



SAN DIEGO
Reader

VOLUME 45 / NUMBER 51
DECEMBER 22, 2016

Seahorse DREAMS

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the mice are back

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LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, x460; address them to Letters, 2323 Broadway #200, San Diego, CA 92102; or submit them through our website at SDReader.com/letters.

Include your name, address, and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

The Work Will Never Be Done

Re: "San Diego Climate Cleanup Report Card Is In," News Ticker, December 15

The report says there's a lot more work to be done, but I'm curious when the work will be done. I don't think it will ever be done until we're riding donkeys to the rice fields at the end of a barrel of an AK-47, like in North Korea.

John
via voicemail

Bicycle Boulevards

The problems that City Heights residents are having with the city's traffic engineering group ("Planners Displeased with Bikeway Plans," Neighborhoods News, December 15), are coming to a street near you! The city wants to take away parking along one side of El Cajon Boulevard in City Heights and eliminate left turns to the south. All of this so that a tiny number of bicyclists will have their own lanes to ride in.

Unfortunately, this destruction of our right to use our roads is going to spread more and more around San Diego. Our mayor and city council members want it to spread. Many of them want fewer parking spaces to force people to not drive. They want lanes taken away from drivers and given to a handful of people on bikes.

Look what they recently did, voting unanimously to increase congestion downtown by taking away many lanes from cars and designating them for a few bicyclists

only.

Other areas in town have suffered the same type of problem City Heights is now going through. And our city's Bicycle Master Plan Update calls for turning many of our roads into "bicycle boulevards," designed to slow down vehicle traffic by installing speed bumps in the roads and other devices to slow cars down. The only way to stop this destruction of our roads is to replace our mayor and our city council members with people who care about all San Diegans, not just the few with bikes.

Richard Robertson
Navajo

We Call 'em Bums

I just wanted to comment on "Waves Crash Behind Them: Musicians, Hippies, and Travelers in Ocean Beach" (December 8 cover story). When I was a kid we called them "bums," and we still do.

Noah Bum
Ocean Beach

Something Going On

I picked up the December 8 issue of the Reader and I just have to tell you that I'm so happy to see that journalism is alive and well. I mean, you guys always do well with Don Bauder and a bunch of other writers that you have, but this time I was really taken by "It Costs a Lot to Drink Sewer Water" (City Lights) by Julie Stalmer.

What an excellent article. I mean, just the documentation and how she was able to put it together opens the eyes of a lot of people in San Diego who know that something is going on, but what it is we're not quite sure. It just points again to the incredible work that you do with your staff and your writers. You do some really incredible work. If it wasn't for you, a lot of this stuff wouldn't even be known. So, I just want to take off my hat and tell you thank you very much.

Every time that you document unethical political cronyism — I mean, under this story alone it's going to top \$3 billion — that's incredible information for the voter to have at hand. Thank you very

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San Diego Reader

SanDiegoReader.com
619.235.3000

December 22, 2016



PHOTOGRAPH BY NEAL MATTHEWS

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Chinese hotel cleared for Harbor Drive

Security threat to new Navy regional HQ? Nowhere is America's face-off with mainland China in the dawning era of president-elect Donald Trump more materially mapped than the corner of Broadway and Harbor Drive in downtown San Diego.

There, ex-*Union-Tribune* publisher and Republican kingpin Douglas Manchester, one of the state's biggest donors to the Trump campaign, is readying plans to create his long-sought Navy Broadway Complex, a high-rise regional Navy headquarters adjacent to luxury hotels, offices,



Construction of a 90 percent Chinese-owned hotel is proceeding at the corner of Broadway and Harbor Drive.

and retail.

Though critics have blasted the behemoth for its overwhelming size, architectural bloat, and absence of significant public access, the complex's long march has proceeded over all manner of objections.

The last obvious impediment to what the ex-publisher calls Manchester Pacific Gateway evaporated last week when the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal of a lawsuit against the project, charging that the Navy had not adequately addressed the environmental impacts of a terrorist attack on the cluster of towers.

Plaintiff's lawyer Cory Briggs confirmed in an email that his client's legal battle against the 2.9-million-square-foot project — on 15 acres of Navy bayfront land leased to Manchester for 99 years — ended with the high court's decision not to consider its appeal.

But might there be other shoes to drop — in the form of Trump-administration blowback against the government of China, whose China Orient Asset Management International is 90 percent equity owner of the 400-room Intercontinental Hotel now going up across the street from Navy Broadway?

The Chinese Intercontinental equity ownership was revealed well after the Navy and local regulators had signed off on the Manchester project and before November's election.

Manchester now must come up with another hefty round of funding to build the Navy Broadway complex, estimated to ultimately cost \$1.3 billion, and which in addition to the Navy headquarters, is set to feature two posh hotels requiring megamillion-dollar financings.

"Manchester said he hopes to finalize by Dec. 29 the addition of an unnamed joint venture partner to help redevelop the Navy Broadway Complex at the foot of Broadway," the *Union-Tribune* reported November 4.

The idea of using the Chinese as partners of last resort for Manchester's Navy project might or might not appeal to the new administration, with questions about the willingness of Trump-nominated secretary of defense James "Mad Dog" Mattis, a Marine ex-general, to sign off on a controversial foreign deal that would rekindle nagging issues of terrorism and espionage.

This October, the Obama administration's Treasury-led Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States blocked a takeover of the Hotel del Coronado by mainland Chinese-owned Anbang Insurance Group, citing the luxury hotels' proximity to a bastion of nearby military facilities, per a report by *Bloomberg News*.

On December 8, Democratic House member Alan Lowenthal wrote U.S. Treasury secretary Jacob Lew requesting an investigation into the rumored sale to the Chinese of a Long Beach hotel adjacent to that city's Navy base.

Said Lowenthal of a recent trip to China, "We were constantly informed that you cannot say anything in your hotel room. Everything is wired."

All of which may or may not leave Manchester's hunt for a partner twisting in the wind — or at least make it costlier — as an incoming president Trump turns up the heat on the Chinese government, forcing Manchester to call on more expensive domestic sources of capital, if available.

Matt Potter

The holistic marine terminal

Port district's expansion plan gets decent grade

A group numbering several dozen environmental activists along with residents of Barrio Logan and surrounding communities gathered at the Port of San Diego on December 13 to cheer the port's board of directors as they approved an environmental impact report that will pave the way for a fourfold expansion of the 10th Avenue Marine Terminal, which handles a large portion of San Diego's

continued on page 28

San Diego needs more trees

Water conservation backfiring?

By Don Bauder

San Diego needs many more trees and must take better care of the sparse trees it has.

Trees shade us from the sun, reduce urban heat and noise, save energy, raise property values, improve air and water quality, mitigate climate-change effects, and create wildlife habitats, among many positive benefits.

The city seriously lags in the planting and maintenance of trees. It has a tree canopy — the layer of leaves, branches, and stems that cover the ground, as seen from the air — that is remarkably low for an American city. Tree San Diego, a nonprofit set up in 2014, says the local tree canopy is 60 to 70 percent below what it should be for the health of humans and the environment.

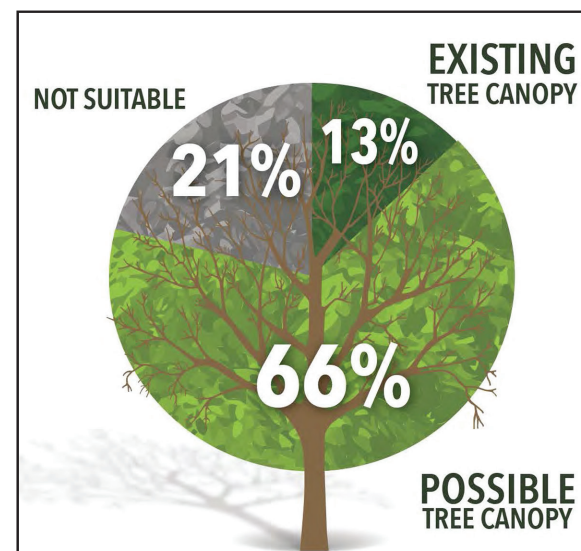
What's the problem? San Diego has a Mediterranean climate featuring long periods without moisture. Even drought-tolerant trees can die, and trees are more susceptible to disease when they get little water. Political correctness gets part of the blame. Says Anne Fege, chair of the City of San Diego Community Forest Advisory Board, "During this drought, businesses and government agencies have turned off irrigation systems to get credit for 'gallons saved,' so trees have died across the region. Even the strictest drought restrictions allow for watering trees."

Other big problems are indifference and neglect. Between 1985 and 2002, San Diego area tree cover

dropped 29 percent while the urban area expanded 41 percent, according to a study by American Foresters. In the past decade, San Diego's tree health and canopy cover have declined sharply, says Fege. Among the causes were "deferred

staff "clearly is insufficient" for the city's forestry program. Community leaders, business, and the public must push to get the budgets to acceptable levels. At one point, San Diego city councilmembers recommended funding the planting of 2000 trees in fiscal 2017, along with restoring some staff positions and removing tree planting from the lowly "amenity" status. However, the tree planting was not funded.

"I think trees and the urban tree canopy have been a low priority for all



Source: October 2016 San Diego Tree Canopy Assessment

maintenance" and "a constrained municipal budget," she says. Few local politicians realize the importance of street and park trees.

"At the low point in about 2010, the city had three tree trimmers, a park arborist, a forester in the undergrounding utilities' capital improvement program, but no city forester or arborist for street trees," says Fege. Later, the staff was increased by two positions, but according to a 2012 report by the Society of American Foresters, 12 large U.S. cities had an average urban forestry staff of 39, ranging from 7 to 171.

Fege warns that San Diego's comparatively small

our local governments, especially during the Great Recession," says Bill Tip-pets, retired supervisor of the state's Habitat Conservation Programs for Southern California. Trees and the urban canopy "are likely to stay as a foster child in city functions until the value of the urban tree canopy assessment is accepted by and integrated into the City of San Diego's — and the region's — climate action plans."

According to an urban tree canopy assessment completed this summer, the San Diego urban tree canopy covers an unimpressive 13 percent of the land area. "The 13 percent

canopy is low,” says Jarlath O’Neil-Dunne, head of the spatial analysis laboratory at the University of Vermont and quarterback of the San Diego assessment. “New York City has 21 percent and San Jose has 15 percent.” He does take climate differences into account. Also, he warns, “With no or limited arborists, [San Diego] will have difficulty not only maintaining the tree canopy it has but dealing with dangerous or hazardous trees. Trees are an important part of the green infrastructure, and not maintaining them will cost the city more in the long run.”

According to the urban canopy assessment, 21 percent of the San Diego urban area is not suitable for trees, but 66 percent is potentially available for planting trees. The University of Vermont study shows that Solana Beach, Del Mar, and Encinitas are the only cities in the county with an urban canopy of more than 20 percent.

“San Diego has few native trees,” says Fege, as chaparral and coastal sage habitats dominate native vegetation. However, “coast live oaks grow throughout



Torrey Pines State Reserve

the county.” They are slow-growing and commonly planted in urban areas. Cottonwood, willow, and sycamore trees grow along rivers and creeks, but they require extra irrigation and space when planted as street, park, or residential trees.

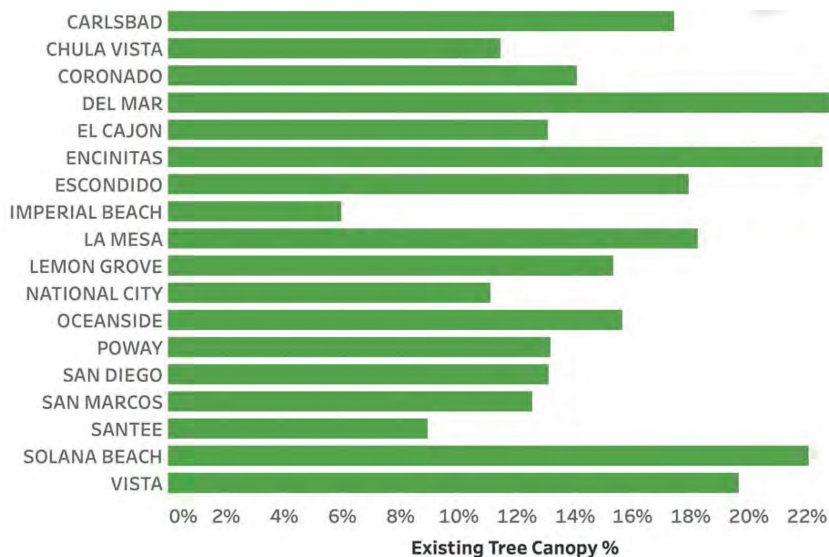
“For me, the Torrey pine is a good tree for coastal areas, where it is naturally found,” says Derek Langsford, biology practices manager at Escondido’s Tierra Data, Inc. “It may be the most ideally suited tree for our region that doesn’t need a lot of supplemental resources — water, fertilizer — to do well.” (The Torrey pine is a rare species that grows naturally only in the Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve and one of the

Channel Islands, but people grow them from seeds and plant them elsewhere.)

San Diego’s Mediterranean climate (dry summers and wet winters) is ideal for trees native to Australia, South Africa, Chile, Spain, and Italy. However, many kinds of trees have been planted in the county with “mixed success,” says Fege.

An example is the massive planting of eucalyptus trees shortly after the year 1900. According to a 1970 article in the *Journal of San Diego History*, the Santa Fe Railway (short for the renowned Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe) decided it wanted eucalyptus trees to be used as railroad ties. In 1906 it bought the property now known as Rancho

continued on page 28



Source: October 2016 San Diego Tree Canopy Assessment

UNDER THE RADAR

Ace in Foxhill's holes

Former *U-T* publisher and mayoral money-

man **Douglas Manchester**

has been stirring the genteel reaches of the late **Helen Copley's** Foxhill estate ever

since he bought the lavish spread up the hill from

the La Jolla Country Club in July of last year for \$17 million. Some

wanted to designate the property a historic site, a notion dashed

by aging ex-Copley vice president **Richard Crouch** before

Manchester closed his purchase. “While certainly pleasing,” said

Crouch in a letter to the city, “the home has been modified and changed over the years in keeping

with their personal taste and those of **David C. Copley**, their son. I am sure that the Copley's [sic],

were they alive today, would agree that the home is not architecturally significant to warrant historic designation.” Now Manchester has upped the ante

by building a private mini-golf course on some adjacent property he owns contemplated for

future development of a mansion.

“All we have done is taken what was already designated as an area in which a house could be built, and we've put a big lawn there and we have

made a few (golf) holes,” Manchester recently told the *La Jolla Light*, which he sold last year, along with the *Union-Tribune* and a raft of small papers, to the Chicago's Tribune Publishing, now known as tronc. “It's an amenity to our existing estate. It's not open to the public and we have preserved

the open space.” But whether the improvement is legal, the city — run by GOP mayor **Kevin Faulconer**, a major recipient of Manchester's money and favorable newspaper coverage — won't yet tell.

“The City of San Diego is currently investigating this matter, and it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time,” the *Light* quoted Development Services Department spokesman **Bob Vacchi** as saying. The ex-*U-T* owner has a storied history of getting his way with city regulators under Faulconer. The developer's most lucrative achievement came in September of last year, when the city planning commission signed off on a deal to settle a decade's worth of repeated

environmental violations at Manchester's Grand del Mar hotel and golf course. “Approval of the Project would permit prior unpermitted improvements at the resort,” noted the report to the commission. Five months later, Manchester sold 88 percent of the sprawling complex for an undisclosed sum to **Richard Blum**, the wealthy husband of Democratic senator **Dianne Feinstein**. This past June, architect and planning commissioner **Douglas Austin** — designer of a never-built *U-T* headquarters for Manchester in Mission Valley — agreed

to fork over \$6000 to the city's ethics commission for illegally participating in a Grand del Mar vote.

Faulconer's jail bucks Carlsbad's **Eric Noonan**, a warden with the private prison business known as GEO Group, was one of San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer's** most

uniquely employed contributors, kicking in \$1050 on election day, June 7. Other GEO donors to the Republican's campaign fund on the same date were **James Hill** of Canoga Park, director of business management, with \$200, as well as **Charles Dennis** and **James Taylor**, two lieutenants from the firm's Western Regional Detention Facility downtown, who each came up with \$100. **Rosalie Smith**, an executive secretary at the facility, also gave \$100. GEO operations director **Frank Strada** of San Tan Valley, Arizona, was down for \$200. More common occupations on the roster of mayoral givers included architecture, with 30. The same number of donors admitted they were real estate developers.

Republican's money-back guarantee Wealthy Republican **Ray Ellis** lost out to Democrat **Barbara Bry** for the First District city-council seat representing La Jolla, but at least he got a refund. According to a December 2 closeout filed at city hall, the self-styled pension-fund expert received \$25,000 from his campaign

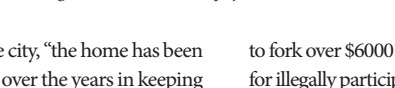
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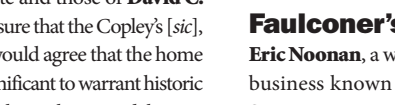
Doug Manchester, Helen Copley, and the Foxhill estate



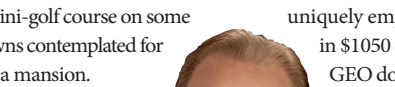
Doug Manchester, Helen Copley, and the Foxhill estate



The mayor's campaign fund got some of that prison industry money on election day.



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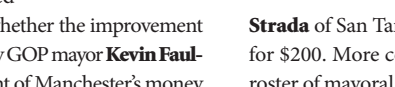
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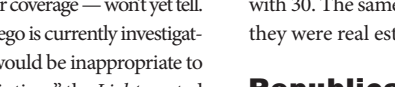
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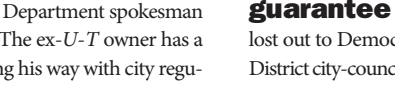
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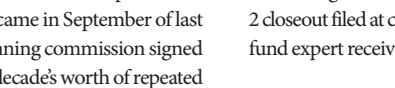
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continued from page 1

much.

Roberto Salinas
via voicemail**Soylent Green Had
a Point**Re: Neighborhood News,
December 8, "I Think We've
Been Had"

There are signs all over the freeway concerning water quality problems. The incessant building of condos, etcetera all over, traffic congestion is getting worse, parking problems, loss of business to merchants, more crashes, more stress on drivers. I don't see those in authority enacting a moratorium on construction. These conditions preclude any justification for authorizing more building permits, whether their motivation is more housing or more money.

Whoever inspired the movie *Soylent Green* had a point. This nightmare should be legally corrected.

Name withheld
via voicemail**The So Cal Chargers**

Re: News Ticker, December 12, SDReader.com, "If Chargers Move to L.A., They'll Have Two Losing Teams"

I have accepted the unfortunate reality that our boys in blue are leaving town. It appears joining the Rams in L.A. is almost a guaranteed outcome at this point.

Yep, the Chargers are moving to another stadium. Just saying it hurts, but I say moving to another stadium, instead of moving to another city, because it pains me to think they are no longer going to be the San Diego

Chargers, the team many of us have grown up with and rooted for our entire lives. What the team is named will dictate the response the majority of San Diego fans have. How do you feel about supporting the Los Angeles Chargers?

San Diegans have always taken pride in being America's Finest City, and not at all associated with Los Angeles! What L.A. stands for, and what S.D. stands for, are not similar in any way. If the Chargers management really wants an inclusive fan base, from all of southern California, then they need an inclusive team name.

I suggest using a name taken from our local air traffic control facility that used to be separate facilities many years back. When the two merged, it became known as SO CAL Approach Control, to reflect a single organization serving a large geographical area.

C'mon Dean! Think about it: SO CAL Chargers. It's a name we could all get behind, a heck of a lot easier than the L.A. Chargers!

Dave Burson
Jamul**Choice Welcome**

Re: News Ticker, "Dirty Gas Dream to Come True in Carlsbad," December 2, SDReader.com)

The California Public Utilities Commission flouted its own mandate for open bidding and clean energy when it chose to replace most of SDG&E's share of San Onofre power with a \$2.2 billion gas plant in Carlsbad. As was reported in the press, commission president Michael Picker worked a closed-door deal with the gas plant

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Ernie Grimm

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Robert Mizrahi, Robert Nutting

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Hector Lam, Chris Woo

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W.S. Di Piero, Scott Ellis,
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BAY PARK, CLAIREMONT Parking lot or mixed-use? Eminent domain declined by association of governments

On September 9, the San Diego Association of Government's board of directors voted in favor of taking a prime corner lot above Mission Bay Park by eminent domain for a new trolley Park & Ride.



The parcel last underwent major development in the 1950s.

On December 16, the board met behind closed doors and voted to not continue on the path of eminent domain and opted to get behind the new property owner's mixed-use proposal (Protea purchased the lot in September).

The former shopping center on Clairemont Drive and Morena Boulevard was built in the 1950s but has been mostly vacant for the past decade (a hotel is still in operation at the site).

In favor of eminent domain was Dave Potter, a Bay Park resident and urban planner with more than 40 years of development experience in San Diego.

"My objection to the Protea proposal is twofold," said Potter. "The failure and unwillingness of Protea to seek input from the council-recognized community planning group and a serious lack of project details. Where is the site plan? Where is the traffic study? What are the elevations? Protea's rendering shows five levels. I can't imagine they won't exceed 30 feet in spite of what the Raise the Balloon group says."

Raise the Balloon was formed in 2014 to oppose a zoning change that would have allowed a 60-foot-tall condo project on Morena Boulevard. Potter said the group has used fear-mongering by insinuating Sandag might hand over the lot to another developer

that could build taller than 60 feet. Potter questions the group's claim that Protea's design adheres to the 30-foot height limit. And there is weight to Potter's questions, as he was the author of the original height limit in 1970 (along with the city attorney's office).

I asked Jeffrey Essakow, president of Protea, whether there are any plans to exceed the height of the current three-story hotel on the adjacent lot.

"We intend to work with the city and the community to achieve a balance between aesthetics, the community's needs, and the city's legal requirements," said Essakow. "We will be providing 150 parking spaces in a dedicated area for users of the trolley."

He also said the proposed plans for the mixed-use development will include between 55,000 to 60,000 square feet of commercial space, with the bulk of it being retail, and 35 to 40 residential units of varying sizes.

Sit-down restaurants, a grocery store, and a pharmacy are possible tenants, said Essakow. He confirmed there has been strong interest from retailers but was not ready to name names.

JULIE STALMER

OCEANSIDE
The business of Santa
Don't tug on the beard, it's real
For the first time since 2003, one of Oceanside's real bearded Santas, James Wornia, will not be working this Christmas season. Due to health

reasons he's had to cut back.

But if the real Santa held auditions for a replacement, Wornia would fit right in by birthright: he was born 25 miles from Santa Claus, Indiana, on Halloween (All Saints Eve — to include Saint Nicholas, of course). In the Navy he spent time working on San Nicolas Island, off the SoCal coast.

Wornia is a member of the national organization FORBS — the Fraternal Order of Real Bearded Santas. The San Diego chapter of 40 real bearded Santas meets once a month, "Except in December," says Wornia. "There's something going on that month that keeps us kind of busy," he chuckled.

The San Diego chapter raises funds throughout the year to sponsor four to eight families at Christmastime.

For Santa James, it all started on May 1, 1991, the day after he retired from the Navy. That's when he decided to start growing his previously restricted facial hair. He didn't think about playing the jolly old fat man until he met a lady while walking into the Costco in Vista. She organized birthday parties for kids and asked if Wornia would consider coming to work for her. "She said they get short of Santas around Christmastime," he says.

"My wife was returning from a trip on Christmas Day, and just for fun, I met her at the airport dressed as Santa. While waiting



It's Santa, kids

in baggage claim, I had about 100 kids and young ladies come up to me," says Wornia.

He was hooked — especially after a Down syndrome girl asked him if he had left her presents at her house; she had just flown in from a visit with her grandmother. "When I told her yes, she started crying and just had the biggest smile."

So, what makes a good Santa? "Never make promises," he says. "Say something like, 'I might have a few of those left but I'm sure you'll really love what I leave.'"

Wornia, like most professional Santas, took a two-day course. "The first day they talk about what to say, what to not say. The second day they teach the business of Santa — finding work, insurance, and choosing a Santa career as a mall-photo Santa, business-and-organization Santa, or residential party Santa." Santas generally receive \$100 to \$125 an hour.

How often does he wear a bright red shirt? "Every day."

KEN HARRISON

IMPERIAL BEACH **Tijuana River Valley's** **ongoing emergency** **Declared every month since 1993**

Since 1993, the San Diego City Council has been redeclaring a state of emergency in the Tijuana River Valley over the sewage, sediment, and rubbish as large as tires that flow into the area in the Tijuana River.



Tires in Tijuana River Valley

The original emergency declaration was sounded by then-governor Pete Wilson, who said, "The magnitude of this disaster has the potential to exceed the capabilities of the services, personnel and facilities of the cities in San Diego County."

On December 13, assistant city attorney

Tom Zeleny asked the council to end the practice.

"There are only two purposes for declaring a state of emergency — to bring state and federal money to address the problem," he said. The declaration also allows the city manager to hire contractors to deal with the mess, work that would be billed to the federal government, according to a 2002 city memo.

In 1993, 15 million gallons of raw sewage crossed the border every day, jamming the river valley and threatening the estuary, Zeleny said. Since 1993, much progress has been made, he said. Congress gave the International Boundary and Water Commission money to build a sewage treatment plant that treats up to 25 million gallons of Tijuana wastewater a day. Crews went to Tijuana to train wastewater managers, and cooperation between the two cities has increased, he said.

Now, there are sewage flows only when it rains, Zeleny said. His comments echo what was said in that 14-year-old memo:

"Flows of untreated sewage in the Tijuana River Valley have all but ceased, with the exception of occasional flows due to shut-downs or breaks in the Mexican sewerage system. The health and safety concerns related to raw sewage flowing unabated in the Tijuana River Valley that precipitated the declaration of the State of Emergency in 1993 are no longer a major issue."

But Andy Hall, city manager for Imperial Beach, and Mark West, a newly elected I.B. council member and the chairman of Surfrider San Diego, urged the council to keep the declaration in place, citing county Health Department statistics that show the Tijuana River mouth at Border Field State Park was closed more than 200 days because of contamination, and that Imperial Beach's beaches were closed 20 percent of the year.

The 2002 memo to the city council supported that view, concluding that, while there had been much progress since the 1993 catastrophe, the state of emergency is still necessary.

"In order to ensure long-term success, resolution of the border sanitation problem must continue to be a high priority,

until adequate facilities are constructed to handle all of Tijuana's sewerage needs. The continued State of Emergency is one such vehicle to maintain focus on the border situation," the memo concludes.

Despite the city attorney's concerns, the

continued on page 8

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

council voted unanimously December 13 to again declare a state of emergency involving the Tijuana River at the border. I.B. councilman West applauded the council vote, saying a lot of work remains to be done.

MARTY GRAHAM

ENCINITAS

Tree to table

Lumber from 50-foot pine not wasted

Carlsbad resident Chris Platus tries to save trees — but not from being cut down. The retired California State Parks ranger, now a woodworking hobbyist, seeks out old trees that developers are going to take down. With his portable planer, he shows up to mill the lumber on site — with a lot of help.

“It’s re-purposing. It keeps the trees out of the green waste landfill or a beach bonfire,” said Platus last week at the site of a remodel underway on the 1100 block of Devonshire Drive in Encinitas. The homeowner is expanding their house, and a mature, 50-foot ornamental Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*) has to come down.

Someone sent Platus a video of the tree about a month ago. He met with the contrac-

tors, Alliance Green Builders. Contractors John Adams and Rich Williams were onboard immediately, according to Platus.

Andy McCracken of Tremendous Tree Service is joining in. He’ll bring his crane to take the tree down. He’ll cut it into three eight-foot sections. Each section weighs 2000 to 3000 pounds.

Platus is working with local wood sculptors for the bottom two pieces. (“They’ll make great carvings of a whale or a dolphin.”) The last section will be planed for the homeowner, who wants to remember the tree. “I’ll make anything she wants; benches, tables tops, or other furniture,” said Platus.

Platus expects the tree to come down after the New Year. He says milling the tree may cost up to \$2000. The arbor service figures about three hours to take down the tree (at an hourly rate they didn’t care to disclose).

KEN HARRISON

OCEAN BEACH

Shooting the pier

“Same process, everything from 1851, literally.”

On December 12, Scott Basile was set up with an unusual camera to take photos of the pier in Ocean Beach.

“I was just about to pour another plate and get it rolling here,” he told me as I walked up



A fresh print (on tin) processed at the pier to investigate.

“Take one of these,” he said, holding up what looked like a large chemistry slide. “Either metal or glass, this is what it starts as: this one is a piece of black metal — it has a little plastic coating on it to protect it, then I’ll peel this off and coat it with collodion,” he said, referring to a syrupy solution used in this original photographic process.

“Then it goes inside this tank which will be inside the darkroom, and that tank has silver nitrate in it which makes the plate light-sensitive. So then from there the plate goes inside this plate holder, which protects it from the light, the plate holder goes into the back of the camera....

“I expose the plate and then I come back here [the ‘darkroom’] and develop it. So it all has to happen in about ten minutes before the chemistry dries; that’s why you have to have a darkroom with you when you shoot — everything has to happen immediately. By the time I pour the collodion on the plate, I’ve

got maybe ten minutes to make a picture.”

How did Basile become interested in tin-type photography?

“I make my living as a commercial photographer. I shoot digital and was kind of getting bored sitting in front of a computer all the time, so I started doing research on different photographic processes that led me to this. It’s a long prep process, too; I’ll be here for a few hours and might end up with four pictures.”

The results are beautiful images that have a vintage look.

“That’s because that’s how they made them in the 1850s — everything is the same: same chemistry, same process, everything from 1851, literally.”

Where does one find a working camera from the 1850s and the portable darkroom?

“There’s a guy in New York who makes these portable darkrooms, so I had him make one of these for me. And the camera, lenses, and stuff like that, just wherever I can scrounge it. Sometimes you get lucky. My parents are retired and they’re into antiquing, so I’ve got them trained. You’d be surprised: they scored me a killer 11”x14” 120-year-old camera for really cheap because sometimes people don’t know what they have. There’s not a lot of these cameras around anymore, so finding old ones in working order is difficult.”

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Dear Hipster:

My friend and I have a longstanding dispute, and I've unilaterally decided to bring you into it (you're welcome). It began years ago, when that book Born to Run came out. I remember him telling me he had read it, before a couple hours of nonstop chatter about how great the book was, and how he was definitely going to start running barefoot. Spoiler alert: he didn't. I asked him to borrow it, and he told me he couldn't actually lend it out because he got it on Audible, so I was, like, "Oh, so you didn't actually read it then," or something like that. Naturally, he got super pissed off, called me an elitist asshole, and vigorously defended audiobooks as "just as good" as regular books on the grounds that reading is just a way of making words appear in your head, so why does it matter if the words go in through your ears as opposed to your eyes — to which I probably said something

about how he should just stare at the eq meter on his stereo the next time he wants to hear the White Album, because a song is just vibrations at different frequencies and amplitudes. Anyways, you can probably see where this is going; but suffice to say, we have gone 'round and 'round on the matter plenty of times. It doesn't help that there's some non-conclusive science on both sides of the debate, so I'm tagging you in, Hipster, to settle this once and for all, or at least put some new munitions in the magazine for the



next time this comes up. If we're both kind of right, who is more right?

— PATRICK

Much as I love answering questions otherwise fit for scientists, I'm not sure I want to deprive you two of the opportunity to (a) engage in vigorous, friendly debate; and (b) enjoy simultaneous, smug convictions of your own rightness. Where's the joy in life if you don't have that?

This one pulls me in two directions. On the one hand, I love tapping a button on my iPhone

and having Audible deliver an Iggy Pop biography straight into my subconscious. Then again, if I had my way, the book industry as such wouldn't just be limited to print media: I would have every volume hand-bound by local craftsmen and sold from brick-and-mortar stores with exposed brick walls and free espresso. Imagine monks making illuminated manuscripts, but, instead of syphilis and leprosy, the bookmakers only have to worry about

driving traffic to their Etsy shops.

One thing's for certain, good on both of you for enjoying a real book every now and again. Maybe you're sitting down to read *A Suitable Boy* without skipping a single page. Or maybe you'd rather listen to Gilbert Gottfried read *50 Shades of Grey*. Either way, reading a book every now

and again gets you the stamp of Hipster Approved Conduct. If being able to learn anything about everything after watching a five-minute YouTube video is the McDonald's cheeseburger of knowledge, then reading an entire book for self-betterment and/or entertainment is a hand-ground grass-fed patty grilled medium rare and nestled between the two halves of an artisan brioche bun with a sunny-side-up, free-range egg on top.

— DJ Stevens

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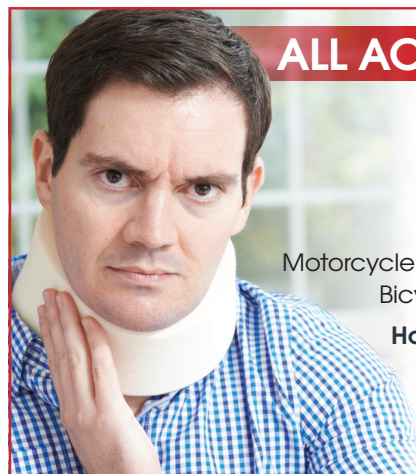
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North County Inland

Scripps Ranch, Poway's scraping of vernal pools, and a commute to Hemet

Moon for the Misbegotten

San Diego city employee Marcus Arenas pulled down his pants and mooned Harold Pearce. Pearce snapped away while Arenas's city uniform was draped around his ankles. Then it got ugly. Arenas and two other public employees allegedly grabbed Pearce, pushed him around, stole the camera, and exposed the film. "As I'm bending down to pick up my cigarette lighter, this little short idiot [Arenas], he came up and tried to stomp my hand."

BY COLIN FLAHERTY, MARCH 28, 1991

Chinaberry Farm: Finding Home

Half our belongings still packed in the barn, paths form a quotidian maze between stacked boxes. The house livable, anyway. A rat takes up residence in Cindy's paintings stored in the utility room. Bumpy begins hanging out at a neighbor's. There is the one-and-a-half-hour commute to teach in San Diego. The AC goes out during triple-digit days in July. Our home warranty doesn't cover it. Insurance companies exist to collect money, not pay it out.

BY WILLIAM LUVAS, AUG. 24, 2000

San Marcos Hides the Ugly Truth

I'd say Nordahl Road marks the easternmost boundary of what seems like San Marcos and not Escondido. Rancho Santa Fe Road marks the difference between Vista to the west and San Marcos. For now, Discovery Hills and California State University, San Marcos, define the southern edge, along with the community Lake San Marcos. When the massive San Elijo Ranch development supplants the dump, then the southern boundary will push into the Olivenhain/Harmony Grove area.

BY THOMAS LARSON, AUG. 27, 1998 |

The Last Harvest

Most large trucks used to get through Escondido by using Grand Avenue, the main east-west thoroughfare. But merchants petitioned city council to reroute trucks along Second Avenue, which is one-way eastward, and Valley Parkway, which is one-way westward. An environmental impact report was filed which said there would be no adverse effects from having the trucks go down Second, a residential street, even though these were the same trucks that caused too much noise on Grand.

BY KARL KEATING, NOV. 3, 1977

Fairy Shrimp, the City of San Diego, and the Mayor of Poway

"Why would you buy the property, unless you thought the system was so weak that you could get away with it?" David Hogan concurs. "Right now you can be certain that property owners throughout the county are watching this particular case very closely to see whether they can incorporate the illegal destruction. If the agencies let the mayor of Poway off, without requiring both restoration and penalties, then it will be just the cost of doing business."

BY THOMAS LARSON, APRIL 20, 2000

Fade to Gray

Spicy food aside, Lawrence Welk Village is bland, daddy. So bland that it's difficult to see much — "pay attention" — long enough to get a firm read of any depth or import - especially re the particulars of explicit Human etcetera: a journalistic Black Hole. To adequately suss this biz out would require a inclination to gawk and snoop, some interest in all the faces and whatnot — both before the fact and by virtue of their fortuitous proximity.

BY RICHARD MELTZER, JULY 30, 1992

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

The sprawling Poway mansion at 14105 Biscayne Place is described in listing materials as “the Trophy Estate at the Heritage,” a private gated community of 111 custom homes encircling the nationally acclaimed Maderas Golf Club.

Sited on over 2.5 acres of land, the home itself features five bedrooms, eight baths, and 15,844 square feet of living area. Last sold in 2013 for just over \$9 million, the home’s current owner is said to have spent another \$3 million in



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renovations over the past three years.

“Your private cul-de-sac awaits in the gates behind the gates,” state advertising remarks, noting that a second lot included in the sale brings the estate to “just

under four acres of manicured grounds.”

“Twenty-plus foot ceilings greet you upon entry, with custom travertine flooring and immediate views.” The entry level “features formal living room, cigar lounge with

humidor, 1200-bottle temperature controlled wine room with separate tasting room, full home theater with snack bar and ambient ceiling lighting, chef’s kitchen with Caesar stone counters, stainless steel appliances, butler’s

pantry,” and a “solarium dining area flooded with light and water feature.”

The first floor also includes a guest bedroom suite and 660-square-foot family room, while the upper level has three more en-suite bedrooms and the master, which “features a seating area with fireplace, views of the golf course, two large walk-in closets, two showers, soaking tub, three vanities, and a second laundry room.”

In proper Southern California fashion, “the luxury living continues outdoors, with infinity edge pool” and a pool house that could double as guest quarters with its own living/game room, “four televisions, fireplace, full gym, bathroom with shower, and a Roman steam spa.” The pool house is adjacent to a covered outdoor living

area with flat-screen television and full outdoor kitchen, built-in barbecue, two refrigerators, and a pizza oven.

Other features include a tennis court and five-car garage. While the included secondary lot could be used to build another estate, the owner also has the option of retaining it as parkland.

When the Biscayne estate was last sold by Gerald and Patrice Simonsen for \$9,075,000 in June of 2013 it earned the distinction of being the highest-valued transfer in the neighborhood. It currently carries an annual property-tax bill exceeding \$96,000.

The owner of the property had a brief and highly publicized stay in San Diego. When Los Angeles Dodgers slugger

continued on page 15

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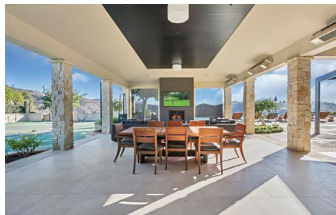
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UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 14

Matt Kemp was traded to the Padres prior to the 2015 season, new



Patio, with TV

ownership of the local baseball club was hoping to make a big splash and prove to a beleaguered fan base they were serious about winning. Kemp was hailed as a cornerstone of the new club, and it was frequently noted by media that he'd purchased the Poway home well before the trade was announced as a way of endearing him to locals.

