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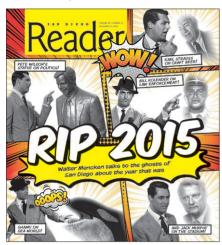
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December 31, 2015



An almost factual look back — page 14



San Diego set the stage in 2015 — page 59



Tarantino goes West(ern) — page 61

ADVERTISING

Classified Ads

Display Ads

Automotive	69
Career Training	67
Health and Beauty	21
Help Wanted	66
Legal Solutions	10
Music	50
Rentals	68
Research Studies	16
Services	69

NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights		
Gophers aren't Epic Pest Control's biggest problem; and News Ticker		
Under the Radar		
Letters		
Neighborhood News		

Diary of a Diva Barb says stop moralizing everyone's food choices...... **Ask a Hipster**

12

R.I.P. 2015

Walter Mencken talks to ghosts of San Diego	
about the year that was	4

She wasn't born that way, though. By Josh Champlin26

My Sister Is Gay

Off the Cuff	71
Crossword	72
Sudoku	73

News of the Weird......74

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance,
Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures,
Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness

Travel & Getawaye

ivei & detaways		
Baja beach devoid of humans	34	
Tecolote Canyon's history writ in stone and sediment	34	
petry		
Three Poems by Alfred Nicol	3	

Water Front

Mosquito is more likely to kill you than a shark	40
Restaurants	

Carla declares a triumph of degustation4	2
Feasters' delights (and disappointments)4	4
San Diego's coffee scene on par with Portland's?4	5
Happy Hour4	7

Happy Hour....

San Diego Beer News

u	asic	
	A slosh through Tijuana's afterparty epicenter	48
	Forty bucks for a taster flight. Merry Christmas to me	41

М

Club Crawler	54
Everyone's a Critic	58
Theater	

Jeff Smith looks back on the Year of the W	Vorld Premiere 59
Movies	61

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Kersey quiet

Councilman's conflict keeps him silent

If all goes as planned, a cell-phone tower disguised as a eucalyptus tree and a 20-foot-by-9-foot concrete enclosure will be placed less than 10 feet from a sidewalk and approximately 300 feet from the nearest home, inside Ridgewood Neighborhood Park in Rancho Peñasquitos.



Mark Kersey

The proposal has been approved by the city. Construction will begin as soon as a judge renders his decision on whether the City of San Diego should be allowed to lease designated park space to cell-phone companies at a nominal price, and whether they can do so without a public vote, as required by the city charter.

In August, as reported by the Reader, a group of residents known as Don't Cell Our Parks filed a lawsuit against the City of San Diego. A judge is expected to hear arguments in August 2016.

Some Rancho Peñasquitos residents say they are frustrated by the process and with their councilmember, Mark Kersey. Until now, Kersey has remained silent on the issue due to financial ties between his company, Kersey Strategies, and cable and telecom companies, including AT&T and Verizon. Kersey's business conducts research for the companies.

The city is knowingly violating San Diego's city charter, which states, "All real property owned in fee by the City heretofore or hereafter formally dedicated in perpetuity by ordinance of the Council or by statute of the State Legislature for park, recreation or cemetery purposes shall not be used for any but park, recreation or cemetery purposes without such changed use or purpose having been first authorized or later ratified by a vote of two-thirds of the qualified electors of the City voting at an election for such purpose."

While the residents await their August court date, they are sending letters to councilmember Kersey.

"Just because you had to recuse yourself due to financial ties to Verizon, does not mean you should stand by and let such an invasive project be installed in our neighborhood," reads a form letter sent from community members to Kersey.

Kersey's spokesperson says the councilmember will continue to remain silent on the issue.

"Councilmember Kersey's business, Kersey Strategies, has business relationships with both Verizon and AT&T. Per direction from the City Attorney's Office and the Ethics Commission, [councilmember Kersey] regularly recuses himself from votes related to either company."

Dorian Hargrove

Dollar signs in his eyes

ATM skimmer didn't think about security cameras

Authorities in Santee are looking to the public for help in identifying a suspect accused of using a "skimmer" device to steal debit-card information from patrons of a local bank.

On the afternoon of November 27, an ATM technician discovered the skimmer attached to an automated teller located at Mission Federal Credit Union on Town Center Parkway in Santee. The device is capable of capturing credit-card numbers and PIN codes entered by users of the machine, which are then stored on a memory card and can be used to produce bogus replica cards.

Sheriff's deputies say that they believe the device was on the machine for less than



This is the alleged perp

half an hour, despite the discovery time being listed as 12:30 p.m. and released photos of the suspect appearing to have been taken after nightfall. They say that the memory card storing stolen information was recovered and no customer data is believed to have been captured by thieves in relation to the incident.

Dave Rice

Jerry Brown's holiday pardons

Manslaughter and pot offenses forgiven

The star of this year's Christmas pardons by governor Jerry Brown may be Hollywood's Robert Downey, Jr., but some long-ago jailed drug offenders and a manslaughter convict of San Diego's justice system are also among the celebrants.

"He has lived an honest and upright life,

continued on page 31





Robb Field

Contract killers

Did the City of San Diego kill Epic Pest Control?

By Dorian Hargrove

Thedford, owners of
Epic Pest Control and
Landscape Services, believe
employees in San Diego's
Purchasing and Contracting Department are trying
to shut down their business.

The reason for the vendetta, says Eleanor Thedford, is threefold: part retaliation over a well-publicized and costly gopher problem at an Ocean Beach park, lack of oversight in the purchasing and contracting department, and discrimination against

minority-owned businesses.

Since 2013, city procurement officers have denied Epic's bids on several occasions, going so far as awarding contracts to non-licensed companies. The San Diego County Department of Agriculture has fined some of the companies for working without necessary licenses.

And as Eleanor and Claude Thedford fought, unsuccessfully, to win new contracts, city employees refused to renew their existing contracts. Doing so has put Epic on the brink of insolvency.

Epic's beginnings

Claude Thedford started Epic in 1998, after working at Terminix for over 27 years. At first he focused on residential properties. But by his tenth year in business the company expanded its scope, serving commercial clients as well as providing pest control for government entities such as the Department of Motor Vehicles, the Veterans Affairs administration building, as well as contracts with the City of San Diego to control pests at 70 parks and public libraries throughout the city.

"We built a reputation for doing it right the first

Neal Obermeyer



an Diego *Reader* December 31, 2015





Costly gopher problem at this Ocean Beach park

time," said Claude Thedford in a September interview. "I think we built a very solid relationship with our clients, including the city."

Thedford worked with the city to make sure that he had all necessary licenses for pest control and landscape maintenance.

Their work paid off and in 2010 Epic Pest control entered into another contract with the city to provide gopher control at Robb Field in Ocean Beach.

Best way to kill gophers

Since 2008, gophers have burrowed thousands of tunnels underground at Robb Field. Sports leagues and parkgoers have lodged complaints. City employees responded by hiring an outside company to kill the gophers. Searching for a long-term solution, the city awarded Epic Pest Control the contract.

Just as Thedford began to treat the problem, the city received complaints about using poison at a public park. The Animal Protection and Rescue League, a non-profit animal-rights group, threatened legal action if the city and any of their contractors used poison to kill gophers.

Thedford continued to visit the park. Meanwhile, the city looked for other ways to eradicate the gophers. They hired a different company to kill the gophers by blasting the tunnels with a lethal combination of methane and oxygen. The blasts further weakened the topsoil.



County of San Diego Operations Center, which houses Purchasing and Contracting office

In August 2013, during a football game, a man named Andre Walker, fell into one of the holes, injuring his leg. He sued the city and Epic Pest Control's insurance company, in turn, sued the city for "interfering" with the treatment of the field.

Just over a year later, the city agreed to settle the case for \$450,000 in damages. At the time of the settlement, as reported by the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, a city employee blamed Epic Pest Control for submitting a bid too low to cover the costs to adequately address the gopher infestation.

Thedford says the city used him and his company as a scapegoat.

Backlash

During the following year, Thedford says the city informed him that they were not renewing several contracts. At the same time, city employees were finding reasons to reject his company's bids. One such incident occurred in May 2013 when the city rejected Epic Pest Control's bid to provide

landscape maintenance for the Tierrasanta Maintenance Assessment District. The city entered into a contract with Treebeard Landscape. When researching the winning bidder, Thedford discovered they did not possess necessary licenses to perform the work.

Thedford's attorney contacted the city, arguing that Epic Pest Control should have been awarded the contract since they were the lowest, fully licensed bidder. The city wasn't swayed. In an August 15, 2013, letter, a deputy city attorney decided the contract was "awarded in compliance" with city code.

That same month, San Diego County's Department of Agriculture looked into the contract and discovered that Treebeard did not have the proper license. The department fined the company \$400.

Department of complaints

Complaints over a lack of oversight by the city's purchasing and contracting department are not unusual. In January 2015, San Diego's

 $continued\ on\ page\ 31$

UNDER THE RADAR

Trash man cometh not
The yearlong legal battle over the status of Chula Vista city councilman
Steve Miesen, who also happens to

be a top executive with the city's trash-pickup provider, Republic Services, shows no signs of abating soon.

Miesen was appointed by the city coun-

cil in January 2015 to serve out the final two years of the term of

Mary Salas following her election as mayor. That brought a yet-to-be resolved lawsuit by resident Chris Shilling alleging that Miesen got the council seat through secret skullduggery. Further controversy ensued regarding whether the council had violated the California Political Reform Act, which the state's Fair Political Practices Commission said it hadn't. Now comes the commission again, this time with an opinion barring Miesen from voting on permits for a fancy new residential and commercial complex at Third & K. The five-story Vista Del Mar project, designed by

Studio E architect **John Sheehan** for developer **Hamid Mani**, is controversial among some residents for its size and proximity to a single-family neighborhood.

The state's political watchdog says lucrative trash generation by new resi-

dents is the issue with Miesen. "As the Division Manager [for Republic], the Councilmember is responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations, maximizing productivity, optimizing profitability, approving expenses, and managing the budget, among other responsibilities," says a November 12 letter to the city from commission chief counsel **Hyla P. Wagner**. "The Councilmember receives a salary from Republic for serving as a Division Manager, and in addition to his salary, he is also eligible for a performance bonus from Republic. The performance bonus may be up to 25% of [Miesen's] salary and is determined based on several weighted components."

The letter describes the Vista Del Mar development as "a mixed-use project consisting of 80 residential condominium units, a common area, commercial space, and parking," adding that "Republic would earn \$20,172 in additional annual revenue"

hauling away newly created

trash. Thus, opines Wagner,

approve the project, Miesen "will be more likely to receive a higher performance bonus from Republic based on that additional revenue."

As a result, the opinion concludes, Miesen should be prohibited "from taking part in the"

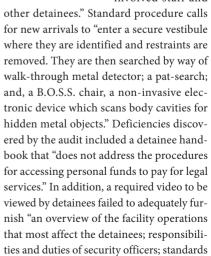
decision on whether to approve the development because the decision will have a reasonably foreseeable material financial effect on his interest in Republic."

Steve Miesen's conflicting interests as garbage man and

councilman don't go unnoticed.

Immigrants on ICE Strip searches have been declining at the San Diego Countyowned U.S. Immigration Service's 1040-bed contract detention facility on Otay Mesa, run by Corrections Corporation of America. According to a federal audit covering fiscal year 2015, "one detainee was strip searched in 2015, and 11 detainees were strip searched

in 2014." Says the document, "Strip search records confirmed both supervisory approval and documentation of case-specific reasonable suspicion. Strip searches are conducted by officers of the same gender, and out of view of non-involved staff and



of conduct including an overview of rules

and requirements; disciplinary procedures;

continued on page 31



San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

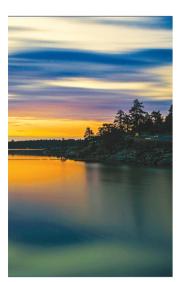


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Nailed It

Neal Obermeyer, Mary, Joseph, and the NFL. Reader, you finally got it right. Merry Christmas.

> Name withheld via voicemail

Things Were Different in '66

Concerning Roam-O-Rama, December 24, that picture there of the plant — some politically correct weemy changed the name of squaw bush to basket bush. I heard somebody else — some nursery man- say once, "Oh, that's a pejorative." Well, in all of the books on California native shrubs, it's squaw bush: Rhus trilobata, a member of the sumac family.

I've got oodles and oodles of books on native plants that call it squaw bush. I'll give you the name of one: Native Shrubs of Southern California by Peter H. Raven, published by the University of California Press in 1966. That's just one of many.

For some reason, the politically correct pussies all decided we mustn't say "squaw." Oh, that's a nasty word. We must change the name to basket bush.

I just get fed up when I see all this politically correct shit — all these people who don't have guts. Pocahontas was a squaw; she wasn't a basket maker.

> Name withheld via voicemail

Make 52 One Lane

I read the article on the closure of the lanes on Genesee and Clairemont Drive to one lane to accommodate bicyclists ("Mixed Reviews on Bicycle Lanes," Neighborhood News, December 24). I think it's a terrific idea, and I was thinking that maybe we could expand that and carry it into other streets where bicyclists would be able to use the lanes — like Highway 52, which has a whole lot of accidents. Let's make 52 one lane each way and let bicyclists use that so they have a safe place to ride.

Then, I was thinking about 805. We could cut half the lanes on 805 so that bicyclists could use 805. Maybe we could even have a pedestrian lane. Once all those people can't use their pesky cars, then they'll be able to walk to work. They can leave a couple hours early; it won't hurt them.

Or maybe we could go back to horse and buggies! The only problem there is a pollution problem, but we could take care of that easy enough. The bicyclists and the pedestrians would be able to walk or ride wherever they want. Only thing is that the bicyclists might run over the pedestrians, because the stop signs and red lights weren't made for bicyclists— everybody knows that.

After we get all that done, we might take a look at Route 5.

> Name withheld via voicemail

Walk, Ride a Bike, or Take a Bus

Too many of our politicians and others who make decisions that affect all of us think only of the scattered few and forget about the vast majority of citizens.

"Mixed Reviews on Bicycle Lanes" (Neighborhood News, December 24) tells us that the Clairemont Community Planning Group voted to eliminate an automobile lane on one of the area's main north/south corridors in order to create a bicycle lane for use by a relatively miniscule number of people. The thousands of people who drive Clairemont Drive between Balboa Avenue and Clairemont Mesa Boulevard each day will now face slowing and congestion in order to accommodate a few on bikes.

continued on page 7

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIJUANA

A Christmas Facebook story

"Give me a like or I will beat your ass"
On December 20, a 17-year-old identified as

Adal Mundo Rodríguez was videoed abusing a homeless man, making him repeat humiliating phrases in the Otay region of Tijuana.

The teenager holds what seems to be a gun to the man's head. The homeless man,



Anonymous Mexico identified the perpetrator as Adal Mundo Rodríguez

on his knees and apparently scared for his life, repeats everything that Mundo tells him to. Mundo makes fun of him for being a drug user and humiliates him with gay slurs and phrases.

"Greetings to Face[book]," Mundo shouts at the man, telling him to repeat after him in Spanish. "For all my *compas* in Tijuana, *andamos al tirante, al millon,*" Mundo continues as the homeless man repeats. "Greetings to my friend, Adal Mundo. Give me a like or I will beat your ass."

The four-minute-long recording, which was allegedly shot by Mundo's friends, finishes with the perpetrator putting out his cigarette on the homeless man's chest.

The video was uploaded to social media and spread quickly.

Soon after the post, Anonymous Mexico uploaded a video shaming Mundo and his family by name. Anonymous told Mundo he had 48 hours to turn himself in to the proper authorities or they would be forced to start publicly persecuting him and his family.

Accompanied by his mom, Mundo reportedly turned himself in to authorities on December 21. The following day, Mundo offered a public apology on video, which has since been taken down. Mundo's Facebook page has also been deleted.

MATTHEW SUÁREZ

SOUTH PARK

Owls can hope now Homeowners group aims to buy land from developer

A group of South Park residents, who objected to a proposed development in the 28th Street canyon two years ago, have initiated fundraising efforts in hopes of purchasing the property.

The Protect 28th Street Canyon Coalition was spearheaded by Doug Kipperman, whose canyon-view home is one of several abutting the site in question. In early December, the group received commitments in excess of \$50K toward an anticipated \$450K price tag for the four consecutive canyon lots that sold for \$250K in spring 2013.

In early 2014, developer SDPB Holdings submitted a proposal to the city to build five single-family dwellings on the 26,000-square-foot parcel, which would also have required the city to vacate a 14,000-square-foot easement along the property.

Kipperman says SDPB withdrew that proposal last December after meeting community resistance and encountering city regulations that make it tough to receive approval to build on steep parcels. He believes a second proposal is forthcoming that would scale back the project to four homes, which the coalition would also push back against. He said the group decided making an offer on the property might lead to an easier resolution than continuing to fight through city channels.

"At some point we need to get past our emotions and decide," he said, "do we want

to protect the canyon?"

The canyon runs from Fir to Elm Street, between Granada Avenue and the Grape Street dog park. Portions of it are popular among joggers, hikers, and dog-walkers. Kipperman pointed out the eucalyptus-lined



Photos of owls taken within South Park's 28th Street canyon

canyon is home to owls (among other bird species). He said his family enjoys listening to them in the evenings.

Thus far, the coalition has received commitment only, ranging between \$500 and \$10K. Kipperman said once enough capital has been raised, a local nonprofit group will collect the money so the donations qualify as tax deductible. The coalition hopes to donate the canyon land back to the city and has tapped conservation group San Diego Canyonlands to oversee stewardship. The coalition hopes to connect the canyon via hiking trails running north through Switzer Canyon and southwest trails adjacent the city's Balboa Park Golf Course.

IAN ANDERSON

CHULA VISTA

The voyeurs next door Condo plan misses mark again

On December 16, residents gathered a second time to review a proposed development on Third Avenue and K Street in downtown Chula Vista.

The proposed mixed-use development, called Vista Del Mar, was designed by Studio E architect John Sheehan for developer Hamid Mani. The project is a five-story apartment/condominium complex with 511 square feet of commercial space on the ground floor. The front of the project is on

Third Avenue; the back towers face a residential neighborhood.

As a result of opposition to the project at an October meeting, the proposal was modified. The number of residential units was reduced from 80 to 76, eight guest/commercial parking spaces were added, and the number of balconies was decreased from 12 to 8.

Developer Hamid Mani claimed, "Two or three people disagree with development. I'm going to stand above it."

There were approximately 60 people in attendance. Many expressed the opinion that the format was designed to circumvent questions in a public setting. As people began to circulate, former councilmember Rudy Ramirez commandeered the situation by standing on a bench and coordinating a second meeting. The architect, the developer, and city staff stayed for an additional question-and-answer session.

One supporter of the Vista del Mar development stated that Third and K needed to be upgraded because the area was deteriorating and attracting homeless people.

Several people commented that they were not opposed to the project, rather that five stories was too big for the location and would generate excessive traffic and parking problems. "Give us a project that fits," was a common refrain.

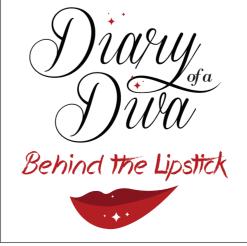
One man asked, "Why do you have to have five stories?" Balconies were a strong point of contention. People from the residential streets behind the proposed building assert that Vista del Mar occupants will be able to peer into their backyards and windows.

The Urban Core Specific Plan states: "Building design shall be cognizant of adjacent low density uses [residential housing] i.e., avoid balconies overlooking rear yards."

The city's senior planner, Miguel Tapia, explained, "Guidelines are suggestions, they are not regulations. So when a statement says 'avoid,' it doesn't mean 'prohibited.'"

SUSAN LUZZARO continued on page 32





Barbarella's tell-all book featuring the stories behind the stories

Barbarella sees, hears, and analyzes everything. She is like Neo in The Matrix, if Neo were played by Woody Allen.

- DAVID FOKOS

sdreader.com/diva

LETTERS

continued from page 4

Community groups and others who make these bad decisions are influenced by our elected officials such as Mayor Faulconer and Councilmember Todd Gloria who want vou to mostly stop driving and either walk, ride a bike, or take a bus. Their plans include effectively closing thousands of automobile lanes throughout San Diego by allowing bicyclists to use them, meaning cars must go slowly behind the bikes or switch into the other, probably very congested lanes. All lanes that contain that painted bicycle with two arrowheads above it can be used by slow bicyclists.

If our mayor and others get their way we will, in the future, have many more bicyclists than now, and those bicyclists will effectively close thousands of automobile lanes to cars. Mayor Faulconer, Todd Gloria, and others with their mindset should not be re-elected to positions where they can harm the citizens they are supposed to help.

Richard Robertson Navajo

Comments from SDReader.com — not edited for punctuation, spelling, or grammar.

Under the Radar "Cops on Bikes" Posted December 24

LMAO Back in the day the ECPD had an effective bike patrol which consisted of a couple of cops on found bicycles patrolling. They would be on top of the bad guy before he even realized they were around. Very effective. Adding overpriced and over equipped police bikes will not enhance the effectiveness.

— AlexClarke

Is this an attempt at writing a news story, or just some gossip? Please try again with names, numbers, and facts

— CaptainObvious

Roam-O-Rama
"One of the last free-flowing rivers in Southern California"

Posted December 24

The photo of a gently-flowing river can be deceptive. That Santa Margarita river can be wicked at times. San Diego's first rail link to the outside world passed through that area, and when constructed, it was too low in the canyon. It soon washed out in winter rains. And so the Santa Fe rebuilt it, and it washed out again within a few years.

In early 1993, the Temecula area, which is the watershed of the Santa Margarita river, got a massive deluge. The runoff raced down the river to the sea, flooding and washing out roads as it went. In the aftermath, I remember seeing a mud line up as much as thirty feet (I actually think it was higher than that, but don't want to sound outlandish) up on the walls of the canyon in the De Luz area. The roads in the area were washed out, and staved closed for many months.

Downstream, the river overflowed and flooded the airfield at Camp Pendleton, damaging many aircraft and costing tens or hundreds of millions to repair, in addition to repairing the airfield itself. That all happened quickly, and caught everyone flatfooted. The railroad branch that ran through the base from the connection just north of Oceanside was damaged, and has been out of service since then.

For a few hours the amount of muddy water flowing in that De Luz area must have looked as if the Missouri River had been channeled through that narrow valley and canyon!

_ Visduh

Feature

"I Don't Know Why I'm a Musician Because I Don't Really Care about Music" Posted December 24

Joe is a gifted jazz composer with a very open heart. I am grateful to play in Night People.

— Jonathan Lee Rudin



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n Diego *Reader* December 31, 201



by Barbarella

asic etiquette tells us there are three subjects one should refrain from discussing at work, with casual acquaintances, or around the holiday table: sex, politics, and religion. Before I continue, let me admit that I've been terrible at this. At a recent event, fueled by a cocktail or two, I brought up two of these three taboo topics and then proceeded to badger one of my beloved colleagues about his beliefs. I did exactly what I wish others wouldn't do to me. Call it a New Year's resolution if you want, but whatever the month, I'm vowing to keep my passionately held convictions to myself in order to get along with others who may or may not share my opinions. I'll still blast my thoughts on Facebook; after all, I'm only human, and it's easy enough for others to ignore my posts. But in person, among colleagues and acquaintances, among "polite society," I will refrain.

Now, having said all that, there's a fourth topic I'd like to see added to the list of subjects to avoid, and that's

At some point, we became accustomed to framing our discussion around food choices in moral terms. It's stupid, and we need to stop.

diet. Unlike sex, religion, and politics, the subject of diet is a bit trickier to navigate — what is appropriate and what is taboo? Food is essential to our survival. We all eat. Certain foods, or methods of preparing dishes, play a central role in many cultures. We experience and enjoy food. We share recipes and restaurant recommendations. We post photos and watch the Food Network. Food is great to talk about. Diet isn't food — it's our selection of food. The topic I seek to banish from happy hours and family gatherings is not the food itself, but rather why or why not a person chooses to eat it.

Paleo, gluten-free, sugar-free, fat-free, vegan,

Public mastication

vegetarian, pescatarian... I have at least one friend who fits into one or more of those categories, and that's cool. I'm not fixated on what goes into their mouths and out of their asses. It doesn't matter. We have other things in common. When David and I host a dinner party, we inquire after our guests' dietary restrictions and food aversions to make sure everyone enjoys their meal. We don't judge or require justifications for nixed ingredients — we simply want to know what to leave off the plate.

I have chosen my friends carefully — I prefer to surround myself with kind, creative people who share my "live and let live" mentality. But sometimes I have to step outside of my bubble, and it's in these times that I may find myself among those who are a little more "live and tell others how to live" than "live and let live." And if they're not talking about sex, religion, or politics, the topic, more often than not, is diet.

The holiday season is the worst. With all the festivities, people tend to eat and drink more than usual. Many feel guilty about their indulgence, and as a result,

they foist their insecurities and shame upon everyone else.

This past month, I grew fatigued by the preponderance of people who seemed incapable of eating a cookie without voicing some kind of disclaimer lest their virtue be called into question. "I really shouldn't." "I'm going to have to make up for this." "I'm being so bad." Whether they were seeking permission or forgiveness, I do not know. But each comment started a wave of similar comments, until nearly everyone in the vicinity followed suit by chastising themselves for eating cookies, some while extolling the perils of sugar. Their audible agony was exhausting. I stared blankly while thinking, For fuck's sake, people, it's a cookie. Either eat it or don't. Our host had baked those cookies herself. The decent thing to do is respond with a, "No, thank you," or, "Wow, that's delicious."

While at lunch with friends the other day, I ordered a sandwich that happened to be vegetarian. When it arrived, just before I took my first bite, a friend said, "Good for you."

I wasn't trying to be "good." I like artichokes. This sandwich featured artichoke, and my friends had vouched for its yumminess, so I ordered it. Not every menu selection is the result of some battle between a tiny food angel on one shoulder and a food devil on the other. I set my sandwich down and said, "Are you moralizing my food choices? Because that's weird. Don't do that." My friend shrugged, admitted the strangeness of what he said, added that he'd said it because it was something "everyone did," and we continued with our lunch.

He was right. At some point, we

became accustomed to framing our discussion around food choices in moral terms. It's stupid, and we need to stop. There are countless reasons that make up an individual's diet: allergies, aversions, religion, health issues, personal beliefs, the list goes on. I wasn't seeking approval. I was seeking lunch. If ordering an artichoke sandwich made me "good," what items on the menu made me "bad"? I wondered if my friend had struggled with his own choice of sandwich; if he felt guilty about it for whatever reason and was merely admonishing himself aloud for not being as "good" as me.

Etiquette and good manners are not intended to make one feel superior to others, but rather to make everyone feel comfortable in any given situation. As I mentioned, I am no saint in this regard. However, I vow to be better, and I invite you to do the same. So, should you find yourself dining with coworkers, at a party with acquaintances, or even hanging out with your family, please consider this gentle advice. Unless someone asks, assume nobody cares why or why not you choose to put any given morsel in your mouth. Keep it to yourself. Your opinion of what goes into anyone else's mouth is even more abhorrent. Safely conclude that whoever's in front of you is about as interested in what you think they should or should not eat as they are in knowing what you think would be the best way for them to make love to their partner. And if you can't think of something more interesting to say, you can always try, "If you could have one superpower, what would it be?" Everyone loves that. ■ (@barbarellaf)

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Dear Ask a Hipster:

I have a nominee for the Hipster Hall of Fame, Don Van Vliet aka Captain Beefheart. For starters, he has "the look." There's a famous press photo of him with a top hat, a fur draped over his shoulders, and a furious goatee that could've been taken in North Park last week. Of course today the fur would be cultivated from sustainably grown grass-fed varmints. He was inspired,

difficult, a painter, a taskmaster with his band, very creative, and definitely marched to the beat of his own drummer. All qualities expected in any selfrespecting hipster, not to mention his avant garde style of dress, a staple of said culture. Having grown up and performed with Frank Zappa should also further his induction to the

Hall. So there it is! Keep up the good work on *informing us plebeians of the inner workings* of the hipster culture and mind.

— THOMAS COYNE, NORTH PARK

This is almost too close to call. Bonus points to you for describing a goatee as, "furious," though you lose points for implying that his goatee, rather than the photo, could have been taken in North Park.

/stickler

Anyways, on the one hand, Beefheart achieved just enough commercial success to rate just barely mainstream in his day.

On the second hand, he had "the look" 100% locked in. Van Vliet could probably cozy up to the bar at BLAH tomorrow afternoon, order an IPA, and not seem at all out of place.

Then again, on the minute hand, who

didn't have that look on lock in the '60s an '70s?

But, on the hour hand, he didn't like the Beatles. One thing's for certain, uttering the phrases, "You know, I'm not that into the Beatles. I think they're kind of overrated," or any variant thereof, is one of the single most hipster things you can do. Not being into the Beatles is such a hipster stereotype that I always tell people, "I'm more into their old stuff, like when they were still the Quarrymen" so I can differentiate myself from the hipster masses.

Hipsterin' ain't easy.

How about this: Hipster Congressional Fact Finding Committee! All you hipsters and hipsteresses email hipster@ sandiegoreader.com with your reasons why (or why not) to induct Beefheart into the hall. Email.

Dear Hipster:

I know in your latest article you ruled out potential Historical Hipster Hall of Fame candidates because they are "known." I have another "known" suggestion that might sway you. The guy on the side of the Pringles can. Look at that mustache AND bowtie. He is not riding a fixie while drinking a

PBR, but that is pretty darn hipster right there. If you could zoom out, he is probably wearing tight pants with his smart phone barely fitting in his pocket. Also, nobody eats Pringles. If you had a chance between Cool Ranch Doritos and Pringles, which one would you choose? Pringles, of course, because you are a hipster.

— FORMER HIPSTER WHO WOULDN'T ADMIT HE WAS A HIPSTER

Damn. You make a compelling argument. Who hasn't spotted a Pringles Can Guy doppelgänger frothing milk at a thirdwave coffee bar? But, if we're going to start letting fictional characters into the hall, § surely we can do better than a brand logo. § I think you're on the right track, but I need ≅ more concrete qualifications.

.s. — DJ Stevens →

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-EVE KELLY

New Year, new perspective," I told Patrick. "You've never seen your city from above, except through some scratched-up plastic window in coach. What about a hot-air balloon? No windows, scratched or otherwise. Just a balloon, a basket, your baby, and the Big Blue."

'We offer a daily Del Mar sunset coastal flight," said Renee Lawson, who owns Sky's the Limit Ballooning Adventures. (1-760-602-0295, Carlsbad).

"This time of year, when it gets dark early, we'll meet around 2 p.m. at our office in Carlsbad. Our pilot will choose a launch site based on the winds that day. Sometimes, we'll launch test balloons.

About 80 percent of the time, we use an open field in the Encinitas area. We'll do a safety briefing and get the balloon ready for launch. Depending on the wind, we'll fly over Del Mar, Fairbanks Ranch, or Rancho Santa Fe; the flight is usually 45 to 60 minutes. After the landing, usually in Carmel Valley or Rancho Santa Fe, there's a post-flight celebration with Champagne and nonalcoholic beverages. Then it's back to our office — usually about three and half to four hours,

Lawson doesn't usually like heights; but the balloon doesn't bother her. "I feel secure in the basket, looking out at everything. It's not like looking down from the top of a building." She added that, "we've been in business for 22 years, and we have a 100 percent safety record."

Balloon size varies with the number of passengers. Non-private flights may carry as many as 16. "You just pay for the space in the basket (\$165 per person). Private flights start at \$1250 for two to five passengers and go up from there."

"There's also helicopters," I said.

"The cool thing about helicopters is they can land in such delightful places." Mandy Patterson, vice president of operations at Corporate Helicopters (858-505-5650), was happy to let me know that "we have the exclusive rights to land at Stone Brewery in Escondido. We'll fly people from Montgomery Field to the brewery, and we'll provide them with an empty growler to

"If you want a dramatic shift in perspective," I said, "you could always try blowing me out of the sky."

fill with the beer of their choice after they tour and taste [\$875 for two people]. And they can have lunch at the bistro there." For those who prefer wine, they offer a similar run to Temecula (\$1175 for two people). "Then we give them a nice coastal tour on the way back."

> Standard tours range between 30 and 60 minutes. The half-hour

Diego Delight "flies you over the Torrey Pines Golf Course, Black's Beach, Scripps Pier, La Jolla Shores, Crystal Pier, Belmont Park, SeaWorld, the downtown skyline, and the Coronado Bridge," before heading over Balboa Park and Mission Valley. And the full hour "pretty much takes you everywhere in San Diego," from the ocean to the mountains.

Prices depend on the number of passengers: some helicopters seat up to three passengers, and some seat up to five. "The Diego Delight for two or three people is \$324. For five, it's \$749." Reservations can be made online, and if you're thinking about Valentine's Day, think fast. "It's our biggest day of the year. We do a special 18-minute

> coastal tour; \$199 per couple." "Of course, if you want a dramatic shift in perspective," I said, "you could

always try blowing me out of the sky." Patrick looked up.

"All our pilots are military or former military by this stage, and we've been doing 'air combat' for about six months now,"

said James Kapenas, general manager at San Diego Sky Tours (619-757-6419) out of Montgomery Field. "You have to have special authorization from the FAA. We'll start in the hangar and do a brief on World War I-style dogfights. Then you'll take off in tandem and fly in formation. You'll do a little tour and then break off and chase each other around. You're trying to get a better position than the other person for a 'kill shot.' Everybody loves it [\$499 for two people]."

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- 1: Corporate Helicopters tour
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2015

Walter Mencken talks to the ghosts of San Diego about the year that was

Sheriff (and former chief of police)
Bill Kolender, 1935–2015

Walter Mencken: Sheriff! Welcome. What's 2015 about to you?

Sheriff Bill Kolender: It's all about building trust and renewing the department's bond with the community it protects through increased

transparency and accountability.

WM: Really? Wow, that's wonderf — BK: Nah, I'm jerking your chain. Maybe in my day, but in my day, we weren't getting surplus urban assault vehicles from the

ment of Defense.
Now it's all about the money.
And let me tell you what, nothing gets John Q. Private Enterprize jumpier than

Depart-

"We got jiggy
with a taser
or some
such
nonsense."

disturbances of the peace. And that's where we come in. Let me ask you a question: what kind of officer is a police officer?

WM: A peace officer?

BK: Exactly. Justice is somebody else's job. We're



Screencap from actual San Diego police recruitment video on YouTube.

"An honest mistake"

California attorney general says no charges to be filed in case of state trooper who shot man dressed as San Diego police officer

Yesterday, California attorney general Kamala Harris announced that, following an in-depth investigation, no charges would be filed against California state trooper Trigger Finger. Finger shot and killed San Diego resident Ronaldo Innocent as he exited a Halloween party on

October 31, dressed in a policeman costume.

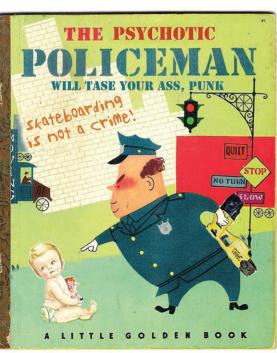
"Mr. Innocent had been drinking and was shouting and behaving in an erratic, unhinged fashion," explained Harris. In the dark, Finger mistook his costume for an actual San Diego police officer's uniform, much as a San Diego police officer might mistake a metallic pen for a knife. Knowing the potential danger of an encounter with the SDPD, Finger drew his weapon and discharged it six times into Mr. Innocent. The loss of life is tragic, but in the wake of the deaths of Fridoon Rawshannehad and Victor Ortega, Finger's decision to shoot Innocent made sense."

here to keep the peace. WM: But sometimes, the things you do create disturbances.

