

THE SALEM NEWS

tvspotlight

Your Weekly Guide to TV Entertainment for the week of September 1 - 7, 2018



Revved up

Emilio Rivera in "Mayans M.C."

Fresh out of state prison, Ezekiel "EZ" Reyes (JD Pardo, "Twilight: Breaking Dawn — Part 2," 2012) sets his sights on being initiated into the Mayans Motorcycle Club. A long road lies ahead as he begins to climb the success ladder in a world of drug smuggling and gang violence, and navigates his own personal need for vengeance and his dangerous desire for an old flame, Emily (Sarah Bolger, "The Tudors"), in "Mayans M.C.," premiering Tuesday, Sept. 4, on FX.

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Driving into the action: 'Sons of Anarchy' universe revived with new spinoff

By Joy Doonan
TV Media

Fans of the wildly popular FX production "Sons of Anarchy," which premiered in 2008, have deeply felt the show's absence since it ended in 2015. It was one of the network's most successful series to date, pulling fans in with its gritty premise — it followed the internal politics of an arms-dealing biker gang in the fictional town of Charming, California — and making them stay with its surprisingly enduring human stories. Now, the show's much-anticipated spinoff, "Mayans M.C.," will revive this rich fictional world when it premieres Tuesday, Sept. 4, on FX.

The new series, featuring a fresh batch of characters, exists within the same universe as its predecessor but tells a completely new and independent story, creator Kurt Sutter revealed at a Television Critics Association press tour. Fans who are hungry for a crossover won't be disappointed, however, as Sutter also revealed there will be cameos from familiar faces and flashbacks that clearly establish the two mythologies as part of the same world.

Notably, Emilio Rivera, who plays Marcus Alvarez, leader of a rival gang to the titular Sons of Anarchy, will be a recurring presence in "Mayans M.C." In an interview with Entertainment Tonight at Comic Con 2018, "Mayans" cast members agreed that Rivera's character "is the glue that cements the Sons of Anarchy with the Mayans." Adding to the fanfare, Sutter also teased that the premiere of "Mayans M.C." would feature an appearance from "Sons of Anarchy" character Gemma Teller Morrow (Katey Sagal, "Married... with Children"), whose reputation as a ruthless gang matriarch made her both a loved and hated fan favorite.

Sarah Bolger ("The Tudors") is a new face, infusing the plot with some scintillating drama as the high-profile wife of a cartel boss, as well as a love interest to protagonist Ezekiel "EZ" Reyes (JD Pardo, "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 2," 2012). As the series opens, EZ, a young Chicano man, is a new prospect looking to join the Mayans Motorcycle Club. Flashbacks reveal that he was once a successful student looking forward to a promising future, but his vision for the road

ahead was torn away from him by cartel violence on the California-Mexico border.

Having lost his former potential, he now seeks revenge, redemption and the respect of his childhood sweetheart, Emily (Bolger), by way of becoming a full-fledged Mayan, smuggling heroin for the Galdino cartel from the cover of his family's butcher shop business. EZ faces the pressure of family legacy to boot, as his older brother is already a prized member of the Mayans at the show's outset.

The "Sons of Anarchy" storyline ended with the death of Jax Teller, the Sons' leader whose character arch was defined by his gradual descent into ruthless violence and loss of a moral compass. While this plot has been laid

to rest, EZ's beginnings as a naive young man on the brink of darkness gives fans a fresh context to invest in the same themes of redemption and loss of humanity that they loved in the original series.

In the season 1 trailer recently released by FX, EZ's father, Felipe Reyes (Edward James Olmos, "Battlestar Gallactica"), is seen in the butcher shop, bathed in shadow and removing a gun from its case. "You're in this now, son," he then says to EZ, "there's no getting out." Viewers can expect Pardo to take on this challenge with the same fervor as his eager-to-please character. On a Comic Con panel, he regaled the audience with how he convinced Sutter to cast him for the lead role by pitching his passion. "How about

you give me 45 minutes, I'll go outside, I'll memorize these lines and just kick some [butt]," he recalled telling Sutter, according to CinemaBlend.

