

MOAB HAPPENINGS

Volume 26 Number 2

MAY 2014

Moab Art Walk
May 10

Moab Arts Festival
May 24 & 25

Canyonlands Rodeo
PRCA
May 29 - 30 - 31



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MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

Smithsonian Exhibition Debuts in Utah, Highlights Local History

The Utah Humanities Council announces “Journey Stories,” a Museum on Main Street (MoMS) exhibition presented by the Smithsonian Institution and the Utah Humanities Council, in collaboration with five communities statewide.

This year-long tour through Utah begins over Memorial Day weekend on May 24th in Moab and continues to four additional sites through March 2015. The “Journey Stories” exhibition explores how transportation and migration helped build our nation, how it has changed us, and how our mobile world looked to travelers along the way.



Museum of Moab

Making its debut in Utah, the exhibition will celebrate its grand opening at the Museum of Moab, 118 East Center Street, on Saturday, May 24th at 10:30 am with a ribbon cutting and speakers. This event, and the exhibition itself, are free and open to the public. The exhibition will continue in Moab through July 11th.

John Foster, Executive Director of the Museum of Moab, views the “Journey Stories” exhibition as a terrific way to highlight Moab stories and history, saying, “the recreational aspect of Moab for both local residents and tourists is such a large, successful part of its current

history and renown. “Journey Stories,” along with the local programming the Museum is planning, will allow us to give an even broader context for Moab’s evolution as a community, which will only deepen its beloved place in people’s hearts. It gives everyone here, residents and tourists alike, the opportunity to tell their own journey stories and participate in a community event.”

Over the next year, “Journey Stories” will travel to Moab, Vernal, West Valley City, Ephraim, and Brigham City. The exhibition offers these communities access to the Smithsonian,

as well as the opportunity to collect and showcase their own important stories. Each host site will develop a local companion exhibit and related activities to complement the national exhibition – family activities, workshops, lectures, personal stories and oral histories, and conversations about the concept of mobility and how it impacts our lives.

Megan van Frank, History and Museums Program Officer at the Utah Humanities Council, is coordinating the exhibition tour in Utah. She hopes that, “visitors to the exhibition will enjoy learning about American history from the viewpoint of mobility, and come away with

a sense of what it was like – and is like – to be mobile, whether that’s voluntarily or involuntarily. The concept of mobility is broader than simply getting from point A to point B – it often speaks to life-changing decisions that affect generations and transform communities. The exhibition,” she continues, “is an unparalleled opportunity for Utahns to tell their own journey stories and participate in a nationwide conversation about mobility in America.”

For more information about the “Journey Stories” exhibition in Moab, contact the Museum of Moab at 435.259.7985 and www.moabmuseum.org, or to learn more about the statewide tour, contact the Utah Humanities Council at 801.359.9670 or visit www.utahhumanities.org/journeystories.htm. Make sure to say you read about it in the Moab Happenings. See ad on page 16A.



Indians traveling watercolor by Seth Eastman. The W. Duncan MacMillan Foundation.

The Hole-in-the-Rock Trail – A Real Pioneering Experience!



On May 10, 2014, Lamont Crabtree will convey the pioneers’ journey and the history of the trail, through images and stories, at Edge of the Cedars State Park Museum

located at 660 W 400 North in Blanding, Utah. 435-678-2238.

The Hole-in-the-Rock Trail was named after a crevice the colonizers utilized to gain access to the Colorado River gorge and some of the most broken terrain in North America.

The 250-mile long trail runs from Parowan in southwestern Utah to Bluff and Montezuma Fort in southeastern Utah. The road was blazed during the winter of 1879-80 by 70 families who were answering a call from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to establish a settlement in the Four Corners region. The first eighty five miles of their



route from Parowan, Utah, to Escalante, Utah, was over established wagon roads. From Escalante, Utah, the last established town along their route, the colonizers blasted a trail through the Colorado River gorge, descended crevices, and crossed deep ravines, mountains, deserts, and forests - terrain so inhospitable many of their own scouts deemed it as impassable.

By the time they reached their destination, they had been en route twice as long as it took some of the same participants to pull handcarts 1300 miles to the Salt Lake Valley.

Once completed, the wagon road provided a vital access and supply link.

The road was utilized in its entirety for one year. In 1881, Charles Hall, who operated the ferry at the bottom of the Hole-in-the-Rock, moved his ferry thirty miles upstream, where he established Hall’s Crossing. Although Hall’s Crossing bypassed the Hole-in-the-Rock crevice, major sections of the original wagon road were utilized in conjunction with the new river crossing.

The Hole-in-the-Rock journey stands alone in its difficulty in the annals of western pioneering. With many



sections of the trail blasted out of solid sandstone, nearly no vegetation and little modern development, the Hole-in-the-Rock Trail is very well preserved. Many of the trail’s most challenging sites are as the pioneers left them.