BK: Sure they do, bright boy. That's where you folks in the press prove useful. Remember when I got spanked for dismissing all those traffic tickets for friends and family back

the papers we wouldn't do that anymore, and people felt better, and

in '86? We told



You're never too young to learn, because you're never too young to get your ass tased. Twice!

things quieted down. Did we stop doing it? Nobody cared. Now people are

how we shot some people we shouldn't have or got jiggy with a taser or some such nonsense. The chief tells the papers we're going to start wearing body cameras and things quiet down. It's not like we let people see the footage; that's not the point. The point is people feel better, more peaceful.

yelling about

And that's good for business. Of course I went to work for the *U-T* after



Diego Reader December 31, 2015

DIFFICULTY STAYING FOCUSED?

Are you:

- Forgetful, impulsive, or fidgety?
- Interested in participating in a medical research study to treat these symptoms?
- Between the ages of 18-55, and in good physical health?

Local doctors are currently conducting the ReThink medical research study evaluating the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication.

Volunteers who qualify will receive evaluation and investigational medication at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for study-related time and travel may be provided.



(619) 430-4981

Synergy San Diego 1908 Sweetwater Road National City, CA 91950 my stint as chief, and of course they backed me for sherriff in '94: a strong working relationship with the press is crucial for law enforcement.

WM: Gosh, I would think the press ought to keep a sharp eye and a safe distance from —

BK: Oh, stop it. Nobody wants to hear it. Go write another article about the Chargers.

WM: Fine. Anything grab you from last year?
BK: That picture book cover reminded me of when I was a kid. You know, from when that deputy double-tased that skateboard punk up in Fallbrook. And I guess the Halloween bit was okay. Just watch yourself, and don't get folks too riled up.

Sportswriter Jack Murphy, 1923–1980

Walter Mencken: Jack Murphy. A fellow member of the press. It's an honor to meet you.

Jack Murphy: It's all about the money.

WM: I've heard that before somewhere.

JM: I mean, it's always been about the money, but it used to be about other stuff, too. Before Qualcomm paid \$18 million to bump me aside, the stadium that housed both the Chargers and the Padres was named after me. Me, a sportswriter, because of what I did to bring the Chargers to San Diego from Los Angeles, and my further efforts to build them a lasting home here. They honored my achievement. Now all they honor is dollars.

WM: But as you say, money has always been a part of sports.

JM: Sure. But it wasn't the most important part. My brother Bob was the voice of the New York Mets for decades, and right up until he retired in 2003.

he met people who never forgave the Dodgers and Giants for leaving New York in '57. They had been diehard fans, and they had contempt for like a marriage. Maybe financial security and stability are really down there at the foundation of things, but up above, there's love and compan-

Craft heroin "starts with locally sourced poppies."

the owners' decision to forego the love and chase the money. Now, when the Chargers threaten to leave town unless the city builds them a new stadium, people get mad at the city! I think of it ionship — and that's the part worth caring about and cheering for. This thing with the stadium, it's as if the wife is saying, "Buy me a new house or I'm out of here!" and all their friends are getting

mad at the husband. WM: Well, that's depressing. JM: Not as depressing as the Chargers' play this season or the persistent mediocrity of the Padres. Maybe money is the only part of San Diego sports worth paying attention to.

Master brewer Karl Strauss, 1912–2006

Walter Mencken: Herr Strauss, great to see you! Karl Strauss: It's all about the Deutsche marks.

WM: Oh, no — not you, too? You're a beer man! You help bring joy to a suffering world!

Stone Brewing introduces Old Sludgebucket Ale

Get Happy Hoppy, San Diego!

LISTENING FOR THE ANGELS, ESCON-DIDO: Today, Stone Brewing unveiled the latest saint in the hop heaven that is San Diego brewing: Old Sludgebucket Ale, so named for its thick, stewy texture and unique container. Yes, it really is a bucket. Yes, it really is that thick, thanks to the abundance of hops that have been used in its production, then puréed and blended into the final product.

"If there's one thing San Diego beer lovers love, it's beer," says Stone spokesman Stone Beerman. "And if there's another thing San Diego beer lovers love, it's hops in their beer. I'll be honest with you: Sludgebucket Ale started out as a dare. It all started when we started selling more of our Hopped Up Double Hops IPA than our regular IPA. Which was already pretty hopforward. Eventually,



"The beer you eat with a spoon!"

we made a small batch of Bunny Hop Triple Hops IPA; I liked that we put bunny ears in place of horns on our signature gargoyle for that one. It sold out in days. Our Hop-Frog Quadruple Hops IPA was something of a joke: who wants to drink a beer with 'frog' in the name, even if it is a hipster-friendly Edgar Allen Poe reference? But it sold out on pre-order. That's when someone in product development made a crack along the lines

of, 'Why don't we just serve 'em up a big bowl of hops and be done with it?' That was silly, of course — a big bowl of hops wouldn't have any sweet, sweet alcoholic content. Though we did start offering it as a breakfast selection at our brewery restaurants in Escondido and Liberty Station, and it does outsell the granola. Anyway, it started a conversation about delivering Maximum Hop to the customer in a format that could still legally be called beer. Old Sludgebucket is the fruit of that conversation. Consider it our personal assertion that it's impossible to have too much of a good thing. It's not for everyone, but that's only because we made just 500 buckets. I'm guessing that by the time your readers have finished this story, they'll already be gone."



Together We Can make a difference

Does your child have ADHD?

HE OR SHE MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEDICAL RESEARCH STUDY OF AN INVESTIGATIONAL ADHD MEDICATION.

Local researchers are conducting a medical research study evaluating an investigational medication for children with ADHD that is administered once daily. This is a six-week study, and participants who complete the six-week treatment period may be eligible to participate in an extension study for an additional 26 weeks.

To pre-qualify for this six-week study, your child must be:

- 6 to 12 years of age
- Diagnosed with ADHD

All study-related visits, tests, and medication will be provided to participants at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for study-related travel may be provided.

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If you use marijuana frequently and want to cut back or quit, you may be eligible to participate in our 12-week clinical research study.



ALCOHOL & MARIJUANA We want to help

If you use both alcohol and marijuana heavily and want to receive treatment, you may be eligible to participate in our 12-week clinical research study.

Researchers at The Pearson Center for Alcoholism & Addiction Research are working to develop treatments for alcohol and marijuana dependence

All information is confidential. Participation involves taking study medication or placebo. Compensation provided for time and travel.





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Craft-beer scene yields to burgeoning local heroin industry

Horse race?

Recent data released by SANDAG shows that heroin use among arrested San Diegans has tripled since 2002. Today, over 15 percent of all women and 13 percent of all men who get taken into custody wind up testing positive for the highly addictive drug.

That comes as no surprise to Mark Otic, founder and owner of the North Park Heroin Company. "NPHC is just one of the many craft-heroin operations that has sprung up in recent vears," explains Otic. "The localbeer field was getting awfully crowded, and even a little bit played out. There's only so many ways to make an IPA, and once you started seeing tasting rooms opening up in East County, you knew it was time for the next thing. A few innovators



North Park Heroin Company's Special Original, widely credited with starting the craft-heroin craze in San Diego

looked to pot, but honestly? The Boomers pretty much have that covered. To me, heroin just made sense. A lot of heroin is just mass-produced crap, made in unsanitary conditions and brought in from God knows where. But from start to finish, there is room for care and craft....

"It all starts with locally sourced poppies," rhapsodizes Otic. "Then we move into a foodgrade production facility, stocked with top-flight, certified pure chemical additives. Our cooks combine Old World traditions with modern American technology to produce something that is truly the best of both worlds. And the hipsters have taken notice. It's a good thing that Joe Six-Pack has discovered San Diego's local beer scene because the cool kids have moved on."

man. I was even born in a brewery! And if we were having this conversation even one vear ago, I would have agreed wholeheartedly. Bier ist gut! I was so tickled by the mark I left on the industry. First, I worked at Pabst for 44 years, where I helped to create the official beer of the American hipster, Pabst Blue Ribbon. Not bad for a Jewish immigrant who began by feeding

bottles into a soaker!

And then after that, I

gave my cousin Chris

KS: It's true, I am a beer

Cramer my Old World name and my Old World recipes, which he used to launch the craft-beer industry in San Diego. I was so proud to be part of the creation of a beer that you didn't have to drink ironically, and so took note, yes? You did a story on Stone's Old Sludgebucket. WM: Yes, but that was just an exaggeration. KS: Nonsense. A billion dollars for Ballast Point: that's an exaggeration. Craft beer will soon be

smaller scale will have to happen elsewhere.

Shamu, ????-1971

Walter Mencken: Wow. The first Shamu. You're like the Alan Scott of Shamus. Sorry for the nerd reference: he was

SeaWorld restaurateur: "Trust me when I tell you that our killer-whale steak is a killer whale steak."

thrilled at the growth and experimentation within this fledgling movement. Even you just corporate beer with cooler labels, you watch. I guess the innovation and freedom that come with a the first Green Lantern. Shamu: It's all about the — WM: Don't say "money." Please.



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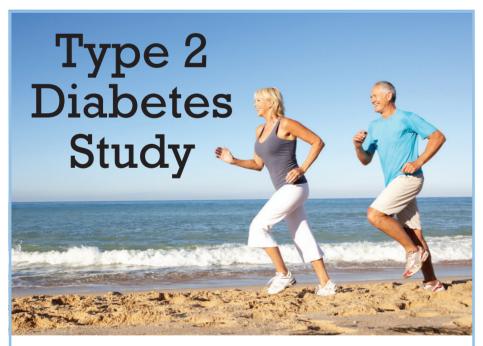
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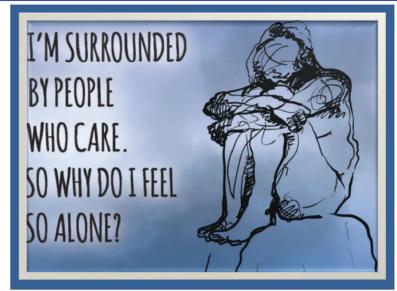
Compensation may be available for time and travel.





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Are you experiencing depression symptoms? Have you tried one or more anti-depressant medications that failed to relieve your symptoms? If so, please contact us about participating in our clinical research study of an investigational drug taken with an anti-depressant medication

- Qualified participants must:

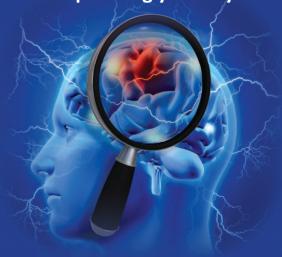
 Be 18 to 65 years of age

 Have been experiencing depression symptoms for at least 8 weeks
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Qualified participants may receive at no cost: • Study Related Evaluation

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Are you diagnosed with Schizophrenia? Do you often have problems concentrating, remembering appointments, and planning your day?



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- Be between the ages of 18-55 years
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Participants May Be Eligible to Receive:

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SeaWorld announces plans for resort, restaurant in wake of closed orca exhibit

Angus of the Sea?

On November 9, Sea-World San Diego announced its plan to phase out its famous killer-whale shows, following years of protests, legal setbacks, and trainer swallowings. Instead, the park will feature an orca-themed exhibit. because, in the words of SeaWorld chairman Joe Kidby, "Children love a good exhibit."

In addition, the park announced plans to either build or buy a hotel-resort near its current Mission Bay location, because "while children love a good exhibit, parents love a comfortable bed and cable TV within walking distance, plus a minibar and maybe a decent restaurant. And while we're on the subject of restaurants, I'd like to add that we're also planning to open San Diego's first underwater dining establishment as part of the resort complex. For now, we're calling it Dorsal, a name that harkens back to our legendary mascot's most famous fin and at the same time points straight up toward our commitment to a brighter future."

Kidby noted that



If the mascot is smiling, you know it's morally okay

while that future would not include live orcas. "the tradition of killer whales at SeaWorld has a surprise ending, one we think our supporters will

appreciate. For generations, SeaWorld patrons have feasted their eyes on Shamu & Co. Now, for an extremely limited time, a select few will have an

opportunity to feast their bellies, as well. Trust me when I tell you that our killer-whale steak is a killer whale steak."

While the resort and

restaurant have not vet been officially approved by the California Coastal Commission, reservations are already up for auction at seaworld.com/dineonshamu, with bids for the first Friday night already exceeding \$25,000. "And the best part is, it's ethical," concluded Kidby. It's not like we could release these whales back into the open ocean. They'd be helpless and disoriented. and probably wind up eaten or beached within days. That's just cruel. This way, they get to bring joy and happiness to visitors from all over the world, just as they've done for over 50 years."

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The Faulcon can absolutely hear the Faulconer

And the center, Chris Watt, can most certainly hold

What was expected to be a standard meeting of the San Diego City Council on Monday, June 8, took a turn for the dramatic when Mayor Faulconer made an unscheduled appearance and statement regarding his negotiations with the San Diego Chargers to build a new stadium and to keep the team in San Diego. Reportedly wild-eyed and unkempt, the normally composed mayor waved his arms and hopped up and down as he shouted his address to the council:

"I, Faulconer, beheld a great serpent, and its name was Spanos, and such was its length that while its head was still in San Diego, its tail stretched north to the city of Carson, where it dug into the

soil and held fast to the promise of the land. And when the serpent beheld the wealth of all the cities of the earth, presented as an offering, it opened up its jaws and swallowed whole the LArgest pile, and forgot the city of its youth and the expansion of its dwelling in the bowels of the earth. And all the people tore their jerseys and covered themselves with blue bodypaint and cried out, 'Save our Bolts! Preserve them in this place, lest we become a byword among the cities of the earth, a desolate place where the Rivers no longer runs, or even passes.' And lo, even as the serpent turned to slither into the fetid north, a great bird, a falcon of surpassing cunning and power, descended from the sky and snatched up the serpent and carried it aloft. The serpent writhed and twisted in the wind and called out to the League of National Footballs for deliverance, but the falcon would not surrender. It carried the serpent to the Charger place, and ensnared it in the lines of power. Whereupon it burst into flames and was consumed, scorching all the land about the place. so that nothing good remained. I, Faulconer, have seen these things. Take heed, O Spanos!"

Amazingly, the very next day, June 9th, a bird with a snake in its talons flew into a Sorrento Valley power line and sparked a four-acre blaze.

Speaking from his ivory tower at the top of the Geisel Library at UCSD, Professor of Old-Timey Things Arthur C. Codswallup offered this perspective on the remarkable event.

"The image of a bird with a snake has been associated with prophecy ever since the ancient Greeks. In Homer's epic poem The *Iliad*, an eagle appears in the sky with a snake in its talons just before the Trojan army is supposed to attack the Achaeans. The prophet Polydamas interprets the sight as an evil portent, warning the Trojan champion Hector that he should call off his plan to move his troops. Hector ignores the warning and ultimately pays for



Artist's representation of the vision of Archmayor Faulconer

"Bah!" snorted former mayor Bob Filner from his filthy underground mudhole. "The party of bastards has been using religious hogwash to influence the masses since God was a nonexistent boy. This is about money, pure and simple — the stuff Jesus said to render unto Caesar. Faulconer doesn't have enough liquidity to iust buy the team's lovalty outright, and so he wants the people to back his play through an election. And if you want the great unwashed on your team, you better make

sure you've got Jesus on your side. Or the divine

birdy or whatever."

Not everyone was

convinced, however.

the mistake with his life. I hate football, and I don't even own a television, but I have to side with the mayor on this one. Together with his highly significant name, the fact that the fire was caused by the bird's collision with electrical lines, lines that carry an electrical charge

— as in Charger — seems

too fitting to ignore."

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Faulconer's State of the City: "Look at this adorable pug!"



"I mean, seriously, just look at the little guy!"

Chief Operating Mayor Kevin Faulconer gave his annual State of the City speech before the city's Board of Governors Council, along with its largest shareholder-developers. (In a now-traditional display of corporate generosity, the public was also permitted to listen in.) During the speech, he stressed the importance of enjoying the comical expression and oddly cute appearance

of Sandy, a pug dog he

declared "the new mas-

Last week, San Diego

cot of America's Finest City. If you threw a frozen waffle for him to fetch, that would be a Sandy Eggo!"

Faulconer said that enjoying the sight of Sandy was a hell of a lot more pleasant than thinking about the city's infrastructure. "Frankly, our sewers stink," he granted. "But, hey, they're sewers! What did you expect?" Finally, he noted that if folks insisted on thinking about the city's infrastructure, they should

start thinking about financing a new stadium for the Chargers. "It takes money to fix things, and you gotta spend money to make money," he reminded them. At that point, Sandy

apparently began to suffer a bout of gastrointestinal distress and Faulconer excused himself from the podium. "That was a cute dog," said Sunroad Developers CEO Monty Grubb. However, Chargers attorney Mark Fabiani argued that Sandy distracted needlessly from the pressing issues of the day, especially the new stadium. "Philip Rivers is just as cute as any pug," he argued. "And he's tougher, too. Think about that, San Diego."

S: Of course not. I'm a whale. It's all about the mackerel. And also the salmon.

WM: Thank you.

S: Of course, for the sad bastards at SeaWorld, it's absolutely all about the money. And now that they're losing it hand over fin, they're phasing us out. I'm just glad I'm not going to be around for what comes next.

Statue of Pete Wilson. 2007-????

Walter Mencken: I can't help but notice that you're hanging your head just a titch.

Statue of Pete Wilson:

Sure I am. And I'm smiling sheepishly and slouching my shoulders and sticking my hands in my pockets — forever. You can practically hear me saying, "Shucks, son, do you really need me to tell you that — " WM: Don't.

PW: "...it's all about the money?"

WM: So, the hangdog look is because vou're ashamed?

PW: No, it's because I'm embarrassed. I'm embarrassed for you. You're a grownup. You know how this works. Hell, you're a part of it. You write your silly little madeup stories...

WM: Um, I prefer "almost factual." There's always some element of truth to —

PW: ...made-up stories about awful people doing awful things and injustice and greed and general folly, and maybe a few people read them and smile. Maybe one chuckles softly to himself. But here's the fact: people don't change things when they're chuckling. People only chuckle when they're past caring. Comedy is the language of the defeated. See you in the funny papers.

WM: Happy New Year to you, too. ■

Walter Mencken



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My sister is gay

She wasn't born that way, though.

I REMEMBER HOW SHE CAME OUT. I was hung over as hell. It was the last time I visited Michigan, July 2013. I'd gone out with some friends the night before. We'd consumed every drink that came within arm's reach.

I woke up to Lindsay delivering kicks to my ribs. I'd gotten in late. Or early. Whatever. All I wanted was to sleep for a few more hours. My tongue was dry and my bladder was full.

The blows landed, and landed well. What did she want?

My liver must have been on vacation that day. My mother's grandfather clock chimed, echoing between my ears.

"Josh. Wake up, Broham."

I rolled over. "Just leave me alone for a while."

"No. Get up." This wasn't a negotiation.

"What do you want? You'd damned well better have a Bloody Mary for me." I was going to get violent. "Whoa. You had a decent time last night, I assume?"



Lindsay having a beer in University Heights

I'd seen several of her friends the night before, and they were generous, buying me drinks and eventually depositing me into the gutter in front of Mom's house. I hadn't been to Michigan in two years. My homecoming was humbling, to say the least. I never felt welcome, though it was supposed to be my home. Red-cap, wholemilk America. Middle America —

my America.

"Ugh. What the hell, Linz? I feel like shit."

"Well," she started, "Grandma Sally's birthday is today. You only turn 80 once." I'd completely forgotten about it, which was unfortunate. I was supposed to be in charge of the "surprise" part.

"Oh, by the way, my friend Britney is coming," Lindsay said. "She'll be here in a little while. Please don't embarrass me. I really like this girl."

My mind raced. Lindsay had been posting pictures on Facebook making out with female strippers. But I thought it was just drunken fun. Was this how acceptance would come? Put it right under everyone's nose, and to hell with the consequences?

"Um, is there something you're trying to tell me?" I asked Lindsay. She'd just told me she was having a girl over and that she "really liked" her. What? Was I even awake? Did her daughter — my niece — even exist?

She grunted.

"Okay. Is this, like, a thing now?"

Lindsay had been posting pictures on Facebook making out with female strippers.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY





She offered no words but she grunted again.

I thought about a diplomatic answer. This was a shock to me.

"Well, whatever makes you happy," I said, just to end the conversation.

After Grandma Sally's birthday party, my friends came and picked me up. We went golfing at a little par-three course that allowed people to bring their own beer. At this course, scores were not determined by how few strokes one took but by how many beers were had and whoever had the most spectacular golf-cart roll.

Somehow, we didn't roll any carts, but we did drink plenty of beer. No one was sober enough to drive anywhere, so we sat there after we finished, shooting the shit, smoking cigarettes, and calling each other gay slurs. The word "fag" was tossed around by my friends.

"You know," I started, "they'll give you the gas chamber for that in California."

The replies varied. "You fucking homo."

"You queen."

"Limp wrist now, huh?"

"Wee bit lavender?" That was a personal highlight.

They were all similar. I, with most of my friends, still smoked cigarettes. The fumes of their coffin-nails weren't quite as strong as their disdain for gay people. But one thing I learned early: don't burn the locals. Plus, they were my friends. So I didn't say anything.

The next day, when I boarded my flight, I was glad to be going home. Back to San Diego. I never should've gone back to Michigan.

First time west of Nebraska

I picked up Lindsay from the airport late at night. This was June 2014. She had vacation days to use and had never been to California. She looked dead-tired. She didn't feel like talking after spending nine hours traveling to San Diego. We went back to my house in Mira Mesa.

"Dude, take my bed. I'll sleep on the couch."

She didn't argue and deposited herself in my room.

This wasn't only her first time in California, it her first time west of Nebraska. Oh, the times we'd have. I'd taken some time off work. I'd planned to take Lindsay to all the great restaurants: Phil's, Hodad's, In-N-Out, etc. I'd show her how Californians did it. I kept telling her that the great whites love to eat tourists.

Lindsay had been officially gay for almost a year at that point. Britney had joined the Army, shipped out, and forgotten about Lindsay. It was a shame. Britney was a damned fine-looking

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woman. But not so high on sentimentality.

Lindsay wanted to see California. It's strange — she was experiencing California for the first time, and expectations were for me to show her around, give her a little life lesson, and teach her a thing or two. I ended up learning from her.

Put on the blindfold, Grandma

My brother Matt and I were picking up Grandma Sally from her apartment. She thought we were taking her to Big Boy for a birthday lunch. Matt drove, since I was probably still legally drunk from the night before. We parked, walked up to her apartment, and she answered the door.

"Hey, guys. I'm ready to go."

"Grandma, put the blindfold on," I said.

"Okay....are we still going to Big Boy?" She sounded so innocent and sweet as she said this.

"Not quite," Matt said. He laughed, in a twisted way. Matt was a juvenile delinquent and enjoyed pulling capers in whatever form they came.

We walked Grandma down to the car, opened the passenger door, and sat her down inside.

"Wow," Matt said. "I really hope we don't see any cops."

That particular thought had never occurred to me. "Just mind the road," I snapped, "Straight and narrow."

He had a point — if any police officer in his right mind had seen us, two young men with a blindfolded old lady in a car, we probably would have been arrested and charged with kidnapping or terrorism. No cop would have believed our protests. Also, Matt was probably in possession of illegal substances. My headache got much, much worse.

Luckily, we made it back to my mom's house without incident. About 40 people were there waiting, only a couple of blocks away from Grandma's apartment. I hadn't seen most of them in years. The party came off well, and Grandma thanked us afterward for the surprise. I was just glad not to be arrested.

Worse than Detroit

Lindsay had been excited to visit L.A. Until we hit traffic on Interstate 5 in Orange County, that is.

"Wow. This is bad," she remarked.

"Did you think I was lying?" I asked.

"No, but this is horrible."

I'd spent more time in L.A. than San Diego and had made this same trip dozens of times. When we hit South-Central, Lindsay was convinced.

"Holy shit," she said, "this is worse than Detroit."

"Maybe not that bad," I said. "See the walls? That's not to drown out the freeway noise for the locals; it's so the tourists don't see the neighborhoods and tell everyone how bad it really is out here."

"I just didn't think it'd be this...hopeless."

She was right about that, at least as far as Watts and Compton were concerned. But we weren't going there; we were headed to Hollywood Boulevard. Lindsay had to do the tourist thing, of course. As we

got closer to downtown, I began to have fond memories of partying in Hollywood, drinking underage, and getting kicked out of clubs. Despite the fact that I'd spent over seven years of my life in California, I'd always felt like an outsider. California had never accepted me. I'd run L.A.'s streets, slept with its women, done its drugs — but never felt like I belonged there. I loved the land; the place. But I could take or leave

most of the people.

Living in Southern California had been my first exposure to gay people. I hadn't dealt with it before, so I had no opinions about it. My friends and I always called each other "fag" or "homo" as kids and teenagers without really thinking about what it meant. It was an insult, to be sure, but we didn't know anyone who was gay. There were the small-town rumors about certain people, but they were usually started by enemies just to see how far it would go.

Michigan wasn't exactly a bastion for the gay community. I wondered how she felt about being in California.

We went to Griffith Park Observatory first. Looking out on L.A., Hollywood, and Pasadena, I saw a strange look come over Lindsay's face. How strange it must have been for her to be so far from home, seeing this for the first time.

It occurred to me that it was ironic that I lived in California but was at best lukewarm to the LGBT movement. My sister lived in small-town Michigan and was down with the cause. We should have switched homes.

"Not a bad view, huh?" I asked.

Just then, a beautiful blonde girl walked by. Lindsay and I both rubbernecked at the same time to look. Then we looked at each other and laughed. Maybe there were some things we'd see eye-to-eye on that we hadn't before.

Shots in Hillcrest

Since I knew Lindsay was gay, I recommended that we go out in Hillcrest. She at least deserved to experience some of a true, honest-to-God gay community while she

was here. I, on the other hand, avoided it. I'd only ever been out there once, when an ex-girlfriend had played a trick on me.

About three weeks after I'd moved back, she invited me out. I lived in City Heights and immediately accepted. She gave me an address, and I promised to meet her there. I was greeted by dudes wearing underwear and nothing else. I was in the bar for maybe 30 seconds and excused myself. I stepped outside to wait for the girl. When she came out of the bar, she thought it was the funniest thing she'd ever seen.

Lindsay was leaving on a Monday morning. Since it's a San Diego tradition to get full to the gills on Sunday, I suggested that we go out to Hillcrest and get tanked. I invited several friends.

There was Vu, the certifiably insane Vietnamese friend. He'd always had my back and I could trust him in case anyone got out of hand while in Hillcrest. He said he'd come and he'd bring his girlfriend. I hadn't met the girlfriend yet, though.

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Then there was Soup. This girl, I was her manager, and she was the definition of "look but don't touch." A dime piece, if ever there was one. Absolutely off-limits. She said she'd meet up with us, too.

Lindsay and I left my house in Mira Mesa at around 1 p.m.

We arrived in Hillcrest and got a table at the bar.

We took turns drinking Washington Apples. Many rounds were had. I began to get cloudy.

Eventually Vu showed up. He'd brought his friends. They were all Asian and were all dancing fools. They seemed to take something from the music; the same thing, it seemed, that I took from the drinks. Lindsay remarked on how well they danced. She especially remarked on how well the Asian girls danced.

"Shots, Linz?" I asked.

"Absolutely."

"Me, too!" Soup said. Vu begged off, since his girlfriend was asking him to go home.

"All right, gotcha," I said and turned toward the bar. I walked up and a female (who looked as if she used the same hair product as me) said, "What can I get you?"

"Well, something with some tequila, so my sister will remember it," I answered. I thought about her having a good time and how we'd never discussed her new lifestyle change. God, I was stupid. Why couldn't I just be happy for her? What should my opinion matter to her?

"Okay, then," she responded.

Just then, an especially well-dressed gentleman came up to the vacant spot next to mine.

"Hey, how you doing?" he asked.

"Um. My sister is visiting for the first time. She's gav. I'm not."

"Well, that's liberating!" he said.

"Maybe it is," I said,

"but please don't ruin this for her. I'm about to have a cathartic moment and tell her I just want her to be happy. Please don't be that guy. Don't ruin this for her. There'll be others you'll meet,

who actually are gay. Just not me. Thanks for understanding."

He took it like a champ.

"If it's for her, then fare thee well," he said. He ducked his head and walked away.

I got the drinks I'd ordered and brought them back to our table.

After shots, Soup asked me to dance. Never been much of a dancer, but I saw Vu and

his Asian friends doing well, listening to house music I'd never understand, feeling beats I'd never feel. I didn't want to embarrass myself, so I said no.

I guess there are

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All my exes

I've dated some real pieces of work.

There was the girl who cheated on me from the day I left for boot camp, after I'd never cheated on her for over

There was the stripper who was a model for Quiksilver in the early 2000s. Her stage name was "Blaze" or something.

Then we have the girl who left me for a member of a religious cult. She said his name was "Five."

The girl in high school who dated several of my friends concurrently while dating me. Impressive for a small town.

The girl who came to see me, Maggie, who banged two of my friends while visiting. The logis-

Stepdad Dave, Lindsay, her wife Nikki, and mom Rhonda

tics of that still boggle me.

My son's mother, who is best friends with Lindsay. She conceived while she was "separated" from her husband. She and Lindsay are still best friends.

The tall girls, who seemed like playground equipment to me — I'm only 5'6".

I've had enough relationships for ten lifetimes. But I've only ever seriously considered proposing to two. And, by some miracle, if one had

accepted? It would have ended in divorce.

Hope for the best

After the Supreme Court decision, social media exploded with the news that gay people suddenly had the right to get married at any time in any place. The court's ruling was a surprise to many, apparently including the gay community. My phone seemed to only emit rainbows that day.

That day, Lindsay stopped acting like my sister and started acting like an activist. Her posts became militant, almost daring anyone to disagree with her. Many did. They were the more conservative-leaning members of our family.

Her fiancé, Nikki, had been doing the same thing. I didn't agree with them but kept my opinion to myself.

Only six days after the ruling, Lindsay and Nikki got married. Since I had no notice beforehand (and wasn't invited), it was impossible to attend. Yet, had I been invited, I would have politely declined to attend the ceremony. I would have gone to the reception, though.

Those of us who don't agree? We don't get invited to weddings. But we hope the best for the newlyweds. ■

— Josh Champlin

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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STUDIO



Contract killers

continued from page 3

city auditor found purchasing and contracting employees had little to do with the contract after the bid is awarded.

"...Purchasing & Contracting will lead and enter into cooperative agreements on behalf of the City to maximize best pricing. After the contract is executed, administration and monitoring responsibility has been decentralized to the department that requests and initiated the contract.... [I]n most cases we found that many departments we spoke with were unaware that they were responsible for monitoring the entire Citywide contract.

The cost of not doing business

Not winning contracts and losing old contracts has hit the Thedford's business hard.

Since 2013, Eleanor Thedford estimates declining business with the city has cost her company approximately \$7 million.

She says she's devoted hours to submitting protest letters to San Diego's Purchasing and Contracting Department. In September 2015, she received an email from the city's procurement specialist, Christopher Moore, informing them that the bid they had submitted "did not provide three landscaping references, but instead provided two landscaping references and one pest control reference. Based on Epic's failure to provide the required information, the city is deeming Epic's bid non-responsive."

Eleanor Thedford claims that the company that won the bid, Westturf Landscape Management, did not possess the necessary licenses to perform all of the work at the time of submitting their bid.

She says she is aware of at least eight occasions of the city passing her company up in favor of a non-licensed competitor. "I believe that both public works and purchasing & contracting staff have instituted a mindset of 'trust and not verify' for quite some time now," Thedford wrote in an email.

CITYLIGHTS

Eleanor Thedord has since looked into the city's record of working with local businesses that are owned by minorities. According to data compiled as part of the Small Local Business Enterprise Program, of which Epic Pest Control is a member, less than 1 percent of city contracts are awarded to African-American companies. In fact, just \$1.2 million out of a total \$124.7 million program is paid to African-Americanowned companies.

"In 2013, when we submitted our first protest of the award to a contractor that was not the lowest responsible bidder, the purchasing and contracting department began refusing to do business with our black business," Thedford says.

San Diego County Department of Agriculture employee José Arriaga says there are other explanations for non-licensed companies to be awarded city contracts.

"I'm aware of some of these instances," said Arriaga of complaints regarding non-licensed companies winning lucrative city contracts. "Some of the companies received fines. Others were given cease-and-desist orders, requiring them to obtain the correct licenses before performing any work. We don't have direct jurisdiction over the city. We only provide guidance....

"Oftentimes the contractor might hire another company, a properly licensed one, to do certain tasks, and sometimes that is difficult to find in the contract."

Mayor Kevin Faulconer's office did not respond to questions about a lack of oversight in the department. ■

(@DorianHargrove)

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

exhibited good moral character, and conducted himself as a law-abiding citizen," said Brown's boiler-plate pardon of Downey, who was just inducted into California's hall of fame in October.

According to a Sacramento Bee report, Downey gave \$5000 to Brown's 2014 reelection bid and \$50,000 to a Brownfavored charter school in Oakland.

Potential pardonees must have stayed out of prison for ten years and had a clean record during that time, the account says.

Downey did a 15-month stretch in the state slammer for a 1996 conviction of possessing a controlled substance and a concealed weapon, along with a DUI with priors.

Among ex-San Diego miscreants on Brown's lucky list of 91 are Thomas Danieli of New York, who was found guilty of manslaughter here in 1965.

"Specifically, Mr. Danieli hit a car when attempting to pass another vehicle, killing the passenger in his car and the other driver. He served three years probation. He was discharged on January 4, 1969, having completed his sentence."

A marijuana defendant on Brown's San Diego pardon list did more than a year in prison, according to his pardon document.

John DeLude, who now lives in Michigan, was sentenced in June 1980 for the crime of "planting or cultivating marijuana." According to Brown's proclamation, he served 15 months behind bars before completing his sentence in October 1981.

Matt Potter

Landlord gets prison

Carlsbad man admits killing renter

As part of a plea deal in San Diego's North County Superior Court recently, **David Diaz admitted killing** a young man who had rented a room in his Carlshad home two years ago.

On December 17, now-33-year-old Diaz admitted to committing second-degree murder in the stabbing death of Asher Freeman, 24, who was found deceased on the floor of his rented room.

It was Diaz who dialed 911 in August of 2013 and reported a shooting and then told responders a convoluted story about drug dealers who had invaded his home at 3550 Sierra Morena Drive. Police noticed Diaz, who was shirtless as he stood in the driveway of his home, had scratches on his body, and one of his hands was bleeding. Diaz was described as 5 feet 11 inches tall and 135 pounds.

The stabbing victim, Freeman, was reportedly an art student and had rented the upstairs room of the home about five months prior, according to police.

While he was being interviewed at Carlsbad police headquarters that day, Diaz became agitated and took a swing at a detective, police reported. Diaz was arrested and has been held in lieu of \$5 million bail.

Neighbors reportedly told police that Diaz made a small fire in his backyard and was heard making "goat noises" and "howling" shortly before he contacted police that afternoon.

Defense attorney Matthew Roberts said that the mental competency of Diaz was questioned and thoroughly tested.

"All the doctors found him sane, but all agreed that he was seriously mentally ill," Roberts reported. "[This] exposes a gap in the system where we have people with serious mental health problems but do not fit under 'insanity.' Too bad we don't have better mental health treatment/ facilities so this could have been prevented in the first place."

Judge Carlos Armour signed off on the plea deal and is expected to sentence Diaz to 16 years to life on January 28.

Eva Knott

Under the radar

continued from page 3

voluntary work programs; and, specific schedules of programs, services and daily activities."

