

San Diego Black Film Festival April 26-30

Opening Day Reception: April 26, Black Film Centre at Grossmont Center **Opening Day Film:** April 27, Reading Cinemas Grossmont Center (7:30PM) **Panel Discussions:** April 28, Black Film Centre at Grossmont Center (10AM) **Industry Party:** April 28, Black Film Centre at Grossmont Center (9PM) Filmmakers Breakfast: April 29, DoubleTree Hotel, Hazard Center (9AM) Awards Dinner & Gala: April 29, DoubleTree Hotel, Hazard Center (6PM) Closing Films & Brunch: April 30, DoubleTree Hotel, Hazard Center (10AM)

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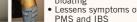


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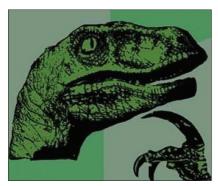


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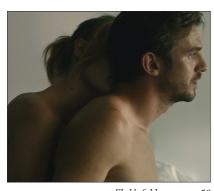
April 6, 2017



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Dog did hunt

Fleeing women try to evade police in Fallbrook

A married couple trying to elude San Diego County Sheriff's deputies is suing the county and the deputies involved for excessive force used during their apprehension. The women say the deputies, who had ultimately apprehended the women, mumbled derogatory statements about them being gay. They say one deputy sicced their police dog on one of the women while another deputy repeatedly struck the other with his flashlight.

A California Highway Patrol unit pulled over Michelle Christina Rivera and Suzanne Steinmeier for expired registration tags in April 2015. The officer discovered both women had outstanding warrants. Steinmeier, now 36, who was driving at the time, sped off. A high-speed pursuit ensued. Steinmeier pulled off on an exit in Fallbrook. They exited the car and ran into a ravine, eventually hiding under shrubs. The couple remained there, lying down in what the lawsuit describes as "passive resistance" when deputies approached. Despite the apparent surrender, Deputy Frank Leyva unleashed his police dog, but not before allegedly calling the women "god-damned lesbians."

Dorian Hargrove

San Onofre closed, no great loss

The truth about dirty natural gas

A common argument used by those in favor of repairing the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station and of renewing the license of Diablo Canyon, the state's last operating nuclear power plant (Pacific Gas & Electric has since announced the plant will be shuttered in 2025), was that the absence of nuclear in the state's energy portfolio would lead to an increased reliance on heavier-polluting natural gas.

A new report from fossil fuels market data firm Argus Media suggests this claim may be off base.

Most new natural gas plants, including the controversial Carlsbad Energy Center, Argus finds, are being built to replace aging facilities, not supplement them. Even then, gas plants are going offline faster than they're being rebuilt.

"An Argus analysis found that 4,264MW of new gas-fired generation could come on line by 2020, but 5,752MW are being shut down," the group reports. "New facilities will be built at a number of the same locations as those being torn down."

Dave Rice

Mayor's aide whisked to Phoenix on private jet

Can Padres clean up their homeless problem?

The mayor's senior advisor for housing solutions, Stacie Spector, a former staffer in Bill Clinton's White House and ex-UCSD public relations maven, now represents Faulconer's campaign to rid the city's streets of unsightly homeless-camp blight.



Stacie Spector — \$2000 to visit Phoenix

On February 16, the \$175,000-a-year mayoral aide was whisked from San Diego to visit the Phoenix Human Services Campus for the Homeless last month from Lindbergh Field's Signature Flight Support private terminal on a Cessna Citation Jet 3.

From there she was ferried about Phoenix in a vehicle furnished by Zetian HRC car service, according to a March 17 disclosure report filed by the mayor's office with the city clerk.

The \$2000 tab for Spector's excursion was furnished by Rancho Santa Fe denizen and restaurateur Dan Shea, a longtime professional sports advocate who of late has joined an effort by Padres megamillionaire managing partner Pete Seidler — whose tax-payer-subsidized ballpark often finds itself in a sea of homeless — on a rich man's crusade to sweep the sidewalks clean, though Shea denies any ulterior motives.

Seidler has also been to Phoenix, according to a *Union-Tribune* feature.

"The scene furnished a visual roadmap to Seidler, along with proof of what's possible when a societal problem tests human decency and threatens to choke a system. All that warmth and life-altering will, sprinkled among some discarded cigarette butts, within the distance of a healthy throw on a baseball field."

In addition to Shea, the *U-T* reports that the group includes professional soccer's Landon Donovan, who also happens to occupy a prominent role in another Faulconer-endorsed Seidler effort, the Padres owner's controversial multimillion-dollar petition drive to obtain the current site of Qualcomm Stadium for a private development complex known as SoccerCity.

As the homeless problem has grown,

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Off-duty sheriff's detective chokes driver who cut him off

DA's office charges motorist

By Dorian Hargrove

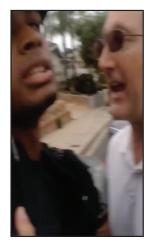
he near-traffic collision should have, at worst, resulted in typical California road-rage bluster: an extended honk of a car horn, possibly an extended middle finger accompanied by expletives, maybe a quick jab to the dashboard. But then-25 year-old Robert Branch's interstate adversary was no ordinary driver; off-duty sheriff's detective Paul Ward seemed intent on teaching Branch a lesson.

After the near-miss in traffic, Ward followed Branch for nine miles, leading to an altercation in which Branch was spun into a chokehold by Ward, then arrested by police.

The lesson continues for

Branch, who now faces the possibility of years in prison for felony battery against a police officer, threatening to use pepper spray on an officer, resisting arrest, reckless driving, failing to show identification, as well as additional counts.

Local civil rights advocates believe the case is much more than an off-duty detective trying to teach a young, careless driver a lesson. They're saying Branch's altercation with Ward, coupled with district attorney Bonnie Dumanis's unyielding prosecution of him, serves as a warning of how the law-enforcement community and judicial system circle the wagons to protect one of their own, right or wrong.



Robert Branch and Paul Ward in a cell-phone video recorded by Branch

Freeway fracas

On May 15, 2015, Branch merged onto westbound Interstate 8 from the 2nd Avenue on-ramp in El Cajon on his way to a girlfriend's house, who had complained that kids had shot her car with a BB gun. Branch, who was a security guard at the time, brought his tactical vest and pepper spray with him. Upon merging, Branch quickly changed lanes in order to pass a blue Ford Fusion in front of him. The driver of the Ford also switched lanes, cutting

Neal Obermeyer









An internal sheriff's department investigation included testimony that branded Paul Ward as "hostile."

Branch off and sending him onto the left shoulder of the freeway. Instead of slowing, Branch sped up, passing the driver of the Ford while driving on the shoulder. A few miles west on Interstate 8, Branch began to hear a knocking sound come from his left rear tire. He exited the freeway at College Avenue and turned right into the neighborhood of Del Cerro; there, he got out of his car to see what was causing the noise.

Moments later, Ward pulled up behind him. Dressed in plain clothes, Ward exited his vehicle and asked to see Branch's driver's license and registration. Not seeing a badge, gun, or handcuffs, Branch refused. Ward asked again. This time Branch agreed on the condition that he was going to record the incident on his phone. Branch tapped record on his phone.

"Look, right now, I'm in La Mesa," Branch said, his voice quivering. (In fact, he was in the city of San Diego.)

Behind him stands Ward. smiling.

Branch looks into the camera and glances back at Ward frantically, "You see this officer, right now, he does not have his lights on?"

Branch winces as Ward grabs his arm.

"You are being detained," says Ward. "Sit down."

Grasping his phone, Branch struggles while looking at the camera. "You cannot touch me. You cannot touch me," he says.

Ward's arm moves in front of Branch's throat and into a carotid chokehold. The detective flexes, restricting air to Branch's brain. Branch faints. His phone falls to the ground but continues to record.

"I told you it was my fault," Branch yells as he gets up from the ground. "You're harassing me," his voice still Baltimore," responded the detective.

As the men waited for the police to arrive, Branch, still in a chokehold, told Ward that he should have reported the incident to police before stopping him on his own.

"First of all, you didn't call the police. You didn't do none of that. You just stepped out of the car," Branch says. "You call the police and let them know what's going on. All this



Shane Harris (on mic) points out the inherent flaw of having the district attorney investigate the case

quivering. "You cannot do that. Your lights aren't on. You are off-duty. You cannot do that. You cannot grab me like this."

Branch reached for his pepper spray and aimed it at the detective. Ward reached to retrieve his gun from his ankle holster. Branch dropped the pepper sprray.

"You're going to put a gun on me? I'm scared of you right now. I think I am going to die. Don't you know what's going on in Baltimore..?"

"I don't care about

choking me and all this stuff, bro..."

Shortly after, police squad cars arrived at the scene, responding to a call from an eyewitness.

In a March 26 Reader interview, weeks before his criminal trial is set to begin, Branch says Ward appeared unhinged.

"I seriously believed they were going to arrest the guy," Branch explains. "Right when they took me to the patrol car I asked them if he was a cop. I mean, he

continued on page 28

UNDER THE RADAR

Fat-cat commission As the city's ethics commission slumbers during the reign of San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer, executive

director Stacey Fulhorst has been buying and selling lots of securities, according to her personal financial disclosure report for 2016. Per Fulhorst's March 28 filing, the ethics hon-

cho purchased between \$10,000 and \$100,000 worth of biotech Allergan's stock last June 16 and

dumped it two months later, on August 25. She acquired between \$2000 and \$10,000 in drug distributor AmerisourceBergen Corp. on April 29, selling it August 25. Fulhorst's other short-term positions valued between \$10,000 and \$100,000 included Ligand Pharmaceuticals; Domino's Pizza; Home Depot; Lockhead [sic] Martin; Ralph Lauren; Tutor Perini; and Dexcom, a local biotech. Additional short-term holdings last year, reported by Fulhorst to be worth between \$2000 and \$10,000, were software vendor Ellie Mae and HD Supply. In addition, the document shows that on March 30 of last year Fulhorst

acquired between \$10,000 and \$100,000 worth of Apple stock, as well as the same value range of the Walt Disney Company on May 11.

On the local front, Fulhorst bought and held between \$2000 and \$10,000 worth of Qualcomm on July

12. She purchased and held similar dollar amounts of Valeant Pharma (January 6); Visa (June 24); Emerson Electric (June 28); Hewlett-Packard (October 7); and Walmart (January 7). Meanwhile, according to the disclosure, an outfit called Corporate Recovery Associates, LLC, listing Fulhorst's spouse Richard Feferman as managing member, was said to be worth more than \$1 million. Its website says the firm is "a leading national consulting firm to creditors' committees that need to maximize the recovery of claims in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy matters."

The holdings of top ethics officials here have raised questions among those watching the watchdogs. Walmart is a registered city lobbyist and a major money political giver that previously has faced a commission audit. Qualcomm, which frequently lobbies city officials and provides campaign cash to mayoral and city council candidates, was the target of a 2013 suit filed by New York

state comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli alleging that "despite requests for increased transparency, Qualcomm continues to obscure its political spending."

Last March Qualcomm exec-

utives contributed thousands of dollars both before

and after a secret meeting between company founder and billionaire Democrat Irwin Jacobs and GOP mayor Kevin Faulconer regarding a controversial Balboa Park road and parking plan by Jacobs, which the Republican subsequently endorsed. Ethics complaints are not aired in public unless the commission votes to impose sanctions, and Fulhorst no longer provides formal advice letters, reserving her opinions for email and telephone talks that don't provide a public paper trail.

According to disclosure reports, city ethics

commissioner Stacey Fulhorst is quite rich.

Goldsmith's lobby break As

long expected by city hall insiders, ex-city attor-

ney Jan Goldsmith is one more step along the road to his bigmoney reward in the lucrative world of influencepeddling. "As Of Counsel, Jan will be leading teams

of Attorneys and support staff on a wide variety of matters ranging from government issues to business

and business litigation, drawing on his varied experiences as a judge, city attorney, state legislator, and private attorney," Kim Jewell, marketing director for the Procopio law firm, told the Union-Tribune.

"When employees leave City service, they often take with them insider information and close personal relationships with City decision makers that in some circumstances could be detrimental to the City or to other parties seeking to conduct business with the City," notes the city's website. "Without post-employment restrictions, that former City employee could provide confidential information to the new employer that would be harmful to the City in contract negotiations." Thus, a one-year "cooling-off" period

continued on page 28



As a freshly minted Procopio employee, could former city attorney Jan Goldsmith "provide confidential information to the new employer that would be harmful to the City"?

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Four Retorts

I am responding to the March 29 article, "Rumble in Sorrento Valley" (Neighborhood News). I am the engineer mentioned in the article. Unfortunately, this article contains several important errors that require correcting.

First, the owner of the property is not Newland Communities. Instead, the owners represent a group of retired individuals.

Second, the project has already received its approvals from the City of San Diego. After a redesign of the project, which reduced the number of units from 11 to 8 units, thus protecting a vernal pool in perpetuity.

Third, once the new homes are completed, it is the intent of the project that the eight new families would contribute their fair share to maintain common facilities. In addition, fire safety will be improved simply by having the new homes there.

Finally, given that the existing homes were built over twenty years ago, the new homes will increase property values for the neighboring homes.

John Leppert Mira Mesa

We've Got a Problem

On the sale of the Qualcomm site to this FS Investors group (Under the Radar, "Stadium Payoffs," February 23), I was checking with Santee School District on how you dispose of surplus property as a government entity, and you have to follow California Code 54222, which dictates that you get it declared surplus, then get governmental entities before you can actually offer it on the open market. So, I think we've got a problem with FS.

> Richard Martin Lakeside

A Treasure for the Jazz Scene

The Jazz Scene articles (Blurt) by Robert Bush are invaluable to the jazz scene in San Diego, and Robert Bush's writing is always a delight to read. Without his column, it would be extremely difficult for audiences to know what is going on, where to go, and what to listen to. Without this column, it would be even more difficult for musicians to have and build an audience for their performances.

Robert Bush is a true treasure for the San Diego jazz scene. He is incredibly knowledgeable, dedicated, and so enthusiastic about the music. His writing is wonderful and always describes the music perfectly. Thank you for giving space to this column — may it and the jazz scene continue to flourish!

Diane Moser New Jersey

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"Book Ends"

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E. Patterson

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

LA JOLLA

Calle de Cielo neighbors want to block beach parking Surprise to developers

More than 50 La Jollans — including former U.S. Congresswoman and frequent Democrat appointee Lynn Schenk — got their first look at plans to put eight houses on the last big lot uphill from La Jolla Shores on March 29, and they made a suggestion that surprised its developer: put a gate across the entrance.

"We hadn't thought of it," said architect Paul Benton, who led the presentation. "We can certainly look at it."

The gate will keep beachgoers from parking on the fire lane that leads into the development, Schenk said. "They don't pay attention to the no-parking signs anyway," she said.



"50% of buyers bulldoze and build their dream

A single sprawling house is now sited on the 4.4-acre lot; it will be torn down to put four houses uphill on the east side and four more on the downhill west side of the fire lane that runs north-south through the middle. The road will be an extension of Calle de Cielo and will dead-end at the south in a small roundabout, Benton said.

Residents bemoaned the coming construction noise — and planning committee chairman Tony Crisafi chided them. "At least 50 percent of the houses in the neighborhood, the buyers come in and bulldoze and build their dream home," Crisafi said.

MARTY GRAHAM

MISSION VALLEY

Advantage Towing Ioses homeless man case

Wrecked car found with his nossessions in it

On March 21, at the small claims court at 330 W. Broadway, Mr. T., a homeless, thin 80-year-old, was number six on the list. Commissioner Peter Doft presided as judge that day.

On November 21, 2015, Mr. T. was

involved in an accident in Mission Valley that left his green 1996 Honda crashed and undrivable. Mr. T. was not able to view the damage because he was transported to the emergency room via ambulance for his inju-

ries. Mr. T. had been living in that car and kept all of his possessions in it. The other car that was involved in the accident, a Jeep, was occupied by a young couple who said they witnessed Mr. T.'s car being towed away from the accident by Advantage Towing as their Jeep was towed by the same company.



Mr. T. told to "go on with your life"

not make a police report on the acci-

The SDPD did

dent because they said they did not think anyone was injured.

Finally, after Mr. T. called detective Andrew Spears around June 2, 2016, Spears reported that Mr. T.'s car was sold to a parts store in Chula Vista. His belongings were gone, and "go on with your life" was Spears's advice.

On March 21, the City of San Diego representative and manager of Advantage Towing were there. Neither brought witnesses. Mr. T. had the police report that said Advantage Towing said they did not have the car when the police called them. The judge said that something was not right when no detailed accident report was written. When the judge asked Advantage Towing to give him his belongings, there was silence. The judge awarded \$2500 to Mr. T. plus court costs.

GLORIA CIPRIAN

LINDA VISTA

Butt out. Clairemont Bicycling, affordable housing

advocates hate local planning groups

Linda Vista should have a neighborhood voice in planning how the neighborhood is developed and maintained, the neighborhood's planning group voted unanimously on March 27.

"I have a lot of respect for the Clairemont planning group and the other planning groups — they're citizens like us who are investing in their community," said Howard Wayne, a planning group member and former California assemblyman. "But we are the people best positioned to know what's best for Linda Vista, as they are best positioned to know what's best for Clairemont."

Consolidating area planning groups into larger regional groups was one of many proposals offered by San Diego city councilman Scott Sherman in the council's hunt for ways to develop more housing. The list of 27 ideas was assembled by Sherman and councilmember David Alvarez, and floated at the council's Smart Growth and Land Use Committee at the end of January.

Gov. Jerry Brown took aim at community planning groups in his 2016 proposal to streamline development, ostensibly to build more affordable housing. The plan was ultimately rejected by environmental and labor groups as well as planning groups.

As it stands, neighborhoods are affected by plans and developments on their borders — for example, the effects of a development in Mission Valley on the south side of Friars Road when the Linda Vista boundaries are the north side of Friars.

Bicycling and affordable housing advocates have been angered by planning groups' actions on their issues and have begun to campaign against the groups. Other singleissue groups have begun offering training and encouragement to supporters to get them onto local planning groups. Jim Baross, a longstanding member and chairman of the Normal Heights Community Planning Group, said of the planning group system: "it ain't broke."

MARTY GRAHAM

BALBOA PARK

Lightsaber fighters at fountain worry about Disney

"I'll strike a deal with them."

"I feel that if I ask Lucasfilm or Walt Disney [Company] for permission [to use the lightsaber word in the company name]," said Nick Murico, "that might be my Achilles heel."

When the sun set on March 25, lightsaber-wielding warriors battled one another at the Bea Evenson fountain at Balboa Park. Each competitor tried to slash his/her way



"The other lightsaber groups do it for the love of Star Wars."

through the brackets, to try to win the Underground Lightsaber Fighters Gold Cup.

Organizing and judging the lightsaber competition is the fun part for Murico, an East County resident, but he faces a lot more potential battles than other "combat sport"

"You see, the words 'lightsaber' and 'Jedi' are copyrighted," said Murico, "that is the problem, and if [Lucasfilm or the Walt Disney Co.] come and try to shut me down with a cease-and-desist, I think I will be ready."

Lucasfilm and the Walt Disney Co. are both known to go after those that commit copyright infringement on their brands. This includes other lightsaber-based businesses.

Murico is already thinking ahead and has backup names that he cannot reveal. He has other options, too.

"I'll strike a deal with them," he said, "give them a cut and not fight it out with them like the other companies. If that does not work, I'll hopefully be absorbed by them."

"The other lightsaber groups do it for the love of Star Wars," Murico said. "My tournament entries consist of many warriors that come from martial arts and fencing backgrounds. Me, personally, I'm from both sides; I even have a Star Wars tattoo."

MIKE MADRIAGA

CARMEL VALLY

Stop screeching brakes on **Carmel View**

Townhomes funnel into eastbound conduit



"Joggers, pedestrians, children going to middle school, dog owners.

Every day that she works at home, Niveen Farmer hears the screeching brakes of cars nearly crashing at the entrance to her Carmel Valley condo complex. Her home in the Sunstream complex — 259 townhomes built in the 1980s — is close to the main street into the complex, Caminito Mira del Mar, which empties out onto Carmel View.

From where High Bluff Drive ends, Carmel View serves as an eastbound conduit for a number of complexes packed into the area, and its 3/8-mile approach to her complex from the west is a long curving downhill road where drivers tend to exceed the 35 mph speed limit.

"Going out of Sunstream it's white knuckles," she said. In the morning, eastbound drivers on Carmel View also have the sun in their faces.

About 90 other residents — Sunstream has 259 homes — signed a petition for a stop sign at the heavily used intersection. It was the last chance to get stop signs, since the city traffic engineers rejected the neighborhood's request based on their traffic studies.

Caminito Mira del Mar — the subdivision's exit — has a stop sign and poor visibility. The cross street, Carmel View, has

continued on page 8

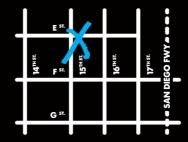
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS Continued from page 6

a blind spot and no stop sign. That's what Farmer and her neighbor, Kate Ditzler set out to change.

"It's very busy.... Joggers, pedestrians, children going to the middle school, dog owners," she said. "I hear horns all the time."

On March 23, the Carmel Valley Planning Group approved her request for a second set of stop signs, transforming the intersection from a two-way stop to a four-way stop by adding stop signs on Carmel View.

MARTY GRAHAM

EAST VILLAGE

Parklet next to Harvest at 10th and J

Only other one downtown is 16th and G

Owners of the Patio restaurant group are hoping for approval from Civic San Diego of its application to build a 126-square-foot pedestrian plaza in front of its Harvest by the Patio eatery, at 369 10th Avenue (at J Street) in East Village. There are no parklets in that area currently.

Pedestrian plazas require a neighborhood development permit from CivicSD,

and other data, see cc-sd.edu/student-information



Red zone at 10th and J - no parking spaces lost

which costs \$1421. Although it would be in the street, CivicSD assistant planner James Alexander said that "we are not losing a space here, because it is being placed in an existing red zone."

The only other parklet downtown is located in front of Moniker Warehouse, at 16th and G streets. Moniker Warehouse is an ongoing, multipurpose arts and creative center, and an events venue at night.

DAVID BATTERSON

KENSINGTON

Bicyclist ticketed for not stopping at 39th and Meade No Idaho stops in Calif. yet

"The policeman told me, 'You are [riding] a bike and need to follow the rules of the road, and you did not stop at this four-way," said Anna Grace Carter.

She received a ticket that read "Civ. 22450(a) cvc stop sign."

Carter, 27, from Kensington, was riding her bicycle at 8:35 a.m. on Friday, March 24 to get her morning coffee at Dark Horse Coffee Roasters. As she crossed the intersection of Meade and 39th "... instantly he is behind me and I'm, like, 'Whaaaaat?'" she said. "I never saw him [coming]."

She said Officer R. Thomas rode a motorcycle and pulled her over instantly, "like he was hiding by that shrubbery and white fence," she said, pointing to the houses and the apartment around the corner from where she was stopped.



Meade and 39th - "... instantly he is behind me and I'm like Whaaaaat?"

She said she slowed down to about seven or eight miles per hour and knew because she monitored her speed with an app on her Apple watch. She added that the police officer disagreed and said, "You didn't even slow down."

Jean Zagrodnik, 62, from Normal

Heights, approved of cops handing out tickets to bicyclists that do not abide by the law. "From what I understand, there are other places that have different rules that allow bikes to slow down and pass through stop signs without actually stopping," she said. "If that were the law here, I would be fine with it."

Zagrodnik was referring to the "Idaho stop."

In 2010, Jason N. Meggs, from University of California, Berkeley, did a study on the Idaho stop. A portion of it read: "Idaho presents a natural experiment to test the safety of relaxing requirements due to its state law allowing cyclists to yield rather than come to a hard stop."

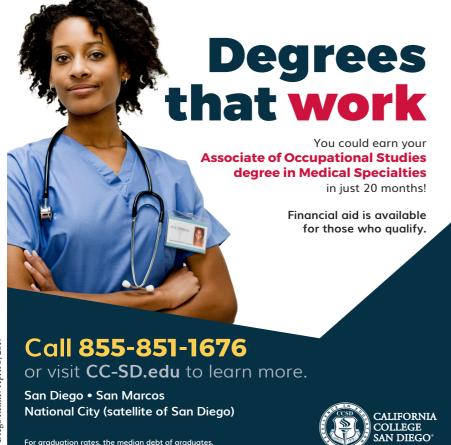
MIKE MADRIAGA

ESCONDIDO

Forget the gnatcatcher Safari Highlands — rich people north of wild animal park

On rugged land north of San Diego Safari Zoo Park, developers want to build a less exotic version of the park; a rich habitat for upper-income humans. The vision statement for Safari Highlands Ranch describes "a luxury sustainable residential development clustered within an extensive resource open

continued on page 30





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Dear Hipster:

You're in a lightless, windowless, doorless room with four pills; two red, two blue. Take one of each, and you will attain hipster immortality. Everything cool will be old news to you before anyone else has even heard about it, and people will think that you invented kalettes and cold brew coffee. Taking any other combination of pills will banish you to an alternate reality where you can only drink Folgers coffee and you have to listen to the Kings of Leon and Nickelback all day, every day, plus you die horribly. What do you do?

— MORPHEUS

IS A BURRITO

A SANDWICH?

Clearly, I already solved that one; or perhaps I never needed to in the first place. Nevertheless, there are at least seven solutions to the riddle:

(1) Chew all the pills up into a formless mass of medicine-flavored nastiness. Expectorate precisely half,

leaving behind a cohesive 50/50 red-blue mixture. Swallow.

(2) Compose thirteen understated indie rock tunes, each of which explores a different facet of the impossible situation faced by the modern citizen forced to choose between his life, his freedom, and the irresistible lure of infinite cool. Nobody will appreciate it in your time, but later, once the proverbial smoke clears, people are going to look at it and say, "Whoa. He was really ahead of his time, man." Stab yourself in the heart from the pain of it all.

(3) Meh.

(4) ??? — DI Stevens

(5) Profit!

(6) Swallow all the pills because you don't give a @\$%^ and there will (probably) be at least one moment of transcendent genius in anticipation of the horrible dying.

(7) Realize that the hipster was inside you the whole time. Ascend to glory on a moonbeam.

Again, there could be more solutions. Your results and mileage may vary. Some terms and conditions apply. Lather, rinse, repeat, innovate, duplicate, disregard. Not available in all regions.

Dear Hipster: Is a burrito a sandwich?

— GARY

Why you must ask me such things as lie beyond my sphere of expertise, I shall never know. Is a bicycle a vehicle? Is a chihuahua actually a dog? Is a pregnant woman a human submarine when she goes swimming?

According to hipster conventional wisdom, a burrito is many things. It is the best thing you ever ate at 4:17 a.m., after

> that one house show by the obscure band you can't remember anymore. It is your best and cheapest sustenance from the local —berto's after you lost that sweet technical writing job and spent nine weeks selling off vintage bicycle parts to pay the rent. A burrito is the one who listens when the girlfriend

who was a good cook moves out, and facing the stove (you used to cook together there) makes you want to gargle the cooking sherry. A burrito is never gonna give you up, never gonna let you down, never gonna run around and desert you. A burrito asks 🙎 nothing more than your \$4.67 after tax, and gives in return the deep-down, all-over warm fuzzies like none other.

A burrito is all these things and more, but it sure as hell ain't no sandwich, sir, \angle so put that in your pipe and smoke it, or, better yet, wrap that in your tortilla and 🖺 chew it.



SDONTHE UT Almost factual news

Campaign is Life

Duncan Hunter releases statement in response to Department of Justice investigation into alleged misuse of campaign funds

Statement from the Representin' Representative: "The House Ethics Committee is conspiring with the DOI to see whether I 'converted funds' from my congressional campaign committee to so-called 'personal use.' They're talking about things like flights, jewelry, travel, and 'other expenses.' They seem to think these things don't



Congressman: "They tryin' to make the Hunter the prey, tho they know this show is pay to play."

quality as 'bona fide campaign expenditures.' Fool, don't you know that all that is part of my personal brand, and my brand is my number one campaign asset - just like every other politician and playa in DC? This is some kind of bullshit play right here, but I promise my fans that I am going to rise above. Nobody punks the Dunc."

The New Q Review

Big Papa Doug pitches retro

vision for sad stadium D



Doug Manchester and two of his "Q Crew" stand before a display depicting his vision for a new old stadium.

still remember the days when Oualcomm Stadium was shaped like a horseshoe, with one end "open to the tremendous natural beauty of Mission Valley and the mountains beyond." But if he gets his way, he won't have to remember any more. "My plan, put forward by HKS Urban Design Group, is to strip off all the concrete 'improvements' that have been made to the original, and then add seating and amenities that guarantee an updated, luxury experience without compromising the classic design. It's like a good facelift or boob job: you want the improvements to be as unobtrusive as possible, and you want to maintain that connection to the natural world. Right, ladies?"

Homes for the Homeless

Father Joe's Villages unveils ambitious solution, claiming "there's nothing about homelessness in San Diego that \$531 million can't fix."



on the streets."





In No Country for Old Men, Josh Brolin plays a man who gets in serious trouble after he snags a bag full of

Malaysian business tycoon "Fat Leonard" Francis came to this country

looking to snag some lucrative contracts, got arrested in San Diego, and wound up in serious trouble



In The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, Ben Stiller plays a man with who travels to the far east on a quest to save his job and realizes his wildest fantasies in the process.



FAT LEONARD NAVY SCANDAL EDITION

Retired Rear Admiral **Bruce Loveless** has been is on trial in San Diego for his part in a bribery scandal that involved wild sex parties at the Shangri-La hotel in Manila



General Douglas MacArthur was noted for treating Filipino and Japanese leaders with respect.



Call it **Pipey MacPiperton?**

According to an indictment, "historical memorabilia related to General Douglas MacArthur were used by the participants in sexual acts" at the Manila hotel.



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BestBuys

-EVE KELLY

The kids get Easter baskets every year. This year, I told them I want one, too, and I want it to be stuffed with chicks. Not the marshmallow kind, either. The real deal. Chick days have started at the Tractor Supply Company Store in El Cajon (619-561-1230). Right now, they have Red Sex Link, Cornish Rock, and White Leghorn chicks for \$2.99 each. They also have white ducklings, \$5.49 each. Besides the birds themselves, the store carries supplies for everyone from the nov-

ice to the seasoned backyard chicken farmer: coops, runs, feeders, waterers, feed, shavings, lights, and even eggcare products. Prices vary depending on the size of whatever you pick out.

