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## 'WITHOUT A RIDE, HE'D BE GONE'

**Mike "G-Ride" Griffith** knows how to make an entrance. In 2016, the **Chico News & Review** hosted the **Keep Chico Weird Talent Show** at the **El Rey Theater**, and as a local icon (seriously, he has a plaque to prove it!) the much-loved pedicab driver with the mild-mannered dog ("Little G") and the ridiculously loud stereo system was asked to be one of the celebrity judges. As he was announced at the beginning of the show, Griffith rode the pedicab into the theater, music blaring, fist pumping and with his fellow judges in tow. Totally epic!



G-Ride

Griffith's since gone on to be voted **Best Local Personality** four years in a row in the CN&R's Best of Chico readers' poll, and this week he gets to add another item to his stack of local cred: a documentary on his life. **G-Ride**, a 23-minute short-form feature on the man, will premiere at the **CARD Community Center** on Saturday (Nov. 16) at 5:30 p.m. as part of the three-day **Chico Independent Film Festival** (visit [chicoindie.com](http://chicoindie.com) and navigate the site for a list of films and schedule).

The film by documentary filmmaker **Keith Wakefield** (a former Chico resident) follows Griffith in his element as he gets Chico pumped with bone-rattling dance music while ferrying customers around town. The film also tells the story of his difficult background—foster care, homelessness, drug addiction—and how he got on a pedicab and pedaled his way into a sober life of working for himself and donating his free time to helping others. Both Griffith and Wakefield will be on hand for a Q&A. More info at [gridefilm.com](http://gridefilm.com)

**CAMP FIRE MUSIC** Several months ago, a bunch of songs written about the **Camp Fire** started showing up on-line, and the CN&R created a YouTube playlist ([tinyurl.com/AfterCampFire](http://tinyurl.com/AfterCampFire)) in an attempt to collect them in one place. In the months since, we've added a handful more recordings as they've hit the internet. There are now 13 on the main list, plus links to a few more (not on YouTube), and others are undoubtedly on the way. Please, drop us a note if you have something that should be added.



Michael Charvel

A couple of the recent additions include a pretty piano-driven plea to "**Stay Strong**" by **Chris Thompson** and his daughter **Makayla**, and the striking "**Paradise Is on Fire**," a Latin-flavored country song by **Michael Charvel**. The son of well-known custom guitar builder **Wayne Charvel** (who has made guitars for everyone from **Eddie Van Halen** to the dudes in **ZZ Top**), Michael and his father lost their homes and their guitar shop in the fire. The song starts with cellphone footage of Michael in the midst of the inferno telling his mom he loves her before cutting to the band performing in front of a backdrop of charred pines. "**Paradise Is on Fire**" has been released to raise money for **Magalia Community Church**. Visit [michaelcharvel.com](http://michaelcharvel.com) to purchase a CD, MP3 or ringtone.

**MUSIC TO SMOKE CLOVES IN A GRAVEYARD TO** Arts DEVO's under-the-radar pick of the week is Oakland dark, weirdo, deathrock trio **Moirá Scar** at the **1078 Gallery** this Saturday (Nov. 16). It's a **Chico Area Punks** jam that also includes a trio of local, dark gothy/punky crews—**Mercury's Butterfly**, **Shadow Figures**, **Desperate Hell**—on the bill. Get yer eyeliner and get there!



Moirá Scar

# NVCSS Diverse Minds 2019

## North State Journal Release Party

Wednesday, December 11

1pm – 3pm

Chico's Veterans Memorial Hall

554 Rio Lindo Avenue

*Appetizers and refreshments will be served.*

**Experience the creativity of the Iversen Center community.**

Celebrate the artists among us as we present the Diverse Minds North State Journal for 2019, comprised of items submitted by 50 artists and authors, who each are affected by mental health matters.



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