Post holiday politico gifts Each new year heralds the distribution of extra-curricular appointments to members of the San Diego City Council, for which they have the opportunity to accrue extra money from the taxpayers, in addition to their salaries. One of this coming year's big piñatas goes to Republican Lorie **Zapf** in the form of a seat on the board of the Metropolitan Transit System's taxi-cab committee. According to a December 11 filing by deputy city clerk Bonnie Stone entitled "2016 Appointments of Councilmembers to Outside Organizations - Proposed," Zapf has the potential to pick up an annual \$3500 at the rate of \$150 per meeting. She is also first alternate to GOP mayor Kevin Faul**coner** on the board of the San Diego Association of Governments, otherwise known as SANDAG, which pays the same. Termed-out councilmember **Todd Gloria** has also been designated to serve on the association's board with fellow lame-duck Democrat **Sherri Lightner** chosen as his

> — Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

TIJUANA

Brewer's van swiped Reward: Lots of beer

A couple weeks ago, the van that Border Psycho brewery uses to transport kegs to their tap room and other bars was stolen with beer inside. The reward offered by the brewery for information that leads to recovery of the van is a night of open bar in their tap room.

In support of their colleagues, Carlos Macklis of Norte Brewing Company offered a reward for the van.

"This will not be tolerated!" stated Macklis on a Facebook post that included a picture of the van. "Help our friends from Border Psycho recover their van and we will give you a 5 gallon keg for free."

Posting pictures on social media has proven to be an effective method for finding stolen cars. In a recent case in Hermosillo, Sonora (a city in Mexico 562 miles southeast of San Diego), a pickup truck was recovered after the image posted by the owner went viral.

Zaira Salazar, lacking a photo of her '91 Nissan pickup truck, drew a crude picture of her vehicle in pencil and posted it on Facebook on December 7. Salazar reported her stolen vehicle to the authorities on December 8. The truck was found the next day.

"The [Border Psycho] van got stolen between Saturday night and Sunday morning last week [December 7–8] by the Flamingos motel," said Roberto Albarran at Border Psycho's tap room. "It was a Chevrolet Aerostar.... Uhhh... Not sure what year. It had two dollies and five cases of beer we were going to deliver to La Cerve....

"It had sentimental value more than anything," continued Albarran, who estimated the van's worth between \$3000 and \$3500. "We reported it to the authorities. They told us that this type of vehicle is really common to be dismantled and sold by parts."

MATTHEW SUÁREZ

NATIONAL CITY

Audiophile crosses Pitbull Thief recognized as son of friends

On December 19 at about 1:00 p.m. a thief walked out of Pitbull Audio with a tabletop controller used to record music.

On December 20, I talked to one of the owners of the musical instrument store, Adam Smiarowski.

"An employee, Shane Alexander, let me know about the theft on Saturday afternoon right after it happened," Smiarowski said. "He said that a \$1300 Elektron tabletop analog synthesizer had been stolen. He said he

was working on the pedal case and another employee was on the loading dock with the mail carrier when the theft occurred....

"The thief was in the store for about an hour before Shane saw him leaving in too much of a hurry," Smiarowski said. "When Shane realized what had happened, he ran after him only to see him in his car speeding off. He wasn't able to get a license plate but he described the car as a small white sedan. He described the thief as a very tall guy of at least 6'4" in his late 20s."

After notifying Smiarowski of the theft, Alexander and another employee looked at video footage from the ten security cameras. No one who works at the store recognized him but one customer did after seeing the surveillance image posted in the store on December 20. The customer claims to be friends with the parents of the suspect and shared specific information with store employees.

UPDATE 12/21, 4:25 p.m.

A reliable source says that the equipment has been returned and the perpetrator apologized.

BAJA

Risky road to Ensenada Geologist says highway could collapse again

Baja California's scenic toll road between

Tijuana and Ensenada is at risk of another major collapse similar to or worse than one that occurred on December 28, 2013, a scientific expert has warned.

Luis Alberto Delgado Argote, an investigator with the geography department for the division of earth sciences at the Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (Cicese), was cited as the source for the claim in a December 21 story in La Jornada de Baja California.

The federal agency responsible for inspecting the highway, Caminos y Puentes Federales de Ingresos, has ignored the presence of multiple active zones where the earth is shifting, according to the geologist.

In addition, said Delgado Argote, a beltway constructed around Ensenada six years ago by the state could cause major landslides if there is heavy rainfall as expected this winter because "there is no evidence that they performed geological studies before they began the work."

Scientists from Cicese have been warning federal highway officials of the danger of a disastrous collapse along the highway since 2006, but they were ignored until the 2013 disaster, according to La Jornada.

The roadway, known for its spectacular seaside views, remained closed for nearly a year while repairs were made after the landslide.

My Baja Dental

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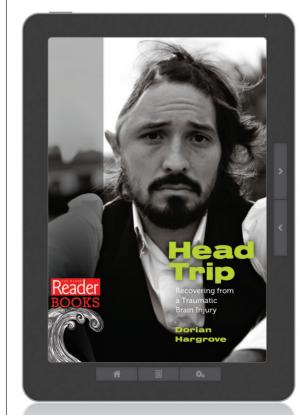
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Head Trip

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

\$5.99 download available on:









sdreader.com/books

Your Veck

Thursday | 31

TURQUOISE SPEAKEASY

Chicago meets Prohibition and ragtime meets swing in Pacific Beach. Ticket includes all drinks, an extensive tapas selection, live Vaudeville burlesque show, and a champagne toast at midnight. Hats and umbrellas recommended. Must be 21; \$120 in advance, \$200 at the door.

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach. 858-488-4200; theturquoise.com/nye/

ON WITH THE SHOW

Mystère in the French
Quarter features a 1920s New
Year's Eve celebration showcasing the culture and history of
New Orleans, with performers Stephen
Rey Sextet, Euphoria Brass Band, Miss
Erika Davies, Trio Gadjo, DJ Noel
2033, Crooked, Mr. Tube and the
Flying Objects, Cherries Jubilee Tap
Dancing Burlesque, and more. 21+.
\$40-\$210.

WHEN: 8 p.m.

WHERE: Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, University Heights. 619-296-2101

LOS LOBOS. Snubbed by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame but rewarded with Grammys and a flourishing 40-year career, the Tex-Mex rockers bring the party to Belly Up New Year's



Eve. *Reader* writer Dave Good breaks down the details in this week's issue. Of Note, **page 56**

Friday | 1

POLAR BEAR PLUNGE

Known as the "Nieuwjaarsduik" (New Year's Dive) in the Netherlands and the "Loony Dook" in the U.K., the polar bear plunge has been

ocu prange has seen

around in the

U.S. for over 100 years. Plungers and onlookers are welcome to join the La Jolla Cove Swim Club's annual plunge and chili potluck on New Year's Day. Look for the LJCSC banner.

WHEN: 10 a.m.

WHERE: La Jolla Shores, 8200 Camino del Oro

HAIR OF THE HOG 3: NEW YEAR'S BRUNCH 2016

Join Mike Hess Brewing and Carnitas Snack Shack for the Third Annual New Year's Day Brunch, buffet-style. Mike Hess Brewing and chef Hanis Cavin will be ringing in 2016 with the first beer of the New Year along with all of the fixings of a whole hog, roasted on-site! \$40 for all the food you can eat and beer you care to drink. Designated drivers and children eat for \$25.

WHEN: 11 a.m.–2 p.m. WHERE: Mike Hess Brewing North Park, 3812 Grim Avenue. 619-786-4377.



INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW

Be the first to see all-new models not yet in showrooms, the newest safety and entertainment technology, and test-drive the latest models from over a dozen manufacturers. \$8-\$12.

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. (also Thursday, December 31; Friday, January 1; and Sunday, January 3) WHERE: San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive; sdautoshow.com

THE MAGIC OF NICHOLAS GENTRY: A THINKING MAN'S THEATER

Nicholas Gentry is a magician who promotes wisdom and curios-

ity: "Magic is not a sideshow. It is a metaphor for the greatest show of all — the cosmos and our part in it." An English professor with a philosophy background, Gentry delivers a message rooted in the heart and guided by the mind. \$15 online; \$20 door.

WHEN: 6 p.m.

WHERE: The Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard,

Kearny Mesa. thecomedypalace.com; gentrymagic.com

Sunday | 3

VISION BOARD 2016

Using images, pictures, and affirmations, create a collage to conceptualize your goals for the new year. When you surround yourself with images of who you want to become, what you want to have, where you want to live, or where you want to vacation you are provided with a source of motivation toward achieving your goals. 619-223-0058; bravoschoolofart.com.

WHEN: 2–4 p.m.

WHERE: Bravo School of Art, 2690 Historic Decatur Road, Barracks 19, Studio 206, Liberty Station.

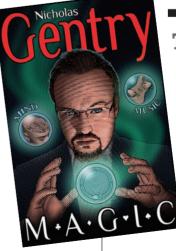
Tuesday | 5

FRANKIE BOOTS AND THE COUNTY LINE.

Voted Best Americana Act in the Bay Area two years running, the Sebastopol septet is touring in advance of this spring's sophomore thing, *Leave the Light On*. The folkrock rabble-rousers take

the stage at Soda Bar after like-minded locals G. Burns Jug Band.

Club Crawler, page 54



Gather No Moss

Read before you go

TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS



Todos Santos is a haven for surfers, artists, and travelers who want to get just a little off the beaten path.

Vamos a Baja Sur's **Todos Santos**

By Noreen Kompanik

"Be careful," said the 60ish snowy-haired gentleman with a matching white beard, weather-beaten face, gray twinkling eyes, and a wry smile hinting at some private little secret.

"Before you know it, you'll be looking to live here. It has that strange effect on you."

There's a different kind of magic at work in Baja Sur's Todos Santos. One of 36 towns to be designated a pueblo magico (or magic town) for its natural beauty, cultural riches, or historical relevance, this palm-fringed desert oasis provides the perfect respite from touristy Cabo San Lucas.

An easy one-hour drive from Cabo on well-maintained roads, Todos Santos — meaning "all saints" — is a small coastal pueblo with captivating charm. At the foothills of the rugged Sierra de la Laguna Mountains on the Pacific side of the Baja Peninsula, the village provides the perfect blend of peaceful, laid-back atmosphere and cultural sophistication.

A mission and farm community was established here by Jesuit padres in 1724. Fertile soil and the abundance of fresh water from underground aquifers produced a bounty of vegetables, sugarcane, and grapes for wine-making.

This tradition of harvesting the land carries on today; local restaurants boast their own farm-to-table organic products. And there's no shortage of papayas, avocados, tomatoes, strawberries, and chilies at the town's farmers' market.

Nestled between ancient mango and palm orchards with spectacular views overlooking white sandy Pacific beaches, Todos Santos is what Cabo was 20 years ago, say locals. It's home to artists, craftsmen, musicians, filmmakers, and surfers, but hasn't yet lost its authentic Baja flavor. People here are friendly,

hospitable, and happy to regale you with tales of the area's history and

Strolling along narrow cobblestone side streets, my husband and I browsed colorful craft, jewelry, and boutique shops, some traditional Mexican and others with more of a bohemian flair. Over 30 galleries and artist studios displayed paintings, sculpture, ceramic tile designs, stained glass, and photographic art.

Drawn to a large, magnificent watercolor print that captured Baja's allure, I asked myself, Now, how am I going to get this on the plane?

For such a small town, the number and variety of restaurants here was unexpected — from streetside taco stands to traditional Mexican fare to fine-dining. Tequila Sunrise's wafting aromas lured us to its colorful open-air entrance. Claiming to have the best guacamole in town (which we now know to be true), their shrimp-and-lobster chile rellenos made for a mouthwatering lunchtime feast. A guitarist serenaded diners in the outdoor courtyard.

Tops on our curiosity list was the surreal and somewhat bizarre Hotel California. Owners of the vibrant, quirky hotel, whose name predates the 1973 Eagles song, adamantly deny the rumor that the Eagles were in residence when the song was written. The bartender, however, proudly confirmed stories and firsthand reports of spirits and ghosts in the hotel's courtyard. I found it a lovely place.

Offering a completely different feel, Hacienda Cerritos, perched alone on a bluff overlooking picturesque Cerritos Bay, is visible from miles away. From an outdoor whalewatching bar, guests are treated to miles of sweeping views of the crystal blue Pacific. With its lofty bell tower, flowery Spanish courtyard, and tiled corridors, this hauntingly beautiful boutique hotel could have easily been the true inspiration for the Eagles song.

A 15-minute drive from town transports you to some of the most isolated and beautiful beaches in all of Baja. Locals guided us to Playa las Palmas, telling us "the only footprints you are likely to see in the sand are your own."

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.



San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

TECOLOTE CANYON NATURAL PARK

A pleasant walk along the southern section of the Tecolote Canyon Nature Park

Distance from downtown San Diego: Approximately 6 miles. From I-5, take exit 21 for Sea World Dr./Tecolote Rd. Turn right onto Tecolote Rd. and within a mile park at the nature center. The Tecolote Nature Center when open has facilities and water. Hiking length: The hike described here is 4 miles, though it can be extended to a 6.5-mike hike if the trail is followed close to the intersection of Genesee Ave. and Marlesta Dr. and back. **Difficulty**: Easy to moderate, depending on distance walked, with an elevation gain near 400 feet.



Area of the trail with views of the canyon

ecolote Canyon, featured on area maps for almost 200 years, is designated a natural park 6 miles in length, .25 to .5-mile wide, with a 2-mile tributary totaling just over 900 acres. Elevations range from sea level at the canyon mouth to 320 feet at the head of Tecolote Canvon. The canvon rim is between 315 and 400 feet above sea level.

The geology of the park consists primarily of marine and non-marine sedimentary rocks of the Scripps and Friars Formations of the Eocene Age (45-50 mya). These rocks make up the canyon walls, with Quaternary (1.8 mya) sedimentary rocks capping the mesas. The exception is at the canyon mouth where the northern wall into Bay Park consists of sediments of the Bay Point Formation of the Quaternary age (200,000 years). The Tecolote

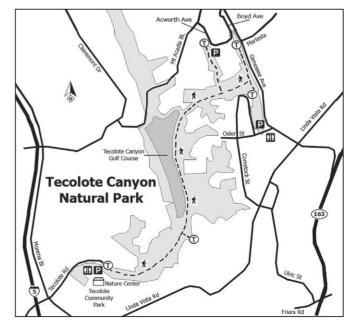
recreation center sits on marine sandstone of the San Diego Formation of Pliocene age (2-3 mya). The canvon floor consists of Holocene (recent) alluvium

Four faults have been mapped in the park, all located near the mouth. Behind the fence at center field of the upper baseball field, the Rose Canyon Fault can be seen where the margins show 50 mya Eocene sandstone of the Scripps Formation against red stippled Pleistocene conglomerate of only a half-million years. The Rose Canyon Fault parallels the San Andreas fault, extending north through La Jolla Shores.

Once past the baseball fields and nature center, follow the access road or trails that parallel first the water channel, then in the direction of the power

lines to the end of the golf course, and then east to Genesee Ave. and back. The 4-mile walk turnaround point is at the peak of the hill under the power lines that overlooks the golf course. The longer hike follows the trail closest to the golf course. At the end of the course, turn east to Genesee Ave. and then head back.

Along the trail look for evidence of owls that the canyon is named for or other birds that include California thrashers, house wrens, hawks, towhees, and ravens. The walk along the continued on page 36



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

Painting & Vino: "Proud Cardinal" Recreate "Proud Cardinal" while sipping wine or cocktails. Supplies (canvas, paints, brushes, apron) included. No experience necessary Sunday, January 3, 12pm; \$45. 21 and up. 98 Bottles, 2400 Kettner Boulevard, (LITTLE ITALY)

Painting & Vino: "Winter **Stream"** Recreate "Winter Stream" while sipping wine or cocktails. Supplies (canvas, paints, brushes, apron) included. No experience necessary. Tuesday, January 5, 6pm; \$45. 21 and up. 98 Bottles, 2400 Kettner Boulevard, (LITTLE ITALY)

Vision Board 2016 Instructor Lauren Becker Downey will help you set your intent for the new year using images, pictures and affirmations to create a collage to conceptualize your goals, dreams, wishes and desires. The idea is that when you surround yourself with images of who you want to become, what you want to have, where you want to live or where you want to vacation, your life changes to match those images and those desires. A vision board is a powerful, visual representation of all the things that you want to do, be and have in your life. Looking daily at your board provides a reminder of and can be a source of motivation towards achieving your dreams. Focus your attention on the things that you want to attract in your life. 619-223-0058. Sunday, January 3, 2pm; \$36-\$40. Bravo School of Art at Liberty Station, 2690 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 19, Studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

BEER

Hair of the Hog 3: New Year's Brunch 2016 Join Mike Hess Brewing and Carnitas Snack Shack for third Annual New Year's Day Brunch, buffet-style. Mike Hess Brewing and Chef Hanis Cavin will be ringing in the 2016 with the first beer of the New Year along with all of the fixings of a whole hog, roasted on-site! Brunch will run from 11am to 2pm. Tickets are \$40 per person (plus sales tax and BPT service fee) for all the food you can eat and all the beer you care to drink. Designated drivers and minor children can eat for \$25. Friday, January 1, 11am; \$25-\$40. Mike Hess Brewing North Park, 3812 Grim Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Lost Abbey Keep the Pint Night Buy any Lost Abbey beer and get a free pint glass while supplies last. Wednesday, January 6, 5pm; Common Theory Public House, 4805 Convoy Street. (KEARNY

New Year's Day Firkin Friday Remedy your NYE hangover with Hamiltons/Green Flash 8th Anniversary (2014) Wheat Wine on cask and 9th Anniversary on draught. Friday, January 1, 1pm; Hamilton's Tavern, 1521 30th Street. (SOUTH

Stone Company Store 2015 Year in Review Stone is packing 365 days of special-release beers into six days for a last hurrah to 2015. The limited beers from 2015 will be available at all Stone Company Stores on a first come, first served basis until they run out and some limits may apply. Pours will be available at Stone Company Stores in Escondido, Liberty Station, Oceanside and On Kettner. Growlers fills available at all Stone Company Store locations. Thursday, December 31, 11am; free. 21 and up. Stone Brewing Co., 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Walking Brewery & Pizza Tour We start our beer adventure with

in San Diego and trek to our first stop which is Ballast Point Little Italy — the third largest producer of craft beer in San Diego county and one of a kind San Diego style! At Ballast Point, we will go do a behind the scenes tour of the facility including the basics to make beer and the different types of beer that it creates. Afterwards, we will visit Bottle Craft Beer Shop which is a store dedicated to craft and worldwide beer. We will present special techniques and ways to evaluate beer and most importantly the essence of being a "beer geek." After exploring the sights of Little Italy, we will venture to one of the most famous spots to taste and savor San Diego Pizza. Enjoy a a relaxing day sipping the best beers on the West Coast, Saturday, January 2, 11:30am; Sunday, January 3, 11:30am; \$49. 21 and up. Five Star Tours, 1050 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Adam Lewis Schroeder Adam Lewis Schroeder's newest novel All-Day Breakfast (Douglas & McIntyre, 2015) melds humor, horror and lots of zombie action. He will be talking, rapping, and signing his book. Saturday, January 2, 2pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 5943 Balboa Avenue #100.

Roddy Carter: BodyWHealth Warwick's is hosting medical doctor and life-coach Roddy Carter for the launch of his first book, Body-WHealth. Wednesday, January 6, 7:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Susan Meissner: Stars Over Sunset Boulevard Susan Meissner is a former managing editor of a weekly newspaper, a columnist, and the author of Secrets of a Charmed Life, A Fall of Marigolds, and many other novels. Tuesday, January 5, 7:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Divorce Options Workshop Divorce Options provides unbiased information about self-representation, mediation, collaborative divorce, and litigated divorce. The workshop deals with the legal, financial, family and personal issues

of divorce in an informational and compassionate small group setting. Led by volunteer attorneys, financial specialists, and mental health professionals who are members of the Collaborative Family Law Group of San Diego, the workshop will cover the full range of choices couples have as they contemplate divorce, focusing on the nonadversarial, out-of-court options. There is no solicitation of business. Saturday, January 2, 9am; \$45. 18 and up. Scripps Ranch Community

Paranormal Investigation

yon Road. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Service Center, 11885 Cypress Can-

Course covers techniques and proper protocol for paranormal investigating, different types of equipment, and spirit communication and methodologies such as EVP, ITC, dowsing rods, environmental monitoring devices, and more. Led by Nicole Strickland, founder and director of the San Diego Paranormal Research Society. Cash only. Please RSVP at least 48 hours ahead: 858-395-8520 or nicolepisd@gmail.com (please indicate which Thursday you will be taking the course). Thursdays,





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7pm; \$20. 18 and up. Villa Antigua Clubhouse, 5844 Menorca Drive. (TIERRASANTA)

Trigger Point Therapy Workshop Method for reducing physical stress with education on what acupressure points are, how to locate them on a person, and how to relieve them easily and quickly. Wednesday, January 6, 6pm; free-\$75. The Wellness Institute of America, 2425 Camino del Rio South #150, San Diego CA 92108.

Writer's Block Workshop Writing workshop every first Saturday of the month, where writers of all levels will enjoy experimenting with in-class writing prompts to create experiences with words. End results can be starts of longer stories, flash fiction, and prose poetry. Led by published author Heather Fowler. Info: lJlibraryfriends@gmail.com. Saturday, January 2, 12pm; free. 18 and up. La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

COMEDY

Comedian Colin Kane If you like dirty comedy, Colin Kane's your man. An insult comic that acknowledges the line and leaps over it, Kane is best known for his in-your-face delivery and off-thecuff crowd work. Kane's R-rated act tackles sex, relationships, race, and everyone who is brave enough to sit in the front row. Friday, January 1, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 2, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, January 3, 8pm; \$16. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Comedy Showcase: Tamer Kattan The Mad House Showcase features ten comedians, including Tamer Kattan, winner of the World Series of Comedy. Friday, January 1, 7:30pm and 9:45pm; Saturday, January 2, 7:30pm and 9:45pm; \$20. 18 and up. Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Erik Myers Monday, January 4, 7pm; **free**-\$10. 18 and up. Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Johnny Cardinale Johnny Cardinale is known from *Chelsea Lately*, Jimmy Kimmel, Hulu, Rooftop Comedy, Comedy Juice, and more. Wednesday, January 6, 8pm; \$15.

18 and up. Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN

Kristin Key Kristin Key is known from Comics Unleashed, VH1, and Last Comic Standing. Sunday, January 3, 7pm; \$15. 18 and up. Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Argentine Tango with Colette
Learn tango now! Take a free first
class on Thursday, January 7 and
14 at 6pm (or any Thursday at
6pm thereafter). Or just show up
on Monday, January 4 at 7pm as
Colette starts a new 6-week session.
No partner needed. Check TangoWithColette.com or call Colette,
514-726-5567. Dance Place San
Diego, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Studio
106. (POINT LOMA)

FOOD & DRINK

Adult & Kid Cooking Workshop Would you like your kids to catch healthy cooking habits early on while having fun? Treat yourself and your little ones to this fun and tactile class where they will learn some amazing kid-friendly recipes. Tuesday, January 5, 4pm; \$47. Harvard Cookin' Girl, 7441 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

FOR KIDS

Family Drop-In Day Families are invited to explore the museum through activities designed for young people and adults to enjoy together. Take part in an art project inspired by the museum's collection, go on a family-friendly docent-led tour of the galleries, and play gallery games. Recommended for children ages 6-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Info: email families@sdmart.org. Sunday, January 3, 1pm; \$28. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Pajama Jam Celebrate the New Year at an after-hours party. Jump into your jammies and join us for a dinner, New Year's themed art activities, games, music, entertainment, and a countdown balloon

Rhyme & Verse

Three Poems by Alfred Nicol

A Bother

Here's Rocco now, sprawling across the keys; whatever I may try to write, he's there in black and white, purring, rolling on his back to bite my fingers if he disagrees, minding my q's and p's.

Well, I require constant stroking too. And maybe I get in the way. I like for you to say I'm clever, good. And feed me twice a day. There's nothing I would rather do than rub up next to you

and feel that spark of electricity leap at the touch, connecting you to me.

Ellipse

Restless, off center, again, so often now it seems a kind of starting point, familiar in its way, a place I might come back to, on my own, could be I shouldn't try to shake this, haven't lost my focus, only that another has developed and there's no one center now, I'm someone else as well, this one and that one both, no need to come around

One Day

We walked in light and shade Along the lichened wall, No task at hand And nothing planned. The poplar branches swayed. And Finlay chased his ball.

And something made us smile, And something else, again. Nothing less Than happiness, And good to last awhile. Enough to last till when...

This simple summer day
Of not too much to do
May be the one
We look back on
When years have swirled away
And days like these are few.



Alfred Nicol's Animal Psalms, will be published by Able Muse Press in 2016. A previous collection of poetry, Elegy for Everyone, published in 2009, was chosen for the first Anita Dorn Memorial Prize. Nicol received the 2004 Richard Wilbur Award for his first collection of poetry, Winter Light. Nicol's poems have appeared in Poetry, The New England Review, Dark Horse,

 $First\ Things, Atlanta\ Review, Commonweal, The\ Formalist,\ The\ Hopkins\ Review,\ and\ other\ literary\ journals.$

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

drop. Adults will enjoy one drink token with ticket and the chance to win prizes in an opportunity drawing. Saturday, January 2, 5:30pm; \$15-\$35. New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

HOLIDAY EVENTS

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 will continue until January 3rd. 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. Through January 3, \$10-\$14. NTC at Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

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 the public from 10am-7pm at the resort's Plaza through January 4; free. 18 and up. Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

Jungle Bells A chance to see exotic animals at night makes an

evening visit worth a trip, and through January 3 the zoo is also decked out with holiday lights and special performances. Expect music, animal-themed Christmas tales, and Santa holding court in an igloo while his elves bounce on a trampoline. Tying the wacky vibe together is the large, tropical toog tree in the zoo's Front Plaza, outfitted with a musical light display featuring over 1000 bulbs. It's free with paid admission, and the zoo stays open until 8pm during the holidays (no Jungle Bell festivities on December 24). Through Sunday, January 3, San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

The Sky Tonight: Colors in Space Why are some nebulae red

and others blue? Why is our Sun yellow? What do we mean by redshift? What can colors tell us about the universe? This live planetarium show of the San Diego sky features full-color visuals and realistic simulations of cosmic phenomena with a state-of-the-art digital projection system. A professional astronomer leads backyard stargazers through the universe. The San Diego County Astronomy Association provides free telescope viewing outdoors on the Prado in Balboa Park, weather and operational requirements permitting. Wednesday, January 6, 7pm; Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Spirituality & Meditation Introductory Talk Spirituality: Meditation on the inner light and sound as taught by Sant Baljit Singh, talk given by authorized speaker. Free program and vegetarian lunch Sunday, January 3, at

Todos Santos continued from page 34

We followed a short, dusty path to the beach, with desert cacti lining the mountainside to our left and lush, green sawgrass and towering palms on the right. Desert meets tropics. The tip was spot-on: the secluded half-mile of protected beach was devoid of humans. Seabirds foraging in the adjacent lagoon were our only companions.

Nearby, pristine crescent-shaped

Playa Los Cerritos provides the area's safest swimming and best surfing. An ideal spot to wiggle my toes in the sand under a shady palapa with a cold margarita.

As a perfect sunset guided us back to our villa in Cabo San Lucas, it was comforting to know that our decision to get off the grid and explore somewhere new had paid off. And I understood where the gentleman was coming from — magical Todos Santos lingers in my mind still.

ROAM- -RAMA continued from page 34

trails and/or access road is a combination of good examples of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and riparian habitats mixed with erosion and power lines.

Tecolote Creek north of the golf course can run to a depth of 6–8 feet during the rainy season. In the summertime, the creek is normally dry, except for runoff from the course greens. The creek empties into Mission Bay at the Pacific Passage side of Fiesta Island. The creek also contributes to the groundwater table in the lower end of the canyon.

In 1957, the city government planned to use Tecolote Canyon as a sanitary landfill where cattle had grazed until 1953. This and other development plans were abandoned due to protests from residents of Linda Vista and Clairemont leading to the Park Procedural Ordinance adopted by the San Diego City Council in 1969. The Tecolote Canyon Park District was initiated by the council in January 1971, then adopted in July 1974, both by a unanimous vote. After the land acquisition was completed, the dedication ceremony was held on April 1, 1978.

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.

noon. Free admission. RSVP: 619-405-1823. Location: Progressive Health Services. Sunday, January 3, 12pm; Know Thyself As Soul Foundation, 2141 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4th Annual 2016 Black & White New Years Party Thursday, December 31, 8pm; W Hotel, 421 W. B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN

4th Annual Midnight Kiss New Years 2016 Thursday, December 31, 8pm; Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Above & Neon New Years Eve Bash Thursday, December 31, 22:00; \$50-\$120, 21 and up. Porto Vista Hotel & Suites, 1835 Columbia Street, (LITTLE ITALY)

Black and Gold New Years **Eve** Two stages will feature opening DJs, Digital Lizards of Doom, Swing Phunk, DJ Ray Chill, Dbear, and headliners DJ ManCat and GOOSE^MAVRK. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; \$50-\$60. 21 and up. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Casino Royale New Year's Eve This is a James Bond-themed event. Thursday, December 31, 6:30: \$295-\$3300, 21 and up. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWN-TOWN SAN DIEGO

Champagne Dinner Threecourse menu with optional champagne pairings. Singer songwriter Michael Tiernan performs. The menu will offer firsts such as oysters with apple and riesling jelly and lamb tartare with quail egg. Second courses include lobster bisque with croquet and truffle, and third course features are guinea fowl and dry aged "pot roast" and other selections. Thursday, December 31,

5pm; \$125. 21 and up. L'Auberge Del Mar, 1540 Camino Del Mar.

Champagne Dreams NYE Thursday December 31 8pm: 21 and up. Side Bar, 536 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

David Shyde Band In the Living Room, the David Shvde Band will entertain, and DJ Gabe Vega will usher in the New Year. Thursday. December 31, 5pm; 21 and up. L'Auberge Del Mar, 1540 Camino Del Mar. (DEL MAR)

Empire NYE Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. F6ix Niteclub, 526 F Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN

Fish & the Seaweeds Thursday, December 31, 9pm; free, Kona Kai Resort & Marina 1551 Shelter Island. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Fuse: Mega Countdown New Years 2016 Thursday, December 31, 8pm; Jolt'n Joe's, 379 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Galactic Ball Thursday, December 31, 9pm; Park & Rec, 4612 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Hard Rock NYE This year's property-wide soiree features over 20 DIs spinning in five rooms on three levels including the rooftop and nightclubs at Float and 207. Tickets to the event include entry to all party venues within the hotel, based on capacities. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; free-\$70. 21 and up. Hard Rock Hotel, 207 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Havana Nights New Year's Eve The ocean view ballroom will be transformed into Havana Nights for a gala with hors d'oeuvres and cocktails on the heated Garden Patio, followed by a 5-course dinner and a grand open bar. Dance to a ten-piece Cuban inspired orchestra and at midnight, enjoy a champagne toast. Thursday, December 31, 5pm; \$100-\$350. 21 and up. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, (CORONADO)

Infinity NYE: Above & Beyond. more Infinity NYE 2016 offers multiple stages featuring Above & Beyond, Crizzly, and more. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; \$50-\$120. Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North. (MISSION VALLEY)

MayStar Dance Party Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. Til-Two, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

New Year's Eve: Rivouac 2016. La Vie Bohème A unique nightclub experience inspired by the European roots of Bohemian culture, infused with the modern trappings of a glamorous New Year's night. Unlimited sparkling wine from 9-10pm. VIP tickets provide unlimited Czech and Pilsner cask ales and specialty cocktails from mixologist Jeff Josenhans and his beverage team. Guests will enjoy live music to start the night, transitioning into a DJ. Beverage stations inspired by The Green Fairy include absinthe cocktails, specialty

cask ales, and absinthe-infused ice cream. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; \$50. U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway, (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

New Year's Eve Comedy Showcase The Comedy Club Showcase features Tamer Kattan (winner of the World Series of Comedy) and comedians from Comedy Central, HBO, Netflix and more! Show is timed to end before the countdown, with free party favors and complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Thursday, December 31, 10pm; \$20. 18 and up. Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

New Year's Eve Contra Dance Party Calling by Jeremy Korr, live music by Free Raisins. Thursday, December 31, 7:30pm; \$25. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

New Year's Eve Dinner The sixcourse dinner menu includes fresh, sophisticated protein from both land and under-the-sea. Start the meal with a Lobster Salad paired

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VENDOR

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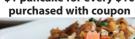
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TUESDAYS







SATURDAYS



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SHEEP and GOATS

Henry Clay

Eighteen hundred years have rolled way since the Son of God, our blessed Redeemer, offered Himself on Mount Calvary for the salvation of our species; and more than half of mankind still continue to deny His Divine mission and the truth of His

sacred Word.... When we shall, as soon we must, be translated from this into another form of existence, is the hope presumptuous that we shall behold the common Father of the whites and blacks, the great Ruler of the Universe, cast his all-seeing eye upon civilized and

regenerated Africa, its cultivated fields, its coasts studded with numerous cities, adorned with towering temples dedicated to the pure religion of his redeeming son?

 from a speech by Henry Clay to the Kentucky Colonization Society, Frankfort, KY, 1829 Henry Clay, Sr. (1777–1852) was an American lawyer and politician, renowned for his oratory skills. A representative of Kentucky, he served in both the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives, and three terms as speaker of the House. He was also secretary of state, 1825–1829, and ran for president three times. in

1824, 1832, and 1844. The foremost proponent of the "American System," which fostered economic patriotism through high tariffs on imports, federal funding in support of infrastructure, and a strong national bank.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship



with persimmons and pepitas, and a Carrot Bisque with tender pork belly. Next up, the main plates of Beef Tenderloin with red wine reduction and potato bacon cake, and the Sesame Crusted Tuna perfected by mango habanero sauce. glazed fennel, cilantro, and roasted garlic polenta. Last but not least, Sirena's Passion Fruit (white chocolate creme brulee with candied cancha ice cream) and the Sacher Torte featuring homemade yogurt ice cream and berries. The dinner will come with a glass of wine and live music. Thursday, December 31, 4pm; \$89. Sirena Gourmet Latin Seafood Restaurant, 1901 Columbia Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

New Year's Eve Family Party We will celebrate with the East Coast ball drop at 9pm. The event features hot chocolate bar with fresh baked cookies and treats, wildlife animal encounters, family souvenir photo, kid's movie room with arts and crafts, teen room with games, and band karaoke. Bundle up for trail walks under the stars or to visit our Sharks and Birds after dark. They are much more active after the sun sets. Thursday, December 31, 6:30pm; \$10-\$14. Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

New Years Beach Party Enjoy an open bar all night, entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, and an optional VIP party boat upgrade Thursday, December 31, 8 p.m.; \$129-\$149. 21 and up. Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard.

