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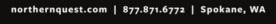












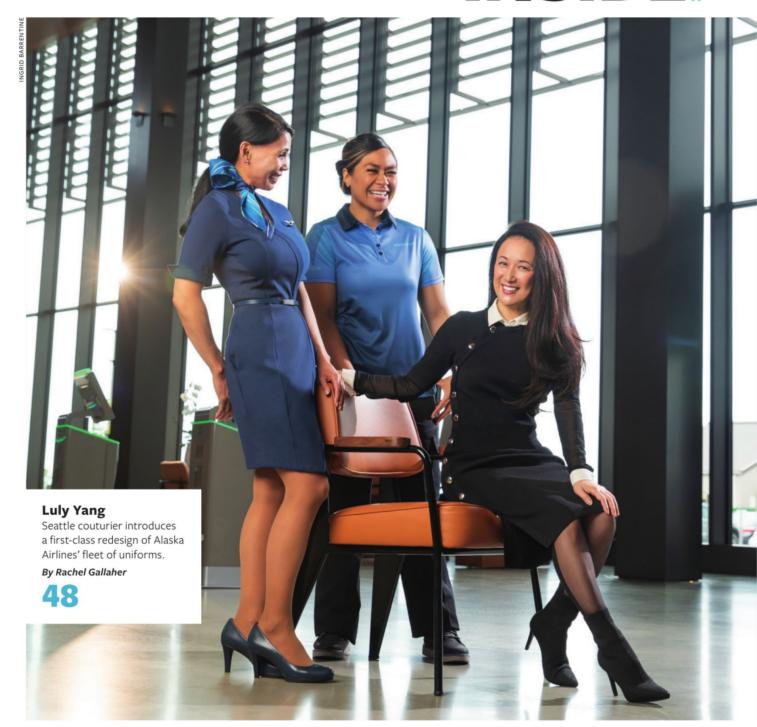




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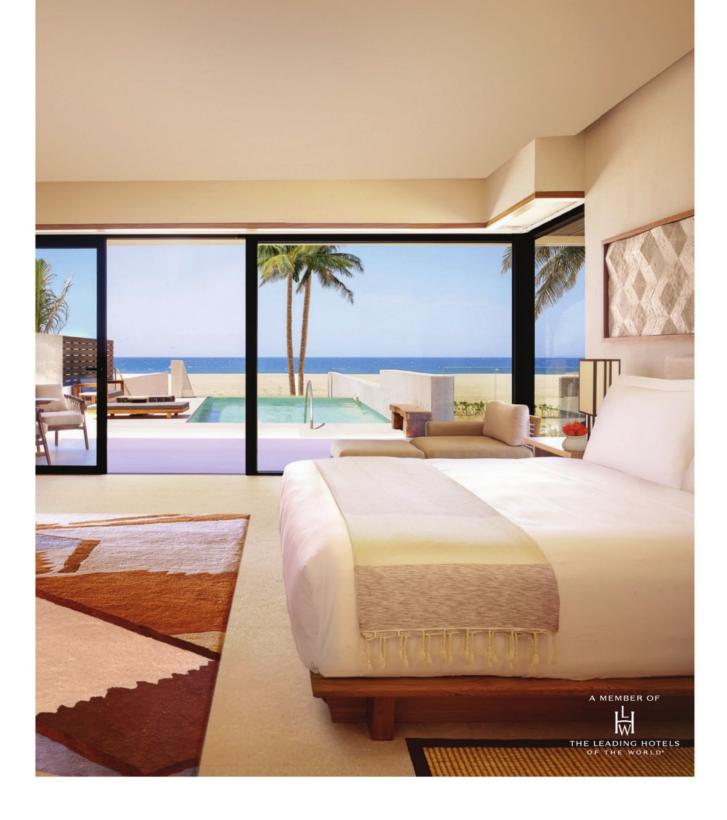
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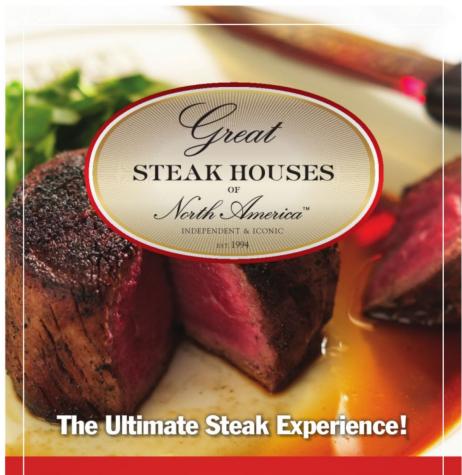
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ON THE COVER

Luly Yang, designer of Alaska Airlines' new uniforms.

Photo by Ingrid Barrentine / Alaska Airlines



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WELCOME[®]





Brad Tilden, Chief Executive Officer



Brooke Vatheuer Senior Vice President, Operations & Planning, Horizon Air

LOOKIN' FLY

The imployees are so proud to be wearing their new uniforms by renowned designer Luly Yang. As more of our employees begin debuting their uniforms this month, I can't wait to hear what you think about Luly's designs. Personally, I think she knocked it outa the park! Here, Brooke Vatheuer, senior VP with Horizon Air, shares what employees are saying.

—Brad Tilden

Growing up, I was always tall for my age. I remember combing the racks at the beginning of each school year, hoping to find something that fit. Despite my exhaustive searching, I always seemed to be the kid in highwaters and short sleeves. My torso-to-limb ratio was clearly not in clothing manufacturers' standard repertoires.

As an adult, I think my playground fashion woes make me doubly appreciative of a perfect-fitting pair of pants, or a jacket that

has ideal-length sleeves. The confidence boost that comes from both looking and feeling your best is often immeasurable, which is one of the many reasons that I'm thrilled to have Horizon employees debuting the new Luly Yang custom uniforms!

At Horizon, we pride ourselves on providing our guests remarkable service and connecting people through travel. That became even easier to do when we ditched our dated uniforms back in November in favor of Luly's sleek and modern styles. It immediately elevated how our employees looked and felt on the job, and that energy directly spills over into how they engage you and deliver the outstanding experience we want you to have on each and every flight.

This transformation started with employees connecting with Luly. Leading up to the new-uniform launch, employees had the opportunity to visit a Fit Center for a personalized appointment where they

>>> Horizon Air and Alaska Airlines employees show off their new Luly Yangdesigned uniforms.

>> WELCOME

could try on all of the uniform pieces and find the right look and feel to match their style, personality and body type. Luly and team did not overlook a single detail with the uniform options they provided, from the wrap dress that looks amazing on everyone to the impeccably redesigned wing pins. Some of the zippers are even stamped with the Alaska wordmark. The colors, textures and sleek lines have all the makings of a runway-ready style.

And, as safety always comes first at our airline, we are proud to be the first airline in the United States to receive the "STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®" certification label on our uniforms—the highest standard in uniformmaterials safety.

My favorite part of the uniform launch was the obvious excitement felt by our employees. During the first week, as they flew across our network connecting with you, I couldn't walk through a Horizon airport or break room

without seeing employees smiling, looking amazing and telling me how confident they felt in their new uniforms. I also couldn't open my Instagram account without seeing picture after picture of employees snapping selfies and posing with their co-workers, showcasing their new look.

It's clear that the pride our employees feel for delivering great service is now matched by the pride they have in looking and feeling great. And even though the uniform launch was a few months ago, I still get stopped by employees who want to share with me how much they love the new uniforms and how honored they are that Horizon was selected to be the first to wear them.

Because at Horizon, we're all about connecting people and connecting amazing communities in our region and beyond, as part of the award-winning Alaska brand.

Luly, thank you for helping us "look so fly." We're lucky to have you as part of our family. —*Brooke Vatheuer*

>> BIENVENIDO



Brad Tilden, Jefe Ejecutivo



Brooke Vatheuer Vicepresidente sénior, Operaciones y Planificación, Horizon Air

VOLAR CON ELEGANCIA

>> Los empleados de Horizon

Air están muy orgullosos de portar sus nuevos uniformes diseñados por la famosa diseñadora Luly Yang.
Mientras más empleados comienzan a estrenar sus uniformes este mes, no puedo esperar a escuchar qué piensa usted sobre los diseños de Luly. Personalmente, icreo que hizo un trabajo extraordinario!

—Brad Tilden

De niña, siempre fui alta para mi edad. Recuerdo examinar los estantes al principio de cada año escolar, esperando encontrar algo que me quedara bien. A pesar de mi búsqueda exhaustiva, siempre parecía ser la niña con pantalones que no le cubrían los tobillos y tenía las mangas cortas. Evidentemente, mi proporción del torso a las extremidades no estaba en el repertorio estándar de los fabricantes de ropa.

Como adulta, creo que mis infortunios en el campo de la de moda me hacen sentir doblemente agradecida de conseguir un par de pantalones con ajuste perfecto o una chaqueta cuyas mangas sean del largo ideal. El estímulo a nuestra confianza que da el vernos y sentirnos bien es inmensurable, y este es uno de los numerosos motivos por los que me entusiasma que los empleados de Horizon estrenen los nuevos uniformes hechos a su medida por Luly Yang.

En Horizon, nos enorgullecemos de proporcionar a nuestros clientes un servicio excepcional y conectar a las personas a través de sus viajes. Eso se volvió aún más fácil cuando nos deshicimos de nuestros uniformes pasados de moda en noviembre y adoptamos los estilos elegantes y modernos de Luly. Esto elevó inmediatamente la manera en que se veían y sentían nuestros

empleados en el trabajo, y esa energía se transmite directamente a la forma en que interactúan con usted y le brindan esa experiencia excepcional que queremos que tenga en cada vuelo.

Esto comenzó con una conexión entre Luly y nuestros empleados. Antes del lanzamiento de los uniformes nuevos, nuestros empleados tuvieron la oportunidad de visitar un Centro de Medidas para tener una cita personalizada en la que pudieron probarse todas las piezas del uniforme hasta encontrar el aspecto y la sensación adecuados que coincidieran con su estilo, personalidad y tipo de cuerpo. Luly y su equipo no pasaron por alto ni un solo detalle con las opciones de uniforme que proporcionaron, desde el vestido cruzado que siempre queda maravilloso, hasta las alas impecablemente rediseñadas. iIncluso, algunos de los

cierres muestran la marca nominativa de Alaska! iLos colores, las texturas y las líneas elegantes tienen todas las características de un estilo listo para la pasarela!

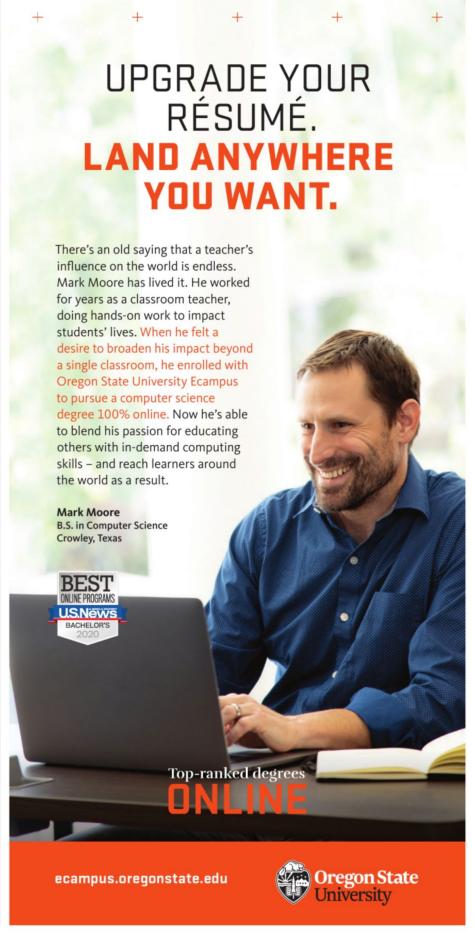
Y como la seguridad siempre es lo primero en nuestra aerolínea, nos enorgullece mucho ser la primera aerolínea de los Estados Unidos en recibir la certificación "STANDARD 100 de OEKO-TEX®" en nuestros uniformes, que es el estándar de seguridad más alto.

Mi parte favorita del lanzamiento de los uniformes fue el entusiasmo que sentían nuestros empleados; era contagioso. Durante la primera semana, a medida que volaban por nuestra red y se conectaban con usted, se me hacía imposible caminar por el aeropuerto o sala de descanso sin ver a los empleados sonriendo, con un aspecto maravilloso y contándome la confianza que sentían portando su nuevo uniforme. Tampoco podía abrir mi cuenta de Instagram sin ver una imagen tras otra de empleados tomándose selfis y posando con sus compañeros de trabajo mostrando su nueva tendencia.

Es evidente que el orgullo que sienten nuestros empleados por ofrecer un servicio excelente ahora era igual al orgullo que sentían al verse y sentirse geniales. Y si bien el lanzamiento de los uniformes fue hace unos meses, todavía me detienen empleados que desean compartir conmigo cuánto les encantan sus nuevos uniformes y cuán honrados están de que se haya elegido a Horizon para ser la primera aerolínea en usarlos.

Porque en Horizon, nuestra esencia es conectar a las personas y conectar a comunidades maravillosas en nuestra región y más allá, como parte de la premiada marca Alaska.

Luly, muchas gracias por ayudarnos a volar con elegancia. Somos muy afortunados de tenerla como parte de nuestra familia. —*Brooke Vatheuer*





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IN THE KNOW,



WHAT'S NEW: ALASKA AT CENTER ICE

>> Alaska Airlines scored a slap shot of a sponsorship, announcing in January that we're partnering with Seattle's newest hometown professional sports team, known at press time as NHL Seattle. As the official airline and founding partner of the new National Hockey League team, we'll welcome the community to the New Arena at Seattle Center and to the team's practice facility and headquarters at Northgate Ice Centre, in North Seattle. The facilities are currently under construction.

As part of the partnership, the arena's main entrance will be named the Alaska Airlines Atrium. This space will feature digital displays with stories and images related to the Pacific Northwest and to travel opportunities near and far. Located on the south side of the arena, the atrium will welcome thousands of music and sports fans to events held throughout the year. Alaska Airlines branding will also appear inside

the arena on the ice and on several of the boards around the rink during NHL games.

Alaska Airlines employees, some of whom play on recreational employee teams or coach youth hockey teams, have expressed excitement at working with NHL Seattle to bring joy to the community via NHL games and activities at the practice facility.

"I grew up playing hockey and love the drive and energy of players and fans alike," says Alaska Airlines President Ben Minicucci. "At Alaska, we're proud to be a founding part of bringing hockey to this great and growing city."

Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of Seattle Center and partners with Seattle Center institutions, such as the Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP) and Pacific Science Center. The airline also sponsors the WNBA Seattle Storm (which will return to Seattle Center and the new arena from the team's temporary home at Alaska Airlines Arena at the University of Washington).



» NHL Seattle's home arena (rendering above), will include the Alaska Airlines Atrium. In the photo at left, NHL Seattle CEO Tod Leiweke (right foreground) presents a symbolic jersey to Alaska Airlines President Ben Minicucci.



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TAKING THE CALL

Reservations Sales Agent Kevin Tobey is a Legend of **Customer Service**

>> On a shelf in Kevin Tobey's home office near Seattle is a baseball signed by Seattle Mariners great Edgar Martinez. Martinez signed

the ball after Tobey threw it for a ceremonial first pitch during Edgar Martinez Appreciation Weekend in Seattle in 2019. Martinez was being honored for his induction into the National Baseball Hall of Fame, and Alaska Airlines, the Official Airline of the Seattle Mariners, asked Tobey to make the pitch as a 2019 inductee to the airline's version of the Hall of Fame—its Legends of Customer Service. Today, Tobey's Legend plaque is next to the ball on his shelf.

"I jumped at the chance to throw the pitch," says Tobey, a 25-year employee of Alaska Air Group, who used to play softball recreationally. "It wasn't a great toss, but I got it to the plate!"

Tobey says he often looks at the ball and the plaque and reflects on how lucky he feels to work for Alaska and to have won the award: "I was humbled to be chosen. There are so many amazing Alaska employees. I'm just a guy who sits down and tries to do his job well every day."

Originally from Coos Bay, Oregon, Tobey began working for Horizon Air in Seattle in 1994. He worked as a Ramp Service Agent until 2012, when, after a knee injury, he had a chance to work in Reservations at Alaska. He expected to return to his old job, which he liked, but he found the role of a Reservations Sales Agent fit with his love for talking with people and offering assistance. "I found a home," Tobey says. "I had the gift of gab and the heart to help."

Tobey is admired for his caring approach with callers and for the ways he helps friends and strangers in a pinch—ranging from taking on shifts during holidays to stepping up for extra projects, to collecting goods for disasterrelief efforts. Tobey says it just gives him a good feeling to assist people when he can.

"We all need help sometimes," he says. "Give me a call. I'll take care of you." -Ben Raker



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What do you like most about your job? I work with amazing people at an amazing airline that supports my decisions and allows me to do what's right. Also, I get to be at the forefront of a person's travel experience. I'm the first line of contact.

How do you provide good service? I take every call as though it's my first call. I still truly want to help the person on the other end asking me something I've been asked a thousand times. I know that for

them, calling in, it's the first time.

What is most important to you in life? My wealth is in my kids and what they do. My son is a police officer. One daughter is in the National Guard. One daughter is a teacher. I have two granddaughters and a grandson, and I'm expecting another grandchild through adoption.

What do you always take on a flight? A good book and a good attitude. I always appreciate that my job allows me to travel. For me, growing up, it was a really special thing to fly. I still don't take it for granted.

KUDOS FROM KEVIN'S CO-WORKERS

"I walk away with a smile after speaking with Kevin. He exudes such positive energy, and it makes me want to talk with him more. He also does an excellent job advocating for guests." — Jeanne D., Director, Reservations, Seattle, Boise and Phoenix

"Kevin exemplifies Alaska Airlines values to a T. Our guests love him; he gets a lot of kudos; and he's highly thought of by the leadership team and his co-workers." —Shari T., Reservations Manager, Seattle

"Kevin is a very passionate and dedicated employee who truly cares about Alaska's guests and others. He is always thinking of others and will drop everything to help." —Mary A., Managing Director, Inflight Strategy and Support, Seattle

"Kevin makes his job fun. And for those who have an opportunity to be around him when he's in the office, it makes it fun for the whole group." —Ayana J., Supervisor, Reservations, Seattle



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SKILLED LEADER

Customer Services Supervisor Kathy Reissig is a Horizon Air Pathfinder

When a woman in her 70s arrived for her Boise-to-Seattle flight without the correct portable oxygen machine for travel, Kathy Reissig called the guest's medical-equipment supplier, which agreed to do an exchange if the woman returned to the store. But the woman had arrived at the airport by taxi, so Reissig drove her in Reissig's own car-20 minutes each way-to make the exchange. Reissig also reticketed the woman for a later flight, and called the guest's family members in Seattle to let them know about the change.

"I care about people," says Reissig, a Boisebased Customer Services Supervisor who has been with the airline for nearly 35 years, doing jobs ranging from ticketing, boarding and baggage/cargo handling to deicing and marshaling aircraft, on her way to becoming a supervisor. "My experience allows me to help wherever I'm needed. I consider our agents my first customers, and I always want to do the best I can for them and partner with them. I get thanked a lot for jumping in and being an extra hand. It's a small thing that goes a long way."

She is also known for being calm, kind, nurturing, respectful and friendly with team members and guests, and requiring utmost attention to safety, regulations compliance and service. "We get to connect with people from different walks of life, and that is fun," she says. "We have these wonderful people who get on an airplane, and they are trusting that we are doing what we're supposed to do, and our job is to make sure that we do everything we're supposed to do, every day."

Reissig joined Horizon after high school, when a travel agent uncle noted that airlines have good travel benefits. "He was right-our family has had marvelous vacations," she says.

She also loves the daily variety of her job, the scheduling flexibility and the employee camaraderie. "We are like a family. I always tell guests, 'You are in good hands.'" -M. Dill



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

How do you define job success?

I love that Alaska Air Group empowers our agents to listen to our guests and make decisions on how best to help them. It's important to do the best job you can each day, have good teamwork, and truly create an airline people love. If you take good care of your fellow workers and your guests, that's success.

What do you like to do outside work?

I enjoy hiking, skiing and golfing, and I run/ walk four half-marathons in a month each fall to fundraise for Fiftytwo.four-52.4 miles of love—a Boise nonprofit that helps

children in India who are suffering because of HIV or AIDS. It builds orphanages and schools, and helps with needs such as medicine and food.

What's most important to you in life?

My husband, children and grandchildren; my two Labrador retrievers; and also God. That is what inspires me to daily look for opportunities to help others and live the best life I can.

Where do you like to travel?

Hawai'i and Mexico for sunshine/beach. The Oregon coast to soul-search/reset.

PRAISE FOR KATHY

"Kathy is seen by her staff as a leader who not only embodies safety as our top value, but models the behavior she wants to see, and provides clear, valuable leadership. For instance, during a snowstorm one year, she was supervising a new group of ramp agents faced with operational challenges in getting many morning flights out of Boise. She gathered the new agents together and in a calm voice reassured

them: 'We've got this.' She explained how everything would be approached, and stressed that the agents would stay safe and not rush, and would get each aircraft out safely. She leads through communication, encouragement and working alongside people as a team. She truly embodies 'doing the right thing.'" — Matt P., Horizon Vice President of Station and Inflight Operations, Seattle



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Airlines Captain
Theresa Claiborne,
Alaska Airlines First
Officer Mallory Cave.

INCREASING DIVERSITY IN THE SKIES

By Ted Alvarez

>> Alaska Airlines Captain Tara Wright

likes to say she's been flying "since I was a baby." Her father was a pilot, and she began logging flight hours above Bay Area skies long before she could drive a car.

"I would do chores in exchange for getting rides in an airplane," says Wright, who has been a pilot for 27 years. "I went to college to be an aerospace engineer, but a year into doing that, I realized I was spending all my time in the library. Flying sounded like more fun."

Wright joined Alaska Airlines in 2007 and became the airline's first African American female captain. She was only the seventh African American female captain ever at any major airline. It is estimated that African American female pilots make up about 0.5% of all professional pilots flying.

Wright hopes to change that. In 2016, she joined Sisters of the Skies (SOS), an organization that helps support women of color in aviation. The group provides camaraderie, mentorship and scholarships for women of

color pursuing careers in the aviation field. Since 2017, SOS has provided more than \$45,000 in flight-training scholarships.

Last year, Alaska Airlines partnered with SOS, pledging to increase the airline's number of African American female pilots from four to 16 by 2025. Alaska has also committed to supporting SOS scholarships, workshops and outreach efforts across the country.

"We have a very long way to go to increase our numbers," says Wright, who is treasurer and a board member for SOS. "But Alaska has been phenomenal in taking a leadership role. Their initiatives will go a long way to make flight decks look like the communities we live in."

Former Alaska intern and SOS mentee Kamia Bradley is a senior at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott, Arizona. In high school, she fell in love with flying during a helicopter ride in her hometown of Denver, Colorado.

Wright became a mentor to Bradley, taking her flying and teaching her about the skills

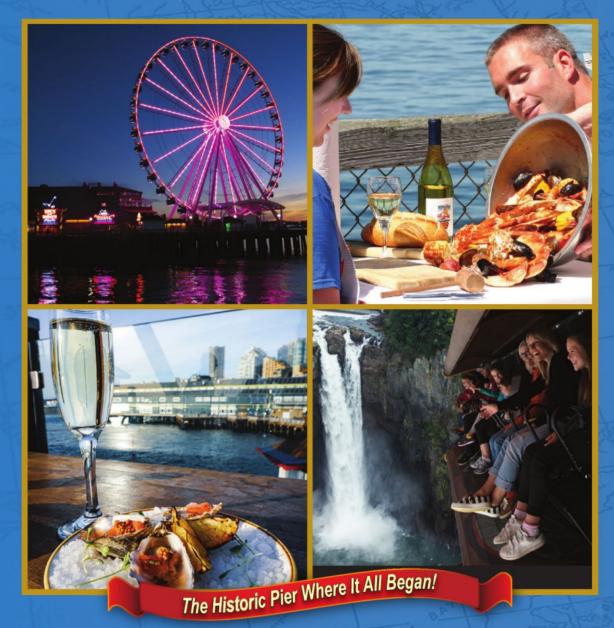
required to fly planes. Bradley is now dedicated to passing that mentorship on. She's formed the first Black Student Alliance at the university, and she's working with the airline industry to help increase African American applications to the college.

Wright says offering African American women students the opportunity to see themselves as pilots is one of the most effective recruitment tools. So in 2018, SOS founded the Girls Rock Wings (GRoW) workshop, where every year, 100 students, ages 12 to 18, learn to use simulators and meet professional pilots. They also get the chance to fly with an SOS member and actually help fly the plane.

Alaska is committed to hiring more African American female pilots to honor its Sisters of the Skies pledge, says Karen Wilkins-Mickey, Alaska's Director of Diversity & Inclusion.

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BEYOND ENTERTAINMENT

FREE SKIING

Steep and deep from the comfort of your seat

>> Steve Winter doesn't ski.

This might surprise some of his biggest fans: Along with his business partner and friend since Little League, Murray Wais, Winter has done more than most to shepherd ski-film culture into the cliff-hucking, eyebrow-deeppowder-hunting, how-did-she-ski-that? era it now occupies. Their film company, Colorado-based Matchstick Productions, fused the punk attitude and the nascent freeskiing movement of the early 1990s, when powder gods in helicopters wrangled the steepest of mountain spines into their personal playgrounds.

Through the course of more than 25 films and dozens of TV episodes and commercials, Winter and Wais have made audiences feel like they can join the fun, too—even if they're still working on conquering the bunny hill.

Cases in point are two Matchstick films currently pumping adrenaline on Alaska's inflight Beyond Entertainment: the 2018 release *All In* and 2019's *Return to Send'er*, filmed at Squaw Valley, Sun Valley, Whistler and several other Western resort areas.

For all the gonzo fun found in these two films, they also have an amazing amount of soul that's been hard-won: After a tragic accident in 1997 in the Chilean Andes, Winter awoke on the side of a remote mountaintop, unable to move. At one point, his heart had stopped. Yet when Wais arrived at the hospital to visit Winter, the first thing Winter said was, "We gotta keep this going."

"It was pretty inspiring and pretty powerful," Wais recalls. "It made me realize at a somewhat younger age that life is precious, and we need to live in the now."

Winter would walk again, though numbness in his lower left leg would keep him off the slopes for good. But for him and Wais, the movies were never about raw pursuit of the stoke: They were about the people.

"In the hospital bed down in Chile, I decided





>>> Skier Mark Abma, top, and a helicopter-assisted film crew go to work on location for Return to Send'er. Steve Winter is Matchstick's founder.

that returning to filming was important because I enjoy that community," Winter says. "The people involved are good, fun people the kind of people I want to have in my life."

The incident also bolstered the pair's ethos to keep taking chances. From creating signature whirling, slo-mo helicopter shots in the Whistler backcountry to achieving gender parity by spotlighting, in *All In*, mostly female skiing superstars—including Alaska native Elyse Saugstad, featured on the cover of this magazine's February 2019 issue—Matchstick pioneers approaches that others follow. The 2016 film *Ruin* and *Rose* reeled in viewers with an explicitly environmental message, and welcomed outsiders into freeskiing's sometimes intimidating tribe.

"Our vision is the same—we want to inspire people, for them to envision the potential in a match so they can set the world on fire, live their dreams, get out there, and have fun in the

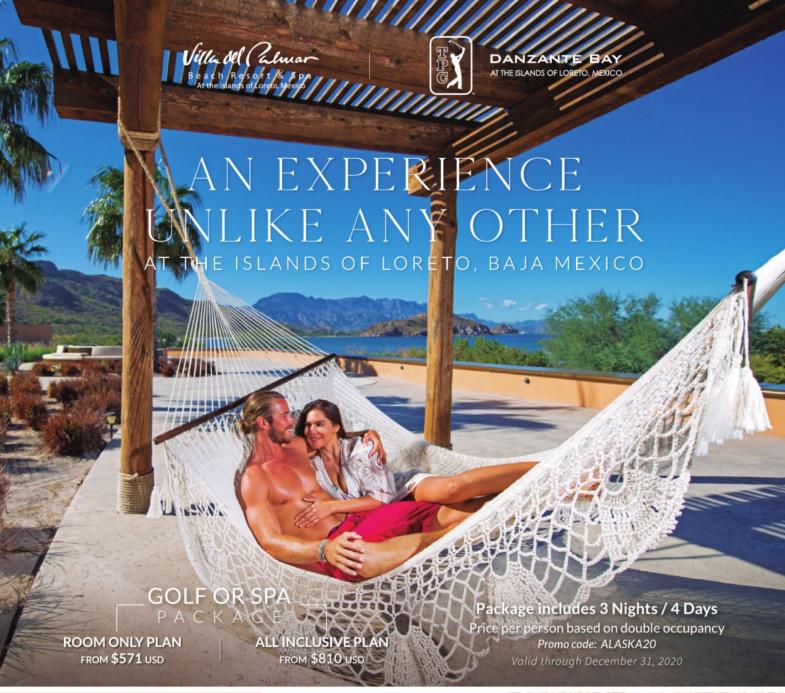


snow," Wais says. "That hasn't really changed."

