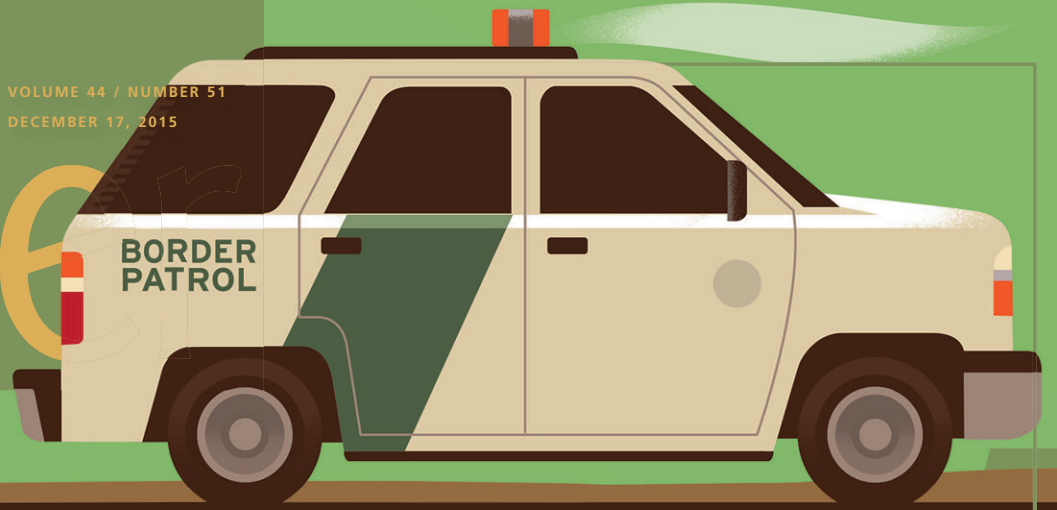


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DECEMBER 17, 2015



How El Chapo digs his tunnels



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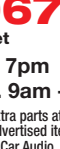
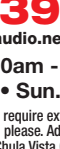
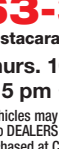
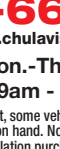
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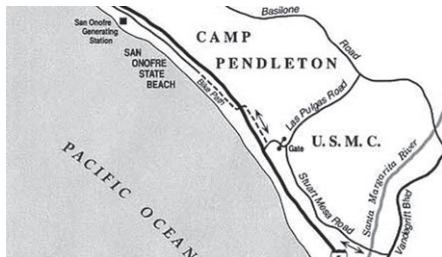
NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Camp Pendleton International Airport?

KPBS and U-T plug scheme for new travel hub

With the fate of the *Union-Tribune* still in limbo, Malin Burnham, who once aspired to take over the newspaper, and Irwin Jacobs, his longtime political comrade in-arms, have hatched yet another scheme.



No word back yet on what the Marines think about giving up 5000 acres of Camp Pendleton — which covers approximately 125,000 acres.

The word comes via KPBS, the public broadcasting operation run by San Diego State University and funded by Jacobs, the Qualcomm co-founder with a host of political causes.

“Cal State San Marcos will unveil research this week that examines the feasibility of building a new international airport on the Camp Pendleton Marine base,” according to the December 7 report.

“Well-known San Diego businessmen and philanthropists Irwin Jacobs and Malin Burnham support the research,” the story added, not noting the KPBS-Jacobs tie or saying how much the billionaire Democrat had come up with for the airport project.

A 2014 document posted online by San Marcos says that Qualcomm provided \$35,000 for the first phase of the two-year project, headed by Glen Brodowsky, a San Marcos marketing professor, but does not mention Jacobs.

“In no way does this replace, but rather augments the air-travel opportunities in the region,” Brodowsky was quoted by KPBS as saying.

“So they have direct flights to Asia, Latin America and Europe, in addition to wonderful connections within the U.S. from Lindbergh Field.”

The *Union-Tribune* — said to be a candidate for takeover by Los Angeles billionaire Eli Broad, another Jacobs friend and political ally — is also onboard with the plan.

“Someday, hopefully not too many years from now, sensible San Diegans will come to realize that the tiny, one-runway ‘international’ airport at Lindbergh Field is wholly inadequate and a significant obstacle to this region’s economic growth,” the paper declared in an October 31 editorial, add-

ing, “San Diego business leaders Malin Burnham and Irwin Jacobs have been quietly and patiently pushing the idea for several years.”

On December 7, the paper sounded off again.

“California State University, San Marcos, has produced two extensive studies the past two years concluding that it is not only feasible, but the best new airport option for Southern California,” said the U-T, adding, “San Diego business leaders Malin Burnham and Irwin Jacobs have been pushing the idea behind the scenes for several years.”

Previous San Diego mega-airport schemes, including ex-U-T publisher Douglas Manchester’s 1994 push for a move to what was then Miramar Naval Air Station and a similar 2006 effort both failed, but Burnham has not lost faith.

“The ballot issue for Miramar was to ask the military to vacate it and give it to the civilians — 100 percent,” KPBS quoted Burnham as saying. “We’re not asking the Marines to do that. We will be asking the Marine Corps eventually, to give up 5000 or 6000 acres on the very southwest corner of the base.”

Though most other observers aren’t as sanguine about the project’s fortunes as Burnham and Jacobs, the mere presence of the two wealthy media mavens could guarantee continued fawning coverage of the venture, as evidenced by the simultaneous U-T and KPBS coverage.

Matt Potter

Pacific to plate

Fishermen help craft new law for dockside markets

A group of local fishermen and others in the food industry gathered downtown on December 7 to celebrate the passage of a new state law aimed at helping establish dockside fish markets in California.



Patrons line up for the opening of Tuna Harbor Dockside Market on December 5

Dubbed the “Pacific to Plate” bill, AB 226 was sponsored by state Assembly speaker Toni Atkins. According to a release from the San Diego Food System Alliance,

continued on page 32

Tijuana is all about experimentation

The re-invention of Pasaje Rodriguez

By Chad Deal

When Luis Montijo came upon downtown Tijuana’s Pasaje Rodriguez, the arts and culture alleyway was losing steam.

“It wasn’t really going anywhere,” the 32-year-old Tijuana native recalls of his 2013 visit from Mexico City, where he spent two years working in the digital cinema industry. “It was slowing down. People were starting to avoid the *pasaje* because it was dirty, rowdy, and dark. What had started out as galleries turned into personal party spaces. It was not functional at all.”

Montijo returned to Mexico City and took a cultural management workshop where he became inspired by the potential of creative economy.

“All around the world in

2008 during the economic crisis, the only economy that kept growing was the creative industry — art, music,



Luis Montijo

food. So I applied that model to the *pasaje*.”

The former arcade of curio shops had been abandoned for nearly ten years before the late Max

Mejia, a cultural promoter and human-rights activist, talked to the owners and started Pasaje Rodriguez Arte y Diseño (which some call by the acronym PRAD) in 2010. Working alongside dead-space reactivation nonprofit Reactivando Espacios — which was also re-envisioning Pasaje Gomez across the street — the initiative lasted for about two years with a number of gal-

eries and boutiques coming and going along the way.

“After PRAD died down, the *pasaje* was in pretty bad shape,” Montijo continues. “It was dirty, kind of

Neal Obermeyer





PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WOO

Pasaje Rodriguez is now home to book shops, a microbrewery, a bike shop, vegan restaurant...

unsafe, no lights, no security, no clear direction. But it was already culturally oriented, and that was a huge advantage. Some credibility had been lost, so we had to drag people back here to see how things had changed. We had to build up confidence again. Even the government was talking badly, saying this is where artists went to push heroin, not sell art. So we started with the basics: cleaning up all the trash, kicking out some of the people that were hanging out here, filtering proposals to be something legitimate. At the time, there were hippies looking for a cheap place to hang out next to high-end galleries selling \$1000 paintings when most people would show up with 20 pesos in their pocket. So I started here working for free, trying to show that the *pasaje* could be sustainable without milking off of the owners."

Taking cues from the cultural movement in Mexico City, Montijo returned in the summer of 2014 to re-invent Pasaje Rodriguez once again.

"TJ is still emerging, so you can implement a lot of ideas here that have already been proven in Mexico City,"

Montijo says. "I arrived with a plan, and I think the owners had no other choice but to try it, even though the *pasaje* was done as far as they were concerned. It was unprofitable. They based their ideas on the good old days, two or three decades ago. This is a city of cycles. Now, my generation is creating its own industry. It's a blank slate. It's not the traditional U.S. or Mexican way. It is very experimental. Tijuana is all about experimentation. It's not tied down to anything. There are a lot of spaces and opportunities to do new things and implement new ideas."

Making use of connections from growing up in Tijuana, Montijo began to repopulate the alleyway with more forward-thinking renters who had a clear vision for cultural and economic development.

"It's simple," he says. "We aren't extremely picky, but we are looking for culturally oriented proposals with experience, education, and a plan to make money and keep the *pasaje* sustainable. Here, it has to be something different that you can't find a few blocks away. It's an alternative space. We want

the emergent, the independent, the avant garde. If you want a hot dog stand or a typical coffee shop, this isn't the place. Is it organic coffee? Now we're getting somewhere. It needs to have a twist."

These days, the *pasaje* is home to a couple of art cafés, Mamut microbrewery, several boutique shops, book shops, a bike shop, a record store, Happy Vegan restaurant (which hosts a recurring vegan food festival), and, exemplary of the *pasaje*'s penchant for something different, a Southern home-cooking joint called Voodoo Stu's.

Montijo's personal pet project, however, is the burgeoning multi-use venue space, La Caja Fuerte — named for the large safe left over from the '20s when the locale was part of the Foreign Club casino and hotel. Until recently, the locale was known as Willy's Place, a flea market and residence of songwriter Willy Claussen, the man who brought "La Bamba" from Veracruz to the U.S. in the '50s.

"He was pretty much dying in there, so his family took him home and he's

continued on page 32

UNDER THE RADAR

Parking change San Diego's controversial but well-connected Ace Parking has been around since 1950, making it one of the city's most well-entrenched special interests. As is the case with the Evans hotel family, another influential local dynasty, Ace owes much of its prosperity to a string of lucrative leases it holds with the city and a long list of other government agencies, including the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. In 2011,

the company, owned by the heirs to late car-park king **Evan Jones**, successfully fought off a challenge to its airport reign after staffers recommended a switch of parking management to Standard Parking of Chicago, which they said offered a better deal. After intense lobbying, backed by years of campaign and charity giving benefiting an array of city officials both Republican and Democrat, the airport's board of directors overruled its staff and handed the contract to Ace yet again. Now the deal to run the emblematic cornerstone of Ace's empire — the city's Evan V. Jones Parkade at downtown's community

concourse attached to city hall — is going out for bid, and few insiders are willing to bet that anyone but Ace will again seal the deal.

According to a November 17 request for proposals, "The City is interested in obtaining management and operation services for the Parkade and the design and build to convert the Parkade to a fully automated parking facility together with the cost of said conversion to be financed by the Proposer." The document adds that the conversion would allow "visitors to utilize self-service pay machines/stations or credit card pay-in-lane machines/stations in combination with having Manager's staff for support during peak hours." The city reports that gross revenue of the parkade in the year ending this past June was \$2,315,700, with operating expenses of \$184,500, leaving plenty of room for upping the eventual winner's sizable cut of the profits. The deadline for proposals is December 17. Disclosure records show that since 2006, Ace and its employees have contributed a total of \$161,217 to city campaigns. Most recently, company representatives in June gave \$2800 to the reelection fund of Republican mayor **Kevin Faulconer**; \$1100 to the campaign

of GOP councilman **Scott Sherman**; \$1000 to the state Assembly campaign of **Todd Gloria**; and \$900 to the legal defense fund of Gloria's fellow Democrat **Myrtle Cole**.



Evan V. Jones Parkade at downtown's community concourse

Carrying a torchlight

An already well-traveled executive at the San Diego city employees' retirement system has been on the road again, taking another trip to New York City courtesy of a well-heeled investment fund. The

free trip is the fifth this year for **Jamie Hamrick**, a pension investment officer, according to state-mandated disclosure reports filed with the city clerk, with high-dollar hotel destinations including Shutters on the Beach in Santa Monica, Manhattan's Andaz, the Boston Harbor Hotel, and Andaz Amsterdam. The total declared value of those gifts was \$10,184. Hamrick took her latest jaunt to the Big Apple thanks to New York's Torchlight Investors, which forked over \$2050 for airfare on Delta, food, and an October 7 Andaz overnight. According to the disclosure, the city's pension fund "is

an investor in Torchlight Debt Opportunity Fund IV and Torchlight Debt Opportunity Fund V and sits on the Investor Advisory Committee for both investments." According to the firm's website, "Utilizing Torchlight's comprehensive, proprietary technology platform, the experienced workout team consistently strives to maximize net recoveries

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Filmy ideas Is the fix in for choosing a future operator of San Diego's putative new taxpayer-funded film commission? So worries an unidentified respondent to the city's October 29 "request for ideas" regarding setting up a new movie-making promotional agency to take the place of the one abolished two years ago. "This RFP for 'Ideas' is very ambiguous," complained the would-be applicant in a December 3 addendum to the city's solicitation. "I can see that the City is just going through the required motions of notification here. My fear is that the contract will inevitably go to the Tourist Bureau or the

continued on page 32



City pension officer Jamie Hamrick takes another chomp, courtesy of Torchlight Investors.

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No Mainstream Media Here

Re: "Angel's No Angel" (December 10 cover story)

Finally, you guys are describing a military automatic assault rifle — the ones that the mainstream media keep thinking that the public can buy from Big 5 Sporting Goods — like the idiots at KPBS, CBS, NBC, etcetera.

John Campo

Not to Judge a Book By Its Cover or Anything, But...

My wife just brought home today's Reader, December 10. I looked at your cover story, "Angel's No Angel." I read the first two paragraphs, and I saw the picture of Angel and Lydia Lopez.

The loss of Angel is no great loss to the world. Just look at the picture of him with his tattooed throat and chest, and his silly-looking little goatee and mustache, with his backwards baseball cap and dark glasses. Then there's his silly little twit, Lydia, with her head against his cheek, whoever she is.

It's no big loss to the world. There are too many people like him in San Diego and in this country.

Name withheld
via voicemail

Black and White

I was just reading News Ticker in your December 10th issue — the first story, "So 1860s." I didn't know that there was a San Diego Black Police Officers' Association. I figured it would be African-American. Is there a white one too? I didn't even know Lemon Grove had San Diego

police; I thought they were sheriffs.

This thing has racism written all over it.

Name withheld
via voicemail

A Little Hippo Goes a Long Way

OMG! I was five years old in 1953 when I heard "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas" and pestered my parents for one (Blurt: "Gayla, Matilda, and Norm," December 9). Bless their hearts they found a board game with plastic animals, including a hippopotamus!

I think I may still know all the words. Thank you, Gayla Peevey.

Elizabeth Lunn
Serra Mesa

Too Funny?

Opened up today's Reader (December 10) and had to laugh. There's an ad for rain barrels, with a coupon for 10% off. But the coupon is "not valid on rain barrels"! Too funny.

Renae Carta
via email

Pimples on the Face of San Diego

Regarding "From Thrift to Spiff" (Neighborhood News, November 5), the current Hillcrest Thrift Trader site that is going to be torn down soon, and FoundationForForm's plans to build an apartment complex with retail.

First, Hillcrest has a parking problem. I want to know the parking site plan for the new construction. How many units, what retail establishments?

Second, FoundationForForm built a godawful building at the former North Park post office. Really — it makes you wince to see it.

You report that FoundationForForm is now building residences on 30th Street. Could you be more specific about this construction on a street that is already stop-and-go congested, with "sharrows" (gag me), no parking, and stupid bike racks?

I am very interested in how new construction in San Diego is infilling/replacing older buildings with high rise and high density, when

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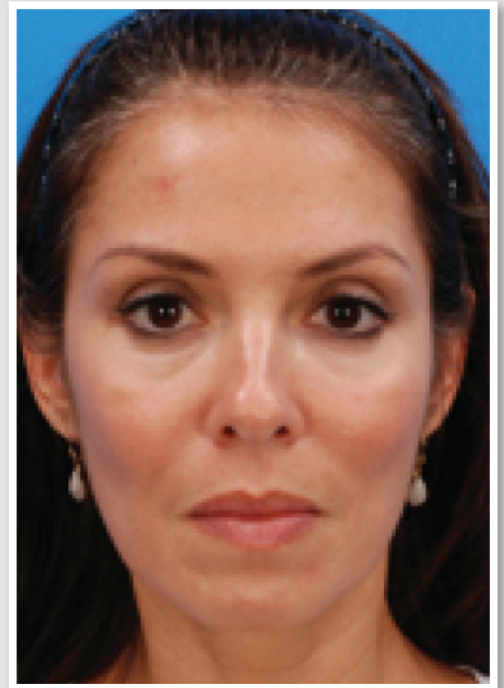


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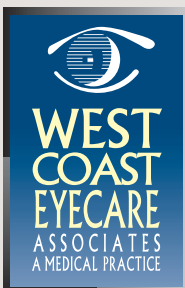
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

LA JOLLA

Landslide city

Mt. Soledad project nears completion

Eight years after a landslide in the Mt. Soledad area destroyed nine homes and damaged dozens of others, the city is replacing a storm drain that stopped a third of the way down the steep, unstable slope.



Looks like concrete but it's gravel — down the hill from Desert View Drive

Bill Harris, spokesman for the city's Stormwater Division, confirmed that heavy construction on the eastern slope from Desert View Drive down to the I-5 is being done by the city to replace 230 feet of drain pipe with 730 feet that will take the water down to the bottom of the hill.

"We are stabilizing the street and the hillside," Harris said. "It's a big project that has been a long time coming."

Work began in July, with the contractor's crew digging up the old drainage pipe and replacing it. Drainage-eroded areas are being filled in with gravel (it looks like concrete) and finishing off the \$5 million job with plants to keep the soil stable.

According to the *La Jolla Light*, the area has a history of slope instability.

"A landslide that destroyed seven homes under construction occurred in December of 1961. In 1989, a landslide occurred on the 5600 block of Desert View Drive, and in 1994 a landslide affected the canyon below the 5800 block."

MARTY GRAHAM

PACIFIC BEACH

One-man McDonald's protest

"Yes, I'm homeless, but I'm respectful"

Nate Nicholson is ticked at McDonald's. On December 10, he was protesting out in front of the restaurant at 1121 Garnet Avenue, to the honking approval of several passersby.

After returning to the PB area in October, Nicholson said he and a friend would have breakfast in the restaurant almost every day. "I spent \$200 the first month in there," he said.

Then, just after Thanksgiving, he and other friends — who he said were all paying customers — started being charged 25 cents to use the restroom, when other customers were not being charged.

"You have to pay to poop," said Nicholson. (This reporter was not charged to use the restroom.)

"Yes, I'm homeless, but I'm respectful, and I clean up after myself," said Nicholson. "They [pointing to the McDonald's] always make it the homeless' fault. The '30-minute limit to enjoy your meal' posted sign is only enforced on the homeless. Some of my friends are told they have to get their food to go or they won't be served."

The restaurant's general manager was off duty and email attempts for a comment by McDonald's Corporation media relations were unsuccessful prior to filing this story.

KEN HARRISON

OCEAN BEACH

Newport's renewal to come

"I'll believe it if and when I see it"

Newport Avenue is the most important commercial corridor in Ocean Beach. The avenue's historic buildings, bars, eateries, and antique shops draw people from all over.



The view up Newport from downtown O.B.

But drive the street and you'll discover ruts, gouges, dips, cracks, and other breaches. A recent announcement, then, that the avenue is about to be repaved for the first time in nearly four decades struck many as an early Christmas present.

As early as this February, heavy equipment will be used to dig in and pulverize Newport Avenue between Abbott and Guizot streets — a six-block stretch — in preparation for a new layer of asphalt. The job is expected to take three days.

Denny Knox, executive director of the Ocean Beach Mainstreet Association, said merchants have struggled with the road for decades. There's even evidence that, when maintenance was attempted, it was misapplied — raising the height of the street's crown in some parts and exacerbating flooding that occurs during heavy rains.

"[F]or the last 20 years we have been trying to get Newport Avenue on the radar to be resurfaced," Knox said in an email.

"We hoped to accomplish two things: one, reduce the height of the street by 3 or 5 inches; two, reduce the flooding of the businesses and sidewalks that happens with heavy rainfall. Newport Avenue itself should be able to carry heavy rainwater down the hill rather than overflowing the curbs. If you look at old photos of Newport Avenue, the curbs were pretty substantial and protected the businesses from constant flooding," Knox said.

Proper maintenance "would probably have saved us a lot of problems over the years," she said.

After 20 years of false starts, Knox isn't holding her breath. "I'll believe it if and when

I see it," she said.

The last time Newport Avenue west of Sunset Cliffs Boulevard was paved was June of 1977, city documents show.

TONY DE GARATE

IMPERIAL BEACH

No more mudders

"I'm ecstatic. It looked like south of the border."

Imperial Beach residents celebrated the completion of an alley-paving project at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on December 9. About 40 residents and government officials attended the nighttime ceremony in an alley off 12th Street and Ebony Avenue.

"I'm ecstatic," said Jerry Cale, who has owned a building on a formerly dirt alley for decades. "It looked like south of the border."

The ceremony marked the completion of the first phase of the project, covering 14 of 30 unpaved alleys, which took most of the year and cost about \$1.2 million.



Sonja Vargas shows where the mud used to be while Ernesto Ochoa and Joaquin Almaguer have fun.

"We've just paved one mile and we got one mile left," said Chris Helmer, environmental programs manager for Imperial Beach. "One mile is a lot to pave in any community, and Imperial Beach is a small city." Helmer said storm drains were installed under the new concrete.

"It makes it look decent," said Sonja Vargas, who lives in a house facing the alley where the ceremony was held. She said in wet conditions the large mud puddles in the alley attracted people going "mudding,"

continued on page 7



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— DAVID FOKOS

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

which she explained as a Texas term for “offroading their trucks into mud so that the mud and water would splash as high as possible and get their trucks as dirty as possible.”

Vargas said mud used to flood into her driveway and even into her garage, “and then on dry days our car would get dirty from all the dust. Dust would come into the house.”

City manager Andy Hall said, “Not only do the alleys provide access to properties for public safety purposes, they also contribute sediment into the storm-drain system if they are not paved. Therefore, the improvements are being completed primarily for public safety and stormwater drainage purposes.”

The second phase of the project will cover nine alleys and cost around \$1 million, depending on the bids. That leaves seven alleys without a current plan for paving.

“The remaining alleys need to be further evaluated for a variety of reasons, such as they are privately owned or they may be candidates for vacation,” Hall explained.

VINCENT FARNSWORTH

CLAIREMONT

Floppy-hatted filcher strikes “It was fast and crafty and definitely planned.”

On December 8, Jill Marr of Clairemont was getting groceries at the Smart & Final on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard with her houseguest from Atlanta, Stacy Allen.

“We were getting groceries and the woman who was behind us in line stole my friend’s wallet, right off the little check-out table where the debit-card reader is located at the cash register,” said Marr. “It was fast and crafty and definitely planned.”

Neither of them noticed the wallet was missing until a few hours later. Marr said, “We started making calls and searching. When we went into the Smart & Final store the next morning, the manager was extremely helpful. She was able to pull up the security video of the exact time we were there and it shows the woman grabbing my friend’s wallet. She then paid for her groceries in two separate transactions. More than likely one of them was paid for with the money she stole from my friend....

“We were a good mark: we had two kids with us who were jumping around. We were distracted,” Marr lamented. “My friend also put her phone and her wallet on the small check-out table. The woman made sure to get behind

us in line and even talked with us a little. She was wearing a floppy hat, which the manager told us that thieves [wear] because you can’t then pull up a good image on the surveillance video. She said this is very common.”

Marr described the thief as being “middle-aged, medium height, brunette with an indeterminate accent, and very pushy and aggressive. She made certain that she was behind us in line and ultimately had to get into my friend’s personal space in order to snatch the wallet right out from underneath her.”

JULIE STALMER

NORTH PARK

Check ‘n Go checks out A “positive development” says community activist

The Check ‘n Go store at 2509 El Cajon Boulevard in North Park has closed down.

Activist Omar Passons, former president of North Park Community Association, welcomed the exit, saying, “I think it is a positive development to see them close up.” The land-use attorney added: “The rates that places like Check ‘n Go charge are absurdly high, and I don’t believe they contribute positively to our community.”

Capital Real Estate Ventures Inc. is trying to lease the 3049-square-foot property for \$3 per foot (“negotiable”). Justin Earley, senior vice president with Capital, said Check

’n Go vacated because their lease ended in December, and they didn’t renew after a rent increase. Earley sees its best use as a restaurant or café, emphasizing “it has parking, which is rare in North Park.”

The payday and title loan company opened sometime back on a run-down section of El Cajon Boulevard. East of that store are a car-insurance office, auto-repair shop, Lil B’s restaurant, a closed marijuana dispensary, a massage spa, and San Diego Chicken Pie Shop. Across from the chicken eatery is the boarded-up former Coco’s restaurant, usually splattered with graffiti.

Cincinnati-based Check ‘n Go is the second-largest provider of short-term loans in the country. It has about 1300 stores in 31 states. The company did not respond to a request for comment about their departure.

Here’s an example of a loan: a \$250 payday loan, based on a 14-day loan term, would be 460% APR (annual percentage rate). The finance charge would be \$44.11, so the pay-back would be \$294.11.

Just west of the Check ‘n Go at Arizona Street is the former AT&T building, where an apartment complex will be built. Before being fortified with steel panels over windows and doors, plus chainlink fencing, the building was constantly vandalized both inside and out.

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by Barbarella

This bot sucks

We have a new addition to our household. Before you get too excited, it's not a dog. Regardless of how badly I may want a fluffy friend, David has convinced me, successfully for now, that caring for a pet is not feasible with our current lifestyle (the travel, the unpredictability of our day-to-day, etc.). For now, I'll continue to get my fur fix from the dogs in my neighborhood, while here at home I content myself with a small assortment of a different kind of "pet," each of the electronic persuasion.

Siri was the first to join our little family, and there are two of them. We didn't seek them out — they came with our phones. My Siri is male, because I prefer to have men do my bidding, and David's is the standard female, because that was the default mode and he

didn't want to bother with options. Over time, we've come to rely on him/her to help make appointments, check email, launch apps, look things up online, take notes, make lists, and even get us where we need to go by dictating directions to us in the car. Next came Alexa. The Amazon Echo device needs to be plugged in, so Alexa lives in a corner of the kitchen. She reads the news to us in the morning while we eat breakfast, reports the weather, and plays music. We keep our requests simple: no lists or ordering things from Amazon or conducting web searches, because Alexa too frequently misunderstands us,

or as David says, "She's too stupid for all that."

David rarely uses Siri — he prefers to tippety-tap out his texts and commands. And he has a weird grudge against Alexa, because more often than not she either misunderstands or straight up ignores him. This little scene has played out multiple times: David makes two or three attempts to extract information or execute a command, and then, failing, he throws his arms in the air; I repeat his request to prove the thing works, and then David walks away in a huff, muttering his favorite phrase to express his disappointment at any given technology, "I thought this was supposed to be the future."

Our latest addition is a Roomba, and it is, by far, David's favorite of our electronic bunch. During Thanksgiving dinner at my mother's house — when the family goes around the table and shares what we're thankful for — the Roomba made it into David's heartfelt speech. He says he was joking, but I'm not so sure.

One man's affinity for a plastic and metal vacuum-

bot may seem silly to those who live with warm creatures made of flesh and fur, such as kids and/or pets, but it makes perfect sense when you consider just how important a clean, dust-free space is to David's mental well-being.

Plenty of people throw around the word "perfectionist," mostly as a badge of honor. Sure, most of us prefer it when things work well and turn out nice, but most of us accept a certain level of quality as "good enough." David, on the other hand, considers accepting anything but the best to be settling for half-assed. It wasn't until I began living with him that I realized the plight of the perfectionist, or the extent to which a stickler suffers. On the handful of occasions I used the term "good enough" in his presence, he reacted as though I'd punched him in the face. He is a photographic artist who releases four new images a year; he is a husband who grumbles if I place an item on what was a previously clear surface; he is a man who has won every contest he's ever entered. Perfection — the seeking of it, the creation of it — is as much a part of David as his dimples.

Our new apartment has a dark brown concrete floor that was practically designed to showcase dust. Like Mo, the obsessive, dirt-cleaning robot in the movie *Wall-E*, the mess was making David lose his mind. For many months, he struggled to figure out a way to stay ahead of the dirt while simultaneously trying to deny its presence. While researching options, he insisted we keep the blinds closed, as the extra light called more attention to the issue.

Then one day, he arrived home with

a giant box in his arms and a huge smile on his face. The Roomba looks like a very low-flying saucer that stumbles around and bumps into things, collecting crumbs and dust from the floor like a drunk bum picking up loose change. When he first turned it on, David followed the thing around, chastising it for any spot that it missed. "If you think you're done, Buster, think again," he said to the machine as if it could understand him. "I'm just going to keep running you until that floor is clean." To me, he added, "I'm not letting it get off that easily."

"And this is why you suck as a boss," I said with a smirk. "How can you expect it to concentrate if you're just looking over its shoulder the whole time, glaring down at it and shaking your head in disapproval?"

"I don't expect anything of anyone that I wouldn't expect of myself," David said.

Though I teased him, I was relieved to see David smile at the floor for the first time since we moved here. I hadn't realized how much the dirt had been bringing him down until suddenly it wasn't anymore. I love to see his face light up the special way it does when something works the way it's intended to.

We were out one night when David pulled out his phone and held it up. On the screen was a large, green circle with the word, "Clean," written inside. He pressed it with a flourish and said, "When we get home, the floor will be clean." It occurred to me that if we're ever going to get a pet, I'll have to first convince David that it can clean up after itself. ■ (@barbarella)

Find more stories by Barbarella at SDReader.com/barbarella

"If you think you're done, Buster, think again," he said to the machine as if it could understand him.

"I'm just going to keep running you until that floor is clean."



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Dear Hipster:

I almost always have a really hard time buying gifts for people. Birthdays are tough enough, but this time of year is all but impossible, seeing as how there are so many people on my shopping list. My wife and I have agreed to combine the majority of our shopping so that we can find a single gift that works for everybody. I was humblebragging about our clever plan the other day, and a few friends came down on me pretty hard over being "too lazy for Christmas." I felt like the plan was sound, but now I'm in crisis. Is it cool of me to get a one-size-fits-all gift? Help me, Hipster Wan Kenobi. You're my only hope!

— LUKE (HAHA NOT REALLY)

Well, well, well, it looks like somebody's just a little too excited about *The Force Awakens*. I don't think I can help with your biggest problem — that of you being an incurable fanboy — but if you're looking for coolness absolution, then that is my early Christmas gift to you, sir.

Your friends were out of line in harshly judging your gift idea; in no small part because deciding what is and isn't cool is my job, and I don't take kindly to unqualified coolness judges marching all over my turf with their barefoot shoes and unwarranted high-fives. The best part of giving as you intend to is that you can indulge the time-honored hipster tradition of breaking with mainstream consumer culture by making your gifts into a work of artistic self-expression. If you've ever received any holiday gifts from your hipster friends, then surely you



must know that hipsters seize on any opportunity to produce thoughtfully quirky handicrafts. Nothing says non-denominational hipster Christmas (little c) gifts like jars of pickled eggs, some hand-infused cocktail bitters bearing a carefully antiques label, ironically cheerless stockings decorated with iron-on patches for death-metal bands, homemade mustache wax (no, I will not give up my secret recipe...that is what "secret" means), or sepia-toned postcards depicting the gift-giver's French bulldog getting up to hilarious holiday hijinks.

I hereby grant you permission to give whatever you please, especially if it's something that puts your own spin on holiday cheer.

Dear Hipster:

I do not celebrate any of the mainstream winter holidays. Neither Christmas, nor Chanukah, nor New Age winter solstice deals appeal to me, yet I feel compelled to return people's various "happy holiday" wishes in kind. How do I find a way to let people know I don't want to wish them happy anything other than happiness for happiness' sake?

— ANONYMOUS



As simultaneously zen and non-mainstream as your feelings are, I'd urge you to remember that there are two kinds of hipsters in this world. There are the annoying ones who

make a point of telling everyone about their favorite obscure bands. Then, there are the ones who wait patiently for someone to request their musical opinions, at which point it's open season on smug diatribes against all things mainstream. Actually, there are as many kinds of hipsters as there are magnificent glittering hues in a Squatty Potty unicorn's ice cream poop... but I think you get the picture. You hate feeling pressured to show token respect for others' holiday traditions, so don't turn that around by awkwardly pressuring other people into observing yours. It's a fine line. Tread it.

— DJ Stevens 11



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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Conscious Unmergering

Chicken of the Sea and Bumble Bee Tuna call off announced merger, citing "logo loggerheads"

HANGING OUT AT THE DOCKS, GAZING WISTFULLY OUT TO SEA, EMBARCADERO — "Business is funny," says Bumblebee Tuna chief operating officer Royal Jelly. "Sometimes, you think you have everything in place to make a huge deal work out, and then it all gets ruined by the tiniest thing. Sort of like the way a bee's stinger can be so small but still put an end to your picnic."

Jelly is thinking of the strange disagreement that led to the failure of a proposed \$1 billion merger between Thai Union Group's Chicken of the Sea and Lion Capital LLP's Bumble Bee Tuna. Both of the fishy subsidiaries are based in San Diego, and the merger, over a year in the making, brought renewed focus to San Diego's historic status as Tuna Canner for the World. But shortly before the deal went through, reports Jelly, concerns arose about the logo for the new company's brand.

"Canned tuna fish just isn't that exciting a foodstuff," admits Jelly, "though as canned protein products go, we're pretty much top of the heap. Spam



Merbee and beemaid: the fruits of an unholy union — kill them with fire

is a distant second, Monty Python or no Monty Python. A lot of the credit for that belongs to our company mascot, Bumble Bee, and his insanely catchy theme song: 'Yum, yum, bumblebee, bumblebee tuna, I love bumblebee, bumblebee tuna...' And I have to admit, credit is also due to Catalina, the mermaid who hawks Chicken of the Sea. How many brand mascots can say they once fronted a restaurant at Disneyland — on a pirate ship?...

"As merger day loomed," recalls Jelly, "we discovered that neither



Antique Greek advertising for Thraie brand artisanal honey: "Anything else would be a tragedy."

side wanted to just adopt the other guy's mascot. So we had a meeting to figure out some new alternative. Very big deal, plumage on both sides in full display — trust me, no one was ordering tuna-fish sandwiches. The obvious choice seemed to be a merbee — you know, head of a bee, body of a fish. But you know what they say: if it exists, someone is selling stationery and keychains emblazoned with its image on Zazzle. And in this case, that someone happened to be the proprietress of Mydeas Bug Spot, and also a woman possessing a keen grasp of intellectual property law. Poor lady must have thought she was about to retire early after our people called. And who knows? It might have worked out if it hadn't been for those little seashells covering 'her' beebosoms. They just put everyone off their feed; Jones in Marketing said he couldn't stop thinking of the pudgy little girl's strip tease in *Little Miss Sunshine*. We could have removed them in our version, but we started wondering if people would start wondering where they were...it was awkward.

"So then we toyed around with flipping it: a beemaid. Right away, things were looking good: it turns out there are 'bee maidens,' called 'Thraie,' in classical Greek mythology. Safely in the public domain. One of them, Kleodora, even hooked up with Poseidon, the god of the sea — so there was our fishy association. We had a killer concept



"Dig in, ladies; there's enough of me to go around!" Yeah, it's a little weird.

artist from FutureBrand in attendance, and gave him carte blanche. Also, a big pile of cocaine. You can see what he came up with — and trust me when I tell you that was the best of them, by a long shot. Can you imagine a soccer mom in Kansas picking up a can with that thing decorating the label? So many problematic aspects: the swollen abdomen bulging out behind her, the gender-bending implications of a woman with a stinger...we're not Benetton; we don't need our advertising to foment

social upheaval. "We realized that Starkist's Charlie would eat our lunch, so to speak, and that guy's a tuna with glasses and a cap who smilingly proposes that you eat him."

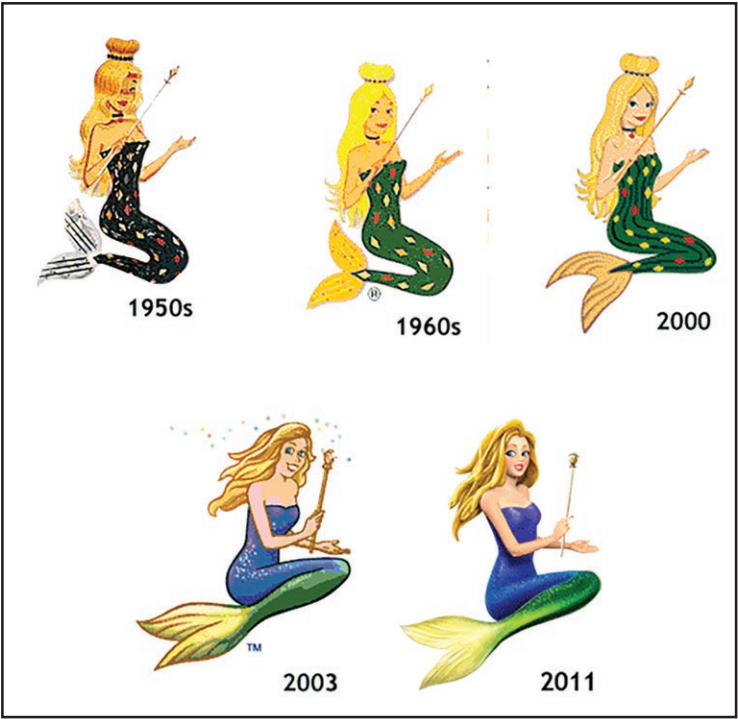
"In the end, it just seemed best to part ways, in spite of the efficiencies and streamlining a merger would bring. These days, you're only as good as your brand, and the quest for a new logo just presented too many pitfalls. It's a pity; I was hoping to fire the nimrod who changed Catalina's hairstyle back in 2003."



Hey, it's the Olympic rings! Oh, wait...



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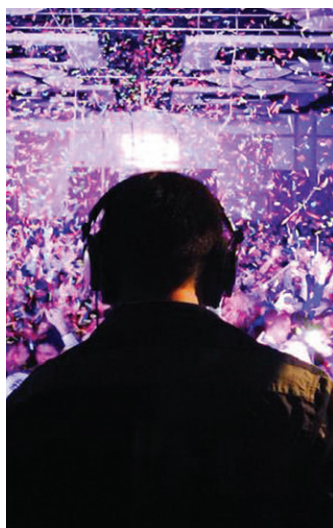


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BLOG DIEGO

TITLE: **San Diego Divorce Attorneys Blog** | ADDRESS: sandiegodivorceattorneysblog.com
AUTHOR: **Nancy J. Bickford, APC** | FROM: **Carmel Valley** | BLOGGING SINCE: **2011**

POST TITLE: **The Fate of Frozen Embryos at Divorce**

POST DATE: **December 2, 2015**

As times change and technology evolves, new issues are ever-present in divorce law. And, although deep emotions lie at the center of almost every divorce, the courts, in making their decisions, look at the laws and don't take emotions into account.

When Dr. Mimi C. Lee found out that she had breast cancer just before her marriage to Stephen Findley in 2010, the couple decided to create embryos and have them frozen, so as to preserve what might be her only chance to have biological children. Before the couple went to create the embryos, they signed a contract with the clinic.

The contract stated that the embryos would be destroyed if they divorced.

Unfortunately, a mere three years later the couple separated. Their divorce was finalized in early 2015. Later, a judge had to decide the fate of their frozen embryos. Dr. Lee wanted to keep the embryos, as they still may have represented her last chance to have biological children. Mr. Findley wanted the embryos destroyed, as he did not want the potential to be the father of a child with his now ex-wife after a less-than-pleasant divorce from the woman. He asked that the court enforce the agreement they entered into at the time the embryos were created.

Dr. Lee argued that she had a right to procreate and also argued that she would agree to waive child-support payments for any children created from the embryos. She further argued that she had a right to change the agreement that was entered into at the time the embryos were created.

The judge — who issued a tentative ruling in this case on Wednesday, November 18 — disagreed. The judge recognized that although Dr. Lee certainly does have a right to procreate, she doesn't have the right to do so with the unwilling Mr. Findley. Further, Dr. Lee's claims that she would waive child-support were meaningless, as such agree-

ments cannot be entered into in California. The judge found that the parties had to abide by the prior agreement, meaning that the embryos had to be destroyed as a result of the parties' divorce.

It is certainly easy to sympathize with Dr. Lee, as cancer may have reduced her ability to have children on her own. The judge had to rule on a deeply personal matter in this couple's lives, which admittedly may cause a greater impact in Dr. Lee's life than it did in her now-ex-husband's life, as he is now able to move on and can procreate if he so chooses. However, it makes sense that the court cannot force this man, who does not want to become a father with his ex-spouse, to become



Human embryo, 8–9 weeks

a father anyway.

Interestingly, judges in other states have ruled differently on the same issue, and have instead taken the woman's side. This happened several years ago in Pennsylvania, where a court awarded frozen embryos to a woman with breast cancer over her ex-husband's objections. And a court in Illinois awarded frozen embryos to an infertile woman against her ex-boyfriend's objections.

The difference is the law in California, which requires couples to decide up-front what happens to the embryos that they create in the event of separation or divorce. This is the first time a California court has made a ruling on this issue. The judge, in her written decision, had the following to say:

"Decisions about family and children often are difficult, and can be wrenching when they become disputes.

"The policy best suited to ensuring that these disputes are resolved in a clear-eyed manner... is to give effect to the intentions of the parties at the time of the decision at issue.

"It is a disturbing consequence of modern biological technology that the fate of nascent human life, which the embryos in this case represent, must be determined in a court by reference to cold legal principles."

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— EVE KELLY

I'm done with boring wrapping paper. Santas, snowflakes, Christmas trees, on cheap crackly paper — I'm done with it. If it's the thought that ultimately counts, maybe the first thing your loved one sees when they pick up your gift should indicate that some thought went into it.

One afternoon I wrapped a few presents, one with the Sunday comics, one in an old map, one in a beautiful silk scarf. I even cut the arm off an old sweater and up-cycled it into a gift bag for a bottle of vino. A quick stitch to the bottom of it and a festive bow around the top, and voila! Uncle John's gift was done.

Then I moved on to brown kraft paper wrapping. I whipped up a batch of wrapping using the inside of brown paper Trader Joe's bags. Some packages were adorned with lace ribbons, some with red plaid ribbon, some with twine and pine sprigs.

My daughter walked in amid my flurry of creativity and cut out some delicate paper snowflakes. "Use them in place of a ribbon on top of the kraft paper," she suggested. Then she started on white paper swan origami for other packages instead of bows.

After I exhausted my homespun supplies, I headed out to find other wrapping options. My first stop was at Papyrus in Fashion Valley. "The embroidered sheet wrapping paper is a bit more expensive than the non-embroidered paper," offered the saleslady as I pulled off a green sheet with gold-medallion embroidery from the wall of sheets (\$9.95). I also took a sheet of brown kraft paper bedazzled with glittery silver flowers for my mother-in-law (\$3.95). She loves a little bling in her holidays. Across the store I found a roll of Handmade Gold Thread wrap, white with scattered gold tinsel (\$9.95 for 8.96 square feet). As I checked out, the saleslady offered some wrapping tips for the delicate handmade paper. "Use glue dots or thick double-sided tape," she said, "or if you use regular tape, make sure to also wrap the package in ribbon to give it extra support so the paper doesn't rip."