New Year's Speakeasy Chicago meets Prohibition. Ticket includes all drinks, extensive tapas selection, live vaudeville, burlesque show, ragtime meets swing, champagne

toast. Hats and umbrellas recommended. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; \$120-\$200. 21 and up. Turquoise Cafe-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Noche Cubana Hosted by KSDS DJ Chris Springer, with the West Coast Mambo All-Stars featuring Gilbert Castellanos, George Balmaseda, Dan Reagan, Tommy Aros, Gabriel Garcia, Fernando Gomez, and Carlos Ordiano. Thursday, December 31, 19:00; \$50-\$60. 21 and up. 98 Bottles, 2400 Kettner Boulevard. (LITILE ITALY)

NYE Thursday, December 31, 8pm; Numb3rs, 3811 Park Boulevard. (HILLCREST)

NYE at Stone Liberty Station Celebrate with Stone and enjoy a spectacular night of special-release beers, mouthwatering food, dancing and live music. Perks include: ,Ä¢ Three standard-size servings of more than 50 beers on tap, including special-release and one-off beers Dance floor with live DJ, live music performances throughout the gardens and entire restaurant, food stations, and delicious desserts, commemorative glass and a very special, rare Stone beer for the midnight toast. Heated outdoor cigar lounge (cigars available for purchase), photo booth. Tickets are \$99; designated-driver tickets are available for \$79 and include everything except beer and glassware. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; \$79-\$99. 21 and up. Stone Brewing Liberty Station, 2816 Historic Decatur Road #116. (LIBERTY STATION)

NYE Dinner Ring in the new year at Tidal with dinner, drinks, and dancing. Choose Tidal's 5pm to 7pm seating at \$59 and enjoy three courses prepared by chef Amy DiBiase. 8 pm to 9:30pm seating at \$95 includes four courses, party

favors, and a champagne toast followed by live music and dancing from 9:30pm to 12:30am. Thursday, December 31, 5pm; \$59-\$95. Tidal, 1404 Vacation Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

NYE with Bryan Callen Bryan Callen is a comedian, actor, and current co-host of the FOX Sports podcast *The Fighter and the Kid*, with UFC star Brendan Schaub Thursday, December 31, 7pm and 10pm; \$30. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NYE with DJ Kinky Loops DJ Dida will also spin. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. Gossip Grill, 1220 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

NYE with DJ Marc Thrasher Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. Whiskey Girl, 702 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NYE with Flosstradamus Thursday, December 31, 8pm: 21

Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. Fluxx, 500 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NYE with Fresh One Chris Cutz and Lavelle Dupree will also spin. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

NYE with Headshine Free unlimited drinks all night and a delicious dinner with ten bands and DJs hosted by 93.3FM and 91X. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; \$179-\$299. 21 and up. Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NYE with Hitman Honey The Singles New Year's Eve Gala is for ages 40 to 60ish, with live music from Hitman Honey. Thursday, December 31, 8pm; \$50-\$60. Hilton Del Mar, 15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

<u>\$15</u>

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619-284-4646

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UNITED CHURCH OF

CHRIST OF LA MESA Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend of Commemoration

The Awareness, Fellowship, Service: Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend of Commemoration will feature the movie 12 Years a Slave, followed by discussion of the film's message. Saturday, January 16, 1:30 p.m.

LA MESA 5940 Kelton Avenue 619-464-1519

KNOW THYSELF AS SOUL FOUNDATION

Spirituality & Meditation Introductory Talk



Spirituality: Meditation on the inner light and sound as taught by Sant Baljit Singh, talk given by authorized speaker. Free program and vegetarian lunch Sunday, January 3, at noon. Free admission. RSVP: 619-405-1823. Location: Progressive Health Services. NORTH PARK 2141 El Cajon Boulevard 619-260-0810

CARLSBAD COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Service

A celebration service honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be held. Monday, January 18, 2016, 11 am. to noon CARLSBAD 3175 Harding Street 760-729-2331

ST. JOHN BOSCO MISSION SSPX

Catholic Traditional Latin Mass



*St. John Bosco Mission SSPX. Fr. Thomas Hufford Sunday Mass: 4pm, Confessions: 3:30pm. 858-433-0353 (call for proper attire) stjohnboscomission@ hotmail.com, www.sspx.org. Instaurare Omnia in Christo. To the greater glory of God! POINT LOMA 2881 Roosevelt Road

VEDANTA SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA Inter Faith Spiritual Retreat

The event features an Inter Faith Spiritual Weekend with Father Michael Fish. Friday, January 22, 6:00 pm. Saturday, January 23, 10:00 am. Sunday, January 24, 10:00 am. HILLCREST 1440 Upas Street 619-291-9377

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH Prince of Peace

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

St. Jude's Novena Patron Saint of Desperate

Causes May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Saint Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Saint Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. (State intention.) Pray this novena sincerely nine times a day for eight consecutive days, and promise to publish it or otherwise distribute it to others. It has never been

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM Temple Beth Shalom Invites You



SHABBAT DINNER FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 6:15pm \$8 per person MUST RSVP - Arlene, 858-344-5632 roast chicken, side dish, & dessert will be served. Let's Observe the Sabbath Together as Family. Shabbat Services Following the Dinner. www.bethshalomtemple.com. CHULA VISTA 208 Madrona Street 619-420-6040

VALLEY VIEW CASINO CENTER Joel Osteen

"A Night of Hope" with Joel

and Victoria Osteen is an outreach of Joel Osteen Ministries. Attendees will hear an inspirational message from Joel and Victoria along with the music by the Lakewood Band and Ensemble. Joel Osteen is the pastor of America's largest church — the 52,000-strong Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas. People worldwide are inspired through his weekly television broadcasts, his New York Times bestselling books, worship events, and his weekly podcast. Friday, January 15, 7:30 p.m. MIDWAY DISTRICT 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard 619-224-4171

NYE with Kitten With a Whip Early & late seatings for a fivecourse dinner, or just come for the party! Thursday, December 31, 5:30pm; \$30-\$104. Crush, 437 South Highway 101. (SOLANA BEACH)

On With The Show: NYE Mystere in the French Quarter features a 1920s New Year's Eve celebration showcasing the rich culture and history of New Orleans , with performers Stephen Rey Sextet, Euphoria Brass Band, Miss Erika Davies, Trio Gadjo, DJ Noel 2033, Crooked, Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects, Cherries Jubilee Tap Dancing Burlesque, and more Thursday, December 31, 8pm; \$35-\$195. 21 and up. Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVER-SITY HEIGHTS)

Roaring 20s NYE Party The Odd Fellows event features five performing DJs, with a Flapper Roaring 20s theme encouraged, but not required. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; \$30-\$40. 21 and up. Independent Order of Odd Fellows, 503 W. Mission Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Sunset NYE Thursday, December 31, 8pm; 21 and up. Vin de Syrah Wine Parlor, 901 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

A Vintage New Years Eve Featuring a three-course dinner and amuse bouche, champagne toast, and soundscapes by DJ Jon Wesley. Thursday, December 31, 5pm; \$54-\$69. Pearl, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Wine Tasting: New Year's Sparklers Celebrate the arrival of 2016 in style with a tasting of several sparkling wines from around the world. Thursday, December 31, 4pm; \$15. 21 and up. Wine-Sellar and Brasserie, 9550 Waples Street #115. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

OUTDOORS

Balboa Park History Stroll
Ever wonder how Balboa Park was
named? What structures stood in
various locations in 1915? Who
were some of the individuals who
helped shape the landscape and
built environment, and what did
they originally envision it to look
like? Were the buildings in the
Park today copies or interpreta-

tions of real structures in other parts of the world? What elements changed to prepare the Park for the 2nd Exposition in 1935? Learn these trivia tidbits and more on this one-hour walking tour along the Park's main street, with offshoots to locales with forgotten stories to reveal. Specially trained History Center guides lead this easy paced stroll through the Park, revealing many of the intriguing aspects of its past, its endearing present, and exciting future. Reservations are requested, but walk-ups are welcome! Thursdays, 11am; \$10-\$12. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado.

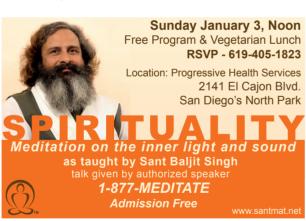
Garden Tour Walk the garden trails with a docent tour guide and see beautiful water-saving landscapes. Tours begin promptly Saturday mornings at 10 am in the plaza. No reservation required. Free. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

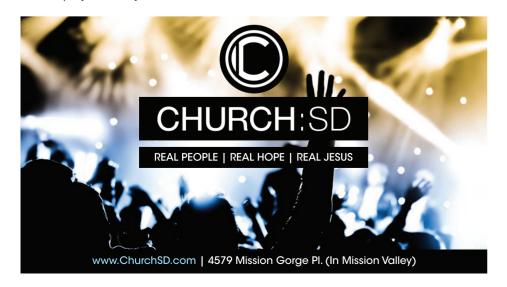
SPECIAL EVENTS

Amazing Scavenger Hunt Adventure San Diego Gaslamp Ghosts Walking Tour Take a stroll through the Gaslamp's haunted history with Davis House historian Sandee Wilhoit, who will recount ghostly happenings of the past,Ķand the present. Visit hotels, saloons, brothels, a long-ago funeral parlor, and end your tour inside the Gaslamp's most haunted edifice: the Davis-Horton House. The tour takes place regardless of weather conditions. Reservations can be made by calling 619-223-4692. \$20 adults; \$15 seniors and active military; \$10 students; free age 7 and under. Fridays, 5pm; \$10-\$20. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue.

Gaslamp Quarter Architectural Tour Opening a window to San Diego's past, our Gaslamp Architectural Tour showcases the history of the Davis-Horton House built in 1850, as well as the history of the of the historic Gaslamp Quarter. The tour includes architecturally significant structures of the period from Old City Hall (1874) to the Romanesque style Keating Building (1890) to the Baroque Revival Louis Bank of Commerce (1888), along with fascinating stories of the people and characters that shaped the destiny of San Diego. Gaslamp Architectural Tour starts at the Davis-Horton House at 410 Island Avenue and includes the Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House. Tour length is 90 minutes. Reservations are strongly suggested. Thursdays, 1pm; Saturdays, 11am; \$10-\$20. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

International Auto Show Be the first to see all-new models not yet in showrooms, the newest safety and entertainment technology, and test drive the latest models from over a dozen manufacturers. Thursday, December 31, 10am; Friday, January 1, 10am; Saturday, January 2, 10am; Sunday, January 3, 10am; \$8-\$12. San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)







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Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, DEC 31	7:18	2.6'	7:34	1.0'	1:39	4.3'	12:40	4.0'
FRI, JAN 1	8:52	2.6'	8:26	1.3'	2:43	4.2'	1:59	3.6'
SAT, JAN 2	10:24	1.9'	9:22	1.6'	3:38	4.5'	3:34	3.2'
SUN, JAN 3	11:30	1.6'	10:18	1.9'	4:26	4.9'	5:04	2.9'

Waves (MISSION BEACH)

Height	Direction	Interval
1'-2'	WNW	13 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	12 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	16 seconds
2'-3'	WNW	19 seconds

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

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. Saturday, January 2, 2pm; Sunday, January 3, 2pm; \$47-\$91. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. IDOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Emory Cove Habitat Restoration Join San Diego Audubon at Emory Cove in South San Diego Bay. Emory Cove provides important upland habitat for shorebirds and we've been working to restore this habitat with the help of volunteers like you. We'll be pulling out invasive plants and planting native ones, so remember to wear pants and hiking boots and bring gloves and rain/sun protection. RSVP To sign-up and for more details, please contact Megan Flaherty, Conservation Project Coordinator at 858.273.7800 Ext.106, or via email at flaherty@sandiegoaudubon. org. Sunday, January 17, 9:30am; Emory Cove, Silver Strand Boulevard. (CORONADO)

Junior Rangers Kids age 7 to 12 are invited to outdoor activities which include walks, presentations, games, investigations, and art. Kids can earn the Junior Ranger badge and other awards as they progress through the activities. Meet outside lifeguard head-quarters; look for the tall tower on the ocean side of the highway. This activity is free, but there is a fee to park inside the state beach. Info: heather.sanderson@parks.ca.gov or 619-823-5801. Saturdays, 3:30pm; through Saturday, February 6, free. Silver Strand State Beach, 5000 Highway 75. (CORONADO)

Moonlight New Year's Eve Cruise San Diego Nightlife presents the 4th Annual Moonlight NYE Cruise 2016 aboard the California Spirit. Enjoy three decks to mingle, an open bar the entire cruise, and complimentary tray passed appetizers. Thursday, December 31, 9pm; \$145-\$1100. 21 and up. California Spirit, 990 North Harbor Drive Dock #3, San Diego, CA

New Year's Day Champagne Brunch Cruise Toast to the New Year with a Champagne brunch, free-flowing Champagne, and amazing San Diego Bay views. Price includes a 2-hour cruise on a Hornblower yacht with a full brunch buffet featuring seasonal dishes, dessert buffet, and free-flowing champagne and sparkling cider. Friday, January 1, 11:30am; \$67. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

New Year's Eve Dive Join Power Scuba and ring in the the New Year at Midnight with an underwater celebration. This is one tank dive requires that you are Advanced Open Water Certified. Non-members need to join and RSVP at group website. Meet at the flagpole or sidewalk (by the playground and restrooms) along Valleticos Rd. Power Scuba is a safety-focused, no-dues, non-profit, independent scuba group that emphasises eco-mindedness and a fun, easy way to stay connected with the underwater scene in San Diego county and beyond. Thursday, December 31, 11:15pm; free. La Jolla Shores, 8200 Camino del Oro. (LA JOLLA)

Jet Boat Thrill Ride Board the Patriot Jet Boat and speed the bay on a tour of the waterfront's most scenic spots, past military ships, along the downtown skyline and under the Coronado Bridge. The 70-foot boat comfortably seats 139 and offers views in every direction. With rock music pumping, your captain will narrate and navigate while executing 360-degree turns and reaching speeds upwards of 50 mph, propelled by two 1,400 horsepower jet engines. Saturday, January 2, 12pm; \$22-\$27. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Planting Party at Kendall-Frost Marsh Help restore natural habitat at the Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve at our planting party.

Help restore natural habitat at the Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve at our planting party. This restoration project is expanding habitat for resident marsh species, creating a high tide refuge for birds, and restoring the natural transition zone topography. Volunteers are needed to help plant native upland plants on the site. RSVP: flaherty@sandiegoaudubon.org or 858-273-7800 x106. Saturday, January 9, 9am; free. Kendall-Frost Marsh, 2055 Pacific Beach Dr., Pacific Beach

Polar Bear Plunge Join the La Jolla Cove Swim Club at their annual Polar Bear Plunge and chili potluck. You don't have to swim or even get wet, but if you do, you get to say you did. Wear warm clothes and bring chili, soup, or another warm food to share. Cider and coffee will be provided. Look for the LJCSC banner. Start time: 10:00am on January 1, 2016. Friday, January 1, 10am; free. La Jolla Shores, 8200 Camino del Oro. ((A JOLLA)



Will the water-quality board's recent decision lead to polluted beaches?

Dirty water okay?

Local water-quality activists are protesting what they say is a weakening of pollution controls on water runoff in local storm drains by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Last month, the control board added a "safe harbor" amendment to municipal stormwater permits covering San Diego County, its 18 cities, the port and airport districts, and portions of Orange and Riverside counties. The amendment, according to water-quality watchdog San Diego Coastkeeper, "protects permit holders from accountability for water quality pollution, as long as they have a plan to improve water quality."

Now, Coastkeeper and the Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation have filed a petition with the California State Water Resources Control Board, asking state authorities to step in and overturn what they say is an illegal policy allowing municipalities to continue polluting.

According to the groups, pollution from runoff is

one of the biggest contributors to poor water quality in San Diego, responsible for beach closures following heavy rains and poor health ratings for local streams and other water bodies.

— Dave Rice

Gimme Babies or Gimme Death

When Garfield Kwan was an undergraduate student in marine biology at UC San Diego, he began to notice a trend: the internet was full of funny stuff, but science was not included. Furthermore, materials available for science outreach were often outdated and dull.

"If you Google 'sharks science for kids' you get websites that contain mostly words," Kwan observed, "but few images." Hence the birth of *Squidtoons*, dedicated to equipping educators

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

TANGLED IN THE PIER

From San Diego city lifeguards

-San Diego Lifeguards are a 24 hour rescue agency whose responsibilities include water rescue, boat cliff rescue, underwater search and recovery, swift water and flood search, rescue and emergency medical response.

San Diego Lifeguards also handle

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

12/25

- Lifeguards respond to a 32 yr old surfer tangled in the pier. Medics evaluate patient after rescue for possible transport.

- Lifeguards respond to glider port for

a glider crash at Blacks Beach. Fire and Medics respond. Medics handle patient. - Lifeguards respond to Sunset Cliffs for a person who has fallen off the cliff. Fire and Medics respond as well. Lifeguards and Medics perform CPR until patient is pronounced at scene. Lifeguards perform 5 evolutions with Rescue-44 including the 11-44.

12/24

- SDPD received a call of a 19 year old

male who is depressed and at La Jolla Cove with a friend. The friend used the restrooms and when he came back the man was gone and his shoes were left wet by the shoreline.... After a few hours the call is called off after determining that the man most likely did not go into the water.

12/23

- Seaforth dock master calls to report an unresponsive male, possible stroke patient at slip E-22. A lifeguard rescue vessel, 4-Sam, E-20 and M-20 respond. M-20 transports the patient to UCSD.

12/22

- Świmmer in distress off of Tower 4 in Ocean Beach. 27 Y/o female. Victim left all clothing on beach. PWC, 1Sam, Rescue Vessel, Engine 15, Medic 22 and SDPD respond. PWC effects rescue and SDPD transports Female to CMH. SURFACE TEMPERATURE:
LOW HIGH

5'-20'

Minor tide swings, moderate winds and smallish 1'-2' surf should allow conditions to clear up in the favorite dive/snorkel spots along the San Diego coast. The water temp has dropped a bit to near 60, so go with the thicker suits. The surf should set up well for the long-boarders this weekend as the next swell approaches by mid-Sunday. 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

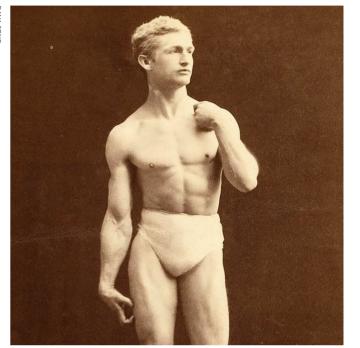
	THUR	SAT	MON	WED
DEC/JAN	31	2	4	6
SUNRISE	6:51	6:51	6:52	6:52
SUNSET	16:53	16:55	16:56	16:58
LENGTH OF DA	Y 10H 2M	10H 4M	10H 4M	10H 6M



Sharks kill about 6 people per year; cows kill 22



Popular Squidtoon



Bernarr Macfadden was unafraid of the effects of a cold-water swim.

and researchers with visually appealing yet scientifically accurate teaching aids.

A PhD student at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Kwan uses his free time to collaborate with Scripps researchers and a volunteer team of artists to animate the world of marine biology.

With Scripps seismologist Debi Kilb, Kwan and his team worked to create avatars for *Tilt Trivia*, a video game made available through Scripps. The team hosts about 25 outreach events per year for all ages and is headed by Kilb.

Squidtoons is another project.

"Gimme Babies or Gimme Death," one of the longer comics in the *Squidtoons* collection, details what is known about the three types of seadragons: weedy, leafy, and ruby. With help from Scripps graduate students and Birch Aquarium aquarists, the comic strip details the aquarium's effort to breed this rare species. Aquarists hope to learn

more about it without removing live specimens from the only seadragon habitat on earth — southern Australia. The anatomy of a seadragon poster is the most popular item for sale on the *Squidtoons* site.

"The Fallacy of Sharks" is another popular 'toon that addresses the tendency of the entertainment industry to depict sharks as "homicidal torpedoes of teeth." Sharks kill an average of 6 people per year, cows kill 22 people per year, deer 200, and hippos 500. Mosquitoes carrying malaria top the list of "animals that kill people" at 725,000.

"Our hearts go out to the victims' families," says the comic strip, "but we still need to keep things in perspective."

Kwan's approach to teaching science attracted the attention of author Alan Trujillo, a distinguished professor at Palomar College and one of the authors of the marine biology textbook *Essentials of Oceanography*.

Squidtoons illustrations will appear in the 12th edition in 2016.

— Leorah Gavidor

Loony in La Jolla

Founded in 1903 by health enthusiast Bernarr Macfadden, the Coney Island Polar Bear Club is the oldest organization in the country. Macfadden is credited with inspiring the health and fitness movement in the United States. In Northern Europe, an icy dip in frigid water after a sauna is thought to have a positive effect on the immune system and libido, and there are control-group studies that show cold-water swimming relives stress, improves memory, respiratory health and antioxidative protection.

That said, cold-water swimming can be dangerous to those not used to it. There is a consistent physical reaction caused when the human body enters frigid water called

"cold-shock response." Almost instantly, the outer blood vessels constrict to maintain core heat and you become weak. That is why most victims have a hard time grasping the rope or life ring during coldwater rescues.

But this is Southern California and the water rarely dips below 60 degrees, but the 62-or-so-degree water we will have on New Year's Day in San Diego can cause a cold-shock response. Many join after celebrating themselves into inebriation on New Year's Eve, such as during the Loony Dook in Scotland, where plungers parade in costumes while acting like loonies before the dook, or dunk.

Plungers and onlookers are welcome to join the La Jolla Cove Swim Club's annual Polar Bear Plunge and chili potluck at 10:00 a.m. on New Year's Day at La Jolla Shores. The event is free.

— Daniel Powell

FISH REPORT

Going deep for yellowtail, rockfish.

Inshore: Rockfish continue to dominate the local catch as is usual for this time of year. Bonito are biting well on the surface just off the kelp edges and the calico bass are turning on when the current is right. Try letting just about any 5"-9" plastic grub or swimbait freefall along and parallel to the kelp. Best colors are root beer or reddish-orange as the tuna crabs are still around. Some good sized yellowtail are being caught on the yoyo iron

in 100-150 feet of water when found. Meter those depths for marks along the canyon edges, 9-Mile Bank or off the Coronado Islands and let the jigs drop to the bottom, wind up $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ way back up and let them fall again.

Outside: Yellowtail are biting well on the yoyo iron down the coast of Baja into and south of the cool water plume from Punta Banda to Vizcaíno Bay. The same area is producing good action on reds and large whitefish to 8 pounds. 5-day and longer boats venturing to Cedros and points south are still getting wahoo to bite on the high spots as well as some yellowtail surface action

and decent yellowfin tuna to 80 pounds. Further south, the offshore banks off Bahia Magdalena and Cabo San Lucas are turning out some large yellowfin tuna to 300 pounds and the occasional large dorado.

12/20 - 12/26 Dock Totals: 562 anglers aboard 19 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 61 yellowtail, 54 calico bass, 27 sand bass, 964 rockfish, 33 sheephead, 94 bonito, 12 whitefish, 2 lingcod, 100 mackerel, 1 giant seabass (released) and 1 white seabass (released).

Long-Range: Report from the Red Rooster III 10-day trip from

Disgustingly good

"Let's stop right here, take it all home. Then fry it all up for breakfast tomorrow. Yes?"

air today, gone tomorrow!" I say.
I wait for the girls to respond.
Like, cue roll-on-the-floor guffaws,

please? This is at the hair salon. Carla's tied up in shiny bows, and Sherry's painting peroxide highlights on her hair.

They ignore me.

Carla's right. This was a mistake, coming. Best just to see the "after" result.

'Course, Carla still insists on having her hair done here on the Emerald Isle at her buddy Diane's salon. Even though Diane's gone off to Oregon. She bequeathed Carla to Sherry.

Carla looks at me through the mirror.

"Arrogant Bastard," she says.

Sherry looks shocked. But I know what Carla means. Long and short: an hour later, I'm back, feeling pretty danged good. Been hanging out at the Tavern, which stocks AB.

"Hey," I say, "I'm taking you to a birthday dinner, Ms. Carla. The two of us. Okay?"

"What about Christmas? New Year's?" she says.

Explanation: Carla's birthday comes five days after Christmas, a day before New Year's, just when people, me included, are exhausted. Birthday gets lost in the mix.

"Birthday only," I say. "No confusion this time."

"Means a lot," Carla says.

So now we're standing outside this expensive Italian joint.

"Happy hour, okay?" I say.

"I'm happy," she says.

We head upstairs and into — whoa! Noisy, cozy bar-space packed with people having a drinky good time. Oh, yeah. Fine, except, to get the happy-hour deal you have to eat in this cramped bar. Bummer.

"No way I'm going to ruin my hair squeezing onto a high stool," says Carla.

I look at a maître d' type. He nods. We keep walking. End up in this opulent-feeling room

that looks out over Orange Avenue. Gal named Elisabetta says yes, we can do happy hour here. So we sit down at one of the cloth-covered tables.

Turns out this happy hour has a lot going for it. Not the cheapest, but way below mainmenu prices. They have a plate of oysters for \$10.50, an oyster shooter for \$3.50, fried calamari in a marinara sauce for \$7, a bruschetta pomodoro ("golden

apple," classy word for tomato) \$6, crab cake, \$6.50, a house salad with gorgonzola cheese for \$5.25, and "patatine al Tartufo," which turns out to be truffle fries, \$6.

But the most interesting stuff is further down. Couple of *polpette* (meatballs) dishes look like real contenders. *Di granchio* is crabmeat (\$6.50), *di carne* is beef (\$8). *Spiedini alla griglia*, skewers of grilled chicken or beef with Thai chili sauce and truffle fries costs \$10.50 but looks worth it.

And then you've got sliders. Nine bucks. You get three, and what starts my juices is the promise of gorgonzola on top and blackberry compote inside.

So, first things first: Carla gets an Arnold Palmer (\$3.25) and I choose a draft Racer 5 IPA. Bear Republic. They're from Sonoma County. Beer from wine country. Not bad. Costs \$3.50. Deal for a place like this.

"Okay," says Carla. "I'll take the pasta in vodka sauce, the spiedini, and can I get a Caesar salad on happy hour?"

"Uh, no. Just the house salad."

Carla turns to me.

"This is for my birthday?"

"Just your birthday, my little corazon."

"Well in that case, I don't need to totally stick to the happy-hour menu, right?"

I feel my heart go bump in the night.

"Give me the Caesar salad from the regular menu, then. What are you having, Bedford?"

 ${\it Ulp}.$ Tongue freezes up. Elisabetta waits. No time to add up the damages.

"Sliders, I guess."



The pasta in vodka sauce

The pasta comes first. Truth is, I didn't even notice it on the HH menu. It was at the bottom. "Our home-made fettucine, tossed in your choice of marinara, vodka, pesto, Bolognese, Alfredo."

"We've got a lot to get through," I say as the dishes start arriving.

"Not you," Carla says firmly. "You've just got the sliders."

"Right. Great."

I leave it at that. Remember the key phrase from my Male Survival Manual: Never argue with a hungry woman.

My one relief? The regular menu's Caesar salad is only \$10.75.

Then: a nice surprise. Elisabetta brings us each a bruschetta loaded with, like, pico de gallo, and surrounded by chunks of different cheeses, slices of salami, and (pitted!) black olives.

"On the house," she says. "It's part of our happy-hour deal."

That's definitely a bonus.

Soon the rest of what we ordered arrives. "Come on," says Carla. "Gonna need your help." Heh-heh. Thought the dam would break. Soon, we're roving over everything like Kalahari vultures.

The verdict: salad's good. Fresh leaves, crisp croutons, two wide slices of a hard cheese on top, and plenty of Caesar sauce.



Bruschetta, etc. Free at happy hour

And the sliders? Great. Luscious combo of strong gorgonzola, sweet blackberry and garlicky steak meat. Same with the spiedini. Carla forkslides the beef chunks off the skewers, then dips chunks into that sweet-hot Thai dipping sauce. Best of all, they're sitting on a generous bed of cheesy truffle french fries. Just between them and the sliders is one heckuva meal for two already.

"Let's stop right here," says Carla suddenly.
"Take it all home, chop up the sliders and the spiedini chunks and mix them into the pasta.
Then fry it all up for breakfast tomorrow. Yes?"

So that's what we do. Next morning, I play chef, and it is skerrrumptious. Pasta, like all pasta, is better for aging, the slider meat and infused buns add rich garlic umami and sweetness.

"A triumph of degustation," says Carla. I nod in agreement.

"Disgustingly good," I say.

It all helps swallow the fact that we paid out almost 60 bucks last night (\$45 plus tax and tip). Result: We'll be entering the New Year poor as church mice.

"Poor as church mice," says Carla, "happy as clams."

That's my girl.

Happy New Year, all! ■

(@SDReader_EdBed)

The Place: Vigilucci's Ristorante Coronado, 1300 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0946 **Happy Hour Prices:** Plate of fresh oysters, \$10.50; oyster shooter, \$3.50; fried calamari, \$7; bruschetta with cheeses, olives, salami, \$6; crab cake, \$6.50; house salad with gorgonzola, \$5.25; truffle fries, \$6; crab cakes, \$6.50; beef meatballs, \$8; skewers of chicken or beef with Thai chili sauce, truffle fries, \$10.50; sliders with gorgonzola, blackberry compote, \$9

Happy hour: 3–7 p.m., Monday to Friday; 11 a.m.–5 p.m., Saturday, Sunday Regular hours: 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m. daily (till 10 p.m. Friday, Saturday)

Buses: 901, 904

Nearest bus stops: Right outside on Orange Avenue (southbound); at Orange and Adella (northbound)





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Damn tasty sandwich

Togo's, 1010 University Avenue, suite 101, Hill-crest. I recall back in the mid-'90s, some Bay Area transplants I knew assured me the arrival

of fast casual sandwich chain Togo's, expanding into Southern California at the time, was going

to change the way I ate subs — or some such hyperbole. I think I wound up eating there a couple times. It was all right. We were teenagers.

So, when I recently heard San Francisco favorite Ike's Place had opened a shop in Hillcrest, it rang of déjà vu. Forgive me for being skeptical.

Except Togo's was never blamed for civic disturbance like Ike's was, when its original Cas-

tro shop consistently drew lines so long its neighbors complained it was harshing their mellow. I love a good sandwich, but I'll never stand in line two hours for one because Yelp told me to.

Fortunately, the Hillcrest location didn't seem that busy. At least, there were only two people

ahead of me when I got there. By the time I made it to the register, a dozen were behind, a couple of them doing their best to creep to the front.

Not speedy service, but it comes from a good place. Everybody behind the counter was in good cheer, answering questions and taking orders with humor — which jibes with the tongue-in-cheek sandwich names. For example, a pastrami with french dressing, poppy-seed

cole slaw, and swiss is called a Paul Reubens. Swap in vegan turkey on the same sandwich and it becomes a Pee Wee.

There are also a number of sandwiches named for pro athletes among the three dozen sandwiches on the menu, each about 8–11 bucks with standard fixins. For San Diego sports fans, options include a Tony Gwynn (turkey,

Havarti, Sriracha, and cranberry sauce) and a Junior Seau (turkey, bacon, roast beef, and Swiss,

plus a secret ingredient: creamy buffalo-style "Seau sauce").

I liked the buffalo-sauce idea but decided to go with a Hot Momma, the original nondairy buffalo sauce over halal chicken with provolone and ranch. For two bucks the menu offers to upgrade the halal for fried chicken, and when I did this, the name of the sandwich apparently changed from a Hot Momma to a Mrs.

Robinson.

Fun stuff. Other add-ons include red pesto, beer-battered zucchini, mozzarella sticks, cream cheese, and jalapeños. The secret-sauce idea reappears with Ike's famed "Dirty Sauce." But the real across-theboard winner comes in choice of bread. While there are SF sourdough, whole-wheat

and gluten-free options, the cult favorite at Ike's is Bay Area regional classic Dutch Crunch.

A mottled loaf known as tiger bread in the U.K. — or giraffe bread if you're partial to cuteness — Dutch Crunch has a crust even crispier than it sounds. It will be familiar to San Diego sandwich fans who already frequent Rubicon Deli, which I'd say is the closest we've seen to an Ike's Place. Ike's comes off a little less polished, a little looser at the edges. I guess what I mean



A closer look at that tasty rare steak

is less corporate, in a very positive way. Because Ike's makes a pretty damn tasty sandwich, especially good on the go.

by Ian Anderson

Hangover soup

Pho Hoa, 4717 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights. I don't often suffer from hangovers — I know how to pace myself. But every once in a while a night gets away from me and I imbibe more booze than water or more wine than food, leaving me in a world of pain the following morning. One of the few things that can bring me back to life is a good bowl of ramen or pho. Unfortunately, there are few places serving up either at 10:30 a.m. on a Saturday morning, which is when, on this dumb hangover day, I needed it most. Enter David, my personal restaurant finder, the Jeeves to my Wooster. He came up with a place we'd never been to before, Pho Hoa, that was just over a mile from our place, and open at 7 a.m. all the way through closing at 8 or 9 p.m. every day.

I had barely passed through the door when a man handed us menus and gestured at a table to our left. When it comes to *pho*, I usually opt for egg noodles and chicken. It wasn't until we took a look at the menu that David remembered *hoa* means "beef." And that's pretty much what you get when you walk into Pho Hoa. This no-nonsense place doesn't distract you

with spring rolls, rice dishes, or even chicken-based soups. What they do have is 24 options of beef you can have in your *pho*, such as flank, brisket, tripe, beef balls, beef cube, even pizzle. I opted for the classic rare steak, paper-thin slices of beef that cook in the bow! (\$6.95).

The bowls arrived as swiftly as the menus had — I don't think a full minute passed from the time we placed our order to the time those bowls were on the table.

Then again, time travels at a different speed when you're out of sorts. We received all the usual fixings: bean sprouts, basil, mint, jalapeño slices, and lime wedges. The broth was rich, with the perfect amount of salt to enhance the umami base. The meat was tender and lean, just how I like it.

To complement the savory with a bit of sweet and help resuscitate me with a little caffeine, I also ordered a Thai iced tea with boba (\$3.50). As I sat there, vacillating between spoonfuls of hot, lime-scented beef broth and cool, sweet milk tea, I found myself sitting up straighter and straighter until suddenly, I smiled. "There you are," David said, clearly happy to see me feeling better.

The space resembles a high-school cafeteria, with long communal tables and not much else going on. When you do only one thing, it makes sense that you'd do it well, and I'm glad to report that I very much enjoyed my *pho* here. Specializing in only one dish is also why things moved so fast. Within 20 minutes of our arrival, we were back on the street and ready to face the day.

by Barbarella Fokos

Not enough bacon

Sweet Bacon, Avenida Revolución (between 6th and 7th streets), Tijuana. A tad late with the



My Mrs. Robinson on Dutch Crunch



trend of cooking everything with bacon, Sweet Bacon opened its doors a couple of months ago in downtown Tijuana. They are located on Revolución, across the street from Colectivo 9 (a food court with more than nine restaurants), and next to Pueblito (a punk bar). The new restaurant is set to attract the millennial crowd

I found Sweet Bacon completely empty on a Monday afternoon. The only two people sitting in the restaurant were the young owners, Gaby Giordano and Eric Guillermo. The chef stood at the ready in the open kitchen.

Everything on the menu has bacon, including the salads and desserts. The thin corridor has a long bench improvised with wooden planks and cement blocks along the wall with tables and simple chairs. The opposite wall has an open kitchen. The back wall of the restaurant reads "for bacon lovers and other food addicts" and the tables have "bacON, bacOFF" signs. The only thing the restaurant is missing are pictures of Kevin Bacon.

The appetizers are the



San Diego's coffee community has come on strong the past three years, and it did not stop growing one bit in 2015. The number of roasters producing beans countywide grew to at least 26, while 10 existing roasting companies invested to expand their footprints with new retail locations and/ or roasteries.

Joining the roaster ranks this year were Encinitas-based Ironsmith, North Park cottage company Dane Coffee, and the brand new Manzanita Roasting Company out of Rancho Bernardo. The short-lived Ladies & Gentlemen coffee shut down mid-year, but principals Joshua and Hannah Bonner came back a few weeks later, roasting under a new name: Foxy Coffee.

Existing roasters The West Bean and Revolution Roasters opened retail shops for the first time, while Coffee & Tea Collective, Caffé Calabria, Lofty Coffee, and Better Buzz each added a second, third or — in the case of Better Buzz — sixth locations to their businesses.

Dark Horse, Bird Rock, and Swell Café each expanded production with new roasteries in addition to new shops, while Café Virtuoso joined Bird Rock in growing beyond the microroaster label by adding space and tripling its production capacity. Virtuoso also joined Bird Rock in making CoffeeReview.com's annual list of the top 30 coffees of the year, an honor Bird Rock has accomplished three years in a row.