These days, Winter and Wais have expanded their passion for the slopes into a thirst to see audiences thrilled and to see the duo's thriving business grow. "The amazing joy our fans get from watching a movie and being in a big theater—seeing them cheer for shots we've created—it puts a smile deep in my soul that I can't explain," Winter says. "We obviously enjoy shooting and editing the art. But we went from being a punk business to becoming businessmen that dress like punks."

"Steve and Murray's enthusiasm for skiing, for their athletes and for their audience is obvious," says Jean Carlon, manager of Alaska Airlines' ski partnerships. "And Matchstick has been a great promoter for our Fly Alaska, Ski Free program."

To watch the films while inflight, start at alaskawifi.com. Visit alaskaair.com/ski to check out Alaska's ski-free offers. —Ted Alvarez









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>> IN THE KNOW OUR PARTNERS

FRESH FROM SEATTLE

By Denise Clifton

>> A team of six starts early in the morning in Seattle, chopping five types of greens, slicing cucumbers and tomatoes, and steaming quinoa and brown rice. These ingredients anchor the salads, grain bowls and wraps at Evergreens, a made-to-order fresh-food restaurant chain based in the Emerald City.

Visitors will soon line up for lunch at the Evergreens location around the corner from Pike Place Market. But first, the staff has many online preorders to fill. A rainbow of fresh and house-pickled produce gleams from the tidy grid of the salad bar. The team dashes along the counter—tongs and scoops dancing between fixings and compostable serving bowls.

Since Evergreens launched in 2013, its operations have grown to 27 restaurants across Washington and Oregon. A location opened at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport last year and was an instant hit. At Portland International Airport, an Evergreens location is scheduled to open at Concourse E this summer. Evergreens' menu features four core offerings, plus five options that change twice a year and one more highlighted item that changes each month.

Alaska Airlines guests can enjoy Evergreens' Beets So Fly salad on coast-to-coast and Hawai'i flights through March 15. (Another Evergreens salad is scheduled to launch March 16.) Beets So Fly includes mixed greens, pickled red onions, pickled beets, cucumbers, walnuts, feta and black pepper, with Dijon-balsamic dressing. Inflight, roasted chicken is served as a side.

"It's a really colorful salad that offers great flavors for the inflight experience," says Tom Small, Evergreens' co-CEO and head of the culinary-development team.

Small recently took time to discuss the company's ingredients for success, its sustainability efforts and its distinctive salad names.

What makes Evergreens stand out?

Tom Small: "We're focused on freshness and



>> Above: The Beets So Fly salad, available on select flights through March 15. Right: Evergreens Co-CEO Tom Small.

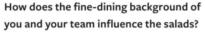
transparency around nutritional information.
We're also lighthearted and fun. Our teams are super dynamic, and we're super fast. We time the experience from when a guest comes in to when they finish at the register. At our fastest stores, this can be less than two minutes."

What are some ways Evergreens uses eco-friendly practices?

TS: "Almost 100% of the items that you get from us are compostable. That's bowls, beverage cups, soup cups, lids and utensils. We use corn-based compostable plastics—and have from the beginning. We've also been working with EnviroStars, an organization that recognizes businesses' environmental commitment. We have that program's highest rating for our locations, and that has to do with energy conservation, the use of LED light bulbs and water efficiency."

How did you come up with Beets So Fly, the first salad for the Alaska inflight menu?

TS: "Last year we had a very popular salad called Beets by Evergreens. We adapted this for the airline. It looks great and has big flavors. This is a style we thought was going to carry through to the inflight experience really well."



TS: "It's ingredients, it's technique, it's color, it's flavor balance, and some trend awareness. Seasonality plays a part, too."

How does the mission of healthy living influence the work culture at Evergreens?

TS: "We talk with our internal team a lot about 'living the brand.' We give our team members \$40 a month to do something that's on-brand: buy a pair of shoes, buy a gym membership, take yoga classes. It's all about having a healthy lifestyle and work-life balance."

How do you come up with the salad names?

TS: "It's a companywide competition, and we solicit names from all 475 employees. We share photos of the salads, and we'll get 50 or 60 fun names to choose from. Usually there's a clear favorite, but sometimes the team that decides the final name has to take it to a vote."

A version of this piece appears at blog.alaskaair. com in a series about partners whose business practices help Alaska fly greener. The Beets So Fly salad is available on select flights through March 15, with future salads to be announced.











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THE FEED,



SPLASHY PHOTOS

>>> When water first emerged from the hose, the pressure was so strong that it spun Chris Rock around, spraying members of the photo crew. But Rock—who was wearing a harness and was suspended from a crane—stayed up there, according to photographer Sam Jones' description of the 1997 portrait (above) that he shot for Vanity Fair. The water pressure was reduced, and Jones snapped the photo he had envisioned. This represents what photographers, and film and TV stars, sometimes endure to capture the arresting and iconic images that run in the acclaimed magazine.

"Vanity Fair: Hollywood Calling," at the Annenberg Space for Photography in Los Angeles through July 26, features 130 photos by more than 50 photographers.

The photos were selected by the magazine's creative development editor, David Friend, and the magazine's former director of photography, Susan White. The photos date to Vanity Fair's 1983 relaunch.

Photos include a 2006 Robert Wilson shot of actress Isabelle Huppert replicating a pose struck by Greta Garbo, a 2018 portrait by Cass Bird of actor Michael B. Jordan standing chest-high in water, and a 2019 black-and-white portrait of director Ang Lee by Peter Hapak.

Other photographers featured include Annie Leibovitz, Collier Schorr and Firooz Zahedi.

For more information, visit annenbergphotospace.org/ exhibits/vanity-fair-hollywood-calling. —Sidan Wang





GO BENEATH THE SURFACE

>>> Housed in a former 19th century railroad station, the

St. Louis Aquarium, which opened in December, is a sparkling modern facility. The 120,000-square-foot, two-story aquarium features more than 13,000 aquatic animals representing 257 different species, in six main exhibits.

Galleries include "Shark

Canyon," a 250,000-gallon exhibit featuring devil rays and sandbar sharks, as well as nurse and black-tipped sharks. "Changing Rivers" features river otters, painted turtles and other creatures found in freshwater rivers. And "The Ocean Shore" features interactive tidal pools, where guests can touch stingrays and

sharks, as well as crabs, sea stars, shrimps and other invertebrates.

The aquarium's local nods include a rare blue lobster named Lord Stanley in honor of the St. Louis Blues' 2019 Stanley Cup victory.

The new aquarium at Union Station also makes creative use of technology. For instance, in the lobby (pictured), guests are greeted by a large, curved 4K LED screen displaying marine environments. Guests can also ride a train that features 3D virtual-reality elements and includes narration by St. Louis-area native John Goodman.

For more information, visit stlouisaquarium.com. —Kyle Fang

CELEBRATE WTA TENNIS

eighth-seeded Madison Keys (shown at right) winning her first singles tournament since 2017. Keys, who at press time was 12th in the Women's Tennis Association rankings, will be returning to Charleston for this year's Volvo Car Open, April 4–12. She'll be joined by other top women's tennis stars, including Ashleigh Barty—winner of the 2019 French Open—Simona Halep, Garbiñe Muguruza and Sloane Stephens.

About 90,000 fans are expected to watch in person at Volvo Car Stadium as about 100 players

compete in the qualifying singles and doubles draws on the Har-Tru clay courts.

A storyline worth watching is the play of former No. 1 Kim Clijsters, of Belgium. A mother of three, Clijsters is coming back to WTA competition this year for the first time since retiring in 2012.

For many players, the tournament in Charleston serves as a kickoff to the clay court season, which culminates with the French Open, beginning in May. For more, visit volvocaropen.com. —*Kyle Fang*





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-Megan Janes, Founder, Seattle Pops

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BIG EASY BOOK FEST

Celebrated author Edmund White, acclaimed literary critic and writer Maureen Corrigan, and Man Booker Prize nominee Colm Tóibín are among the speakers at the 34th-annual Tennessee Williams & New Orleans Literary Festival. The event, March 25–29, includes readings, literary-panel discussions, theater performances, writing workshops, concerts, and culinary and cocktail events in honor of the famed American playwright, whose birthday is March 26.

The festival features more than 150 events. The Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans presents Williams' *In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel* with a futuristic twist—it's set more than 100 years after present time. At Books and Beignets, guests discuss the late Toni Morrison's novel *Beloved*. In the Stella and Stanley Shouting Contest, entrants re-create the scene from *A*



Streetcar Named Desire in which Stanley calls for Stella.

Williams (1911–1983)
moved to New Orleans in
his 20s and, inspired by
the city's rich culture, launched
a career that included plays
such as Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.
Visit tennesseewilliams.net for
more information. —Luisa Loi

RUN BY THE BAY

The Martin San Francisco Bay Area, the Oakland Marathon is also acclaimed for its scenery.

Beginning in Snow Park, the marathon route covers much of Lake Merritt's 3.4-mile perimeter, passes the 22-story early-1900s Tribune Tower, runs along Oakland's waterfront and includes a stretch on the San Francisco–Oakland Bay Bridge.

The race, which also features half-marathon, 5K, kids' run and relay options, welcomes about 11,000 participants on March 22, with a festival starting on March 19 leading up to the race. On Friday, March 20, activities include a happy hour featuring beers from Drake's Brewing Co. and an Old Kan Beer & Co. Carb



Load, offering an all-you-caneat pasta-and-salad dinner.

On race day, in the Celebration Village at Snow Park, attendees can enjoy a festive atmosphere that includes food trucks, live music, DJs and a kids' zone.

For more information, visit oaklandmarathon.com.

—Luisa Loi

ORCHIDS ABLOOM

More than 10,000 blooms are on display at Brilliance: The Orchid Show, through March 22 at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Floral chandeliers spilling with pink flowers, archways dotted with purple Vanda orchids, and orchids speckled with intricate patterns are all part of the show, which transforms greenhouses and galleries into a vibrant wonderland of color and attracts more than 40,000 guests per year.

Mirrors and translucent panels give the displays a dynamic quality, changing with the moving sun. Other artistic features include a floating orchid "carpet." Specific orchids in the show include the rare ghost orchid, which is often described as resembling a white frog.

"Orchids come in a variety of colors, from white to green to rich purple," says Kathryn Deery, the garden's coordinator of visitor events and programs. "They create the illusion of shimmer and sparkle in their natural environment to attract pollinators."

Guests can learn about the plants and their pollinators. For instance, because bees cannot see red, they tend to pollinate flowers of other colors.

On Thursday evenings, guests can enjoy Orchids After Hours to see the bounty of colorful plants illuminated with unique lighting. For more information, visit chicagobotanic.org. —*Kyle Fang*







MOVIES ON THE MIND?

> Subject matter at the Phoenix Film Festival ranges from Charles Dickens to MTV. Starring Dev Patel, Hugh Laurie and Tilda Swinton, The

Personal History of David Copperfield is a dramedy that reimagines Dickens' mid-19th century novel. I Want My MTV is a documentary charting the story of the famed music channel. These are two of the more than 300 films showing at the event, March 26-April 5 at the Harkins Scottsdale 101 theater in Phoenix. Genres include comedy, documentary, drama and science fiction.

Actors, writers and directors representing about 75% of the films are participating to discuss their work directly with audience members—more than 27,000 attendees are expected.

Reunion Weekend, during the second weekend, celebrates the festival's 20th year by showing films that have played previously. Titles include the crime thriller Ten 'til Noon, which played in 2006, and the coming-of-age story Dakota Skye, which played in 2008. Visit phoenixfilmfestival.com for more information. —Risako Dey



TASTE THE **CAKES**

>>> Pastry chef Nicholas Lodge, who was a recurring judge on Food Network Challenge, is considering technique, display and originality to determine which decorated cake wins the Best in Show category at the 37th-annual San Diego Cake Show, March 21-22 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. The top-tier competition is just the icing on a weekend that features more than 200 cakes made by decorators of all skill levels, as well as decorating demonstrations and an extensive marketplace selling baking and decorating tools and supplies.

Master pastry chefs, talented local bakers, novice decorators and kids are all encouraged to enter a cake in a category that matches their expertise. This year's theme is "Around the World in 80 Cakes," which organizers say is intentionally broad to encompass many different aspects of travel, landmarks and adventure. For more information, visit sandiegocakeshow.com. —Risako Dey

A JEWEL OF **AN EXHIBIT**



>> Charlotte Newman was one of the first successful female studio jewelers. For more than four decades around the turn of the 20th century, she crafted exquisite pieces such as Pendant (shown at left), and she had a shop on London's Savile Row.

Newman's piece is one of about 220 displayed in "Maker & Muse: Women and Early Twentieth Century Art Jewelry," at The Frick Pittsburgh through May 10. The exhibit, toured by International Arts & Artists, celebrates women's impact—as makers and as sources of inspiration—on jewelry of the late 1800s and early 1900s. With examples from the

English Arts and Crafts movement, French Art Nouveau, the Jugendstil (youth style) of Austria and Germany, and American regional makers in New York and Chicago, the exhibit features jewelry crafted by artists such as René Lalique, Mrs. W.H. (Elinor) Klapp and Louis Comfort Tiffany.

Pieces include Henry Charles Barker's Galleon Pendant (shown at right), which resembles a ship sailing under a rainbow and includes gilded silver, copper alloy and pearl; and Karl Rothmüller's Mermaid on Coral Brooch, which includes gilded silver, coral and pearl. For more, visit thefrickpittsburgh.org. -Sidan Wang





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JALISCO HERITAGE

By Melanie Haiken

>>> Famous for two of Mexico's most renowned exports—mariachi music and tequila—Guadalajara takes pride in maintaining a rich cultural identity as the capital of the state of Jalisco and a quintessentially Mexican city. The importance of local heritage is clear to me as I explore Guadalajara's El Centro Histórico, the historical city center dating back to the 1500s that features splendid Spanish colonial buildings and impressive monuments arranged around a series of spacious squares.

My starting point is the Metropolitan Cathedral of Guadalajara. With its ornate gothic towers reaching into the sky, the church is easy to spot from any direction as you approach. I explore its interior, admiring its richly decorated marble and silver altar, and its soaring ceilings. Then I exit into the Plaza de Armas, a landscaped space centered on a wrought-iron gazebo.

East of the plaza, the baroque Palacio de Gobierno (Jalisco's government building) offers me my first look at a mural by José Clemente Orozco, whose fresco adorns the ceiling of a two-story stairwell and features the Mexican revolutionary leader Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla facing down anyone ascending the stairs. A contemporary of Diego Rivera, Orozco created provocative work that has undergone a revival; his murals have become favorites among Guadalajara's sights.

Back outside, a walk east takes me through the wideopen Plaza de la Liberación, past the giant sign spelling out the letters in *Guadalajara*, and past the neoclassical Teatro Degollado. I follow the long promenade Paseo Hospicio to the Hospicio Cabañas, a former orphanage/ medical complex founded in the 19th century that is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. There I join a tour of the complex's main hall, which features 57 stunning Orozco





murals. Following the instructions of a guide, I stand under the central dome to admire the visionary mural *El Hombre de Fuego* (Man of Fire), whose central figure appears to float upward as I circle below.

For lunch—and souvenir shopping—
I head to the Mercado San Juan de Dios
(aka Mercado Libertad), an enormous indoor marketplace. Despite its bustle and its labyrinthine layout, I easily
locate the hand-tooled leather goods and colorful pottery I seek. Then I sit down to a bowl of birria, a savory
lamb stew that is one of Guadalajara's signature dishes.

Later, my choice for dinner is Casa Bariachi, which has shows by some of the city's best mariachi bands and dancers. As I listen to a high-energy version of the song *Cielito Lindo*, I dip into a *jericalla*, Jalisco's flanlike answer to crème brûlée. I reflect on how my time in Guadalajara has deepened my appreciation for Mexican culture.



>>> Clockwise from top: the Plaza de Armas, with the Metropolitan Cathedral of Guadalajara in the background; the muraladorned Hospicio Cabañas; dancers outdoors in the historical city center.

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OUT & ABOUT GUADALAJARA







By Melanie Haiken

LOVKOFF / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO; STEPHEN LLOYD MEXICO / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO

>>> I'm trying to spread thick, creamy caramel sauce into a small wooden box, and it's not going smoothly. My hands are sticky, and the cajeta, as the caramel is known, overflows the sides of the box.

"Don't worry—just scrape it off—then you can eat the extra," says my guide, Ada Martínez of the tour company Sensaciones Turísticas, and she demonstrates.

We're visiting Nuestros Talleres ("our workshops"), an alliance of candymakers in the village of Tlaquepaque, where some of the Jalisco region's most admired craft confectioners demonstrate traditional techniques and offer tastings in a 150-year-old adobe house. Across a sunny courtyard, a tiled kitchen hums with activity as bottles of the eggnoglike drink *rompope* are readied for market. Moving to the next room, we compare the taste of cacao beans and artisan-made chocolates in the workshop of chocolatier Cristina Taylor. Nuestros Talleres, which opened in 2018, is the dream of Luis del Hoyo, whose grandmother's recipe for rompope with macadamia nut is featured in a tiled-mosaic fountain on one wall.

Traditions such as candymaking are the essence of Tlaquepaque, celebrated as a center of craftworks, where shops, studios and galleries showcase some of

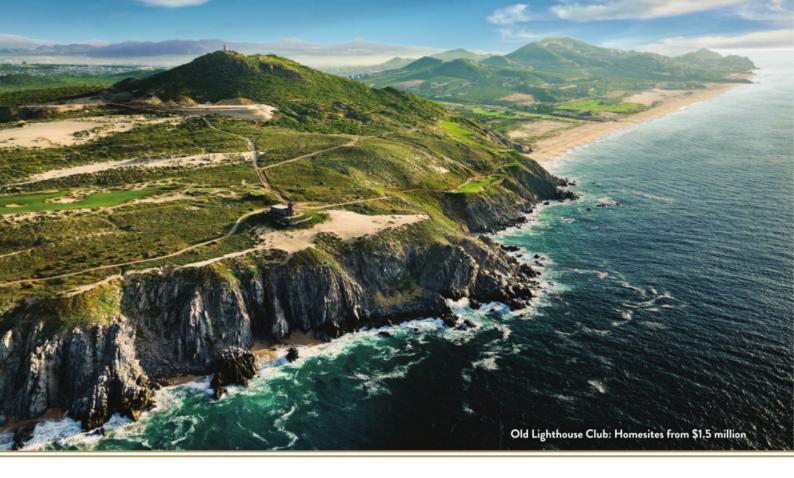
Mexico's finest textiles, silverwork, glassblowing, ceramics, arts and foods. About 5 miles south of Guadalajara's historical city center, Tlaquepaque is one of the

Mexican government's designated "Pueblos Mágicos"—having become one of these "Magic Towns" in 2018.

As Martínez guides me up and down Tlaquepaque's cobblestone streets, we visit the woodworking studio of Agustín González and peek into two churches that date back more than 200 years: the ornate Parish of St. Peter and the serene Our Lady of Solitude Sanctuary. Then it's time to visit the workshop of Luis Manzano Galán, where we watch the elderly potter add ears to a smiling clay piggy bank. Martínez tells me this is one of the few studios to produce this type of traditional wood-fired pottery.

As the shops begin to shutter for the day, we head for Casa Luna Restaurante, where meals are an extravagance of tastes, colors, sounds and textures, in a dining room as art-filled as any gallery. For the evening's final toast, we choose the local tequila-spiked fruit punch cazuela voladora, named for the handmade clay bowl it's served in. The drink seems a fitting end to a day in which we've been immersed in the artisanal traditions of Jalisco.

Diclockwise from top left: a brightly decorated cobblestone street in Tlaquepaque; Our Lady of Solitude Sanctuary; colorful masks at a local shop.



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DISCOVER A WORLD OF HEARTY-MEAL WONDERS

By Danielle Centoni

>>> Most of the world's cuisines have at least one dish in common: a good stew.

And chilly days in March are great times to explore some of these options. "When it's cold and you want something that sticks to your ribs, there are few things better than these hearty meals," says Marc Sheehan, executive chef and co-owner of Loyal Nine restaurant in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Sheehan, a Boston-area native, grew up in an Irish American household where Irish stew with beef and potatoes made frequent appearances, including on St. Patrick's Day. But he says that potatoes were not always an ingredient. Traditional stews are born from using what's on hand, and before explorers reportedly brought potatoes from South America to Europe in the 1500s, Irish stew often featured mutton, barley and turnips, he says. "Barley brings a nuttiness and richness to the broth."

Peposo, a classic Tuscan stew of beef, red wine and peppercorns, may also have practical roots. Tradition holds that in order to streamline the lunch of workers building Florence's Duomo more than five centuries ago, big pots of peposo were hoisted up to the laborers

along with the bricks so that the workers didn't have to come down. "The brick-kiln workers would slowly cook beef shanks in terra-cotta pots when they had the furnace going," says Paolo Calamai, a native Florentine and chef/owner of Burrasca restaurant in Portland, Oregon. "Tomatoes hadn't arrived in Italy yet, but there was plenty of wine."

Some stews are born from traditions people bring with them to a region. New Orleans gumbo, for example, has French, Spanish, African, Native American, Caribbean and other influences, including the culinary customs of Vietnamese immigrants who were drawn to New Orleans in 1975 after the fall of Saigon.

"My mom would use her leftover pho broth of beef stock, flavored with aromatics such as ginger and star anise, to make gumbo, and instead of salt she used fish sauce," says New Orleans chef Anh Luu, who is bringing this style of Viet-Cajun cooking to the menu of the Bywater Brew Pub, scheduled to open in April. "There isn't one recipe for gumbo," she says. "Every pocket of Louisiana makes it differently."

Many stews incorporate meat, since a slow simmer is a great way to tenderize tough inex-

Deft: Irish stew with beef, potatoes, carrots, barley, turnips and pearl onions. Above: Indian rajma chawal, served with yogurt-based pomegranate raita and onion salad.

pensive cuts. But vegetarians in Northern India often make stews with lentils and beans for protein, says Preeti Agarwal, who grew up in the region but is now the chef/owner of the French-influenced Pomerol restaurant and the Meesha Indian pop-up in Seattle. "My favorite is a comforting rajma chawal," she says. "It has red kidney beans simmered with garlic, tomato and ginger, and is eaten with sides such as cumin-scented rice, raita and pickled onions."

Like most chefs, Agarwal likes to explore varying takes on tradition, and she often showcases influences from different cuisines in her stews, such as crafting a Moroccan tagine featuring a za'atar spice mixture.

Loyal Nine's Sheehan might spike his Irish stew with a bit of whiskey. "You're taking a dish born out of poverty and frugality and elevating it to a more refined version," says Sheehan. "That's how great food develops."

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>> THE FEED PLATES & POURS

FRUITFUL APPROACHES

By Brad Japhe

>> The vibrant flavors of fresh fruit

are often associated with fond childhood memories: a slice of watermelon on a hot summer day; a crisp apple in autumn; a cold glass of orange juice before you run out to catch the school bus. But fruit flavors can create memorable moments in adult life, too. More than ever, these sweet sensations are adding an inventive flourish to grown-up beverages.

To be sure, fruit-enhanced spirits are not new—vodka brands have been creating offerings with fruit flavors, such as cherry, peach and citrus, for years. "Now, though, we're seeing an uptick in quality and seriousness in this sector," notes respected Los Angeles bar consultant Joel Caruso. "I think it says a lot about how far we have come as consumers."

He cites an example from Californiabased Ventura Spirits. Rather than adding sweetener as some brands do, the craft producer distills its brandy out of California strawberries. The resulting liquid is aged for four years in oak, balancing out the fruit with hints of honey and caramel.

Clyde May's, whose premium-spirits parent company is based in the New York City area, adds natural apple extract to the barrel during aging of its Alabama Style Whiskey. For Plantation Stiggins' Fancy Pineapple Rum, crafted by France's Maison Ferrand company, the flesh of the fruit is

soaked in a vat of dark rum, and the skin is soaked in a vat of light rum. After the flesh and skin are removed, the rums are blended for the final product. The Pineapple Rum consequently has a marvelous tropical aroma.

Crystal Daniels, bar manager at Post Office Place in Salt Lake City, likes to use unusual fruit for cocktails because she wants "to do things people have never seen before," she says. For instance, she found dried Asian jujube at a local shop and decided to make a tealike simple syrup with the jujube, cinnamon sticks and ginger. She combines the syrup with grape-based Perla Vodka from local Holystone Distilling, plus a barrel-





>>> Above: Crystal Daniels makes a Jujube Vodka Old-Fashioned. Left: Maison Ferrand suggests using its Plantation Stiggins' Fancy Pineapple Rum for a pineapple daiquiri.

aged barley Japanese shochu distilled spirit and pumpkin bitters, for a novel vodka old-fashioned.

"Jujube tastes like a cross between apples and pears, with the dried version also bringing in datelike notes," Daniels says. "All of those flavors help to bring out and accentuate the brightness of the fruit-based vodka."

She loves continually discovering

"the next offbeat fruit to use," she adds. "I find myself asking, 'What within the world have I not had, and how can I bring it to Salt Lake City?' Right now, I'm experimenting with two South American fruits—lucuma, with a subtle caramel-like flavor, and maqui berry, with a rich, yet tart, blackberry/cherrylike flavor—for cocktails that may go on our menu soon."

Bartenders and distillers who achieve well-received results are choosing quality fruit for their beverages, Caruso observes. "Consistent with the trend of minding more what we eat, we are seeing that today's drinkers are demanding quality ingredients."



little * things

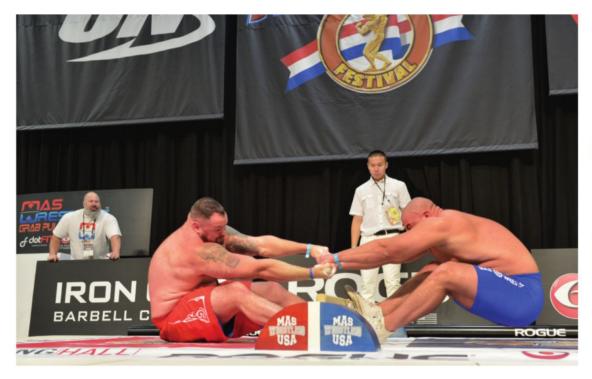
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Ju.S. athlete
Jacob Finerty
(red trunks) battles
Hungary's Dominik
Juhász (blue trunks)
during the 2017
Mas-Wrestling
Absolute World
Championship, held
in Columbus, Ohio.

AN ANCIENT SPORT FINDS A NEW AUDIENCE

By Dave Boling

)> A weightlifter since the age of 10, and a champion of strength competitions much of his life, Odd Haugen was dissatisfied that most events were judged by the weight of objects lifted or the distance they were thrown.

However, few of the contests pitted one person directly against another, the kind of mano-a-mano challenge Haugen saw as the purest form of competition.

Now 70, Haugen spent years searching for a sport that would provide that kind of personal challenge. He found *mas* wrestling, an ancient Yakut sport from Russia. *Mas* (which means "stick" in the Yakut language) wrestling most closely resembles a one-on-one tug-of-war competition, but adds more directional challenges as two competitors fight for control of a 20-inch-long stick.

The two players sit on the floor and place their feet on either side of a thick board that's about 7 feet long and positioned between them. The competitors then grasp a stick and try to wrest it away from their opponent, or pull the opponent over to the other side of the board. The winner of two out of three rounds wins the match.

Versions of the sport can be found in Viking lore and as a competition played by Indigenous peoples in Eastern Russian territories and Alaska. A form of the activity, called swingle tree, has also long been a part of Scotland's Highland Games.

Mas wrestling's recent popularity in America is the result of the Norwegian-born Haugen, who founded the Mas Wrestling USA organization in 2013. Soon after, Haugen began introducing the sport at U.S. strongman competitions. "It's very exciting for the audience because it's simple to understand, but multidimensional," Haugen says. "The athletes are using their entire bodies."

Those interested in seeing the sport in person can attend the 2020 Rogue Arnold Classic International Mas Wrestling Tourna-

ment, March 5–8, in Columbus, Ohio, and the 2020 North American Continental Mas Wrestling Championship, on April 25, in Columbus, Georgia. Men and women are scheduled to compete in various weight classes.