Over at Cost Plus, in the seasonal section, I found some gift-wrapping for my animal-loving friend Carla: Woodland Creatures Gift Tissue and gift bag (\$3.99 for four tissue-paper sheets; \$4.99 for the matching bag). On the other side of the display hung Frosty Morning

One afternoon I wrapped a few presents, one with the Sunday comics, one in an old map, one in a beautiful silk scarf.

Mini gift bags with owls on them, perfect for my owl-loving teen (\$3.99 for the two-pack of gift bags; \$3.99 for the four-sheet of tissue paper). In the wrapping section, I found individual sheets: my favorite, a black sheet with gold medallions, a sharp wrapping for the man in my life (\$3.99 per sheet).

For my humorous sister, I found a magenta gift bag with a photo of a hilariously dressed early 20th-century Vaudeville dancer (\$3.99) with the Oscar Wilde quote, "Be yourself. Everyone else is already taken."

Down at Blick Art Materials in Little Italy, there was a wall of interesting sheets of wrapping.

I wish I could have bought a sheet of each, but I settled on a red sheet with gold Korean Hanji, perfect for my son who is studying Korean (\$10.99 per sheet).

Other favorites included a Thai Embossed Ficus Leaves paper with a raised white texture begging to be touched (\$6.99 a sheet), and a green sheet of Lokta dyed sun fern paper (\$6.49 a sheet). On the other end of the room was a box full of rolls of recycled wrapping: Waste not Paper Wrap in assorted

solid colors including brown kraft color (\$5.99). As I walked to the checkout I spied a display of some smaller paper sheets, perfect for a jewelry-sized gift box, a few in Florentine designs (\$1.39 per sheet). I also found some festive holiday foiled tape in red, green, and gold plaid (\$3.99 for 16 yards).

The last stop of the afternoon was Hobby Lobby. I get dizzy when I walk into that store — the abundance of decorating and art-supply options overwhelms me. So, I put my head down and headed straight to the decorative tapes. Gold and silver glittery tape would work perfectly on some kraft paper (\$4.99 for a two-pack, two yards each). Two other packages offered a striped and a polka-dotted tape in silver and white or gold and white.

As I drove home, the radio played Judy Garland's "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas."

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How El Chapo digs his tunnels

AT 8:52 P.M. ON JULY 11TH, Joaquín Guzmán Loera, the drug kingpin known as El Chapo, sat on the bed of his cell in Altiplano, Mexico's only super-maximum-security prison. Surveillance footage appears to show a small screen glowing on a table nearby — inmates are not allowed cell phones, but this rule is not always enforced. Guzmán changed his shoes, walked to a shower area in the corner of the cell, and knelt behind a waist-high concrete partition, out of view of security cameras. Six seconds later, he was gone.

A rough-edged opening, about 20 inches square, had been cut into the floor. According to Mexico's national-security commissioner, Guzmán climbed into the hole and down a ladder, entering a

4921-foot-long tunnel. Fluorescent lights hung from a ceiling-mounted PVC pipe, which also brought fresh air into the passageway. Metal tracks had been bolted to the ground, allowing an ad-hoc vehicle — a railcar rigged to the frame of a small motorcycle — to be driven from one end of the tunnel to the other. The gray stone walls, about 30 inches apart, were scored with jagged marks made by electric spades; Guzmán's shoulders probably brushed the walls as he passed.

The tunnel ended beneath a small cinderblock house in an open field. As Guzmán climbed a wooden ladder toward ground level, he passed the evidence of what seemed to be a months-

long engineering project: a generator, which had powered the tools that workmen used to build the tunnel; a heavy-duty electric winch, to lower machinery into the pit; gallons of hydraulic fluid; coils of steel mesh.

Guzmán's method of escape should have surprised no one. Last year, in Culiacán, he evaded Mexican marines by disappearing into a network of

The Sinaloa drug cartel built the first cross-border *narcotúnel* in 1989.

subterranean passageways connecting seven houses. He did not invent smuggling tunnels — bank robbers, rum runners, and guerrillas had used them for decades — but his criminal enterprise, the Sinaloa drug cartel, built the first cross-border *narcotúnel* in 1989. Since then, Sinaloa has refined the art of underground construction and has used tunnels more effectively than any criminal group in history.

In the past quarter century, officials have discovered 181 illicit passages under the U.S.-Mexico border. Most have been short, narrow “gopher holes” just big enough for a person to crawl through. Sinaloa specializes instead in infrastructural marvels that federal agents call supertunnels. Agents estimate that a single supertunnel takes several months and more than a million dollars to build. Many include elevators, electric lights, ventilation ducts, and cleverly disguised entry and exit shafts. They can reach as deep as 70 feet, and they tend to be tall enough for an adult to walk or ride through.

These days, most of Sinaloa’s supertunnels are used to ferry drugs across the border, from Garita de Otay, an industrial neighborhood in northern Tijuana, to Otay Mesa, a similar area in southern San Diego. Otay Mesa, which is bounded on the north by Brown Field Municipal Airport and on the south by Mexico, consists of highways, strip malls, and a few hundred warehouses clustered near the border. Most supertunnels terminate inside these warehouses, making them difficult to detect.

The amount of warehouse space in Otay Mesa has nearly quadrupled

since the mid-’90s, and the expansion has been almost as frenetic in Garita de Otay. Forklifts, jackhammers, and heavy vehicles attract little attention. Cartel trucks back into loading bays, pallets are loaded in, and the drugs are delivered north to distribution hubs. There are three official border crossings near Otay Mesa; one, for commercial vehicles, is inside the industrial zone. “All of this has created a candy store for smugglers,” a U.S. agent told me. “This whole area belongs to them.”

Hundreds of federal agents — from Border Patrol, Homeland Security Investigations, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and Immigration and Customs Enforcement — work in a pair of large unmarked buildings on the edge of the Otay Mesa district. Among them are the ten members of the San Diego Tunnel Task Force, a multi-agency group created in 2003. The agents have found an average of two tunnels a year, but most of the people they have arrested have been low-tier Sinaloa operatives, such as truck drivers and warehouse supervisors. Information within the cartel is compartmentalized, so that even when workers are caught and tempted with plea bargains they are unable to divulge much actionable intelligence.

“There are so many questions,” Tim Durst, a former Tunnel Task Force supervisor, told the *Wall Street Journal*, in 2013. “What are their techniques? How the heck do they build these things so well?”

Recent investigations — including a pending case involving a man believed to have been Sinaloa’s highest-ranking tunnel manager — have

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provided some answers. Sherri Hobson, a federal prosecutor in San Diego, told me, "I think it's a very small group of elite members of the cartel that are doing this. This is highly sophisticated work. A lot of people think that you have a shovel and you dig. That's not the way it works."

In December of 2012...
...a 19-year-old named Fernando walked into Mama Mia, a pizzeria in a Tijuana strip mall, and asked for a job application. As he filled out the form, a stranger entered the shop. According to statements later collected by Mexican authorities, the man handed Fernando his phone number and asked whether he wanted a job cleaning a convenience store.

Fernando never heard back from Mama Mia. Eventually, desper-



San Diego Tunnel Task Force at Otay Mesa drug tunnel in 2014

PHOTOGRAPH BY RON ROGERS, DIVISION-1.NET

ate for work, he called the stranger's number and met him at the strip mall. The man offered good money — 1200 pesos (about 75 dollars) a week — and Fernando agreed to go with him to look at the job site. From the strip mall, a highway leads north, past the graffiti-covered concrete walls

surrounding the Tijuana Airport to the pitted roads of Garita de Otay, where convoys of 18-wheelers stir up dust that never quite settles. The warehouses, bland and beige, resemble cardboard boxes.

They stopped in front of a structure with no identifying marks except the street address,

stencilled in black. Inside, behind a rolling gate, was a loading bay big enough to accommodate a dump truck. Inside was a storage room with cinderblock walls. Fernando didn't see anyone else in the storage room — just a deep hole and sacks of dirt. The man told Fernando that things had changed: he would

be digging a tunnel, not cleaning a store. If he tried to leave, he and his family would be killed.

Around that time, 16 other men fell into the same trap. Across Tijuana, at bus stations and on busy street corners, they were lured to the warehouse by the prospect of temporary jobs. Some said that they had been promised safe passage across the border in exchange for a few hours of construction work. Fernando was the youngest of them, and one of only two Tijuana natives. Most were laborers from Mexico's rural interior who had travelled north seeking opportunity.

According to the men, the overseer of the project, who called himself Carlos, was in his mid-30s, with a thin, weedy mustache and a baseball cap pulled low over his brow. Carlos split the men into two groups. Fernando worked the

day shift, from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; at night, he slept in the warehouse with the rest of his crew. Carlos brought the workers food and made sure no one left the building.

From an opening in the floor of the storage room, a shaft descended about 35 feet to a small chamber, where grapefruit-size rocks were embedded in the soil. Most of the time, five or six men worked inside the chamber, lengthening it into a tunnel by chipping away at the earth with handheld electric spades and filling sandbags with dirt and rocks. Three other workers hauled the bags out using a makeshift elevator — a large metal cage connected to an electric pulley system. The sandbags were then piled onto wooden pallets in the loading bay. Occasionally, Carlos was joined by other overseers, who wore ski

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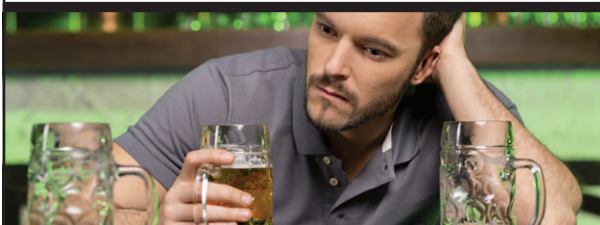
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masks. They'd threaten to beat the workmen if their northward progress slowed. The workers gained about five meters a day. At that rate, they would pass the border in about three months and reach Otay Mesa a few weeks later.

Photos subsequently showed that the ceiling of the tunnel was slightly arched, a standard characteristic of Sinaloa super-tunnels, which helps to distribute the pressure of the earth and prevent collapse. The red beam of a laser pointer, running through the dusty air in the center of the passageway, kept the diggers on course. In humid, confined spaces, oxygen can drop to fatal levels. With pipe clamps, the men affixed a black plastic tube to the top of the tunnel for ventilation. They laid two metal tracks, which enabled them to ferry debris back to the elevator in a miner's cart. Later, the rails could carry drug shipments to Otay Mesa.

The walls retained their form as the men worked, but threats were ever present. The history of subterranean excavation, from the ancient Egyptians to the coal miners of Appalachia, is dense with tragedy — any strike of a pickaxe can release a deadly rush of groundwater, spark a methane fireball, or disrupt the soil enough to cause a collapse. In *A History of Tunnels*, the historian Patrick Beaver writes that even as late as the mid-20th century it was estimated that for every mile of tunnel built, one worker died.

The biggest risk to the Tijuana diggers was probably groundwater. In the Otay Mesa region, its presence is unusually difficult to predict. "One year, you might hit massive amounts of ground-

water," a U.S. agent who examines tunnels in the area told me. "Then you might go a mile east or west, within a couple of months, and there might not be any groundwater at all." The captive diggers had little choice but to keep going. They followed a slight upward grade, which was likely a safety precaution: if they encountered groundwater, it could flow downhill, to the origin of the tunnel, where it would be pumped out.

In February 2013, the Mexican army, acting on an anonymous tip, raided the warehouse in Tijuana. The first person they encountered was a surprised 25-year-old named Juan José, who was in a bathroom, his face coated in dust. Nearby, two men hauled sacks of dirt out of the elevator. While the soldiers talked to the men, four others remained in the chamber, wondering why it was taking so long for the elevator to come back down. Eventually, all the workers were brought in for questioning, but they claimed to have no knowledge of drugs or smuggling. Carlos might have been able to tell the police more, but, according to the workers, he had left the building 20 minutes earlier, "to go to the store." Based on the tunnel's location and design, the police assumed that it was the work of the Sinaloa cartel, but they made no more arrests.

Fernando and the other diggers were taken to La Mesa prison, about four miles from the warehouse, where they are still being held. They may have been lucky to be arrested. Joseph DiMeglio, the head of the Tunnel Task Force, told me that, when a tunnel is finished, diggers are sometimes recaptured and forced to work on another



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project. Other times, he said, "the cartel takes them out back, you know, and gets rid of them."

Guzmán founded the Sinaloa cartel...

...in the mid-'80s. By the end of the decade, the Arellano-Félix Organization controlled the border near Tijuana. Guzmán took over smuggling routes farther east, in Arizona. He hired pilots to fly shipments of cocaine from Colombia to private landing strips in Mexico. The drugs were loaded into vans fitted with false floors and then driven to Douglas, Arizona, and from there to Los Angeles. Using that method, Guzmán was able to smuggle in three tons of cocaine a month.

One of Guzmán's associates was Felipe de Jesus Corona-Verbera,



Joaquín Guzmán Loera, the drug kingpin known as "El Chapo"

a 1980 graduate of the University of Guadalajara's architecture school, who drove a gray Chrysler New Yorker, wore fine suits, and carried an attaché case. Corona-Verbera visited one cartel-owned property after another: a warehouse in Guanajuato; a supermarket in Guadalajara; a rural compound where Guzmán kept lions, bears, and crocodiles. He

and Guzmán appeared to be close friends. Miguel Ángel Martínez, a member of the cartel, later told U.S. prosecutors that Corona-Verbera was the only person he'd ever heard addressing Guzmán with the informal *tú*; everyone else used the more deferential *usted*.

In 1989, Corona-Verbera, with his wife and children, moved into a trailer park on Route 666 in Douglas. He hired a local contractor, William Woods, to build a gazebo beside his trailer. He also hired Woods for a bigger project: a two-thousand-square-foot warehouse, to be built about a block from the Mexican border. The blueprints looked professional, but oddities soon emerged. Corona-Verbera said that the building would be used as a wash bay, to hose down

trucks. His plans called for drain openings, but, according to Adalberto Romero, a worker at the site, the openings did not lead to functional drains. He asked Corona-Verbera about this. "He said I had nothing to do with it, to just shut up and continue doing it," Romero said. One night, at a nearby work site just south of the border, Romero saw more than 20 workmen, who appeared to be from rural Mexico, pushing wheelbarrows in the dark.

Within a few months, the cartel had its first supertunnel. It originated at a Sinaloa-owned house in Agua Prieta, a Mexican border town, and ended some 300 feet away, at the warehouse in Douglas. At the house in Agua Prieta, the only way to access the tunnel was to turn on an outdoor water spigot; this

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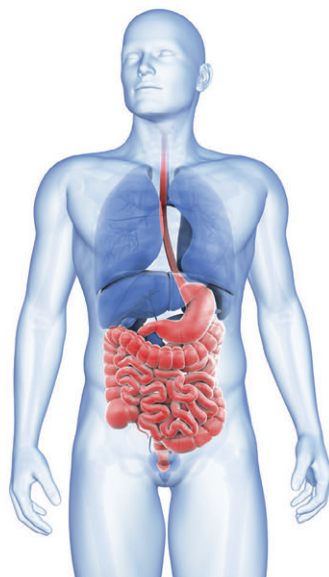
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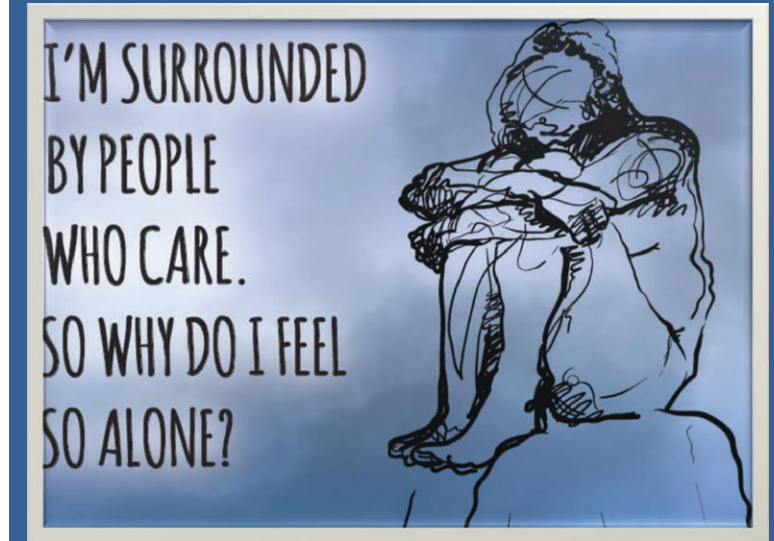


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triggered a hydraulic system that lifted up a billiard table in a game room on the ground floor, exposing a ladder to the tunnel.

With below-ground smuggling, Sinaloa's business quickly expanded. "If three planes arrived per week, now ten were arriving," Martínez recalled. Guzmán's Colombian partners began to call him El Rápido because, according to Martínez, "before the planes were arriving back in Colombia on the return, the cocaine was already in Los Angeles." Guzmán told Martínez, "Corona made a fucking cool tunnel. Tell them to send all the drugs they can send."

U.S. law-enforcement agents learned about the tunnel from a confidential informant. In May 1990, a team raided the house in Agua Prieta. In the game room, Terry

Kirkpatrick, a customs agent, moved the billiard table and pulled back a rug, exposing a patch of concrete. He used a jackhammer to drill through the floor. Under the concrete was a subterranean chamber larger than the game room. Later, another agent happened to turn on the water spigot, causing the concrete slab to rise toward the ceiling as the agents looked on, stunned.

After the raid, Corona-Verbera and his family fled to Mexico. Instead of lying low in a Mexico City safe house, he left the city to be with his family in Guadalajara. According to Martínez, Guzmán dismissed his old friend with a terse malediction: "Let him get fucked." Eventually, Corona-Verbera was arrested and extradited to the U.S.

Two months after the

tunnel was discovered, a group of Sinaloa suspects was detained. Two of them led Kirkpatrick and other agents about 30 miles outside of Agua Prieta and showed them a mass grave. Here, they said, were the diggers who had built the tunnel to Arizona.

Meanwhile, Sinaloa was slowly gaining ground near Tijuana. After the 1990 bust, Guzmán focused on above-ground operations, smuggling drugs inside cans of chili peppers. But in 1992 the cartel paid \$1.1 million for a warehouse in Otay Mesa. Soon, its second supertunnel project, and its first on the West Coast, was under construction.

The soil around Otay Mesa is a mixture of volcanic ash, glassy fragments, and clay. Whether the Sinaloa cartel realized it or not, the region is a

geological sweet spot for building tunnels: a couple of miles to the west, the ground is sandier; to the east, where the San Ysidro Mountains straddle the border, the subsoil is harder and under more pressure. In Otay Mesa, the soil is soft enough to be dug by hand, yet firm enough so that the tunnel walls can often stand without wood or concrete reinforcement.

In 1993, the Arellano-Félix Organization murdered Cardinal Juan Jesús Posadas Ocampo, apparently mistaking him for Guzmán. This sparked a manhunt, which culminated in Guzmán's arrest (and, subsequently, his first prison escape). During the manhunt, agents uncovered Sinaloa's California tunnel. It was more than four times the length of the tunnel to Douglas. In the press, law-enforce-

ment officials marvelled at its lighting and ventilation systems, and the poured-concrete flooring that allowed railcars to run smoothly. Nothing like it had been built before. "I was impressed by the Douglas tunnel, but this one here is the Taj Mahal of tunnels," a customs agent told the *Los Angeles Times*. Terry Kirkpatrick told me, "It was a wakeup call."

The San Diego Tunnel Task Force...

...owns two ground-penetrating radar devices that look a bit like push lawnmowers. The machines fire electromagnetic signals deep into the ground, and an L.C.D. screen shows the patterns of the waves as they ricochet back to the surface. The agents do not use these machines often because they aren't very effec-

tive. According to Steve Sloan, a geophysicist who has studied tunnel detection, the heterogeneous soil near Otay Mesa creates an unusual amount of background noise. On the screen, most deep-set geophysical variations — seams of rock, mismatched strata of soil, and excavation projects — show up as indistinct lines. Investigators can determine what a given line represents only by digging, which is prohibitively expensive and time-consuming.

For decades, tunnels have defied detection by satellites, motion sensors, and thermal imaging systems. During the Vietnam War, when the Vietcong used underground passages like the Cu Chi tunnel network to launch surprise attacks, the Army had no effective tunnel-detection technology, so

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it had no choice but to send infantrymen — “tunnel rats” — on dangerous search-and-destroy missions. Serious research into tunnel detection began in the mid-1970s, after intelligence indicated that Kim Il-sung, the president of North Korea, had dug more than 20 tunnels across the border into South Korea, for use in a future invasion. The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency attempted to design reliable detection technology using seismic and electromagnetic waves, to no avail.

In 2005, the U.S. government funded the Tunnel Detection Initiative, which recruited academics, industry specialists, and military engineers to detect excavation near the border. “It seemed like a really simple problem,”

Nedra Bonal, one of the geophysicists who worked on the initiative, said. “You have a hole in the ground, and I thought I’d look at the seismic data and that would be that.” But, according to a government report, the proposals yielded “massive amounts of data and unacceptably high false alarm rates.”

So, the Tunnel Task Force agents patrol the Otay Mesa district on foot. The law prevents them from searching warehouses at random, without probable cause; instead, they knock on doors, hand out business cards, and ask laborers to report anything suspicious. “We’ve gotten multiple leads from doing that,” DiMeglio, of the Tunnel Task Force, told me. Agents also monitor telephone calls.

In May 2010, Home-

land Security investigators began listening to the calls of a mid-level Sinaloa operative nicknamed Enrique. He and the other operatives used nicknames for their bosses. Someone they called Quirino seemed to be in charge of a major tunnel project. The men also talked about Primo, who was moody. “Primo is very bitter right now,” Enrique said at one point. “I mean, no one can talk to him.” Other nicknames — Garañón, Greñudo, El Viejo — seemed to refer to other bosses. The agents believed that the tunnels were being built by construction cells that were loosely affiliated with Sinaloa but unrelated to each other.

On October 18, 2010, Mexican authorities seized 134 tons of marijuana from a warehouse in Tijuana, about two miles

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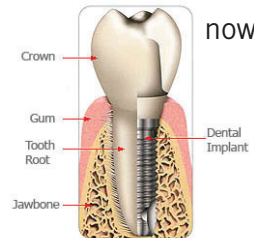
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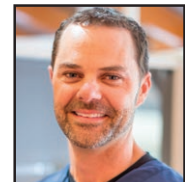
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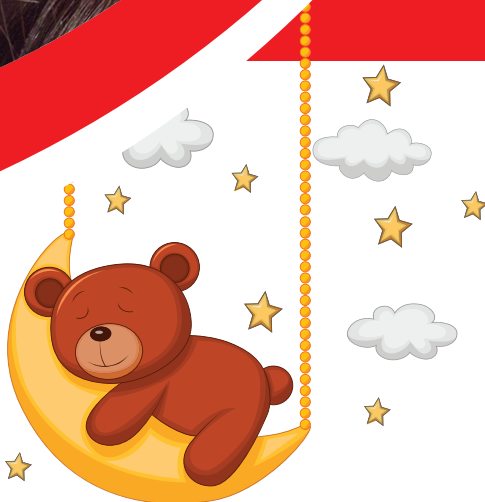
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from the border. It was the largest pot bust in Mexican history. They piled the marijuana on a giant wooden platform, rigged it with fuel and gunpowder, and ignited a heady bonfire that burned for two days. Mexican authorities estimated that the shipment, if sold on the street, could have netted more than 300 million dollars.

On the day of the seizure, investigators listened to a call between Enrique and another suspect, who went by "Tuy."

"Was it everything?" Tuy said.

"Absolutely everything," Enrique said.

"And was it made public?" Tuy said.

"Well, I have the radio on here," Enrique said. "I can hear it. I'm listening to it now. All of the shrimp went bad."

The agents had been eavesdropping on these

men for months, and they had deciphered their simple code: "shrimp" meant drugs; a "project" was a tunnel. Even though the shrimp had gone bad, Enrique said, "the project is still standing."

Marijuana is bulkier and more pungent than cocaine or heroin, making it riskier to smuggle through border crossings. Supertunnels are the ideal method of transport for marijuana. Pot is easy to grow, and the profit margins are irresistible: it can be sold in the U.S. for more than ten times its worth in Tijuana. Mexico's main marijuana-farming region is in the foothills of the Sierra Madre Occidental, 800 miles south of the border. This region includes the state of Sinaloa, where Guzmán was born. If Colombian cocaine was the cartel's emblematic product dur-

ing Guzmán's early years, homegrown marijuana was always his hedge, a commodity that he could control across every link in the supply chain.

In 2006, the Office of National Drug Control Policy estimated that 61 percent of Mexican drug traffickers' profits were "directly tied to marijuana export sales." (Other analyses vary significantly. In 2010, the RAND Corporation estimated that the proportion was between 15 and 26 percent.) Prices of illegal goods tend to be artificially inflated. As more states decriminalize marijuana, Sinaloa's profits from the drug could fall, forcing it to increase its volume. This would require more supertunnels. Or, DiMeglio says, Sinaloa might diversify. Until recently, raids on San Diego supertunnels yielded only marijuana; in

2013, a supertunnel raid uncovered 327 pounds of cocaine.

In 2017, a fourth official border crossing will be built near Otay Mesa, and new retail businesses are already opening in the commercial plazas that flank the warehouses. In one of these plazas, next to a duty-free liquor store, I saw a zoning notice taped to a vacant storefront. I called the number and reached David Blair, a lecturer at San Diego State University's business school. His shop, A Green Alternative, is the first licensed medical-marijuana dispensary in San Diego. He picked Otay Mesa, he said, in part because it was one of the few places where city zoning laws allow him to open — other places were too close to houses or schools. A half-mile from the dispen-

sary are two warehouses where supertunnels were recently discovered. A 73-year-old woman who worked at one of the warehouses pleaded guilty to federal money-laundering charges last year.

After the marijuana seizure in October, 2010...

...investigators continued to listen to wiretapped calls, which seemed to indicate that two supertunnel projects were still underway, and that at least one of them was being led by Quirino. On whiteboards and corkboards, investigators tried to map out which operatives were affiliated with which digging projects. They tacked up pictures of known suspects; unidentified suspects were represented by a generic silhouette or a question mark.

In early November,

agents raided a tunnel in Otay Mesa and arrested a truck driver who was carrying marijuana from the site. They turned the driver's cell phones over to federal prosecutors. After the bust, the suspects on the wiretaps indicated that Quirino's project had not been interrupted. This seemed to confirm the investigators' assumption that the construction cells were unrelated. But, later that month, agents raided another supertunnel and arrested a warehouse manager at the site. Studying the manager's telephone records, they noticed that he had talked to the truck driver from the other site, and that both men had contacted the same person: Quirino.

One of the investigators refers to that as the "Luke, I am your father" moment: it became clear that there was only one

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construction cell and that Quirino was its boss. All the nicknames — Primo, Greñudo, and so on — referred to the same man. He seemed to be in charge of all aspects of Sinaloa's supertunnels: storage of the drugs in Tijuana, construction and transportation schedules, rental and purchase of warehouses on both sides of the border.

The more the agents learned about Quirino, whose real name they still did not know, the more he seemed like a shrewd and vigilant manager. Packages were marked with labels that seemed incongruous — Burberry, Donald Duck. Investigators believed that Quirino was using the labels to keep his accounts in order by identifying which parcels belonged to which dealers. Once, he ordered digging to stop because of “eyes on the north side” — someone had been snooping around one of his warehouses in Otay Mesa. (Federal investigators later learned that the San Bernardino County police had been near the warehouse on an unrelated lead.) Although the tunnel was nearly complete, Quirino told his operatives to rent a different warehouse, a few blocks away, and redirect the digging toward the new warehouse. The tunnel reached its new exit point three months later. “Nothing I’ve ever seen criminally has worked as efficiently as it did when he was the boss,” an agent told me.

In early 2012, Mexican police arrested Quirino in Zapopan, an upscale suburb of Guadalajara. His real name was José Sanchez-Villalobos, and he had recently turned 49. They described him as Sinaloa's financial officer in charge of the California border region. For a man

suspected of being such a key figure in the drug trade, he had maintained a remarkably low profile — even Mexican journalists specializing in the Sinaloa cartel had never heard of him — but the few facts that emerged were con-

sistent with a caricature of a cartel boss: it was said that he owned a racetrack, on which he drove his collection of Aston Martins, and that he kept a baby panther as a pet.

About a year after Sanchez-Villalobos was

arrested, investigators heard chatter on the phone lines again. New taskmasters had stepped in to oversee supertunnel construction. The new bosses seemed to lack their predecessor's managerial skill, but,

according to Sherri Hobson, the prosecutor in San Diego, they were starting to adapt. Drugs are now distributed in smaller shipments, and drivers on the California side use smaller trucks. The cartel also seems to be test-

ing tunnel locations that require novel excavation techniques. This April, as Border Patrol agents were raking the soil near the border fence — they do this regularly, to render fresh footprints more visible — they saw what

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they thought was a natural sinkhole. It turned out to be a collapsed supertunnel running toward a residential neighborhood in San Diego, about five miles east of Otay Mesa. The soil there is sandy, DiMeglio said, and “a lot of shoring needs to be done in that area, because sand doesn’t hold like clay does.”

Recently, agents raiding Sinaloa dig sites have found horizontal directional drilling machines, which oil and gas companies often use to build pipelines, and which can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Horizontal directional drilling requires less manual labor than traditional digging, and the machines bore smaller, shallower tunnels. If Sinaloa were to transition to a network of such pipelines, it could use air pressure to propel parcels of drugs under the border through pneumatic tubes.

Another tunnel, which was recently discovered in the Imperial Valley, about a hundred miles east of Otay Mesa, terminated in a canal. Security footage shows a man emerging from the water in a wetsuit. Near

the canal, Border Patrol agents found nearly 60 pounds of cocaine and three scuba tanks. Two of the tanks were “rebreathers”—special cylinders that allow divers to stay underwater for long periods without leaving trails of bubbles. “It just shows another level of how they’re trying to be creative,” Hobson said.

Sanchez-Villalobos is being held...

...in the high-priority section of the Altiplano prison — the same wing that Guzmán fled in July. The facts about Guzmán’s escape, along with several unanswered questions — Could he communicate with other prisoners through the bars of his cell? Why didn’t anyone hear digging? — provide grist for conspiracy theorists. If Guzmán had a cell phone in spite of prison rules, it’s possible that Sanchez-Villalobos did, too, and that he helped coordinate the escape tunnel from inside. Many elements of the smuggling tunnels in Otay Mesa — the depth, the lighting and ventilation systems, the wood shoring around the entry shaft — seemed

to be replicated in the Altiplano escape tunnel. “Based on the spade marks in the side walls, it looks like it was cut in the same manner, and that the soil consistency was similar to Otay Mesa,” a special agent who has examined many Sinaloa tunnels told me.

In December 2013, a Mexican court ordered that Sanchez-Villalobos be extradited to the U.S. He appealed. Such legal battles can take years, and Enrique Peña Nieto, the president of Mexico, has been loath to let Mexican prisoners out of the country. (It remains to be seen whether embarrassment over Guzmán’s second escape will soften Peña Nieto’s stance.) According to immigration records, at the time of his arrest in Mexico, Sanchez-Villalobos was a legal permanent resident of the U.S. He claimed Perris, California, not far from Riverside, as his primary residence. Federal authorities say that he listed his occupation as “construction.” ■

— Monte Reel

(This article first appeared in the August 3, 2015, issue of the New Yorker.)

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Tijuana experiment

continued from page 3

doing better than ever," Montijo says. "It's the biggest space in the *pasaje*, so we made it a venue with the idea of attracting a big crowd to come see how the *pasaje* has changed. It's an anchor to bring people out for anything from yoga classes to cinema screenings to educational workshops, such as Dr. Victor Clark's trans-border culture class based out of SDSU. It has an indie vibe and is very tolerant. We aren't being held back by public funding, so we're open to pretty much anything. There are many plans, but for now the owners want to see results, culturally and financially. Eventually, this can become an important cultural reference point for the world. Tourists come and say, 'This is like Paris or Berlin,' and that's a huge compliment. It means that what we're doing here is working."

Montijo notes that Pasaje Rodriguez's original rent of \$100 a month per locale has since doubled, on average.

"It's not stale anymore," he says. "We need to keep up with the demand. Of course, it's still real estate. Cultural management is necessary,

but naturally the owners are interested in value, even though they are coming to understand the new Tijuana. Sure, it's still for the tourists, who are slowly returning, but it's also for the locals." ■

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Chamber of Commerce... I don't want to waste a lot of time making a proposal, and solving the City's Film Office issue for nothing." Answered procurement specialist **Maureen Medvedyev**: "There is no preconceived or predetermined intent to award the contract to any particular individual or organization." According to Medvedyev, the city's request for ideas is "a well proven, neutral, and unbiased approach used in many industries." She added, "The intent is that whoever receives the contract to establish and run the San Diego Regional Film Office will be establishing it in such a way that it captures the aspirations and potential of our film industry for the City of San Diego." The deadline for idea submissions was December 15.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

the bill "allows fishermen's markets to operate as food facilities, vendors to clean their fish for direct sale, and multiple fishermen to organize a market under a single permit."

A pilot market has been running on Saturdays at the northern entrance to Seaport Village since August 2014, and local participants that have been involved in crafting the bill are optimistic.

"I see one [opening] in Ventura, Santa Barbara, Half Moon Bay — all of them have some form of market. All of these fishermen will be able to look at this legislation and say, 'Hey, we exist,'" said Peter Halmay, a member of the working group that helped craft the bill's language.

The new law takes effect January 1, though the local market, which on a recent Saturday was offering several varieties of fish along with live sea urchin and crabs, will continue operations as usual.

Dave Rice

Storm drained

Flooding cases lead to \$1 million payout

On December 15, the San

Diego City Council was expected to finalize payment of \$1 million to two property owners in San Diego's San Carlos neighborhood for flood damage resulting from a backed-up storm drain near their homes.

The proposed settlements are in addition to a September payout to another San Carlos resident, Tracy Krull, who received \$211,000 for damages incurred during the flood, as reported by the *San Diego Union-Tribune*.

According to city documents, two floods occurred — in May of 2014 and another in November 2014 — when stormwater channels located near the 7900 block of Beaver Lake Drive in San Carlos became clogged, forcing water into the neighborhood.

The first of the two settlements was expected to be paid to Madelyn and William Aguilar for \$500,000; the couple already received a \$50,000 payout for attorney fees.

The other settlement offer was in the amount of \$400,000, for Dean and Stacy Talbot; that was in addition to \$50,000 already paid for attorney fees.

The settlements come after the two couples filed

claims with the city's Risk Management Department, before any legal action was taken.

San Diego's crumbling infrastructure and corroded stormwater channels will be put to the test during what weather experts forecast to be a historically wet winter as a result of warming trends in the Pacific Ocean.

In recent years, the city has spent more money on stormwater maintenance. It's a wise decision, considering taxpayers run the risk of hefty fines from the local water board and lawsuits from property owners for flood damage.

According to a report by the *Voice of San Diego*, large fines and payouts caused the city to warn investors of municipal bonds about potential risks due to potential stormwater issues.

Dorian Hargrove

"Obviously intoxicated" deputies

Four out of eight liquor stores stung

Undercover sheriff deputies in Vista found plenty of liquor-store clerks willing to sell booze to "obviously intoxicated" patrons, according to the results of a sting on

December 5.

"An undercover deputy entered a licensed establishment and acted obviously intoxicated," reads a release from media relations officer Melissa Aquino. "He smelled of alcohol, stumbled into the store, slurred his speech, dropped items, bumped into displays, etc."

The "drunk" deputy then attempted to purchase alcohol. In four of the eight locations visited between 1:30 and 6:00 p.m., store employees completed a sale, despite the undercover officer's behavior. In these instances, state Alcoholic Beverage Control agents and uniformed deputies entered the store to lecture the clerk on California law, under which sale of alcohol to an intoxicated patron is a misdemeanor offense.

The enforcement was part of an educational outreach program funded by a \$100,000 state grant — no enforcement action will be taken against the unnamed offenders.

According to the California Highway Patrol, 4320 people were arrested on DUI charges throughout San Diego County last year; 1121 were involved in alcohol-related crashes.

Dave Rice

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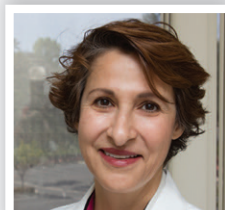
Restylane Lyft 1cc.....\$370
(2nd syringe \$25 Off, 3rd syringe \$35 Off)

Juvéderm XC 1ml.....\$325
(2nd syringe \$25 Off, 3rd syringe \$35 Off)

Juvéderm Voluma per syringe.....\$550
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LETTERS

continued from page 4

central San Diego residential areas already suffer from congestion and lack of parking. The new construction is occurring in historic neighborhoods where the distinctive architecture defines its character and is the draw to the area. When new construction destroys the essence of what the place

offers, it creates a tear in the fabric of the place. FoundationForForm seems to be worming itself into these pockets of our neighborhoods and changing the face of the place.

My point is this: Could Reader staff or contributors please follow-up or expand reporting on FoundationForForm? Who are they? From San Diego? What are architectural renderings for their current projects, vis a

vis style, adaptation to the neighborhood, opinion from surrounding residents? Did they get any construction variances, contribute to politicians, have a lobbyist, overpay/underpay for these sites? Community ties at all? Neighborhood notices/meetings? Negative feedback that they ignore? Complaints about quality of construction? My hope is to focus the public eye on this construction company that is creating pimples on San Diego's face.

Tangentially related to new construction, what's with all these condo/apartment complexes sitting on top of retail space? Who wants to live in this type of building? Could a writer interview many residents of these types of buildings to shed some light on why all the new construction is like this? And do people actually like it? I just don't see wanting to live above, say, a dry cleaner or a burger shop that stays open until 11 p.m., with customers coming and going. I think it would be very disconcerting to have the general public at your front door.

I think the Reader is the most relevant paper in San Diego right now. I wish everyone read it because I think San Diegans are so ignorant of what's going on in San Diego.

Name withheld
Golden Hill

No Cup of Sugar

I have read a lot of articles in your paper about Airbnb, and the effect it is having on neighbors of the rented properties. This is pretty much

happening in my very own neighborhood. So, I found it pretty hilarious/ironic/depressing when I saw a realty for-sale flyer today advertising that the property "rents easily on Air B&B." I'm sure the neighbors are thrilled! (Not.)

Name withheld
North Park

Businesses Can't Survive without Payment

I wanted to thank you for alerting the public about Yelp ("Yelp Giveth, and Yelp Taketh Away," October 8 cover story). It is a monster company.

I was hoping you could also do a story about another greedy, giant company we call Groupon. I know everyone is obsessed with it, which is why people should know that they take 40 percent of the profit after making you offer your service at 50 percent or more off the original price. People have no idea that we make nothing on it — only the hope of getting a new customer.

That would be fine except that people are jumping around from deal to deal and place to place, making nobody any money except for Groupon, and nobody getting new customers even when they are completely happy with what they received.

I try to inform people, and when I do people are shocked to hear it. I would love to see a main cover story about this so that Groupon is exposed, and customers are informed about what they are purchasing. Like Yelp this coupon service has put several small businesses out of business. This everybody-wants-everything-for-free madness needs to stop. Businesses cannot survive without payment.

Another story is this younger generation (college age) ruining everything! There's no more loyalty (with businesses), they ruined the dating scene (Date? What's that?), and tipping is becoming a lost art of gratitude.

Okay. I'm done. Thanks for letting me vent.

Name withheld
Point Loma

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 17

JINGLE BELL KROC

An ice-skating show featuring 140 Kroc Center figure-skaters (members who practice and train at the center) ranging in age from 3 to 71, with everything from little ones

performing for the first time to international medalists performing triple jumps. The evening ends with a public ice-skating session. Admission is free with the donation of a new unwrapped toy worth \$5 or more, which will go to a child in need this Christmas.

WHEN: 6 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, 6845 University Avenue, Rolando. 619-287-5762; sd.kroccenter.org

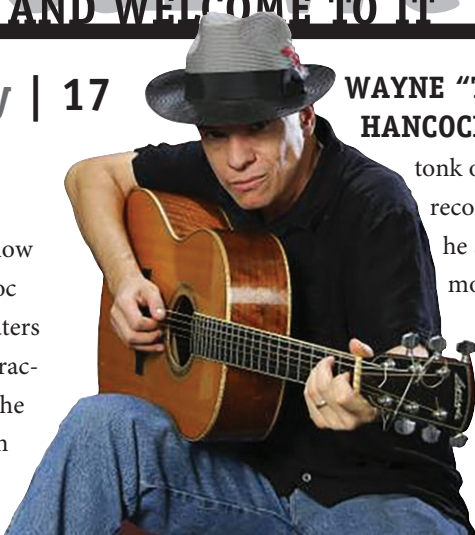
Friday | 18

MICHAEL MCDONALD

Michael McDonald is not a singer. That's the other guy. He is also not a professional fighter. That's the other other guy. He's also not an abusive unemployed alcoholic. That's some of the rest of the Michael McDonalds out there. You've found the one who is best known for his ten years playing freaks on *Mad TV*.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.

Also on Saturday.
WHERE: The American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue, downtown San Diego. 619-795-3858; americancomedyco.com



WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK

In 2013, the honky-tonk outsider released a record titled *Ride*. In 2014, he suffered a near-fatal motorcycle accident.

This year, Train's back at it with a head full of steam. Dave Good breaks down the Soda Bar show. Of Note, [page 58](#).

Saturday | 19

CANNON BATTLES

Experience combat at sea during the age of sail in a live simulated battle. Join the crew in defending your ship, raise the sails, heave the lines, and watch the action. This three-hour battle features booming cannons, close-quarters maneuvers, and a taste of 18th-century maritime life aboard tall ships. In addition, view the *Hawaiian Chieftain* and the *Lady Washington*, visiting from Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority in Washington. Children 12 & under, \$47; adults, \$91. Runs Saturdays and Sundays for three weeks (through January 3).

WHEN: 2 to 5 p.m.

WHERE: San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 North Harbor Drive, downtown San Diego. 619-234-9153; sdmaritime.org/visit/public-events/cannon-battle

THE RAVEONETTES

Sune Rose Wagner and Sharin Foo comprise the 15-year-strong Danish indie-rock duo whose music tends to the darker, more rocking side of shoegaze. For the past few years, the fair-skinned pair has



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9: CANNON BATTLES

immersed themselves in SoCal surf culture and released *Pe'ahi*, a surf-pop record. They drop in on Casbah this weekend. Club Crawler, [page 56](#).

WINEMAKERS SEMINAR: FILTRATION, STABILIZATION, AND BOTTLING

Lum Eisenman, local home wine-making guru, will cover filtration methods, when to filter (or not), the use of stabilizing additives, and methods of filling and finishing the bottles. In association with the San Diego Amateur Winemakers' Society.



