

THE MENIFEE XPERIENCE

MAY 2026

COMEDY CLUB OPENS
INSIDE GREY IRON
BREWERY

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN MENIFEE

Discover the best shopping,
dining, and entertainment in
our growing city.

Photo credit: Michiyo Brewer @visualimpactphotographer



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SCAN ME

ABOUT US

Heather Lipson is a local journalist, podcast host, and writer who founded the MenifeeXp Magazine.



701-526-6306



www.menifeeXp.com

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

MAY 2026

The Movement Behind The Menifee Xperience *

The *MenifeeXp Magazine is a community-driven lifestyle magazine that shares real stories about the people, places, and progress shaping Menifee. Built on authenticity and connection, it celebrates local pride, strengthens community bonds, and gives residents a trusted voice that lives close to home.



MenifeeXp is the only lifestyle magazine publication that records and shares authentic stories for residents in Menifee. I aim to spotlight local experiences and bring our community together in a time where fast city growth risks leaving its people behind. My goal is to create a connected and thriving Menifee where every story, business, and resident contributes to a shared legacy of pride, growth, and community spirit.

I invite you to follow along as I explore, document, and celebrate life in Menifee while building connection through storytelling, partnerships, and community engagement that will grow into a lasting legacy for Menifee and its people. Want to know more? Visit menifeexp.com to discover a whole world waiting right outside your front door.

“I’m not just telling stories, but helping people fall in love with where they live.”

Heather Lipson Editor-in-Chief



@menifeeXP





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NEW BIZ IN TOWN

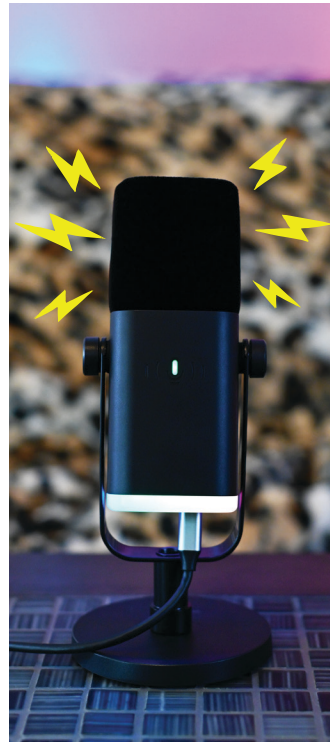
The Mat is reimagining the laundromat experience in Menifee. With a cozy coffee bar, spotless upscale space, large-capacity machines, and convenient fluff-and-fold service, it's quickly becoming a standout local hangout.



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TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN MENIFEE

Menifee's popularity comes from its mix of small-town roots, rapid growth, and local experiences. From hiking and food truck nights to breweries, pickleball, and hidden-gem restaurants, there's more to this growing city than meets the eye.



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PODCAST EPISODE

Menifee's Grime Reapers are bringing bold branding and local pride to exterior cleaning. Founded by lifelong friends Brock and Brett, the company offers everything from pressure washing to junk hauling while building a reputation rooted in community.



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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Celebrate graduation with personalized senior portraits in Menifee. Michiyo Brewer of Visual Impact Photography helps families capture this milestone with experience, artistry, and a local touch.



MAY EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

01

FOODIE FRIDAY

MSJC Campus | 28237 La Piedra Rd
Friday, May 1st from 5:00 - 9:00 PM

02

SENIOR WELLNESS FAIR

Sun City Civic Center | 26850 Sun City Blvd
Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

08

MENIFEE ART-A-FAIR

Kay Cenicerros Senior Center | 29995 Evans Rd
Friday, May 8th from 5:30 - 8:00 PM

08

LIVE MUSIC & DINNER (LIVE JAM)

Center for Spiritual Living | 2605 Murrieta Rd.
Friday, May 8th from 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM

22

ADAPTIVE SPORTS FAIR

Remington Park - 27101 Junipero Rd
Friday, May 22nd from 7:00 - 10:00 PM

25

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Hidden Hills Park | 31727 Eaton Ln.
Monday, May 25th from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

29

MOVIE IN THE PARK | CARS

Banner Village Park | 29469 Falcon Hill Dr.
Friday, May 29th from 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM



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MONTH
LONG TO
SEE EVENT
UPDATES

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SCAN ME

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A FRESH SPIN ON LAUNDRY & LOCAL COFFEE

The Mat Menifee

The Laundromat Reimagined

Ever wondered what it would be like to visit a laundry lounge with amazing coffee? This past weekend, I got the opportunity to step into Menifee’s newest community hangout, The Mat, and it didn’t disappoint. Keep reading to discover my in-depth review of the new local business that’s bringing national attention to the City of Menifee, California.