While I'm getting in on the action, my artsy side wants to learn pysanky - traditional Ukrainian Easter egg decoration. It's a folk art that eschews paint in favor of writing designs on the egg with beeswax. Balboa Park's House of Ukraine offers workshops every year, but only during the month before Easter. Maybe next year. For now, I'll follow the guidance of learnpysanky.com. The site has information

standard prices for basic supplies (beeswax, dyes, stylus, \$17-\$20) and extras like lathes for holding eggs (\$24-\$28) and egg blowers (\$9-\$15), as well as where to find stuff,

basic procedures, and 35 step-bystep designs.

For Easter brunch, I'm thinking about Mille Fleur in Rancho Santa Fe (858-756-3085). The menu is a three-course prix fixe (\$59.50 per person) created by chef Martin Woesle. Appetizer selections including fish, fowl, vegetables, and cheese. I'm leaning toward the Maine lobster and scallop salad, or else the duck-liver mousse. Entrées range from eggs Benedict with applewood smoked bacon to a duo of lamb chop and osso buco to hanger steak with hen egg. Brunch runs from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

But I'll have family in town from back East, and in case they want to dine near the water, there's the brunch at Bahia Resort Hotel in Mission Bay (858-488-0551). That one includes a complimentary cruise on Mission Bay. It's buffet-style and includes an omelet station, Belgian waffles, quiche, and of course, mountains of bacon and sausage. For the less breakfasty, there's seafood, beef, pork, and chicken, as well as vegetarian ravioli. Either way, there's dessert: tarts, cakes, pastries, peach bread pudding,

My artsy side wants to learn pysanky - traditional Ukrainian Easter egg decoration.

and bananas Foster. I like that it's kid-friendly: there's an Easter egg hunt throughout, and a knee-high buffet featuring mac 'n' cheese, pigs in a blanket, cheese pizza, tater tots, and chicken dinosaurs. Brunch runs 10 a.m.-3 p.m. and costs \$52 for adults and \$25 for children ages 5 to 11. Children under 5 are free.

On the subject of Easter egg hunts: this year, my dad the golfer may succeed in luring us north to the Lawrence

Welk Resort San Diego Oaks Golf Course in Escondido (800-932-9355). Mr. & Mrs. Bunny will help kick off the festivities: four age groups, four hunts, and one golden egg in each, good for a free foot-long and pizza party courtesy of Welk Resorts Golf. While the game is afoot, hubby and

Pop can enjoy a free golf clinic, and I can battle Mom in cornhole. Other options: golf ball decorating, a bouncy house, and life-size Jenga. Food and beverage options include cotton candy, burgers, and hot dogs, and there are Bloody Marys and mimosas available for sale. The event runs 10 a.m.-1 p.m.; tickets are \$10 apiece or \$7.50 each for groups of four or more.

Other Easter egg hunts around town: Birch Aquarium in La Jolla (858-534-3474) is celebrating Spring with a water eggstravaganza. Price of admission (\$18.50 adults, \$15.50

seniors, \$14 children 3-17, \$15 students with ID and UCSD

staff) includes an exploration of animal eggs, a shark craft, and participation in an "underwater egg hunt" - no basket required. Event runs April 14-16, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

The City of Santee's Spring Eggstravaganza at Santee

Lakes' Lake 5 includes continuous egg hunts for kids ages 8 and up on April 15, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Craft booths, petting zoo, DJ, and rides — bumper cars, frog hopper, swings, and also pony rides — onsite. Plus bunnies for photo ops. Activities range in price from 1 to 10 tickets (\$1 apiece). Drinks, hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, and sno-cones available for purchase. Onsite parking, \$10, with free shuttle service available.

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EVERY PITCH IS A PARTY at a Toros de Tijuana baseball game. At least that's the atmosphere the team is trying to create. The Toros compete in Liga Mexicana de Beisbol, an international AAA affiliate of Major League Baseball. A Toros crowd is generally made up of east Tijuana locals, binationals, and few gringos. They pay on average 200 pesos (about \$10.60) for a seat at Toros 17,350 seat stadium, Estadio Gasmart in Colonia Capistrano.

The team's mascots are Toro Torín (a bull), Pollo Layo (a chicken), Chango 0Te (a monkey who sometimes appears with his son), and Aminowana (a lizard).

The team's owner, along with his partners,

is Alberto Uribe Maytorena, a millionaire from Tijuana who made his fortune as a Baja-based gasoline entrepreneur.

At Inauguracion 2016 (opening night) in April, the Spanish voice of Major League

Baseball and the Padres, Tijuana's own Eduardo Ortega, leads a ceremony honoring the nine tijuanenses who have played Major League Baseball. The

game starts after 9 p.m. (Most Padres night games start at 7:10.)

Throughout the stadium, military personnel stand atop military gun trucks and carry automatic weapons slung over their shoulders. They're

"We know baseball games are too long, so we are there to help make the game more fun." there for opening night ceremonies. Police chat amongst themselves throughout the stadium. "Mexico, at the cry of war," the Mexican national anthem, is led by a brass and percussion military marching band. Without a public address system, the anthem is barely audible. Without proper illumination, the Mexican flag beyond the centerfield fence blends into the background.

The game begins. Banda, norteño, reggaeton, as well as Spanish and American pop play throughout. The music only stops when the pitcher sets and until the ball pops the catcher's mitt. When African-Americans from the opposing team come to bat, the home team plays 1970s funk. Scantily clad cheerleaders down the foul lines bump and grind during game pauses. Vendors sell cecina (beef jerky), sugary piña coladas, cotton candy, flan, churros, and Tecate.

We poke fun at the fans

Cameramen film the various characters of Inauguracion. When there is a pretty woman on the jumbotron, the production team plays a song about a beautiful woman. Some of the women blow kisses, some show off their behinds or worse, while others uncomfortably avoid eve contact with the lens. The crowd, when the game drags, relies on the jumbotron, dancing girls, and mascots for entertainment.

Before an out has been recorded, the first people on the scoreboard television for Toros 2016 season is an elderly couple. The man makes out with his wife on camera. She's embarrassed. The crowd loves it. Toros right fielder Texas-born Dustin Martin watches and smirks from his position.

Ernesto Alvarado is part of the production team on Toros' jumbotron. He specializes in camera work. "The main objective of our work is to invite fans to support the team in a fun way," he says. "We know baseball games are too long, so we are there to help make the game more fun. Most of those attending the games are not baseball fans. They're people going somewhere to spend an afternoon or evening in a good atmosphere for family fun. That's why we poke fun at the fans."

For instance, when a man with a ranch workers hat appears on the screen, the production team plays "Jefe de Jefes" (Boss of Bosses) by Los Tigres del Norte, a band which plays accordion-heavy, polkarhythmed norteño music.

The team films people while they eat, and incorporates a dance cam and kiss cam. Alvarado admits not everyone likes the images the production team projects. "The jumbotron can cause some controversy for the diehard baseball fans, but, overall, the work shown on the screen is very much accepted by fans and other franchises in the league."

He brags that the experience at a Toros game is the best in Mexico. "It's why Toros are more than baseball," he says, referencing the team's slogan in Spanish 'Somos mas que beisbol.'

Tecate logos decorate the uniforms, and Tecate beers are sold throughout the ballpark for 30 pesos — about \$1.50. (It's \$7.25 for a beer at Petco Park.) There's no last call. (No alcohol is sold after the 7th inning at all Major League Baseball parks.) Periodically, a deep prerecorded voice over a drum beat yells "Toma! Toma!" (English: "Chug! Chug!").

Kids love "Chu Chu Wa Wa," a march which functions like the seventh inning stretch, but happens between the sixth and seventh innings. Whenever a runner gets on base, Joel Higuera's "El Baile de la Toallita" plays. Juan Gabriel's "La Mera Mera", a song commissioned by Tijuana's tourism board, plays a prominent part at Toros games. Mera mera (or mero mero) is a local expression that translates roughly to the very best.

"Lo mas bonito de San Diego es..." the stadium's loudspeakers plays Juan Gabriel singing the song's first lyrics. And, in their best moments, the crowd yells in unison: "Tijuanaaa!" This works especially well when the game is going in Toros direction. English: "The most beautiful part of San Diego is... Tijuana."

Interestingly, Tijuana, home to 1.8 million inhabitants (Mexico City has 17.4 million), has produced more Major League Baseball players than any other city in the nation of nearly 130 million. They are: Andrés Berumen, Jorge Campillo, Benjamín Gil, brothers Edgar Gonzalez and Adrian Gonzalez, Esteban Loaiza, Oscar Robles, Freddy Sandoval, and José Silva.

Pochos

The Toros' American players are predominantly from the southwest: Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas. Infielders Oscar Robles and Emmanuel Valdez hail from Tijuana.

First baseman Roberto Lopez and starting pitcher Alex Sanabia are from San Diego. For the younger players, the dream is to play in the big leagues. At Inauguracion 2016, perhaps many fans noted the increasing number of Mexican-Americans on their border team; indeed, this was indicative of recent changes in Liga Mexicana de Béisbol.

When Pooky Gomez first started baseball freelancing a few years ago, taxistas picking him up at the border did not know who Toros were or who they played. Now they do.

The closest Mexico organization to his home in Los Angeles, Toros acted as an inroad for Gomez, a former player in the Mexican minor leagues, into the baseball business. He networks with Mexican teams that come to Tijuana and has personal relationships with some Toros players. He played in the minor leagues in Mexico.

Gomez, 36, sometimes sits behind home plate with team owners and other executives. He's fluent in Spanish and English, but he's not Mexican. His main hustle seems to be selling MaxBats, maple bats manufactured in Minnesota, to players.

When we speak, he's



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enjoying two weeks off and preparing for Mexicali's "While many players might make \$800 per month in US independent ball, they can make \$2000 equivalent here in Mexico." Those are the guys Gomez helps.

"Let's say there's a kid [playing in Mexico garnering] interest from America," he says. "Let's say you're a team, the Padres, and they contact Toros about one of the players they like, say, starting pitcher Alex Sanabia. We ask what they want to offer. And they say, 'We want to give him an opportunity.' And we say, 'That's wonderful, what do you want to offer for the talent?"

Unlike for Japanese talent, Major League teams do not need to bid for talking rights to access players, due to the



Scantily clad cheerleaders down the foul lines bump and grind during game pauses.

league's status as a minor league affiliate.

"The teams always give a ridiculous number," he explains, "say, \$2000. We counter with \$200,000. They say they can get a Dominican for \$2000. They argue they'll have to send our player to rookie ball, and they won't see him for five years. Why would they invest \$100k on a project that may or may not happen?"

Gomez concludes,

"To shorten it up this is why we don't see more Mexicans in the minor leagues and major leagues," he says.

The business side of baseball in Mexico is tricky, he says. "Are we in the league to just have league or in a league to make money out of people?" The league is still gestating. Mexican baseball underwent a major transformation in 2016: unlimited Mexican-Americans per team.

Before 2016, Liga Mexicana de Beisbol only allowed each team to have three Mexican-Americans and six foreigners. The rest had to be Mexican citizens.

Teams like Toros and Pericos de Puebla began scouting, while many other teams did not. Pooky started scouting the southwest US border areas. He'd look for former AA or AAA players now playing independent ball, and invite them to try out.

"[Other teams] did not dedicate resources to hiring a scouting team," Gomez says. "Mexico City, Monterrey, Cancun, and Oaxaca were complaining because the pool opened to sign Mexican-Americans, the 'pochos' they called us." Gomez refers to a reputation Toros developed as being Mexican-Americans, for which pocho is a derogatory term.

In 2015, the roster had just six foreigners, including Mexican-Americans, though it's not always cutand-dried who's what. In 2016, the team had fifteen Mexican-Americans, says Gomez.

Most of Toros starting pitching staff in 2016? *Pochos*. "Think about that," Gomez says. "This time last year, the league had barely tested Mexican-Americans."

Players come to Mexico because pay in the U.S. independent leagues — Atlantic League or American Association

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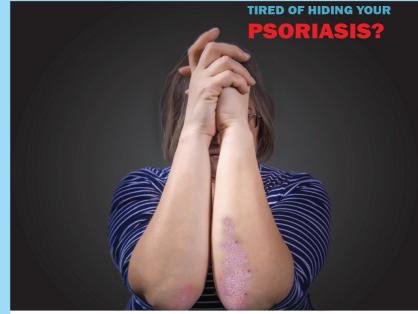
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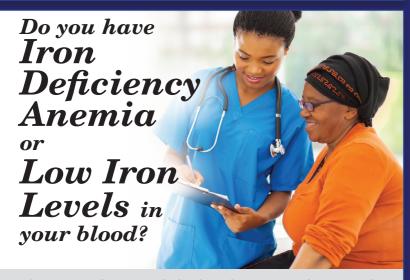


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league — is no good. "You're better off working at Wal-Mart," Gomez says. Players generally make between \$2000 and \$8000 per month in Mexico. The cap is \$10,000.

But the baseball freelancer says he's realistic with the foreigners he helps bring south. "They are mostly realistic themselves," he says. "They know they are journeymen. Whenever new personnel come down, I tell them real quick: You could be here for seven weeks or seven years. Both happen. Some come down thinking they are going to play a couple weeks then get called back up. It happens, but it's rare." He says there's a stigma about Mexican baseball which "works against those that are playing in Mexico. Our players get cheated. 'Ah, it's Mexico,' they say.



"There are other stadiums — Mexico City and Puebla — where the fans are really into the game. But we have more of them." $\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1$

It takes a good GM who can think outside the box to consider a player here. Generally, it's like selling a used car to someone that wants a new car."

Gomez says that he couldn't cobble together

an informal living around baseball, as he's done through Mexican baseball, in the U.S. "In MLB, there's three sets of security to get into the locker room, and you have to have credentials. It's like the Pentagon."

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Crafty pitchers

Toros slugger, Dustin Martin, who was drafted by the New York Mets in 2006, finds Mexican baseball more competitive than he thought it would be.

"Most people say you're going to play in Mexico League, they might not think it's good money," Martin says. "You come to this league, and it's very nice. It's established, with good stadiums, teams, and organizations. It's very comparable to the states."

Martin, who grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas playing in leagues with many latinos agrees the talent level is AAA — the highest minor league level in the United States. "There are ex-big leaguers throughout the league," the 32 year-old said. "The players are experienced and know how to play the game. There aren't many errors, pitchers are crafty."

Asked about the pocho factor, he answers, "I think it helped the league become more competitive" the slugger said.

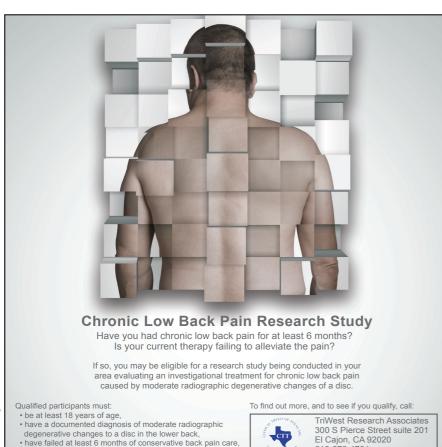
"The backside of teams' bullpens are stronger, and there is more [pitching] velocity."

In September 2015, Diablos Rojos del Mexico, Tigres de Quintana Roo, Sultanes de Monterrey, and Oaxaca Warriors all left the Liga Mexicana in protest of the new rules.

At a meeting of owners, Diablos Rojos and Tigres owners (the former is owned by Padres part-owner Alfredo Harp Helú) asked to discuss the cessation of recruitment of Mexican-American players. Since the item was not on the agenda, other owners declined. The above-mentioned four team owners announced that they were leaving the league and left the meeting room.

The president of the league Pliny Escalante said the remaining 12 owners

RESEARCH STUDIES

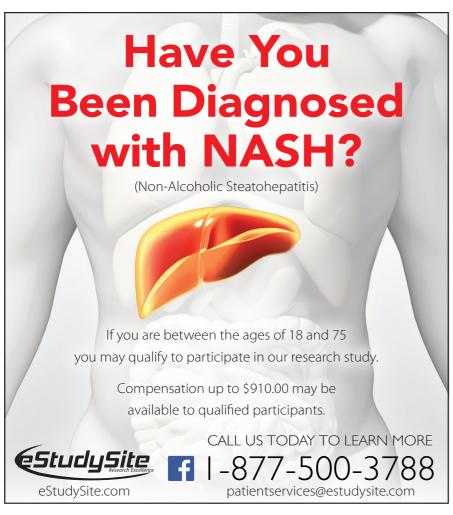


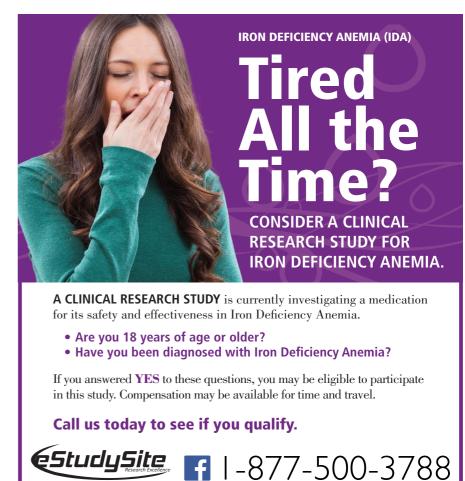


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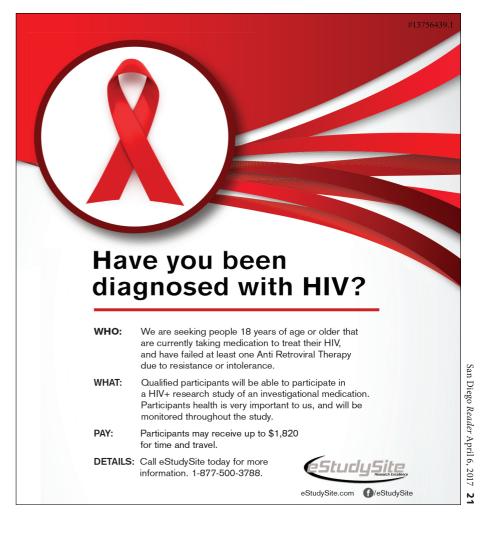
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will not yield to what they consider a "blackmail"

Eighty six Mexican-Americans played in the Liga Mexicana in 2016, representing 13.4 percent of the 640 players on rosters of the 16 teams.

"Because f**k him!"

I made it back out to Estadio Gasmart for Game 2 of the Campeones Serie Zona Norte (championship of the league's north division) versus Sultanes de Monterrey. This time with Antonio Ley, local nightlife promoter and political advocate on both sides of the border. Like for most weeknight games, we head for the stadium amid Tijuana rush hour traffic.

The 17,350 seat stadium is a 15-20 minute drive (sans traffic) from the San Ysidro border crossing. It stands just off Via Rapida in southeast Tijuana. Its Colonia Capistrano neighborhood, at the base of Cerro Colorado hill, one of the city's highest points, is less than desirable.

The stadium was constructed in 1976 in what was then cheap land on the outskirts of Tijuana. Now, it's surrounded by barrio sprawl. The stadium sits about 24 miles from Petco Park.

It's not easy to get to this ballpark. A onelane road leads in, and another out. Tickets for high-demand games are bought up by scalpers. The stadium has room for approximately 500 cars, so people park in the neighborhood, on the streets, and wherever else they can.

At Game 2, two fist fights break out. There are no Monterrey fans to be seen. Chango the gorilla and Torin the bull, get married in a ceremony atop the Toros dugout with a chicken mascot as their witness. Aminowana the lizard gives lap dances to men. He uses his tail between his legs as a phallic symbol, and crowd chants, "Joto! Joto! Joto!" — the Mexican putdown for "faggot."

Ley quips, "I don't know how the San Diego

Randy Arms. In the last games against Puebla, Toros management began introducing Randy as the team's numberone fan.

Gay Men's choir would do in TI."

On the scoreboard, those in attendance are fat-shamed, bald-shamed, shamed for being on the cellphone, and so on. The Padres Friar, and Padres girls — The Pad Squad — come out for a half inning. Between innings, cheerleader teams representing Toros, Gasmart (a Baja supermarket chain), and Tecate perform dance routines, mostly in front of Toros dugout. The play-

ers watch while chewing on sunflower seeds and tobacco. Toros' little person batboy, Chevale, cheers on the team. And the cheerleaders.

Though it wasn't served opening night, Lagunitas, which entered into a partnership with Tecate parent Heineken in 2015, was served in the stadium for 50 pesos (\$2.75). Tijuana beats Monterrey by a wide margin.

They clinch the north championship series a few days later in Game 7 in Monterrey. They face Pericos de Puebla, south division champions in La Serie del Rey, the season's final series. We buy tickets online. It takes several tries as the team's servers seem to be slow. Ley and I procure four tickets for Game 1 of the series.

Tijuana has homefield advantage for the series. The team is reportedly told by Liga Mexicana de Beisbol it can no longer stream the games live on

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its Facebook page, as it had done throughout the playoffs. The games are still pirated and streamed on *Beistv.mx* and its Facebook page.

In Game 1, Tijuana fans yell at former Washington Nationals and Milwaukee Brewers, current Perico (parakeet) left fielder, Nyjer Morgan. You can tell, as he dances to the music in the outfield, that Morgan likes the attention. He looks over at the crowd and points, runs by and yells some stuff back at the crowd. He's smiling and having fun. But when he throws a ball at the two who had been yelling "Tony Plush" — his Major League nickname, they throw it back. The mood turns. Morgan is pissed. So is an umpire, at Morgan for having thrown the ball into the stands. Morgan shakes his head and, annoyed, inaudibly yells at the fans. He yells at them again after the third out is recorded. Gets close as possible on his route to the third base-side visitors dugout.

A couple innings later, I talk to the fans about why they threw the ball back. One of them, a Mexicali native says: "Because fuck him, he's on the other team. Plus, he struck out in his next at-bat!"

In the ninth inning, Martin hits a game-winning, walk-off home run. The crowd goes wild. Ley and I try not to spill our Lagunitas, bought before the start of the top of the ninth, as we leap out of our seats to watch the ball fly over the left-center field fence. As Martin is about to touch home plate, he points towards his family in their box seats. Fifteen minutes after the game ends, I see former Padre, current Perico, Ruben Rivera buying a Tecate at the concession stand.

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for Game 2, half of Tijuana was without water. A main line east of the city was being replaced and water service was cut. I showered in a half-gallon of Ciel drinking water and made my way to the game. The game is uneventful, and Toros trailed the entire time. When I order my beer at the Lagunitas area in the left field concession stand, the server asks me: "Quieres un doble?" Do I want two Lagunitas in one cup? \$5.50 US.

After Game 2, a Toros 6-3 loss despite a tworun shot from Martin, a Puebla coach under police escort asks me to hold his two dobles de Tecate at the concession stands while he orders them so as not to warrant onlookers. The police escort us to the team bus. Ruben Rivera then gets two dobles de Tecate. The series, during the day off, was heading to Puebla, a city east of Acapulco.

Nobody cares

There had been approximately 575 murders in Tijuana in 2016 leading up to Game 3 of Serie del Rey, September 10, 2016. Half the city was without water, and people reported power outages. A march of 4000 in favor of traditional family (anti-gay marriage) marched in Zona Rio causing traffic havoc. All Ley could think about was the game. He went to ToroBar VIP, a nice bar overlooking the field at Gasmart where 200 pesos (about \$10.60) gets you all you can drink beer during games, to watch on jumbotron. Puebla wins 8-5.

The next night, Puebla took Game 4 by a

visions show the beisbol game. A few people watch.

vs. 49ers is on five screens.

score of 5-1 at home.

Game 5, September 12, in Puebla, Toros, down 3-1 in the best-of-seven format, face elimination. I meet Ley at Norte, a boutique cerveceria in Zona Centro. We have to ask them to show the game. Nobody there cares. Later, we go to Bar Nelson, where only the Monday Night Football game between the Los Angeles Rams and San Francisco 49ers is being shown. The remote controls don't work so the channel can't be changed. Next door at Hotel Nelson, two tele-

We go to El Copeo, a sports bar on Revolucion where a dozen or so people watch Tijuana in Puebla. Padres vs. San Francisco Giants is being shown on three screens, while Rams



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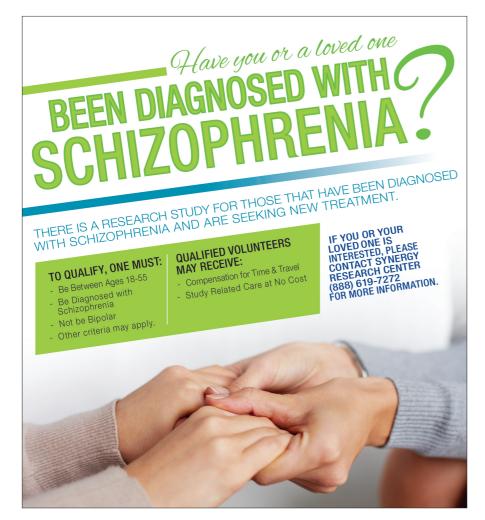
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The one screen showing a Toros game has the largest crowd. Chad Gaudin, former Giant and Padre who in 2013 drunkenly groped a 23-year-old woman's breast while she was on a gurney in a Las Vegas emergency room lobby, blows the save. Toros come back for a 9-2 win sparked by Martin's triple. The ten people still watching celebrate.

Ticket frenzy

Ley and I go to a nearby Gasmart-owned Pemex station same night after midnight to buy tickets for Game 6. The gas attendant gives us receipts and tells us we better get to a Pemex gas station (owned by Gasmart) early to pick up our tickets. We meet at 9:00 a.m. to drive out to Estadio Gasmart. Ley's worried about a line. I'm not. He bites his tongue.



More dancing ladies — tacos de ojos the Mexican slang equivalent of eye candy.

When we walk into the parking lot, I count about 400 people already in line. More than a thousand likely came after us. People dressed in OXXO, nurse, electrician, construction, and landscape

maintenance uniforms yell at suspected scalpers. (The official policy was ten tickets per customer, though some had bought dozens through various channels.) Many people had arrived at 5:00 a.m.

By 10:30 a.m., scalpers are re-selling tickets for Game 6 and 7. Painted on a concrete wall, a peanut advertisement read, "R U Nuts?" I wonder. Plenty cut in line. Lev leaves for work in downtown San

Diego. I kneel to rest my body. An old man next to me suggests that I fellate him while I'm down there.

People wear hats representing southern California sports teams. Dodgers, Padres, Angels, CSU Long Beach and SDSU. A man behind me wears a Giants jacket and a Padres hat. One young family - mom, dad, and son — are decked out in black and red Toros gear.

A guy in a Monster Truck drives by with music on at full volume and yells, "Toros, Campeo*nes!*" and the crowd cheers as he speeds through the parking lot to the chagrin of parents.

At last, I exchange my gas station receipt for Game 6 tickets and bought Game 7 tickets. I had waited nearly six hours. I later learn many waited longer only to be told the

game was sold out.

Before leaving, I walk around a bit and run into a Toros grounds crew employee, Albert. He speaks English well. "Where are you from?" I ask.

"I grew up in San Bernardino," he said. "But I got into some trouble a couple of years ago and got deported."

So close...

We arrive two hours early for Game 6. The plan is to tailgate beyond the left field fence for Game 6 equipped with Ley's grill: a tire rim upon a rusted rolling stand.

As the lowering sun illuminates Cerro Colorado, and Toros take batting practice, we grill beef for carne asada tacos, washed down by beer.

The atmosphere surrounding Game 6 is

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17,893 attendees — a sell out — walk around the stands and fraternize in the hallways. The mascots start by throwing bananas into the crowd. Chango makes allusions to his penis with the bananas. They perform an impromptu voodoo ceremony atop the away dugout. Chango takes a hit from the cauldron of imaginary elixir. It hits him hard. He walks around the dugout in a daze. He goes back for another hit.

energetic. Many of the

Cheerleaders dance on the field while others walk through the stadium. Many of them text on their phones throughout the game while men indulge in tacos de ojos — the Mexican slang equivalent of eye candy. As the Toritas dance before the away dugout, Chango walks up and sprays them with silly string, then does a ballerina dance while spraying the silly string in little circles. He kisses his fingers and throws a peace sign up to the crowd. They cheer. A Toro fan's sign on the jumbotron reads: "#TodosSomosPochos." English: "We are all pochos."

At one point a foul ball came in behind us, and a young man five rows up catches the ball with his bare right hand while holding a doble de Tecate in the left hand. Our section erupts. Things seem to be going Toros way. But then, a "jonrun." (Mexican for "home run") and Pericos lead 1-0, and the game settles into a pitchers' duel.

In the top of the ninth, the away team scores another run. Toros fail to score in the bottom of the inning, and the Pericos celebrate on Gasmart's turf.

I make a mental note to get reimbursed for to get reing my Game 7 gas station. my Game 7 tickets at the



Tecate beers are sold throughout the ballpark for about \$1.50. (It's \$7.25 a beer at Petco.)

Number one fan

Randy Arms, 54 and born in Brawley, has long lived around the border. He has blue eyes and blonde hair gone gray. He lives in the Villa Fontana area of Tijuana, not far from the stadium. He played ball in the seventies in Mexico. Now, he's a Toros season ticket holder. He once played at Estadio Gasmart in the late 1970s. He'd told his wife about it. She ultimately learned about Toros, and she suggested they go to a game.

"I know this field," he said as they walked in.

"I thought so," his wife replied.

He was a bit depressed with how dilapidated the field was 35 years later. "No one had taken care of it," he laments. "I saw it when it was brand new." The next year, 2015, he and his wife returned for another game. The field had been restored. Uribe was putting money into the organization. Arms decided to get season tickets, but he wanted four tickets instead of just the two he and his wife would use.

"What happened was one of the vendors selling beer out of the five gallon buckets sets his ass on my shoulder," he says. "And I was trying to get his ass off my shoulder, so I said, 'Okay, honey, I want four seats so when vendors come by to sell beers they can sit there."

In 2016, he attended almost all of the Toros games. The couple he missed, "I didn't miss 'em by choice." He says he once paid \$20 to Martin during a game after the slugger granted his request to hit a home run. Martin didn't want to take the cash, but Arms forced it upon him: "A deal's a deal," he says.

Asked about the mascots, dancing girls, and jumbotron hijinks, Martin calls them distractions. "I'm not into mascots, I'm into baseball. But Chango is hilarious. He takes his personality a step further than anyone could do in the US. He does some X-rated stuff and kids shouldn't see that. It's funny but crass. He harasses the [cheerleaders], gets in middle of them and throws the routines off and sometimes the girls will jump on him and spray him with confetti string and pull every part of his suit," he says. "They throw dirt on him. I love Chango, but he deserves that sometimes."