A similar sport—the Eskimo stick pull—will be featured at the 60th-annual World Eskimo-Indian Olympics, held July 15–18 in Fairbanks, Alaska. This version is the same as mas wrestling, except that the competitors place their feet directly against their opponent's and then tug for the stick.

Haugen expects mas wrestling's following to continue to grow. The sport has also gained some high-powered fans, including legendary bodybuilder Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"This is one of the most perfect tests of functional strength, not just pure strength," Haugen says. "There are more components to it—speed, flexibility, agility and intestinal fortitude. If you're fairly equal in strength, it comes down to intestinal fortitude."



At first, Larry Chiarelli, director at a tech start up, thought he was doing all he needed. Sign up on multiple dating websites. Meet lots of women. Eventually, the right one would come along - except she never did. So he decided to bring in the professionals and hired It's Just Lunch. It's Just Lunch's matchmakers got to know him and his preferences. They selected his dates, arranged schedules, and even made the restaurant reservations. Dating became stress-free and fun. Larry was a practical guy and didn't believe in love-at-first-sight... until IJL introduced him to Ping.

Dating life before joining It's Just Lunch?

Lawrence: Chaotic! I was meeting a lot of women but not the right women for me. Online dating was time consuming and stressful. I needed someone to relieve me of the dating busy work so I could get some breathing room. I needed to slow things down to speed them up. It's Just Lunch fit that criteria perfectly.

Why join It's Just Lunch?

Ping: I fly frequently for both work and fun. When I saw It's Just Lunch in the airline magazine, it was as if the matchmaker was talking to me! One day after a particularly long flight and wanting to snuggle with someone and watch a movie, I decided it couldn't hurt to give it a try.

Most enjoyable part of the It's Just Lunch process?

L: Having someone doing all the work to select and schedule a date. It was like I had my own personal dating concierge to take care of all the details. All I had to do was be on time for my date and be myself. It really was a stress-free experience.

What was it like working with the It's Just Lunch matchmakers?

L: Easy and convenient. The company I was working for was going through a merger so I was away from home quite a bit. I'd finish my day and there would be a message from my matchmaker telling me about my

next match. I'd call back, get the details and run through my availability. The next thing I knew I was in front of an interesting woman having a great conversation.

Do you have any advice for singles who want to meet that special someone?

L: I tell my clients an analogy all the time: Would you rather drive across the country in a Toyota Corolla or a BMW 5 series? They always say the 5 series. You get what you pay for. Investing in yourself and your future with someone special means investing in the right matchmaking service. For me that was It's Just Lunch.

P: Invest in your own happiness, it is always worth it.

The success of It's Just Lunch is built on creating high quality matches in low pressure situations. In 28 years, they've set up millions of first dates. Make meeting someone special a priority. Get in touch at 800-858-6526 or www.itsjustlunch.com.

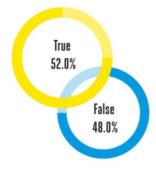
THE POLITICS OF DATING

How important is a person's political party affiliation when deciding to go on a date with him/ her?

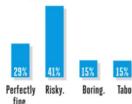
Male:

| | 40/0 | not important |
|---------|------|----------------|
| | 45% | Moderately |
| | 15% | Very important |
| Female: | | |
| | 29% | Not important |
| | 54% | Moderately |
| | 17% | Very important |

I could casually date someone who didn't have the same political beliefs as me, but in the long term it probably won't work out:



Talking politics on the first date is:



Source: IJL Survey

It's Just Lunch Matchmakers:



BROWN





DARLING







PULLING AHEAD

Diesel engines might be right for drivers who tow By Bengt Halvorson

)) In four of the most popular light-duty pickup models—the Chevrolet Silverado 1500, Ford F-150, GMC Sierra 1500 and Ram 1500 —diesel options are back. These models twist out great amounts of trailer-pulling torque and top equally capable gasoline engines in towing fuel efficiency, which has always been a strength for diesels. But unlike diesel engines of the past, these three versions (the Silverado and Sierra have the same Duramax engine) leave behind the hard starts, clattering sounds and tailpipe smoke. These lightduty diesels are also designed to produce much less smog-forming exhaust than their diesel predecessors.

After test drives, I can attest that these engines, developed in Europe, are smooth and refined—not noticeably louder than gasoline engines on startup and settling to a nice purr once warmed up. And without noticeable exhaust odors, these engines might leave passengers unaware that they are riding in a diesel vehicle until they see you filling up at the fuel station. Each of these four trucks achieves an EPA highway rating of 30 mpg or more, and drivers continue to report a diesel advantage beyond what's represented in the ratings: that diesels take less of a mileage hit when towing. So if you need to haul the boat up to the lake, or pull that Airstream trailer on vacation, diesel might be the way to go. ⊀



- Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Duramax
- GMC Sierra 1500 Duramax

Under the hood: 3.0-liter inline-6, 277 horsepower, 460 pound-feet of torque at 1,500 rpm; 10-speed automatic transmission.

What it can pull: Up to 9,300 pounds.

Fuel economy (EPA city/highway): Up to 23/33 mpg. Cost premium: The higher you go up the Silverado or Sierra price ladder, the smaller the cost to upgrade to the diesel. It's just \$2,495 extra in the luxurious Silverado High Country or Sierra Denali models.



Ford F-150 Power Stroke

Under the hood: 3.0-liter V-6, 250 horsepower, 440 pound-feet of torque at 1,750 rpm; 10-speed automatic transmission. What it can pull: Up to 11,400 pounds.

Fuel economy (EPA city/highway): Up to 22/30 mpg. Cost premium: A \$4,995 premium over the base 3.3-liter V-6 engine, or \$3,000 more than the 5.0-liter V-8.



Ram 1500 EcoDiesel

Under the hood: 3.0-liter V-6, 260 horsepower, 480 pound-feet of torque at 1,600 rpm; 8-speed automatic transmission.

What it can pull: Up to 12,560 pounds.

Fuel economy (EPA city/highway): Up to 22/32 mpg. Cost premium: A \$4,995 option on much of the lineup, or no more than \$3,300 higher than the 5.7-liter V-8.



After more than four years, dozens of focus groups and countless hours of anticipation, fashion designer Luly Yang's airline uniform project is finally taking flight—literally as well as figuratively. Known for her formal red-carpet couture and bespoke suiting for men and women, Seattle-based Yang was chosen by Alaska Air Group in 2016 to revamp the uniforms for its more than 20,000 employees. This month, airport runways from Seattle to Los Angeles and New York will double as catwalks as everyone from flight attendants and customer service agents to ground crews and baggage handlers dons long-awaited new uniforms—the airline's first major sartorial upgrade in nine years.

"I am super excited," Yang says, beaming about the rollout. We're sitting in the tranquil, light-filled private studio in downtown Seattle that she uses when she needs a quiet space to hold meetings or to work on her designs. Her eponymous boutique, located at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel, is just a short walk away; its windows are known to showcase a rotating selection of Yang's whimsical, eye-catching creations. Rich velvet and satin tuxedos and gowns in deeply saturated hues, fabrics boasting bold patterns and unique details—strategic draping, jewel-like beading, ruffles and feathers placed just so—have been a signature at the corner of Fourth Avenue and University Street for nearly two decades.





FLIGHTS

SEATTLE DESIGNER LULY YANG UNDERTAKES A FIRST-CLASS REDESIGN OF ALASKA AIRLINES' FLEET OF UNIFORMS / BY RACHEL GALLAHER

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Fit and function for all 13 work groups were essential to Luly Yang's design strategy.

"This is one of the most special collections I've ever worked on," she says, "and I plan to be at the airport when the uniforms debut. The emotions will be high, and I want to celebrate that energy and excitement with Alaska. This is a very special, one-of-a-kind experience for any fashion designer. The magic moment is when the employees wear the uniforms, and the garments come alive."

At first thought, the choice of a designer who specializes in one-of-a-kind couture creations for individual clients seems at odds with the scope of a project that requires the design and production of one cohesive uniform collection that needs to fit a plethora of body shapes and sizes, as well as serve each individual for the numerous tasks of his or her job. But Alaska takes pride in partnering with local businesses on everything from its inflight food-and-beverage program to the design of its airport lounges, so picking a locally based designer for the overhaul was a top priority.

"We knew Luly's background, talent and timeless design solutions would be the perfect fit for Alaska," says Sangita Woerner, Alaska Airlines' Senior Vice President of Marketing & Guest Experience. "Her style perfectly captures our fresh West Coast vibe—and of course we love that Seattle is her home base, too."

As Yang tells me about her approach to design projects, it's clear that the task isn't as incongruous as it might seem. "My process is always the same," she says. "It starts with conversation and listening to really understand, to the core, who I am designing for."

Yang spent months holding focus groups with employees from around the country, distributing surveys, collecting feedback, and observing everyone from pilots to baggage handlers in order to see how their uniforms needed to stand up to the rigors of their jobs. This meant lots of flying, and lots of time at airports.





"The things that stood out to me were the little details," Yang says. "Paying attention to where the pockets are, or how deep they are. Many of the team members need their hands free to do things. They have to carry around mobile devices and be able to store them quickly. Flight attendants asked to have longer shirts so that the garment doesn't slip up when they are putting luggage in the overhead bins. These little things were important, and every decision was intentional."

Additionally, Yang had to take durability and climate into consideration. The most durable fabrics aren't always the most comfortable, and a ground crew member in Alaska can't wear the same thing as someone based in Southern California. These puzzlelike constraints presented Yang and her team with the ultimate design challenge—one that she ended up enjoying so

much, she has expanded her uniform business as a result, with end-toend uniform solutions that include design, product development and production.

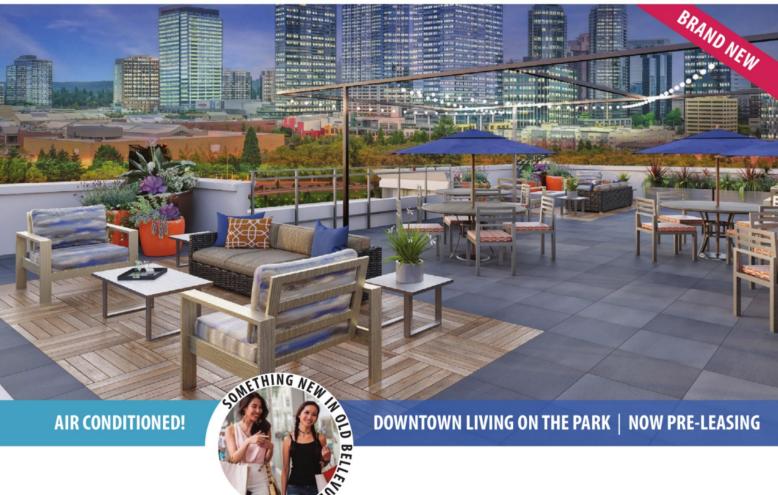
"Through this process, I discovered my love and passion for custom uniform programs," she notes.

The resulting collec-





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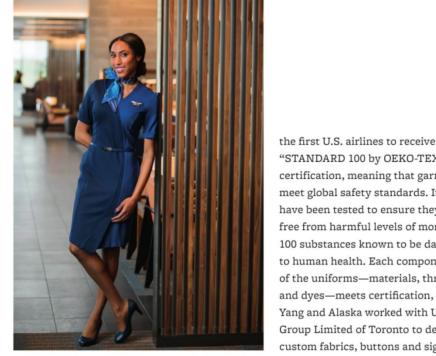
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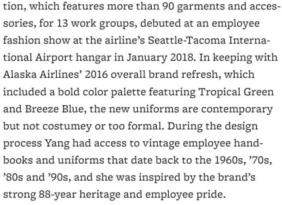


Luly Yang offers a new look for flight attendants, right, as well as a stylish look for mechanics,

"STANDARD 100 by OEKO-TEX®" certification, meaning that garments meet global safety standards. Items have been tested to ensure they are free from harmful levels of more than 100 substances known to be damaging to human health. Each component of the uniforms-materials, threads and dyes-meets certification, and Yang and Alaska worked with Unisync Group Limited of Toronto to develop custom fabrics, buttons and signature accessories.

"All of the employees I spoke with can't wait to have a new uniform," Yang says. "Some of them have even been with the airline for decades. There's strong pride there, and they want to represent the company with what they wear."

If anyone knows about having pride in their company, it's Yang. While she's best known as a fashion designer, she has also been recognized multiple times over the past two decades for her business acumen and strong leadership. She has steadily grown her company, both in employee numbers and in goods and services offered. She's worked with local entities including Pacific Northwest Ballet and Teatro ZinZanni, and embraced philanthropic efforts benefiting Swedish Medical Center, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, and Seattle Children's Hospital, among others. Yang has not only become a pillar in the Seattle business community, but also an inspiration to women



"Fashion has changed a lot over the years, and you can see the trends reflected in flight attendants' uniforms," she says. "What we've done is a modern interpretation of the brand. Our design strategy focuses on a West Coast-modern vibe that embraces comfort, experience and approachability."

From two-toned, blue-color-block dresses to crisp gray vests, custom neck scarves and sleek trench coats, the uniforms were a hit-something that would make the Alaska team identifiable on the airport concourse and also present a professional look.

The approval from employees was strong, but aesthetics wouldn't matter if the uniforms couldn't hold up to wear or hindered crew members from doing their jobs, so Alaska selected 175 employees to participate in 60-day "wear tests" and give feedback about the performance of the garments. Refinements were made, and then a second, shorter, wear test took place before the uniforms were declared finished. The official rollout started at the beginning of 2020 with Horizon Air team members and Alaska Lounge concierges, and it continues through the course of this month.

In January, Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air were





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looking to start their own ventures.

"Everything I do goes back to our company's mission," she says. "We're here because we want to elevate the human experience through thoughtful, innovative designs. We always stay true to our values and keep that mission top of mind. Our team is diverse in design discipline and backgrounds, but all of us share the same values, goals and passion for what we do."

It's a laudable foundation for any company, and one that Yang has applied throughout her career trajectory, even before she landed in fashion. Born in Taiwan, Yang moved to the Puget Sound–area city of Bellevue

10. She was interested in fashion at a very young age and recalls her grandmother designing and sewing her own clothes. "I grew up watching her," Yang says, "and my mom was an artist who also designed and made our clothes for formal events. For part of my life, I thought that this was normal, that everyone created their own clothing!"

with her family when she was

After high school, Yang enrolled at the University of Washington, where she pursued a degree in graphic design. Outside of the classroom, she was a fitness instructor at the university's Intramural Activities Building. "Fitness and the human form became a passion of mine," she says. "It helps me understand the human body and a garment's interaction with it. I have ergonomic charts of the body on the walls in my studio. It's important to be able to see how the articulation of an elbow, hip or knee works. Good

design solutions are a perfect balance of form and function. Clothing needs to look good and move well with the body."

It was during her time as a graphic designer for a Seattle-based architecture firm that Yang made her first serious foray into fashion. In 1999, she participated in a charity fashion show that paired designers with paper companies, asking them to create runway-ready looks to raise money for the Seattle-based Art with Heart organization. Yang's creation, her signature Monarch Butterfly Gown, awed the crowd and reawakened her passion for fashion design. Shortly after the event, she decided to pursue fashion as a career.

"Obviously it was a risk to quit a job that I really enjoyed and to jump into something that was completely different from what I had ever done before," she says with a small laugh. "But I was fulfilling a dream I had had since I was a young child."

In 2000, Yang opened her first studio at Fourth Avenue and Pike Street with a collection of 12 gowns.

Three years later, after a successful start, she moved to her current atelier at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel. Over the years, Yang has designed numerous high-concept collections inspired by everything from oceanic life (an aquatic-themed "Ocean" collection was presented at the Seattle Aquarium) to sight (her "20/20" collection was inspired by vision and the human eye).

"I always start with a big-picture concept, and that becomes the soul of the collection," she says. "It's usually highly conceptual at the beginning. I'll start by developing a visual story for the feeling I want people to experience, then I move to designing the collection."

Beyond the conceptual, Yang runs a tight business. As the head of her company, she's faced with tough decisions daily. Hard work and

intense passion are the foundation.

"I face the difficult things head-on," she says. "With every decision, we're always asking, 'Is what we're doing making the human experience better?' If the answer is no, then we're not going to do it."

When invited to give her advice for other women running their own businesses (or those thinking of making the leap), she keeps it short and straightfor-



"Staying curious keeps you innovative and keeps your mind open, whether you've been in your career for one year, 20 years or 50 years."





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In a maintenance hangar or on the tarmac, the new uniforms bring a renewed sense of pride at Alaska and Horizon.

ward: "Follow your passion, make all decisions intentional and strategic, and learn to do this quickly, with confidence. It's important to move through the decision process and commit to it."

The business community has appreciated her business focus. In 2007, she was honored with the Nellie Cashman Women Business Owners of the Year Award, and recognized in the Puget Sound Business Journal's list of 2010 Women of Influence. In 2019, Yang was inducted to the Asian Hall of Fame.

When the Alaska Airlines uniform project came across Yang's desk in 2016, it was an easy decision for her and her team. "I grew up here; I went to school here; I love the West Coast," she says, "Alaska has always been my favorite airline, so I was very excited when I got that call."

Yang has made the custom uniform business an integral part of her company, with corporate clients ranging in scale from boutique companies to global businesses in North America and Europe. She has recently taken on two additional landmark Pacific Northwest clients who are refreshing their brands, the Space Needle and the Fairmont Olympic Hotel.

In her own studio, Yang will release at the end of this year a ready-to-wear travel collection featuring easy-to-layer pieces and accessories designed for travelers on the go to feel comfortable and chic-the ultimate combination.

"I can pack enough for two to three weeks in one carry-on," Yang says about her own travels, adding that it's all about the layering. She travels frequently for work, to Europe and to Asia, and has the art of travel dressing down to a science.

"It's all about what I like to call my 'transformative items," she says. "Multifunctional pieces that I can wear from a morning meeting to a cocktail party, and maybe just throw on a jacket or switch shoes. It's all about keeping things very versatile."

One item that she always travels with is her signature Luly cashmere shawl that serves triple duty as an attractive accessory, a wrap during the evenings, and a neck roll or blanket while inflight.

In her purse, she makes sure to bring a pair of sunglasses, a mid-layer sweater and a vial of pure lemon essential oil. "It helps energize me," she says.

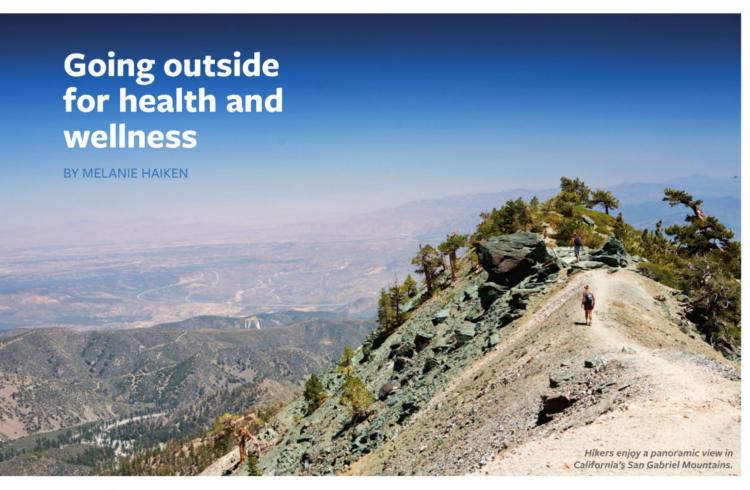
Within the next year, Yang plans to hold a 20th-anniversary fashion show that will feature highlights of her portfolio. Serving as reminder of the evolution of her brand and her creativity, the show will be a vivid chapter in a story that's still being told.

"I have a curiosity about everything, and I like asking questions," Yang says. "Staying curious keeps you innovative and keeps your mind open, whether you've been in

your career for one year, 20 years or 50 years." She pauses and smiles as if thinking of the decades aheadan idea taking flight is a beautiful thing to watch. ズ

Rachel Gallaher is a Seattle-based freelance writer and the deputy editor at Gray Magazine.







The trail before us travels

through thick stands of oak, laurel and Pacific madrone to the bottom of Santa Anita Canyon, where we can hear the rush of water tumbling over rocks.

A little more than a mile of winding creek bed later, we reach our destination: Sturtevant Falls, where we step into the pool below and marvel at the feeling of wilderness that pervades this swath of the San Gabriel Mountains.

The most astonishing thing? Our trail, reaching an elevation of roughly 2,100 feet in the Angeles National Forest and totaling less than 3.5 miles, is just a 30-minute drive from my daughter's house in the trendy Highland Park neighborhood of Los Angeles.

Thanks to dual obligations of family and work, I spend a great deal of time in Los Angeles. And while I love the bustle in the metropolitan area, I also like to be able to leave it behind.

Thankfully, I've found many escapes from patches of desert wildflowers to long stretches of pristine sand to summit views from the Santa Monica and San Gabriel mountains.

Experts increasingly point to the benefits of nature in decreasing stress and combating a variety of health challenges.

"There is clear and growing evidence that time spent in nature positively affects both physical and mental health," says Joshua Lawler, a professor at the University of Washington and director of the UW EarthLab's Nature and Health research initiative studying the impacts of nature on human health.

"There are studies directly linking time spent in nature to reduced stress, better

sleep, lower blood pressure, reduced anxiety and lower rates of depression," he says. "Other studies show that exposure to nature can lead to improvements such as reduced pain and decreased recovery time after surgery."

Get outdoors more and there's even a possibility that you may be happier, boost your memory and live longer, Lawler says. Then, of course, there are benefits linked to physical activity, such as weight loss and prevention of type 2 diabetes.

"Time spent in nature isn't just fun it's good for us," Lawler says. "There are many ways in which you can think of nature as a prescription for health."

While researchers are still working to understand the specific mechanisms underlying the nature-health connection, one explanation focuses on nature's impact in reducing levels of stress hor-



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mones, such as cortisol, which negatively affect cardiovascular health, the digestive system and more. Other studies look at phytoncides, natural chemicals released from trees that may have anti-inflammatory and immune-boosting properties.

In the past two decades, experts have even coined the terms "nature deprivation" and "nature deficit disorder," for what happens when people spend too much time indoors and in urban environments, with little exposure to greenery, fresh air and outdoor activity.

The good news is that green spaces and opportunities to experience nature can be accessible, even near dense urban locations. Following are ways to bring the health benefits of nature into your life.

Forest Bathing

Forest bathing is a translation of the Japanese term Shinrin-yoku, a nature therapy developed by health experts in the early 1980s. All it really means is immersing yourself in the soothing atmosphere of the deep forest, where sound is hushed by the dense canopy overhead, footfalls muffled by the leaves underfoot, and senses soothed by the scents of pine.

One of the nation's best places to forest bathe might be on the Olympic Peninsula in Western Washington, where towering Sitka spruces, western hemlocks, and big-leaf maples are draped in moss, their roots blanketed in feathery ferns. In particular, the Hoh Rain Forest, within Olympic National Park, is known for its astonishing biodiversity.

In the Olympic National Forest, the 1926 Lake Quinault Lodge is the perfect place for cozying up by the fire after a forest stroll, while Sol Duc Hot Springs Resort, in Olympic National Park, features mineral pools for soaking away stress. The Port Ludlow Inn can be a home base for exploring the Olympic Peninsula.

If you're looking to immerse yourself in trees in the immediate Seattle area, Friends of North Creek Forest, based

in Bothell, Washington, offers frequent guided forest-bathing outings in 64 acres of woodland northeast of Seattle.

Wellness Retreats

With its bright sunlight, dry air, big skies, and-in the spring-wildflowers, the desert can work wonders when it comes to healing body and spirit. Tap into these restorative powers with the help of a wellness retreat, where amenities and activities are designed to help you soak in the benefits of the natural world.



Five Ways to Incorporate Nature into Your Day-to-Day Life

In today's busy modern world, it's not always possible to break away for a fullon outdoor adventure. Luckily, we can bring the natural world into our lives in the smallest of ways. Here are five ideas:

Plant a garden bed or pot a plant. Tending the soil and nurturing plants puts you in touch with the natural world in a hands-on manner.



Walk a dog. If your household includes a canine companion, you know that those soulful looks can be a strong motivator to take a stroll. But if not, offer to walk a friend's or neighbor's dog—or just take a walk around the block yourself.

Study the skies. From the awe of a meteor shower to the challenge of identifying constellations, stargazing uniquely anchors you in the moment.

Watch the birds. Invest in a backyard bird feeder, a pair of binoculars, or both, and let bird-watching improve your powers of concentration as you learn about the bird species native to your area, and those passing through on their seasonal migrations.

Play at a park. Even a familiar local park can become fascinating when viewed through a new lens. Invite a friend to throw a Frisbee; take along a guide to identify local plants; or bring a blanket and lie back on the grass, setting a timer for 15 minutes of nothingness. —M.H.



Such immersive experiences abound in Palm Springs, California, and the greater desert area surrounding it. Trails travel through lush oases of fan palms, and ancient mineral springs bubble up from the earth to feed soaking pools and spas. Such features help visitors escape the cares of the world.

In Desert Hot Springs, less than 15 miles north of Palm Springs International Airport, stay at Two Bunch Palms, luxuriating in the pools of The Grotto and wandering 72 acres of desert landscape.

About 20 miles southeast of the airport, the La Quinta Resort & Club, founded in 1926, has a nearly century-long tradition of nature-inspired relaxation—and its Adobe Grill offers a great view of the Coachella Valley's glorious sunsets.

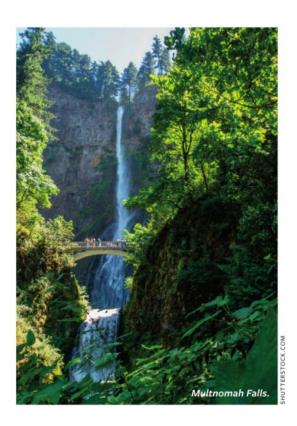
To experience the full majesty of the desert sky, join one of the stargazing

experiences organized by Sky Watcher Star Tours. And any nature-focused visit to Palm Springs should include a trip to Joshua Tree National Park, less than 50 miles east of the airport. See the park's namesake trees and lumpy rock towers straight out of Dr. Seuss.

Hiking Destinations

Portland, Oregon, is within day-trip distance of craggy peaks, crystalline lakes, dense forests and plunging waterfalls. Favorite hiking destinations include the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, where waterfalls plunge into the Columbia River and its tributaries within an 80-plus-mile stretch east of Portland.

Multnomah Falls, which drops about 620 feet, has become an iconic image of Oregon's wild beauty. The popular falls can be reached via a relatively easy



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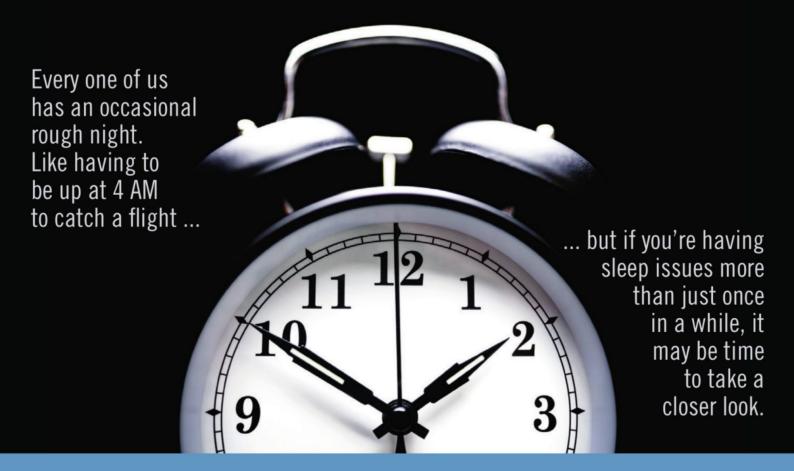


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paved path. An arched walking bridge lies between the upper and lower falls.

Wahkeena Falls, dropping more than 240 feet, offers more solitude than Multnomah thanks to a steep, 2.8mile out-and-back trail to reach the falls.

For stunning views that on a clear day extend all the way back to Portland, hike the 2.4 miles to the top of Angel's Rest, a knobby spine that juts out high above the river, and stop along the way to see the 150-plus-foot Coopey Falls.

Nearby snowcapped Mount Hood attracts outdoors lovers with one of the longest ski seasons in North America—lifts often run through Labor Day.

Mt. Hood Outfitters offers guided cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and hiking trips on the mountain.

For a longer visit, the 1904 Columbia Gorge Hotel & Spa in Hood River makes a



perfect base of operations to take advantage of all that this area has to offer.

Wildlife Viewing

Walla Walla, Washington, with the Blue Mountains rising just to the east, and the Columbia and Snake rivers situated to the west and north, has become a premiere wildlife-viewing destination thanks to a series of restoration projects that have created rich habitats for native and migrating species.