The Mat Menifee | Laundry Lounge & Coffee Bar

The Mat is a brand-new business in the City of Menifee, California, and it’s grabbing the attention of residents across the United States.

The Mat is a brand-new business in the City of Menifee, California, and it’s grabbing the attention of residents across

the United States. Owner, Jessica, and her Daughters, Cadence and Samantha, have created something truly unique and highly desired in our City, and we have welcomed them with open arms!

Can Coffee at a Laundry Lounge Be Good?

When I first stepped up to the coffee bar, I was immediately greeted by a friendly face asking me if I had been there before. I told the barista that it was my first visit and asked her what she thinks is the most popular drink they sell. She recommended a sweet, iced coffee called “The Coconut Cold Spin.”

My drink was ready within minutes, and as soon as they handed it to me, I knew I was going to enjoy it. I sat down on the community sofa and enjoyed my iced coffee; it



tasted like coffee, coconut, and chocolate, a delicious combination. I brought a friend along, and she got an Americano and was raving about how bold the flavor was.

I didn't stop there; I decided to host a networking event at The Mat a few weeks later, and everyone who got coffee gave me great feedback on all different types of drinks. So, I think it's safe to say that the coffee is exceptional. I personally am not a huge fan of Starbucks, and I love to frequent the local shops; this one is now my new favorite when I am in the area.



Large Capacity Machines and Holistic Detergents Available

This laundromat is very large and offers a wide selection of machines in various sizes for guests. When I was there, I believe I counted over 50 washers/dryers available for guests to use, including extra-large capacity for those bulky items or heavy loads. Along with this, The Mat is committed to providing holistic products and ingredients. Meaning you can enjoy

the fact that this business is promoting sustainable, thoughtfully sourced products for its facility.

Fluff and Fold Service

Another great idea behind this business is that you can drop off your items at The Mat and they will take care of it for you! This means you can grab a cup of coffee and be on your way to run other errands while your biggest chore is getting done without having to wait around at the laundromat all day. The turnaround times include regular pricing for 24 hours, and a little extra if you want it back in just 4 hours.

Upscale, Clean, and Cozy

Last but not least, this laundromat and coffee bar is squeaky clean. In fact, in all my life I've never seen a laundry facility as clean as this one is. The fact that there is no dust or detergent spills is amazing, and each time I come in, they have added something new to the experience.

I love the furniture, it's welcoming and comfortable, making you want to sit and relax. There is also outdoor seating available for those nice sunny days when you want to sit outside and get some fresh California air.

Interested in Visiting The Mat in Menifee, California?

The Mat is located at 27701 Scott Rd, Bldg D, Suite 105, Menifee, CA 92584. It's right off the freeway next to the Tesla Charging Station on Scott Rd.





Speakeasy Style Comedy Club Opens in Menifee, CA

I felt as though I was let in on a city secret when I walked into the Grey Iron Brewery on the night of the grand opening of the new comedy house in Menifee. I made my way up each step of the back staircase until I came to this dark, private room that sits directly above the brewery.

“This new business is poised to change how I spend my weekends,” I thought to myself as I grabbed a glass



of the Grey Iron signature stout and a seat with a good view of the stage. Sitting through back-to-back shows, I admired the roaring laughter and excitement of seeing a live comedy show for the first time in my adult life. It’s the kind of entertainment that feels like it belongs in a major metropolitan downtown, yet it’s right here in our backyard on New Hub Drive.

The venue strikes a balance between industrial cool and a community hotspot. Because it is a separate, enclosed space from the main taproom downstairs, it solves the biggest problem with brewery comedy shows: noise. There is no clinking of glasses from the bar or chatter from people watching sports. When you are “Above the Iron,” the focus is entirely on the stage.

There is always a nervous energy at a grand opening. Will the jokes land? Will the equipment work? Will the vibe be right? Those questions were

answered almost immediately. There was a relaxed, buzzing-with-anticipation atmosphere, the room was packed with locals eager to laugh, and the talent delivered.

Driving home at 11:45 PM, I found myself reflecting on what this grand opening represents for Menifee. A comedy club is just a room with a microphone, but for our growing city, it signifies maturity. It means we are building spaces where culture, community, and commerce intersect.

Whether you need a break from the kids, a place to take a date, or just a good laugh after a hard week, Above the Iron Comedy Club is the perfect place to destress and enjoy getting out of your normal routines. Grey Iron Brewing Co. and Above The Iron Comedy have both forged something special right here in Menifee. So, support local, grab a ticket, order a pint, and get ready to laugh. Menifee finally has the stage it deserves.

TOP 10 THINGS TO DO IN MENIFEE, CA



Why is Menifee so popular?