Randy says he doesn't care for cheerleaders in baseball. "I wish they weren't there," he says.



Mascots Pollo Layo (a chicken), Chango OTe (a monkey) start by throwing bananas into the crowd.

"But, it brings people out to the game. I do wish they would cut back on them. There are dozens of them."

What surprises him the most about the shenanigans at a Toros game?

"The middle finger going up on the jumbotron," says Arms. "You'll never see that in the US. Some women don't want to be looked at, and they'll give you the finger here. That's really caught my attention."

When there are fights going on in the stands, Arms is not happy, but he says he's only seen minor altercations. He compliments the strict security at the games. Throughout the 2016 season, Arms introduced himself to Toros management, executives, and players. They liked him, because he knew the game. Randy quickly found himself in the locker room and dugout high-fiving players. "I like the atmosphere in the dugout, especially since I'd played in those dugouts before. It brought back memories."

In the very last games against Puebla, Toros management began introducing Randy as the team's number one fan. "Toros became my second family," the gringo says. "Toros opened their doors to me. I was able to go down on the field and build relationships."

He adds, "In the old days [in the states], players pulled their cars into the parking lot, got out, and walked passed you and you yelled their name and maybe they talked with you and signed things. Today, they park underground. You rarely get to meet them before or after the game. It's different in Mexico."

That one player that goes off

Dustin Martin, whose walk up song is DC Talk's "Jesus Freak," says he was excited to be traded to Tijuana ahead of the 2015 season from Quintana Roo in southeast Mexico. It gave him an opportunity to live in Imperial Beach with his wife, and now their newborn son. He likes Estadio Gasmart, and he knew that fan base - one he's come to love — was good.

Before the trade, Tijuana "wasn't really on my radar," he says. He knew it was a border town by San Diego. He and his wife now have

Sentri passes. He enjoys living stateside. He goes to Mexico for work.

The 33-year-old has played baseball around USA, as well as Venezuela and Mexico. "We definitely get the most fans," he says. "There are other stadiums - Mexico City and Puebla — where the fans are really into the game. But we have fans into the game, and more of them."

Does the rowdy atmosphere affect the outfielder's play?

"I don't really think about it," he says. "You get used to it. I might have been a bit shocked the first couple of weeks, but it becomes second nature. I like the music, the fans — I like the brand of baseball a lot more than in the states. Even in the outfield, you can watch the sights and sounds."

When I ask if there's anything the MLB could learn from Mexican baseball, he mentions the jumbotron. He definitely thinks the minor leagues should take more after Mexican baseball. "They'd get a lot more fans," he says. "That's the truth."

Martin finished the 2016 season with a .325 batting average and 19 home runs. He had many key hits in the playoffs, including the two home runs in the championship series. "I watch the big league playoffs, and there's always that one player that goes off, hits some homers," he says. "It was fun to kind of be that guy this year. I've taken back some great memories. The walk off in Game 1 was awesome. My wife and kid were there, but also my parents, sisters, extended family. To be able to share that with them, and watch the Tijuana fans go crazy in that moment, is very special to me and something I'll never forget." ■

— Justin O'Connell



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Off-duty chokes

continued from page 3

was so sketchy. After they put me in the backseat he was laughing in my face. I told the officers that I did not trust him one bit. He started waving at me."

Officers arrested Branch and transported him to the downtown San Diego jail where he stayed for 12 hours.

Branch sues

Without any formal charges against him, Branch hired attorney Dan Gilleon to represent him in a potential civil case. Just in case charges were filed, he sought the counsel of criminal defense attorney Marc Kohnen. With Kohnen's help, Branch retrieved his cell phone and with it the nine-minute video of the altercation.

In October 2015, Branch sued the County of San Diego, sheriff William Gore, and detective Paul Ward for excessive use of force, battery by a peace officer, negligence, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

The lawsuit includes testimony from a colleague of Ward's, detective Mark Karo, who in 2014 filed an internal complaint against Ward for alleged battery. The detective, who was since terminated from the force, told investigators that Ward had hit his shoulder and poked him repeatedly over rumors that Karo was "talking shit" about Ward. Karo complained that Ward had become "increasingly erratic" and "hostile." The detective warned the investigator that Ward was capable of hurting somebody.

A spokesperson for the sheriff's department was unable to comment on the outcome of the complaint.

Branch charged

In November 2015, three months after Branch filed his civil complaint and nearly eight months after the

incident occurred, district attorney Bonnie Dumanis's office filed criminal charges against Branch. The complaint charged Branch with a felony count of battery on an officer, a felony for resisting arrest and for threatening to use pepper spray on an officer, and misdemeanor counts for reckless driving and failure to provide a license and registration.

Four months later, in April 2016, the charge was amended to include additional felony charges stemming from a 2013 criminal complaint filed by a female acquaintance of Branch who says he threatened and stalked her. The additional charges appeared despite the fact that in 2013 the district attorney had decided not to pursue the case.

Branch's criminal defense attorney Kohnen believes the district attorney is attempting to intimidate his client and retaliate against him for filing his civil lawsuit. Kohnen points to the fact that the initial 2013 stalking charges were once treated as a misdemeanor but now have been turned to felony counts. "This case is a clear misuse of prosecutorial discretion and undermines the integrity of the office," says Kohnen, who took Branch's case pro-bono. "Resurrecting the 2013 charges, previously rejected for prosecution, was only done as a distraction and to inflame the passions of a jury [to] be more prone to dislike my client at trial."

As to the battery charges against his client, Kohnen believes that Ward became enraged on the freeway that day. His rage prevented him from calling police to report Branch and instead goaded him to take matters in his own hands.

"You have to think of the eternity of time that Ward had over the course of the nine-mile drive from where the vehicles nearly collided in El Cajon to the Del Cerro neighborhood."

Kohnen adds. "He had

ample opportunity to request for backup to assist with the process and to avoid any confusion. Conversely, think of the extremely brief amount of time Branch had to comprehend the situation before an arm went around his throat and began to choke him.

"Branch is the true victim here. That said, we knew that the District Attorney would never file charges against their own officer in this case."

Branch followed

The district attorney's pursuit of Branch goes further. According to court documents obtained by the *Reader*, the district attorney's office began to follow Branch and his supporters at rallies, tracking their presence at court hearings, recording their speeches inside churches, and poring over Branch's and his supporters' Facebook pages.

Reverend Shane Harris is president of the National Action Network's San Diego chapter. The 25-year-old pastor from Southeast San Diego has held several rallies for Branch in an attempt to raise awareness about the case.

"This case represents a failure in the criminal and judicial system in having the local district attorney be in charge of investigating local police," Harris said during a March 24 interview. "It's a major problem, and we see that so clearly in the Branch case. The district attorney is playing a game with these charges, one that shouldn't be played, in order to prevent Branch's civil case from moving forward. They don't want to be held accountable."

And while Kohnen and Harris rally against now-former district attorney Bonnie Dumanis, Branch is unsure of his future. "I'm scared, it's really all I can say. It's changed my life," Branch says over the phone, one day before his 27th birthday.

"I don't want to go to prison for six to nine years for something I didn't do. I have a daughter that I can't see. I want to see her grow up. I'm scared. I'm nervous. I don't know what can happen."

(@DorianHargrove)

Under the radar

continued from page 3

prevents exiting officials "from being compensated to lobby the City on any matter for one year after they leave City service." In a letter dispatched before she stopped the practice of issuing written advice, ethics chief Stacey Fulhorst told ex-mayor and newly hired chamber of commerce chief Jerry Sanders in May 2013, "During your oneyear post-employment period (which commences on the date you left office as Mayor), the City's post-employment lobbying provisions preclude you from engaging in any direct communications with a City Official on behalf of the Chamber for the purpose of influencing a municipal decision."

The 12 months are expected to fly by for Goldsmith, at which time he could be doing all the influence peddling he wants. Current Procopio lobbying clients include North City builder Kilroy Realty; politically connected downtown developer OliverMc-Millan; and multi-national mall owner Westfield, LLC.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

The Reader offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or sandiegoreader. com/staff/matt-potter/contact/.

NEWS TICKER

 $continued\ from\ page\ 2$

so have calls for more tax money to be used by projects that would shovel the cash to an array of the city's well-heeled hotel, real estate, and development interests, many of which are spending heavily to influence San Diego politicos, especially Faulconer, who will ultimately divvy up the funding.



Dragged the young girl's stroller for 68 feet

Shea furnished a total of \$6000 to Faulconer's mayoral campaigns of 2013 and 2014, city records show.

In May 2010, his Donovan's Steak and Chop House agreed to pay a \$2230 fine to the California Fair Political Practices Commission to settle charges it violated state law by failing to report \$27,101 of 2008 political contributions.

Matt Potter

Keep Faulconer off witness stand

The fatal Point Loma crosswalk at Catalina and Canon

Attorneys for the City of San Diego hope to prevent mayor Kevin Faulconer from taking the witness stand in the wrongful death lawsuit filed by parents of a sevenmonth-old girl who was killed as her dad pushed her in a stroller while crossing a Point Loma crosswalk. The motion comes despite the fact that more evidence has come to light that then-councilmember Kevin Faulconer was aware of the dangers at the intersection.

Superior Court judge John Meyer will hear the motion during an April 7 court hearing.

Deputy city attorney Catherine Richardson has urged the judge to block attempts to force Faulconer to the stand. Richardson says doing so would have no bearing on the case, as Faulconer was never personally responsible for handling any citizen complaints nor was he aware of the dangers of the intersection located at Canon Street near the transition ramp from Cata-

lina Boulevard.

John Aavang was pushing his daughter Juniper in her stroller at Catalina and Canon streets just after daybreak on March 2, 2015 while his wife, Ginerva, trailed behind. Aavang and his daughter were using the crosswalk when a black SUV driven by David Hoban struck them, throwing John Aavang to the side of the street while dragging the young girl's stroller for 68 feet until coming to a stop. Juniper Aavang died a few hours later. Her father, John Aavang, suffered severe head trauma.

Two weeks after the accident the Reader submitted a public records request to the city asking for any complaints submitted to the city about the dangerous crosswalk. The city responded by turning over a 2010 complaint to then-councilmember Kevin Faulconer, also a resident of Point Loma, from Jon O'Connor. In his complaint O'Connor requested that additional safety improvements he made to address what he said was a "complete blind spot for families with kids trying to cross."

Dorian Hargrove

More money to grab Mission Valley stadium land

SoccerCity backers really want that 165 acres

If nothing else, the knockdown, big-money brawl over the fate of the 165acre chunk of public land in Mission Valley otherwise known as Qualcomm Stadium would make a good case study for Harvard Business School, where transplanted New York city hedge-fund magnate Mike Stone got his MBA back in 1988.

With locals wondering if the city's politics will deliver a land-grabbing victory to the biggest spender, Stone and his well-heeled La Jolla compadres have once again opened their wallets. this time to the tune of a million dollars.

Stone's latest money move comes just days after the megamillionaire and his well-heeled compatriots disclosed March 23 that they had sunk an initial \$1,391,599 into their effort to seize control of the Mission Valley acreage by way of a petition drive to force the question to the city council, and if unsuccessful there, to city voters.

In Stone's hard-nosed Wall Street parlance, pouring cash into the pockets of a bevy of Los Angeles lawyers, campaign consultants, public relations men, and paid signature gatherers is known as "burn rate."

The Stone team's cash burn is now approaching \$2.4 million, and disclosure filings show that he and his partners are tapping into their personal funds for the money - in contrast to the billionaire Spanos family. who paid for last year's ulti-

mately failed Chargers stadium initiative with Chargers Football Company money.

CITY LIGHTS

Top-giver Stone has personally given a reported total of \$857,091, filings say, with Jon Dunbar, a partner in Stone's FS Investors, contributing the least, \$17,524.

With such spectacular stakes, it's not surprising, critics of the privatization bid maintain, that petition carriers are not always telling the truth about the terms of the 600-page measure, drafted behind closed doors by Stone's group themselves, presumably for their maximum financial gain.

How much the partners could ultimately make and other financial details are tightly guarded secrets. Nick Stone, another FS Partner said not to be related to Mike Stone, has given \$43,810 to the cause, as has Univision sports honcho Juan Carlos Rodriguez of Miami. Florida.

Ex-Qualcomm executive Steve Altman has thus far come up with \$292,565. **Bridgewest Communities,** an investment vehicle of the super-rich Tayebi brothers, have mustered \$567,265, with Pete Seidler, the wealthy Padres managing partner from L.A.'s Marina del Rev. accounting for \$569,532.

Matt Potter

LETTERS

continued from page 4

Cover story Posted March 29

Thanks. Wish that just one person like me could keep these places afloat. It's the end of a very sweet era. I know my kids in their 20s are not gonna care enough to fix this no matter how many times I took them to White Rabbit or Barnes when they were kids. I am so sorry and so sad.

- Francie Dunn

It's been going on for a while, but it's still shocking. Is buying a book from a bookstore an elitist notion? Is reading a

newspaper elitist? Or are both just unnecessary and passe? The new non-exploding Samsung smart phone costs \$650 a pop (so to speak) and that's expensive, if not elitist, especially when every family member over age 10 has a device.

Maybe this is just the outset of a trend whose end we are too preoccupied to consider. Bookstores are disappearing. Newspapers are on the ropes. Our first celebrity apprentice-President is in the White House tweeting outright lies, platitudes and exaggerations. Maybe there's much more of same to come but we are too "connected" to notice.

— monaghan



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space preserve.'

Neighbors call it sprawl. Environmental groups say it will disrupt conservation planning. Now, the draft environmental impact report for Concordia's project in rural Escondido, expected in March, has been delayed again, leaving opponents on hold until late April or mid-June.

"Safari Highlands Ranch would be terrible for San Diego's wildlife," says Dan Silver of the Endangered Habitats League, who is among those waiting for the report. Prime habitat would be chopped into pieces, he says.

At stake for the 1098-acre parcel are hundreds of acres that fall under the county's Multiple Species Conservation Program. For whatever is harmed, officials must decide if the developer can adequately mitigate the loss.

The site is home to sensitive species like the threatened coastal California gnatcatcher, a songbird fast losing ground in the county, along with the native coastal sage scrub it inhabits. The building industry has found the species such a deterrent, they've sought to have it delisted.

County planning staff are waiting for the



report, to decide if protected habitat in the unincorporated area should be transferred to the city of Escondido and the developer. Under the county's General Plan, the rural plat allows for only 27 single-family homes. The plan's guiding theme was "towns and greenbelts," Silver says.

SHEILA PELL

NORTH PARK

Last gentrify-able neighborhood

Cherokee Point is still close to the cool spots

"How many neighbors have realtors coldcalling them and sending them mail asking if we are interested in selling," said Cherokee Point resident Frederick Simson in a Nextdoor post recently. "I get about one letter a week from various flippers offering an all

Simson has been living in the Cherokee

Point neighborhood (in the middle of North Park and City Heights, off of 36th Street) since January 1993. He and his partner originally purchased their house for \$85,000. "The current value (\$486,000.00) is unreal to me."

In the next month, 7-Eleven will be moving in, just a block away from Simson's street at 3515 University Avenue. On March 1, a Public Notice of Application for Ownership Change banner was posted on the window of the soon-to-close Market Place Liquor Store.

Shortly thereafter, a Cherokee Point resident mentioned 7-Eleven moving in. Residents had mixed reactions on a big business moving into their predominantly mom-and-pop business strip on University Avenue (between the 805 and 15 freeways). The post garnered 57 comments (as of March 19). Some locals are worried that other investors will follow.

"I have a realtor friend that said 'this is the last gentrify-able neighborhood in the city and 92105 is too scary (due to new immigrants) to gentrify," Simson posted on the thread.

Kenneth Adelson, a North Park resident, did not agree with Simson's realtor friend, and said so in this post: "There's no such thing as last gentrifiable neighborhood. Neighborhoods change for better and for worse, there are always opportunities. The description of the area sounds like calling



A 7-Eleven will be moving in, just a block away from 3515 University Avenue.

Middletown, 'South Mission Hills.' It's misleading marketing, which is kind of obnoxious. I'd overlook it in isolation; but combined with commentary about 92105, new immigrants, and scary, that's stunningly judgmental about complete strangers."

Bianca lived in the Asana Apartments (the blue and gray complex to the east of the I-805 and University Avenue exit) and is house shopping in the area. She said it wasn't her making cash offers to the homeowners.

"North Park is super expensive," Bianca said. "I'm looking at Cherokee Point, where it's still close to the cool spots; but I gotta stop at the 15 freeway, though." She added that as you move east on University, especially past Interstate 15, the house prices for rent and purchase, decrease, "... and I'm just not comfortable [to purchase] at City Heights."

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Specials

YOUR VEICOME TO IT EK

Thursday | 6

FLOWER FIELDS A-BLOOM

For more than 60 years, Mother Nature has transformed the rolling hills of North San Diego County into a spectacular (albeit coordinated) display of natural color and beauty. The 50 acres of Giant Tecolote Ranunculus flowers that make up the Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch are in bloom March through May. The fields are a result of over 85 years of floral cultivation

that began when Luther Gage settled in the area in the early 1920s and began growing Ranunculus seeds in his fields next to Frank Frazee's small vegetable farm in South Oceanside. This started a business called "Luther Gage Giant Tecolote Ranunculus bulbs." The name "tecolote" came from the owls that nested on the property. \$7–\$14.

WHEN: Ongoing through Sunday, May 14, every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

WHERE: The Flower Fields, 5704

Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad. theflowerfields.com



JOE LOVANO.

Follow the storied saxman
"down a jazz
rabbit hole and
into dark terrain known only
to him," says Reader

music writer Dave Good, because "simply put, there is probably no one playing straight-ahead jazz at this man's level today." The Grammy winner will bring his Classic Quartet to the

Athenaeum series Friday night. Of Note, **page 55**

BLEACHED.

Having survived this year's South By Southwest, L.A.'s hard-rocking Clavin sisters join the Damned tour on Friday at San Diego's House of Blues. The Damned are touring to celebrate 40 years since their seminal release Damned Damned Damned Damned. Bleached just released Can You

Deal? Catch up with the Clavins in this week's Blurt, **page 51**



BLEACHED

Saturday | 8

SAN DIEGO BEER AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

Sample over 100 craft beers from local and regional breweries while Matchbox 20 tribute MatchboxTwenty Too and Foo Fighters tribute Faux Fighters perform. The event is a col-

laboration between Rockstarbeer
Productions and local
breweries to raise funds for
the Coastal Conservation
Association to combat commercial overfishing. \$35–\$60.

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 7 to 10 p.m.

WHERE: Port

Pavilion on Broadway Pier, 1000



N. Harbor Drive, downtown. sandiego-beerfestival.com

SEAWORLD'S SEVEN SEAS FOOD FESTIVAL

Every weekend in April SeaWorld will have gourmet food offerings created by the park's executive chef Axel Dirolf (who once cooked for Bill Clinton!). There are 14 distinct culinary destinations throughout the park, and guests can sample from 60 food

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Also on Sunday.

WHERE: SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive, Mission Bay. *seaworldparks.com/* en/seaworld-sandiego

CAMPAGNOLO GRANFONDO SAN DIEGO

Southern California meets Italy in this celebration of cycling, food, and San Diego's waterfront. The two-day festival features a mass-start, timed GranFondo with four route options, a timed King and Queen of the

Mountain, a bike and fitness expo,

Campagnolo ride support, and food along the course. At the finish line there's a bike valet, live music, an Italian pasta festival, a beer garden, and a post-race massages.

Rides begin at Filippi's; the expo is at Ruocco Park (near the finish line). Open to all levels of cyclists (ages 13 and up) with four route options: 20, 34, 56, and 105 miles.

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also on Sunday.

WHERE: Filippi's, 1747 India Street, Little Italy. *sdgranfondo.com*

VINDIEGO WINE AND FOOD FESTIVAL

Seventy wineries from Napa, Sonoma, Paso Robles, Santa Barbara, Lodi,



choices with international cuisine representing France, Latin America, and the Caribbean. The focus is on local, sustainable ingredients and signature flavors from around the world. Plus, each weekend three San Diego craft breweries will be featured, with brewers sharing the history of their breweries and recommending beer-food pairings, and a dozen California wine varietals will be available. Five-item sampler for \$25; ten-item sampler for \$45.

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 3 to 7 p.m. **WHERE:** NTC Park at Liberty Station, 2455 Cushing Road. *vindiego.com*

HEALTHY LIVING FESTIVAL

San Diego's largest health and fit
Dan Ste blues le the other live-actions charter than the state of the st

ness expo arrives in Del Mar for the sixth year. This event has everything "health and wellness" including cooking demonstrations, yoga and qigong and other workout classes, new health and wellness products to try, lectures and workshops, medical screenings, and over 200 exhibitors. Admission is \$10, but you get a free festival pass at healthylivingfestival.com. Tell them the *Reader* sent you.

BELLY DANCING

AND ZUMBA SHOWS AT THE HEALTHY LIVING FESTIVAL

WHEN: Saturday, April 8, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Also on Sunday.

WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. *healthylivingfestival.com*



THE TICKET. The eyes have it, and Dan Stevens has the eyes. His baby blues lent a sparkle of humanity to the otherwise bestial Beast in Disney's live-action remake of *Beauty and the Beast*. Now they're the impetus for his character's transformation in *The*

Ticket, which tells the story of a blind man who recovers his sight and runs the risk of losing his way in the process. Film critic Matthew Lickona chats with director and cowriter Ido Fluk in Movies,

page 59

Sunday | 9

CONCOURS D'ELEGANCE

Celebrating its 13th year, the renowned classic automobile showcase returns to the shores of La Jolla for a weekend of

events. For 2017 the honored marque is Packard. As the promoter says, "An integral part of U.S. automotive history, in their day Packard automobiles were a prime example of Americanmade cars at their finest, and we are pleased to present the finest specimens of these painstakingly preserved and restored automobiles." Past years have showcased horseless carriages, Italian marques, British marques, Woodies, '50's classics, American sports cars, and the automobiles of Carroll Shelby. \$65.

WHEN: Sunday, April 9, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Ellen Browning Scripps Park, 1100 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla. *lajollaconcours.com*

DAY AT THE DOCKS. The 38th annual Day at the Docks at H&M Landing in Point Loma is bigger than ever this Sunday with fishing and boating how-to seminars, exhibits by 200 fishing, tackle,

and boat

manufacturers and community groups, marine art, clothing, and accessories, and cooking demos by local chefs. Free parking on Shelter Island with shuttles all day. Get the full run-down in Waterfront, page 43

JANET'S MONTANA CAFÉ. The

Reader's Ian Anderson finds himself in Alpine and learns that eggs Benedict doesn't have to be fancy. You can do it country style, and that can include gravy. In fact, it must include gravy. Read more in Feast, page 45

York restaurant. He's afraid the waiter will know that he's on a blind date. Enter Casey, a luckless serial dater. Her sister set up the meeting. Casey sees Aaron using eye drops with a shaky hand. She orders drinks to dull the upcoming agony. As they begin to talk, their inner critics turn

people in the restaurant into vociferous yay- and naysayers. Can Aaron and Casey turn the date around "before the check arrives"?

Through May 7 at the Horton Grand.

Theater, page 58

San Diego Reader April 6, 2017



Maya looking out over Long Lake, two miles from the Little Lakes trailhead

Welcome to **Bear Country**

By Veronica Remsbottom

Although I had only been home a month, I had irrationally hoped to get my ideal big-girl job and within a few months be settled in my big-girl apartment. Since I was nowhere near that goal and was feeling low, I opted for a camping trip near

I packed a few essentials and off we went on the six-hour drive north, making a brief stop at the end to get my overnight permit at the ranger station.

The turn on Tom's Place opened onto a fresh scene: tall alpine trees and a small river running parallel to the road. There was a slight chill as the windy road took us higher in elevation. Smelling the freedom, Maya popped her head out the window with pure dog joy.

I put on my socks and hiking shoes and then the battle began. First, I had to put my food into the newly purchased bear canister. Since this was the heart of bear country, the canister is required for both human and pup food. I rushed out of the sports shop and barely paid any attention to the instructions the guy tried to give me. It was something along the lines of "Push down and twist."

At the time, I thought it was pretty self-explanatory. After all, bears don't have opposable thumbs. How hard could

I stood there in the parking lot looking at the round canister. It was worse than childproof medicine containers. After another minute of examining it, I pushed the middle and twisted the lid. Yay for thumbs. The lid was free! With dinner and snacks in the container, another battle of sticking the container into my backpack ensued. It took a few moments of wrestling my bright orange sleeping bag and manipulating the fabric to accommodate another item, but I won that, too.

Maya and I hit the trail. It was off-leash friendly, so once we were clear of the parking lot, Maya was free to run. The name reflects the trail: "Little Lakes."

A well-worn path winds around several lakes of different sizes. It's welcoming enough for novice hikers, but not overly populated to leave those of more experience annoyed. The tall, rocky-gray Blue Mountains still contain thick sheets of snow despite being the middle of July.

Maya and I veered off the path to look over one of the rocky ledges above Long Lake.

After all this time, Maya knows the routine. Although some would say as a dog she lacks such insight, she understands that a picture is always necessary. She has developed the habit of finding the highest rock nearest the edge and standing on it looking pensively at the view. She awaits patiently as I set up our friend Tripod and snap a few pictures to ensure the right angle. I set the timer, run to the spot, pose, and wait for the click. It's our thing.

While Maya sniffed around the trees, I stood there looking at the valley. The tall mountain peaks and the alpine forest reflected on the tranquil water. The warm sun and slight glacier breeze made it a perfect hiking

Settling at Chickenfoot Lake, I set up camp near the lake. Fifty feet away from water is a requirement of camping. Not quite adept at visually calculating any sort of distance, I hoped for the best, figuring that a ranger would educate me if I was in violation.

The sun had begun to set and it got chilly. Maya frolicked in the water and sniffed around within her usual range, while I set up camp. After another brief battle with the bear canister, I succeeded in rescuing my dinner and began to cook my Top Ramen in my handy-dandy Jet Boil Mini-Mo. The creator of that device is my hero.

The ranger had provided me with an education pamphlet on how to set up camp. Silliness, I thought, and didn't pay much attention to it. But as I sat there looking at the emerging but somehow ominous full moon, I read what was given to me.

A triangle diagram encouraged continued on page 36

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



San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

SUNSET CLIFFS NATURAL PARK — LINEAR SECTION

View impressive ocean views and sandstone cliffs

Distance from downtown San Diego: approximately 9 miles. Allow 20 minutes driving time (Point Loma). From I-5 N take I-8 W until the terminus then turn south (left) onto Sunset Cliffs Boulevard for 3.2 miles. At the end, veer to the left onto Ladera Street. Park in the signed parking lot toward the end of Ladera Street. Alternatively, intermittent parking can be found along Sunset Cliffs Blvd past the intersection with Adair Street. Facilities in the Ladera Street parking lot. Hiking length: 3.0 miles round trip. Difficulty: Easy. Minimal change in elevation (less than 50 feet). Check tide schedule.



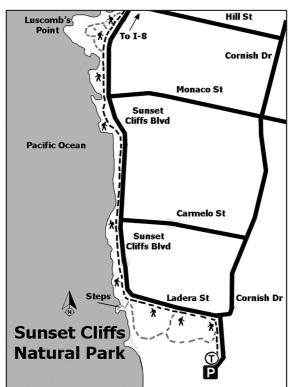
View of the natural bridge in Sunset Cliffs Linear Park

unset Cliffs Natural Park, a 68-acre City of San Sunset Cliffs Natural Fairs, a 56 doi: 2.1., Diego regional park, offers spectacular sunset viewing, as implied by the name; however, beauty can be found at any time of day. The park is most commonly enjoyed as a 1.5-mile walk along sheer cliff faces along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard from its intersection with Adair Street in the north to Ladera Street in the south. This portion of the 18-acre

Linear Section of the park is complemented by a hillside component that encompasses land at the south end of the park. Parking in the lot just off Ladera Street gives easy access to both sections of the park and is often more plentiful than parking along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. If parking in the lot, begin the trail on the north end of the parking lot, which immediately descends with a few stairs.

Follow the trail along a 1.5mile stretch of Sunset Cliffs Boulevard before turning back to return to your car.