Unfortunately, age and injuries, including a severe case of arthritis,

hounded Kemp during his stay, and his performance never matched the expectations of a \$20+ million salary, though he did become the only Padre in franchise history to hit for the cycle — a single, double, triple, and home run all in the same game. By July of 2016, less than two full seasons after his arrival,

Kemp was traded to the Atlanta Braves.

The Poway estate, however, wasn't immediately listed for sale. Though records indicate it's no longer owner-occupied, the property remained off-market until December 12, 2016, when it was listed for \$11,500,000 — less than the reported cost of acquisition and upgrades. If it fetches that price, it'll once again set a record for the Heritage community. ■



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Seahorse DREAMS

SAN DIEGO BAY'S MOST ELUSIVE CREATURE

SHE ROSE FROM AFTERNOON SLUMBERS with something pinching her tail. Three feet below the surface of San Diego Bay her equine head, crowned with a five-point coronet, poked through a blanket of eel grass. Alarm widened her two glistening brown eyes as she tried to dart away into deeper water. But I wasn't about to let her go now.

This was February 27, 2014, and I'd been searching for a seahorse almost daily since the previous summer. I swim in Glorietta Bay, located eight miles from the mouth of San Diego Bay, between the Coronado Golf Course and the Naval Amphibious Base, wearing fins and a mask and snorkel, and I always carry a compact underwater camera. In the summer of '13, a paddleboarder named Lorton Mitchell, a Coronado custom-home builder, youth sports coach, and waterman — who died from a rare cancer, adenoid cystic carcinoma, in March 2015 — told a friend of mine that he'd encountered a seahorse on the surface near Stingray Point. This is an isolated crescent beach that gives way to teeming eel grass and oyster beds off the golf course's 17th fairway. Generations of Coronado high school kids have snuck over to it after dark to booze and carouse on a sliver of sand behind the Coronado Bridge.

**Sometimes when
you achieve
something you've
been yearning for
it's a letdown.
This was not one
of those times.**

Even though I've swum the quarter mile over to Stingray Point from the beach at Glorietta Bay Park dozens of times, it's never boring. The crossing is within sight of the Hotel Del Coronado's witch-hatted roofline and is so much fun it's illegal; the Unified Port District prohibits swimming in boat transit lanes. But the eel-grass nurseries, which harbor at least 28 species of fish, usually gift my hungry camera with a surprise bait ball, shore bird, invertebrate, shark egg packet, turtle bone, seashell, or molted crab exoskeleton. Amid death's detritus, the denizens of the largest embayment between San Francisco

and Scammon's Lagoon hearten me every day.

Seeing and photographing a seahorse in the shallows became my mission after Mitchell spotted her that summer. The water dipped into the mid-50s early in 2014, and my faltering body made clear its intentions to lie down and move as little as possible all winter. Photographing a sea pony became a motivational goal just when I needed it most.

When I spied the recumbent seahorse that sunny afternoon I could relate. This was my customary siesta time, too.

It's been years since I've been able to walk a straight line. Lymphoma. Chemo. Stem cells from my brother. Neuropathy. When the treatments became more damaging than the disease I went cold turkey and halted



Stingray Point, where the seahorse was found

all drugs and interventions. Swimming is my medicine now, and only the rain interrupts the dousing. I had the fever to find the seahorse, but how often do your most ardent hopes pan out? I was jaded about the utility and futility of hope, which had been failing

me for years as I grew weaker and the medical options turned experimental. Even under a full wetsuit I was already shivering when I spotted those golden ridges and scalloped eyebrows half buried in the bottom. This was one of the lowest tides of the month,

a foot and a half below average low tide, and I'd pulled on my mask and fins at about 3 p.m. to catch the ebb before dark. This way, I'd be able to float above eel grass that's usually in deeper water.

First came the tawny color, then those segmented muscles — the

jolt of recognition, and my veins went all warm inside. Thrill me to the (transplanted) marr-roowwww. The shivering stopped. Sometimes when you achieve something you've been yearning for it's a let-down. This was not one of those times.

Her jumbo stature compounded the surprise. At least ten inches from tail tip to coronet, she glowed in majestic awesomeness. For once the word awesome is accurate. *Hippocampus ingens*, the giant Pacific Seahorse, the largest of the world's 48 species. As I held on to her tail she swung her head backward toward my hand as if to attack, but with what? She has no teeth. Completely defenseless, fragile, supple, radiant in the fading light, I felt unworthy of the power I had to rouse

and manhandle such delicate beauty.

I knew it was a female because I'd graduated from first grade: she lacked the distended brood pouch where the babies are carried by the males. Her coronet was more prominent than a male's, and her gossamer dorsal fin was lower on her back. I maneuvered her up into my palm and loosely wrapped her iconic shapeliness in my fingers. Her tail curled around my left pinkie. It was hard to accept this as actually happening. Stunned, we stared at each other in disbelief. I started shooting pictures to make sure I wasn't dreaming.

We hadn't moved much, so I put her down in the eel grass close to where I found her. She stayed vertical, seemingly befuddled that I hadn't eaten her like one of her



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Dungeness crab enemies, and her regal head remained motionless as I aimed the camera at her from all sides. My pulse felt audible under my swim cap. Could she hear it, too? With her surprisingly sentient left eye she watched me drift away into the blue/green haze toward the bridge.

I rolled onto on my back and spit out the snorkel, finally breathing deep and slow. I couldn't stifle the high-pitched whoop of a monster in a seahorse's dream, already second-guessing whether I should have touched her. The phantom pleasure of her ribbed strength still warmed my palm. The whole encounter lasted about two minutes. Late light varnished the bridge columns under a flashing blue ribbon of steel. On the slow swim back across the boat channel, hoping the Harbor Police were sipping coffee at the Coronado Yacht Club, I started shivering again, and not just from the cold.

The Great California Seahorse

Going on three years later I still tremble with seahorse fever. On those mornings when it's overcast, or my feet and legs are hurting more than



Spotted stingray, Glorietta Bay

usual, or the cold bay water trickling down my spine holds no appeal, it is the chance of seeing a seahorse (and the avoidance of another spinal tap) that gets me out there. In a way, she saved me. I have yet to see another one, and the more I learn about them and their tenuous future in the early stages of Earth's sixth mass extinction, the more precious the experience becomes.

The earliest seahorse sighting in San Diego Bay was in 1857, when five specimens of a previously unknown species were collected by a survey explorer with the Army's

Topographic Bureau. A Pacific railroad line was urgently needed between the Mississippi River and the West Coast, and in 1853 a series of government-funded expeditions fanned out. They included naturalists who were supplied by the Smithsonian for collecting plants and animals along potential iron-horse routes. The survey's fish expert, Charles Girard, who became the Smithsonian's first curator of fishes, examined the five seahorse specimens collected in San Diego Bay and recognized them as new to science. He bestowed their species name, *ingens*, from the Greek, meaning extraordinary, huge, colossal, unnatural. The Pacific Seahorse was named for both the railroad and the ocean. In Volume 10 of the 12-volume *Pacific Survey Reports* published by the War Department just before the Civil War, Girard headlined his written description of the five San Diego specimens with a better name, "The Great California Sea-Horse."

So the golden creature I beheld is a national treasure, a living link to our deepest cultural roots. They've been noted in scientific literature as appearing in San Diego Bay only a few times since then, including a citation in 1964 by Dr. Carl Hubbs, famed ichthyologist and professor at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Seahorses are so rare in San Diego Bay that every few years they are seemingly re-discovered. A five-year study of the fish assemblages in the bay conducted from July 1994 to April 1999 yielded a total of 497,344 individual fishes belonging to 78 species, but turned up only 13 seahorses. A 2012 survey of fish in the bay found one single seahorse.

The range of the Pacific Seahorse is from Peru north to Newport Bay. Their main threats are sea-level rise, warming water temperatures, and coastal development that lead to habitat loss, primarily eel grass. And while there is no organized fishery for Pacific Seahorses, they are still a valuable by-catch in nets targeting other fish. Curios, trinkets, Chinese medicine, the usual culprits busy wiping out the world's megafauna are decimating the only seahorse species in the Eastern Pacific. According to the entry for the Pacific Seahorse on the Red List of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, "local estimates of population declines of between 50 and 90 percent have been reported. It is therefore conservatively suspected that population declines of at least 30 percent have taken place over a period of ten years, and that declines are con-

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tinuing.” The organization classifies the Pacific Seahorse population as “vulnerable.”

As individuals, seahorses exist in a state of intrinsic jeopardy throughout their short lives (99 percent infant mortality rate, two- to five-year lifespan), beginning the minute they exit their father’s marsupium. As Herman Melville pointed out so eloquently in *Moby-Dick*, the sea is not only “...a foe to man who is an alien to it, but it is also a fiend to its own offspring.” It dashes the mightiest whales against the rocks beside the wrecks of ships, and “Consider also the devilish brilliance and beauty of many of its most remorseless tribes, as the dainty embellished shape of many species of shark. Consider...the universal cannibalism of the sea;



Dungeness crab, Ferry Landing

all whose creatures prey upon each other, carrying on eternal war since the world began.”

Glancing back through my bay photos, here’s a partial list of just the remorseless tribes I’ve seen that represent mortal threats to the few

sea ponies in San Diego Bay: stingrays, spotted bay bass, halibut, shovel-nosed guitarfish, angel sharks, horn sharks, Dungeness crabs, corvina, mullet, sea lions, pelicans, cormorants, grebes, egrets, herons, gulls, ospreys. People,

of course. And the most powerful tribe in the sea, the U.S. Navy.

Raking muck

One bright morning in April 2016 I was horrified to discover, positioned in the middle of Glorietta Bay, a huge crane

on a barge with a separate scow and a tugboat. Multi-ton clam-shell dredge claws rested on the barge beside a massive shipping dumpster. The vessels were stationed almost directly above a large eel grass “mitigation” bed maintained by the state as insurance against eel grass lost to new construction in the bay. My first thought was, *seahorses live in very small territories, spending almost their whole lives within just a few square yards of bottom, so they don’t have the option of moving out of the way.* My second thought was, *I’m here almost every day. How could I not have known this was coming?*

Paddleboarders and kayakers were sliding around the behemoth, which blocked my usual path swimming straight out toward the end of

the 15 piers of the Naval Amphibious Base. It took about ten minutes of worried swimming through unusually cloudy water to bring me alongside the thing. I could see hard-hatted workers wrangling barge tackle and when they spotted me I waved.

“Hey, are you guys dredging? I’m kind of concerned about what I’m swimming through.”

“Yes,” the one in the red hard hat responded. He gestured to the Amphib Base docks. “It’s for the Navy. We have all the permits, the EPA permits. You can contact them.”

I could dramatize many of the events that took place over the next few weeks, like teasing out that this was a contaminant removal operation, and the contaminants included carcinogens such as arsenic, copper, mercury, and zinc, chlorinated pesticides, benzo pyrene, and a toxic soup of other compounds. But the facts don’t need pumping up to disturb anyone interested in healthy seahorse (or human) habitat. Being in the water every day, my interests and those of the seahorse had converged, and I felt offended for both of us.

This isn’t an attack on the Navy. I was a happy member of that tribe for four years. The Navy introduced me to the nether reaches of the bay bottom during Navy diver school (2nd Class SCUBA), which in 1973 was still located on a leaky barge at the 32nd Street Naval Station. (All Navy diver training now takes place in Panama City, Florida.) During night watch one of our duties was to lower a long measuring stick into the oily bilges

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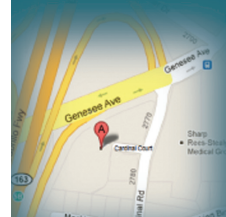
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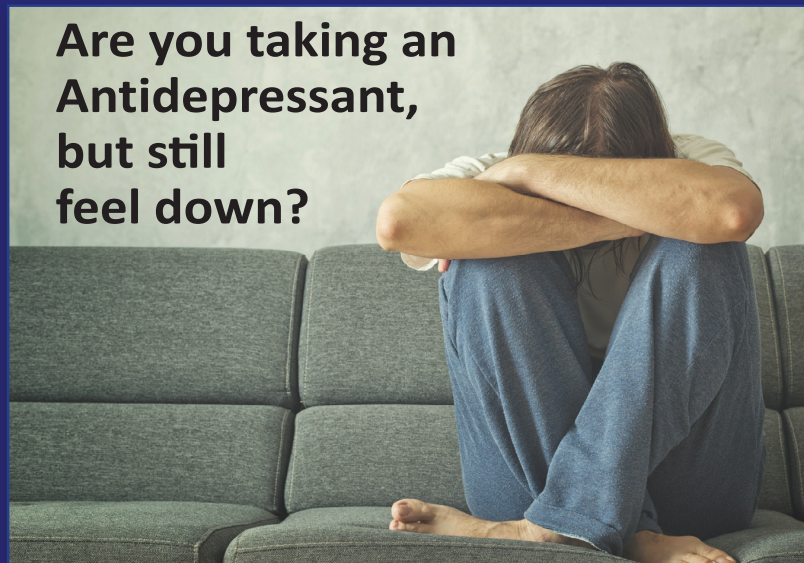


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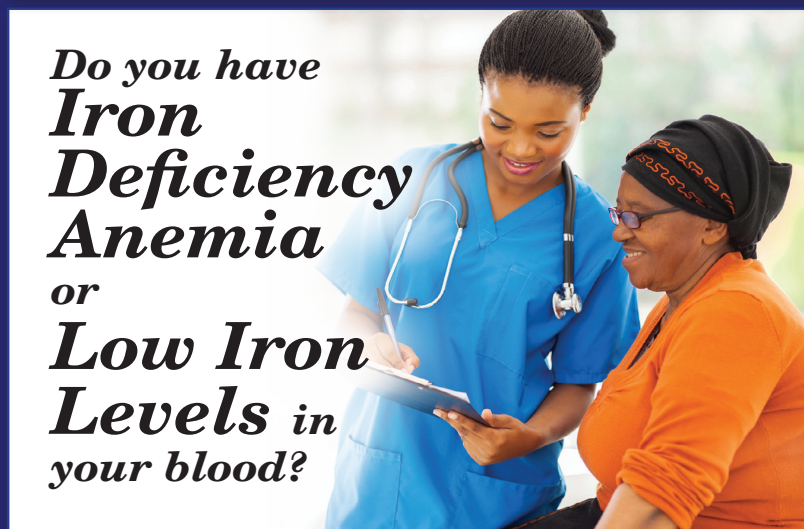


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to see how much water we were taking on. The bilge water we pumped out went right back into the bay. The students joked about the ingredients in the bottom muck where we trained day and night, but surely Uncle Sam wouldn't knowingly expose his boys to poisonous contaminants, right?

Now, 43 years later, the Navy has me swimming through toxic muck again. Surely they must know there will be no harm to me or the dozens of other swimmers who use Glorietta Bay, not to mention the people who rent paddleboards at the Coronado Boat House and the children who play on the public beach right beside the Amphib Base, less than 100 yards from the dredging. But I'm old and immune-



Navanax inermis, predatory sea hare, Glorietta Bay

compromised now, and exposure to harmful toxins isn't as funny as it was at 20.

The Army Corps

of Engineers issues the permits for Navy dredging, and when I called to ask how I could not have known this project was

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105 Review **yelp**

being green-lighted, the response was, "Are you on the email list?"

What email list? Only those on the Corps of Engineers' email list are notified about pending permits. Unlike the California Coastal Commission, the Corps doesn't post signs at the locations where major projects are being considered, so you have to be in the know in order to proffer a comment or question into the record during the 30-day public review window. That window came and went a year before the dredging commenced in Glorietta Bay. I'm on the email list now, but even that required filling out forms and some sort of background check.

The dredging was taking place at night, when the barge and

scow were moved by the tugboat over between the Navy piers. Every time the clam shell was dropped to the bottom, its jaws closed and then raised to dump the silty sand into the scow, thick plumes of bottom mud were stirred up and spread out in the tidal currents. The contractors were supposed to have a "turbidity curtain" held up by booms around the barge, but this didn't prevent a huge plume of turbidity from moving off into Glorietta Bay, whose backwaters don't receive much circulation from the outer bay's currents.

Of the approximately 34,493 cubic yards of material that was to be dredged, most of it was to be dumped in the ocean at an offshore dump site, about 7325 cubic yards were used as fill in and

around the bay, and 3186 cubic yards were too toxic to be re-used or dumped at sea. This hazardous material, instead of being left buried and undisturbed, was brought up, dried out, and then filled 213 dump trucks for hazardous waste disposal on land.

For the more than two months the dredging was underway last spring, I shot pictures of the silt raining down on the eel grass as the turbidity blotted the vital sunlight. According to the 2000-page, 2014 fiscal year report on the dredging, which was filed with the state water board, the Navy had determined that about three quarters of an acre of eel grass would be destroyed by the dredging, all of it within the Amphib Base property line along the

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bay bottom, and any negative effects from the plume would be minor and temporary. (All eel grass in Southern California is protected by state law; the Navy uses transplanted eel-grass beds south of the Amphib Base as mitigation banks, where it is allowed to replace eel grass it destroys elsewhere.) Maybe that's true, but it was still painful to see the silt storm raining down on my benthic friends, covering eel-grass blades as well as the fish and snail eggs so many creatures, including birds, depend on. In a fathom of water one morning, I watched tiny turban snails hatch out of their worm-like natal gel and go looking for their first meal on grass blades coated with dredge silt. I wish I could unsee that. I sent a picture of it to the Navy Environmental Protection Agency representatives and got the same response they'd given to all the other images I sent them: nothing. Crickets. (A copy of this story was sent to the Naval Base Coronado public affairs office for comment or



Dredging barge in the middle of Glorietta Bay, where it was kept during the day before being moved over to the piers at night where the dredging took place

response. There has been no reply.)

I requested formally that the Corps of Engineers dredging permit be reopened, so that I might question the idea of dredging up toxins and spreading them throughout the bay, and asking whether the Navy should take responsibility for damaging the eel grass outside the base perimeter. Of course that request was denied. On September 18, 2014, the commanding officer of Naval Base Coro-

nado, Capt. Christopher E. Sund, had given the project a waiver, called a Categorical Exclusion, from having to perform an environmental impact report on the dredging, and the Navy wasn't going to be second-guessed by some ex-swabbie.

But there was plenty of reason for second guessing. In May of 2016, just as the Glorietta Bay dredging was commencing, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported

that dredging overseen by the Army Corps of Engineers to deepen the harbor of Miami had created a plume that caused widespread damage to the nearby coral reef. Environmentalists had warned that this could happen, but the Corps insisted their fears were misplaced. Now the Navy and the Corps were saying the dredge plume they created in Glorietta Bay was no big deal. What basis did I have for taking their word for it?

My unease grew

as I read through the waiver from environmental review that the Navy had bestowed on itself. For instance, there was prior dredging, in 1997-'98, which found a lot of ordnance beneath the Amphib Base piers, including WWII-era barrage rockets. In May, as I swam past the dredge crane and barge in the middle of Glorietta Bay, I took pictures of a large shipping trailer on the barge that was full of twisted metal junk pulled up from the bay bottom around the piers. Presumably, this debris was all dumped since the previous dredging 18 years ago. This seems to demonstrate poor stewardship of public bay waters.

This time the Amphib Base public works department said they found only a single round of live ordnance and a few spent shells. As for the contaminants, these were either dumped there after 1998 or the contractor did a poor job of cleaning up the bottom in the earlier dredging. Here's a partial list of the compounds that were too toxic to dump at sea, but were spread around

the bay in the dredge plume: arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury nickel, selenium, and zinc. Also, 16 varieties of polychlorinated biphenyls, probable human carcinogens whose production was banned in the U.S. in 1979. Several coastal cities in California, including San Diego, have been trying unsuccessfully to sue Monsanto, a major polychlorinated biphenyls manufacturer, for polluting their coastal waters and harming wildlife. Polychlorinated biphenyls in San Diego Bay accumulate in the flesh of the spotted bay bass, one of the most popular game fish, and California has issued a warning not to eat more than one serving of it a week. It is unknown whether PCB's accumulate in seahorses.

Other contaminants that were found at the Amphib Base and spread around include hydrocarbons, carcinogenic benzopyrenes, and about a dozen other harmful chemicals.

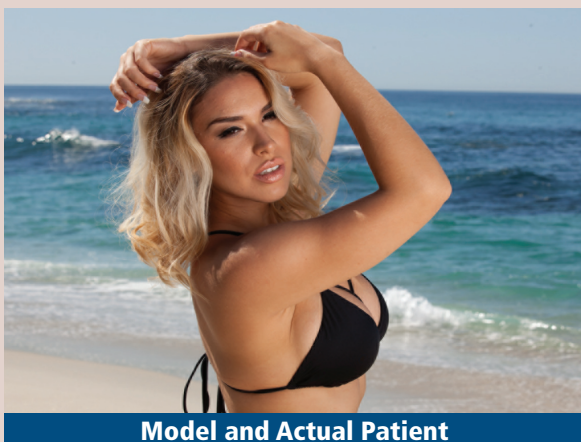
What's the Red List?

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to reopen the permit for the dredging was to ask that the Navy be required to run real-time testing of the dredge plume and bottom sediments throughout Glorietta Bay, in order to track the spread of contamination or demonstrate that the public had nothing to fear from the project. And I was confused: the final go-ahead documents signed by the Navy said lookouts would keep an eye out for the endangered green sea turtles that reside in the bay, but how would they see them in the dark? And the documents say all dredging activities have to take place outside the endangered California Least Tern nesting season, which is April 1 through September 15. But the dredging went on for most of April and May. How could my beloved old Navy so blithely ignore the minimally restrictive rules it wrote for itself?

I tried to argue that the seahorses in San Diego Bay should be considered as if they were on the U.S. Endangered Species List because being on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List amounted to the same thing. But the man with the Corps of Engineers who was overseeing the project said, "What's the Red List? If it isn't listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, regulations don't require that it be given special consideration."

Losing clears the head. I don't work well enough with others to try organizing an interest group to fight the Navy and the Army Corps of Engineers. All I could do is find out who had the best chance of research-

ing and writing the petition to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to get the Great California Sea-Horse — discovered in San Diego — listed as threatened. The Center for Biological Diversity, based in Oakland, had written a petition to get Florida's Dwarf Seahorse listed, which only resulted in some minor changes in state regulation of the commercial trade. The Center currently has a petition for the Chambered Nautilus pending for listing, and they've succeeded in getting numerous other species listed over the years. After some correspondence with biologist Abel Valdivia, who oversaw the Nautilus petition, he wrote to say at the end of the summer that his group was working up a petition for listing the Pacific Seahorse under the U.S. Endangered Species Act.

I can still feel her strength in my hand. But I'm tired. There's a nice low tide tomorrow morning when I can expect to float in glassy blue cove water over green pastures where the Great California Sea-Horse has roamed for centuries; with a little help from the Navy, the 21st will not be the sea pony's last.

Whenever kids on the beach or paddleboarders in the water ask what I see below the surface, I have this little cherry bomb of joy to toss them: seahorses! Kids squeal and their mothers' eyes glisten as they stare out toward the bridge, warmed and relieved to realize how rich their home waters remain. We could live without our native seahorses in the bay, but losing them would cost us dearly. ■

— Neal Matthews

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More trees

continued from page 3

Santa Fe and planted three million eucalyptus trees on 8800 acres. Others in San Diego County followed suit. But 20 to 30 years earlier, the Southern Pacific Railroad had experimented with 44,000 such trees and found the poles rotted excessively and the ties cracked and wouldn't hold spikes. The railroad ditched the experiment. The Santa Fe system apparently had not done its homework. Or maybe the Southern Pacific kept its expensive flop a secret. ■

Contact Don Bauder at 719-539-7831
dbauder@sandiegoreader.com

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

imports, including the country's supply of Dole bananas and pineapples.

Led by the Environmental Health Coalition, the community had voiced strong opposition to the port's original plan, which would have increased goods handling capacity by more than six times and brought unwelcome additional pollution to nearby residential neighborhoods.

In developing what port officials call a "sustainable terminal capacity alternative," a revised plan reduced the overall expansion by 25 percent, included 36 pieces of electric-powered cargo-handling equipment (replacing current diesel-powered units), and added a renewable energy component to the redevelopment plan, which could include items such as solar panels for warehouse roofs.

"The sustainable terminal capacity alternative is a holistic approach that, despite a fourfold increase in cargo throughput, would actually reduce emissions below today for certain criteria of pollutants," said port staffer Jason Giffen during a presentation on the revisions.

"We commend the hard work and creativity of port staff who have developed a plan that is supported by a wide variety of stakeholders and community residents," coalition executive director Diane Takvorian told the port's board of commissioners.

While acknowledging the compromise, not all community members were thoroughly impressed.

"Let's be clear — this is not a net-zero emissions

plan," said Environmental Health Coalition research director Joy Williams. "The sustainable terminal capacity will quadruple cargo throughput and add impacts to a community where the cancer risk is already 38 per million people from the 10th Avenue terminal alone."

Dave Rice

L.A. to have two losing teams?

Rams not doing so well in attendance or TV ratings

The pro football Rams' reception in Los Angeles is mediocre at best. Television ratings have been low to so-so. About 9.8 percent of area homes have been turned on to Rams games. That's worse than the team's ratings in St. Louis, which it deserted for L.A. last year. However, St. Louis is a much smaller market, and attendance at games was consistently poor there.

Attendance is in the eye of the beholder. The Rams are one of only two teams in the National Football League with attendance below 90 percent of capacity. The Rams are 89.4 percent and the Chargers around 78 percent, by far the worst in the NFL.

But per capita numbers

can be misleading. The Rams play in the L.A. Coliseum, which seats more than 90,000. The Rams' average attendance of about 84,000 is second-highest in the league.

The Chargers' propaganda machine would have us believe that the San Diego team can decide to leave next month for L.A. But is L.A. a good pro-football market? The last time two teams were there, the mid-1990s, attendance was poor for both teams, and both (the Raiders and Rams) left. There is too much else to do in both L.A. and San Diego. Why go to games of two losing teams? Or watch the agony on TV?

Don Bauder

KFMB/Channel 8 pulls signal

Station sought tenfold fee increase from Cox

At noon on December 16, KFMB/Channel 8 viewers on Cox Cable saw their television screen go dark as the cable company and CBS's local affiliate failed to reach an agreement over fees Cox pays to Midwest Television Inc., the station's parent company.

According to Cox spokeswoman Ceanne

Guerra, the station demanded a 1000 percent, or tenfold increase, in the payments it agreed to in contracts from three years ago that expire now.

"We know our customers want us to keep CBS 8," Guerra said. "They pulled their signal when we couldn't reach agreement over the retransmission consent fees." Guerra declined to answer questions about the current fees.

Last year, KFMB got into a similar fight with DirectTV and went off the air for three weeks. The station's big stick in negotiations is the Chargers games — one of which was scheduled for December 18 here in San Diego.

Calls to KFMB and its parent company were not returned before the signal was again picked up by Cox after a deal was struck the same day.

Retransmission consent fees are paid to local television stations that broadcast their own signal over the airwaves, allowing cable and satellite providers to retransmit the signal. The fees are a source of revenue for local stations and a cost to cable and satellite providers, who raise

customers' prices to pay their bills.

According to TV Technology, local stations across the U.S. will take in \$7.7 billion in 2016, up 20 percent since 2015.

Marty Graham

Under the radar

continued from page 3

committee in repayment for a no-interest loan he'd made the group back in May 2015. ... Ex-Padres owner **John Moores**, an erstwhile Democrat who lost his big-money bet on the so-called **Cory Briggs** Initiative to bar a convention center on the downtown bayfront, among other purposes, also failed to score in the race for San Diego city attorney. Records show the controversial Rancho Santa Fe denizen and his second wife Dianne, a retired gynecologist, pumped \$4200 into the city attorney campaign of Republican **Robert Hickey**, who lost to Democrat **Mara Elliott**. Moores's personal tab for the failed Briggs measure was \$245,000 in loans and contributions.

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

developer before the vote, corrupting the integrity of the process. In mock compliance, SDG&E requested bids to replace San Onofre power after the deal was done.

Recently, a state appeals court upheld the commission's decision, ruling against an appeal by the Sierra Club and others. It seems SDG&E's undue influence knows no boundaries. This is why I support the not-for-profit Community Choice Energy model, which across the state is beating the monopolies on clean energy content while charging lower rates. I hope to have this choice in my city someday, and am glad that San Diego and our north coastal cities are

actively exploring it.

Carol Hilton
Oceanside

Your Trade Is Dead

Re: Waterfront, November 4, *SDReader.com*, "Sea Center Seeks to Drop Anchor in Oceanside Harbor"

What ever happened to journalism? The story is written by Mr. Cacciola's customer/ friend — "The author is chair of Oceanside Senior Anglers' scouts program."

This organization has been a criticizer of Helgren's Sportfishing ever since Helgren's refused to give free charters to the Oceanside Senior Anglers. As they always state, Oceanside Anglers is the largest fishing club in Southern California. Who cares?

As an editor you have a responsibility to ensure the

stories you approve are fair and unbiased. You know why Trump is President-elect ... because the media failed the people. Lie, cheat, cry. Your trade is *dead*. Fake news rules because journalists sold out.

Michelle Duff
Oceanside

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

"Goat Is My Game"

Tin Fork

Posted December 14

I have liked this place forever and I did not want it to become famous because it was my lil treasure place, game days are the best for most sports and you have to try signature micheladas

— Miguel F. Martinez

continued on page 30

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LETTERS

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"The Goring of Detroit" Under the Radar

Posted December 14

Detroit, if we are to believe just a small part of what we read and hear, is the largest disaster area of any major US city. Oh, others have had their hollowing-out problems and major losses of population, such as St Louis, but Detroit has become an urban basket case. Its finances couldn't be worse, and the social ills are just out of control.

Yet Detroit continues to tax fund sports venues. Huge swaths of its neighborhoods that were occupied and bustling not all that long ago are now urban ghost towns. Detroit can't deal with those messes, but it finds \$ millions to build sports complexes. There is no rational explanation for these things. But that doesn't mean that SD has to get in the race for idiocy.

— Visduh

Detroit is having a resurgence and a boom downtown and in its inner cities. Like Orange County, Detroit experienced a municipal Bankruptcy. Detroit is home to some of the richest suburbs in the country. So, the press Detroit gets is terribly misleading. Detroit's City

limits population peaked at 1.8 million during the post WW II boom year. A long list of complicated factors has lead to Detroit's city population declining to less than 1 million including globalization of the auto industry, some of its manufacturing and suppliers moving to the suburbs, out-state and out of the country, development of wealthy suburbs that ring the city, migration of families to other States, the list is long. Detroit's suburbs and Michigan's State population is doing quite well and has bounced back from the recession.

That said, corporate welfare for sports owners is not something that should be supported and/or encouraged. The Downtown Detroit District where the new Red Wings Hockey arena is going in is undergoing massive redevelopment. It is not far from the new Tigers baseball Stadium and the new Lions football stadium. Detroit is a very unique case where the sports venues do bring in massive amounts of high income people from the wealthy suburbs that ring the city to attend sporting events, concerts and other activities at those stadiums and then return to the quiet security of their suburban residences. Those people, very likely, would have no other reason to go into Detroit and

spend their money since the suburbs all have shopping, malls, theaters and entertainment districts of their own. So, Detroit is using their sports venues to get upwardly mobile suburbanites with plenty of cash to spend to stimulate its economy. Those suburbanites may never set foot in the central city and downtown areas of Detroit and spend their money otherwise.. It is quite different than San Diego for the Chargers or the SF Bay Area for the Raiders.

Teams per game attendance X home games = total attendance per year. Lions 61,500 X 8 = 492,000. Tigers 37,100 X 81 = 3,005,100. RedWings 20,027 X 41 = 821,107 Pistons 15,500 X 18 = 281,999

TOTALS 148 Events
4,600,206 total attendance per year

4,600,206 people going into Downtown Detroit and spending money. I don't have the figures on the revenues and taxes it generates less the police and other services required. But, I think Detroit is a unique situation in that many/most of those 4.6 million people would not step foot in or spend money in Downtown Detroit without those Sports facilities and sports teams in Downtown Detroit.

— SportsFan0000

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



on the bayfront rink until 9. Don't miss the life-size gingerbread house on your way in, which took pastry chefs 276 hours to assemble 1595 pounds of ingredients.

WHEN: Saturday,

December 24, 2016, 3 p.m.

WHERE: Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard, downtown San Diego. hiltonsandiegobayfront.com

CHRISTMAS EVE SPLASH

This 25th annual swim is sponsored by Coronado Masters Association, which hosts open-water swims and



"rejuvenating social events." On the north end of Coronado Beach at the fire rings. CMA will provide hot cider, buffalo broth, chili, veggie lasagna, and a bonfire to thaw out after a brisk ocean swim.

WHEN: Saturday, December 24, noon

WHERE:

Coronado City Beach, Ocean Boulevard and Marina Avenue. lajollacoveswimclub.com

DJ EVENTS ON

CHRISTMAS EVE. Dance parties are plentiful, including DJ Dida (Gossip Grill), DJ Knights (Harbor Town), DJ

Thursday | 22

FLEET SCIENCE CENTER DAY CAMP

Full-day winter camps for grades 1-3 at the science center with educational, hands-on activities incorporating the Fleet's exhibit galleries. December 22, Maker Mania: create, craft, and tinker with your own devices. December 28, Chemistry Craze: explore the basics of chemistry through loud, colorful, and shocking activities. \$55.

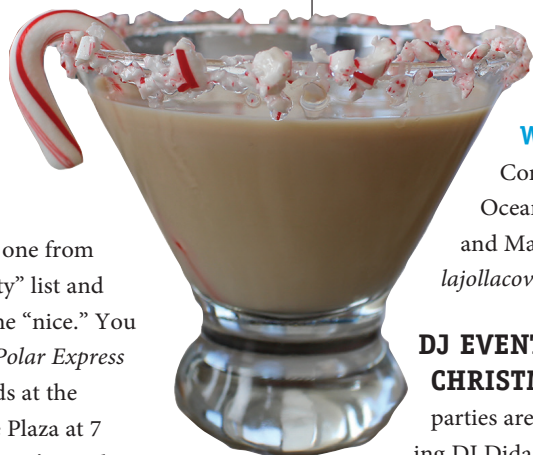
WHEN: Thursday, December 22 and Wednesday, December 28, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, Balboa Park. rhffleet.org/events/winter-camp; 619-238-1233 x806.

Saturday | 24

NAUGHTY OR NICE MIXOLOGY

An Odysea Lounge mixologist will teach you how to make holiday cocktails. Each participant can choose one from the "naughty" list and one from the "nice." You can watch *Polar Express* with the kids at the Promenade Plaza at 7 p.m., and there's ice skating



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27: HOLIDAY BOWL 5K AT THE PARADE

Ramsey (Thrusters Lounge), DJ Beefa (Analog), DJ Smooth (Sanctuary Lounge), DJ Hevrock (West Coast Tavern), DJ Robi (1st Street Bar), DJ Mike Czech (Air Conditioned Lounge), DJ Marc Thrasher (Whiskey Girl), DJ John Phillips (Humphreys Backstage), DJs Kanye Asada and Gabe Vega (the Office), and Sleeping Giant DJs at True North Tavern. Latin DJs will spin at Café Sevilla and the Brass Rail. It's all in Music, starting on [page 51](#).

pate in the run.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 27, 9:45 a.m.

WHERE: Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway, downtown San Diego. sandiegobowlgames.com/event

LA LA LAND. The trailer for this film is "more colorful than an explosion in a paint factory," says movie critic Scott Marks, who was so impressed by the coming attraction that he requested an interview with director of photography Linus Sandgren. Read more in Movies, [page 57](#).

Tuesday | 27

HOLIDAY BOWL 5K AT THE PARADE

Run or walk the parade route past 100,000+ spectators and then watch the remainder of "America's largest balloon parade" with floats, bands, and huge inflatable characters. Awards are three deep in all divisions. The race begins at the corner of Harbor Drive and Ash Street, heads south behind the convention center, loops through Embarcadero Park, and finishes on the walkway past G Street in time to catch the remainder of the parade. The Holiday Bowl is at 4 p.m. at Qualcomm Stadium. \$40 to partici-

DUCK DIVE. Candice's husband pulls her into a sports bar in Pacific Beach to catch up on college football scores. She had no idea that a juicy



meatloaf sandwich and s'mores with sorority girls were in her immediate future. Feast, [page 41](#).

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

WRIGHT'S FIELD PRESERVE

Never judge a book by its cover, nor a field by the smattering of grasses that you see

Distance from downtown San Diego: Approximately 30 miles. Allow 45 minutes driving time (Alpine). From I-8 east, exit south onto Tavern Road. Continue south along Tavern Road until you reach the Joan MacQueen Middle School. The trailhead is just north of the middle school at the end of an unnamed private drive. Parking near the school is limited and not allowed along the private drive. Another parking option is to continue past the school until S Grade Road, turn east for 1.23 miles, and park along the street. Wright's Field is to the west across the street. Do not pass Calle de Compadres. **Hiking length:** 3-mile loop along the outer perimeter. **Difficulty:** Easy, elevation gain/loss 100 feet. Dogs are allowed on leashes. Trail riding on horseback and mountain bikes is also allowed, but no off-trail excursions are permitted. No facilities.



Wright's Field Preserve trail

The trails along the Wright's Field Preserve are the perfect spot to walk the family dog, go jogging, or just take a stroll on a Sunday afternoon. Historically, this area was critical to the early rancheros whose cattle could not survive on the native chaparral. Today, the "Mesa del Arroz" or "Grassy Mesa" as it was once called, is one of the best examples of native California grassland habitat in the state.

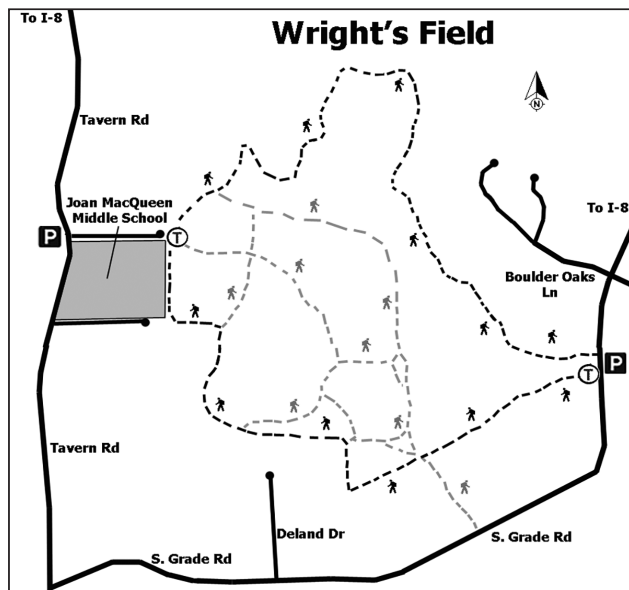
Wright's Field is a fabulous natural beauty for anyone living near it; however, it is an especially wonderful gem as a living classroom for the students at Joan MacQueen Middle School, which shares

a border with the preserve. Trips to the preserve are common by teachers and students for habitat study and inspiration. The largest distinct habitat in the 230-acre preserve is grassland made up of a mixture of native bunchgrass and non-natives such as wild oats and filaree.