In an interview with Deadline, Sutter also explained that the new mythology and characters provide an important opportunity for "Mayans M.C." to exist in a context of political relevance. "Trump's been elected and all this stuff with the border is going on," he said. "There are these [...] vigilante groups on this side that have felt empowered to go hunting immigrants jumping the wall. So we have a whole episode about this group of [...] yahoos that are going out and picking people off hopping the fence." He also noted that, as a tongue-in-cheek nod to the current racial

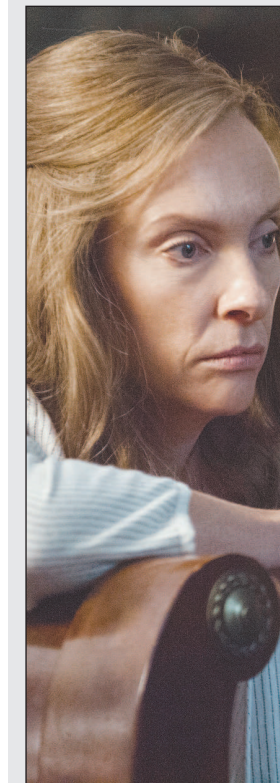
crises at the border, the message that characters are seen stamping on packages of smuggled heroin translates to "tiny hands." With this in mind, viewers can be sure to expect that "Mayans M.C." will step up to the challenge of not just reproducing the testosterone-fueled action of its predecessor, but also grappling with more complex and hard-hitting undertones.

While "Sons of Anarchy" is a thing of the past, show creators have expanded the fictional universe, giving fans a fresh perspective to explore. The cast of the new "Sons" spinoff, "Mayans M.C." is pumped to delve into the action and intrigue of the new story. Watch the premiere episode when it airs Tuesday, Sept. 4, on FX.



Sarah Bolger stars in "Mayans M.C."

Video releases



Toni Collette in "Hereditary"

Hereditary

Artist Annie (Collette) fears that her family's history of mental illness has caught up with her when she begins catching glimpses of her recently deceased mother in her workshop. After another horrific tragedy strikes her family, she joins a support group where she's befriended by another woman, who advises Annie to perform a seance to make contact with her dead loved ones. As Annie continues to descend into the madness of grief, she becomes increasingly haunted by her family's long-buried and dark secrets, pulling her husband and child along with her on a journey that blurs the line between what is real and what is madness. *Director: Ari Aster. Stars: Toni Collette, Gabriel Byrne, Alex Wolff, Milly Shapiro, Ann Dowd. 2018. 127 min. Horror.*

Continued on page 16

Ganging up

Philadelphia's worst return for a 13th season

By Andrew Warren
TV Media

Ganging up: If The Gang's antics are any indication, the City of Brotherly Love is anything but. If you have friends like Charlie, Dennis, Dee, Mac and Frank, you definitely don't need enemies — The Gang is already enough to handle.

"It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" returns for a whopping 13th season on Wednesday, Sept. 5, on FXX, with more over-the-top antics and more of Dennis (Glenn Howerton, "A.P. Bio") than fans had been anticipating. The series follows a group of egotistical and debauched friends as they get themselves into all sorts of wild and crazy situations that more often than not involve violence, sex or something highly illegal, usually somehow involving the decrepit Irish pub that they run together.

Just how much Dennis would be seen this season was up in the air after he headed to North Dakota at the end of last season to take on his new role as a father, a move that coincided with actor Howerton splitting time with his new leading role in NBC's "A.P. Bio." With that comedy renewed for a second season, it came as something of a surprise when it

was confirmed that he'll be appearing in the majority of this season's episodes.

Of course, just how much we'll be seeing him in those episodes remains to be seen. Charlie (Charlie Day, "Pacific Rim: Uprising," 2018), Dee (Kaitlin Olson, "The Mick"), Mac (Rob McElhenney, "Wonder Boys," 2000) and Frank (Danny DeVito, "Taxi") aren't going anywhere, with a 14th season already on order, which will tie "Sunny" with "The Adventures of Ozzie and Harriet" as America's longest-running live-action sitcom in history.