WHEN: 1 to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Curds and Wine, 7194 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Kearny Mesa. 858-384-6566; bit.ly/1PWn8vx

Sunday | 20

DOLPHINS VS. CHARGERS

The San Diego Chargers take on the Miami Dolphins during the last regular-season home game. Get to the stadium early to check out

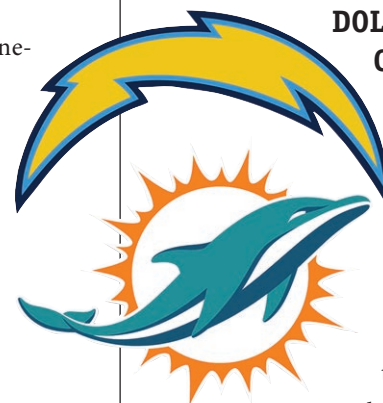
pre-game festivities. The parking lot will open five hours before kick-off, and Qualcomm Stadium will open its gates 90 minutes before the game.

WHEN: 1:25 p.m.

WHERE: Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road, Mission Valley. 619-283-0460; chargers.com

LEAGUE OF LEGENDS TOURNAMENT

The first 30 registered participants who are present at the start of the event will receive a spot on one of six teams. First place: a League of Legends Riot Points \$25 gift card. If you're into gaming, you'll



appreciate this: GameSync offers average ping times to the NA server of 15 ms, 5v5 capability, and extended weekend hours for late-night *pew pew* ing.

WHEN: 11 a.m.

WHERE: GameSync Gaming Center, 7905 Silverton Avenue, Mira Mesa. 858-777-1997; gamesync.us/league-of-legends

MÖTLEY CRÜE & ALICE

COOPER. “All bad things must come to an end” is how the hard-rock staples describe their final tour, which rolls through town at Viejas Arena and wraps with three dates at the Staples Center in the Crüe’s hometown of Los Angeles December 28, 30, and 31. Alice

Cooper has stated that he has no plans to quit the road. He is a vampire, after all. Club Crawler, [page 56](#).



Monday | 21

POINSETTIA BOWL GASLAMP MARCH

Marching bands, spirit squads, and mascots from the participating universities will parade from each end of Fifth



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17: JINGLE BELL KROC

Avenue performing holiday classics, meeting up at Market Street for a battle of the bands. After the dust has settled, bands continue on with their parade. San Diego State Aztecs are still eligible to receive the bowl invitation.

WHEN: 6 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Avenue from E Street to K Street. 619-233-5227; sandiegobowlgames.com/gaslamp-march

DISAPPEARING ACT. It’s said that 22 veterans in the U.S. commit suicide every day. The number spikes during the holidays. Delia Knight’s world-premiere drama tells her personal account of a veteran coming home. Through December 20 at Diversionary Theatre in University Heights. Theater, [page 66](#).

Tuesday | 22

KING TIDE: PHOTO OP

Based on the current warming trend, the Pacific Ocean is predicted to rise on the California coast by about one foot by 2050 and three feet by the year 2100. A three-foot rise in sea level would displace an estimated 480,000 people in California alone. A good way



to mark the change is to monitor the king tides, or the highest tides of the year. The California King Tide Photo Initiative is looking for photos anywhere along the California coast during the king tides, December 22 to 24. There are several ways to enter your photos, including Facebook, Flickr, and email. Details at trnerr.org/king-tides.

YOUTH. Rachel Weisz talks with the Reader’s Matthew Lickona about working with director Paolo Sorrentino on his latest project, a sumptuous meditation on life and art and also life. Movies, [page 61](#).

Wednesday | 23

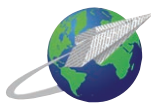
COWLES MOUNTAIN WINTER SOLSTICE HIKE

At 6 a.m. on the mornings of December 21, 22, and 23, guides will lead experienced hikers up Cowles Mountain. Rather than hit the peak, they’ll go off-trail to visit a Kumeyaay solstice observatory. From this vantage point, the tribe would

commemorate the shortest day of the year by watching the sun rise over an outcropping of rock that effectively splits the heavenly body in two. The three-mile hike is rated as difficult.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 23, 6 a.m. to 8 a.m.

WHERE: Cowles Mountain, Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive, San Carlos. 619-668-3281; mtrp.org/events



Gather No Moss

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Hiking through the alpine Haute-Savoie countryside

France's Haute-Savoie: Not the Riviera

By Jan Sevilla

On a steep, narrow country road 3700 feet above sea level, my travel partner accelerated the engine, heading toward the sound of Alpine bells. As herdsman rallied the cows to graze on the undulating pastures of the Haute-Savoie, the early-morning sun tinted the landscape ahead in soft hues. Beyond were crystal-line peaks, including Mont Blanc.

It was the last week of May. Although the snow that once covered the summit of the Aravis ranges had melted, nearby Lake Annecy was still shaded in melancholy. Right below us were several wooden chalets that opened up to flower-brimmed meadows.

Had it rained that day, the drive would have been even more difficult; low-lying mists are known to mantle these highlands, and temperatures can drop rapidly. I thought of the days when pilgrims ascended these foothills — how brave they were to cross the perilous mountain passes on foot and without safety harnesses.

Unlike the monks, the nuns of the surrounding abbeys, or the Hindu astronomer who visited Cruseilles before us on a quest for spiritual emancipation, we came to the Haute-Savoie region in southeastern France simply to escape the maddening crowds of the glitzy French Riviera.

Although there are many ways to avoid the mob in late spring or early summer, I latched onto the idea of leaving the big city behind for a small village in cow country, reasoning that the long drive would be an experience in itself. Certainly a more peaceful time awaits for those who make it here.

Arriving in Cruseilles, a small town in the Haute-Savoie, it was instantly apparent that we were no longer in sexy Saint Tropez or Nice. My travel partner and I were drawn to the town's simplicity and unpretentiousness.

Win \$25 for your travel tips or a Reader T-Shirt or hat for the best travel photo of the week. Go to SDReader.com/travel for more information.

Quite unlike the coveted Cote d'Azur, this part of the Haute-Savoie thrives on the beauty of snowcapped mountains and pine-scented countryside. Here is a different side of France. It's a geographical point of intersection where three countries meet — and sometimes collide. To the east is Italy, to the south Savoie, with its imposing French Alps, and Switzerland to the north crossing Lake Lemman (or Lake Geneva).

The Savoyards are known for their superior cheese and cured meat. Once you've fallen under the spell of the *typiquement Savoyard* lifestyle, it's hard to resist the welcoming change.

So it was when Nicolas Odin, the convivial proprietor of Domaine des Avenières — a Relais and Chateaux property nestled in the mountainous outskirts between Annecy and Geneva — opened up his *maison* to escaping pilgrims like us.

"I have always loved to live here. Cruseilles might be somewhere in the middle of nowhere, but I grew up in this village and there's nowhere else I can consider a place called home," said Odin with his French accent while holding his wife Laurence's hands.

Odin's first childhood memories were of the Alps, green pastures, deep glacier beds, lakes, and an eerie 20th-century manor house sitting remotely on a knoll. It was the house that struck his curiosity: the austere weather-beaten roofs, stone walls, and brick

continued on page 43

Other Adventures



edrampell: The museum dedicated to the painter Giovanni Segantini at St. Moritz, Switzerland

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

WILSON TRAIL (ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK)

Follow an old jeep trail into a wilderness area with spectacular views.

Distance from downtown San Diego: About 75 miles. Allow 1.5 hours driving time (Ranchita). From the Ramona intersection of SR-67 and SR-78, drive east on SR-78 for 14.5 miles to Santa Ysabel. Turn left (north) and drive 11.5 miles on SR-79 N and turn right (east) onto the San Felipe Rd. (S-2). Drive 4.7 miles on S-2 and then turn left (east) onto Montezuma Rd. (S-22). Go 6.8 miles on S-22 to the Jasper Truck Trail on right (south). A 4WD or high-clearance vehicle is recommended. Follow the Jasper Trail for 1.4 miles to Old Culp Valley Road, also a jeep road, and go left (east). In 1.5 miles is the signed Wilson trailhead on the right. Park here to begin the hike. The trailhead is also accessible from Culp Valley. **Hiking length:** 8.5 miles out-and-back. **Difficulty:** Moderate with elevation gain/loss of 1400 feet. Dogs and mountain bikes not allowed on hiking trails. No facilities and no water. The relatively high elevation of Pinyon Ridge means that it is usually at least 10 degrees cooler than Borrego Valley, so it could be attempted at any time of the year, although it may be uncomfortably warm from June through September.



The summit has a sweeping view of Borrego Valley.

Wilson Trail and Peak were named for the rancher, Alfred Wilson, who ran cattle in this area in the first half of the 20th Century. The Wilson Trail goes southeast along Pinyon Ridge for several miles to just beyond Wilson Peak, which, at 4573 feet, is the ridge high point. Wilson Trail and Peak are in the middle of a designated wilderness area and not open to motorized vehicles. The trail goes through an interesting mix of forest, chaparral, and desert species. There are scattered pinyon pines and junipers, as well as abundant cholla, sugar bush, mountain mahogany, and chamise. Although the area was burned in the 2013 Ranchita Fire, it is encouraging to watch the vegetation recover, often with great success. Also, the 2013 fire made this a prime area for spring wildflowers, which, because of the altitude, bloom later than those in



The Wilson Trail begins near the Old Culp Valley Road.

Borrego Valley.

The Wilson Trail now serves as a hiking-only trail. Years ago it was open to 4WD vehicles, as well as horses and cattle, but it has been closed to them for many years now.

The trail goes over a series of ridges and through intervening valleys on an easily followed decomposed granite path, maintained only by the feet of hikers who have gone before on this trek just north of Wilson Peak. To reach the peak, look for one of the many improvised trails up to the peak, and don't miss it, as it provides spectacular views in all directions. To the east are the Salton Sea and the Chocolate Mountains in Imperial County. To the southeast are Whale Peak and the Pinyon Mountains. To the southwest are the Laguna and Cuyamaca mountains, and to the northeast are Palomar Observatory and the sweep of the Santa Rosa Mountains with Borrego Valley below.

The trail is entirely within the transition zone found in

continued on page 40



Find maps for the hikes and more Roam-O-Rama columns online at SDReader.com/roam

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Contributions must be received by 5pm Friday the week prior to publication for consideration. Do not phone. Submit information online at SDReader.com/events.

Blue titles indicate sponsored events. To place a sponsored listing, call 619-235-8200.

ART

Downtown at Sundown Visual arts and performing arts converge at MCASD's new after-hours offering: Downtown at Sundown. Local partners Stone Brewing Company, The Flight Path Wine Bar & Bistro, and SDSU Downtown Gallery join MCASD to welcome you to the downtown neighborhood of Core-Columbia. Enjoy free admission and guided tours of exhibitions at MCASD Downtown and SDSU Downtown Gallery, located one block south of the museum. Take advantage of \$5 drink and appetizer specials at The Flight Path Wine Bar & Bistro and Stone Brewing Company, next door to the museum on Kettner. At MCASD Downtown, music by emerging DJs and performing art events ranging from dance excerpts to music ensembles or spoken word. Join conversation-based tours led by gallery educators at 5:30pm and 6:45pm or drop in on Xcerpts, a book club held in the new readingROOM across the street at 1001 Kettner. Peruse the shelves of the pop-up book truck parked on the North Plaza at 1001 Kettner, and curl up with your selection on outdoor furniture supplied by the Downtown San Diego Partnership for an al fresco read. Thursday, December 17, 5pm; **free**. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Free Third Thursday On the third Thursday of every month from 5pm to 7pm, visitors receive free admission to both Museum of Contemporary Art locations, plus free themed gallery guided tours beginning at 5:30pm. Thursday, December 17, 5pm; **free**. Museum of Contemporary

Art San Diego, La Jolla, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

BEER

Kilowatt Brewing: Holiday Party Release of the Gingerbread Brown Ale and \$1 off any holiday beer pint. Abu's Kitchen will be on site from 5-9 pm delivering dishes from Latin America, including holiday dishes with suggested Kilowatt beer pairings. Friday, December 18, 12pm; **free**. Kilowatt Brewing, 7576 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Latitude 33 Beer Pairing Dinner A three-course beer pairing dinner hosted by Chef Adrian from The Safehouse and Latitude 33 brewer Casey Petty. Three courses plus three paired brews for \$30. Thursday, December 17, 7pm; \$30. Safehouse, 2930 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

BOOK SIGNING

Nima, the Sherpa of Namche Meditate with the image of the giant Pak Chong Buddha of Wat Theppitak Punaram, Northern Thailand. Throughout the afternoon, continuous 15-minute meditation sessions, saging with native sage, and watercolor making. Plus a booksigning of the children's book, *Nima, the Sherpa of Namche*. Saturday, December

19, 12pm; **free**. Eye of Buddha, 4247 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Carlsbad Village Celebration The Carlsbad Village Association hosts a village celebration. Carlsbad-based Pacific Motion Dance Company performs holiday-themed numbers, a middle-school choir sings Christmas carols, and musicians play live "busker style" holiday-themed music. Friday, December 18, 4pm; **free**. Choice Superfood Bar & Juicery, 430 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Family Festival: Cirque Musica Conductor Sameer Patel, San Diego Master Chorale, and San Diego Children's Choir, with guests Cirque Musica, will present popular holiday carols and hits in this one-hour afternoon event especially for families with young children. Sunday, December 20, 1pm; \$20-\$35. Jacobs Music Center, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Fantasy on Ice The old Horton Plaza ice-skating rink has been permanently relocated to a new Liberty Station location. While the place may not be the same, the fun will continue to benefit the Peckham Center for Cancer

and Blood Disorders at Rady Children's Hospital. And parking is not just easier, but free. Skating commenced November 19 and will continue until January 3. Admission ranges from \$10-14, operating from 10am-10pm daily, with the pace expected to pick up during night sessions, after the younger children have gone home. Daily, 10am; \$10-\$14. NTC at Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

Frosty Farm Kids can have a holiday-themed animal encounter with alpacas, chinchillas, doves, sheep, chickens, and Blitzen the miniature horse "reindeer" and take pictures with Santa and his polar dog. Each child receives a plush toy from Santa. With cookie decorating, face painting, faux snow, crafts, and live music. Runs three weekends through Christmas. \$12 adult; \$23 per child. Saturday, December 19, 9am; Sunday, December 20, 9am; \$12-\$23. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Gingerbread House Competition Omni La Costa resort celebrates by sponsoring a gingerbread house contest, with cash and prizes inspiring local bakers and holiday enthusiasts to come up with an inventive batch of decorative cookie and icing structures. Judges include local editors and reporters plus an interior designer to show it's legit. All entries on display to

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the public from 10am-7pm at the resort's Plaza from December 4 to January 4. **Free.** Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

Holiday Pops: Cirque Musica Cirque Musica features acrobats and jugglers demonstrating strength, balance, and daring to musical accompaniment. With conductor Matthew Garbutt, San Diego Master Chorale, and San Diego Children's Choir. Friday, December 18, 8pm; Saturday, December 19, 2pm and 8pm; Sunday, December 20, 7:30pm; \$20-\$96. Jacobs Music Center, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Holiday Wonderland at Petco One of SoCal's best ballparks transforms into a wintry North Pole scene. The event is back for its second year and is bigger than ever with a new layout and enhanced holiday experiences. Visit Santa's Workshop, feed live reindeer, ride a Polar Express train, explore Candyland, take a photo with Santa, and gaze at the 40-foot-tall Christmas tree. Holiday-themed concessions and merchandise available for purchase throughout the ballpark. Friday, December 18, through Wednesday, December 23, 4:30pm; \$10-\$20. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Hot Buttered Run 10K & Kandy Kane Race A holiday-themed event for the whole family. After you finish the 10K, the Barefoot Restaurant will have a

hot buttered rum for adults and hot chocolates for kids waiting for you. Christmas-tree lined route with island feel. Holiday run/walk capped at 1500. The Kids Kandy Kane Race is for kids ages 3-12. Kids 5-12 years old can run the Kids Kandy Kane 1K (an official .612 miles). Bring the entire crew, dress up, and show your Christmas cheer. Sunday, December 20, 8am; Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 Vacation Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Jingle Bell Kroc An ice skating show featuring 140 Kroc Center figure skaters (members who practice and train at the center) ranging in age from 3 to 71, with everything from little ones performing for the first time to international medalists performing triple jumps. The evening ends with a public ice skating session. Admission is free with the donation of a new unwrapped toy worth \$5 or more, which go to children in need this Christmas. Thursday, December 17, 6pm; **free.** Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, 6845 University Avenue. (ROLANDO)

Jungle Bells A chance to see exotic animals at night makes this annual event worth a look, but from December 12 to January 3 the zoo is decked out with holiday lights and special performances, plus hot chocolate and cookies. Expect music, animal-themed Christmas tales, and Santa holding court in an igloo while his elves bounce on a

Rhyme & Verse

Two sonnets by William Wordsworth

The Virgin

Mother! whose virgin bosom was uncrost
With the least shade of thought to sin allied.
Woman! above all women glorified,
Our tainted nature's solitary boast;
Purer than foam on central ocean tost;
Brighter than eastern skies at daybreak strewn
With fancied roses, than the unblemished moon
Before her wane begins on heaven's blue coast;
Thy image falls to earth. Yet some, I ween,
Not unforgiven the suppliant knee might bend,
As to a visible Power, in which did blend
All that was mixed and reconciled in thee
Of mother's love with maiden purity,
Of high with low, celestial with terrene!

trampoline. Tying the wacky vibe together will be the large, tropical toog tree in the zoo's Front Plaza, outfitted with a musical light display featuring over 1000 bulbs. Daily, 9am. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Kids Countdown to Christmas Holiday films paired with deco-

rating cookies, crafting ornaments, sipping hot cocoa, and visiting with Mrs. Claus. 12/18: Movie night and cookie decorating featuring *Elf*. 12/20: Movie night and cookie decorating featuring *The Polar Express*. 12/22: Arts & Crafts with Mrs. Claus. 12/23: Movie night featuring *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. **Free.** Hilton Oceanfront Resort at Carlsbad Beach, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

Kids' Painting Class: Happy Holidays A snowman spreads joy and cheer to the children of the world. Sign your little one up for this holiday kids class. Painting is done on an 11"x14" canvas. Info: 760-696-3380. Saturday, December 19, 1pm; \$25. T.G.I. Friday's Carlsbad, 890 Palomar Airport Road. (CARLSBAD)

The Nutcracker: California Ballet With the Classics Philharmonics and the San Diego Symphony, presented by California Ballet Company. Thursday, December 17, 7:30pm; \$25-\$105. San Diego

Nuns Fret Not at Their Convent's Narrow Room

Nuns fret not at their convent's narrow room;
And hermits are contented with their cells;
And students with their pensive citadels;
Maids at the wheel, the weaver at his loom,
Sit blithe and happy; bees that soar for bloom,
High as the highest Peak of Furness-fells,
Will murmur by the hour in foxglove bells:
In truth the prison, into which we doom
Ourselves, no prison is: and hence for me,
In sundry moods, 'twas pastime to be bound
Within the Sonnet's scanty plot of ground;
Pleased if some Souls (for such there needs must be)
Who have felt the weight of too much liberty,
Should find brief solace there, as I have found.



William Wordsworth (1770-1850) was an English poet and along with Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834) was instrumental in initiating the Romantic Age in English literature with *Lyrical Ballads* (1798), which the two poets published jointly. His most accomplished work is the long poem *The Prelude*, but he was also well known for rejuvenating the sonnet as a literary form. He was the Poet Laureate of Britain from 1843 until his death.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Nutcracker: City Ballet Accompanied by the City Ballet Orchestra and Chorus. Following each matinee performance, members of the cast will be in the lobby to greet the audience and pose for photos. Friday, December 18, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 19, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 20, 2pm; Tuesday, December 22, 2pm and 7:30pm; Wednesday, December 23, 2pm and 7:30pm; \$29-\$79. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Teddy Bear Tea Families and children are invited to a tea party experience plus hot chocolate, cookie and cupcake decorating, a craft table, live entertainment, and story time with Mrs. Claus and North Pole elves. Families are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped teddy bear as a donation to Toys for Tots. Teddy Bears will be available for purchase and donation on-site. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to

the charity. Sunday, December 20, 11am and 1:30pm; \$29-\$56. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Wally Bunting's Christmas Show A Modern Profession Presents: Wally Bunting's Christmas Show, celebrating the days of yesteryear and minutes of now. Sponsored by Film Consortium San Diego. Featuring Dallas S. McLaughlin, Lauren O'Brien, Ryan Hicks, Dr. AJ Knox, Nick Crosby, Jimmy Callaway, Jeffrey Berner, Chris Curtis. Sunday, December 20, 8pm; \$10. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Chicks with Sticks Knitting Group You are invited to join knitter friends at monthly meetups. We rotate locations, times, and days on the North County coast. Relax and knit

WIN A NIGHT OF COMEDY

Enter to win 4 tickets to see TJ Miller at American Comedy Co. + a bucket of beer.

Enter by Wednesday, December 30th at 1PM.

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ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 38

the dryer and hotter high-elevation mountains of San Diego County. There are conifers — junipers and pinyon pines — but not those requiring more rainfall and cooler temperatures. Many typical desert plants are abundant here, especially cholla and other cacti. There also are numerous chaparral species, including sugar bush, scrub oaks, Mojave yucca, chamise, big berry manzanita, and cup leaf ceanothus.

As mentioned above, this area burned recently. You will see blackened skeletons of many of these plants. Some may not be recognizable, as most of their distinguishing characteristics were burned. However, others are sprouting new growth from their bases or were only minimally damaged by the fire. The fire killed most of the desert apricot bushes and very few seem to be sprouting new

growth. Similarly, the pinyon pines found on the ridge appear to be dead. Their recovery will depend on seeds released from their cones by the fire's heat. Most junipers, however, are faring rather well.

The best parts of the Wilson Trail are the spectacular wildflowers found here in spring. There are large patches of white layia or white daisy tidytips, cream cups, goldfields, baby blue eyes, desert blue bells, yellow pincushion, and many others. Even if you can't make it during the wildflower season, the trail provides excellent views in all directions and an abundance of huge granite boulders eroded into fantastic shapes.

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to lead interpretive nature walks that teach appreciation for the great outdoors. For a schedule of free public hikes, refer to the San Diego Natural History Museum website.

with friends, share project ideas, mentor a beginner, or get tips on improving your knitting. All knitters are welcome. Sunday, December 20, 8am; **free**. 18 and up. Jitters Coffee Pub, 510 N. Coast Hwy., Suite D. (OCEANSIDE)

Painting Class: Season's Greetings The holiday season is upon us. As the sun sets over the ocean, holiday lights begin to illuminate the palm trees. Info: 760-696-3380. Thursday, December 17, 6pm; \$25. San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery, 8364 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Scrabble Club All are welcome. Bring your own board and meet new friends. Tuesday, December 22, 5pm; **free**. University Community Library, 4155 Governor Drive. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Winemakers Seminar: Filtration, Stabilization, and Bottling Lum Eisenman, local home winemaking guru, will cover various filtration methods, when to filter (or not), the use of

stabilizing additives, and methods of filling and finishing the bottles. In association with the San Diego Amateur Winemakers' Society. Saturday, December 19, 1pm; **free**. Curds and Wine, 7194 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

COMEDY

Comedy in La Mesa \$10 at the door gets you an evening of music and comedy plus a beer or glass of wine. No minimum. Light fare available. Musical guest Blaine Sample on guitar at 7pm. Comedy at 8pm featuring Toni Torquato, Cat McCoy, Lisa G, Niki Perri, David Freitas. Gene Levin hosts. Friday, December 18, 7pm; \$10. 18 and up. Spacebar Cafe, 7454 University Ave., Suite A. (LA MESA)

Gaslamp Open Mic Watch Southern California's up-and-

coming comics test their skills in front of live audience, hosted by Mike Ula. Comics get three minutes. Signups start at 7 pm and the show begins promptly at 8 pm. Tuesdays, 8pm; **free**. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Joey Diaz Born in Havana, Cuba and raised in North Bergen, NJ, Joey "Coco" Diaz has quickly become one of the most sought after actors and comedians in the entertainment industry. Thursday, December 17, 8pm; \$18. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Leslie Jordan: Southern Holiday Stories Leslie Jordan from *Will and Grace*, *The Help*, and *American Horror Story: Coven*, will ring in the holidays with an intimate evening of laughs. Have a yuletide laugh as Leslie shares the crazy antics of the holidays celebrated Southern

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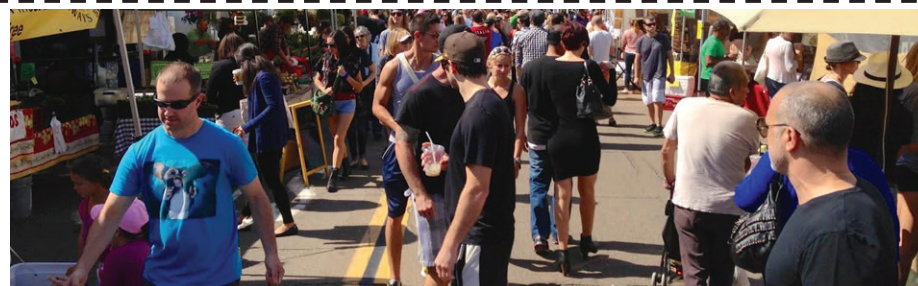


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SHEEP and GOATS

Charles Chiniquy

It seemed that God was far away, but He was very near. Suddenly the thought entered my mind: “You have your Gospel; read it, and you will find the light.” On my knees, and with trembling hand, I opened the book. Not I, but God opened it, for my eyes fell on I Cor. 7:23: “you have been

bought with a price; do not become the slaves of men.” With these words the light came to me, and for the first time I saw the great mystery of salvation, as much as man can see it. I said to myself, “Jesus has bought me. Then, if Jesus has bought me, He has saved me. I am saved. Jesus is my God! All the works of God

are perfect...” I then felt such a joy, such a peace, that the angels of God could not be more happy than I was.”
— from “The Finished Wonder”

Charles P. Chiniquy (1809–1899) was a recalcitrant Canadian Roman Catholic priest who eventually left the faith to become a Presbyterian pastor. Born

in Quebec, he was ordained a Catholic priest in 1833 and eventually became known for his temperance campaign against alcohol. Sued by a prominent Catholic layman, Chiniquy hired then-aspiring attorney Abraham Lincoln to defend him. After clashing with the Chicago hierarchy of the Church, Chiniquy left the priesthood and wrote a number of bombastic

titles against his former faith, including The Priest, the Woman, and the Confessional. He was also known for his conspiracy theories — including the theory that the Civil War was started as a way for the Vatican to conquer the U.S.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship



style. Thursday, December 17, 8pm; \$40-\$45. 18 and up. Martinis Above Fourth, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

Michael McDonald Best known for his ten years playing freaks on *Mad TV*, Michael got his start writing and performing for free at the famed Groundlings Theater in Los Angeles. He eventually moved behind the camera to write and direct terrible movies. Whenever his schedule permits (translation: frequently), McDonald tours the country doing stand-up comedy. Friday, December 18, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$18. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tonight in San Diego Episode 66 Guests include media personality Kiptyn Locke and musical performance by Hirie. *Tonight in San Diego* is a variety talk show with a similar format to *Conan* or *The Tonight Show*, but for all things San Diego. Monday, December 21, 7:30pm; \$7. Horton Grand Theatre, 444 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Argentine Tango with Colette Take a free first class on Thursday, December 17 at 6pm (or any Thursday thereafter). You can also come and register directly in the course for beginners given every Monday and Wednesday at 7pm. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Rd., corner Dewey, Studio #106. tangowithcolette.com or 514-726- 5567. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Studio 106. (POINT LOMA)

Contradancing No partners needed, and no experience necessary. Calling by JoAnn Koppany. Live music by Flashing Sirens. Teaching from 7:30pm-8pm. Dance starts at 8pm, with a break for refreshments at 9:30pm. Wear soft-soled shoes to protect the dance floor, and bring a bottle of water to stay hydrated. Discount price for students, full-time college students, and active duty military with current ID. Friday, December 18, 7:30pm; \$10. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Engagement Ring The Engagement Ring is a series of innovative and accessible dance events that encourage attendees to participate, contribute, and engage with the art of dance. Vulpes Vulpes hereby invites you into the fox den. You may partake in secret rites, discover hidden truths, or unravel great mysteries. Please leave your identity at the door. Tell no one. Obscuris vera involvens. Saturday, December 19, 7pm; \$10-\$15. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

Tribal Fusion Bellydance Showcase Features live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble. Thursday, December 17, 8pm; \$10. Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Knit a Bit and Crochet A bi-weekly gathering of creative, crafty yarn workers who are happy to admire your accomplishments (no matter how modest) and assist you with your knottiest problems. Wednesday,

December 23, 12:30pm; Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

FOR KIDS

League of Legends Tournament The first 30 registered participants who are present at the start of the event will receive a spot on one of six teams. First place: a League of Legends Riot Points \$25 gift card. If you’re into gaming, you’ll appreciate this: GameSync offers average ping times to the NA server of 15 ms, 5v5 capability, and extended weekend hours for late-night *pew pew* *pew*-ing. Sunday, December 20, 11am; **free**. GameSync Gaming Center, 7905 Silverton Avenue #104. (MIRA MESA)

FOOD & DRINK

Afternoon Holiday Teas In European tradition, the teas at the hotel feature an array of teas, seasonal beverages, petit fours, house-made canapes, and more. Saturday, December 19, 2:30pm; \$30-\$45. Westgate Hotel, 1055

Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Holiday Party at Hipcooks Sample treats from favorite classes and meet the community of Hipcooks students and staff. The party menu lets you preview the classes. Menu: port-glazed walnuts from the Cocktails 2 class, bb’stilla from The Moroccan Spice Trail, coconut sticky rice with shrimp from Thai One On, and holiday cookies and mulled wine from Cocktails 2. Sunday, December 20, 5pm; **free**. Hipcooks, 4048 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Tiki Christmas Sponsored by local distiller, Malahat Spirits. Quad’s signature cocktails will feature their line of rum, made right here in San Diego. Friday, December 18, 7pm; Quad Alehouse, 868 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Wine Tasting: Holiday Staff Picks Ever wonder what our team of wine experts drinks with their holiday meals? Taste some of our personal favorites, meant to pair perfectly with holiday dishes. Wednesday, December 23, 4pm; \$15. 21 and up. Wine-Sellar and Brasserie, 9550 Waples Street #115. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

LECTURES

Business Expo Investment Forum North County San Diego entrepreneur offers a two-hour speaking engagement entitled What Would I Do with Three Million Dollars? Fidelity focused. Three different projects for investment strategies. Focused conflict resolution in America. No charge. Beverages and snacks included. Topics for investment: 1) Corporate Green Company 2) New diplomatic think tank 3) Two unreleased major motion pictures. All ideas groundbreaking. Thursday, December 21, 1-3pm. Info: 760-560-6092 or michael.joseph_velvet@yahoo.com. Encinitas Technology Center, 533 2nd Street. (ENCINITAS)

Life Aboard a 16th-Century Galleon Climbing out of his boat and onto shore in 1542, Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo stepped into history as the first European to set foot on what is now the West Coast of the United States. Have you ever wondered what life might have been like for sailors in the 1500s when the New World was new? Cabrillo Monument Living History takes

\$15 Special price for listings of this size on these Sheep & Goats pages. 50 words or less, 50 cents for each additional word. Call Lauren Bishop: (619) 235-3000 ext. 200 or email her: lbishop@SDReader.com Or - easiest of all - go to SDReader.com/ SheepAds and place your ad automatically any time of day or night.

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SORRENTO VALLEY
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FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO
Dignity/ SD LGBTQ-Friendly Christmas Eve Mass



Join our LGBTQ-Friendly Christmas Eve Mass at 7pm on Thursday, December 24th at Clark Chapel. Father Don Greene will preside as we celebrate Jesus’ birth with Eucharist, followed by a Hot Cocoa Social. Open

for all ages. Free parking available in ACE lot next to church. http://DignitySD.org
HILLCREST
4190 Front Street
619-298-9978

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1ST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH
First Spiritualist Church



Every Thursday: Psychic Development/Mediumship 6:30-8:30pm Wednesday, December 16: Reiki Practice Group 7-9pm Saturday, December 19: Christmas Candlelight Service 6:30pm Sunday Service, December 20: Meditation/Auric Healings: 10am

Lecture Service/Messages: 11am Guest Speaker: Rev. Rosie Oberlies Christmas Communion Service Saturday, January 9: Manifestation Meditation \$10, to bring forth abundance, love, and health 7pm For urgent prayer request call 619-246-5929 Readings, Healings and Counseling by appointment. www.1st-spiritualistchurch.org
CITY HEIGHTS
3777 42nd Street
619-284-4646

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Pastor Paul Willweber Sunday Worship 9am Bible Class, Sunday School 10:30am Bible Study Tuesdays 10am Youth Night 2nd/4th Wed 6:30-8pm. Sonshine Kids Wed & Thurs 10-11am and 3:30-4:30pm Sep thru May. Contact info: 619-583-1436
ALLIED GARDENS
6801 Easton Court
619-583-1436

Dulzura Community Church: Not Just for Locals
Enjoy a Sunday drive to the scenic backcountry. Join us 10 am Sunday mornings for non-denominational worship service. Unhappy with your church? Try ours! We think you’ll be glad you did. We’re open to all, not just local residents. 94 East to Dulzura, go south on Community Building Road about two blocks. More information at https://www.facebook.com/dulzura-church. See you there?

a look at 16th-century shipboard life. In the Visitor Center. Saturdays, 1:30pm; through Saturday, December 19, \$8. Cabrillo National Monument, 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive. (POINT LOMA)

Pearl Harbor: Day of Infamy, Day of Sacrifice Historian, writer, and artist Mark Carlson will talk about one of America's darkest defeats, the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Were the Japanese able to attack with such success because of their cunning and planning? Or was there American involvement in the attack? Thursday, December 17, 2pm; **free**. University Community Library, 4155 Governor Drive. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

OUTDOORS

Cowles Mountain Winter Solstice Hike At 6am on the mornings of December 21, 22, and 23, guides will lead experienced hikers up Cowles Mountain. Rather than hit the peak, they'll go off-trail to visit a Kumeyaay solstice observatory. From this vantage point, the tribe would commemorate the shortest day of the year by watching the sun rise over an outcropping of rock that effectively splits the heav-

enly body in two. The three-mile hike is rated as difficult, and it's requested that flashlights have red lenses or covers, as bright lights will prevent other hikers' eyes from adjusting to the dark. Info: 619-668-3281 or mtrp@mtrp.org. Monday, December 21, 6am; Tuesday, December 22, 6am; Wednesday, December 23, 6am; **free**. Cowles Mountain, Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Holiday Scavenger Hunt Adventure A great activity with family in town. Turn San Diego into a giant gameboard with this fun scavenger hunt adventure. Combine the excitement of *The Amazing Race* with a fun city tour. Guided from any smart phone, teams see the sights while solving clues, completing challenges and learning local history. Available 365 days, sunrise to sunset. Now two quests to choose from in San Diego: Old Town/Little Italy and the Waterfront or the newly released Balboa Park Quest. Save 20% with Promo: READER. Sign up at urbanadventurequest.com. (BALBOA PARK)

Nature's Wealth Learn about the amazing variety of plant and animal life in San Diego's ecologically rich sage, chaparral, and riparian communities

on an informative walk with a Mission Trail Regional Park trail guide. Meet inside Visitor Center. Saturday, December 19, 9:30am; Sunday, December 20, 9:30am; Wednesday, December 23, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Shaman's Hike A short hike to a power spot where we will explore shamanic traditions of the Americas. We will learn about saging, calling the directions, creating sacred space, and harnessing the energies of nature for healing, insight, and wisdom. We will do some healing work, sharing and story-telling, and make some shamanic art. Bring a blanket to sit on and a drum or rattle. Meet at West End Parking Staging area at 3200 Sorrento Valley Boulevard. Sunday, December 20, 3pm; **free**. Sorrento Valley trailhead, 4206 Sorrento Valley Boulevard. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Winter Birding at Lake Murray Join Mission Trails Regional Park birding guides Jeanne Raimond and Millie Basden at Lake Murray in search of resident and migratory water and land species. The Tri-Colored Blackbird, found year round only in California, is on our possible sightings list. Meet on the north side of the lake at Murray Park Drive and Belle

Glade Ave., and park in dirt lot by ball field. Saturday, December 19, 8am; **free**. Lake Murray Community Park, 7001 Murray Park Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Poinsettia Bowl Gaslamp March Marching bands, spirit squads, and mascots from the participating universities will parade from each end of Fifth Avenue performing holiday classics, meeting up at Market Street for a Battle of the Bands. After the dust has settled, bands continue on with their parade. Our own San Diego State Aztecs are eligible to receive the bowl invitation. Monday, December 21, 6pm; **free**. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Simply the Best Singles This upscale organization for singles looking for relationships, marriage, and more, offers a Singles New Year's Eve Gala for singles age 40-60ish at the Del Mar Hilton (by the racetrack). With live band Hitman Honey, appetizers,

icebreaker game, prizes, champagne toast, party favors, tarot card reader, and photos. Classy dress. Self parking \$5; valet \$15 (originally \$20). Dance price \$50 prepay/\$55 door. Prepay at simplythebestsingles.com or call 818-577-6877. Hilton Del Mar, 15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

SPOKEN WORD

So Say We All's VAMP: Seasonal Affective Disorder It's that time of year again. When everyone else is sitting around a cozy fireplace and you're wearing flip flops. Or everyone else is merry and bright and you're not. Join us for an evening or stories showcasing the less-than-festive side of things. Thursday, December 17, 8:30pm; **free**-\$5. 21 and up. Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Holiday Women's Celebration Kwai Sun Studio's founder's

passion is teaching women self-defense, followed by pilates class. Holiday gift show throughout the event featuring Mary Kay Cosmetics, Doterra Essential Oils, WJ Bradley Mortgage Capital LLC, and holiday treats. Reservations: 619-713-5566. Saturday, December 19, 9am; **free**. La Mesa Adult Enrichment Center, 8450 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Miami Dolphins at San Diego Chargers The San Diego Chargers take on the Miami Dolphins during the last regular season home game. Get to the stadium early to check out pre-game festivities. The parking lot will open five hours before kick-off, and Qualcomm Stadium will open its gates 90 minutes before the game. Sunday, December 20, 1:25pm; Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Tuesday Night Run Endurance House Oceanside, a retail store for endurance fitness enthusiasts of all levels, hosts a Tuesday night run. Running is always more fun in a group. Meet other runners like yourself and have fun while getting a good workout. Tuesdays, 6pm; through Tuesday, January 26, **free**. Endurance House, 401 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)



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Reader

France *continued from page 38*

chimneys, which at times were the only things visible when the fog came rolling in. Back then, children from the village avoided going near the "haunted house" (as they called it). But not Odin.

Before long, after working at a restaurant in Paris and getting his helicopter pilot's license, Odin embarked on a mission of restoring the old manor. He gained the approval of the council, and after a painstaking renovation opened the doors of Domaine des Avenières to guests looking to experience the Savoyard life.

That afternoon the sunny weather turned its back, and rain clouds raced across the horizon. Despite the approaching weather, I was intrigued by the thick pine forest of the Salève countryside that crept up from behind the hotel, and decided to wander aimlessly, leaving my travel partner behind.

I started hiking up a small twisting trail through the woods, relishing the silence. After half an hour I'd heard only one passing car and a farm tractor.

Farther ahead, my gaze caught a lovely sight of Alpine-looking houses. Montbéliarde cows were happily grazing on the open pasture, oblivious to the cacophony of the clanky bells they wore around their neck. I grew to love it. Why not? It was far better than hearing old

men swear as they clean up after their dog's *merde*.

After a full spectrum of the Haute-Savoie landscape, up, down, and around the hills, I headed back inside and went to see the chapel.

I was told it was built in honor of Mary Wallace Schillito's sister and her Hindu husband. She, a well-heeled American traveler, fell in love with the region and decided to build a haven on the edge of the forest. Her husband, Assan Farid Dina, was an astronomer and contributed to the life of the little village of Cruseilles by financing electric programs and bringing safe drinking water to the nearby hamlets. The chapel held a golden mosaic where the zodiac, Kabbalah, and Egyptian tarot interplayed against a manicured garden. Soon the rain started to pelt down.

Before my stomach could raise a complaint, my travel partner was at the dining table and finished chatting with the waiter. A minute later, drinks arrived: pink champagne, a zesty Apremont and velvety-tinged Mondeuse d'Arbin. Then crusty warm French bread, foie gras, steaming fresh water cod, and so on.

There's nothing quite as pleasant and surprising than the Savoyard cuisine on a quiet evening when all you hear is the hurling rain and the theatrical waiter saying "*J'arrive!*"

WATER FRONT

EVENTS

Cannon Battles Experience combat at sea during the age of sail in a live simulated battle. Join the crew in defending your ship, raise the sails, heave the lines, and watch the action. This three-hour battle features booming cannons, close-quarters maneuvers, and a taste of 18th-century maritime life aboard tall ships. In addition, view the *Hawaiian Chieftain* and the *Lady Washington*, visiting from Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority in Washington. Children 12 & under \$47; adults \$91. Runs Saturdays and Sundays for three weeks (through January 3). Saturday, December 19, 2pm; Sunday, December 20, 2pm; Saturday, December 26, 2pm; Sunday, December 27, 2pm; Saturday, January 2, 2pm; Sunday, January 3, 2pm; \$47-\$91. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Day Dinner Cruise Experience a lavish, traditional holiday buffet aboard a luxurious yacht while you enjoy the calm waters and beautiful scenery of the San Diego Bay. Santa will make an appearance during boarding time to pose for pictures. Friday, December 25, 3:30pm; \$92. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Guided Nature Walk Join an experienced naturalist at the San Elijo Campfire Center for a beach-exploration lesson diving into the kelp and seashells that inhabit our sandy shore community. Saturday, December 19, 2pm; Monday, December 21, 2pm; Wednesday, December 23, 2pm; **free**. San Elijo State Beach, 2050 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA)

Fancy-Pants Parade of Lights See the annual parade of Lights on San Diego Bay from the historic ferryboat *Berkeley* at the Maritime Museum of San Diego. The parade judges are stationed aboard the steam yacht *Medea*, and the brightly decorated boats pull out all the stops when they pass by. Includes a holiday dinner from 5pm to 7pm, \$25 children/\$50 adults. If you just want to watch the parade, it's \$10 for museum admission after 6pm This year's boat parade theme is Christmas Around the World. Please bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots program. Info: 619-234-9153 x106. Sunday, December 20, 5pm; \$25-\$50. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

BOMB THREAT ABOARD NAVY SHIP

From San Diego city lifeguards -San Diego Lifeguards are a 24 hour rescue agency whose responsibilities include water rescue, boat rescue, marine fire suppression, coastal cliff rescue, underwater search and recovery, swift water and flood search, rescue and emergency medical response. San Diego Lifeguards also handle enforcement of

Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, DEC 17	7:26	2.5'	7:58	0.5'	1:54	4.5'	1:02	4.5
FRI, DEC 18	9:03	2.2'	8:59	0.8'	2:55	4.9'	2:34	4.0
SAT, DEC 19	10:29	1.5'	10:00	1.1'	3:52	5.3'	4:09	3.8
SUN, DEC 20	11:36	0.7'	10:58	1.2'	4:44	5.8'	5:31	3.9

For daily updates to waves, water conditions, and fish reports, go to SDReader.com/waterfront

San Diego Bay Parade of Lights Participants in the holiday boat parade will adorn their boats to fit this year's theme, Christmas Around the World. The parade begins at Shelter Island and proceeds to Harbor Island at 6pm, the Embarcadero at 6:30pm, Seaport Village at 7pm, and ends at the Ferry Landing in Coronado at 7:30pm 619-224-2240 or questions@sdparadeoflights.org. Sunday, December 20, 5:30pm; San Diego Bay

Scholastic Surf Series: High School Divisions San Diego High School Divisions 3 and 4 compete at Avalanche, the break off the Ocean Beach Jetty between Dog Beach and the pier. Featuring many of the top youth surfers that also compete in other high-level venues, these intramural heats with local school pride and a shot at the state championship at stake can take on the atmosphere of a professional surfing event. No charge for spectators. Sunday, December 20, 8am; **free**. Ocean Beach Pier, 5091 Niagara Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Tidepool Adventure The Point Loma Tide Pools are located at the tip of Point Loma, just south of Sunset Cliffs Natural Park. The tide pools face west, and on a clear day you can see the Coronado Islands. In the littoral zone pools visitors can see limpets, hermit crabs, starfish, anemones, mussels, sally lightfoot crabs, and other species of intertidal sea life. Guided tour. \$5 per car; \$3 per person. Mondays, 1pm; through Monday, December 28, \$3. Cabrillo National Monument, 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive. (POINT LOMA)

Tijuana Estuary Nature Walk The Tijuana Estuary protects a variety of plant communities and wildlife. Discover the richness that unfolds around the visitor center, be it upland plant adaptations or the significance of the estuarine habitat. Saturday, December 26, 11am; **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Tsunami Sweepers Cleanup Debris from the Japanese Tsunami of 2011 is still washing up on California beaches even four years later. I Love A Clean San Diego has been named the first responder in San Diego to assist in the cleanup of debris from the tsunami that is expected to wash up on California's shores in 2015. Volunteers will be helping to pick up litter and other debris at Torrey Pines State Beach. Saturday, January 23, 10am; **free**. Torrey Pines State Beach and Reserve, 12600 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

city, state and federal laws and regulations. Lifeguards are classified as peace officers with the power of arrest.