From the trailhead near Joan MacQueen Middle School, visitors are greeted with a variety of path choices that will lead them through several distinct native California habitats including grasslands, oak woodlands, sage scrub, and vernal pools.

The longest trail follows the field's perimeter and is just shy of three miles. Shorter trails crisscross the field in all directions; however, visitors will need to be watchful for poison oak, which can be found throughout the preserve. Western poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) is deciduous, losing its leaves in autumn then appearing as a leafless twig throughout the winter. Heading northeast from the trailhead, visitors can take the Engelman loop, which will allow them to see the trail's namesake, the Engelman oak (*Quercus engelmannii*), up

continued on page 35



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



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Reader

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING: Have an event? We want it! Festivals, lectures, sporting events (including surfing, kayaking, and sailing), Meetups, conventions, book signings, art gallery openings, conferences, dance performances, expos, poetry readings, classes & workshops — all are welcome. You can submit an event at sdreader.com/events/submit. (Blue titles indicate sponsored events. To place a sponsored listing, call 619-235-8200.)

ART

Art of the Holiday This annual show offers an array of affordably priced, unique hand-crafted artistic gifts perfect for holiday gift giving. These works are produced by 30 artists and artisans of our region and include Jewelry, Glassware, Wearable Art, Accessories, Functional and Decorative Wood, Ceramics, Holiday Greeting Cards, Hand Blown and Fused Glass, along with a wide variety of glass, ceramic, gourd, and mixed media ornaments. Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 10am; through Saturday, December 24, **free**. Fallbrook Art Center, 103 S. Main Avenue. (FALLBROOK)

Carlsbad Village Art Walk A self-guided tour of the art throughout Carlsbad Village with free music and hors d'oeuvres throughout the downtown area's shops and galleries. Thursday, December 22, 5pm; **free**. Carlsbad Village, 2930 Roosevelt Street. (CARLSBAD)

Inspire Works Art Studio: Luminaries During winter months light is used to heat, inspire, connect, evoke emotion, and illuminate the way. Warm up with a hot chocolate bar and create your own light with beautiful luminaries to celebrate the holiday season in our new art studio. Inspire Works Art Studio will be open every Saturday in December (except for December 3) with rotating art projects. Free with general admission. Saturday, December 24, 10:30am; \$13. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

BEER

Thorn Street Brewery Anniversary TSB is turning four! Help us celebrate four, fabulous years in North Park. We'll have a raffle, cake, games, and prizes, and all of our beers will only be \$4 for the whole night. Thursday, December 22, 4pm; **free**. Thorn Street Brewery, 3176 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Christmas & Teddy Bear Teas

The Westgate Hotel invites families and friends to experience its beloved holiday afternoon teas in true European fashion. Sophisticated and charming, the teas feature a delightful assortment of teatime fare and refreshments and plenty of cheer. For the littles, the hotel's Teddy Bear Teas feature kid-friendly bites and beverages and include a surprise visitor from the North Pole. Thursday, December 22, 2:30pm; Friday, December 23, 2:30pm; \$30-\$45. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Brunch and Dinner at the Abbey

Enjoy a full brunch or dinner buffet with all the holiday trimmings at the Abbey — Hornblower's on-land venue. The Abbey offers a rare, refined uptown option for the holidays. Originally constructed as an Episcopal church, this 1910 landmark is San Diego's only remaining Classic Revival structure. Sunday, December 25, 11:30am and 4pm; \$49-\$59. Abbey, 2825 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Christmas Day Buffet at the Hilton

Start Christmas Day with a delicious brunch and enjoy the beautiful views of the San Diego Bay. Call 619-321-4284 for reservations. Sunday, December 25, 6:30am; \$36. Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Day Buffet at the Shores

Five Spice Smoked Salmon, Chef Percy's Seafood Paella, Orange Cider Brined Tom Turkey, and a selection of desserts including Gingerbread Trifle, Caramel Sea Salt Brownies, and Butterscotch Pear Bread Pudding. Cost is \$56 per person and special pricing is available for children 12 and under. Sunday, December 25, 9:30am; \$56. Shores Restaurant, 8110 Camino del Oro. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas Day at The Marine Room

On Christmas Day savor an à la carte menu that features Maine Diver Scallop and Baja Prawns, Cervena Farm Elk Loin, and many other favorites. End with decadent desserts like Dulce De Leche Cheesecake, Warm Buttered Bosch Pear Tart, and Feuillantine Callebault Chocolate Crunch. Lobster Night menu will not be available Christmas Day. Sunday, December 25, 12pm; Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas Dinner at Pinzini

Four-course dinner special includes your choice of soup or salad along with an appetizer, entree, and a holiday dessert sampler. Menu highlights include Winter Field Salad, Asiago Risotto Croquette, and Roasted Carved Breast of Turkey. Wine

pairings will be offered for each course at an additional charge or toast to the holidays with our Christmas Crafted at Westin cocktail available for \$10. Children 12 and under \$23. Sunday, December 25, 4pm; \$23-\$45. Pinzini, Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Eve Dinner at the Abbey

The Abbey is Hornblower's on-land venue; it offers a rare, refined uptown option for the holidays. Originally constructed as an Episcopal church, this elegant 1910 landmark is San Diego's only remaining Classic Revival structure. Enjoy a full dinner buffet with all the holiday trimmings. Saturday, December 24, 4pm; \$59. Abbey, 2825 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Christmas Eve at the Marine Room

A special day deserves a special meal. Rejoice in the spirit of the season with à la carte dinner specials including Lemon Oil Poached Lobster Tail, Crispy Skin Pacific Snapper, and Angus Ribeye Steak. Saturday, December 24, 5pm; Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas at Cafe Sevilla

On Christmas Eve we will be serving our regular dinner menu as well as featuring a special Christmas Eve Flamenco Dinner Show. On Christmas Day we will be featuring a 9 Course Tapas Brunch, a special 4-Course Prix Fixe Christmas Menu, and our regular dinner menu. Saturday, December 24, 11am; Sunday, December 25, 11am; \$10-\$60. Café Sevilla Nightclub, 353 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas at George's California Modern

Executive chef Trey Foshee and chef de cuisine Jonathan Bautista have planned a holiday three-course dinner

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

featuring dishes such as Chino Farms Butternut Squash Soup with apples and pumpkin seed granola, Niman Ranch Pork Belly with smoked pineapple and pickled onions, and Red Wine Braised Beef Cheeks with potato-horseradish puree and puffed beef tendon. Saturday, December 24, 5:30pm; Sunday, December 25, 3pm; George's California Modern, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Chula Vista's Christmas Circle Between December 10 and 26 nearly 60 bedazzled homes will glow with lights galore. Among the candy canes, Nativity scenes, and blinking Rudolph noses, expect at least one old-fashioned Snoopy scene, one house bedecked in the Pixar character of the moment, and a couple of sneaky rooftop Santas. For the best views, and the fewest frustrated drivers behind you, park your car and walk the course. Thursdays, 5pm; Fridays, 5pm; Saturdays, 5pm; Sundays, 5pm; through Monday, December 26, **free**. Whitney Street at Mankato, between First and Second Avenue (off H Street). (CHULA VISTA)

Fantasy on Ice Lace up your skates and glide into the Yuletide as Fantasy on Ice kicks off its second year at Liberty Station. Located behind the Dick Laub NTC Command Center at 2640 Historic Decatur Rd., the rink has raised more than \$1 million dollars for the Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Rady Children's Hospital and is the only holiday rink in San Diego where 100% of proceeds directly benefit the nonprofit. Fantasy on Ice opens on Thursday, November 17 with live performances from San Diego's best ice-bound talents and will remain open to the public through January 8, giving a North Pole makeover to Liberty Station's historic barracks and plazas. Monday-Thursday: 10am-10pm Friday-Sunday (Day Session): 10am-7:30pm Friday-Sunday (Night Session): 8pm-10pm Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, January 8, \$10-\$14. NTC at Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Jungle Bells A chance to see exotic animals at night makes an evening visit worth a trip, and through January 2 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). Thursdays, 9am;

Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; through Monday, January 2, San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Kids Countdown to Christmas We're pairing traditional holiday films with cookie decorating, ornament making, craft projects, and visits with Mrs. Claus. Your little starfish gets wrapped in ribbons of holiday joy with the Cape Rey Holiday Countdown Activities. 12/17: Movie Night (*Elf*) and Cookie Decorating. 12/18: Ornament Making and Hot Cocoa. 12/19: Movie Night (*Polar Express*) and Cookie Decorating. 12/20: Ornament Making and Hot Cocoa. 12/21: Movie (*Miracle on 34th Street*). 12/22: Craft Project with Mrs. Claus. 12/23: Christmas Eve Eve Movie (*How the Grinch Stole Christmas*). RSVP to:concierge@caperey.com if you would like to join in the fun. info@caperey.com. Thursday, December 22, 6pm; **free**. Cape Rey, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

Legoland Snow Days Thousands of Legos come together to create a massive 30-ft. tall Christmas tree decorated with hundreds of Lego ornaments, and a fireworks show lights up the sky select nights during December. In addition, guests can enjoy the Let It Snow musical and life-size Lego displays of Santa and his reindeer. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, January 1, Legoland California, One Legoland Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Merry Tree of Wishes For the fourth year in a row, Lush hosts the Merry Tree of Wishes. The tree will be up from November 25 to December 25 to accept wishes. The tree in 2015 received 638 wishes. Help this year's tree reach the goal of 1000. You can help decorate the tree: stop by, pick out an origami crane, and write your personal message on the crane's wish tag. Thursdays, 6am; Fridays, 6am; Saturdays, 6am; Sundays, 6am; through Sunday, December 25, **free**. Lush Coffee, 324 Main St. (VISTA)

Naughty or Nice Mixology An Odyssey Lounge mixologist will teach you how to make holiday cocktails. Each participant can choose one from the "naughty" list and one from the "nice." You can watch *Polar Express* with the kids at the Promenade Plaza at 7pm, and there's ice skating on the bayfront rink until 9. Don't miss the life-size gingerbread house on your way in, which took pastry chefs 276 hours to assemble 1595 lbs. of ingredients. Saturday, December 24, 3pm; **free**. Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Nutcracker Live accompaniment by the San Diego Symphony and the Classics Philharmonic. Performances run December 10 to 24. There will be two special 60 minute presentations tailored specifically for the needs of individuals on the Autism Spectrum and

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Joseph O'Brien

Advent

The time of the first advent was foretold; the time of the second is not so; because the first was to be obscure, and the second is to be brilliant, and so manifest that even His enemies will recognise it. But, as He was first to come only in obscurity, and to be known only of those who searched the Scriptures....

— Pascal, Pensees, 757

They say I wear the scriptures on my sleeve —
Not true. I stitch and sew and scratch my soul
With them — the way that desert winds believe

The shifting sands will move and, on the whole,
That scrub and pine eventually break down.
They break down alright — and count the roll

Of boulders, mountains, and whatever crown
That Empire wears... These, lost on me now, hail
The high song of the wastelands: days that moan

The coming of another. Flies recall
The rhythm, locusts eat the melody
And honey adds the counterpoint. It's all

The food I pick from barren fields. I see
It building up from wilderness; it comes
To search the slough and sift of enmity...

Remembering my mother's cry, my dreams
Of distant visits haunt my head. So I search
The dunes of Palestine, obscured by time's

Redundant landscape — even storm clouds lurch
With fits and starts that always promise rain —
The heavens' pact with earth: You shall not parch

*The grasses growing green upon the plain,
And I in turn will turn the sky to blue.
What thunder cries, a wilderness of pain,*

That's the work of God. I only call you.

families with very young children. The spectacular Tchaikovsky score will be brought to life by live symphony orchestra accompaniment at every performance. Gather your friends and family for one of the finest holiday traditions San Diego has to offer. Meet the cast following 1pm, 2:30pm, and 5:30pm performances. Pre-show lectures one hour prior to select performances. Red carpet photo op prior to all performances. Special 60 minute presentations (with recorded music) Saturday, December 10 at 2:30pm. Special Autism/sensory friendly performance in partnership with Autism Speaks Wednesday, December 21 at 2pm. Thursday, December 22, 2:30pm and 7pm; Friday, December 23, 2:30pm and 7:30pm; Saturday, December 24, 1pm; \$25-\$105. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Nutcracker: City Ballet of San Diego Voted San Diego's Best Nutcracker production by the "Tommy Awards," this elaborate and elegant production with exquisite costumes and scenery will take you on Clara's magical journey from her fun filled family Christmas party where toy soldiers and mice become life sized to the enchanted Snow Forest and on to the Land of Sweets where she is welcomed by the Sugar Plum Fairy, her Cavalier, and magical performances from dancers throughout the world. Accompanied by the City Ballet Orchestra and chorus. Following each matinee performance, members of the cast will be in the lobby to greet audience members and pose for photos. Thursday, December 22, 2pm; Friday, December 23, 2pm; \$32-\$85. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Caesar

Caesar was too old, it seems to me, to set about amusing himself with conquering the world. Such sport was good for Augustus or Alexander. They were still young men, and thus difficult to restrain. But Caesar should have been more mature.

— Pascal, Pensees, 132

From emperor to god, distinction's blade
Has cut me loose from earthly care and set
My star within a diadem that made

My shade regret its bloody ways — forget
The fact that I refused the crown with three
Dismissive waves. So three were keen to set

Upon me — brute ambition, envy's glee,
And tilting pride — my own to think success
A measure counted by eternity....

I wept at Alexander's feats no less
Than now I laugh at what Augustus wants —
To value the empire's populace

A victory subtracting weal from chance
In one decisive sweep of columned sums.
I told the pirates I'd be back to dance

Before their crucifixions; Pompey's drums
Resolved my mettle. "Let Catullus sing
Of plows and flowers," I said, "Caesar comes

From Gaul and India with arms to bring
About *hic novus ordo*." This head
Is wizened, iron-willed, the only thing

That raises me above them all. Include
Among them, by the way, my wretched son
Who counts his greatest triumph as a god

A forced retreat of numbers back to one.



Joseph O'Brien lives on a homestead with his wife and nine children in rural Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin. He is poetry editor and staff writer (Set 'Em Up, Joe! and Sheep and Goats) for the *San Diego Reader*.

Find more poetry online at SDReader.com/poetry

Seas 'n' Greetings at Birch Through the month of December, Birch Aquarium features holiday ocean-science events including dive shows with Scuba Santa and themed octopus feedings. The schedule changes daily, so visit the website for the rundown. Most activities are included in Birch Aquarium admission, \$18.50 for adults and \$14 for children 3 to 17. Proceeds support exhibits and educational programming at Birch Aquarium at Scripps. Thursday, December 22, 9am; Friday, December 23, 9am; Saturday, December 24, 9am; \$14-\$18. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Skating by the Sea Skating by the Sea returns to Hotel del Coronado for the 12th year from Thanksgiving Day through January 2. This ice rink is located seaside on Windsor Lawn and features views of the Pacific and

Coronado beach. The Del's iconic Victorian Building, adorned with thousands of white lights, provides a visual backdrop and adds holiday music and hot chocolate and libations. Skating is \$25 per person, and ice skate rentals are free. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Monday, January 2, \$25. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Ugly Sweater Contest Grab your ugliest sweater and your skates. Topsy Elves will be doing giveaways throughout the day at Hilton San Diego Bayfront's Ice Rink. Afterwards join us in our Odyssey Lounge for the Ugly Sweater Contest at 8pm. Prizes include a two-night stay at Hilton San Diego Bayfront, a treatment at Spa Aquazul, and more. Thursday, December 29, **free**. Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Homemade Ravioli If you love fresh ravioli but think you could never make it yourself, this class will change your mind. The instructor will demystify the process, sharing secrets for making perfect pasta dough and instruction on ravioli making, from rolling and cutting dough to filling and cooking ravioli. Work alongside other students practicing knife skills and blanching and learn how to make three simple sauces to complement the ravioli. Thursday, December 22, 6:30pm; \$69. Sur la Table, 1905 Calle Barcelona. (CARLSBAD)

Paint Nite A cocktail of creativity and conversation. Drink a glass of wine and create a painting — you'll go home with more than just a buzz. No experience necessary. Use discount code Drink25 for \$25 tickets at paintnite.com. Friday, December 23, \$25-\$45. 2Plank Winery, 6242 Ferris Square. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

COMEDY

Frankie Quinones Frankie Quinones brings a performance compared to a one-man variety show as he plays a wide range of characters ranging from crazy Mexican uncles to a white hippie woman named "Sun Diamond." He has performed for troops overseas in Japan, Europe, and the Middle East and has toured with some of the industry's most respected headliners including Craig Robinson, Paul Rodriguez, and Eddie Griffin, to name a few. He's been seen on TBS, Nickelodeon, on the Funny Or Die production "Rush Hour 4/Face Off 2" with Sean "P-Diddy" Combs, and on his new web series The Funny Drop on the Más Mejor YouTube channel produced by Broadway Video and NBC Universal. Thursday, December

22, 8pm; Friday, December 23, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$12-\$16. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Jane Schmitz Jane Schmitz plus the Dat Phan and Friends Holiday Show. Friday, December 23, 6pm; \$10-\$20. Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Leslie Jordan Emmy Award-winning actor and comedian Leslie Jordan's new show features colorful stories, insightful anecdotes and hilarious memories of his childhood in — and ultimate escape to the lights of Hollywood from — Chattanooga, Tennessee. Thursday, December 22, 8pm; \$40-\$50. Martinis Above Fourth, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

FOR KIDS

Winter Art Camp Pachis Winter Art Camp is designed for your child to spend a fun and creative week in the studio, making winter-themed art pieces; drawings, painting, sewing, mixed media projects, and more! Many of these projects will make great gifts for family and friends. Outdoor time is also incorporated to enjoy the park and the surroundings of Liberty Station, Point Loma. For children aged 5-10 years old. Thursday, December 29, \$340-\$600. 5 and up. Pachis, An Art Studio For Kids, 2820 Roosevelt Rd., Building 201, Ste 102. (LIBERTY STATION)

Winter Day Camp at the Fleet The Fleet offers full-day camps in winter for kids in grades 1-3. The camps take place at the science center and include fun, educational, hands-on activities while incorporating the Fleet's exhibit galleries. \$55 per day for members and \$60 per day for nonmembers. Register online or 619-238-1233 ext. 806. December 19: Inside Your Insides. Investigate bones, blood, digestion, and other amazing systems of the human body. December 20: Magic & Illusion.

Make color-changing potions, observe the fascinating nature of dry ice, and learn illusion tricks that will impress your friends. December 21: To the Extreme. Explore explosive earth events, crazy weather, and other thrilling science activities. \$55-\$60. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

NATURE

Nature Calling Benefit from the chorus of a distant song bird, contemplate the beauty of unique landscapes, and meander down the beckoning trail. Our trail guide-led walk is your opportunity to feel one with nature and to experience seasonal beauty and wonder on a fun interpretive outing. Meet inside Visitor Center. Saturday, December 24, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Prelude to the Holidays Enhance your holiday experience with a mini-vacation in nature. Your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide will unravel the mysteries behind mistletoe and other plants that showcase Southern California's winter ornamentation and holiday traditions. Gain an understanding of the natural world on a fun, scenic, and informative walk. Meet by the flag poles at Campground Entry Station. Saturday, December 24, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Winter Solstice Hike Bundle up for a predawn walk up Cowles Mountain with your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide and visit a Kumeyaay spiritual site to observe the phenomenon of rising sun rays visually split in half by distant Lyon's Peak boulders. Bring flashlight and wear solid shoes. Meet at Cowles Mountain trail head (south of the comfort station). Thursday, December 22, 6am; free. Cowles Mountain, Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 32

close. Also known as the Pasadena oak, these gorgeous trees have blue-green leaves and are drought deciduous. Once abundant throughout Southern California, the Engelmann oak has been on the decline since the early 1900s due to urbanization and farming. At the top of the mesa, the Engelmann forms an oak woodland in a small grove surrounded by granitic boulders.

Covering the granitic boulders all along the mesa is a colorful varnish of reds, greens, and blues. This alien-looking growth is called lichen. It is a symbiotic life form made up of algae and fungus and is a natural litmus test for good air quality.

Due to the years of grazing and modernization, a less clearly defined habitat is the sections of sage scrub. The plant species commonly found within these patches include California sagebrush, buckwheat, white sage, coyote bush, deer weed, and a variety of wildflowers. A little further north of the mesa, visitors will discover an arroyo fed by seasonal

rain. The dry streambed is lined by oak, pine, laurel sumac, and toyon. However, the true gems relying on the seasonal rain, and hidden among the grasses, are the vernal pools. These ephemeral low spots fill quickly when the rain returns and can persist for weeks after it stops. The pools, formed due to the underlying hard bedrock and thick layers of clay, provide a unique habitat for a host of species only found in Southern California — creatures like fairy shrimp and the spadefoot toad.

The best time to view the pools is in spring, especially in years with heavy rain, but any time is a good time to visit the preserve as there will always be something amazing to experience.

Canyoneros 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. Hike descriptions are also found in Coast to Cactus: The Canyonero Trail Guide to San Diego Outdoors.

Play in December for your chance to win a

2017 Chevy SILVERADO!

Join us on December 31st

and get the party started!

\$2,000

Hourly Free Play Drawings

from 5pm – 11pm

- Entertainment -

- Food & Drink Specials -

- Countdown Celebration -

A Lucky Silverado Winner will be drawn at 12:30AM!

One entry for every
100 points earned
December 1-31



Actual model and color may vary

\$10

NEW YEAR'S DAY

FREE PLAY

January 1, 2017 • 10am-10pm

Earn 25 points on either the slot machines or table games.

GOLDEN ACORN CASINO

TRAVEL CENTER

GoldenAcornCasino.com • I-8 at Crestwood, Exit 61 • (866)7-WINBIG(946244)

FOLLOW US ON:



San Diego's early modern Indians

The Indians and Edward H. Davis

Indians were being forced to give up a seasonal hunter-gatherer life. When drought and the Great Depression struck, Davis would often make rounds among the Indian families and would fill up their baskets with food.

BY NEAL MATTHEWS, JUNE 12, 1986

One Thousand Survivors

On the shores of the dry lakebed Laguna Salada, about 250 Cucapa reside. Perhaps 50 Kiliwa Indians live at the foot of the Sierra San Pedro Martir. The Kumeyaay Indians, who extend to Escondido, inhabit four settlements south of the border.

BY JEANNETTE DE WYZE, SEPT. 19, 1996

When an Indian Language is Gone

No word means "oak" in general, but there are terms for all the oak varieties, of which at least six can be found in San Diego County. "Every Indian in San Diego County knows unerringly all the different kinds of oaks."

BY JEANNETTE DE WYZE, JAN. 30, 1997

Delfina Cuero: An account of her last years

Her family fished and gathered shellfish in the Ocean Beach-Point Loma area. "There were lots of rabbits there, too. My grandfather used to tell the boys to eat rabbit eyes, because it would make them good hunters."

BY JEFF SMITH, AUG. 16, 2001

Reader

sdreader.com/news/from-archives

Finally — the 1,500 best stories from 44 years of the Reader — fully transcribed. An ongoing project through the end of 2016.

SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Riverview Community Church

Contact: 8861 North Magnolia Ave., Santee 619-449-7500; riverviewsandiego.org

Membership: 600

Pastor: Todd Tolson

Age: 40

Born: Waukegan, IL

Formation: Christian Heritage College, Santee (previously San Diego Christian, El Cajon)

Years Ordained: 16

San Diego Reader: How long do you spend writing your sermon?

Pastor Todd Tolson: I probably spend 10 to 12 hours a week preparing. Right now we're in a series called "Jesus and the Griswolds," loosely based on one of the greatest Christmas movies of all time. We're going

through the family tree of Jesus in Matthew 1, and doing a character profile on each of the major characters in the family tree. The vast majority of people in Santee are either unchurched or de-churched, meaning they used to be super involved at one time but got burnt out or got burned, and haven't attended church for decades.

SDR: What is Riverview doing to attract the "unchurched"?

PT: One of the things unique about Riverview is that we meet in an old bar. The bar is a landmark to the people in East County. We meet in what used to be Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel, where I learned how to line-dance

in high school. We have an old marquee sign out front which came with the building where we will put up a three-by-ten banner of whatever the teaching series is at the time. We'll also put on the banner our service times and our motto — "We're a church for people who don't like church." We get 25,000 cars a day that drive by the marquee and many people every weekend will come to Riverview for the first time because they saw the sign.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PT: We want to help other people know Jesus personally, to grow in biblical community, and to go and live generously. "Know, grow

and go." We try to keep it simple.

SDR: Where's the strangest place you've found God?

PT: I was 19 and I was in a truck with a mentor of mine. We were driving across the Coronado bridge. He relayed to me that there had been a jumper on the bridge earlier that day. It was a strange experience, not being able to help. I had the symptoms of a panic attack — I had tunnel vision and I couldn't breathe. It was the first time I had ever felt a holy fury over someone else's life and their eternity. It's one thing to lose your life. Everyone is going to die at some point — but losing out on eternity with God is another thing. I thought,



Todd Tolson

Doesn't that guy know — if he jumps...? Well, sign on the dotted line. You don't come back from that. My mentor calmed me down by letting me know the guy didn't actually jump. But it was a pivotal moment: I had a God experience in the middle of the Coronado bridge.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PT: Jesus described a geographic location of hell 14 different ways in the gospels, and he described heaven twice. That either means heaven is going to be so great that he wanted to keep it a surprise, or hell is so bad that he would describe it in excruciating detail in multiple ways to keep us from going there. Hell is eternal separation from God, but I think it's more than that. It's an actual location where people who do not surrender the leadership of their life over to Jesus go when they die.

— Joseph O'Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDReader.com/worship/

\$15

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

1ST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH First Spiritualist Church



Sunday Jan 1 st : Speaker: Pastor Rev. Lorina Pyle
1 st Sunday Mini Readings
1:30 – 3:00 PM \$20/\$17 fee, **Reiki Healing** 1:30 – 4:00 PM \$15 fee, **Amethyst Biomat ThetaHealing** 1:30-3:30pm \$20/\$17 fee, **1st Wednesday Reiki Practice** Group 4:30-6pm w/ Rev Rosie \$5, **3rd Wednesday Reiki Practice** Group 7-9pm w/ Rev. Rosie \$5
Fridays in Jan:
UNIVERSAL ENERGY HEALING CLASS.
Formerly known as Spiritual Healing Lab.
7-8:30PM, Learn Auric Healing with Rev. Sharon

Terry. \$20/\$17 Last class 1/20, **Sunday Jan 8th :** Speaker: Phineas Leevy
Sunday Jan 15th : Speaker: Mara Peters, LM, **Sunday Jan 22nd :** Speaker: Rev. Javier Garay, **Message Circle** 1:30-3:30pm
\$20/\$17, **Sunday Jan 29th:** Speaker: Rev. Patrick Frazer *"schedule subject to change, check website calendar for changes"*
Readings, Healings and Counseling by appt For Urgent Prayer Request call 619-246- 5929 <http://www.1st-spiritualistchurch.org> 10am Sundays.
CITY HEIGHTS
3777 42nd Street
619-284-4646

COMMUNITY CHURCH OF POWAY La Jolla Renaissance Singers

The Joyful Noise 2017 Concert Series presents the La Jolla Renaissance Singers, performing a concert featuring early choral music. The La Jolla based group performs vocal music written from the Middle Ages through the Renaissance, with occasional forays into the Romantic and Modern periods. The twenty-member group performs in period costume. Also featured in this concert will be the San Rafael Bell Ringers from the San Rafael Catholic Church. 2pm Saturday, Jan. 7.
POWAY
13501 Community Road
858-748-3304

NORMAL HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Candlelight Christmas Eve at Normal Heights Methodist

Looking for something a little quieter and more reflective this Christmas Eve? Be here for our Light in the Darkness service. The 100-year-old sanctuary will be glowing with candles and filled with Christmas music as we celebrate the birth of Christ. 7pm Saturday.
NORMAL HEIGHTS
4650 Mansfield Street

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO Christmas Eve Candlelight at First United Methodist

Celebrate Christmas Eve with candlelight and carols, the Christmas story, and the Christmas spirit. First Church in Mission Valley offers five distinct candlelight services on Christmas Eve. From early family services including a nativity pageant at 5 pm to traditional carols and soaring anthems to the quiet mystery of late night worship — all services will feature the traditional congregational lighting of candles. 3pm, 5pm, 8pm, 10pm, & 11pm Saturday.
MISSION VALLEY
2111 Camino del Rio South
619-297-4366

ST. JAMES BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH Cantus: No Greater Love Than This

The men of Cantus explore the bonds that have defined those willing to lay down their lives for others. Included will be works by Irving Berlin, George M. Cohen, Going Home by Antonin Dvorak, Danny Boy, In Flanders Fields, and Lee Hoiby's poignant Last Letter Home. 4pm Sunday, Feb. 12.
LA JOLLA
743 Prospect Street
858-459-3421

ST. BRIGID CATHOLIC CHURCH Catholic Approach to Scripture

Introduction to the entire collection of books we recognize as God's Word in light of recent Church documents. Taught by Bernadeane Carr, STL, director of the Diocesan Institute. 7pm from Thursday, January 19 until February 16, 2017.
PACIFIC BEACH
4735 Cass Street
858-483-3030

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) stjohnbosco-mission@hotmail.com, www.sspx.org. Instaurare Omnia in Christo. To the greater glory of God! 4pm Sundays.
POINT LOMA
2881 Roosevelt Road

SAN MARCOS LUTHERAN CHURCH Christmas Candlelight at San Marcos Lutheran

Family service with children participating at 5 pm, traditional service at 7 pm, Christmas Day service at 11 am. 5pm & 7pm Saturday, 11am Sunday.
SAN MARCOS
3419 Grand Avenue
760-727-1509

CITY CHURCH Christmas Eve at City Church

Candlelight services, dynamic worship music, an inspiring Christmas message, and life-changing stories. 5pm Saturday.
CHULA VISTA
861 Harold Place

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO Christmas Day at First United Methodist

Celebrate the Christ Child's birth Christmas morning. A

service of carols, lessons, and a Christmas message, along with the Chancel Choir and organ, is set in a light-filled sanctuary filled with poinsettias and greenery. All are welcome. 10am Sunday.
MISSION VALLEY
2111 Camino del Rio South
619-297-4366

KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH Christmas Eve Candlelight at King of Kings Lutheran

A traditional Christmas Worship complete with candle lighting, carols, and special music. Join us at 6 pm and 8 pm. 6pm & 8pm Saturday.
OCEANSIDE
2993 Macdonald Street
760-757-2525

ONE HEART ONE MIND CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING December's Theme at the Center: The Living Spirit



Word of the month: "Joy"
December 25th 8:00am: *The Meaning of the Magi.*
SORRENTO VALLEY
11211 Sorrento Valley Rd., Suite G. 858-450-6466

KING OF KINGS LUTHERAN CHURCH Christmas Day Worship at King of Kings Lutheran

Join us for Christmas Sunday. Traditional Lutheran Service. 9am Sunday.
OCEANSIDE
2993 Macdonald Street
760-757-2525

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH Gregorian Chant

Participants will learn a complete Chant Ordinary (Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei) and 3-4 chant hymns. Taught by Mary Ann Carr Wilson, music director. Register at st.anne.choirs@gmail.com. 7pm Wednesday, Feb. 8, Wednesday, Feb. 15, Wednesday, Feb. 22, Wednesday, Mar. 8, Wednesday, Mar. 15, & Wednesday, Mar. 22.
LOGAN HEIGHTS
621 Sicard Street
619-239-8253

NORMAL HEIGHTS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Kids' Christmas Eve at Normal Heights Methodist

On Christmas Eve during the Lights, Christmas, Action! service, the children will help us tell

the story of Christmas. Each child will jump into action by dressing up and playing a character in our informal Christmas story. The Christmas carols we love will be sung, and the story of Jesus' birth will be acted out by the kids of our neighborhood. 5pm Saturday.
NORMAL HEIGHTS
4650 Mansfield Street

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO LGBTQ-Friendly Christmas Day Mass & Hot Cocoa Social



Dignity/San Diego invites you to our LGBTQ-Friendly Catholic Mass on Christmas Day at the First UUC's Clark Chapel in Hillcrest. We'll be celebrating the Nativity of the Lord with Communion, Carols, and Festivities (including our Hot Cocoa Social). All are welcome. <http://dignitytsd.org> 6pm Sunday.
HILLCREST
4190 Front Street
619-298-9978

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Jazz Vespers

Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archtones

and a guest musician. 4pm Saturdays.
DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO
320 Date Street
619-232-7513

GRACE CHURCH NORTH PARK Men's Taco Night With Mike Clark Band

Guys come hangout, have some tacos, and experience Grace. Special guest and musical artist Mike Clark will be leading worship and sharing his testimony. The Mike Clark Band's clean sound and insightful lyrics come out of a place of gratitude and reverence for all that God has done. 5pm Saturday, Jan. 7.
NORTH PARK, 2716
Madison Ave, San Diego, Ca 92116

GETHSEMANE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gethsemane
Small in size, grounded in grace. Outdoor labyrinth 24/7. Creatively traditional liturgy. Good music. Spiritual depth. Prayerful. Preschool with daycare. Sunday: 8am Contemplative Communion; 9:30am Spirited traditional. www.gethsemanesd.org 858-277-6572 8am & 9am Sundays.
SERRA MESA
2696 Melbourne Drive
858-277-6572

ROCK CHURCH

Tim Hawkins
Since giving up his job as a grocery truck driver in 2002, Tim Hawkins has been forging the blend between two ideals: a funny comedy show that caters to the entire family. 7pm Friday, Feb. 17.

POINT LOMA
2277 Rosecrans Street
619-226-7625

LA JOLLA CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Josh McDowell
Leader in the Campus Crusade for Christ since 1964 and author of *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*. 10am & 6pm Sunday, Jan. 8.
LA JOLLA
627 Genter Street
858-454-9636

UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH

We Look Forward to Meeting You!

We are an open, inclusive, and welcoming congregation. Sunday worship is at 10:30 am. We also offer Youth Groups, Sunday

School for all ages, and much, much more! Call 858-453-3444 or visit our website UCUC.org for details. 10am Sundays.
UNIVERSITY CITY
2877 Governor Drive
858-453-3444

UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH UCUC Christmas Services



Come celebrate the joy of Christmas! We have a Christmas Eve service at 7pm and our Christmas Day service at 10:30am. We also have a service on New Year's Day at

10:30am. All are welcome! Call 858-453-3444 or visit our website http://ucuc.org for details. 7pm Saturday, 10am Sunday & Sunday, Jan. 1.
UNIVERSITY CITY
2877 Governor Drive
858-453-3444

MISSION SAN LUIS REY Serenity Retreat

Spend a weekend with women and men in recovery from alcoholism and addiction. Retreat is open to all 12-step folks. The retreat will focus on the 12-Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous with time for prayer and meditation. Alcoholics, addicts, friends, and family members are welcome. Led by Fr. Tom Weston, S.J. who has been involved in 12-step programs since 1976 and is former director of the Jesuit Volunteers

Corps and a teacher at Loyola High School in Los Angeles. 4pm Friday, Jan. 20, 9am Saturday, Jan. 21 & Sunday, Jan. 22.
OCEANSIDE
4070 Mission Avenue
760-757-3520

MISSION SAN LUIS REY Prophets of the Old Testament

With Father Michael Guinan, OFM. We will ask the five basic questions about the biblical prophets: Who? What? Where? When? Why? What did they have to say to their contemporaries and how might they challenge us today? 9am Wednesday, Feb. 22, Wednesday, Mar. 1, Wednesday, Mar. 8, Wednesday, Mar. 15, & Wednesday, Mar. 22.
OCEANSIDE
4070 Mission Avenue
760-757-3520 ST.

SHIVA VISHNU TEMPLE OF SAN DIEGO

Vaikunta Ekadasi

All-day event including Sri Venkateswara Uchavamurthy Aabhishekam at 9am 6am Sunday, Jan. 8.
MIRAMAR
7930 Arjons Dr., Suite B
858-594-3940

JAMES BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Lincoln Trio

The Lincoln Trio features Desirée Ruhstrat (violin), David Cunliffe (cello), and Marta Aznavoorian (piano). 4pm Sunday, Mar. 19.
LA JOLLA
743 Prospect Street
858-459-3421

CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL

Shabbat and Chinese Dinner

Dinner will follow Friday Shabbat service. 6pm Friday.
LA JOLLA
9001 Towne Centre Drive
858-535-1111

\$15

Special price for listings of this size on these Sheep & Goats pages. 50 words or less, 50 cents for each additional word. Call Lauren Bishop: (619) 235-3000 ext. 200 before 2PM Monday or email her: lbishop@SDReader.com Or - easiest of all - go to SDReader.com/SheepAds and place your ad automatically any time of day or night.

Saranya's Thai Café

\$1 pancake for every \$10 purchased with coupon



Find us at Little Italy weekly

\$1 off when you buy 3 bunches of broccoli



At the Little Italy Mercato

Valid through December 29, 2016 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

Suncoast Farms

Organic Strawberries in Season Now!

CSA subscriptions: www.jrorganicsfarm.com



JR Organics
at Little Italy,
Pacific Beach, and
North Park

Green Fix Smoothie



\$1.00 off any quart-Limit 1 per customer
www.GreenFixSmoothie.com

\$1 OFF any 2 Paninis

At Little Italy

Valid through December 29, 2016 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

Find us at Little Italy Saturday



Seb's Paninis

EMPANADA KITCHEN

— HAPPILY BAKED —

At the North Park Thursday Market

\$1 OFF Any item

at Little Italy and North Park
www.suziesfarm.com

Valid through December 29, 2016 only. One coupon per customer per booth.



Start your market business here!



VENDOR 101

January 22, 2017 and
Vendor-101.com



At the Washington Elementary School
At Date & Union or State & Fir
Saturdays at Little Italy Mercato



BEEF • PORK GAME • FOWL

Available fresh each week.
Pasture raised start to finish.
Hormone free, free range,
humanly raised, no gmo grains.