That's an incredible accomplishment — not bad for a group of self-centered underachievers. The next great season of "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" premieres Wednesday, Sept. 5, on FXX.

Murder in Missouri: Chris Rock is headed to Kansas City. The acclaimed comedian and actor has been cast in the fourth season of FX's "Fargo," which is planned to air sometime in 2019 with a new cast, a new setting and a whole new story.

Of course, as an anthology series, changing pretty much everything from season to season is nothing unusual. For "Fargo," there's some cross-over between seasons, but with decades and state lines separating their stories, each season is pretty self-contained.

For the fourth season, the former "Saturday Night Live" cast member and "Everybody Hates Chris" creator will star as the head of a criminal syndicate based in 1950s Kansas City, Mo. After years of violent feuding, he and the head of a rival syndicate have built an uneasy peace — until the head of the city's mafia dies, and everything begins to fall apart.

Much like the acclaimed 1996 film "Fargo" that inspired the series, each season features smaller acts of crime that quickly escalate as the perpetrators find themselves in way over their heads. It's black comedy at its finest, and with its anthology format, newcomers can easily start with any season of the TV series.

There's no word yet on further casting for the next season, but filming is scheduled to begin production in early 2019 with a planned airing late in the year on FX.

Talk 'Idol': Kelly Clarkson is "talking" about staging a return to television. She's already signed on to be a coach in the upcoming season of "The Voice," premiering Monday, Sept. 24, on NBC, but her small-screen ambitions go beyond that: she also has a syndicated talk show in the works.

Of course, the big news a few months ago was about the "American Idol" winner signing on to "The Voice," but landing a new talk show would even further cement Clarkson as a cultural icon. A pilot was recently filmed at NBC Universal Studios, with an an-

icipated premiere in the fall of 2019.

Ever since she achieved instant stardom by winning "Idol's" inaugural season in 2002, Clarkson has released eight albums that have sold more than 25 million combined copies around the world. She has three Grammys, four American Music Awards, two Academy of Country Music Awards and three MTV Video Music Awards under her belt, and she's appeared in movies and written books for children — not bad for someone who started out as a reality TV show winner.

Clarkson isn't the only celebrity currently looking at getting into the talk show market, with RuPaul ("RuPaul's Drag Race") also developing a talker. With the likes of Ellen DeGeneres ("Ellen"), Rachael Ray ("Rachael Ray") and Steve Harvey ("Steve") already dominating daytime airwaves, it's a competitive but potentially lucrative market for a newcomer who brings a built-in fanbase.

Luckily, fans are something that Kelly Clarkson has plenty of. Her potential talk show is still in the early stages of production, with a potential premiere in the fall of 2019.

Kaitlin Olson, Charlie Day and Danny DeVito as seen in "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia"

Q&A

Hollywood

By Adam Thomlison
TV Media

Q: What happens on game shows, such as "Let's Make a Deal," if someone wins something like a spa or hot tub and they live in an apartment? Does the contestant get something else or are they stuck with the item?

A: Past game show contestants always talk about the complicated paperwork involved in being on the show, and one of the key elements of that paperwork is that you win exactly what they said you won on air — unless the show chooses to switch it.

Many of the prizes are given to the show by the manufacturers or service providers as a way to promote themselves. For example, a tour company will give travel tickets to a show as a prize to give away. If a contestant wins them but chooses not to go, the show isn't going to offer a different prize because then it's still stuck with the tickets. And it won't give cash value, because the cash would be coming out of the show's own pocket.

That said, if a prize isn't one given to the show ahead of time, the show will sometimes give "cash in lieu," cutting a check for the prize value instead of going out and purchasing it on the winner's behalf.

This happened to game show veteran Josh Woo, who, incredibly, has competed on "Jeopardy," "The Price Is Right," "Wheel of Fortune" and "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

"I wasn't given the option to receive the actual prize instead, and I couldn't trade one of the other prizes I won for their cash value, either," he said.