Dramatic ocean views and impressive cliffs overlooking pocket beaches are the hallmark of this park. The sandstone cliffs erode naturally with wave action, though this process is dramatically hastened by urban runoff. A walk along the Linear Section of the park shows many examples of human-caused erosion. In some areas, one must venture onto sections of the main road: however, these sections are separated from traffic by small barriers. If you visit the park between December and March, head down to one of the benches near the intersection of Hill Street to look for migrating grav whales in the distance. This is also a great spot to watch sea birds such as pelicans, western gulls. and cormorants glide above the ocean's surface. The stairs at the corner of Ladera Street and Sunset Cliffs Boucontinued on page 37



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.

door bar/venue into a one-night pop up art gallery, premiering work by ten local artists including Veeejzilla, Becx, Phoebe Jade San Miguel, and Serwa Deloyi, along with music by Coastal, Yung Mondi, Martin Salazar, and The Travelers Club. Thursday, April 6, 6pm; free. Park & Rec, 4612 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Dan Camp: Watercolors and Drawings The graphite wash drawings and watercolors on dis-

play represent work done during the artist's tenure as professor of Art at Mira Costa College (1977-1990). The watercolors are pleinair depictions of scenic spots along the coast and in North San Diego County The graphite works range from life drawings to landscapes. Most works were either completed in one session from life or taken back to the studio to complete. Friday, April 7, 6pm; free. Brokers Building Gallery, 402 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Fobia: Artist Reception A participatory project with internationally acclaimed artist Shinpei Takeda in Art Gallery D101. Part performance art, part site-specific installation, Fobia will debut on April 6 as a completed collection of works after three weeks of site-specific, process driven artistic production. Takeda has woven a safe space structure inside the gallery and invited attendees to meet with him and divulge their deepest fears, phobias, and anxieties, conversa-

tions which guided Takeda's artistic process. Each encounter with an attendee resulted in the production of a physical, tangible visual manifestation of the stories shared. Thursday, April 6, 4:30pm; free. Mesa College Art Gallery, 7250 Mesa College Drive. (MESA COLLEGE)

Friday Night Liberty San Diego's biggest monthly art event. Meet working artists, enjoy dance, theater, and music performances, visit museums and galleries and explore

the growing district. Visitors can start their stroll at the Dick Laub NTC Command Center at 2640 Historic Decatur Road and pick up a monthly program and district map. Info: 619-573-9304 or awaltz@ntcfoundation.org. Friday, April 7, 5pm; free. NTC at Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. #UBERTY STATION

Helen Schafer Garcia: Seeds of Inspiration The opening reception will have 95-100 original ready-to-

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Baby Days at the Oasis Camel Dairy Our monthly animal farm show is all about babies. Meet our newest family members: two baby camels and miniature baby doll sheep lambs. 1:30 Animal Show featuring talented performing birds, crazy racing turkeys, working farm dogs, and majestic camels. Take a camel ride, taste real camel milk chocolate, and shop our Rare Milk Camel Milk Skin Care products in the home grown farm boutique. An easy drive in the country on your way to Julian Pie. Saturday, April 8, 1pm; Sunday, April 9, 1pm; \$7-\$10. Oasis Camel Dairy, 26757 Old Julian Highway. (RAMONA)

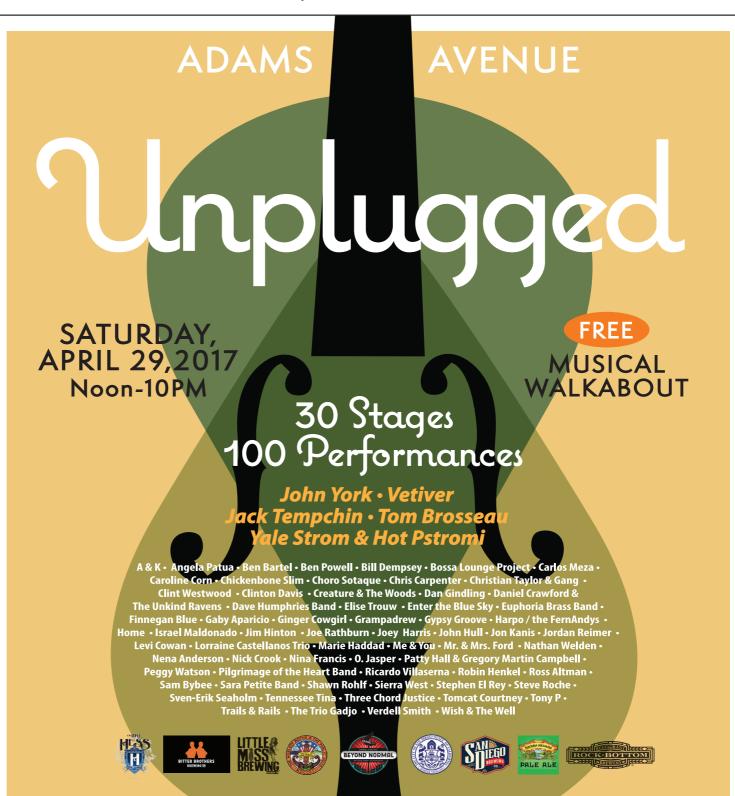
Butterfly Jungle Each spring the Safari Park's Hidden Jungle rain forest greenhouse is filled with 10,000 exotic butterflies of all colors and sizes, and guests can walk among them, take photos, and learn different species using a butterfly identification guide. If you wear bright colors, a few might just perch on you to take a closer look. Free with park admission, \$42 children, \$52 adult. San Diego Zoo Safari Park, 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Exotic Animal Expo 6th annual event. Project Wildlife, PEAC, Cheyenne Arabians & Miniatures, Legalize Ferrets, and The San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society will be in attendance. We will have everything from shells to scales and feathers to hoof stock. Enjoy raffles, music, snacks, and more. Info: 858-488-0658. Saturday, April 8, 12pm; free. Turquoise Animal Hospital, 950 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

ART

April Artist's Reception The San Dieguito Art Guild invites the public to an artist's reception honoring Yanina Cambareri (watercolor) and Eva Zuzuarregui (jewelry). Born in Argentina, Yanina Cambareri now lives in Encinitas. The daughter of well-known Argentinean artist Pascual Cambareri, Yanina studied Fine Arts at Mesa College, concentrating in black and white photography as well as pencil and charcoal drawing. Her favorite medium is now watercolor. Saturday, April 8, 4pm; free. Off Track Gallery, 937 S. Coast Hwy. 101, suite C-103.

Art & Rec University Height's Park & Rec will transform its out-



29

San Diego *Reader* April 6, 2017

hang paintings for sale plus wine, food, and the fellowship of other art enthusiasts. Friday, April 7, 5pm; free. San Diego Watercolor Society in the Arts District Liberty Station, 2825 Dewey Road #202. (POINT LOMA)

Infinity Cube Infinity Cube is a new, immersive art installation that explores bioluminescence by combining glowing creatures with world-class science, hightech projection and an original soundscape. Step into an 8-foot cube and become surrounded by video projections of single-celled marine organisms - called dinoflagellates - reacting to various stimulants such as the human heartbeat, music, water flow, and air pressure. Through activities and interpretation accompanying the installation, guests will have opportunities to learn more about the phenomenon of living light and how marine species use it for camouflage, protection and communication. The Infinity Cube opens April 7 and is included in the cost of Birch Aquarium admission. Friday, April 7, 9am; \$14-\$18. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Lee Sie Photography: Opening Reception Join us for the unveiling of our Spring Exhibit featuring local fine art photographer Lee Sie. RSVP to be part of an evening enjoying small bites and sips and the opportunity to meet Lee. Friday, April 7, 5pm; MK Envision Galleries, 2710 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 17. (IJBERTY STATION)

Paintings by Kevin Inman New paintings by Kevin Inman include urban landscapes of gentrifying downtown neighborhoods and still lifes that explore existential and political issues through a personal iconography. Wine and cheese reception Friday, April 7. Friday, April 7, 5:30pm; **free**. Girard Gourmet, 7837 Girard Street. (LA JOLLA)

BEER

Bikes and Beers Now in its 4th year, Bikes & Beers returns to San Diego offering participants a fun and scenic ride around San Diego that finishes with a beer festival outside Mike Hess Brewing in North Park. Features a 15-mile and a 30-mile ride. Saturday, April 8, 9am; \$45. Mission Bay Sports Center, 1010 Santa Clara Place. (MISSION BEACH)

Macrame and Succulents Join in on this groovy macramé and succulent collaboration between the Women's Craft Beer Collective and Rain to Roots. Learn to macramé a simple plant hanger and add your own personalized potted succulent. All materials will be included along with a craft beer tasting by Culture Brewing Company and appetizers. More pictures available at: @ womensbeercollective @raintoroots. Saturday, April 8, 2pm; \$65. Mint Studio, 5965 Village Way. (CARMEL VALLEY)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Alexander P. Butterfield Alexander P. Butterfield will discuss Bob Woodward's book *The Last of the President's Men.* "There's more to the story of Nixon," confided Alexander P. Butterfield, the aide who disclosed the president's greatest

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Marie Parrish

Heritage He sits

Bent over a book

He stands on steps

And looks to the future

The one he doesn't know I'll have

Frozen

A beaker

My future

4th
San
and
that
side
ark.
mile
\$45.

Lips tight, determined forehead
He sits
On a bench frozen
Black in a white frame
In a White
Place
There's no name
And then one name, Oscar
Then two, Oscar Valdez
I watch you as hazy memories of my mother hover in my eyes

Oscar Valdez An uncle

A medical student?
There's no one to answer
But the dead
And the history lays forgotten
In a crumbling album

In a crumbling album
Frozen in black and
White

Seducing Seduction

The rumors have already settled in her ears Whispers pulled away the covers from curiosity, arousing her from her slumber Now his hands run under the covers where she lies Drops of sweat decorating her body

Her moans lick at his ears
Fingers frolic lightly down his back
Burning the Kama sutra on the stretch of skin,
A manual that leads to numerous tangents
All with the same result

He dips down, a lion, Drinking in her nectar of choice Coco Mademoiselle, letting it sink into him Like the smell of gasoline; He sparks it aflame

She looks up, eyes half mast Catching him like moth to a light She leans up, he lets her, As her lips write a never-ending story, He helplessly provides the blank pages.

This is why she came back, The woman as elusive as the wind. She was supposed to be irresistible, Uncatchable,

But a forever continuing story kept bringing her back.



Marie Parrish is a Los Angeles native. She received a bachelor's in literature and writing as well as a degree in music from California State University San Marcos. When she isn't writing, she can be found baking, hiking, and advocating for social justice. She is currently working towards her M.ed in education literacy and language at the University of Washington.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry





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secret – the taping system that provided the evidence of his Watergate crimes and ended the Nixon presidency. For three years as Deputy





Assistant to the President, working and watching from an office adjoining the Oval Office, Butterfield was often the first to see Nixon in the morning and the last at night, the ultimate insider and the most dangerous witness. Butterfield supervised the installation of the taping system and was one of a handful who knew about it Even Nixon's top aides, Henry Kissinger and John Ehrlichman, were not aware of it. In his memoir RN, the president wrote that he believed the secret "would never be revealed." Butterfield's insights reveal Nixon's secrets, rages, obsessions, and deceptions

and his vindictive preoccupation with disinformation and suppression of the press, especially *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post.* Sound familiar? Sunday, April 9, 2pm; **free**. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Local Children's Author Festival Join us as we celebrate local children's authors. Panel discussion at 11 am will be followed by meet-and-greet with book sales and signings at noon. Moderated by local children's author, Salina Yoon, author of titles including the "Penguin and Pincone" series, "Found," and over 100 other titles.

Local children's author panelists include: Lora Crommett author of "The Blue Witch (Who Dared to Be Different)"; Adrienne Falzon, author of "Selfish Sally," "The Search for the Perfect Shell," and "What is an Angel?"; Karen Fernandez, author of "ABC Trace and Say Alphabet Book," and others. Saturday, April 8, 11am; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Marissa Hermer: An American Girl in London Marissa Hermer owns Bumpkin restaurants in London and is the star of Bravo's "Ladies of London." She lives in London



levard offer a breathtaking journey down the cliffs to the north end of Garbage Beach, which can be explored at low tide.

As you observe the vegetation throughout the park, many of the plants you will encounter are invasive species. These plants evolved in other geographic areas and were brought to California. They often spread rapidly and make habitat unsuitable for animals that once called the area home. While they add color to the landscape, their sinister effects on the area's ecology should not be overlooked. Crystalline iceplant (Mesembryanthemum crystallinum) with succulent leaves; prickly Russian thistle (Salsola tragus), which resembles a very spiky tumbleweed; Bermuda Buttercup (Oxalis pes-caprae), with bright yellow flowers and heart-shaped leaves;

the wide-leaved Cheeseweed (Malva parviora), and Garland Daisy (Glebionis coronaria) with lacey leaves and cheery flowers are abundant. In contrast to these invasive species, California encelia or sunflower (Encelia californica) is a native shrub that blooms abundantly in the spring months and adds a welcome sunflower-yellow flower to the cliffs. Heading south from the parking lot, you will notice a revegetated area that is filled with native species including juvenile Torrey pine (Pinus torreyana).

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to lead interpretive nature walks that teach appreciation for the great outdoors. For a schedule of free public hikes, refer to the San Diego Natural History Museum website. Hike descriptions are also found in Coast to Cactus: The Canyoneer Trail Guide to San Diego Outdoors.

with her husband and children. Thursday, April 6, 7:30pm; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Patricia Daly-Lipe: Historic Tales of La Jolla Author Patricia Daly-Lipe tells the stories of the people and places that have molded the village of La Jolla into a natural and cultural wonder, making it a world-class destination, including Ellen Browning Scripps, the famous Children's Pool, the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, Theodor Geisel, and more. A native La Jollan, Patricia Daly-Lipe has also written for the La Jolla Village News and served as president of the La Jolla Branch National League of American Pen Women. Saturday, April 8, 3:30pm; free. La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Susan Meissner Enjoy a lunch with Susan Meissner, author of award-winning books such as The Shape of Mercy, The Girl in the Glass, and A Fall of Marigolds. Menu options: roasted salmon or chicken pineapple skewers. Presented by the American Association of University Women. Info: 619-

593-1528. Saturday, April 8, 11am; \$50. Joe and Vi Jacobs Center, 404 Euclid Avenue. (EMERALD HILLS)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Alice's Table: Uncork, Sip Back, and Relax The flower arranging can take anywhere from one to two hours, depending on the complexity and format of the arrangement. Alice's Table provides aprons. Working with flowers can be messy, so make sure to wear something you won't mind getting a little dirty. Wine is available for purchase. We provide the flowers, vases, and tools you will need to create your arrangement. Friday, April 7, 6pm; \$65. KoiZen Cellars, 12225 World Trade Dr. (POWAY)

Cartoon Your Image Turn a photo of your pet or someone you know into a colorful cartoon through guided instruction with a professional artist. 11"x14" canvas, pre-drawn sketch of your photo, and all painting supplies are provided.

Great for beginners and family fun. Thursday, April 6, 6pm; \$45. Love-joy Creations Studio, 2690 Historic Decatur Rd., #201. (LIBERTY STATION)

Cultivating Conversation: Sam the Cooking Guy Engage with local experts and enjoy authentic farm-to-table cuisine from a celebrated San Diego restaurant. Sam lives in San Diego, in the house where he shoots his shows—a real guy, in his real kitchen, cooking food for real people. Featured restaurant Tender Greens believes there should be a conscious connection between the one who eats and the food source. Executive Chef Jeff Hubbard and Regional Chef Pete Balistreri will create a farm-to-table meal showcasing local produce, proteins, and grains. Info: 619-434-4281 or claire@olivewoodgardens.org. Saturday, April 8, 5pm; \$75. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Make It Yourself Community Art Class A weekly art class held in the ChuckAlek Biergarten (yes, adults, you can drink while you and/ or your child create). All media: sculpture, painting, drawing, weav-

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EXPERIENCE L!FE

Bishop continued from page 34

campers to put the tent at one point, bear canister at another, and other food associated camping supplies in a third area.

Being a big fan of *MacGyver* and *Swiss Family Robinson*, I opted to place the bear canister on a leeward rocky ledge and then add rocks on top. Should a bear feel so inclined to nosey his way into my little camp and try to devour my snacks, I would hear him and be prepared. Snugly into a tree, I put my other supplies in a plastic bag and hung it appropriately.

With the moon brightly shining over us and the air far too cold, Maya and I tucked ourselves into the tent.

As I did anytime I was free-camping, I ensured that my knife and taser were in a quick-grab position. I imagined various bear-attack scenarios and designed exit strategies accordingly. Confident that Maya and I would be able to survive, I fell asleep to the whistle of the wind in the middle of a chapter of *The Sun Also Rises*.

Regardless of how easy it is for me to sleep almost anywhere, my brain still adjusts to my surroundings. As intuition deems, I wake up periodically to use my senses ensuring I am still safe.

This night was no different. I woke up around 2 a.m. But this time, something was amiss. Maya was fast asleep at my feet. Normally she's quick to alert me of noises. But not tonight.

I heard something, but I couldn't identify it. Was it just the wind dancing in the trees and playfully throwing water against the rocky edges of the lake?

Nope. Something else.

Then I heard it. In the direction of the bear canister, something hit the ground.

Whatever had dropped the canister from the rock was rolling it around.

Wide awake, my ears were listening for every single movement of whatever creature was out there. I held my breath. Best guess was a bear. I really wanted to peek my head out with my camera. It would be such a beautiful picture: the bear next to the lake under the full moon. But of course practical me knew better. I remained still. Maya continued to sleep. I wondered if a barking dog would frighten or challenge the bear. I should have asked the ranger...

Soon the creature got bored. I breathed again.

Until I heard the footsteps in front of my tent. I snuggled deeper into my sleeping bag while envisioning and mentally preparing for my bear battle. Another few footsteps and then... silence

I listened for a few more minutes until my adrenaline and curiosity ceased. I opened my tent and peered outside. The moon hung in the sky while the stars twinkled. Peace.

I fell back asleep and awoke to the dawn light. Maya woke up and we shimmied out of the tent.

Wondering if perhaps it was just a dream or my wild imagination, I walked over to the bear canister.

It wasn't a dream — the canister clearly had been tampered with. Yesterday it was safely in a box. Now it had scratch marks. Welcome to Bear Country.

ing, clay, and more. Pay what you can, Saturdays, 2pm; through Saturday, May 27, free-\$5. Art Produce Gallery, 3139 University Avenue.

Reiki, Gemstones, Oils, and Chakras Join Dr. Emily Poccia, N.D. and Amanda Dahl, reiki practitioner as they discuss energetic health through reiki, gemstones, essential oils, and balancing the chakras. We each have an energetic blueprint that makes us exactly who we are — our energy DNA. There will be mini demonstrations, handouts, and time after the class to receive mini sessions from these practitioners if you chose. Saturday, April 8, 10am; \$20. Restor Medicine, 928 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION

Urban Garden Join EcoVerse for classes on urban gardening. Ranging from classes on the different methods of composting to crash courses in hydroponics, we strive to show you all you need to know to become an urban gardener. EcoVerse is an education center for sustainability focusing on informing the public on how to be better stewards to our earth. Classes have a \$10 suggested donation. Saturdays, 1pm; through Saturday, December 23, free-\$10. Ecoverse at Jing Si Books & Cafe, 302-304 11th Ave. (EAST VILLAGE)

Workshop: How to Create a Masterpiece Use a wide variety of masters' techniques through drawing, painting, and sculpting to make your own masterwork. Robin Douglas will explore the basics of design for dynamic and intriguing imagery.

Loquats and 8 Balls

t's strawberry season for San Diego farms, meaning baskets of the bright, red fruit will be plentiful in April. Expect to find many locally grown strawberries at farmers markets across the county, and taste the sweetness coming off our wet winter.

Up in Escondido, JR Organics says this year's crop of organic berries offer smell, color and taste that are "one of a kind." It will also see summer squashes start to come into season, including zucchini, the straight-neck gold bar squash (also called yellow zucchini), and 8 ball squash, which shares the flavors and speckled green skin of zucchini, but with a spherical shape that's better for stuffing.

Rodney Kawano's farm in Oceanside also has strawberries and summer squash coming in, plus onions coming midmonth. On the cruciferous side, it continues to furnish broccoli and Brussels sprouts, while vegetable options also include snow peas, carrots, kale and Swiss chard. Among Kawano's unusual offerings are mushrooms, with Shitake, oyster, crimini and white button mushrooms for sale at his market stands.

Bonsall's Adam Maciel Organic Farm doesn't offer strawberries, but its loquats are coming back into season. The Maciels see fewer of the tart fruit coming in compared



Taste the sweetness of locally grown strawberries thanks to San Diego's wet winter

Stehly's Hass and reed har-

vests are a huge reason San

Diego's the largest producer

of avocados in the nation

to last year, but they're also larger. Since these juicy apple relatives don't ship well, finding them local is key. On the vegetable side.

their market stands will feature the usual assortment of leafy greens, fresh herbs, and root vegetable, including Japanese turnips, which tend to be milder and sweeter, with delicate

enough skin that the whole thing can be enjoyed raw.

Out in Valley Center, Stelhy Farms has strawberries in a big way, and anticipates larger than average attendance at its annual

> Strawberry U-Pick Festival on April 8. Its seeing the tail end of its orange season, though plenty of blood oranges remain, and it's prime time for Stehly tangerines. The organic

farm's also beginning to harvest its Hass avocados in April, and vegetable wise, they

tell me an asparagus crop "is really poppin right now."

Second generation California farmer Jerome Stehly founded Stehly Ranch to raise chickens back in 1962. It quickly evolved to one of the area's larger produce growers, and today the 278-acre ranch grows avocados, citrus, strawberries, blackberries, and assorted vegetables. Stehly's sons, Jerome and Noel, took over the farm in 2002, and the brothers changed the name to Stehly Farms Organics, to reflect the property's certified organic designation.

In addition to its Strawberry picking event, the farm opens to the public to pick from its pumpkin patch in October, and hosts a blackberry fest in June. But the farm's best known for its tree crops. Its Hass and reed harvests are a huge reason San Diego's the largest producer of avocados in the nation. It also raises quite a lot of citrus fruit, including grapefruit, orange, and tangerine varieties.

Locally, Stehly produce is sold in its proprietary Stehly Farms Market locations in Bay Park and Kensignton, as well as larger grocery outlets such as Jimbo's, Whole Foods, Cream of the Crop, Seaside Market, and the People's Market co-op in Ocean Beach.

Ian Anderson

All supplies provided. Thursday, April 6, 1pm; \$30-\$40. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. Zero Waste: Organics Workshop Learn how to keep organics out of the landfill by shopping smart, storing food properly, and

composting your scraps. We'll also

cover water conservation tools, such as ocean friendly gardens and laundry-to-landscape systems. Activities include: An interactive demo to learn how to build a vermicompost bin, a kids' craft corner, Swap 'n Shop. Participate by bringing any gently used items to exchange for another's goods. An opportunity drawing for great prizes. Sponsored by the City of Encinitas. Saturday, April 8, 10am; free. Ocean Knoll Educational Farm, 701 Bonita Drive.

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COMEDY

Adam Sandler & Friends Sandy Wexler's Here Comes the Funny tour, with Adam Sandler, Rob Schneider, David Spade, and Nick Swardson. Saturday, April 8, 8pm; \$75-\$275. Harrah's Resort Southern California, 777 Harrah's Rincon Way. (VALLEY CENTER)

David Feherty One of professional golf's biggest personalities, David Feherty brings his "uncensored and unhinged" (Golf Digest) one-man show to the stage of San Diego's Balboa Theatre. In Live Off Tour! Wandering Around On His Own, the pro golfer turned broadcaster and best-selling author takes audiences on a wild ride that mixes biography, comedy, and commentary. Friday, April 7, 7:30pm; \$49-\$63. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

David Koechner Actor, writer and producer David Koechner is best known for his roles as Todd Packer on "The Office" and Champ Kind from "Anchorman" and "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues." Koechner received rave reviews for his role in the dark, twisted and film festival award-winning thriller "Cheap Thrills." He recently starred in Legendary's "Krampus." On the small screen, Koechner currently appears in Comedy Central's "Another Period," ABC's "The Goldbergs" and voices reoccurring characters on FOX's "American Dad" and Netflix's "F is for Family"

and "All Hail King Julien." Friday, April 7, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, April 8, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, April 9, 7pm; \$20. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Critical Care: A Satire About the Complications of Dying in the Hospital A satire about American medicine and keeping patients alive, including the role of insurance. R rated. A young doctor finds himself involved in a fight with two half sisters over the care of their ailing father. With Helen Mirren, Anne Bancroft, Albert Brooks, and James Spader. Our movies don't usually make you laugh, but this one should. Discussion to follow. 1997, directed by Sidney Lumet. Hemlock Society of San Diego, 619-233-4418. Sunday, April 9, 1:30pm; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Island Earth Cyrus Sutton's documentary-style film tells the tale of indigenous scientist Cliff Kapono and his struggle for truth between science and tradition as he enters an industry that many feel is threatening his homeland of Hawaii. This film captures our moment in time, where two separate paths are being forged at once: one that builds upon the past in the name of progress, and the other that rejects the past in the name of progress. The film is appro-

priate for all ages and addresses the question: How are we going to feed the world without destroying the planet we live on? Screening is at 6 pm followed by a Q&A with Cyrus Sutton. Sunday, April 9, 6pm; \$8-\$9. Bird's Surf Shed, 1091 W. Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

FOOD & DRINK

Strawberry U-Pick Festival
Pick your own berries! Admission
also includes a picking container, a
farm tractor tour guided by owners,
Noel and Jerome Stehly, a petting
zoo, maze, little train ride and playground. Food for purchase – tacos,
salad, flatbread pizza's, gelato and
smoothies. Purchase tickets online
for \$6 per person before the event.
On the day of the event tickets will
be \$7 per person. Children 4 and
under are free. Saturday, April 8,
9am; \$6-\$7. Stehly Farms Organics,
12630 Santa Catalina Road. (VALLEY

Tiki Happy Hour with Mixologist Daniel Parks Break out the mini umbrellas and island attire because George's Level2 is hosting a special Tiki inspired happy hour with guest mixologist Daniel Parks. Originally from San Diego, Parks worked at Trader Vic's among other bartending gigs before helping open the uber-popular Pagan Idol in San Francisco last year. Now he's bringing his Tiki know-how to Level2 for a night of specialty cocktails. Friday, April 7, 4pm; free. George's at the

Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

FOR KIDS

Hand-Painted Eggs Learn to decorate wooden Easter eggs with colorful floral patterns. Artist Julie Marriott will lead you through mixing your own acrylic paint colors and composing simple patterns. Each student will take home four eggs. Ages eight and up. Saturday, April 8, 11am; \$35. Mint Studio, 5965 Village Way. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Paseo Del Rey Egg Hunt Join the fun at this free event made for toddlers through first graders. Children older than six are welcome with their younger siblings. Activities include face painting, a craft, story, games, snack, and thousands of eggs. 14th annual event. Info: 619-421-7733. Saturday, April 8, 9:30am; free. Paseo del Rey Church, 900 Paseo del Rey. (CHULA VISTA)

Skate Rising: For Girls A learn, serve, and skateboard program for girls between the ages of 5-18 every second Saturday of the month in Encinitas. Does your daughter want to learn how to skate? Try it out at our skate clinic sponsored by SkateXS for beginners skaters. Snacks and drinks provided by Nekter Encinitas and pHive Bar. Fun raffle for the participants, with items donated by local businesses. Saturday, April 8, 9am; free. Academy Skatepark, 1410 Vantage Court.

LECTURES

Demystifying Myths About Fertility Men and women are invited to hear fertility specialists Antoni Duleba, MD, and Mike Hsieh, MD, discuss treatment for infertility, including both male and female conditions. The UC San Diego Health physicians will also report on the latest discoveries in fertility science and answer common questions about conceiving. Registration is required. Thursday, April 6, 6pm; free. UCSD Moores Cancer Center, 3855 Health Sciences Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Women in Science Women have played an important role in the development and dissemination of science. Having made significant contributions to science from the earliest times, they were leaders in building the early foundation of modern programming and unveiled the structure of DNA. Their work inspired environmental movements and led to the discovery of new genes. Inspiring more young women to pursue careers in science starts with simply sharing the stories of these pioneers. Friday, April 7, 5pm; free. Women's Museum of California, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16, #103. (LIBERTY STATION)

NATURE

Bracken Ferns are rising on the higher mountains of San Diego

County, their bright green, unfolding fronds (called "fiddleheads") pushing up through the russet remains of last year's growth. By late April or May, fully opened ferns will line the creeks and hollows of the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains.

Fremont Cottonwood Trees along the San Diego River in Mission Gorge will show off their best iridescent green foliage this month. The Old Mission Dam parking area on Father Junipero Serra Trail, off Mission Gorge Road (west of Santee), is a good place to begin a stroll on trails near the riverbed. Be careful — as April temperatures rise, rattlesnakes will increasingly be out and about.

Warmer Temperatures and less rain coincide with the subtle onset of coastal San Diego's spring season. By April's end, the intermittent showery periods, Santa Ana winds, cold nights, and crystalclear, sun-drenched days of winter will likely be distant memories. The nocturnal, low overcast hugging the coast, which may linger until the late morning, will gradually build into "May gray" and "June gloom" — the days-long episodes of perpetual overcast most common during May and June.

Citizen Science: Wildlife Tracking in the River Park Calling all Citizen Scientists! A fun morning of tracking wildlife in the River Park. Learn how to identify tracks and from coyotes, bobcats, raccoons, deer and other wildlife in the area. Come prepared to hike and search



The Coming of Gluscabi

After Tabaldak had finished making human beings, he dusted his hands off and some of that dust sprinkled on the Earth. From the dust Gluscabi formed himself. He sat up from the Earth and said, "Here I am." So it is that some of the Abenaki people call Gluscabi by another name, "Odzihozo," which means, "the man

who made himself from something." He was not as powerful as Tabaldak, The Owner, but like his grandchildren, the human beings, he had the power to change things, sometimes for the worse. When Gluscabi sat up for the Earth, The Owner was astonished. "How did it happen now that you came to be?" he said. Then Gluscabi said, "Well, it is because I formed myself

from this dust left over from the first humans that you made." "You are very wonderful," The Owner told him.... "I am wonderful because you sprinkled me," Gluscabi answered...Then the Owner said, "Behold here how wonderful is my work. By the wish of my mind I created all this existing world, oceans, rivers, lakes." And he and Gluscabi gazed open-eyed.