EBT Cards now accepted at:
Pacific Beach Tuesday • North Park Thursday
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sandiegomarkets.com

5150 Nut Butter 5 Varieties



NOW AT



SATURDAYS



www.sandiegomarkets.com



Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, DEC 22	11:31	1.5'	10:37	1.6'	4:43	5.1'	5:05	3.5'
FRI, DEC 23	12:20	1'	11:23	1.8'	5:23	5.3'	6:12	3.6'
SAT, DEC 24			12:58	0.5'	5:57	5.6'	7:02	3.7'
SUN, DEC 25	12:03	1.9'	1:31	0.1'	6:29	5.8'	7:42	3.8'

Waves (MOONLIGHT BEACH)

Height	Direction	Interval
1'-2'	WNW	17 seconds
2'-3'	WNW	16 seconds
2'-3'	W	8 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	14 seconds

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

EVENTS

Nature Walk The Tijuana Estuary Visitors Center host walks discussing the variety of plant communities and wildlife in and around the river and estuary. Walks begin at the Visitor Center. Saturday, December 24, 11am; **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Bottom Bunch Dive Meetup The group promotes fun and safe diving at local beaches, kelp forests, and wrecks. Bring your certification card with you. Join and RSVP at: <http://bit.ly/2gVpjEb>. Park in the main lot by the main lifeguard tower. Group is usually in the second row to gear up. Saturdays, 7:30am; through Saturday, March 25, **free**. La Jolla Shores, 8200 Camino del Oro. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas Eve Splash This 25th annual swim is sponsored by Coronado Masters Association, which hosts open-water swims and "rejuvenating social events." On the north end of Coronado Beach at the fire rings. CMA will provide hot cider, buffalo broth, chili, veggie lasagna, and a bonfire to thaw out after a brisk refreshing ocean swim. Saturday, December 24, 12pm; **free**. Coronado City Beach, Ocean Boulevard and Marina Avenue. (CORONADO)

Learn to Paddle Outrigger Canoes RSVP: meetup.com/Ikuna-Koa-Outrigger-Canoe-Club-Club/ Sunday, December 25, 8:30am; **free**. San Diego Mission Bay Boat and Ski Club, 2606 North Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Paddle Miramar Lake Kayak or row a boat for \$6 per person for equipment. If you have your own, you will only need a city use permit. If you bring your own kayak or boat, the city requires a launch fee \$2 for a kayak or \$7 for your boat. Meet at the concession building. Join Meetup group and RSVP: <http://bit.ly/2g26Gyt>. Saturdays, 11am; through Saturday, March 25, \$2-\$7. Miramar Lake, Scripps Lake Drive at Scripps Ranch Boulevard. (MIRAMAR)

Rowing and Kayaking Learn to row and kayak at National City's Aquatic Center, 3300 Goseno Place. Instructors will take you through the basics, and you will be able to learn in the protected waters of San Diego Bay. Info: 619-495-0701 or learntorow@communityrowingsd.org. Friday, December 23, 8am; Tuesday, December 27, 8am; Wednesday, December 28, 8am; **free**. Pepper Park, 3299 Tidelands Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Shelter Island Walk and Talk Join Sandra, Sally, and friends for a casual walk from the Bali Hai Restaurant to the Friendship Bell and back on flat sidewalks (about 2.5 miles round trip; 60-70 minutes including pit stop). Breathe ocean air and enjoy bay and city views from ships to sea lions. Meet new friends at east end of the island to the right of the Bali Hai by the lamp post and hand rails, where we will stretch for a few minutes. Ample free parking. If you're late, drive down the island and join us along the way. Take the #28 bus and walk approximately three blocks to the Bali Hai. Optional eats afterward. Info: 619-222-3800. Thursdays, 10am; through Tuesday, January 7, **free**. Bali Hai, 2230 Shelter Island Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Stand-Up Paddle Meetup Paddle training group in Carlsbad. Trainings take place at the Carlsbad Lagoon on Tuesday evenings from 4-5pm. Paddlers need to be on the beach with equipment at 4pm. This will be water-based workouts, sprints, buoy turns, and etc. All participants must bring their own race board — SUP, Prone, OC-1. Must have paddle race experience. Join group and RSVP at: <http://bit.ly/2ffjd51>. Tuesdays, 4pm; through Tuesday, December 27, **free**. Carlsbad Lagoon, 4700 Bayshore Dr., Carlsbad

Tijuana Estuary Junior Rangers The Tijuana Estuary offers free activities for students 7-12 years of age (check schedule for holidays) with different topics presented at each session. Jr. Rangers learn about the ecology of estuaries and the importance of wetlands and will discover an appreciation for this disappearing ecosystem by participating in related hands-on activities. Kids can earn patches, buttons, and more as they progress through the program. Thursdays, 3:30pm; through Thursday, December 29, **free**. Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Tower Paddleboards Demo Friday Tower SUP will have 11 different models of SUPs and iSUPs for you to try out during the demo days. Try them all and ask questions so you can feel the difference on the water and make the right choice when you are ready to buy. This is a free demo, not a free rental. meetup.com/SUP-San-Diego/events/rbltrlyvhbbc Fridays, 9:30am; through Friday, December 30, **free**. Santa Barbara Cove, 3220 Gleeson Rd., Pacific Beach

Wednesday Morning Workout Paddle A weekly workout paddle at Aqua Adventures in Mission Bay. Wednesdays, 7am; through Wednesday, December 28, **free**. Aqua Adventures, 1548 Quivira Way. (MISSION BEACH)



Wow Café on a stormy day

Park and Rec workers linger on O.B. Pier

The summer of 2014 in Ocean Beach was hot, the water was unusually warm, dolphins were leaping out of the water, and fishermen were having a heyday, filling their buckets with everything from mackerel to anchovies.

It was during this time that I was working on the pier, at the WOW Café and bait shop. It was an ideal spot to spend the summer, watching the tourists and locals enjoy our slice of paradise.

My first day there, I was directed by café owner Chuck Fischer — who leases the property from the city — and the manager Guillermo (aka Memo) to "give the Park & Recreation workers anything they want." Anything? "Yes."

Morning after morning as I'd walk the pier to work, I noticed how filthy it was. Fishing line, fish guts, food wrappers, used hooks, empty cans, et cetera. It was as if

no one was cleaning the pier.

When I would get to work, the first people coming through the employee entrance were usually Park & Rec employees stocking up on energy drinks, Gatorade, and breakfast, none of which they paid for. At lunch hour, the city employees would show up, sometimes in groups of three or four, and either take a seat and eat their free lunch or send the busy kitchen to a screeching halt to fulfill their to-go orders. Again, for free.

It was impressed upon me by employees and management that I was not allowed to question them — just give them what they wanted. "Don't say anything about Parks [elsewhere] or Chuck will get in trouble," I was told. Park employees generally showed up

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

INTRUDING SEA LION GETS ILLEGALLY NAILED

From San Diego city lifeguards 12/9

- HP were dispatched to a dinghy that was a hazard to navigation near Shelter Island. HP located the half-way-submerged dingy and transported it to the impound dock.

12/5

- HP responded to the A-1 Anchorage

(La Playa Cove) and issued a total of four citations for boaters illegally anchored.

12/4

- HP responded to the bait barges for a sea lion that was trapped in one of the bait tanks. It was found that an unknown person trapped the sea lion inside the tank by nailing it shut after

it had jumped into it. HP had the bait company employees respond and set the sea lion free. USCG, HP, Fish & Wildlife and the bait company are investigating this crime.

12/3

- HP responded to Pier 32 in National City to contact a subject aboard a vessel that had an outstanding warrant. The subject was contacted and taken to County Jail.

- HP responded to a sewage leak at the pump-out station located at the A-3 laurel Street Anchorage. It was found that a pipe was broken and when the pump was used, the sewage went into the water. HP Dispatch immediately notified all the required agencies who had personnel respond to fix the pipe. It is believed that less than 10 gallons were spilled into the bay.

11/30

- HP responded to the B Street Pier to investigate a burglary aboard a vessel. While the vessel was attached to the pier for some scheduled maintenance, a subject boarded the vessel and used items found on the boat to break into it. Several items were taken and there was extensive damage to the vessel. HP Detectives have good leads on the suspect.





Water Conditions

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:
LOW 60°F **HIGH** 62°F
VISIBILITY
5'-20'

Though the swell will be out of the WNW and W all week and coming straight into La Jolla Cove, there won't be much of it except for a little 2' bump Thursday through Saturday. Couple that with an AM dropping tide, light winds and a relatively small tide swing and conditions look good for divers. For the surfers, though small, the waves should be clean enough for the longboards. Boaters should especially 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 22	SAT 24	MON 26	WED 28
DECEMBER				
SUNRISE	6:48	6:45	6:46	6:47
SUNSET	16:48	16:45	16:46	16:47
LENGTH OF DAY	10H 0M	10H 0M	10H 0M	10H 0M



On or about August 12, 2014

in the morning between 7 and 8, then again around 10 a.m. for more food, and would sometimes remain there until 1 or 2 p.m.

Day after day I watched Park & Rec staff ignore the filth on the pier and sit for hours enjoying the café as if they owned it.

It didn't take long for me to figure out what was going on. Chuck, who owns the WOW Café, was using the city employees to take out his garbage/empty boxes and supply him with trash bags (city property) — in exchange, they could hang out and enjoy freebies.

So I began taking pictures of the employees hanging out at the café. Day after day, I snapped away. When I had a day off, I watched as they continued to ignore their job.

After about two months of observing the Park & Rec employees do nothing but eat and hang out, I decided to be less stealthy with

my photo taking.

On or about August 10, 2014, I was snapping away. One of the employees, asked me, "Why you taking our picture?" I said because "I haven't seen any of you do any work at all, the pier is a mess, and you just hang out." His response: "I know Chuck, and you're going to be fired in ten minutes."

A few minutes later, the manager, Memo, walked up to me and said, "Go home. We don't need you anymore." I asked for clarification. "Are you firing me for taking pictures of the Park and Rec employees who sit around and do nothing?" His response: "Yes, go home."

On Monday, August 11, 2014, I sent an email to Dan Daneri, district manager of Park & Rec.

He initiated an investigation that lasted at

least through September 3rd, when I met with members of city management. I am unsure of the outcome of the investigation, but, technically, using city employees to do personal work for you is "theft of employment" and they seemed very concerned.

Following the investigation, there were new Park & Rec employees and it appeared that Chuck learned his lesson and started taking out his own trash, freeing up the city employees to do their jobs.

Over two years later, on October 12, 2016, at 12:35 p.m., I witnessed a Park & Rec employee picking up food at the café take-out window. I was watching the entire time and did not see any money exchange hands; it appeared that he had been given free food.

October 19th at 10:13 a.m., the same employee pulled up to the café, picked up

two bags of trash outside the front door, and remained inside the café until 11:58 a.m., when he finally drove away.

I emailed Daneri again on October 20, 2016, with the description of this employee and he replied, "I know who it is and we will take care of it...it is not part of the [café's] lease."

On November 27, that same employee was at the café at 10 a.m. I was not able to watch him.

On Monday, November 28, the same employee was at the café at 7:15 a.m. I watched him grab one bag of trash. Someone handed him a drink, and then he lingered for 45 minutes at the café without appearing to do any work. He then sat in his truck at the end of the pier before leaving at 8:45 a.m. (He did empty trash cans along one end of pier before he drove off.)

— Anonymous

BIG COW AT THE HURRICANE BANK

Inshore: It's been a bit slow for the local fleet with only just under 340 anglers for the week. The catch is mainly rockfish with a few other seasonal bottom fish mixed in. After two winters with above average conditions, water temps are near normal for this time of year and so is the fishing. A few yellowtail, 'homeguards', will always be around, so dropper-looping or fly-lining a mackerel, sat, from the kelp edge out, isn't a bad idea, especially if there is some surface activity or birds diving on bait. That said, it's

'freezer-filling' time and those fishing the bottom will have better results for their effort in our local waters. For now.

Outside: There's not much to report offshore north of the border this week due to dropping water temps and weather, though the boats that do make it out are moving their concentrated effort from pelagic to rockfish, lingcod and sheephead. The long range fleet, however, is off to a great start. The Shogun is having good success on yellowtail with a few tuna mixed in at Guadalupe Island. Boats running south to the Ridge or the Hurricane Bank are scoring large yellowfin tuna; the Independence reported a massive cow at 339

pounds as the first fish of their 10 day trip. As the moon phase slowed the bite for the big yellowfin, the boats are working back up the line and having great success pulling on 25-40 pound yellowtail and school-sized tuna off Mag Bay and Cedros Island. Still, it's been a great start to the winter season with many yellowfin tuna over 200 pounds coming out of the holds when the boats return.

12/11 – 12/17 Dock Totals: 338 anglers aboard 22 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 6 calico bass, 3 sand bass, 1,418 rockfish, 11 lingcod, 42 sheephead, 57 whitefish, 56 mackerel, 2 bocaccio, 42 sanddab and 1 yellowtail.

Leona's lush carnitas

"Get us some, Bedford. Do not even think of coming home without it."

I need a *novio*!" This is Leona. She's standing by as I chow into her lush *carnitas*, basically slow-cooked pork on a plate loaded with frijoles, grated cotija cheese, avocado slices, pico de gallo, and rice, with a side of chips, corn tortillas, limes, red onions, and a couple of hot sauces. Ten bucks' worth.

"I need a boyfriend," she says. "I've been 14 years without one. He doesn't have to be rich, just kind, honest. Find one for me!"

Leona is a kick. We've just met. Already we're talking like old friends.

She's running this whole place on her own. Even doing the cooking. It's early evening. We're in this ranch house-style building on the ragged edges of Lemon Grove, up by the blue-domed St. John's church on Broadway. An airbag character in blue, advertising a car wash, flops and stretches across Broadway, like he's yelling at us.

I came in here because, well, I remembered something about it. Not the name, not the green and orange paint job, but carnitas.

Actually, Carla reminded me. She called my cell. See if I had anything for tonight. Christmas is coming and the geese ain't getting fat.

"Where are you?"

"Place called, uh, 'El Pachanguero.'"

"*Pachanguero*?" That means 'party animal,' dude. You doing some Christmas partying without me?"

"Don't worry. Just thought I might grab a bite of Mex."

Don't know why, but I'm finding myself on a Mexican kick lately. And even getting back into the straight, standard border-Mex stuff. I've missed it!

"As long as that's all you're grabbing. Hey! Is that the carnitas place? Remember? From Uruapan, Michoacán? Birthplace of carnitas? Place where they cooked the pork in lard? Get us some, Bedford. Do not even think of coming home without it."

Oh, yeah. Now I remember. Swear this place did used to be called "Uruapan." And their *carnitas*, they were certified wicked. They had huge *ollas* where they slow-cooked 1000 pounds of carnitas, they said, every week. In lard. And what I remember, they cooked their frijoles in lard, too. Wicked, wicked taste. And now you hear lard ain't so bad for you after all. Hey hey! Carnitas

rules again!

Plastic sign tacked to the wall outside says, "Now under new ownership. WELCOME to Pachangueros Grill. Mexican Cuisine."

So I walked across the parking lot and into the kinda chalet entrance to this big room. Could see a sign saying "Karaoke. Baile con musica en vivo, las fines de semana." ("Karaoke. Dance to live music on the weekends.") And behind, clumps of bongos and music stands. Looks like this could be a fun place...Fridays, Saturdays, anyway.

"Hello!"

It came from somewhere out back. Then this busy curly blonde lady in a red and black outfit and gold earrings appears around the door. Leona. And soon she's got me at a table, and she's telling how, yes, she lives in TJ. And she's been to Las Pulgas ("the fleas"), my favorite dance place at the top of Avenida Revolución, in TJ. She has even danced on all four floors (banda, norteño, disco, versatile) in the club, where guys often as not wear their XXX Stetsons and boots, and the ladies go full finery. And, yes, she can dance the *quebradita*, the Mexican break dance I long to learn.

Wow. Fun atmosphere here. Meanwhile, I'm looking at the menu and the first thing I see is "Our specialty: Carnitas."

"The new owners are from DF, Mexico City, but we still have the same cook, from Uruapan," says Leona.

Whew. Carnitas. "Little meats" live to bite another day.



Carnitas with rice and frijoles go down easy



Leona

The menu lists six different sizes of carnitas. Serving for one costs \$9.95. For two, \$19.95, and on up to eight, for \$79.95.

"But our dishes are piled so big, if there are two of you, order for one," says Leona. "It will be enough."

And, yes, when Leona wheels mine out on a black trolley from the kitchen, there is plenty. The oval plate is half filled with cheese-sprinkled *frijoles* (and they do taste like they've been cooked in lard) and rice. The other half has the shredded pork and *pico de gallo* and avo slices. Leona says the pork is cooked slow, low flame, for about four hours. It's tender, all right. I know I should stuff it inside the hot corn tortillas, but man, I love just forking it right in the gob. Part of the recipe calls for orange juice in the meat. Preferably a bitter orange. Here, you certainly get



How many pigeons can fit on a lemon? In Lemon Grove, a lot.

the full garlic-onion-orange-juicy meat flavor. I order a bottle of Sangria Señorial to add to its nice winery taste.

Next time I could try some of their lunch deals, like the cheese enchilada with rice and beans for \$4.95, or the green chicken enchilada with rice and beans for \$5.45, or the \$1.95 fish taco, or the *mojarra fria* (with rice and beans) for \$10.99. But right now, these *carnitas* are more than enough to handle.

"So, Leona," I say, wiping my mouth. "About this *novio*. We've got to find you a nice rich one."

"I don't care about money," she says. "I have my little *tiendita* [convenience store] down there in Tijuana. I have my children. I know what work is. I just want a man who is not afraid of work, who is gentle and kind and honest. At times like this, Christmas, that's what you long for."

"Yeah," I say. "Finding you a rich man may be easier."

Turns out Pachanguero's open Christmas day. Might bring Carla and relieves back for a Christmas dinner of carnitas. Why not? At least it would be different. And they might even have the karaoke going. Could turn into a karaoke Christmas. Merry Christmas, everyone! ■

The Place: El Pachanguero, 8035 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-462-3020

Hours: 8 a.m.-9 p.m. daily (Friday and Saturday, till 10 p.m.)

Prices: Breakfast omelet with ham and cheese, \$7.25; menudo (small), \$5.25; with pig's trotter, add \$4; carnitas plates, from \$9.95 for one to \$79.95 for eight; cheese enchilada with rice, beans for \$4.95, green chicken enchilada (rice, beans), \$5.45; fish taco, \$1.95; *mojarra fria* (rice, beans), \$10.99; *milanesa combo plate*, \$11.75; *chile relleno*, \$3.50; carnitas burrito, \$6.45

Bus: 856, 936

Nearest bus stop: Broadway, at Grove Street

Trolley: Orange Line

Nearest Trolley Stop: Lemon Grove Depot (at Broadway and Lemon Grove Avenue)



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Famous catfish proclamation

Smokey's Lake Wohlford Café, 25484 Lake Wohlford Road, Escondido. At the top of a steep, winding drive to the northeast of Escondido, you'll find tiny Lake Wohlford. The dammed lake is routinely stocked with trout for recreational fisherfolk, and a mobile-home park has grown up into the hills above its northern shore. Smokey's Lake Wohlford Café feeds both communities. A sign proclaims their catfish dinners to be "famous." But I took a look at the menu anyway, noting that the Southern influence continued with chicken-fried steak, biscuits and gravy, and ribs. There were also plenty of burgers, all the usual hot diner sandwiches, and standard American breakfast fare.

A view of the lake in the restaurant's dining area deserves the most attention, though it's tough to ignore the giant marlin trophy. The rest of the place is a hodgepodge of wood dining furniture, kitschy signs, and a bar/breakfast counter. Walking into this café feels like finding a rural Southern diner just 20 minutes from a major Southern California freeway.

I'm not a big catfish fan, but I had to try that signature dish, opting for a two-filet catfish plate served with coleslaw and hush puppies. To further disregard my years spent growing up in the South, I've never much enjoyed hush puppies either, and I almost subbed french fries for the little balls of fried corn meal.

I'm glad I didn't, because I wound up appreciating the crispy outside/chewy inside take. The coleslaw also exceeded expectations, winning me over with the unlikely inclusion of diced cherries. There's nothing about shredded cabbage, carrots, and mayonnaise to suggest cherries should be added, yet somehow the salad worked.

FEAST!

The catfish was a letdown. There were flaky sections to be found in each filet, but for the most part the fish was mushy. And while the cornmeal batter came off both crispy and gritty, it lacked the seasoning to pick up the fish and needed plenty of tartar sauce to complete the dish.

I'm certain this café doesn't count on people like me making a long drive from the city center to find it. It's nice to imagine it out there, though, off the beaten path, hosting live music and karaoke and serving all-you-can-eat catfish nightly. I haven't seen anything like it in greater San Diego.

by Ian Anderson



Fried catfish with a cornmeal crust plus hush puppies and coleslaw with diced cherries

Fish tacos and duck fat fries

Duck Dive, 4650 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach. It was a Saturday afternoon when the husband pulled me

into Duck Dive in Pacific Beach to catch up on some college football scores. The noise level was high, but he joined in to cheer for USC or USD or some team...I wasn't sure.

I realized that the place seemed familiar. I looked around and noticed the wood and huge surf photos on the walls and the wavy ceiling. It had a beach vibe, and then I realized that the name, Duck Dive, has nothing to do with ducks. The name comes from the surfing term



Meatloaf patty melt

of ducking your board under a broken wave's whitewater. It's been a while since I was on a surfboard. Even longer, I realized, since I'd been in the building (Duck Dive took over the space in 2012).

"Hennessy's!" I yelled, recalling the former restaurant with the great Irish coffee and live music. No one heard me over the cheers after a touchdown, or first down, or something.

Since football is not my thing, I ordered a glass of chardonnay before looking at the menu. And since I was in a sports bar, I figured everything would be deep-fried. Also not my thing.

But the menu was not what I expected. Instead of fried cheese sticks, they had fish tacos and duck-fat fries. Without discussing it with my spouse, who was drinking Green Flash Pale Ale and watching the TV, I ordered the meatloaf pattymelt to share. I was so excited about that that I ordered a bottle of chardonnay, knowing it was only the third quarter and I could take the wine home.

When the food arrived, I gave half to the husband and dug in. I love good meatloaf, except the one my mom made when we camped in Lake Havasu in the summer of '74 in 110-degree heat. That one I gave to the dog.

This sandwich did not disappoint. Served on sourdough bread from Olive Café, the meat was juicy and somehow had a nutty flavor. It also had just the right amount of Swiss cheese.

The caramelized onions dripping off the sandwich co-mingled with the tangy Thousand Island.

The adjoining table ordered the house dessert of s'mores, cooked tableside. I mustered up the courage to ask two cute SDSU sorority sisters if I could have a bite. One thing led to another, and they ended up sharing their chocolate marshmallows and I shared my wine. Duck Dive worked for both sports

fans and foodies.

by Candice Reed

Party hearty, chow down

Calle Sexta #8282, Baja. Many Tijuana pizzerias are commercialized garbage. Including many of the well-known American chains, there're a few Tijuana chains that you should also avoid (Mama-Mia, Tooginos, and others).

In my recent pizza-based travels, I've had horrible pizza, decent pizza, experimental pizza, and my favorite delivery. Many upscale restaurants in Tijuana also have pizza as an option. Then there's this late-night party pizza venue, open until 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday.

Pizza Al Volo is a small place situated in downtown Tijuana's nightlife debauchery epicenter, Calle Sexta (6th Street). It's next to the iconic Dandy Del Sur and in front of the famous La Mezcalera (both bars were featured in *Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations* in 2012).

The minuscule space barely fits six customers, standing up. Most of the place is occupied by the kitchen and the blazing ovens. The heat makes the cramped space even more uncomfortable. A small glass display case shows the only four options: Blanca (four cheeses), Margherita, Salami, and Italian. The slices are a quarter of a whole pizza, and they go for \$1.50 each (one-sized large pizza is \$5).

Get a slice or two, sprinkle it with parmesan,

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Calendar RESTAURANT

chili flakes, or an oily spicy sauce, and take your slice to the nearest dive bar to down it with a *caguama*. Cheap pizza fares best with cheap beer, and most nearby bars do not care if you enter with food from outside as long as you buy a beer.

But do not let the low price or me calling it “party pizza” fool you. Pizza Al Volo actually has great pies, and it is in my top five of Tijuana pizzas. Each of their pizzas has a distinct and well-seasoned flavor. The Blanca has chunks of ricotta and a strong cheese taste. The Italian has the recognizable peppery sausage plus red onions. The salami is a pizza classic, featuring a sizeable cold cut. And their Margherita is the closest to a true Margherita I’ve encountered in Tijuana.

The major downfall is that the dough has no firmness to it, making it feel and taste as if it’s undercooked. The floppy slice folds easily, and that’s the best way to eat it. If it wasn’t for the flimsy dough, tiny space, no delivery, and a scarcity of menu options, I would hold Pizza Al Volo in higher regard.

I’ve gone to Pizza Al Volo many times. For this review I arrived early, got all four slices to form a full pizza to go, and I ate two slices at a nearby brewery. Later that night I threw the two remaining slices in my tiny electric oven, cooked them for a while, and made them crisp and enjoyable.

Posted Dec. 9 by
Matthew Suárez

POUR OVER

BY IAN ANDERSON

A Kenya Guama Peaberry coffee roasted by **Bird Rock Coffee Roasters** (5627 La Jolla Boulevard, Bird Rock) has been named the number-one coffee of the year by *CoffeeReview.com*, earning a 97-point rating. Judges described it as “luscious, deeply sweet, and sumptuous.” “We knew the Kenya Guama Peaberry was special when we were making our Kenyan green-coffee selection back in February, so we bought the entire lot,” says owner Chuck Patton, who called the coffee “extremely complex with intense flavor.” Bird Rock also announced the impending departure of head roaster Heather Brisson, who will be leaving San Diego in

January. Says Patton, “Her sensitive approach to coffee roasting added a wonderful element to our quality.” While Bird Rock seeks a new roaster, Patton notes existing roasting profiles won’t change. “However, the new roaster will have opportunities to add a new perspective to our approach to coffee roasting.”

Barrio Logan roaster **Café Virtuoso** (1616 National Avenue) has undertaken a remodel of its shop that will add upgraded seating and lighting, a window bar, and decor including collages made from burlap coffee bags. The remodel started with installation of a larger coffee counter that features an automated pour-over bar for its half dozen over-90-points rated organic coffees, and kombucha on tap. When it’s finished, the back corner of the shop will feature a dedicated coffee training facility operated by San Diego Coffee Training Institute. The newly formed nonprofit will be headed by Virtuoso’s head of quality control, Savannah Phillips, “with the purpose of helping disadvantaged populations acquire general working skills and SCAA job-training certifications to begin new careers in the specialty coffee industry.”

Mostra Coffee found a number of ways to celebrate its third anniversary in December. It



A collage of burlap coffee bags hangs in Café Virtuoso’s updated Barrio Logan coffee shop

began with the announcement it will open its first dedicated retail storefront in a shopping center at 12045 Carmel Mountain Road, less than a half mile from its Carmel Mountain roastery. Head roaster Mike Arquines says he and his partners hope to open the shop in January, or “as soon as the city lets us.”

Since opening, Mostra has served prepared coffee and beans one or two days per week from its roasting shop, where it will now make room for shipping and packaging of wholesale and

online orders. Arquines has also brought on an assistant roaster to help meet increasing demand.

A packed December 10 anniversary party featured cold brew and several of the dozens of coffee-beer collaborations Mostra has contributed to in the past three years. Bottles of its most recent, the M3 anniversary brew made with Abnormal Beer Company, went on sale

online at noon on November 29. Arquines notes the 1000-bottle run sold out in three seconds, as 50,000 customers attempted to order it.

The Caffeine Crawl is coming back to San Diego for a fourth year. The city coffee tours will hit North County on January 20th, and city center January 21st–22nd, with ten routes overall featuring several new local shops, including new Carlsbad roasters **Sleeping Tiger** (2906 Carlsbad Boulevard) and **Steady State Roasting** (2680 State Street). ■

This cafeteria is unlike any you’ve ever seen

10300 Campus Point Drive, University City. I already liked Green Acre Campus Pointe on the approach. I went looking for the Brian Malarkey restaurant after enjoying the sandwiches at his new Little Italy spot, Herb & Eatery. `googletag.cmd.push(function() { googletag.display('ad-unit-story-inline-1'); });`

Green Acre is a little more out of the way for me, in Sorrento Valley atop a narrow triangle of mesa-top squeezed between the merging 5 and 805 freeways. A dedicated parking lot sits above the restaurant itself, near the mesa’s peak, with

a view towards North County. I paused there a moment to enjoy the fresh air and the lifted spirits that come from literally looking down on the world.

It’s not something I’d have discovered by accident. The daytime restaurant occupies the north end of a sprawling assortment of business campuses housing biotech companies. Like its sister restaurant, Green Acre Nautilus, which sits across I-5 on General Atomics Court, the organic eatery is designed to serve health-conscious tech professionals when they break for lunch.

I’m barely professional and certainly not tech, so I almost felt like an interloper going in. I figured it would be a little grab-and-go counter with harried

white collar types loading their coffees with Splenda packets and eating packaged turkey wraps standing up. And here I am with a camera and critical palate, invading their turf.

Sure enough, a grab-and-go counter is a part of it, but only a small part. For those looking to sit and relax over a meal, you have the choice of a sprawling outdoor space featuring fire pits, cornhole, ping pong, and an on-site organic garden; an airy, verdant cafeteria; and a warm, comfortable dining room like you’d find in a mid-century hotel. There’s even a private dining room for events and a small bar.

I grabbed a seat in the cafeteria, which is unlike any I’ve ever seen. It’s been awhile since I’ve worked in a business park environment, but if I’d known one would evolve to feature a restaurant like this someday I might have paid more attention in science class. It’s the sort of

place I might pick to catch up with an old friend or meet a blind date.

However, other than Thursday and Friday happy hour, the place is only open for breakfast and lunch on weekdays. The beverage menu covers any time of day, including coffee, tea, craft soda, beer, wine, and craft cocktails. The breakfast menu features bowls, breads, eggs, and smoothies. The lunch menu primarily sticks to sandwiches, salads, and brick-oven flatbreads, with a couple of pasta dishes and burgers.

The Cubano sandwich was my third choice. My first two, the rotisserie chicken and lamb gyro, tend to sell out fast each day, and when I showed up at 12:30 p.m., neither were available. So I “settled” for the Havana Affair with slow-roasted pork shoulder, Oregon ham, Roma tomato, pickles, and herbs, plus melted Gruyère and mozzarella. The pork shoulder

had an earthy, umami appeal that complemented the saltier *ham*. The roll it was served on was light and crisp. Accompanying it was a small green salad, and I added a hearty, tangy cup of tomato soup.

All good. And I don’t think anybody thought less of me for not working in the sciences, so even if you don’t work in the area I think it’s safe to visit.

Posted Dec. 13 by
Ian Anderson

Going bananas for waffles

222 Island Avenue, Downtown San Diego. Saturday morning is one of my favorite times to walk around the Gaslamp. It’s not crowded, there’s parking, and the old buildings have grandeur in the a.m. sunlight. Except for the occasional jogging conventioneer, you have downtown to yourself.

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222, a breakfast-and-lunch place on Island. The cafe is a cozy nook, not great for large groups but perfect for that one-on-one meal, like the kind I've been doing with my wife recently while the kids are rehearsing for a play.

For such a small place, Cafe 222 has a national reputation. Their waffles have been featured in *Gourmet* magazine and the Food Network, and with good reason. My wife and I are fans of the Blueberry Cornbread Waffle (\$7.95), a crunchy creation with a light touch of sweetness and tanginess from the berries. Cafe 222 does upcharge for real maple syrup (at least they're being honest about it), and I'd opt for that over the regular syrup.

On the other hand, no syrup was needed for the Banana Bread French Toast (\$10.75), which comes with caramelized bananas on top. I am not a fan of banana bread, but this has a crispy exterior, soft interior, and sweet banana flavor throughout. It's so sweet that a little goes a long way. I'd get it on the side as a coffee cake to split the next time.

The sweet dishes are the stars at Cafe 222, but the savory dishes have a lot to offer. The Huevos Rancheros (\$12.95) come with Mexican gravy, a variation of enchilada

sauce that includes real meat. The eggs over easy blend nicely with the sauce and the tortillas. The dish comes with griddled red potatoes and some really spicy refried beans. It's a lot of food, even if you're sharing.

The Pork Tamale with Gravy (\$3.75 or \$12.25 with eggs, potatoes, and beans) is a pretty tamale filled with pork and also topped with the Mexican gravy. Believe it or not, it pairs well with the fresh squeezed orange juice (if you take sips).

Posted Dec. 15 by Patrick Henderson

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HAPPY HOUR

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ALPINE

Mediterraneo: *Monday-Saturday, 4-6:30pm: \$3 domestic draft beer, \$5 house wine. Sunday, 2-9:30pm: \$3 domestic draft beer, \$5 house wine.*

BONITA

La Luz Ultra Lounge: *Tuesday-Friday, 5-7pm: Half off all drinks.*

CITY HEIGHTS

Black Cat Bar: *Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1-off all drinks except wells, cans of beer, and bottles of Miller High Life*

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

Nate's Garden Grill: *Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 beers, \$20 bottles of wine, \$1-off all wine glasses and wine cocktails. .*

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

Garage Kitchen + Bar: *Monday, 4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. 7pm-close: \$5 well mules. Tuesday, 4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. 7pm-close: Prizes for top three teams. \$15 bottles of wine, \$12 burger & beer. \$2 carnitas tacos all day. Wednesday, 4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. 7pm-close: \$2 off any whiskey, tequila, or fernet. Thursday, 4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. 7pm-close: \$4 drafts, \$3 bottles. Friday-Saturday, 4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. Sunday,*

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

The house beer always wins

The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians has added a brewery component to its gambling interests. The sovereign tribe owns the **Harrah's** casino on its reservation near Valley Center, and on November 5th it opened a 15-barrel brewhouse on the property.

Dubbed **SR76 Beerworks**, the new brewery sits to the left of the resort's main hotel entrance at 777 Harrah's Rincon Way, Valley Center. Although stainless steel brewing vessels are visible from the spacious tasting room, its decor more closely resembles that of a Vegas lounge than

a craft microbrewery. There are no gambling machines or televisions, but there are modern style lines and plush furniture, even chaise sofas.

Making the beer is brewmaster Brian Scott, who first connected with the Rincon Band during his tenure as president of the San Diego Brewers Guild in 2012. The former Karl Strauss brewer has been working the past three years with the tribe's economic development corporation, REDCO, to develop a concept that acknowledged the brewery's tribal origins.

The beers take their names from local landmarks such as Hellhole Canyon or from the Luiseño language — the word for "sun" is given to the Temet kolsch. Scott points out even the name SR76, which refers to the casino's location off State Route 76, is a nod to local history: "That route was the footpath for the tribe that lived out here to move between here and the coast."

Scott launched the brewery with four approachable core beers: the kolsch, a saison, wheat beer, and pale ale. While he'll be filling out the four remaining taps with bolder styles, he aims to appeal to a diverse clientele that's been wandering into the unique tasting-room

location — casual beer drinkers, as well as the educated palates of San Diego's beer community.

"There's been a good mix," Scott observes. "A



The feel of a casino lounge but without gambling machines and video screens

lot of residents who live in Valley Center and guests at the resort. But, yeah, we've had our fair share of people who are craft-beer enthusiasts come specifically for us.... It has taken on that neighborhoodish sort of feel because everyone interacts with each other."

And that's part of what the 13-year brewery veteran is looking for with this business. "It gives the resort and the tribe a nice showcase brewery," Scott says. "For me, a big driver is interaction.... A lot of times, as you work through your career as a brewer, you tend to end up in places where you become less and less visible to the people drinking your product."

Conversely, Scott frequently works the bar during the tasting room's regular Wednesday-through-Sunday hours. "Because of our relationship with the resort, I'm able to produce a lot of world-class beers," he explains, "But still able to

have this opportunity to talk to the people who are enjoying them.... Most breweries this size don't always get to have that luxury." ■

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

4-7pm: 51% off all appetizers and select drinks. Excludes bottles of wine, premium, and super premium liquor. 7pm-close: \$4 fireball, Jameson and Firestone 805 16-oz cans.

The Shout House: *Monday, 7pm-close: \$4 Shock Top drafts, \$4 Jameson, \$4 Fireball. Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Tuesday, 7pm-close: \$3 Karl Strauss bottles, \$5 Smirnoff drinks, \$3 fish tacos. Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Wednesday, 7pm-close: \$3 domestic bottles. \$5 wings. Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Thursday, 7pm-close: \$3 Miller Lite drafts, \$5 Red Bull bomb shots, \$12 Miller High Life buckets. Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Friday, 6-7pm: 1/2 OFF ALL DRINKS & Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Saturday, 6pm-close: \$15 keep-the-glass Hurricanes with \$12 refills, \$8 keep-the-glass Big Ass Beer with \$6 refills. Cover: \$5 after 8pm. Sunday, 7pm-close: \$3 Budweiser drafts, \$4 wells, \$3 shot special, \$1 off appetizers (except fries). No cover for industry. Cover: \$5 after 8pm.*

Spike Africa's Fresh Fish Grill & Bar: *Daily, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.75 Fireball shots, \$4.75 sangria, \$5 16oz craft beer, house margaritas, \$5.50 dirty martini, \$6 16oz premium craft beer, select wine, \$7 Manhattan. 1/2 off appetizers, \$1.50 oysters, \$6 1/2 lb of peel and eat shrimp.*

Spitz: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2 off select draft beer (or make it a 22-oz. mug for listed price), \$5 sangria and select cocktails.*

Stout Public House: *Daily, 4-8pm: \$4 select drafts, 50 cents-\$1 off all other*

drafts and bottled beer. Half-off wings, calamari, chicken tenders.

Sushi Deli: *Monday, All day: \$3 craft beers, \$4 sake bomb special, \$5 crazy milk special. Discounted tacos. Tuesday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$3 craft beers, \$4 sake bomb special, \$5 crazy milk special.*

Werewolf American Pub: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 tap specials.*

Whiskey Girl: *Monday, 3-7pm: \$4 well drinks, drafts, house wine. \$5 select appetizers. Tuesday-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.*

Café Chloe: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:30pm: \$6 beers, \$8 house wines. \$6-7 cup of soup du jour or warm marinated olives, little gems salad with brioche and house vinaigrette, pommes and frites with trio of dips.*

Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half-off all specialty cocktails, house wine, draft beer.*

East Village Tavern and Bowl: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic pints, \$4 wells, \$5 premium pints, margaritas.*

The Market Hall: *Daily, 4-9pm: \$4 draft beer, house wine. Small plates starting at \$5.*

Quartary Bar: *Monday, 7am-10pm: \$2 off all food and drinks. Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2-off drinks. Half-off all food.*

Stella Public House: *Monday, 4-7pm: \$2 off small plates. 7-close: \$5 Margherita pizza. Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 off small plates.*

Tajima East Village: *Daily, 2-7pm: \$4 off wine (excluding house wine), \$3 off sake (excluding house sake), \$1.50-off rotating beer.*

ENCINITAS

3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro: *Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6pm, 10pm-1:30am: \$5-7 mixed drinks, \$11-13 wine flights.*

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: *Tuesday-Thursday, 5-6pm: 40 percent-off beer, sake(hot and cold) excluding Kubota Hekiju, Kabota Hekiju, and XL bottles,*

\$2-off glasses of wine, \$5-off bottles of wine. 40 percent-off all appetizers and sushi rolls.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: *Daily, 7-11am: \$1.50 mimosas. \$1.50 breakfast tacos. 7am-2pm: \$2.75 build your own bloody mary. 3-6pm: \$2.75 house wine, well cocktails, domestic drafts. 75-cent baby back ribs, \$1 turkey, fish and tacos.*

ESCONDIDO

Smokey's Lake Wohlford Café: *Monday-Thursday, 4-8pm: Domestic beer \$2.50, premium beer \$3.50, 22-oz. beer \$6.*

Vintana Wine + Dine: *Daily, 2-6:30pm: \$7 martinis. \$7 seven select appetizers.*

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: *Daily, 4-6pm: \$3 drafts. half-off select sush rolls.*

GOLDEN HILL

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

Krakatoa: *Daily, 3-6pm: \$1 off specialty sandwiches, beer, and cocktails.*

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

GRANTVILLE

Benchmark Brewing Co.: *Wednesday, 3-9pm: \$2 beer of the day. Sunday, 10am-8pm: \$5 16-oz. pint of Benchmark's core beers.*

HARBOR ISLAND

The Boathouse: *Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$3 boathouse margarita, cinnamon sunset, \$4 sangria, cuervo gold margarita, karl strauss beer, \$5 cuban mojito. \$3 chips and salsa, \$5 quesadilla, jalapeno poppers, \$6 ceviche with chips, nachos, bay shrimp cocktail, spicy chicken wings, \$7 carnitas, fish tacos, chicken strips and fries, pulled pork sliders.*

Coasterra: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:30pm: \$5 drafts, \$7 wine, signature cocktails. \$7 appetizers.*

HILLCREST

7th Ave Pub: *Daily, 5-8pm: \$2 off beers (6 or more), \$1 off wines.*

Akinori Sushi: *Tuesday-Sunday, 5-7:30pm: \$.99 small hot sake,\$2.50*

draft beer glass, \$6.50 sake combo (beer and sake), \$11 draft beer pitcher. \$1-off all appetizers, \$5.95 yellowtail kama, \$9 godzilla role, "kill bill," \$18 Omakase Nigir, \$28.50 Omakase Sashimi.