Basically, the show will do what's best and cheapest for itself.

Another former winner, Aurora De Lucia (who has competed on both "The Price Is Right" and "Let's Make a Deal"), points out that you don't have to take everything you've won — forfeiting is an option. And often it looks like a good option once the tax bill arrives, because everything you win is taxable as income.

Q: Where did Rosie O'Donnell get her start?

A: For the past several years, Rosie O'Donnell has been living the dream of so many of her co-competitors on the classic talent-competition show "Star Search." Her TV debut was as a standup comedian in an episode of the show in 1984, but she won that episode and so returned — five more times.

Her official biography says she used her "Star Search" winnings to move from her native New York to Los Angeles to pursue acting. And the plan worked: shortly after arriving, she landed a recurring role in the sitcom "Gimme a Break" in 1986 (her addition was an attempt to freshen up the show in what would be its final season).

After it ended, she landed a gig as a VJ on the VH1 music channel. She held that until the point when VH1 — ahead of its time — moved away from just playing videos and toward longer-form programming. They gave her her own show — one that played to her strengths called "Stand-Up Spotlight" — which she hosted for four years.

Her next big role was really her breakout one, as wisecracking third basewoman Doris Murphy in the 1992 baseball classic "A League of Their Own."

Q: Is it true they're making a "When Calls the Heart" spinoff?

A: It is true. The show's working title is "When Hope Calls," and it's slated to premiere sometime in 2019.

In announcing the show, Hallmark admitted that it's being made because the Hearties are basically insatiable.

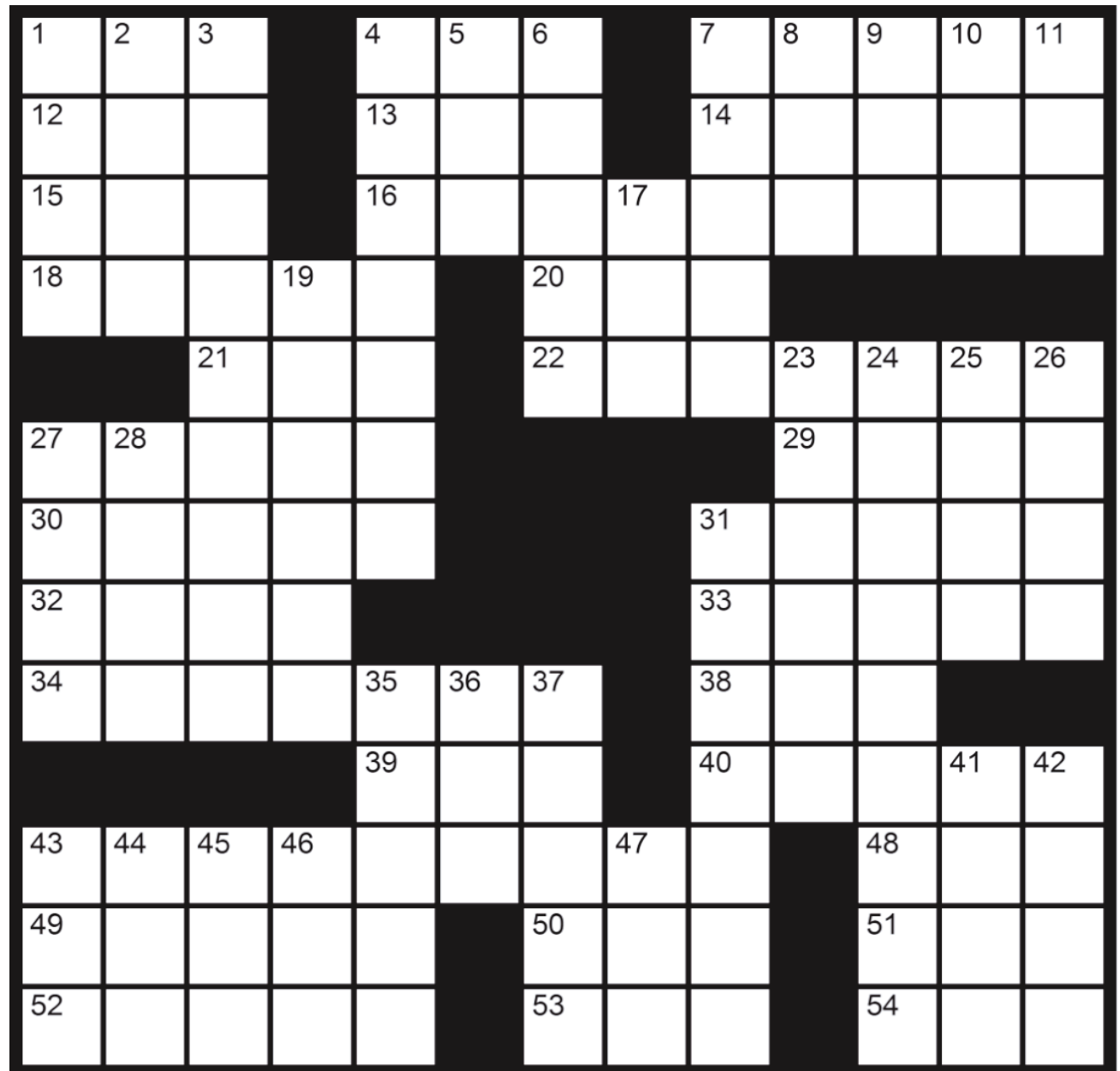
"Hearties" is the name fans of the show have given themselves, and Crown Media Family Networks are aware of their presence and their dedication. (For example, a #HeartieArt section of the show's website showcases original artwork of the show's characters, submitted by viewers.)