- From "The Coming of Gluscabi" in Native American Stories Told by Joseph Bruchac

Joseph Bruchac (b. 1942) is an American writer and anthologist with a particular focus on northeastern Native American and Anglo-American lives and folklore. The author of poetry, novels, and short stories, Bruchac is descended from the Abenaki,

one of the Algonquianspeaking peoples, and also has English and Slovak ancestors. Coauthor with Michael J. Caduto of the Keeper of the Earth series, from which the above selection was culled, Bruchac has also been instrumental in helping many Native American writers find publishers.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship



for real tracks as part of the San Dieguito Citizen Science Monitoring Program with Jess Norton of the SDRVC. Saturday, April 8, 10am; Sikes Adobe Farmhouse, 12655 Sunset Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Seaside Neighborhood Native Plant Garden Tour See over 18 native-plant gardens. Plant experts and neighborhood locals will lead a 1.5 mile walking tour to see these front yard gardens. Kids will be selling lemonade and cookies along the route. Sponsored by the Oceanside Coastal Neighborhood Association, OCNA101.org, and the Buena Vista Native Plant Club. Info: 760-439-2473. Sunday, April 9, 2pm; free. St. Mary, Star of the Sea School, 515 Wisconsin Avenue, (OCEANSIDE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Art Night Casbah Post punk and dark wave music by Dreams Made Flesh with special guest John Mattos, Blood Ponies, Trip Advisor, L1ght Ra1L; gloomy and elegant art by Nicola Wilson, David B. Cuzick, Texas Poo, Jess Bergman, and others; fashion designs by Damion Ryura; and belly dancing by Sabrina Fox. Info: 619-540-0310. Saturday, April 8, 8:30pm; \$8. Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

Coronado Flower Show The Coronado Flower Show is held annually on the third weekend of April in Spreckels Park in the center of Coronado's Village. The Coronado Flower Show is the largest tented flower show in the nation. Exhibits are placed inside tents surrounding a central gazebo, which becomes the stage for continuous entertainment, announcements, and trophy presentations. Saturday, April 8, 1pm; Sunday, April 9, 10am; \$5. Spreckels Park, 601 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Cultural Celebration 2017: Heroes Around the World

Join us for our annual Cultural Celebration 2017: Heroes Around the World. You and your family all are invited to join us at Thurgood Marshall College to experience one of the longest standing traditions at UC San Diego. Celebrate cultural diversity and unity through food, dance, music, and art from around the world. Savor interna-

\$15

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Connie Marriott *schedule subject to change, check website calendar for changes For Urgent Prayer Request call 619-246- 5929 Readings, Healings, and Counseling by appointment http://www.1st-spiritualistchurch.org 10am Sundays CITY HEIGHTS 3777 42nd Street 619-284-4646

ST. JAMES BY-THE-SEA FPISCOPAL CHURCH Chanticleer

Chanticleer will present My Secret Heart, including works by Tomás Luis de Victoria, Francisco Guerrero, Eric Whitacre, Sergei Rachmaninov, Stephen Foster, Cole Porter, and Noel Coward. The program includes a world premiere by Finnish composer Jaakko Mäntviärvi and some of Augusta Read Thomas' "Love Songs." 4pm Sunday, May. 7. LA JOLLA 743 Prospect Street 858-459-3421

SAN RAFAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH **Come Touch**

the Robe Composed by Pepper Choplin, sung by traditional choir of San Rafael. Focuses on the personal contact between the woman who touched Christ's garment and whom he healed, 4pm Sunday RANCHO BERNARDO 17252 Bernardo Cente

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

ST. ANNE'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH **Chant Camp**

June 26-30. Open to young voices aged 8-18 vrs. old. Attendees will learn to sing the prayers of the Psalms and the Saints through the chant of the Church Days run from 10am-3pm and include lessons in Gregorian chant, as well as recreational activities Rehearsals will culminate in singing for a High Mass on the Friday with a pot-luck party afterwards. Open to non-parishioners on Apr. 3. 9am Monday, Jun. 26. LOGAN HEIGHTS 621 Sicard Street 619-239-8253

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL

Holy Week

You are welcome and

Central

invited to join us for our Holy Week services: Palm Sunday April 9th 10 am Service * Maundy Thursday

Service * April 13th at 6:30 pm Good Friday Service April 14 at 12 noon and 6 pm * Easter Sunday Service * April 16th at 10 am Childcare available for all services with the exception of the Good Friday Service at noon 10am Sunday, 6:30pm Thursday, Apr. 13, 12pm & 6pm Friday, Apr. 14, 10am Sunday, Apr. 16. LA MESA 8360 Lemon Avenue

619-466-1261

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ST. DUNSTAN'S **EPISCOPAL CHURCH Grief Share Recovery** Group

A 13-week program meets every Wednesday from 5-6:30pm. Books sold for \$10. For more information call Dessie at 619-564-8222 or Debbie at 619-540-3272. 5pm Wednesdays SAN CARLOS 6556 Park Ridge Boulevard 619-460-6442

ST. THERESE OF CARMEL CATHOLIC CHURCH **Mass with Ola Gjeilo** & String **Orchestra**

The Sunrise Mass with string orchestra features music by Norwegian composer-in-residence Ola Gieilo with Voces8 in Manhattan, 3pm Sunday, CARMEL VALLEY 4355 Del Mar Trails Road 858-481-3232

SAN DIEGO HISTORY

Making Matzah Memories: Passover Stories, Songs, and **Activities**

Join us for a family friendly

program open to anyone that would like to learn about and share Passover traditions! One of the most well-known Jewish holidays Passover is the celebration and remembrance of freedom, Join the History Center as we explore the customs of this holiday and the Jewish community's impact on San Diego. . Tours of our exhibition Celebrate San Diego! The History & Heritage of San Diego's Jewish Community, beginning at 11:30am, 1pm, and 2:30pm • Matzah-making demonstration and tasting, on the half hour . Art activities, throughout the day · Storytelling and songs from performer Karen Golden, beginning at 11am, 12:30pm, 2pm, 3:30pm • Fused glass workshopmake a mezuzah cover or coaster with artist Ilanit Shalev (upcharge \$55/person). All children must be accompanied by an adult. Free activities, donationbased admission to the museum, 11am Sunday BALBOA PARK

1649 El Prado, Suite 3

619-232-6203

ASCENSION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Eight-week course taught by Domenico Camplisson, MTS. 6:30pm Thursdays. TIERRASANTA 11292 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard 858-279-2735

CONGREGATION BETH

Tribes and Peoplehood

Part of Tribes of Israel series. This lecture is by Elana Stein Hain. 7pm Thursday, May. 11. A LIOLA 9001 Towne Centre Drive 858-535-1111

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Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archie Thompson & the Archtones and guest musicians. 4:30pm Saturdays. DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO 320 Date Street 619-232-7513

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM Passover 1 4 1 Seder



2nd Night Passover Seder Reserve now \$25 adult \$15 children. Mail check to Temple Beth Shalom of Chula Vista or call 858-344-5632 to pay by credit card. Office number 619-420-6040http://www.bethshalometemple.com 6pm Tuesday, Apr. 11. CHULA VISTA 208 Madrona Street 619-420-6040

\$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.

tional cuisine and pick up artisan crafts from local vendors. Enjoy free, live entertainment from campus and community organizations. Engage your little ones in educational and interactive exhibits at the Children's Village. Saturday, April 8, 10am; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Drink Play Create: Flashback Friday The New Children's Museum is throwing it back to the 80s and 90s with our latest Drink Play Create event: Flashback Friday. We'll be celebrating our favorite eras with the greatest hits, signature cocktails, beer, grilled cheeses and our throwback-themed art show: Sitcoms and Sneakers. The event will take place from 7-10pm. Want to party late? Join us for our after party from 10pm-midnight. Friday, April 7, 7pm; \$15-\$35. New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (FAST VILLAGE)

First Thursday Anniversary Party Join San Diego Made at the Lafayette Hotel in North Park from 6:30-9:30pm for the one-year anniversary party of their monthly First Thursday event. Live music by Whimsy, over 30 local makers, calligraphy workshop, happy hour all night, free photo booth, free give-aways, and more. Screen-printed tote bag for first 15 people. Thursday, April 6, 6:30pm; free. Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Victorian Day in the Garden

The Poway Historical and Memorial Society hosts. Welcoming the springtime, we will have starter plants, crafters, speakers, music, and a huge rummage sale. The Poway Farmer's Market will be in full swing, and you can take a ride on the Poway Railroad. Saturday, April 8, 10am; free. Old Poway Park, 14134 Midland Road. (POWAY)

SPOKEN WORD

Poetry Party Read your favorite poetry, or make the scene and soak it all in. Bring your poetry, share, and stay for the experience. Info: 619-569-4922. Friday, April 7, 2:30pm; free. Balboa Park Club & Ballroom, 2144 Pan American Road West. (BALTON)

Shakespeare & 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. Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, December 17, free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Steve Kowit Poetry Prize: Awards Ceremony Prizewinning poets read their poems at the Art Gallery on the campus of Southwestern College. Live jazz music in the adjoining patio. Free admission, free parking, free refreshments. Presentation of \$1350 in cash awards to winning poets. Sponsored by the San Diego Entertainment + Arts Guild, the San Diego Poetry Annual, the Chula Vista Cultural Arts Commission and Southwestern College. Hosts: Vallo Riberto, curator, Art Gallery at SWC; Bill Harding, chair, SDEAG and Publisher, San Diego Poetry Annual. Saturday, April 8, 2pm; free. Southwestern College, 900 Otay Lakes Road. (CHULA VISTA)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Pro Wrestling: Batallas en el Barrio This month we have "Snowflake" The Human Tornado debuting, "Dirty" Ronald McDonald defends the title. The Vegan Superman battles Rocketboy Wilson in six-man tag action. Friday, April 7, 7:45pm; \$10-\$20. VFW Don Diego 7420, 2100 Logan Avenue. (BARRIO LOCAN)

Super Awesome Showdown

Super Awesome Showdown-Intergalactic Combat brings to life fantastic-action packed stylized combat, special effects, popular music, and epic adventure. Within the confides of the Intergalactic Battle Grid, Earths mightiest heroes and villains compete for the most prized possession in the universe, the Quasar Codex. Legend tells that the wielder of the Quasar Codex has the ultimate power! Saturday, April 8, 8pm; \$5-\$35. Tango Del Rey, 3567 Del Rey Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Celebrate Easter at Emmanuel Faith!



Good Friday, April 14 Noon, 6:30 & 8pm Easter Services, April 15-16

Choir & Orchestra in the Worship Center Saturday, 7pm | Sunday, 8 & 9:30am

Contemporary Praise in the Worship Center Saturday, 5:30pm | Sunday, 11am

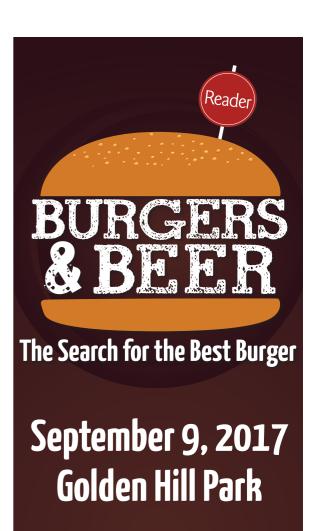
Modern Worship in the Chapel Saturday, 5:30pm | Sunday, 9:30 & 11am

En Español in the Amphitheater Sunday, 9:30 & 11am



Emmanuel Faith Community Church (760) 745-2541 | www.efcc.org/easter 639 E. 17th Ave., Escondido, CA 92025





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Tides

		LOW	TIDE			HIGH	TIDE	
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
HU, APR 6	12:50	1.7'	1:28	-0.4'	6:42	5.2'	7:59	4.8'
RI, APR 7	1:40	1.2'	2:07	-0.4'	7:35	5.3'	8:29	5.2'
SAT, APR 8	2:22	0.7'	2:40	-0.3'	8:20	5.4'	8:57	5.4'
SUN, APR 9	2:59	0.3'	3:09	-0.1'	9:00	5.3'	9:23	5.6'

Waves (BIRDROCK)

Height	Direction	Interval
2'-3'	SSW	15 seconds
2'-3'	WNW	12 seconds
3'-4'	WNW	11 seconds
4'-6'	WNW	7 seconds

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

EVENTS

Day at the Docks This annual event provides marine attractions for the family and the sportfishing enthusiast. Activities include \$3 boat rides on San Diego Bay, displays by marine artists and fishing tackle experts, food, entertainment, fishing seminars, an open house aboard sportfishing boats, kids' fishing, contests, prizes, and more. Sunday, April 9, 9am; free. H&M Landing, 2803 Emerson Street, (POINT LOMA

Lake Jennings Spring Carnival Third annual event. The Kids Pond will be fully stocked for kids under ten to catch a fish. 1700 lbs. of trout will be stocked that week. 2000-egg-hunt for children under ten in Hermits Cove at 1pm with a special sectionedoff area for those three and under. Free hot dogs at 11:30am in Hermits Cove as well. Day use fee (non-fishing): \$2. Adult fishing permit: \$8. Children under 8 free with paid adult or \$4. Children 8-15 fishing permit: \$4. Saturday, April 8, 9am; Lake Jennings, 9535 Harritt Road. (LAKESIDE)

Outrigger Canoe Club Meet-Up San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club is looking for a few good men and women to join our club. If you enjoy working out, love the ocean and being outside, and are a little bit competitive, you'll love outrigger paddling. No cost to check it out, and we'll have a paddle for you, Saturdays, 8:30am; through Saturday, February 3, free. 18 and up. Campland on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

San Diego Harbor Cruise A sightseeing tour of San Diego Bay with a professionally narrated tour of more than 50 landmarks. We'll cover over 13 miles on the Big Bay. passing by Seaport Village, Shelter Island, ship-building and dry-docking facilities, Coronado Island, Point Loma, and Cabrillo National Monument, among many others. As we sail we'll see marine animals and majestic sea birds, and we'll talk about what local environmental efforts are doing to protect them. You'll have plenty of opportunity to capture the sights in photos and video. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; Mondays, 10am; Tuesdays, 10am; Wednesdays, 10am; through Sunday, December 31, \$25-\$30. Hornblower Cruises, 970 N. Harbor Drive, (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego River Assessment Field Team The River Assessment Team walk different segments of the San Diego River in the Mission Valley area to identify issues affecting the river. Volunteer reconnaissance of these areas to effectively plan cleanup events is important. Volunteers are invited to attend any and all, depending on ability level as the team will work in areas of varying levels of difficulty. Must be 18 or over to participate, and this is not open for court ordered community service. Contact the San Diego River Park Foundation at volunteer@sandiegoriver.org. Tuesdays, 9am; through Tuesday, December 26, free. San

Diego River Park Foundation, 4891 Pacific Highway. (MISSION VALLEY)

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; free. Bali Hai, 2230 Shelter Island Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Sights and Sips A two-hour cruise on San Diego Bay with a boarding glass of champagne, light hors d'oeuvres, buffet style, and steward-passed Hornblower Signature Cocktails and Monthly Drink Specials. DJ entertainment. Fridays, 5:30pm; through Friday, October 13, \$37. Hornblower Cruises, 970 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Waterski and Wakeboard The Convair Waterski Club is active year-round on Mission Bay. The club provides two ski boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding, with free instruction and equipment available on request. Meet at the south end of Crown Point Beach, 3500 Crown Point Drive. Guests of any skill level are welcome. Info: convairwaterskiclub@gmail.com. Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, December 17, free. Crown Point, 3700 Crown Point Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Whale & Dolphin Watching If you love whales, dolphins, and sea birds, hop on board for an experience on the open ocean. We'll speed out to sea on a yacht and pass barking sea lions and leaping dolphins as we search for the legendary gray whales, known for migrating the longest distance of any mammal on Earth. Two cruises daily from December 10 to April 23. Thursdays, 9:30am; Fridays, 9:30am; Saturdays, 9:30am; Sundays, 9:30am; Mondays, 9:30am; Tuesdays, 9:30am; Wednesdays, 9:30am; through Sunday, April 23, \$46. Hornblower Cruises, 970 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Whale Watching Each year approximately 20,000 gray whales migrate from the Bering Sea to the lagoons of Baja California and back again. From December through April you can witness this amazing journey off the coast of San Diego on educational whale watching excursion with Flagship Cruises & Events and our partner of 17 years, Birch Aquarium at Scripps. Get a deeper understanding of the ocean ecosystem and real-time commentary on the whales, dolphins, sea lions, and other sea creatures. Outdoor 360-degree views, indoor seating, professionally guided narration, coupons to Birch Aquarium. Morning cruise boards 9am; afternoon cruise boards 1pm. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; through Sunday, April 9, \$20-\$45. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



Pres. Trump's new Sec. of Interior has reversed the Obama administration's ban on lead sinkers.

Tungsten smaller, lead cheaper

Ryan Zinke, President Trump's new Interior Secretary, one day after his March 1 confirmation, announced a reversal of the Obama administration's ban on lead used in fishing sinkers and tackle on federally controlled waters.

In a published statement, Secretary Zinke said, "Outdoor recreation is about both our heritage and our economy . . . [the industry] generates thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity."

The ban was reversed, according to Zinke, to highlight the need for additional review by the fishing industry and recreational angler organizations.

"This is very good for fishermen," said Wayne Kotow, executive director of Coastal Conservation Association — California, a San Diego-based lobbying and activist organization representing recreational anglers. "Science has proven that lead sinkers are not harmful to fishermen or the environment. Show me one fisherman that has ever been diagnosed with lead poisoning. Hasn't happened," said Kotow.

Tungsten is an alternative heavy metal that is used for sinkers. Jason at Oceanside's Pacific Coast Tackle store said, "Tungsten provides the same in weight at about two-thirds the size." Other anglers feel that tungsten sinkers provide a better sensitivity feedback sitting on a lake's bottom.

But increased cost may be an issue. At Pacific Coast Tackle, a 1/4-ounce sliding sinker made of lead sells for \$3.69 for a pack of six. A similar bullet-style tungsten sinker sells for \$1.59 each.

"The anti-lead sinker fight in California is just starting," says Coastal Conservation Association's Kotow, as the state Department of Toxic Substances has put the industry on notice that it has begun to zero in on lead in sinkers, tackle, and ammunition.

Political footnote: Unlike most Repub-

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

REDS, YELLOWS, AND THE BLUES

Dock Totals 3/26 - 4/1: 1,914 anglers aboard 71 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 84 bluefin tuna, 1,562 yellowtail, 3 calico bass, 9 sand bass, 3,395 rockfish, 371 sanddab, 6 halfmoon, 8 lingcod, 4 halibut, 5 bonito, 170 sculpin, 1 sheephead, 40 bocaccio, 1 rubberlip seaperch and 15 whitefish.

The rockfish bite locally and south of the line is

heating up with lots of reds and vermilions coming over the rail. The lingcod numbers, along with whitefish, dropped off a little even though they tend to bite well along with the rockfish. Sometimes, it is just a matter of getting a bait or jig down through the rockfish and the rockfish just won't allow it. For that reason, when targeting lingcod in a good bite, I like to use a large plastic on a head large enough

Water Conditions

LOW HIGH 64°F

5'-15'

The best days for those peering around underwater will be midweek to early Friday. Strong onshore winds and a driving head-high swell will reduce visibility and create strong rip currents over the weekend. The surf should be best Friday and early Saturday before the wind fuzzes it up. Saturday afternoon through early next week it will be basically blown out. 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

<u></u>		CAT SAT	MON	WED
APRIL	THUR 6	SAT 8	MON 10	WED 12
SUNRISE	6:30	6:28	6:25	6:23
SUNSET	19:12	19:14	19:15	19:16

12H 46M

Moon Calendar

LENGTH OF DAY 12H 42M



Kids fishing area at Day at the Docks



Shelter Island boat ramp — will the new one catch a lot of kelp?

licans, Secretary Zinke has championed clean-energy and global warming legislation. Prior to serving in the White House, Zinke, a former Navy SEAL, served in the Montana State Senate before being elected to Congress in 2014.

— Ken Harrison

Tie a knot, dunk a captain, fillet a fish

Every spring the Day at the Docks takes over the sportfishing landings at Scott and Emerald streets in Point Loma. In the normal migration patterns, this is usually the slow time of year, especially for pelagic species — the tunas, yellowtail, and white seabass normally do not come near our waters until late spring, and the larger glamour fish, like marlin or mahimahi (dorado), don't show north of the border until mid to late summer.

That has not been the case the past

few years. We've had fishing nearly year-round on yellowtail. Half-day boats have been chasing tuna within sight of Point Loma. A blue marlin was caught from a bass boat within 10 miles of downtown. A 45-pound yellowtail was caught from Mission Beach jetty.

This year, due to a predicted cooler trend as the effects of the strong El Niño fades, the migratory species, the pelagics, are seemingly holding to their recent patterns as the old patterns return. The yellowtail have continued to bite, bluefin tuna are already in our local waters within one-day range, and white seabass are stacking up at Catalina and San Clemente Islands. The kelp beds that have been stunted by warm water are already coming back.

The docks celebration on Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., will feature open houses aboard boats; fishing and boating seminars; kids fishing area; cooking demos

by local chefs, fish fillet demos, live music, contests for casting and knot tying, a captains' dunk tank, and three-dollar boat rides around San Diego Bay.

— Daniel Powell

Hunker down for a bigger basin

On April 11, the Port of San Diego board of commissioners will consider a contract for improvements to the Shelter Island boatlaunch facility. Originally constructed in the 1950s, the ramp is believed to be the busiest in California.

The lowest bidder was R.E. Staite Engineering, coming in at \$8.6 million. According to Rafael Castellanos, vice chairman of the port's board of commissioners, "The new boat launch will have walking platforms with viewing decks surrounding the launch basin. It will be a bigger basin so more people can use it with less congestion."

During construction, the boat launch will be subject to closures except during the summer months when one lane will remain open.

12H 50M

12H 53M

Glyn Fricker said he's down at Shelter Island about three to four times a week. "The new design will catch a lot of kelp. It will be a full-time job for someone to pull all that kelp out."

Also, "My concern is that the money will run out and it won't be completed on time. You don't get that much for \$10 million."

Fricker said he isn't sure how one lane at the boat launch in the summer is going to work for locals, especially considering Seal Tours has a contract that reputedly gives their amphibious vehicles priority access at all times. "The launch ramp is used by a lot of charter operators, a lot of unlicensed operators. It just seems every time I turn around, there is another tourist operation."

— Julie Stalmer

to get it down. Something around 8" with a lot of flashy flakes in it, regardless of color. Then, I'll add a whole sardine or a strip of mackerel to 'up the action'. This is not a guarantee to avoid the reds, the big ones will certainly eat a big plastic, but it does limit the little guys from eating up the bait before a ling or bigger rockfish does. The yellowtail bite is pretty solid for the $\frac{3}{4}$ day boats out looking for the bluefin tuna. A lot of these fish are about 10 to 15 pounds but there have been a few in the 20s, the larger coming from closer in along the kelp beds off La Jolla. The smaller yellowtail are about 3 years old now

and are probably entering their first year of sexual maturity and some anglers are keeping one or two and releasing the rest. The Bluefin tuna are still around and biting well at times, while other times they seem to have sewn their lips shut. That's early season tuna fishing. The fact that they are in US waters and within ¾ day range makes the gamble worth it for most anglers, especially if a slow day on the tuna includes near limits of yellowtail. Nearly two-thousand anglers showed up to the landings last week, the fishing was very good all around, and as far as I can tell, nobody is crying the blues.

Top performing boats of the week:

4/1: It was no foolin' when the Dolphin took 25 anglers out on a ¾ day run for limits of 125 yellowtail. The Tribute went offshore overnight with 33 anglers aboard and reported 13 bluefin tuna and 93 yellowtail caught.

3/31: 38 anglers aboard the Electra ½ day run out of Oceanside caught a nice mix of 2 sculpin, 111 sanddab, 37 rockfish, 1 halibut and 6 bocaccio.

Fish Plants: 4/11, Lake Cuyamaca, trout (1,200)

Surfer hours

The sun's last horizontal rays make my hot dogs look especially red and delicious.

ever?"
"Never."
The three of us stand, jaws on the floor. Cameron, me,
Lavonn.

"Trust me," says Eoghan,
"Michaela has never eaten a hot
dog in her life. Me neither."

We're standing on a deck
beside this li'l ol' 1960 Shasta
travel trailer "snack shack,"
parked on the corner of Sunset Cliffs Boulevard and Point Loma Avenue.

Turns out Michaela and Eoghan (pronounce it "Ian") are from Northern Ireland.

"Actually," says Michaela, "we call it 'the North of Ireland,' those of us who want a united Ireland."

"Well, are you willing to try a dog?" asks Cameron. He's the barista.

The two look at each other.

"All right, then," says Eoghan.

"Uh, want mustard, relish, ketchup on that?" says Cameron.

They nod.

"And sauerkraut?"

"Sauerkraut? What's that?"

OMG. None of that in the North of Ireland either? Cameron gives Michaela a sample. She tastes it. "Thanks, but no thanks."

Gal ahead of me, Lavonn, has ordered a "Surf Check Latte," caramel chai, with cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, steamed milk and whipped cream. Costs \$5. She's from L.A.

"Nothing like this in L.A.," she says. "We have food trucks, but this trailer is way cooler."

I like this end of O.B., even though the only time you read about it is when somebody falls off a Sunset Cliff.

"We've been here five months," says Cameron. He says it was a local, Richard Aguirre, who had the idea. Seems Richard made his money selling real estate in the area, then took 20 years off to go surfing, then bought this 1960 Shasta travel trailer, converted it into

this coffee shack, and opened up right here, 20 yards from the cliffs. He called it "the Surf Check" because here is where surfers come to

check the waves.

A 1967 VW bus comes putt-putting up. Same light blue and white colors as the trailer. Guy hops out. "This is Richard," says Cameron.

"I paid \$1000 for the trailer," says Richard. "Wanted to make

it into a snack shack, like the little trailers they had at stadiums in the 1950s."

Their hours? Surfer hours.

"We open 30 minutes before sunrise and close 30 minutes after sunset. Every day. Mainly coffee, chai, açai, smoothies, plus a few snacks, toasted-cheese sandwiches, and hot dogs. That's it," Richard says.

Oh, yeah. Reminds me: Could do with a nice hot drink right now. "Guess I'll try your chai," I say. I point to Lavonn's drink. "And what do you have to eat?"

"Well, normally we have toasted-cheese sandwiches, but my buddy just left with the last one," says Cameron. "So I guess we're down to the hot dogs."

The good news? The dogs cost only \$2 each. Such a deal. I ask for two.

But first, he brings out a cardboard holder with the two hot dogs for Michaela and Eoghan.

"If these are your first-ever dogs," Cameron says, "then it's on us. This is a historic moment."

The hot dogs are squiggle-squirted with ketchup and mustard. (Ketchup? You know these guys ain't from Chicago.) But also in there is relish and onions.

So, we all make a big deal about Michaela taking her first-ever bite of a hot dog.

She bites, she chews, she swallows.

"That's the worst hot dog I ever had," she says. "And the best hot dog I ever had. Honestly, it was fine."



Sea dogs? Gina holds my \$2 hot dogs at the sea wall

My two dogs come next. Along with the steaming chai. "That's Richard's invention," says Cameron. "Cardamom, cloves, cinnamon, black tea. It's our biggest seller."

"We used to have tables and umbrellas on my deck here," says Richard. "But the city came and objected."

Man. What's the city's problem?

Maybe it's that Richard started "Save Sunset Cliffs" to fight to get action on the eroding cliffs around here, but without ruining Sunset Cliffs' character and surfing traditions.

"What these people won't recognize," he says, "is that the erosion happens from the top, not the bottom. Rain drain-off, not the waves below. See Point Loma Avenue? Water races down there and pours over the cliff. We need a proper storm-drain system to capture runoff water before it reaches the cliffs."

He says the city is doing diddly-squat about it. "But, hey, it's okay for me: my house is two blocks back. In a couple of years that's going to be the waterfront. We'll have waterfront views!"

I can see through the caravan's back door that the sun's about to take the plunge into the ocean. I collect my chai and my hot dogs.

"Think I'll take these two dogs for a walk."

I head down the end of Point Loma Avenue to the railing. Below, the rocks, the waves, the buffeting wind. The sun's



Michaela eats her first-ever hot dog



Lavonn with her \$5 Surf Check chai



Botticelli's *Venus Rising*? Gina saves dogs from rising tides.



Richard Aguirre

last horizontal rays make my hot dogs look especially red and delicious. Oh, man. Light ain't gonna last.

Guy and a gal are staring out to sea. They turn to each other. Lock bodies and lips in a pretty passionate embrace. Hate to interrupt. But gotta get a pic, now.

"Uh, excuse me. Need an extra pair of hands here. Could you...?"

The gal, Gina, is the one to break off. "Sure," she says. And takes the dogs and holds them out to the ocean, like a sacrifice in ancient times. The wind blows her squirrely blonde hair sideways across her face. Suddenly, she looks like the Botticelli painting, *Venus Rising from the Sea*.

I thank her, and, finally, take a chomp. The relish and the mustard come through. And the chai — not usually my thing — is sweet, interesting. Can pick out the cinnamon and cloves. I dunno. Yes, the dogs are a little cool, but the cliffs, the food, the trailer, the Irish honeymooners, the guys, Venus, they all keep me warm as I chomp my way back to the last Sunday bus out of O.B. ■

The Place: The Surf Check, 1404 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard (at Point Loma Avenue), 619-226-6279 **Hours:** 30 minutes before sunrise till 30 minutes after sunset, daily

Prices: Hot dogs, \$2; Big Pup (2 dogs and a soda), \$5; Little Pup (one dog and a soda), \$4; toasted-cheese sandwich, \$5; Surf Check chai, \$5; drip coffee, \$3

Bus: 35

Nearest bus stop: Point Loma Avenue at Sunset Cliffs Boulevard (except Sundays, when nearest stop is Cable Street at Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, ¾ mile north)



Free Breakfast

Purchase 1 entrée and 2 beverages, get 1 entrée of equal or lesser value free! Valid Mon–Fri, 7–10am. Excludes Acai and Pitaya Bowls. No online or photocopied coupons accepted.



109 Jamacha Rd. El Cajon

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Easter Brunch at Kings Inn!

Please join us Sunday, April 16 for a Holiday Buffet in **The Amigo Spot** 11am–3:30pm (last seating at 3pm)

Breakfast Favorites and an Omelet Station, Traditional Mexican Dishes and Freshly Made Tortillas, Carved Roast Beef and Glazed Ham, and the Chef's Delectable Dessert Display

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Call for reservations: **619-297-2231** 1333 Hotel Circle South, San Diego, 92108

The Waffle Spot will serve their full menu from 7am to noon.

ull bar selection available. Beverages not included. Gift certificates and discounts are not honored for holiday events.

Promotional Discounts, Gift Certificates, and Coupons are not accepted for Brunch.

Benedict's hangover

For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit SDReader.com/feast

It starts with biscuits and ends with gravy

Janet's Montana Café, 2506 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine. I enjoy eating oxymoronic foods, so when

I was looking for a place to eat breakfast in Alpine I zeroed in on a place called Janet's Montana Café

so I could try the country-style Eggs Benedict.

There is no certain origin to Eggs Benedict. Stories range from it being a French invention to being a hangover breakfast custom ordered by a

man named Benedict at New York's famed Waldorf Astoria hotel.

In any event, pairing poached eggs and hollandaise sauce doesn't sound much like a country-style meal. I've seen California Benedicts (with avocado) and eggs Florentine (which subs spinach for the usual ham), and I was curious to see what a country take would entail.

Well, it starts with biscuits and finishes with gravy, which kind of makes sense.

Janet's Montana bakes its own pies, cookies, muffins, and cinnamon rolls and conjures up huge

square buttermilk biscuits smothered with sausage gravy.

Which fits the rustic-cabin-in-Montana vibe Janet's is going for. The wooded dining room features a stone fireplace and is decorated with

Old Town Tequila Factory.com

taxidermy and deer-antler chandeliers. The woodsy back patio would fit in anywhere in big sky country.

Really, the main thing distinguishing the \$13.95 country-style Benedict from Janet's \$12.25 order of biscuits and gravy with sausage patties and egg is that the eggs are poached. But I do suppose poaching is the fanciest way to cook eggs.

These were more a chewy style of biscuit than flaky, and both biscuit and eggs were a holding vessel

for the rich, creamy gravy and sausage.

It's somewhere on the spectrum between satisfying and heavy, a dish made winning by the charming atmosphere. Were I feeling like

a sweet dish, I could have opted for cinnamon roll french toast, which would seem a worthy sugary counterpart to the Benedict's sodium punch.