The McNary National Wildlife Refuge protects roughly 15,000 acres near the

Columbia River. Ospreys dive for their dinner; otters tumble and play; and beavers build their dams. From late winter through the spring, thousands of waterfowl, shorebirds and songbirds visit these wetlands to rest during their migratory journeys, while American white pelicans nest and raise their young on river islands.

If you're interested in a guided expedition in the region, the Blue Mountain Audubon Society leads monthly bird-watching field trips.

Surrounded by vineyards just outside of Walla Walla, elegant Cameo Heights

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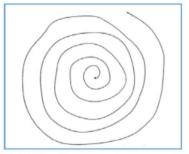
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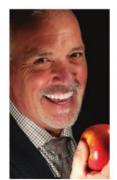


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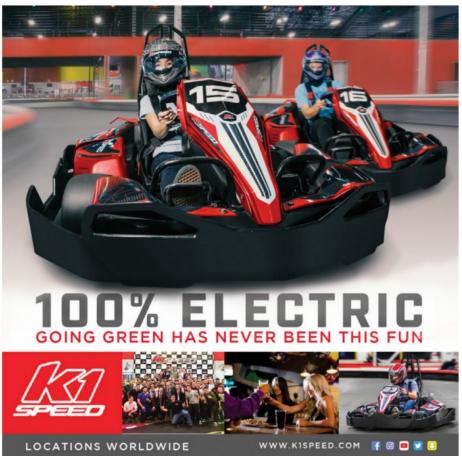




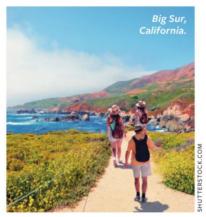


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Wave Watching

The rhythmic thunder of surf on the beach has the power to soothe, and finding relatively empty beaches is possible, even in Los Angeles. Head for Malibu-area beaches such as El Matador, La Piedra, Zuma and Leo Carrillo—just don't go on a hot summer weekend.

Featuring cypress-studded cliffs, jagged rocks and blowholes, the central California beaches of Monterey, Big Sur and Carmel also rank high for those in search of solitude. You can walk for miles along Monterey's Marina State Beach from The Sanctuary Beach Resort and then finish your day with a fire at one of the designated areas between dunes.

Stroll among tide pools on mile-long Asilomar State Beach on the Monterey Peninsula or spot turtles in the lagoon at Carmel River State Beach. Perched on cliffs just south of Point Lobos, the Hyatt Carmel Highlands Inn offers excellent storm-watching, too.

Gazing at Earth's forces—just like forest bathing, relaxing in the desert, hiking and viewing wildlife—is a great way to get a healthy dose of nature.

★

Melanie Haiken writes from the San Francisco Bay Area.

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As a business man constantly on the go with travel and presentations, I remember seeing an ad for schick shadel Hospital and thinking "If I ever need to go to an alcohol treatment center, that would be the place."

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Now eight years later, I'm still free. I have a beautiful family and a thriving business. The pressures are still there, but I'm dealing with all of it in a sober state, and it feels great!

If you think you need help, do yourself a favor, call Schick and get your life back!

-Randy W.





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SONOMA & NAPA COUNTIES

By Renee Brincks

 An animated weekend crowd fills the Gundlach Bundschu Winery courtyard as my friend and I search for seats on a sun-drenched Sonoma County afternoon. We've just sampled a crisp Gewürztraminer and a light, dry Rhinefarm Rosé in the tasting room, and



we've checked out posters from past concerts held at the winery's open-air amphitheater and its historic barn. The sixth-generation family operation, casually known as Gun Bun, blends time-honored winemaking traditions and a laid-back California attitude.

Fascinating cave tours (of the winery's barrel-aging caverns) share top billing with playful vineyard excursions in an Austrian-made Pinzgauer all-terrain vehicle. Gundlach Bundschu's social media feeds spotlight informative winemaking facts beside images of lively and entertaining special events.

Out on the patio, we pass groups of friends swirling and sipping wines, and we settle in at a table near the pond, not far from a DJ who is setting up for an afternoon set.

Gundlach Bundschu is part of a diverse Sonoma County winery scene

that's home to more than 425 producers, ranging from nearby Meadowcroft Wines, which in 2020 celebrates 25 years of making wine, to Passalacqua Winery, near Healdsburg, in the Dry Creek Valley area. Passalacqua Winery releases its popular Italian white, Lago di Merlo Fiano, in the spring (generally in April), as wild mustard blooms between the vineyard rows.

Travelers planning additional winetasting adventures in Sonoma County will find maps and other resources via the Wine Road organization at wineroad.com. The association of nearly 200 Dry Creek Valley, Alexander Valley and Russian River Valley wineries offers a free concierge service that shares customized itinerary recommendations from Wine Road team members. During the 43rd-annual Barrel Tasting events, March 6–8 and

California



Clockwise from top of facing page: Gundlach Bundschu Winery features epic vineyard scenery and distinctive all-terrain-vehicle and cave tours.

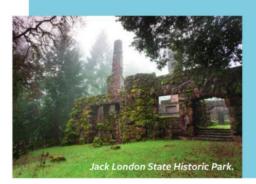
March 13-15, participating Wine Road members will preview their upcoming releases straight from the barrel. Attendees are invited to purchase future releases that will be bottled in the next 12 to 18 months.

The Charles M. Schulz Sonoma County Airport, in Santa Rosa, is a convenient gateway to the wineries of Sonoma County, and to wineries in neighboring Napa County. More than 400 wineries operate in Napa County, and venues throughout the area offer tastings. The Alpha Omega Collective and Mayacamas Vineyards are among the recent tasting-room additions in the city of Napa's downtown. Farther afield, The Prisoner Wine Company and Ashes & Diamonds have opened modern new tasting rooms in recent years. All of these new openings are welcome additions; they complement the numerous

MORE TO DO

SONOMA COUNTY

- California Artisan Cheese Festival (artisancheesefestival.com): Guests sample limited-production cheeses and take behind-the-scenes tours of local farms and creameries during this gathering, March 27-29. Cheesemakers, chefs and producers also lead cooking demonstrations, seminars and pairing events across Sonoma and Marin counties.
- Healdsburg (healdsburg.com): The city of Healdsburg is a popular stop for wine enthusiasts, thanks to its prime location among the vineyards of Sonoma County's Dry Creek Valley, Alexander Valley and Russian River Valley appellations. The city's newest tasting rooms include those of Walt and Baca Wines, and Roald Wine Company. Outside of tasting hours, visitors explore the boutiques and galleries clustered near Healdsburg Plaza, or head to the Healdsburg location of Oakville Grocery for picnic supplies, gifts and gourmet items by California purveyors. For a more adventurous option, pedal back roads and pause for samples at wineries on the Healdsburg Sip 'N Cycle day tour from Getaway Adventures.
- Jack London State Historic Park (jacklondonpark.com): Nearly 30 miles of trails wind through redwood groves, orchards, meadows and wildflower fields at this 1,400-acre natural playground outside of Glen Ellen in Sonoma County. Exhibits in the park's House of Happy Walls museum showcase the novelist's life and work. Visitors can also explore London's former cottage and view the site where he was laid to rest in 1916.





Ramekins Culinary School (ramekins. com): Set a few blocks from the city of Sonoma's central plaza, this education hub and event space offers public and private cooking classes for various skill levels. March workshops share the secrets of seasonal French flavors and Parisian cafe classics, plus instructions for gluten-free dishes, South American tapas, and sweet and savory crêpes.

Russian River Brewing Company

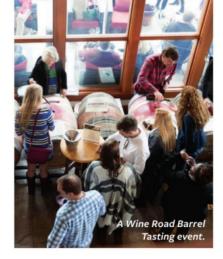
(russianriverbrewing.com): This respected craft-beer institution opened a brewing facility, brewpub and beer garden in the Sonoma County town of Windsor in 2018, with guided tours and tastings of the iconic Pliny the Elder IPA, Blind Pig IPA (my personal favorite), Belgian-inspired brews and more (all of which are also available at the company's original Santa Rosa location). Head south from Windsor to the city of Rohnert Park to visit the lake-view brewpub outpost of Bear Republic Brewing (bearrepublic.com), which serves—among other celebrated beers—the company's signature Racer 5 IPA.

NAPA COUNTY

The CIA at Copia (ciaatcopia.com): Cooking classes, tastings, edible gardens, culinary-arts exhibits, chef events and multiple restaurants grace the menu of attractions at this branch of The Culinary Institute of America in the city of Napa. Next door at the Oxbow Public Market (oxbowpublicmarket.com), I like picking up new travel books at Napa Bookmine before I order a scoop of a favorite flavor—Lemon Cookie—at Three Twins Ice Cream.







Renee Brincks writes from the San Francisco Bay Area. To learn more about Sonoma County, see sonomacounty. com. To learn more about Napa Valley, go to visitnapavalley.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Santa Rosa (STS) from cities such as Los Angeles (LAX) and Seattle (SEA).

California

- Connolly Ranch (connollyranch.org): Located in the city of Napa, this engaging ranch welcomes visitors with hands-on, all-ages activities related to food, agriculture and the environment. Farm tours introduce the ranch's resident animals, gardens and outdoor experiences.
- Napa Valley Opera House (nvoh.org): When I first visited this refurbished structure several years ago, I marveled at the acoustics and 1880s architecture. The downtown Napa venue buzzes with live music, local food and wine, and cultural events. It houses the JaM Cellars Ballroom at the Margrit Mondavi Theatre and the Blue Note Napa (a California outpost of the original Blue Note in New York).
- Paper Napan Walkabouts (papernapan.com): Discover the murals and installations of the city of Napa's emerging



Rail Arts District (RAD Napa) along a 2-mile outdoor arts trail via guided tours and custom outings. Or, embark on a three-hour downtown walk that spotlights the city's urban wineries and elegant old homes. —R.B.





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SAN FRANCISCO

By Jo Piazza

• I'm down on all fours, crawling, fumbling, feeling my way through darkness. Unable to see anything, I have no choice but to rely on my sense of touch to find my way out. Of course, that's the whole point.

I'm in the Tactile Dome, one of the most unique exhibits at the Explora-

torium science/art/human-perception museum at Pier 15 on the Embarcadero along San Francisco's eastern waterfront. The dome was built in 1971 by the academic August Coppola (yup, the brother of the famous filmmaking Coppola, and the dad of actor Nicolas Cage), and redesigned/rebuilt in 2013.

California



August Coppola hoped the dome would emphasize touch for perceiving reality, and help curb passive activities such as TV-watching that were growing more popular in the 1970s. Little could he have known that one day we'd have screens in our pockets. The dome takes about 10 minutes to explore and requires advance reservations because only small groups can fit inside at any given time. It also requires an extra fee (\$15), but the experience is worth it.

I tell my out-of-town guests that the Exploratorium deserves just as much attention as San Francisco's outdoor attractions. The Exploratorium is unlike any museum I've ever been to. In fact the word "museum" doesn't do it justice. It's more of a wonderland where science disciplines-physics, chemistry, biology-come alive.

Don't worry if fumbling through darkness isn't your thing. The Exploratorium has something for everyone from young kids (visitors can touch just about everything in the building) to adults who think they've seen everything. My 2-year-old and my octogenarian father-in-law were equally captivated. Almost all of the 650-plus exhibits in the museum are interactive. You can step inside a tornado, make art out of your own shadow and appear to levitate with an antigravity mirror. And those are just examples that are easy to describe with a few words. Most of the exhibits at the Exploratorium are indescribable. You'll

Freelance writer Jo Piazza is also the author of many acclaimed books. For more information on the Bay Area, see sftravel.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to San Francisco (SFO), Oakland (OAK) and San Jose (SJC) from destinations throughout the United States, as well as from Mexico.

MORE TO DO

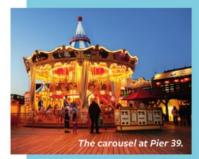
• Cable Car (sfmta.com/ getting-around/muni/cablecars): I think cable cars are the most enjoyable and aesthetically pleasing publictransportation option on the planet. The Powell-Hyde line, which goes down Hyde Street on Russian Hill, wows riders with stunning views of downtown, San Francisco Bay and Alcatraz. Hop off the route on Mason Street to learn about the history of these iconic cars at the Cable Car Museum.



- Coit Tower (sfrecpark.org/ facilities/facility/details/coittower-290): I take all my visitors to Coit Tower (accessible by car, bus or foot) to enjoy the great land and sea vistas. I always surprise my guests afterward by taking them down the Filbert Steps from the tower to see and hear feral parrots squawking on the side of Telegraph Hill.
- Ferry Building (ferrybuildingmarketplace.com): Arrive hungry is the advice I have for spending an afternoon on this part of the Embarcadero. Sample some of California's tastiest cheeses at Cowgirl Creamery (I'm partial to the Red Hawk, an organic, triple-cream, aged cow's milk cheese); slurp some

California

Hog Island oysters; and top it all off with one of Humphry Slocombe's interesting ice cream flavors, such as "Honey Graham," made with raw blackberry honey and crunchy housemade graham crackers.



• **Fisherman's Wharf** (visitfishermanswharf.com): Taking a tour, such as "Fisherman's

Wharf: A Hidden History," offered by San Francisco City Guides, may boost appreciation for the wharf neighborhood, with its seafood stands, classic arcade and the constant barking of sea lions at Pier 39. Tour participants get a real sense of the Italian fishermen who built one of the city's first fishing industries. Beyond the tour, you can taste fresh-caught Dungeness crab (the season is approximately mid-November through mid-June) at the wharf, ride the Pier 39 San Francisco Carousel and make music on the Pier 39 piano stairs. The Musical Stairs art was created by Remo Saraceni, the same artist who created the piano on which Tom Hanks danced in the movie Big.

• Ghirardelli Square (ghirardellisq.com): Stop by one of the three Ghirardelli shops for chocolates; head to The Cheese School of San Francisco to taste varieties or to take a cheesemaking class, such as Cheese 101; and grab a brew at the San Francisco Brewing Co.

Golden Gate Bridge

(goldengatebridge.org):
Renting a bike or taking a tour
from a shop such as Blazing
Saddles to head across the
Golden Gate Bridge is a rite
of passage for visitors to San
Francisco. Remember to dress
warmly. Many a cyclist has
ventured out in shorts and a
T-shirt, only to realize that the
wind on the bridge is chilling.



Golden Gate Park Sesquicentennial (goldengate-park150.com): As part of 150th-anniversary celebrations, a 150-foot-tall observation wheel is scheduled to open in the park on April 4, marking the date the California Legislature authorized the park in 1870. The wheel, operating until March 1, 2021, will provide views ranging



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from the ocean to downtown. Additional sesquicentennial events are being organized by the city's Recreation and Park Department and the San Francisco Parks Alliance as part of a yearlong celebration.

Japanese Tea House and Garden in Golden Gate Park

(japaneseteagardensf.com): Enjoy traditional Japanese tea and snacks (I recommend mochi cakes), and wander the 3.5 acres, including koi ponds, a Zen garden, flowers and cherry trees.

Lake Merritt Gondola Cruise (gondolaservizio.com): It's a little taste of Italy in the middle of Oakland—a romantic Venice-style gondola ride on 140-acre Lake Merritt, which is actually a saltwater tidal lagoon and wildlife refuge. Look for birds ranging from grebes to pelicans to Barrow's goldeneyes. You can even bring your own bottle of wine, and the tour will provide the glassware.

The Lawrence Hall of Science (lawrencehallofscience.org): The University of California, Berkeley is home to one of the country's top science museums, where kids explore math, physics, biology, astronomy and more. The "Reinventing Reality" exhibit (through April 12) is a great primer on how virtual reality is shaping our world. The Hall of Science is well worth a trip over the Bay Bridge to the East Bay.

Muir Woods National

Monument (nps.gov/muwo/index.htm): Descend into a magical forest worthy of Ewoks amid the massive redwood trees in Marin County, north of San Francisco, and reached via the Golden Gate Bridge. The tallest trees tower more than 250 feet, and the oldest is thought to be at least 1,200 years old (parking reservations required).

San Francisco Museum of

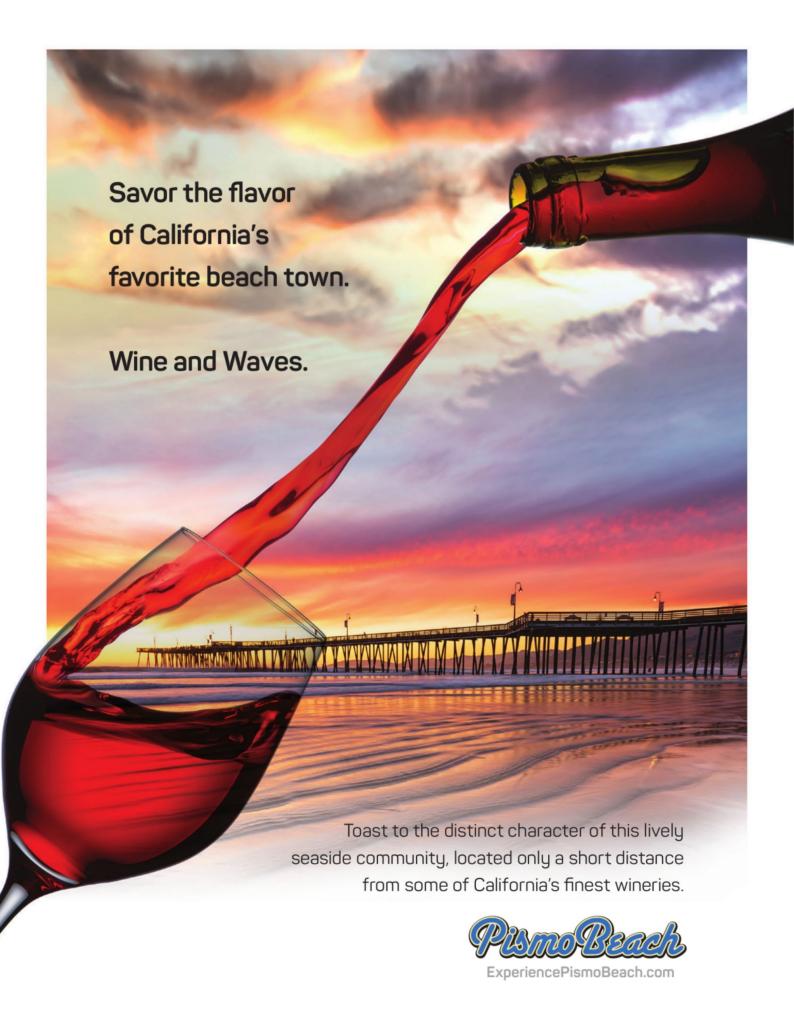
Modern Art (sfmoma.org): Admire works by artists such as Frida Kahlo, Henri Matisse and Jackson Pollock in the ongoing exhibit "Open Ended: Painting and Sculpture, 1900 to Now," and also see "Elemental Calder," through May 3.



The Walt Disney Family

Museum (waltdisney.org): One of the many attractions in the famous Presidio of San Francisco, founded as a late-1700s Spanish fort and now a national park site, showcases the life and work of the movie and themepark legend, and also chronicles the history of animation at The Walt Disney Studios. —J.P.







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SAN JOSE

By Bill Fink

In the center of a 160-room mansion, in a small "séance room" with walls hiding a secret exit, I study the array of 13 coat hooks and wonder what the homeowner was thinking.

Sarah Lockwood Pardee Winchester, the widow socialite who inherited a fortune—worth about \$400 million today—began in the mid-1880s to transform an eight-room San Jose farmhouse into what is now known as the Winchester Mystery House.

Sarah Winchester felt haunted by ghosts. After a spiritualist told her that the spirits would be frightened by construction, the widow embarked on a long-running and seemingly random 38-year building project that only stopped at the time of her death in 1922.

The result is this massive and strange mansion that has become one of San Jose's most popular attractions.

You can tour the building's maze of hallways and rooms, marvel at the

stairways that end in blank ceilings, see doors that open onto walls, and, like me, stumble up flights of 13 mini-size stairs and bang your head on low ceilings that were custom-designed for the 4-foot-10-inch owner.

The mansion's beautiful ballrooms and dining areas have been restored to their Victorian-era splendor, while outlying bedrooms have been left half-destroyed as they were after the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, closed off by the superstitious heiress.

This eccentric structure is an example of the fascinating attractions to be found in the San Jose area. *

Bill Fink writes from San Mateo, California. To learn more about San Jose attractions, visit sanjose.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to San Jose (SJC) from numerous cities across the country, and from cities in Mexico.

California

MORE TO DO

- Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum (egyptianmuseum. org): One of the nation's top Egyptian history museums displays ancient artifacts, statues and mummies. The guided tour of a re-created tomb complex immerses you in ancient Egypt.
- San José Museum of Art (sjmusart.org): Home to a renowned collection of contemporary works by California artists such as Joan Brown and Roy De Forest, the museum offers the exhibit "Almost Human," which features Silicon Valley-inspired digital art, through July 5.



The Tech Interactive

(thetech.org): The museum offers IMAX films and a series of hands-on technology exhibits where you can build a robot, try a virtual reality flight simulation and study tiny organisms.

• Wineries: There are an estimated 150 wineries to enjoy within about 20 miles of San Jose. Some of the area's best stops include Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards in Saratoga, and the J. Lohr San Jose Wine Center. —B.F.



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FRESNO AREA & YOSEMITE

By Jill K. Robinson



The waterfall-striped granite walls at the edges of Yosemite Valley stretched into the bluebird sky far above my head. Shadows from the setting sun scattered across the rock faces, and a part of me felt that if I concentrated hard enough, I might see the rocks themselves moving in the light. As a 7-year-old staring in awe from the valley floor, I forgot that I was standing barefoot in the Merced River, and by the time I remembered, my toes were numb.

For me, landscape holds poetry. And my lyrical sense of the Yosemite area

was enhanced at an early age by my father, who read to me from a list of the original place names in Yosemite National Park. Long before John Muir wrote his passionate words about the Sierra Nevada, the first inhabitants of this region named the landmarks that punctuated their world. I'm still fascinated by words such as Pyweack, the name used by the Miwuk people for Tenaya Lake-also called Moovaceeyouta by the Paiute people.

I first visited the lake on that family trip when I was 7, learning of its original names and admiring the granite domes that surrounded this lake of shining rocks (which was the meaning of the word Pyweack, according to my dad's list). Since then, I can't count the number of return trips I have taken to swim in the lake's glistening waters, hike the lodgepole pine-lined trail beside it, and nap on the

sun-warmed stones along its shores.

I'm grateful that such experiences remain available today, accessed via a familiar route from the Fresno area. For this land's poetry holds great meaning for me still—and for others who visit. ⊀

Jill K. Robinson writes from Northern California. Learn more about Fresno at playfresno.org.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Fresno (FAT) from several West Coast destinations.

MORE TO DO

Forestiere Underground Gardens (undergroundgardens.com): This network of rooms and tunnels was created by Baldassare Forestiere to stay cool during the summer more than 100 years ago. It is scheduled to reopen March 21 after winter closure.

Fresno Art Museum

(fresnoartmuseum.org): Come for the permanent collection of pre-Columbian Mesoamerican art or check out rotating exhibitions such as "Gifted: Collecting the Art of California at Gardena High School, 1919-1956" (through June 28), with works by 20th century artists.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo

(fresnochaffeezoo.org): Wander among a world of animals—native to diverse regions of the Earth—at this zoo that helps strengthen people's appreciation for wildlife. I head to the zoo's Stingray Bay to pet cownosed rays and southern stingrays.

Fresno County Blossom

Trail (goblossomtrail.com): This 62-mile loop bursts with trees blossoming in spring, which leads to fruit (peaches, plums and more) in summer. I like to bike the loop, but it's also an easy drive, past some of the best fruit stands in the state's Central Valley.

• Woodward Park (fresno. gov/parks): The largest park in the city occupies 300 acres near the San Joaquin River and has trails that wind among cherry trees and past calm pools in a Japanese garden, plus three playgrounds for kids. - J.K.R.





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SLO COUNTY

By Barbara Beckley

Walking along wet sand, I stop and let the scent of sea air, the sound of crashing waves and the beauty of rows of white foamy surf delight my senses. Looking down, I find more shorebird tracks than human footprints. Peering south, I see seemingly endless shoreline disappearing into distant morning mist.

Strolling a beach is always enjoyable. And here, on Pismo Beach, in the town of the same name, the act of beach walking has a magnetic appeal.

"I've tried to move away," says my walking companion, Deena, "but I always return. The beach is in my soul."

I understand. I've been visiting Pismo and other locations in San Luis Obispo

County since I was a girl. The serenity of the shore is magical. I adore the classic seaside-town attractions, as well.

Today is extra special, because I have something new to explore. After my beach walk, I visit the Pismo Preservea section of which opened to the public on January 25-in the hills above town. The scene there is breathtaking. I stand on a ridge about 1,000 feet above the sea. Looking out, I see the town, its beach and miles of coastline, bordering the Pacific Ocean. Then, pivoting in place, I look northeast and see the Edna Valley, with mountains in the distance.

Formerly private ranchland that was purchased with funds raised by The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, the Pismo Preserve adds a new perspective to coastal recreation. It features more than 11 miles of hiking,

mountain-biking and horse-riding trails across previously closed swaths of ancient oak groves, grasslands, canyons and hills (a large inland portion of the 880-acre preserve remains off-limits for wildlife protection). And the preserve is just a five-minute drive from downtown Pismo Beach. Gazing along the seashore, I decide that this new open space is a very welcome addition to what's already one of my favorite regions anywhere—the magnificent California Central Coast. ズ

Barbara Beckley relishes any chance to visit the San Luis Obispo area. Learn more about SLO County at slocal.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to San Luis Obispo (SBP) from Seattle (SEA).



MORE TO DO

The Luffa Farm (theluffafarm. com): I remember my delight from the first time I saw luffas (fruits used to make sponges) on a vine. Tours of this farm in the Nipomo area are offered Wednesday through Sunday. The gift shop sells recently harvested sponges and other products.

Paso Robles Wine Country

(pasowine.com): Choose from among 200-plus wineries in this area known for Cabernet Sauvignon and Bordeaux- and Rhônestyle wines. Try estate vintages at **Broken Earth Winery** (whose wines are also served on select Alaska Airlines flights), or at the four-generation Riboli Family of San Antonio Winery. Also try

the wine bar/shop WineSneak near San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport. And check a case of wine for free on Alaska Airlines (see alaskaair.com/wine).

San Luis Obispo Museum of Art (sloma.org): This museum, in the city of San Luis Obispo, showcases contemporary sculptures, photos and paintings by

artists from the Central Coast region.

Swinging Bridge (arroyogrande.org/176): Built in 1875 and restored in 1995, this 133foot span in the city of Arroyo Grande is suspended 45 feet above a creek. I enjoy looking for the wild roosters that live in the area near the creek. —B.B.



SANTA BARBARA

By Rob Dunton

Lounging beneath a bright-red umbrella, I watch my 10-year-old son and two of his buddies grab their soft-top surfboards and follow Matt Coleman, founder of Lovewater Surf School, into the Pacific.



This is their fourth Friday in a row at Campus Point Beach, a top surfing location adjacent to the University of California, Santa Barbara, where they join a half-dozen other kids for waveriding and surf lessons provided by Coleman and his crew of patient and capable instructors.

While some of the young surfers are now self-sufficient and can paddle and catch waves on their own, others still require a helping push. Encouragement and personalized coaching comes with every ride.

The sun is warm, the sand is soft, and the beach is dotted with people of all ages, a mix of beach regulars, families and college students all enjoying the safe, easy waves on a beach where you can see a long ridge of mountains

visible down the shore. My little trio stands and rides the knee-high waves all the way to shore, with irrepressible smiles and howls of laughter. My son is so excited, he often makes the flossing or dab dance move during half his ride.

With 110 miles of coastline, Santa Barbara County has dozens of surf breaks for beginning to advanced surfers, a rich surf history, and numerous surfing schools and rental shops. The region is home to renowned surfers such as three-time World Champion Tom Curren and top women's surfer Lakey Peterson.

Inspired, I grab my standup paddleboard to catch a few waves myself and chat with the boys. After watching the kids surf for a while, I paddle up the coast a short distance along the hand-





Surfers catch a wave at Campus Point Beach, above. Padaro Beach, below left, is another popular location for riding the waves.

some sandstone bluffs. After 30 minutes, I circle back and paddle toward shore just in time to watch my son get his longest ride of the day.

Campus Point is one of the many great beaches available to enjoy in this part of Southern California. In fact, I find that if you walk 10 to 20 minutes up or down the coast from any beachfront parking area, you'll find many of Santa Barbara's wonderful beaches almost empty and perfect for beachcombing.

