternoon. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1 for youth, and children 3 and under enter free of charge.

Grand County Middle School Gym, 439 South 100 East.

Chinese New Year Open House

Celebrate the Chinese New Year from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Health Rising Wellness office. Free stress-relief acupuncture treatments will be provided. For information, call 970-242-0020 or email: deb@healthrisingwellness.com.

Health Rising Wellness, 150 E. Center St., Suite 105.

Live Country Music Night

Come on down every Saturday night to enjoy live country music featuring Moab's own Bubba Bartosh and the Red Rock Outlaws. Music starts at 8:30 p.m. Call 435-259-4748 for more information.

Gravel Pit Lanes, 1078 Millcreek Drive

Monday, Jan. 30

Watercolor Class: Gallery Moab

Drawing Class at Gallery Moab, Mondays through March 6. Taught by Victoria Fugit, these beginning watercolor classes will be held from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. The total cost is \$150. All materials are provided. Call Victoria Fugit at 435-259-9417 to register.

Gallery Moab, 87 North Main St.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

Toddler Gym

Parents and kids age newborns up to 5-year-old are invited for free play at the Center Street Gym every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. Toddler Gym continues through February.

Center Street Gym, 203 East Center St.

'Yo Mama-Uncanned' shares lessons on 'true reality'

By Rose Egelhoff

The Times-Independent

Kaki Hunter says she first met Yo Mama during the height of the Atlas uranium tailings controversy, about 10 years ago.

"I'm cleaning out an old shed full of toxic chemicals and I was about to dump the chemicals in my garbage can when I realized this isn't any different than capping the Atlas tailings in place," Hunter said. "So I put the chemicals back in the shed, went inside, lay down on the couch and closed my eyes when I heard, 'Yo, call council for me. Ah got sumpthin' tuh say!'"

She says the voice identified itself as "Yo Mama," an ancient entity.

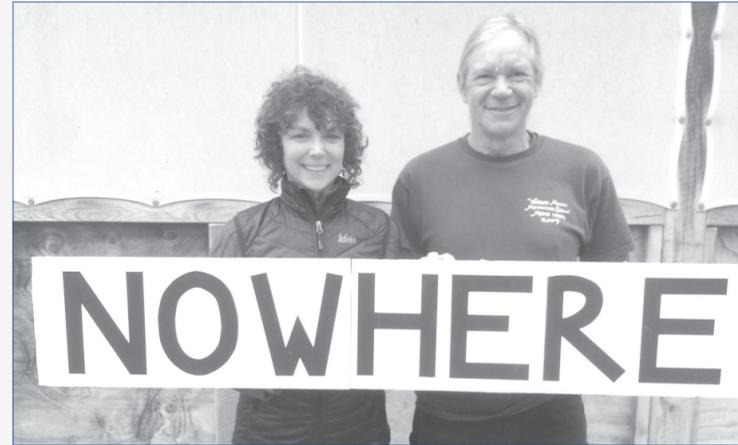
"Essentially, what she was telling me was that she goes way back," said Hunter. She says she also identified Yo Mama as the voice of the tailings pile.

"She'll come to me and give me her geologic perspective on what she calls true reality. And so that's what I share in the play. Essentially what I'm doing ... My job is to allow her to come through me and be who she is. I've taken stuff that I've written down from my lessons of the past 10 years and consolidated them into a piece that's about 90 minutes."

The show, "Yo Mama-Uncanned," will run Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 2-4 at 7 p.m. at Star Hall, 159 E. Center St. The play will be a one-woman show written by and starring Hunter.

She described her interaction with Yo Mama as "a shamanic experience" that she wants to share with her audience.

"The combination of a spiritual experience ... and my relationship with dirt opened me to hearing a voice that I essentially associated with dirt," Hunter said. "She's taking us way, way back to our DNA origin and Africa, which we all supposedly descend from. I think that's why she presents herself to me in the voice that she does."



Kaki Hunter (left) and Doni Kiffmeyer hold a prop from the upcoming play "Yo Mama-Uncanned."

Photo by Rose Egelhoff

Hunter said the script is not her own — it is Yo Mama's.