Eating breakfast with my mother en route to Anza-Borrego, she declared that this a place she'd like to bring the grandkids. I bet that french toast would do a fine job of spinning them up for a long mountain or desert hike.

by Ian Anderson



The \$13.95 country-style Benedict

The Old South in the Old West

New Orleans Creole Cafe, 2476 San Diego

Avenue (in the Whaley House gardens), Old Town. Between the quality shows at Cygnet Theatre and the lighthearted comedy of Old Town Improv, I've been finding more reasons to spend time in Old Town, an area that, along with the Gaslamp, I once

dismissed as a destination more for tourists than locals.

On a recent Friday night, my husband David and I were looking for a place to grab dinner before catching an improv show, but we weren't interested in any of the myriad Mexi-

David called up a map of the area and announced that there was a restaurant called New Orleans Creole Cafe right in the heart of Old Town. We raised our brows at each other in surprise, but I can't say why — it's not like Old Town has only Mexican restaurants. Right around the corner was Harney Sushi, and across the street was O'Hungry's, which features standard American fare.

I think perhaps we were baffled at how there could be a New Orleansthemed restaurant in town that David didn't

already know about. For many years in a row, visiting New Orleans was how we celebrated David's birthday, as he is quite fond of the cuisine there.

New Orleans Creole Cafe is tucked behind and to the right of the Whaley House Museum. Unlike the storefronts lining the sidewalk (reminiscent of the stark dusty roads lined with no-frills facades), outside the restaurant feels more Old South than Old West — there's a brick patio that overlooks the Whaley House's yard, with lush grass and looming pepper trees that were planted in the 1870s. All around, little white lights dangle like blossoms.

It was a chilly evening, so we opted to sit inside. The dining room is a small wood cabin with seats for just over 20 guests (David suggested it would



A silky, creamy cheese sauce made this mac-n-cheese the evening's champ.



The intimacy of the cabin encourages inter-table conversation.

be a cool venue for a private party). The room has three solid walls and the one containing the doorway, which is the only way in or out, and it's how the servers come and go to and from the kitchen in the adjacent building. Against the wall opposite the doorway was a wooden cabinet filled with dishes and bedecked in Mardis Gras-colored tinsel and themed masks. On the walls to our right and left were historical photographs of Old Town.

When we walked in, there were no employees, just a friendly couple seated at one of five tables who insisted that we grab our own seat. The intimacy of the cabin encourages inter-table conversation, and while we waited for someone official to appear we learned the couple was visit-



The woody dining room features a stone fireplace and deer-antler chandeliers.

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Calendar

ing from east Texas, bordering Louisiana. The restaurant was recommended to them by an employee of the hotel at which they were staying. They were eager to judge the authenticity of the gumbo.

The servers were friendly and seemed bemused to discover us sitting inside (there must be an entrance we missed). While reading the menu, David lamented there were so many different dishes he wanted to try, but then there on the back was "Le Petit Menu." Smaller, cheaper portions meant that we could taste around a bit. We ordered four small dishes, so the prices below reflect the smaller portions.

Though David still prefers the thinner-sauced BBQ Shrimp at Mr. B's in New Orleans, his favorite item this night (and my second favorite) was the BBQ Shrimp with Rice (\$12.50). The shrimp was heavily sauced, with a thick spicy-sweet sauce that was more sweet than spicy. Evens so, by the third bite, when the mild heat begins to catch up, it became even more mouthwatering.

My favorite was the Macaroni and Cheese with Andouille sausage (\$8). The Texan couple had warned me against ordering this dish. The woman said, "Why would you go to a Creole restaurant and order mac and cheese?" Can't tell you, lady. I guess I had a hankering for comfort, and I was curious.

I wasn't into the sausage, so David ate those bits. But the macaroni was perfect, not overcooked or undercooked, and the cheese was so silky and creamy I could sip it like soup; it was packed with buttery, brothy flavor but magically lacked any sense of grease or oil.

I only had a small bite of the Dark Jambalaya with Beef Sausage (\$8.75). Partly because I'm not into jambalaya, but mostly because I was, from that point, only interested in my mac-ncheese dish, to which I'd since added a few dashes of hot sauce and a dollop of the BBQ sauce from the shrimp for even more layers of flavor. As jambalayas go, David said this one was a little blander than he might have preferred, but he enjoyed it fine enough after adding some salt.

Of course we had to try something with the word "creole" in it, so the fourth dish was the Chicken Creole (\$12.50). The sauce was bright and tomato-y, with no discernible pepper kick. It featured the classic creole trinity of onion, celery, and green pepper, all stewed together with the diced tomatoes and whatever herbs the chef prefers (usually at least a bay leaf and garlic, and of course a few kinds of pepper, including cayenne). This probably would have been a better dish to start with, because after I'd blasted my taste buds with that rich, deep BBQ sauce and the cheese, it seemed almost one-dimensional.

We didn't get more than a few bites into the one dessert the restaurant offers, Bread Pudding with Whiskey Sauce (\$5), but it was worth it. We were shocked at how huge the portion was. Meanwhile, across the restaurant, which had since filled up with two large parties and one other couple (with more people, mostly families, out on the patio), the East Texans were nodding approvingly. The man even held up his empty plate, where gumbo had once been, and mentioned he'd sopped up every bit of it with the bread.

by Barbarella Fokos

Little Lion cubs

The Little Lion Café, 1424 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach. The Little Lion Café inhabits a tiny building at the edge of Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, right at the point where the long straight street becomes a winding road that hugs the coastline. The Little Lion Café is owned and operated by three granddaughters of Don and Arlene Coulon, former owners of the Belgian Lion in Ocean Beach. Anne-Marie is chef; Jacqueline, beverage director and front of the house; and Dominique (marketing and branding). Their motto: Food is love, love is family.

A friend who lives in the area hosted a group dinner there a few months ago. I remembered enjoying every bite, but it was one dish in particular that I was eager to have David try — the Flash Fried Cauliflower with capers, jalapeño, and lemon sumac yogurt.

When I finally brought David back with me, it was a foggy Wednesday afternoon with a marine layer was so thick we couldn't see the ocean. The cauliflower wasn't on the day menu, but the silver lining around this cloudy day was an entire new set of options to explore, including brunch (the day menu is in effect from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.). The drink choices were extensive, from elaborate smoothies (e.g., Chocolate Hemp, with hemp milk, agave, vanilla, cocoa, peanut butter, banana) to mimosas to house-made "tonics and elixirs." I opted for a bottle of Lorina Sparkling Lemonade (\$4).

We ordered the Local Avo-

cado Toast (\$9), figuring it as an appetizer, but what arrived could have stood alone as an entrée. A long slice of La Brea Baguette was buried beneath the avocado and a salad of shaved vegetables and herbs tossed in Green Goddess dressing, all of which was accompanied by a medley of seasonal fruit. The vegetable mixture was a toothsome salad, and the tartness of the dressing contrasted nicely with the rich, creamy avocado.

I ordered the Classic Cobb Salad (\$13) with mixed greens, poached chicken, bacon, gorgonzola, egg, tomato, avocado, and champagne vinaigrette. I've been on a cobb salad kick lately, so I couldn't help but compare this version to my recent favorite at Kensington Café. I lamented the lack of a creamy rich dressing such as ranch or blue cheese, as I've come to associate that as part of a "classic cobb." The champagne vinaigrette was too tart for the bacon and avocado and seemed to clash rather than compliment the gorgonzola. The upside to this dish was the generosity of fresh garden ingredients, which I ended up enjoying without the dressing.

David gushed over the House-Smoked Salmon Plate (\$14). The presentation was a designer's delight, and the accoutrements were above and beyond: shaved onion, capers, créme fraiche, herbed farmers cheese, sieved egg, and toasted La Brea baguette. The salmon was not too heavily smoked, wasn't overcooked, and had a fresh, clean flavor. It reminded him of the typical bagel and lox show but with an inventive decision to use cooked salmon filet in place of lox. If there is one improvement to be made, David says it would be to add more sieved egg, which he enjoyed, though there was only a bite of it.

I still want to bring him back at night to try that cauliflower. Based on this meal, David says he can't wait.

by Barbarella Fokos

FOOD & DRINK

Tiki Happy Hour with Mixologist Daniel Parks Break out the mini umbrellas and island attire because George's Level2 is hosting a special Tiki inspired happy hour with guest mixologist Daniel Parks. Originally from San Diego, Parks worked at Trader Vic's among other bartending gigs before helping open the uber-popular Pagan Idol in San Francisco last year. Now he's bringing his Tiki know-how to Level2 for a night of specialty cocktails. Friday, April 7, 4pm; free. George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

VinDiego Wine and Food Festival Seventy wineries from Napa, Sonoma, Paso Robles, Santa Barbara, Lodi, Washington State, the Santa Lucia Highlands, and Temecula will pour 300 world-class wines at Liberty Station. Smallproduction and award-winning pinots, zinfandels, and syrahs can be paired with food samples from Chez Loma, Nobu, Solaré, and The Main Course Restaurant (25 participating restaurants in all). In between drinks you can bid on items at the VinDiego Silent Auction, with all proceeds benefiting the San Diego Italian Film Festival and It's All About the Kids Foundation. Saturday, April 8, 3pm; \$115-\$150. NTC Park at Liberty Station, 2455 Cushing Road. (LIB-ERTY STATION)







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HAPPY HOUR

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

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.

BARRIO LOGAN

MishMash: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 craft beer, \$5 wine. *Sunday*, 9-1pm: Open for brunch with \$4 mimosas.

RONITA

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

Romesco: Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$5 tortilla espanola, \$6 salmon carpaccio, christorra, champinones al ajillo, \$8 tuna sashimi, \$13 cazuelita cachete. Bar only. Sunday, 11am-8pm: \$5 tortilla espanola, \$6 salmon carpaccio, christorra, champinones al ajillo, \$8 tuna sashimi, \$13 cazuelita cachete. Bar only.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Conway's Irish Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm: \$2.75 domestic drafts and bottles, wells, \$8.50 domestic pitchers.

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

Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co.: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off pints, wells, and house wines, \$12 house pitchers. Sunday, 11am-9pm: \$1 off pints, wells, and house wines, \$12 house pitchers.

CITY HEIGHTS

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.

CORONADO

Costa Azul: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30pm-6:30pm: \$3.25 domestic beer, \$3.95 draft beer, house wines, \$4.50 sangria, \$7.95 signature drinks, \$23 beer buckets (6 bottles). *Sunday*, All day happy hour: \$3.25 domestic beer, \$3.95 draft beer, house wines, \$4.50

BEER NEWS BY IAN ANDERSON

When life hands you Lemon Grove, make beer

Out of 18 incorporated cities in San Diego County, only two do not have a craft brewery or tasting room in the works. One of them is trying to change that.

The City of Lemon Grove wants craft beer and the city of about 26,000 has been making moves designed to attract small businesses to its downtown village area.

"Lemon Grove is a throwback to the 1930s, and we're trying to give it new life," says city manager Lydia Romero. "Mixing some of the kitschy uniqueness of Lemon Grove with some urban flavor." As high-priced real estate and overcrowding has pushed home buyers east the past few years, Lemon Grove's population has grown and experienced a demographic shift toward younger residents. In the meantime, it's also seen a change of leadership. Romero's been city manager for a year, and a new mayor was elected in November. Three of its five city council seats have changed hands since 2014.

"There is a consensus," Romero says of the new government. "They want economic devolvement that meets the needs of residents, and they've been hearing the residents want these nice brewpubs...as well as a variety of restaurants to come in that's not fast food."

Lemon Grove's director of development services, David DeVries, points out that roughly 400 new homes have been built in Lemon Grove over the past six years, including an 84-apartment development about to be completed at city center, beside one of its two trolley stops. "People are moving to Lemon Grove because they see the possibilities that are here," he says, citing affordability, large lot sizes, walkability, and a convenient location ten minutes by freeway or trolley to downtown San Diego.

As far as breweries and brewpubs are con-

cerned, both Romero and DeVries outline another set of benefits for small businesses wishing to move into the city. "We want to make the



"Lemon Grove is a throwback to the 1930s, and we're trying to give it new life," says city manager Lydia Romero.

process as smooth and easy as possible," she says, adding, "Our processing times are fast and our processing fees are the lowest in the county."

Lemon Grove eliminated its planning committee two years ago, removing a time-consuming step in its permitting process. With businesses only having to address the city council to acquire a conditional use permit, DeVries estimates a brewery coming to town could be ready to start the building process in as few as three months.

e building process in as few as three months. It would also encounter low prices, under a

dollar per square foot in some cases, and two dollars per foot in prime, corner locations. "The advantage to a brewery or retailer coming into the city now," he says, "is they get in while the prices are low."

With only three craft breweries within a five mile radius, and primarily residential neighborhoods to the east and south, Lemon Grove hopes an influx of craft-oriented businesses will seed economic growth in its commercial zones, as it has in Vista. And not just breweries.

"We'd love to see a taphouse. We'd love to see craft brewers here, craft coffee houses," says Romero. "Or spirits," she adds. "There's a small industry in the county, and I'd love to tap into that." ■

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

sangria, \$7.95 signature drinks, \$23 beer buckets (6 bottles).

Village Pizzeria: *Daily*, 3-6pm, 9-10pm: \$5 beer and house wine. \$2.50 pizza slices, half off appetizers.

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Analog: Thursday, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine. 5pm-2am: \$5 tall cans. Friday, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine. 5pm-2am: \$5 pinnacle flavor shots. Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine. Sunday, 3-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine. Sunday, white wine.

Asti Ristorante: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$3.50 domestic beers, \$5 imported beers, \$6 house wine, martinis, cocktails.

Bice: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$12-15 specialty cocktails. \$5 select appetizers. *Sunday*, 5-10pm: \$12-15 specialty cocktails. \$5 select appetizers.

Gaslamp Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells and select drafts. \$2 off wine and specialty cocktails.

House of Blues: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$3 domestic beer, \$4 wine by the glass, \$5 well drinks, \$6 glass of sangria, \$16 pitcher of sangria.

Quad Alehouse: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 off select beer, \$2 whiskeys, \$8 specialty cocktails, \$3 off appetizers.

Sally's Fish House & Bar: *Daily*, 2:30-5:30pm: \$6 drafts, select wines, wells. Half-off all appetizers.

Tin Roof San Diego: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Half-off all drinks and appetizers.

Werewolf American Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, house wines, and wells. 50% off appetizers.

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.

GOLDEN HILL

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

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

GRANTVILLE

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

Camel's Breath Inn: Daily, 10am-8pm: 50-cents off all drinks.

JT's Clubhouse Pub & Grill: Daily, 11am-7pm: \$1 off beer and wells

Kawaii Sushi: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$1 small sake, \$2 beers.

Longhorn Bar and Grll: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3.50 Budweiser and Bud Light drafts, well drinks.

Tio Leo's: Monday, 3-6:30pm:\$4
Dos Equis amber, \$7 flavored margarita. Tuesday, 3-6:30pm:\$4 domestic beers. Wednesday, 3-6:30pm:\$5 house margaritas. Thursday, 3-6:30pm:\$7 pina coladas. Friday, 3-6:30pm:
\$7 Long Island iced tea. Saturday, 3-6:30pm:\$5 house margaritas. Sunday, 3-6:30pm:\$6 bloody mary.

HILLCREST

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

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

Pardon My French Bar & Kitchen: Daily, 4-6pm: Half price on house wines, cocktails and draft beer. Daily specials on bar food.

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.

JAMUI

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.

Hinotez: *Daily*, 5:30-7pm, 11pm-1am: \$3 16-oz. Sapporo or Kirin, \$4 hot sake, \$16 cold bottles of sake.

Pampas Argentine Grill: Tuesday-Saturday, 4:30-7pm: \$4 wells, \$4-5.50 beers, \$5 wine glasses, vinocola, \$5 (\$15 pitcher) sangria, margarita, \$6 (\$17 pitcher) clericot, mojitos, \$6.50 house martini.

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

KENSINGTON

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

Clem's Tap House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2-off beer, house wine.

Kensington Café: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off all drinks. \$2 off all starters.

Village Vino: Daily, 4-6pm: \$6 offmenu glass of the day (red, white, or pink), \$25 prefixed menu: choice of salad, choice of flatbread, two glasses of wine.

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: Daily, 11:30am-6:30pm: \$1-off micro craft drafts, \$4

bottled beer, \$5.25 wells, \$6 house wine, margaritas, mojitos, mules, \$8 specialty cocktails.

Duke's La Jolla: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$5 beers, \$7 glasses of wine, \$8 cocktails, \$14 wine carafes.

Wheat & Water: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 featured brewery pints, \$6 wines, \$7 craft cocktails; \$8 cioppino mussels; \$9 mushroom duxelle pizza.

Whisknladle: 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.

Hoffer's Cigar Bar: Monday-Saturday, 11am-7pm: \$1 off all draft beers, house wine. Sunday, 1-7pm: \$1 off all draft beers, house wine.

West Coast Barbecue and Brew: Tuesday-Thursday, 11:30am-3pm, 8-10pm: \$1 off all pints. Friday, 11:30am-3pm, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints. Saturday, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints.

LITTLE ITALY

Pizza e Birra: *Daily*, 2:30-6:19pm: \$1 off beer, house wine.

Puerto la Boca: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:30pm: \$3.50 house wine, \$4 wells, drafts, \$7 house martini. 30% off appetizers. Bar only. Sunday, 4:30-7:30pm: \$3.50 house wine, \$4 wells, drafts, \$7 house martinis. 30% off appetizers. Bar only.

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.

MISSION HILLS

The Aero Club: *Daily*, 2-7pm: \$.50 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.

Toma Sol Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6 pm: \$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.

Islands Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.99 coors light, \$4.29 house wine, \$4.69 stone IPA, mai tais, mojitos, \$4.89 margaritas, \$5.85 big island iced tea.

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

NORMAL HEIGHTS

DiMille's: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts, cocktails, and house wines, \$2 off all appetizers.

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

Triple Crown Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off select pints and bottles. *Saturday-Sunday*, Noon-5pm: \$1 off select pints and bottles.

NORTH PARK

The Air Conditioned Lounge: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 wells, call cocktails, draft beers, 7-9pm: \$2-off all draft beer, mules. Saturday-Sunday, 7-8pm: \$5 wells, call cocktails, draft beers.

Bar Pink: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts and calls. 12-8pm: \$3 wells, \$2 PBR, \$2 Tecates. *Saturday-Sunday*, 12-8pm: \$3 wells, \$2 PBR, \$2 Tecates.

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

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything. *Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off liquor

Crazee Burger: *Monday*, 11am-9pm: \$3.99 all drafts, all wine by the glass. *Tuesday-Thursday*, *Sunday*, 2:23-



6:19pm: \$3.99 all drafts, all wine by the glass. *Friday-Saturday*, 2:23-6:19pm, 9-11pm: \$3.99 all drafts, all wine by the glass.

DNP: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$8 wine/beer flights. \$3 sliders.

Encontro North Park: *Monday-Thursday*, 5-6pm: \$2 off glass of wine and draft beer. \$1 off sides.

HOPE 46: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off drafts, wine by the glass, \$4 wells.

Splash: Monday-Thursday, 4-6:30pm: \$3 select bottled beer, \$5 select wines, 10% off all bottles to go. *Friday*, 12-6:30pm: \$3 select bottled beer, \$5 select wines, 10% off all bottles to go. *Saturday-Sunday*, 12pm-6:30pm: \$3 select bottled beer, \$5 select wines, 10% off all bottles to go.

True North Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 12-7pm: \$1 off all beer, wine, liquor.

Urban Solace: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 beers, cocktails and wine at the bar.

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.

Bar 1502: *Monday-Friday*, 12-5pm: \$2.50 select drafts, \$5 select cocktails, \$6 select draft beer and hot sake, \$12.50 pitchers of select beer. *Saturday-Sunday*, 12-5pm: \$5 select ocktails, \$6 select draft beer and hot sake, \$12.50 pitchers of select beer.

OB Noodle House: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: Half off hot sake, most whiskeys, most beers, \$4 well drinks, \$5 375 ml bottle of Sho Chiku Bai Nigori, \$8 Carafe of house infused sake, \$1 beers 2-5pm with food purchase.

Sessions Public: Monday, 5-7pm: \$5 cocktails, 1/2 off starters, \$3 fernets. Tuesday, 5-7pm: Build-yourown grilled cheese specials, \$5 mules. Wednesday, 5-7pm: \$15 steak dinner with two sides. Thursday, 5-7pm: 50-cent wings, \$5 off select pitchers of beer. Friday, 12-3pm: \$10 lunch + a beer. Saturday-Sunday, 5-7pm: \$10 bottomless mimosas.

South Beach Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off draft beer and wine by glass, \$3 mimosas, \$4 Fireball, Jagermeister, or White gummy bear shots, \$5 select cocktails. All appetizers half off. \$8.95 Wahoo ceasar salad, half dozen oysters on the half shell, \$2.95 select tacos, \$3.95 wings -6 piece, \$6.95 South Beach classic burger.

Sunshine Co.: *Daily*, 5-6pm: Half-price pitchers.

Winstons Beach Club: Monday-Saturday, 1-5pm; \$3 wells.

Wonderland Ocean Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, \$2 off wine, \$3 off mules. \$1 off tacos.

OCEANSIDE

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

D'Vino Cafe and Wine Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.50 domestic bottled beer, \$3.50 imported bottled beer, \$5 house wine, margaritas, bloody mary, sangria, \$1 off all drafts.

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

Barra Barra: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$4 drafts, house wine, \$5 house margaritas, \$6 premium liquors. \$3 flatbread tacos, kids eat free with adult

Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 draft beer, well drinks, half-off on all house wines by the glass. \$6 bruschetta, kung pao, 'shroom and spinach dip, ahi lettuce cup, \$7 sliders, margherita flatbread, \$8 pear, pancetta & arugula flatbread.

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

Ambrogio 15: Daily, 4:30-6pm and 8pm-close: \$4 local craft beer or Italian wine or focaccia ligure with EVOO and balsamic. \$5 mixed Italian olives, \$6 Sicilian salad or Parmigiana di Melanzane (ricotta-filled eggplant), \$9 margherita pizza or cheese and charcuterie board or panzerotti stuffed with mozzarella and tomato.

Backyard Kitchen & Tap: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 Pacificos, \$5 wells, \$2 off draft beer (excluding Pacifico), craft cocktails, glass of house wine. \$3 kennebec chips, \$5 desserts, \$6 bacon maple glazed brussels sprouts, \$8 meatballs, \$9 pork ribs, three cheese flatbread, \$10 baja shrimp cocktail, bbq chicken flatbread.

Bare Back Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 craft beer, house wine, house sangria. \$5 munchies.

Barrel Republic: *Monday, Wednes-day-Friday,* 4-6pm: All beers 20% off. *Tuesday,* 9:30-11pm: All beers 20% off.

Dave's Tavern: *Daily*, 10am-1pm, 4pm-7pm: \$2.25 domestic drafts, \$2.50 bottles, \$3.25 wine glasses.

The Dog: *Daily*, 6–9pm: \$4 pints, \$16 pitchers.

Moray's Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$5.50 wells, \$6 wine. \$10 appetizers.

Tavern at the Beach: *Monday-Friday*, 3-8pm: Half off all drinks.

El Trebol Mariscos: *Monday-Wednesday, Friday-Sunday,* 3-7pm: \$1 off beers. *Thursday,* 3-7pm: \$1 off beers. 2 for 1 ceviche piscado.

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

POINT LOMA

Embargo Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-5pm: \$.40 yucca fritta, \$.75 chicken wings, croquettes, empanandas \$1.99 camarones mofongo, \$3.99 calamari.

Harbor Town Pub: Saturday-Sunday, 8am-1pm: \$25 bottomless mimosas or Bloody Marys.

Old Venice: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4.50 select drafts, \$5 house wine, and wells. Half off select starters and salads.

The Pearl: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3 select beers, \$4 well drinks, \$5 house wine, half off specialty drinks. \$1 oysters, \$3.50 mahi mahi fish taco, pork carnitas, \$6 fries, \$7 honey siracha chicken wings.

Pummarò: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$4.50 draft beer, \$5 wine by the glass, well drinks

Seaside Pho & Grill: Monday, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, \$3 bottled beers, \$3 featured wines, \$5 cocktails, mimosas. Tuesday-Thursday, Saturday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, \$3 bottled beers, featured wines, \$5 cocktails, mimosas. Friday, 3-6pm:\$2 off drafts, \$3 bottled beers, featured wines, \$5 cocktails, mimosas.

The Wine Pub: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4 select wines. \$4 select appetizers.

POWAY

Grenadine Lebanese and Mediterranean Cuisine: Daily, 11am-4pm: \$8 Any chicken sandwich comes with a side of soup, salad, french fries, or rice (pick one) and a soft drink.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Capri Blu: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 drafts, \$5 house wine, \$6 martini, sangria. Saturday, 5-11pm: \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 drafts, \$5 house wine, \$6 martini, sangria. Sunday, 11am-9pm: \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 drafts, \$5 house wine, \$6 martini, sangria.

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.

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.

ROLANDO

Effin's Pub & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells. *Saturday*, 4pm-2am: \$4 wells.

Ugly Dog: Monday, Thursday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$1 off full pours, \$2 off pitchers. Tuesday, 4-8pm: \$1 off full pours, \$2 off pitchers, \$3 select beers per glass. Wednesday, 4-8pm: \$1 off full pours, \$2 off pitchers, 1/2 off a full pour when you buy one at full price.

SAN CARLOS

Nicolosi's Italian Restaurant: Daily, 3-5:30pm: \$5 house wine glass, \$11 house wine carafe, \$6 Ravenswood merlot, \$8 Estancia, \$4 Coors pint, \$8 Coors pitcher, \$6 draft beer pint, \$14 draft beer pitchers.

SAN MARCOS

The Bellows: Tuesday-Wednesday, 4-6pm: \$1 off draft beers, \$2 off select wines by the glass, \$5 aperitif cocktails, prosecco by the glass, \$6 bourbon whiskey sours, Moscow Mules. \$10 all wood-fired flatbreads. Thursday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off draft beers, \$2 off select wines by the glass, \$5 aperitif cocktails, prosecco by the glass, \$6 bourbon whiskey sours, Moscow Mules. \$10 all wood fired flatbreads.

Cowshed Bar and Grill: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$.50-off drinks.

Inland Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3.50 wells, \$4 craft beer, \$2 off house 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.

Fiddler's Green Restaurant: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$4 house wine by the glass, \$5 margarita, drink of the night.

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.

San Diego BeerWorks: Tuesday, 6-8pm: \$10 all-you-can-eat TJ street tacos (asada and pollo) — quesadillas, tostadas, mulitas, and quesotacos, too. \$5 for your first pint of craft beer w/taco purchase.

SORRENTO VALLEY

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

WineSellar 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 beers, \$4 sangria glass (\$20 pitcher), \$5 house margaritas (\$25 pitcher), \$6 cocktails. \$6 appetizers such as nachos, ceviche, quesadilla, and guacamole.

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.

TALMADGE

Romeo and Julieta's Wine Cafe: Tuesday-Wednesday, 5-7pm: \$5 bottled beer, on tap iron fist beer, \$5.50 house wine. \$8 select appetizers. Thursday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$5 bottled beer, on tap iron fist beer, \$5.50 house wine. \$8 select appetizers. Sunday, 4-9pm: \$5 bottled beer, on tap iron fist beer, \$5.50 house wine. \$8 select appetizers.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: *Daily*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3-3.50 bottled beer, \$4-5 wine by the glass.

Draft Republic: *Daily*, 2-6pm: \$6 select beers, select wines, well cocktails. \$7 snacks. \$17.95 any burger or sandwich with a beer.

Drift: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$4 off all carafes of wine, \$5 drafts, \$8 craft cocktail of day. \$10 flatbread.

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar: Daily, 5-7pm, 8-10pm: \$3 blue moon seasonal, \$6-8 select cocktails, wines, appetizers.

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.

Great Maple: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6pm: \$4 draft beers, \$5 cocktails.

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







Secretly angsty. Bar ownership Rule No. 1: You snooze, you loose.

"We learned its not real easy," says Shannon Sgrosso, part of the rock-star contingent that swooped in to save the struggling Brick by Brick three years ago. "After three years, we haven't really had a day off. If you don't check your email one day, you may end up not getting a show."

Rule No. 2: It's not easy. But in the case of Brick, no one's bitching. "We wouldn't do it if we didn't want to."

By the time Shannon and her guitarist husband Phil and his two fellow ex-As I Lay Dying bandmates guitarist Nick Hipa and drummer Jordan Mancino came into the Brick picture in the Spring of 2014, San Diego's oldest continuously opened rock venue was in trouble. Its liquor license was suspended for non-payment of sales tax.

The three rockers had fond memories of playing the Bay Park venue when As

"San Diego had fallen off the map for a long time," says

hard rock. (As I Lay Dying

Phil Sgrosso now plays in

Poison Headache. Hipa and

Mancino play in Woven War,

which uses Brick by Brick as

a "home base" practice pad

when the band isn't on tour.

Both bands tour internation-

ally and record for Metal

Blade Records

had just been dissolved.)



Wovenwar's Hipa, Mancino, and Sgrosso (left-right), after running Brick by Brick for three years, "haven't really had a day off."

I Lay Dying was just starting. "We didn't want to see it go away," said Sgrosso. They bought the bar despite the fact it was failing and that San Diego didn't support

Sgrosso about how national hard-rock bands had been avoiding San Diego. "It was a struggle convincing agents to let their bands come back. [Bay Area groove metal

band] Machine Head hadn't played San Diego in ten years."

Shannon said San Diego had developed a national reputation for producing soft audiences for hard-rockers. "Soma had some huge metal shows on its main stage in the early 2000s. And the Casbah does metal now and then. But the metal scene hadn't had a good home base in San Diego."

When they first took over, they used two different talent buyers (the second, Anilee Griffin, died recently at 35). "Eventually we decided to take everything on ourselves." Sgrosso tells the Reader she handles the booking while Mancino is the onsite manager. She and Hipa handle the graphics and occasionally work behind the bar. "And Nick will sometimes do security.... We didn't used to be hands-on, but we learned nobody cares about your own livelihood like you."

She says she welcomes outside promoters: "One specializes in tribute acts, one in



Bleached found this year's SXSW more maneuverable: "There was a big blizzard on the East Coast...some bands came in two days late.'

European death metal," and the Brick is open to other venues who want to bring their own bands in. "The guys who do Psycho in Las Vegas just brought in Truckfighters from Sweden."