Two of my favorite beaches for learning to ride the waves are Sandyland Cove Beach in Carpinteria and Mondos Beach in Ventura. Surfing is also good at Carpinteria's Padaro Beach. You also can rent kayaks, standup paddleboards and surfboards at area marinas.

Sand volleyball courts (to play or to watch the action) can be found at Santa Barbara's East Beach and West Beach. Both Santa Barbara and Ventura also have long paved beachwalks for bike riding, in-line skating, skateboarding and walking.

Got a pooch? Dogs are allowed off-leash from One Thousand Steps Beach to Arroyo Burro Beach—aka Hendry's Beach—an almost 3-mile stretch of coastline. A favorite jaunt is to walk east from the marina at Santa Barbara Harbor, head past Stearns Wharf along the way, and continue on to East Beach to watch volleyball.

This beach is also great for admiring a beautiful sunset. I have lived in this area for more than 10 years, but I still never get tired of the sun and surf. ₹

Rob Dunton writes from Santa Barbara. California. To learn more about Santa Barbara sites, visit santabarbara.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) flies daily to Santa Barbara (SBA) from Portland (PDX) and Seattle (SEA).

MORE TO DO



Funk Zone (santabarbara.com): Visit local art galleries, fun museums, superb wine bars, craft breweries, wonderful restaurants and unique retail shops in this downtown district that is within two blocks of the beach.

Old Mission Santa Barbara

(santabarbaramission.org): This well-preserved mission was originally built in 1786 and played an important role in early California history. Tour the mission and its grounds, learn about its history, and then stroll in nearby Rocky Nook Park.

Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (sbnature.org): See the skeleton of a blue whale; discover the cultural heritage of the Indigenous Chumash people, who lived in the area for thousands of years; and learn about area mammals and birds at this fascinating museum.

(santabarbara.com): Located to the north of Santa Barbara, the range rises to a height of 4,864 feet, and offers a collection of stunning day hikes, from kid-

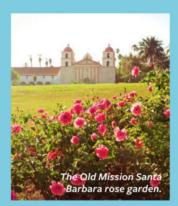
friendly strolls to challenging

climbs. Hiking is good year-round,

The Santa Ynez Mountains

but my favorite time is December through April when the grass is lush and the streams and waterfalls frequently flow. Popular hikes include Inspiration Point, Rattlesnake Canyon and Lizard's Mouth, a rock formation enjoyed by hikers and rock climbers that offers views of the Pacific Ocean.

Stearns Wharf (stearnswharf. org): Built in 1872, the scenic wooden pier is home to restaurants, shops and ice cream parlors. The pier's Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Sea Center delights young and old with hands-on exhibits where you can touch everything from sea cucumbers to small sharks. The pier also offers great views of Santa Barbara. —R.D.



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LOS ANGELES & ORANGE COUNTIES

By Matt Jaffe

"Show us something new, please." That's the request from my out-of-town guests, Marc and Debbie, relatives who have visited Los Angeles County and Orange County many times.

So we head to downtown Los
Angeles to check out The Music Center
Plaza, which reopened in August 2019
after a \$41 million renovation. The
project included the addition of a welcome center, enhancing the 35,000square-foot plaza's appeal as the "front
door" to The Music Center, which has
four indoor venues that host music,
theater and dance performances.
Commanding the crest of Bunker Hill,
The Music Center has been described
as an acropolis for the arts.

The renovated outdoor plaza is now considered a fifth performance venue,

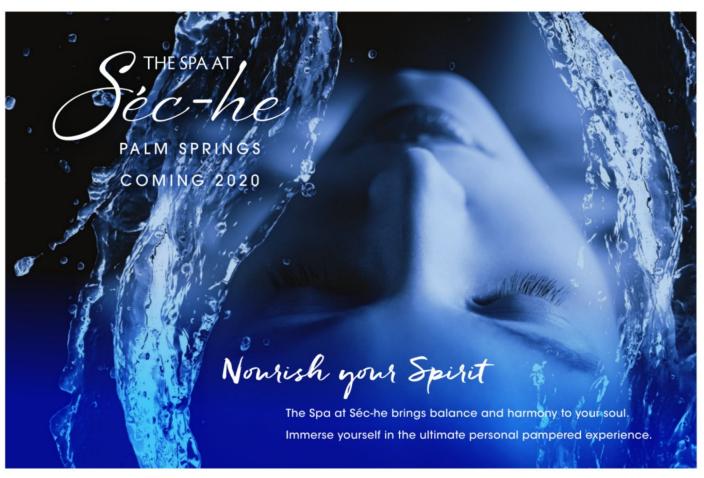
one that is open to all. The space used to dip into a sunken central area, but has been transformed into a single level, eliminating tricky little steps and doubling to 5,000 the attendee capacity for events. For instance, the plaza will be the site of several events for Dance DTLA, taking place on Friday nights, June 26 to September 4 this year, as DJs or live bands provide music for themed dancing, from Bollywood to K-pop. This fall, the plaza will also host the Very Special Arts Festival, featuring visual and performing arts by K-12 students with disabilities. And two giant LED video screens can be used to display digital art, and to present programming such as outdoor simulcasts of certain indoor performances.

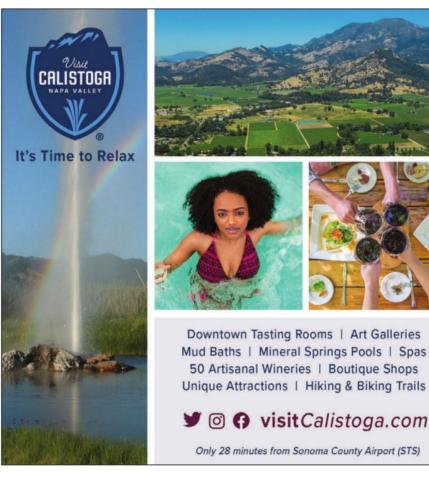
The plaza is a popular gathering

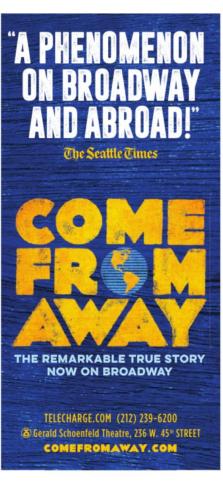
MORE TO DO

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

- Funko Hollywood (funko. com): In November, the famed Western Washingtonbased company, which produces pop-culture consumer products—from vinyl figures to action toys, depicting sports icons, music stars, movie characters and moreopened a 40,000-square-foot store on Hollywood Boulevard. For prime photo ops, the store includes life-size Funko statues and "sets" such as "Harry Potter's Wizarding World."
- Manhattan Beach (citymb. info/visitors): Take a walk along the pier to watch intense beach volleyball games on the sands below, and surfers riding the waves. At the end of the pier, the Roundhouse Aquarium







California



offers a nice introduction to the local marine environment.

Rancho Park Golf Course (golf.lacity.org/course_ rancho_park): You'll find plenty of outstanding municipal courses in the Los Angeles region, and among the finest is the undulating 6,839yard Rancho Park Golf Course. For a beautiful oceanfront course, enjoy the dramatic nine-hole The Links at Terranea in Rancho Palos Verdes (terranea.com).

ORANGE COUNTY

Doheny State Beach

(parks.ca.gov): A classic slice of Southern California beach, and a surfing landmark, Doheny State Beach in Dana Point stretches more than a mile along the 42-mile Orange County coast.

- San Joaquin Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary (irwd. com/san-joaquin-marsh): This Irvine sanctuary has nearly 12 miles of trails and more than 200 bird species, including great blue herons and white pelicans. The Sea & Sage Audubon Society operates a visitor center at the marsh.
- "Star Wars: Rise of the Resistance" (disneyland. com): Disneyland Park's popular new attraction,

space even without special programming. Today, we see fellow visitors seated at colorful tables to watch water burbling from the myriad columns of the plaza's fountain (which has been newly enhanced with colored lights that come on at night) and to take in spectacular city views.

The plaza's opera-box-like perspective on Los Angeles is outstanding. To the west, the late-afternoon sun burnishes the distant Santa Monica Mountains, while just across the street from us lies 12-acre Grand Park, which has its own impressive fountain, as well as public art such as a 1933 life-size bronze statue of George Washington. We can also see, past the park, the glowing terra-cotta and granite facade of 450-plus-foot-tall Los Angeles City Hall, which was completed in 1928 and has appeared in TV series ranging from Dragnet to Adventures of Superman.

Settling in with my guests at The Music Center Plaza's new Mullin Wine Bar, I raise a glass of locally brewed Angel City IPA and propose a toast: "Here's to LA." Clink go the glasses.

Two days later, we venture to the Orange County city of Costa Mesa to explore South Coast Plaza, which boasts nearly 300 stores, and the adjacent Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Orange County's counterpart to The Music Center.

At South Coast Plaza, we find international luxury brands such as Gucci, Louis Vuitton (with atelier), Givenchy, Roger Vivier and Moynat. We also stop to view Now or Never, a new 78-footlong sequined-tapestry art installation by Dutch American artist Lara Schnitger. The piece, on view through January 30, 2021, focuses on global warming and female empowerment by featuring images of various animals and of teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg.

Then we walk across a pedestrian



bridge to reach the Segerstrom Center for the Arts, with five indoorperformance venues, and the 56,000plus-square-foot Argyros Plaza outdoor space, which opened in 2017. Upcoming free events on the plaza include "Brilliance: A Night of Music and Light," on March 7, with dancing, and interactive art and technology. On March 21, "Rock, Paper, Scissors: iDamas!" celebrates national Women's History Month with live music, art-making and a panel discussion with local female innovators.

On our visit, my guests and I enjoy gazing at artwork in or near the plaza,



Above: Lara Schnitger's Now or Never mural at South Coast Plaza, Below: Richard Serra's Connector sculpture at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

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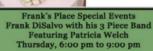
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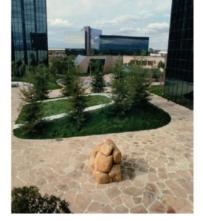
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Isamu Noguchi's California Scenario sanctuary. such as Connector, artist Richard Serra's 65-foottall, 360-ton oxidized steel sculpture, and the

Jonah and the Whale bronze fountain sculpture by Carl Milles.

Next I have a surprise, and lead our group about three blocks south from the Segerstrom Center to a hidden sculpture garden that out-of-towners, as well as most locals, often miss.

Created by famed Japanese American sculptor Isamu Noguchi, *California Scenario* is a soulful sanctuary, tucked away among office buildings, that abstractly depicts the state's diverse landscapes. Wandering across the sandstone plaza, we follow serpentine waterways, traveling from redwood

forest to desert, to a cascade depicting mountain runoff.

Marc finds a sunny bench and begins meditating. After he reopens his eyes, I ask, "Moment of Zen?"

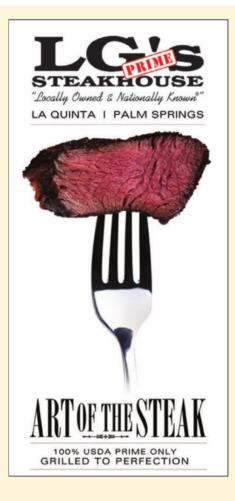
Matt Jaffe is a longtime Southern California resident. For more information on Los Angeles County, see discoverlosangeles.com; for more on Orange County, see visittheoc.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to four area airports—Los Angeles (LAX), Burbank (BUR), Anaheim/Orange County (SNA) and Ontario (ONT)—from destinations throughout the United States, as well as from Mexico and Costa Rica.

California



which opened in January, puts you in the middle of the action as the Resistance battles the First Order. It's among impressive 2020 debuts that also include Disneyland's new "Magic Happens" parade, which premiered in February, with gorgeous floats depicting modern and vintage Disney animated classics, and the "Spider-Man" experience at Disney California Adventure Park's new Avengers Campus, scheduled to open this summer. —M.J.





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GREATER PALM SPRINGS

By Ken Van Vechten

• We didn't come this far to lay up. That phrase pretty much sums up my philosophy when playing golf on vacation. Going for it is my siren call on the resort links, especially when I'm chasing the ball around Indian Wells Golf Resort in California's Coachella Valley.

My longtime golf buddy Ed knows my weaknesses, and more times than not he's egging me on, enticing me toward a rocky demise.



Indian Wells is rich in risk/reward opportunities—be it trying to drive the green on the Celebrity Course's 258-yard par-4 12th, or flirting with the lake for a shorter approach on the Players Course's dogleg-left par-4 sixth. If you prefer a more direct challenge, good luck with the Players' bogey-is-good 400-plus-yard par-4 No. 18.

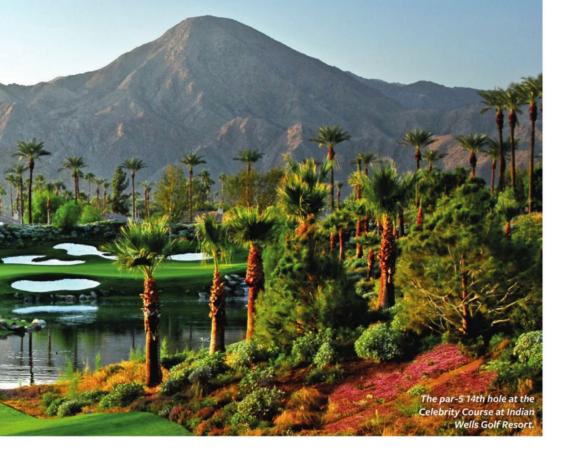
Golf getaways are meant to be fun, challenging and memorable, and this public playpen—yes, all this zing comes at a city-owned facility—truly delivers.

In addition, the resort's Vue Grille & Bar lives up to its name with great views of the area. You can stay at one of the four affiliated hotels, rent golfboards (motorized skateboard-style rides) for you and your clubs to zip around the courses and enjoy that Palm Springs-inwinter weather.

One of the resort's newest offerings is Shots in the Night, a unique draw for players and stayers. The golf industry

MORE TO DO

- Big Morongo Canyon
 Preserve (bigmorongo.org):
 This preserve, located less than 20 miles north of Palm
 Springs, is home to streams, marshes, riparian woodlands and desert scrub. Threaded with trails, the area is rich with hundreds of species of birds and animals.
- Joshua Tree National Park (nps.gov/jotr): The park is located about 40 miles northeast of Palm Springs and includes parts of two distinct ecosystems: the Mojave Desert and the Colorado Desert. Hike the park's trails and admire the rock formations, desert vistas and Joshua tree cactuses, for which the park is named.
- The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens (livingdesert.org): Walk through the zoo and garden, which contains more



has been busy coming up with new enticements: experiences that offer enough golf to interest players and enough fun to tempt nonplayers.

For 90 minutes Ed and I fire glowing balls at targets on the darkened range. If we hit the inflated mushroom-shaped object, or land the ball on circular targets, the range lights up like a New Year's celebration in Times Square. Irresistible? Let's just say Ed and I haven't collectively spent 90 minutes on ranges in the past four years.

Perhaps even cooler is to book one of the seven "greens" at the resort's putting area, where popular gamessuch as shuffleboard, cornhole and others—have been adapted to putting. You can even practice your actual putting game. The setting includes DJs spinning music, HDTVs showing sports, fog machines fogging, and lights and lasers that illuminate play. You can sit at fire pits near the greens and enjoy bar and food-truck service.

Golf, of course, is big time in the valley, with more than 100 layouts in the Greater Palm Springs area. And, as at Indian Wells Golf Resort, some of the best courses are city-owned facilities.

Those include La Quinta's SilverRock Resort. Pressed up against the Santa Rosa Mountains, the course draws some of the area's bighorn sheep, which often meander down to enjoy some fairway turf.

Another top course is Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert. The 36hole layout also has one of the valley's best practice and fitting facilities. Of equal note is Classic Club, a midvalley course with a layout that often rewards strategy over brawn.

I have recreated in this valley across a half-century, and the fun is as fresh today as ever. *

Ken Van Vechten writes from Central California. For information on Greater Palm Springs, go to visitgreaterpalmsprings.com.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service to Palm Springs (PSP) from Portland (PDX), San Francisco (SFO) and Seattle (SEA).

California

than 1,400 plant species and more than 450 animals from desert environments around the world.

- Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (pstramway.com): Ride the tramway, from the warm valley up to an alpine forest, more than 8,500 feet above sea level, in about 10 minutes. The tram delivers you to Mountain Station, which offers great views, dining and access to hiking and mountain climbing.
- Palm Springs Air Museum (palmspringsairmuseum. org): The museum displays 59 classic aircraft that date from World War II to Vietnam, and many are still airworthy. Learn about the role of the aircraft in combat or go for a fly-along in one of the historical birds.



Palm Springs Art Museum (psmuseum.org): With two branches in Palm Springs and one in Palm Desert, the museum is known for its collection of contemporary art and its emphasis on architecture. Current exhibits include "Gerald Clarke: Falling Rock," a survey of the artworks by Clarke, a member of the Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians. -K.V.V.





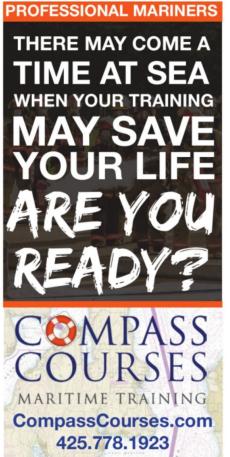
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SAN DIEGO

By Christine Delsol

Approaching the USS Midway on San Diego's downtown waterfront, I'm awed by its immensity. As the daughter of a Navy veteran and the wife of a military-history buff, I am thrilled to visit the country's longest-serving aircraft carrier (1945 to 1992) of the 20th century. The Midway-1,001 feet long by 258



feet wide—entered service a few years after the famous battle for which the ship was named. The aircraft carrier accommodated more than 60 aircraft, a runway and a landing strip. With 18 decks, it quartered a crew of about 4,500, more than the population of my small Northern California hometown when I was growing up. Only about 300 of the crew members aboard were pilots. Others held jobs such as engineer, mechanic and airtraffic controller, while more than 200 were cooks (serving around 10 tons of food per day). Also keeping the aircraft carrier community operating were barbers, plumbers, storekeepers and postal clerks.

The ship was part of peacekeeping efforts in various waters. It served in Vietnam, becoming a base for helicopters evacuating refugees during the 1975 fall of Saigon, and launched Desert Storm missions in the early 1990s.

MORE TO DO

- Balboa Park (balboapark. org): The lovely park's 1,200 acres offer something for everyone. The kids in our family never tire of the carousel, mini-train and San Diego Zoo, while my husband and I are gradually working our way through the 17 arts and culture museums, between experiencing gardens and trails.
- La Jolla Shores (sandiego. org/explore/things-to-do/ beaches-bays/la-jolla.aspx): The mile-long sandy crescent along a marine reserve is one of the 30-plus beaches along San Diego County's 70-mile coast. Gentle summer waves at La Jolla are ideal for novice surfers and standup paddleboarders, and kayak tours are available from companies such as Everyday California.



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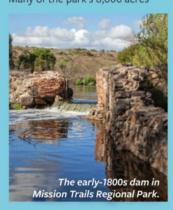
Sunset at Embarcadero Marina Park North along the waterfront. Today, the *Midway* is a massive water-front museum, with a self-guided audio tour, narrated by *Midway* sailors, to nearly 70 locations onboard. The flight deck alone exhibits 26 restored jet fighters, helicopters and other aircraft, including a replica World War II–era Devastator seen in last year's *Midway* movie.

Visitors aboard the ship can view the fascinating airplanes, try out flight simulators and explore the main engine room, to name just a few of the options. My husband is entranced by the different aircraft and the multimedia Battle of Midway Theater. I am interested, too, but what really intrigues me are the details of the sailors' lives: their narrow bunks stacked three to a wall, the long mess tables, the chapel and the sick bay. It brings to mind a picture our family has of my dad on leave during the Korean conflict. He was young and earnest and smiling proudly in his Navy blues, and I take a minute now on the Midway to give thanks for the men and women who have served, and are serving, our country.

The USS Midway Museum is one of the many attractions along downtown San Diego's mile-long waterfront Embarcadero. Public art ranges from the Embracing Peace sculpture of a couple kissing near the USS Midway to the 25-foot-tall Birds' Word's, a steel, aluminum and glass installation that

Little Italy (littleitalysd.com): Some of our most enjoyable San Diego moments have been in this enclave settled by tuna fishermen and cannery workers in the 1920s. The year-round Saturday Mercato farmers market features fresh fish, meat and produce, as well as plants, jewelry and clothing. The nearby European-style Piazza della Famiglia, anchored by a tiled fountain, is a relaxing place to ponder your next Little Italy stop. Perhaps it will be watching a cooking demonstration at the Little Italy Food Hall, or browsing locally crafted surfboards and accessories at the Atacama Surf Shop.

Mission Trails Regional Park (mtrp.org): An approximately 15-mile drive northeast of downtown takes you to one of America's largest urban parks, at the east end of Mission Valley. Many of the park's 8,000 acres



of hills, valleys and open areas are thought to look much the same as they did hundreds of years ago. Modern-day offerings include an excellent visitor center; 60-plus miles of hiking trails, including popular trails on Cowles Mountain; camping at Kumeyaay Lake; and boating on Lake Murray. The early-1800s Old Mission Dam in the park is a favorite bird-watching spot (look for species ranging from

yellow-breasted chats to blue grosbeaks) along the San Diego River, several miles of which run through the park.

Old Town (oldtownsandiego. org): A community established in the early 1800s at the base of Presidio Hill, where the Spanish created a mission site and presidio



in 1769, lives on in the restored original adobe and Victorian structures now housing shops, restaurants, bars and museums. A half-mile hike leads to **Presidio Park** and its 1929 Junípero Serra Museum (sandiegohistory.org/serramuseum).

San Diego Zoo (sandiegozoo. org): This place forever changed the nature of zoos when it began replacing cages with replicated natural habitats in the early 1900s. Recently, in the "Australian Outback," we stood behind a secondstory railing for an up-close view of a koala in a eucalyptus tree, and happily watched him munch leaves for 30 minutes. The 100-acre zoo features more than 3,500 animals and more than 700,000 exotic plants. The associated San Diego



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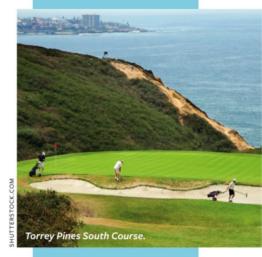
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Zoo Safari Park, in Escondido, features animal herds roaming in field habitats.
Alaska Airlines is a sponsor of the zoo and the safari park.

Torrey Pines Golf Course (torreypinesgolfcourse.com): Pleasant, mostly dry weather and a dazzling ocean-bluff setting make the Torrey Pines North and South Courses some of San Diego's most coveted golf experiences. The U.S. Open will take place on the South Course in 2021.



San Diego County's more than 90 courses also include two esteemed Welk Resorts courses in northern San Diego County: the par-3 **Oaks Course** and the approximately 4,000-yard executive **Fountains Course** (welkresorts.com).

Visions Art Museum

(visionsartmuseum.org): Admire the exquisite craftsmanship of the contemporary quilts and textiles on display. Exhibits spotlight creations such as the colorful abstract quilts in "Personal Landscapes" and the nature themes of "Wild Comfort," both through April 5. —C.D.

California

comprises words, some of which, such as "star" and "gull," are at the top of the installation, and visible to birds, airplane passengers, and people looking down from various hotels, restaurants and condos. People walking underneath portions of the installation can see words ranging from "ladybug," to "joy."

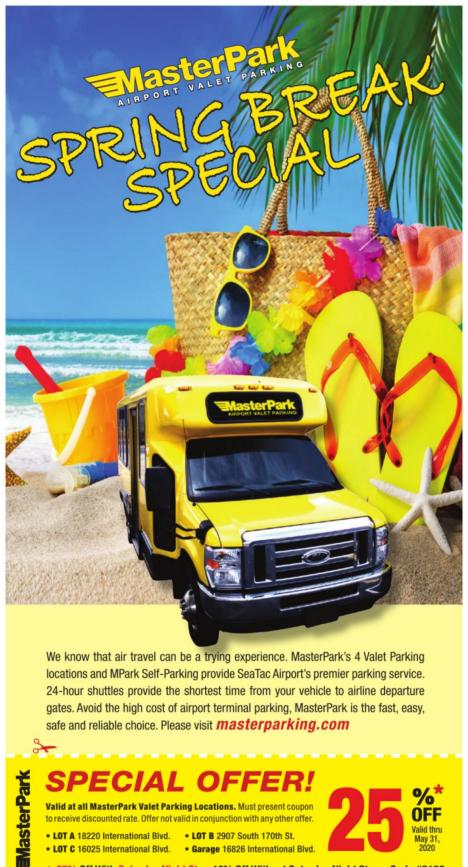
Numerous companies along the Embarcadero, including Hornblower Cruises & Events and Flagship Cruises & Events, offer sightseeing excursions, and the Maritime Museum of San Diego, about a half-mile north of the Midway, showcases military-heritage artwork, and 10 historical ships and submarines floating in San Diego Bay. They include the 280-foot-long Star of India, one of the world's first iron ships when it was built in 1863, and one of the world's oldest active sailing ships (nowadays, periodically providing bay tours).

The waterfront is also dotted with parks, including aptly named Waterfront Park, across the street from the Maritime Museum. The park's playground and interactive splash fountains, open year-round, delight kids, while the marvelous view of the bay pleases everyone.

Other popular parks include Embarcadero Marina Park North and Embarcadero Marina Park South, both of which have fishing piers, picnic tables and magnificent water views. In addition, Embarcadero Marina Park North connects to Seaport Village, which offers shopping, dining and entertainment, and Embarcadero Marina Park South is across from the convention center, making it easy to combine business and leisure. *

Writer Christine Delsol enjoys frequent San Diego adventures. For more on the area, see sandiego.org.

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Eric, a Southern California resident, decided he'd had enough of being a road warrior.

For eight years, Eric and his wife, Suzanne, had lived in a cozy suburban community west of downtown Los Angeles. They had raised their daughters in a remodeled 1970s tract home and made many friends in the community.

Things started to change four years ago when Eric was promoted to senior managing director of a prominent real estate company. The new position meant he could no longer work from home most of the week, but would have to come into the downtown Los Angeles office. Eric found himself driving nearly 80 miles a day and stretching his workday to 12 hours, counting the four-hour daily commute, depending on the traffic. "I would go to work early in the morning, come home, have dinner and fall asleep on the couch. Then, do it all over again," Eric says. "My wife and I thought, 'There's more to life than this.""

The couple, in their mid-50s, decided they had to do something different, but at first were reluctant to move to downtown Los Angeles. "I worked there more than 30 years ago," Suzanne says. "You would never have dreamt about living downtown at that time. You did your job and left to go home. It just wasn't a place to live."

Recently, however, the couple found that downtown LA has developed into a new kind of living experience, and they decided to make the move. "We sold the house and wound up renting an apartment," Suzanne says. "We just loved living downtown, so we bought a condo at Ten50."

DOWNTOWN DEMAND

Shorter commutes, high-tech job growth and a desire to be close to entertainment centers are just some of the reasons that a growing number of people are moving to city centers. And developers are responding by building apartments and condominiums in many areas, including the West Coast cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.





WEST COAST

FROM LOS ANGELES TO SEATTLE.



At Ten50, a 25-story high-rise development in the South Park neighborhood of Los Angeles, Eric and Suzanne have access to concierge services, a community lounge and workout spaces. The building, which even boasts a drone landing pad for future package deliveries, sold out quickly. The couple enjoys the sixth-floor area that offers a yoga deck, pool and spa. They've hosted barbecue parties, and Eric has held meetings in the business center. They live only a few blocks from their daughter's apartment, and also are close to restaurants, clubs and L.A. Live, a \$2.5 billion entertainment and sports center on the southern edge of the city's downtown.

The L.A. Live development includes the Staples Center sports arena, where they can watch the NBA's Los Angeles Lakers and Clippers play, and also catch the NHL's Los

Angeles Kings. There is the 7,000-seat Microsoft Theater, the Grammy Museum, a large nightclub, a variety of restaurants and a 54-story JW Marriott hotel. L.A. Live surrounds a 40,000-square-foot outdoor plaza that has been called the "Times Square of the West."

"In the past 10 years, downtown LA has changed dramatically," says Gregg Nelson, principal at Trumark Urban, developer of Ten50, and of The Pacific, a 76-unit luxury condominium building in San Francisco. "Downtown LA is a very vibrant community now, with hotels, restaurants, retail and entertainment options. The urban environment has become the biggest amenity."

That is certainly true for Eric and Suzanne, who dine out most nights, trying new restaurants and attending concerts and exploring nightspots, outings that they rarely made in

URBAN LIVING

CITY CENTERS ARE IN DEMAND // By M. Sharon Baker



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"We can walk to the movies or go to concerts or games—everything is very close." -Mehdi

the suburbs. "It's like we're dating again," Suzanne says.

