

Dancer

Julia Auzmendi is a founder of the Reno Tango Collective, which is holding a fundraising Tango Gala at Craft Wine and Beer, 22 Martin St., on Aug. 23 to raise money for a dance floor. The next weekend, the group will host dance lessons, also at Craft. Learn more at bit.ly/33GXKnw.

You and I have had the opportunity to discuss the beauty of tango a few times now over the years.

Yes, I'm so happy that we're growing and doing more things and bringing more dancers and doing more events. We're more involved with the city's arts and culture department—and also with Artown, which makes me happy because we're not only growing as a group, as Reno Tango Collective, but also growing in general with the community.

Tell me about this upcoming event. It's a fundraiser, and you're bringing in tango—

Dancers from Buenos Aires!

That's really cool.

Yes, I know. So, ever since we started doing our tango evenings at Craft, we loved the wine bar. We loved the atmosphere, and the people that work there are wonderful, the owner—everything. The only thing we were missing was a proper dance floor for the dancers to feel comfortable ... like a good, hardwood dance floor. We've been



PHOTO/JERI DAVIS

thinking about that for a year and a half, more or less. I was waiting until we had the opportunity to make a big party fundraiser to get people excited and enjoy it and have something in exchange for their participation and their donation. Just to make it a big social event—that was my goal. ... We now have the opportunity to bring this couple that's an amazing couple. They were part of the Argentine National Folkloric Ballet, which is like our most important dance company. Now they have their own company that is over, like, 30 dancers. ... The Tango Gala is Friday the 23rd at Craft. So, Alejandra Armenti and Daniel Juárez are the dancers, and their company is called Corporación Tangos. And for the gala we will have on the 23rd—it's from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.—we'll have a tango show, as seen in Buenos Aires. ... And

we're having a workshop the other weekend that they'll teach.

The weekend after?

The weekend of the 31st of August.

Is the first weekend just a tango show, or will there be a chance for people to dance?

There will be. Joseph Tatum, the cellist from the Reno Phil, with which we are composing tango—he will be playing live. That will be our first artist. And then Alejandra and Dani will be doing a tango show for everyone to watch. And then Fredy [Maldonado] and I will teach a *chacarera* lesson. *Chacarera* is a folkloric dance of Argentina. ... It's like a more festive, popular—kind of like a line dance, but it's something that rarely happens outside of Argentina.

Where is dance floor going to go?

The idea is that with this big party we'll raise the funds to buy a portable dance floor that will stay at Craft ... so we don't have to dance on the concrete floor of the back room. ... And Ty [Martin] is fine with that, and he's fine with storing it there. And then we will have raffles, too. We'll give away CDs and other prizes. ... Our most traditional beverage apart from Malbec wine is vermouth. ... And on my last trip to Buenos Aires in July, I brought back one suitcase with 12 bottles of Argentine vermouth, so we will do Argentine cocktails. And Ty will have some Argentine wine. □

NOTES FROM THE NEON BABYLON

BY BRUCE VAN DYKE

Hidden treasures

A funny thing happened on my way to vacation in Utah. I got kidnapped by Eastern Nevada.

In late July, I hit the highway (Highway 50, to be precise) with trailer trailing (a modest 16-footer), heading for some nice places in Utah. After nine hours of driving, I found myself at that scenic Nevada crossroads where Highways 6, 50 and 93 connect, out in the High Desert about halfway between Ely and Great Basin National Park, at a roadhouse called Major's Place. It's there where the traveler has a choice—go east on 50, to GBNP and beyond to Utah, or take a right and drive south on 93 to go to Utah via Panaca. I hung there at Major's and mulled. I consulted with mighty Wheeler Peak, easily Nevada's greatest bump, looming nearby. Then, I turned right. And that has made all the difference.

OK, not to get all Frosty on you, but by turning on to 93

South, I made it possible to, in the end, never leave Nevada, due to the fact that the state parks I encountered in Lincoln County turned out to be top notch. Nicely upgraded, handsome, comfy and pretty much *empty*. It struck me that Utah A-list parks like Arches and Bryce Canyon were *not* going to be empty. Not by a long shot. But these parks in Lincoln County are totally overlooked and unknown.

Cathedral Gorge State Park is a knockout little place. We have two parks that are Utah-esque—Valley of Fire and this one, which is its own strange, fascinating erosion goblin playground. The hills are dripping with unique coolness, and the campground is totally wonderful. Nevada has done some very nice upgrading of many of its state park facilities, and color me impressed. CGSP sports a real beauty, with hookups, water, shade

structures, showers and even wi-fi. Well done!

Echo Canyon State Park is another good one. Two different campgrounds in this park, one for tents and the other for RVs, and both were truly impressive in terms of layout and quality. As for the park, it's basically a fishing-based reservoir in a very scenic spot, and it's pretty and mellow and devoid of humans, an unbeatable combo. A lovely place to hang out, make tacos, drink wine, dig the clouds, take siestas, read, breathe and think. I put up two hummingbird feeders, and they were *smokin'* with hummers in a matter of minutes.

Spring Valley State Park—I'm out of room. But Spring Valley was totally dandy, too! Bottom line, Lincoln County is loaded with quality parks that are way under the radar. No need for flyin' to Zion! □



WARNING:

QUITTING SMOKING NOW
GREATLY REDUCES SERIOUS RISK
TO YOUR HEALTH.

CIGARETTES PREMIUM BRANDS

Marlboro Red	\$6.44 pack	\$63.44 carton
Camel Box/99s	\$6.36 pack	\$62.59 carton
Winston	\$5.91 pack	\$58.14 carton
American Spirit	\$7.40 pack	\$73.04 carton
Nat Sherman	\$8.77 pack	\$43.45 carton

CIGARETTES VALUE BRANDS

L. Ducat	\$3.91 pack	\$38.10 carton
Eagle 20	\$4.01 pack	\$39.10 carton
Silver Cloud	\$4.04 pack	\$39.39 carton
King Mountain	\$4.38 pack	\$42.83 carton

Smokeless Tobacco

Copenhagen	\$5.24 can	\$24.62 roll
Skool	\$5.14 can	\$24.12 roll
Grizzly Wintergreen	\$3.86 can	\$17.74 roll
General Snus	\$5.28 can	\$24.59 roll

Alternative Products

Zyn	\$4.11 can	\$18.09 roll
Vuse Vibe	\$19.95 device	\$9.99 refill cartridge
My Blu	\$19.95 device	\$8.99 refill cartridge
Juul	\$33.49 device	\$13.99 4 pk pods

VAPOR PRODUCTS & DEVICES

Salty Man / Revolve / Suorin / Omni / Voodoo

CBD PRODUCTS

CBD Vapor Liquids / Tinctures / Assorted Products



Reno: 90 Auto Center Dr. 852-4010
Behind Mercedes Benz of Reno

Reno: 2001 E. 2nd St. 329-0275

Reno: 901 Golden Ln. 329-6299

Sparks: 1962 Pyramid Way 353-2140

Verdi: 1-80, Exit 2 345-2620

Spanish Springs: **NEW LOCATION!**
7655 Pyramid Way 424-4165

We strictly enforce no sales to minors.

Ask about our **Low-Price Guarantee.**

Prices subject to manufacturer change without notice.