In the meantime, Pasadena roaster Copa Vida established not one but two retail shops here, while Holsem Coffee in North Park opened with proprietary beans roasted at an undisclosed location. Of course, the growth of specialty coffee in San Diego wasn't restricted to roasters, as new third-wave coffeehouses have



Coffee roasters invested heavily in San Diego in 2015.

continued to crop up all over the county — Oceanside's Banana Dang, Escondido's Culture Craft, Perks in San Marcos, and Heartwork in Mission Hills, just to name a few.

The scene has grown in other ways as well. The San Diego Coffee Network produced two four-month seasons of its Thursday Night Thing latte art tournaments, attracting scores of skillful baristas — both local and from out of state — to compete for cash and other prizes at jam-packed events hosted by coffee entities around town.

Kansas City-based beverage marketing company The LAB returned to San Diego in 2015 for a second annual Caffeine Crawl, a curated tour of coffee companies that guides fans through a series of presentations hosted by roasters, baristas, and importers.

Caffeine Crawls take place in 14 U.S. cities, giving its organizers a unique insight into the differences between major coffee communities around the country. Caffeine Crawl coordinator Sadie Renee says the past two San Diego crawls proved so successful they're expanding their reach this year with more tours and more shops participating.

Renee says, "San Diego's coffee scene is one of our team favorites." She adds that its growth this year puts it "on par with our three biggest annual events in Chicago, Portland, and Kansas City." This year's Crawl features ten distinct tours over three days, January 22-24. ■

most interesting choices: bacon bombs, stuffed mushrooms, potato skins, and bacon dip. The menu offers three types of burgers: sweet bacon, Sriracha stout bbg, and peanut butter. Because I've recently been eating too many burgers, I took a look at the entrées: chicken cor-

don bleu, whiskey-top sirloin, spaghetti Carbonara, and a grilled cheese. They also have soup/salad of the day.

Whiskey and meat are on my list of favorite things. However, with a price tag of 99 pesos (around \$7), my guess was that the top sirloin wasn't going to be a prime

grade meat. But I still went for it. Instead of getting the sides that came with the entrée, I asked to get the bacon bombs as a substitution. It only cost

The bacon bombs were five cheesy potatoes on a wooden skewer wrapped in bacon with a stout bbq sauce for dipping. They were fantastic.

The whiskey-top sirloin, as expected, was not a prime cut from a good butcher. It had the look and the taste of a cheap supermarket meat, the kind used to prepare street tacos. It was topped with a sad and lonely piece of crispy bacon (also supermarket bought).

The whiskey balsamic sauce rescued the piece of meat and gave good flavor to something that otherwise would have been miserable. Since it was happy hour, I accompanied my meal with two Tecates for 30 pesos (\$2 for 2 beers).

After I was done, Gaby, one of the owners, approached me



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to ask how everything was. I didn't lie to her. "We did not want anything on the menu to be over 100 pesos," she said. "The chicken and the top sirloin is what we sell the least. We put it on the menu for the older generation; they are the only ones who order it." Gaby told me her vision of the place and gave me a taste of their BBQ Sriracha stout sauce and a bacon/coffee marmalade.

I went back to Sweet Bacon a week later, with an appetite



El Cajon Bistro

109 Jamacha Rd., El Cajon

619-373-1725

for a burger. I ordered the BBQ Sriracha stout burger medium-well. It came with fries and a side of their concoction, an interesting mix of sweet and spicy. The stout gave it less viscosity but added little to the flavor (they used Minerva's brew from Guadalajara — a different stout might improve it).

The meat was so juicy that the bottom bun was drenched (the bread seemed to be from Costco). For a place that focuses on bacon, I barely even tasted pork. I expected the burger to be bathed in their BBQ sauce but found the burger to just be a regular one. I realized then that the side sauce was for me to pour on the burger al gusto. The fries were standard good. I asked for more of the sauce for my fries since it was the only interesting thing I tasted. by Matthew Suárez

On-point Peruvian fun to eat

Panca Peruvian Cuisine & Rotisserie, 1902 S Coast Highway, Oceanside. If you've never been to South Oceanside — and I'd wager most haven't — you probably don't imagine you're missing much. Lately, you'd be wrong. Urge Gastropub's on the verge of opening a spacious 42-tap brewpub with a 300-bottle whiskey list. And Revolution Roasters recently brought quality coffee to this quietly happening stretch of the 101.

Nestled right between them is Panca Peruvian Cuisine & Rotisserie. I spotted it a couple times driving by, its name simultaneously telling me what to expect and making me crave it

Panca's not new to the area — Cordon Bleu-trained chef Iole Revilla opened the place in 2012, pairing her culinary skills and native Peruvian tastes. *Panca* refers to the *aji panca*, a mild chili pepper native to the South American nation that informed a lot of indigenous Incan recipes. If eating here is any indication, that was one tasty cuisine.

The small dining room is decorated with photos of peppers, large-kernel Andean corn, and the obligatory shot

of Machu Picchu. Repurposed shipping pallets balance against brick walls to lend a bit of rustic vibe.

I walked in around lunchtime to find a decent weekday crowd for a tiny restaurant and noticed most of the dozen or so diners were too busy eating to speak to one another. I grabbed a table and perused the short menu, which actually offers plenty of enticements. There are \$9 sandwiches including slowcooked pork chicharrón and slow-cooked beef asado. Entrées included sautéed beef lomo saltado and a cilantro beef stew called seco a la limeña, each at \$13.50.

But I couldn't be swayed from the rotisserie chicken: \$8.25 for a quarter, \$11.50 for a half, and a whole starting at \$18.50, depending on side options. Those include fries, sweet potato fries, and Peruvian rice, a long-grain white made with diced onions and garlic. There are also side salads, including quinoa, Caesar, and Panca, which features chopped asparagus and artichoke hearts.

I was deliberating between a quarter and half chicken when my waitress mentioned the \$6.50 lunch special — a quarter chicken with a small salad and side dish. For that price I was willing to add one of the unusual drink options. I considered something called Inca Kola, or maybe the *mar*-

1/2 OFF

ANY LOBSTER

DISH*

OF FOUAL OR LESSER VALUE WITH THE

PURCHASE OF A FULL LOBSTER.
PRICES VARY BASED ON SIZE

acuya, aka passionfruit juice. But chicha morada was the one I couldn't imagine. Purple corn juice, sweetened with a little pineapple juice.

The drink, served by the bottle, was fun to try. But the food was fun to eat. The Panca salad and rice were really good, and the chicken outstanding. Tender, succulent, with a beautifully spiced crispy skin. It was served with an aji panca sauce and a garlic aioli, and my waitress suggested using them both on the chicken, and with the rice if I liked. I liked. The hormonefree, two-day-marinated bird was on point and left me wanting more. Next time, I'll order at least a half.

by Ian Anderson

'Que craving satisfied

BBQ House, 5025 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach. I never had a problem with the beef sandwiches at the BBQ House. I sure ate enough of them when I lived in Ocean Beach. Weekly visits earned me Regular status, greeted like a champ for ordering the cheapest thing on the menu the trimmed edges sloppy joe. When I had a little extra cash I'd go for the beef sandwich, maybe even with onion rings. But only rarely did I order a beer to go with it.

Oftentimes I was on my way to drink some beer or had just

Seafood

& Bar

3780 El Cajon Blvd.

San Diego, CA 92105

Restaurant

619-800-4929

Monday - Thursday, Lobster all day

Friday, Sat. & Sun. Lobster 10-5pm

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come from doing so — usually Newport Pizza or South Beach, the most reliable places to find good beer in O.B. ten years ago. BBQ House was purely about the food.

Things have changed. When I last stopped by this summer I found the place temporarily closed. The family who owns the place had taken over the old site of Cow Records next door and remodeled the entire expanded space to install, among other things, a 30-tap draught system.

The restaurant reopened in August as BBQ House Bar & Grill, but I didn't make it back until a chilly late-autumn afternoon. The pier was closed due to big-wave damage, the beach was empty save for the winter sand berms, and Newport Ave. was about as slow as it gets. But BBQ House had customers.

In the old BBQ House, there would have have been enough customers to fill up a small, every-expense-spared dining room. But the new House has space to breathe, so while the roll-up doors were closed, we lunchtime eaters were able to spread out comfortably inside.

What used to be a low-key shop with tasty slow-cooked barbecue has become a tastefully wood-paneled den, staged with a mix of low- and high-top tables, and several TV screens showing sports. The latter occupy the bar side of the room, where a worthy assortment of beers includes some from smaller, newer local breweries. I ordered a Duckfoot chocolate and hazelnut porter, guessing it would pair well with the sweet brown BBQ sauce of the House, though it's tough to imagine a beer that wouldn't to some degree.

The menu has changed little, with two notable exceptions. First, the sloppy joe is \$4 — which I'm pretty sure costs more than the sandwich I used to pay for with a couple of ones and a pile of loose change. Still a great deal if you just want some food to wash down the beer.

Second, according to the woman who took my order at the counter, they switched their beef cut from shoulder to brisket. Shoulder's a leaner cut, but sinking my teeth into the chopped marbled beef and medium-spicy sauce of this sandwich genuinely satisfied my indulgent 'que craving.

by Ian Anderson







Hours: Monday-Thursday 10am-10pm • Friday-Sunday 10am-12:00am

HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at SDReader.com/drinks

ALLIED GARDENS

Emiliano's Mexican Restaurant: Monday, 2-6pm: \$1 off all bottled and draft beer, \$2 off flavored margaritas, \$2 off appetizers. (\$3.50 Margaritas all day). Tuesday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$1 off all bottled and draft beer, \$2 off flavored margaritas, \$2 off appetizers.

McGregor's Grill and Ale House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off all pints, \$5 off all pitchers, Ballast Point spirits \$6.75. Half off all bar bites.

San Diego Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3.25 draft beer, house wine, well drinks.

ALPINE

Donato's Italian Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4pm-7pm: \$3 glass/\$6 pitcher Bud Light, \$3.50 house wine. Appetizer specials. Bar only.

Mediterraneo: *Monday-Friday, Sunday,* 4-6:30pm: \$3 domestic draft beer, \$5 house wine. Pear salad \$6, fried calamari \$7, Bill and Diane Shrimp Cocktail \$9.

BAJ/

Fauna and Suculenta: *Tuesdays*, 3pm-midnight: Tap Tuesdays: \$1 off drafts.

El Tigre: *Tuesday*, 1-10pm: Tap Tuesday, \$1 off all beer. *Thursday*, 1pm-2am: \$1 off mixed drinks.

BALBOA PARK

The Prado Restaurant: Tuesday, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$4 Coronas; \$5 wells, lounge wine, Prado mule, house/strawberry margaritas; \$4-\$8 select appetizers. Lounge only. Wednesday-Thursday, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$4 Coronas; \$5.5 wells, lounge wine, Prado mule, house/strawberry margaritas; \$4-\$8 select appetizers. Lounge only. Priday-Saturday, 8-11pm: \$4 Coronas; \$5.5 wells, lounge wine, Prado mule, house/strawberry margaritas; \$4-\$8 select appetizers.ells, wine, draft ale, margaritas, selected appetizers. Lounge only.

BANKERS HILL

Artisan Bento: Monday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$3 Asahi, \$4 nigori/flavored sake, \$5 white/red wine. Half off temaki sushi, \$2 off bento box, salad bowl, sushi rolls.

Azuki Sushi Lounge: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-6:30pm: \$3 Sapporo draft, \$5 large sake, wine, grapefruit passion, wild hibiscus, purple rain, \$3 garlic edamame, \$3 shishito, \$4 seaweed salad, \$5 vegetable fries, \$6 spicy albacore tataki.

Bankers Hill Bar + Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6pm: \$5.50 house white/red wine by the glass or daily draft; \$2 off specialty cocktails. \$3.75 buttermilk-fried-chicken oysters, cheeseburger sliders, BBQ braised pork tacos. \$4.50 artisan cheeses.

Bertrand at Mister A's: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 2:30-6pm: \$4 Coors Light, Amstel Light, Stone IPA or Pale Ale, Ballast Point Amber; \$5 Stella Artois, Corona, Blue Moon, Sculpin IP; \$7 wells and wine by the glass.

BEER NEWS BY IAN ANDERSON

It gueuze fast

One of San Diego's hardest-tocome-by beers is Duck Duck Gooze. **The Lost Abbey** gueuze is a blend of old and young barrel-aged wild ales that only releases in small quantities every three or four years. Well, it released it 2009, then again in 2013. You can still technically find bottles of the 2013 vintage if you're willing to spend \$500.

The third-ever release was scheduled for 2016, but it's been cropping up a little early. Attentive beer geeks have probably chased it down in one or two local arenas of late, but it gueuze fast, so to speak. So, when I caught a whiff of it

appearing at the Lost Abbey's tasting room in San Marcos, I dropped by to give it a taste.

A 40-dollar taste. The 2013 bottles sold for \$40 apiece, but that's not what was happening here. Here it was on tap as part of a Vintage Flight package: six 4-ounce tasters of rare Lost Abbey beers. As my beertender explained, there was no breaking it up — all six taps were earmarked for the vintage flight only. Forty bucks for the flight or no Duck Duck Gooze for me.

That's the equivalent of about \$27 per pint. I said no. Then I said maybe. Then I rationalized the hell out of being a beer writer and needing to experience such things and handed over the credit card. Merry Christmas to me, I guess.

The other five tasters were beers I've encountered before: Red Poppy and Cuvee de Tomme are wine-barrel-aged sours with sour cherries added — not dissimilar, but at 5% and 11% ABV, respectively, pack different levels of earthy sour punch. Framboise de Amarosa is a personal favorite, also wine-barrel-aged, but with raspberries. Sweet, tart, winey, and delicious.

I'm less a fan of Agave Maria and Santo Ron Diego. Both strong ales hover around 13% ABV, the former aged with agave in tequila barrels, the latter rum barrels with spice. Both are too sweet for my palate, with enough alcohol



Vintage Flight at Lost Abbey's tasting room, complete with a devilish Duck Duck Gooze sticker

to affect the overall taste. You have to really like a strong, sweet ale to appreciate them. I wound up regarding them as a pair of sevendollar sacrifices for the opportunity to drink four beautiful sours.

I'll happily add Duck Duck Gooze to my list of Lost Abbey favorites. Dry and cider-like, with a very nice puckering tartness and sparkling

texture that livened up the top of my mouth, its wild yeasts gave it a hint of funk to balance the sour. But what stood out most was my palate fondly retaining the memory of each sip, telling me in no uncertain terms I wanted more.

A full bottle at 40 bucks might have been the way to go. Not for the casual beer drinker but for fans of aged beer with money to burn. I can say its presence alongside the Framboise gave this high-priced flight a special-occasion feeling. At least, that's what I'll tell myself when the

credit card bill arrives. If I had a wife, she'd kill me. ■

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

Extraordinary Desserts: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$10.95 for regular coffee and cake.

Hexagone: *Daily*, 3:30-7pm: \$4 beers, \$5 field green salad, \$6 wine by the glass, well drinks, caesar salad, \$7 Caprese salad, \$8 onion soup, sazerac, myrtille, bijou, french martini, rasberry grand mojito, Mexican mule, vespa, \$9 mini crab cake, frogs legs provencale.

Wet Stone Wine Bar and Cafe: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5 select glass of wine or sangria, \$20 carafes/ select bottles of wine. \$6 select starters. Sunday, 4-9pm: \$5 select glass of wine or sangria, \$20 carafes/select bottles of wine. \$6 select starters.

BAY PARK

Bay Park Fish Company: Daily, 3-6pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$5 house wine. \$2 oyster shooter, \$3 fish taco, \$6 basic sushi rolls, \$8 ceviche, \$9 steamed clams or mussels, \$11 crab cakes. Bar and patio only.

The High Dive: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off local drafts, \$4 house driple

IsaBella Artisan Pizzeria & Craft Beer Garden: Monday, 4pm-close: Buy a pitcher or bottle of wine and get a free cheese pizza. Also: \$6 appetizers. Tuesday-Thursday, 4-6:30pm: Buy a pitcher or bottle of wine and get a free cheese pizza. Also: \$6 appetizers. Friday-Sunday, 2-6:30pm: Buy a pitcher or bottle of wine and get a free cheese pizza. Also: \$6 appetizers.

Offshore: Monday, 3pm-close: \$2.75 domestics, \$3.75 sangria, wells, house wine, \$4.25 imports, \$6 Millionaire Mojitos. Discounted appetizers. 9pmclose: \$3 Fireball/Espolon/Jager, and domestic bottles. Tuesday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$2.75 domestics, \$3.75 sangria, wells, house wine, \$4.25 imports, \$6 Millionaire Mojitos. Discounted appetizers. 9pm-close: \$3 Fireball/Espolon/ Jager, and domestic bottles. Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.75 domestics, \$3.50 sangria, wells, house wine, \$4.25 imports, \$6 Millionaire Mojitos. Discounted appetizers. 9pm-close: \$3 Fireball/Espolon/ Jager, and domestic bottles.a3-6pm: \$2.75 domestics, \$3.75 sangria, wells, house wine, \$4.25 imports, \$6 Millionaire Mojitos. Discounted appetizers. 9pm-close: \$3 Fireball/Espolon/Jager, and domestic bottles. Saturday-Sunday, 9pm-close: \$3 Fireball/Espolon/ lager, and domestic bottles.

Pacific Time: *Monday-Friday*, 3-4pm: \$3 off beers on tap and wines by the glass; \$2 off 4-5pm; \$1 off 5-6pm.

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.

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Chart House: Monday-Friday, 3-6:30pm: \$4 import & specialty draft beers, well spirits. \$5 wine by the glass, \$6 cocktails, \$7 martinis. \$4 fried artichokes, hummus trio, truffle skinny fries. \$5 kim chee calamari, lettuce wraps, spinach & artichoke dip. \$6 ahi nachos, firecracker shrimp, mediterranean chicken pita. \$7 fish tacos, prime rib sliders, shrimp tacos.

Cicciotti's Trattoria: Monday-Thursday, 4:30-6:30pm: \$4 house wines, \$5 mixed drinks, discounted beers and specialty drinks. Happy hour plates \$5 and \$6. Fresh Blue Point oysters \$1. Friday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$4 house wines, \$5 mixed drinks, discounted beers and specialty drinks. Happy hour plates \$5 and \$6. Fresh Blue Point oysters \$1.

Rimel's Rotisserie: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: Small hot sake \$3, large hot sake \$5, select cocktails and wine by glass \$6, draft pitcher \$12.

Tower 13: *Monday-Friday*, 11:30am to 10pm: \$3.50 well drinks, \$3 Bud Light draft, \$3 off select wine by the glass, \$2 off speciality drink menu. \$3 munchies: Fried pickles, onion rings, jalapenos, mushrooms.

CARLSBAD

Argyle Steakhouse/Golf Clubhouse: *Tuesday-Friday, Sunday,* 3-6pm: \$5 beer and wine, selected cocktail discounts. Discounted appetizers.

Barrio Eat Mexican: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$4 draft beer, \$5 house margaritas and house wine. \$2 off appetizers.

Bellefleur: *Monday, Friday,* 5-7pm: 1/2-price martinis. *Tuesday,* 5-7pm: 1/2-price all bar-menu food items. *Wednesday,* 5-9pm: 1/2-price bottle of wine with purchase of 2 dinner entrees. *Thursday,* 5-7pm: \$3 well margaritas and wine. *Saturday,* All day: \$4 shoppertinis. *Sunday,* 5-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, select wine and well high balls.

Chandler's: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$2 off shared bites, wines by the glass, draft beers, and signature cocktails at the Sunset Terrace and Bar.

The Compass: Monday, 9pm-close: \$5 mules. Tuesday, 9pm-close: all drafts \$4. Wednesday, 9pm-close: 25% off all brown spirits. Thursday, 4pm-close: Mystery wine Thursday, \$15 bottles

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Monday, Friday, 4-6pm: \$4 bottle, draft beers, house wine, house margaritas, well drinks. \$2 off all appetizers (except Grilled Corn and Chips and Salsa). Tuesday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$4 bottle, draft beers, house wine, house margaritas, well drinks. \$2 off all appetizers (except Grilled Corn and Chips and Salsa). Late night Happy Hour 10-11pm: Sun-Thur. Discount on cocktails only. Sunday, Late night Happy Hour 10-11pm: Discount on cocktails only.

Green Dragon Tavern & Museum: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$4 select draft beer, \$1 off all draft; \$5 select wine by the glass, \$1 off all wine by the glass. Small plate specials.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company:

Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, flights, house wine, and well drinks. \$5 beer pretzels, boneless wings, cauliflower romesco, chili lime sweet potato fries, spicy hummus and flat bread.

Notorious Burgers: *Sunday*, 10amnoon: \$12 limitless bloody marys and mimosas.

Twenty/20 Grill & Wine Bar: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$2 off specialty cocktails, \$4 well drinks, draft beers, \$6 sangria, half-off tapas.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Cafasso Meatball Company: *Daily*, \$4 pints all day.

Conway's Irish Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm: \$2.75 domestic drafts and wells.

Fish District: *Daily*, 2-5pm: \$1 off beer and wine, tacos and classics.

Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co.: *Monday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, wells, and house wines, \$1 off premium wines by the glass, \$4 off premium bottles of wine. *Tuesday-Wednesday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, wells, and house wines. \$1 off premium wines by the glass, \$4

off premium bottles of wine. *Thursday-Friday*, 3-6pm, 9-close: \$4 pints, wells, and house wines. \$1 off premium wines by the glass, \$4 off premium bottles of wine.

CARMEL VALLEY

Arterra: Daily, 3-7pm: \$2 off any 6oz Ménage à Trois wines by the glass, \$3 off any 9oz Ménage à Trois wines by the glass, \$5 Pivo Pils, \$6 well cocktails and Union Jack IPA, \$8 Three Olives vodka. \$2 off all sushi rolls (starting at 5:30pm), \$4 garlic fries, \$5 edamame or hummus, \$7 confit chicken legs, \$8 calamari or buffalo flatbread, \$11 cheddar burger.

Bistro 39: Monday, 3-10pm: \$2 off mixed drinks. \$3 off Mobley Burgers. Tuesday, 3-10pm: \$2 Taco Tuesday. Wednesday, 3-10pm: Half-priced bottles of wine and baskets of wings. Thursday, 3-10pm: \$15 Pizza and Pint Combo. Friday-Sunday, 3-10pm: Free kids meal with adult entree.

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



San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

HAPPY HOUR

Center Cut Steakhouse: Wednes day, 3-9pm: All you can eat pasta bar \$10, includes glass of wine, sangria, or soda. Friday-Saturday, 3-10pm: 10-oz.

Galley at the Marina: Monday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$4 beer, wine, and well drinks. \$6 potato skins or two fish tacos with black beans and salsa.

CITY HEIGHTS

Black Cat Bar: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1 off drafts, bottles, shelf calls (excluding Miller High Life).

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

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.

Stake Chophouse & Bar: Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: \$5 beer, \$10 cocktails. All apps half price: two Brooklyn bacon steaks \$5.50, scallops \$8, lobster dip \$9.50.

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

207 Nightclub: Monday-Friday 3-7pm: \$5 beers, \$7 well drinks, \$7 house wine, \$8 Belvedere martinis, \$8 specialty cocktails. 30% off all food **Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine:** Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm; Signature drink specials. Combo plate special.

Blue Point: Monday-Friday, 5-6:30pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 wine by the glass, \$10 specialty cocktails. \$1 oysters, \$2 jumbo shrimp. (In bar, lounge, and patio.)

Cafe 21: Daily, 3-6pm: Sangria flight, six types for \$10.50, 22 tapas at \$6.

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

Chianti: Daily, 4-7pm: \$5 martinis, house wine. \$6 salami plate, crispy calamari, meatball satay. At the bar only,

The Fish Market: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: Liquor, wine, and beer specials. Appetizer specials. Bar only.

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.

Knotty Barrel: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$5 house wine and premium cocktails, \$1.50 off drafts, \$5/\$6 Knotty Nibbles

La Mentirosa by Karina's: Monday-Tuesday, All day: \$3 beers, \$5 cocktails, \$5 margaritas, \$5 wine. \$3 off bar appetizers. Wednesday-Friday, 4pm-7pm: \$3 beers, \$5 cocktails, \$5 margaritas, \$5 wine. \$3 off bar appetizers.

Ocean Pacific Grille: Daily, 3-6pm: Half off draft beer and wine by the glass. \$6 appetizer specials.

Pinzinimini: Daily, 5-7pm: \$5 all house wine, draft beer, wells

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

Tivoli Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$3.50 house bloody marys. house mimosas \$3.75 wells and domestic drafts, \$11 domestic pitchers, \$3 PBRs, \$9 PBR pitcher.

Urban Bar & Grill: Daily, All day, bar only: \$3 drafts, \$4 wells, \$5 house wine & Moscow mules. \$2 short rib sliders, pickled vegetables, Cajun tots.

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

EAST VILLAGE

Bottega Americano: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 wine and drafts, \$6 wells, \$20 carafes. Variety of appetizers \$4, Chef's bruschetta \$5, all pizzas \$10.

Cowbov Star Restaurant and **Butcher Shop:** Monday-Friday. 3-6pm: Half-off all specialty cocktails. house wine, draft beer, premium well spirits, and select bar bites.



Fridays

Chicken Fritter Skewers and Basket of Fries \$10 • Seafood Pasta \$16 \$7 appetizers AND \$3 brews AND \$5 wines

Jumbo shrimp and avocado cocktails • Angus Beef Sliders Pier 32 Seasoned Calamari • Waterfront Grill Buffalo Wings



3201 Marina Way | National City | 619-718-6240 | MyWaterfrontGrill.com

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

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.

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.

URBN St. Brewing Co.: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$1 off pint of madein-house beer, \$2 off tasting flights. Friday, 3-6pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off pint of made-in-house beer, \$2 off tasting flights. Saturday, 10-midnight: \$1 off pint of made-in-house beer, \$2 off tasting flights.

ENCINITAS

El Calleion 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.

Union Kitchen & Tap: Monday, All Night: \$4/\$5 drafts, \$6 select wines, \$9 craft cocktails. Discounted flatbreads and select appetizers. Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4/\$5 drafts, \$6 select wines, \$9 craft cocktails. Discounted flatbreads and select appetizers.

ESCONDIDO

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

Vintana Wine + Dine: Daily, 2:30-6:30pm: Seven different appetizers for \$7 each.

Vinz Wine Bar & Tasting Room: Monday-Thursday, 3pm-close: \$3 select draft beers, \$4-\$6 wines, \$4-\$7 salads, oyster shooters, appetizers. Saturday, noon-3pm: \$3 select draft beers, \$4-\$6 wines. \$4-\$7 salads, oyster shooters, appetizers.

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

Benchmark Brewing Co.: Wednesday, 3-8pm: \$2 beer of the day for locals in zip codes 92120, 92123, 92108, 92115, and 92116. Sunday, 10am-8pm: 16-oz. pint of Benchmark's core beers \$5.

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.

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

HILLCREST

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

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

Empirehouse: Daily 3-6pm: \$8 mules, \$2 off all small plates (excluding soup), \$1 off regular pastels, beer, wine.

Oscar Wilde's Irish Gastropub: Daily, 3-7pm: \$4 house wine and well cocktails, \$5 drafts and Tullamore Dew

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

SEA180 Coastal Tavern: Daily, 2:30-5pm: Local beers, house wines, and cocktails \$5. Brussels sprouts with chunks of ham \$5, mac 'n' cheese with brie, fontina, and parmesan plus black truffle \$7, Kobe T.J. hot dog with bacon and kimchee \$7

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

KEARNY MESA

Carriage House Cocktails & Karaoke: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3 domestic bottles, \$3.50 draft pints and wells

Hinotez: Monday-Thursday, 5:30-7pm: 16-oz. Sapporo or Kirin \$3, hot sake \$4, bottle of sake 20% off.

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.

KENSINGTON

Bleu Bohème: Daily, 5-6pm: 1/2 price au pichet (quarter- or half-liter) wines, martinis, bottled beer (decent selection); appetizers \$10.95.

Kensington Café: Monday, 4-6pm: Half off bottles of wine. Tuesday, 4-6pm: \$3 tacos. Thursday, 4-6pm: \$10 flatbread and a beer.

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: Daily, 3-6:30pm: \$1 off micro-craft drafts, \$3 off specialty cocktails, \$4 Pacifico, \$5 house wine and wells, \$6 mules, mojitos, margaritas. Food specials.

Galaxy Taco: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$1 off draft beer and house wine, \$9 margarita, \$10 beer and a shot, \$1 off tacos.

Su Casa: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3.25 mug or Bud Lite draft, \$3.50 house wine glass, \$4.50 margarita, single well drinks. 1/2-off select appetizers.

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

LA MESA

Bolt Brewing: Monday-Thursday, 11am-6pm \$1 off drafts.

Brigantine: Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm: \$1 off well drinks. Discounted appetizers. Sunday, 4-10pm: \$1 off well drinks. Discounted appetizers.

Casa de Pico: Monday-Friday 3-7pm: \$2 off margaritas, beer, cocktails. Complimentary appetizer buffet.

Hoffer's Cigar Bar: Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm: \$1 off select beers. Saturday, 11amOpen-7pm: \$1 off select beers. Sunday, All day: \$1 off select beers.

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

Narumi Sushi: Daily, 5-7pm: Select 99-cent appetizers with purchase of large beer.

LITTLE ITALY

Cookbook Tavola Calda: Daily. 3-6pm: \$4 Peroni beer or glass of wine.

M Winehouse: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: House wines \$6. Olives \$7, guac and chips \$9, cheese plate \$16.

Monello: Daily, 4-7pm: Small bites (piattini) with every cocktail, beer, or wine served on the patio or at the bar.

Queenstown Public House: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$8 beer, wine, and sangria flights. \$3 sliders.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Desi's Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 2-7pm: \$1 domestic drafts, well drinks.

Wine Steals: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 for any cask wine, \$4 draft beers. \$2 off all 30 wines by the glass. Discounted food items. Saturday-Sunday, 11am-4pm: \$5 mimosa pints.

MIRA MESA

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.50 select drafts, well drinks, wine. \$1 off appetizers.

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 Vodka Rockstars. Thursday, 4-10pm: \$4 Jack & Coke. Friday, 4-10pm: \$4 Fireball. Saturday, 4-10pm: \$4 Jager Bombs. Sunday, 4-10pm: \$1 off all

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

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

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

MISSION VALLEY

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn: Daily, 4-7pm: A variety of drinks and free appetizers.

Blue Smoke Sushi: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$3 Sapporo drafts and sake \$4 crispy brussels sprouts and eggplant caramelized with hazelnut and sesame. \$5 Big Popper.

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.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Proprietor's Reserve Wine Pub: Sunday, Enjoy complimentary bites and 1/2 off all open wines all night.

Rosie O'Grady's: Daily, 4-7pm: \$3 wells and "macro" brews.

Triple Crown Pub: Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off pitchers. Thursday, 3-7pm: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off pitchers.. Saturday, Noon-7pm: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off pitchers.

NORTH PARK

Sour.

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

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

drafts and calls. Seven Grand: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$5 House Cocktails: Old Crows Kick, Derby Days, Sugar Shack, Julian

The Smoking Goat: Monday-Friday, 5-6:pm: \$4 draft, \$5 select red and white wine. \$6 bites. Patio and bar only.

Thorn Street Brewery: Monday, 4-10pm: Industry Night: \$3 pints for those in the bar/restaurant industry. Sushi Uno food 5-9pm.

True North Tavern: Monday-Friday, 12-7pm: \$1 off all beer, wine, liquor.

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 speciality cocktails, \$20 giant mule pitchers. \$6 food selections.

OCEAN BEACH

The Arizona Bar: Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: Half off pitchers, \$3 domestic draft, \$3 micro draft, \$3 wells, \$3 house wine. \$3 appetizer sampler, \$3 sliders, \$3 turkey tacos.

BBQ House Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beer, well drinks,



Tropic's Bar, Flores Magón (Calle Sexta) 8259, Zona Centro, Tijuana

"Remember one thing: la city is not a utopia or a dystopia, it's the afterparty where you hear the last call."

The words of the late Rafa Saavedra, a culture writer and champion of Tijuana nightlife, take on a special relevance at Tropic's Bar. They feel as if they were born here. This decades-strong cantina is the indisputable afterparty epicenter of downtown Tijuana, where rockers from Moustache, churched-up cocktail sippers from Dandy del Sur, and sweaty techno kids from La Mi-Ja all converge after the 2 a.m. bell tolls to drink round after round of Tecate roja from disposable plastic cups. Caguamas, 32-ounce bottles of beer, roll out for 50 pesos (about three bucks), making it dangerously possible to drink well past sunrise into the cruel accusation of morning.

Tijuana imposed a ban on late-night bars in early 2010 following the shooting of soccer hero Salvador Cabañas at an after-hours joint in Mexico City, but the measure has long since been lifted

or bought into obsolescence, as evinced by the standingroom-only crowd that flocks to Tropic's every weekend. In fact, the place has become so popular that their brass stripper pole and platform were removed a few months ago to make room.

I think Saavedra would agree that the most Tijuana thing you can do is drink until 5 a.m. with a few friends on a weeknight debating what the most Tijuana thing you can do is, and Tropic's facilitates this process with a weathered nonchalance. Between the pornography on the swinging men's room door, the cockroaches climbing up the wall, and the dim haze of cigarette smoke and pickled romance at dawn, one senses the soul of la city looming thick on the stifling morning air.

House matrons Claudia and Lulu, attentive server



Suitable accompaniment to a 5 a.m. listening of the Locust's catalog

Sixto, and the abuelita whose name I've never learned seem to never sleep. There they are, at all hours, cracking open caquamas as anything from Macklemore to Pink Floyd to Los Ángeles Azules croon from the jukebox. But one of my favorite quirks of the Rockola is the near-transcendental joy one

gets from interrupting a streak of blaring banda ballads with five dollars' worth of the Locust, which will afford you a good bulk of their blistering discography.

Saavedra was right about Tijuana. It isn't heaven or hell. It's the greatest afterparty in the Californias, except here at Tropic's Bar,

Prices: 50-PESO CAGUAMAS Hours: ETERNAL

Parking: TAKE AN UBER, GRINGO

Food: CHICHARRONES DE

HARINA AND MICROWAVED CARNE SECA

The Deal: EVERYTHING

last call never seems to come. — Chad Deal (@chaddeal)

Find more Here's the Deal columns at Sandiegoreader.com

and wine by the glas. \$3 beer bottles, \$1 pints of Budweiser, small plate specials.

Espresso Cucina: Daily, 4-6pm daily: \$3 Sculpin and selected beer, \$5 wine, \$5 appetizers.

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.

OCEANSIDE

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

Davina's Cabo Grill: Daily, 3-6pm: Half off well drinks, house margaritas, ponchoritas, mai tais, Sex on the Beach, and select drafts

Firewater Saloon: Monday-Friday, 5pm-8pm: \$3 draft beers, \$3 wells.

Hello Betty Fish House: Monday Friday, Sunday, 4-6pm: 24 beers on tap and cocktails discounted. At bartops only

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

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

PACIFIC BEACH

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

Moray's Lounge: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$5.50 wells, \$6 wine. \$10 appetizers.

Sinbad Café: Daily, 11am-8pm: \$1.50 domestic drafts, \$2.50 craft drafts. \$4.50 appetizers, \$12 hookahs/\$10 hookah refills

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

POINT LOMA

Embargo Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$.40 yucca fritta, \$.75 chicken wings, \$1.99 camarones mofongo, \$3.99 calamari.

Old Venice: Daily, 4-6pm: \$5 drafts. house wine, and wells. Half off all start-

The Wine Pub: Monday, All night: \$4 select two whites, select two reds, draft beer. \$4 select appetizers. Tuesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: \$4 select two whites, select two reds, draft beer, \$4 select appetizers.