Baja Betty's: *Daily, 2-6pm, 10pm-1am: \$4.25 draft beer, house wine, wells, margaritas, sangria.*

CJ's Club: *Daily, 5-7pm: \$3.25-5.25 beers, \$4.50-6 top shelf liquor.*

Empirehouse: *Daily, 3-6pm: \$8 mules, \$1-off beer, wine, cocktails. \$2-off all small plates except soup.*

Oscar Wilde's Irish Gastropub: *Daily, 3-7pm: \$4 house wine, well cocktails, \$5 drafts, Tullamore Dew.*

IMPERIAL BEACH

SEA180 Coastal Tavern: *Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$6 tap beers, sangria, wines by the glass, \$8 infusions, \$6-10 select starters.*

The Salty Frog: *Monday-Saturday, 2-7pm: \$2 domestics, \$3.50 wells. Sunday, 1pm-2am: \$5 build-your-own Bloody Mary bar.*

JAMUL

Brody's Burgers & Beer: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm, \$2-off select drafts.*

KEARNY MESA

94th Aero Squadron: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-7pm: \$4-6 wells, beers, house wine.*

Carriage House Cocktails & Karaoke: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.25 draft pints, \$3.50 wells, \$4 domestic bottles. Complimentary food while it lasts.*

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

Tajima Mercury: *Daily, 3-7pm: \$2 Sapporo. \$1 edamame, \$2 seaweed salad, \$3 karaage, \$3 cali roll.*

KENSINGTON

Bleu Bohème: *Daily, 5-6pm: Half-off au pichet (quarter- or half-liter) wines, martinis, bottled beer, well liquors. \$10.95 all appetizers.*

Village Vino: *Daily, 4-6pm: \$6 off-menu glass of the day (red, white, or pink), \$25 prefixed menu: choice of*

salad, choice of flatbread, two glasses of wine.

LA JOLLA

Bella Vista Social Club and Caffè: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$4 house wine, \$5 beer, cocktails.*

Café Japengo: *Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:00pm: \$4 large hot sake, draft beer, \$5 wells, \$7 wine by the glass, \$8 specialty cocktails.*

La Jolla Tap & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2-off 14oz pints.*

Whisknadle: *Daily, 3-6pm: \$5.95 cocktails, red and white wine, beer, glasses of sangria, \$25 sangria pitchers. \$5.95 Mediterranean inspired tapas.*

LA MESA

Bolt Brewing: *Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm \$1 off drafts.*

Casa de Pico: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$5.25 margaritas, \$1-off beer.*

The Hills: *Monday-Friday, 2-5pm: Spin a wheel for drink specials.*

Jolt'n Joe's La Mesa: *Daily, 3-6pm: Swells, domestics, \$4 crafts, \$5 jack daniels.*

Narumi Sushi: *Monday-Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5.95 large hot sake, \$6.95 cold sake, \$5.95/\$6.95/\$7.95/\$8.95 select beers.*

LEMON GROVE

Dirk's Niteclub: *Daily, 4-7pm: \$.50-off domestic beers, well drinks, mid-shelf liquor.*

LEUCADIA

Solterra Winery & Kitchen: *Daily, 3-5:30pm: \$5 select glasses of Sonoma country wines.*

LIBERTY STATION

Fireside by the Patio: *Monday, 11:30am-9pm: \$4 pabst blue ribbon 14oz can, \$5 oskar blues mamma's little yella pils, wells, select wines, \$6 mules, make your own margarita. Tuesday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$4 pabst blue ribbon 14oz can, \$5 oskar blues mamma's little yella pils, wells, select wines, \$6 mules, make your own margarita.*

Solare Ristorante Lounge: *Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6:30pm: \$2-off cocktails, beers, \$5 well drinks, wine. Sunday, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2-off cocktails, beers, \$5 well drinks, wine.*

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Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



PHOTOGRAPH BY MAX CHU

CESAR SANDOVAL
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Catania's cocktail menu holds a full offering of autumn nostalgia, including something called the Canella, created by Catania's head bartender Cesar Sandoval.

The Canella was inspired, in name and content, by San Francisco liquor producer Joe Cannella, who boasts his own U.S.-made Italian amaro. It turns out, Sandoval says, Cannella's Italian roots trace back to the same town for which the restaurant was named — Catania.

And even as the drink took three go-arounds for Cesar Sandoval to perfect, it came true through something as simple as boiling water.

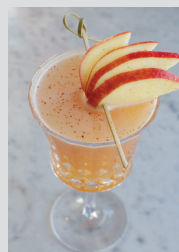
"Originally I wanted to use apple brandy with the cocktail," he says. "But I wanted those fall flavors without having it pre-bottled.... Then I tried infusing apples in the brandy, but the result had this mushroom earthiness to it. I didn't like it."

On the third try, the solution hit Sandoval like the proverbial apple smacking Isaac Newton's pate.

"I made apple sauce," he says. "We don't make it super thick. It adds body to the cocktail, but the double-strain keeps the pulp out. There's a slight grittiness but it's not overwhelming where you think you're eating sweet mashed potatoes...."

"It is an introduction to the fall season but with a taste of summer in the lemon juice," Sandoval says. "It's well balanced and not overly sweet and the amaro adds the additional element of spice with the clove and star anise. The brandy warms it all up and fresh grated cinnamon on top adds aroma. You can drink it all year round but it definitely takes you to the October and November months."

CATANIA'S CANELLA



PHOTOGRAPH BY MAX CHU

- 1 ½ oz. Reynal brandy
- ¾ oz. fresh lemon juice
- ¾ oz. simple syrup
- ¼ oz. Amaro Cannella
- 1 dash Angostura bitters
- 2 teaspoons Catania house-made apple sauce*
- Shake in ice-filled cocktail tin, double-strain into coupe glass, and garnish with fan of apple slices and grated cinnamon.

*Catania apple sauce

- 2 apples, peeled, diced
- ¾ cup water
- 1 star anise
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 clove
- 1 ½ teaspoon brown sugar

Reduce ingredients in saucepan, 40 minutes; refrigerate before serving.

LINDA VISTA

Bull's Smokin' BBQ: *Daily*, 2-6pm: \$2 pulled pork or beef brisket sliders, \$3.00 pulled pork fries, \$5 half sandwich with one side.

Clutch Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off all drinks.

Sidecar: *Monday*, 3-7pm: \$2 off everything. *Tuesday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off drinks. *Wednesday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off drinks. All day: \$5 off well mules. *Saturday*, All day: \$6 off pitchers.

LITTLE ITALY

98 Bottles: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$1 off all drafts, wine, and sake by the glass, \$5 off all bottles of wine. \$1 off flatbreads and rice bowls.

LOGAN HEIGHTS

Chiquibaby's Bar: *Tuesday-Wednesday*, 4:30-6pm: \$4 two domestic beers, \$6 two imported beers.

MIRA MESA

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3.75 select drafts, well drinks, house wine. \$1-off appetizers.

MIRAMAR

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

Brewski's Bar: *Monday*, 4-8pm: One-pound wing basket with choice

of sauce \$6.75. *Tuesday*, 4-8pm: \$3 Corona and Dos Equis, \$5 Patron shots. Three tacos for \$3. *Wednesday*, 4-10pm: \$2 off appetizers. *Thursday*, 4-8pm: \$4 Jack & Coke. *Friday*, 4-8pm: \$4 Fireball. *Saturday*, 4-8pm: \$4 Jager Bomb. *Sunday*, 4-8pm: \$1 off all beer.

MISSION BEACH

Cannonball: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$6 Sapporo, sake, wells, house wine. \$5 edamame, \$10 steamed mussels.

MISSION HILLS

The Aero Club: *Daily*, 2-7pm: \$5.00 off beers, wells, call drinks.

Brooklyn Girl: *Sunday*, 4-6pm: 25% off bottle of bubbly; happy hour oysters all night (or till we run out).

Cafe Bleu: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$4 bottled beer, \$6 draft beer, select wine by the glass.

The Regal Beagle: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off everything. *Friday*, 12-6pm: \$1 off everything.

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1-off draft beers.

Starlite: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$5 draft beers, well drinks, \$2-off specialty cocktails. \$5 select snacks.

Toma Sol Tavern: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-6pm: \$4 drafts, \$1-off wine by the glass. \$6 all appetizers. *Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 drafts, \$1-off wine by the glass. \$6 all appetizers.

MISSION VALLEY

Bully's East: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$3.50 bottled beer, \$4 draft beer, \$5 wine, \$6 cocktails, martinis, margaritas, mules.

Joe's Crab Shack: *Monday-Friday*, 9pm-12am: \$3 draft beers, house margaritas, hurricanes, \$5 patron margaritas.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

The Ould Sod: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm: \$3.50 Fireball shots, \$4.50 all 16-oz drafts.

Proprietor's Reserve Wine Pub: *Wednesday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$2 off wine by the glass.

NORTH PARK

Bar Pink: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$1 off drafts and calls. 12-8pm: \$2 Pabst, \$3 wells.

Barn Brewery: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off house drafts.

Seven Grand: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-8pm: \$4 beers, \$5 select house cocktails.

OCEAN BEACH

The Arizona Cafe: *Daily*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3 pints and 20oz beers (excluding Guinness), wells, house wine. \$3 bar bites.

BBQ House Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 bud light pints, \$3 well drinks, \$2-off draft beer.

OCEANSIDE

Aryana at Holiday Inn: *Monday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$3 wells, \$4 domestics, \$5 imported beer, \$5.50 house wine.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$1-off all drinks. *Friday*, 3-6pm, 10:30pm-12am: \$1-off all drinks. *Saturday*, 10:30pm-12am: \$1-off all drinks.

OLD TOWN

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

Sushi Tadokoro: *Daily*, 5-6:30pm: \$2.50-3 draft beer, \$3 small hot sake, \$4.50 large hot sake, \$5 house wine. \$2 edamame, \$4 gyoza.

PACIFIC BEACH

The Patio on Lamont Street: *Daily*, 3pm-6pm, 10pm-12am: 1/2-off wine by the glass, \$5 drafts, \$6 cool cocktails.

The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa: *Tuesday*, 5-7pm: \$5 beer and 2 tacos. *Wednesday*, 5-7pm: Half-off wine bottles. *Thursday*, 5-7pm: \$5 craft cocktails. *Friday*, 5-7pm: \$5 skinny

margaritas. *Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$5 craft beer, whiskey.

RANCHO BERNARDO

The Cork and Craft: *Daily*, 2-6pm: \$1-off house made beer, house wine. \$2-off select appetizers.

The Bistro: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 domestic beers, \$5 imported beers. \$7 all appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, 5-7pm: \$4 domestic beers, \$5 imported beers. \$7 all appetizers.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS

Cheers Bar & Grill: *Monday*, 10am-6pm: \$3 domestic pints, \$3 domestic bottles, \$3.75 wells. *Tuesday-Saturday*, 10am-6pm: \$3 domestic pints, \$3.25 domestic bottles, \$3.75 wells.

Deli Stop Sports Pub: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$1 off all craft beer, pitchers.

Pitchers Sports Bar: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$2 chips and salsa, \$4 cheesy bread, pizza bread, \$5 small pizza, \$6 pitchers burger, nachos.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego: *Monday-Thursday*, *Sunday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-1am: \$1 off drafts, glasses of wine, call drinks, \$3 off bottles of wine. *Friday-Saturday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off drafts, glasses of wine, call drinks, \$3 off bottles of wine.

SHELTER ISLAND

Bali Hai: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1-off beer, house wine, and progressive mai tais starting at \$5.25 (add \$1 every hour). 15% off all appetizers.

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: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1-off bottles, \$2-off drafts, cocktails, \$2.50 off house wine. \$2-off appetizers.

Crush: *Monday-Tuesday*, *Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$1-off drafts, \$3-off wine by the glass, \$6 wells. *Wednesday-Saturday*, 3-6pm: \$1-off drafts, \$3-off wine by the glass, \$6 wells.

SORRENTO VALLEY

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$5 all beers. \$5 all appetizers.

WineSeller and Brasserie: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off all drinks (beer, wine, cocktails, sodas, water). \$2 off select tapas. *Friday*, 4-9pm: \$1 off all drinks (beer, wine, cocktails, sodas, water). \$2 off select tapas.

SOUTH PARK

Del Sur: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3 drafts, \$4 sangria glass (\$20 pitcher), \$5 house margaritas (\$25 pitcher), \$6 mules, palomas. \$6 nachos, flautas, quesadillas, quesa crisps, and San Picon tostadas.

Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: Any beer or wine, \$5.

Hamilton's Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, \$.50-off imports.

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

South Park Abbey: *Monday*, 3-12am: \$6 beef patty burger, \$7 single order wings. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1-off drafts, \$3 wells, \$4 rotating draft beer of the day, \$5 house wine.

SPRING VALLEY

The Bancroft: *Daily*, 10am-7pm: \$3 domestics and wells.

Cali Comfort BBQ: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1-off well drinks, house wines and tall drafts. Half-off all starters.

De Oro Mine Co: *Daily*, 12-7pm: \$5 beer and shot.

Shooters Cocktails: *Monday-Saturday*, 2-6pm: \$2.50 domestic beer and wells.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Beerfish: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off select beer and wine. \$1 oysters.

Cafe 21: *Daily*, 3-6pm: Half off beer, sangria, mimosas, 21% off all other drinks.

Cueva Bar: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5-6:30pm: \$4 craft beer on tap, \$5 select wines. \$5 tapas.

Et Voila French Bistro: *Monday-Thursday*, *Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$6 spirits, draft beer, \$6-8 wines, \$7 cocktails.

The Lancers Cocktails: *Daily*, 10am-2am: \$3.50 well drinks and domestic beers.

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Noise Lions. According to former Crash Worship member John Goff, everyone knew there was no future for his band after Great White's 2003 Rhode Island nightclub gig that ended with 100 fans dead from a raging fire started by pyrotechnics.

blood at their shows. They would have underwater explosives that would spew house paint. I was there when part of the Ché Café caught on fire at one of their shows.”

By the time Crash
Worship was over, Goff

Way Out Sound label and oversaw studio projects for the Nortec Collective.

These days, Goff is getting radio airplay. It's because he helped produce Noise, the experimental quartet that includes Shepard Fairey, the artist known for his Obey/Andre the Giant guerrilla street art and his 2008 Obama "Hope" posters. Merritt Lear, a singer who has worked with Jason Mraz, handles lead vocals.

KCRW and 91X are playing "Little Lions," the debut release from Noise.

Goff says he's known
Fairey since the '90s.

"I think he became an art icon when he started focusing on communist imagery," Goff says. "He was still in San Diego then. I first met him when he was working above Hooter's in the Gaslamp. I told him I would help him and he could pay me in posters. We remained friends."

Goff said Fairey's interest in DJ-ing led to him create mash-ups that fold in "a disco bass line with a heavy-metal riff with classic hip-hop lyrics." The artist turned to Goff to help it come together in the studio. Fairey, who has done artwork for Chuck D, Henry Rollins, and Led Zeppelin, did the artwork for the newly released Noise 12-inch double-disc set that features eight versions of "Little Lions," overlaid on various

tracks by Moby, DJ Z-Trip, and Tim Armstrong.

Goff says there are no plans yet for a Noise tour. "We're waiting to see what the lay of the land is."
— Ken Leighton

No OFF! switch. Hardcore revivalists OFF! are supposed to be on hiatus right now, but the band has unexpectedly switched ON! ahead of schedule.

"We're supposed to be on a year-long hiatus and we are, maybe, seven months into the hiatus," OFF! singer Keith Morris explains. "But, we've been playing shows. We've been dealing with each other. The whole idea was we got to a point where we just wanted to punch each other's lights out, and I don't get to punch anybody's lights out because I'm the small guy. Everybody outweighs me by 20, 30, 50 pounds... so I just have to pick up a two-by-four and start swinging it. But it didn't get down to that. We ran into some turbulent, ugly times and we needed to just get away from each other."

The dark times have passed and the band is back in bro-mode. As Morris explains it, "We're all gonna start dressing like cowboys and head over to the brodeo." A new album is in the early stages, and Morris hints that some of his recent listening forays into krautrock

(Can, Kraftwerk, NEU!) may seep their way onto the new disc. Morris cherishes his competitive nature when it comes to songwriting.

"I am beyond psyched

a long line of just really shitty politicians. And you know what, I'm actually going to place Barack Obama on that list," Morris says.

"We're keeping our fingers



Keith Morris (singer) on a life in hardcore: "I am beyond psyched to be where I'm at — being 61 years old and still being able to do it."

Tribal post-punkers Crash Worship (one guitarist, two singers, three drummers) was known for their explosive live shows.

"They started in 1986,"



“Wacked-out noise” producer Goff (hat) reunites with old friend Fairey (left) to finally find radio airplay with Noise hit “Little Lions.”

says Encinitas native Goff, who says he was asked to join Crash Worship because he played bagpipes in high school. "They would use fire extinguishers filled with pig

had already moved on to launch his own projects, like “wacked-out noise” band Johnny Superbad & the Bullet Catchers. Then came Physics — “We had one

rule: you could do anything as long as you played it in one key."

Goff went on to produce records by Rob Crow and Heavy Vegetable for his own



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Celebrities who spent time in San Diego

He is bullet-headed, bespectacled, attired in a short-sleeved white shirt, no tie, a pair of slacks, and white shoes. Chairs have been arranged

in a circle, and before he takes his seat, he places a small microphone around the neck of a black woman who sits next to him. Then he

arranges his own microphone and sits down and waits. His name is Carl Rogers, the man credited as the founder of humanistic psychology.

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THURSDAY 12/22



FRIDAY 12/23



W/ MCRAD, LOS BEAUTIFUL BEAST
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W/ LEE COULTER, PARKER-TIERNAN
WEDNESDAY 1/4



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THURSDAY 1/5



W/ LAYNE TADESSE
FRIDAY 1/6



W/ THE FARMERS FEAT. THE PALDINS,
JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS
SATURDAY 1/7



WEDNESDAY 1/11



W/ TAKEN BY CANADIANS,
THE PARAGRAPHS, ELECTRIC MUD
THURSDAY 1/12



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12/30 Brian Setzer's Rockabilly Riot! - Sold Out!	2/4 ALO	3/19 Lake Street Dive
12/31 NYE w/ the 19-piece Brian Setzer Orchestra	2/6 Henry Kapono & Friends Play the Songs of Cecilio & Kapono	3/24 & 25 Super Diamond (Neil Diamond Tribute)
1/10 Dawes - Sold Out!	2/7 The Revivalists	3/30 Tinariwen & Dengue Fever
1/15 Lucinda Williams - Sold Out!	2/10 Dead Man's Party V-Day Ball	3/30 Dead Man Winter @ Soda Bar
1/16 Lucinda Williams	2/12 Save Ferris	3/31 Old 97's
1/17 David Lindley	2/13 Hot Tuna (acoustic show) - seated show	3/31 The Orwells @ Irenic
1/18 Tower of Power	2/14 Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra - seated show	4/1 Leftover Salmon
1/19 Martin Sexton	2/15 Lucero	4/2 Chronixx
1/20 The PettyBreakers	2/16 Galactic	4/3 Tiffany
1/21 Tainted Love	2/17 & 18 The English Beat	4/5 Arlo Guthrie
1/23 Jeff Bridges	2/19 The Infamous Stringdusters w/ Horseshoes & Hand Grenades	4/8 Don Carlos
1/24 Timothy B. Schmit - seated show	2/21 Cody Canada & the Departed	4/9 Aaron Neville Duo
1/27 Ty Segall	2/23 Pinback - Autumn of the Seraphs 10th Anniversary Tour	4/20 Reverend Horton Heat & Dale Watson - seated
1/28 Cody Jinks - Sold Out!	2/24 & 25 Steve Poltz 8th Annual 50th Birthday Party	4/26 Drew Holcomb and the Neighbors
1/29 The Blind Boys of Alabama - seated show	2/26 The Highwayman's Johnny Cash Birthday Show	4/29 Wayward Sons
1/30 Ace Frehley	3/2 The Wood Brothers @ Observatory North Park	5/4 Dweezil Zappa - Plays
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Jones jumped up and cracked his cranium on the side of one of the hanging speakers during our show. It had to be 1983 or '84."



Fishbone offshoot Trulio Disgracias
"began in 1986, kind of like a big joke."

Fisher is looking forward to Fishbone's return to the Belly Up on Thursday, December 22. "I was born in San Diego, so I have a natural affinity for my birth city. I've had nothing but great encounters with locals and, although I don't drink or smoke now, I have a history of shit-hot after-show parties behind me in San Diego. It's always been one of my most favorite places to play.... I'm a serial intermediate surfer, so I love paddling out and playing in the water."

Fisher promises that you

don't have to be a devoted "FishHead" to enjoy the show. "If you're not familiar with Fishbone, just imagine a vast melting pot of high powered, frenetic, danceable rhythms, topped off with an out-of-control madman of a lead singer."

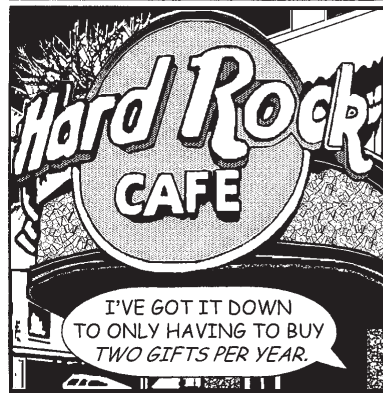
Less than a week later, on December 28, Fisher will bring a very different circus-like jam band to the Holding Company in Ocean Beach. "Trulio Disgracias began in 1986, kind of like a big joke. It was a way to get my musician friends into an Adrian Sherwood and Tackhead show at the Palace, now called the Avalon, in Hollywood." Opening the bill, the initial 11-piece lineup

featured Bob Forrest (The-lonious Monster), N'Dea Davenport (the Brand New Heavies), Stephen Perkins (Jane's Addiction), and members of Fishbone jamming on funk tunes. Subsequent Trulio Disgracias appearances have featured Keith Morris (OFF!), the Circle Jerks), John Frusciante (Red Hot Chili Peppers), Dix Denney (the Weirdos, Thelonious Monster), and others.

"We drop some mean funk-inspired jams, there's a lot of elastic improvisation throughout the Trulio

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— Jay Allen Sanford

A son is born. Carlsbad-based singer/songwriter Aquile watched last week's season finale of *The Voice*. It was the first time he's seen an episode since he appeared on the chair-spinning talent show in 2012.

"It can get hard to watch," admits the R&B/pop singer who supports himself with corporate and private gigs. "It was a huge part of my life. It brings back memories and all kinds of emotions. I get frustrated."

Aquile (pronounced *a-quill* — he only uses his first name) appeared on three televised *Voice* episodes.

"I sang 'I Believe I Can

Fly,' by R. Kelly," he said of his first "cattle call" audition. "There were two or more call-backs after that."

He says that once you get on the show it's the producers who decide what song

by Elton John. "My son was born the day before at Tri City Hospital — the same hospital I was born at. I rushed back just in time. I was on fire. I whooped ass. The girl I sang against was



Voice contestant Aquile: "The girl I sang against did a Christina Aguilera song in front of [judge] Christina Aguilera..."

you sing. "They give you a huge selection, and they let you number which one you prefer. But ultimately the producers have the most control."

His first TV appearance was performing "Your Song,"

just 16. I was 26."

But his final appearance on the show went differently. "It was a knock-out round. The girl I sang against did a Christina Aguilera song in front of [judge] Christina Aguilera. That sealed the

deal for her. At the end of the day it's a producer's show. They make the rules. It's like voting for our president."

Aquile has 16 songs in the can, but is waiting until he records a few more tracks before he decides what will be on his first album. His solo shows are a mix of his originals often looped in with Drake/Tupac/Bieber mash-ups. "I create my own harmonies and make up a lot of my compositions on the fly."

Aquile appears at Carnitas Snack Shack at the Embarcadero on Saturday and New Year's Eve with his seven-piece band Aquile & Co. at Decoy Docks in San Marcos.

— Ken Leighton

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

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DOROTHY

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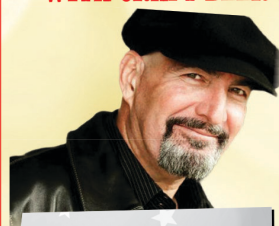
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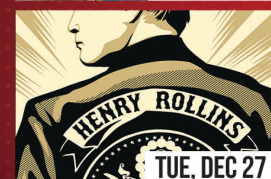
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1/28 - DEVENDRA BANHART

1/30 - RUN THE JEWELS

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This Week In Music

Thursday 22

Wouldn't be Christmastime if hometown hit Gary Shuffler (Honey Glaze) didn't don his "screwed-up eyes and screwed-down hairo" as Ziggy Shuffledust. If you've never seen a Shuffler tribute, which includes Bauhaus, Queen, and GNR, then here's my white elephant gift for you: **Ziggy Shuffledust & the Spiders From Mars** will conjure David Bowie Thursday night at Casbah. Keeping it consistent, local pop purist and Bowie



ZIGGY SHUFFLEDUST AT CASBAH

disciple **Ariel Levine** opens the show.... Greek grunge-punks **Barb Wire Dolls** take the stage at Soda Bar, conjuring a whole other time/kind of rock-roll history — first-wave West Coast punks such as Black Flag and Circle Jerks. Read Dave Good's breakdown of how this came to be — from Crete! — in this week's Of Note. Likeminded locals **Pleasure Fix** and **Hocus** set it up.... Ska-punk big band **Fishbone** bounces into Belly Up after **Aggrolites** Thursday night. According to the club's site, Fishbone's celebrating "25+ groundbreaking years of trailblazing their way through the history of American ska, funk, punk, and rock fusion" on this, their Crazy Glue XXX-Mas tour. Catch up with Fishbone bassist Norwood Fisher in this week's "Sounds of freedom" Blur.

Friday 23

Robert Lopez's (the Zeros) Mexican Elvis persona **El Vez** will take over Casbah Friday night for some Christmastime retro-rock-rollin'. "The best cultural reference points to help describe an El Vez show are the Ike and Tina Turner Revue, a Tom Jones Las Vegas gig, the



EL VEZ AT CASBAH

LSD episode of *Dragnet*, and Elvis Presley's '68 comeback special," so sayeth the *Reader*. South Bay mods the **Bassics** and comic-pop duo **Pony Death Ride** also perform.... **Gucci Mane**'s had a good year, getting out of jail and all and firing off a few top-sellers and a sold-out tour. The rapper rocks the mic at Observatory North Park Friday night... while **Hideout** and the **Gloomies** split a lo-fi bill at Soda Bar... **Beatles v. Stones** at Belly Up...the Merrow hosts a tribute night, featuring **Strange Crew** (Clapton), along with **Nimrod** (Green Day) and **Nurvana** (Loverboy)...and the San Diego Soul Club convenes at Til-Two with **Shocks of Mighty** and the **Mochilero All-Stars** for some soul *con queso*.



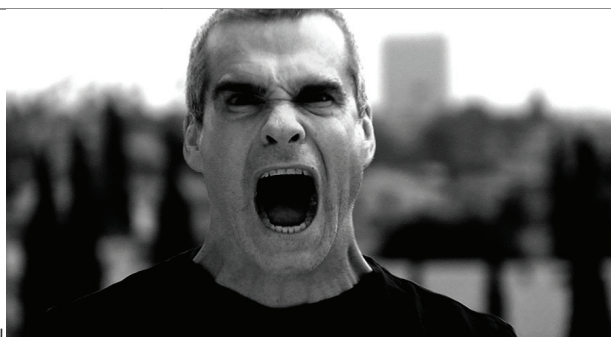
GEORGE CLINTON AT OBSERVATORY

uncontrollably drawn back to. This year there're four of 'em. *Moon Shaped Pool* spent a lot more time in my earholes than *Preoccupations*, which spent a bit more time in my earholes than *Schmilco*. If I revisit

2016 discs next year, and maybe the year after that, it'll be these three; though, the one I think that will stick with me beyond — the keeper — will

be *Skeleton Tree*. Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds are on another plane, where the recording technology doesn't get in the way of masterworks. It is a sublime, often unsettling, and thoroughly poetic purge from someone who doesn't goth-up deathsong — Cave eats it raw and drops it judiciously, melodiously,

reliably from his beak. *Skeleton Tree* is a soft, comforting light in what's been a very dark year. So there you go, four excellent records, imho. Good luck, good listening these holidays.



HENRY ROLLINS AT OBSERVATORY

("the danceable beats you crave, the darkness you need") headline sets at Soda Bar by **Surly Bonds** and **Noble War**...while pop-punk band **Kut-U-Up** (*Riding in Vans with Boys*) hosts their annual Winter Formal, a benefit for the Tony Hawk Foundation, at Belly Up in Solana Beach.

Wednesday 28

...and they're **OFF!!** Keith Morris (Black Flag, Circle Jerks) & Co. (which includes San Diego's own Mario Rubalcaba on drums, btw) take

Saturday 24

DJ Allen Sanford did the legwork on Christmas Eve fare and found record-spinners galore! Check it: "DJ events on Christmas Eve are plentiful, including **DJ Dida** (Gossip Grill), **DJ Knights** (Harbor Town), **DJ Ramsey** (Thrusters Lounge), **DJ Beefa** (Analog), **DJ Smooth** (Sanctuary Lounge), **DJ Hevrock** (West Coast Tavern), **DJ Robi** (1st Street Bar), **DJ Mike Czech** (Air Conditioned Lounge), **DJ Marc Thrasher** (Whiskey Girl), **DJ John Phillips** (Humphrey's Backstage), **DJs Kanye Asada** and **Gabe Vega** (the Office), and **Sleeping Giant DJs** at True North Tavern. Latin DJs will spin at Café Sevilla and the Brass Rail." For the rest of Jay's Christmas Eve picks, hit up the *Reader's* "Jingle bell rock" online Blur.

Sunday 25

Monk's listless list: my annual Christmas insert where I admit what sucked up most of my time listening-wise this year. Yes, I use the very scientific method of naming my bests by what I listened to most, the 2016 releases that I was

Monday 26

Rock and Roll Hall of Famers **George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic** will funk up Observatory North Park Monday night, dancing all over your Christmas hangover with their brand of "Afrofuturistic psychedelic funk." Listed as one of the top 100 live acts of all time by both *Rolling Stone* and *Spin*, P-Funk's sure to get the room moving with hits like "Aquaboo-gie" and "Flashlight".... Local rock-rollers **Amigo, Stökka**, and **Monolith** fill an Anti-Monday bill at Casbah.



OFF!! AT CASBAH

the Casbah stage after **Foreign Bodies** for a night of hardcore on the Middletown mainstay's stage.... Else on Wednesday: "making San Diego goth again," **Warsaw** and **Soft Lions** split a bill at Seven Grand...**Dreams Made Flesh** (fronted by Ilya's Blanca Rojas) headlines sets by **L1ght Ra11**, **Elegant Lust**, and **Crooked Rulers**...while the Office's Undercover crew breaks on through to the other side and brings back Jim Mojarisin and the **Doors**.

— Barnaby Monk

Tuesday 27

Punk-rock hothead **Henry Rollins** has the mic at Observatory North Park on Tuesday night. Rollins, best known for his turn as Black Flag and the Rollins Band's frontman, is also a writer (*LA Weekly*, *Rolling Stone*, etc.), radio host, and actor. Not sure what the 2016–2017 tour du jour has to offer, but with current political climes, you can be sure it will be neck-veiny and spitty.... Else on Tuesday: locals **Grim Slippers**

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 8:30PM
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You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music. Blue headlines indicate sponsored listings.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

710 Beach Club:
Friday, 8pm — Jahkobeats, Maka Roots, I-Ways
Tuesday, 9pm — Van Goat

950 Lounge at the Handlery Hotel:
Friday, 5:30pm — Plank, Sprague, Grinnell & Moore

98 Bottles:
Friday, 6pm — Curtis Brooks

AD Nightclub:
Friday, 8pm — DJ Shabazz

Air Conditioned Lounge:
Tuesday, 9pm — Gerry Baily
Wednesday, 8pm — Interconnected: Alex Mattery

Alfonso's of La Jolla in Solana Beach:
Friday, 6:30pm — Raelee Nikole

Analog:
Saturdays, 8pm — DJ Beefam

Backyard Kitchen & Tap:
Monday, 8pm — DJ Shadowman
Wednesday, 7pm — Marcela Mendez

Balboa Theatre:
Friday, 8pm — A Peter White Christmas

Bancroft:
Thursday, 8pm — Los Homeless

Bang Bang:
Thursday, 10pm — Totally Enormous Extinct Dinosaurs
Friday, 8pm — Andre Power

Bar Pink:
Friday, 9pm — '80s vs '90s
Monday, 8pm — Rat Sabbath with DJ Ratty
Tuesday, 8pm — DJ Marshall Islands
Wednesday, 8pm — DJ L

Barrel Harbor Brewing Company:
Friday, 7pm — Ashley Hollander

Bassmnt:
Friday, 8pm — Elephante

Beaumont's:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Kova

Belly Up:
Thursday, 8pm — Fishbone & the Aggrolites
Friday, 8pm — Beatles vs Stones
Tuesday, 8pm — Kut U Up and Sayvinyl
Wednesday, 8pm — Donavon Frankenreiter

Brick 15:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Beat Root Revival

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 7pm — September Mourning
Friday, 8pm — A Hero Within, Sangre, Big Goat

Carvers Steak & Chops:
Friday, 8pm — It's Never 2L8

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — Ziggy Shuffledust and Ariel Levine
Friday, 8pm — El Vez Merry Mexmas
Monday, 8pm — Amigo, Stokka, Monolith

Tuesday, 8pm — DJ Artistic's Hip Hop Battle Bot
Wednesday, 8pm — Off! and Foreign Bodies

Clairemont Library:
Wednesday, 6pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 6pm — Gold Standard
Friday, 6pm — The Bill Magee Band
Saturday, 3pm — Soul Fire
Wednesday, 6pm — On the House

Crush & Brew:
Friday, 6pm — Hunter

Dana Hotel on Mission Bay:
Saturday, 10am — Rebecca Jade

De Oro Mine Co:
Thursday, 8pm — Barnyard Stompers
Friday, 8pm — Surly Bonds
Monday, 7pm — Kathryn Cloward

Dirk's Niteclub:
Friday, 8pm — TNT
Saturday, 8pm — DJ Dixon

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:
Friday, 8pm — Christopher Hollyday Quartet

Downtown Café:
Friday, 6pm — Phoenix

Duck Dive:
Wednesday, 7pm — Kinnie Dye

Farmer & the Seahorse:
Thursday, 5pm — Mojo Jackson
Friday, 5pm — Aquile

Harbor Music Hall:
Friday, 8pm — Irving Flores Jazz Trio

Holding Company:
Thursday, 8pm — Jakob Nowell & Law
Wednesday, 8pm — Trulio Disgracias

Horton Plaza Park:
Monday, 6pm — Holiday Bowl Marching Band Showcase

House of Blues:
Friday, 7pm — Gypsy Heartbreakers

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Friday, 8pm — Blue Largo
Saturday, 9pm — DJ John Phillips

Infinity at Pala Casino:
Saturday, 8pm — Help!

Iva Lee's:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Mercedes Moore and Taryn Donath

Kava Lounge:
Friday, 8pm — Good Vibes Family Christmas

L'Auberge Del Mar:
Friday, 7pm — Tolan Shaw

Landing:
Friday, 8pm — Nemesis

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:
Saturday, 8pm — Angie Keilhauer
Sunday, 5:30pm — Nate Ware
Monday, 8pm — Tolan Shaw
Tuesday, 8pm — Kinnie Dye
Wednesday, 8pm — Raelee Nikole

Lorimar Vineyards Wine Country:
Friday, 6pm — Alaina Blair

Lorimar Vineyards and Winery:
Friday, 6pm — Fiore Giorgianni

!NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

They're a good three decades late to the dance, but don't paint them into the retro corner. This is a living, breathing band, fresh, and coming off the launch pad as if they could restart a lost generation. For those of you 50 or older, the Barb Wire Dolls will sound a lot like Black Flag. If you're half that age, the Dolls will seem almost new; hence the conundrum. What salvages the act from cliché is the savagery of their music: live, you love them. The three women and two men in this band — vocalist Isis Queen, guitarists Pyn Doll and Remmington Pearce, Krash Doll on drums, and bassist Iriel Blaque — represent the apex of West Coast punk, which is a place and time they've never been. The Barb Wire Dolls started in 2008 at

home in Greece.

The die was cast for such future enterprises with 1970s Orange County/L.A. hardcore punk bands like Fear, Circle Jerks, Agent Orange, and other similar bands up and down the coast of California. Hardcore punk faded during the mid-'80s, then was revived again during the 1990s. Think Social D, Green Day, Offspring, and, here at home, Blink-182. Three chords, no guitar solos, and strumming in one direction: down.

Crete is a tiny Greek island, but it was somehow punk enough to inspire the original four-piece. A sold-out show at the Roxy on the Sunset Strip in Los Angeles got the Dolls residencies at all the right L.A. clubs, and Kickstarter funded their first two U.S. releases. In 2015, Lemmy Kilmister caught a show and signed them to his Motorhead Music label. At close range, the Barb Wire Dolls can blow out your circuitry and melt your features. Their raw minimalism, cranked



to eardrum-blowing volume, and hotheaded energy is what Lemmy likely saw. All good. But what this band can't be, of course, is original.