11/25 - Harbor Police responded to disturbance call in a north SD Bay anchorage. The disturbance was caused by a domestic violence incident.

11/24 - Harbor Police responded to a vessel dragging its anchor in Glorietta Bay in high winds. HPD located the vessel and began towing it so that it wouldn't collide with other vessels. The owner of the vessel soon arrived and was able to re-set his anchor.

11/23 - Harbor Police responded to assist the US Navy with a bomb threat aboard a naval ship. The ship was evacuated

and thoroughly searched with nothing found. Both agencies are still investigating the crime.

11/22 - RP states she found a 2 person ocean kayak high and dry in a pocket beach at the foot of Rosemont St. She states the paddles are floating in the shore break. 3 King investigates and places the kayak next to the stairs and removes paddles from the water.

11/21 - Harbor Police assisted a boater near Zuniga Jetty that was having mechanical difficulties with his vessel. HPD escorted the vessel back to the Coronado Launch ramp due to its steering issues.

11/20 - Person needing assistance at 600 Diamond St, 20 year old male. Sting ray wound, person taken to the PB tower. Treated and clear.

Waves (SCRIPPS PIER)

Height	Direction	Interval
1'-2'	W	17 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	15 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	15 seconds
1'-3'	WNW	11 seconds



King tide at La Jolla Cove

You can document king tide

Based on the current warming trend, the Pacific Ocean is predicted to rise on the California coast by about one foot by 2050 and three feet by the year 2100. A three-foot rise in sea level would displace an estimated 480,000 people.

If the sea level rises as predicted, there will be permanent or periodic inundation of previously above water low-lying areas, especially when there is coastal flooding during extreme storms and high tides. Erosion rates will increase, causing the shoreline to recede, which in turn will affect water quality with added silts and contaminants. Existing wetlands may be lost or changed and saltwater will back far enough into some storm-drain systems to enter fresh waterways and groundwater basins.

A good way to mark the change is to monitor the king tides, or the highest tides of the year. King tide

is not a scientific term and the super-high tides are not caused by climate change; they are a natural product of the gravitational pull of the moon and sun that occurs a few times a year.

An average citizen can get involved in the California King Tide Photo Initiative and snap some coastal shots during the king-tide periods. They are looking for photos anywhere along the California coast, especially areas subject to flooding and where water levels can be gauged against landmarks such as rocks, roads, jetties, bridge supports, staircases, and piers. Participants should log the exact date, time, and location (GPS is a plus) of your photos to help researchers track impacts more accurately. The next king

Perfect wave? Fish tale? We'll pay you \$25 for your story. Send to sdreader.com/waterfront





Water Conditions

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:
LOW 64°F **HIGH** 66°F
VISIBILITY
5'-15'

Cool sunny days, a slower tidal flow and light winds through late Saturday, coupled with the swell dropping to near-flat conditions in the cove by Friday should produce some decent visibility Thursday through Saturday. High winds and light rain producing a building swell are expected early Sunday out of the WNW. Boaters should keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves and area appropriately.

Visibility based on existing conditions and NOAA predicted swell and weather conditions at press time. Check up-to-date daily visibility/conditions at the San Diego County Lifeguard info line: 619-221-8824

Moon Calendar

				
	THUR	SAT	MON	WED
DECEMBER	17	19	21	23
SUNRISE	6:45	6:46	6:47	6:48
SUNSET	16:45	16:46	16:47	16:48
LENGTH OF DAY	10H 0M	10H 0M	10H 0M	10H 0M



The 10'0"



PHOTOGRAPH BY ZACK LOBISCH

Mark Miller takes a medium-size one at the cliffs, December 8

tide period in San Diego will be during the morning hours of December 22–24 at 6:17, 7:00, and 7:42, respectively.

The Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve is one of the local partners in the program. There are several ways to enter photos, including Facebook, Flickr, and email.

Details at: <http://trnerr.org/king-tides/>
Or: <http://california.kingtides.net/>

— Daniel Powell

Broken board Tuesday at Sunset Cliffs

DECEMBER 8, 2015

Overnight TV news reports that high surf has broken railings on the O.B. Pier and the pier is closed. The Point Loma buoy is at 7+ feet at 14 seconds at 7 a.m. Morning news reports show big surf at local beaches

and report high tides at 6:40 a.m. at 5.6 feet, dropping to a 0 tide at 1:20 p.m.

At 8 a.m. the reefs at Sunset Cliffs are showing waves of 4 to 6 feet with sets over 8 feet at times. The waves are not optimal because the tides are too high for the reefs, so backwash off the cliffs is making the waves a little wobbly and unsmooth. Some surfers paddle out anyway to get the waves before they become too crowded.

Access into and out of the water from the cliffs at the higher tides is treacherous and not safe for the inexperienced. As the tide lowers and the day warms the surf begins to improve and sets get bigger. The strong west swell pushes into the reefs with little or no angle so the waves are straight and clean in the light offshore wind.

I decide to take one of my ten-foot big-wave boards down to the beach-access

stairway at Ladera Street and put a for-sale sign on it and watch the surf. As the day wears on, at least two surfers come up the stairs with broken boards. The afternoon breeze comes up a bit and the rips become rivers in the channels between the reefs. Unwary surfers are pulled out to sea and out of position to catch the waves. Successful rides are rare as the surf becomes less clean and sectiony.

The lifeguard truck pulls up around 3 p.m. and the lifeguards get out and scan the sea. There are over ten surf breaks visible from our vantage point with large rip currents between them. The guards point out the hazards and the access points to each other and take stock of the scene.

I overhear them talking about two rescues the night before. Seven victims were trapped by the tide on a pocket beach with

no way up the cliffs and had to be removed by boat. Another surfer with a broken board was unable to paddle against the currents and was swept southward over a mile and needed to be rescued by helicopter.

As the tide bottoms out and the swells feel the reefs, the wave structure begins to improve and some great rides are had, also some powerful wipeouts.

The next shift, after school, after work, find a parking spot and wax up and head out. The tide will be pushing in until after sunset and that will help focus the waves on the reefs and make them throw out even better.

Tourists watch the sunset, surfers come and go, dog walkers and joggers go by, the world is surf music and Jimi Hendrix is proven wrong when he said, “You’ll never hear surf music again.”

— Jimi Olsen

LOCAL LAKES LOADING UP ON TROUT

Inshore: Rockfish continue to dominate the local catch on bumpy seas. Not a lot of folks venturing out, but those ½ day and ¾ day boats that do are finding good action on the bottom for sheephead, whitefish, bocaccio, and sculpin. Calico bass are biting well when the current sets up right to fish the kelp edge and sand bass are stacked up when found on the flats, especially off Imperial Beach in 60-80 feet of water. Though no schooling tuna or yellowtail close enough and too rough outside

for extended ¾ day runs, a couple home-guard yellowtail and the occasional white seabass are finding their way into the local count.

Outside: The big NW swell kept a lot of the overnight and longer boats at the dock this past week. Friday’s high winds kept everyone on terra firma. The Condor made it out Wednesday the 9th with 26 anglers aboard an overnight trip and scored 58 yellowfin tuna; the only tuna caught out of a San Diego Sportfishing landing within 4-day range since Sunday the 6th. The long-range boats operating in Baja Sur and the banks below

there are reporting several yellowfin tuna over 200 pounds caught and good wahoo action on the way back up off Bahia Magdalena and the high spots south of Cedros..

12/6 - 12/12 Dock Totals: (1,314) 530 anglers aboard 34 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught (1036)189 yellowfin tuna, 1 bluefin tuna, (148) 4 yellowtail, 50 skipjack tuna, 79 calico bass, 42 sand bass, 1,501 rockfish, 25 sheephead, 106 bonito, 10 whitefish, 3 lingcod, 1 barracuda, 53 bocaccio, 1 white seabass, 100 mackerel, 2 halibut, 2 red rock crab and 27 spiny lobster.

Chicken climax

“It’s fresh, not processed, and have you ever seen a fat Japanese guy? Except for sumo wrestlers?”

Oh, man. Feel like Mickey Mouse in *Fantasia*, when he faced endless food coming at him. In front of me I have four spicy tuna, four California rolls, four veggie rolls, eight spicy scallop rolls, and eight pieces of chicken on skewers.

And half an hour to down all 28 pieces of this late-nite Japanese nosh.

I’ve painted myself into a corner. But a beautiful corner. It’s around eleven, at Harney and Congress, Old Town. Half an hour ago I was loping alone up the dark of Congress, pinning my hopes on some desperate joint with a late happy hour where I could just get a Bud and a bite before the last trolley home, around 12:30 a.m.

Things weren’t looking good, till I turned onto Harney Street. Suddenly, life, lights, buzz of voices, tinkle of music. Harney Sushi. It’s a li’l ol’ bungalow with low-lit patio and people bulging out onto the sidewalk.

Actually, I’ve wanted to come here for a while, now I think about it, partly because I hear their chefs are seriously into sustainability. Like, not going for over-fished creatures of the deep.

I do a quick check of the sidewalk sandwich boards. And...yes! They do have a “Late Night Social Hour,” ten till close. Hey, hey. A light in the night. Time for a bite.

I head in. You’re almost stooping to get through the door. Gal, Courtenay, leads me down to a long bar on the right side, past white-cushioned chairs, black tables, ziggurat dark brown tile flooring, long, dark-gray marble bar, cream walls, brown brick back of counter, long dragon, long aquarium. Row of bar seats — white with black piping — ends up where the chefs are still busy molding, chopping, carving.

Guess this late-night social hour’s a happening thing. Place is crowded. Maybe because its menu’s got a bunch of real food deals.

Like a veggie roll for \$3.50, spicy scallop

roll for \$5, veggie fried rice (\$5), a sampler with tuna, Cali and veggie rolls for \$5, a salad combo with *sunomono* (thin-sliced vinegar-

marinated veggies), *chuka* (seaweed) and salmon skin (\$5), chicken skewers (\$7), an albacore roll for \$5, and sweet potato frites for \$3.50.

When you look at the regular menu with items like *culichi wa* roll (tuna, avo, salmon poke,

mango-serrano salsa) costing \$17, or salmon sashimi costing \$16, there’s no contest, price-wise. I’ve come at totally the right time.

Plus, Courtenay comes and points to a late-night beer special. “It’s from our own little brewery up in our Oceanside restaurant. You get a five-ounce taster for \$1,” she says.

Wow. Dollar sounds good. Menu says it’s from Sachi Brewing. “Kanpai blonde ale. Made by Harney!”

Kanpai’s a good word. Feels good to yell out. “Kanpai!” It’s like “Cheers!” They say it literally means “dry the glass!” (But you’ve got to say it right or it’ll mean “complete defeat!”)

But time is a-flying. Start zipping through the options again. “Gimme that 12-piece sampler,” I say to John, who’s standing primed for action across the counter. So, that’s five bucks down. “And, uh, the spicy scallop roll.” Another \$5. And, what the heck, the chicken skewers sound delish. “The chicken, too,” I say. That one’s seven bucks.

’Course, when it all comes, I know I’ve gone way over the top. Lord! Spicy scallop dish is about a foot long. So’s the sampler.

“What’s this in the middle?” I ask John — Han, they call him here. I’m looking at the four sushi in the middle of my sampler, with the creamy fishy-smelling centers. “Kanikama,” he says. “Imitation crab. Actually, it’s pollock, which can be fished sustainably.”

The four sushi on the far end are veggie, brightened up by carrot chunks. And at this end, spicy tuna. They all have gentle tastes, but



Skewered chicken with sweet, seductive teriyaki sauce

what makes them delicious is the soy sauce in the bowl. It’s certainly sweeter, more seductive than what you get on a supermarket shelf.

But the climax has to be the chicken. It comes with maybe eight cuts skewered, marinated, and grilled plus more skewers loaded with mushroom, green onions, shishito peppers, and slices of grilled zucchini.

These are all totally garlicky, grilled to blackened edges, and delish on their own, especially the chicken. But then dip any into this teriyaki sauce bowl in the middle of the plate and we’re in heaven. Kanpai! The teriyaki’s sweet in a different way from the soy sauce. “It has sugar, sake, plus elements of vegetables mixed in,” says John. Whatever, worth every cent of the \$7.

And the shishito pepper is like a chewable jalapeño. Good flavor. Just enough heat.

So, is this sushi stuff really good for you?” I ask.

“You bet,” John says. “It’s fresh, not processed, and have you ever seen a fat Japanese guy? Except for sumo wrestlers?”

John’s an interesting guy. “I came to wash dishes here ten years ago, when I was 18,” he



The shishito pepper: just tame enough for a delicious chew



The four sushi amigos: Brian, Josue, John, Terry

says. “But they taught me the art of sushi. I stay because it’s fun, you can be totally creative, and the owner’s serious about sustainability. Like, we won’t buy eel anymore. The fishermen tear up the river bottoms catching them. So we use black cod instead. Also, our salmon’s from New Zealand, because they are free-range and live in beautiful fresh-flowing waters.”

The beer? It’s a real deal at \$1 a glass. Problem is, it’s kind of insipid, like Kirin and Sapporo, to my mind. Guess I’ve been spoiled by the San Diego hop revolution.

But I like this place a lot. Next time, I swear, more time, emptier stomach, the company of Carla, and I’ll get into the sake.

Now, just gotta pack all the leftovers and run like hell. Catch that last trolley. ■

(@SDReader_EdBed)

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Late for ham

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Most boring sandwich you could make from a cow

Heart & Trotter, 2855 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park. When whole-animal butcher shop Heart & Trotter opened last spring, I was impressed with its quality selection of meats, sausages, and eggs. I didn't know then that they had a plan to make sandwiches.

They do so three days a week, and even those days only one kind of sandwich is served. Actually, Thursdays they serve sandwiches, Friday they serve sausage on a roll, and Saturday they serve up burgers.

I know I like the sausages, and hamburgers are tough to screw up when you start with quality beef. I was more curious as to what they could do with house-made cold cuts. As it happens, when I showed up on a recent Thursday for lunch, they were serving the most boring sandwich you could make from a cow: roast beef.

Not that roast beef is bad, it's just that it's tough to make it into a memorable sandwich. Heart & Trotter got off to a good start by using sourdough bread made by Morena District bakery Pacific Time. The lettuce and tomato were also fresh, and the slice of provolone did what provolone is good at — complementing meat without trying to compete with it.

All of it is a good base for a simple sandwich. But by rights a butcher shop serving sandwiches should be judged by its meat. In this

case, the house roast beef held up to scrutiny. While it was sliced thin, they laid it on thick, resulting in beefy yet tender bites.

I might have appreciated a little kick — stone-ground mustard or some pepper with the light mayo — but the sourdough added enough contrast to the beef to make it enjoyable. That doesn't sound as good as “outstanding,” but like I said, conceptually, roast beef is a boring sandwich, so “enjoyable” sets a high mark.

I take it as a good sign these guys have enough confidence in their meat to keep their sandwiches fairly simple. One week I shared a relatively unadorned porchetta, and another week I failed to show up in time to try their house-smoked ham. Knowing that these are a possibility gives me enough reason to find out what sorts of treats they've come up with each week.

by Ian Anderson

Gas and ribs

When Pigs Fly, 1211 E. Vista Way, Vista. When I moved to Vista in the 1980s, there was a barbecue place located in a run-down shack on S. Santa Fe Avenue that served great food, but the venue took some getting used to. Now

there's a barbecue place that serves up ribs and coleslaw in a Chevron gas station on the other side of town.

When Pigs Fly (not to be confused with the Flying Pig restaurant a few miles away) opened in 2014 after Dale and Tammy Ginos, the owners of a busy Chevron station on E. Vista Way, decided to create a permanent spot for the barbecue they had been serving at country-western concerts throughout the



Heart & Trotter's roast beef held up to scrutiny.



Homemade peach cobbler from a gas station? When Pigs Fly

U.S. An unused section of their gas station seemed like the obvious spot, I guess.

I was on my way out of town when I decided I'd had enough Mexican food to last me a few months when I spotted a flying pink pig on the window of the gas station mini-mart. All things barbecue gets my motor running, so I went in and perused the menu.

While customers came into the Chevron for gas, sodas, and Snickers, I ordered a full slab of beef back ribs, \$22.95 with one side dish. I chose coleslaw and added corn and macaroni 'n' cheese sides for \$1.95 each. I planned on sharing it all, so I also ordered a piece of peach cobbler for \$3.95.

I took the large order back to my friend's house and laid it all out on the kitchen table. It was a lot of food.

The ribs had a dry rub, and I could taste pepper, cayenne, and paprika, but I'm sure there were a lot more spices in the mix. When I bit into one, the meat separated from the bone. I was told they are slow-smoked over a hickory fire, and I could tell. I had a choice of three homemade sauces to choose from, and I went with the bold — the extra bold scared me a little.

I shared the meal with a like-minded friend, and we both agreed that the coleslaw, with the fresh mix of cabbages, had just enough vinegar and sweetness. The smokey corn was

fresh, but there wasn't much to say about it, being that it was corn. The mac 'n' cheese had a smokiness to it and so much gooey cheddar that it made up for the corn. The peach cobbler was juicy and sweet. The crust had just enough butter in it to make me realize it was homemade.

The food in most gas stations is bad enough to give you actual gas, but When Pigs Fly will make anyone who loves barbecue fill up time

and time again.

by Candice Reed

Now Gobble this, lazy home chefs

The internet wants to feed you. A bunch of tech companies are advertising convenience in an effort to make their way into the food chain, most of them by marketing restaurant-delivery services to lazy home diners. But the latest spate of apps is going for lazy home chefs, and now they have San Diego in their crosshairs.

Services such as Blue Apron, Plated, and Gobble mail chef-prepared meals to your home. Actually, they're half prepared. Fresh ingredients are cleaned and cut, occasionally par-cooked, and shipped in coolers along with directions that even a kitchen amateur can handle. After being inundated for two weeks with Facebook ads, I finally bit.

I went with Gobble, which offered an attractive introductory deal — three two-person meals for the price of one for roughly \$25 total. Gobble's chef devises a weekly menu, prepared for you to cook a meal for two in a single pan within ten minutes. In other words, this Silicon Valley company's high-tech business model involves hiring chefs to chop vegetables all day.

The week I tried it, my choices included a caraway-encrusted salmon, Filipino afritada stew,

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POUR OVER

BY IAN ANDERSON

Dark Horse's new stable

Normal Heights coffee roaster **Dark Horse** (3260 Adams Avenue) will soon become a Golden Hill coffee roaster. Following more than a year of planning and construction, the company soft-opened its new retail shop on 25th Street just before Thanksgiving. It features more seating than the company's other San Diego locations, including a spacious outdoor patio with large picnic tables.

Part of the delay in setting up this shop was waiting to find new roasting equipment. Once installation is complete, the site will house the company's

newly acquired, 12kg Diedrich IR-12 roaster. The early-model roaster was built by hand in California back in the 1980s, before Diedrich moved operations to a factory in Idaho. The vintage equipment doesn't feature the bells and whistles of some of the new-fangled, high-tech, automated roasters popping up around town these days. However, Diedrich made its name 30 years ago by innovating an infrared roasting process that's said to yield more evenly cooked and less-acidic beans due to a lack of open flame, and the weathered machinery visible behind the shop counter lends attitude to the new location.

Dark Horse has worked off a 3kg Diedrich since opening on Adams Avenue in early 2013, so the coffee profile won't change, though co-owner Bryan Charlson notes the new gear "will help quadruple our production for expanding our wholesale and retail departments." This is already the business's fourth retail location, including a small counter in North Park and a satellite shop in Truckee, so that 3-kilo machine in Normal Heights has been going 12 hours a day to keep up with demand until the new



A stylish new Golden Hill location for Dark Horse Coffee

machine is ready to cook.

Helping founder and head roaster Daniel Charlson with that has been industry vet Mike Helms. The former **Caffé Calabria** roaster and **San Diego Coffee Network** cofounder has joined Dark Horse to manage the new shop and will add his roasting acumen to the cause as necessary. Helms says the two have been trading six-hour shifts to ensure they have enough

beans going into the holidays.

Once roasting operations have shifted to Golden Hill, the Charlsons plan to renovate the original Normal Heights location to better match the look of the newer shops. They will also add espresso drinks, so all their San Diego locations will include those along with cold brew on tap and pour over.

Another popular aspect of Dark Horse shops that carries over to the new location in a big way is the presence of vegan pastries made by **Papa G's Donuts**. Papa G's had been operating on a cottage license, working in limited capacity out of a home kitchen.

Now the small company operates out of Dark Horse Golden Hill.

Bryan Charlson says, "We have installed a state-of-the-art 'compact' bakery in our kitchen," where Papa G's "will be baking all of the original fan favorites (donuts, muffins, scones etc.) as well as testing exciting new things like vegan donut bread pudding and pocket pies." ■

vinaigrette. I will never give up meat, but the spicy tangy dressing coats the veggies and quinoa just right and makes for a flavorful dish that feeds one person nicely.

My wife and I also split the Mediterranean Appetizer Plate (\$10). It comes with hummus, baba ghanoush, and a dish that features a Lebanese cheese with *za'atar*, a mix of Middle Eastern herbs and spices such as oregano. It comes with grilled herb flatbread or, my preference, seasoned crackers that are slightly salty and less filling than the bread.

For dinner, my wife got a Margherita pizza with tomatoes, roasted garlic sauce, and basil (\$12). She was happy because it's hard for her to get a decent pizza without cheese.

I thought it was all right, but I only had one bite when it was hot. I ate some cold slices the next day, and it was a little soggy — something I've noticed with non-cheese pizzas when they're cold.

I was happy with the Bacon and Leek Pizza, a specialty item (\$13). The smokiness of the bacon blended well with the earthiness of the leeks and the mozzarella. It was just as tasty the next day right out of the fridge.

For dessert we tried the house-made mini donuts served with raspberry and chocolate sauce (\$6.50). They were crispy and fluffy and, when dipped in the syrups, made a nice end to the meal that harkened back to churros my wife and I used to eat in Spain when we were first dating.

Ladeki said he may reopen Roppongi. I hope he does. But my wife and I can always find something that hits the spot at Sammy's.

by Patrick Henderson

and Korean beef tacos. The vacuum-sealed and ziplock-bagged ingredients arrived in a makeshift cooler — ice packs and shiny inflated insulation lining a cardboard box.

The bulgogi tacos came with corn tortillas, two tiny plastic bottles of sauce, a radish, lime, daikon sprouts, chopped beef, and a slaw of shredded cabbage, carrots, green onions, and radish. A separate bag of jasmine rice cooked in the microwave as a side dish.

The single-pan, ten-minute promise did not manifest itself on this dish. Its recipe card called for heating eight corn

tortillas for a minute apiece — and that's after five minutes of cooking the beef.

Aside from that, I was surprised at how quickly you can cook something when you don't have to do any of the prep work. Just toss the items in the pan as directed. Simple. The tacos came out looking pretty close to those pictured on the recipe card.

However, Gobble promises "Michelin-worthy" meals using fresh and local ingredients, and that's a blatant overreach by their marketing department. Each of the meals I tried was fine but not exceptional. Por-

tion sizes were not huge but they were sufficient, and the ingredients were above average...with the exception of the corn tortillas, which sucked big time.

I also didn't like all of the packaging involved, though to be fair, Gobble did pick up the cooler box at my request to reuse for a future order. By the way, if I hadn't canceled future orders, Gobble would have scheduled and charged me for the next shipment automatically.

I can see this working for couples who don't like to shop for groceries, don't want to go

out, and don't have much time to cook. It's much better than a TV dinner. For about 12 bucks a person, you get to feel like you're eating a balanced meal without having to do much work.

But for me, that's going-out money, and I'd rather spend it enjoying a local restaurant.

by Ian Anderson

Restaurant chain thrives; owner's flagship dies

Sammy's Woodfired Pizza & Grill, 8555 Fletcher Parkway, La Mesa. When I heard that Roppongi in La Jolla was closing down after 17 years, I wasn't surprised. Owner Sami Ladeki said the restaurant's closure was due to changing neighborhood tastes.

I always liked Roppongi and considered it a destination when my wife and I were dining in La Jolla. We ate there in October a couple of weeks before the closure was

announced. While we didn't have a bad meal, it was just *meh*, especially considering the La Jolla upcharge and the great meals we had eaten there previously. This time my wife remarked, "It was okay, but I think I would have rather eaten at Sammy's."

That's Sammy's Woodfired Pizza & Grill, a successful chain also owned by Sami Ladeki with 16 locations from here to Las Vegas. The prices are cheaper than at Roppongi, and this time around the Sammy's meal was better. The main reason is that Sammy's has good options for vegans or, in my wife's case, vegetarians who don't eat dairy but do eat eggs.

The Red Quinoa Salad (\$12.50) is a good example, a colorful mashup of golden beets, tomatoes, avocado, red onion, wild arugula, parsley, almonds, mint, scallions, and the aforementioned quinoa along with a citrus chili

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BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Dane Diego

Anyone who's spotted **Ale-Smith-Mikkeller** beers on tap around town recently knows it is now official: Danish rock-star brewer Mikkell Borg Bjergsø is making beer in Miramar.

One day after Stone Brewing officially began serving beer in Europe on December 7, Ale-Smith and Mikkeller announced Europe's best-known brewer would start his first permanent production brewery here in San Diego. Announced in concept last February, the long-awaited "creative partnership" between Bjergsø and AleSmith owner Peter Zien has been finalized at

last. Mikkeller San Diego expects to open for business in the first quarter of 2016.

World renowned as the "gypsy brewer," Bjergsø made over 600 beers during his first eight years in business, all without the benefit of a dedicated facility. The closest he's had to a homebase is De Proefbrouwerij, a brewhouse-for-hire outside Belgian city Ghent, where he's brewed the majority of his globally in-demand beers. However, he's wandered the planet brewing small quantities at the breweries of craft-beer companies he admires, including Indiana's **3 Floysds**, Vermont's **Hill Farmstead** and Alaska's **Anchorage Brewing**.

Near the top of that list is AleSmith, which Bjergsø calls "one of the best breweries in the world." Zien is essentially handing Bjergsø the keys to AleSmith's original Miramar brew-house — San Diego's second oldest. Zien will own a minority stake in Mikkeller San Diego and will initially oversee production there, along with many of his brew staff at that location, who will stay on to work for Mikkeller going forward.

This is not Mikkeller's first foray onto California soil, nor is it the first shared venture with an



Mikkeller at AleSmith: a world-class brewer takes over a world-class brewery

American brewery. San Francisco's Mikkeller Bar opened in 2013, with another announced for Los Angeles. Last April, Mikkeller partnered with 3 Floysds to open **War Pigs** brewpub in Bjergsø's hometown, Copenhagen.

However, having this dedicated 30-barrel brew-house means the U.S. market could open

wide. "People have always asked me when I'm going to open my own brewery, and my answer has always been 'never,'" Bjergsø stated in a press release. But, he went on to note, "Having a stake in a U.S. brewery will change our position here." Though widely distributed, domestic availability of Mikkeller beers remain limited, and they sell at a premium. Mikkeller San Diego will issue many beers in bottles and cans, for national and international distribution.

Obviously, we'll have direct access to them all, beginning with the two Alesmith-Mikkeller collaborations — an IPA and an American pale — plus an imperial porter up next. And as exciting as it is having one of the world's top brewing talents joining our community, just as thrilling may be the connections the itinerant beer star brings with him. Bjergsø's plan for the brewery includes inviting "respected brewers from all over the world to conceive and brew recipes that push the envelopes of what ales and lagers can be." ■

For more breaking craft beer news, follow San Diego Beer News on Twitter (@ReaderBeer) or keep up on Facebook.

\$8 calamari or buffalo flatbread, \$11 cheddar burger.

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic pints, \$4 import pints, \$5 house margaritas and well drinks. \$5 street tacos, TJ hot dogs, carne asada fries.

CITY HEIGHTS

The Hideout: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$3 wells, \$3-\$5 drafts

Nate's Garden Grill: *Tuesday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$1 off cocktails and wine.

Til-Two: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$1 off wells and drafts.

CLAIREMONT

Fat Tony's Pizza: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-8pm: \$2 domestic beer. \$3-\$5 food specials.

COLLEGE AREA

Bangkok Poco: *Daily*, 11am-3pm: \$5 fried curry and noodles with choice of meat (excluding chicken).

Bridges Bar & Grill: *Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-2pm: Brunch and bottomless mimosas: \$10 with entree, \$15 without.

CORONADO

Bistro d'Asia: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$3 Kirin Ichiban draft, \$3.50 Gekkeikan sake (served warm), \$4 La Terre chardonnay, \$5 sake-tini. \$4.50 California roll, \$5.50 spicy tuna roll, \$5.75 crispy calamari.

Chez Loma French Bistro: *Daily*, 5-7pm daily: \$10 house burger or duck tacos. \$3 off any glass of wine.

Primavera Ristorante: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3 off any drink.

Village Pizzeria: *Daily*, 3-6pm, 9pm-close: \$5 beer and house wine. \$2.50 pizza slices, half off appetizers.

Yummy Sushi: *Monday-Friday*, 2:30-5pm: \$3 select draft beers, wine, small sake. All food menu items 25% off.

DEL MAR

Shimbashi Izakaya: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$4 small bottle Asahi, \$4.25 4oz. hot sake, \$4.75 draft, \$6/\$6.50 cocktails, \$6.50/\$6.75 wines. Discounted rolls and appetizers. *Saturday*, 12-6pm: \$4 small bottle Asahi, \$4.25 4oz. hot sake, \$4.75 draft, \$6/\$6.50 cocktails, \$6.50/\$6.75 wines. Discounted rolls and appetizers.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

207 Nightclub: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm-7pm: \$5 beers, \$7 well drinks, \$7 house wine, \$8 Belvedere martinis, \$8 specialty cocktails. 30%-off all food menu items.

Altitude Sky Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, \$6 premium wells. Half-off artisan flatbreads.

The American Comedy Company: *Wednesday*, 7-9:30pm: 50% off entire drink and food menu. No item-minimum or cover.

Bice: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$5 drink specials and small bites. *Sunday*, All night: \$5 drink specials and small bites.

Café Sevilla: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$3 off any food or drink \$11 and under; \$5 off items \$12 and over. Wine bottles \$5 off.

House of Blues: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2 Bud Light drafts, \$2/3/4 select draft beer, \$5 well drinks, well martinis and house wine and margaritas.

Jolt'n Joe's: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, wines, and wells. 20% off appetizers.

Magnolia Tap & Kitchen: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$4 local drafts, \$4 wells, \$6 wine and specialty cocktails. Buck-a-Bone Wings.

Ocean Room and Lounge: *Daily*, 4-6pm (till 7 at the bar): \$3 drafts, \$4 house wines, \$6 martinis. Half off sushi, discounted appetizers.

Sushi Deli: *Monday-Thursday*, 5-6:30pm: \$1 off all drafts. \$5 Crazy Milk special, \$4 drink specials.

Whiskey Girl: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 well drinks, drafts, house wine. \$5 select appetizers.

EAST VILLAGE

Quartyard Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6pm: \$2 off beer. Food half-price.

Rare Form Delicatessen: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$5 basil gin and tonic or whiskey cocktail, half-off local beers.

Stella Public House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, \$5 house wine and well liquor beverages. 1/2 off small plates.

Toast Enoteca & Cucina: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 draft beers, \$5 wines by the glass. \$5 select appetizers, \$5 select mini pizzas.

EASTLAKE

Chili's: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 3pm-close: \$1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos and fried cheese. *Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos and fried cheese.

EL CAJON

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$.50-1 off liquor. Everyday special all day.

El Cajon Grand: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-7pm: \$4 craft beer, \$2.50 domestic, \$3 wells, \$9 domestic pitchers. *Saturday-Sunday*, 6am-6pm: \$6.50 bloody marys.

Nicolosi's Italian Restaurant: *Daily*, 3-5:30pm: House wine \$5 glass, domestic draft \$8 glass, Ravenswood merlot \$11 carafe. \$5 plates: buffalo wings, bruschetta, mozzarella sticks.

ENCINITAS

El Callejon Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Domestic \$3, imported \$3.50, house wine \$4, draft \$4.25.

Firenze: *Daily*, 4-6:30pm: \$2 off all wines by the glass, \$2 off all cocktails, \$1 off all beer.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: *Daily*, 7am-11am: \$1 mimosas. \$1 breakfast tacos. 3-6pm: \$2.75 house wine, well cocktails, domestic drafts. \$1 fish and carne asada tacos, 75¢ wings & ribs.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 3:30-6:30pm: Drink specials. Discounted appetizers. *Friday-Saturday*, 9-10:30pm: Drink specials. Discounted appetizers.

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Aqua Terra: *Wednesday, Friday-Sunday*, 4-6pm: 1/2 off select sushi rolls. *Thursday*, 4-6pm: 1/2 off select sushi rolls, \$11 burger and beer

GOLDEN HILL

Counterpoint: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 5-6pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off beer & select wine. Small plate specials.

Kafe Sobaka: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$5 beer. \$3 any appetizer.

Turf Supper Club: *Friday-Sunday*, noon-5pm: \$1 off beer, wine, cocktails. \$5 burger, chicken sandwich, hot links + chips.

GRANTVILLE

Camel's Breath Inn: *Wednesday*, 4-8pm: \$1 off Jack, Jim Beam, Jameson, and Fireball.

JT's Clubhouse Pub & Grill: *Daily*, 11am-7pm: \$1 off beer and wells, \$3 off pitchers, \$5 Three-Olives Cocktail.

Longhorn Cafe and Saloon: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3.25 Bud and Bud Light pints and well drinks.

HILLCREST

Akinori Sushi: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5:30-7pm: \$3 pint of Sapporo, \$4 large sake. \$8 poki salad, \$10 yellow-tail sashimi.

Babycakes: *Monday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$3 wells, select wine, and beer. \$5 appetizers.

CJ's Club: *Daily*, 11am-1pm, 5pm-7pm, midnight-2am: \$3 wells.

Sally and Henry's Doghouse Bar & Grill: *Daily*, 3-7 pm: \$4 shots, beer, and food specials.

The Tractor Room: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: \$4 draft beers and select \$5 cocktails. Chicken Liver & Apple Jack Whiskey Porcini Mushroom Pâté \$4, Chipotle Charred Tomato Pork Ribs \$5.

IMPERIAL BEACH

The Salty Frog: *Monday-Saturday*, 2-7pm: Craft drafts and well cocktails \$3, domestic drafts \$5. *Sunday*, 10am-5pm: \$4 build-your-own bloody mary bar.

KEARNY MESA

Pampas Argentine Grill: *Tuesday-Friday*, 4:30-7pm: \$4 wells, \$5 select wine, \$15 sangria/mojito pitcher. \$6-\$14 appetizers.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4 select drafts, \$4 bourbon slushies, \$5 premium wells. \$5 appetizers.

Sushi Deli 3: *Monday-Thursday*, 5-6:30pm: \$1 off all draft beer and \$2 off regular sake drink special and Crazy Drink special.

LA JOLLA

The Hake Kitchen & Bar: *Daily*, 4-7pm and 9pm-close (at the bar): \$10 select wines, \$5 drafts, \$3 off signature cocktails. 20% off bar snacks.

Whisknadle: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$5 select draft beers, handcrafted cocktails, select wines. \$5 tapas. Bar/lounge only.

MIRAMAR

Abbey's Real Texas Bar-B-Q: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off all beer and starters, excluding IPA.

Brewski's Bar: *Monday*, 4-10pm: 1/2 price appetizers. *Tuesday*, 4-10pm: \$1 tacos, \$3 Corona & Dos Equis, \$5 Patron shots. *Wednesday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Jack & Coke. *Friday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Fireball. *Saturday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Jager Bombs. *Sunday*, 4-10pm: \$1 off all beers.

The Filling Station: *Monday-Friday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$3.25 domestic beers, \$3.25 wells, \$8 domestic pitchers.

MISSION BEACH

Cannonball: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$4 well, Sapporo, sake, \$5 wine, \$6 spritzer.

Draft: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$4 Stone, Green Flash, Modern Times, and Coronado Brewing drafts, \$5 wells.

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday*, 4pm-close: Half-off alcohol. 25% off all appetizers. *Tuesday-Friday*, 4pm-7pm: Half-off alcohol. 25% off all appetizers.

MISSION HILLS

The Aero Club: *Daily*, 2-7pm: \$3 bottle beer, \$.50 off draft beers, \$4 wells, \$5 calls.

Cafe Bleu: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$5 wine by the glass.

The Patio on Goldfinch: *Daily*, 3-6pm: Half off select wine, beer, and cocktails.

Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



NICK HERDA
Masters Kitchen and Cocktail
208 South Coast Highway, Oceanside
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mastersoceanside.com

The classic Vieux Carre oozes with the decadence of a New Orleans cathouse even as its name invokes the baroque sophistication of the cast iron rail- and grillwork that entwines the French Quarter.

Named for the French word for the French Quarter, the drink plays younger sister to the 19th-century Sazerac. First blindsiding New Orleans in the mid-1930s, it became law (and spirit) of the land after Louisiana journalist Stanley Clisby Arthur codified the concoction in his 1937 book *Famous New Orleans Drinks and How to Mix 'em*.

While no bartender truly hopes to improve such a storied cocktail, bar manager Nick Herda has tried at least to dress it up for autumn and winter weather. Thus, the Masters Kitchen and Cocktails' Improved Vieux Carre.

"I don't know if you can say it's an improvement," Herda says. "What we did was focused more on the season. We switched out the cognac with an apple brandy because it makes more sense. It's seasonal and you can see apples on the shelf everywhere now."

The finished product tours a delightful flavor wheel of citrus, allspice, brandy-sweet and bosky-bitter, Herda says.

"The first thing you're going to get is the incense of the orange oils," he says. "So your first taste of one is going to warm you up and then with your second taste you're going to get into those brandy flavors — the apple, the winter flavors from the allspice."

A collaboration between Herda and Cervantes Megana, founder of a local cocktail company Medicine Show, this equinoctial variation pays homage to its Big Easy roots, Herda says, through a volatility belied by a smooth delivery.

"It just goes down like a soda," he says. "There's no big punch to it, which is mind-blowing when you're dealing with so much straight alcohol. With the Laird's and Rittenhouse both being 100 proof, people think it's going to be potent, but it's one of the smoothest cocktails I've every had."

MASTERS KITCHEN AND COCKTAIL'S VIEUX CARRE



- ¾ oz. Rittenhouse Rye
- ¾ oz. Laird's Applejack
- ¾ oz. Carpano Antiqua
- ¼ oz. St. Elizabeth Allspice Dram
- 2 dashes Angostura Bitters

In a rocks glass with a giant ice ball (or enough ice to fill ¾ glass), build with each ingredient, stir briefly and swath glass rim and garnish with orange twist.

Toma Sol Tavern: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6 pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 appetizers. *Friday*, 3-7 pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 appetizers.

MISSION VALLEY

Albie's Beef Inn: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: Double wells and complimentary hors d'oeuvres.

Dave & Buster's: *Monday-Friday*, 4:30-7pm: Half price cocktails, \$1 off pints. Half off selected appetizers.

NATIONAL CITY

Grill House at Big Ben: *Daily*, 3-6pm: 99-cent street tacos.

Pier 32 Waterfront Grill: *Friday*, 3pm-sunset: Import and local brews from \$3, domestic beer \$2, house wine \$5.

NORTH PARK

The Air Conditioned Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 5-9pm: Draft beer and call spirits for \$5. *Saturday-Sunday*, 7-9pm: Draft beer and call spirits for \$5.

Bar Pink: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: \$2 Pabst and Tecate, \$3 wells, \$1 off drafts and calls.

Saiko Sake & Sushi Bar: *Daily*, 4-6:30pm: \$4 drafts/wine, \$5 sake, and \$2 app menu.

U-31: *Monday-Thursday*, 5-7:30pm: \$3.50 beers, wells, wine. \$4.50 calls.

\$6.50 premiums. *Friday*, 4-7:30pm: \$3.50 beers, wells, wine. \$4.50 calls. \$6.50 premiums. *Saturday*, 12-6pm: \$3.50 beers, wells, wine. \$4.50 calls. \$6.50 premiums.

West Coast Tavern: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4 wells, drafts, house wine, \$6 specialty cocktails, \$20 giant mule pitchers. \$6 food selections.

OCEAN BEACH

Bar 1502: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: Half-off beer, half-off sake, \$4 wells.

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: *Daily*, \$3 beer of the month, \$4 wells, craft import weekly pint specials, half-price select pitcher specials. Join the mug club for full-time happy hour.

OB Noodle House: *Daily*, 3-6pm: Two-dozen beers on tap 1/2 off, select brews \$2 per pint.

Winstons Beach Club: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday*, 1-5pm: \$2 wells. \$1 off all beer and wine. *Tuesday*, 1-5pm: \$2 wells. \$1 off all beer and wine. \$3 fireball

OCEANSIDE

D'Vino Cafe and Wine Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off bottled beers, \$1 off craft beers, \$5 wines. Half-price appetizers.

Davina's Cabo Grill: *Daily*, 3-6pm: Half off well drinks, house margari-

tas, ponchoritas, mai tais, Sex on the Beach, and select drafts.

Pier View Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, \$9 domestic pitchers, \$4.50 micro/import pints, \$13 micro/import pitchers.