RANCHO BERNARDO

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

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 Crush: Monday, 4-7pm: \$2 meatballs all night. Tuesday-Saturday, 4-7pm: \$2 off wine by the glass, \$1 off draft beers. Sunday, 10am-2pm: \$12 bottomless mimosas & \$14 bottomless bellinis.

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.

South Park Abbey: Monday, All Day: \$3 rotating pint, \$3 wells, \$1 off beers, Tuesday-Friday, 2-7pm: \$3 draft beer of the day, \$3 wells, \$1 off

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

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Daily, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3-\$3.50 bottled beer, \$3.75-\$5 wine by the glass.

Draft Republic: Daily, 2-6pm: 25 draft offerings, select wines and well cocktails, \$4. Roasted butternut squash flatbreads, crispy maple bourbon bacon sticks, tuna tataki \$5.

Michael's Lounge in the Hyatt Regency: Daily, 4-6pm: \$5 select drafts, \$7 house wine. Discounted appetizers, \$12 cheeseburger and draft beer combo.

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cueva Bar: Tuesday-Friday. 5-6:30pm: \$4 craft beer on tap, \$5 sangrias, hisbiscus sparklers, tapas. \$5 olive tapenade quesadillas, choripapas con queso, brusselas bravas, \x{feff}\$9 flatbread norteño.

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

Small Bar: Daily, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts and drinks.





San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

Book 'em, Brandes.

"It's important people know that punk in San Diego didn't start in the 1990s," says Ray Brandes.

He should know, as he's been making music in this town since the early 1980s, first with the Tell-Tale Hearts influenced by '60s garage rock and modern-day punk.

Many of the bands profiled in the book, such as the Penetrators, Manual Scan, and the Zeros, left a mark that resonates still in the local music culture.

"These are people who

the inside track

and later with the Shambles before starting his solo career.

Brandes is helping to shed light on the early years of punk, new wave, and mod cultures in San Diego with a didn't get into music for fame, money, or to sleep with beautiful women," Brandes says. "They were pursuing music for artistic reasons. These bands weren't interested

By Ray Brandes

WIO AF THE WIS

In his new book, Brandes recounts 12 bands "that personally influenced me and had an impact that went beyond San Diego."

new book, *Getting Nowhere Fast*, a history of the region's music scene between 1976 and 1986.

It was a time when a relatively small group of people created a vibrant music scene in cutting corners or changing their sound in order to get a record deal."

Brandes isn't claiming his book is a definitive history of the era.

book and another 50 bands deserve to be," he admits. "But I picked a dozen bands that personally influenced me and had an impact that went beyond San Diego. A lot of these bands were appreciated more overseas than here."

Case in point: his own band, Tell-Tale Hearts.

"We still get fan letters from all over the world, from Europe and Australia," he says.

Although there is little similarity musically between the straight-ahead rock sound of Glory, a mid-'70s band with future Beat Farmer Jerry Raney, the pioneering proto punk of the Zeros, and the power pop made by Manual Scan, Brandes says musicians of the era did have a similar worldview.

"The pretentiousness of L.A. was largely absent here," he says

But so was the support to musicians found in that city or San Francisco, two cities where many local bands relocated to during the Ron Burgundy era.

While telling the history of groups like the Unknowns, the Dinettes or the Crawdaddys, certain names keep popping up, such as Penetrators drummer Dan McLain, who became famous as Country Dick Montana of the Beat Farmers.

"At least half the stories connect to Dan in some way, whether he's a member of the band, a supporter, or a promoter," Brandes says.

A whole chapter of the book is devoted to the All-Bitchen' All-Stud All-Stars, a musical conglomeration that combined punk energy with McClain's love of chaos and old-school showmanship.

Another patron saint who makes numerous appearances is rock critic Lester Bangs, an El Cajon-born music journalist.

"Jerry Raney grew up with rock critic Lester Bangs — their parents were both Jehovah's Witnesses — and Lester introduced Jerry to a lot of free jazz," Brandes says. "The Zeros came up with their name from a Lester Bangs line: 'Don't be a hero, be a zero."

— Patrick Henderson

Nerdy New Year! One

of the breakout entertainment success stories of 2015 was a one-day geek-rock festival called NerdCon. Think low-budget Comic-Con with live bands.

The first-ever NerdCon, held in August at Escondido's Center for Performing Arts, drew more than 3000 fans, many of whom wore costumes and grooved to Green Jello, Doll Skin, and local band Random Gibberish.

"People were fed up with the high cost of Comic-Con," says promoter Joel Jones. "We wanted a show with the same spirit but where you could still have money left over to buy stuff after you paid admission. And then bring it to life with live music"

Its success prompted Jones, 30, to walk away from producing bridal trade shows and California Center for the Arts, Escondido, and ends 9 a.m. New Year's day.

Instead of live bands, Jones will rely on EDM artist Mason



DJ Ntrickn will keep the nerds dancing for 24 hours at the inaugural NerdCon New Year's event.

just focus on his own nerd/music niche.

Jones says news of Nerd-Con's success reached the Del Mar Fairgrounds and management has since invited him to move it to Del Mar. He decided instead to return to Escondido next August, expand from one to two days, and also launch a 24-hour, nonstop New Year's eve event.

"One of the reasons I decided to do the New Year show is because I knew *Star Wars* would be out," Jones says. "Us nerds don't like to leave the house very often, but something like *Star Wars* definitely brings us out."

Nerdy New Year, including live-action battles, videogame tournaments, and an appearance by the San Diego Star Wars Society, kicks off at 9 a.m. December 31 at Entrican (DJ Ntrickn) who will spin electro, pop, and dubstep all 24 hours except from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m., when he will showcase a two-hour music-and-light show created with *Star Wars* in mind.

— Ken Leighton

What did you get? 'Tis

the season for giving and receiving. No matter what your holiday is — Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Festivus — gifts are bound to be exchanged, though levels of merriment may vary. Often gifts will be given or received that fall into the unfortunate category of just flat-out strange. We sent out a feeler to local musicians asking them what weird gifts they have given/received/wished for during the holiday season. The

(continued on page 52)





TAKE A NIGHT OFF FROM A NIGHT IN





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AIR SUPPLY FEBRUARY 20







following is what some San Diego maestros came up with.

Adam Gimbel (Geezer) had this to say about an interesting Hanukkah gift:



Gimbel remembers his battery-operated musical friend Manny the Menorah

"One year, a relative of mine bought me Manny the Menorah for Chanukah and couldn't understand why the room erupted in laughter when I opened it. It's a batteryoperated device that plays music. It also looks uncannily like a blue vibrator."

Brendan Bohan, aka Brendan B, has a history of weirdgift-giving in his family:

"Every year my mom, Maureen Bohan, gives my siblings and I weird/goofy gifts. Her and my dad think it's funny, they get a kick out of it — so we try to be good sports. One year, my mom

gave me a wrapped box of Cinnamon Toast Crunch, a copy of Bel Biv Devoe's Poison CD, and the movie *Brokeback* Mountain on DVD. Did I get any use out of the presents? I most likely finished the box of cereal that day, probably played Poison 100 times on repeat but still have not seen

> the movie Brokeback Mountain. She thinks she's funny. Love you, mom!"

Alfred Howard, local author, musician, and Redwoods musical collective co-founder, shared this lovely holiday memory:

"I paid a kid named Theodore \$5 because he told me he could introduce me to the pink lion from Voltron, which, look-

ing back, seems suspect."

(Editor's note: For those of you who aren't children of the '80s, Voltron: Defender of the Universe was a cartoon in which five robot lions combined to form the super-robot Voltron. Howard claims "the pink lion formed Voltron's vagina," but this is also suspect.)

And speaking of the '80s, Jeffrey Brenneman, rhythm guitarist for Catapil-Flux, relayed this tale straight out of a John Hughes movie:

"While opening Christmas gifts with my parents and my sister circa '88, I

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: MUSIC BOX



received a somewhat unusual

gift from my Uncle Bri from

Akron, Ohio. (The previous

year, he sent a vinyl copy

of the Moody Blues' On

the Threshold of a Dream,

an album I grew to love!)

This year, however, Uncle

Bri had a different idea for

his nephew. After ripping

through the wrapping paper,

I discovered a cardboard box

and pulled out white fabric.

Stretching out the plain

white textile, I discovered

that the fabric was a large

pair of tighty-whities with

four leg holes! Apparently,

it was an undergarment that

was intended to be shared.

I think he had hoped that

an entirely different type

year's gift. I still own the

of booty shaking with this

Moody Blues album but have

no idea what ever happened

his nerdy nephew would get



YOU USED TO BE

OVERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM - IF WE USE YOUR TIP, YOU GET THE ARTWORK

WWW FACEBOOK.COM/JAYALLEN.SANFORD

R.I.P. SD. As 2015 comes to a close, we look back at the local musicians who have passed away over the past 12 months.

January 12, Garrett Smythe, aka drummer Tank the San Diego Symphony, released two albums.

April 26, William "Ninnie" Brown, guitar/bass with Timepiece (Wayne Riker), Shelle.

May 19, Roy L. Chuhna



On July 20, 2015, we lost Steve Rodriguez, bassist for the Dragons.

Johnson of Deadbolt.

February 5, Professor Guy Duckworth (91), pianist, teacher, theorist acclaimed in the field of piano pedagogy.

March 26, Marlene Cutkosky Pommerenke (78), classical pianist, performed with

(97), pianist, teacher, played at Kozaks Restaurant in El Cajon for nearly two decades.

June 16, Dr. Michael Dean (90), hypnotist, released albums and singles as a hypnotist and as a singer in the 1960s and '70s.

July 20, Steve Rodriguez (48), bassist with the Dragons, Saint Shameless.

I WAS INTO A

LOT OF CRAZY STUFF!

August 3, David Martz (58), singer/songwriter.

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

USED TO BE

MARRIED?!

August 6, Flavio (Pie) Romero, drummer for the Poli Chavez Band & Mosaico Super Latin Band.

August 26, Sue Delany, former KGB DJ.

August 30, "Mighty" Joe Longa (62), Hammond player with Joey Harris & the Mentals, Tomcat Courtney, Copenhagen, etc.

October 3, Dave Pike (77), vibraphonist, played with Herbie Mann and Bill Evans.

December 3, Scott Weiland (48), singer, Mighty Joe Young, Stone Temple Pilots. — Bart Mendoza

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

to the 'funderwear." — Dryw Keltz





THU, DEC 31 DETROIT UNDERGROUND



FOOD AND DRINK SPECIALS (EXCLUDES HOLIDAYS AND CONCERT NIGHTS)

5-7 PM DAILY

9 PM

3 8 PM

4 7 PM

Jan 6 7 PM

Jan

Jan

NEW YEAR'S EVE WITH Dec 31 9 PM Dance **DETROIT UNDERGROUN** 1 9 PM Latin **VIVA SANTANA** Jan THE REFLECTORS Jan 2 5 PM Rock

BETAMAXX Dance R&B **FUNK'S MOST WANTED Host DJ John Phillips**

MISSY ANDERSEN 5 7 PM **Blues**

Blues

R&B

ROSY DAWN BAND Host DJ John Phillips

MERCEDES MOORE



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FRIDAY | JANUARY 8 | ROCK **AUTOGRAPH BIG TOE • LOS LIZZY**





SATURDAY | JANUARY 17 COUNTRY

SHOOTER **JENNINGS**

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 5 | METAL



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W/TOM CURREN
WEDNESDAY 12/30 • 8 PM







W/ EUPHORIA BRASS BAND FRIDAY 1/8 • 9 PM



W/ BACKWATER BLUES BAND FEAT. JIMMY WOODWARD SATURDAY 1/9 • 9 PM



W/TREVOR GREEN, PROJECT OUT OF BOUNDS MONDAY 1/11 • 8 PM



TUESDAY 1/12 • 9 PM



W/ CFM WEDNESDAY 1/13 • 9 PM



SEATED SHOW! THURSDAY 1/14 • 8 PM



TOWER OF POWER

W/ HAMISH ANDERSON SATURDAY 1/16 • 9 PM



SUNDAY 1/17 • 8 PM



@ OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK W/ ELEPHANT REVIVAL MONDAY 1/18 • 8 PM



TUESDAY 1/19 • 7:30 PM



Upcoming Shows: 1/1 Nahko & Medicine for the People

1/2 Nahko & Medicine for the People-Sold Out!1/8 Atomic Groove

Happy Hour

1/21 & 22 Big Head Todd &
The Monsters
w/ Mike Doughty

1/23 JD McPherson
w/ HONEYHONEY

Granger Smith feat. Earl Dibbles 1/26 Killing Joke/Soft Moon

1/27 Beautiful Beast 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 2/22 Lee Ann Womack

Drew Holcomb & The Neighbors 2/23

2/24 Lake Street Dive @ Observatory North Park

2/25 Ani DiFranco - Sold Out!

2/26 The Infamous Stringdusters 2/27 Nick Carter

2/29 Coeur de Pirate 3/2 Black Tiger Sex Machine

3/3 Galactic 3/5 Tainted Love

3/7 & 8 John Hiatt 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

Sticky Fingers (AUS)

5/31 Leon Russell

Eat next door at the Wild Note Cafe • 858.720.9000

Thursday

San Diego garage-punks the Sess will reunite for a night at Soda Bar New Year's Eve. The catchy quintet was a San Diego Music Awards nominee around the time their band-breaking Agendumb



record dropped, a collection whose closing three tracks (a cover of the Remains' "Don't Look Back," the busy but math-beautiful "Wisdom Tooth Gumbs," and the ambitious seven-minutelong, organ-accompanied ride through "Tunnel Love") continue to pop up on my running mix. The Sess were an ambitious bunch that burned bright and too fast. Good on Cory Stier for coaxing them back! Lara McCaffrey got the story in this week's "Seven-year itch" Blurt. Stier's **Drug Wars**, Keepers, and Vyper Skwad will open the show.... Gary Shuffler (Honey Glaze) will don the duds of the Thin White Duke for his annual holiday hit Ziggy Shuffledust and the Spiders From Mars at Casbah. The Bowie tribute touches most of his personas but excels as the Starman. **Electric Warrior** and **TV Eye** are also on the bill.... Tex-Mex Grammy winners Los Lobos lope into Belly Up for the Solana Beach bar's New Year's Eve party. Read Dave Good's take on the Rock-Roll Hall of Fame snubees in this week's Of Note.... Bay Park bar Brick by Brick hosts New Year's Evil, featuring tribute groups Alice and the Cooper Gang and Lords of Sabbath...while

English house duo "Foamo" and "RackNRuin," aka Gorgon City, jack-in their electronic jams at the Music Box in Little Italy.

Friday

Here comes 2016, dog. For those of you in need of New Year's resolutions, here's a simple one: let's get out and see more shows. These bands and bars need our support. The TV/tablet/computer/ gamer/pets/bundt cake will be there when we get home.

L.A. punk-n-roll five-piece the Generators headlines sets at Soda Bar after Castoff and Strangely Strange. The Generators are a 20-year-strong blast from the past whose latest. Life Gives. Life Takes, is an easy-listening inroad to the band's '90s-inspired sound, with energetic nods to Pennywise and Bad Religion as well as bright strokes of reggae-rock. It's a California record from a California band, and fans of that brand would do well to check 'em out, as these guys always leave it all onstage.... Another L.A. institution, **Big Sandy** and His Flyrite Boys, take the stage at Casbah after our own timeless treasure Fanny and the Atta Boys, a coupla bands inclined to up

your dosage of American roots music, from the

-billy bins, anyway — rockabilly, hillbilly -



BIG SANDY AND HIS FLYRITE BOYS AT CASBAH

ing lots of tunes you can swing your girl to, if you got them gifts.... More L.A.? You got it, as West Coast rapper **Too Short** rocks the mic at Fluxx downtown. Googlin' Todd Anthony Shaw, Short's family name, I came across all sorts of reports on how he chose prison over probation in a DUI case this summer. Ups the street cred, I guess. The rapper's been at it for 30 years and 16 studio records.... Tower Bar fills a punk-

> on the Wire, Paper Hearts, Chamber Sixx, and something called "reverb massacre" by Deth**surf** [sic].

rawk bill under the spire, with Dead

Sundav Bringing back the mullet! It'll be business up front and party in the back when Austin bluegrass band Whiskey Shivers and them Americana road dogs in Goodnight, Texas, get together to co-headline sets up and down the West Coast this month. The country-fried kooks will be kicking it off at Soda Bar Sunday night after San Diego's favorite

pub-rock band Lexing-

ton Field sets the bar

Mondav Back to Soda Bar on Monday, and a month of Mondays thereafter, as the Gloomies kick off a weekly

residency at the Normal Heights
hot spot. This week **Ditches** and **Whiskey Circle** set 'em up. Ripped from the Soda Bar site: local psych-pop trio the Gloomies were recently named "NME's buzz band of the week," while according to DIY Magazine they're "a cross between Warpaint's Joshua Tree adventures running headfirst into Kevin Parker's mind-trip.

Tuesdav

Voted Best Americana Act in the Bay Area two years running, the Sebastopol septet Frankie Boots and the County Line is touring in advance of this spring's sopho-more thing, Leave the Light On. The folkrock-y rabble-rousers take the stage at Soda Bar after like-minded locals G. Burns Jug Band and the singer/songwriter Raf Deza on Tuesday: Radio Halloran dials in a hard-rocking locals-only show with Little Heroine, Foreign Bodies, and Privatized Air at the Merrow i Hillcrest...while experimental indie act Bandalier's at Casbah with up-and-coming locals Just Like Jenna and the Sinclairs



HAUNTER AT CHÉ CAFÉ

Wednesday

From San Antonio in Texas, experimental metal band **Haunter** heads to Ché Café on their firstever West Coast tour. The trio's working on a full-length to follow last year's blackened-screamo set He Who Jumps Into the Void Owes No Explanation to Those Who Stand and Watch. I suppose not. Haunter's not for everyone, but these boys have driven a long way to scream in your face, the least you can do is listen.... I've already listened. so I'll be checking out the **Touchies** who hook up with Kitty Plague and Starcrossed at Hillcrest hideaway the Merrow Wednesday night. And, oh



FRANKIE BOOTS AND THE COUNTY LINE AT SODA BAR

look, one of our favorite record players, the rockroll preservationist DJ Heather Hardcore, will be spinning 'round sets at that one:)

Barnaby Monk

Find Club Crawler online at SDReader.com/club-crawler

%	L2/30	TIJUANA PANTHERS THE SOAKS • SPOOKY CIGARETTE
FIJ :	L2/31	THE SESS DRUG WARS KEEPERS • VYPER SKWAD • DJ SLUMP
S A T	1/2	THE GENERATORS CASTOFF • STRANGELY STRANGE
S U Z	1/3	WHISKEY SHIVERS GOODNIGHT, TEXAS • LEXINGTON FIELD
ZOZ	1/4	THE GLOOMIES DITCHES • THE WHISKEY CIRCLE
TUE	1/5	FRANKIE BOOTS AND THE COUNTY LINE G BURNS JUG BAND • RAF DEZA
¥ D	1/6	BLUE SKY FLU FUSEBOX • DIRTY BIRDY

BANDS NIGHT



1/7	NICELY DANI SHIVERS ERASERHEAD • STAGE KIDS
1/8	THE DOWNS FAMILY THE SCREAMIN' YEEHAWS THE BUM DEALS
1/9	BLACK SABBITCH GAYC/DC • GUNNER GUNNER
រុំ 1/10	NOBUNNY PLUS GUESTS
1/11	THE GLOOMIES THE FRESH BRUNETTES
1/12	VOICE ACTOR ELECTRIC HEALING SOUND COMET CALENDAR
1/13	THE TIP- KILL MATILDA THE ANOMALY • CHAMBER SIXX
1/14	ANDY FRASCO & THE U.N. BATTLEHOOCH

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 9PM, FREE! DJ TEC

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 9PM ANDY ROURKE OF THE SMITHS (DJ SET) DJ SAUL O

THIS WEEK'S **SHOWS**

710 Beach Club:

Thursday, 8pm - The Devastators and SM Familia

950 Lounge at the Handlery Hotel:

Thursday, 8pm — The Lori Bell Friday, 5:30pm — Justin Grinnell Jazz Trio

98 Bottles:

Thursday, 7pm — Noche Cubana

AD Nightclub:

Thursday, 9pm — New Years Eve with DJ Spags

Analog:

Thursday, 9pm — Silky, Saand, Iimbo Iames

Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 8pm — Raggabond

Bar Pink:

Thursday, 8pm — DJ Junior the DiscoPunk

Bassmnt:

Thursday, 9pm — Makj

Beaumont's:

Thursday, 9:30pm — Jones Revival Friday, 9pm — Modern Day Moonshine Sunday, 11:30am — Kenny Eng

Belly Up:

Thursday, 8pm — Los Lobos Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm -Nahko & Medicine for the People

Rlack Cat Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — G Burns Jug

Blackthorn Irish Pub & Grub:

Saturday, 9pm — Barefoot Hockey Goalie

Blind Burro:

Thursday, 8pm — Jason Hanna

Bourre Southern Bistro:

Thursday, 9pm — Kamau Kenyatta & Daneen Wilburn

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, 8pm — Alice and the Cooper Gang

Bristol Hotel:

Thursday, 8pm — 4th Annual Midnight Kiss New Years 2016

Cafe Panini:

Saturday, 6:30pm — Waylon Hicks Project

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Wednesday, 4pm, Wednesday, 7pm — Besos de Coco

Capri Blu:

Thursday, 8pm — Jeff Johnson

Carvers Steak & Chops:

Thursday, 8pm — Crosstown Band

Thursday, 8pm — Ziggy

Shuffledust & the Spiders from Saturday, 8pm — Big Sandy &

His Flyrite Boys

Catamaran Resort:

Thursday, 8pm — New Years Beach Party

Thursday, 8pm - NYE with Fresh One

Chico Club:

Thursday, 8pm — Clapton Hook

Ché Café:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Haunter

Company Pub and Kitchen:

Thursday, 3pm — The Rollers and Nathan Bozier

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 6pm — Daring Greatly

Croce's Park West:

Thursday, 7pm — Blue Largo

Crush:

Thursday, 5:30pm — NYE with Kitten With a Whip Wednesday, 7:30pm — Elliot Lawrence

Dancessense Studios, 2441 Impala Dr., Carlsbad, CA 92010:

Thursday, 7pm — Casual New Year's Eve

De Oro Mine Co:

Thursday, 7pm — 22 Kings and Joshua Taylor

Dirk's Niteclub:

Thursday, 8pm — FX5

Dizzy's:

Saturday, 8pm — Kyle Myers Quartet & Charlie Arbelaez

F6ix Niteclub:

Thursday, 8pm — Empire NYE

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with Flosstradamus

Ginger's:

Thursday, 8pm — DJ Ramsey

Golden Acorn Casino:

Thursday, 8pm — Masterpiece Friday, 7pm — Brown Sugar

Gossip Grill:

 $\overline{\textit{Thursday}}$, 8pm — NYE with DJ Kinky Loops

Hard Rock Café:

Thursday, 10:30pm — Dance Party with DJ Logix

Hard Rock Hotel:

Thursday, 9pm — Hard Rock

Harp:

Thursdays, 8pm — Ron Houston

Hilton Del Mar:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with Hitman Honey Hilton San Diego Bayfront:

Thursday, 9pm — NYE with Headshine

Hotel del Coronado: Thursday, 5pm — Havana Nights New Year's Eve

House of Blues:

Thursday, 8pm — New Year's Eve 2016 Saturday, 8pm — Breakthru **Entertainment Presents**

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Thursday, 7pm — The Detroit Underground

Independent Order of Odd **Fellows:**

Thursday, 9pm — Roaring 20s NYE Party

Infinity at Pala Casino: Thursday, 8pm — Cougrzz Rock

Java Joe's: Sunday, 2pm, Sunday, 2pm -Dave Good's Jazz Jam

Thursday, 8pm — Fuse: Mega Countdown New Years 2016

Kava Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm — Ekstre Records Showcase Saturday, 8pm — Club Ascension

Kona Kai Resort & Marina:

Thursday, 9pm - Fish & the Seaweeds

Kraken:

Thursday, 8pm — Suspicious Minds Tuesday, 8pm — DeBlois & the

Thursday, 5pm — David Shyde Band

& Bungalows:

Show: NYE

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm, Friday, 8pm,

Marina Kitchen:

Saturday, 9pm — Stacy Antonel

Martinis Above Fourth:

Thursday, 8pm — Spencer Day

Wednesday, 8pm — The Touchies and Kitty Plague

Moonshine Flats:

Thursday, 8pm, Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Jackson Michelson

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — New Year's Eve with UpFunk

Jolt'n Joe's:

Boys

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club

Thursday, 8pm — On With The

Saturday, 8pm — E-Ticket

Merrow:

THURSDAY • JAN 7 TIM HEIDECKER Saturday, 3:30pm — Blues Skies

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TV EYE SATURDAY • JAN 2

BIG SANDY AND THE FLYRITE BOYS **FANNY AND THE ATTABOYS**

TUESDAY • JAN 5

BANDALIER JUST LIKE JENNA THE SINCLAIRS

WEDNESDAY • JAN 6 **SUNDROP ELECTRIC VELVET CLUB OMEGA THREE**

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SATURDAY • JAN 9 **REDWOODS REVUE REBECCA JADE AND** THE COLD FACT THE MIDNIGHT PINE **BIRDY BARDOT DANI BELL AND**

THE TARANTIST SUNDAY • JAN 10

HIP HOP BATTLE BOT THURSDAY • JAN 14

FRIDAY • JAN 15 **EARTHLESS**

SATURDAY • JAN 16 **SWEET AND TENDER HOOLIGANS**

MONDAY • JAN 18 **CAR SEAT HEADREST**

TUESDAY • JAN 19 **MARTIN COURTNEY OF REAL ESTATE**

WEDNESDAY • JAN 20 **HALF MOON RUN**

THURSDAY • JAN 21 **CHUCK RAGAN**

FRIDAY • JAN 22 SOUND DIEGO LIVE

BOTANICA CHANGO THE PALACE **BALLROOM JESSE LAMONACA**

MAYFIELD SATURDAY • JAN 23

ALL THEM WITCHES LA WITCH

SUNDAY • JAN 24

VANESSA CARLTON

WEDNESDAY • JAN 27 **MUSTARD PLUG DAN POTTHAST DUPING THE PUBLIC**

THURSDAY • JAN 28 **WANDA JACKSON**

> FRIDAY • JAN 29 THE HOOD

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SATURDAY • JAN 30 THE SILENT COMEDY **ROBERT JOHN AND** THE WRECK **CREATURE AND**

THE WOODS

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SATURDAY • FEB 6 **ADOLESCENTS**

MONDAY • FEB 8 **RVIVR** WEDNESDAY • FEB 10

SUPERSUCKERS FRIDAY • FEB 12

THE KNOCKS SATURDAY • FEB 13 **DRAG THE RIVER**

SUNDAY • FEB 14 MONDAY • FEB 15 **BUILT TO SPILL**

TUESDAY • FEB 16 **EMILY WELLS** THURSDAY • FEB 18

THE TOASTERS FRIDAY • FEB 19 **RADIATION CITY**

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San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

Nate's Garden Grill:

Friday, 6pm — Mike Wojniak Saturday, noon — Drew Thams Sunday, 1pm — Empty Caverns Tuesday, 6pm — Bad Penny and the Pistols

Navaio Live:

Friday, 8pm — FX5 Saturday, 8pm — Classic Buzz Sunday, 7pm — Charlie Arbelaez

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger loint:

Thursday, 8pm — Alternatives

North Clairemont Library:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Ayrton Pisco

Numb3rs:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE Saturday, 8pm — DJ Jon

Office:

Monday, 8pm — Joy Division VS New Order

Omnia San Diego:

Thursday, 8pm — Ashley Wallbridge Friday, 9pm — The Chainsmokers

Onyx/Thin:

Thursday, 8pm — New Year's Eve Extravaganza Friday, 9pm — Rumba Lounge

Park & Rec:

Thursday, 9pm — Galactic Ball Friday, 9pm — Finnegan Blu Saturday, 9pm — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds

Pearl:

Thursday, 5pm — A Vintage New Years Eve

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

Thursday, 8pm — New Year's

Porto Vista Hotel & Suites: Thursday, 10pm — Above &

Neon New Years Eve Bash

Pounders:

Fridays, 8pm — DJ Brandon Saturdays, 8pm — DJ Mikey J

Pour House:

Thursday, 8pm — Taken By the VU and Stooges Mania Saturday, 5pm — Coyote Blues Redemption

Poway's Irish Pub:

Thursday, 9pm — NYE with the Celebrities

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:

Thursdays, 8pm — Tomcat Courtney

R. O'Sullivan's:

Thursday, 8pm — Highland Way

Rancho San Diego Library:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Sara Petite

Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma:

Thursday, 8pm — Lil Bit Of Soul Friday, 8pm — Lifetime Rocker Saturday, 8pm — Kanan Road

Rich's Hillcrest:

Thursday, 8pm — DJ Nikno

San Diego Maritime Museum:

Thursday, 9pm — Black and Gold New Years Eve

San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery:



BY DAVE GOOD

by the nominating committee that oversees who does and who does not enter the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Fans have expressed indignation via social media, but I wonder if, after 40 years, the members of Los Lobos even care? After all, can anybody else

Alas, once again Los Lobos got snubbed

do what they do, meaning seamlessly blend acoustic norteño and cumbia, the kinds of traditional music the founding band members' grandparents grew up on, with distinctly original jazzy-bluesy-funky rock-and-roll music? That was a rhetorical question. The answer is no. There really isn't anybody like Los Lobos at all.

There's a connection between the band and San Diego, that being Steve Berlin, Los

Lobos' sax player. Berlin produced the Beat Farmers first album for Rhino Records. Remember Tales of the New West? I've spoken with Berlin over the years and found him to be a somewhat crusty and guarded person. Then again, Tales has "Happy Boy" on it, a song that features the late Country Dick Montana singing about fictional dog guts and such, so there has to be a sense of humor somewhere under Berlin's lavers.

I asked Berlin if he

thought Los Lobos would survive, if started in the present-day music climate. He said no. He talked about the eclectic times from which the band emerged — on any given night during the middle 1980s in Los Angeles, you might have X, the Blasters, the Circle Jerks. and hillbilly country boy Dwight Yoakam sharing the same stage with Los Lobos. And their thing — the alternating of traditional Mexican acoustic style and accordion with bari sax and amplified guitars - actually worked. What Los



Lobos did was offer us, their gringo audience, some real-life Mexican-American culture in a kind of music we'd never heard before, and they made us dance. Hall of Fame gold or not, there's something to be said for that.

Hamish Anderson also performs.

LOS LOBOS: Belly Up, Thursday, December 31, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$98/\$137

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

Saturday, 7pm — Jefferson Washington

Thursday, 7:30pm — Freefall Jazz

Side Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Champagne Dreams NYE

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — The Sess and Drug Wars Saturday, 8pm — The Generators Sunday, 8pm — Whiskey Shivers and Goodnight, Texas Monday, 8pm — The Gloomies Tuesday, 8pm — Frankie Boots and the County Line Wednesday, 8pm — Blue Sky Flu and FuseBox

Soma:

Saturday, 8pm — Shawshank Redeemed

Spin Nightclub:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with RJ & TeeCe4800

Spreckels Organ Pavilion: Friday, 2pm — Carol Williams

Stone Brewing Liberty

Thursday, 8pm - NYE at Stone Liberty Station

Stone Brewing Tap Room: Saturday, 8pm — Roman Watchdogs

Stone Farms:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with Lee Coulter and DJ Joe Mama

T Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with Mantis

Templar's Hall at Old Poway

Monday, 6:30pm — Acoustic Blues Jam



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Til-Two:

Thursday, 8pm — MayStar Dance Party

Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery:

Thursday, 8pm — Sam Hoskins

Tin Roof San Diego:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE 2016

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 9pm — The Reflectors Monday, 8pm — Sue Palmer

Tower 13:

Thursday, 9:30pm - NYE with Son Pa Ťi Friday, 8:30pm — Ecophonic

Tower Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — Dead On the Wire and Paper Hearts

Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center:

Thursday, 8pm — Infinity NYE: Above & Beyond, more

Trinity United Methodist

Friday, 4pm — New Year's Day Contra Dance

Sunday, 8pm — Crucial Blendn and SoCal Vibes

Uptown Tavern:

Thursday, 9pm — DJ Tone Capone

VFW Post 2247 Kelly Ave, Ramona, CA 92065:

Thursday, 9pm — Give Me Back

Valley View Casino Center: Thursday, 5:30pm — OMFG!

Vin de Syrah Wine Parlor: Thursday, 8pm — Sunset NYE

W Hotel:

Thursday, 8pm — 4th Annual 2016 Black & White New Years

West Coast Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Dom King

Westgate Hotel:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Casino Royale New Year's Eve

Whiskey Girl:

Thursday, 8pm — NYE with DJ Marc Thrasher

Whistle Stop Bar:

Thursday, 9pm — Booty Bassment

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Brothers Gow Saturday, 8pm — AJ Froman and Strange Planet Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste

Zel's Del Mar

Thursday, 8pm — John Bennett & Iim Volkert

UPCOMING SHOWS

950 Lounge at the Handlery Hotel: 950 Hotel Circle North. Mission Valley, 619-543-0607.

Ianuary 8 — Curtis Taylor Trio January 15 — Diane Hubka Trio January 22 — Rob Thorsen Jazz

January 29 — Lorraine and Gilbert Castellanos Trio

98 Bottles: 2400 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-255-7885. January 9 — 145th Street

AMSDconcerts: 2900 Highland Avenue (Sweetwater High School), City Heights, 619-201-0520.

January 16 — Ruth Moody January 22 — Dave & Phil Alvin

January 23 — Dave Stamey January 30 — John Hammond February 5 — Miss Tess & the

February 6 — Ellis Paul

Talkbacks

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall St., La Jolla, 858-454-5872.

January 7, January 9, January 10 — SoundON Festival: Apocalypse & Transfiguration February 4 — Myra Melford/Ben Goldberg Dialogue

Aztec Brewing Company: 2330 La Mirada Drive #300.

Vista, 760-598-7720. Ianuary 8 — Aquile January 9 — Luis Triptych

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-570-1100

January 16 — Monterey Jazz Festival

January 17 — Tommy Emmanuel

January 30 — R5 and Ryland January 31 — Donny Osmond

The Bancroft: 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-469-2337. January 7 — Darkwave Garden January 9 — Anarcho Speakers and Apathy Cycle

Bang Bang: 526 Market St., Downtown San Diego, 619-677-

January 9 — Jonas Rathsman January 29 — Treasure Fingers and Landis Lapace

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park 619-564-7194 January 9 — Hills Like Elephants and John Meeks

Beaumont's: 5662 La Jolla Bl., La Jolla, 858-459-0474. January 7 — Adam Block Duo January 8 — Aquile

January 9 — Jewel City Belly Up: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-

8140

January 8 — California Honeydrops

January 9 — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters: 5627 La Jolla Bl., La Jolla, 858-

551-1707. January 9 — Robin Henkel

Bourre Southern Bistro: 6523 University Ave., Rolando, 619-542-9954.