They've also made new friends while walking their dog, a 95pound Leonberger named Kahlua. "No one knows L.A. Live has a dog

park," Eric says. "We will be walking the dog and run into people we know, which in the midst of this huge city makes it feel like a smaller community."

A PEARL OF A NEIGHBORHOOD

Feeling like they are part of a community is what has kept Wendy and Mehdi living in the Pearl District in Portland, Oregon. The couple, who own the hair salon Tribe Hair Studio in the district, north of downtown Portland, moved to the neighborhood years ago, after they realized they were driving from the suburbs to hang out, visit art galleries and try new restaurants.

They recently upgraded from an artist-loft condo in another building to a two-bedroom unit with a large deck at the Vista North Pearl Condominiums, which is just four blocks from their hair salon. "We've really seen a lot of changes in the area," Wendy says. "It used to be more industrial and very rustic here, but now the Pearl is very up-and-coming. We chose the Vista because it has an incredible outside space, and for its community and neighborhood. We can see the bridges and the Willamette River from our deck—the view is great."

The couple, in their 40s, like to walk their two Yorkies,

Ava and Scarlett, in The Fields Park, which is next to The Vista. They also enjoy the complex's proximity to area shops and businesses, including Ovation Coffee & Tea, and grocery stores such as New Seasons Market, Trader Joe's and Whole Foods Market. The Vista is so centrally located that the couple rarely have to drive.

"In the summer, I can ride my bike to our salon, which is just five blocks away," says Mehdi. "It takes me seven minutes to walk there. Everything is very close."

Marilyn Andersen, principal broker at Hoyt Realty Group, the real estate company selling the Vista, says the north end of the Pearl District's residential area has three city parks within a six-block radius, as well as restaurants, boutiques and art galleries. A nearby streetcar provides easy access to entertainment, including to Providence Park, the home of the Portland Timbers of the MLS. The Vista is also less than a mile from the Moda Center where the NBA's Portland Trail Blazers play and many concerts and events are held.

"The Pearl District has become one of Portland's more desirable neighborhoods because of its easy lifestyle and rich cultural experiences," Andersen says.

REDEFINING DOWNTOWN

In the Puget Sound area, the city centers of Seattle and Bellevue have been experiencing their own boom in job growth and housing development. Not too long ago, downtown Seattle was known for various high-tech startups and a few midsized technology firms. Most of the rapidly growing tech companies, including Microsoft, had located on the



Portland's Vista North Pearl Condominiums development offers views of the Willamette River and is located near area shops, grocery stores, restaurants and entertainment.

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WEST COAST URBAN LIVING





"We're finding many people prefer to live in the city, near light rail or within walking distance to their jobs." —Dean Jones, CEO and president of Realogics Sotheby's International Realty.

east side of Lake Washington in cities such as Bellevue and Redmond.

Then came Amazon. In 2007, the technology company announced plans to move its operations from South Seattle to South Lake Union. The move sparked an ongoing building boom in downtown Seattle. Between 2010 and 2018, the down-

town area added an estimated 252 buildings and more than 13 million square feet of office space, according to the Downtown Seattle Association. Amazon is expected to soon have a total of between 55,000 and 60,000 employees housed in 50 buildings in downtown Seattle within easy walking distance from each other, according to the Downtown Seattle 2020 Report from Realogics Sotheby's International Realty. In addition to Amazon, Facebook and Google each have about 5,000 employees in the Seattle area, with many of them filling towers in the city center.

Seattle and surrounding cities are experiencing a new urbanization trend, says Dean Jones, CEO and president of Realogics Sotheby's International Realty. "We're finding many people prefer to live in the city, near light rail or within walking distance to their jobs."

Just a few decades ago, Seattle didn't support much downtown housing, with a lack of apartments and condominiums and little infrastructure, such as grocery stores. While that has changed, and Seattle has been building more high-rises in recent years, the city's rapid construction has not kept pace with the demand to buy a home in the downtown area, Jones says. "Over the last decade, Seattle's population grew by 138,000, to 747,300 residents, but only 38,000 housing units were added," says Jones, citing statistics from his firm's Downtown Seattle 2020 Report.

While more construction is in the offing, the demand has resulted in some apartment complexes converting to condominiums, such as The Goodwin, a seven-story, 34-unit building in the heart of downtown Seattle's Belltown area.

"The timing coordinated with a multibillion-dollar waterfront restoration and revitalization," Jones says. "Seattle is getting a world-class waterfront like San Francisco's Embarcadero. The Goodwin looks out to Elliott Bay and the Olympic Mountains. We've got gulls, ferries and sailboats gliding by—it's just a very beautiful waterfront experience."

SUBURBAN EXPANSION

The Puget Sound technology boom continues to expand to other area cities, including Bellevue. Home to The Bellevue Collection, a luxury shopping, dining and entertainment destination, Bellevue is located less than 10 miles from downtown Seattle, on the east side of Lake Washington. The city also has gained office towers and residents during the past two decades.

Some of the new housing units have been built by Continental Properties, a Bellevue-based firm since 1977. In



The Goodwin condominiums building, shown in both pictures above, has a rooftop deck with views of the Seattle skyline. Blu Bellevue, right, is opening later this year, with 135 apartments, a resident lounge and a fitness center.

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recent years, company executives have watched Bellevue grow from 109,569 residents in 2000 to more than 143,000 today. "At least 10 high-rises are either currently under construction or in the permitting stage," says Kyran Hynes, vice president of Continental Properties.

Hynes says Amazon, Facebook and Google are all adding workers in the Bellevue area. Amazon recently announced plans to add 15,000 employees to the city, and even more may be coming in the future.

To help meet the demand for housing, Continental Properties is building Blu Bellevue, with 135 apartment units and 5,000 square feet of retail space adjacent to the 21-acre Bellevue Downtown Park.

The building, which will open this year, has amenities such as a resident lounge, a fitness center and a central courtyard. Blu Bellevue also has a community rooftop terrace with fire pits and views of the park and the rising skyline. "Downtown Bellevue continues to become more livable," says Hynes, who grew up in the area. "We have much more housing, diverse retail and a major restaurant scene. In 2023, we will have light rail that will connect Bellevue not only to Seattle but all the way out to Redmond."

The technology sector's growth has also impacted smaller communities, such as Kirkland. Located north of Bellevue, the mostly residential city had about 48,000 residents in 2010. Today, its



population has nearly doubled to about 90,000. Part of that boom can be traced to the arrival of Google to the area. The company has purchased Kirkland Urban, an 11.5-acre mixed-use development in downtown Kirkland. With such strong area job growth, housing construction has followed along.

That includes the Jade Residences condominium development, which will feature 136 homes and is scheduled for completion by mid-2021. The project already is 40% sold, says Matthew Van Damm, vice president of new development at Realogics Sotheby's.

One of those buyers is a startup executive named Herry, who, with his wife, Mary, is looking ahead to retirement. With two children in college and another in middle school, the couple, in their 50s, will soon be ready for a change. The Jade development offers them a beautiful, but smaller residence, perfect for empty nesters, and proximity to the areas they enjoy. A major bonus—the Jade boasts a dog spa, the perfect amenity for their two small dogs.

"Our current house is not too far from Totem Lake, and we like the neighborhood and stores," Herry says. "We were looking for a smaller house that would be easier to maintain. The Jade's opening is perfect timing for us."

M. Sharon Baker writes about business in the Pacific Northwest.

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ven amid the bustle of Waikīkī, I find the sound of 700-plus 'ukulele players strumming together from the bandstand at Kapi'olani Park hard to miss. The music streams out across the broad, tree-dotted lawn to a large and appreciative audience.

This resounding performance on Hawai'i's favorite four-stringed instrument is a centerpiece of the much-beloved Ukulele Festival Hawaii, on O'ahu. This year's 50th-annual event on July 19 promises to be "one huge, big bonanza," according to founder Roy Sakuma. The festival's seven-hour lineup starts at 10 A.M., with performances by 'ukulele groups from all over the world, followed by hundreds of young students from Sakuma's 'ukulele studios (plus adult aficionados), and finally what Sakuma calls the "cream of the crop of top 'ukulele players in the world," including Jake Shimabukuro and Herb Ohta Jr. Another big draw is veteran entertainer and longtime emcee Danny Kaleikini.

Founded in 1971, when Sakuma was a groundskeeper for Honolulu's parks and recreation department, the free festival now attracts about 10,000 people. They're drawn not only by musical performances at the bandstand, but also by lessons that teach beginners how to play songs; instrument giveaways (with about 100 'ukulele giveaways

HAWAII HAPPENINGS

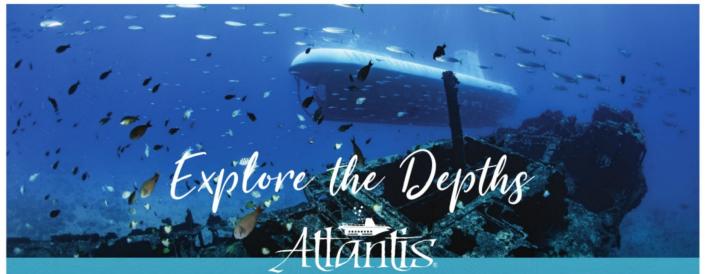
FESTIVALS AND EVENTS TO CELEBRATE IN THE ALOHA STATE / By Jeanne Coopes

planned this year, donated by leading 'ukulele makers); food booths; and children's activities.

"My wife, Kathy, and I, we love the 'ukulele, and via the festival we have the joy of bringing people together and seeing happy faces," says Sakuma.

The Sakumas also lead workshops at festivals similar to O'ahu's that they founded later on the islands of Hawai'i and Maui. The 20th-annual Great Waikoloa Ukulele Festival takes place March 7 at the Kings' Shops and Queens' MarketPlace at Waikoloa Beach Resort on Hawai'i Island, and the Maui Arts & Cultural Center in Kahului hosts the 15th-annual Maui Ukulele Festival on Sept. 27, with a free workshop by the Sakumas the day before.

Above: Roy Sakuma, founder of Ukulele Festival Hawaii, brings together performers and fans, young and old, through a shared love for the instrument and its music.



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Some of the Waikīkī festivalgoers have gone on to create smaller 'ukulele festivals, spreading the joy of 'ukulele, according to Roy Sakuma.

"My vision was always to see the 'ukulele go around the world," he says. "It's like a rock spreading ripples in the pond."

Other festivals celebrating Hawai'i's distinctive cultures, sights, sounds and flavors strike lasting chords with visitors, too. The following are some highlights of annual events, grouped by category.

HULA and HAWAIIAN CRAFTS

King David Kalākaua (1836-1891) called hula "the heartbeat of the Hawaiian people." Tap into hula's vibrant pulse at long-standing events throughout the Islands. Tickets sell out quickly to the three nights of virtuoso solo and group competition at Hawai'i Island's weeklong Merrie Monarch Festival, but other performances, craft fairs, demonstrations and a parade on the final day of the venerated 57-year-old event are open to the public (April 12-18; merriemonarch.com).

In 2019, Hula O Nā Keiki, a charming contest for girl and boy hula soloists, added another category, for duos of keiki (children). Admire the handsome portraits of previous winners-many of whom are now respected hula teachers—at Maui's Kā'anapali Beach Hotel, which hosts the 30th-annual competition and its associated craft fair and live entertainment (Nov. 6-7; hulaonakeiki.com).

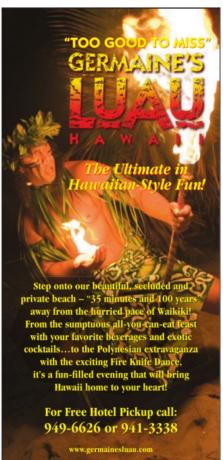
Clockwise from top: The Merrie Monarch Festival honors hula; the Four Seasons Maui Wine & Food Classic is a culinary gem; Waikiki Spam Jam has food, music and fun.

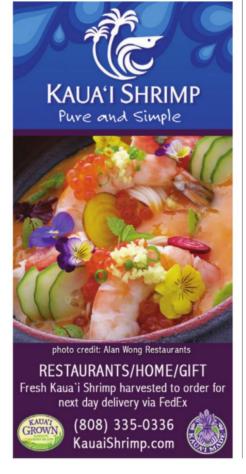
Celebration rather than competition marks two popular hula festivals on O'ahu. Held on the grounds of Iolani Palace in Honolulu, the 43rdannual Prince Lot Hula Festival pays tribute to the hula-preserving royal (who eventually became King Kamehameha V and reigned 1863-1872) with performances of ancient (kahiko) and modern ('auana) hula (July 18-19; moanaluagardensfoundation.org). The Moanikeala Hula Festival, held in memory of the influential North Shore O'ahu hula teacher Sally Moanikeala Woods, marks its 30th year in 2020 with a Hawaiian music concert, performances by dancers of varying ages, and craft workshops at the Polynesian Cultural Center in Lā'ie (Aug. 21-22; polynesia.com).

FOOD and FARMING

Some visitors scratch their heads at the local fondness for poi, a dish made by pounding the starchy stem base of the taro plant into a sticky paste. Yet taro has long provided staple food in the Islands, and Hawaiian lore reveres the plant in symbolic form as a nourishing elder brother to the Hawaiian people. Today, beautiful heart-shaped emerald leaves sway in wetland taro patches, enchanting artists and Instagrammers. You can develop your







appreciation for the plant, and sample dishes made with it, at the 28thannual East Maui Taro Festival in Hāna (April 25; tarofestival.org).

Spam, the famed canned-meat product, is also near and dear to Hawaiian Island palates. Taste it in a dizzying array of forms-grilled or fried with rice, or perhaps even frozen in ice cream—at Waikiki Spam Jam, a street festival that closes five blocks of Kalakaua Avenue to feature three live-music stages and dozens of vendors. This highly popular event drew about 30,000 people last year. Alaska Airlines is a sponsor (April 25; spamjamhawaii.com). Also on O'ahu, the airline sponsors Restaurant Week Hawai'i, which spotlights local cuisine with a variety of styles, from casual to high-end (Nov. 13-22; restaurantweekhawaii.com).

Alaska Airlines also sponsors food festivals that cater to gourmet tastes and celebrate local growers. At the Four Seasons Maui Wine & Food Classic, award-winning chefs such as Wolfgang Puck and Michael Mina, as well as global wine institutions, including Dom Pérignon and Opus One, will be among the presenters of wine dinners and master classes at the luxurious resort in Wailea (May 21-25; fourseasons.com/maui/dining/ wine-and-food-classic). The Kaua'i County Farm Bureau Fair, the Garden Isle's largest community event, showcases the accomplishments of farmers and ranchers, with produce exhibits and livestock shows held over four days, plus rides, games and other classic county-fair attractions, at Vidinha Stadium in Līhu'e (typically mid-August; 2020 dates to be announced; kauaifarmfair.org).

Rich volcanic soil on Hawaiʻi Island helps locals produce some of the world's most highly regarded coffee and cacao beans (the source of chocolate) - and a set of related events. The Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, which turns 50 this year, kicks off with a lantern parade in Kailua-Kona and offers experiences throughout the famed coffee-growing region: farm tours, tastings, craft workshops and more. Sponsored by Alaska Airlines, this eventwhich is touted as the oldest food festival in Hawai'i—also honors the area's Native Hawaiian and Japanese heritage (Nov. 6-15; konacoffeefest.com). Highlighting the coffeegrowing district southeast of Kona, the Ka'ū Coffee Festival will feature farm tours, coffee sampling, food and music in and around the town of Pāhala (May 8-17; kaucoffeefestival. com). Because the Big Island Chocolate Festival overlaps the statewide Lei Day on May 1, this year's theme is "Choco-Lei Day." Events open to the public will include cacao-plantation tours and seminars. A paid-ticket gala at The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort will feature booths serv-



ing savory and sweet dishes and vying for the best depiction of the festival theme (May 1-2; bigislandchocolatefestival.com).

ON and ABOUT the OCEAN

Outrigger canoeing is the Aloha State's official team sport, and, like Hawai'i's waters, the history of this paddling tradition runs deep. Several thousand paddlers of varying ages will

MORE FESTS & EVENTS

ATHLETICS: Participatory sports events draw international crowds year-round in Hawai'i. Alaska Airlines sponsors the Kona Marathon (June 21; konamarathon.com) and the Maui Marathon (Oct. 11; must qualify to compete in the 2020 Vega Ironman World Championship in Kailua-Kona (Oct. 10; ironman.com), but the Honolulu Marathon (Dec. 13; honolulumarathon.org) doesn't limit its number of runners or the time they can take to finish. About 20,000 run or walk 8.2 miles between Aloha Tower and Aloha Stadium in the Alaska Airlines-sponsored Great Aloha Run (greataloharun.com), held

PRIDE: Hawaiian culture has long embraced LGBTQ+ individuals, so it may not be surprising



that Pride celebrations have a welcome home in the Rainbow State. The largest and oldest is the Honolulu Pride Parade and Festival, with a month of parties and gatherings in October, capped by a parade drawing an estimated 20,000-plus speccom). Alaska Airlines sponsors supports the newer Kaua'i Pride Parade & Festival, which takes place in Līhu'e (June 27; kauaiprideparade.com) and Kona Pride, a weekend of parties and live entertainment (Sept 19; konapride.com). Look for more Pride festivals in Hilo on Hawai'i Island (June 27;

hawaiiislandlgbtqpride.org) and on Maui (Oct. 8-11;

HONORING ANCESTORS: In

Hawaiian lore, spirits of ancesknown as 'aumakua. Thanks to plantation-era Japanese immigration, summer in Hawai'i brings **Obon festivals** at local celebrate the return of spirits by dancing to taiko drums. Some 50,000 people attend **Shinnyo** Lantern Floating Hawai'i, a poignant ceremony on Memorial Day in Honolulu. Arrive early at Ala Moana Beach Park to write the name of a deceased loved one on a paper lantern that will join about 7,000 lanterns set afloat after sunset (May 25; lanternfloatinghawaii.com).

MORE ON MAUI: Alaska Airlines supports a variety of entertaining events on the Valley Isle. One

vibrant celebration is The Color Festival Hawai'i, the Aloha State's take on the Indian tradition of Holi, which features food, music and the throwing (April 25; imuafamilyservices. org/colorfestival). Another is the Maui Film Festival, an open-air, on-the-lawn, underthe-stars affair, with food, films and appearances by Hollywood nity of Wailea (June 17-21; nearly century-old tradition is the Maui Fair, with its classic county-fair attractions, foods and rides (Oct. 1-4; mauifair.



race the 18 miles off Hawai'i Island between Kona and Hōnaunau, or compete in shorter events during the 49th-anniversary Queen Lili'uokalani Canoe Races (Sept. 3–7; qlcanoerace.com).

In Waikīkī, **Duke's OceanFest** takes its inspiration from legendary waterman Duke Kahanamoku, with surfing, swimming, standup paddleboarding and beach volleyball competitions (Aug. 22–30; dukesoceanfest.com).

The Waimea Ocean Film Festival explores the marine environment, ocean experiences and island culture, along with other topics, through films, speakers, exhibits and more. In 2020, events took place in Waimea and along the Kohala Coast of Hawai'i Island in January and were sponsored by Alaska Airlines (2021 dates to be announced; waimeaoceanfilm.org).

WINGS and WHALES

The native birds of Hawaiʻi are known for colorful plumage—often bright-red, yellow or black—found

nowhere else in the world. The Kona-based Hawai'i Island Festival of Birds, which Alaska Airlines sponsors, leads tours across the island to spot rare native species, as well as many migratory birds and birds introduced from Africa, Asia, Europe and North America (Oct. 15–19; birdfesthawaii.org).

Whales hold a special place in Hawaiian culture, too. The Pacific Whale Foundation sponsors events each February—during the winter migration season for humpback whales—under the umbrella of the Maui Whale Festival. The festival in 2020 included a parade and celebration in Kīhei, a run/walk near Māʻalaea Harbor, a film festival and specialty cruises (2021 dates to be announced; mauiwhalefestival.org).

COMMUNITY and COWBOYS

The introduction of cowboys (called *paniolo* in the Islands) in the 19th century, along with immigration from the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Portugal and other areas during the 19th and early 20th





centuries, wove various traditions into the fabric of Hawaiian life.

The Parker Ranch July 4th Rodeo & Horse Races at this famed Hawai'i Island ranch (est. 1847) has riding and roping competitions, food, rides and more (July 4; parkerranch.com).

Two festivals on the island of Kaua'i reflect the diversity and community spirit of small towns throughout the state. Waimea Town Celebration, a multiday fest that generally begins on Presidents Day weekend, features a rodeo, Hawaiian music and a two-day event at the west-side Kaua'i town's Old Sugar Mill, with rides and games, food booths, live entertainment and a beer garden. Its 43rd edition in 2020 included outrigger canoe races and 'ukulele-playing and ice creameating contests. Alaska Airlines has been a sponsor in past years (Feb. 13-21, 2021; waimeatowncelebration. com). Now in its 35th year, the Köloa Plantation Days festival takes place in and around the south-side Kaua'i town of Kōloa, where Hawai'i's first sugar plantation debuted in 1835. Its 10-day schedule includes a rodeo, plus live music, children's and cultural activities, culinary and sporting events, hikes, and a parade (July 17-26; koloaplantationdays.com). ⊀

Jeanne Cooper writes travel articles and guidebooks about Hawai'i.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) offers daily service to Hawai'i Island (Kona), Kaua'i, Maui and O'ahu.





CHARMING CHARLESTON

Experiencing the culture of this historical city

By Kinsey Gidick

When I arrived in Charleston in 2002 as a 19-year-old from the Northwest who was ready to start my freshman year at the College of Charleston, I'd never tasted a boiled peanut, or a soft-shell crab, or tried "Hoppin' John," a popular dish of black-eyed peas and rice. I'd never attended a whole-hog barbecue—a "pig pickin'," as it's called here—or experienced a Southern oyster roast. I was, to put it simply, a girl "from off," which is someone not from Charleston or familiar with local customs.

Fortunately, this historical port city has been taking in visitors such as myself for about 350 years. And, as anyone who has experienced Charleston hospitality can tell you, locals love to share their city's treasures with visitors who are curious and eager to learn, especially about the local cuisine.

That's how I found myself heading to my first Southern oyster roast on the banks of the Stono River on a March day, and talking to a friendly Charleston resident I had just met on my way to the event. She was carrying two bottles of homemade hot sauce in her purse and a sleeve of Saltines in her Barbour jacket pocket.

"Honey, did ya bring a shucker?" she asked me. After some confusion on my part, she reached into her pocket and pulled out a knife for oyster shucking. "Here, you can borrow mine." And thus my love affair with local oyster roasts began.

Communal dining at its very best, these bivalve bonanzas include bushels of East Coast oysters being steamed on sheet metal over a fire, and then strewn across long plywood tables for eating. Such gatherings are part and parcel of living in the Low Country, the



NEAR&FAR.







Clockwise from far left: Charleston attractions include examples of 18th and 19th century architecture; the flowers of White Point Garden; The High Water Festival, held April 18-19 this year; and the well-preserved Nathaniel Russell House from the 1800s.

name given to many Southeastern coastal areas.

In Charleston, more than 65 public oyster roasts are held annually. But whether it's Boone Hall Plantation's annual Lowcountry Oyster Festival that attracts 10,000 people each January or a neighbor's backyard roast, the same rules apply: You only hold oyster roasts during months with names that include the letter "R" (an age-old rule because in the summer, shellfish may absorb bacteria that can make humans sick); everyone gets to take a turn at the table; guests usually bring their own oyster knives; and while beer is popular, any adult beverage is welcome.

Outdoor fetes such as oyster roasts go back more than a century, according to local food historian Robert F. Moss, who says the first reference he's found to an oyster roast in Charleston history is in the 1890s. Of course, eating oysters in general has been a part of this area since well before European contact. Massive mounds of oyster shells have been found on area sea

islands, suggesting that local Native Americans have been enjoying local oysters for generations.

Combinations of food and fraternity are part of what makes this city so unique. It is a living slice of American history gilded in Colonial, Georgian and Federal architecture and framed by the Ashley and the Cooper rivers, which, as locals like to say, meet to form the Atlantic Ocean.

Walking the wall

Visitors to this genteel Southern city will find that Charleston is steeped in American history. A good way to start learning about the area is to tour the city's oldest neighborhoods, near the tip of the peninsula where Charleston is located.

English settlers built a walled city here in the 1680s to defend against a variety of dangers, including pirates such as the notorious Blackbeard. The settlers fortified their new home with bastions, batteries and a



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>> NEAR & FAR CHARLESTON

drawbridge. Most of the wall was removed in the 1730s, but you can take a tour with groups such as Old Walled City Walking Tours that follows its path. You can also glimpse remnants of the wall at the Old Exchange Building on East Bay Street.

Excavations in 1965 uncovered the Half Moon Battery, the only standing portion of the original "Charles Towne" city wall, which the public can view in the basement of the exchange building.

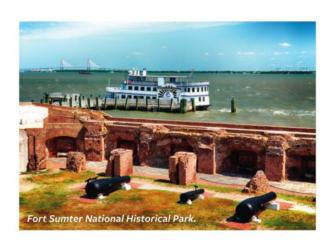
Other points of interest in this neighborhood include the stately homes, with wraparound porches, and the White Point Garden, a park located at the very tip of the peninsula, with its expansive views of Charleston Harbor. The park, which is a popular proposal spot for local couples, is lined with cannons that date back to the Civil War.

About a block south of Broad Street is the Nathaniel Russell House, a well-preserved Federal-style townhouse that is considered one of the country's most important Neoclassical homes. Offering a glimpse into the lives of Charleston's 19th century merchant elite, the home has a number of interesting architectural touches, including a three-story cantilevered staircase.

The city played an important role in the American Revolution, including defeating the British Navy in a battle in 1776. Charleston eventually fell to the British after an extended siege in 1780.

However, the city's most famous moment in American history came in 1861, when Confederate forces fired on the U.S. Garrison of Fort Sumter, an island base near the mouth of Charleston Harbor, about 2 miles southeast of the city. After an extended bombardment, the fort surrendered, marking the end of the first battle of the Civil War.

To visit Fort Sumter, which is now a national histor-





AT A GLANCE

Hidden gems:

- Visit McLeod Plantation, a classic sea island cotton plantation and a Gullah Geechee Cultural Heritage site, for a glimpse into plantation life during the 19th century.
- Stop in at the free Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art, which presents art exhibits by contemporary artists such as Butch Anthony and Colin Quashie.
- See the comedy Noises Off at the Historic Dock Street Theatre, March 4-22, or tour the building, which is located on a historical site that was first a theater in 1736 and has been rebuilt and refurbished multiple times, most recently in 2010.

Where to go first in town if you're a ...

- ... Foodie: Eat at The Ordinary to taste some of the best seafood in the southeast.
- ... Romantic: Walk along the waterfront by taking the sea wall path to Waterfront Park.
- ... History buff: Tour Drayton Hall, a former rice plantation and one of the nation's oldest examples of Palladian architecture.
- ... Family: Drive to Sullivan's

Island, with 6 miles of shoreline and a small but excellent dining

... Lover of literature or pop culture: Blue Bicycle Books on King Street has signed copies of books by some of the city's bestknown authors, including Pat Conroy.

Distinctive dish and where to get it: Order Hannibal's Crab Rice, a Low Country staple, at Hannibal's Kitchen.

Classic drink and where to

get it: Charlestonians have been drinking rum since the city was founded. You can try 100 varieties

> of the liquor at Cane Rhum Bar.

What to take

home: Charleston is home to the only commercial tea farm in North America. Visit its Wadmalaw Island headquarters to purchase some tea bags to take home.

What's in a name?

Charleston, originally called Charles Towne, was named after England's King Charles II, who was on the throne when the South Carolina colony was established in 1670. -K.G.



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ical park, head to Liberty Square in downtown Charleston and board a ferry to the island where the fort is located. A 60-minute trip includes a tour of the fort and a talk about its role in the Civil War.

King Street attractions

Another major draw is the Charleston City Market, which has operated as a public market since the early 1800s and is a good place to buy a few *surcees*, Southern speak for small gifts. I recommend purchasing a Charleston sweetgrass basket.

The highly valued craft of weaving the baskets has been passed down from generation to generation. Some of the more elaborate examples of these baskets can be viewed in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington, D.C.

More shopping awaits on nearby King Street. Among the city's main north-south thoroughfares, King Street has gained a reputation as one of the nation's top shopping districts, thanks to its mix of national retailers and local boutiques. Some local shops include Finicky Filly, Hampden Clothing, and the men's store Jordan Lash Charleston.