Pleasure Fix and Hocus also perform.

BARB WIRE DOLLS: Soda Bar, Thursday, December 22, 8:30 p.m. 619-255-7224. \$10

Find more OfNote columns online at SDReader.com/note

Luis Rey Lounge:
Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 7pm — Mickie Arnett Band
Sunday, 7pm — Crimson Crow

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:
Friday, 9pm — Johnny Deadly Trio

Martinis Above Fourth:
Friday, 7pm — Janice Edwards & Nathan Fry
Wednesday, 7pm — Andy Anderson & Nathan Fry

Moonshine Flats:
Friday, 8pm — Honky Tonk Boombox

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Steelehorse Country
Friday, 8:30pm — Alexusjones
Saturday, 8:30pm — Tommy's Holiday Jam
Sunday, 6pm — Tony Ortega Jazz Jam

Music Box:
Thursday, 6pm — A Berkley Hart Christmas

Nate's Garden Grill:
Thursday, 6pm — Robin Henkel
Friday, 6pm — Robert Warren

Navajo Live:
Friday, 9pm — Serious Guise
Monday, 7pm — Snapwire

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:

Friday, 6pm — Raney/Butler Duo

North Coast Repertory Theatre:
Thursday, 7pm, Friday, 2pm, Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 2pm — The Girl Singers

Observatory North Park:
Friday, 7pm — Gucci Mane
Monday, 7pm — George Clinton & Parliament Funkadelic
Tuesday, 7pm — Henry Rollins
Wednesday, 7pm — Citizen Cope

Office:
Saturday, 9pm — DJs Kanye Asada & Gabe Vega

Old Town Temecula Community Theater:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Bruce Lett Quartet

Ould Sod:
Thursday, 9pm — Ould Karaoke
Tuesday, 7pm — Irish Music Jam

Park & Rec:
Friday, 9pm — Tiffany Jane & the Kicks

Parq Restaurant:
Friday, 9pm — Kyle Flesch

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
Friday, 9pm, Saturday, 9pm — Circle of Fifths

Pour House:
Friday, 9pm — Grim Slippers and Imagery Machine

Poway's Irish Pub:
Friday, 8pm — Josie Day

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:
Friday, 7pm — Minors in a Major Key
Wednesday, 8pm — Deehja Marie Pope

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:
Sunday, 7:30pm — Salsa Christmas Party
Sunday, 4pm — Downbeat Big Band

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Thursday, 8pm — Tony Suarez
Friday, 9pm — Imagery Machine

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Mannheim Steamroller Christmas

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 8pm — Barb Wire Dolls and Pleasure Fix
Friday, 8pm — Hideout and the Gloomies
Tuesday, 8pm — Grim Slippers
Wednesday, 8pm — Dreams Made Flesh

WED 12/21 CHUGBOAT
FINNEGAN BLUE • KID HANEY

THU 12/22 BARB WIRE DOLLS
PLEASURE FIX • HOCUS

FRI 12/23 HIDEOUT
THE GLOOMIES
BODYSONG • JOHN THE BAPTIST

TUE 12/27 GRIM SLIPPERS
SURLY BONDS • NOBLE WAR

WED 12/28 DREAMS MADE FLESH
LIGHT RAIL
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THU 12/29 THE DOWNS FAMILY
PLUS GUESTS

FRI 12/30 MRS MAGICIAN
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LANTERNS • POPPET

SAT 1/7 GRIZZLY BUSINESS
INSPIRED AND THE SLEEP • SPERO

SUN 1/8 HANNAH YUEN
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PLUS GUESTS

FRI 1/12 MINT FIELD
PLUS GUESTS

SAT 1/13 LE CHATEAU
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San Diego Reader December 22, 2016 51

Tuesday, 8pm — Chad Lada Duo
Wednesday, 9pm — Diana Ferrer

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8pm — Rockin' Aces
Friday, 9pm — Rosie Flores
Wednesday, 8pm — Gino & the Lone Gunmen

Tipsy Crow:

Friday, 7pm — John Hull
Tuesday, 7pm — Wes Maharas

Tower 13:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Romantic West

Tower Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Toweroke with Goldilox

U.S. Grant Hotel:

Thursday, 8pm — Sue Palmer Trio
Friday, 8pm — Aubrey Fay
Saturday, 8pm — Mikan Zlatkovich Trio

Union Kitchen & Tap Gaslamp:

Friday, 6pm — Angie Keilhauer

Veranda at Rancho Bernardo Inn:

Thursday, 5pm — Kevin James O'Brien
Friday, 5:30pm — Jackie Foster
Saturday, 5:30pm — Jason Weber
Tuesday, 5pm — David Maldonado

Vision Center for Spiritual Living:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Folkey Monkey: Songs of Peace

West Coast Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — DJ Slowhand
Friday, 9pm — DJ Este
Saturday, 8pm — DJ Hevrock

Westgate Hotel:

Saturday, 8pm — Chase Morrin & Charles Weller

Whistle Stop Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Death By Dancing
Saturday, 9pm — Booty Bassment
Wednesday, 8pm — Retrograde

Wine Cave:

Friday, 7pm — David Reynolds
Saturday, 7pm, Sunday, 5pm — Warren La Plante

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm, Friday, 9pm — B-Side Players
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band
Tuesday, 8pm — Gorgeous Boy Scouts and Seeking Alpha
Wednesday, 6pm — Open Mic with Jefferson Jay

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Jim James — tackling violence and hatred with love and peace

By Matthew Craig Burke

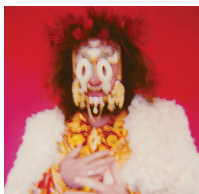
Jim James is up to his usual tricks on his second solo album, *Eternally Even*, and it's just what humanity needs.

The My Morning Jacket frontman looks to heal the world through his latest collection. Tackling violence and hatred with love and peace — and maybe some '70s psych-fi mixed with a touch of soulful R&B. "Oh I hate to burst your bubble/ Times change/ Entire lives reduced to

rubble," sings James over a tangible bass line and drowning synth on opening track "Hide in Plain Sight."

Eternally Even is delightfully different from James's previous album *Regions of Light and Sound of God* (and any MMJ album, for that matter). It's darker with a lo-fi quality of funk and soul. Songs such as "True Nature" take you back to 1974 on a stroll through the streets of Chicago with Curtis Mayfield — shuffling drums, horns, fuzzy keyboards — the whole shebang.

James delivers musical healing through his instrumentals, but he also does so lyrically. Reaching out to mortality, the 38-year-old unites the relationship between life and death on the closing track, "Eternally Even," softly speaking over spacious instrumentals, "Truth be told/ There's gold in growing older/ We open like the roses to the sun/ or the hand of a child/ Reaching up to mother over time."



Shuffling drums, horns, fuzzy keyboards — the whole shebang.

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Steph Johnson Band proves *Music Is Art*

By Robert Bush

Soul-jazz vocalist Steph Johnson and her band led off the evening with a winding vamp to set up "Be Light," where Johnson's smoky alto filled the room, allowing space for Curtis Taylor's Freddie Hubbard-ish velocity. Gregory Moore (of Earth, Wind & Fire) dominated "Feel Better," with a screaming guitar etude that blended well with the singer's fluid pipes. "Music Is Art," bounced around the room with Taylor's fat,

round tone and Moore's ecstatic string bending, while "You and I," a "lights-out" ballad,

toggled effectively between Johnson's muscular grit and saxman Kamau Kenyatta's serpentine calligraphy.

Rob Thorsen is often the essential backbone to the Johnson aesthetic, and his solo on "Artist Supreme" earned waves of applause.

Much of Johnson's new record has a slinky, funk-inspired mission, and it is an environment that suits her well — never more so than the slow-grind sway of "Rich Like This," which had the audience dancing in the aisles.

Concert: Steph Johnson Band

Date: October 21

Venue: Bread & Salt

Seats: General admission



CAREY BRASWELL

Much of Johnson's new record has a slinky, funk-inspired mission.

Up to \$50 for your concert review, \$25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader.com/critic

Zel's Del Mar:

Thursday, 8pm — Lou Shook
Friday, 7:30pm — Jeff Moore

UPCOMING SHOWS

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

January 5, 6, 7, 8 — SoundON Festival

Bar Pink:

December 31 — NYE With Junior and the Discopunk

Bassmnt:

December 30 — Rusko
December 31 — Ghastly NYE

Beaumont's:

December 29 — Simeon Flick Duo
December 30 — Modern Day Moonshine
December 31 — NYE With Slower

Belly Up:

December 29 — Donavon Frankenreiter
December 30 — Brian Setzer Rockabilly Riot
December 31 — Brian Setzer

Orchestra

January 1 CANCELED: — Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings

Blonde Bar:

December 30 — Concert for Standing Rock

Carnitas Snack Shack:

December 31 — Allegra Duchaine

The Casbah:

December 29 — The Melvins and Redd Kross
December 30 — Big Sandy & His Flyrite Boys
December 31 — Cash'd Out and the Sleepwalkers

Ché Café:

January 20 — Homesafe, Life Lessons, Chase Huglin

Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD:

January 18 — First Year Grad Winter Concert
January 26 — Computer Music Focus: Anne La Berge
January 29 — Gospel Music Extravaganza

The Coyote Bar & Grill:

December 29 — Mirage
December 30 — Soul Fire
December 31 — NYE With Mystique Element Of Soul

Crystal Ballroom banquet hall:

December 31 — NYE With Pakobsinh Band

The Dana Hotel on Mission Bay:

December 30 — Marcela Mendez
December 31 — Whitney Shay

De Oro Mine Co:

December 29 — Kathryn Cloward Band
December 30 — Buddha Trixie

Dirk's Niteclub:

December 30 — Cheap Date
December 31 — NYE With FX5

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

December 30 — Chase Morrin

Downtown Café:

December 30 — Stand Up Guys

Draft:

December 31 — NYE With Mike Myrdal Band

F6ix Niteclub:

December 31 — F6ix Night Club
New Years Eve

Farmer & the Seahorse:

December 29 — Mike Myrdal
December 30 — Tiffany Jane

Four Points by Sheraton:

December 31 — NYE With DJ Kandu & DJ Dynce

Harbor Music Hall:

December 30 — Erika Davies

Hard Rock Hotel:

December 31 — NYE 2017

The Hideout:

January 19 — Aesthetic Perfection
January 20 — Marching Church and Bernardino Femminielli
January 21 — Ugly Things Presents
January 26 — Lemuria and Mikay Erg

Hilton San Diego Bayfront:

December 31 — Big Night San Diego New Year's Eve Gala

Hilton San Diego Resort:

December 31, January 1 —

LoveLife Weekender NYE Ball & NYD Pool Party

The Holding Company:

December 29 — The Palmer Squares
January 26 — Mickey Avalon

House of Blues:

December 29, December 30 — Tribal Theory
December 31 — New Year's Eve With Clinton Sparks
January 6 — Damage Inc. and Memory Layne
January 7 — 6ONE9 and CopyCat Killers
January 11 — Kane Brown
January 13, January 14 — Sublime With Rome

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

December 30 — Tradewinds
December 31 — Wildside

Infinity at Pala Casino:

December 31 — Grand Sonic Theory
December 31 — NYE With Grand Sonic Theory

The Irenic:

December 30 — Cherry Glazerr and Slow Hollows

Kettner Exchange:

December 31 — NYE With David Patrone

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:

December 31 — Psychedelic Masquerade

Lake San Marcos Conference Center:

December 31 — NYE With Aquile and DJ Brandon Noel

The Landing:

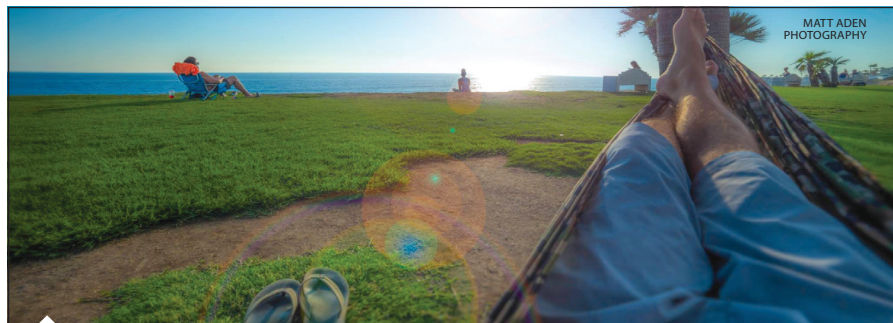
December 30 — Sickstring Outlaws
December 31 — NYE With Jon Campos & the Incurables

Lestat's Coffee House:

December 30 — Josh Damigo

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

December 29 — Whitney Shay
December 31 — David Shyde



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the HERE'S DEAL

Blonde Bar
1808 W. Washington Street,
Mission Hills; blondebarsd.com

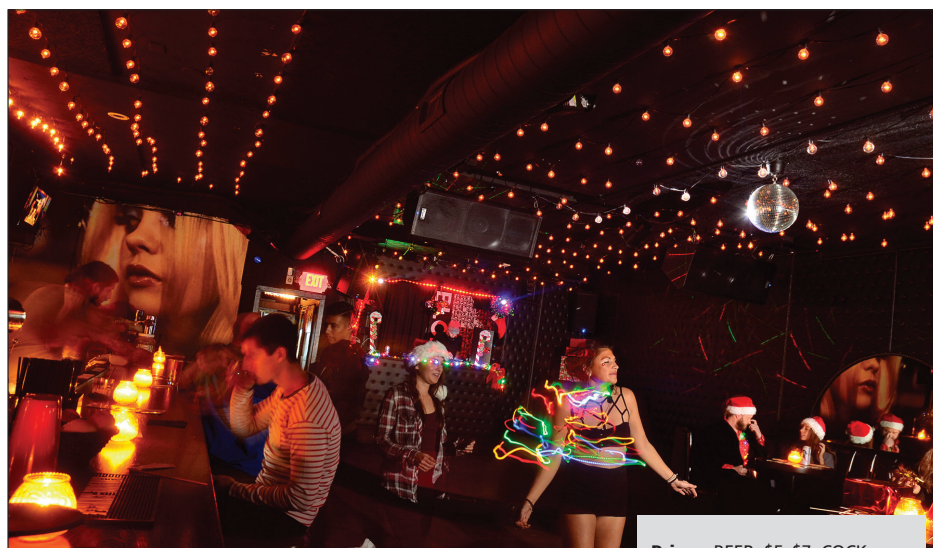
At the unruly age of 16, the former Bar Dynamite bleached its mop and juttied its chin as Blonde Bar. Open since August, Blonde channels a '70s CBGB into modern day through the punk-rock patchwork imagery of totem poles, Moloko Plus font, and a blown-up portrait of Christina Ricci from *Buffalo 66*. Wait, what?

Owner Allen Colaneri, who cut his booking and bartending chops at the Void and the Office, developed the concept as an homage to dying your hair, early NYC punk, and Blondie's Camp Funtime T-shirt featuring a totem pole that the bar has adopted as its emblem.

"We lightly follow the Blonde theme aesthetically, like in our bathrooms and the mural of Christina," Colaneri says. "I just found that image special. Melancholy, mysterious, sad, mischievous. So I put it up. Most people can't tell who that is. I still love the movie after watching it a million times, so it's just a fun thing to have. The Moloko menu, inspired by *A Clockwork Orange*,

just randomly happened one day. Aaron, our barback and chalkboard dude, started writing our beer menu in a similar font so I asked him to do it. I think we may actually make almond-milk cocktails with those names."

There's a healthy amount of whimsy to Blonde's design, but at the heart of it stands a bit of everything that seems to work in San Diego: 16 taps of choice beer, an imaginative cocktail menu pre-batched daily and crafted by Jeremiah Zimmerman (who you may recognize from folk-rock outfit the Silent Comedy and behind the bar at El Dorado), quality multi-genre music booking, and a chummy neighborhood bar feel. Add to that a tap of draft kombucha, a staff of close-knit artists and musicians, and the happy hour (\$5 cocktails!) "human jukebox" aka a vinyl shelf curated by



Blonde channels CBGB into modern day through punk-rock patchwork.

customers, employees, and guest musicians, and you've got one solid zeitgeist of a watering hole.

The cocktail of the hour is Life on Mars, a spirit-forward swirl of Illegal mezcal, Herradura tequila, green chartreuse, and fresh lime. The stage, meanwhile, has seen performances from

Animal Collective and Kid Koala along with residents Bump, Dance Klassique, Redwoods Social, Ceremony Night, Planet B/Three One G, and tributes to the likes of Elliot Smith, the Strokes, and Joy Division.

Get your hair did on NYE with Moving Units and the Lulls. 20 bucks pre-sale.

Prices: BEER, \$5-\$7; COCKTAILS, \$10
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— Chad Deal (@chaddeal)

Find more Here's the Deal columns at sandiegoreader.com

Nate's Garden Grill:

December 31 — NYE With Bossa Lounge Project

Navajo Live:

December 30 — Rattz
December 31 — NYE With Relax Max

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:

December 30 — Ramshackle

Observatory North Park:

December 29 — Kaytranada
December 30 — Chris D'Elia
December 31 — NYE With Rebellion
January 4, January 5 — The Devil Makes Three
January 12 — J Boog
January 13 — MxPx, Five Iron Frenzy, Dogwood
January 24 — Oh My Gad
January 25 — Pepper and Less Than Jake
January 27 — Cold War Kids
January 28 — Devendra Banhart

Omnia San Diego:

December 30 — Dash Berlin
January 1 — Porter Robinson

Onyx/Thin:

December 31 — NYE Extravaganza
January 7, January 17 — Futura Saturday

Pal Joey's:

January 7 — Chicken Wire

Pala Events Center:

January 21 — Styx

Park & Rec:

December 30 — Rock of Ages
December 31 — NYE With Lady Dottie & the Diamonds

Parq Restaurant:

December 30 — DJ Scene
December 31 — NYE With DJ Karma

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

December 30 — Evidence Band
December 31 — NYE With the Evidence Band

Prohibition:

December 31 — NYE With Mercedes Moore Band

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:

December 30 — Hastings Band
December 31 — NYE With Tomcat Courtney

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:

December 31 — Uptown Get Down NYE

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

January 29 — Killer Bee

Renaissance San Diego Downtown:

December 31 — Black & White NYE

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

December 29 — Israel Maldonado
December 30 — Flower Child
December 31 — NYE With Three Chord Justice

San Diego Maritime Museum:

December 31 — New Year's Eve Black and Gold

Side Bar:

December 31 — NYE Blowout

Sleep Bedder:

December 31 — NYE With Barefoot Hockey Goalie, more

Soda Bar:

December 29 — Downs Family
December 30 — Mrs. Magician and the Creepy Creeps
December 31 — The Donkeys

Soma:

January 13 — Shawshank Redeemed and Colossal
January 27 — August Burns Red and Protest the Hero

Spin Nightclub:

January 28 — Lucent

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:

January 1 — New Year's Day Concert

Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre:

January 19 — Blue Oyster Cult

Til-Two:

January 21 — Imbalanced and the Noctambulant

Tin Roof San Diego:

December 29 — Allegra Duchaine
December 31 — Champagne New Year's

Tio Leo's:

December 29 — Charles Burton Blues Band
December 30 — Tumblin' Dice
December 31 — The Reflectors
January 5, January 12, January 19 — Swingin' Bluesin' Thursdays
January 19 — Mercedes Moore Band
January 26 — Swingin' Bluesin' Thursdays

The Tippy Crow:

December 29 — Fiore
December 30 — John Hull
December 31, January 4 — BJ Jezbera

Tower 13:

December 29 — Back to the Garden

The Tower Bar:

December 29 — Toweroke with

Goldilox

December 31 — La Escalera Records New Year's

Tower23:

December 31 — New Year's Beach Bash

Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center:

December 30, December 31 — Infinity New Year's Eve

Trifecta Tavern:

December 31 — Kinnie Dye

The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:

December 31 — New Year's Speakeasy Party

U.S. Grant Hotel:

December 29 — Missy Andersen
December 30 — Whitney Shay

Valley View Casino Center:

December 29, December 30, December 31 — OMFG!

Veranda at Rancho Bernardo Inn:

December 29 — Kevin James O'Brien
December 30 — Joe Cardillo

Winstons Beach Club:

December 29 — The Palmer Squares and Boostive
December 31 — NYE With Brothers Gow

Zel's Del Mar:

December 29 — Paul Beard
December 30 — Greg Goldman
December 31 — NYE With Shook & Striler

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Year in review, part one

“Martha here. Note my wine-stained cocktail dress in untoward dishevelment.”

sometimes get asked “Who’s your favorite writer?” “What’s your favorite play?” Well, Shakespeare and Chekhov certainly, Michel de Montaigne, whose wisdom grows as I grow older. But what about Homer or Simone Weil, or those that pop to mind depending on the phase of the moon or the length of the checkout line? It’s hard to narrow them down.

Theater in 2016 has that same, tough decision feel. Overall, this was a good — but not great — year. The misses missed by miles. What, for example, was the Old Globe’s antic *Macbeth* all about? Finding humor amid the gore? “Unsex me here...tee-hee”? Or New Village Arts’ *God of Carnage*, where bombarding lights and noises upstaged screaming actors?

It’s easy to identify the clunkers, much harder to isolate a single performance or design, since many were so memorable.

Scenic designs: John Lee Beatty created tall rows of *Hollywood Squares*-like cubicles for the La Jolla Playhouse’s world premiere of *Junk: The Golden Age of Debt*. They fit the epic drama about junk bonds and hostile takeovers to a T. Also last summer, Beatty turned the Lowell

Davies outdoor stage into a gorgeous Renaissance garden for the Old Globe’s *Love’s Labor’s Lost*: flowing lawn, stately trees, thickets of ivy, graceful marble stairs. If one were to study for three years far from the world, as the males vow in Act One, this would be the place (though the white marble statue of a naked woman overlooking the scene might prove a distraction).

But what about Claudio Raygoza’s run-down motel and parking lot for Ion’s *Airline Highway*? Chipped paint and the chassis of a dead car felt so authentic you could almost smell the rankness. Plus, and no mean feat, every object onstage had the exact same degree of dissipation.

Chad Oakley’s set for OnStage Playhouse’s *Coyote on a Fence* put the audience in the Death Row Unit of Alabama State Prison: chain-link fences, two cells, glass guard booth (fully realized in the theater’s compact space). At the door, a guard frisked each ticket-holder with a metal detector.

Okay, but then what about Sean Fanning’s body of work? In many respects, 2016 was the Year of Sean Fanning. He designed (I may miss some) sets for: *The Boy Who Danced on Air*,

THEATER

JEFF SMITH



Love's Labor's Lost at the Old Globe showed off costumer Michael Krass's flowering apparel.

Now or Later, and *Mystery of Love and Sex at Diversionary*; *Brownsville Song* (B-side for Trey) at Moxie; *Gypsy* and *Seven Guitars/King Hedley II* (where he aged the *Seven Guitars* set 40 years for *King Hedley II*) at Cygnet; a striking, California-flavored hacienda for the Rep’s *Manifest Destinitis*; and he re-created the original dimensions of Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre for Lamb’s *Equivocation*. Each did all the duties — define period, evoke atmosphere, be playable — yet only called attention to itself

when required.

Quality design work makes it difficult to separate elements. The Old Globe’s *October Sky*, for instance. The musical was too commercially eager to please for my tastes. But Kevin Depinet’s set (with an enormous wooden arch over the stage), Japhy Weideman’s lights, and Shawn Sagady’s projections brought the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Old Globe with blazing sunsets, low-lying mists, and pre-smog blue skies that may have existed in 1957, when the

Dr. Seuss' **How The GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS!** 19th Smash Year!

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Music by Mel Marvin
Directed by James Vázquez
Original Production Conceived and Directed by Jack O'Brien
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MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

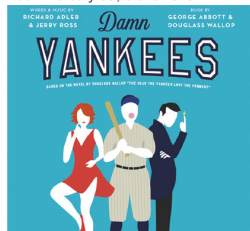
WIN TALIB KWELI TICKETS		Win a pair of tickets to see Talib Kweli at Symphony Hall. Deadline to Enter: Friday, January 6 at 1pm.
WIN LASER HAIR REMOVAL		Win a laser hair removal session from SD Body Contouring. Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 9 at 1PM.
WIN A YACHT GETAWAY		Win dinner for four + a two-night stay on a yacht. Deadline to Enter: Thursday, January 12 at 1pm.

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

AUDITIONS

Damn Yankees

SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE
4652 Mercury St., Clairemont



Seeking Union and Non-Union singers and actors who move well for SDMT's production of *Damn Yankees*. Will consider AEA actors (along with non-union actors) for the roles of Joe Boyd, Meg Boyd, Applegate, Joe Hardy, and Lola. First Equity rehearsal Tuesday, May 9. First performance: Friday, June 2. Info: jill@sdmtd.org.

Auditions: JAN. 6 6PM, JAN. 7 1PM

Next Fall

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE

291 Third Ave., Chula Vista

No appointment necessary. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Perusal scripts may be requested from strattonsusan@yahoo.com. Synopsis: Luke believes in God. Adam believes in everything else. *Next Fall* portrays the ups and downs of this unlikely couple's five-year relationship with humor and honesty.

Auditions: JAN. 8 & 9 6PM

Nuts and Bolts of Theatre Auditioning

SAN DIEGO CONTINUING EDUCATION
MESA COLLEGE CAMPUS
7350 Armstrong Pl., Clairemont

A free ongoing class brought to you by San Diego Continuing Education Older Adult division and taught by a former New York professional. Learn to cold read scripts, memorize monologues, and prepare for acting auditions. Spring performance planned for class members. Registration in class; just bring your school id (csid) or a photo id. For additional info go to "Emeritus" at www.sdce.edu or email hritter@sdccd.edu.

Auditions: DEC. 27 & JAN. 3 1PM

On Golden Pond

BROADWAY THEATRE
340 E. Broadway, Vista



Runs February 2 through 19. Callbacks the same night. The roles of Ethel and Norman Thayer have been pre-cast. Synopsis: On Golden Pond is a classic American comedy/drama that's every bit as touching, warm, and witty today as when it debuted on Broadway in 1979. Retired couple Ethel and Norman Thayer spend every summer at their home on Golden Pond. This year their adult daughter visits, bringing along her 13-year-old son.

Auditions: JAN. 2 6PM

Over the Tavern

POWPAC

13250 Poway Rd., Poway

Cold readings from script. For additional information please contact the director at 858-748-2124 or annetteinsm@gmail.com.

Auditions: JAN. 30 & 31 7PM

The Third Wave

PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

116 S. Kalmia Street

Prepare a one-minute monologue. You may be asked to read from the script at callbacks. While this is a Patio Playhouse Youth Theater production — the three adult roles will be played by adults. Anyone between ages 10 and 21 who can look 15 or 16 is invited to audition for the youth roles. Individuals over age 21 will be considered for the adult roles but not the youth roles. *The Third Wave* is a true story about a high-school experiment in fascism that went out of control.

Auditions: JAN. 8 & 9 6PM

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdrader.com/events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

Woolf? George and Martha's professor/professor's wife out-fits help define them without screaming "I'm George, see by my tweedy getup?" or "Martha here. Note my wine-stained cocktail dress in untoward dishevelment."

Projections for theater have come so far, some schools offer a major on the subject. In San Diego, this area has improved considerably in the past decade. They've become less intrusive; there's less a sense of a technological invasion of live theater. For *Way Downriver*, Aaron Rumley flooded the North Coast Rep's intimate space with mad, rampaging videos of the "Great" Mississippi River flood of 1927.

The book for Joe DiPietro's "noir thriller" *Hollywood* needed a rewrite or five. But at the La Jolla Playhouse Tara Knight's projections (combined with Howell Brinkley's lighting and Chris Luessmann's sound) were outstanding. Flickers and flashbulbs, frantic headlines for subtitles, the clicking of an ancient movie projector made the stage a cross between theater and a silent movie.

Call it the Peter Herman Effect. Since he's been designing wigs for local stages, the overall quality has improved so much that now a bad one stands out.

Next time: Part Two. Performance. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

A Christmas Carol at Cygnet

Cygnet Theatre reprises its holiday celebration of "a Victorian Christmas with original music and puppetry," adapted by Sean Murray with an original score by Billy Thompson. Murray directs. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS.

A Snow White Christmas

San Diego Theatres in collaboration with the San Diego Repertory

Theatre present a Lythgoe Family Panto that updates the popular story of Snow White with magic, dance, contemporary music, and interactive theater. Chris Baldock directs.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 12PM, 4PM, & 7PM SATURDAYS.

The Angel's Arms

Lamb's Players present, as their annual holiday show, Kerry Meads's play about Jeffrey Scott, a novelist suffering from writer's block in 1860. "A picturesque, deserted inn called "The Angel's Arms" may be just the thing to revive his inspiration. But there's more to this old, eccentric inn than meets the eye." LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 2PM & 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS.

CCT's Traditions of Christmas

Christian Community Theater presents its popular holiday show at Lincoln High's Performing Arts Center. It's "a musical journey through all the greatest Christmas songs and celebrations from around the world. Santa's Workshop comes alive with dancing elves, Raggedy Ann dolls, and magical toys."

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL, 4777 IMPERIAL AVE., LINCOLN PARK. 619-266-6500. 7PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Once again the Green Meanie will try to ruin the holiday season for the citizens of Whoville. This is the Globe's 18th staging. This time, will he succeed? James Vasquez directs. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings

Welk Resorts Theatre presents a yuletide sequel to the popular musical revue. The legendary singing quartet comes back to earth to perform the show they never got to, since a bus killed them on the way to their first semiprofessional gig. But why have they returned? And from where? David Humphrey directs and choreographs. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play

San Diego Musical Theatre stages a new version of the popular holiday classic. By virtue of enthusiastic performances, we are transported into an almost magical world. When a drunk man plays Santa in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, an irate Kris Kringle takes his place and eventually works for Macy's as a Santa. By way of a legal case against him, the concepts of faith and hope are contrasted against common sense and realism. *Worth a try.* HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY.

The Mystery of Love and Sex

An exceptional cast, snappy writing, and polished production elements bring to life the complicated nature of interpersonal relation-

ships between family and friends in Bathsheba Doran's refreshing burst of theatrical life not often witnessed in San Diego or anywhere. The team at Diversionary rifles to the occasion to create an entertaining, uproariously funny, and uplifting evening at the theater. **Critic's Pick.** DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS.

The Normal Heart

Ion Theatre is giving Larry Kramer's drama, about the birth of the HIV/AIDS crisis, a stark and moving production. The play unfolds like a documentary of the times, the urgency, the denial, the frustration (Kramer says "there's not a good word to be said about anyone's behavior in this whole mess"). Claudio Raygoza does outstanding work as Ned Weeks, who crusades almost alone to raise awareness. Few plays or musicals can re-create a point in time like *The Normal Heart*. It depicts events with such tenacity you feel free to say, "That must be how it was" [Note: Ion Theatre has extended the run of this show]. **Critic's Pick.**

ION THEATRE COMPANY BLKBOX THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS.

The 1940s Radio Hour at New Village

Under the nurturing care of director Dana Case, aboard for the second time with this play at New Village Arts, the actors are also part of this immersion because they give so much to the audience. Eric M. Casalaini again gives us a

highly energized, but finely modulated portrayal of crooner Johnny Cantone, and Kelly Derouin 's Ann Colliere, a band singer of the era, is a heartfelt portrait. Returning from last year's production: Marlene Montes as Ginger Brooks, who gives powerful versions of "Daddy" and "Blues in the Night." *Worth a try.* NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

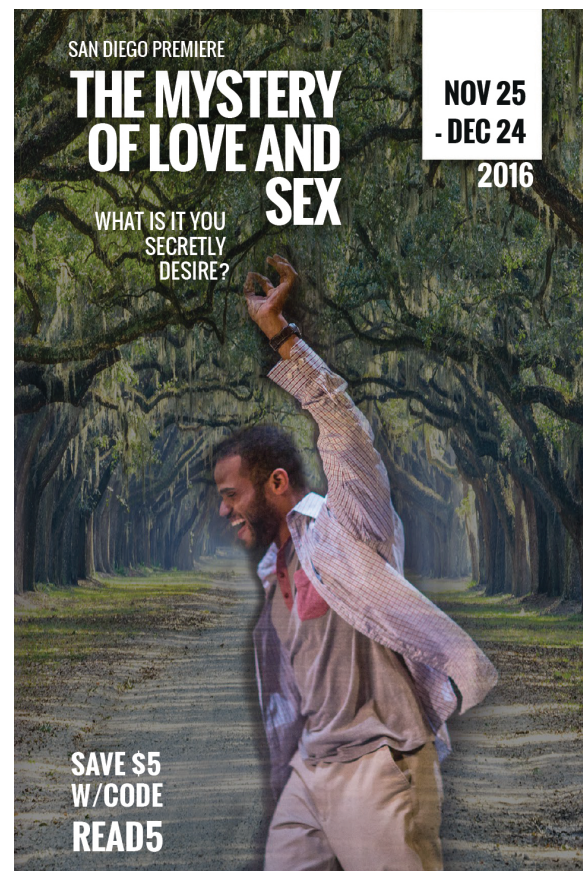
UPCOMING SHOWS

2.5 Minute Ride

Diversionary Theatre offers Lisa Kron's solo show through her "family album, focusing on her relationship with her Father, a Holocaust survivor," and painting a portrait of "an honorable man." Rosina Reynolds directs. *2.5 Minute Ride* runs in repertory with Kron's *Well*. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. FEBRUARY 17 THROUGH MARCH 19.

Altar Boyz

Coronado Playhouse stages the musical — book, Kevin Del Aguila, music and lyrics, Gary Adler and Michael Patrick Walker — about a "heavenly" boy band's last night of their *Raise the Praise* tour. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and Juan "attempt to save the world, one screaming fan at a time." Michael Mizerany directs



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musical is set, but not since. Such coordination makes it hard to separate the various contributions.

Same with costumes. For Ion Theatre's *Sunday in the Park with George*, Janet Turner Pitcher had to replicate everything worn in George Seurat's masterpiece *A Sunday on the Grande Jatte*. And did: autumnal hues and apparel of different social classes interwove like Seurat's postilistic dots.

Jennifer Braun Giddings showed her versatility with outre, trash-bash getup for Richard O'Brien's *Rocky Horror Show* at Cygnet; and Alta California in the late 1840s, for the Rep's *Manifest Destiny*, pure period styles, pre-

cise comic touches.

And Michael Krass's flowing of apparel for the Old Globe's *Love's Labor's Lost*. Puffy, 18th-century silken dresses in spring pastels, green uniforms (to match Beatty's "royal garden"), and floor-length, scholar/wizard mufti — Antique fuchsia? — for the pedantic Holofernes.

Cudos often go to design work that stands out. But most fail if they call attention to themselves. Instead, like a bass in an orchestra, they should be felt, not heard, like Anastasia Pauktova's for the Rep's *Disgraced*, and Jeanne Reith's subtle work for Intrepid Theatre's *Who's Afraid of Virginia*

Calendar THEATER

and choreographs.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. JANUARY 20 THROUGH FEBRUARY 19.

American Hero

Different Stages presents Bess Wohl's "supersized dark comedy" about three up-and-coming "sandwich artists" at a toasted subs franchise in the local mall: a teenager, a single mom, and a downsized refugee from corporate banking. "When a series of strange events interrupt their shot at the American Dream, they become unlikely allies in a post-recession world." Kristen Fogle directs.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-222-0836. JANUARY 6 THROUGH JANUARY 21.

Bad Jews

Cygnnet Theatre offers Joshua Harmon's "savage comedy" about "family, faith, and legacy." Three cousins engage in a verbal battle royal over a family heirloom. Rob Lutfy directs.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. JANUARY 21 THROUGH FEBRUARY 12.

Beau Jest

Lamb's Players Theatre presents James Sherman's comedy. "Sarah's parents are delighted she's engaged to a charming doctor. Only thing is, she's not." So she hires an actor to "keep the fiction alive."

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600.

JANUARY 6 THROUGH FEBRUARY 12.

Breadcrumbs

Fruitlessmoon Theatreworks stages Jennifer Haley's two-person drama. Beth, a drifter, becomes caregiver to Alida, a reclusive fiction writer with dementia. Beth convinces Alida to write her memoirs before her memory disappears. "What if you couldn't find your way home?" Aimee Greenberg directs.

LA JOLLA COMMONS THEATRE, 1216 CAVE ST., LA JOLLA. FEBRUARY 24 THROUGH MARCH 12.

California Young Playwrights Contest: Plays by Young Writers

The Playwrights Project presents its 32nd annual festival of plays by writers 18 and under. Contest winners came from 385 plays submitted by students from across the state. The plays come in two programs. Program A: *Supermarket of Lost* by Cassandra Hsiao; *Hackathon*, by Eliana Dunn; *Turtle on a Rock*, by Absinthe McDonald. Program B: *The Dumping Ground*, by Matthew Maceda; *Pros and Cons*, by Katie Taylor; *A Play on Words*, by Samantha Rafter. For specific days and times, consult the Playwright's Project website, write@playwright-project.org.

SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. JANUARY 21 THROUGH JANUARY 29.

Freaky Friday

The La Jolla Playhouse presents a new musical comedy based on the novel by Mary Rodgers and two Walt Disney films. A mother and daughter magically swap bodies for 24 chaotic hours. Christopher

ANTI-REVIEW GARRETT HARRIS

We are all Scrooge

AS THE REDEMPTION OF SCROOGE drew nigh I realized that there could be a better application of these characters. What if all the characters in *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens are aspects of each of us? What I mean is that all of us are all of those characters at one time or another.

We are all misers like Marley at some point. We are all pure hearted yet crippled like Tiny Tim. We are all timid victims like Bob Cratchit. We are all bitter and resentful like Mrs. Cratchit. We are all optimistic and generous like Fred, and we all have the potential to be redeemed like Scrooge.

The characters are so one-dimensional that it feels as though they require us to interpret them as different aspects of an individual — perhaps Dickens himself.

In *Brothers Karamazov*, Dostoevsky gives each of the brothers and the father elements of himself. To the father he gives his

own internal struggles. I wondered if the same thing might be happening with Dickens in *A Christmas Carol*.

The better parts of Scrooge, such as Fred and Tiny Tim, become more influential as he confronts the truth of his past, present, and future.

The redemption by Christmas spirit is something that doesn't read much these days. The Victorians were the culture that established most of our modern-day Christmas traditions, and Dickens played his part.

But Christmas spirit has reached its peak and is on its way out, I'm afraid.

However, the dark night of the soul à la Ebenezer Scrooge will never go out of fashion.

A Christmas Carol plays at Cygnnet Theater in Old Town through December 24. ■



Marley and Scrooge in Cygnnet Theatre's *A Christmas Carol*.

sensuality. To Dimitri he gives his gambling addiction. To Ivan he gives his intellectual doubt of religion. To Alyosha he gives his faith. To Smerdyakov he gives his epilepsy.

Brothers Karamazov is an allegorical account of Dostoevsky's

Ashley directs.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. JANUARY 31 THROUGH MARCH 12.