With a 400-capacity space, the Brick is twice as large as the Casbah. They've managed to succeed by focusing on metal. "We had six sold-out shows in October," says Sgrosso. "Despite what some people might think, metal is alive and well in San Diego. A lot of people here want aggressive music. San Diego is secretly angsty." — Ken Leighton Bleached played South By Southwest last month where they were pleasantly surprised by a less claustrophobic atmosphere. According to guitarist Jessie Clavin, "The traffic wasn't as horrible. I guess there was a big blizzard on the East Coast and some bands missed their flights and came in two days later."

Can you deal? Los Angeles'

With a little help from Mother Nature, the quartet were able to get in and out of the festival with a bit more ease than is usually the case. The band's next adventure will be 17 dates with punk band the Damned in celebration of the





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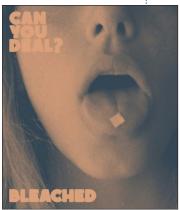
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40th birthday of the latter's Damned Damned Damned LP. Bleached will be touring in support of a slightly younger platter, 2017's Can You Deal?

Fans of 2016's Welcome the



The Clavins' latest harks back to hardrocking '90s acts Urge Overkill and L7.

Worms LP can rest assured that the new EP continues in the same hard-rocking vein. Bleached is channeling a sound that would have felt at home in the '90s (Urge Overkill, L7) but today sounds surprisingly unique. Jennifer related how she has friends in bands that could be defined as garage and pop-punk, but that Bleached doesn't adapt so easily to standard genre classification. "I think sometimes it's easier when you have your crew of bands that you sound similar to and you can easily book tours together and hang out," she concluded.

The Clavin sisters are Los Angeles natives who have been playing shows in San Diego for years. In fact, the Wikipedia page for their old band, Mika Miko, features a live photograph of the band playing the Casbah in 2006. Jennifer related that they have been playing shows down here since they were teenagers, and that

they love to eat at Pokez when they're in town. She also revealed that she had a bit of a revelation after attending the Frights' You Are Going To Hate This Fest 2 in February at the Soma.

"It was massive. I had no idea the San Diego scene was even that big. It was at some crazy, big venue, and I just thought it was so cool because I feel like every time we go to San Diego we're playing a

bar. I never got to experience the all-ages scene, and when I saw that I was thinking I want to be playing more all-ages shows in San Diego. That's why we're in a band...to play for everybody. Not just 21 and over," Jennifer said.

— Dryw Keltz

We are seeds. "I am

both. I'm Mexican, and I'm American." Gustavo Alcoser says Jarabe Mexicano's pending release of an old Bob Marley protest song came together as the result of a number of factors. First inspiration, he says, was presidential talk of a new



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border wall. But the underlying impetus to record came from the kidnapping of some college students in Mexico. "We named our version of the song 'Semillas' after those students. Semillas means seeds."

In 2014, 43 students from

the Escuela Normal Rural Raul Isidro Burgos in Iguala, Mexico were rounded up by police and never seen again. "I saw a meme on social media once, about the mass murders. The caption was," Alcoser says, "They tried to bury us, but they didn't know we were seeds." The 33-year-old singer explains that Mario Equia (Jaribe Mexicano's guitarist) "had said he thought we needed to consider getting more involved politically. And coincidentally, a producer named Mike Kociela called and asked us to record 'Get Up Stand Up."

Alcoser is originally a native San Diegan. "I was born here. Then, when I was five, my mom and I and one of my sisters moved to Tijuana." They settled into an apartment in Ciudad Jardin, about 10 minutes from the border. "We crossed every day. It was

Diego. "But my extended family is still down there."

Jarabe Mexicano is a traditional Latin American five-piece inspired by Sonora and Mariachi music. They are based in San Diego. "We



Alcosser: "I saw a meme on social media, about the murders: 'They tried to bury us, but they didn't know we were seeds."

an interesting childhood," he explains. "My school and my friends were here, but my home and my family were in Tijuana." Alcoser, who is a graduate student at San Diego State University, says he and his mother now both live in San

have ties on both sides of the border," Alcoser says. "And our music reflects that. We'll play rock-and-roll and cumbia." He says the roots of that genre mix lie in his upbringing. "We listened to everything when I was a kid. My mom was a big John

Wayne fan. Also the golden age of Mexican films. I grew up listening to both."

Alcoser says Jarabe Mexicano recorded their Cumbiainfluenced version of "Get Up Stand Up" in two days at the Cabana recording studio with Anthony Ridenhour as co-producer. He says that their version can be applied "to different scenarios. We made the meaning broad enough so that it wasn't a specific ban," he explains. "Our mission with the song is to promote the idea to get involved politically. That will be made evident by our video," which he says is in production at the time of writing. Jarabe Mexicano plans to premiere "Get Up Stand Up" live at Taco Fest in May.

Dave Good

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blur

CONTRIBUTORS

Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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Sarcastic, Hot Nerds

"Being inside your head too much is kind of what the record is about, just sabotaging yourself..."

Hot Nerds keyboardist Alia Jyawook says as I enter Modern Times Beer in Point Loma.

Images of medieval hack medicine and bizarre sex moves flash through my mind in the moments it takes to realize that

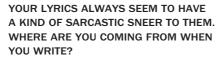
they are talking about the coffee samples on the table. As it turns out, Alia's high school friend from Chicago, Bartleby Bloss, is the coffee production manager at Modern Times, and he's invited the band to create a custom Hot Nerds blend to accompany their new album, *Tirades in a Mental Arcade*. Give it a listen and you'll see why my thoughts instinctively went weird. Their music already sounds like electric trepanation, and past album imagery has involved an element of outlandish eroticism, such as the fruit wielding, mulleted beach bro on the cover of their previous release, *Strategically Placed Bananas*.

L.A.-based artist Josh Freydkis, whose work has appeared on Adult Swim's *Rick & Morty*, lent the cover art to *Tirades*, which was recorded about a year ago with Mike Kamoo at Earthling Studios in Santee. The album sees

guitar/vocalist Nathan Joyner coming into his own as a singer and ditching the heavily processed vocals that used to characterize their sound. It was self-released by the band

> on March 10 as the debut of their homegrown label, Cereal & Soda. Don't anticipate any live dates in the foreseeable

future, however. Drummer Tommy O'Connell has moved back to the Chicago area and the remaining members work full-time, Alia teaching music to elementary school students and Nathan making music for an L.A.-based trailer production company.



Nathan: I think my entire life I've been sarcastic. It's more of a coping mechanism for me. So when I'm writing lyrics, I'm not really a singer, so I wanted it to be more like I was having a conversation with somebody. Being inside your head too much is kind of what the record is about, just sabotaging yourself, talking to yourself, making bigger things out



Hot Nerds gave up the booze and got onto the bean soon after a near-death accident.

of nothing, being sarcastic, making fun of myself. I think the whole band is sarcastic. The artwork, the titles, the arrangements. Alia and Tommy come up with the foundations of song, and those are kind of sarcastic musically. The lyrics are usually secondary to me, but on this album they're more prevalent. I wanted to be as blunt and direct as possible, and they still came out sarcastic. I think that's just built in to the way I interpret things. It's a mess up there [laughs]. It's a different album than the last. It's a lot heavier.

Alia: Slightly angrier.

Nathan: I think it was a combination of Tommy learning music theory at school and us being on tour with Torche and Melt Banana for three months [in 2015]. We wrote the album right after that.

Alia: When we started [about six years ago], I had a cheap Casio keyboard that I ran through his pedal board and Nate played a drum set that I essentially dumpstered in Chicago. Then the accident, then Tommy joined, then Nate got to the point where he's comfortable on guitar. I love the sound that we have now.

Nathan: We moved away from everybody comparing us to Arab on Radar, Daughters, things like that, the Providence sound.

SO, COFFEE?

Alia: It's all we drink. Since his accident [Nathan was almost killed by a car in 2012 while crossing the street in Hillcrest], both of us haven't had a drop. The last hangover I had was from a Hot Nerds show the night before he got hit.

Nathan: We're big fans of coffee and wheatgrass and ginger shots. That's our booze now. Alia: If you buy the Hot Nerds coffee, you get a record. We make art where once it's done it's done. It's better in someone's hand than in storage. We might as well give it away. Nathan has boxes of [his former band] Secret Fun Club records. With Strategically Placed Bananas, we have about 50 left. Hopefully we will get more copies in people's hands with the coffee.

Modern Times' Hot Nerds blend is 40 percent DR Congo Cooperative Kawa Kabuya and 60 percent Ethiopia Washed Organic Guji Hambela and comes with a copy of *Tirades in a Mental Arcade* on vinyl.

Check out the video for their single, "Full Blown Psych Tune": youtube.com/watch?v=32Whkkm4zcc. ■







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SATURDAY

AN EVENING W PONCHO SANCHEZ **EARLY SHOW**

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JUST ADDED

AN EVENING W/ SANTANAWAYS 4/23 • STONES VS STEWART 4/28

A.J. FROMAN AND CARDINAL MOON 5/3 MOUNT KIMBIE, ASH KOOSHA, TIRZAH 5/31 FOREVER 27 W/ WINEHOUSE EXPERIENCE, NIRVANISH, PURPLE HAZE, JANIS LIVES 6/8 CORINNE BAILEY RAE 6/11 • O-TOWN 8/1

COMING SOON

FULL STRENGTH FUNK BAND - HAPPY HOUR BABY GIRL (THE LADIES OF HIP-HOP AND R&B) 4/15 LATE SHOW

4/7

4/19 **DREAMCAR - SOLD OUT!**

LEE FIELDS & 4/20 THE EXPRESSIONS CHICANO BATMAN 4/21 **SAMMY J**

W/ THE DEVASTATORS

4/22 THE WAILERS FEAT. JUNIOR MARVIN, EARL "WYA" LINDO, MORE

4/26 ELEFANTE STRANGE CREW (CLAPTON / CREAM 4/30

THE RAD PLUS 5/1 5/4 **THE JUAN GABRIEL** W/ JAVIER MIRANDA

ODDISEE & 5/5 **GOOD COMPNY** FEAT. OLIVER ST. LOUIS

5/10 KRANIIIM 5/14

COMO LA FLOR BAND'S SELENA TRIBUTE

5/16 E-40

5/17 MIGUEL MATEOS 5/18 DIIV

DRACO ROSA JOHN BROWN'S BODY 5/26 W/STRANGER

5/30 **MELLOW MOOD, JAH 9** HIGHLY SUSPECT 6/1 W/SLOTHRUST

JUSTIN TOWNES FARLE **G/4** 7/14 **NIGHTMARES ON WAX**

9/26 **ALISON MOYET**

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W/THE LIL' SMOKIES



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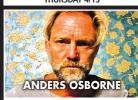
THURSDAY 4/13



FRIDAY 4/14



W/ NANCARROW



W/ ELEKTRIC VOODOO





TUESDAY 4/18





W/ BAILEN SATURDAY 4/22

5/5 Mariachi El Bronx

5/9 Fuel & Marcy Playground

5/7 Bob Schneider



SUNDAY 4/23

Sully & The Blue-Eyed Soul Band Fundraiser 5/11 The Spazmatics and CalPhonics 5/19 • MarchFourth 5/31 Colin Hay 7/20 - pre-sale Thurs! • X - 40th Anniversary Tour 8/18

Upcoming Shows: 4/5 Arlo Guthrie - Sold Out!

FRIDAY 4/21

4/7 Atomic Groove Happy Hour 4/9 Aaron Neville Duo - Sold Out! 5/12 Com Truise / Clark

4/14 Power Brokers Happy Hour 5/13 Common Sense 4/19 Kaleo - Sold Out!

4/24&25 Jamtown Feat. Cisco Adler, Donavon Frankenreiter, G. Love

4/26 Drew Holcomb and the Neighbors

4/27 Asleep at the Wheel 4/28 Dennis Quaid and the Sharks

4/29 Wayward Sons

4/30 Six String Society's 27 Club - seated show

5/1 Crystal Bowersox - seated show

5/2 Kiefer Sutherland 5/4 Dweezil Zappa: 50 Years Of Frank

5/20 Wild Child

5/20 Magic Giant @ Casbah 5/21 Ann Wilson of Heart

5/24 Elephant Revival 5/26 Los Lonely Boys

6/1 Easy Star All-Stars 6/2 Little Hurricane w/ The Redwoods

6/3 Lewis Del Mar 6/4 & 6/5 Michael Franti & Spearhead - Sold Out!

6/8 Valerie June

6/13 North Mississippi Allstars

6/14 The Record Company

6/16 Tony Suraci, The Highwayman's

Waylon Jennings Birthday Celebration

6/17 Pine Mountain Logs

5/17 Marty Stuart and His Fabulous Superlatives 6/19 & 20 Donavan Frankenreiter

7/1 Tainted Love

7/3 80's Heat Presents: Miami 1984

7/21 Seun Kuti & Egypt

7/23 Buddy Guy

7/25 Delta Rae 7/30 Maxi Priest

8/1 The Marshall Tucker Band

8/5 Turnpike Troubadours

10/7 William Bell, Charlie Musselwhite & Bobby Rush Take Me to the River

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Music of the 1980s

The Beat Farmers, Psychotic Waltz, and when rap and norteño entered the scene

In Search of the Genuine, Authentic, Sawdust and Spittoon Honky-Tonk

At the Barr-X Ranch House the only people dancing were the band members' girlfriends, and they were dancing with each other. They played "Oh, Lonesome Me," not the best choice for a deserted saloon on a Saturday night. A woman sitting at the horseshoe-shaped bar explained to anyone listening that the reason she didn't look so good tonight was that she fell asleep last night with her make-up on, and her eyelids had stuck together. BY STEVE SORENSEN, MARCH 1, 1984

Local Rap

"Rapping gives you a way out, Especially if you are good at it. It could kick you up from where you are, and put you on a different level, away from the street scene. Now little kids in the neighborhood, they come up to me, they say 'Ron, teach me to rap.' Kids they used to wanna be a doctor, a lawyer, a basketball player, and now they say, 'I wanna be a DJ, a rapper.'" BY JUDITH MOORE, JUNE 27, 1985

Birth of the Beat Farmers

"Somewhere along in there, Herrera became partners with Jim Pagni, who brought in a lot of concerts in those days, and the Palace changed its name to JJ's. Glory ended up being the house band at JJ's for a while, and we opened for a lot of people. We opened for Steely Dan on probably the only tour they ever had. We opened for ZZ Top when Tres Hombres first came out." BY ROGER ANDERSON, MARCH 16, 1989

Norteño!

Unlike Los Tucanes de Tijuana, who have never performed in the U.S. because two members lack passports, Los Regionales de San Diego work both sides of the border. They only play in Tijuana, however, when opening shows for Los Tigres and Los Bravos. There's too much red tape in crossing the border, Jorge says. Perhaps he fears that on his return trip. U.S. customs will tear apart his cherished Hohner No. 2 accordion in search of contraband. BY LEE HILDEBRAND, JUNE 1, 1989

Meet Psychotic Waltz

"The whole thing is — if we get signed, and we make albums, and we do really well — after we're gone, we're still on this earth. John Lennon's still here. That's what I want. It's more than becoming just an average person. After you're gone, that's history. But if you're signed, and you influence an era, and you made a lot of people feel good, and they came to see you — that's special. BY MANI MIR, AUG. 3, 1989

Everybody Just Be Cool Now (Altamont)

We shifted, the patrolman sped away, Lester [Bangs] put the car in gear, and we continued down the Grapevine veering wildly from one lane to the next. At the first exit Lester pulled over and got out. "One of you guys better take over, I don't think I'm up for this," he said blearily. He got into the back seat and took a pull from the bottle as Jim powered us back onto the freeway. "Say, where's that joint?"

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.

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.

THIS WEEK'S **SHOWS**

A Gentle Way Yoga:

Monday, 6:30pm — Amanda Domnitz Sound Concert. \$35-

AMSDconcerts:

Saturday, 7:30pm — David Bromberg. \$35-\$45.

Alfonso's of La Jolla in **Solana Beach:**

Friday, 6:30pm — Cantua.

Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:

Friday, 7:30pm — Joe Lovano Classic Quartet. \$30-\$35.

Aztec Brewing Company:

Saturday, 8pm — Nathan Rivera and Jessie Andra Smith.

BK Cellars Urban Winery & Tasting Lounge:

Sunday, 2pm — Eric Daniel.

Balboa Library:

Wednesday, 6pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.

Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, 7:30pm — In Conversation with Yanni. \$65-\$341. Sunday, 3pm — Time for Three.

\$35-\$138.

Bang Bang:

Saturday, 10pm — Goldfish. \$10-\$15.

Saturday, 9pm — Unlike Pluto.

Belly Up:

Thursday, 8pm — Yonder Mountain String Band. \$33. Friday, 8pm — Hirie. Saturday, 8pm — Don Carlos. Sunday, 8pm — Aaron Neville. \$56-\$98

Tuesday, 8pm — Katchafire. Wednesday, 8pm — Justin Froese and Kinnie Dye. \$8.

Bernardo Winery:

Sunday, 2pm — Chini & Camberos. Free.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: Sunday, 6pm — Springfest:

Immersion, \$9-\$12.

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters: Saturday, 10am — Robin Henkel.

Roar Cross'n:

Thursday, 8pm — Great Electric Ouest.

Bourre Southern Bistro:

Thursday, 6pm — Gary Rich.

Brick 15:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Webb Wilder. \$20-\$22. Friday, 7:30pm — Danielle Miraglia. \$16-\$18. Saturday, 7:30pm — Plainsong With Iain Matthews & Andy Roberts. \$25-\$27.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, 7:30pm — Chris Botti.

Monday, 7:30pm - Cage the Elephant. \$18-\$64.

Camp Cedar Glen:

Tuesday, 4pm, Wednesday, 4pm — Family Fiddle Camp.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm - River Whyless. \$12-\$14. Friday, 8pm — The Wind & the Wave, \$12. Sunday, 8pm - Good Graeff and Veronica May. \$10-\$12. Monday, 8pm — Power Trip and Destruction Unit. \$15. Tuesday, 8pm — Gary Wilson and Crooked Rulers. \$6. Wednesday, 8pm — Monarch and Stephanie Brown, \$6. CANCELED. Wednesday, 8pm — Grace Mitchell and Birdy Bardot. \$12-

Casino Pauma:

Thursday, 8pm — Led Zeppelin II. \$10-\$20. Sunday, 5pm — Paquita La Del Barrio. \$69-\$89. Monday, 8pm — Billy Gilman. \$30-\$40.

Chico Club:

Saturday, 8pm — The Scavengers.

Chula Vista Civic Center **Library:** Wednesday, 5:30pm — Rachel

Herrera. Free.

Ché Café:

Saturday, 7pm — Ian Sweet and Post Life, \$10-\$12.

Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD:

Saturday, noon — Springfest: Staycation. Saturday, 5pm — Springfest: CA Electronic Music Exchange. Saturday, 7pm — Springfest: Kirsten Ashley Wiest. Sunday, noon — Springfest: Staycation. Monday, noon — Springfest: Tango Canyengue. Monday, noon, Tuesday, noon -Springfest: Staycation. Tuesday, 7pm — Springfest: Jürg Frey's Metal, Stone, Skin, Foliage, Air.

Wednesday, noon — Springfest: Staycation.

Wednesday, 5pm — Springfest: Kyle Motl, Solo Contrabass. Wednesday, 7pm — Springfest: Bazetta Revisited.

Crush:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Jeff Moore. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Elliott Lawrence.

Cuyamaca College:

Thursday, 7:30pm — The Martin Martirena Quintet.

De Oro Mine Co:

Friday, 8pm — King Taylor Project. Free. Saturday, 8pm — Grim Slippers. Free. Monday, 7pm — Mojo Jackson.

Dirk's Niteclub:

Friday, 8pm — FX5. Saturday, 8pm — Harley & the

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Friday, 8pm — Christopher Hollyday Bebop Quintet with Derek Cannon. \$15-\$20. Saturday, 8pm — Joe Garrison & Night People. \$20.

Downtown Café:

Friday, 7pm — Get Groovin'. Saturday, 6pm — Night Shift.

Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 4pm — Keni Yarbro.

Ed Brown Senior Center:

Sunday, 3pm — GSD Music Coterie Chamber Orchestra & Chorus. \$5-\$10.

El Cajon Grand:

Saturday, 9pm — Flipside Burners. Free.

Ellen Browning Scripps Park: *Sunday*, 2pm — David Patrone.

Escondido Library:Saturday, 4:30pm — Adrienne
Nims & Spirit Wind. **Free.**

Farmer & the Seahorse:

Friday, 5pm — OttoPilot.

Flower Hill Promenade:

Thursday, 2pm — Adrienne

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, 5:30pm — Gilbert Castellanos and Holly Hofmann.

Harbor Music Hall:

Thursday, 7pm — Matt Smith Jazz Trio. \$15. Friday, 7:30pm — ML Trio. \$15. Saturday, 7:30pm — Nora Francesca Trio. \$15.

Harney Sushi:

Sunday, 6:30pm — Justin Werner.

Helix Brewing Co.: Friday, 6pm — You and I Duo. Saturday, 6pm — Peter Hall.

Hideout: Friday, 8pm — Homeshake. Monday, 8pm — Kristin Kontrol

and Hexa. \$12.

Holding Company: Thursday, 8pm — Sexy Kung Fu Katz. Friday, 8pm — Slower. Saturday, 8pm — Nirvana

Mania Sunday, 5pm — Alex Culbreath. Sunday, 8pm — Everything

Turned to Color. Monday, 8pm — Kerry-oke.

Wednesday, 8pm — Red Jumpsuit Apparatus.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Saturday, 9pm — Sam Bybee.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Jeezy. \$45-\$75. Friday, 7pm — Carter Winter. Friday, 9pm — The Damned and

Bleached. Saturday, 6:30pm — The Maine

and the Mowgli's. \$22-\$45. Saturday, 7pm — Groove International, \$15. Sunday, 7pm — Yuridia. Tuesday, 7pm — 21 Savage and

Young M.A. \$30-\$70. $\mathit{Tuesday}, 7 \mathrm{pm} - \mathrm{Miyavi}$ and Slot Machine, \$20.

Humphreys Backstage Music

Thursday, 7pm — Kimberly Jackson. \$5. Friday, 9pm — Rising Star. \$12. Saturday, 9pm — Funk's Most Wanted. \$12 Sunday, 10am - Mercedes Moore Band, \$5. Monday, 7pm — Cadillac Wreckers. \$5. Tuesday, 7pm — Taryn Donath. BY DAVE GOOD

You've got to wonder about that mind of Joe Lovano's. He wanders onto a stage with the rumpled demeanor of a grandfather or a favorite uncle and for a spell, if the mood strikes him, he may even play his sax that way, in friendly ever-widening circles that suddenly veer down a jazz rabbit hole and into a dark terrain known only to him. Watch for it. Picture his tenor saxophone now as a lightning rod, drawing current from all of jazz's past combined into one or two lightning strikes, and you can begin to get a handle on the enormity of Lovano's grasp on the subject. Undeveloped forms with misleading resolutions; simply put. there is probably no one playing straight ahead jazz at this man's level today.

Joseph Salvatore Lovano, 65, was raised in Cleveland by a music-loving mom and a father who cut hair all day and gigged tenor sax nights. Young Lovano himself picked up the alto sax at the age of five, then switched to tenor a few years later and had his musician's union card before he came of age to drive. Club dates put him through college. He broke out of obscurity in the early 1970s on Lonnie Liston Smith's big-selling jazz record Afrodesia: international

attention came during his tenure during the early 1990s with guitarist John Scofield. Since, he's done it all, pretty much, including playing sax accompanied only by gongs.

Some 30 albums deep, the Grammy award-winning composer will bring his Classic Quartet to the Athenaeum series: Peter Slavov on bass, drummer Otis Brown, pianist Lawrence Fields. This is a swing-meets-bebop joint, old school on the surface only, meaning, a band



that honors the basic structures set forth back during the Golden Age of jazz music — while pushing hard at the borders. In other words, Joe Lovano is about as new as old music can get.

JOE LOVANO: Athenaeum Jazz at Scripps Research Institute, Friday, April 7, 7:30 p.m. 858-454-5872, \$30-\$35

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

Wednesday, 8pm — The Fabulous Ultratones. \$5.

Humphreys by the Bay: Wednesday, 7:30pm — Father John Misty. \$40.

Infinity at Pala Casino:

Saturday, 8pm — Fools Logic Supertramp Tribute. Free. Tuesday, 1pm — The Mar Dels.

Friday, 8pm — Dave Asprey. Monday, 7:30pm — Mount Eerie.

JP's Pub:

Friday, 9pm — CircaSonic.

Kaffee Meister:

Friday, 7pm — Enter the Blue

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:

Saturday, 6pm — Passport to Worlds of Music. \$20.

Kava Lounge:

Thursday, 9pm — Stoner Jordan & Menace Roddman Friday, 9pm — Dark Forces. Saturday, 9pm — Stabilize.

Kensington Club:

Saturday, 8pm — The Slashes, Bella Lugosy, Subtropics. \$5.

Thursday, 8pm — Rio Peligroso.

La Luz Ultra Lounge:

Thursday, 9pm — Trina. \$20-\$30.

Landing:

Friday, 8pm — Brown Sugar. Free. Saturday, 8pm — Nemesis. Free.

Larry's Beach Club:

Saturday, 5pm — Gone Blonde.

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center:

Thursday, 6:30pm, Friday, 6:30pm, Saturday, 8:30pm, Sunday, 8:30pm — Indian Music and Dance Festival, \$30-\$40.

Leroy's Kitchen + Lounge: Wednesday, 8pm — Gonzo Trio.

Lestat's Coffee House:

Friday, 9pm - Covenhoven and Jody Mulgrew. \$10. Saturday, 8pm — Andrew Barrack

Library:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Los Santos and StraitJacket.

Loft:

Monday, 7pm — Gavin Turek. Tuesday, 8:30pm — Springfest: Kyle Motl Trio.

Loma Club: Friday, 5:30pm — Mark Fisher.

and the Tree Ring.

Luce Loft: Thursday, 7pm — Art of Élan

Luis Rey Lounge:

Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 7pm — Mickie Arnett Band.

Lyceum Theatre:

Monday, noon — The Rob Thorsen Trio. Free.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

Friday, 9pm - Sights & Sages and New American. Saturday, 9pm — Los Apaches.

Martinis Above Fourth:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Heart &

Masia de la Vinya:

Saturday, noon — Tim Apple.

Maurice Car'rie Vineyard & Winery:

Saturday, 6pm — The Cougarzz and School of Rock. Free.

MiraCosta College:

Friday, 10am, Saturday, 10am -Oceanside Jazz Festival.

Mission Basilica San Diego de Alcala:

Sunday, 3pm — Lenten Concert.

Mission Hills United Methodist Church:

Sunday, 5pm — The Humankind, \$5-\$10.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Disco Night.

Saturday, 9pm — Barbwire. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, 7pm — Metalshop. Free.

Friday, 8pm — Frankie Ballard. Saturday, 8pm — Honky Tonk Boombox. Free.

Moonshine Flats:

Thursday, 8pm — Aaron Watson. Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Jerry Jacobs.

Mother's Saloon:

Thursday, 9pm — DJ Dub B. Friday, 10pm — Paging the '90s. Saturday, 9pm — DJ Girth.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill: Thursday, 8:30pm — Nitro

Express. Friday, 8pm — Elan Saltman and

Nothing Special. Saturday, 4pm — Jay Cain. Saturday, 8pm — Custard Pie. Wednesday, 8pm — Big City Sing-Along.

Museum of Making Music:

Saturday, 7pm — Graham Nash.

Music Box:

\$25.

Thursday, 8pm — Los Master Plus. \$18-\$20. Friday, 5pm — Full Strength

Funk Band. Friday, 8pm - Andre Nickatina.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Rebel Souljahz and Eli-Mac. \$20-\$22. Sunday, 8pm — Young Guns. \$12-\$14. Monday, 8pm — Of Montreal.

\$20-\$22. Wednesday, 7pm — Broods and Ocean Park Standoff. \$20-\$22.

Nate's Garden Grill:

Sunday, 10am - Tinkersmith.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 9pm — Reflectors. Saturday, 9pm — Copycat Killers.

Sunday, 8pm — Underworld. Monday, 7pm — Melody Makers.

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:

Friday, 7pm — Classic Buzz.

Numb3rs:

Sunday, 8pm — R&B Divas.

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, 7pm — Alina Baraz.

Friday, 7pm — Clean Bandit.

\$25. Saturday, 7:30pm — STS9.

Sunday, 7pm — Desiigner. \$20. Tuesday, 7pm — Subhumans and the Love Songs. \$15.

Office:

Saturday, 9pm — DJs Kanye Asada & Gabe Vega.

Old Town Pub & Grub: Saturday, 6pm - Chet & the

Committee **Old Town Temecula**

Community Theater: Thursday, 7:30pm — Danny

Green Trio. \$15. Omnia San Diego: Thursday, 9pm — Crankdat.

Friday, 9pm — Above & Beyond.

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Saturday, 9pm — DJ Politik. Tuesday, 9pm — AfroJack.

Open Air Theatre:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — A Perfect Circle. \$35-\$99.

Friday, 7pm — Chris Murray. Saturday, 7pm — JazzKatz Orchestra

Park & Rec:

Saturday, 9pm — The Routine.

Parq Restaurant:

Friday, 9pm — Crespo. \$15-\$20. Saturday, 8pm — Ikon.

Pechanga Resort & Casino:

Sunday, 7pm — Michael McDonald. \$59-\$89.

Port Pavilion on Broadway

Saturday, 7pm — San Diego Beer and Music Festival. \$35-\$60.

Pour House:

Thursday, 8pm — Heather Nation and Cardinal Moon. Friday, 8pm - Ben Powell and LA Edwards Sunday, 8pm — Tommy Mitchell Show.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Saturday, 8pm — Andy McKee and Celino Romero.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural

Friday, 9pm — Jai Ho! Dance Party. \$7-\$10.

Rancho Bernardo Library:

Saturday, 3pm — Palomar/YPO Percussion Ensemble. Free.

Rebecca's Coffee House:

Sunday, 10am — Johnny High-

Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma:

Thursday, 8pm — Nemesis. Friday, 8pm — Tony Suraci. Saturday, 8pm — Soul Gravity. Sunday, 8pm — Latin Soul

Rich's Hillcrest:

Thursday, 8pm — DJ Kiki. Friday, 9pm — DJ Dida. Saturday, 8pm — DJ Taj. Sunday, 8pm — DJ Hektik. Wednesday, 8pm — DJ Kiki.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Friday, 9pm — Flipside Burners.