This area is also the heart of Charleston's restaurant and night-club scene. The city's status as a culinary hub continues to grow, with a few highlights including The Darling Oyster Bar, which, beyond its locally sourced oysters, is known for its spicy shrimp and grits.

Other seafood favorites can be found at 167 Raw, a no-frills King Street restaurant renowned for its seafood po'boys.

To try South Carolina's take on barbecue, drop by Rodney Scott's BBQ. Scott, a 2018 James Beard Best Chef: Southeast award winner, is



known for his lemon-and-vinegar-infused barbecue sauces.

For a taste of modern Southern cuisine, visit the popular Husk Restaurant, located in a cozy two-story 19th century home in the French Quarter. The menu

changes daily and focuses on locally sourced foods, such as crispy catfish, glazed duck and various pork dishes. Area nightspots to visit include King Street's Prohibition restaurant and bar, which serves great meals and distinctive drinks such as the Bourbon Thyme, with apple-infused Jim Beam bourbon.

Other favorites include the Vintage Lounge wine bar, with a courtyard for sipping outside, and the Doar Bros. in the French Quarter, with innovative drinks such as the Milk Punch, which includes tequila

and milk infused with the flavor of Cinnamon Toast Crunch cereal.

Charleston's festival season shifts into high gear this month, with the Charleston Wine + Food festival, March 4–8. Other upcoming events include the Festival of Houses & Gardens, which includes five weeks of private home tours, beginning March 11. Next month features the High Water Festival, a music festival held April 18–19. This year's lineup has more than 20 acts, such as Nathaniel Rateliff and Wilco.

Opera and orchestra lovers will want to attend the Spoleto Festival USA, May 22–June 7, with 17 days of performing arts productions.

Whatever activity you choose—sightseeing, shopping or festivalgoing—be sure to chat up the locals. You never know. You just might be invited to an oyster roast. ⊀

Kinsey Gidick writes from Charleston, South Carolina.

Alaska Airlines (alaskaair.com) provides regular service between Seattle (SEA) and Charleston (CHS).



VENTURE THROUGH THE VALAIS

Stone castles, local produce and striking scenery in the Swiss Alps

By Renee Brincks

>>> Traces of snow still top many peaks in the canton of Valais,

the mountainous district along Switzerland's southwestern edge, but apricot, pear and apple orchards are thriving on the sun-soaked valley floor. Today, I'm traveling about 18 miles between the Swiss cities of Sion and Martigny on in-line skates, navigating a paved trail that follows the Rhône River.

The lofty Alps set a picturesque stage for this seven-day skating trip organized by Montana-based Zephyr Adventures, a journey that starts in Brig and passes through Sion, Martigny, Villeneuve and several surrounding communities on the way to our final stop in Gstaad. After skating 10 to 35 miles each day, I spend my Swiss nights enjoying activities such as riding a cable car to the mountaintop village of Bettmeralp and watching live acts at the Montreux Jazz Festival (July 3–18 in 2020).

The tour takes us through German- and French-speaking villages east of Geneva and past lush vegetable gardens and fields of golden rye. In Martigny, I board an open-air tourist train that winds up the hills above town. Plank fences and tangled vines hug the steep switchbacks, each curve taking us closer to a stone castle crowned with a turret. Hopping off at the Château de la Bâtiaz, built in the 13th century, I cross an interior court-yard and climb more than 100 steps to the top of the tower. Hazy light illuminates terraced vineyards that line the nearby slopes and the milky rapids of the glacier-fed Dranse River below.

I take it all in before returning to the base of the castle, where a friend from the group hands me a small glass of eau-de-vie. The clear, cool spirit, made from locally grown Williams pears, has an intense aroma and smooth fruit flavor. In just this single day, I feel like I've experienced a lot of what the Valais region is all about: stunning scenery, culture that dates back centuries and a bounty of local food. As I toast to the region, which is famous for the 14,692-foot Matterhorn, the resort town of Zermatt and the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Aletsch Glacier, I'm eager to discover what still awaits.





Taste of Valais

Valais farmers produce 97% of Switzerland's apricots and nearly 75% of its Williams pears; area markets stock juice, jam, brandy and other products made from local fruit. More than 50 grape varieties also grow in Valais.

Towns host workshops that share recipes for the canton's traditional rye bread, and during the summer season, dairies located along alpine hiking trails sell cheese, butter and milk produced onsite.

A local delicacy is Raclette du Valais, an aged, semihard cheese made from untreated, full-fat cow's milk. When the milk is sourced from herds grazing in the mountains, the cows' diet of alpine plants lends subtle floral and fruity notes to the cheese.

The canton of Valais features trails with views of the Matterhorn, bottom left; a storied legacy with Saint Bernards, top; products made with local apricots, right; and the Valère basilica and Tourbillon Castle in Sion.





Raclette is typically served sliced, or melted over boiled potatoes and onions. Find it at Au Vieux Valais in old-town Sion or at Cafe du Pont in Zermatt.

Steeped in history

Hiking options in Valais range from challenging treks with stunning views to more leisurely strolls on footpaths that parallel the region's *bisses*. These irrigation channels, dug hundreds of years ago, still deliver water from mountaintop glaciers to far-flung fields, orchards and vineyards. Cycling paths climb mountain



AT A GLANCE

Popular attractions

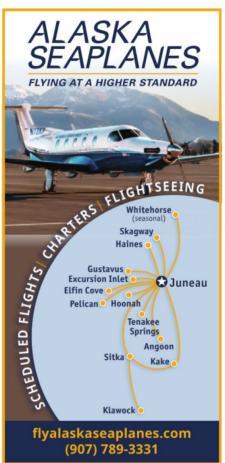
- The Foundation Pierre Gianadda in Martigny showcases fine art exhibits, plus a vintage automobile display, an outdoor sculpture garden and a Gallo-Roman wing built around the remains of a Celtic temple.
- The Matterhorn Museum–Zermatlantis in Zermatt tells the story of the famed mountain, including summit attempts.

Hidden gems

- The Bains de Saillon, a thermal park and resort between Martigny and Sion, features three steamy pools, a thermal river, a spa, swimming and fitness facilities, and a play zone for children.
- Cyclists, hikers and motorists can explore Valais-region villages and wineries along the Chemin du Vignobles vineyard trail that covers nearly 50 miles between Martigny and Leuk. Travelers can explore on their own, or book package trips that bundle accommodations, tastings and luggage transport.







passes and connect communities along well-traveled routes such as those I skate throughout my visit. The region's extensive rail system makes car-free exploring easy, as well.

The centrally located canton capital, Sion, serves as a convenient hub for exploring Valais. Twin hills topped with ancient stone structures anchor Sion's old-town neighborhood. The Valère basilica features Romanesque and Gothic architecture and a 15th century organ believed to be one of the world's oldest. Nearby, the ruins of the Tourbillon Castle trace back to the 1200s. Art, history and nature museums tucked between the basilica and the castle ruins provide additional context.

A restored Roman amphitheater is among the historical sites in neighboring Martigny. The 5,000-seat attraction, still used for special events, sits a stone's throw from the Musée et Chiens du Saint-Bernard. Commonly known as Barrylandnamed for an avalanche dog that saved more than 40 human lives in the early 1800s-this museum and training center tells the story of the Saint Bernard dogs that rescued travelers on the nearby Great Saint Bernard Pass, which is at 8,100 feet.

Martigny-based monks started breeding the dogs in the Middle Ages to assist people stranded by avalanches on the alpine route that connects Switzerland and Italy. These days, Barryland's fluffy four-legged ambassadors greet museum visitors, and the Saint Bernards trained at the facility go on to work as companion animals and hiking dogs.

The car-free village of Zermatt sits east of the Saint Bernard Pass. Wander Zermatt's chalet-lined streets for photo opportunities, or head out on hiking trails bordered by alpine



LUCFRNE

In central Switzerland, an hour southwest of Zürich by train—and roughly 60 miles north of the Valais region's eastern edge-paddle-wheel boats, passenger ferries and sailboats zigzag across the brilliantly blue Lake Lucerne. Sharply angled inlets and slim passages framed by sheer cliffs branch off from stretches of open water, and vivid green fields and forests extend from the lake's shores. Like Valais, Lucerne is a destination showcasing the country's beauty and culture.

From a window seat in my room at the Bürgenstock Hotels & Resort, I'm snapping photographs of it all from 1,600 feet above Lake Lucerne and its namesake city. The property is part of a four-hotel resort with a glass-walled spa, a medical center and wellness retreat, restaurants, tennis and golf facilities, and a variety of hiking paths. My favorite, a forested trail called the Felsenweg, weaves along stone bluffs and offers panoramic Lake Lucerne views.

To reach the Bürgenstock Resort, I boarded a boat near the Lucerne train station, crossed the lake, and hopped on a cable car that chugged up 1,428 feet in elevation.

The journey is one of several unforgettable boat-to-rail adventures that visit the majestic peaks around Lake Lucerne. Another aerial cableway, CabriO, features cars topped by breathtaking open-air decks and summits the 6,200-plus-foot Stanserhorn, southwest of the Bürgenstock Resort. West of the resort, the world's steepest cogwheel railway pulls travelers up a 48%

Clockwise from left: Chapel Bridge is an iconic Lucerne landmark; the cogwheel railway on Mount Pilatus ascends a 48% grade; the Swiss Museum of Transport features many interactive displays.

grade to reach an observation platform on Mount Pilatus

Back down in Lucerne, travelers find a culturally rich community with memorable architecture. The city's iconic Chapel Bridge crosses the Reuss River, near the car-free old-town district. Constructed in the 1300s, the covered wooden structure was rebuilt in its original style after a 1993 fire. A local artist had added paintings—many of which depicted the accomplishments of the Old Swiss Confederacy that existed during the late Middle Ages—to the gables under the bridge's roof in the 17th century, and a few paintings survived the blaze. An eight-sided water tower that flanks the bridge actually predates the bridge itself, with work on it beginning in the late 1200s.

Guided walking tours organized by the Lucerne tourism office spotlight the bridge and tower, along with noteworthy buildings, fountains and shop-lined squares. On a two-hour outing, we passed a 17th century

>> NEAR & FAR SWITZERLAND

stone clock tower that still stands outside the town hall, and we admired the frescoes on several of Lucerne's historic buildings.

To experience the city's contemporary side, head to the Culture and Congress Centre. The venue, designed by 2008 Pritzker Architecture Prize—winning French architect Jean Nouvel, sits along the waterfront next to the downtown train station. A copper-clad, cantilevered roof covers three convention center buildings, including a main concert hall that has four tiers of balcony seating and a roof terrace with lake and city panoramas.

Vintage vehicles, cable railway cabins, aircraft engines and a space-capsule simulator headline some of the interactive exhibits at the Swiss Museum of Transport. It also has a mounted tourism-themed pinball machine that takes up an entire wall, a planetarium, and a chocolate adventure—with tastings. Swiss chocolate is renowned

for many reasons, including because of a unique lengthy stirring process invented in 1879 by Rodolphe Lindt that gave chocolate a melt-in-your-mouth quality.

South of downtown, on the shores of Lake Lucerne, the former residence of composer Wagner houses a museum that spotlights his life and music. The Richard Wagner Museum and its outdoor cafe open for the season in early April, which is about when many of Lucerne's popular "summer bars" start serving customers. These casual lakeside gathering spots capitalize on mild weather and lingering evening light, drawing customers who eat, drink and listen to live music.

At Ufschötti, a waterfront park between the Wagner Museum and the convention center, families toss Frisbees, and friends chat on benches. It's a great place for travelers to sample local Lucerne life and enjoy a sunset walk by the water. —*R.B.*

violets, gentians and crocuses each spring. Visitors can get a closer look at the Matterhorn and surrounding mountains on flightseeing tours operated by Air Zermatt. Whether viewed by air or by land, the land-scapes here are unforgettable.

★

Renee Brincks writes from the San Francisco Bay Area.

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>>> Félix Hernández fans wearing "Forever the King" T-shirts were holding up signs that read, "Thanks," and chanting the name "Félix" over and over. The September 2019 game was the ace pitcher's final outing for the Seattle Mariners, after 15 seasons with the team. The crowd roared even louder each time Félix got one of his three strikeouts, bringing his career total to 2,524, the most in Mariners history. Félix also logged the most wins-169-for the Mariners during his time with the team. Sitting in the Press Box, I saw his eyes tear up when he left the mound in the sixth inning. I was almost teary-eyed, as well.

These kinds of memorable moments make it enthralling to attend games at T-Mobile Park, where the Mariners may be the youngest team in the American League this season, with many promising up-and-coming players, such as pitchers Justus Sheffield and Justin Dunn, second baseman Shed Long, and outfielder Jarred Kelenic, Seattle's top prospect, who could get called up from the minors this year.

T-Mobile Park, south of Seattle's downtown core, is part of an area called the Stadium District because in addition to the ballpark for the Mariners, the district is home to CenturyLink Field, where the Super Bowl XLVIIIwinning Seattle Seahawks play, and where last fall the Seattle Sounders won their second MLS Cup championship in four years. Also, on Feb. 15, the Seattle Dragons football team kicked off its first home game at CenturyLink Field

for the first season of the new XFL professional-football league.

Not only are the games exciting, but I also like to walk outside on the upper levels of each stadium to take in the spectacular views of Puget Sound and the Olympic Mountains, especially at sunset.

Guided tours of the stadiums are offered on certain dates. The T-Mobile Park tour takes you into areas such as the Owners Suite, the Visitors Clubhouse, the Press Box and the All-Star Club, and onto the gorgeous field. I love standing on the infield, where I can imagine I'm a major leaguer. The CenturyLink Field tour takes you to sites such as the visiting-team locker room, the Press Box, the Home Interview Room, the field, and the pole for the 12 Flag, which has been raised by people ranging from Seattle Storm star Sue Bird to actor Chris Pratt.

The areas outside the stadiums are notable, too. For instance, near the Home Plate gate, off Edgar Martinez Drive (named for the Hall of Famer former designated hitter, who is my favorite Mariner of all time), I often stop to look at the life-size bronze statue of another Hall of Famer, former Mariner Ken Griffey Jr., who appears to be tracking the flight path of one of his many home-run balls. When I see the statue, I think back with a grin to the time Griffey Jr. Clockwise from top left: T-Mobile Park is home to the Seattle Mariners. The Seattle Sounders celebrate their MLS Cup victory last year. A bronze statue outside T-Mobile Park honors Mariners Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr.



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simulator in the Why War exhibit!

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Another amazing sight to behold can be seen on event days throughout the year when planes take to the skies and tanks cruise the grounds and fire. Learning about history from a book is interesting, feeling it come to life around you

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invited me to sit in his car and listen to music during spring training before his first year in the majors.

There also are many team stores in and around the stadiums that sell sports stuff I like to buy. I have obtained many caps, bobbleheads and jerseys

over the years. Ebbets Field Flannels on Jackson Street has great gear related to former and current teams from many different leagues. Heck, when my softball team won the University of Washington IMA (intramurals) championship in 1989, we even asked Ebbets to make "champions" jerseys for us.

The Stadium District is not just about sports, though. Concerts and special events take place in the stadiums and nearby affiliated venues. For instance, CenturyLink Field will host a Justin Bieber concert on May 14; adjacent to CenturyLink Field, WAMU Theater hosts a Prince Royce concert on March 4, and Dancing with the Stars: Live! on April 5; and the CenturyLink Field Event Center hosts the Seattle Bike and Outdoor Show/Seattle Golf Show on March 7 and 8.

At T-Mobile Park, the Seattle Bacon and Beer Classic will be April 25. Musicians in concert this year at the park include the band Weezer, on July 17, while Def Leppard and Mötley Crüe are scheduled for September 2.

Before the Rolling Stones concert at CenturyLink Field last summer, I enjoyed drinks with friends at the Jimmy's On First restaurant and bar, which is on the ground floor of the Silver Cloud Hotel Seattle near the stadiums. Jimmy's was packed with people having a good time as they chatted and sipped beer, wine or specialty martinis, such as the Hall of Fame. Jimmy's is one of the many great bars and restaurants I frequent along First Avenue or Occidental Avenue.

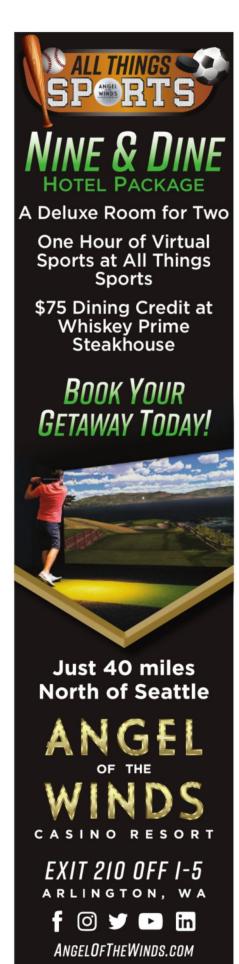
There's even a tech attraction just south of the Stadium District. Living Computers: Museum + Labs spotlights vintage computers and new technologies, including augmented reality and robots. It's an entertaining place to explore before heading to sports-related fun and games. ⊀

Seattle writer Jim Caple has covered 12 Olympics, 20 World Series and a variety of sports on six continents.

SOME STADIUM-AREA FAVORITES



- Bistro Box Restaurant and Bar (bistroboxrestaurant.com): This Japanese restaurant and pub offers more than 50 entrée options, including sushi, teriyaki, ramen bowls and poke, plus teas such as Japanese Roast Sencha Tea, and drinks such as cocktails and a variety of sakes.
- Elysian Fields (elysianbrewing.com): This is such an enjoyable spot that my wife brought people here when she owned a walking-tour business. Friendly and lively, Elysian serves food such as chili, fish-andchips, burgers and salads, and the tap list includes nearly 20 housebrewed craft beers.
- Filson (filson.com): Visit the 6,000-square-foot flagship store and factory of the esteemed international outdoor-clothing-and-goods company, which was founded in Seattle in 1897. Factory tours are available by advance reservation, on certain days each week.
- LT Denny Jewelers (Itdenny.com): Boutique shops in the Stadium area include this independent jewelry and watch store, owned by a Seattle family for 25-plus years, and featuring Tacori and other top brands.
- Paseo (paseorestaurants.com): The outstanding Caribbean-Latino food here includes sandwiches such as grilled pork, Alaskan cod and sautéed prawns, each served on a toasted baguette (although you can substitute a lettuce wrap or rice). Beer and wine are available, too, along with cocktails served, surprisingly, in a Tiki bar at this diner-style eatery.
- Pyramid Alehouse (pyramidbrew.com/alehouse): One of my favorite pubs, Pyramid has burgers, sandwiches, grilled wild Alaska salmon, and beers such as the brewer's own Hefeweizen and Thunderhead IPA.
- **Quality Athletics** (qualityathletics.com): Featuring Northwest-sourced ingredients ranging from asparagus to grass-fed beef—along with world wines, and handcrafted cocktails such as the QA Mule, made with your choice of four spirits—Quality Athletics bills itself as "Not your Daddy's sports bar." In summer, enjoy housemade alcoholic slushies.
- Sluggers (sluggersseattle.com): Sports fans come here for the oldtime ambiance; burgers, sandwiches and salads; and drinks such as the vodka-based Touchdown and the Top Deck Margarita. — J.C.







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CALENDAR



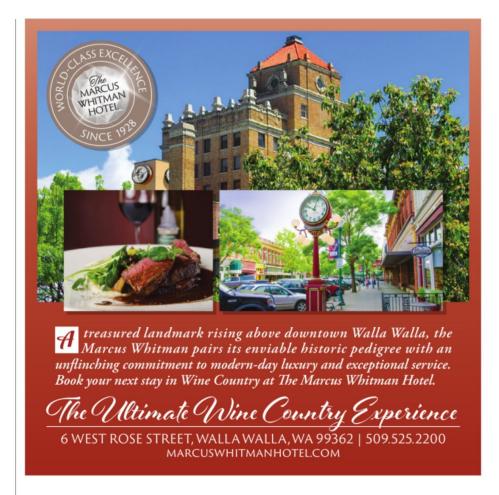
- Art inspired by the natural world is on view in "The Naturalist & The Trickster:
 Audubon/Ryan!," through May 10 at the Tacoma Art Museum, south of Seattle. John James Audubon, working in the 19th century, and Native American Ryan! Feddersen, working in the 21st century, created works such as those above that may prompt contemplation about human impact on the environment (tacomaartmuseum.org).
- The 2020 lecture series at the Bellevue Botanical Garden, east of Seattle, includes "An Evening with Ciscoe" (featuring Seattle garden expert/author Ciscoe Morris), March 10; "The 21st Century Botanic Garden: Where We've Come From and Where We're Going," March 18; "The Pleasure Garden," April 15; and "Contained Exuberance," May 20 (bellevuebotanical.org).
- One of the world's top variety/comedy events, the **Moisture Festival**, March 12–April 5, in Seattle, features more than 100 acts, ranging from unicyclists to musicians (moisturefestival.org).
- Eight short plays, selected from global submissions related to the theme "What would you do?" (to explore everyday ethical dilemmas), are being staged during the **Festival of Shorts**, March 13–15 in Edmonds, north of Seattle (edmondsdriftwoodplayers.org).

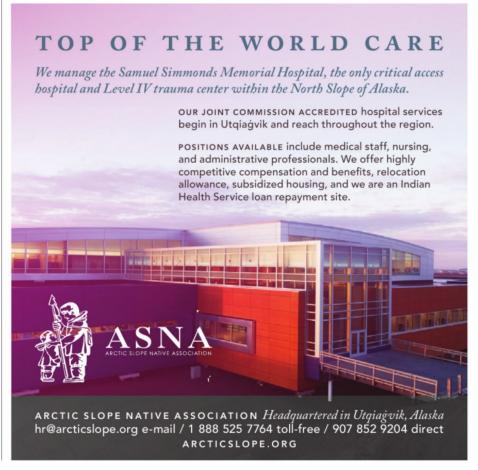
- More than 200 wineries, and more than 65 chefs/restaurants, are showcased during Taste Washington, March 19-22. The acclaimed event, whose sponsors include Alaska Airlines Mileage Plan, features parties and meals at different Seattle-area locations, seminars at Four Seasons Hotel Seattle, and Grand Tastings at the CenturyLink Field Event Center (tastewashington.org).
- Take "The Boys of 1936" Boathouse Tour at the University of Washington to learn more about the extraordinary Olympic-gold-medal UW crew spotlighted in the best-selling book The Boys in the Boat. The tours, offered twice monthly, with openings starting March 8, showcase team member Joe Rantz's



Olympic gold medal and the eight-oar Husky Clipper shell the team raced to Olympic victory. Led by guides such as former UW rower Melanie Barstow, the tours also include the currently used Conibear Shellhouse and the 1918 WWI seaplane hangar that served as the ASUW Shell House for the 1936 team and their famed boatbuilder, George Pocock. Efforts are underway to renovate the historical building and display heritage exhibits there (asuwshellhouse.uw.edu).

■ Highlighting the strength, humor and creativity of women, the Everett Film Festival, north of Seattle, will present international documentaries, feature films, animated films and shorts, April 10-11 (everettfilmfestival.org). ⊀





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STUMPTOWN SCRIBE

Graphic Novelist Greg Rucka finds success with a tough and complex Portland P.I.

By Susan G. Hauser

>>> Portland author Greg Rucka is no stranger to Hollywood. The 50-year-old writer, who has spent years churning out an impressive array of comics, novels and graphic novels, has had a number of his works optioned to the studios in Los Angeles, with some actually making it to film or TV screens.

However, it wasn't until Hollywood came calling a few years ago regarding Stumptown, his comic series about a feisty female private investigator in the City of Roses, that he saw a project fall into place so fast. The show's title refers to a Portland nickname dating back to the 19th century, when the city was growing so fast that local loggers cut down area forests to make room for development, but left the stumps to be removed at a later time.

In a matter of a few months, Rucka says, he went from having discussions with the show's producer to seeing a pilot episode of Stumptown being shot in Portland in March of 2019. The program has been part of ABC's weekly lineup since last September.

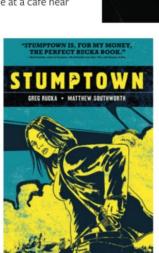
"I have been writing professionally for more than 20 years, and I have never seen anything go from zero to a network show as quickly as this," says Rucka, over coffee at a cafe near his Irvington-neighborhood home.

The time is right for a show such as Stumptown, says Rucka, because this is the era of women being in charge of their own destinies. Dex Parios, Rucka's heroine, is an independent woman for our time. She is played by TV veteran Cobie Smulders.

A native of Vancouver, B.C., Smulders is a perfect fit for the tough but tender P.I. She has appeared in films based on comics (Avengers: Infinity War, Avengers: Endgame, Spider-Man: Far from Home) and TV favorites such as How I Met Your Mother and Arrested Development.

Smulders' Dex Parios character is smart, strong, complex and sexy. Parios is an

ex-Marine who saw action in Afghanistan and is struggling not only with impulse control and PTSD, but also with overwhelming gambling debts. But she has a heart of gold, making personal sacrifices to provide a happy life for her younger



brother, Ansel Parios (played by Cole Sibus), who has Down syndrome.

Frequent aerial shots of Portland are scattered throughout the weekly episodes. However, because the episodes are actually shot in Los Angeles, there are few, if any, close-ups of Portland landmarks.

Still, we get a sense of the community in other ways. For instance, Dex's brother, Ansel, is a fanatical fan of MLS' Portland Timbers (as is Rucka), and we often see him wearing one of his many Portland Timbers T-shirts.

While Rucka had no say in the casting of

the series' characters, he is happy with every actor hired for the show. That includes Michael Ealy as Detective Miles Hoffman, Dex's sometimes love interest; Camryn Manheim, Lt. Cosgrove of the Portland Police Bureau and Hoffman's



 Greg Rucka, above, is the author of the Stumptown series of comics, left, which is the inspiration for the ABC TV program about a private investigator living in Portland.







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boss; and Jake Johnson, as Dex's friend, the ex-con bar owner Grey McConnell.

As for Dex's name, Dex Callisto Parios, in the comic series Rucka provides a backstory: "Her mother is a reactionary hippie because Dex's grandfather was an Army colonel. Dex's mother joined the Peace Corps where she fell in love with a Greek photojournalist, and they traveled the world doing travel stories. That's how you end up naming your children Dex Callisto, Ansel Achilles and Fuji Cassandra."

If you think Rucka displays the erudition of a good liberal-arts education, you're right. After growing up in Salinas, California, he entered Vassar College, about 80 miles north of New York City, where he met his wife, fellow writer Jennifer Van Meter. The two moved to Los Angeles after graduation, and

Rucka earned his MFA in professional writing at the University of Southern California.

The couple eventually moved to Eugene and finally settled in Portland in 1997, which coincided with their entry into the comics world, she at Dark Horse Comics, he at the brand-new Oni Press. One of the Portland publisher's first books was Whiteout, a 1998 murder-mystery comic series penned by Rucka, illustrated by Portland resident Steve Lieber and in 2009 made into a feature film.

During more than 20 years as an author, Rucka has written 18 or 19 novels (he loses count) and literally hundreds of graphic novels and comics (including works for both DC Comics and Marvel). He's penned stories for just about every marquee character, including Batman, Spider-Man, Superman, Wonder Woman and Wolverine, to name a few.

"I genuinely cannot count how many comics I've written,"

Currently, he's writing Lois Lane for DC Comics. At Image Comics, a Portland publisher, Rucka is writing Black Magick, Lazarus: Risen and The Old Guard, which Netflix will release as a movie sometime this year. Rucka says it takes anywhere from one to three months to create a comics magazine.

The Stumptown series, published by Oni Press, is a project Rucka has been interested in for most of his life. The origin of the private investigator idea dates back to a childhood fascination with the TV program The Rockford Files, starring James Garner.

By the time Rucka attended Vassar, he was so well versed





Cast members of the Stumptown TV series pose for a photo shoot in Portland, above. The show's star, Cobie Smulders, left, has credits that include the TV series How I Met Your Mother.

in detective fiction that he was prepared to write his senior thesis on the topic. (He wrote a collection of short stories instead.) In the back of his mind was an idea that he would one day emulate the likes of Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett and Robert B. Parker.

Stumptown has become the private investigator story he had always dreamed of writing, one that pays homage to his old favorite, The Rockford Files, by styling Dex Parios after Jim Rockford. In creating Dex, Rucka carefully followed long-established rules for a flawed private investigator character that readers, and viewers, can support.

"One of the things that defines the private investigator is their empathy," he explains. "And the other is their sense of right and wrong, which is not the same as being lawful."