January 7 — Gary Rich Jazz Jam

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Ave., Linda Vista, 619-276-3990. January 9 — Ignite CD Release January 15 — Warhead and

Nukem January 16 — Aghori, Godhammered, Contortion January 22 — Vision of Disorder

January 23 — Venom Inc and Necrophagia January 25 — 1349, Tombs, Full

Ianuary 26 — Conveyer, Motives, Dependence

January 29 — Saving Abel and Leaving Eden January 30 — Damage Inc., Hellbent, Deeper Purple February 4 — Enforcer, Warbringer, Cauldron

of Hell

February 6 — Thirty 30 and Dona Nova

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355. January 7 — Tim Heidecker January 8 — The Paladins

Central Library: 330 Park Bl., East Village, 619-236-5800. January 11, January 25 — Swing Dance Under the Dome

Chosen Few Clubhouse: 4284 Market St., Chollas View. January 29 — West Coast Reggae Soundclash Tournament

Ché Café: 1000 Scholars Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2311. January 8 — Imagery Machine and Boychick January 9 — Run Forever and

Looming January 31 — Choke\$lam and

Cease February 7 — Shook Ones and Creative Adult

Crush: 437 South Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-481-2787. January 8 — DJ Mancat

De Oro Mine Co: 9924 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-741-8198. January 15 — Hunter & the Dirty

Dizzy's: 4275 Mission Bay Drive (in the showroom at San Diego Jet Ski Rentals), Pacific Beach, 858-270-7467

January 8 — Chase Morrin Trio January 9 — Lori Bell Quartet: Brooklyn Dreaming

Downtown Café: 182 E. Main St., El Cajon, 619-440-5687. January 8 — Brown Sugar

El Cajon Library: 201 E. Douglas Ave., El Cajon, 619-588-

3718

January 16 — Rusty Gait

Firehouse American Eatery and Lounge: 722 Grand Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-274-3100. January 13, January 27 — On the House

Hard Rock Café: 801 Fourth Ave., Downtown San Diego. January 7, January 21, February 4 — Kathryn Cloward

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-299-2583.

January 8 — Broken Stems and let West

January 10 — Bethany Joy Lenz

Jacobs Music Center: 750 B St., Downtown San Diego, 619-235-0804.

January 23 — Jazz Piano Masters January 24 — Cyrano De Bergerac

February 5 — City Lights: Ben

Java Joe's: 3536 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-882-0902. January 10 — Dave Good's Jazz

The Kava Lounge: 2812 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-543-

January 18 — This 'n' That

Kona Kai Resort & Marina: 1551 Shelter Island, Shelter Island, 619-221-8000. *January 30* — Whitney Shay and Robin Henkel

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-436-6483.

January 13 — Sonny Derin & the







FEB 11 - TIGER ARMY

FEB 12 - STRFKR & COM TRUISE

FEB 13 - LETTUCE

FEB 20 - DR. DOG FEB 24 - LAKE STREET DIVE

FEB 14 - BEATS ANTIQUE

FEB 26 - ANTI-FLAG

2891 UNIVERSITY AVE. SAN DIEGO, CA | TICKETS AT OBSERVATORYSD.COM

Diego Reader December 31,

L'Auberge Del Mar: 1540 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 800-245-9757.

January 21 — Whitney Shay and Robin Henkel

The Landing: 1185 E. Main St., El Cajon, 619-442-0258. Ianuary 9 — Brown Sugar January 22 — Sonny Derin & the Derringers January 30 — Brown Sugar

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-0437. *January 7* — Kilo & the Dew and the Other Half January 9 — Zolopht, Fracelle, Lauren Ruth

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497. January 8 — Mal'Akh Ensemble: Animalik

Lyceum Theatre: 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown San Diego, 619-544-1000 February 5, February 6, February — An Evening of Jazz and

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-6641.

January 9 — West Of 5

Martinis Above Fourth: 3940 Fourth Avenue #200, Hillcrest, 619-400-4500. January 27 & 28 — Melinda Doolittle

Mike Hess Brewing North Park: 3812 Grim Ave., North Park, 619-786-4377. January 13 — On the Radar

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: 136 Encinitas Bl., Encinitas, 760-753-7192.

Ianuary 8 — Mirage January 16 — Alex Maz Music January 23 — Hipper

Museum of Making Music: 5790 Armada Dr., Carlsbad, 760-

438-5996 January 9 — Learn to Taiko

January 28 — Muriel Anderson February 6 — Katie Thiroux

Music Box: 1337 India St., Little Italy. January 7 — Full Strength Funk

Band January 8 — Soul Review with Stephen Rey Sextet January 9 - Queen Nation

Nate's Garden Grill: 3120 Euclid Ave., City Heights, 619-

Joanna Newsom **Bv Emily Reily**

Harpist, singer. composer Joanna Newsom is not

everyone's cup of tea. You may have to pause and look up a word just to glimpse her plane of thought. But that's just part of Newsom's allure She transports you to another time, puts you in a breathless reverie, and sweeps you up into her stories of lost love and vast landscapes.

There are layers of meaning packed tightly within each song on her new album, Divers, and further research only unravels more secrets. The album is an emotional celebration of the sanctity of life and death and all of its rearets, described through vibrant imagery that Newsom has created

amid often-delicate pastoral scenes.

Those who are already fans of Newsom's complex work are familiar with her use of harp and other classical instruments. On Divers, her fourth album, New- Blends soulful blues, pop, som has added physical drums, along with violins,



Appalachian country, and classical music

fiddles, electric guitar, and flute. She also blends soulful blues notes, psychedelic pop, Appalachian and country, and classical music, sometimes all in one song, but she's just as comfortable letting her solitary voice and a bare piano or pedal harp do

Although her songs are deeply woven, it's still easy to fall into the album's natural pace and trance. "Why is the pain of birth lighter borne than the pain of death?" Newsom asks on the title track, a heartbreaking ancient sea tale of a woman waiting for true love. On "A Pin-Light Bent," Newsom romanticizes the story of a flight attendant's fall from the sky and the beauty she would have seen as she fell to Earth. With the song composed of only her voice and the tense, repeating notes of her harp, deeply personal lyrics of the fragility of life are revealed. Comparing tiny, lit homes seen from high above to a mass of honeycomb is somehow gorgeous to imagine.

There are so many lines in *Divers* that are open to personal interpretation. Most of the time, though, it's well enough to just let Newsom's elegant language, the languid pace of each song, and her wondering voice wash over you.

These are "Salad Days" for Mac

Indie hit crowd-surfs through Observatory **North Park**

DeMarco

By Matthew Craig Burke

Dipping down from the forgotten land of Canada, Mac DeMarco and his corky bandmates made an appearance at the Observatory North Park in support of DeMarco's delightful "mini LP" Another One. Crowd-surfing, child-like banter. and awkwardness filled the Friday night in front of a soldout crowd.

Emerging onto the stage wearing camouflage overalls. DeMarco and his crew began the set with "Salad Days," electrifying the crowd as everyone sang along and the front of the audience — moist and

energetic swayed back and forth in a trance. The engagement of the crowd had everyone tuned in as people crowdsurfed (includ-

Music Reviews from Our Readers



A few songs transformed into an all-out jam, causing band members to dive into the crowd and create chaos.

ing the band) constantly.

DeMarco and his band look like those dudes in high school that you thought were so strange, with their mangy demeanor and thriftstore, hillbilly clothing — they may or may not have bathed in the fountains of Balboa Park but everyone ate up their youthful energy and dismissal of the norm.

Besides the showmanship, the tunes were on point. Killer sound from a quality venue always helps. Songs were played from throughout DeMarco's discography, particularly Another One. The tunes were sometimes embellished for dramatic effect, as a few songs transformed into an all-out jam, causing band members to dive into the crowd and create chaos. The last song before the encore had Mac himself diving into the crowd as the rest of the band wailed on their instruments, making the crowd even more psychotic.

Concert: Mac DeMarco Date: October 23

Venue: Observatory North Park

Seats: GA

Up to \$50 for your concert review, \$25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader.com/critic

January 7 — Robin Henkel January 8 — Gregory Martin Campbell Ianuary 9 — Jim Earp

Navajo Live: 8515 Navajo Rd., San Carlos, 619-465-1730. January 8 — Steal Dawn January 9 — Rattz

Numb3rs: 3811 Park Bl., Hillcrest, 619-294-7483. February 6 — DJ Jon Williams

The Office: 3936 30th St., North Park, 619-450-6632. January 20 — Grand Ole Office Ianuary 25 — AC/DC Under

January 27 — Ceremony

Cover

Old Town Temecula **Community Theater:** 42051 Main St., Temecula, 866-653-

> January 13 — Brittni Paiva and Casey Turner

Omnia San Diego: 454 Sixth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-544-9500

January 7 — WEARETREO January 8 — Jesse Marco

Park & Rec: 4612 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-795-

January 8 - Manchest & Her January 9 — BedBreakers

Pounders: 125 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-739-1288. *Ianuary* 8 & 9 — Josie Day

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.

January 7 — Metal Allegiance January 8 — Autograph and Big

Ray Street Studios: 3436 Ray St., North Park, 619-299-0010. January 9 — Art Walk: Ray at

Rebecca's Coffee House: 3015 Juniper St., South Park,

619-284-3663. January 16 — Acoustic Dreams

The Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma: 777 Pauma Reservation Rd., Pauma Valley, 760-742-2177. January 9 — Lifetime Rocker

San Diego Botanic Garden: 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, 760-436-3036. January 8 — Adrienne Nims &

Spirit Wind

San Diego LGBT Community Center: 3909 Centre St., Hillcrest, 619-692-2077.

January 20 — Opera Exposed San Diego Museum of Art:

232-7931. January 8, January 15, January 22 — The Art of Music: Art After Hours

1450 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-

San Pasqual Wine Bar and Gallery: 8364 La Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-1797. January 9 — Ruben Delgado

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-255-7224. January 7 — Nicely and Dani Shivers January 9 — Black Sabbitch

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-226-7662. January 9 — Jara

Spreckels Organ Pavilion: 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-702-8138. January 10 — Williams,

Plimpton, and Jacobsen

January 24 — Travis Tritt

Svcuan Casino Showcase Theatre: 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002. January 14 — Blue Oyster Cult January 16 — Salt-N-Pepa

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park: 14134 Midland Rd., Powav.

February 1 — Acoustic Blues Jam

Til-Two: 4746 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-516-4746.

January 8 — Egyptian Lover and Brian Ellis' Reflection

Tower 13: 2633 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-635-1200.

January 8 — Mango Melody January 9 — Whitney Shay & Robin Henkel

The Tower Bar: 4757 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0158. January 8 — Jason Lee & the R.I.P. Tides

Union Kitchen & Tap Gaslamp: 333 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-795-January 8 — Whitney Shay and

Robin Henkel

Valley View Casino Center: 3500 Šports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-224-4171. January 7 — Muse and Phantogram

Viejas Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947. January 9 & 10 — Tool

Villa Musica: 10373 Roselle Street Suite 170, Sorrento Valley, 858-550-8100. January 8 — Dan Reagan Quartet

Whistle Stop Bar: 2236 Fern St., South Park, 619-284-6784. January 13 — Dorkbot SD

Winstons Beach Club: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822 January 11 — Electric Waste Band





The year in review

Practically every theater in the county produced a world premiere in 2015.

ack in September I remarked that "2015 may be one of the gutsiest years ever in San Diego theater. I can't remember so many world premieres." The final three months kept pace. Call it the Year Local Theaters Didn't Get the Memo. Armchair pundits warn that stag-

ing world premieres is too risky. They're too hit-or-miss, most likely miss, and audiences steer clear in droves. Not so in 2015.

THEATER
JEFF SMITH

Scripteasers and the Playwright's Project have nurtured new work for decades. But this year, practically every theater in the county either produced a world premiere or did staged readings of untested scripts.

Talk about missing the memo: the La Jolla Playhouse did seven in their 2014–2015 season: Come From Away (my favorite musical this year), Up Here, Blueprints to Freedom: An Ode to Bayard Rustin, Indecent, The Darrell Hammond Project, plus premieres for the Without Walls Festival (Tom Dugdale and The Trip's inventive Three Sisters among them) and the Performance Outreach Program's The Astronaut Farmworker.

Around the theater community, count (some of) the ways: Moxie, Orange Julius; Lamb's Players, Jon Lorenz's Oz; San Diego Rep, the "rolling-world premiere" of Uncanny Valley, and Steve Gunderson's Everybody's Talkin'; Ion did several, and Sea of Souls went to New York for a brief run; Teatro Mascara Magica, Paul Rodriguez's The Pitch, or How to Pitch a Latino Sitcom that Will Never Air, and Francis Thumm's Tijuana Revolution; the Old Globe offered a dance-theater piece, Up in Arms, and opens 2016 with its third annual New Voices Festival; feisty InnerMission Productions staged a world premiere, Disappearing Act, as part of its first full season!

The Rep Goes National. Last November, PBS kicked off a new series, *OnStage in America*. They select "the very best productions from American regional theater" and film them with sophisticated techniques. For their inaugural

entry, PBS chose the San Diego Rep's wild and thought-provoking *Honky*. The Sam Woodhouse–directed show aired November 6. Along with upping our prestige nationally, it was a treat to see familiar faces on national TV, and it was clear why Jacque Wilke earned a Craig

Noel acting award for 2014 as Andie, whose racial naivete's awesomely offensive.

Music, Music... We

now take for granted a consistent level of quality in local musicals. From Moonlight Stage Productions to San Diego Musical Theatre, to touring shows, smaller houses, the schools and youth theaters, you can go and be entertained from Oceanside to the border all year long. And be really entertained when the Old Globe brought in Darko Tresnjak's lusty, life-brimming *Kiss Me Kate*.

The Quality of The Quality of Life. Intrepid Theatre mounted Iane Anderson's four-character drama with several strikes against it. From afar, the play sounds like a downer: Berkeley couple, dying scholar and irrepressible wife, who plans to commit suicide when he goes; hurting Midwestern couple comes to visit — and engage in comparative suffering. Strike two: Intrepid staged it at the Carlsbad Village Theatre, an old movie house with acoustics so eccentric they had to rope off half the house. Demand for tickets became so great they un-roped it so more people could see one of the best acted (Jeffrey Jones, Deanna Driscoll, Tom Stephenson, Maggie Carney) and most moving shows of recent years.

Shining Stars. Jones and Driscoll gave two of the year's most outstanding performances. I will never ever ever forget when she slumped on the chair and cried out her soul.

Often authors write lead roles for themselves to strut their thespian chops. Michael Benjamin Washington wrote *Blueprints to Freedom* so he could play Bayard Rustin, the great, largely unheralded, civil rights leader. But Washington made Rustin an acquired taste. At first he was



Demand for tickets to *The Quality of Life* at Carlsbad Village Theatre was so great, the former movie house had to unrope closed sections to allow more theatergoers.

egocentric, out of favor with the movement. He was almost as off-putting for one to ask "Why are we here?" Then, in an amazing performance, Washington slowly opened up new layers, in effect thickening our portrait of the courageous, jagged, behind-the-scenes crusader history almost forgot.

I Wish Everyone Could Have Seen: M'Lafi Thompson like trembling granite in Ion's 'night, Mother; Mercedes Ruehl's brash Diana Vreeland in the Old Globe's Full Gallop; Amanda Sitton facing a mother's horror in the Rep's *The Oldest Boy*; Sandy Campbell as diva Maria Callas in Ion's *Master Class*; Dana Hooley's eerie innocence in New Fortune's *The Birthday Party*; Richard Baird's obsessive thug in *The Birthday Party*, and his appropriately unfathomable Jerry in North Coast Rep's *Betrayal*; David McBean's hilarious hitman in the North Coast Rep's *Unnecessary Farce*, whose Scottish accent, when he became angry, went on warp drive.



And Also Seen: Colleen Kollar Smith's death-defying choreography for Lamb's Players' West Side Story (the flying bodies threatening to smear the stage with flying body parts); Delicia Turner Sonnenberg's sharp direction/choreography for the Rep's My Mañana Comes. The play begins with a boast: the four workers at a posh restaurant claim they never make a mistake, even as they slam through double doors with piles of greasy dishes. So there's the challenge to the actors. The adroit cast dropped nary a plate.

And that people also saw the way Neil Patel's set for Blueprints to Freedom went from a big, dusty old room to a panorama of the nation's capital during the March on Washington, 1963.

Rising Stars: There should be a Rising Star Award for newcomers making a distinct impression, and for veterans who show a sudden leap in ability — often because finally given the chance. One must go to Maggie Carney. Always strong in supporting roles, she blossomed in 2015, first in Cygnet's Sons of the Prophet, then in The Quality of Life (it's now hard to imagine anyone else playing feathery Dinah, or anyone other than Tom Stephenson playing stolid husband Bill, for that matter). Mike Sears, same deal: able in supporting roles, he roared in Backyard Renaissance's Parlour Song as Ned, a passel of comic ineptitudes and one big hurt.

designer Eliza Benzoni. Her gaudy yet precise costumes for North Coast Rep's The Fox in the Fairway raised the question: can a garment be both over-the-top and subtle? Sean Fanning's star's been on the rise, but in 2015 it found a home in the firmament. His creative scenic designs included The Whale and Hay Fever/The Vortex for Cygnet, Everybody's Talkin' and Honky for the Rep, West Side Story for the San Diego Musical

Another Rising Star:

Welcome Aboard: Backyard Renaissance made its

AUDITIONS

America's Got Talent Auditions

SAN DIEGO CONVENTION CENTER 111 W. Harbor Dr., Downtown San Diego

Simon Cowell will join the judging panel for the next season of America's Got



2016. Do you have what it takes to audition for him? Register at: http:// Auditions: JAN. 12 7AM

Bedside Manners

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: FFB 22 23

Billy Elliot

rento Valley

CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONSERVATORY THEATRE 11722 Sorrento Valley Rd., Sor-

Please 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

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

Model Call for American Girl Fashion Show

SCRIPPS PERFORMING ARTS

9920 Scripps Lake Drive #105 Scripps Ranch

Attention all American Girl fans, girls sizes 6x & 10: Auditions will be held on January 24 and 31 to participate as a model in the American Girl Fashion Show presented by Scripps Performing Arts Academy to benefit Isabella's Giraffe Club, a 501c3 nonprofit that sup ports the infants of the NICU at UCSD Medical Center. The show where local models resemble your favorite American Girl dolls and will take the stage dressed in authentic American Girl Fashions is slated for Saturday March

SCRIPPS PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY-

12 and Sunday, March 13 at 2:00 PM at the Irwin M. Jacobs Oualcomm Hall The audition includes a mini-modeling workshop where they walk the red carpet! This is not a beauty contest. All American Girls are beautiful inside and out! To find out more information or to schedule an audition to be in the fashion show, please call 858-509-2624 or visit www.ScrippsPerformingArts.com. Some fees apply. Auditions: JAN. 24 & 31; 1:30PM &

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdreader.com/ events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

debut with a striking production of Jez Butterworth's stark and eerie Parlour Song. Welcome to Subtext City, where the surface looks like a reflecting pool, but underneath hooo-weee! Up next, to display versatility and continue their "art to the gut" mission statement, Bernard Pomerance's The Elephant Man.

Deadlines and Commitments: The San Diego Theater Critics Circle will hold its annual Craig Noel Award Ceremony on Monday, February 8, at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego.

To all those lazybones who vowed to enter last year's festival and snoozed through the deadline, the San Diego International Fringe Festival will begin accepting submissions soon. Information at sdfringe. org/artists.html.

Should Olde Acquaintance Be Forgot... Numerologists say 2016 is a "Nine Year" — since that's what the numbers total — and that "Nine Years" can have great significance. Whether or not you believe in prophetic math, let's make next year one anyway.

SCHOOL PLAYS

A PIECE OF MY HEART

FEB. 19 7PM, FEB. 21 2PM, FEB. 26 7PM, FEB, 27 7PM, FEB, 28 2PM CORONADO PLAYHOUSE

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. SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE

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

To list a school play, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select School Plays as the category.

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Blue headings indicate sponsored listings. 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

This is a recreation of a live radio broadcast from New York in December, 1942. Directed by Dana Case, the show has style and fast pacing with some standout performances. One of the biggest is Zachary Scot Wolfe as BJ Gibson. He nails every song he sings and has a fresh personality that glows throughout. Another highlight is Michale Kelly, whose vocal ability is top notch and he is also a gifted comic actor. Marlene Montes is dazzling as sexy Ginger Brooks and Kelly DeRouin is 40s glamour personified as Ann. Worth a try. Review by Larry Steckling NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD, 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAYS THROUGH DECEM-BER 31.

A Civil War Christmas: An American Musical Celebration

Diversionary 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 THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY

Hershey Felder as Irving Berlin

Hershey Felder is back again with his one-man mix of story and song to chronicle the life of famed composer Irving Berlin. Just in time for the holiday season, Felder's insightful and fresh take on Berlin's life offers both history lesson and bedtime story for audiences young and old. An ageless tale of love and patriotism, Felder delivers the man behind the music in an endearing way. Worth a try. Review by Carrie O'Connell LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD, 858-550-1010. 2PM THURSDAY 8PM THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAY.

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, 1PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JANU-ARY 31

Rent

Inspired by Puccini's La Bohemme, the modern-day rock opera tells the story of a collection of struggling artists and musicians trying to survive and practice their craft in the avant-garde neighborhood of New York's Lower East Side. Special New Year's show includes ringing in the New Year with

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 9PM THURSDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY

Svlvia

New Village Arts reprises its very popular production of A.R. Gurney, Jr's., comedy about a love triangle with Greg, wife Kate, and Sylvia, an affectionate dog he adopted. Kristianne Kurner directs.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE 2787 B STATE STREET CARLSBAD, 760-433-3245, 8PM THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS. 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUN-DAYS THROUGH IANUARY 24

UPCOMING SHOWS

Fiddler on the Roof

Welk Resorts Theatre opens its new season with Sheldon Harnick, Jerry Bock, and Joseph Stein's musical classic about tradition and change in a small Russian village Songs include "If I Were a Rich Man" and "Sunrise, Sunset." Kathy Brombacher directs.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. FEBRUARY 6 THROUGH APRIL 24.

Godspell

The Coronado Playhouse stages Stephen Schwartz (music and Lyrics) and John Michael Tebelak's popular retelling of Jesus' last days, with modern references and new arrangements. Jennie Gray Connard directs, with musical direction by Kirk Valles.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE 1835 STRAND WAY CORONADO 619-435-4856 JANU-ARY 8 THROUGH JANUARY 16.

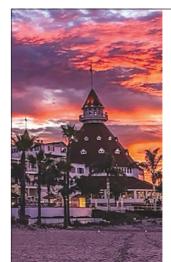
Outside Mullingar

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 THROUGH FEBRUARY 14

Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Great Nome Gold Rush

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents a tale of Sherlock Holmes, who will "prove a client innocent of murder, even if it means traveling to the Wild West frontier town of Nome, Alaska?

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH, 858-481-1055, JANUARY 23 THROUGH FEBRUARY 7.



♥2,985 others like this.

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Reader

The odious 8.25

MOVIES

uentin Tarantino's *The Hateful 8* is being billed as the director's eighth film. It appears as though QT, like most devoted cinephiles, has forgotten about his segment in *Four Rooms*. The addition brings the tally up to 8.25, a number more in line with the Fellini homage he was clearly aiming for.

The advance screenings were all presented on DCP, and this old celluloid

dreamer would have none of it. Tarantino resurrected the cinematic equivalent of

antique farm equipment to make this movie, and damned if I wasn't going to see it as he intended, in Ultra Panavision 70. Patience, a word normally missing from my vocabulary, paid off. Had I succumbed to a digital screening, there's no way a return viewing would have been in the immediate future, not even if QT shot it in horizontal VistaVision and Smell-O-Rama.

(On a technical note, John Sittig and his crew at Reading Grossmont honored Tarantino's wishes down to the letter. That meant frame-hugging masking and uniform focus of the giant 60-foot image. [Alas, no cue marks.] With the image shorn of pixels, one could count the dusted-over snowflakes that covered the tops of hats. And the coffee steam that curled from under the brim couldn't have felt more immersive had it been shot in 3D.)

Samuel L. Jackson leads the odious octet, calling on his Superman-ish skills to press every line of his African bounty hunter's dialog into glistening

diamonds. The icy locale and sole location recall Kurt Russell's work in *The Thing*, but

it's another John Carpenter creation, Snake Plissken, and his Duke Wayne drawl that the actor winkingly calls attention to. QT stalwart Tim Roth returns to play the hangman Oswaldo Mobray, a reference to character actor Alan Mowbray, whose Shakespearean recital in *My Darling Clementine* never fails to elicit applause. It's Jennifer Jason Leigh, the sole hateful female of the group, whose scattered moments of underplaying effectively steal the show, but more on the treatment of her character later.

Clocking in at a whopping 168



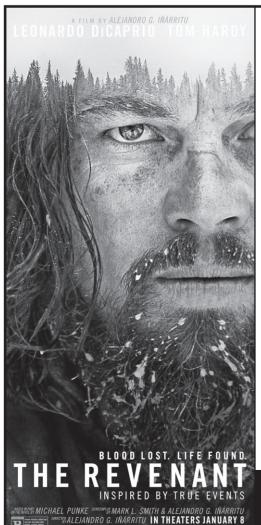
The Hateful Eight: Tarantino names his oeuvre.

minutes (plus a 12-minute pee-break), it could easily have lost an hour, starting with an unyieldingly juvenile scene involving Craig Stark, and no one would have been any the wiser. What was it about this cramped, underdeveloped parlor drama — the majority of which takes place on one set — that caused

Tarantino to think 70mm? The frigid snowscapes that open the film put the lens to the test, but the moment one stage replaces the other, all of the verbal anachronisms in Tarantino's loopy lexicography can't buoy it.

The wide-gauge format isn't the only ghost of cinema past that QT

resuscitates, and still the iceman never comeths. The third-act flashback reversal that served him well in *Pulp Fiction*, forcing even the most casual filmgoer to ponder narrative structure, reads like feeble inner-dialogue in these parts. Without the benefit of surprise — bottomless splatter and the director's





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post-intermission narration don't count — QT's restaging of the Civil War in a Wyoming bar owes more to Agatha Christie than it does John Ford's *Stagecoach*.

By way of compensation, his dialog is spiked with more easygoing epithets than you'd find at a Santee smoker, the majority of which are etymologically unsound and included simply to shock and elicit laughter from his minions. (You just know that in his heart he wanted to go full-Christie by calling it 8 Little N-Words.) The packed crowd that joined me for a Sunday morning matinee reserved their biggest laughs for the two moments that showcase the director's fetishistic preoccupation with Leigh's abasement. The first comes in response to one of many cartoonish (her black eye appears to have been applied by the same makeup artist who touched up Groucho's mustache) but

nonetheless gratuitous blows to the face she endures, the other when the raisin-toothed wreck finds herself on the receiving end of a shower of bloody

Why Ultra Panavision 70? My guess is that a young Tarantino had a poster from a feature shot in that arcane process tacked to his bedroom wall and, logo-whore that he is, vowed to one day shoot a film in the pristine band-aid format. See it at Grossmont or not at all, the second option being your best bet.

— Scott Marks

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.

The Big Short — The term "I don't understand" is spoken numerous times throughout the film. That's not counting audience members. Come equipped with

a sophisticated understanding of the banking collapse of the mid-2000s and you'll be hanging on every word. For those who invest in cinema and wouldn't know a housing bubble from a tub filled with Mr. Bubble, director and co-writer Adam McKay (The Other Guys) does little to ease the denseness. Sure, there's the addition of celebrity cameos (Margot Robbie, Selena Gomez) to help walk us through some of the more complicated technical jargon, but they come off less funny and insightful than patronizing. Cinematographer Barry Ackroyd plays hacky sack with his camera in hopes of bringing documentary levels of urgency to every frame. I left in need of an aspirin. And for all that it "borrows" from Scorsese, they might just as well have called it The Whelp of Wall St. Good cast — Steve Carrell, Ryan Gosling, Brad Pitt, Christian Bale — all acting under bad hairpieces. 2015. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; READING GASLAMP)

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)

Carol — The easy descriptors for Todd Haynes's take on Patricia Highsmith's tale of socially unacceptable female relationships during the early '50s are words like "sumptuous," "ravishing," and maybe "entrancing" (that last thanks to a command performance from Cate Blanchett as a failed wife, loving mother, and motherly lover). But the more important adjectives are "open," "adult," and best of all, "human." The lesbian affair at its heart is rendered with intelligence and care, and if there are speeches to be made, they are happily few, and far more personal than political. Rooney Mara is appropriately wide-eyed as the Bright Young Thing, and Kyle Chandler manages to make his portraval of the embittered ex both sour and sympathetic. Your take on the rather drawn-out denouement, however, may vary depending on what kind of story you thought you were watching 2015. — M.L. ★★★ (AMC LA JOLLA; ANGELIKA FILM CENTER; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Concussion — A corpse-whispering sawbones from Nigeria who "exemplifies everything it means to be an American" (Will Smith, giving it his syllabledistending Sidney Poitier best) effectively jerks what could have been a Super Bowl-winning punt out of the place-kicker's path when he calls into play the scientific burden of evidence needed to bring the NFL to its knees. My gut reaction was to call it Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, but it's impossible to dislike any film that casts professional sports in such a negative light while providing Albert Brooks with a plum supporting role as Smith's kvetchy boss. ("My balls are low" wins 2015's best line of dialogue award, and I'm betting Albert had a hand in tweaking 90 percent of his lines.) A romantic subplot exists if for no other reason than to pin blame on the NFL for a miscarriage, an accusation even a staunch sportsophobe such as myself found hard to swallow. Written and directed by Peter Landesman 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 lowkeys 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)

Daddy's Home — Will Ferrell plays his standard issue wide-eyed naif, an amiable simp who can find the good in just about any situation, save one: the sudden reappearance of his wife's guilt-stricken greaser ex (Mark Wahlberg), eager to reheat a dead romantic soufflé. Two moments stand out in this battle between alpha male and alpha done over who makes the best father figure for Wahlberg's children: an expertly executed avalanche gag involving a motorcycle let loose on a house, followed by a particularly nasty throwaway laugh involving a drunken Ferrell and a kid in a wheelchair. Add to this a marked anti-violence message and you're automatically miles ahead of your average Ferrell vehicle. That's not to say it's good, just that it's tolerable. Linda Cardellini plays a wife who doesn't do



FILM FESTIVALS

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Film and Discussion: To Catch a Thief

Ralph DeLauro will be teaching a Film and Discussion Class at the Remington Club II, featuring the 1955 Hitchcock classic, *To Catch A Thief*, starring Cary Grant and Grace Kelly. Wednesday, January 6, 1:30pm

Film and Discussion: The Thomas

Crown Affair Raplh DeLauro will be teaching a Film and Discussion Class I, featuring The Thomas Crown Affair (1968), starring Steve McQueen and Faye Dunaway. Wednesday, January 20, 1:30pm

much to come to her present husband's defense, while Thomas Haden Church garners most of the laughs as Ferrell's raunchy boss, 2015. — S.M. ★ (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 Miserables) 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. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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 — zigzagging 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)

The Hateful 8 — Reviewed this issue. 2015 — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Hitchcock/Truffaut — Published in 1966, Hitchcock by François Truffaut was the first book to take a title-bytitle 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 protege 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



Star Wars: The Force Awakens keeps on burning up the box office record book.

with their visual counterparts. Iones 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. ★★★★★ (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)

Joy — Writer-director David O. Russell serves notice that there have always been multi-generational stories of strong women who figure out how to make their way in a so-called man's world — on television soap operas. He even helpfully opens this (based-ona-true) story of one woman's (Jennifer Lawrence) struggle to become the inventor/CEO of her childhood dreams on the set of the soap that Mama watches instead of, you know, living a life. Perhaps less helpfully, he soaps up the movie itself something fierce, with weird results. The battle against a naysaying world is far-fetched, overblown, and melodramatic, but still okay, because it's basically fun. (Schematics in crayon? A secret passage onto the factory floor?

Sure, why not?) The intrafamilial stuff, however, feels like a fever-dream of impersonal intimacies. (Hey, let's talk business graveside!) By the time Dad (Robert De Niro) starts apologizing for ever helping Joy to believe in herself. it's clear that the point here isn't people, it's payoff, emotional and otherwise. 2015. — M.L. ★ (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 detatched 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. • (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

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 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. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; REGAL HORTON PLAZA; REGAL OCEANSIDE)

The Peanuts Movie — Director Steve Martino and the makers at Blue Sky, aware of the potential for aesthetic barbarism in transferring a beloved comic strip (and hand-drawn animated television property) to CGI, have exercised great care and sensitivity in bringing Charlie Brown, Snoopy, and the gang to the big screen. Many of the old exchanges and punchlines have been preserved completely intact. Creator Charles Schulz's scribbled facial expressions endure on the newly rounded heads, and the essential sweetness and humanity are still in place, despite the slings and arrows of outrageous childhood fortune. (Hello, kite-eating tree.) But those slings and arrows? Blunted, just like the suffering



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they so famously cause our hero. And without suffering, Peanuts becomes little more than wholesome distraction for kiddies. Which is pretty clearly the goal here — viz. the primary-color obviousness of lines like, "Charlie Brown is not a quitter," "That was a very brave thing you did, Charlie Brown," and "It must feel pretty great being Charlie Brown right about now." Viz. also the thin story, the Looney Tunes-style visual gags, and the heavy reliance on Snoopy the dog's heroic flights of fancy. Sigh. 2015. — M.L. ★ (ARCLIGHT

Point Break — Luke Bracey and Edgar Ramirez slip into the wetsuits of Keanu Reeves and Patrick Swayze in this remake/blowup of the 1991 hit about bank robbers who surf. The sports are more varied and more extreme this time around, with commensurate increases in both cash and convictions. 2015. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Spectre — In his fourth outing, Daniel Craig's iteration of superspy James Bond takes his undersized suits, hangdog 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

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disappoints. He lacks previous baddie Javier Bardem's wicked relish, and his aim is pretty lousy. 2015. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Spotlight — Takes its name from a team of investigative journalists at The Boston Globe, and provides a touching ode to the old-fashioned notion that some things simply need reporting; never mind the effort, the expense, or the effect on circulation. Here, the thing in question is the awful failure of the Catholic Church in Boston (and beyond) to protect its youth from its sexually abusive priests. But while director and co-writer Tom McCarthy clearly

relishes the chance to dramatize the dull drudgery of diligent newsgathering - knocking on doors, chasing down sources, poring over directories, building spreadsheets, etc. — he's out to uncover something bigger than How They Broke It. Something more amorphous, more encompassing, and more poisonous: the tribal culture of a city that somehow lived with the secret for 30 years. And not even the Globe in fact, especially not the Globe, nor its stalwart reporters and editors — escapes that particular spotlight. The top-shelf cast — which includes Michael Keaton, Mark Ruffalo, Stanley Tucci, and Rachel McAdams, among others — contents

itself with unshowy ensemble work, and McCarthy maintains an atmosphere of cool control, keeping the viewer just distanced enough from the smoldering horror, 2015. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Star Wars: The Force Awakens -

The kind view — the uncynical view, the generous view — is that director J.J. Abrams just wants to give the joy of childhood back to a generation that fell in love with Star Wars back in 1977. (Plus maybe win a new generation over to that story's mythological power.) Because what he's done is to remake Star Wars: A New Hope; tweaking it for

and tossing in some bits from its sequels (a lightsaber in the snow, father-son conflicts above the void, a journey to find a Jedi master, a strike team sent to take out a shield generator, etc.). Some things are the same with different names: the Empire and the Rebellion are now The First Order and the Resistance. Some things are the same with different people: the Emperor and Darth Vader are now the Supreme Leader and Kylo Ren. Some things are the same with different sizes - New Hope had a weapon that could destroy a planet; Force Awakens has a weapon that can destroy multiple planets. (Both have a weak spot.) Some things are the same but updated, an orphan in the desert with a mysterious heritage, a swashbuckling pilot, a plucky droid. And some things are simply the same: C-3PO and R2-D2, the Millennium Falcon, and oh yes, the Force. The unkind view — the cynical view, the greedminded view — is that there is no need for new ideas when people will line up to pay for old ones. 2015. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

the passage of time; improving on the

acting, the effects, and the dialogue;

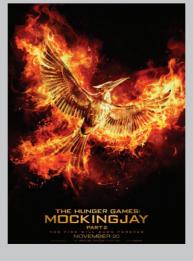
Dalton Trumbo (Bryan Cranston, enjoying himself) a self-serving, selfrighteous Type A who confused the cause of social justice with his own desire to live well? Or was he a brilliant, pro-worker Good American who figured out how to keep the S.S. Good Conscience afloat during the Red storm? Or was he 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 anticommie 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. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

Trumbo — Was blacklisted screenwriter

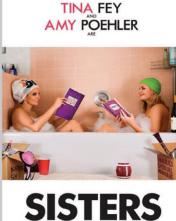
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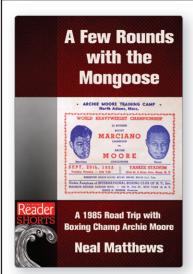












66 A treat to have an excellent writer like Matthews [on] a road trip with one of the greatest boxers of all time."

Harley Smith



ff you're looking for light reading about mostly useless information, I highly recommend this tonguein-cheek delight."