Good People

Scripps Ranch Theatre stages David Lindsay-Abaire's comedy-drama

about Margie Walsh. She's just been let go from another job and faces eviction from her apartment in Boston's "Southie" district. Maybe stirring the embers of an old flame (who now earns deep into six figures) might be the trick. Eric Pop-pick directs.

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. JANUARY 28 THROUGH FEBRUARY 26.

The Illusion

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Tony Kushner's free adaptation of Pierre Corneille's *l'Illusion Comique*, "a tale of passion, regret, love, and magic." David Ellenstein directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. FEBRUARY 22 THROUGH MARCH 19.

Into the Woods

For its spring musical, Clairemont High School Theatre presents Stephen Sondheim's Tony award winner about what happens in fairy tales after the end, and everyone's supposed to live happily ever after.

CLAIREMONT HIGH SCHOOL, 4150 UTE DR., CLAIREMONT. 858-273-0201. MARCH 10 THROUGH MARCH 18.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses

New Fortune Theatre stages Christopher Hampton's adaptation of the Laclos novel (1782) about ex-lovers the Marquise de Merteuil and the Vicomte de Valmont, who compete in games of seduction and revenge. "This isn't a battle between the sexes. It's war." Richard Baird and Kaitlin O'Neal co-direct.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. JANUARY 14 THROUGH JANUARY 28.

Maple and Vine

Trinity Theatre Company presents Jordan Harrison's new play. "Katha and Ryu have become allergic to their 21st-century lives. After they meet a charismatic man from a

community of 1950s re-enactors, they forsake cell phones and sushi for cigarettes and Tupperware parties...Katha and Ryu are surprised by what their new neighbors - and they themselves - are willing to sacrifice for happiness." Sean Boyd directs.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. JANUARY 6 THROUGH JANUARY 29.

My Fair Lady

The Welk Theatre greets the new year with Lerner and Loewe's classic musical, based on George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*. Songs include "Wouldn't It Be Lovely?", "With a Little Bit of Luck," "The Rain in Spain," and "I Could Have Danced All Night." Kathy Brombacher directs with choreography by Orlando Alexander.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONIDO. 888-802-7469. JANUARY 7 THROUGH MARCH 25.

On the 20th Century

Cygnnet Theatre presents the San Diego premiere of the musical — book and lyrics, Betty Comden and Adolph Green, music by Cy Coleman — about a luxury train (the Twentieth Century) traveling from Chicago to New York City. Mischief ensues when a bankrupt theater producer attempts to cajole a glamorous Hollywood starlet. Sean Murray directs.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. MARCH 18 THROUGH MARCH 29.

Our Great Tchaikovsky

The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents Hershey Felder's "time bending" tribute to Russia's most famous composer, "from present-day Putin's Russia, where Tchaikovsky is a hero, back in time to Czarist Russia, where that was not entirely the case." Trevor Hay directs.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE,

79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. JANUARY 18 THROUGH FEBRUARY 12.

Perfect Arrangement

Intrepid Theatre Company stages Topher Payne's comedy about Bob and Norma. It's the 1950s, and they have been tasked with identifying sexual deviants within their ranks. "There's just one problem: Bob and Norma are gay, and have married each other's partners in a carefully constructed cover." Can they sustain "heteronormativity"?

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. FEBRUARY 2 THROUGH MARCH 5.

Picasso at the Lapin Agile

The Old Globe Theatre presents Steve Martin's comedy. In Paris, 1904, the Lapin Agile was a favorite watering hole for struggling artists and wannabe geniuses. Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso, with "egos as big as their intellects," compare notes. Barry Edelstein directs.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. FEBRUARY 9 THROUGH MARCH 12.

Sex with Strangers

The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents Laura Eason's "sensuous and provocative comedy about fame, cyber identity, and the desire for intimacy and respect." Two writers, one mid-career and under-appreciated, the other a young blogger famous for writing about his "sexcapades," join up. Delicia Turner Sonnenberg directs.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. FEBRUARY 23 THROUGH MARCH 19.

Shakespeare & I Tea

San Diego Central Library hosts family-friendly, monthly informal Shakespeare readings, with discussion, and starring you. No experience necessary. Parts are assigned before each scene so everyone who wants to can read. Tea and scones, clotted cream and jam provided by Shakespeare's Corner Shoppe & Afternoon Tea.

CENTRAL LIBRARY, 330 PARK BL., EAST VILLAGE. 619-236-5800. JANUARY 15 THROUGH MARCH 26.

Twelfth Night, or What You Will

Theatre Arts West, which incorporates the visual arts and music with theater, presents Shakespeare's festive, gender-bending comedy of capricious love on the shores of Illyria, "a timeless place that celebrates music, poetry, and art." Backdrops and set pieces painted by local artists.

MURAMID MUSEUM AND ART CENTER, 212 F ARTIST ALLEY, OCEANSIDE. JANUARY 6 THROUGH JANUARY 22.

Well

Diversivary Theatre presents Lisa Kron's "reverent study of the playwright's chronically ill Mom and her extraordinary ability to heal a racially divided community despite her inability to make herself well." The piece runs in repertory with Kron's *2.5 Minute Ride*. Kym Pappas directs.

DIVERSIVARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. FEBRUARY 18 THROUGH MARCH 19.

Have an event? We want it!

Food festivals, lectures, sporting events (including surfing, kayaking, and sailing), meetups, conventions, book signings, symposiums, art gallery openings, conferences, dance performances, expos, poetry readings, classes, and workshops — all are welcome.

A select few will be featured each issue in the double-page centerfold highlights section, "Your Week."

sdreader.com/events/submit

SAN DIEGO
Reader

Journey of hope

Based on a True Story” has replaced “The Adventure Continues” as Hollywood’s most cringeworthy coming attraction tagline. Just because a narrative is rooted in reality doesn’t mean that its chronicler isn’t going to lie, cheat, and otherwise invent the truthfulness required to make it to the curtain shot. By way of distinguishing itself, a film like *Lion* should open with the disclaimer “Based on a True Story as Told by a Trustworthy Storyteller.”

There was one more flaming circus ring needed to make this leo roar. *Lion* is the story of a young man who uses Google Earth to reunite with his long-lost family. With rare exception — Atom Egoyan’s *Adoration* and Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman’s

Nerve are two fine examples — it’s a backbreaking task for a filmmaker to wring overpowering visuals out of the simple act of characters interfacing with a computer display, no matter what the size.

When approaching Saroo Brierley and Larry Buttrose’s nonfiction account, *A Long Way Home*, screenwriter Luke Davies (*Candy, Life*) recognized the challenge before him: finding the drama inherent in

a tale primarily about an online search. Davies (rightly) called it “the big cinema ‘no-no,’ which is that screens on screens is not good.” True to his word, Davies, and first-time director Garth Davis cold-shoulder any thought given to Sandra Bullock’s schtick in *The Net*, with its characters huddled around



Lion: “Okay, Google, find my place in the universe and also my sense of identity.”

a laptop pointing their fingers in ornamental amazement.

At the outset, siblings Guddu (Abhishek Bharate) and younger brother Saroo (Sunny Pawar) are

a pair of prototypical Dickensian street waifs who spend their days combing the local railyard for lumps of coal, which they use to barter for food and money to help feed their family. Copping coal is one thing, but Guddu strictly prohibits Saroo from accompanying him on the more dangerous “night work.” Saroo’s persistence finally pays off. The five-year-old demonstrates his ability to “lift anything,” yet when it comes to being of practical use to his brother, the babe is barely able to hold his head up. Instead of carting the sleepy lad around in a fireman’s carry, Guddu parks him on the train platform and promises a speedy return before disappearing into the murky night. It’s the last audiences see of him.

The train car Saroo cozies up in turns out to be a sleeper, a decommissioned group of rolling stock en route to Calcutta, a thousand miles from his home. But though he winds up in a world where no one speaks his language and menace lurks around every dark corner, it’s the filmmaker’s intent to take Saroo (and audiences) on a journey of hope, not unrelenting despair. Still, to overlook the threats posed to a tyke alone on the streets of Calcutta would signal a disingenuous move. Without forcing heads to turn away, the subject of child enslavement (or worse) is dealt with in tolerable terms.

It’s been over a month since the screening, and little Sunny Pawar’s cries of “Guddu-u-u-u!” continue to haunt my memory. While the boy’s on screen, it’s impossible to look away, unthinkable to leave his corner. Perhaps that’s why it takes a few minutes to get over the energy and force of Pawar’s presence once Dev Patel

emerges as the grown-up Saroo.

Saroo is adopted by a comfortable and nurturing Australian couple, John and Sue Brierley (David Wenham and Nicole Kidman). It took a moment to recognize the latter under her Harpo Marx wig. As the self-sacrificing adoptive mother, Kidman delivers one of her finest performances in recent memory. The look on her face when Saroo expresses initial interest in looking for his birth mother is as credible as it gets. A similar expression crossed my mother’s face the day I fleetingly expressed interest in looking for my “real” parents.

There’s always a girl in the picture, in this case Rooney Mara as Lucy, Saroo’s love interest. It was a welcome change to see Mara cast in a relatively “normal” role, one that actually allowed her to crack an occasional smile. Unlike her fact-based counterparts, Mara’s Lucy is an amalgam of several women in Saroo’s life. This may account for the underdeveloped nature of the character.

The last third of the picture is dedicated almost exclusively to Saroo’s search. The contemplative closeups of a Christ-like Patel wracking his memory to find the one needed clue to bring him closer to his family throws sand in the narrative wheels. Time would have been better spent on beefing up the Kidman and Mara characters. But flaws aside, one can’t help but be buoyed by the jubilant (and inevitable) reunion that closes the picture, but wait: there’s more. Two plot threads that kept me guessing throughout refuse to fuse until after the final fade. Though it’s decidedly a mixed bag, I’d be lyin’ to say it’s tough to like *Lion*.

— Scott Marks

Your critic or ours?

Inside Out is one of the Top Ten Movies of All Time on RottenTomatoes.com



Here’s what the *Reader’s* movie critic said:

INSIDE OUT (2015): Call it kid-friendly psychology: Pixar’s latest begins with a lot of bold (and visually appealing) assumptions: first, that our emotions run the show when it comes to our interior landscape; and second, that those emotions are Joy, Sadness, Fear, Disgust, and Anger. (Whither Envy? Hate? Desire? Best not to ask... ★★ — **MATTHEW LICKONA**

SAN DIEGO
Reader

Read the full capsule review of the *Reader’s* movie critic at:

sdreader.com/movies/archives

**TALKING “TWILIGHT TIME”
WITH LA LA LAND’S DIRECTOR
OF PHOTOGRAPHY, LINUS
SANDGREN**

When was the last time you saw the expressionistic use of color in a trailer, let alone a feature? There was more color in the preview for *La La Land* than a box of 120 Crayola Crayons. It was the only time I put in a request for an interview based solely on a coming attraction.

Cinematographer Linus (pronounced: LEE-nus) Sandgren spent the better part of the last decade filming shorts and television shows and one feature (*Storm*) in his native Stockholm. He broke into American films in 2010 when he was hired to shoot Gus Van Sant’s *Promised Land*. This was followed by a pair of gems for David O. Russell (*American Hustle* and *Joy*) by a colorful comedy for Lasse Hallström, *The Hundred-Foot Journey*.

It’s not even Christmas, and his work on *La La Land* has already earned Sandgren several awards nominations. Sandgren’s very modest when the subject of awards comes up, but we’re thinking it’s a shoo-in. **Scott Marks:** Here’s one question I thought I’d never ask, but in this case it makes perfect sense. What’s your favorite color?

Linus Sandgren (laughing): Well... what shall I say? I like color in general, but I think I love cyan. Blue and purple.

SM: Why a career in cinematography as opposed to directing or editing?

LS: I think it is the storytelling. You tell a story with the characters and the acting but also with the camera. I love films where the camera is the storyteller and not only the observer, when you let the camera tell the story as well with the lighting and the movement and choice of lenses. The proper way to work as a cinematographer is to be a storyteller.

SM: I’ve always admired Hollywood’s ability to turn the ordinary into something fantastic. The five-and-a-half-minute unbroken take where Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone are looking for her car, and the camera pans gently left to reveal the city at twilight time...I gasped. It’s stunning. At the risk of finding out there’s no Santa Claus, was that indeed one unbroken take or was it digitally enhanced?

LS (laughing): That’s a real take. We rehearsed it in advance shooting on a flat surface in different ways. On the day of the shoot, we rehearsed for 12 hours — 7 in the morning to 7 at night — and then we shot it for five takes between 7 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. to catch the magic sky. We



Assassins’ Creed: Ladies and gentlemen: The Flying Fassbender!

came back the day after and shot it again from 7 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. in the evening. It was really important for us to capture everything for real. As much as possible we wanted to capture it this way to add authenticity to what’s going on; the dance and the performance are really happening. We believe that you feel it more being there.

A lot of people think it may be fake, that it’s so magic that it can’t possibly be true. That’s what’s so beautiful about Los Angeles. Those skies are very common. You have to time it perfectly...to the minute. I believe the take we have is take 8, between 7:25 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. on the Friday. Luckily we have a director who is a visual storyteller. He really appreciates the importance of the camera to tell the story. Some directors don’t. Some directors rely on the acting. Damien (Chazelle) relies on telling it both with the camera and the performers.

SM: You are the only cinematographer who has twice worked with David O. Russell. To what do you owe your longevity?

LS (laughing): I love working with David. On *American Hustle* it was a learning curve to work with him. His way of working involves a lot of improvising. I can see that can be frustrating for a cinematographer sometimes. For me, every challenge I get is interesting. You look for challenges as well. You don’t get too comfortable doing one thing. If you’re used to doing things in a rational way, a conventional way... then you meet someone who has an unconventional method of working, and to me that’s interesting.

SM: *La La Land* is already racking up a ton of nominations from critic’s

groups. In fact, you’ve already won the best cinematography honors at this year’s Hollywood Film Awards. Of the movies you’ve seen this year, which one do you think is going to be your biggest competition for Oscar gold?

LS (nervous laugh): I dunno. I don’t even want to speculate about being nominated. I really just appreciate the acclaim that the film is getting. I’m honored to be part of that. There are many great films right now that are up there, but I haven’t seen them myself (laughing).

You’re halfway there. For the rest of the interview, be sure to visit *The Big Screen*.

— 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.

Allied — Say this for director Robert Zemeckis: it takes guts to open a World War II story in Casablanca and then tell a story that turns the World War II classic *Casablanca* inside out. (Apparently, the problems of three little people *do* amount to a hill of beans in this crazy world.) But that may be all that can be said for him here. And guts, alas, are not the same as energy, or scenebuilding, or even a sense of felt life. (When your wife asks to spend a day forgetting about the war, maybe don’t take her to picnic within sight of a downed bomber?) Even when stars Brad Pitt and Marion Cotillard — Allied spies who start to enjoy their assumed roles as husband and wife during an assassination operation — are in the midst of a party or a war zone, the music and talk and bombs and gunfire fade into the background, so that they hardly seem real. (Often, they aren’t.) And when they’re alone? They might

as well be the last souls on earth (Pitt in particular looks miserable enough to have witnessed Armageddon). That makes Cotillard the sole bright spot, and even she risks being upstaged by her fantastic wardrobe. 2016. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Arrival — Denis Villeneuve’s latest is an artier — certainly moodier and less entertaining, thanks to Amy Adams’s deeply inward protagonist and a blue-gray palette designed to contrast the barren present with the fruitful past — version of M. Night Shyamalan’s *Signs*. That is, it’s an alien-landing movie in which the alien landing is revealed to be not the point, but rather, the thing that helps to reveal the point. There, the revelation was that faith is possible because things really do happen for a reason. Here...well, there’s no sense in spoiling things, but there’s a reason why Adams’s opening voiceover states that she’s not sure she believes in beginnings and endings. It might have helped if the story had spent more time considering the ostensible issue: how to communicate with aliens who write with (admittedly captivating) coffee-cup stains? (Did nobody think to draw a pictograph? How do both sides make the leap from concrete to abstract? Etc.) Also maybe the *actual* issue. Because...everyone dies eventually? And spouses shouldn’t keep life-or-death secrets from each other? 2016. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Assassin’s Creed — Do you enjoy movies based on video games featuring respected actors like Jake Gyllenhaal (*Prince of Persia*) or, in this case, Michael Fassbender, Charlotte Rampling, Brendan Gleeson, Jeremy Irons, and Marion Cotillard? Do you harbor a strange fascination for the Templars? Do you think it’s high time that the profession of assassin stopped getting such a bad rap? If you answered yes to these questions, this action-adventure film from Justin Kurzel may be right for you. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2016 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Beyond the Gates — Let’s hope Hasbro doesn’t get their hands on this concept. Estranged brothers come across the ancient titular video board game while dissolving their long-absent father’s video store, and its discovery helps to explain the old man’s

disappearance while unlocking a few demons of its own. The opening credit swing through the bowels of a VHS player, followed by a cameo appearance by North Hollywood’s Eddie Brandt’s Saturday Matinee (substituting for Dad’s shuttered shop), pointed to a kindred spirit. The fresh-faced cast and first-time director Jackson Stewart give it their best, but once the tape enters the machine, all bets are off. The moment the contrivance kicks in, what follows is a game of gore that quickly emerges as an interactive snooze. Credit is due for at least trying to resist camping things up and demonstrating an eye for color design. With: Graham Skipper, Chase Williamson, and Sara Malakul Lane. 2016. — S.M. ★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The Brand New Testament (Le tout nouveau testament) — A lighthearted/darkhearted romp through modern misery, frontloaded with imagination and light on the finish. Theodicy — the contrasting of a supposedly all-good, all-powerful God with the manifest evil in the world — is a matter for theologians (or at least Lex Luthor in *Batman vs. Superman*). Jaco Van Dormael’s cuddly-caustic fable is content to tell its story from the ground up, and so imagines a God who is neither all good nor all powerful; he’s just a grumpy Dad in a ratty bathrobe sitting at a particularly powerful computer. It’s bad enough that he utterly oppresses his poor wife, but when he takes the belt to his precocious 10-year-old daughter Ea, the tyke decides to follow her big brother JC’s lead and head to Earth to round up some disciples. The twist: her Gospel will be all about them — or rather, their sorrows and sufferings and serpentine searches for salvific love. Her contribution involves listening to the (mostly classical) music in their hearts and playing matchmaker. The more exciting part: before she sets off, she screws up God’s game by telling everyone their date of death. (Even so, no one seems to consider repenting, because this is modern Europe: even when He exists, God is dead, or at least irrelevant.) He follows her to earth, only to find himself oddly powerless and utterly disrespected. And while He may be a petty bastard, he makes a compelling character. (And from a storyteller’s perspective, a more compelling world.) 2015. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Camino a la paz — If the goal is to rehearse a chestnut, the least a director can do is hold the material to the flame. That’s precisely how Francisco Varone’s debut feature manages to keep fresh this timeworn two-hander about a pair of mismatched souls placed in close confines and sent on a spiritual journey. Fate and a series of wrong numbers to a defunct car-rental service bring together hustling slacker Sebastian (Rodrigo De la Serna) and Jalil (Ernesto Suarez), a frail septuagenarian asking to be driven 1800 miles from Argentina to Bolivia so that he and his brother can embark on a journey to Mecca. Sebastian’s gradual exposure to and understanding of the Muslim culture is never forced, and the pitfalls that generally lurk below the surface of this type of road picture — notably, cheap sentiment — are mostly side-stepped. Known primarily for his work as stage actor, this is 75-year-old Suarez’s first foray into film. His performance was worth the wait. 2015. — S.M. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Denial — The lead Holocaust contender in this year’s awards derby is more stallion than nag. When a denier levels

Calendar MOVIES

a lawsuit against her publisher, it's up to author and historian Deborah Lipstadt (Rachel Weisz) to prove the existence of the Holocaust. The first film in 14 years from director Mick Jackson (*L.A. Story*, *The Bodyguard*) is bolstered by a fact-based story that long ago slipped from the public consciousness, and dialogue by playwright and screenwriter David Hare (*Plenty*, *The Reader*). An evidential visit to the gas chambers by Lipstadt and her legal team packs a wallop, as does Weisz's struggle not to fall victim to a defense team that refuses to let her testify. But it's the ever-spellbinding Timothy Spall who will make audiences squirm. His knotty-pouted advocate for the myth of the six million displays all the seductiveness and in-built logic of a pedophile luring a kindergartner into the back seat of a Buick. With outstanding supporting work by Tom Wilkinson and Andrew Scott. 2016. — S.M. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Die Hard — Twelve superbly drilled, highly financed, and heavily armed international terrorists find themselves overmatched against a vacationing New York cop in bare feet. The action, set almost entirely inside an L.A. skyscraper, is a pyrotechnical marvel. But the overriding marvel is how action so marvelous has come to seem, in the Eighties, so routine. Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia; directed by John McTiernan. 1988. — D.S. ● (LA PALOMA)

Doctor Strange — As a Christian allegory, director Scott Derrickson's entry into the Marvel Cinematic Universe is impressively thorough. Proud and worldly neurosurgeon Dr. Stephen Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch, cockily joking even as he fumbles with his accent) is cast down from his throne, seeks healing from a keeper of ancient spiritual wisdom and power, comes to believe in a world beyond his senses, learns that strength comes from humility, and finally finds that he's been subtly recruited into a titanic struggle between good and evil. (The bad guy promises nothing less than eternal life.) There's even tension between natural law and personal conscience! As a *movie*, it's silly (jump scares for laffs, etc.), sloppy (lots of talking about mystical realities that turn out to be largely arbitrary) and spectacular (as in



Passengers: "Hey, I just noticed: you're super good-looking and I'm super good-looking, and we're stuck out here in space..."

spectacle, as in trippy, kaleidoscopic, reality-bending special effects). The silliness and sloppiness don't detract from the ultimate goal, however, because the ultimate goal is a certain sort of dazzling, feel-good entertainment — and the addition of one more chapter to the continuing saga. 2016. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them — Poor Newt Scamander (Eddie Redmayne, sensitive bordering on priggish): all this English wizard wants to do is protect the world's magical animals from "the most vicious creature on earth: humans." But doing so means traveling to America, where even the wizards are against him — right off the boat, he's picked up for possession of contraband critters. Further, the Yanks have "backwards relations with no-majs" ("no-maj" being the local term for the non-magical): for one thing, no intermarriage. To make matters worse, a bunch of anti-magic crusaders are at work, righteously rousing the rabble. They've got some reason to be afraid, what with the strange and violent goings on of late, and as we're reminded, "when no-maj's are afraid, they attack." (It's the reason the wizards have gone underground.) But what

the pious monsters don't realize is that Freud was right: the greatest evil arises from denying your magic identity in early childhood. And finally, there's a dark wizard about, one who would like nothing more than to have it out with the portion of the population that *can't* control minds and manipulate matter at will. Set against all these thunderous themes are the antics of a bunch of uninspired imaginary animals — sorry, fantastic beasts — and an astonishingly winning supporting cast that very nearly atones for everything else. 2016. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Fences — There's only one fence in director and star Denzel Washington's presentation of August Wilson's play about an outsized personality and the world he finds himself squeezed into: the pine-plank job that trash man, father, and former Negro Leagues baseball star Troy Maxson builds around his backyard over the course of the film. But the plural is no accident: it points to that single fence's many uses and significances: to keep loved ones in, to keep enemies out, to mark a man's personal achievements and limitations, the reach of his power and the limits imposed upon him. It's a lot for a plain wood fence to bear; happily, the real work here is done by the

film's fine cast (including Viola Davis as Maxson's long-suffering wife) — and even more, by Wilson's words, which do more to define the territory than any fence ever could. Your best bet is to let those words bewitch, bother, and beguile you; then maybe you won't notice the stagey presentation, slight story, and occasional emotional misfire. 2016 — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Home Alone — Underimagined fairy tale about the runt of the household who gets accidentally left behind when the family takes off for France, fends for himself, fends off burglars (à la Dustin Hoffman in *Straw Dogs*), grows, in short, into a little man. It might just have worked if the filmmakers had spent as much thought on what a kid could actually get into and get out of as they did on what would get kids into a movie theater (e.g., "Don't you know how to knock, phlegm-wad!"). Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Catherine O'Hara; directed by Chris Columbus. 1990 — D.S. ● (LA PALOMA)

Jackie — Were it not for the giant blood stain on the lower-half of her fabled pink dress — a moment director Pablo Larraín takes his sweet time

revealing in a startling pullback — and constant juxtaposition next to her husband's casket, Jackie Kennedy could have just as easily been mistaken for a stewardess aboard Air Force One. Imagine a documentary portrait of a passive character set during the four most intensely intolerable days of her life and you'll get an idea of the kind of emotional (and cinematic) wallop Jackie packs. Larraín places his subject center frame — she's present in just about every shot in the film — while his star, Natalie Portman, takes us through a cauterized grieving process that at times borders on the surreal. Together they trap the character on film, like a rose frozen in a block of ice. Quite unlike any biopic that's come before, but that's no big shock given the director's proven track record of originality. 2016. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

La La Land — Billed as a movie lover's dream for a reason: the eye hasn't seen this much color on screen since Vincente Minnelli passed. The songs and musical numbers are lively, the cast attractive, all attempts to transform city streets into expressionistically lit studio backlots successful, and the ending decidedly downbeat. And there's this five-and-a-half-minute long take that starts in search of a parked car and ends with a slow and deliberate pan over to the Hollywood Hills at twilight time that found me struggling to pick my jaw up from off the floor. Ditto a lovely romantic walking tour of the Warner Bros. lot. But, and it's a big but, any number of the movie musicals that director Damien Chazelle references (The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, The Band Wagon, It's Always Fair Weather, etc.) have more depth of characterization than either Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone's comparative stick figures are assigned. But enough grouching. This is one crowd-pleaser worth getting behind. 2016. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Lion — Reviewed this issue. 2016 — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Loving — This week's dollop of Oscar-bait is a well intentioned account of the marriage and subsequent incarceration of an interracial couple in 1958 that led to the Supreme Court's decision to overturn state laws prohibiting mixed marriage. With the fact-based outcome predetermined, it's up to the storyteller to make the journey through the details as narratively compelling as possible. Directors make movies, not issues, and while Jeff Nichols (*Take Shelter*, *Mud*) has a proven track record of summoning southern atmospherics, when it was over, my watch said two hours and my butt screamed *Gone With the Wind*. A pair of solemn, unostentatious performances by Ruth Negga and Joel Edgerton help to raise the bar just slightly higher than the one set by a benignly routine Lifetime movie. And in case you don't know how to react, there's an overbearing smile by David Wingo to telegraph every scry and tear. With Nick Kroll and Will Dalton. 2016. — S.M. ★ (LA PALOMA)

Manchester by the Sea — Some films you watch to escape from the frequently painful and/or difficult reality of life. *Pacific Rim*, perhaps. Some films you watch to impose a satisfactory narrative onto the seemingly random chaos of life. *Casablanca*, maybe. And some films you watch to enter more deeply into life — the difficulty, the chaos, all of it. Writer-director Kenneth Lonergan's masterful *Manchester by the Sea*, which tells the story of a penitent exile who is asked to give up both his

FILM FESTIVALS

CATAMARAN RESORT

3999 Mission Bl., Mission Beach
858-539-8635

Beach-In Date Night Oceana Coastal Kitchen presents Beach-In Date Night, a bayside showing of classic and modern movies free for diners every Tuesday at 6pm Enjoy movies projected on a large 12-foot screen on the lawn next to our outdoor dining patio. Combine your dinner and a movie into a relaxing evening out. Just like a drive-in, moviegoers are given a personal audio speaker to place on their dining table. Complimentary specialty popcorn. **Tuesday, December 27, 6:00pm**

CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

365 F St., Chula Vista
619-691-5069

Film Forum: Sully Director Clint Eastwood masterfully retells the true story of the "Miracle on the Hudson." Capt. "Sully" Sullenberger (Tom Hanks) makes an emergency landing on the Hudson River after his plane is disabled by a bird strike. Miraculously, all 155 passengers and crew on board survived the harrowing ordeal,

and "Sully" becomes a national hero. Despite all the accolades, the famed pilot faces an investigation that threatens to destroy his career and reputation. 2016. 96 minutes. PG-13. Free mini concert featuring the music duo "Hans and Danise" at 5:30 pm, free film screening at 6 pm. Sponsored by Friends of the Chula Vista Library. **Wednesday, January 11, 5:30pm**

HILTON SAN DIEGO BAYFRONT

1 Park Bl., Downtown San Diego
619-564-3333

Holiday Movies By the Bay: The Polar Express *The Polar Express* will screen on the Promenade Plaza. **Saturday, December 24, 7:00pm**

LIBERTY HALL THEATER AT PARADISE VILLAGE

2700 E. 4th St., National City

Film Discussion Class: Charade Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn light up the screen in Stanley Donen's glossy comic thriller. Hepburn is pursued through the streets of Paris by four men in search of the fortune her late



husband stole from them. Co-starring Walter Matthau and James Coburn. (1963. 113 minutes.) With instructor Ralph DeLauro. Liberty Hall is on the second floor of Paradise Village. **Wednesday, December 28, 7:00pm**

REMINGTON CLUB II

16916 Hierba Dr., Rancho Bernardo
858-673-6340

Film Discussion Class: Cafe Society Woody Allen's latest romantic roundelay is

a luminous lament to Old Hollywood and lost love. A naive kid from the Bronx (Jesse Eisenberg) seeks his fortune in Hollywood and becomes smitten with the young assistant (Kristen Stewart) and mistress of his powerhouse talent agent uncle (Steve Carell). 2016. 96 minutes. Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo. Info: 858-487-0464. **Wednesday, January 4, 1:30pm**

SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad
760-602-2049

Carlsbad Film Series: Ghostbusters A ghost invasion of Manhattan brings paranormal enthusiast Abby Yates (Melissa McCarthy), physicist Erin Gilbert, nuclear engineer Jillian Holtzmann, and subway worker Patty Tolan together to stop a supernatural threat. Armed with proton packs and plenty of attitude, these four women prepare for an epic battle and provide plenty of laughs along the way. Movie special features begin at 5:30pm **Wednesday, December 28, 6:00pm**

penance and his exile, falls into the third category. And it does so without a hint of bravado or flourish, except perhaps for a single devastating scene between the exile (Casey Affleck) and his ex-wife (Michelle Williams). But even there, everything is earned and nothing is wasted in service to anything beyond the characters themselves. Williams' is only one of the outstanding performances surrounding Affleck; Lucas Hedges also merits mention for his portrayal of a teenager who remains recognizably human — and what's more, recognizably himself — in the midst of adolescent grief. But it's Affleck's movie to quietly own as layer upon layer of Irish impassivity is stripped away from his visage until the unspeakable can be spoken. (It's tempting to add, "Until the marble angel standing atop a tombstone is once more a man," but that's precisely the sort of high-flown hokey that Lonergeran avoids.) 2016. — M.L. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Moana — Midway through, disgraced demigod Maui calls spunky quest-taker Moana a princess. She objects by noting that she's actually a chief's daughter, but he'll have none of it: "You're wearing a skirt, and you've got an animal sidekick — you're a princess." At another point, he warns her that if she breaks into song, he'll throw up. This is Disney's way of having its formulaic cake and eating it, too: "We know what we're doing here, and we know that you know it, too. So please stop fretting and enjoy while the pieces fall into place." Many of those pieces are deeply familiar for Disney fans, if not necessarily for Disney princesses: the musical introduction to the sheltered world of home, set against the sung longing for adventure (*Beauty and the Beast*), the rigid dad and campily evil undersea bad guy (*The Little Mermaid*), the unwelcome responsibility of rule (*The Lion King*), the jocular, magical assistant with dreams of his own (*Aladdin*)...heck, even the glorious finish is borrowed from *Fantasia 2000*. But more will be made, no doubt, of the familiar piece that never appears — the love interest — and the fact that no one at home bats an eye over the prospect of their first woman chief. Because in the absence of memorable songs, a great villain (demon coconuts?), story variation, happily-ever-after romance, or a character arc that extends beyond fully accepting your status as the chosen one, such things become what's left for the

CENTRAL

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AMC Mission Valley
1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)

ArcLight La Jolla
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The LOT Liberty Station
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Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

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San Diego Natural History Museum - Kaplan Theater
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

UltraStar Mission Valley
7510 Hazard Center Dr #100 (619-574-8684)

United Artists Horton Plaza
475 Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

heart to hold on to. John Musker and Ron Clements direct. 2016. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Moonlight — Best suited for those who found brilliance in *Beasts of the Southern Wild*, here comes a hackneyed tale of a young black man's passage from childhood to maturity in a tough Miami neighborhood. Bullying, poverty, closeted sexuality, drug abuse, and racial strife combine to form an overworked agenda of cultural woes that's more concerned with rubber-stamping issues than telling an original story. Suffocating close-ups, rocking-chair camerawork, and a few unnecessary 360-degree

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1025 Tierra del Rey (844-462-7342)

South Bay Drive In
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Digiplex Poway
13475 Poway Rd ((858) 679-3887)

Digiplex River Village
5256 Mission Road, Bonsall (760-945-1365)

pans lifted from the Christopher Nolan playbook do little to elevate the visual storytelling, while the script — based on the life of playwright Tarell McCraney — is content to churn out one cliché after another. The three actors who share the lead are all first-rate, while Mahershala Ali actually manages to breathe new life into the character of a good-natured drug dealer. That's more than can be said of Naomie Harris's standard-issue hysterical crack mom. Here's just what liberal-minded, visually challenged Academy voters need to make up for last year's lily-white ceremony. I predict Oscars all around. Written and directed by Barry Jenkins. 2016. — S.M.

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Angelika Carmel Mountain
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Regal Escondido
350 West Valley Parkway (844-462-7342)

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10733 Westview Parkway (844-462-7342)

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1180 W. San Marcos Blvd (844-462-7342)

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Cinépolis La Costa
6941 El Camino Real (760-827-6700)

Digiplex Mission Marketplace
431 College Blvd (760-631-5700)

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)

Regal Oceanside
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Regal Carlsbad
2501 El Camino Real (760-720-5392)

GET SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS: SDREADER.COM/MOVIES

★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST; LA PALOMA)

Notes on Blindness — James Spinney and Peter Middleton's documentary based on the memoir of the theologian John Hull. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2016 (DIGITAL GYM)

Passengers — Chris Pratt and Jennifer Lawrence are space-travelers who get an early wake-up call in Morten Tyldum's sci-fi actor's showcase. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2016 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

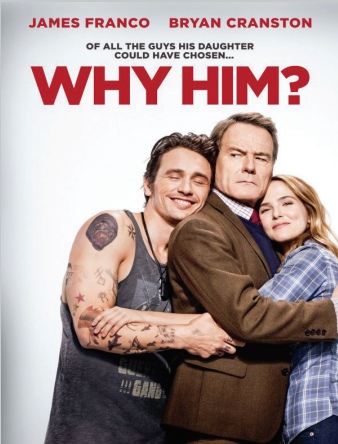
The Rocky Horror Picture Show — 1975 (LA PALOMA)

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story — Disney spins the Wheel! Of! *Star Wars!* and gets "Gotta get that shield down!" as its Obligatory Plotline Refash in director Gareth Edwards' take on how exactly the rebellion got ahold of the plans for the original Death Star in *A New Hope*. (Answer: through some pretty dark dealings and considerable sacrifice.) The good news is that Edwards' effort to make a storm-the-beach war film produces a tense third act that earns most of its big moments and also justifies much of what's come before. The bad news is that what's come before is a clunky attempt at a coldhearted espionage thriller, full of good characters saddled with bad dialogue, tense scenarios saddled with dumb action, and tolerable storyweaving saddled with bad fan service. (Blue milk! Walrus Man! A variant on "Never tell me the odds!" Etc.) Like the rebootish *The Force Awakens*, *Rogue One* features tweaks on the old standbys (leads Jyn and Cassian as Leia and Han, the politely snarky K-2SO as both C-3PO and RD-D2, etc.). Unlike *The Force Awakens*, it also features some genuine freshness: a reluctant collaborator with the Empire, a monk who can feel the Force but is nobody's Jedi, and a frustrated baddie who just wants credit where it's due. 2016. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Sing — Do you enjoy watching singing competitions? Would you enjoy watching them even more if they were animated and featured anthropomorphic animals instead of people? What if the competition was grafted onto the old let's-save-the-old-theater-by-putting-on-a-show storyline? If you answered yes to these questions, then this Garth Jennings film may be right for you. 2016 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Why Him? — Do you miss the days when Bryan Cranston played the dad on *Malcolm in the Middle*? Do you delight in the smirky menace of Hollywood *enfant terrible* James Franco? Did you think the "But Daddy, I love him!" gag was the only funny part of *Monsters University*? If you answered yes to these questions, then this comedy from director and co-writer John Hamburg may be right for you. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2016 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

MOVIE SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS AT SDREADER.COM/MOVIES



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MISCELLANEOUS

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Job location: San Diego, CA. Duties: Responsible for supp. the business in achieving its strategic objectives; deployment, installation, provisioning, troubleshooting, & reporting for VMWare infrastructure & rel. Cloud services; working closely w/ cross functional teams for the deployment & ongoing support of Cloud services to both internal stakeholders & clients. Requires: Bachelor deg. or foreign equiv. in Comp. Info. Sys., Tech. Electronic or Elec. Eng., or closely rel. field & 2 yrs. of exp. in the job offered or Network Eng. or closely rel. pos. Exp. which may have been obtained concurrently must incl. 2 yrs. of exp. w/ VMWare deployment & managing IT infrastructure. Must be VMware Certified Professional 4 Data Center Virtualization. Please mail resume to: Jennifer Duenas, Dimension Data Cloud Solution, 5201 Great America Pkwy., Ste. 120, Santa Clara, CA 95054.

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East County

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1BD+1BA Huge upstairs unit with wood/laminate flooring, A/C, reserved parking, on-site coin operated laundry. Quiet complex. One pet OK with pet deposit. 619-279-0031, akarnazes@yahoo.com.

LA MESA, \$1599-1799.

3BD+2BA (\$1799) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1599-1799.

3BD+2BA (\$1799) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Piscina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

Central San Diego

CLAIREMONT, \$1395

Make your reservations now. Studio+1BA. 3-month lease. Basic rates starting at: \$1395/month. Call for more info. includes: weekly cleaning service, daily continental breakfast, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858)799-0219. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1400 & UP.

2BD Large, lower 2-bedroom apartment, corner unit. Newly renovated. Off-street parking, laundry facilities. Available now. 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA, \$925.

1BD+1BA. Near bus, shops, SDSU. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

North County Coastal

DEL MAR, \$1995-3959.

1BD+1BA \$1995-\$2345. 2BD+2BA \$2545-\$3295 (ocean view). 3BD+2BA with ocean view, \$3595. Heated pool, spa, washer/dryer. 201 Fourth Street. Los Arboles. 858-481-9585; mikeatl@aol.com. www.summerpacific.com.

Old Town & Uptown

CITY HEIGHTS, \$1475.