Bio: Lamont Crabtree has been involved in searching out and documenting the Hole-in-the-Rock trail over a 39-year period. He has been particularly interested in the unknown or lost portions of the route. He has authored trail guides and produced documentaries on the subject. He has worked on marking and interpretive projects throughout the Hole-in-the-Rock trail, and restoration and development projects at the Bluff Fort Historic Site. Lamont is a descendant of Hole-in-the-Rock pioneers, Sarah and James Riley. Lamont and his wife Leslie who reside in the Salt Lake area, have four children and nine grandchildren. Occupationally Lamont works in the electrical engineering field. See ad on page 16B for museum hours & admission and make sure to mention you read about it in the Moab Happenings.

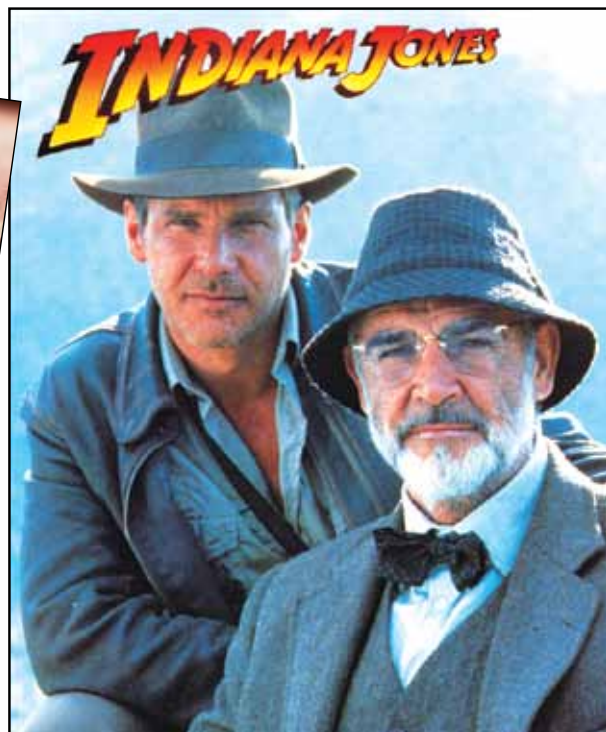


Movie & Western Memorabilia Museum at Red Cliffs Lodge



A partial list of stars that have made movies in Moab

John Wayne, Maureen O’Hara, Henry Fonda, Lee Marvin, Rock Hudson, Jimmy Stewart, Richard Boone, Anthony Quinn, Mickey Rooney, Shirley Temple, Kris Kristofferson, Billy Crystal, Robert Duvall, Gene Hackman, Bill Murray, Jack Palance, Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis, Ted Danson, Tom Cruise, and many more.



display in the museum are production photographs, movie posters, autographed scripts, props from the many pictures filmed in the area, and displays about the western ranching heritage. For information, call Red Cliffs Lodge at 259-2002.

Through the magnificent landscapes of southeastern Utah, writers have been inspired and stories born here. Zane Grey, the famous western novelist, traveled through the area in 1912. His visit inspired him to write his book *Riders of the Purple Sage*. The book was made into a movie starring Ed Harris and Amy Madigan, and filmed on locations around Moab.