OLD TOWN

Barra Barra: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$4 drafts and house wine, \$4.50 house margaritas, \$5 premium liquors. \$3 flatbread tacos.

Old Town Mexican Café: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: 1/2-off well drinks & selected appetizers.

Sushi Tadokoro: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: Half-off all draft beers, half-off hot sake. \$2 edamame, \$3 gyoza.

PACIFIC BEACH

Cass Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm \$3.25 select microbrews, \$8.50 select microbrew pitchers, drink and food specials.

The Local Pacific Beach: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, \$5 specialty cocktails. Small plate specials.

Table 926: *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-6pm: 1/2-off glasses of wine, draft beer and appetizers.

El Trebol Mariscos: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$1 off beers.

Turquoise Cellars: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-6:30pm: \$3 pints, \$5 glass of wine.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Bernard'O Restaurant: *Monday-Saturday*, 4:30-7pm: \$6 wells, \$3.50 domestic beer, \$4.25 imported/specialty beer, \$6 house margarita, \$6 house wine.

Capri Blu: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$3.50 wells and drafts, \$5 house wine, \$6 martini.

The Cork and Craft: *Sunday*, 10am-2pm: Brunch with \$15 bottomless mimosas.

The Bistro: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$1 off select beer, cosmos, margaritas, select wine.

SHELTER ISLAND

Fiddler's Green Restaurant: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$1 off beer, wine, spirits. Appetizer specials.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: *Daily*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off select drinks & discounted menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

SOLANA BEACH

Chief's Burgers and Brew: *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off bottles, \$2 off drafts and cocktails, \$2.50 off house wine.

Pillbox Tavern: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$1 off beer and wine.

SORRENTO VALLEY

AJ's Cave: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: All drinks and beer on special.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, flights, and house wine. \$5 beer pretzels, boneless wings, cauliflower romesco, chili lime sweet potato fries, spicy hummus and flat bread.

SOUTH PARK

Hamilton's Tavern: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off local drafts.

The Rose: *Daily*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$5 select glasses of wine, \$5 draft beer and ciders, \$2 off flatbreads.

SPRING VALLEY

The Bancroft: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$2.75 domestics and wells.

Cali Comfort BBQ: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off drinks & half-price appetizers.

De Oro Mine Co: *Daily*, Noon-2pm: \$3 domestic beers and well cocktails, \$3.50 imports.

Shooters Cocktails: *Monday*, 3-6pm \$2.25 domestic beer and wells. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2.25 domestic beer and wells.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Un Mundo Mexican Grill: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$4 bottles, \$5 drafts and agave wine margaritas. Free samples of papas and chips.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cafe 21: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$3-4.50 draft beer, \$4.50 glass of sangria, 21% off all wine bottles and cocktails. \$5 tapas.

Great Maple: *Daily*, 5-6pm: Drink specials.

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Paying tribute. Scott Weiland's recent death may increase sales of his records, but fans may want to hold off on honoring his musical memory by starting a tribute band.

"There are a dozen Stone Temple Pilot tribute bands

the mistake we did with Amy Winehouse," he says. "About a month after her death, we sent out an email announcing we had an Amy Winehouse tribute show and we must have received 50 emails telling me I was a scumbag for capitalizing

more legitimacy if you have an agent. So I created the agency and added a couple of my friends' acts onto the roster."

For the record, Twombly's previous job was as a standup comic for a female mud-wrestling troupe.

Twombly says that Southern California is a hotbed of tribute bands.

"There's a lot of talent here, thanks to people who moved to Los Angeles hoping to make it," he says.

Meyer has a strong opinion about what makes a good tribute band.

"You want to do a band that is playing stadiums, not the same places where you would be playing," Meyer says. "The Psychedelic Furs play the Belly Up Tavern, but so would their tribute band."

Twombly and Meyer not only book tribute acts for venues, they also connect musicians to "legacy acts" who need a replacement.

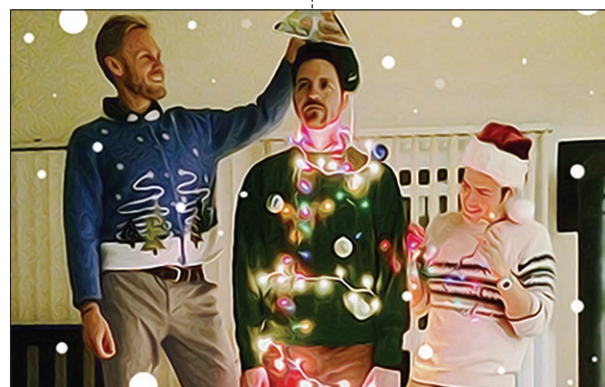
"Happens all the time," Meyer says. "The Cars borrowed a bassist from a tribute band. Who else is going to know all the material or have the right outfit?"

The Cured plays House of Blues on December 26 as part of a tribute-band festival that includes Strangelove (Depeche Mode), Planet Earth (Duran Duran), and Idolized (Billy Idol).

— Patrick Henderson

Alternative venues.

The obvious item on the how-to-get-gigs list would be: make good music. That became clear to Grizzly Busi-



Grizzly Business is doing good business since the release of their single "Rich Girl" and discovering different places to play.

ness when they put out the catchy pop tune "Rich Girls" in February.

"After it came out we noticed that people started contacting us for gigs," says bassist Brian Vilven. "It sort of legitimized us when we booked tours."

But the three-year-old band that has been compared to the Shins and the Strokes has discovered three other good gigs.

Hostels: "We were shooting a video for 'Rich Girls' on a rooftop in Hillcrest and we met a girl who worked at the youth hostel right next door," recalls Vilven. "She said a band bailed on her and she asked us to play. There were all these kids from Brazil and Germany who love a good American rock-and-roll party. We decided to hit

up other hostels. Since then we've played at hostels in San Francisco, Seattle, and Santa Barbara on tour. Hostels are great. They pay you, give you

bring your own beer. A \$5 donation is expected. Everyone stayed the whole night. When you play in a bar, people don't always stay for all the bands. A house party has a different feel."

Grizzly Business appears December 19 at the House of Blues with Spero, the Verigolds, and Oh, Spirit.

— Ken Leighton

Whiskey atmosphere.

One of the unique gems of the North Park music scene has gone dark. The stage in the back room of Seven Grand is no more.

"I felt our music program was amazing, but we had to just get back to whiskey," Seven Grand bartender Josh Judd explained to me in the venue's new "whiskey den." It's basically the same back room, revamped with new leather booths, flooring, and a whiskey-specific bar with no beer taps.

According to Judd, the room was doing well, but the venue decided they wanted to return to their original vision of the bar having a purely "whiskey atmosphere." It was a concentrated effort to calm the room, give it a more consistent feel with the rest of the bar. It should also be noted that the space now has an upright piano and that mellow acts will occasionally play the room."

(continued on page 54)

the inside track blurt

around right now. The market is saturated," says Michael Twombly, co-owner of Music Zirconia, a Kearny Mesa-based agency specializing in booking musical

on her death. Really, the only celebrity death that has positively affected business was Michael Jackson."

Twombly and his partner, Brent Meyer, have built



Core is one of "a dozen Stone Temple Pilot tribute bands around right now. The market is saturated."

acts that sound and look like superstar groups.

There may be another reason to hold off, Twombly says. A little thing called taste.

"You don't want to make

Music Zirconia into the largest agency of its type in the world since starting in 2008.

"I had a Cure tribute act called 'The Cured,'" he says. "I realized from my previous job that people give you

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The room was an intimate space for catching local bands, but perhaps most notable was Seven Grand's knack for hosting out-of-



L.A. garage-rocker Mike Krol will miss the stage (and curtains) at Seven Grand.

towners on weekends for free, bands such as Astronauts Etc. and Mike Krol. It seemed like a nifty trick for getting these newer bands on the touring circuit a full audience in a city known for weak turnouts.

Contacted via email, Krol recalled, "The room was a perfect size and a lot of fun to play in. We enjoyed the small stage and being so close to the audience with the easy access to roam into the front rows and get people involved in the show. I also realized on the last song that

I had control of the curtains on the stage and used them for a dramatic ending."

Hopefully Seven Grand's template for hosting out-of-town acts for free on weekend nights finds a new home in the neighborhood. According to Krol, it's a win for all involved parties.

"People are genuinely excited to be seeing some entertainment for free. Plus, when the audience saves money on not having a cover charge, they usually use that extra cash to buy more drinks, therefore getting tipsy faster and easier to impress with a fast rock-and-roll set filled with mistakes. A win-win for the band and the bar!"

— Dryw Keltz

Whole hog for country.

When he attended Poway High in the late '90s, music didn't mean that much to Sam Morgan. For starters, he was raised in a conservative Christian household that didn't permit rock music indoors. And even though Poway was then hip-deep in pop-punk thanks to break-out locals such as blink-182 and Unwritten Law, he didn't mosh much.

"People went nuts for Lagwagon and Pennywise.



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But I was not a hip kid. I played in the marching band.... I was obsessed with Brit-pop. Oasis were my Beatles. I played in a very bad Oasis cover band called Pacific Sons."

Although the honky-tonk haven Big Stone Lodge was thriving, he didn't get much twang growing up in "The City in the Country."

"Except for that one Asleep at the Wheel album my dad would always play."

It was years later, after he had graduated college and was working in advertising in L.A. when George Jones and Emmylou Harris records grabbed Morgan's attention.

"I was pretty much living the L.A. dream. I was playing music as a hobby...but I woke up the day after my 30th birthday and felt empty. I realized for better or worse that it might be cool to try and do what I enjoy most."

Sam Morgan morphed into Sam Outlaw ("It's my mom's maiden name") and started focusing on traditional country steeped in pedal steel and simple, long-ing lyrics. Last March he quit

in June on the independent Canadian label Six Shooter. The director of the Americana Music Association quit her job to manage him exclusively full time and connected him to a booking



Poway native Sam Morgan discovered George Jones and Emmylou Harris and morphed into Sam Outlaw.

his job and went whole hog for country.

Thanks to a few breaks, Outlaw made immediate headway. Rock royalty Ry Cooder agreed to play on and produce Outlaw's first record, *Angeleno*, released

agent who steered him into opening slots for Dwight Yoakam and Clint Black. Outlaw got booked at this year's Stagecoach and Americana Festivals, and the Belly Up hosted his local album release last summer.

While he says *Angeleno* has had a few radio "blips" at a handful of stations across the country ("We're artist of the month for December at WFUV in New York City"), Outlaw says he has no expectations of breaking into mainstream, auto-tuned bro-country.

"The country music I make does not fit into the formulaic, cookie-cutter, pickup-truck thing. I know it will not be corporate radio that breaks me. Instead, I will build a following one show at a time. It's like going door-to-door."

Sam Outlaw appears December 17 at Soda Bar with Graham Nancarrow and Sarah Petite.

— Ken Leighton

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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12/17 Macy Gray - Sold Out!
12/18 Atomic Groove Happy Hour
1/15 Pine Mountain Logs
1/16 Tower of Power
1/17 DeVotchKa
1/18 Josh Ritter @ Observatory North Park
1/19 Ladysmith Black Mambazo
1/20 The Wood Brothers
1/21 & 22 Big Head Todd & The Monsters w/ Mike Doughty
1/23 JD McPherson w/ HONEYHONEY
1/25 Granger Smith feat. Earl Dibble
1/26 Killing Joke/Soft Moon
1/28 The Motet
1/29 G. Love and Special Sauce - Sold Out!
1/30 Pato Banton

1/30 Mike Gordon @ Observatory North Park
1/31 Point Break Live!
2/5 & 6 The English Beat
2/10 Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra
2/11 Glenn Phillips (Toad the Wet Sprocket)
2/12 Thee Oh Sees
2/13 ALO
2/13 Lettuce @ Observatory North Park
2/14 Dead Man's Party V-Day Ball
2/14 Beats Antique @ Observatory North Park
2/19 DSB - Journey Tribute, MIRAGE / Visions of Fleetwood Mac
2/20 Steve Poltz 7th Annual 40th Birthday Party
2/23 Drew Holcomb & The Neighbors

2/24 Lake Street Dive @ Observatory North Park
2/25 Ani DiFranco- Sold Out!
2/26 The Infamous Stringdusters
2/27 Nick Carter
3/2 Black Tiger Sex Machine
3/3 Galactic
3/13 Anderson East
3/18 & 19 Super Diamond
3/20 Madeleine Peyroux Trio
3/24 Daughter
3/26 Yonder Mountain String Band
3/27 They Might Be Giants
3/29 Rita Wilson
3/30 Anders Osborne
4/22 Johnny Clegg
4/28 Thao & the Get Down Stay Down

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This Week In Music

Thursday 17

Former Wu-Tang MC **Ghostface Killah** rocks the mic at Observatory North Park behind this year's *Twelve Reasons to Die II*, a sequel to 2013's well-received concept record *Twelve Reasons to Die*, itself an extension of Killah's *noms de rap* "Tony Starks" and "Ironman" and a Marvel-sized storyline of gangster-rap fan fiction in which Killah saves the genre from the Mob. Doesn't appear that's the epic tale he'll be spitting Thursday night, but given his tag as rap's best storyteller, you can be sure it'll be engaging and "painterly" (NPR). **Dev Trav** and the **Bermuda** will open the SRO show.... Best of the rest Thursday night finds San Diego's favorite fuzz-rock duo **Crocodiles** slithering into the Hideout after **Girl Team** and **Keepers**. The Crocs are touring in support of this year's *Boys*, an experimental set that finds Brandon and Charles escaping the Jesus and Mary Chain shackles to hang with the Stooges ("Crybaby Demon," "Peroxide Hearts"). Derivative? Sure. Fun? Absofuckinglutely...if you need a change of scenery or sonics, right up the road from the Hideout, Soda Bar sets up L.A.-via-Poway country singer/songwriter **Sam Outlaw**, featured in this week's *Blurt*, "Whole hog country." Outlaw headlines sets by like-minded locals **Graham Nancarrow** and **Sara Petite**... from Phoenix, Arizona, 30-years-along thrash-metal road dogs **Flotsam and Jetsam** stack 'em at Brick by Brick in advance of their soon-to-be-released-but-as-yet-untitled 12th record...while lo-fi Left Coasters **Colleen Green** and **Pity Sex** play punky garage-pop at Ché Café in La Jolla.

Friday 18

In 2013, the honky-tonk outsider **Wayne "The Train" Hancock** released a record titled *Ride*. In 2014, he suffered a near-fatal motorcycle accident. This year, Train's back at it with a head full of steam. Reader writer Dave Good breaks down his Soda Bar show in this week's *Of Note*, so flip or click there for more on him. Must-see local yokels

Ypsitucky will set it up. Ypsitucky's an all-star band (El Monte Slim, Uncle Joe's, Bedbreakers) with an addicting country-fried EP out called *New Old Lady*. Austin City Limits-level talent on your street corners, San Diego, suss them out.... Else: Robert Lopez of the Zeros will don his Mexican Elvis mien **El Vez's** Mexmas best for his annual holiday show at Casbah after **Creepxotica** and the always-entertaining **Baja Bugs**...Cleveland-based gangsta rap-attack **Bone, Thugs-n-Harmony** play the Observatory. The Grammy winners are currently enjoying a bidding war over their yet-to-be-released *E 1999 Legends* record, a holla back to their 1995 beginnings and *E 1999 Eternal* CD. So far, the high bid for *Legends* is a cool mill...SoCal punk perennials **Strung Out** will perform their 2004 Fat Wreck record *Exile in Oblivion* front to back at Brick by Brick...while the Grammy-winning soap star-cum-pop idol **Rick Springfield** ("Jessie's Girl") goes "stripped-down" downtown at House of Blues.

Saturday 19

Sune Rose Wagner (he/guitar/keys/voice) and Sharin Foo (she/bass/voice) comprise the 15-year-strong Danish indie-rock duo the **Raveonettes**, whose music tends to the darker, more rocking side of shoegaze — garagegaze? For the past few years, the fair-skinned pair has immersed themselves in SoCal surf culture and released *Pe'ahi*, a surf-pop record, to critical acclaim. They drop in on Casbah Saturday night for what looks like, as of this typing, a sold-out show.... Missed the door in Middletown, just up the big hill in Bankers Hill soul-rockers **AJ Froman** are rolling through the "fro-zone" at the Balboa (the old Tin Can) after the **Wind Playing Tricks**...indie-pop acts the **Verigolds** and **Grizzly Business** split a bill in the Voodoo Room just down Fifth at the House of Blues...San Diego alt-rock act **Reason to Rebel** sets up at Soda Bar behind this year's

This Gun Is Human...while funk-master Damon "**Dam Funk**" Riddick spins a DJ set at the Hideout.

Sunday 20

"All bad things must come to an end" is how the hard-rock staples **Mötley Crüe** and **Alice Cooper** describe their final tour together, which rolls through town at Viejas Arena and wraps with three dates at the Staples Center in the Crüe's hometown of Los Angeles December 28, 30, and 31. Alice Cooper has stated that unlike his bloated tourmates, he has no plans to quit the gig that he has been *killing* for more than 50 years. He is a vampire, after all. (He probably didn't say "bloated" either. I make a lot of this stuff up because rock and roll).... Else on Sunday: chillwave producer **Slow Magic** turns his masked tricks at the Observatory after fellow glo-fi acts **Giraffage** and **Gupi**...Philly's "angsty punk four-piece" **Littler** at Soda Bar with **Holling**...while from Phoenix, folk-rock five-piece **Jared & the Mill** join **Brumby** and **Jimmy Ruelas** at Casbah.

Monday 21

It's a Dublin Mob Choppers Country XXXmas at Casbah Monday night, as that "ass kickin', rig rockin', tele bangin', cold beer drinkin', old schoolin' REAL COUNTRY" band the **Freightshakers** roll into town behind **Doug C. & the Blacklisted** and **Stephen Rey**. Dublin Mob encourages you to "shine up yer shitkickers and put on your finest Stetson cuz you just may meet your next ex." Riviera Supper Club's catering the shindig.... Soda Bar sets up **Creepers** (Shiv and Daniel of Deafheaven) with **Naytronix** (Nate of Tuneyards) and **Exrays** for a night of melodic psych and prog.

Tuesday 22

Shul of Rock! From the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY, Hasidic alt-rock act **Bulletproof Stockings** takes the stage at Casbah behind their hot-off-the-presses and eagerly anticipated debut full-length *Homeland Call Stomp*. Popular press



ALICE COOPER AT VIEJAS



ROSIE FLORES AT BELLY UP

Wednesday 23

The very best of San Diego's mod-rock scene, **Manual Scan** and the **Bassics**, will split a bill at Casbah Wednesday night. Along with the Loons, Manual Scan was a top-billing band (between Urge Overkill and the Reigning Sound!) this month at the Purple Weekend fest in León, Spain. Good on those two local *grupos*. Be sure to hit up the Manual Scan merch table for their latest, *The Pyles Sessions*, a set of songs/demos recorded on/for Tim Pyles's radio show.... French-pop femme fatale **Louise Le Hir** headlines sets at Soda Bar after **Lucky Keith** and **Roger!** Ms. Le Hir's not really from France, she's from Tucson, but she sings her desert tendencies with a Francophile's sense of play. Tasty stuff.... Belly Up stages a Country Christmas Wednesday night, featuring that bundle of Texas TNT, the queen of Western swing, **Rosie Flores**, along with our own countrypolitan outfits **Nancarrow** and **Brawley**.

— Barnaby Monk

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FRI	12/18	WAYNE HANCOCK YPSITUCKY • FANNY AND THE ATTA BOYS
SAT	12/19	REASON TO REBEL LOOM OMEGA THREE • THE LIE SHOW
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THU	12/26	MR. TUBE AND THE FLYING OBJECTS THE BASSICS • LUMPS (NY)
FRI	12/27	GONE BABY GONE THE END • SURLY BONDS
SAT	12/29	CRAZY TOWN ENTERTAINMENT LAW • DJ MANCAT
SUN	12/30	TIJUANA PANTHERS THE SOAKS • SPOOKY CIGARETTE
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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

3rd Space:
Thursday, 8pm — Holiday Jazz

710 Beach Club:
Friday, 8pm — Coastal Frequency and Slower
Saturday, 8pm — Superunloader
Tuesday, 10:30pm — Three Chamber Heart and 5nslime

950 Lounge at the Handlery Hotel:
Friday, 5:30pm — Holly Hofmann Jazz Trio

AMSDconcerts:
Friday, 7:30pm — Irish Christmas in America

Backyard Kitchen & Tap:
Wednesday, 7pm — Marcela Mendez

Balboa Bar & Grill:
Friday, 8pm — Saba and Evan Bethany
Saturday, 8pm — AJ Froman and the Wind Playing Tricks

Balboa Theatre:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Peter White Christmas
Wednesday, 8pm — Dave Koz Christmas Tour

Bancroft:
Thursday, 9pm — Darkwave Garden

Saturday, 8pm — PunchCard and Just In Case

Beaumont's:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Mark Fisher
Saturday, 9pm — Neveready
Sunday, 11:30am — Matt Bolton

Belly Up:
Thursday, 8pm — Macy Gray
Friday, 8pm — Graceband and Betamaxx
Saturday, 8pm — The Young Guns and DJ Hugh Janus
Sunday, 8pm — For the Sender
Monday, 8pm — Anuhea
Tuesday, 8pm — Abbey Road: A Beatles Christmas
Wednesday, 8pm — Nancarrow, Brawley, Rosie Flores

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Flotsam & Jetsam, Symbolic, Alchemy
Saturday, 8pm — Strung Out and Counterpunch

Café Sevilla:
Friday, 8pm — Vince Delano

Capri Blu:
Thursday, 7pm — Hank Easton
Friday, 7pm — Deblois Milledge

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — The Bronx
Friday, 8pm — El Vez
Saturday, 8pm — The Raveonettes
Sunday, 8pm — Jared & the Mill and Brumby
Monday, 8pm — The Frightshakers
Tuesday, 8pm — Bulletproof Stockings
Wednesday, 8pm — Manual Scan Record Release

Chandler's:
Friday, 6pm — Whitney Shay &

!

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Wayne Hancock. His nickname is “the Train,” and his act is what remains of honky-tonk, a scarce form of entertainment these days. In truth, honky-tonk defines a type of venue and an era more than it does the rough-and-tumble music that appealed to the manner of people who frequented such places. Honky-tonks and juke joints are low-end beer bars designed for the working poor, and there really aren't many honky-tonks left in America, except in some of the forgotten pockets of humanity among the Southern states. In other words, the 50-year-old singer/guitarist from Denton, Texas, is a musical dinosaur.

These days the Train, being very in touch with his inner Hank Williams, mixes it up with



WAYNE HANCOCK

everything from Western swing to rockabilly for the hipsters who are not necessarily fans of old country but who come out to the nightclubs where Hancock has grown a modest but dedicated following over the years, drawn by the antique bump and grind of his music.

In his own way, Hancock resembles a country judge dressed as if out for a spin on his motorbike; his songs are about larceny and cheating and murder, the kinds of stories a real judge might hear on a daily basis. Hank III has covered some of Hancock's music, but as far as Nashville and Big Country in general, I'm not sure if Hancock avoids them or if they avoid him. He and his traveling band (guitarist Greg Hawkins, Rose Sinclair on pedal steel, Bart Weiburg on guitars, and slap bassist Jimmy Duvall) don't make radio-ready music. Career-wise, Hancock's been all over the board, from the big-horn swing of the ominously titled *That's What Daddy Wants* to the unadorned music his band makes at

present. The small-club circuit is a hard life — I don't think the Train's ever been invited to the larger stage, but then again, I'm not sure he cares one way or the other.

Ypsitucky and Fanny and the Atta Boys also perform.

WAYNE HANCOCK: Soda Bar, Friday, December 18, 8:30 p.m. 619-255-7224. \$15

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

Robin Henkel
Saturday, 6pm — GipsyMenco

Chico Club:
Saturday, 8pm — Kalamity Wayne & the City Slickers
Wednesday, 8pm — Kris Kringle Karaoke

Ché Café:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Eskimeaux, Pity Sex, Colleen Green
Saturday, 7:30pm — Terror and Code Orange
Sunday, 6:30pm — Still Alive

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 6pm — Terribles
Friday, 6pm — Mor Sol
Saturday, 6pm — Bumpasonic
Sunday, 5pm — Jerome Dawson
Wednesday, 6pm — Slower

Croce's Park West:
Thursday, 6pm — Clay Colton Duo
Friday, 7pm — Teagan Taylor
Saturday, 7pm — Gilbert Castellanos & Park West Ensemble

Sunday, 7pm — Louis Valenzuela
Monday, 6pm — Patrick Dowling
Tuesday, 6pm — Nina Francis & Leonard Patton
Wednesday, 6pm — Charlie Imes

Dizzy's:
Friday, 8pm — Gillian Margot, Geoffrey Keezer & Friends
Saturday, 8pm — Mikan Zlatkovich & Friends

Firefly:
Friday, 6:30pm — Raelee Nikole
Saturday, 6:30pm — Casey

Turner
Sunday, 6:30pm — Britt Doehring

Fluxx:
Friday, 8pm — Styles & Complete
Saturday, 8pm — Kyle Flesch

Gallagher's Pub & Grill:
Friday, 8pm — Village Squares

Ginger's:
Thursday, 9pm — Joe Cardillo
Friday, 8pm — Mike Czech

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12/17

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12/31

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7:00 PM **FUTURE OF FORESTRY**
Atlas Rhoads | The Eagle and Child

DECEMBER 26
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The Cured | Strangelove | Planet Earth | Idolized

JANUARY 13
8:00 PM **REEL BIG FISH**

JANUARY 15
8:00 PM **THE EXPENDABLES**
Zach Deputy | Tunnel Vision

JANUARY 21
8:00 PM **THE ADICTS**
Hard Fall Hearts

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Tuesday, 8pm — Mike Officer
Wednesday, 8pm — Andy Mauser

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Thursday, 8pm — Crystal Lewis
Friday, 7pm — Rick Springfield
Saturday, 7pm — Kelly McGarry Presents
Sunday, 11am — Kirk Franklin
Presents Gospel Brunch
Tuesday, 8pm — Future of Forestry and Atlas Rhoads

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Jerome Dawson
Friday, 8pm — The Fabulous Ultratones
Sunday, 8pm — Curtis Brooks
Monday, 7pm — Backwater Blues Band
Tuesday, 7pm — Missy Andersen
Wednesday, 7pm — Bayou Brothers

Java Joe's:

Thursday, 8pm — The Gregory Page Show
Saturday, 8pm — Lisa Sanders
Sunday, 2pm — Dave Good's Jazz Jam

Joe and Vi Jacobs Center:

Sunday, 4pm, Sunday, 7:30pm — Soweto Gospel Choir

Kava Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm — Acid Varsity
Friday, 9pm — Seria Star
Saturday, 8pm — Naughty Elves
Sunday, 9pm — Open Mike Eagle

Kraken:

Thursday, 8pm — Trackdown
Friday, 8pm — Rock Garden
Saturday, 8pm — Blue Eyed Soul
Sunday, 8pm — Bobby Detroit
Tuesday, 8pm — Opeia
Wednesday, 8pm — Jeff Moore

Lestat's Coffee House:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Heretic and On Fifth
Friday, 7:30pm — Sarah Aili and Eric Erdman
Saturday, 6pm — Allison Lonsdale and Eben Brooks
Sunday, 7:30pm — Lisa Sanders and Age James

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Josie Day

Martinis Above Fourth:

Saturday, 8pm — Tiffany Jane & the Kicks
Sunday, 6:30pm — Ria Carey & Don L.
Monday, 8pm — Diva's Holiday
Tuesday, 8pm — A Jeremiah Clark Christmas
Wednesday, 8pm — Andy Anderson & Nathan Fry

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Under the Savage Sky

Barrence Whitfield
By Andrew Hamlin

Won't say the guy's name, but he was a drug dealer with a name fitting that occupation. He held down an all-nighter DJ slot at the campus station, and I sat up with him once while he stuck on a vinyl album side, catnapped that 20 minutes, back-announce the finished side, stuck on another side. Back to catnapping.

In this way I heard side one of Barrence Whitfield's *Live Emulsified*, though I already knew "The Girl From Outer Space" from

dipping into it at Cello-phane Square's preview turntable. Screaming. Five minutes of it. Every now and then you could hear him settling back into his normal range, sticking a dismount as he took a fresh breath. But almost continuous screaming. Over headphones, over airwaves.

That was 1989. Come 2015 he screams only in scattered phrases. Time drags us toward the void. Upside: subtler phrasing and, hey, you can actually dig the lyrics, saturated by talk of claws, casseroles, confinement, alcohol as both a first and last resort, a "Wolf Pack" to scare sober anyone from the *Hangover* franchise, odd references to *The Birds*, and for the big finish, a man contemplating his own death as it goes down on the sidewalk.

Guitarist Peter Greenberg produced, shoving everything into the middle at once to the front like a World Series of Poker mastermind with his chips. Whitfield and saxophonist Tom Quartulli sumo-wrestle over the front of the mix. A little screaming. To keep you awake for your dose.



Talk of claws, casseroles, confinement, alcohol...

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Van Halen and "Diamond" Dave

By Donovan Roche

David Lee Roth is still one hell of an entertainer — acting like a possessed matador one minute and a martial arts master the next.

The issue is his voice. He doesn't so much sing as shout. While this was passable on "Somebody Get Me a Doctor," it left the audience wanting more on "Everybody Want Some!!" Fortunately, harmonies supplied by the three Van Halens — Eddie (guitar), Alex (drums), and Eddie's son, Wolfgang (bass) — saved several

songs from vocal disaster.

This isn't to suggest the show wasn't musically deft or that Dave didn't have his moments. Rocking 21 songs (plus requisite guitar and drum solos) over two hours gave concertgoers a cross-section of fan favorites ("Drop Dead Legs," "Dirty Movies") and chart-toppers ("Panama" and encore "Jump").

Even crazy Dave, with his cat-who-ate-the-canary grin, owned the spotlight during his intro to "Ice Cream Man"...sipping whiskey, strumming his acoustic guitar, and sharing a funny story about wanting to be James Brown. In that moment, everything seemed to make sense. Almost.

Concert: Van Halen

Seats: Section 103, Row C, Seat 15

Date: September 30

Venue: Sleep Train Amphitheatre



Van Halen boys saved songs from vocal disaster with backing harmonies.

Merrow:

Friday, 8pm — Accept That You Have Suffered
Sunday, 8pm — The Back Room
Tuesday, 8pm — The Bad Vibes and Mint Field

Music Box:

Friday, 8pm — Through the Roots and Maoli
Wednesday, 8pm — Berkley Hart Christmas

Nate's Garden Grill:

Thursday, 6pm — Folding Mr. Lincoln
Friday, 6pm — Gregory Martin Campbell
Saturday, 6pm — Don Howell
Sunday, 1pm — Ben Powell
Tuesday, 6pm — Bossa Lounge Project

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:

Friday, 8pm — Private Domain
Saturday, 8pm — Emerald River

North Coast Repertory Theatre:

Monday, 7:30pm — Bob Boss Quartet

Northern Spirits Jazz Club & Restaurant:

Thursday, 7pm — Lizzi Trumbore, Leonard Patton, Rob Whitlock
Friday, 10pm — Jon Campos
Friday, 7:30pm — Dave Scott & the New Jazz Groove
Saturday, 7:30pm — Ron Eschtete Trio

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, 7pm — Ghostface Killah
Friday, 8pm — Bone Thugs N Harmony
Saturday, 7:30pm — Vince Staples
Sunday, 8pm — Slow Magic and Giraffage

Park & Rec:

Friday, 5pm — Brit Doehring
Friday, 9pm — Euphoria Brass Band
Saturday, 9pm — Tommy Price & the Stiletto

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

Sunday, 8pm — Brian Setzer Orchestra: Christmas Rocks

Pier View Pub:

Saturday, 9pm — Roman Watchdogs and American Rust

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 7pm, Sunday, 1pm — RB Chorale: Holiday Memories

Prospect Bar & Lounge:

Sundays, 3pm — Brent Curtis & Mike Myrdal

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:

Thursdays, 8pm — Tomcat Courtney
Friday, 8pm — Billy Watson
Saturday, 8pm — Nathan James
Wednesday, 8pm — Ty McKnight

R. O'Sullivan's:

Thursday, 8pm — Limerick Rakes
Friday, 8pm — Highland Way
Saturday, 8pm — FPMPS
Sunday, 8pm — Highland Way
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Traditional Irish Session

Ramona Mainstage

Nightclub:

Friday, 8pm — Machine Head
Saturday, 7pm — Gary Hoey's Rockin' Holiday Show

Rancho Bernardo Library:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Zene Strings: Joy for the Holidays

Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma:

Friday, 8pm — The Hit List
Saturday, 8pm — Lil Bit Of Soul

Rook Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Flight 42

San Diego Art Institute: Museum of the Living Artist:

Thursday, 6pm — Fresh Sound: Mary Oliver

SeaFire:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Sodie Orr
Friday, 7:30pm — Rodeo Mike
Saturday, 6:30pm — Sodie Orr

Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego:

Saturday, 8pm — The Blind Boys of Alabama

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Sam Outlaw
Friday, 8pm — Wayne Hancock and Ypsitucky
Saturday, 8pm — Reason to Rebel
Sunday, 8pm — Littler
Monday, 8pm — Naytronix
Tuesday, 8pm — Juice Box and Kid Wilderness
Wednesday, 8pm — Louise Le Hir

Soma:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Volumes and Northlane
Friday, 6pm — The Snykes and Blood Moon
Saturday, 6:30pm — Bucket Of Fish and Skank Agents

Stone Brewing Tap Room:

Friday, 8pm — Seeking Alpha
Saturday, 8pm — Mike Wojniak

Til-Two:

Thursday, 8pm — Saviours and Christian Mistress
Friday, 8pm — Mrs Henry and Elijah Ford
Saturday, 8pm — Birdzilla and Ruben ady

Tin Roof San Diego:

Thursday, 8pm — Kemeline
Friday, noon — Kathryn Cloward
Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Cassie B. Project
Sunday, 9pm — Pat Dowling
Tuesday, 8pm — Chuck Prada
Wednesday, 8pm — Pat Hilton and Jason Mann

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8:30pm — The Fremonts
Friday, 8pm — Funk's Most Wanted
Saturday, 8pm — Joey Harris & Friends
Wednesday, 9pm — Gino & the Lone Gunmen

Tipsy Crow:

Friday, 8pm — John Hull
Saturday, 3pm — Patrick Dowling
Sunday, 2pm — Jonny Tarr
Tuesday, 9pm — Wes Maharas
Wednesday, 6pm — The Paper Aces

Tower Bar:

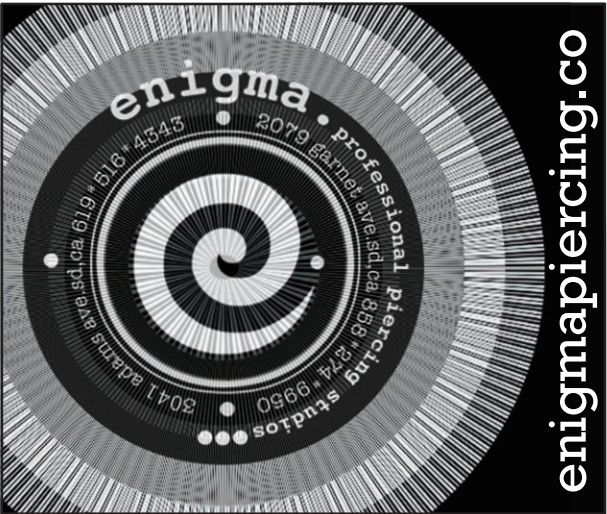
Thursday, 8pm — Velvet Club and Bad Vibes
Saturday, 8pm — The Dangerfield and Dethsurf

Viejas Arena:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Motley Crue and Alice Cooper

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 8pm — Holiday Butterfly Ball
Friday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band
Saturday, 8pm — Martin and the Big Nativity Scene
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band
Tuesday, 8pm — Calphonics and Lizzie & the Village Squares
Wednesday, 9pm — Club Kingston: Roots Covenant, Carlos Culture



Choose desire

With *Youth*, writer-director Paolo Sorrentino (*The Great Beauty*) has made something of a crowd pleaser, a gorgeous consideration of the artistic impulse that yields up its fruits without too much of a struggle. (A little patience may be required while the weaver spins out his threads, but they all wind up woven, and it's fun to watch in the meantime.) Michael Caine is Fred Ballinger, a retired composer dead set against revisiting the *Simple Songs* he wrote at the start of his career, even if the Queen of England asks him to conduct them. Harvey Keitel is his friend Mick Boyle, a working director trying to find a satisfying ending to a late-period project starring the woman he made famous decades ago. (At one point, both men contemplate a beauty bearing the title of, yes, Miss Universe.) The treatment of their criss-crossing trajectories (in both art and life) might tempt a certain sort of critic toward a line like, "We make music because we're alive. We tell stories because we are going to die." But really, there's no

need for such hifalutin comment, not when an actor in the film says simply, "I have to choose what is really worth telling: horror or desire? And I choose desire." (See also: the film's title.)

— Matthew Lickona

INTERVIEW WITH *YOUTH*'S RACHEL WEISZ

In *Youth*, Rachel Weisz plays Lena, the long-suffering daughter of famous composer Fred Ballinger. She had a rough time of it as a kid, what with Dad always paying attention to the Muse and all, and during the course of the film, she suffers another serious blow. But this is Rachel Weisz we're talking about: even when she's wounded, she's formidable.

ML: I think the first time I saw you was in *The Mummy* with Brendan Fraser. And then that same year, I saw you in *Sunshine*, this epic drama with Ralph Fiennes. I was terribly impressed that you had managed to excel in two such disparate roles in the same year.

RW: I've just been following my passion, and I've been really lucky to work



Youth: Paolo Sorrentino's latest is every bit as sexy and vivacious and, yes, youthful as this photo would lead you to believe.

with very interesting directors, particularly of late. But *The Mummy*, which has reached more homes than probably anything I'll ever do, has brought an awful lot of pleasure to people.

ML: I chuckled when Paul Dano, who plays an actor in the film, complained

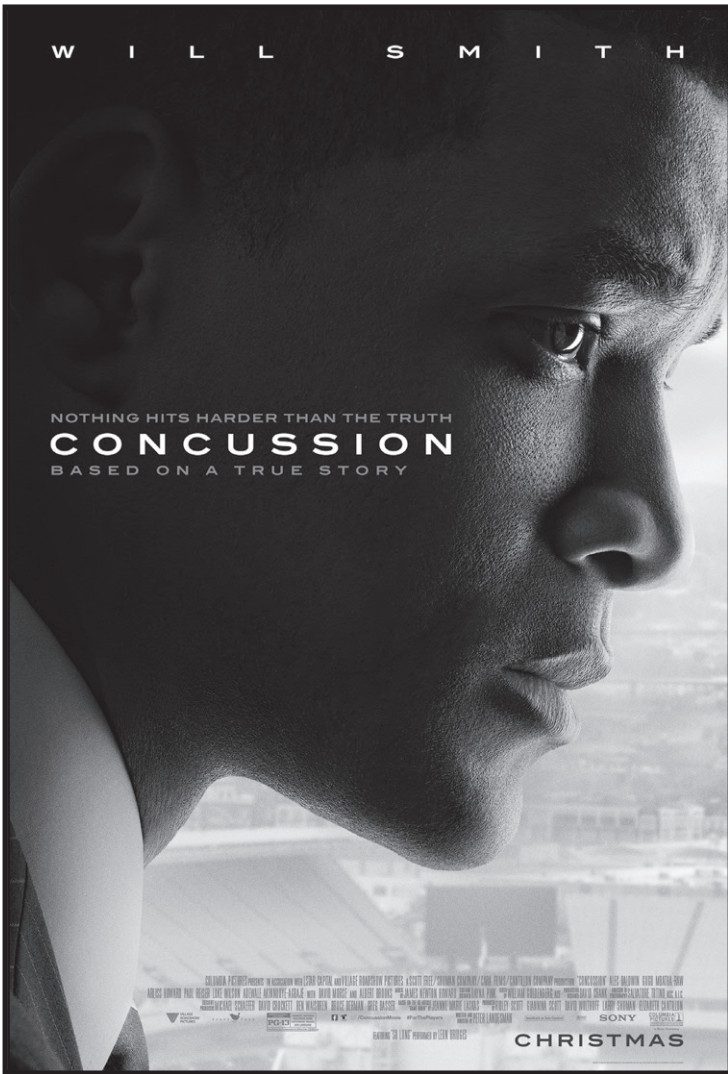
that all anybody knew him for was the popular robot Mr. Q.

RW: I don't feel defined by my role in *The Mummy*. It's the reality of the commercial reach of something, but I've done a lot of other things.

ML: How did you choose this project?

RW: Just wanting to work with Paolo. I loved *The Great Beauty* with a huge passion. He came straight to me to play Lena, and I was very flattered that he wanted me. Humbled and thrilled.

ML: Can you talk a little bit about working with Mr. Sorrentino?



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RW: There's no rehearsal and no discussion about anything — absolutely no analysis. Everything was very instinctive. We rehearsed on film, if you like, which is actually my preferred way of working.

ML: Does that mean a lot of takes for a given scene?

RW: Sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't — though he doesn't do a lot of takes. I often asked if I could do just one more, but he doesn't do a lot. He directs in a very gentle, unintrusive way.

ML: In the film, you have a remarkable monologue in a mud bath where you tear into Fred for his failures as a husband and father. The camera is so tight on your face, and the shot holds for so long — it would be deeply uncomfortable if it wasn't so riveting.

RW: It was actually the first scene I shot. It was a night shoot, 3 a.m. I hadn't managed to meet up with Michael before, so that was where we started our onscreen relationship. I had learned the lines, and at about five to three, Paolo said, "Oh, we will do this in one take." That's what it was like working with Paolo: there's this beautiful, deep pool, and he'll just push you in. You've got to swim, or float, or ride the waves. So I got covered in mud and Michael got covered in mud, and Paolo put the camera right above my head. It's an unusual thing to do that amount of talking in a film without having the camera cut away. So it was a real performance moment: I had to ride a lot of different emotions and change gears quite rapidly. It was a very unconscious thing; the next day, I said, "We have to reshoot it. I don't think it was good." Paolo said, "It's okay; don't worry."

ML: I was struck because Lena is capable of such outbursts of emotion, and yet there, her voice is so controlled, always teetering on the edge of

RW: Paolo wanted it to be a kind of cold anger. I think I tried it once very angry, and he said, "More cold, more



Star Wars: The Force Awakens: J.J. Abrams brings you something that's the same, but different.

cold. Don't cry." I tried not to cry, but I think I cried a little bit anyway, even as I tried to stop myself. I don't know how a director gets you toward the tone he wants, but Paolo manages to do it.

ML: In the film, Fred has been refusing to give the Queen's emissary his reasons for refusing to conduct his *Simple Songs*. But after that scene, he gives in and explains himself. Do you think the monologue, where you essentially accused him of smothering his wife with his own ego, had something to do with that?

RW: I hadn't thought of that. You'd have to ask Michael. But the film doesn't give you all the answers, and so it can be interpreted a lot of different ways. So I would say yes, you're right — why not?

— Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

Alvin & The Chipmunks: Road Chip — Recent pop culture, sped up and watered down for juvenile consumption. Again. 2015 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bikes vs Cars — Not Michael Bay's latest *Transformers* installment, but Swedish documentarian Fredrik Gertten's heartfelt plea for drivers to share the road with cyclists — or, better yet, do away with oil-burning autos altogether. From São Paulo and Toronto to Los Angeles and the ultimate bicycle-friendly city, Copenhagen, Gertten takes us to the most traffic-plagued spots on Earth and offers up solutions to the problems he depicts, many of which are fanciful, to say the least. Using Carmageddon '12 as a dramatic example of Angelinos eager to surrender their steering wheels is as silly as it is narratively anticlimactic. Tastefully photographed, and not without an occasional nicety — a Danish cabbie's take on cyclists as pedaling, self-entitled roadhogs is sublime — Gertten's arguments, as

presented, are not enough to justify a 90-minute running time. None. — S.M. ★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Bridge of Spies — Call it *Mr. Donovan goes to East Berlin*. Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks team up for a handsome piece of very pointed nostalgia (with help from the Coen Brothers and Matt Charman, who handled the script, and cinematographer Janusz Kaminski, lens set to "stately:"). Hanks is private citizen and shrewd attorney James Donovan, a doughy guy with a spine of grade-A Bethlehem steel and a mind that cherishes pragmatism without yielding principle. He is America's best self, ready to be deployed against her enemies — both within and without. Sure, the Russians are bad: it's 1957, and kids are getting traumatized in school by cartoons about what to do in case of nuclear attack. Plus, they've riddled the country with spies, one of whom needs defending in a court of law if America's gonna look like the good guy. (Hello, Mr. Donovan!) But there are other sorts of baddies as well: CIA spooks with no regard for privacy, judges with little use for due process, yahoos who prefer violence to justice. (That's the pointy part.) Donovan handles them all with aplomb, and is rewarded with a trip behind the Iron Curtain to negotiate an extremely delicate prisoner exchange. (It seems we're not above a little spying ourselves.) Feel-good heroism at its finest, with plenty of gentle yuks to ease the tension. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Brooklyn — Into a time when audiences are being bombarded with thinkfree technology or jiggled to death by indie indifference comes *Brooklyn*, a three Kleenex (boxes), straight-forwardly emotional little period melodrama about a timid (though not for long) young Irish immigrant (Saoirse Ronan) finding her way through 1950s New York. There are brief moments scattered all through Ronan's magnetizing performance where director John Crowley wisely lets the camera run to capture the young actresses' stunning array of sensitiveness. The relatively CG-free production design — Montreal proved a convincing alternative to shooting in the cost-prohibitive titular borough — and exquisitely ersatz Technicolor hues heave audiences back to a time when storytelling was built into the price of a ticket. If there's fault to be found, it rests in the last-ditch revival of a throwaway character, ostensibly salvaged to uncover and make known our heroine's one dark secret. 2015. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Creed — The director (Ryan Coogler) and star (Michael B. Jordan, cut like an Abercrombie & Fitch model) of 2013's *Fruitvale Station* re-team for a *Rocky* remake retooled for Generation Affirmation. Their first collaboration had a real-life tragedy to ground it. This one, unfortunately, has an increasingly fantastical franchise to give it wings. It seems that retired boxing champ Rocky Balboa's old friend Apollo Creed (RIP) had an affair and a son. His widow graciously rescues the boy from juvie and gives him a good life, but he chucks it to climb into the ring where Daddy died. *Why o why?* The answer, long in coming, makes little sense but sounds cool, so just go with it. There's a lot of that sort of thing. Sylvester Stallone low-keys it and still overshadows his protégé, mostly because he's playing a person and not the living embodiment of Doing It My Way and Believing I Can Do It. But not even Rocky can deliver a line like, "It's you against you; he's just in the way" without sounding ridiculous. Coogler and cinematographer Maryse Alberti do manage some nice close camerawork during the Big Fight, so there's that. 2015. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Danish Girl — The story of Gerda, a struggling portrait painter (Alicia Vikander) who loses a husband but gains a compelling subject — there's nothing like a broken heart for inspiration! Of course, the losing and gaining are all of a piece, born from her man Einar's (Eddie Redmayne) conclusion that while nature made him a man, God made him a woman, and like the saying goes, "I gotta be she." Director Tom Hooper (*Les Misérables*) keeps Gerda at the painful center of the drama — at least at first — and it's a wise decision: Vikander's force, confidence, and charm are arresting. But eventually, he surrenders to the visual and psychological displays attendant on Redmayne's prolonged transformation from Einar to Lili. The shift is understandable — an unhappy, neglected wife is common, while a man's pursuit of a new body to match his new wardrobe and identity is still unusual. It's also weirdly conventional, making the film less a portrait of an extremely complicated marriage, and more a tale of (very) personal expression in the face of a (somewhat) hostile, uncomprehending world. 2015. — M.L. ★ (AMC LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Every Thing Will Be Fine — Wim Wenders's latest takes us through 12 years in the life of a writer who accidentally ran

over a child and the emotional cauterization of feelings the tragedy visits upon all parties involved. Wenders can photograph nothing and make it interesting, which is kind of what he does with screenwriter Bjørn Olaf Johannessen's existential small talk. The cast works hard — Rachel McAdams maintains her accent, and it's nice to see James Franco get back to some serious acting — but the plot canyons they're asked to ford don't add up to a meaningful journey. A visual knock-out; one can only wonder if Wenders's stereoscopic deployment of space would have sweetened the deal. Alas, even Franco's box office magnetism isn't enough to warrant a 3D screening in San Diego. The supporting cast includes the always-welcome Patrick Bachau and Peter Stormare — and Charlotte Gainsbourg as the grieving mother. 2015 — S.M. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM)

The Good Dinosaur — Three years after *Brave*, Pixar gets around to making a film that's actually about bravery, *aka* the right response to fear. The setup: dinosaurs never went extinct; instead, they turned into people. That is, they became farmers who keep chickens and store up crops, and also cowboys who guard their herds from rustlers. Into this world comes knobby-kneed runt Arlo, a scrawny soul who spooks easy. Dad's well-meaning attempt to get him past his pusillanimity goes disastrously awry, and Arlo ends up far from home with winter coming on and only a feral, largely canine boy for company. As he makes his way back toward his family, Arlo bonds with his human pet, and meets various dinos with various responses to the terrors of the world. Wisdom comes, naturally, from sonorous Sam Elliott (as a battle-scarred T-Rex), and Arlo learns what really conquers cowardice. If the story sounds simple, that's because it is. The complexity here is tonal — zig-zagging from silly to scary — and visual: a super-realistic depiction of nature red in tooth and claw contrasted with the foam-rubber, glass-eyed vulnerability of our hero. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Hitchcock/Truffaut — Published in 1966, *Hitchcock* by Francois Truffaut was the first book to take a title-by-title approach to exploring a director's career. It also made it cool to like Alfred Hitchcock. A Hollywood master and an internationally acclaimed Parisian newcomer couldn't have been more diverse, but Hitch, instantly sensing a fellow brother in cinematic arms, quickly consented to the request. Truffaut put as much time into preparing for the interview as he would making a movie, and Hitch returned the adoration by giving his protégé and all-access pass to his artistry. Not even the Master himself could have found a way to make listening to audio tapes visually interesting, and director Kent Jones wisely avoids endless conversations set to still photographs, choosing instead to teach by example — juxtaposing the director's verbal theories with their visual counterparts. Jones solicits the help of Martin Scorsese, Paul Schrader, Peter Bogdanovich, David Fincher, and several other heavyweight auteurs all of whom share vivid recollections of how the book impacted their individual careers. 2015. — S.M. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 2 — After the forced histrionics of *Part 1*, it's nice to see star Jennifer Lawrence being allowed to quiet down and act again. But the story still feels stretched, a countdown that slows as it approaches zero hour. The various Districts, long divided and conquered by the Capitol, have united behind Law-

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rence's Katniss Everdeen and declared war on their oppressors. But this isn't a war movie; it's a movie *about* war: a consideration of its tactics, its stratagems, its presentation, its resolution, and its aftermath. As a result, you're not here to watch Katniss kick ass. You're here to watch Katniss agonize about ass-kicking, then set out on a long journey to kick one very particular ass, that of President Snow (Donald Sutherland, splendid as ever). The scattered action set-pieces feel very much like sops to the stimulus-starved — in particular, an underground set-to with a bunch of anonymous, humanoid mutts. And the various traps set for our heroes, so potent in *The Hunger Games'* arena, now seem faintly silly. Why not just use bombs and soldiers? (Oh, right — because they can't shoot straight.) With Julianne Moore. Directed by Francis Lawrence. 2015. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

In Jackson Heights — With 133,000 residents speaking 167 languages, the 300-acre stretch of land known as Jackson Heights, Queens boasts the most culturally diverse neighborhood in the world. It's also the subject of 85-year-old proudly self-professed, "non-fiction filmmaker" Frederick Wiseman's (*National Gallery*) 40th feature, a mammoth, 190 minute undertaking shot with his trademark avoidance of voiceover narration, talking heads, or annotative text cluttering the screen. The sites and sounds of the city act as linking devices for Wiseman, who stitches together a tapestry of seemingly irreconcilable roars, coolly knocking down barriers to rough out a microcosmic portrait of a community struggling to find harmony between old world loyalties and assimilation in a new land. The best movies don't end with the projectionist hitting the house lights, but few directors have the know how to extend a viewing experience so that it changes the way audiences looks at everyday life. Wiseman is one. Taking a drive through town after the movie ended was a revelation!

2015. — S.M. ★★★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

In the Heart of the Sea — First, the good news: director Ron Howard does right by the whale in this story of the true story behind the greatest fish story of them all, *Moby Dick*. In contrast to nearly everything else — characters, action, themes — the massive marine mammal is presented clearly, potently, and without undue exaggeration. He is a bull protecting his herd, albeit to a degree as yet unheard of among those who harvest the sea's bounty. Unfortunately, the film is largely composed of that other stuff: unnecessary exposition and narration, painfully on-point dialogue, jumbled activity on board the whaling ship *Essex*, overwrought considerations of morality, etc. Mind you, it gets better as it goes: the talk between haunted survivor Brendan Gleeson and curious author Ben Whishaw becomes genuine and intimate, and the conflict between the American dreamer first mate (Chris Hemsworth) and the bumbling aristocrat captain (Benjamin Walker) is overshadowed by their common enemy out there in the deep. But there's a hollow at the heart of things, a strange decency and politeness for a film that strives to depict, in epic form, man's dark and visceral struggle with the world and himself. 2015. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Krampus — A young boy's desire for an old-fashioned family Christmas unleashes terror for the holidays. One-third sitcom, two-thirds actors being attacked by toys, elves, and other assorted CG sock puppets, and 100% unwatchable. Not for a second does the viewer fear for any

of the characters' well-being, thanks to director/co-writer Michael Dougherty's pronounced inability to strike a balance between comedy and horror. Roles are contrived with but one thought in mind: the fat kid eats, Aunt Dorothy (Conchata Ferrell) offends, Toni Colette screams for her paycheck, and Adam Scott is smarmy even when playing a concerned dad. One genuine, eye-bleeding jolt: as the redneck relation, David Koechner appears to have dyed his hair and sideburns with a black Sharpie. Remove the 'm' from the title and you'll find a clue to exactly what the filmmakers spend 90 minutes doing all over the audience. 2015. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Last Witch Hunter — Surprising Vin Diesel vehicle: first, for the initial switcheroo from supernatural action-adventure to supernatural whodunit; second, for a sturdily built storyline; third, for a somewhat lively and light-hearted turn from its often somnolent star. (Those widened, puppy-dog eyes!) Sadly, the more expected elements do much to dull the pleasure of our immortal hero's quest to unravel his past in an effort to save our future. To wit: thudding dialogue ("Just hold on kid; I promise I'll find who did this and break the curse."); tiresome, and even pointless special effects; and a villainess who talks without saying much of anything. (Couldn't they have just made her wicked and left it at that?) It's a B-movie, but it's not a *bad* B-movie. Michael Caine classes up the joint as the Witch-hunter's overseer, and Rose Leslie does her best with the role of helpful sidekick. Directed by Breck Eisner (*The Crazies*). 2015. — M.L. ★★ (REGAL OCEANSIDE)

Legend — How do you make a boring film about gangster twins in '60s London, one of whom is a violent, paranoid schizophrenic homosexual, and both of whom are played by Tom Hardy? Easy: neglect the violent, paranoid schizophrenic homosexual and play up the

other one's girlfriend. While you're at it, give her grandiose voiceover bits like "It was time for the Krays to enter into the secret history of the 1960s" and how we eventually become "the ghosts of the people we once thought we were." Writer-director Brian Helgeland gives us violence without felt menace, doomed romance without felt desperation, and decadence without felt pleasure. The result is weirdly tasteful for a film that includes secret gay orgies involving members of the House of Lords, and weirdly pedestrian for a story about a London criminal who dreams of building a Utopian city in Nigeria. There is, however, one wincingly nasty fight involving brass knuckles and hammers. 2015. — M.L. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Life — Another behind-the-scenes, semi-biographic glimpse into Hollywood's past, along the lines of *My Week With Marilyn*. Up-and-coming *Life* magazine photog Dennis Stock (Robert Pattinson) is prescient enough to sell his editor on a layout featuring a relatively unknown, yet divinely dynamic youngster named James Dean (Dane DeHaan). (Stock thinks the youngster stands as a symbol of what he sees as a new movement in acting.) DeHaan, at times looking more like Dean Stockwell than Dean, captures the actor's movement and mumbly cadence, but it's Pattinson's quiet underplaying, as he waits for a tidal wave of resentment to come crashing to shore, that neatly steals every scene. The casting of supporting actors to resemble the film's star players — Ben Kingsley as Jack Warner, Alessandra Mastronardi as Pier Angeli, Lauren Gallagher as Natalie Wood, and particularly Kelly McCreary as Eartha Kitt — is to be commended, as are cinematographer Charlotte Bruus Christensen's dusky hues and production designer Anastasia Masaro's spot-on period decor. Former still photographer Anton Corbijn (*A Most Wanted Man*) directs. 2015. — S.M. ★★ ★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Love the Coopers — No you won't. From Jessie Nelson, the man who brought us *Stepmom*, *I Am Sam*, and *Fred Claus...* need I go on? Staler than year-old rum cake and louder than June Squabb's holiday sweater, Hollywood yet again ushers in the Christmas season with a dysfunctional family racing to get it together in time for the festival meal. So little thought or effort went into this — there are scenes where actors are clearly reading off cue cards. Picking up checks are Diane Keaton (she also produced!) and John Goodman as the battling parents, a more flustered than usual Ed Helms, Marisa Tomei offering backseat therapy to arresting officer Anthony Mackie, and grandpa Alan Arkin entertaining a May-December crush on waitress Amanda Seyfried. There's only one Cooper to love: Olivia Wilde as the magistral wild child who brings her airport romance, soldier Jake Lacy, home for dinner. She alone earned the one star. 2015. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)


Macbeth (2015) — Early in Shakespeare's Scottish play, Banquo asks Macbeth, "Were such things here as we do speak about? Or have we eaten on the insane root that takes the reason prisoner?" Director Justin Kurzel seems to have taken this line to heart, and so set out to answer the question, "What if the supremely ambitious Thane of Glamis (played here by Michael Fassbender) was a druggie?" Meth might account for his sped-up/slowed-down detached invincibility in the opening battle against the rebel Macdonwald. Heroin might explain his weirdly flat and shapeless delivery even as he says he is experiencing intense emotion. ("Why do I yield to that suggestion whose horrid image doth unfix my hair and make my seated heart knock at my ribs against the use of nature?") Perhaps mushrooms are to blame for his paranoid vision of the murdered Banquo at the coronation feast? And LSD for the weird hues — orange and red, mainly — that wash over everything now and






then? I'm calling Oxy for Lady Macbeth (Marion Cotillard), who just lets her poisoned proclamations roll out in a raspy monotone. The overall effect is to make the bloody business bloody boring. Macduff is good, though. 2015. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Martian — Kids: stay in school, especially if you plan on becoming an astronaut. When a freak accident (wind-loosed antenna piercing bio-monitor) leads to his being stranded on the red planet, astro-botanist Matt Damon decides he ain't got time to muse on fate, the fragility of existence, or man's place in the universe. Not when there's rations to number, schedules to draw up, and basic questions of survival to be answered (in an audio diary that works nicely to provide explanatory voiceover). As he puts it, "I'm going to have to science the shit out of this." Ridley Scott's (*Exodus: Gods and Kings*) nuts-and-bolts answer to the existential drama of Alfonso Cuarón's *Gravity* works best when it keeps its camera on Damon — whose usually impervious puss actually manages to show signs of strain and stress — as he takes care of business and deals with various disasters. (Not pictured: what he does with the empty hours in between.) The film flattens out a bit when dealing with the thoroughly (and dully) decent crew who left him behind, and gets downright goofy when it touches down on earth to show NASA and Jet Propulsion Labs' scramble to save their man. (Donald Glover's visual reveal of his rescue plan is hilarious, but not in the way it intends to be.) With Jeff Daniels, Jessica Chastain, Chiwetel Ejiofor, et alia. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Night Before — A smartly built, chemically-enhanced Christmas story about growing up that you can't watch with the grown-ups — at least, not the ones who will get bothered by dick pics. *The Night Before*, which follows three friends (Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Seth Rogen, and Anthony Mackie) as they

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CHECK DIRECTORIES
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wind down a tradition of Christmas Eve guy’s-night-outing, is of those movies where the most random scene turns out to be the whole point of things. In this case, it’s a showdown between the elfin Gordon-Levitt and a couple of pissed (and pissing) Santas out on a Christmas Eve pub crawl. He’s outraged at what he thinks is a broffensive desecration of a childhood icon, but the two are actually proper adults with a firm grasp on reality, fantasy, and the virtues of each. Our guys have a long journey ahead of them, full of callbacks to their beloved Christmas stories: the Grinch, *Home Alone*, and most importantly, Scrooge. (Michael Shannon very nearly steals the show.) Directed by Jonathan Levine (*Warm Bodies*). 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Sicario — Usually, director Denis Villeneuve (*Prisoners*) knows how to stick the landing. Any nagging dissatisfactions are dispatched with elegance and aplomb by his directorial *denouement*. Not so, *Sicario*, his exploration of the brutal violence and moral complication surrounding the war on drugs. Critics looking to get a pull-quote on the poster would likely call it “a stunning visual ride, full of suspense and intensity,” and they would not be wrong. But oh, that slip on the landing. This time, it’s the opening that really astonishes: an FBI raid on a suburban Arizona home, led by star that’s been converted into a cartel outpost and storage facility. Here and throughout, Villeneuve excels at approaching the carnage to come from a great, safe distance, and the message seems clear: here is a problem of vast scope and scale, being engaged by huge and complicated forces, and here are its intimate, bloody effects. And further, while you dare not look away, the looking may serve to render the horrific as commonplace. What can one person hope to do in the midst of such a struggle, especially when she finds herself reduced from elite squad leader to confused observer? Well, she can stick to her guns, literal and otherwise. Villeneuve knows this, but gets distracted by his eagerness to acknowledge the moral muck that stains us when we wrestle with monsters. Starring Emily Blunt, with Josh Brolin and Benicio Del Toro. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (REGAL HORTON PLAZA; REGAL OCEANSIDE; REGAL RANCHO DEL REY)

Sisters — That would be funny gals Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, throwing a blowout party in the house they grew up

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Trumbo — Was blacklisted screenwriter Dalton Trumbo (Bryan Cranston, enjoying himself) a self-serving, self-righteous Type A who confused the cause of social justice with his own desire to live well? Or was he a brilliant, pro-worker Good American who figured out how to keep the S.S. *Good Conscience* afloat during the Red storm? Or was he an overworked, underpaid employee trying to force management to ditch its poisonous policies so that he could keep food on the table? Or was he...*all three*? If director Jay Roach’s (*Dinner for Schmucks*) take on Hollywood’s anti-commie excesses is a bit murky about its star, it’s plenty clear about its supporting personalities: gossip columnist Hedda Hopper (Helen Mirren) is the devil, actor Edward G. Robinson (Michael Stuhlbarg) is the jellied spine, and fellow scribbler Arlen Hird (Louis C.K.) is the idealist. (Meanwhile, John Goodman’s schlock producer Frank King is the thought-free hedonist, and so has the most fun.) The movie’s main idea seems to be that, in the end, people prefer movies to ideas. Or at least ideologies. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Victor Frankenstein — Screenwriter Max Landis transfigures the backstory of Mary Shelley’s almighty monster-maker into a set-bound action/adventure/horror/buddy comedy told from the POV of the cutest lil’ hunchback this side of Disney’s bell-ringer. Daniel Radcliffe plays the abscess-backed circus clown (possessed with a surgeon’s steady hand) plucked from under the big top by an admiring James McAvoy. The latter’s “You’re not a clown! You’re a physician!” and Radcliffe’s subsequent de-humping provide the biggest laughs, both of which land early in the proceedings. McAvoy gives it his best Vincent Price, but the high concept genre pileup needed a stronger hand to hold and stitch this monster together. Landis’ framework never allows director Paul McGuigan (*Wicker Park*, *Push*) a center ring to which he can direct an audience’s attention. If nothing else, you’re bound to enjoy it more than *I, Frankenstein*. With Jessica Brown Findlay as the girl in the picture (and a well-played nod to Mel Brooks). 2015. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Youth — Reviewed this issue. 2015 — M.L. ★★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

in just before it gets sold. Review quite possibly forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2015 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Spectre — In his fourth outing, Daniel Craig’s iteration of superspy James Bond takes his undersized suits, handdog expression, and psychological damage on an epic, eye-popping, worldwide hunt for...closure? (The personal and political are pretty much identical here, and a spectre is, of course, a ghost — the sort of things that refuses to die and instead haunts the living.) It’s very much a continuation of 2012’s *Skyfall*: director Sam Mendes still knows his way

around a grand-scale establishing shot, info-terrorism is still the threat, Mi6’s allegedly outdated 00 program is still the issue, and family of one sort or another is still at the heart of everything. There are signs of Bond bloat within many of the action sequences — it must be hard to trim such extravagant footage — but they are at least partly overcome by an increase in levity. Some funny bits are obvious: landing on a couch after sliding off a building. Some are less so: a woman falls asleep in her dress after threatening to kill Bond if he comes near her; when she awakens, she’s wearing a satin nightgown and her attitude is similarly changed.

Most are welcome. Shockingly, it’s the villain, played by Christoph Waltz, who disappoints. He lacks previous baddie Javier Bardem’s wicked relish, and his aim is pretty lousy. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Star Wars: The Force Awakens — Having completed his Nostalgia Jedi training with *Star Trek* and *Super 8*, director J.J. Abrams moves on to the ultimate challenge: a franchise that won the hearts of not one but two generations. Review forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2015 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

MOVIE SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS AT SDREADER.COM/MOVIES

64 San Diego Reader December 17, 2015

A Scrooge Is Born

“I have endeavored in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea...”

Charles Dickens wrote at top speed, in part because of gifts that didn't seem so at the time. In his youth, he was a court stenographer. He learned the intricate Gurney system of shorthand in three months, he boasted, not the usual three years (it helped that his father taught him a version when he was young). Later, Dickens became a shorthand reporter for the *Mirror of Parliament*. He recorded lengthy speeches and exchanges on the spot.

“I wallow in words,” he complained. But the experiences gave him the ability to write as fast as human speech, and a mental scrapbook populated with people he'd seen and, unlike mere faces on the street, had heard as well.

He also went to the theater every night for three years, he says. He studied characters and the construction of scenes and plots, transitions, rising and falling actions. More than anything, in fact, he wanted to be an actor. But as legend has it, on the day of the big audition, he fell ill and turned to writing instead.

Dickens (1812–1870) enjoyed international success with *The Pickwick Papers* (1837), *Oliver Twist* (1839), *Nicholas Nickleby* (1839), and *The Old Curiosity Shop* (1841). He serialized his novels in periodicals, on a weekly or monthly basis — was among the first to do so. Sales and feedback helped him gauge a story's appeal. On some occasions he changed the plot or revised a character as a result.

Barnaby Rudge (1841) needed changes. And in 1843 *Martin Chuzzlewit*'s initial “numbers” (installments) were a flop. Dickens had to write even faster. He was going broke — even his publisher was banging on his door — and his wife Kate was pregnant with their fifth child. Some say Dickens contemplated giving up writing altogether. He needed a best-seller.

Dickens investigated the conditions of child workers in iron and coal mines. They were beyond deplorable, so he gave a speech at the Progressive Club in Manchester, England. Shortly after, on a walk in the cold night air,

the idea came to him: a “slender volume” that would strike a “sledgehammer blow” against exploitation of child labor. Make it an ardent plea for social reform — “this boy is ignorance, this girl is want” — but not in a broadside or pamphlet no one would read. No. He'd link it with Christmas (which was not the holiday it is today) and with society as a whole.

This was mid-October. Dickens wanted the story written and published — “a deluxe gift book” — before Christmas. That gave him around six weeks. And he still had to turn in regular installments of *Chuzzlewit*.

Writers often say that when intensely focused on a subject, thoughts and images seek them out like magnetized filings. As he wrote *A Christmas Carol* Dickens took long walks around London, “fifteen and twenty miles many a night when all the sober folks had gone to bed.” He “wept and laughed and wept again,” as parts of the story came to him and often fit right in. They melded into a tale of “black streets” and warm hearths, and extremes of greed and charity, and, most of all, the gap between the two.

When he finished in early December, Dickens “broke out like a madman.” He wrote “THE END THE END THE END” on the last page and knew he'd done something special — in only six weeks.

He didn't take it to his publisher. He owed them money, and they didn't fancy the idea of a novel about Christmas — a rejection that cost them more king's ransoms than there have been kings. Though near broke, Dickens published the book himself.

He produced a handsome edition that began with this preface: “I have endeavored in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humor with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it.”

He needed money, but to make it more available to a general readership, he asked only five shillings per copy. The first 6000 were sold by

THEATER

JEFF SMITH



Scrooge, illustrated by John Leech, from the 1843 first edition of *A Christmas Carol*

Christmas. The book went through seven editions by the end of 1844. Because of the low price, however, Dickens made “disappointing profits.”

But was there a real Tiny Tim? Probably not, though hundreds could have qualified.

And Ebenezer Scrooge, that unforgettable assemblage of grating sounds — did he have a source? Was there an actual “bah, humbugger” out there?

Jack the Ripper has fewer candidates. Some suggest it was Thomas Malthus, who argued that population growth exceeded the food supply, and therefore must be curbed, by famine or disease, if necessary.

Others opt for Jeremy Wood, England's first

millionaire and major miser. Many say Gabriel Grub. He's the grouch in Chapter 29 of *The Pickwick Papers*: “an ill-conditioned, cross-grained, surly sort of fellow” with a “deep scowl of malice.” He digs a grave on Christmas Eve and goblins snatch him underground. A horrific chat with their king convinces Grub that the world he detests is actually “very decent and respectable” after all.

Grub's conversion provides a sketch. John Elwes fills in many details. In *Our Mutual Friend*, Dickens mentions “Elwes the Miser” as one of Ebenezer's possible ancestors. Elwes inherited two fortunes but spent only 50 pounds on himself per year (at his death, in 1879, he left over

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J. Bernard Calloway and Blake Segal. Photo by Jim Cox.

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This is like the North Park version of the Adams Avenue Spirits Stroll. Only it comes with food and it's in North Park. We tried a little bit of everything and enjoyed everything we tried. We love these kinds of events because it gives you a chance to try things and visit shops you wouldn't have otherwise. Already looking forward to next year!

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Calendar THEATER

500,000 pounds, about \$28 million by today's standards). He wore dilapidated clothes, wouldn't hire a coach when it rained, and, rather than buy fresh food, would eat putrefied game.

According to a biographer, Elwes and his miserly uncle, Sir Harvey Elwes, "would spend the evening railing against other people's extravagances while they shared a single glass of wine." The biographer, among many others, nominated Elwes as the primary source for Scrooge. Though in Dickens's dancing imagination, surely others had a say.

Within six weeks of its publication, Edward Stirling adapted *A Christmas Carol* for the London stage. It ran for 40 performances. Thus began a tradition that has continued to this day. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

The 1940s Radio Hour

New Village Arts stages Walt Jones's holiday musical. It's December 22, 1941. The Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade performs its final holiday radio broadcast (including a five-minute version of *A Christmas Carol*). Dana Case directs, with musical direction by Tony Houck. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

A Charlie Brown Christmas

The Pickwick Players stage a theatrical adaptation of the animated television special, "where Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the other Peanuts grapple with the real meaning of Christmas." OFF-BROADWAY, 9490 CUYAMACA ST., SANTEE. 7PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 19.

A Christmas Bizarre!

Circle Circle dot dot presents a one-night only fundraising event, featuring the "coolest festive, hepcat around. St. Beat Nick," and last-minute shopping items, plus sketch comedy, songs, and "stories of holiday shenanigans." TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930

SCHOOL PLAYS

A CHRISTMAS CAROL



DEC. 17 7PM, DEC. 18 7PM, DEC. 19 2PM, DEC. 19 7PM, DEC. 20 2PM
LYCEUM THEATRE

A PIECE OF MY HEART

FEB. 19 7PM, FEB. 21 2PM, FEB. 26 7PM, FEB. 27 7PM, FEB. 28 2PM
CORONADO PLAYHOUSE

ANNIE JR.

DEC. 18 7:30PM, DEC. 19 7:30PM, DEC. 19 2PM
STAR THEATRE

CAMP ROLLING HILLS

FEB. 25, FEB. 26, FEB. 27
RANCHO BERNARDO HIGH SCHOOL

PLAYS BY YOUNG WRITERS 2016

JAN. 23 7:30PM, JAN. 29 7:30PM, JAN. 30 2PM, JAN. 30 7:30PM, JAN. 31 2PM
SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE

SPRING MUSICAL THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE

JAN. 15 7PM, JAN. 16 7PM, JAN. 21 7PM, JAN. 22 7PM, JAN. 23 2PM, JAN. 23 7PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER

TRADITIONS OF CHRISTMAS



DEC. 18 7PM, DEC. 19 11AM, DEC. 19 3PM, DEC. 19 7PM, DEC. 20 2PM, DEC. 20 7PM, DEC. 21 2PM, DEC. 21 7PM, DEC. 22 2PM, DEC. 22 7PM, DEC. 23 2PM
DON POWELL THEATRE AT SDSU

To list a school play, go to sreader.com/events/submit and select School Plays as the category.

TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 6PM MONDAY.

A Christmas Carol

Cygnat Theatre reprises its holiday celebration of "a Victorian Christmas with original music and puppetry," adapted by Sean Murray with an original score by Billy Thompson. Murray directs. CYGNAT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration

Diversions Theatre stage Paula Vogel's "uplifting musical pageant." It's 1864, the coldest Christmas Eve in years, the country faces its deepest crisis. Kim Strassburger directs, with musical direction by Tim McKnight. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JANUARY 3.

An American Christmas

Lamb's Players Theatre presents its annual holiday spectacular in a new venue: the historic U.S. Grant Hotel's Presidential Ballroom. It's 100 years ago. The cast performs music, dances, stories, and songs from 1915, and serves a four course dinner in period costumes. U.S. GRANT HOTEL, 326 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-232-3626. 6:30PM DAILY, THROUGH DECEMBER 26.

Big Apple Christmas

Community Actors Theatre presents the late Stephen C. Yednock Jr.'s "inspirational play about the true meaning of Christmas and the marvel in celebrating this special day." Jennie Hamilton directs. COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957

54TH ST., OAK PARK. 619-264-3391. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Black Kat Theatre: 2015 in Review, A Living Newspaper

Black Kat Theatre presents its annual sketch comedy revue looking back at "the best and the worst events of the year," including "the interruption speech throw-down between Kanye West, ODB and Donald Trump," And "Josh Dugger as he attends an Ashley Madison seminar on "How to Save your Marriage and Still Get Away with Cheating." Songs include "Let's Hear It for the Pope," and "Putin Is the Shit." Tisha Tumagan directs and choreographs. DESI'S BAR & GRILL, 2734 LYTTON ST., MIDWAY DISTRICT. 619-224-6409. 7PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY.

Disappearing Act

For two weeks only, Innermission Productions presents the world premiere of Delia Knight's "play about family and the war...after war." Knight based the play on the return of a loved one from Iraq following the events of 9/11. Kym Pappas directs. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas

The Old Globe Theatre presents its popular Christmas show. Once again the Green Meanie will try to ruin the holiday season for the citizens of Whoville. This is the Globe's 18th staging. This time, will he succeed? James Vasquez directs. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 26.

AUDITIONS

Bedside Manners

POWPAC
13250 Poway Rd., Poway
Cast requirements: 2 females, 3 males. Runs May 6 to June 5, 2016.
Plot synopsis: When Ferris reluctantly agrees to look after his sister's seedy country hotel, he could not foresee the wild comings-and-goings that were about to happen when two young couples arrive for the weekend.
Auditions: FEB. 22 & 23

Billy Elliot

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONSERVATORY THEATRE
11722 Sorrento Valley Rd., Sorrento Valley
Prepare a one-minute song in the musical theatre genre. Auditioners 12 and under may use a CD. Those over 13 must have sheet music, marked and in the correct key. If you are auditioning for a principal role, also prepare a monologue. Rehearsals in Clairemont, Tierrasanta, and Santee on weekends. Show dates May 21 to June 5. Rehearsals begin early February.
Auditions: JAN. 29 & 30

Boxing Love with Succulent Shakespeare

APOTHEQUE SPA AND SUCCULENT CAFE
322 N. Cleveland Street, Oceanside



Read from script only. No monologues. We will send scenes to study. Submit headshot, resume, and the names of the character(s) you would like to audition for in the subject line to auditions@theatreartswest.org. We are more interested in talent and are not using age as a factor to cast, except for Romeo and Juliet. We would also like to be able to cast actors in both

a contemporary piece and one of the pieces we'll be producing from Shakespeare. Performances February 6 and 8 to 13 at 7:30 p.m. and February 7 and 14 at 4 p.m. Apotheque Lifestyle Spa becomes the stage for Theatre Arts West's newest production. Theatre Arts West is developing a professional theatre company in Oceanside focused on producing a Shakespeare Festival and developing new plays by Southern California Playwrights.
Auditions: DEC. 19 & 20 11AM

Cinderella

SAN MARCOS COMMUNITY CENTER
3 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos



The City of San Marcos Theatre West invites youth ages 7 to 17 to audition for the musical *Cinderella*. Be prepared to sing a one-minute excerpt from a song of your choice. Bring an instrumental CD if desired. Bring a school photo and a short list of past experiences you have had speaking, singing, or dancing in front of a group. Beginners welcome. Performances held at the San Marcos Community Center February 25 to 28.
Auditions: JAN. 18 5PM

Private Eyes

Seeking two females and three males. A "comedy of suspicion" by Steven Dietz. Directed by Jay Mower. Runs March 18 to April 10. This is a play predicated on surprise and misdirection in which nothing is ever what it seems.
Auditions: DEC. 21 & 22

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

The new Point Loma Playhouse presents the sketch comedy that takes "an irreverent look at Old Saint Nick, goes on an international journey with a humorous spin, not to mention every Christmas carol ever sung in 90 seconds flat. AJ Knox and Matt Thompson co-direct.
POINT LOMA ACTORS THEATRE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-225-0044. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Mr. Scrooge & Mr. Dickens

The North County Players present Charles Carr's adaption of the Dickens classic, in which Dickens appears on stage to read sections form the work. The production also features carolers, dancers, and music. Carr directs. All proceeds will benefit local non-profits including a VFW Christmas charity.
SAN MARCOS CIVIC CENTER, 1 CIVIC CENTER DR., SAN MARCOS. 760-744-1050. 7PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

The Murder Mystery Company

For one evening only, the Old Spaghetti Factory hosts the Murder Mystery Company, who perform an interactive evening of sleuthing skills needed to crack a comic case. Plus a three-course meal.
OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 275 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-233-4323. 6PM SUNDAY.

Orson Welles Presents: A Christmas Carol Radio Show

For many years, Orson Welles presented a "wireless" production of the popular Dickens story on Christmas Eve. Lamplighters Community Theatre stages a recreation of the 1939 broadcast.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Southern Hospitality

The Futrelle Sisters — Frankie, Twink, Honey Raye and Rhonda Lynn — are in trouble again. This time, their beloved hometown, Fayro, Texas, is in danger of disappearing, and the sisters must save it from extinction. into@talenttoamuse.com. 619-940-6813.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Tinseltown Christmas

Patio Playhouse Community and Youth Theater stage the holiday musical (book and lyrics, Chana Wise, music, Carl Johnson). Neighbors Monica and Steve have only one thing in common: at Christmas people seem happy, but "everyone's faking." Ghosts of Golden Age Christmas movies'll show them otherwise.
PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE, 116 S. KALMIA STREET. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

Coronado Playhouse presents Christopher Durang's Tony Award-winning comedy (2013) about a dysfunctional family of siblings named after some of Anton Chekhov's most complicated characters.
CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, THROUGH NOVEMBER 20.

This Wonderful Life

North Coast Repertory Theatre

reprises James Leaming's one person show based on the perennial favorite, *It's a Wonderful Life*, in which he plays all 32 characters.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 7PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY, 7PM TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Outside Mullingar

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages John Patrick Shanley's romantic comedy (with edges) about neighbors divided by fences, the past, and secrets that might not be true. Todd Salovey directs.
SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. JANUARY 27

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Disappearing Act

By Delia Knight

22 veterans commit suicide every day.
A play about family and the war
...after the war.

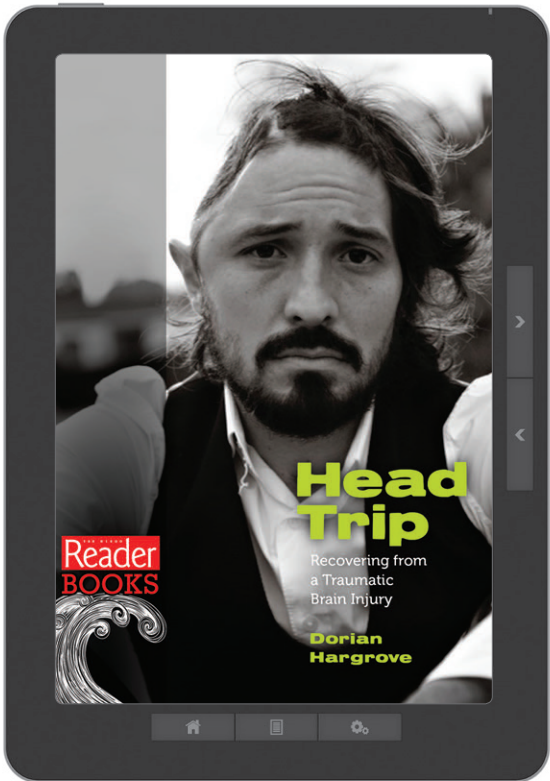
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Head Trip

Recovering from a Traumatic Brain Injury



In 2009, Reader writer Dorian Hargrove fell while skateboarding with his dog. He awoke 19 days later from a coma with half of his skull missing, a tracheostomy tube in his throat, and no recollection of what had happened. This is his story, from the day of the fall to the days he was in a coma (as his wife documented in her journal). This is his chronicle of what dealing with the isolation, the depression, the disfigurement, and the behavioral issues left from a traumatic brain injury.

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Hershey Felder: Irving Berlin Tribute

Hershey Felder (George Gershwin Alone, Maestro Bernstein) brings to life the story of Irving Berlin. From the depths of anti-Semitism in Czarist Russia, to New York's Lower East Side, Irving Berlin's story epitomizes capturing the American Dream. The program features "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Always," "Blue Skies," "God Bless America," "Puttin' on the Ritz," "There's No Business Like Show Business," "White Christmas," and selections from the score of *Annie Get Your Gun*.

MANDELL WEISS FORUM, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 2PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAY, 7:30PM TUESDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM WEDNESDAY.

La Pastorela de Plata

Teatro Mascara Magica presents its annual, and extremely popular, holiday show, in which Lucifer's forces of evil battle Michael the Archangel's champions of goodness, and author Max Branscomb includes a biting and often hilarious review of the previous year. William Virchis directs.
LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000.

7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas: All I Want for Christmas

Lamb's Players presents Kerry Meads's "holiday play." It's 1949 in San Diego's Little Italy, where the "sleepy little town is going through big changes." Meads directs.
LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

Meet Me in St. Louis

The Welk Resorts Theatre presents a musical adaptation from the Judy Garland movie. Financial trouble faces the Smith family. Songs include "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," and "The Boy Next Door." Larry Raben directs.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JANUARY 31.

Mistletoe, Music & Mayhem!

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CAREGIVERS. Needed from all areas. 1 year experience. Hourly and live in. Assisted Care at Home Inc., 3774 Grove Street, #L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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IT/SOFTWARE ServiceNow Inc, enterprise IT cloud applications provider, has openings in San Diego, CA for Technical Support Associate Developer (3214) Resolve technical issues as part of the ServiceNow technical support team; Sr Systems Engineer (5028) Maintain & administer computer networks & related computing environments including computer hardware, systems software, applications software, & all configurations. Mail resume & reference job code to ServiceNow Inc Attn Global Mobility 2225 Lawson Ln Santa Clara, CA 95054

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SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER Samsung Semiconductor Inc. has the following jobs in San Diego, CA: Senior Software Engineer [Req #5LJ1816] Implement major product functional components, including documentation and automated test suites. Sr. Staff Engineer [Req #5LJ2308] Develop leading-edge protocol stack software, particularly for 3G UMTS and 4G LTE technologies. Mail resume to Samsung Semiconductor, c/o Staffing, Ai PTCL, 3655 North First Street, San Jose, CA 95134. Must reference Req# to be considered. EOE

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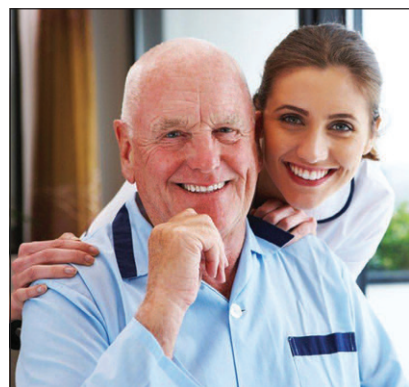
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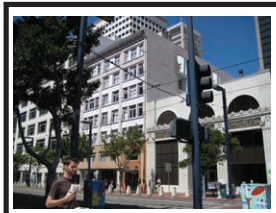
East County

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www.HughesManagement.net

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1BD+1BA; downstairs unit 2-1/2 blocks to ocean; stove, refrigerator; garage space; coin laundry; cat OK with extra deposit; available 1/10/16; 959 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1395.
1BD+1BA; large upstairs unit with private balcony; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; garage plus parking; no pets; 5 blocks to ocean; available 1/10/16; 1190 Grand Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1675.
2BD+1BA; large downstairs front unit; newer kitchen with stove, refrigerator dishwasher; coin laundry; garage space; cat OK with extra deposit; available 1/3/16; 2-1/2 blocks to ocean; 959 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1850.
2BD+2BA unit on 4th floor; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; garage space; wood floors and carpet; private balcony; EZ freeway access; available 1/16/16. 4730 Noyes Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2100.
2BD+1BA small detached cottage with private garage and driveway parking; lovely Crown Point area, one block to water; stove, refrigerator; laundry hookups; no pets, no smoking; front lawn and private, fenced, brick patio; available 12/20/15; 3751 Jewell Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2400.
3BD+2BA downstairs unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; coin laundry; garage plus parking space; in quiet triplex behind 1070; no pets; 3 blocks to ocean; available 1/20/16; 1072 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

Downtown

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Studio+1BA. 1st floor studio with kitchenette. All utilities included! On-site laundry. Street parking. No pets. Near Balboa Park / Downtown. 1758 6th Avenue #1. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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East County

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3BD+2BA (\$1629) and 2BD+1BA (\$1429) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina

nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

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MISSION VALLEY, \$1800.
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North County Coastal

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HILLCREST, \$1495.
2BD+1BA; upstairs remodeled unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; coin laundry; cat OK with extra deposit; near restaurants and many excellent medical facilities; available now. 3730 First Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST, \$1675.
2BD+1BA; small cottage begind 3941; stove, refrigerator, coin laundry; hardwood and carpet floors; breakfast nook; private large 2-car garage; near Sunday morning Farmers Market; available 1/1/16; 3943-1/2 Centre Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$950.
1BD+1BA upstairs unit. All appliances, fireplace, gated building, 1-car gated parking, corner unit, enclosed balcony. No pets. Available now. 4416 47th St. Call agent, 619-298-7724.