"When her energy is flowing, when I'm fully engaged, when I get out of the way then it's all her," Hunter said. "The more I'm able to get out of the way, the more she's able to come through."

The play is produced by Hunter's partner, Doni Kiffmeyer, and directed by Cathy Bonde. A six-piece band will provide musical accompaniment as Hunter speaks, sings and dances. The band members include Kiffmeyer, Josie Kovash, Nancy Kurtz, Jay Prentiss, Melissa Graciosa and Kiran. Franklin Seal designed lights for the show and Dave Montgomery is the sound engineer.

The play will be presented by OkOkOk Productions, an organization founded by Hunter and Kiffmeyer with the dual goals of producing theater and producing buildings from natural, local materials. Kiffmeyer and Hunter, who have been involved in Moab Community Theater since the 1980s, also teach natural building and consult on building projects.

"I have a thing for dirt. I love playing with dirt. I love squishing it into mud, I love shaping it into walls, I love spreading it onto the surface of just about anything

you can imagine. You like it? It's dirt," Hunter said. "So if dirt speaks to me, I listen."

Kiffmeyer said that in past years, local community theater productions became a winter tradition.

"People had more time and you didn't have to work so hard to make money," Hunter said. "Now it's more touch-and-go because a lot of the original people in community theater are getting older and people are more stressed to come up with the time and the finances to devote to it."

The play has not yet met its fundraising goals, despite a crowdfunding video campaign.

"It averages \$8,000 to \$10,000 to put on a show. And that's in this town," Hunter said, explaining that in other cities like Salt Lake City or Durango, it would likely cost more.

"We need more sponsors," she said.

Kiffmeyer and Hunter are asking those interested in donating to visit their website: www.okokokproductions.com, or call 435-259-8378.

Tickets to the show will be available for \$10 at the door and on the website.

Sheng Zhen Healing Gong

Certified teacher Lisa De Rees will lead a Sheng Zhen Gong meditation session from 1 to 1:45 p.m. in the Vitality room to quiet the mind and relax the body. By donation. The Grand Center, 182 North 500 West.

Drawing Class: Gallery Moab

Drawing Class at Gallery Moab, Tuesdays through Jan. 31. Taught by Victoria Fugit, these beginning drawing classes will be held from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. The total cost is \$150. All materials are provided. Call Victoria Fugit at 435-259-9417 to register.

Gallery Moab, 87 North Main St.

Beginner and Advanced Beginner Spanish Classes

Taught by certified teacher Lin Kolb, these classes are designed for individuals who wish to learn Spanish. Beginner classes are held Tuesdays through April 25 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Advanced beginner classes are held Tuesdays through April 25 from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m.

Moab Valley Multicultural Center, 156 North 100 West.

Moab Community Dance Band Practice

All levels welcome. Practice is from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Moab Arts and Recreation Center, 111 East 100 North.

Grand Area Mentoring New Mentor Orientation

Participants will learn best practices in mentoring and find out if this volunteer experience is for them. Orientation begins at 5 p.m. For information and to RSVP, call 435-260-9646.

Helen M. Knight Elementary School, 505 N. Mivida Drive.

Wednesday, Feb. 1

Toddler Time

Grand County Public Library hosts story time for toddlers every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

Grand County Library, 257 East Center Street.

Free Community Meal

The First Baptist Church will host a weekly meal for any and all from 5 to 5:45 p.m. every Wednesday. First Baptist Church, 420 MiVida Drive.

Intermediate/Advanced Spanish Language Class

Taught by certified teacher Lin Kolb, these classes are designed for individuals with intermediate to advanced Spanish language skills. Classes are held on Wednesdays through April 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Moab Valley Multicultural Center, 156 North 100 West.

Dance Moab's Swing & Blues

Learn East Coast swing during a beginner lesson starting at 7 p.m. with local instructor Kira Red, followed by social dancing to swing and blues until 10 p.m. No partner or experience necessary. Cost is \$5. Club Rio, 2 South 100 West.

Community Music Night

Scott Ibe and other local musicians gather for an informal jam session starting at 6 p.m. at the Blu Pig. The Blu Bar, 811 South Main St.

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