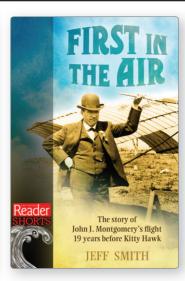
J

Richard Riehl



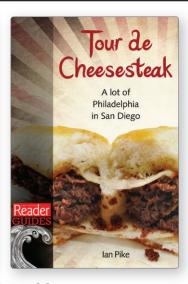
ff Brandon gives a positive rating for a location. I know it's worth checking out. ""

K.G.



Futs you back there on a hill near San Diego a hundred years ago, waiting for that breeze to lift off into the air. 33

M.P.C.



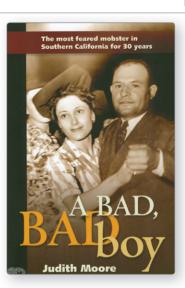
I'm no fan of cheesesteak. but upon finishing Stage 1 of the tour I found my mouth watering for it. ""

Richard Riehl



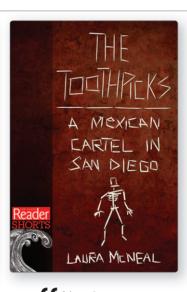
Chronicles the murderer's family dynasty back to 'Colonel' Fletcher, who was largely responsible for the creation of the city of San Diego. 33

Richard Riehl



ff you are a native San Diegan especially, or have lived here several years, you will be amazed at the history. ""

Anonymous



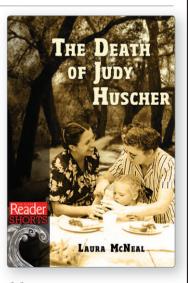
66 Kept my interest till the end, read it in one sitting. **Good insight** into the underworld of cartels."

Flizabeth Medina



San Diegans will find fascinating the shorter accounts of flash floods in 1821, 1861, 1891 and 1916, especially since they all followed droughts."

Richard Riehl



Compelling read and frightening look into the mind of a supposed 'normal' mother."

Jeanne Byrne Kosek

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compassionate, and prefer experience compassionate, and prefer experience, but will train right person. Must pass fingerprint and background check. Duties include: personal care, transferring, dressing, bathing, grooming, cooking, cleaning and shopping. Please send resume or brief description of why you are an excellent candidate to lewbush58@gmail.com or leave message at 619-972-6311.

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CAREGIVER - FALLBROOK
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have flexible availability including
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9am-5pm Monday-Friday: 760-7303955. 1207 Carlsbad Village Drive,
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Caregivers with reliable transportation. Quadriplegic care experience a plus. 24-hour and hourly shifts available. Must have flexible

Males encouraged to apply!



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8 ren#

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San Diego Reader December 31,

2015

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South Bay

CHULA VISTA, \$400.

Female to share my home in Chula Vista senior park, 50+. \$400/ month includes utilities. 619-948-7142 or 619-426-6239.

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Commercial Rentals



DOWNTOWN, \$250-495.

paces and retail available, 636 C Street, 92101, Inquire inside (Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www

MISCELLANEOUS

RV SPACES FOR RENT. East County. Rent \$450-\$550 ionth. 50-amp service. High-speed iternet. 619-443-0262.

TIJUANA, \$300

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Beaches

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BAY PARK, \$1295. 1BD+1BA large downstairs apartment close to bay. New carpet/vinyl. Stove, refrigerator, laundry. Small, quiet complex. No pets. 4344 Ingulf Street #2. Agent, 619-232-6811.

BAY PARK, \$1695.
2BD+1BA large downstairs unit close to bay. Small yard. Stove, refrigerator, laundry. Small, quiet complex. No pets 4344 Ingulf Street #1. Agent, 619-232-6811

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1245.

18D-1BA; stove, refrigerator; shared patic; parking; very quiet; in a 4-unit property near the bay in Crown Point; no pets, no smoking; available 1/15/16; 3753 Jewell Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1250.

1BD-1BA updated upper unit. Quiet.
Ceiling fans, microwave, dishwasher,
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pets, nonsmoking. Available now. 2006
Diamond Street. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1325. 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, \$1375.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1.375.

1BD+1BA; large upstairs unit with updated kitchen and bath; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; sparkling pool; coin laundry; parking; elevator; available 1/25/16; 1433 Oliver Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1395.

1BD+1BA; large upstairs unit with private balcony; stove, refrigerator. private balcony; stove, retrigerator, 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-

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1575.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1.575.
2BD+2BA; downstairs unit in Crown
Point; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher;
1-car garage; coin laundry; fireplace; no
pets; 1-year lease required; available
1/17/16; 4122 Jewell Street. 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; pool; elevator; EZ freeway access; available 1/16/16. 4730 Noves Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

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 cean; available 1/20/16; 1072 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

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DOWNTOWN, \$500-655.

DOWNTOWN, \$500-655.
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298-7724.

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MIRA MESA, \$1650. 2BD-1BA condo. Water/sewer/trash included. Washer/dryer in unit, wall A/C. 10162 Camino Ruiz. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, peoplehelpingothers.com.

MISSION VALLEY, \$1700.

2BD+2BA upstairs condo, Mission Verde. Freshly painted, new carpeting, carport parking, community pool. 6171 Rancho Mission Road #313. Leasing Unlimited, Lic#00976056, 760-436-7372

North County Coastal

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I FUCADIA \$3000

LEUCADIA, \$3000. 3BR+1BA house west of 101. Hardwood floors, updated kitchen & bath. Fenced yard, off-street parking. 427 La Veta. Leasing Unlimited, Lic #00976056, 760-436-7273.

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9451.

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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.

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NORTH PARK, \$1050.

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2015 San Diego Reader December 31,

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KEN COHEN WORKSHOP Eight
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of San Diego, 4229 Park Blvd., San
Diego, 92103. 619-692-1155 or www.
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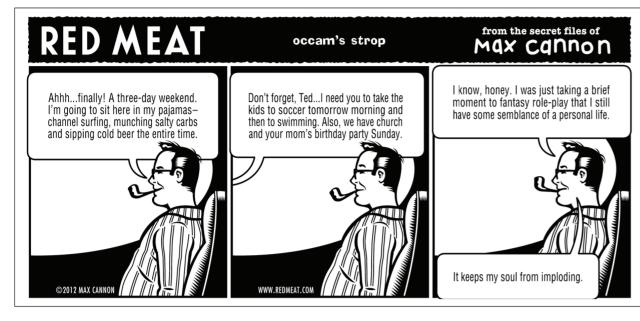
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Most Regular Vehicles

OFF THE CUFF

What should be done with Qualcomm Stadium when/if the Chargers leave?

F/SDReader Question of the day!

PATRICK SENNETT: Blow it up and fill the hole with peacock bass!!!! Call it Spanos pit!!!

MARCUS COLEMAN: Homeless shelter.

AMY OBEE: Blow that eye sore up.

CO: Too soon bro

MICHAEL TIMSON TYMCZYCZN: Center for the Arts. Open stages also like Hollywood Rowl

ENRIQUE MONTIEL: Raves.

JESSIE RAY RUBALCABA: Take down put up low income housing

DAVE LOWENSTEIN: A Walmart with a Target inside of it

JOSEPH CORREDOR: Knock it down and build a High School of Emergency Management between earthquakes, wildfires and other disasters....



DONALD E SCHORTMANN SR: I moved out of San Diego to Las Vegas years ago. Whore House's are legal here. Turn it into a GIANT WHORE HOUSE for the Navy & Marines.

DONALD HEILIG: Make it for a quarter mile drag racing

DONALD KIRK: Round up all of the homeless in the county and house them there. Stock the San Diego river with fish so they can eat. Let's clean up our city.

DANIEL BOGGS: Bury the Padres in it

DAVID O'MATTY: Fill It with water and scuba

ROBERT HOFFMAN: Rebuild for a pro. Baskethall team.

SCOTT WILSON: Condos.

DANIEL KNIGHTON: Cemetery, just like it is now.

PINA COLAMUSSI: MLS!

TERRY L. SHELDON: Reinstate the Roman games! Ben Hur against Dean Spanos in a chariot race?! Or, how about filling the Q with water and pit Shamu against the assholes at PETA!

ARNE N SUNDT: Leave no stone intact and seed the land with salt so that its taxpayer funded ilk may never rise again.

BILL DUSTING: Aussie Rules football and cricket.

JULIE BRADBURY-HOYT: It should become a gigantic dog park.

JORDAN KRIMSTON: A giant flaming pentagram

TIEN V NGUYEN: Have the Raiders move in.



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San Diego Reader December 31, 2015 2

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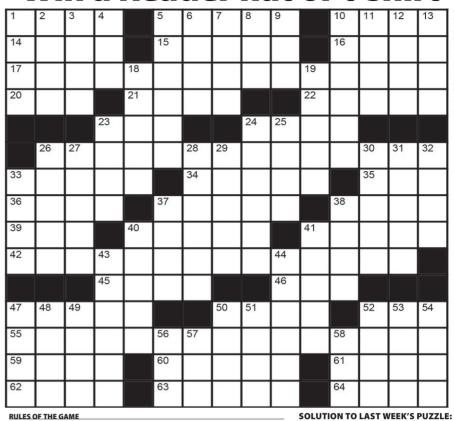
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RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the Redder each week for our origining 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!

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 4) Entires must be attacked to 619-231-04893 for malied to neader Puzzle, 23-23 Broadows) surgious, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and e-mailed to puzzlesgedreadercom. <u>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.</u>

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.

61. Restful places

62. Like some details

designation

1. Word from a crib

2. Commotions that arise from

turning a soda backwards?

3. Cy Young Award winner Greinke

10. His last film, "Plan 9 from Outer

three years after his death

Space," was released in 1959,

64. "Chop-chop!"

4. CPR pro

5. Legal scholar

9. Crumple (up)

12. Citrus drinks

19. Gives off

24. "As if!"

25. Toot

13. Louisiana's Long

18. Financial guru Suze

23. Flight figures, for short

26. Mixed martial artist Rousey

27. 15-time NBÁ All-Star who

on Twitter

28. Show clearly

29. ____ wave **30.** 100 kopecks

31. Put in prison

32. Lip

who was the first U.S. woman

announced his retirement

to win an Olympic medal in judo

11. Goofs

6. "Good show, old.

8. Prior to, in poems

7. Monotonous routines

Down

63. Most common blood

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. Bewildered state
- 5. Lands' End competitor
- 10. Remini of "The King of Queens"
- **14.** U2 bassist Clayton or longtime U.S. congressman Clayton Powell 15. Sci-fi character whose first name,
- Nyota, meaning "Star" in Swahili, was revealed in a 2009 film
- 16. Its alphabet reads from right to
- 17. "The medical practitioner just ingested a brand of antiperspirant!"
- **20.** Pose, as a question
- 21. Features of some jeans
- 22. Like some forest ground
- 23. Mommy's triplets?
- 24. Kimonó securers
- **26.** "The decayed material just
- ingested four parts of a car!" **33.** First name in late-night
- 34. Carpentry tools
- 35. Thurman whose mother, Nena. was briefly married to LSD guru Timothy Leary
- **36.** Small bills
- 37. Raise the price of, at an auction
- 38. Goes down
- 39. Dietary std.
- **40.** Aid in finding sunken ships
- **41.** Rand McNally publication
- 42. "The good friend just ingested Aiax!"
- **45.** Tales of old
- 46. Small amount?
- _, Bonaire and Curacao (Caribbean's ABC islands)
- 50. Elisabeth of "Cocktail"
- 52. Eurozone peak
- "The cotillion honoree just ingested Time, People and GQ!'
- **59.** Candid
- 60. Unlocked?

Е	N	E		Н		T	Ε	С	Н		S	0	U	Р
R	Е	В		T	М	Н	Е	R	Е		Α	Ν	Ν	Е
1	С	В	М	S			J	Е	L	L	Υ	J	Α	R
S	0	Y	Α		Α	K	Α		В	1	Ν	Α	R	Y
С	U	R	В		U	Е	Υ		Υ	Α	0			
0	R	Υ		Е	В	В		М	L	В		В	S	S
Р	S	Α		Ν	R	Α		0	Υ	L		Α	Р	Р
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			М	U	Υ		Т	Е	Ν		L	Υ	R	Α
G	0	D	Е	Е	Р		Α	Y	Е		0	В	Е	Υ
S	W	Α	D	D	L	Е	S			K	L	U	Т	Е
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Α	Т	Υ	Α		Z	1	Ν	G	Ε	R		Ρ	R	0
R	0	L	L		Α	L	G	R	Е	Ν		S	Е	Ν

PODPANDAS ISLA

- 33. The "C" of FDIC: Abbr.
- 37. Participant in an 1899 conflict
- 38. Popular online crafts site
- **40.** Brown ermine
- **41.** Gets the pot started
- 43. Only U.S. state capital whose last two letters are its state's postal abbreviation
- Subject of the 1987 biography "Cory: Profile of a President"
- 47. Words following "work like" or "sick as"
- 48. Towed-away auto, maybe
- 49. Lyft competitor
- **50.** Hit the mall, say
- **51.** "____ goes!" **52.** Polly, to Tom Sawyer
- **53.** Actress Dunham
- **54.** [Hey, you!]
- 56. Ballpark fig.
- **57.** "____ will be done"
- **58.** Certain sib

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check you anking and communicate with each tother! 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 from the Thursday your name appears in print to the

- following Hursday at 5 p.m.

 Martha Awdziewicz,
 Clairemont, 8.

 L. Barling, El Cajon, 8.

 John Bruno, Escondido, 8.

 A. Ballard, Chula Vista, 6.
- William Brewer, La Mesa, 6.

Name:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:

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THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

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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 SDRreader.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.

6

5

3 2

4

3 1

5

6 2 1 5

4

2 8

3

3

4

9

7 6

4

5

4) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

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- 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

MEDIUM:

	4			1		6		
5								
1		7		2			4	
	9		2		3	7		8
			7		1			
4		8	9		6		2	
	8			6		5		2
								4
		3		9			1	

HARD:

7

1

EASY:

9

2

3

4

3

1

2

4

8

	8				5		7	
						9		
				2	6			3
4			2	7				
6		3	4		9	8		1
				6	3			5
2			6	9				
		1						
	4		8				1	

EVIL:

		8						
7	6		8	3				
			6	5		4		
1							3	2
	2	6				7	9	
3	7							6
		4		2	5			
				7	3		8	4
						2		

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

1 4 8 7 2 6 5 9 3 9 3 7 5 8 4 6 1 2 6 2 5 3 1 9 7 8 4 7 6 2 4 5 1 9 3 8 4 5 3 8 9 2 1 6 7 8 9 1 6 3 7 2 4 5 5 8 9 1 7 3 4 2 6

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9	4	1	6	7	8	3	2	5						
3	8	5	2	9	4	1	6	7						
7	6	2	3	5	1	4	9	8						
2	7	6	1	4	9	8	5	3						
4	5	3	7	8	6	9	1	2						
1	9	8	5	2	3	7	4	6						

MEDIUM:

3	4	2	5	7	8	6	9	1
8	5	1	4	6	9	3	7	2
6	9	7	3	1	2	5	8	4
7	3	9	2	8	1	4	5	6
4	1	5	6	3	7	9	2	8
2	6	8	9	4	5	1	3	7
9	8	6	1	2	3	7	4	5
5	7	4	8	9	6	2	1	3
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EVIL:

6	2	4	8	1	7	5	3	9	2	7	6	5	9	8	4	3	1
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	9	8	5	2	3	7	4	6	6	8	3	4	1	2	7	9	5

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

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.

- Carole Ball, San Diego, 6.
- Robert Crumrine, San Diego, 6.
- Jeff Ball, San Diego, 6.
- Isabella Busch-Sorensen,
- San Diego, 6. Kendra Shaw, San Diego, 6.
- We cannot accept your entry without the following: Address:_ State: Zip Code:



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San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

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LEAD STORY

- "Service" animals (mostly guide dogs) are ones that have been specially trained to provide help for people with disabilities, but untrained "comfort" animals are also privileged for those diagnosed with panic attacks or depression. In an October report on college students hoping to keep their pets in no-animal dorms, The New York Times noted that school officials have entertained student requests for the "comfort" of (besides dogs and cats) lizards, potbellied pigs, tarantulas, ferrets, guinea pigs, and "sugar gliders" (nocturnal, flying, six-ounce Australian marsupials). Informal Justice Department guidelines rule out only animals that are aggressive or destructive or that trigger other students' allergies.

Good Jobs, Bad Jobs

— A chapter of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals undertook one of its favorite consciousness-raising tactics in August, demanding that Pennsylvania officials erect a roadside grave marker near Lancaster at the spot where a tractor-trailer hauling 80 pigs overturned, killing several of them. The "terrified animals" that suffered traumatic deaths should be memorialized by the community, PETA said. The pigs, of course, would have eventually found their way to a slaughterhouse, and it is possible that the ones euthanized as a result of the accident passed more peacefully than the "survivors."

In October, the Washington Post and the New York Post separately reported recent episodes of government agencies keeping high-earning employees on the payroll for more than a year,

with no job assignment, because the agencies were unable to adjudicate their misconduct cases. Almost 100 shelved Homeland Security employees turned up in a *Washington Post* Freedom of Information Act request, and one information technology analyst warehoused by the New York City employee pension fund said she had earned \$1.3 million over 10 years doing absolutely no work for the city. "I watched movies," said Niki Murphy. "I crocheted — right in front of [supervisors]."

Booze Does the Darndest Things!

— In October, a 20-year-old man in Macomb Township, Michigan, became the most recent alleged drunk driver to reveal himself in the most awkward of ways: by accidentally swerving into the midst of a sheriff's deputies' roadside stop — of another alleged drunk driver. (Coincidentally, both arrestees were 20 and registered matching 0.17 bloodalcohol readings.)

— In September, Audrey McColm, 25, trafficstopped in Randolph County, Indiana, for driving "erratic(ally)," became the latest parent ratted out by her child. When Mom denied having been drinking, her daughter, 7, blurted out, "Yes, you have, Mom." McColm registered 0.237, had nearly hit another officer's car headon, and was so hammered that she "urged" a different officer to "shoot her in the head."

Navigators Wanted

— Drivers who blindly follow their vehicle's satellite navigation with disastrous results are almost No Longer Weird, but a truck driver's

mishap in Ashton, England, in October still seemed worthy of reporting — in that he was working for a company called Dachser Intelligent Logistics when his tractor-trailer got stuck in a narrow alley (directed there by the sat-nav, in violation of all common sense). (Bonus: It was not the first time sat-nav had misdirected a vehicle into the same alley; the town had even placed a formal traffic sign at the approach to the alley: "Do Not Follow Sat Nav Next Left.")

Police Report

— New Hampshire state police laid down spiked "stop sticks" in November to slow down a fleeing Joshua Buzza, 37, near Greenland, New Hampshire. Buzza was apprehended, but not before he managed to avoid the sticks while goading the drivers of three squad cars over them (flattening several tires).

Updates

— In October, the federal government finally unloaded the two New Hampshire properties it seized in 2007 from dentist Elaine Brown and her husband (after a nine-month standoff following their vow to die rather than pay their back-taxes to the IRS). Their 100-acre "compound" became a magnet at the time for an array of "sovereigns" and tax-resisters, who were rumored to have booby-trapped the property to ward off law enforcement — and the 2015 auction only partially guaranteed that the property was free of hidden explosives. (News of the Weird's 2007 story included Dr. Brown as one of three U.S. dentists who, independent

of each other, had become obsessed about federal taxes. The Browns are serving 30-year prison terms.)

— High school principal George Kenney believes he has a gift to aid students' concentration abilities — hypnotism — and practiced it extensively at North Port High in Sarasota, Florida, until 2011, when three of his students died in separate incidents (two by suicide). While Kenney enjoys retirement in North Carolina, the Sarasota school board did not close the chapter until October 2015 when it granted \$200,000 settlements to the families of the three students. The lawsuits complained of Kenney's unlicensed "medical procedure," which altered the "underdeveloped" teenage brain — but Kenney had also pointed to improvements in studying by other students.

— White supremacist Craig Cobb has not given up. News of the Weird noted in 2013 that he was attempting to buy property in Leith, North Dakota (pop. 16), to turn the town into a deluxe Caucasian enclave, but there was local resistance — and Cobb was revealed by a TV program's DNA test to himself be 14 percent "sub-Saharan African." Cobb has not yet disproved the result, but has moved his target to (according to recent reports) either Red Cloud, Nebraska (pop. 978), or Antler, North Dakota (pop. 28) (which is seeking crowdsourced funding online to preventively buy the vacant property Cobb has his eyes on).

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com









BEER

Hair of the Hog 3: New Year's Brunch 2016 Join Mike Hess Brewing and Carnitas Snack Shack for third Annual New Year's Day Brunch, buffet-style. Mike Hess Brewing and Chef Hanis Cavin will be ringing in the 2016 with the first beer of the New Year along with all of the fixings of a whole hog, roasted on-site! Brunch will run from 11am to 2pm. Tickets are \$40 per person (plus sales tax and BPT service fee) for all the food you can eat and all the beer you care to drink. Designated drivers and minor children can eat for \$25. Friday, January 1, 11am; \$25-\$40. Mike Hess Brewing North Park, 3812 Grim Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Lost Abbey Keep the Pint Night Buy any Lost Abbey beer and get a free pint glass while supplies last. Wednesday, January 6, 5pm; Common Theory Public House, 4805 Convoy Street. (KEARNY

New Year's Day Firkin Friday Remedy your NYE hangover with Hamiltons/Green Flash 8th Anniversary (2014) Wheat Wine on cask and 9th Anniversary on draught. Friday, January 1, 1pm; Hamilton's Tavern, 1521 30th Street. (SOUTH

Stone Company Store 2015 Year in Review Stone is packing 365 days of special-release beers into six days for a last hurrah to 2015. The limited beers from 2015

will be available at all Stone Company Stores on a first come, first served basis until they run out and some limits may apply. Pours will be available at Stone Company Stores in Escondido, Liberty Station, Oceanside and On Kettner. Growlers fills available at all Stone Company Store locations. Thursday, December 31, 11am; free. 21 and up. Stone Brewing Co., 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Walking Brewery & Pizza Tour We start our beer adventure with a chat about the local beer scene in San Diego and trek to our first stop which is Ballast Point Little Italy — the third largest producer of craft beer in San Diego county and one of a kind San Diego style! At Ballast Point, we will go do a

behind the scenes tour of the facility including the basics to make beer and the different types of beer that it creates. Afterwards, we will visit Bottle Craft Beer Shop which is a store dedicated to craft and worldwide beer. We will present special techniques and ways to evaluate beer and most importantly the essence of being a "beer geek." After exploring the sights of Little Italy, we will venture to one of the most famous spots to taste and savor San Diego Pizza. Enjov a a relaxing day sipping the best beers on the West Coast. Saturday, January 2, 11:30am; Sunday, January 3, 11:30am; \$49. 21 and up. Five Star Tours, 1050 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NEW YEAR'S EVE

4th Annual 2016 Black & White New Years Party Thursday, December 31, 8pm; W Hotel, 421 W. B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN

4th Annual Midnight Kiss New Years 2016 Thursday, December 31, 8pm; Bristol Hotel, 1055 First Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Above & Neon New Years Eve Bash Thursday, December 31, 22:00; \$50-\$120. 21 and up. Porto Vista Hotel & Suites, 1835 Columbia Street, (LITTLE ITALY)





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\$45 PRIVATE RESERVE 1.0 GR \$35 TOP SHELF 1.0 GR

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7g for \$45 10% off your order \$5 off wax (with \$60 donation) **Finally**

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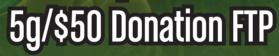


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I GRAM SKYWALKER OG **SHATTER \$20**

I GRAM CANDY KUSH **CRUMBLE \$20**



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5 STAR RATED ON WEEDMAPS · MENU UPDATED HOURLY WITH NEW PRODUCTS OPEN DAILY 9AM-MIDNIGHT! CONVENIENTLY LOCATED OFF OF COLLEGE AVE in LA MESA!

MUST BE 18+ with VALID CA ID & ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION



FIRST 24-HOUR COLLECTIVE FREE DONUTS 8AM-10AM &

PACIFIC BEACH

Delivery Hotline: 619-504-6785

FREE MUNCHIES DAILY!

OVER 70 STRAINS . CLINICALLY TESTED AND CERTIFIED MEDS . 2-STAMP SATURDAYS

S SPEGMI !!

Valid 12/30/15-1/7/16.

Any patient. 4 grams total!

Select strains.

3 GRAMS

House strain with \$20 min. donation. FTP only.

FREE EDIBLE

Donate for 1, get 1 free! Equal or lesser value. FTP only

1/8 PRIVATE RESERVE 550

5 GRAMS TOP-SHELF

7 GRAMS TOP-SHELF 570

FTP only.

GRAM

Private reserve with \$20 min. donation. FTP only.

2 GRAMS PRIVATE RESERVE STO

FTP only.

Select top-shelf strains. Any patient.

FTP only. 2 MAGIC J'S

三三 1/8TH

Selected strain w/\$20 donation.

SAU

4 HOUSE FIRE J'S STO

10% DISCOUNT FOR **DISABLED & VETERANS** TOP-SHELF FRIDAYS

Your choice of top-shelf just \$10/Gram! Any patient.

REFER A FRIEND, GET A FREE TOP-SHELF GRAMI



Offers cannot be combined.

Multiple Open 24/7! shelves of flowers & great selection of edibles,

ESS CARE

concentrates, and accessories!

COLLECTIVE

Check us out on Weedmaps!



1737 Garnet Ave

Enter through the back alley!

San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION!

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE VOLUNTEERS AT HERBAL LUST!



FRESH COFFEE & DONUTS 6AM-11AM DAILY!



DELIVERY HOTLINE: 619-504-6785

HILCREST'S 24-HR DISPENSARY & DELIVERY SERVICE

NON-PROFIT DISPENSARY • FREE MEDS FOR THOSE IN NEED • HANDICAP ACCESSION

\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS

Select strains. Any patient!



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\$100 IN-STORE COUPON!

Donate \$200 for any products or flowers in the store, get an additional \$100 to spend on products or flowers! Expires 1/5/16.

Happy New Year from your friends at Herbal Lust!

50% OFF ANY EDIBLI

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.

PURE GOLD CRUMBLE / OG SHATTER \$20 (0.5G)
OR \$35G

2 Gs OF PRIVATE RESERVE \$20

FTP only

CELEBRATE IN STYLE

COME SEE FOR YOURSELF
"STRAIN OF THE DAY" \$99 OF

Full nugs, not shake! Limit 1 per patient.

FlavR

\$25 (0.5G) OR \$40G

DONATE FOR 1, GET 1 FREE!



Vanilla Mango, Strawberry, Key Lime, and Pineapple Coconut flavors available!

OUR FLOWERS ARE CLINICALLY TESTED AND CERTIFIED!

wm

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!

EdiPure



















OPEN 24/7!



1255 University Ave, Suite B San Diego, CA 92103

619-919-5369

Please be discreet and respectful of our neighbors. Plenty of street parking nearby!







Jeffery Joint New Years Giveaway (14 grams of Top Shelf Flower, Shatter and Kief)
For every donation until New Year's Eve, receive a raffle ticket to win



Happy New Year!!!

Free Gram of MoonRock W/\$30 donation

ree 1/8th House Strain W/\$20 donation

Free 1/4th House Strain W/\$40 donation

Free Top Shelf Gram W/\$50 donation

Free Top Shelf 2 Gram W/\$100 donation

BOGO Wax/Crumble (select strains)

EVERYDAY SPECIAL

Wax/Crumble 4 grams \$100 Mix and match select strains

4 Grams of Flower \$50

Shatter 3 grams \$75 Mix and match select strains

With Coupon & Min Donation

All Seniors Citizens (65 & up), Disabled & Veterans come in for a 10% Discount

508-5

7640 University Ave., Suite B, La Mesa, CA 91942 • Sunday - Thursday 10 am - 10 pm • Friday & Saturday 10 am - 11 pm

FIRST TIME PATIENTS

S25 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

1/8th of Top Shelf Flower 1 Gram of Wax

\$100 FTP Package Deal

1/4 of Top Shelf Flower 1 Gram of Wax

S50 FTP Deal

1/8th of Top Shelf Flower 1 Hash Oil Vape Cartridge, 1 Battery

5100 FTP Deal

1/8th of Top Shelf Flower 2 Grams of Wax

00 FTP Package Deal

1/8th of Top Shelf Flower 2 Grams Kurupts Moon Rocks, 1 Gram Wax/Shatter

** Come to the shop to see all our FTP deals **

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

\$5 Off \$50, \$10 Off \$100

with Coupon & Min Donation

Offer expires 1/30/16.

1351 Broadway, El Cajon CA, 92021 • 10 am - 10 pm EVERY DAY

BroadwayGreen

(619) 567-2629



Free Gram of MoonRock
W/\$30 donation

Free 1/8th House Strain
W/\$20 donation

Free Top Shelf Gram
W/\$50 donation

Free 1/4th House Strain
W/\$40 donation

Free Top Shelf 2 Grams
W/\$100 donation

BOGO Wax/Crumble (select strains)

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

O

@thecure_619 All Senior Citizens (65 & up), Disabled & Veterans come in for a 10% Discount

EAR' Happy Hour All Day Every Day OG Fire Wax \$25/0.5G Free Mini Rig Magic J's: 1 for \$20 or 2 for \$35 All top shelf \$10/gram House Shake \$70 0Z \$2 off Kushy Punch Private reserve \$15/gram Open \$2 off Edipure \$5 off MoonRock 24/7 After \$50 donation

905WbMainStyElCajon92020

24-HOUR FOLLEGTIVES IN EL CAJON!

FREE TACOS!
FRI, 1/1, 12-6PM
Free tacos with any donation!

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 WEIGHT FORK NOW AVAILABLE!

5 Top-Shelf GS for \$25 is Back!
Select strains, any patient.

Hree Medicated Cotton Candy & Popcorni

Any patient with any donation!

Add us on barkback

Join our loyalty program! • Mexican candy edibles available! Friendly, knowledgeable, beautiful staff

Our buds are clinically tested and certified!

ATM On-Site • 10% Discount for Veterans! All day, every day! Parking on the side of the building • Armed security for your safety



Edipure









Roshy Punch



MODNROCK

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



DELIVERY HOTLINE: 619-504-6785

House strain, with min. \$20 donation.

FREE COFFEE

HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY EVERY DAY

Any patient.

FIRE WAX \$25/0.5G

TRE MNI RG

Any patient, with purchase of two grams of wax.

MAGIC J'S: 1 FOR \$20 OR 2 FOR \$35

HOUSE SHAKE \$70 OZ

OFF KUSHY PUNCH

Any patient.

Pre-Rolls \$10

ALL TOP SHELF \$10/GRAM Any patient.

ESERVE \$15/GRAM Any patient.

OFF MOONROCK

After \$50 donation.

Edibles from \$5

S2 OFF EDIPURE Any patient.

Lemon Grove Way



Lester Ave

PLEASE BE RESPECTFUL OF OUR NEIGHBORS WHEN COMING AND LEAVING OUR BUSINESS.

FEEL FREE TO COMBINE OUR OFFERS!

7973 NORTH AVE. LEMON GROVE, CA 91945

Broadway



Y=201=7-54

LEMON GROVE WELLNESS CENTER

OPENALL DAY, EVERY DAY



EARLY BIRD SPECIAL: 10% OFF!

Valid for any patient from 5am-9am daily.

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.

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 NOW AVAILABLE!

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for \$25
is Back!
Select strains, any patient.

Hree Medicated Cotton Candy & Popcorn!

Any patient with any donation!

Add us on barkback

Join our loyalty program! • Mexican candy edibles available! Friendly, knowledgeable, beautiful staff

Our buds are clinically tested and certified!

ATM On-Site • 10% Discount for Veterans! All day, every day! Parking on the side of the building • Armed security for your safety















KURUPTS P











96 San Diego Reader December 31, 2015

www.PLPCC.org







The Best Selection of O.G.'s & Exotic Exclusive Strains Chula Vista Has Ever Seen!

FIRST TIME PATIENT SPECIALS!

FREE GRAM ANY STRAIN!

(After 1/8th Donation of Equal Shelf)

\$10 OFF All 1G Concentrate

(Shatter, Wax, Crumble, Bubble Hash)

2G/\$25 ANY STRAIN (F.T.P. Only)

FREE 1/8th

(House Strain, with Top Shelf 1/8th Donation)

Donate 1 Edible. Receive 1 Edible (Equal or Lesser Value, FTP only)

\$90 Ounce Special! (Select House Strain, FTP only)

Hours: OPEN DAILY 8am - Midnight

DAILY SPECIALS!

2G/\$30 ANY STRAIN All Strains, All Day!

(Best Strains in Chula Vista)

2G/\$100 Prime Extractions Shatter Select Strains

HGH / MISS NUG RUN Half Gram /\$30 (Mix & Match, NO Limit!)

\$60 / 1/2 OZ. SPECIAL Select House Strains!

\$80 / OZ. TOP SHELF Shake Special

(Select Strains of Shake)

Shatter/Crumble

(619) 577-7234

1141 3rd Ave · Chula Vista, CA91911

La Vista's Green Lany

AVAILABLE!

Chula Vista CA 91911 near THIRD and OXFORD

OVER 100 STRAINS TO CHOOSE FROM! **FTP DEALS**

FREE Top-Shelf G+ ONE GRAM CARTRIDGE \$20

FREE G of Kief + 2 Grams Private Reserve \$25 FREE Pre-Roll Voted best private reserve in Chula Vista! Over 40 strains! FTP only

\$10 TOP-SHELF GRAMS! NO LIMIT!

150MG EDIBLES \$5

EVERYDAY DEALS

FREE 1/8th of MID-SHELF Donate \$45 for 1/8th of mid-shelf, get 1 free! Over 20 strains to choose from!

Happy Hour: 5-Gram 1/8ths

Kushtown Sodas \$8

Mighty Meds Starter Kit

Wax: Miss Nug Run · Punch Extracts Offers cannot be combined

4G 1/8THS ALL DAY, EVERY DAY! **FREE ATM USE**

24-HR SECURITY

VOTED BEST FLOWER IN CHULA VISTA!

7 DAYS: 8AM-MIDNIGHT

Spring Valley, CA 91977

10am-11pm, 7 days

10% OFF FOR VETERANS.

SENIORS. & DISABLED





















\$45 CAP ON TOP SHELF STRAINS

FTP Gold Pack \$50

49 Top Shelf 1.5 Mid Shelf 3 pre rolls 1 Edible

Ask about our VIP list for extra specials

7g for \$50 (select strains)

1/2 0z for \$100 (select strains)

Buy 2 Get 1 Free! Casa Luna 250mg bars

CALL FOR DELIVERY 619-735-0872



Vendors welcome!