If you've driven down Newport Road lately, you know the secret is out. "Menifee is growing!" What used to be a quiet collection of rural communities, such as Sun City and Quail Valley, has transformed into a bustling city. But despite all the new developments and traffic lights, the heart of our community remains the same.

As a long-term resident, I've watched the landscape change from open fields to shopping centers, but I've also seen how our recreational scene has grown by leaps and bounds. If you're new to the area, you might be surprised to find out that there is actually plenty to do if you know where to look.

From community staples to new arrivals, here is my personal guide to enjoying what Menifee has to offer.

1. Recreational Hiking

If you're willing to brave a steep, rocky climb, we have the Menifee Cross Hike that's perfect for a warm, sunny day.



2. Food Truck Festivals

Running from March through October on the first Friday of the month, you can expect a lineup of gourmet food trucks, boutique vendors, and live entertainment at the MSJC parking lot.

3. BMXing at Gale Webb Action Sports Park

Named after the legendary “Kids-R-#1” advocate Gale Webb, this place is the largest of its kind in all of Southern California.

4. Trying Out Locally Owned Restaurants

Menifee has multiple hidden gems waiting to be discovered. One of my personal favorites is Melody Thai tucked inside the heart of Sun City.

5. Visit Prevail Health & Sports Recovery

Whether it’s cryotherapy, red light therapy, or a hot infrared sauna you’re looking for, Prevail has you covered.

6. Night Life at Grey Iron Brewing

From stand-up comedy to live wrestling shows, something is going on at Grey Iron every single night.

7. Grabbing some Robelle’s Cookies

If you have a sweet tooth, you can’t miss Robelle’s Cookies. This home-based cookie bakery is one-of-a-kind and will blow you away.

8. The Riding Academy

Despite the development, Menifee holds onto its rural roots. You will often see equestrian training going on at this local academy.

9. Painting Pottery

Select from premade and seasonal pottery at Painted Earth Pottery on Haun Rd in the Countryside Marketplace Shopping Center.

10. Play Pickleball

Menifee has public pickleball courts at La Ladera, Remington, and Quartz Ranch parks.

Bonus Pick! Classic Car Shows

See classic cars weekly on Saturday morning in the Stater Bros parking lot off Newport and Murrieta Roads.

Discover more at MenifeeXP.com

Menifee is more than what you see driving down Newport and Haun Roads. Here at MenifeeXp Magazine, I am sharing all the local shenanigans and providing my followers with exclusive discounts on the best entertainment and dining in our city. Sign up for email updates and follow me on social media to stay updated.





5 TIPS

Get Your Menifee Home Ready for Summer

If you want to keep your household running smoothly during the hottest months, a little preparation goes a long way. Use this simple summer home maintenance checklist to create a safe, comfortable, welcoming environment for your family.

1. Schedule a Cooling System Tune-Up
2. Power Wash Outdoor Living Spaces
3. Clean Windows and Inspect Screens
4. Get Carpets and Tile Steam Cleaned
5. Blast the Dust Out of Dryer Vents

Embracing the Summer Season!

As a Menifee resident myself, I truly love my home and want it to stay looking brand new all year long. Simple things like having our windows cleaned can make my living space feel completely different, and renew my appreciation for the place I call home.

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Meet the

GRIME REAPERS

Menifee's Exterior Cleaning Experts

Recently, I got the chance to sit down with Brock and Brett in my podcast studio and hear the story behind their new, exciting company. Every successful local business has an origin story, and the Grime Reapers are no exception. During our conversation, I heard the hilarious story of how Brock and Brett have been close friends for nearly their entire lives, and they've worked closely together in their professional careers, too.

These two friends decided to become business partners

when they discovered a shared passion for restoring home and business exteriors to like-new condition. The company's name itself tells you something about its approach. "Grime Reapers" isn't just clever wordplay, but it's

a mission statement.

"We don't want to be a fly-by-night company that you never hear from again; we want to be a household name," Brock told me as they explained their





goals for their up-and-coming business.

Something you'll remember them by is the bold, colorful branding they wrapped on their trucks. The cartoonish Grim Reaper with big pink lettering grabs attention and matches their bold, lively personalities.

What sets them apart is their local focus. The Grime Reapers discussed with me how proud they are to be active members of The Menifee Valley Chamber of Commerce. Brett also mentioned that when he's not working, he is a local volunteer coach for his son's basketball team.

The two of them strongly believe in building a reputation within the local community that gives back whenever possible. Unlike large franchise

operations that might service dozens of cities with a one-size-fits-all approach, the Grime Reapers understand Menifee and the Inland Empire's needs specifically.