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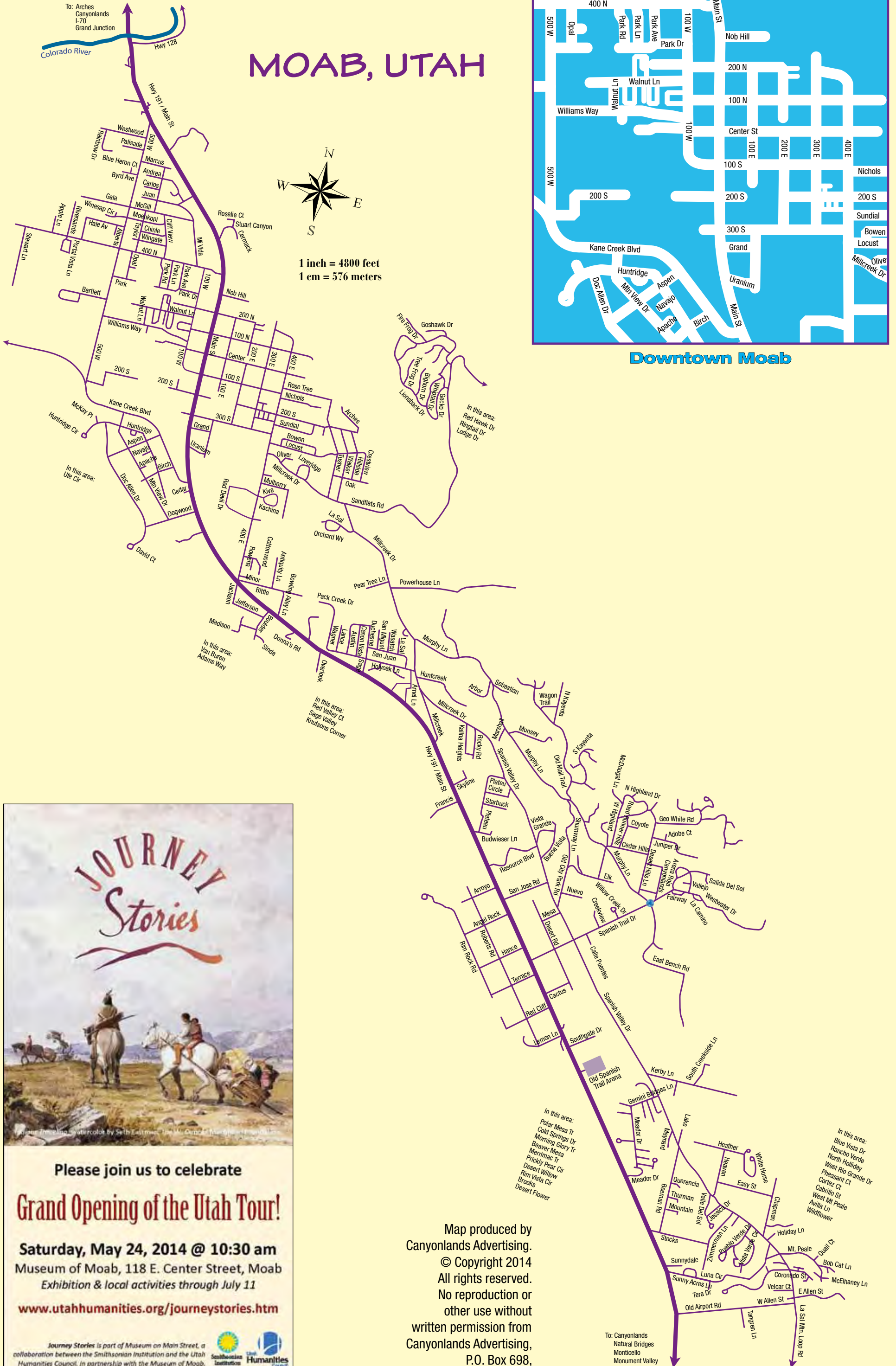
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Red Cliffs Lodge, on the banks of the mighty Colorado River, is home to the Moab Museum of Film & Western Heritage. The lodge is built on the old George White Ranch, a key location for nine of the big westerns including *Rio Grande*, *Cheyenne Autumn*, *Ten Who Dared*, *The Comancheros*, and *Rio Conchos*.

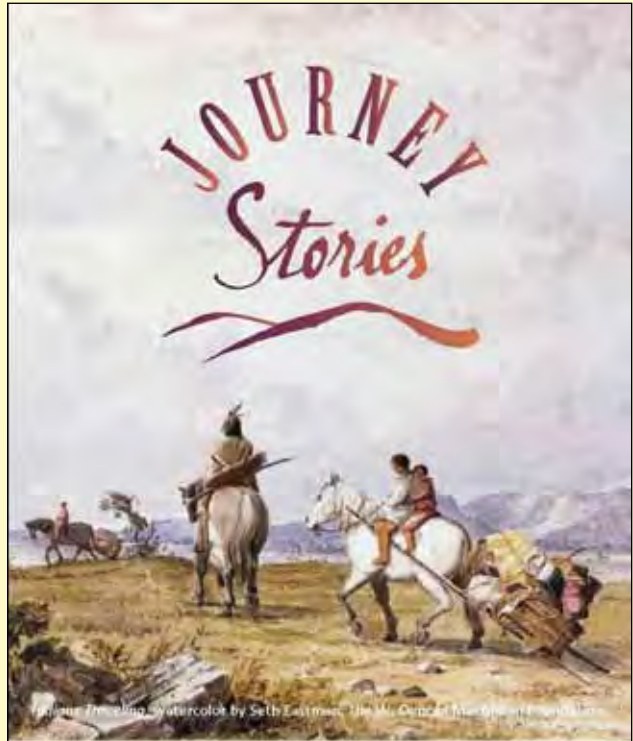
The late George White was founder of the Moab to Monument Valley Film Commission, the longest ongoing film commission in the world.

In the museum one can learn more about film locations, how the sets are built, and how the filming process is managed on nature’s own sound stage. On

MOAB, UTAH



Downtown Moab



Please join us to celebrate
Grand Opening of the Utah Tour!
 Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 10:30 am
 Museum of Moab, 118 E. Center Street, Moab
 Exhibition & local activities through July 11
www.utahhumanities.org/journeystories.htm

Journey Stories is part of Museum on Main Street, a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Utah Humanities Council, in partnership with the Museum of Moab.

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