"When Calls the Heart" has developed a passionate community of loyal viewers, and we wanted to serve their increased appetite by developing a spinoff series that we know will evolve into another beloved classic," Crown Media exec Michelle Vicary said.

Have a question? Email us at questions@tvtabloid.com. Please include your name and town. Personal replies will not be provided.



television
Crossword



- ACROSS**
- 1 Upcoming Dick Wolf drama
- 4 More, in music
- 7 Oscar-winning 2017 film "The Shape of ____"
- 12 Suffix with president
- 13 Solo
- 14 Glyph prefix
- 15 The Braves, on scoreboards
- 16 Upcoming NBC drama "New ____"
- 18 Snicker
- 20 Enzyme suffix
- 21 Best guess: Abbr.
- 22 Late "Star Trek" (2009) actor Anton
- 27 "Peachy!"
- 29 Greet the day
- 30 "King of the Hill" setting
- 31 Stacked
- 32 Angler's hope
- 33 "Rizzoli & ____"
- 34 "Unbreakable Kimmy ____"
- 38 Gambling inits.
- 39 "The Crying Game's" (1992) Oscar-nominated lead Stephen ____
- 40 It may be white
- 43 Upcoming ABC drama
- 48 Young fellow
- 49 Safe place
- 50 First family member
- 51 Bigger than med.
- 52 Dutch exports
- 53 Neighbor of Isr.
- 54 Strong desire
- DOWN**
- 1 Italian automaker
- 2 Diminish, as one's breath
- 3 Sickly
- 4 Open horse-drawn carriage
- 5 Dr. Seuss's Sam ____
- 6 Take back
- 7 "____ of Fortune"
- 8 Put on TV
- 9 "The Good Place" star Danson
- 10 Time piece

- 11 CD follower
- 17 China's Lao-____
- 19 Regard highly
- 23 "The Count of Monte ____"
- 24 Beverly Hills transplant in a
- classical sitcom
- 25 Under-standing words
- 26 Flanders and Stark
- 27 Catches in the act
- 28 Guitarist Clapton
- 31 Settler
- 35 Best Actor of 1990
- 36 In excelsis
- 37 Movie shots
- 41 Wise one
- 42 Home to 50 Across,
- originally
- 43 Not just any
- 44 Scammed
- 45 "Desperate Housewives" star Longoria
- 46 Sleep stage
- 47 Creeping vine