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1BD+1BA extra large unit in the heart of North Park. Park-like grounds, parking, controlled entry, all appliances including dishwasher, on-site laundry. No pets. 4016 Ohio Street. 619-715-8243 or leave message at 858-832-8952.

NORTH PARK, \$1495.
1BD+1BA. Available now. 4553 Texas St. #1. www.AMGSD.com. (619) 295-1165.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, \$1095.
1BD+1BA. Available 12/18/15. 4360 Campus Ave #4. www.AMGSD.com. Antonella, (619) 816-8264.

South Bay

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MUSIC MUSICIANS AVAILABLE / WANTED

PRODUCER SEEKS senior poets, stories, songs. Video editor. You Tube, type JT Productions: "Taste", "She Dances" "Dope Dragon", "Pressure", "Captured", "Shoot" "Three Guitars", "Un" 619-528-0907

Window Tint \$98

Tint removal from \$29.

COMPUTER CUT

Any shade, up to 5 rear windows.

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION

If brake service is needed, take
\$50 OFF Front & rear brakes
\$25 OFF One axle only



Interest Free Financing!!!

90 day same as cash
no credit check.

0%
call for details

Free Shocks & Struts

BUY 2, GET 2
FREE
Most Cars



\$10 OIL CHANGE

up to 4 quarts
conventional oil. \$3.99
disposal fee not included.
Tax not included
Synthetic oil and
specialty oil filters extra.
Appointment Required.



FREE

Check Engine
Light
Diagnostic



Starter or Alternator

From
\$79
Most cars



Catalytic or Muffler Converter

From
\$199



A/C System Recharge

\$39
includes 16oz freon
and labor



Electrical Repair

Power windows, door locks,
automotive control modules: BCM, ECM, PCM, TCM.

JVC CD Player

\$49
CD Player w/AUX, MP3/WMA.
add bluetooth for only \$59 more

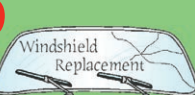


Gift Certificates Available!



New Windshield

\$99
Installation
required.
Most cars.



Back Up Camera (or back up sensors) only

\$49

Car Alarms

Security **\$39**
Pager Alarm **\$89**



Qwik Auto Center

858-256-7977
2707 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach 92109

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm *Must present ad prior to purchase. Installation required

Pictures are for illustration only. Some cars require extra parts and labor at additional cost. No carry out. Carry out prices slightly higher. Must present coupon at participating locations. Most cars. No warranty on carry outs. Prices subject to change without notice. Prices reflect cash discount. Not valid with any other specials or offers.

CASH FOR CARS!

Running or Not! (Truck & Vans Too!)



Call Now (619)777-8000
SellMax.com

Oil, Lube & Filter Change (Including 30 Point Check) Tire Rotation & Top Off Fluids

Most Regular
Vehicles

\$13

FREE Check Engine Light Diagnostic

Most Regular Vehicles

Front Brakes \$55

Rear Brakes \$65

(Includes Parts & Labor)
Most Regular Vehicles

Alternator or Starter (Includes Parts & Labor)

Most Regular
Vehicles

\$80

Experts on Electrical Diagnostics.

AAA Japanese Car Specialists

9555 Black Mountain Rd., Suite D (1 block north of Miramar Rd.)

858-549-9020

Check Engine Light On?

FREE Computer
scan
Vehicles 1996 or newer only.

FREE Oil Change

with any regular priced service, up to 4
quarts. Synthetic and specialty filters extra.

\$150 OFF
New Clutch
Call for quote

90 Days Same As Cash
0% interest
payment plans

Air Conditioning Service

Inspect system and test for leaks, freon is extra

\$19.99

Brakes

Includes parts and labor on pads and full system
inspection. Drums, rotors, and shoes extra.

\$89.95*

Timing Belt & Water Pump

60,000-mile replacement recommended.
Some cars and trucks extra.

\$100 off
Labor
only

Factory-Scheduled Services

We use factory parts to improve your performance.

Per manufacturer's recommendation. Timing belt extra if required.

15K Service

From

\$49.95*

30K Service

From

\$99.95*

60K Service

From

\$129.95*

Prices valid for most cars. Call for price on your model.

Complete Warranty
12 month/12,000 mile warranty
*most cars, with this ad, not valid with other offers.



Japanese Auto Plus

(619) 430-4829
7645 Carroll Road, suite #2
(just off Miramar Rd., one block from Pyramid)
www.japaneseautoplus.com



EXTRA CASH FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

**CASH 4
CARS**

**ALL
VEHICLES
WANTED!**

Get paid
"TOP DOLLAR"
on the spot for
any car, truck,
SUV or van -
running or not!

Any year,
make or model
1990 & up.

Didn't pass smog?
OK! No title? OK!
Call CASH-4-CARS
for a free quote.



CALL NOW TO BE ENTERED
TO WIN \$20 IN FREE GAS

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CarsIntoFastCash.com



SMOG CHECK \$19⁹⁵

Plus \$8.25 certificate. \$31.75
2000 & older. Vans and trucks extra.
Free retest when we do the repair.

TUNE-UP & OIL CHANGE

• Drain and replace up to 4 quarts of oil
• Install oil filter
• Install spark plugs
• Check belts & hoses
• Check air, fuel filters
• V-6, V-8 extra
• 4-cyl. Most cars
• \$2 hazardous materials fee

OIL CHANGE

Most cars,
Trucks extra
Replace up to
4 quarts & oil filter
+tax
\$14⁹⁵
+ \$2 hazardous materials fee

PREMIUM BRAKES

• Front or Rear Axle
• Parts & Labor
• Turn Rotors
• Drums
• Premium Pads
• Light Trucks extra
• Most Cars + tax
\$129
Free Inspection

WHEEL BALANCE & TIRE ROTATION

\$25
Most cars

AC SERVICE

Most cars,
freon extra
\$32

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

Most cars
CHECK
\$34⁹⁵

ALIGNMENT

4 wheel
most cars
\$39

30K, 60K, 90K, SERVICE

From
Most 4-cyl.
cars
\$139⁹⁵

Free shuttle
service
12 K nationwide
warranty

GENERAL AUTO REPAIR

367 15th St. • Downtown San Diego • 619-430-4369

Just off the I-5 near Petco Park!

Must present ad prior to service. Expires 1-18-16



SMOG CHECK \$16⁹⁵

With coupon only. Plus \$8.25
for certificate. Retest free when
repair done on site. VIP service,
2 machines. No appointment
necessary. Most 4-cyl.
cars only. 2000 and
newer cars only.
European & older cars
extra.



\$24⁹⁵

with coupon. Plus \$8.25 for
certificate. Retest Free when repair
done on site. Most 4-Cyl cars
only. 2000 and newer cars only.
European & older cars extra.



MAJOR SERVICE 30K/60K/90K

Most 4-cyl. cars.
As low as

\$139⁹⁵

Includes:
• Install spark plugs
• Drain & refill radiator
• Change engine oil and filter
• Inspect brakes
• Clean & adjust rear brakes
• Check all belts
• Replace air filter
• Inspect suspension
• Transmission service—drain
and refill
• Top off all fluids
• 4 tires rotation
• 38-point inspection

ALIGNMENT \$39⁹⁵

Most 4-cyl.cars

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION

Most 4-cyl.cars

FREE Check Engine Light Diagnostic

with repair on site.

OIL CHANGE \$16⁹⁵

With free brake and
32-point inspection.
Most 4-cyl. cars.
Plus \$2.50 disposal fee.



CALIFORNIA MOTOR WORKS & TIRES

WELCOME ALL FLEET ACCOUNTS • AAA APPROVED

Se habla español

Foreign & Domestic • Full Maintenance & Repair Service
We Do: Overhaul • Brakes • Carburetor • Electrical • Shocks
• Struts • Tires • Alignment • Balance • Smog And More

M-F 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-3pm

8025 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92111 • (858) 560-1245

all coupons expire 12/31/15



HOLIDAY SMOG CHECK SPECIAL

AC TOP UP SPECIAL \$49
Includes 12oz R134 Freon,
check system and test
for leaks.

\$21⁷⁵ + \$8.25 cert

Smog Test or STAR Certified All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through December 31, 2015.



SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41⁷⁵

+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older

OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER \$24⁹⁵

from
Up to 5 qts. oil.
Most vehicles to
1995. Limited time offer.

COOLING SYSTEM SPECIAL \$39⁹⁵

from
Includes flush radiator and
up to one gallon of coolant.
Special coolant extra. Most
vehicles to 1995. With ad.
Limited time offer.

ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$69⁹⁵

from
Most vehicles. With ad.
Limited time offer.

30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL

from \$179⁹⁵ 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up
Oil and filter change • Lube chassis
Radiator coolant change
Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning
Check brakes, suspension

NEW CV AXLE from \$159⁹⁵

Parts & Labor

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price

Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.



SAN DIEGO SMOG & AUTO REPAIR CENTER

4664 Park Blvd. (at Adams Ave.)

619-543-4828 • Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-3:30 pm

www.sdsdmogandrepair.com



CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE

4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe)

619-297-4204 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm

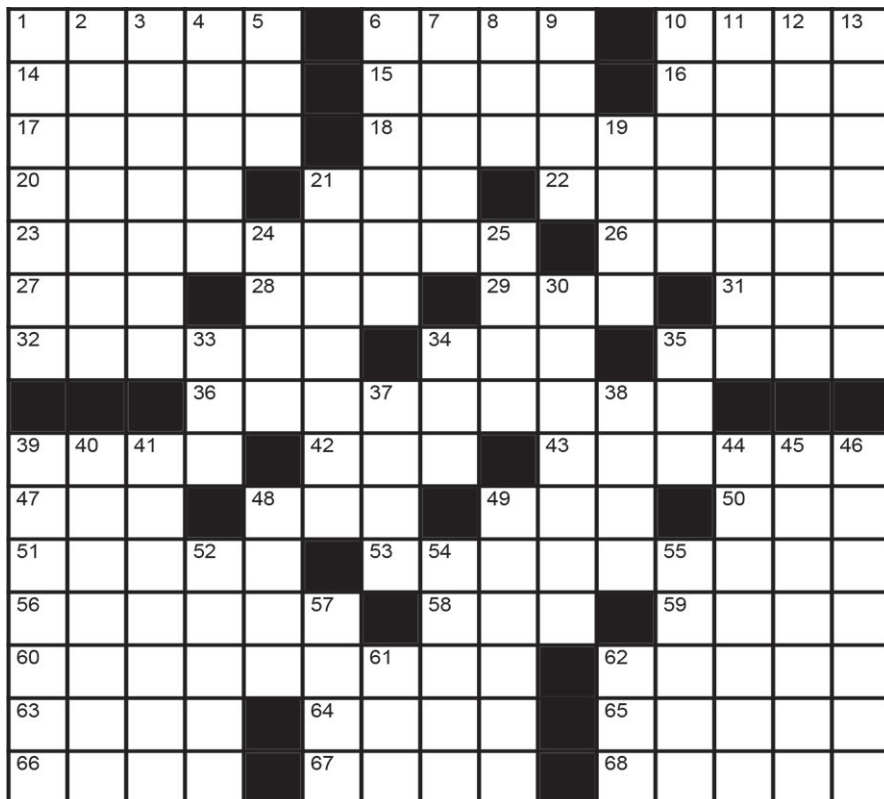
www.cliffbrownautomotive.com



Free brake inspection
Cliff Brown location

Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt



RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
- 3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
- 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and e-mailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
- And now for the really small print:
 - 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

1. "How low can you go?" dance
6. Crispy sandwiches
10. 1936 Oscar winner who played the title role in "The Story of Louis Pasteur"
14. University where Jimmy Carter became a distinguished professor in 1982
15. Suffix with concession
16. Hip to
17. When to celebrate National Poetry Month
18. Something to play at a casino
20. Spanish waterways
21. Singer whose video for "Chandelier" has over one billion views on YouTube
22. Shout at a rodeo
23. Self-exam requiring a handheld mirror and a glass of water that endocrinologists recommend for early detection of thyroid problems
26. Cara of "Fame"
27. One way to get meds, for short
28. Suffered from
29. Suffix with super
31. Jewish rights org. founded 1913
32. Author Dostoyevsky
34. Bobby who was Sports Illustrated's 1970 "Sportsman of the Year"
35. Fan mail recipient
36. Surprise punt in the NFL
39. Dot-____ (online businesses)
42. Rapper with the #1 album "Hip Hop Is Dead"
43. Bad stroke on the golf course
47. Band with the 1999 hit "Summer Girls"
48. Dept. of Justice heads
49. Chard or cab alternative
50. 1979 Yves Montand film "____ in Icarus"
51. 1997-2006 United Nations chief
53. Howard Stern, notably
56. Acting bullsh*t?
58. Chemistry suffix
59. Voting no
60. Classic 1953 short in which Daffy is tormented by an animator who is revealed to be Bugs in the end
62. Colloquialism
63. Man or Manhattan
64. The first U.S. tennis player to win \$100,000 in a year
65. Painter's supply
66. Ball-____ hammer
67. Pigeon-____
68. Playing costs

Down

1. Find out about
2. Charge brought against Socrates and Aristotle
3. Country that's home to Mohammed V International Airport
4. Like a cool fall morning
5. Olive of comics
6. Spoon-fed, say
7. Pastel color
8. ____-la-la
9. Cabinet position: Abbr.
10. Grown-up chica
11. In the near future
12. "Sorry, ain't gonna happen!"
13. Old-time desk accessory
19. Dullea of "2001: A Space Odyssey"
21. It's caring, in a saying
24. China's ____ En-lai
25. He yells "KHAAANNNN!" in "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Khan"
30. It's an opening
33. Places to get Blizzard Treats, for short
34. Permits
35. When doubled, a hit song of 1965 and 1989
37. Musical Mama
38. Bop
39. Seafood-based party food
40. Worthless
41. Accessory for Colonel Klink on "Hogan's Heroes"
44. Theodor Herzl, for one
45. Source of some intolerance
46. First wearers of parkas
48. "Breaking Bad" Emmy winner Gunn
49. Totally wiped out
52. Poet Conrad
54. "Wag the Dog" actress
55. Son of Will and brother of Willow
57. MBA hopeful's hurdle
61. Troop-entertaining grp.
62. Chicago-based supermarket chain

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk on the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

- Jeff Ball, San Diego, 6.
- Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 6.
- John Bruno, Escondido, 6.
- Bob Carlson, San Diego, 6.
- William Brewer, La Mesa, 4.

Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit completed puzzle of any difficulty level (Easy, Medium, Hard or Evil) to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online at SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified.

3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.

4) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

5) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to Reader Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego CA, 92102; or scanned and e-mailed to Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided. 7) Late entries will not be considered.

8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.

9) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

EASY:

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

MEDIUM:

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

HARD:

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

EVIL:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

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

MEDIUM:

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

HARD:

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

EVIL:

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

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

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THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

- L. Barling, El Cajon, 6.
- Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 6.
- Al William, San Diego, 6.
- Steve Krasner, San Diego, 4.
- Riaz Zaboori, San Diego, 4.

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

30 Years in Service



FINANCING AVAILABLE • NO INTEREST FOR 90 DAYS ON APPROVED CREDIT

OUR SERVICES

- Brake Flashes
- Head Gaskets
- Alternator Service

- Fan Belt Service
- Mufflers
- Struts & Shocks
- A/C Service

East San Diego
4501 El Cajon Blvd.

619-359-8609

FREE ALIGNMENT

Buy 2 or More Tires: Free Front End Alignment w/Purchase of Balance on Most Cars
- No Dealers - All Carry Out Tires Add \$5 Each

DISC or DRUM BRAKES

Install Pads/shoes-2 Wheels

GOOD
\$78⁹⁹

- Add Fluid
- Most Cars/Lt. Trucks
- Check Rotors/Drums
- Inspect Hardware
- Check Hoses and Seals
- Check Master Cyl
- Check Calipers/Cylinders

BETTER
\$98⁹⁹

- All of the above PLUS
- Turn Rotors/drums

25k Limited Warranty
With Coupon.

OIL & FILTER CHANGE

\$16⁹⁹

- Most Cars & Lt. Trucks
- Up to 5qts. 5w30
- Oil filter
- Special Oil filters slightly higher
- free inspection
- free tire rotation upon request
- free lube on request

With Coupon.

GOOD

30K/60K/90K MILE SERVICE

- MAINTENANCE TUNE UP
- REPLACE OIL FILTER
- LUBE/OIL CHANGE
- TRANSMISSION SERVICE
- STANDARD SPARK PLUGS
- SET TIMING
- INSPECT RUNNING LIGHTS
- ADJUST IDLE SPEED

- 4 TIRE ROTATION
- INSPECT BRAKE SYSTEM
- INSPECT BELTS + HOSES
- DRAIN & FILL COOLANT
- MAINTENANCE INSPECTION
- TOP OFF FLUIDS
- 4 CYL.
- PLATINUM PLUGS EXTRA
- PLATINUM LABOR EXTRA

• DOES NOT INCLUDE: TIMING BELT REQUIRED ON SOME CARS 6 OR 8 CYL.

\$119⁹⁹

With Coupon.

BETTER

ALL OF THE GOOD PLUS!

- REPLACE AIR FILTERS
- REPLACE PCV FILTER
- REPLACE FUEL FILTER
- CHECK CHARGING SYSTEM

\$178⁹⁹

With Coupon.

BEST

ALL OF THE GOOD PLUS!

- FUEL INJECTION SERVICE
- BATTERY SERVICE
- CLEAN & ADJUST REAR BRAKES
- BRAKE FLUID SERVICE
- BALANCE TIRES
- FRONT END ALIGNMENT

\$339⁹⁹

With Coupon.

BRAKE FLUID REPLACEMENT

- DRAIN & FILL BRAKE SYSTEM
- INSPECT HYDRAULICS & BRAKES
- MOST CARS

\$49⁹⁹

With Coupon.

CV FWD AXLES

- Most Cars
- Replace clicking axles before they break
- Includes Installation.

FROM \$99⁹⁹

Parts & Labor

FREE

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT DIAGNOSTIC

WITH REPAIR TO FIX LIGHT ON OR \$39.99 IF REPAIR DECLINED

TIMING BELT SPECIAL

- RECOMMENDED EVERY 60,000 MILES
- MOST 4 CYL CARS
- RWD CARS & TRUCKS
- FWD ADD \$25
- A/C OR P/F ADD \$20
- V6 OR 8 CYL MORE

\$89⁹⁹

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A/C Service

- Recharge A/C and check for major leaks. Includes up to 2 lbs. freon.

\$59⁹⁹

With Coupon.

FUEL INJECTION SERVICE

\$34⁹⁹

FUEL PREMIUM INJECTION SERVICE

\$69⁹⁹

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TUNE-UP SPECIALS

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

Complete preventive maintenance tune up includes all this • New spark plugs • Set timing • Check points and condenser rotor & distributor cap • Labor to install parts (internal or seated carb adjustment not included) most cars.

\$29.99 4-Cyl

\$39.99 6-Cyl

\$49.99 8-Cyl

With Coupon.

MUSIC SERVICES

REHEARSAL STUDIO. Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24-hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, 858-522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

SWEETWATER REHEARSAL STUDIOS Large, small, short, or tall; \$385-\$550, come have a ball; Test your amps on our thick wall; Cameras, recording, we got it all; www.sweetwaterrehearsalstudios.com. 619-426-1605, 619-227-3460.

CLASSES / LESSONS

FREE MEDITATION! Introduction to Buddhism and Meditation every Tuesday night at 7pm and Saturday morning at 11am at Buddha For You,

6145 El Cajon Blvd., 92115 (near SDSU, next to VONS). 619-582-1100. www.buddha-for-you.com

PLAY PIANO the way you want to! Pop, classical, jazz, blues, improvise. FREE lesson/interview. Over 40 years' experience teaching and performing. E-mail: Lee@LeeGalloway.com or call: 619-281-8118. See www.LeeGalloway.com.

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AUTOMOTIVE

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starting at

3536 Olive Ave., Lemon Grove
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New Tires starting at \$49.99 each 195/65R15	Ask for Angel! Free Balance and Installation	Wheel Packages starting at \$489 a set 205/40R17 17x7.5
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619-928-4222
4828 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92115

Financing Available
100 Days Same as Cash
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HEALTH & FITNESS

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TRAUMA RELEASE TOUCH THERAPY Highly effective therapy for relief from PTSD. Removes trauma from deep in the body including techniques to control triggering. Find joy, empowerment, and vitality again! 760-585-6009

STAGE NOTES

ACT NOW! Television/ theater audition workshop. Develop potential and confidence. Got drama? Stop procrastinating, start acting! All ages. Free. Why wait? Act now! 619-569-4922.

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SMOG CHECK \$19.95
Most cars

Free retest when we do repair. Plus \$8.25 certificate. 1995 & older, \$15 for evap test. Vans, trucks & SUVs extra. Cash only. Must present DMV renewal notice. *All prices plus tax. With this ad. Exp. 1-18-16

OIL CHANGE \$25.95*
Most cars. Includes up to 5 qts. and new filter. Cash only.

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NOTICES

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FREE PSYCHIC HEALING lecture clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 12/1, 1/6, 2/3, 3/3, 4/6, by Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, #108, 858-509-7582.

IMPACT YOUR LIFE with spiritual solutions. Impact the dynamic laws of good. Know how to solve tormenting problems. Call 858-272-3246

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Is food a problem? Binge or purge? No dues or fees. Contact Overeaters Anonymous: 619-521-2538. www.OAsandiego.org.

PRAYER BASED SOLUTIONS, heal problems. Impact your life with dynamic laws of harmony. Discover freedom, wellness joy balance, Peace. Call 858-272-3246

SEX/RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS? Out of control? You're not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous. 12- Step Fellowship. Anonymous 619-819-7882 or slaasandiego@gmail.com or www.slaasandiego.org

SPORTS

GOLF BALLS, like new. Titleist, ProV1, and 1X: \$20 dozen. Taylor made, Penta, Callaway Hex Spixon Tour: \$15 dozen. Miscellaneous \$5 dozen. Call Kenny, 619-398-7017; 619-582-1408.

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FISHING TACKLE Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & Misc. by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

STEREO GEAR/ LP RECORDS. Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

WANTED: Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh; Marantz and more! Call 619-295-5101; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

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WANTED. Cash for Walt Disney autographs and animation art (original), Disney items, books, paper, Disneyland, all before 1960. No videos, records, prints. Also want Peanuts and Dr. Seuss art. 619-465-3090.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

WANTED: ROCK & ROLL. I buy 1950s-1980s concert poster flyers, handbills, used/unused tickets, programs. Private party. Call 619-522-0283.

APPLIANCES

APPLIANCES FOR SALE Washer/dryer sets \$250 and up. Refrigerator and stove each \$150 and up. Stackable \$299 and up. 619-208-2210

ELECTRONICS

SPEAKERS. Stereo, turntables. Boston Acoustics, Polk audio, Sony, Bose, Kenwood. Pioneer Technics, and Sanyo. Take choice or combine. \$5-\$75. 619-599-3331.

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BOOKCASES. Oak, walnut, mahogany, cherry, or teak. Choice of 2x2, 2x6, 3x3, 3x4, 3x6, 4x6, 4x7. Remodeling office, \$25-\$150. 619-599-3331.

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MISCELLANEOUS


ARCADE VIDEO GAME collection. Ms Pacman, Arkandoid, Asteroids, Ninja Gaiden, Galaxian, Frogger, Hydra, Defender, Turkey Hunt, Road Blaster, Final Assault and Captain Commando. \$250. 619-599-3331.


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<p>A/C system Recharge \$39.95</p> <p>*includes system evaluation, evacuation, 15 minute vacuum hold test and recharge to specification</p> <p>*134a Freon additional *additional repairs maybe required for proper system operation, leak detection and diagnostic service available at additional cost</p>	<p>Brake Service \$30 Off per axle.</p> <p>*Life time Brakes Available</p> <p>*We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicles requirements are vehicle specific.</p>	<p>2 Wheel Alignment \$49.95</p> <p>*includes toe adjustment of the front axle *4 wheel alignment \$20.00 additional cost, includes toe adjustment of front and rear axles. *camber, caster adjustment at additional cost See consultant for details</p>	<p>FREE Second Opinion</p> <p>Bring in your written repair estimate and we will gladly give you a second opinion for Free</p>
<p>Precision Tune AutoCare</p>	<p>12/12 WARRANTY 12 MONTHS 12,000 MILES</p> <p>For more specials visit: Precisiontune.com Shuttle Service Available</p>	<p>Sports Arena/Pt. Loma 3425 Midway Dr. (Behind Shell station) 619-450-1262 Mon-Fri 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-5pm • Sun 9am-4pm</p> <p>Discounts off regular price. At participating location. Not valid with other offers. Other restrictions may apply, see manager for details. Coupons must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or discount or for prior service. All coupons expire 12/31/15.</p>	<p>El Cajon 1191 East Main St. 619-308-6164 Mon-Fri 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-5pm • Sun 8am-4pm</p>

EVENT LISTINGS

ARGENTINE TANGO WITH COLETTE
Learn Tango now! Take a FREE FIRST CLASS on Thursday, December 17 at 6pm (or any Thursdays at 6pm thereafter). You can also just come and register directly in the course for beginners given every Monday and Wednesday at 7pm. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Rd, corner Dewey, Studio #106. No partner needed. Check www.TangoWithColette.com or call Colette, 514-726-5567.

BUSINESS EXPO INVESTMENT FORUM North County San Diego entrepreneur to give a 2 hour speaking engagement. "What would I do with 3 million dollars." Fidelity Focused. Three different projects for investment strategies. Focused conflict resolution in America. No charge. Beverages and snacks included. Topics for investment; 1. Corporate Green Company 2. New Diplomatic think tank. 3. Two unreleased major motion pictures. All ideas ground breaking. December 21st, 1-3pm. Call Michael Joseph: 760-560-6092 or email Michael.Joseph_velvet@yahoo.com.

HOLIDAY SCAVENGER HUNT ADVENTURE Great activity with family in town! Turn San Diego into a giant gameboard with this fun scavenger hunt adventure. Combine the excitement of the Amazing Race with a fun city tour. Guided from any smart phone, teams see the sights while solving clues, completing challenges and learning

local history. Available 365 days, Sunrise to Sunset. Now two Quests to choose from in San Diego: Old Town/ Little Italy and the Waterfront or the newly released Balboa Park Quest. Save 20% with Promo: READER. Signup at www.UrbanAdventureQuest.com

MICHAEL McDONALD Best known for his ten years playing freaks on Mad TV. Michael got his start writing and performing for free at the famed Groundlings Theater in Los Angeles. He eventually moved behind the camera to write and direct more terrible movies. Whenever his schedule permits, (translation, Ai frequently) McDonald tours the country doing stand up comedy. Friday, December 18 7:30pm and 9:30pm, Saturday, December 19 7:30pm and 9:30pm, \$22. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. 619-795-3858.

SIMPLY THE BEST SINGLES an upscale organization for singles looking for relationships, marriage and more, offers a "Singles New Year's Eve Gala!" for singles age 40-60ish on Thursday, 12.31, 8:00 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Del Mar Hilton (by the racetrack), 15575 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar 92014. Enjoy a live band "Hitman Honey," appetizers, icebreaker game, prizes, champagne toast, party favors, Tarot Card reader and photos. Classy Dress. Self parking \$5, Valet \$15 (originally \$20). Dance price \$50 prepay/\$60 door. Prepay at www.SimplyTheBestSingles.com or call 88-577-6877.

PETS

FREE PET ADS:
Selling a pet for under \$200? Email your word-ing & photo to pets@SDReader.com.

ALL OTHER ADS:
Call 619-235-8200.

DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.

BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841. www.petkingdom.com.

CERTIFIED PET THERAPY DOGS wanted to visit patients and their families at Scripps Mercy and Mercy Chula Vista Hospitals. If interested, call Ben at 858-279-9472.



GWENDOLYN A1688812) is a quiet and reserved but incredibly loving 1 -2 year old spayed female cat. She enjoys being pet and loves lounging in your lap. Small children are a bit overwhelming for her, but someone to brush her luxurious coat while relaxing at the end of a long day is just her speed. Gwendolyn is currently available for adoption at the County Animal Shelter in Bonita. Her adoption fee is \$58, and includes her spay surgery, current vaccinations, testing for FELV and FIV, deworming and microchip. 619.767.2675. www.sddac.com

PET SERVICES & SUPPLIES

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Top Shelf Indoor Green Crack \$200 ounce	TWO 1/8's for \$50 Select strains, EVERYDAY
Black Cherry Soda OR Afghan O.G. \$150/ounce	FREE 1/8! FTP with min. \$50 donation
ANY TOP SHELF-PRIVATE RESERVE \$10/GRAM No Limit, FTP only	Top Shelf Indoor Plush Berry \$200 ounce
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*Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

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RADIATOR or Transmission Services \$45
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. 4 cyl. most cars

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Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...

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Includes Parts & Labor

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*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition
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\$20 1/8th all day
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House calls OK!
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4101 Market St., Ste. B, San Diego

Vista: 1-855-MMJ-EVAL (665-3825)
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South Bay: 619-651-5041
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ALL DAY EVERY DAY

2 free grams with any donation (ftp)

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1G Exclusive for \$15 2G for \$25	Wax starting at \$25
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10% off to military and disabled	2g for \$25 any choices
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free shake for everyone!

Mellow Mid Mondays
7g for \$45

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10% off your order (with \$60 donation)

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<p>2 Cavi Cones \$25</p>	<p>Moonrock \$25/g</p>	<p>Cheba Chews & Kushy Punch \$10</p>
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Donate \$50 - FREE 1/8(or top shelf G)
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Must mention the Reader.

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SUN • 10AM-8PM
\$50 DELIVERY MIN

619-396-9786




@snmholistics

NO OFFERS CAN BE COMBINED • ONE COUPON PER PATIENT
VETERANS, SENIORS & DISABLED > 10% DISCOUNT

\$50 DONATION * 5 FREE GIFTS *
1.0 GR TOP SHELF
3 PRE-ROLLED
1 GEAR ITEM + STICKER

\$100 DONATION * 8 FREE GIFTS *
2.0 GR TOP SHELF
5 PRE-ROLLED
1 GEAR ITEM + STICKER

OZ SPECIALS
\$90 HOUSE STRAINS
\$230 TOP SHELF
\$299 PRIVATE RESERVE

RETURN PATIENTS
\$89 PRIVATE RESERVE 1/4 8.0 GRAMS
\$69 TOP SHELF 1/4 8.0 GRAMS

SHATTER
\$45 PRIVATE RESERVE 1.0 GR
\$35 TOP SHELF 1.0 GR

KURUPT'S MOONROCKS
THE REAL KURUPT'S MOONROCKS
\$25 1.0 GRAM

LIQUID GOLD
\$35 NUG RUN TANK 0.5 GRAMS

SHATTER STICKS
\$18 SHATTER + KIEF + FLOWER

\$45 CAP ON ALL STRAINS

BEST NEW COLLECTIVE OF 2015

FIVE STAR

find our bronze star on weedmaps!

GRAND OPENING



619-713-6031

**7704 North Avenue,
Lemon Grove, CA 91945**

Type in "FIVE STAR" into Weedmaps.com to see our daily specials

OPEN 7 days a week 10:00am-MIDNIGHT 

\$10 A GRAM FOR ANY STRAIN (ftp only)

\$20 WAX SPECIALS EVERY DAY!

\$30 1/8THS AVAILABLE EVERY DAY!

\$45 CAP ON ALL STRAINS

Coupons cannot be combined. Must present coupon.



BREATH OF LIFE DELIVERY
PREMIUM CANNABIS DELIVERED

15 FREE ONE GRAM JOINTS

*First Time Patients Only & Must Make Minimum Donation

\$99 for 3 1000mg BumbleBee Vape Pens

\$125 for 3 Grams of Top Shelf Concentrate
excludes IVXX



IVXX
ELEVATE



bumblebee



EdiPure



MIGHTYMEDS

Cheeba Chews®



PREMIUM CANNABIS DELIVERED

619.752.1931

www.BreathOfLifeDelivery.com

DAILY Hours
10am-9pm
7 Days a week

DIAMOND COLLECTIVE

3 Grams of Shatter/Crumble \$75

Mix & match! FTP only

FREE 1G Platinum Vapes Cartridge
With \$40 donation for another 1G Platinum Vape cartridge.

Jack the Ripper: Donate \$60 for 1/8th, get 2 FREE 1/8ths!
Any patient!

FTP SPECIALS:
FREE Top-Shelf Gram & FREE Gift FTP only, with min. \$20 donation.
\$10 Top-Shelf Grams FTP only. Min. donation for 3 grams. No limit beyond that!
2 FREE OZs! Donate \$80 for an OZ of shake, get 2 OZs **FREE!** FTP only.

4-Gram 1/8ths & 8-Gram 1/4s
All Day, Everyday!

5G 1/8ths ALL DAY Tues & Sun!
Patient Appreciation Days!

Offers cannot be combined.

10% Off for Military, Seniors, and Disabilities








Free ATM!

Search "Diamond Collective" on Weedmaps to see our menu!
Mon-Thur 9am-11pm
Fri-Sat 9am-12am
Sunday 10am-10pm

5555 Jackson Dr, Ste. 125
La Mesa, CA 91941
619.597.3009

Exclusive Alternative

Open 9am-Midnight

ANY PATIENT ANY TIME

1 \$10 1 Gram Top Shelf
*No Limit

2 \$50 5 Grams Top Shelf

\$100 3G of CO2 Wax

FTP Free Pre-Roll & Grinder

\$10 Icecream 250mg.

\$249 TOP SHELF OZs

\$5 grams HOUSE STRAIN
MIN. \$20 DONATION

\$49.00 Two Platinum Vape Cartridges

\$30 2G EXCLUSIVE RESERVE




\$25 MOON ROCK

\$90 & \$165 OUNCES

AVAILABLE 7 DAYS A WEEK

/ExclusiveAlternative

/Exclusive Alternative

ATM Security Available

619.536.7625 | ExclusiveAlternatives@gmail.com

8514 Commerce Ave, Ste A.
San Diego, CA 92121
REAR OF BUILDING

The BLVD





5G 1/8
ONLY AT EARLY BIRD FROM 9AM-12PM





10 FREE PRE ROLLS FTP ONLY WITH \$20 MINIMUM DONATION
OFFER CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY BELOW OFFER

HIGH QUALITY TOP SHELF 1/8THS \$40 CAPS
\$10 G OF YOUR CHOICE EXCLUDING EXOTICS
FTP. MUST BRING AD

\$100 OZ OF MID SHELF
2 CAVI CONES \$25
SHATTER STIX VAPE PEN CO2 EXTRACTED. PURE. NO ADDITIVES.
\$40 FOR 1 • \$70 FOR 2 • \$100 FOR 3

ATTENTION ALL SAN DIEGO DAB HEADS
• 2GS OF WAX FOR \$40 • 4GS OF WAX FOR \$60 • WE HAVE BOGOS

 **NIGHT OWL SPECIAL**
11PM-CLOSE

TUESDAY & THURSDAY 5G 1/8 ON ALL STRAINS
MUST SHOW READER AD

2G EXOTICS \$30, 2G PRIVATE RESERVE \$25, 2G TOP SHELF \$20, 2G MIDS \$15

SUNDAY FOOTBALL SPECIAL: \$10 TOP SHELF G FROM 10AM-4:20PM.
MUST SHOW READER AD

FTP GIFTS • 10% OFF FOR ALL • COLLEGE, MILITARY, SENIORS, AND DISABLED
MON-WED 9-1AM THUR-SAT 9-2AM SUN 10AM-12AM OPEN LATE

LOCATED ON EL CAJON BLVD IN THE COLLEGE/CITY HEIGHTS AREA

OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED
24 HOUR ARMED SECURITY FOR YOUR SAFETY

WE HAVE OVER 500 MEDICATED ITEMS

5255 EL CAJON BLVD
SAN DIEGO, CA 92115

619 806-4974

ATM INSIDE

POT of GOLD

collective

MERRY KUSH-MAS SPECIAL!
5 Grams for \$35 on Select Strains

Offers cannot be combined.

Exp 12/23/15

\$200 Holiday Ounces

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

FREE RX HAIR KIT

with purchase of 1000 mg

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15



FREE OIL RIC

with purchase of \$100 worth of concentrates

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

\$10 PER GRAM

Top Shelf FTP Only

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

3 GRAMS OF HASH for \$30

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15



1 FREE PRE-ROLL

(FTP only. Must mention this ad. Minimum donation required.)

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

DAILY SPECIAL

4 Grams for \$35

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

WE PAY 1/2



Renewal Cost at Cal-Med

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

SHATTER WEDNESDAY!



3 Grams of House for \$90

or Top-Shelf Shatter for \$40/Gram

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15

DAILY EARLY-BIRD & HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS!
 ask for details

FTP 1 FREE GRAM of Select Top-Shelf

(FTP only when you donate a minimum of \$50. Must mention this ad)

Offers cannot be combined. Exp 12/23/15



SAFE ACCESS WALK-IN COLLECTIVE

619-606-5861

3275 Adams Ave, Ste A
 San Diego, CA 92116



OPEN HOURS

SUN-WED: 9am - Midnight

THURS-SAT: 9am - 2am

ATM INSIDE



WEEKLY RAFFLE!
 GIVING AWAY
 1 HOVER BOARD
 EACH WEEK UNTIL CHRISTMAS!

10% Discount
 for Veterans & Seniors



Huge Selection of Flowers, Edibles, Topicals & More!

potofgoldcollective.com pot of gold collective #potofgoldcollective

ELITE DELIVERY SERVICE

FIRST TIME PATIENTS RECEIVE FREE 2G OF OG!

TOP SHELF OG	TOP SHELF COOKIES	PRIVATE RESERVES
HALF OZ \$120	HALF OZ \$120	HALF OZ \$160
FULL OZ \$220	FULL OZ \$220	FULL OZ \$300
half oz minimum		

(619)396-4833

Better Daze

619-876-3269
 Real Quality Meds For the Low
 San Diego's Top Delivery Service,
 serving ALL San Diego County \$50 Minimum Donation

8g for \$50 Venom OG	Top Shelf Blue Dream
10g for \$50 Menace OG	Popcorn Nugs \$90 OZ
6g for \$50 Girl Scout Cookies	Lollipop Extracts
7g for \$50 Diablo OG	2g for \$80
7g for \$50 Blue Dream	Shake 2oz for \$70
5g for \$50 All Top Shelves	\$5 off all Vape Cartridges
4g for \$55	\$35 a gram OG crumble
All Private Reserves	We carry 100mg Mexican Candy
3g Nug Run Shatter \$100	No delivery fee.

edibles • concentrates • pre-rolls

G

green

L

ife

SEARCH FOR GREENLIFE MEDS ON WEEDMAPS

wm

OPEN DAILY

8AM - 11PM

\$10 Top Shelf Grams

All Day. Everyday!

6 G'S FOR \$50!

TOP SHELF!

FTP ONLY.

HAPPY HOUR

ALL DAY. EVERYDAY.

2

VAPE CARTRIDGES

FOR \$60

4 GRAMS

TOP SHELF WAX

\$100

\$99

OUNCE

HOUSE FIRE

FREE 1/8TH

W/ \$40

MINIMUM DONATION

FTP ONLY.

Located Between

EL CAJON & LAKESIDE

619-796-9501

1645 N SECOND ST. EL CAJON, CA 92021

*LOT B ON TOP OF THE HILL

20% OFF FOR ALL SENIOR CITIZENS & DISABLED

MUST BE 18+ WITH VALID CALIFORNIA ID + VALID DOCTOS RECOMMENDATION

KOROVA

UNRIVALED POTENCY

Phong

WE ARE A WALK IN COLLECTIVE

SERVING ALL OF SAN DIEGO!

EdiPure

YOUR FAVORITE STRAINS BACK IN NORTH PARK

2814 ADAMS AVE • SAN DIEGO, CA 92116

OPEN 8A.M.- 2A.M. 7 DAYS A WEEK

(619) 855-4052

OVER 200+

MEDICATED ITEMS

JOIN THE RAFFLE!

EVERY PURCHASE OVER \$50!

1ST PRIZE - FREE HOVER BOARD

2ND PRIZE - FREE SEEDLESS SHIRT & KEYCHAIN

3RD PRIZE - FREE 1/8TH TOP SHELF

FTP SPECIAL

DONATE \$40 GET A FREE EIGHTH

DONATE \$70 GET A FREE QUARTER

HAPPY HOUR

5 GRAM EIGHTHS BEFORE 11AM

\$50 EIGHTHS AFTER 11PM

HAND BLOWN PRIMO PIPES

STARTING @ \$15!

SNOOP DOGG VAPE PENS

SEEDLESS CLOTHING

FULL SELECTION WITH

SECRET COMPARTMENTS

STARTING AT \$25

MOON ROCKS

\$20 GRAM

3 PRE ROLLS \$10

1.5 GRAMS EACH

\$2-\$5 DABS ALL DAY

LOWEST PRICED KOROVA IN TOWN \$10-\$40

4 GRAM EIGHTH ON EVERYTHING!

1/2 GRAM OF WAX \$15 FULL GRAM

\$25 ALL DAY EVERYDAY

2 FOR \$25 CAVI CONES

VOTED

SAN DIEGO'S

BEST COLLECTIVE

BY THE PATIENTS

RASKAL GENETICS

WHITE FIRE OG

HEROJUANA

FURIOUS 7

GORILLA FIRE COOKIES

CANDY JACK

BABYLON COOKIES

VENDORS WELCOMED

MARY'S MEDICINALS

EdiPure

Phong

KANEN CO

IGH

KOROVA

UNRIVALED POTENCY

ATM

Medi Mart Party

Patient Appreciation Day

DECEMBER 19TH AND 20TH

FROM 1PM TO 9PM

Free Food, Free edible sampling, vape sampling

and a lot of giveaways.

PIZZA, DRINKS, CHIPS, AND FREE PRIZES.

FTPS OR Returners

who mention the Reader!