One of the most interesting parts of our podcast conversation was learning about the full range of services the Grime Reapers offer. For homeowners and businesses, the Grime Reapers handle virtually every outdoor surface.

1. Pressure and power washing of garage doors, home exteriors, and concrete driveways
2. Window washing and screen cleaning of your entire home or business
3. Roof algae removal and solar panel cleaning

4. Trash cans and dumpster area cleanup and grease stain removal

5. Junk hauling for unwanted items

6. Graffiti removal

The Grime Reapers expressed genuine pride in serving Menifee. They see their work as contributing to the community's overall appearance and property values. When neighborhoods and commercial shopping centers look well-maintained, everyone benefits. I know the next time I need something cleaned around my home, I will be calling Brock and Brett with Grime Reapers.



COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT | Senior Portrait Photographer



In Menifee, she has developed an exceptional eye for beauty in every detail. Having this type of professional in our community means residents do not have to travel far to find top-tier talent. Michiyo understands the local landscape and the unique identity of our growing city, allowing her to craft images that resonate with the families who call Menifee home.

Every high school senior has a unique personality, and their graduation photos should reflect their individual journey. Visual Impact Photography offers highly flexible graduation sessions tailored to fit different needs and styles.

As graduation season approaches, calendars fill up quickly. Taking the time to schedule a senior portrait session is a wonderful way to honor your child’s achievements and celebrate your family’s journey here in Menifee. If you are ready to document this incredible milestone, consider reaching out to Michiyo Brewer at Visual Impact Photography to discuss your vision and secure your session date.

Michiyo Brewer | The Artist Behind Visual Impact Photography

Graduation marks a profound transition for local families. As high school seniors prepare to close one chapter and begin another, parents often find themselves pausing to reflect on how quickly the years have passed. How do we best preserve these fleeting moments before our teens step out into the wider world?

For many residents of Menifee, the answer lies in finding a local photographer who truly understands the community and the importance of this milestone. Michiyo Brewer, the artist behind Visual Impact Photography, has spent decades helping families freeze these pivotal memories in time. Through her lens, a simple senior portrait becomes a timeless piece of family history.

Michiyo Brewer brings over 36 years of expertise in capturing life’s precious moments. As a published photographer based right here



Visual Impact Photography

Phone: (909) 437-2924

Email: mbrewerphoto@aol.com

Instagram: @visualimpactphotographer










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MENIFEE RECOGNIZED IN THE TOP 20 SAFEST CITIES LIST IN CALIFORNIA

*The City of Menifee was recently listed as one of California's Top 20 safest cities for the **third consecutive year**.*

This year, we are climbing to spot number 17 in Safewise's rankings. These statistics are based on the latest FBI-reported violent and property crime data. Acting Mayor of Menifee, Bob Karwin, has publicly emphasized the city's commitment to public safety, highlighting investments in first responders and innovative programs.

Menifee's Police Department, established in 2020, has played a pivotal role in this recognition. Recent initiatives include the Drone as First Responder (DFR) program, enhancing situational awareness and safety, and the introduction of a Police Recruit position to foster long-term growth within the department. City Manager Armando G. Villa also noted the city's focus on quality-of-life improvements, such as parks, fire stations, and infrastructure, which contribute to a safe and thriving community.



Located at **26533 Craig Ave, Gale Webb Action Sports Park** has something for any BMX and biking enthusiast to enjoy. This park houses a 22,000 square foot pump track, making it one of my favorites of the 22 parks owned by the City of Meniffee.

A notable feature about this park is that, according to the City website, this park is “the largest bike park of its kind in Southern California.” BMXing athletes from all over Southern California come to visit this park often and perform incredible stunts for the public to watch. One of the best days to visit is the first Saturday of every month at the monthly dig sessions, where locals gather to keep the park looking good while also performing expertly crafted tricks.

This Meniffee attraction was named after Gale Webb, also known as “The Skateboarding Mom.” Gale was noted to be a free-spirited woman who made waves in the skateboarding community in the 60’s. She eventually ended up in the skateboarding hall of fame. Gale was known to be a strong supporter of kids and teens having access to be able to skateboard and BMX, she spent a

majority of her life working in communities with underprivileged kids and taking the time to tell them that they should always follow their dreams.

Gale Webb Action Sports Park is known for its popularity with the local BMX Biking crowd. Many residents come to see this beautiful park and practice or watch the exciting tricks being performed on the tracks. However, this park isn’t just for experienced BMX bikers. A short walk from the large pump tracks are some small ramps and a tunnel for kids to practice on. They are sure to get their cardio in with this exciting outdoor park. So pack some cold water, bring the bikes out, and enjoy this free Meniffee attraction with the whole family.





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