2BD+1BA. Large, upper, newly remodeled apartment. Reserved parking. Gated. Ceiling fans. Laundry. Close to freeway, shopping, restaurants. No pets. 4027 34th Street. Call or text 619-279-0031; e-mail akarnazes@gmail.com.

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Furnished or unfurnished studio alcove apartment. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off-street parking. Low deposit. Call 619-281-9451.

South Bay

PARADISE HILLS, \$1745.

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Includes cleaning service and breakfast



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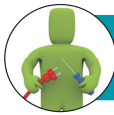
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Window Tinting \$99



Rear Section (most cars & trucks)

JVC CD Receiver KD-R370



\$89 installed

- CD Receiver with AM/FM Tuner
- Detachable Face

Back Up Camera Crimestoppers SV-5150 license plate frame



\$119 installed

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With coupon only. Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Retest free when repair done on site. VIP service, 2 machines. No appointment necessary. Most 4-cyl. cars only. 2000 and newer cars only. European & older cars extra.

STAR Certified \$24⁹⁵
with coupon. Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Retest Free when repair done on site. Most 4-Cyl cars only. 2000 and newer cars only. European & older cars extra.

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• 38-point inspection

ALIGNMENT \$39⁹⁵
Most 4-cyl.cars

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION
Most 4-cyl.cars

FREE Check Engine Light Diagnostic
with repair on site.

OIL CHANGE \$16⁹⁵
With free brake and 32-point inspection. Most 4-cyl. cars. Plus \$2.50 disposal fee.

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Check Engine Light Diagnostic Service \$25 Off

*Perform scan test and retrieve codes

*Provide the cause of a system(s) failure and a corrective action plan.
*Repairs, monitor drive cycles and additional test at additional cost.

A/C system Recharge \$39⁹⁵

*includes system evaluation, evacuation, 15 minute vacuum hold test and recharge to specification

*134a Freon additional *additional repairs maybe required for proper system operation, leak detection and diagnostic service available at additional cost

Smog Check \$24⁹⁵

*Cars, light truck and Diesel.
(Plus \$8.25 for certificate)

*Motorhome & full size Van: See manager.

1995 and older vehicle \$20.00 additional.

Brake Service \$30 Off

per axle.

*Life time Brakes Available

*We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicles requirements are vehicle specific.

Oil Change Service from \$15⁹⁵

*Recommended every 3 months/ 3000 – 7500 miles.
Service includes up to 5 quarts multi grade 10w30 motor oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

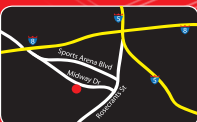
*Vehicles requiring 5w20 or 5w30 are \$19.95

* canister filters and synthetic oil @ additional cost.

2 Wheel Alignment \$49⁹⁵

*includes toe adjustment of the front axle *4 wheel alignment \$20.00 additional cost, includes toe adjustment of front and rear axles. *camber, caster adjustment at additional cost. See consultant for details.

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HOLIDAY SMOG CHECK SPECIAL

Smog Test or STAR Certified All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through January 12, 2017.

SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41⁷⁵

+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older

OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER

from **\$24⁹⁵**

Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE

(both locations)

FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE

(Cliff Brown location)

ENGINE STEAM CLEAN

\$69⁹⁵

Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

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from **\$179⁹⁵** 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up
Oil and filter change • Lube chassis
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NEW CV AXLE from **\$159⁹⁵**

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\$50 off quoted price

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0%

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\$15

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From **\$79**

Most cars

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FREE

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CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20							21							
22					23	24						25	26	27
				28	29			30						
31	32	33		34			35				36			
37				38				39	40	41		42		
43			44				45					46		
47				48	49	50		51			52			
53							54				55	56	57	58
			59							60				
61	62	63						64	65					
66							67					68		
69							70					71		

Across

- Buffoon
- "Sounds likely to me"
- Was reflective
- Revolutionary Guevara
- Yap, so to speak
- Ferrell's cheerleading partner on "SNL"
- Much-filmed swinger
- E-mail folder
- Otherworldly
- Aid in getting a grip
- Film-cropping technique often used for TV that Turner Classic Movies proudly eschews
- Housecat's perch
- Where Moses got the Ten Commandments
- Angkor ____ (Cambodian temple)
- Copier paper buy
- Bereft
- ____ Period (time in Japanese history)
- Bay Area city, informally
- "____ bad!"
- "Boyfriend" singer, to fans, with "the"
- Congressional staffer
- Coast Guard rank: Abbr.
- ____-Webster (dictionary publisher)
- Short smokes?
- "Girls on Film" band
- Comedy Central host Daniel
- Retort to "You are not!"
- Johnny Depp role of 2013
- "Yes, let's!" (or this puzzle's theme)
- Highly competitive, as a personality
- Perfect
- Unrefined material
- Actor/comedian Denis
- "Bye Bye Bye" boy band
- Like Oscar Wilde's humor

Down

- When "Double, double toil and trouble" is chanted in
- "Macbeth"
- Olympic speed skater Davis
- Some Balkanites
- Big-screen movie format
- ____ Draper, "Mad Men" character
- "However ..."
- Hawke of "Boyhood"
- What a criminal may be on
- Speedy two-wheelers
- Knife, e.g.
- Half a school year: Abbr.
- Stat for Clayton Kershaw
- Cacophony
- Actresses Kravitz and Saldana
- "____ No Sunshine" (1971 hit)
- "Don't shoot!," e.g.
- Enigma machine decoder Turing
- It's worth 100 smackers
- ____ Burr, major role in "Hamilton"
- Young hijos
- Tax org.
- Site that promises "Better information. Better health"
- "Goodbye, mon ami!"
- ____ is human ..."
- Juilliard deg.
- Costa ____
- Score after deuce
- Below zero: Abbr.
- "It's a no-____!"
- Not long from now
- Nav. bigwigs
- Speedy two-wheelers
- Heed a red light
- Bodybuilder's dirty secret, informally
- Simmering, say
- Fab Four surname
- Winnie-the-Pooh's favorite food
- Bathroom powder
- The Cardinals, on scoreboards
- "____ Como Va" (1971 Santana hit)
- Put ____ fight
- Crucial
- Suffix with Ecuador or Euclid

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

B	A	H		A	M	I	G	A		Y	A	B	B	A
R	C	A		R	A	D	O	N		O	I	L	E	D
A	L	I		T	R	E	A	T		G	N	O	T	E
S	U	R	G	I	C	A	L	S	T	I	T	C	H	
			P	I	E					Y	O	B		
J	A	I	L		S	H	O		S	E	A	T	A	C
U	S	E		R	O	U	T	E		R	H	O	D	E
N	Y	C	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	R	H	O	O	D
T	E	E	U	P		H	E	A	R	A		T	R	E
A	T	S	T	U	D		R	Y	E		S	H	E	S
					L	O	G			G	I	F		
	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	O	B	A	M	A
K	A	U	A	I		A	S	A	I	R		I	A	N
L	C	D	T	V		Y	A	Y	M	E		R	I	D
M	E	E	S	E		S	I	S	S	Y		Y	D	S

SUDOKU

EASY:

			9		6		2	
			1	8		3		9
	4	9			3	5		8
				9	4	6	3	
		2		5		8		
	6	5	3	7				
3		8	4			7	9	
2		6		3	7			
	1		5		9			

MEDIUM:

	5	4			7		1	
7		9	5	4			3	
8	1		3					
	3				4			8
				7				
6			9				4	
					8		2	3
	7			1	3	4		9
	6	4			1	8		

HARD:

		2		7		1		
6			4	9		7		8
8							3	
4		8						
	2		6		1		9	
						2		1
	5							3
1		6		2	8			7
		7		5	9			

EVIL:

		7	1					8
	1		4					5
		2				1		
	9			4	2			
8		4				5		9
			3	9			8	
		1				6		
3					6		7	
6					3	9		

**SOLUTION
TO LAST
WEEK'S
SUDOKU
PUZZLES:**

EASY:

6	5	9	4	2	3	7	1	8
8	1	4	7	5	9	2	6	3
7	3	2	8	1	6	5	4	9
3	8	7	1	9	2	6	5	4
1	9	5	6	7	4	8	3	2
2	4	6	3	8	5	9	7	1
4	7	3	9	6	8	1	2	5
5	6	8	2	3	1	4	9	7
9	2	1	5	4	7	3	8	6

HARD:

3	1	5	6	9	4	8	2	7
2	4	7	1	5	8	3	6	9
9	8	6	7	2	3	4	5	1
8	3	9	5	1	7	6	4	2
5	7	4	2	8	6	9	1	3
1	6	2	3	4	9	7	8	5
7	5	8	4	3	1	2	9	6
6	9	1	8	7	2	5	3	4
4	2	3	9	6	5	1	7	8

MEDIUM:

3	6	2	8	1	5	7	9	4
9	1	8	3	7	4	6	2	5
4	7	5	2	9	6	8	3	1
5	8	7	9	3	2	1	4	6
1	3	6	4	5	8	9	7	2
2	9	4	1	6	7	5	8	3
8	2	1	5	4	9	3	6	7
6	5	9	7	2	3	4	1	8
7	4	3	6	8	1	2	5	9

EVIL:

7	9	5	4	2	3	8	6	1
4	8	2	7	1	6	9	5	3
1	3	6	9	8	5	4	2	7
3	2	1	8	5	9	6	7	4
6	4	9	1	3	7	5	8	2
5	7	8	2	6	4	3	1	9
8	1	3	6	4	2	7	9	5
9	6	4	5	7	1	2	3	8
2	5	7	3	9	8	1	4	6

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+tax
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LIGHT**

Most cars

\$34⁹⁵

**AC
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Most cars,
Freon extra

ALIGNMENT

4 wheel
most cars

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66 San Diego Reader December 22, 2016

Police Report

— The police chief of Bath Township, Ohio, acknowledged the overnight break-in on Oct. 10 or 11 at the University Hospitals Ghent Family Practice, but said nothing was missing. It appeared that an intruder (or intruders) had performed some medical procedure in a clinical office (probably on an ear) because instruments were left in bowls and a surgical glove and medication wrappings tossed into a trash can (and a gown left on a table).

— A 35-year-old man was detained by police in Vancouver, British Columbia, in October after a home break-in in which the intruder took off his clothes, grabbed some eggs, and began preparing a meal. The homeowner, elsewhere in the house, noticed the commotion and the intruder fled (still naked).

Too Much To Drink

— Ashley Basich, 49, was arrested in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in October and charged with DUI after police found her, late at night, using an industrial forklift to pick up and move a van that she explained was blocking her driveway. Problems: She works for the state forestry department and had commandeered a state-owned vehicle, she had a cooler of beer in the forklift and was operating it while wearing flip-flops (OSHA violation!), and the van “blocking” her driveway was her own.

— Though most Chicago Police Department officers get no more than five civilian complaints in their entire careers (according to one defense attorney), CPD internal records released in October reveal that some had more

than 100, and, of 13,000 complaints over 47 years in which police wrongdoing was conceded, only 68 cases resulted in the officer actually being fired (although the worst police offender, Jerome Finnigan, with 157 complaints over two decades, is now in federal prison).

Well, Of Course!

— Motorist Luke Campbell, 28, was arrested near Minneapolis in September and charged with firing his gun at several passing cars, wounding one man (a bus passenger) — explaining to a bystander that shooting at other vehicles “relieves stress.”

— Briton Mark Wright, 45, caught with illegal drugs taped to his penis following his arrest for burglary, told Newcastle Crown Court in September that he had “hidden” them there to keep them secret from his wife.

Leading Economic Indicators

— Paula D’Amore claimed she deserved a discount from the \$7400 “delivery room” charge for the April birth of her daughter at Boca Raton (Florida) Regional Hospital — because the baby was actually born in the backseat of her car in the hospital’s parking lot. (Nurses came out to assist D’Amore’s husband in the final stages, but, said D’Amore, only the placenta was delivered inside.)

— In October, new father Ryan Grassley balked at the \$39.95 line-item charge from Utah Valley Hospital (Provo, Utah) — for the mother’s holding her new C-section son momentarily to her bare chest (a “bonding” ritual). (Doctors countered that C-section mothers are usually

drugged and require extra security during that ritual — but that Utah Valley might rethink making that charge a “line item.”)

Compelling Explanations

— Two men in rural Coffee County, Georgia, told sheriff’s deputies in November that they had planned to soon attack a science-research center in Alaska because people’s “souls” were trapped there and needed to be released (or at least that is what God told Michael Mancil, 30, and James Dryden Jr., 22, causing them to amass a small, but “something out of a movie” arsenal, according to the sheriff). The High Frequency Active Aural Research Facility, run by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, has long been a target of conspiracists, in that “the study of the Earth’s atmosphere” obviously, they say, facilitates “mind control,” snatching souls.

Least Competent Criminals

— Jacob Roemer, 20, was arrested in Negaunee Township, Michigan, after a brief chase on Oct. 29 following an attempted home invasion. The resident had confronted him, chasing Roemer into the woods, where a state police dog eventually found him lying on the ground unconscious and bloody, after, in the darkness, running into a tree and knocking himself out.

Recurring Themes

— The most recent case in which an unlucky cannabis grower came to police attention occurred in Adelaide, Australia, in August when a motorist accidentally veered off the road and crashed into a grow house, collapsing part of a wall. Arriving police peered inside and quickly

began a search for the residents, who were not at home.

— The latest market price for a coveted automobile license plate is apparently the equivalent of \$9 million — the amount paid by Dubai developer Balwinder Sahni at government auction recently for plate number “5.”

Readers’ Choice

— For not the first time in history, a fire broke out this year in a hospital operating room caused by the patient’s passing gas during a laser procedure. The patient at Tokyo Medical University Hospital, in her 30s, suffered burns across her legs in the April incident, which was finally reported in the Japanese press in October when the hospital completed its investigation.

The Passing Parade

— Asher Woodworth, 30, was charged with misdemeanor traffic obstruction in the Portland, Maine, arts district in October as he stood in a street after covering himself with branches of evergreen trees. A friend described Woodworth as a performance artist contrasting his preferred “slow life” with the bustle of downtown traffic.

— Aldeburgh Golf Club in England saw fit in September to issue a special rule allowing a no-stroke ball “drop” for players plagued by neighbor Peter Bryson’s cat Merlin’s habit of snatching about six balls a day from the 14th fairway.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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25% OFF ANY ITEM

EXCLUDES FLOWER. VALID 12/21-12/25 ONLY.
LIMIT 1 COUPON PER PATIENT PER DAY.

flavRx OR



\$14

FTP ONLY. LIMIT 4.
OR \$19 FOR ANY PATIENT

EARN A \$20 DOLLAR STORE CREDIT AFTER 3 VISITS WITH OUR LOYALTY PROGRAM!

CALL OR SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.



7640 El Cajon Blvd LA MESA, 91942 • 619-536-4599

7 DAYS 8AM-2AM



Search "ELEVATED GREENS" on Weedmaps!

Ask us about how you can earn A FREE top-shelf gram! • OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED



OPEN THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS IN SPRING VALLEY!

FREE KIEF, PRE-ROLLS, EDIBLE & GIFT
FTP ONLY WITH MIN. \$40 DONATION.

1/4-POUND \$400
FIRE NUGS SPECIAL!

FREEBIE FRIDAYS
FREE DAB, FREE PIZZA, AND ENTRANCE INTO OUR RAFFLE FOR EVERY PATIENT WITH ANY DONATION ON FRIDAY!

HUGE CBD SELECTION!

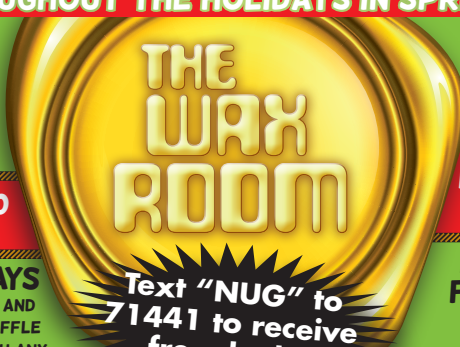
SHATTER & CRUMBLE FROM \$20

3 PUR VAPE CARTRIDGES \$50

2 FREE 100MG EDIBLES
WITH MIN. \$60 DONATION.

\$10 GOOD WAX 1/2G CRUMBLE \$25

3 FREE JOINTS W/\$20 DONATION
ANY PATIENT, ANYTIME!



Text "NUG" to 71441 to receive free deals!

FREE 1/8TH
WITH \$10 DONATION. FTP ONLY.

BHOSTCO & ROAR EXTRACTS \$30/GRAM

BUY 1, GET 1 FREE ON ALL TOP SHELF
ANY PATIENT, ANY QUANTITY, ANYTIME!

GREAT FTP DEALS! COME SEE THEM ALL!

5 PRE-ROLLS \$10

TWO 1-GRAM PLATINUM VAPES \$45

3 RICE KRISPIES TREATS \$10

FLAVRX \$20

3 KUSHTOWN SODAS \$10

KNOCKOUT JOINTS \$20

\$50 OZ FIRE SHAKE

\$15 CLONES

MOONROCK \$18/GRAM ANY PATIENT!

OZS: \$75/\$90/\$100 & UP

ROAR WAX \$25

\$8 GRAMS SELECT STRAINS

CAVI CONES 1 FOR \$15 OR 2 FOR \$25

2 CANNABIS QUENCHERS \$25

14 GRAMS OF MENDO KUSH \$50

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS ANY PATIENT!

MUST PRESENT AD FOR SPECIAL PRICING. OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED.

9925 Campo Road • Spring Valley, CA 91977

Sun-Thurs 10am-12am

Vendors welcome!

619-375-6264

Fri-Sat 10am-2am

OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK



NEW HAPPY HOURS!
10PM-12 NOON DAILY (14 HOURS!)

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS
No minimum or maximum!

5-GRAM 1/8THS ON ANY SHELF

Valid for Cloud 9 Exclusives or Private Reserve Shelves only

20% OFF ALL CONCENTRATES

10% OFF ALL VAPES

XMAS EVE SPECIAL!
DEC 24

FREE BONG OR DAB RIG ON XMAS EVE!

Any patient with min. \$25 donation!
1 per patient on Dec. 24 only.



FIRST-TIME PATIENT DEALS

FREE FTP GIFT BAG!
10 GRAMS OF TOP-SHELF SHAKE + BUBBLER +
OG Chillum • Hemp Wick Rolling Papers • Grinder
FTPs get free 10 grams of shake, a bubbler, and the gift bag with min. \$40 donation.

GORILLA GLUE #4
7 GRAMS \$60
While supplies last!

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS

FTP only, no limit!

5-GRAM 1/8TH ON ANY SHELF

No limit!

50% OFF ANY VAPE OR CONCENTRATE

Donate for 1, get 50% off! Valid for any concentrate or vape you choose. Offers cannot be combined.

FREE 1/8TH OF YOUR CHOICE!

with donation for 1/4. Equal or lesser value. Limited time offer!

RETURNING PATIENT DEALS

• 5 GRAMS OF ANY PRIVATE RESERVE
• 5 TOP-SHELF PRE-ROLLS/.5G KIEF/.5G DRY ICE HASH

\$65 DONATION

• 10 GRAMS OF ANY PRIVATE RESERVE
• 1 GRAM OF HASH
• 5 TOP-SHELF PRE-ROLLS/.5G KIEF/.5G DRY ICE HASH

\$125 DONATION

5 GORILLA GLUE #4 PRE-ROLLS \$20

Any patient, all day!

THE CLEAR VAPES

\$10 OFF 1-GRAM CARTRIDGES
Any patient!



2 CARTRIDGES \$50

Valid for two 1G cartridges. Any patient!

EdiPure

100MG: \$12 OR 3 FOR \$24

250MG: \$25 OR 3 FOR \$50

Any patient!

\$5 OFF ANY MoonROCK PRODUCT

Valid for MoonRocks, Weed on Roids, & Atomic products.

FREE EDIBLE

Donate for 2, get 1 free! Equal or lesser value only. Must present ad.

NUG RUN SHATTER 1G \$25

4GS \$85 • 5GS \$99

Any patient!



Minutes Away from SDSU!

619-361-5738

Open Every Day 24/7!

5531 Jackson Drive

La Mesa, CA 91942

(Parking in the rear of the building behind Petrino's Greek Restaurant)

Designated Patient Parking:
Follow this sign to guide you!



YOU ARE HERE

5531 JACSON Dr.

PARKING in YELLOW AREA

IN LA MESA, INCLUDING ALL HOLIDAYS

NEW YEAR'S EVE SUPER SALE!

DECEMBER 31, 2016
(Starts at midnight on 12/30!)

ALL DAY FLOWER DEALS

- **\$30 PRIVATE RESERVE 1/8THS** **12AM-11:59AM**
- **\$30 GORILLA GLUE 1/8THS** **30% OFF ANY 1 PRODUCT***
- **\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS** **12PM-11:59PM**
- **\$10 GORILLA GLUE GRAMS** **25% OFF ALL PRODUCTS***

*Excluding flower. All other products are 25% off after your first purchase all day!

UPCOMING EVENTS:



SEEDLESS EVENT!

WEDNESDAY, 12/21, 4:20PM-7:10PM

Giveaways, discounts, and raffles for the popular clothing company!
Come in during the event, and get a free lanyard!

while supplies last



THE CLEAR CONCENTRATES EVENT!

THURSDAY, 12/22, 4PM-7PM

Buy 1, Get 1 Free on their products during the event!
Excludes Baroni products.

while supplies last



KUSHY PUNCH EVENT!

FRIDAY, 12/23, ALL DAY!

Free 25mg samples of the edible to every patient all day!

while supplies last



KOROVA EDIBLES EVENT!

WEDNESDAY, 12/28, 4PM-7PM

Free 125mg samples for every patient!

while supplies last



OASIS VAPES EVENT!

SATURDAY, 12/31, 12 NOON-4PM

Buy 1, Get 1 Free during the event, and sample their products!

while supplies last



Check out our menu



FREE ATM!



Cloud 9 Wellness



Armed Security



\$0 ATM Fee!
(not responsible for bank fee)





**BEST MEDS
IN TOWN!**

KOROVA KANEH CO. Phang
UNIVERSITY MEDICAL EDI Pure

Holiday Raffle

WINNER WILL BE DRAWN ON JAN 1, 2017

GRAND PRIZE 2 OZ PRIVATE RESERVE

2ND PLACE E-MAIL DAB SETUP VALUED AT \$200

**3RD PLACE 50 WINNERS ALL GET A
FREE GRAM OF PRIVATE RESERVE**

Come and get your tickets each \$50 donation gets you a ticket.

REFER A FRIEND AND GET A FREE GRAM OF PRIVATE RESERVE! NO DONATION REQUIRED ON YOUR PART.

4 days of Christmas Deals
December 21-24

WED 21st 6 Gram 1/8ths (any shelf limit 2)

THU 22nd Buy 1, Get 1 Free flavRX
(Half Gram. Limit 2)

FRI 23rd Stocking Stuffer
Free \$30 value gift bag for
all patients who donate \$50

SAT 24th Patient Appreciation
Donate \$50, get \$10
Donate \$100 get \$25
Donate \$200, get 7 grams private reserve
Gift value must be spent in store same day sorry
no exceptions. Limit one deal per patient.



New Year's Blowout!

Valid Sat, 12/31 & Sun, 1/1

\$10/GRAM ON ANY SHELF!

Any patient! Limit 10 per day per patient.

JOIN OUR TEXT CLUB FOR MORE OFFERS AND SPECIALS!

Text **LMFWM** to **424-333-4872** to sign up!

7140 University Ave. Suite B Look for green light

619-813-8167

Mon-Thurs: 9am-midnight
Fri-Sat: 9am-1am
Sun 9am-midnight



Offers/specials may not be combined.



24-HOUR ARMED GUARD

Holidays in La Mesa!
5 Days of Amazing Deals!
Wed, 12/21-Thurs, 12/22

Spin to Win



WEED OF FORTUNE

All patients get a free medicated edible with min. \$20 donation!

Donate \$50, get 1 spin! • Donate \$100, get 2 spins!

Donate \$200, get 3 spins!

Every spin wins something! Offers will change daily but include items like
Free Edibles, Free Medicated Sodas, Free Flower, and \$10-\$50 store credits.

All store credits must be used during your visit.

Fri, 12/23-Sat, 12/24:
Free Gift Bags!

All patients who donate at least
\$40 get a free gift bag
(\$25 value!)
Limit one per patient per day.

Sunday, 12/25:
7-8-9 Special!

- \$7 Special Shelf Grams
- \$8 Top-Shelf Grams
- \$9 Private Reserve Grams

Any patient! Limit 5 grams at
these prices per patient per day.

Join our Text Club for the best deals in town directly to your phone!

Text **"GREENS"** to **424-333-4872**, and get a **FREE 1/4 OF NATURE SHAKE!**

Offers/specials may not be combined.



Green Nature Collective

7180 University Ave • La Mesa

619-309-7659

**OPEN
24/7**

DIAMOND COLLECTIVE

UNBEATABLE HOLIDAY DEALS!

flavRx OR  **\$15**
PLATINUM VÄPE

LIMITED TIME OFFER: WED, 12/21-SAT, 12/31.
FTP ONLY.

VALID FOR 500MG FLAVRX CARTRIDGE OR
1000MG PLATINUM VAPE CARTRIDGE.

**FREE 1G OF KIEF +
1G OF HASH + 30MG
EDIBLE + PRE-ROLL
+ A GIFT BAG!**

VALID ONLY ON 12/24, 12/25, AND 12/31
FOR ANY PATIENT WITH MIN. \$70 DONATION.

FTP DEALS

- 7-GRAM 1/8TH ON ANY SHELF
- \$10/GRAM OF PRIVATE RESERVE (NO LIMIT!)
- 5 GRAMS OF SHATTER OR CRUMBLE \$79

DEALS FOR ALL PATIENTS

- 5 GRAMS OF PRIVATE RESERVE +
1 GRAM OF SHATTER OR CRUMBLE \$65
- \$69 OZ SPECIAL

DAILY SPECIALS

MONDAY

FREE! TOP-SHELF
FIRE JOINT W/
\$25 DONATION

TUESDAY & SATURDAY

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE Gs
ALL DAY. NO MIN.
NO LIMIT!

WEDNESDAY

DONATE FOR 2 CARTRIDGES
& GET A FREE BATTERY &
CHARGER

THURSDAY

DONATE FOR 1G OF WAX,
GET THE 2ND 50% OFF

FRIDAY

DONATE FOR 2 EDIBLES,
GET THE 3RD FREE

SUNDAY

GET 5Gs OF
TOP-SHELF SHAKE
W/ ANY \$50 DONATION

Offers cannot be combined.

10% Off for Military, Seniors, and Disabilities



Check out our menu
on weedmaps for daily deals

5555 Jackson Dr, Ste. 125 • La Mesa, CA 91941 • 619.597.3009

Mon-Thur 9am-11pm • Fri-Sat 9am-12am • Sunday 10am-10pm

Open 24/7, including all holidays!

Chula Vista Wellness

(619) 345-1908
1447 3RD AVE

FTP TOP SHELF GRAMS FOR \$10 (UPTO 5) & FREE TOP SHELF PREROLL

\$99 OUNCE SPECIAL

RECEIVE SPECIALS AND GIVEAWAYS

when you text "SDREAD" to 619-369-0969

7 GRAMS OF SHATTER \$100

flavRx or PV \$20
Valid for 0.5G FlavRx or 1G Platinum Vape cartridge.

10 GRAMS TOP-SHELF \$100
10 GRAMS MID-SHELF \$75
10 GRAMS LOW-SHELF \$50

10% Off for Disabled & Veterans!

ARMED SECURITY 24 HOURS FOR YOUR SAFETY

Open All Day, Every Day!
1447 3RD AVE SUITE G • CHULA VISTA CA 91911

CANNABIS CUP COLLECTIVE

Open 24/7 in El Cajon, Including Holidays!

Happy Hour 5am-10am Daily! See store for details

Cannabis Cup Strains: 2 Gs for \$25 **Free Pizza & Dabs** Every Friday!

\$5 Top Shelf Gram
No limit.
All day, every day.

Private Reserve \$7.50
Select strains.
All day, every day.

Private Reserve \$10/gram
Any strain. No limit.
All day, every day.

Secret Stash Best Of The Best \$12.50/gram
No limit.
All day, every day.

FREE 1/2-OZ w/\$10 Donation!
Valid for outdoor meds or exclusive shake. FTP only.

Free Kief, Pre-Rolls, Edibles & Gift!
FTP only with min. \$40 donation.

flavRx \$15
FTP only.

STABLE SHATTER \$15/GRAM
Any patient!

1/4-Pound \$400
Fire Nugs!

7 Pre-Rolls \$10

Shatter & Crumble FROM \$20/Gram

2 Free 100mg Edibles
Any patient with min. \$40 donation.

KOROVA Black Bar \$40

The Clear: \$50/G or 2 G's for \$80

3 Free Joints w/\$20 donation
Any patient, anytime!

MINIROCK \$20/Gram Any patient!

OZs \$75-\$200
Multiple strains on different shelves!

Free Medicated Coffee, Popcorn & Cotton Candy!
Every patient, every day!

\$20 OZ Exclusive Shake

\$10 Real Private Reserve Grams
No B.S! Any patient.

4 Rice Krispies Treats \$10

6 Pur Vape Cartridges \$100

Roar Extracts starting at \$15

Shatter Cones \$10
80% THC!

Two 1-Gram Platinum Vapes \$45

FlavRx \$20

\$10 Grams of Good Wax

\$10 Clones

We meet or beat most advertised prices!

CANNABIS CUP COLLECTIVE

MUST PRESENT AD FOR SPECIAL PRICING • OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED

1305 Broadway • El Cajon
(at the corner of 2nd St. and Broadway)
Vendors welcome!

619-375-8773
Open 24/7, including holidays!

GRAND OPENING!

OPEN 7am-2am

619-496-5863
1421 HILLTOP DRIVE
CHULA VISTA, CA 91911

COFFEE & DONUTS FOR EARLY BIRDS!

Hero Valley Fire Cookies & Raskal Genetics White Fire OG Exclusive Black Label Strains are Back!

HAPPY HOUR EVERYDAY!

PRIV. RESERVE \$15 G/2 FOR \$25
TOP/SHELF \$10 G
MID SHELF \$8 G/2 FOR \$15

Open Christmas Day!

FTP SPECIAL
DONATE \$40 GET A FREE EIGHT
DONATE \$70 GET A FREE QUARTER

HAPPY HOUR
\$5 GRAM EIGHTHS BEFORE 11AM
4 HOUSE JOINTS \$10
\$50 OZ SHAKE SPECIAL

MOONROCKS \$20 GRAM
2OZ SHAKE \$80
FTP \$100 OZ
FTP \$10 G's PRIVATE RES.
FTP \$100 CALI O OZ.

LOWEST PRICED KOROVA IN TOWN
\$10-\$40 GUARANTEED
\$10 G ALL MID SHELF
\$35 G MID SHELF EIGHTH

4 GRAM EIGHTH ON EVERYTHING!

\$40 FOR 3 GRAMS ANY TOP SHELF STRAINS

FREE BATTERY WITH ANY CARTRIDGE PURCHASE!

5 G FIRE OG WAX \$100!
\$10 CHEEBA CHEWS & GREEN HORNETS

IGI MARY'S MEDICINALS KOROVA UNHYPERPOTENCY ediPure KANERDO SHATTER STX ATM

POINT LOMA PATIENT CONSUMER COOPERATIVE

FREE 1/8th For First Time Patients
With minimum donation

\$265 Reserve OZs

\$45 Reserve 1/8ths

OG Shatter 3G \$90

OZs Starting at \$148

BOGO Shake OZs

Buy 2 grams Hash Get 1 Free

WE HAVE 875+ CLINICAL GRADE ITEMS
INCLUDING ORGANIC EDIBLES, CONCENTRATES & AWARD WINNING FLOWERS

Veterans, Students, Disabled, Seniors (65+)
Receive 10% Off

Voted San Diego's Best Legal Dispensary

Walk In Hours: Mon-Sun 7am-9pm • Delivery Hrs: Mon-Sun 8am-9pm

619.574.0415
3452 Hancock St., San Diego Ca 92110
www.plpcc.org

ASK ABOUT OUR FAST PASS

Only Patients with Legally recognized Medical cannabis ID cards may obtain cannabis from medical cannabis collectives/dispensaries. In strict compliance with Prop. 215 and SB420 H51 13625, H51 13677.



Search Greener Field Meds for Menu
★★★★★
5 STAR RATED!

GRAND OPENING IN EL CAJON

GREENER FIELD MEDS

FREE FIRE JOINT & FREE GRAM KIEF
EVERY PATIENT W/ DONATION

FTP SPECIALS

\$10/G ALL PRIVATE RESERVE
+ FREE GIFTS, Any Strain, No Limit

2 flavRx / \$35! FTP

TOP SHELF SHATTER & CRUMBLE 2G/ \$30 FTP

FREE 1/8TH! House, Full Nugs, After \$20 Donation, Cannot Combine.

5G TOP SHELF - \$40 FTP

BUY 2 EDIBLES, GET ONE FREE
Equal or Lesser

DAILY DEALS

\$10/G ALL TOP SHELF! Best Top-Shelf in SD!

\$15/ G OR 2G/ \$25 PRIVATE RESERVE All Strains, Authentic Cup Winners

flavRx \$20, Phang SHAK NATURAL \$20

flavRx VAPE + PEN + CHARGER \$30

TOP SHATTER \$20/G, TOP CRUMBLE \$20/G

\$8/G, \$15/2G, \$25 1/8TH MID-SHELF Best Quality Mid Shelf

\$5/G HOUSE

MOONROCK \$20/G

1216 Greenfield Drive • EL CAJON
Open Daily 8am - 2am!

Must Present Ad
619-577-8444



286 Emerson St. • Chula Vista 91911



OPEN 24/7, INCLUDING CHRISTMAS, NYE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY!

THIRD

NAPLES

★ EMERSON

OXFORD

Holiday Special: Private Reserve \$10/Gram!
Valid for all patients! Select strains.

HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY, EVERY DAY, FOR EVERY PATIENT!

MEGA WELLNESS OG AND JUNGLE BOYS STRAINS AVAILABLE!

GSTIKS 2 FOR \$25

PRIVATE RESERVE:
• 2 GRAMS \$25
• \$45 1/8TH
• 5 GRAMS \$60

CARTRIDGES 2 FOR \$35
500MG GLASS CARTRIDGES WITH METAL TIPS
GSC • GORILLA GLUE
SKYWALKER • TANGIE DREAM
GDP • BLUE DREAM

MOONROCK \$20/GRAM

TOP-SHELF: 4 GRAMS \$30
Select strains.

FTP DEALS

FREE Pipe & Grinder

+ FREE Top-Shelf G

+ FREE Gram of Kief

+ FREE Pre-Roll
FTPs get all Three with \$30 min. donation! Cannot be combined with other offers.

\$35 1/8TH of Private Reserve
Over 30 strains to choose from! Highest quality strains in San Diego!

1G Cartridge \$20

\$90 OZ SPECIAL
FTP only. Cannot be combined with other offers.

VOTED BEST FLOWER IN CHULA VISTA!

619-855-0753 **OPEN 24/7!**

5 Stars on Weedmaps!

Search "Green Lady" for our menu!

Offers cannot be combined.

Largest CBD Selection in San Diego!

24-HR SECURITY

ATM

Edipure, IGH, Phang, JETTY, Cali Kush, KOROVA, Spillim, etc.



GC PETALS
beauty joining wellness

VOTED SAN DIEGO'S #1 DELIVERY IS NOW SERVING NORTH COUNTY AREA!

(Del Mar, Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, La Costa, Carlsbad)

Known for the best quality and selection!

Recognized for our professionalism, discretion, and expertise!

New to MMJ? Ask for our Free one-on-one consultation!

Call for **FREE DELIVERY**
619-735-0872
gcpetals.com

FTP Gold Pack \$50

4g Top Shelf
1.5g Mid Shelf
3 Pre Rolls
1 Edible

\$115 Stocking Pack!

- 3.5 Jack Frost
- 3.5 Santa's Lil Helper
- 200mg Hi-Fi Bar
- .5g Rosin
- Lighter

(Restrictions apply. Must have this coupon)

Get 2 Edibles get 1 FREE Mix and Match
(Restrictions Apply)

FTP Platinum Pack \$100

8g Top Shelf
3.5g Mid Shelf
5 Pre Rolls
2 Edibles
1 Gift

2 FOR \$35 Any patient, no limit!

flavRx 2 FOR \$35 Any patient, no limit!

KUSHY PUNCH BUY 1, GET 1 FREE! Special pricing. See store for details.

BRASS KNUCKLE VAPE \$50 (1 GRAM)

PRIVATE RESERVE \$8/GRAM FTP only.

TOP-SHELF \$5/GRAM Any patient!

EXCLUSIVE \$8/GRAM OR 2 GRAMS FOR \$15 Any patient!

PRIVATE RESERVE \$10/GRAM Any patient!

MOONROCK \$10/GRAM

Cheeba Chews \$8

KOROVA BLACK BAR \$35

4 RICE KRISPIE TREATS \$10

KNOCKOUT JOINTS \$20

OZ SPECIALS \$25/\$50/\$75/\$100 & UP

CAVI CONE 2 FOR \$25

LALLIPOP EXTRACT \$35/GRAM

WE CARRY CBD, TINCTURES, AND TOPICAL PRODUCTS!

2 FOR \$25

MIGHTYMEDS \$35/CARTRIDGE

PUNCH EXTRACTS \$35/GRAM

KUSHTOWN SODAS \$10 OR 2 FOR \$15

BUBBLE HASH \$10/GRAM

MOON WALK DRINKS \$40 OR TWO FOR \$70

MOONROCK \$20/GRAM

FIRE SHAKE \$50 OZ

KIEF \$5/GRAM

WAX & CRUMBLE \$15/\$20/\$25/\$30 & UP GRAMS

HGH NUG RUN SHATTER AND LIVE RESIN \$25

G-STICKS PRE-ROLLS \$15

HOUSE SHAKE \$25 OZ

CHOCOLATE BARS \$20

LIQUID GOLD KIVA

\$10 CLONES

EdiPure 2 FOR \$15 (100MG) 2 FOR \$30 (250MG)

CANNABIS QUENCHER \$10

OPEN THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS!

El Cajon VIP MEDS

1337 BROADWAY • EL CAJON, CA 92021
(Parking and entrance in the back of the building)
619-486-4028 • 7 DAYS, 9AM-11PM

2 ARMED SECURITY GUARDS 24/7 FOR YOUR SAFETY

KOROVA



WINTER
SALE
STARTING AT
30%^{*}
OFF

**select styles*
**LIMITED TIME ONLY*

Footwear etc.

walk your world in our shoes

Encinitas 123 N. El Camino Real **University City/La Jolla** 3310 Governor Dr.
Rancho Bernardo 16646 Bernardo Center Dr. **Mission Hills/Hillcrest** 127 W. University Ave.
www.footwearetc.com | 1.800.720.0572