\$50 \$30 Skywalker OG NUGRUN

WAX Crumble \$20 off a gram

Afghan Kush WAX Crumble

\$20 a Gram unlimited

FTP'S

\$10 a gram on ALL STRAINS

INCLUDES PRIVATE RESERVE

AND Top Shelf Unlimited

ALL glass 50% OFF

Free wax pen set with any 1 gram

wax donation of any wax

(619) 825-3044 • 8740 LA MESA BLVD, LA MESA 91942

San Diego Reader December 17, 2015

81

**6 WAY
GREENS**



**Best strains
in Old Town!**

4004 Taylor St, San Diego, CA, 92110
(at the corner of Pacific Coast Hwy and Taylor St.)

**619-548-3219 • Mon-Th, 8am-12am;
Fri-Sat, 8am-1am; Sun, 9am-12am**

Biggest Dispensary in San Diego!

Over 100 Strains and 200 Edibles! | Vapes • Ice Cream • Pizza • Drinks • Concentrates • Cookies • Candy

8G 1/4 \$40 Over 15 strains! Any patient!

20 Grams Mid-Shelf \$100 FTPs only.

\$100, ~~\$200~~ \$150, and \$300 OZs!

\$10 Top-Shelf Grams Over 30 strains varying weekly!

**FTP: Free Top-Shelf Gram with
any Donation or
\$10 Top-Shelf Grams**
No limit if you choose \$10 top-shelf grams!

Tarantulas \$20 or 2 for \$30
Private reserve joints coated with THC oil and rolled in top-shelf kief.

Wax & Shatter: 3 Grams for \$90
Any patient.

**10 Grams Top-Shelf + 1 Gram
of Kief \$100** Any patient with this coupon.

Spliffin Vapes \$40 (0.5g) or \$70 (1g)
Super Lemon Haze, Dante's Fire, Jack Herer, Spliffin O.G., & Tangie flavors

**Early Bird
/Late Bird
Happy Hour:**

5-Gram 1/8ths
Valid 8am-11am daily,
11pm-12am Sun-Thurs,
and 12am-1am Fri & Sat Night

**Cavi Cones
\$15**



Extracts Available

**Gorilla Glue #4 or Northern Lights:
4 Gs for \$50** Any patient, anytime!

Offers cannot be combined.

EdiPure

Bxhale

KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY



Spliffin
CUSTOMIZED



Kushy Punch



T.H.C. | (619)345-1218

The Holistic Center

1338 E. Main St. El Cajon, CA 92021 • 9am-11pm Daily

**Free
Edible!**
w/\$50
donation

**Private Reserve:
\$15G or \$50 1/8ths
All Day. Every Day!**

**Top-Shelf: \$10G or \$35
1/8ths All Day. Every Day!**

**2 Free Grams House Strain
or 6 Free Pre-Rolls!**
No donation necessary! FTP only.

**2 Grams Private Reserve
\$25**
FTP only.

**10 Gs
Mid-Shelf \$80**

**Edipure: 2 for \$15 (100mg each)
or 2 for \$30 (250mg each)**

**CHEEBA CHEWS
& KUSHY PUNCH
\$10 EACH**
Any patient, no limit!

**Top Shelf Shake \$50
Oz or \$30 1/2 Oz**

**Cavi Cones \$15
or
2 for \$25**

**MoonRocks
\$20G**
Strawberry & Original flavors
available! Any patient, no limit!

**Platinum Vapes
\$20**
Any patient, no limit!

5 Pre-Rolls \$10

\$99 Oz Special

Wax \$20G or 2 for \$35

FlavRx \$25 or 2 for \$45

CanaBx Cartridges \$12

Korova Black Bar \$35

We carry a full line of Edibles, Wax, Crumble, Etc. | 10% Discount for disabled, veterans & seniors
Offering a full line of medication, edibles, drinks, and accessories. Knowledgeable, pleasant staff
24-HR ARMED SECURITY FOR YOUR SAFETY. OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED.



Mission Gorge Medical

GRAND OPENING! Located off Mission Gorge and **8**

FTP DEALS

FREE GRAM

Donate for 1G, get 1G free of equal
or lesser value.

\$35 1/8TH (Top Shelf)

FREE 1/8TH (House Strain)
w/ any donation of any 1/8th

FREE EDIBLE

Donate for 2, get 1 free!
Equal or lesser value.

**HAPPY HOUR:
9AM-12PM DAILY
\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS**

ALL DAY DEALS

2G TOP SHELF \$25

**DONATE \$50, GET \$5 OFF
DONATE \$100, GET \$10 OFF**

**\$10 OFF ANY 1G
WAX CONCENTRATE**

**600ML VAPE CO2 CARTRIDGE
2 FOR \$70
3 FOR \$100**

REWARDS PROGRAM

Every \$250 spent, receive a \$25 credit.



619-552-1021

*offers cannot be combined. Must present ad.

**OPEN 7 DAYS
MON-SUN
9AM-10PM**

CHULA VISTA GENERAL HOLISTIC
210 BROADWAY CHULA VISTA, CA 91910

Check out
our BOGO
shelf! Over
20 strains!

SHATTER BLOWOUT

**6 YABA-DABA-DOO
GRAMS**

\$99

Must present ad. Any patient.

DONATION

1 OZ SHAKE \$20

DONATION

Must present ad. Any patient.

FREE KANEH CO EDIBLE

Donate for 2, get 1 free! Equal or lesser value - choose 500mg or 1000mg edibles.



CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

**\$15 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS
\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS**

Any patient, no limit! Valid Dec. 21-Jan. 1.



FTP SPECIALS:

\$9 HIGH-QUALITY TOP-SHELF GRAMS

Up to 8 at this price. FTP only.

or

FREE OZ HOUSE SHAKE

with \$25 min. donation. FTP only.

or

\$10 OFF ANY GRAM OF WAX

FTP only.

DAILY DEALS!

**MUNCHIE MONDAY:
RECEIVE 25% OFF ANY EDIBLE**

**TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY:
5 GRAM 1/8THS ALL DAY LONG (UP TO 10 GRAMS)**

**THIRSTY THURSDAYS:
DONATE TOWARDS ANY 2 KUSH TOWN SODAS AND
RECEIVE ONE FREE**

**FUN FRIDAYS:
RECEIVE A FREE GIFT WITH ANY DONATION OVER \$10**

**SATURDAY SHATTERDAY:
RECEIVE 15% OFF ALL SHATTER/ WAX/ CRUMBLE**

**SUNDAYS:
\$45 CAP ON ALL 1/8THS AND 10% OFF ALL
CONCENTRATES AND EDIBLES**

Offers/specials may NOT be combined.

Best Patient Service in Town!

Search "Chula Vista Gen" on Weedmaps for our updated menu!

619-701-2924

7 days, 8am-2am

KOROVA

KushyPunch

EduPure

IGH



**Free
ATM!**



**BEST MEDS
IN TOWN!**

KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

KANEH CO

Phang
EduPure

7 days of
Christmas Deals
December 18-24



FRI 18th	\$10 Top-Shelf Grams	\$15 Private Reserve Grams (up to 20)
SAT 19th	\$25 1/8th Mid-Shelf	\$40 Top-Shelf \$50 Private Reserve \$60 Perception
SUN 20th	10% off Wax, Crumble, or Shatter (min. \$40 donation)	
MON 21st	Free Edible (w/min. \$20 donation)	
TUE 22nd	5G 1/8ths Any Shelf, All day!	
WED 23rd	Stocking Stuffer (\$30 gift bag w/\$50 donation. 1 per patient.)	
THU 24th	Donate \$75, get \$25 to Spend in Store! (Up to 50 patients. Must use same day.)	

Holiday Specials

\$35 1/8THS (3.5G) & \$65 1/4S (7G)

Choose from 7 strains: Purple Gorilla Glue, Ken's Kush, Key Lime Pie, Green Queen, Cherry OG, and Alien OG.



KANEH CO EDIBLES

DONATE FOR 1, GET 1 50% OFF!

Fire Sale
2 OZs of Fire Shake \$25!
FTPs only. Returning patients pay \$50.
4 OZs Fire Shake \$75
Any patient!

**3 Grams of Nug Run
Crumble \$100**

**Happy Hour! Thursdays, 4:20-8:20pm
5G 1/8ths any shelf!**

**KURUPTS
MOONROCK**

2 G's for \$50 or 4 G's for \$95
Original or Strawberry flavors.

**Free 1-Gram
Platinum Vape**

when you donate for 2 or \$35 each

Fat Tuesdays: 5G 1/8ths
Any shelf, all day

Wax Wednesday: 10% Off
Min. \$40 donation.

\$25 1/8ths of Double Dream
Top-Shelf Strain!

\$90-\$100 OZ Specials
Select strains.

7140 University Ave. Suite B Look for green light

619-813-8167

Mon-Thurs: 9am-midnight
Fri-Sat: 9am-1am
Sun 9am-midnight

Offers/specials may not be combined.



24-HOUR ARMED GUARD



10% Off for
Veterans,
Seniors, and
Disabilities!

MISSION GREENS COLLECTIVE

SANTEE'S FINEST MEDS

Our prices show our compassion

8g 1/4
Top-Shelf
\$60
8am-12pm

10 FREE PRE-ROLLS

FTP w/any \$20 donation



700mg \$45

all strains



\$25 1/2g 5 for \$180

all patients, all day!

EVERY DAY HAPPY HOUR
4:20 -8:20
5 GRAM 1/8 - ALL STRAINS
@ regular price

KURUPTS
MOONROCK
\$20 Grams

WAX 3 for
\$100 \$40 each
mix & match,
select strains

Platinum
Vapes
\$25 or
2 for \$40

ALL PRIVATE RESERVE 1/8TH \$50 CAP

all patients, all day

Mid-Shelf
Ounce
Special \$160
while supplies
last

MISSION GREENS COLLECTIVE

MON-SAT 8AM-12AM, SUN 9AM-12AM

8011 MISSION GORGE RD, STE G, SANTEE, 92071

ATM ON SITE



619-792-4047



Spliffin
CUSTOMIZED

EdiPure

KushyPunch

KOROVA
UNPAVED POTENCY

RXhale



Specializing in exotic exclusive strains

25% OFF FIRST ORDER! WITH 3 FREE GIFTS MUST SHOW COUPON
Open 10:00am - 10:00pm 7days week Free Delivery Prop 215 sb 420
Call for verification and showroom details
Search on weedmaps HOUSEOFGOLD Call us: **(619) 560-3497**

ALL 1/8TH 4 GRAMS ALL DAY EVERY DAY

GreenRoom on Market

Specializing in exotic strains. Best OG in town, more than 200 items
Happy hour - 9pm - 12am All 1/8ths are 4G and \$5 off

\$10 OFF ANY 1G WAX/CONCENTRATE
With minimum donation \$40 FTP

Free Gram
No donation necessary FTP only

Free 1/8th
House strain with donation of any 1/8th FTP

\$60 1/2oz House
Fire house strain, any patient

Buy one edible get one 50% off
All edibles of equal or lesser value FTP

3 x 600ml shatter pens or 2 grams of co2 wax \$100
Any patients

Search on weedmaps type GreenRoom to see our menu
OPEN 9:00am - Midnight **619 306-5678** Security ATM
Veterans, senior and disabled special discounts, come see us for a Free Gram
4218 MARKET ST - SUITE A / SAN DIEGO

IMP30

50% OFF Edible

HAPPY HOUR 9am-12am All 1/8ths are 4G and \$5 OFF

FREE GRAM
No donations necessary FTP

FREE 1/8TH
House strain with donation of any 1/8th FTP

BUY ONE EDIBLE GET ONE 50% OFF
All edible of equal or less value FTP

\$10 OFF ANY 1G WAX/CONCENTRATE
With minimum \$40 donation

3 X 600ML VAPRX SHATTER PENS OR 2GRAMS OF CO2 WAX \$100

Over 200 medicated items, BEST OG IN TOWN come to check it out

Search IMP30 weedmaps **\$60 1/2oz 619-316-7069** Guard & ATM
House strain any patient 7 days 8:00am/Midnight
Veterans, senior and disable special discounts, come see us Park Back
3030 IMPERIAL AVE / SAN DIEGO

Specializing in exotic strains. Best OG in town, more than 200 items

MIRAMAR PRIVATE CLUB

MOXIE 727 OG Fire organic buds

KOSHER OG Cannabis Cup winner

SHATTER STX 3 for \$100

600ml 100% pure organic CO2 extracted
HAPPY HOURS - 9:00am - 11:00am / 9:00pm - Midnight
Happy Hour 1/8ths = 4Gs / 1/4ths 8Gs and \$5 off

Free 1/8th
Fire House Strain with donation any 1/8 FTP

Buy 3, get 1 free all edibles
Equal or lesser value FTP

3 x 1/2 Gs Golden CO2 DABS \$100 Special

\$5 Off any 1/2 Gram
Any wax or concentrate, no limit FTP

\$5 off any 1/8ths
\$10 off any 1/4 FTP

Search on weedmaps 24Hrs Security ATM and Plenty of parking
OPEN DAILY 9:00am - MIDNIGHT SEVEN DAYS A WEEK - COME SEE US!
9350 TRADE PLAGE, SUITE E (858)229-6859

TruMeds Collective

San Diego/East County's **LARGEST** Collective!

Over 3000 SQ FT!! Carrying Over 100 Strains!

Come see for yourself!

1275 N. 2nd St.
El Cajon, CA 92021

619.731.9921

Mon-Sun:
8am-11pm

5
Pre-Rolls
\$10
Mid-shelf

FREE Pre-Roll
FREE Glass Pipe
FREE Grinder
FREE Lighter

For ALL patients with min. \$30 donation.

**To All
Patients!**

FTP Deals

5 **FREE** Pre-Rolls

No donation required

Or

FREE 1/8th Maui Kush

\$40 min. donation

Are You Jellin'? **FREE** Medicated Jello Shot!

Free 50mg THC jello shot by Star Goddess Creations with min. \$30 donation.

\$99

OZ Special

Wide variety of
strains to choose from

Half Oz \$60

Real Fire Top Shelf Shake \$60 Oz

\$35
Half Oz

Platinum Vape Cartridges



PLATINUM VÄPE

5 for

(1000ml Cartridges)

\$99

Real Top-Shelf Larry OG

\$199 oz

Real Fire Blue Dream

\$149 oz

Concentrates

Northern Lights or
Gorilla Glue Crumble

\$30 Grams

Sour OG Shatter

3 Grams

\$99

BOMB House Wax

7 Grams

\$99

5G 1/8ths Top-Shelf

\$50



Minutes Away from SDSU! • No ATM Fees!



*"Private Reserve-Quality
Flowers at
Top-Shelf Pricing!"*

TOP-SHELF HAPPY HOUR: \$10 GRAMS

(min. \$30 donation)
9am-Noon & 7pm-Close.
Every Day, Any Patient!

\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS ALL DAY, EVERY DAY! ANY PATIENT.

Select strains.

LA LUCHA
420 MEXICAN CANDY
**LA LUCHA 420
MEXICAN CANDY
TASTING!**
Fri, 12/18, 4-6 pm

\$35 ANY TOP-SHELF 1/8TH

FTP ONLY. Valid for any strain in the store!

FREE HOLIDAY GIFT BAG!

Valid 12/21-12/25 with
any donation.
Limit 1 per patient.

\$120 DONATION:

**10 GRAMS OF ANY TOP-SHELF
+ 5 TOP-SHELF PRE-ROLLS
+ 1 GRAM OF HASH**

Any patient, anytime!

\$60 DONATION:

**5 GRAMS OF TOP-SHELF FLOWER
+ 5 TOP-SHELF PRE-ROLLS**

Any patient, anytime!

**KURUPTS
MOONROCK**
2 GRAMS \$50
FTP only.

FREE EDIBLE

Donate for 2, get 1 free!
Equal or lesser value.
FTP only.

PLATINUM VAPES: 2 1G CARTRIDGES \$50

Indica, Sativa, or Hybrid. Any
patient.

7 GRAMS OF TOP-SHELF \$50

Select strains.
Any patient.

3 GRAMS OF SHATTER/ CRUMBLE \$100

FTP ONLY.

REWARDS POINTS!

We are the only collective that offers its patients rewards points for their donations.
Every dollar donated is a point earned.
50 points for all referrals!
One-time 50 point bonus for weed maps reviews!



Check out our menu on Weedmaps!



FREE ATM!



Armed Security

619-371-0118

15% discount for all FTP SDSU past or present students
10% off for future discounts or with other student ID
10% discounts for military, veterans, disabled & senior citizens (65 & up)
Offers, rewards points, and discounts cannot be combined for new or returning patients.

Open 7 days, 9am-9pm
3125 54th St.

(corner of 54th and Redwood), 92105

Safe access and parking available

FIRST 24-HOUR COLLECTIVE IN PACIFIC BEACH

FREE DONUTS 8AM-10AM &
FREE MUNCHIES DAILY!

Delivery Hotline:
619-504-6785

FREE PIZZA
FRIDAYS! FREE
SLICE W/ANY
DONATION FROM
12-5PM

OVER 70 STRAINS • CLINICALLY TESTED AND CERTIFIED MEDS • 2-STAMP SATURDAYS

**TOP-SHELF OZ \$175
OR 5 GRAMS FOR \$25!**

Multiple strains at this price! FTP only.

**PRIVATE RESERVE:
DONATE FOR 3 GRAMS, GET 1 FREE!**

Any patient. 4 grams total!

**MORNING SPECIALS: 8AM-12PM • FREE HOUSE J WITH ANY DONATION!
5PM-2AM: 3 OG J'S \$15 OR FREE TOP-SHELF GRAM WITH PURCHASE OF 1/8TH**

Select strains.

FREE 3 GRAMS

House strain with \$20 min.
donation. FTP only.

FREE GRAM

Private reserve with \$20 min.
donation. FTP only.

FREE 1/8TH

Selected strain w/\$20 donation.
FTP only.

FREE EDIBLE

Donate for 1, get 1 free! Equal or lesser value. FTP only

**2 GRAMS PRIVATE
RESERVE \$20**

FTP only.

\$200 OZ.

Select top-shelf
strains. Any patient.

**2 MAGIC J'S
\$30**

1/8 PRIVATE RESERVE \$50

4 HOUSE FIRE J'S \$10

**TOP-SHELF:
3 GS FOR \$25
OR \$200 OZ**

4 fire strains including Cookies &
Sweet Dream. No cap! Any patient

5 GRAMS TOP-SHELF \$50

10% DISCOUNT FOR

DISABLED & VETERANS

7 GRAMS TOP-SHELF \$70

FTP only.

REFER A FRIEND, GET A FREE TOP-SHELF GRAM!

KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

Phang



Offers cannot be combined.

EdiPure

Spliffin

WE DELIVER!

619-301-8903

LIMITLESS CARE

COLLECTIVE

Multiple
shelves of
flowers & great
selection of edibles,
concentrates, and accessories!

Open 24/7!

Check us out on Weedmaps!

KushyPunch™

MIGHTYMEDS



**DELIVERY HOTLINE:
619-504-6785**

Open 24/7!

1737 Garnet Ave.
Enter through the back alley!

HILLCREST'S 24-HOUR DISPENSARY AND DELIVERY SERVICE

JOIN OUR LUST
POINTS PROGRAM!
SEE STORE
FOR DETAILS.

herbal lust

BEST STRAINS IN HILLCREST

DELIVERY
HOTLINE:
619-504-6785

FRESH COFFEE
& DONUTS
6AM-11AM DAILY!

NON-PROFIT DISPENSARY • FREE MEDS FOR THOSE IN NEED • HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE 

FREE GRAM OF SWEET DREAM OR GIRL SCOUT COOKIES

FTP only w/min. \$20 donation.

HERBAL LUST CARTRIDGES \$20 OR 2 FOR \$30

**\$10 TOP-SHELF
GRAMS**

Select strains.
Any patient!

**50% OFF
ANY EDIBLE**

Donate for 1 edible at regular
price, receive an additional edible
for 50% off! Equal or lesser value.

**DONATE FOR 2
CARTRIDGES,
GET 1 FREE!**

Equal or lesser value.



**DONATE
FOR 1,
GET 1 FREE!**

Vanilla Mango, Strawberry,
Key Lime, and Pineapple Coconut
flavors available!

**PURE GOLD
CRUMBLE / OG
SHATTER \$20
(0.5G) OR \$35G**

**2 Gs OF
PRIVATE
RESERVE \$20**
FTP only.

**flavRx
\$25 (0.5G)
OR \$40G**

**2 Gs OF
TOP-SHELF
\$15**
FTP only.

**MID-SHELF
\$5G**

**G STICKS
2 FOR \$20**

**10% OFF MEDICATED
HONEY, OIL, CREAM,
AND CANNABIS OIL
TINCTURES**

**10% OFF
FOR VETERANS
& SENIORS!**

**\$20 1/8THS
HOUSE
STRAINS**

**PLANETARY
STRAINS
AVAILABLE!**

Tested at over 26% THC.

OUR FLOWERS ARE CLINICALLY TESTED AND CERTIFIED!

Offers cannot be combined. Must present ad for special pricing.

Patient satisfaction is our main priority!

Multiple strains of flowers - exclusive, top shelf, and beyond!
Edibles, drinks, accessories, and concentrates available!
Armed security for your safety! ♥ Vendors welcome!

OPEN 24/7!

**1255 University Ave, Suite B
San Diego, CA 92103**

619-919-5369

EdiPure



Rxhale



KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

Please be discreet and respectful of our neighbors. Plenty of street parking nearby!



EVERYDAY SPECIAL

Wax/Crumble
4 grams \$100
Mix and match select strains

Shatter
3 grams \$75
Mix and match select strains

**4 Grams of
Flower \$50**

FIRST TIME PATIENTS

Free Gram of MoonRock
W/ \$30 donation

Free 1/4th House Strain
W/ \$40 donation

Free Top Shelf Gram
W/ \$50 donation

BOGO Wax/ Crumble
(select strains)

Free 1/8th House Strain
W/ \$20 donation

Free top Shelf 2 grams
W/ \$100 donation

All Seniors Citizens (65 & up), Disabled & Veterans come in for a 10% Discount



Jeffery Joint New Years Giveaway

(14 grams of Top Shelf Flower, Shatter and Kief)

For every donation until New Years Eve, receive a raffle ticket to win



**Christmas Eve and Christmas
Day goodie bags for all patients:
Joints, hash, edibles and more
in each bag**
(minimum donation of \$10)

(619) 508-5171

7640 University Ave. Suite B La Mesa, CA. 91942

Sunday - Thursday 10 am - 10 pm • Friday & Saturday 10 am - 11 pm

Broadway Greens

FIRST TIME PATIENTS

Christmas Raffle
10 GREAT prizes
1 GRAND prize.
For every
donation receive
a raffle ticket

FREE gift bag
for every patient
on Christmas Eve
(Minimum donation \$10)

GRAND PRIZE

\$25 FTP Deal
1 Gram of Top Shelf Flower
1 Korova 3 Dose, Cheeba Chew Quad Dose
or Green Hornet, 1 Kiva 45mg or Laffy Taffy

\$75 FTP Deal
4 Grams of Top Shelf Flower
1 Gram of Wax

\$50 FTP Deal
4 Grams of Top Shelf Flower 1 Hash Oil
Vape Cartridge 1 Battery

\$100 FTP Deal
4 Grams of Top Shelf Flower
2 Grams of Wax

**** Come to the shop to see all our FTP deals ****

1351 Broadway, El Cajon CA, 92021
10 am - 10 pm EVERY DAY
(619) 567-2629

BroadwayGreen

All Seniors Citizens (65 & up), Disabled & Veterans come in for a 10% Discount



**Merry
Christmas &
Happy
New Year**

Sony TV & PS4 Raffle

**For every donation until
Christmas, Receive a raffle
ticket to win:**



FREE GIFT BAG
for every patient
on Christmas Eve
(Minimum donation \$10)



FIRST TIME PATIENTS

Free Gram of MoonRock
W/\$30 donation

Free 1/4th House Strain
W/\$40 donation

Free Top Shelf Gram
W/\$50 donation

BOGO Wax/Crumble
(select strains)

Free 1/8th House Strain
W/\$20 donation

Free top Shelf 2 grams
W/\$100 donation

EVERYDAY SPECIALS

Wax/Shatter
4 grams \$100
Mix and match select strains

Wax/Shatter
3 grams \$75
Mix and match select strains

**1/8th of Top Shelf
Presidential OG \$35**

**1/8th of Top Shelf
Sour Diesel \$35**

**** Come in for all our FTP and daily specials ****

10 am - 10 pm EVERY DAY

560 El Cajon Blvd., El Cajon • (619) 376-6686



TheCure_SD

All Senior Citizens (65 & up), Disabled & Veterans come in for a 10% Discount





**Pure
meds**



San Diego's Finest Collective
WALK-IN

25% OFF EDIBLES (F.T.P. ONLY)	2G / \$25 ON ALL TOP SHELF STRAINS (FTP ONLY)
HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY 8PM - 12AM! FREE 1/8TH OF HOUSE MIX AND FREE GRAM OF BUBBLE HASH W/ EVERY DONATION	DONATE OVER \$20 RECEIVE A FREE EIGHTH (HOUSE SPECIAL, FTP ONLY)
\$100 oz (ON SELECT HOUSE STRAINS. FULL NUGS.)	\$25 a gram Clear Gold Shatter
FREE SMALL PIPE (WITH ANY PURCHASE)	FREE GRINDER (WITH ANY PURCHASE)


6176 Federal Blvd • San Diego, 92114
619-382-4373
OPEN DAILY 8AM-2AM

Walk In Showroom Located Just Minutes from
Interstates 805, 94 & 15 and Downtown San Diego!




MUST BE 18 YEARS + with Valid C.A. ID & ORIGINAL DOCTORS RECOMMENDATION 24-HOUR ARMED SECURITY 

HOUSE of OG'S

DONATE A TOP SHELF 1/8 AND RECEIVE A FREE GRAM OF TOP SHELF - YOUR CHOICE!	DONATE ONE G OF FIRE OG WAX FOR \$55 RECEIVE SECOND G OF FIRE OG WAX FOR FREE
DONATE A TOP SHELF 1/4 AND RECEIVE 2 FREE GRAMS OF TOP SHELF - YOUR CHOICE! (FTP ONLY)	REAL DEAL  \$25G
CAVI CONES OR PRX CONES 2 FOR \$25	\$100 OZ "ORGANIC SUNGROWN FLOWER"
MIX N MAX VAPE TANKS 3 VAPE TANKS FOR \$90	5 GRAM 1/8 FTP ANY STRAIN
10 GRAM 1/4 FTP ANY STRAIN	1 OZ SHAKE \$80.00

619-431-9255 8AM-12AM 7 DAYS A WEEK
Call for verification

4406 40th Street San Diego, CA



LEGENDARY MEDS

GRAND OPENING IN LAKESIDE!

2G/ \$25 (ALL STRAINS. F.T.P. ONLY!)	FREE GRAM, ANY STRAIN! (After 1/8th Donation of Equal Shelf, F.T.P. Only)
FREE EIGHTH! (w/ \$40 Donation. HOUSE Strain Only! F.T.P. ONLY)	\$100 OUNCE SPECIAL! (NO LIMIT, SELECT HOUSE STRAINS!)
\$10 OFF ANY 1 Gram of WAX/SHATTER/ CONCENTRATE (F.T.P. ONLY, NO LIMIT)	BUY 2 EDIBLES, GET 1 FREE! (ANY EDIBLE of Equal or Lesser Value)

PROUDLY PROVIDING SAFE ACCESS to CALIFORNIA'S BEST HIGH TIMES
CANNABIS CUP WINNING STRAINS AND THE BEST SELECTION OF LAB TESTED
AWARD WINNING CONCENTRATES EAST COUNTY HAS EVER SEEN!



10116 MAINE AVE., LAKESIDE, CA 92040
619-346-8896



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED RIGHT OFF THE 67 NORTH IN LAKESIDE!!
OPEN DAILY 9AM-MIDNIGHT!



"CALI KUSH FARMS"
VENOM OG - LAB
TESTED at 27.9% THC!

King's Reserve



"CALI KUSH FARMS"
KOSHER KUSH

\$45 CAP—ALL 1/8THS, ALL STRAINS!

LA MESA'S NEWEST AND FINEST COLLECTIVE PROVIDING
CANNABIS CUP WINNING FLOWERS & CONCENTRATES

\$90oz (28g) HIGH QUALITY GREEN- HOUSE SPECIAL!	BUY TWO EDIBLES GET ONE FREE! <small>of equal or lesser value</small>	ONE OZ SHAKE \$70
\$10 OFF ANY 1g of WAX/ CONCENTRATE	3 500mg VAPE PENS \$80 <small>mix & match!</small>	FREE 1/8TH of HOUSE SPECIAL <small>w/ \$40 Donation FTP only</small>

5g 1/8th any strain FTP • 10g 1/4 any strain FTP

OPEN DAILY 9AM-MIDNIGHT!
CONVENIENTLY LOCATED OFF OF COLLEGE AVE in LA MESA!
CALL NOW FOR VERIFICATION AND DIRECTIONS:

619-327-6723

MUST BE 18+ with VALID CA ID & ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION






Nameless Genetics
MEGA-WELLNESS OG

#1 RANKED COLLECTIVE
BEST WAX SELECTION IN SAN DIEGO

EMPIRE

Happy Holidays

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY - 3 TIMES A DAY!
10AM-NOON, 3PM-5PM, and 10PM-MIDNIGHT

THIN MINT COOKIES



Cali Kush Farms VENOM OG
LAB TESTED at 27.9% THC!

Cali Kush Farms
EMPEROR OG



TOP SHELF STRAINS
\$10/Gram

KURUPTS MOONROCKS
\$20/Gram

EMPIRE SHELF STRAINS
\$15/Gram

DONATE
ONE EDIBLE
GET ONE
50% OFF!

ALL CONCENTRATES
\$5 off/Gram!



FLAV RX CARTRIDGE
SPECIAL \$20.00!
REG. \$30



LIQUID GOLD NUGRUN
CARTRIDGE SPECIAL \$35.00!
REG. \$50

1oz of Shake \$50.00
2oz Shake \$80.00
3oz Shake \$100.00

\$99oz SPECIALS



HGH EXTRACTIONS NUG
RUN SHATTER \$25 for .5G
or \$50 for 1 GRAM

\$120oz SPECIALS



PRESIDENTIAL
PRE-ROLL SPECIAL
2 FOR \$25.00

1 GRAM OG SHATTER -\$20

\$140oz SPECIALS



LALLIPOP EXTRACTS
NUGRUN SHATTER
ONLY \$40

1 GRAM OG CRUMBLE -\$20

EXCLUSIVE MELTS NUGRUN
SHATTER - \$40.00 1 GRAM



All Meds are SC LABS tested  10% Off For All Veterans, Seniors, Disabled One coupon per visit • All coupons expire 12/24/15



619-704-4475

VENDORS WELCOME

8622 TROY ST SPRING VALLEY | 91977 | 8AM-12AM DAILY

MUST HAVE A VALID CA I.D. & ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION, SAFE ACCESS SAFE PARKING

OVER 80 STRAINS! LUCKY



GIVEAWAY!

**TOP-SHELF SHAKE:
\$50 OZ OR \$30 1/2-OZ**

This is real top-shelf shake!

FTP: FREE TOP SHELF G
with any donation.

4 GRAMS OF HOUSE WAX \$60

PLATINUM VAPES 1 Gram Cartridges \$20 ea

OG HOUSE CRUMBLE 4 GRAMS \$60

**KURUPTS
MOONROCK**

Regular and Strawberry \$20 gram

Private Reserve: \$13/G • Top-Shelf: \$10/G

All day, every day,

10% discount for disabled and veterans! We also carry a huge selection of edibles!

KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

Spliffin
CUSTOMIZED



7 days, 9am-11pm

KushyPunch

PLATINUM VAPES

EdiPure

Rxhale

Holiday Specials **GREENS**

**Friday, 12/18,
2-4pm**

Free Cavi Cone for the first 50 patients to come in during that time who donate \$30 or more!

\$99 OUNCE SPECIALS

\$2 PRE-ROLLS ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

\$20 1/8THS LOW-SHELF

Choose from 16 strains! Any patient, all day.

FlavRx \$20 EACH

CAVI CONES \$12 EACH

Valid through 12/24/15. Any patient.

Happy Hour All Day, Every Day!

TOP-SHELF GRAMS 5 FOR \$50

MID-SHELF GRAMS 5 FOR \$40

LOW-SHELF GRAMS 5 FOR \$30

OG WAX \$20/GRAM

Any patient, anytime!

Mid-Shelf: \$9/G • Low-Shelf: \$8/G

any patient!



619 345 1314

1107 GREENFIELD DR • EL CAJON • CA 92021



We offer the
cheapest pipes & glass
in San Diego County!

SAN DIEGO'S FIRST

WE HAVE DOUBLED OUR SIZE

DELIVERY HOTLINE:
619-504-6785

FREE 1/8TH FOR FTP's

House strain, with min. \$20 donation.

FREE COFFEE
& DONUTS
5-9AM DAILY!



Happy Hour All Day Every Day

Any patient.

OG Fire Wax \$25/0.5G

Free Mini Rig

Any patient, with purchase of two grams of wax.

Magic J's: 1 for \$20 or 2 for \$35

House Shake \$70 OZ

3
Pre-Rolls
\$10

All top shelf \$10/gram

Any patient.

\$2 off Kushy Punch

Any patient.

Private reserve \$15/gram

Any patient.

\$10 Weezza Pizza

Any patient.

Edibles
from
\$5

\$200 OZ Top-Shelf

Any patient.

\$5 off MoonRock

After \$50 donation.

Open
24/7!

\$2 off Edipure

Any patient.

Our buds
are clinically
tested and
certified!

Join our loyalty program! • Mexican candy edibles available!
Friendly, knowledgeable, beautiful staff

We cover your
ATM fee here!
See store for
details.

FEEL FREE TO COMBINE OUR OFFERS!

WEST MAIN
WELLNESS
CENTER

619-306-9538

905 W. Main St, El Cajon 92020

Delivery Hotline:
619-504-6785

We are on
Barkback!

24-HOUR COLLECTIVE!

AND DOUBLED OUR SELECTION!

**\$160 OZ
Top-Shelf**

Huge selection of strains! Any patient.

**Free Gram of
Private Reserve**

Donate for 3 grams, get one free! FTP only.

Early Bird Special: 10% Off!

Valid for any patient from
5am–9am daily.

Free Gram of Wax

Donate for 2, get 1 free!
Equal or lesser value. FTP only.

**10% OFF MEDICATED HONEY OIL,
CREAM, AND CANNABIS OIL TINCTURES**

Any patient.

FREE OIL CARTRIDGE

Donate for 3 oil cartridges, get 1 free!
Equal or lesser value.

**WU-TANG KURUPTS MOONROCK
NOW AVAILABLE!**

CHECK OUT OUR REVIEWS ON WEEDMAPS!

wm

@W MAIN WC



"Best meds in El Cajon! Every time I come in here it's always a good experience, the staff and the meds are great."

- jayr_ovo



"Great dispensary! This DP is honestly the best around! Really nice selection on meds all around. Also open 24 hours? Really useful since no DP is open like this."

- JustToken



"Awesome place! Knowledgeable budtenders and amazing prices! Amazing quality products."

- Ruben123062



"Fabulous! Love this place. The price is right. The flower is bomb. The staff is super friendly. They also just expanded so now the place is huge. And it's open 24/7."

- talktomesoftlyy

ATM On-Site • 10% Discount for Veterans! All day, every day!
Parking on the side of the building • Armed security for your safety



EdiPure



Phang



KushyPunch



KURUPTS MOONROCK

**SAN DIEGO'S
PREMIUM
DELIVERY
SERVICE**



DELIVERIES

Call for verification
and service area.
Serving much of
San Diego County.

LIQUID GOLD

679-504-6785



**SEARCH NO MORE! THE BEST DELIVERY
WITH STOREFRONT PRICES!**
(Delivery fees may apply.)

FREE G of
**KURUPTS
MOONROCK**

FTP only w/min. \$50 donation.



EdiPure

KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

FREE EDIBLE

Any patient w/min. \$50 donation.

DOGO \$65 1/8ths

Any patient. Multiple strains! Check out our menu on Weedmaps!

WE CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF EDIBLES, CONCENTRATES, AND VAPES!

**LGWC
DELIVERIES**



**LGWC
DELIVERIES**

Grand Opening!

LEMON GROVE WELLNESS CENTER

OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

DELIVERY HOTLINE:
619-504-6785

FREE 1/8TH FOR FTP'S

House strain, with min. \$20 donation.

FREE GRAM OF

**KURUPTS
MOONROCK**

FTP only w/min. \$50 donation

FREE MINI RIG

Any patient, with purchase of two grams of wax.

**HOUSE SHAKE \$70 OZ
\$2 OFF KUSHY PUNCH**

Any patient.

\$5 OFF MOONROCK

After \$50 donation.

**OG FIRE WAX \$25/0.5G
\$160 OZ TOP-SHELF**

Huge selection of strains! Any patient.

**WU GOO: DONATE FOR 1,
GET 1 FREE**

**FREE GRAM OF
PRIVATE RESERVE**

Donate for 3 grams, get one free! FTP only.

FREE GRAM OF WAX

Donate for 2, get 1 free! Equal or lesser value. FTP only.

MAGIC J'S:

1 FOR \$20 OR 2 FOR \$35

ALL TOP SHELF \$10/GRAM

Any patient.

**PRIVATE RESERVE
\$15/GRAM**

Any patient.

\$200 OZ TOP-SHELF

Any patient.

\$2 OFF EDIPURE

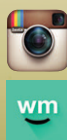
Any patient.

**EARLY BIRD SPECIAL:
10% OFF!**

Valid for any patient from 5am-9am daily.

CLINICALLY TESTED AND CERTIFIED MEDS • GREAT LOYALTY PROGRAM • 10% OFF FOR VETERANS & DISABILITIES

**7973 NORTH AVE.
LEMON GROVE, CA 91945**



619-201-7542

**OPEN
24/7!**



EdiPure



KOROVA
UNRIVALED POTENCY

Phang

EUREKA
VAPOR

KushyPunch



KURUPTS
MOONROCK

4/8ths +

9 FREE Gifts \$40 FTP

3/8ths flower, 1/8th shake, keif, hash, 2 edibles & much more!

Holiday Deals -

Vip Meds
9612 Dale Ave. - Suite 3
Spring Valley, CA 91977
619-419-9698 (8am - 12am)

2g Top Shelf \$20
2g Private Reserve \$25
Oil Cartridge \$10
Cartridge & Battery \$20
\$10 1/8ths

VIP

WootMaps, YouTube, Facebook

420 Patients Rec's

\$25 New Patients, \$15 Renewals

House calls OK!
Walk In's Welcome!
MON-FRIDAY 11am-6:30pm
SATURDAY 11am-5pm
SUNDAY 11am-3pm
Location's hours / days may vary.
Call us for ID CARDS & Growers License
Bring this ad!

Spring Valley: 1-855-665-3825
3911 N. Cordoba Ave #F, Spring Valley

Pacific Beach/La Jolla: 1-855-665-3825
841 Turquoise St., #E, San Diego

El Cajon: 619-709-1724
266 S. Magnolia #103, El Cajon

South Bay: 619-651-5041
1067 Broadway #113, Chula Vista

Imperial Beach: 619-207-9423
1760 Palm Avenue #203, SD 92154

MORE OFFICE LOCATIONS. CALL US!

Lakeside Trees

\$10 GRAMS OF YOUR CHOICE! NO LIMIT!

INCLUDES PRIVATE RESERVE, EXCLUSIVE, AND TOP-SHELF. FTP ONLY. EXPIRES 12/15/15.

\$49 OZ. FULL NUGS!	1/2 OZ FREE w/ \$10 donation or 2 GRAMS FREE No donation necessary. FTP only. Full nugs.	OZS: \$49/\$100 \$150/\$200 \$250	\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS All day, every day!	3 RICE KRISPIES EDIBLES \$10
KUSHY PUNCH OR CHEEBA CHEWS \$10	KURUPT'S MOONROCKS 5 GS FOR \$100 2 GS FOR \$45	\$10 CLONES		
10 GS TOP-SHELF \$50 Select strains.	2 1-GRAM PLATINUM VAPES \$50	CAVI CONES OR PRESIDENTIALS 1 FOR \$15 • 2 FOR \$25		
7-GRAM 1/4 \$30 All day, every day!	\$15 1/8THS All day, every day!	5 PREROLLS FOR \$10	CANNABIS QUENCHERS \$10	
SHATTER starting at \$20	HGH WAX starting at \$25	TOPICAL CREAM starting at \$25	KOROVA UNPAVED POTENCY BLACK BAR \$35	
10% OFF FOR VETERANS VENDORS WELCOME!				

12233 WOODSIDE AVE. • LAKESIDE, 92040 • 619-346-1255
SUN-WED 10AM-10PM • THURS-SAT 10AM-12AM

Meds 4 Less

WALK-IN COLLECTIVE

JOIN THE RAFFLE! seedleSs. EVERY PURCHASE OVER \$50!
1ST PRIZE - FREE HOVER BOARD
2ND PRIZE - 4 GRAMS OF WAX + FREE DAB PIECE
3RD PRIZE - FREE 1/8TH TOP SHELF

4 GRAM 1/8th's

All Day, Every Day, Any Strain, Any Shelf

VOTED SAN DIEGO'S MOST COMPLETE COLLECTIVE
VENDORS WELCOMED
WAX WEDNESDAYS! Free wax with every donation over \$30!

Early Bird Special 5 Gram 1/8 All Strains! Come in before 11am.	\$100 3g WAX SPECIAL mix and match every day	Free Gram FTP. With any purchase!	\$20 Gram MOON ROCKS
FTP Donate \$50 — free 1/8 Donate \$70 — free 1/4 Plus FTP gifts!	\$5 off when donating over \$60 \$10 off when donating over \$100		
Cavi Cones \$15 or 2 for \$25	Vape Cartridge Combo! Cartridge + Pen \$50	Cheeba Chews \$10!	Free Wax Piece with \$50 wax donation

Cannot combine coupons

OPEN LATE 8AM-2AM EVERYDAY!
1155 Morena Blvd, San Diego, CA 92110 Right off the 8 & 5

619-806-5256

IGH, Phang, Korova, Edipure

POINT LOMA

PATIENT CONSUMER CO-OP

#1 RATED, CITY APPROVED

****FREE 1/8TH FIRST TIME PATIENTS****
Over 330 Clinical Grade Strains

**with Minimum Donation

WINNER
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
BEST OF 2015

8ths starting at **\$20**

Ozs starting at **\$150**

Tokyo Qtr **\$85**

\$45 Reserve 1/8ths

High CBD product

Veterans and Disabled Receive 10% Off • Walk-in Now Open!!!
3452 Hancock St., San Diego Ca 92110 • M-Sat 8am-9pm, Sun 9am-8pm
619.574.0415 • Delivery Hrs: M-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 9am-8pm

www.PLPCC.ORG

EdiPure, KIVA

HOLIDAY SPECIALS IN SPRING VALLEY!

**FREE
1/2 OZ**
with \$10 donation. FTPs only.

2 Free Grams
No donation necessary! FTPs only.

\$10 Any Gram
Includes Exclusives! FTP only.

MOONROCK
\$20/Gram
Any patient!

\$30 OZ House

\$10 Clones

HGH Wax \$25

\$55 OZ Fire Nugs

Two 1-Gram Platinum Vapes \$45

3 Rice Krispies Treats \$10

**Cavi Cones
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