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Continued from page 2

Adrift

After falling head over heels in love with each other, Richard (Clafin) and Tami (Woodley) set out on an ambitious ocean voyage from Tahiti to San Diego aboard a beautiful yacht, but tragedy strikes when they sail directly into a destructive hurricane and Tami is knocked unconscious. When she comes to hours later, she finds the boat destroyed and Richard missing, leaving her adrift in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with no hope of rescue. With only the waves to keep her company, canned food to keep her from starving and a sextant to guide her, she builds a makeshift sail and becomes determined to survive. Based on true events.

Director: Baltasar Kormákur.
Stars: Shailene Woodley, Sam Claflin. 2018. 96 min. Action.

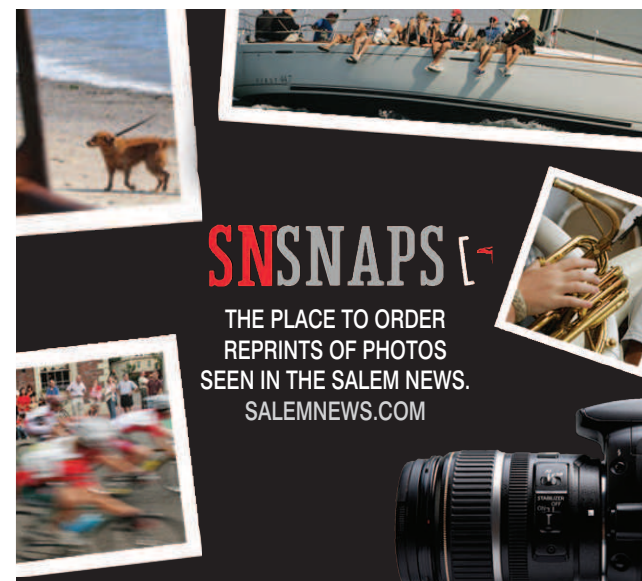
Real talk

By Sarah Passingham
TV Media

Rehabbing Paradise: David and Chenoa Rivera dive into yet another dilapidated property in the newest episode of renovation series "Rustic Rehab," airing Thursday, Sept. 6, on HGTV. The couple have been tackling big renovations in the Northern California mountain town of Paradise, Chenoa's hometown, since 2012. They flipped and transformed a whopping 20 homes in 2017 alone, with plans to finish 25 in 2018.

Being locals is an advantage, as they are always prepared to deal with the small-town prob-

lems that arise on most properties. The vacation town of Paradise is one of the largest municipalities in the United States without a sewer system, so the Riveras have become experts in septic tank repair. On the sunnier side, another common trait among the homes in the area is incredible original design features of its cabin-style, ranch-style and craftsman homes. Vaulted ceilings, exposed beams and wood-burning stoves and fireplaces get some modern updates from design enthusiast Chenoa to become stunning focal points of their completed homes. Each of their properties gets a different spin on the Riveras' rustic design sense. As



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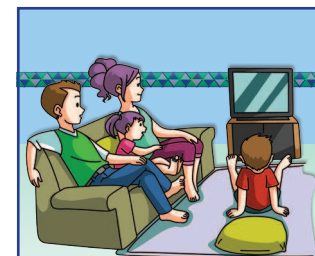
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Solution on page 3.

Chenoa told the Los Angeles Times, she will "gear the design to the originality of the house — from modern to farmhouse."

The Riveras began their renovation journey by creating their perfect family home, in which they still live today with their four children. Real estate investor David and real estate agent Chenoa committed full-time to flipping houses after a successful run of transforming foreclosed Paradise homes into attractive rental properties.

Though the Riveras and many other families call Paradise home year-round, they know their market well. David shared with the Los Angeles Times that residents of California's Bay Area populate the town's rental market for its lake and mountain views and four seasons, and that "people in Napa and Sacramento have second homes [there]."

Take a trip to Paradise in a new episode of "Rustic Rehab" on Thursday, Sept. 6, on HGTV.



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