Four volumes of Stumptown comics, all written by Rucka,

PORTLAND

A COIN TOSS CREATES PORTLAND

While Stumptown is more poetic,

Portland was the name early settlers chose for their community after a few coin tosses. According to the Oregon Encyclopedia, Asa Lovejoy of Boston and Francis Pettygrove of Portland, Maine, had settled on the banks of the Willamette River in the 1840s. They decided their growing settlement, often referred to as "the clearing" at the time, deserved a proper name. Lovejoy wanted to call the town Boston and Pettygrove liked Portland.

In 1845, the two agreed to flip a coin, a best of two-out-of-three toss contest to decide the community's name. Pettygrove won, and the coin used to decide the name is now on display at the Oregon Historical Society museum in downtown Portland. —S.G.H.

have been published. A fifth is scheduled for release in 2021. He collaborates with a team of artists because, he says, "I can't draw at all. I tried. To me, what an artist like Justin Greenwood or Matthew Southworth [both *Stumptown* artists] or Steve Lieber can do is a magic trick. I couldn't do it in a million years."

The script that he writes contains the characters' dialogue, as well as a set of instructions, or suggestions, for the artist. For each panel of the story, he conveys the atmosphere and environment, the emotional state of the characters and other details.

Writer and artist talk by phone, by Skype or over coffee to get it right. In some cases, an inker and a colorist add the finishing touches.

Rucka says ABC initially ordered eight episodes of the show, but later decided to request more episodes to complete the first season.

The network will make a decision in the near future about whether to keep the show going.

However, there's every indication that the network will give *Stumptown* the green light for a second season, Rucka says. "The show is doing well. People seem to really like it."

The author is a consultant for the program, and to that end he reviews rough cuts of each episode and makes suggestions. As for the program's depiction of Portland, he's aware that there are minor goofs and gaffes that any local would catch, such as the locations of businesses and references to food trucks when Portlanders call them food carts. But he lets all that go. To him, it's more important that the city itself is a character in the story.

"I love Portland," he says. "I love the absurdities of Portland. I love the beauty of Portland; I love the great things about Portland as much as I hate the bad things about Portland. It was just too easy to make Portland a character. You know, if you look at anything this close you say, 'Oh, there's a million stories here."







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A PIONEERING **ENGINEER**

On track to become the first female train driver in a railway's history

By Lindsay Breen

>> In 2001, some friends invited me to come up to Skagway, Alaska, for the summer. A native of Colorado, I'd never been to Alaska. But I was young and ready for adventure. Little did I know that nearly two decades later, the decision to move there, and stay there, would have me on the brink of making history.

All I knew, shortly after arriving in Skagway, was that I was in love. First, it was with the landscape—the sea-green waters of the Taiya Inlet and the snow-covered Coast Mountains. Then it was with the close-knit community, which is now just more than 1,100 people. Soon, it was with the man who is now my husband. And some time after that, it was with the White Pass & Yukon Route Railway, where this summer I will become the first female engineer in the railway's history.

I'm not a railroad geek. I didn't grow up playing with model trains or seeking out rare engines. When I first applied to the WP&YR, I was simply in need of a job. In 2012 I was hired as a train agent, which involved riding the train and narrating tours for passengers—discussing the history of the railroad and the land we were passing through.

I explained to guests that the first tracks of the WP&YR were laid in 1898, with the goal of offering prospectors a more efficient route to the Klondike gold fields. Completed in 1900, the railway navigated the snowy mountainous terrain near the Chilkoot Trail and White Pass, linking the sea to the interior. For decades, the railway was used to transport ore and precious metals to the port of Skagway, and in World War II it served as a major supplier to the U.S. Army's Alaska Highway construction project. The White Pass & Yukon Route Railway is a Historical Civil Engineering Landmark, just like the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower.

In the late 1980s, after metal prices dropped and mines closed, the railroad reinvented itself as a tourism attraction, providing thousands of guests each year with the opportunity to see up close some of Alaska's stunning scenery. From late April into October, guests can choose from various excursions out of Skagway that pass mountain peaks, glaciers, waterfalls, tunnels and trestles. The less-than-three-hour Summit Excursion climbs nearly 3,000 feet in 20.4 miles to the White Pass Summit. The Fraser Meadows Steam Excursion covers a 54-mile loop in about four hours. The eight-



Lindsay Breen poses beside a White Pass & Yukon Route Railway train.

hour Bennett Scenic Journey travels more than 120 roundtrip miles to Carcross, Yukon Territory, and includes a ride beside the more than 25-mile-long Lake Bennett and a motor coach tour along the scenic Klondike Highway.

The more time I spent aboard the train, the more I wanted to know. Pretty quickly, this included wanting to know more about the train itself and how it operated. Life took me away from Alaska for a year, but when I returned, my curiosity ultimately inspired me to transition to the "shops" side of the railroad, which deals with the mechanical aspects.

On the shops side, I started as a coach cleaner. It was hardly glamorous. The hours were long, and the cleaning was intense, but it allowed me to see "behind the scenes," where the 86 cars are stored. I watched train crews put the coach cars and engines to rest for the night. I watched the movements of the trains, the connecting and disconnecting of the locomotives from the coach cars. I watched the throwing of the switches from track to track. I wanted in.

>> HERE & NOW ALASKA

After three years of coach cleaning, I was accepted for a "brakeman" position, which allowed me to work as an assistant to the conductor. Two seasons later, I began my conductor training, and a season after that I became a conductor myself. It's an immensely important position, because the conductor is the person responsible for the safety of the people onboard, coordinating by radio with conductors of other trains on the tracks.

Still, I wanted even more. I wanted to be the person who actually "drives" the

train—I wanted to be an engineer. At the end of last season, I began my training, and this summer, an opening means that I will become the first female engineer in the railway's history.

Over the course of my career, I've had many amazing experiences and met so many wonderful people. But one story in particular keeps me motivated.

My friend Kellie is a ranger with the National Park Service,



and one day a young girl approached her. "The conductor was a woman!" the girl told Kellie.

Kellie smiled, took out her phone, and pulled up a picture of Kellie and me together. "Is this who you're talking about?" "Yes, that's her!" the girl exclaimed. "I want to be a train conductor just like her!"

Who knows? She might even become an engineer. ⊀

>>> A White Pass & Yukon Route Railway train rolls along Tunnel Mountain.



COINING A LEGEND

Civil rights activist Elizabeth Peratrovich is commemorated on U.S. currency

By Eric Lucas

ilizabeth Peratrovich did not seem like a fierce Alaska Native activist who would transform American society. Petite, well-spoken, always attired stylishly, she appeared more like a librarian than a liberator. Tlingit leader, spouse, mother of three and community figure, she was as adept at cooking Thanksgiving feasts as she was at being a civil rights pioneer—a role she played, knitting needles in hand, when she convinced the Alaska Territorial Legislature to adopt an anti-discrimination law.

On that occasion in February of 1945, she listened to opponents disparage her and her compatriots: "Who are these people, barely out of savagery, who want to associate with us whites, with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind us?" said a territorial senator.

When members of the public were invited to speak, Peratrovich put down her knitting needles, marched to the front of the chambers, and made one of the most famous declamations in Alaska history.

"I would not have expected that I, who am barely out of savagery, would have to remind gentlemen with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind them, of our Bill of Rights."

Thus inspired, the Legislature adopted Alaska's Anti-Discrimination Act of 1945, which declared full and equal accommodations, privileges and facilities to all citizens. Territorial Governor Ernest Gruening signed the act into law on February 16.

It was not until years after Peratrovich died of breast cancer in Seattle in 1958 that the national Civil Rights Act of 1964 provided the same rights for the entire United States. Now, her memory lives on: This year, the U.S. Mint has released a \$1 golden coin commemorating Peratrovich. The 2020 Native American \$1 Coin also features Sacagawea on the heads side. Though meant as a collectible, the coin is legal tender—a pragmatic touch Peratrovich would have no doubt appreciated. And in 2019, the University of Alaska Press published a book about her, Fighter in Velvet Gloves, by Annie Boochever.

"Our country is just starting to recognize the singular achievements of Elizabeth Peratrovich and her leadership in the area of civil rights," says Rosita Worl, president of Sealaska Heritage Institute. "She was ahead of her time."



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Your overview of the Alaska experience.

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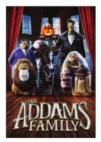
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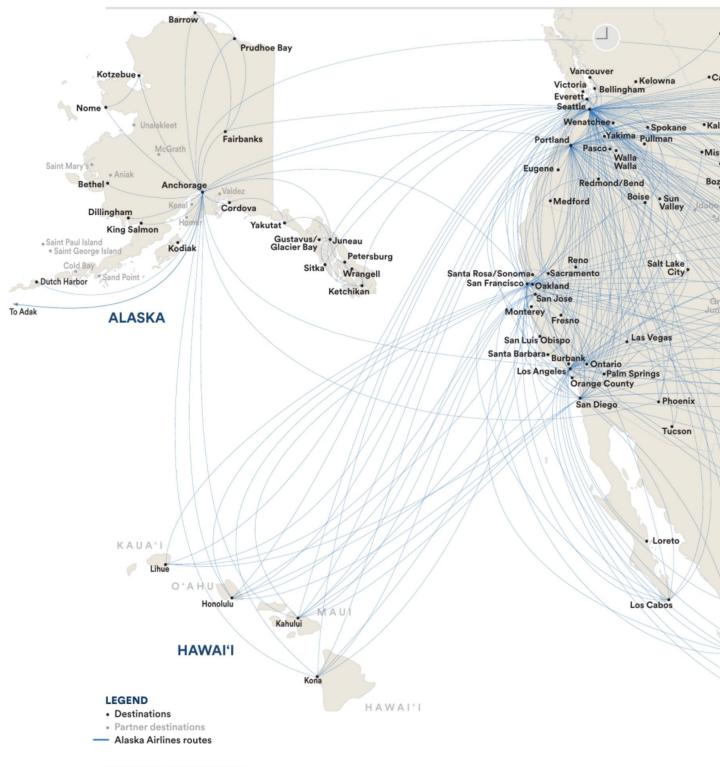




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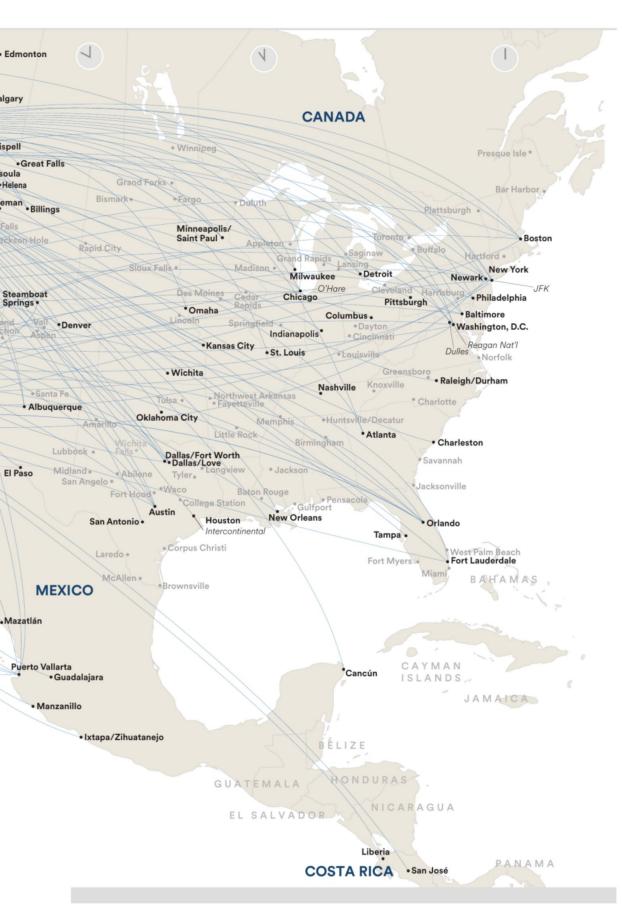
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1 Tip:

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1 Tip:

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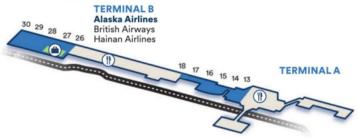
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PASSPORT CONTROL KIOSKS

Automated Passport Control kiosks expedite the entry process. Eligible travelers scan their passport, take a photograph and answer a series of questions at the kiosk. Once complete, present the printed receipt from the kiosk to a Customs Officer.

Helpful tips

- Only citizens or nationals of the U.S., Canada or Visa Waiver Program countries are eligible to use the kiosk.
- · Customs declaration forms are unnecessary.
- Kiosks available in Los Angeles (LAX), Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) and Seattle (SEA).

U.S. CUSTOMS DECLARATION

All travelers to cities without Passport Control kiosks must complete this form.

Helpful tips

- One form per person or one per family (family defines those in the same household who are related by blood, marriage, domestic relationship, or adoption).
- Lines 5, 6—If not using a passport, leave these lines blank.
- Line 9—Enter "AS" for Alaska Airlines
- Sign at the "X."

QUIOSCOS DE CONTROL DE PASAPORTES

Kioscos automatizados de control de pasaportes acelerar el proceso de entrada y se encuentran en muchas ciudades servidas por Alaska Airlines. los viajeros elegibles escanear el pasaporte, tomar una fotografía y contestar una serie de preguntas en el quiosco. Una vez completa, presentar el recibo impreso en el quiosco a un oficial de aduanas.

Datos de ayuda

- Sólo los ciudadanos o nacionales de los países del Programa de Exención de Estados Unidos, Canadá o Visa son elegibles para utilizar el quiosco.
- Formularios de declaración de aduanas son innecesarias.
- Kioscos disponibles en Los Ángeles (LAX),
 Portland (PDX), San Diego (SAN), San Francisco (SFO) y Seattle (SEA).

DECLARACION DE ADUANA

Los viajeros a ciudades sin quioscos de control de pasaportes deben completar este formulario.

Datos de ayuda

- Una forma por persona o por familia con la misma dirección.
- Línea 5, 6—Si no tiene pasaporte, deje esta sección en blanco.
- Línea 9—Use "AS" para Alaska Airlines.
- Firme en la "X."

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TIPS

TO MEXICO

- All travelers must complete a Mexico Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family with same address.
- All travelers, except for citizens of Mexico, must complete the FMM; one per traveler or family.

TO COSTA RICA

- All travelers must complete a Customs Declaration form; one per traveler or family.
- All travelers must complete an Immigrations Form; one per person.
- Costa Rica requires a \$29 departure tax for each traveler. For tickets purchased before June 1, 2016, pay fee prior to check-in with Alaska Airlines at the service centers in terminal check-in area.
 The fee is included in the price of tickets purchased after June 1, 2016.

CONSEJOS DE VIAJE INTERNACIONALES

A MEXICO

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas México; uno por cada viajero o familia con la misma dirección.
- Todos los viajeros, excepto para los ciudadanos de México, deben completar la FMM; uno por cada viajero o familia.

A COSTA RICA

- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de declaración de aduanas; uno por cada viajero o familia.
- Todos los viajeros deben completar un formulario de Inmigración; una por persona
- Costa Rica requiere un impuesto de salida de \$29
 para cada viajero. Para los boletos comprados
 tarde del 1 junio, 2016, pagar la cuota antes de
 check-in con Alaska Airlines en los centros de
 servicio en el área de registro de entrada en el
 terminal. La tarifa está incluido en el precio de
 los boletos comprados el 1 de junio 2016.

Your safety and comfort

SEATS

- Seat belts must be fastened whenever the "FASTEN SEAT BELT" sign is on. Keep your seat belt fastened at all other times when seated, in case of rough air.
- Seatbacks and tray tables must be in the upright, locked position during taxi, takeoff and landing.
- Seat-belt extenders are not allowed in exit rows.
 They can tangle and obstruct access to exit doors.

CARRY-ONS

- All carry-on bags must be placed under a seat or in an overhead bin for takeoff and landing.
- Prior to takeoff and landing, service items provided by our inflight team must be picked up.

LAVATORY

 Guests are requested to use the lavatory in their assigned cabin.

PETS

 Pets must remain in carrier for entire flight.
 Carrier must be stowed for taxi, takeoff and landing.

CREW AND GUEST SAFETY

- Under federal law, no person may assault, threaten, intimidate or interfere with crew members in the performance of their duties aboard an aircraft. Penalties for crew interference include fines up to \$11,000, imprisonment or both. An incident report may be filed with the FAA regarding a guest's behavior.
- We respect the privacy and well-being of our guests and employees. We do not tolerate inappropriate verbal, digital or physical conduct of any kind, including sexual harassment, invasive photography, and assault. Please report unwelcome behavior to an employee immediately. Any crime committed onboard is considered a federal offense.

TRAVELING WITH INFANTS AND CHILDREN

- To be used onboard, your child-restraint system must conform to all applicable federal motor vehicle-safety conditions, and the restraint must be certified for use in motor vehicles and aircraft with an FAA-approval sticker.
- Some restrictions for child-restraint systems apply based on seat locations and flight numbers.
 Visit http://bit.ly/InfantTravel for details.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

- Alcohol may not be consumed aboard an aircraft unless it has been provided by a flight attendant.
 No alcohol may be served to any person who appears to be intoxicated, or who is under 21 years of age.
- Guests are expected to drink responsibly and behave in a safe and respectful manner at all times
- Smoking, chewing tobacco and electronic cigarette use are not permitted on any Alaska Airlines flight.

DEVICES

- During taxi, takeoff and landing, larger electronic devices, such as laptops, must be stowed.
- Cellphones may be used while the boarding door is open until advised by your flight attendant that cell service must be turned off. Upon landing, your flight attendant will advise when cell service can be enabled.
- During flight, electronic voice communications of any kind (e.g., cell, FaceTime, Skype) are prohibited.
- Headphones must be worn when using electronic devices such as personal music players, Inflight Entertainment Tablets, handheld games, etc.

OTHER PROHIBITED ITEMS

 We prohibit the use of items that do not meet FAA Regulations or Company regulations. This includes the use of seat-belt extensions not provided by Alaska Airlines, devices that restrict the recline of seats, self-heating meals or beverages, air filters placed on overhead vents and personal air-purifying devices. The Federal
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(FAA) and
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regulations to
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and comfort.

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En Español: 800.858.5525 From Mexico: 001.800.252.7522

Alaska Airlines Vacations: 844.762.0087 vacations.alaskaair.com

USING YOUR DEVICES

We know use of your electronic devices is important, and we've adjusted our procedures to give you more time with those devices.

Allowed on the ground and in the air

- Laptops (must be stowed for taxi/ takeoff/landing)
- Tablets/smartphones (Airplane Mode after door closure)
- · Wireless mouse/keyboard
- e-readers
- Media/CD/DVD players
- · Noise-canceling and Bluetooth headphones
- · Cellphones (prior to door closure only)

Not allowed during flight

- · Voice calls of any kind, including VoIP
- · Devices with cell service enabled
- AM/FM radios or TVs
- Personal air purifiers
- · Remote-control toys
- Electronic cigarettes

AD OUT

>> GAMES CROSSWORD

45

22

ACROSS

- 1 Helpers
- 6 Fleet
- 12 Is in another form?

23

27

53

58

64

89

100

126

130

31

86

106

101

38

- 15 Singer Seeger
- 19 Stem
- 20 Glacial shaft
- 21 Face on a fin
- 22 Heavy metal
- 23 Alamo?
- 25 Large cask
- Western chum
- 27 Magnet alloy
- 28 Excel
- 29 Software trials
- 31 Song mule
- 32 Enjoy
- 34 Pinch
- SAT takers, usually
- Indian Zoroastrian 38
- 42 High-voiced feline?
- 47 Ersatz
- Trucker's tariff 51 Melody
- 52 Name for Lamb
- 53 Computer-chip letters
- USC rival 55
- Nautical response 56
- 57 Burdens
- 58 Musicians' rude look?
- Contorted expression 62
- Written discourse 64
- 65 Thought of France
- Poet's time 66
- 67 French pronoun
- 68 Pointed tip
- 69 Married women
- 72 Draft initials
- Boring device 74
- 77 Check for accuracy Consequently
- Softest 80
- 85 Monster of myth
- 87 Lepidopteran parent?
- Chafes
- 90 McCourt memoir 92 Perfectly
- 93 Mrs. Copperfield et al.
- 94 French state
- 95 Aggregate
- 96 Pierced
- Less, musically
- 100 One who entangles anonymously?
- 103 Of ecological stages
- Peak abbr. 105
- Pindaric 106
- Pulled some strings 107
- 109 Collar
- 111 Type of chalcedony
- 115 Stuff
- 118 Crinkled
- 122 Snack in a stack
- 123 Caboodle
- 124 Important garment?
- 126 500 sheets Tossed down
- 128 Ukrainian port

- 129 Eradicate 130 Stable female

112 113

- "Cool!" 131
- 132 Make bubbly
- 133 Judge

DOWN

- 1 Where the buoys are
- 2 Lang. of Naples
- 3 Mild oath
- 4 Island
- Certain porter
- Brest friend 6
- 7 Author Macdonald
- Necessity
- 9 Fake handle
- Miniature display 10
- 11 Raggedy doll Canal or river 12
- 13 Be against
- 14 Washington figure
- Wishful thinking 15 16 Historic periods

17 Wrongful act

20

39 40

90

114

123

127

131

28

32

50

65

70

87

102

107

33

92

115

124

128

132

103

116

56

42

- 18 Extremities
 - 24 Back chopper

 - 30

 - 35 Fuse, as ore
 - 36
 - 37
 - 39
 - Indian chief
 - 41 Still
 - 43 Prolonged attack
 - 44 Alan and Robert
 - 45 Part of the family
 - 46
 - 48 Holy text
 - 50 Bewitched child
 - 56 Gulf of ___
 - 57 Oil source
 - 60 Germane

- "Surprise!"
- Keg insert
- Torment 33
- Cowboy, often
- Hillside detritus
- Trounces
- 40
- Garden spots
- Incentives 54
- Roughage 59

61 Recent delivery

21

25

34

43

62 63

66

98

109

118

129

125

- Pose again 63 70 \$ dispensers
- L seven
- Politician Thurmond 73
- Plenty of land 74
- 75 Achromatic
- Purple shade Ryan's daughter 78
- 81 State
- 82 Violinist Zimbalist
- 83 Perspective
- 84 Actress Cicely _
- 86 Beat keeper
- Tropical constrictors 91 Copied
- 95 First-class
- 96 Yen division Come before 97
- Cut a rug 98
- 101 Dutch commune
- 102 Manage 104 Pantry

108 Laundromat fixture

105

120 121

110

- Quotable Yankee 110
- 111 Bulblike base
- Surface extent 112
- 113 Nurture 114 Jot
- 116 Vase handle
- The majority 117
- 119 Organic fuel 120 Latin existence
- 121 Belgian river
- 124 Hawaiian acacia 125 Inventor's monogram

Solution on page 167.





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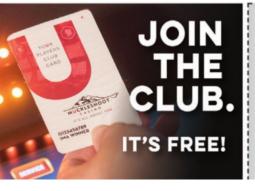






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LADDERGRAM

■ First, write the word that fits the first definition into space 1. Then drop one letter and rearrange the remaining letters to form the answer to definition 2. Drop one more letter, rearrange and get the answer to definition 3. Put the first dropped letter into the box to the left of space 1 and the other dropped letter into the box next to space 3. When you have correctly solved the puzzle, the dropped letters on the left and right, when read down, will spell out related words.

Definitions:

1. Actor Day-Lewis 13. Capital of South Dakota 2. Like ruled paper 14. More mature, as fruit 3. Grant temporarily 15. Marina landing 4. Fixed the cost of 16. After-bath talc 5. Orchard beverage 17. Propelled a dinghy 6. Urgent 18. Dictionary entry 7. Soft, pale shade 19. Legally responsible 8. Pilfer 20. Garment tag 9. Pretzel sprinkles 21. School ringer 10. Memento of the past 22. Large creek

23. Mentally sharp

24. Old Russian title

| 1. | 2. | 3. | |
|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| 4. | 5. | 6. | 十 |
| 7. | 8. | 9. | 十 |
| 10. | 11. | 12. | \top |
| 13. | 14. | 15. | + |
| 16. | 17. | 18. | + |
| 19. | 20. | 21. | + |
| 22. | 23. | 24. | + |

SUDOKU

11. Paella ingredient

12. Intense rage

■ Complete the sudoku grid by placing a number in each box so that each row, column and small nine-box square contains the numbers one to nine exactly once.

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

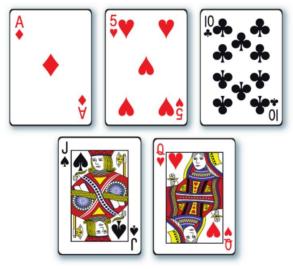


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Solutions on page 167.

CARD SENSE

■ Five playing cards were shuffled and put in a pile, one on top of another. Using the clues, can you identify each card's position in the pile?



Clues:

- **1.** The spade is somewhere above the queen and somewhere below the five.
- 2. The ace is somewhere below both hearts.
- 3. The top card is not red.





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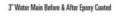
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CROSSWORD page 162

| A | 1 | D | E | s | | A | R | М | A | D | A | | w | A | S | | P | E | Т | E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| s | T | A | L | K | | м | 0 | U | L | 1 | N | | A | В | E | | Т | R | 0 | N |
| E | A | R | L | Υ | м | T | s | s | T | 0 | N | | т | U | N | | P | Α | R | D |
| A | L | N | 1 | c | 0 | | s | т | A | R | | В | E | Т | A | т | E | s | Т | s |
| | | | s | A | L | | | | s | A | ٧ | 0 | R | | Т | A | D | | | |
| s | R | s | | P | A | R | s | 1 | | м | E | 0 | w | s | 0 | P | R | A | N | 0 |
| м | 0 | c | K | | R | 0 | A | D | т | A | X | | A | 1 | R | | E | L | 1 | A |
| E | P | R | 0 | м | | U | c | L | A | | | A | Y | E | | L | A | D | E | s |
| L | E | E | R | 0 | F | т | н | E | В | Α | N | D | | G | R | ı | M | A | C | E |
| т | R | E | A | Т | 1 | S | E | | 1 | D | E | E | | E | E | N | | s | E | S |
| | | | N | 1 | B | | м | A | T | R | 0 | N | S | | s | S | s | | | |
| A | W | L | | ٧ | E | т | | т | н | E | N | | Q | U | 1 | E | т | E | S | Т |
| c | н | 1 | м | E | R | A | | м | A | M | A | В | U | T | Т | E | R | F | L | Y |
| R | 1 | L | E | s | | т | ı | s | | | T | 0 | A | T | | D | 0 | R | A | s |
| E | T | A | т | | S | U | M | | s | P | E | A | R | E | D | | M | E | N | 0 |
| s | E | C | R | E | Т | M | 1 | R | E | R | | s | E | R | A | L | | м | Т | N |
| | | | 0 | D | E | | Т | U | N | E | D | | | | N | A | В | | | |
| c | A | R | N | E | L | 1 | A | N | | c | R | A | м | | C | R | E | P | E | Υ |
| 0 | R | E | 0 | | L | 0 | т | | K | E | Υ | N | 0 | Т | E | D | R | E | S | s |
| R | E | A | M | | A | т | E | | 0 | D | E | S | S | A | | E | R | A | S | E |
| м | A | R | E | | R | A | D | | Α | E | R | A | т | E | | R | A | т | E | R |

LADDERGRAM page 164

| Α | 1. DANIEL | 2. LINED | 3. LEND | 1 |
|---|---------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| Р | 4. PRICED | 5. CIDER | 6. DIRE | С |
| Р | 7. PASTEL | 8. STEAL | 9. SALT | Ε |
| L | 10. RELIC | 11. RICE | 12. IRE | С |
| Е | 13. PIERRE | 14. RIPER | 15. PIER | R |
| Р | 16-POWDER | 17. ROWED | 18. WORD | Ε |
| 1 | 19. LIABLE | 20. LABEL | 21. BELL | Α |
| Е | STREAM | SMART | TSAR | М |

SUDOKU page 164

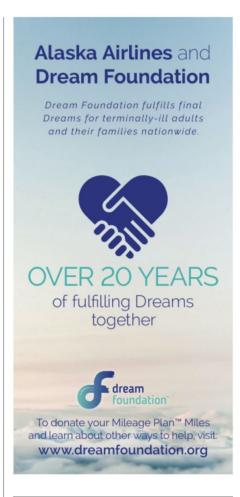
| 6 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 3 |
| 3 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| 8 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 7 |
| 9 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 1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

CARD SENSE page 164

The top card is not the spade (clue 1) or a heart or the diamond (clue 3), so it is the 10 of clubs. The bottom card is not the spade (clue 1) or a heart (clue 2); it is the ace of diamonds. By clue 1, then, the five of hearts is second from the top, the jack of spades is third, and the queen of hearts is fourth. In summary, from top to bottom: 10 of clubs, five of hearts, jack of spades, queen of hearts, ace of diamonds.

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