Rook Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — Resurrection Radio.

fryonf's a crit

Minus the Bear, minus the freshness

By Andy M. Coronado

Let's make this clear: "indie rock" is a sterile phrase. And whether you want to use it to refer to lo-fi Sonic Youth-offshoot noise bands, '80s revival — "Hey, look we use synths!" bands, or Brooklyn bedroom rock, at least we can agree it's also a sterile genre. Nonetheless. the phrase and genre remain, and bands like Minus the Bear remain with it.

It's been five years since the Seattle group has released a full-length studio album and possibly a decade since they've released anything particularly exciting, but if there's anything 2017's Voids can teach, it's that it's never too late

to attempt re-creating the sound that charted HvpeMachine ten vears ago. You know the one: the upbeat and reverbheavy guitar intro that either plucks or strums its way into a kitschy verse revolving around banal



Seattle indie act's Voids is void a new formula.

platitudes such as, "I took a shot of whisky, I hit that bottle like a brick" ("What About the Boat"), "It was so simple in the end/ Oh, I had to just start again" ("Call the Cops"), and "Little lies, it's part of being human, it's part of believing the illusion" ("Invisible"). Those songs, the ones that eventually build up to a much-needed climax only to stumble on a chorus that performs like sex in a dead marriage. Yes, you can try to draw out those notes, even with heavy cymbals riding behind your frenzied synths and guitars like waves, but nothing will ever make the same song stimulating after years of H&M boot-stomping it to the ground.

Nevertheless, maybe you can find comfort in knowing a band you once enjoyed still relishes in the same sound that made you fall in love with them. Hell, some have even made whole careers off treating album and song formulas like blueprints for project housing. For those who value artistic exploration, though, you might want to set your sights elsewhere.

Shins return to sound if not form

By Donovan Roche

The Shins' return to San Diego after a five-vear hiatus for two nights at the Observatory was special for more reasons than just the long absence and mini residency. To start, for many it was the first time seeing band leader James Mercer's existing lineup (half of which joined last year). Second, the indierockers were about to drop their fifth studio album. Heartworms. a return to their classic sound.

Playing before a cartoonish backdrop featuring a giant skull and flowers resembling O'Keeffe paintings (imagery from Heartworms cover), the Shins

played a 105-minute set on this first night, combining a mix of hits ("Australia."

"Phantom

Music Reviews from Our Readers



While technically proficient, the new Shins lacked chemistry.

Limb"), fan favorites (show-opener "The Rifle's Spiral," "Caring is Creepy"), and four new songs, including the catchy first single "Name for You."

While technically proficient, the band was lacking in visible chemistry. At times, they seemed intent on just playing the songs without much interplay. They also fiddled with a few arrangements, offering slower or faster versions; however, rather than sounding like re-imagined songs, they felt a bit off — as if a cover band couldn't get the timing guite right.

The high point of the night came during "New Slang" — the song featured in the 2004 film Garden State that yielded a pivotal turning point for the band — when the crowd sang along and volleyed hoots and hollers. But the special moment catching all by surprise came during the encore's slow-building "Sleeping Lessons," when Mercer & Co. worked in an interlude of Tom Petty's "American Girl."

Concert: The Shins Date: March 6

Venue: Observatory North Park

Seats: GA

Up to \$50 for your concert review, \$25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader.com/critic

San Pasqual Wine Bar and

Saturday, 7pm — Jim Earp. Free.

Library:

& Leonard Patton. Free.

Shadow Mountain

Sunday, 7pm — Bill Gaither & Gaither Vocal Band.

Smith Recital Hall at SDSU:

Thursday, noon, Friday, noon, Saturday, noon — Campanile Music Festival. Wednesday, 7pm — Desert Caravan: New Jazz From Israel

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Acid Mothers

Gallery:

Scripps Miramar Ranch

Sunday, 2:30pm — Peter Sprague

Community Church:

and Beyond. Free.

Temple and Babylon. \$12. Friday, 8pm — Teenage Library: Bottlerocket and Mr. T Experience. \$18. Saturday, 8pm — Svetlanas and Authentic Sellout. Sunday, 8pm — POW! \$8. Veterans' Museum and Monday, 8pm — Larry & His Flask and Flatfoot 56. \$15. Tuesday, 8pm — Mayflower Madame. \$8.

Cat Clyde. Soma:

Sunday, 7pm — The Head & the Heart and Dreamers, \$36.

Wednesday, 8pm - SUSTO and

Spreckels Park:

Saturday, noon — Coronado Big Band & Tokeli, Free.

St. Therese of Carmel **Catholic Church:**

Sunday, 3pm — Mass with Ola Gjeilo & String Orchestra. Free.

Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre:

Sunday, 7pm — Herman's Hermits Starring Peter Noone.

Til-Two:

Friday, 8pm — Desert Suns and

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8pm — Blue Largo Friday, 8pm — Graceland Elvis Tribute.

Saturday, 9pm — Native Alien. Sunday, 1pm — Mike Eldred. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Sue Palmer.

Tower 13: Wednesday, 7:30pm — Cowboy

Jack Band, Free. Tower Bar: Saturday, 9pm — The Scutches

UC San Diego Library, Geisel

Monday, 4pm — Springfest: Robert Morris' Oracle

Valley View Casino Center: Saturday, 7:30pm — Green Day.

Memorial Center:

Gunmen. \$10-\$15. **Waterfront Park:**

Saturday, noon — Coastal Country Jam: Justin Moore,

Westfield University Towne

Sunday, noon - Robin Henkel &

Wilson Creek Winery & Vineyard:

Sunday, noon — Raynaldo Martine.

Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 7pm, Sunday, 5pm — Warren La Plante. Free.

Wine Steals:

Band \$5

Sunday, 2pm - Kev 'N' Kyle.

Winstons Beach Club:

Tuesday, 9pm — Scott Pemberton. \$6.

Wong's Dragon Room: Saturday, 8:30pm — The Merge.

Zel's Del Mar:

Thursday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Art of Élan and the Tree

Ring The latest installment of Art of Élan's Crossfire series will feature new works by Joel P. West and the return of the Tree Ring. Thursday, April 6, 7pm; Luce Loft, 1037 J Street.

Chris Botti Grammy winning trumpeter Chris Botti will perform jazz standards and famous classical masterpieces with his signature sophisticated sound and soaring musical imagination. Over the past three decades, Botti has recorded and performed with the best in music, including Sting, Barbra Streisand, Tony Bennett, Lady Gaga, Josh Groban, Yo-Yo Ma, Michael Bublé, Paul Simon, Joni Mitchell. Andrea Bocelli, Joshua Bell, Aerosmith's Steven Tyler, and even Frank Sinatra, Friday, April 7, 7:30pm; \$40-\$75. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard.

Formosa Quartet The quartet's program will feature the world

folk songs by Wei-Chieh Lin, Four Grappelli Jazz Tunes arranged by quartet violinist Jasmine Lin, and String Quartet No. 4 by Bela Bartok. Sunday, April 9, 3pm; \$10. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell

Lane at Gilman Drive. Indian Music and Dance

Festival The Indian Fine Arts Academy of San Diego presents this tenth-annual event with over 75 professional artists from India (including Anoushka Shankar) performing a variety of classical and semi-classical forms of Indian music and dance, as well as academic lecture demonstrations and performances from over 100 young local students. Some events free; others \$30-\$40. Thursday, April 6, 6:30pm; Friday, April 7, 6:30pm; Saturday, April 8, 8:30pm; Sunday, April 9, 8:30pm; \$30-\$40. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive.

Palomar Symphony Orchestra Romantic

Expressions from the End to the Beginning features the Palomar Symphony Orchestra performing two pieces that represent the span of the Romantic Era: Beethoven's 1804 Symphony No. 3 in Eb Major OP. 55 and Rachmaninoff's haunting 1915 Vocalise Op. 34 No. 14 for violin and orchestra. Performers includes Ulli Reiner, soloist. Directed by Ellen Weller. Saturday, April 8, 7pm; Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College, 1140 W. Mission Road.



Sunday, 5pm — Gino & the Lone

more. \$15-\$115.

Centre:

Whitney Shay.

Saturday, noon — Smoothie

Wine Cave:

Thursday, 8pm — Jordan T. Friday, 8pm — I-Abide and DJ Carlos Culture. Saturday, 8pm — The Werks and Brothers Gow. Sunday, 5pm — Earl Thomas and Casey Hensley. Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste

premiere of a set of Taiwanese

Hounded by thugs

He loved Shakespeare so much he named his horse Shylock.

olita Chakrabarti wrote a mediocre play about an important subject. The Old Globe Theatre's puzzling, under-rehearsed opening night was no help.

There are great reasons why our Calvin Manson named his company the Ira Aldridge Players.

Aldridge (1807-1867) was one of history's finest actors. Though born in America, he rarely performed in his homeland. Shackled

by racist attitudes and hounded by thugs, the proud African-American left for Liverpool in 1824. The move made sense because England had abolished slavery, and Parliament was considering abolition in the colonies.

In 1831 he changed his stage name to F. W. Keene. The switch paid tribute to Edmund Kean, the legendary tragedian (1787-1833). Aldridge also hoped the link would generate name recognition at the box office.

Aldridge loved Shakespeare so much he named his horse Shylock. He was famous for his Shakespearean roles and for addressing the post-curtain audience with an emphatic speech about the horrors of slavery.

The name change may have a deeper link. A legend persists that Aldridge was Kean's servant on his first American tour, and that Kean took him to London and nurtured his love of theater.

Acclaimed in almost every European capital, Aldridge felt he lacked the ultimate triumph: to perform at Covent Garden's Theatre Royale, Drury Lane — the center of the theatrical world at the time and home base of the renowned Kean.

In the late-1820s, Kean's powers began to decline. Often called "untameably wild," he resorted to "stimulants" to see him through. In March 1833, while playing Othello in blackface at the Theatre Royale, Kean collapsed in Act Three, scene three. He shouted to his son playing Iago, "Oh God, I am dying. Speak to them, Charles," and fell into his son's arms. He died May 15.

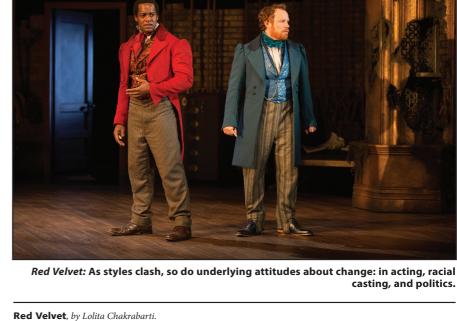
Red Velvet begins in 1867. As an infirm Aldridge prepares to play King Lear — in whiteface - a Polish journalist interviews him. They go back to 1833 when Aldridge's dream came true.

> He took Kean's place as Othello. The theater was famous for never cancelling a performance - i.e., for never "going dark." When the

company manager wants to substitute Aldridge for the ailing Kean, the expression acquires an oceanwide irony. Aldridge went on. But in the eyes of allegedly open-minded Londoners and critics, he failed. A white man must play the Moor, wrote The Spectator: "An African is no more qualified to play Othello than a fat man is to play Falstaff."

Red Velvet has one strong scene. Kean is out. The show must go on tonight. Told during a rehearsal that a black man will play the Moor, the cast tries to stifle reactions, including Charles Kean's semi-veiled racism. When Aldridge arrives, he's a game-changer. His more realistic acting style goes against the taffy-stretched emoting of the day. He tries to teach a more realistic technique. He's still mannered, as when he greets Desdemona by flexing his knees like a Samurai warrior and extending his arm like a spear. He's just less exaggerated than Kean's troupe; they play front and gesture like windmills.

The scene's funny and instructive. As styles clash, so do underlying attitudes about change: in acting, racial casting, and politics, since there's an anti-slavery protest down the street. Other scenes, however, wouldn't pass Playwrighting 1A. The conclusion's a long, long monologue. While Aldridge applies greasepaint, the reporter kvetches. In the penultimate scene, when the company manager, Pierre LaPorte, must dismiss Aldridge, they have a near endless dialogue and



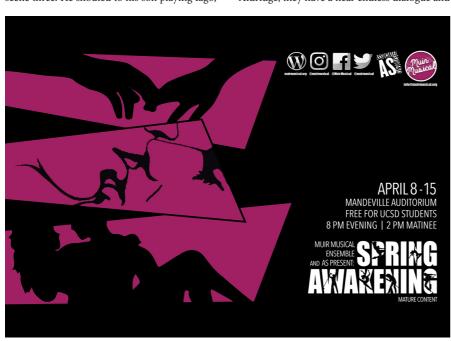
Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way, Balboa Park.

Directed by Stafford Arima; cast: Amanda Pedlow, Michael Aurelio, Mark Pinter, Albert Jones, Monique Gaffney, John Lavelle, Allison Mack, Sean Dugan; scenic design, Jason Sherwood, costumes, David Israel Reynoso, lighting, Jason Lyons, sound, Jonathan Deans.

Playing through April 30; Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m.; theoldglobe.org

conclude with a fight. It's supposed to recall Othello and Desdemona but is so stagey and bythe-numbers you'd think we were back at the Royale in 1833 where stage fights tried mightily not to injure Kean.

That tame combat and the apparently underrehearsed performances are on the Globe production, not the play. Instead of enhancing the script's few strengths, the weaknesses were all the more glaring.





Another puzzle: throughout Act One, the cast shouted, with the leads jack-hammering hard stresses. In Act Two, everyone toned down. Was this a then vs. now styles "concept"? Or did someone rush into the dressing room at intermission and urge the actors to play just to the house, not Coronado Island?

Though lit too dimly, Jason Sherwood's coffee brown, grained-wood set solves potential problems. An ancient arch, ornate on one side, blank on the other, revolves from backstage to the foot-lit front, and from 1867 to 1833. The rest of the Globe production could use his inventiveness. ■

UPCOMING SHOWS

Ballast

Diversionary Theatre stages the world premiere of Georgette Kelly's "poetical exploration of the waking and dream lives of two trans- and cisgender couples as they come to terms with the new lives they find themselves in." Matt Morrow directs. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. MAY 4 THROUGH JUNE 4.

Chicago

San Diego City College Drama Program presents John Kander and Fred Ebb's "Musical Vaudeville" (each of the numbers is reminiscent of a specific vaudeville performer). It's the Roaring Twenties. Chorus girl Roxie Hart murders her faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband, Amos, to take the rap. Katie Rodda directs, with choreography by Kristin Arcidiacono and musical direction by Michael Farley. SAVILLE THEATRE AT SAN DIEGO

CITY COLLEGE, 14TH AND C ST., CITY COLLEGE, 619-388-3676, APRIL 21 THROUGH APRIL 30.

Palomar College stages Bruce Norris' follow-up to Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun. Act One takes place in 1959, as white community leaders anxiously try to stop the sale of a home to a black family. Act Two is set in the same house in the present day, as the now predominantly **AUDITIONS**

Bat Boy: The Musical

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE 4944 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach A dark comedy, based on a June 23, 1992 story about a half-boy, half-bat dubbed "batboy" who grew up living in a cave. Minimum 16 bars, contemporary/rock music strongly encouraged. This show requires strong voices and features many different types of music. It is best to sing a song that shows off your entire range, Non-Equity, Runs September 21-October 22, Thursday-Saturday 8pm; Sunday at 2pm. Starts on August 15th: Tuesday-Friday 7-10pm, Saturday 12-4pm, Sunday 6-10pm. Auditions: APR, 9 2PV

How to Succeed in **Business Without Really** Trying

PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE 116 S. Kalmia Street

Prepare a one-minute of song to accompaniment. Song style should be similar to the show. Bring a CD or MP3 player with a backing track. No a cappella auditions. If you are interested in a non-singing ensemble role, email mattfitzgerald@patioplayhouse.com to set up an invite to the dance callbacks Callbacks will consist of a dance routine, vocal harmony, and reading from sides. Sign up at patioplayhouse.com Big business means big laughs in this clever lampoon of life on the corporate ladder. A tune-filled comic gem that took Broadway by storm, winning both the Tony Award for Best Musical and a Pulitzer Prize, the play follows the rise of J. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a little handbook to climb the corporate ladder from lowly window washer to high-powered executive. Auditions: APR. 9 7PM

Much Ado About Nothing

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE 1835 Strand Way, Coronado For its annual Free Shakespeare show, the Coronado Playhouse stages the Bard's comedy about love, war, and the war of wits between Beatrice and Benedict. E-mail audition@coronadoplayhouse.com with your name and telephone number and headshot/ resume attached. Put "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING" in subject when e-mailing. For preliminary auditions. sides will be emailed to you and are available for download below or advance preparation. The sides do not have to be memorized, but auditionees should be very familiar with the excerpts. Please ensure you have read the full play in advance of the auditions so as to be familiar with the character ters, plot, themes, language, etc. Auditions: APR, 24 & 25 6PM

Spring Awakening

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE 291 Third Ave., Chula Vista Runs July 7 to August 12 (Thursdays Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm). Possible one-week extension. Prepare a one-minute pop/rock song encourage pop/rock music from any source - not just musical theatre. Bring sheet music in correct key. An accompanist will be provided. No a cappella or pre-recorded music or back ing tracks (CD). Please be familiar with the show. Callbacks April 24. Callbacks will consist of dancing, reading sides from the script and vocals from the show score. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes that you can move in. If you have any questions regarding auditions or cannot reserve an audition slot email ospspringawakening@gmail.com. Auditions: APR, 22 10AM, APR, 23 APM **West Side Story** STAR THEATRE

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Come prepared with 16 bars in the style of West Side Story or classic Broadway. A song from the show is fine. Bring music with CD (preferred) or smartphone accompaniment (no background vocals and no a cappella singing). Audition forms and rehearsal schedule will be available at auditions Dance auditions: Thursday, June 1, 6 to 9 pm. Callbacks: Saturday, June 3 at 9 am. Rehearsals begin Monday, June 12. Runs July 21, 22, 28, and 29 at 7:30 pm, July 23 and 30 at 2 pm. Auditions: MAY 30, 31, & JUNE 1 6PM

Women in Jeopardy!

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE 5915 Severin Dr., La Mesa



Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script (however you may choose to perform a two-minute comedic monologue), Callbacks, if nec essary, are Tuesday, May 16 at 7 pm. Runs July 7 to 30, Fridays & Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 2 pm. All roles available. Description: Divorcees Mary and lo are suspicious of their friend Liz's new dentist boyfriend in this new comedy. He may look a bit creepy, but is there really anything to worry about? The fact that his oral hygienist was recently murdered could be just a coincidence...

Auditions: MAY 14 & 15 6PM

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdreader.com/ events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

African-American neighborhood battles to hold its ground in the face of gentrification. Annie Hinton directs.

PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION RD., SAN MARCOS. MAY 5 THROUGH MAY 14.

Horton Grand Theatre presents an

uproarious musical comedy about the chances we take to find love. Based on a book by Austin Winsberg. Music and Lyrics by Alan Zachary and Michael Weiner. F.

Scott Lapp directs. HORTON GRAND THEATRE. 444 FOURTH AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, 858-560-5740. MARCH 31 THROUGH MAY 7.

ANTI-REVIEW

IAN PIKE

A true artist at the heart of every hack

I CYNICALLY SPENT the entirety of Laura Eason's Sex with Strangers, which played last month at San Diego Rep, awaiting the other shoe. It never dropped.

Ethan (Connor Sullivan) blogged about picking up girls in bars and got a book deal for it. At least on the surface, he hates the life where he's been typecast as a superficial uber-bro. I figured his sensitive soul for a ruse, a cunning attempt to trick Olivia (Lisel Gorrell-Getz) into bed and the audience into sympathy. Indeed, during intermission, I overheard the

two younger women say they "liked Ethan, even though he's a bit ridiculous."

Joke's on me. Unlike the rapey pickup "artists" on whom Ethan is loosely modeled, the character's sincere longing to join the literati runs more than skin deep... which reminded me of The Wire.

For those who don't remem-

ber: in the show, Stringer Bell wanted to move his crew out of drug dealing and into real estate development. His attempts to go straight showcased an odd mix



Sex with Strangers

of clever ambition and pathetic naivete. Later, Marlo Stanfield, who replaced Bell as West Baltimore's leading drug kingpin, ended the show meeting with those same developers in an attempt to legitimize his "business" interests.

I've read about that same pattern in real world organized crime. The idea is that crime

bosses make good businessmen, and they would have started companies but for the fact that doors were closed to them for economic or demographic rea-

sons. Having succeeded in crime, they later have the means to invest as conventional entrepreneurs, realizing a kind of American Dream that involves fewer chances of assassination or imprisonment.

Ethan is like Stringer Bell in that regard. Minus the threats of death and incarceration, he wants to be a real writer, like Olivia,

but he doesn't quite know how to get there. Also like Stringer Bell, he fumbles during his mad run for the literary end zone.

I'm not sure whether I believe that there's a true artist at the heart of every hack, but I almost want it to be so, because what could better affirm art's integrity than that its greatest defamers aspire to be more legit? ■

Heathers the Musical

OnStage Playhouse presents the satirical musical comedy, based on the Daniel Walters film, about "a posse of mean girls, Heather and Heather and Heather," who rule Westerberg High. At least until Veronica, alleged misfit, rejects them and begins a relationship with J.D., "the dark and sexy new guy." Manny and Tony Bejarano direct.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. APRIL 21 THROUGH MAY 27.

James and the Giant Peach

Coronado Playhouse offers the popular musical based on Roald Dahl's book, "Iames Henry Trotter lives with two ghastly hags. Aunt Sponge is enormously fat with a face that looks boiled and Aunt Spiker is bony and screeching. He's very lonely until one day something peculiar happens. At the end of the garden a peach starts to grow and GROW AND GROW."

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. JUNE 9 THROUGH JULY 2

The Music Man

The Welk Resort Theater mounts Meredith Willson's hugely popular musical about how "fast-talking traveling salesman Harold Hill cons the people of River City, Iowa, into buying instruments and uniforms for a boys' band that he vows to organize - this, despite the fact that he doesn't know a trombone from a treble clef." Songs include "76 Trombones," "Trouble," and "Till There Was You."

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. MAY 5 THROUGH JULY 13.

The Revolutionists

Moxie Theatre presents Lauren Gunderson's "brutal comedic quartet" about for "very real women who lived boldly in France during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror" (1793-1794): Olympe De Gouge, Charlotte Corday, Marie Antoinette, and Marianne Angelle. Jennifier Eve Thorn directs.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. MAY

Shockheaded Peter

Cygnet Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of this musical based on Heinrich Hoffmann's Struwwelpeter. A "manic music box spins stories of naughty children and misguided parents" in the Victorian era Rob Lutfy directs

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN, 619-337-1525, MAY 27 THROUGH JUNE 18.

Skeleton Crew

The Old Globe Theatre and Moxie Theatre present the West Coast premiere of Dominique Morrisseau's drama about Faye's dilemma. She works long hours in an auto plant (in Detroit, 1908) and is near retirement. BVut management has changed. Now she's "torn between self-preservation and allegiance to her coworkers." Delicia Turner Sonnenberg directs.

SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE. 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. APRIL 13 THROUGH

Travels with My Aunt

North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Giles Havergal's theatrical adaptation of the Graham Greene novel. Eccentric aunt Augusta swoops in, shakes up the life of her staid bourgeois nephew, and ignites the lust for adventure buried within his gray flannel soul." David Ellenstain directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SO-LANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. APRIL 13 THROUGH MAY 7.

The Wizard of Oz

San Diego Junior Theatre presents the family favorite. Dorothy Gale sings that happiness awaits her over the rainbow. A tornado shoots her to Oz. She follows the Yellow Brick Rd., joined by Scarecrow, Tin Man and Cowardly Lion, and learns that, rainbows to the contrary, "there's no place like home.

SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO, SUITE 208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. APRIL 28 THROUGH MAY 14.

UPCOMING SHOWS

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NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SO-LANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. APRIL 13

Ido Fluk's a director, not a puppeteer

MOVIES

irector and co-writer Ido Fluk's The Ticket stars a lean and hungry Dan Stevens as James, a blind man who recovers his sight and immediately sets his sights on the horizon. The way he sees it,

he hasn't been made whole; he's been given the tool he needs to

fulfill the vast and aching need he's been telling himself (and God) he doesn't have.

The story proceeds with the deliberate, inexorable force of a fable, but never abandons its characters' humanity in the process. (God may not sympathize overmuch with James's ravening, but the director clearly does.) Nor does it neglect the nuance in the dealings between James and those who knew the man before the miracle. (Fluk gets help here from a uniformly excellent cast, including Malin Akerman as a woman whose husband can see her for the first time, Oliver Platt as a blind

man left wondering, "Why not me?" and Kerry Bishé as a tempting young lovely who is also a person.)

It's an intimate film, stately but not staid, exploring the plight of a believer who doesn't want to be a saint. Scored

> with controlled verve by Dany Bensi and Saunder Jurriaans.

Matthew Lickona: How did you decide on the title?

Ido Fluk: It comes from a story my dad used to tell me again and again when I was growing up, one of his stock stories. It's about a man who prayed to God, asking to win the lottery. He prays for years and years and years, and finally, an angel goes to God and says, "Can we give this guy a break and let him win?" And God tells the angel, "I would love to, but the man has never bought a ticket." Years later, I started thinking about it and what it meant, and then I made a film about it.

ML: The title of a film directs the view-



The Ticket: Dan Stevens recovers his sight only to get blinded by what he sees in Ido Fluk's exquisite drama.

er's attention from the outset. Was it at all tempting to have it touch instead on the notions of vision and blindness? **IF**: For me and my writing partner Sharon Mashihi, this wasn't a film about blindness in the formal sense of the word. The film is about a blind man who regains his sight, but it could have been about a man who becomes famous overnight, or who wins the lottery. You hear about these people immediately going through a

divorce, or filing for bankruptcy just six months later. I think there's nothing more human than getting something big and then squandering it. Dealing with sight is another formal layer it's something we were interested in, but I would not describe it as a movie about blindness.

ML: Skipping from the start to the finish, I kept thinking, "This is going to be a hard movie to end." Tell me about finding the ending.

IF: I think there's a surprising element to it. At some level, the movie can be read — and has been read — as very dogmatic, a film that deals with faith and with the appearance of the divine in a man's life. At the same time, it can be read as a very secular text, about a man who keeps trying to have a dialogue with high heaven, but nobody ever answers. I think the ending kind of crystallizes [that dichotomy], and sends people into that type of con-





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THEIR FINEST has been rated R.

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alendar

versation at the end. It's open to interpretation. I've been enjoying those discussions at the preview screenings. **ML**: Talk about developing the prayer that James says throughout the film, the one about being satisfied with his life and with today, and not envying others.

IF: We live in an age where self-help and these speeches we give ourselves to pump ourselves up are very common. We wanted to write something like that, something between a prayer and a self-help tactic. It fits with the way he uses the church to advance his real estate goals; we wanted to show this blend of the secular and the religious. ML: Speaking of secular and religious, you have a scene where James and his new girl are naked in bed together discussing belief in God, and I found it very striking. Especially the way she's pressed up behind him as they sit on the bed; they're so close, but not together.

IF: James comes from a world that is based on the sense of touch; it's very warm and it feels like a womb, very intimate. Then he goes into a world that is cooler and more minimal. For me, it was interesting to put these two characters who are discussing faith and whether God is judging them in a space where they are surrounded

by nothingness. Just the sparsity of the space, the white walls, not a lot of objects. Just a man and a woman surrounded by empty space, broadcasting what they're thinking, where one is more involved than the other.

ML: We get that same space again later, when James breaks down and begs God. The camera never moves; just holds at a middle distance.

IF: When I planned this with Zack Galler, who shot the movie, it was important for us that the camera did not become a part of the story, that it didn't rupture the intimacy. That we give Dan the space and seclusion he needed to give that type of performance. We wanted to keep the camera distant, and surround him with white space, so that the focus would be on him screaming up to high heaven. It was clear that this was a one-take type of performance, so we cleared the set and it was just me and Zack and then Dan just going at it.

ML: Do you direct facial expressions? **IF**: Never. One of the benefits of working with actors like Dan Stevens, Malin Akerman, Oliver Platt, and Kerry Bishé is that your role as a director is not as a puppeteer. Your role is setting up a structure and an environment where they can work and make the choices they need to make. You get them to understand where they are in the world of the film, and then disconnect them from the constant minutiae of a film set.

ML: I thought the film's score was

very fine, and played a role that music doesn't always manage to play in shaping the way a scene came across. IF: I had the great luck of scoring Danny and Saunder to score my film. They're real artists, and we spent a lot of time searching for ways to use music in a way that was more than just an emotional support system for what is happening in the film. We wanted the music to start small and get bigger, to mirror the lust for life and the kind of pulsating drive that James gains once he regains his sight. And we implemented elements to show his unraveling. I think they used wooden blocks that sound almost like a woodpecker. Someone knocking at your head, making you almost lose it.

- Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

Beauty and the Beast — Comparisons — to Disney's first live-action princess movie remake (2015's Cinderella) and to the 1991 animated tale of a Beauty who wants "much more than this provincial life" (and the Beast who must win her heart if he is to recover his humanity) - may not be unavoidable, but they are useful. Cinderella strove and succeeded at expanding and deepening the core fairy tale without sacrificing the story's "timeless classic" feel. In sharp contrast,

that extends beyond star Emma Watson's empowered-voung-woman demeanor "provincial life" is so backward that Belle's neighbors recoil at the sight of her teaching a child to read and destroy her labor-saving clothes-washing machine as if it were the devil's handiwork, while the Beast is presented as the victim of a Bad Dad. And it extends further still, to the language - at one point, one character says of another, "We are so not in a good place right now" — and to the presentation, as a homoerotic subtext is here and there elevated to text. (Credit for all this may go to co-writer Stephen Chbosky, of The Perks of Being a Wallflower fame, as much as it does to director Bill Condon, who helmed the last two Twilight movies.) On that score, your mileage may vary; it's when you get to the animated Beauty that things get rough: Ian McKellan makes a fine, melancholy Cogsworth the clock, but the rest of the enchanted servants come off hammy and campy, while Kevin Kline seems lost as Belle's father and Luke Evans turns alpha male Gaston into a bigger cartoon than the original. To say nothing of the workaday new songs and the lumpen inelegance of the CGI Beast. But oh, those fantabulous sets!

Beauty imports a modern YA sensibility

The Boss Baby — Surprise! Dreamworks' latest is not simply an exercise in sticking Alec Baldwin's Scotch-mellowed tycoon's rasp in the mouth of a CGI infant and chuckling at the juxtaposition. Instead, this story of a boy's troubles when his baby brother arrives serves as a rousing defense of familial love as a good that can't be commodified, and the family itself as a community that can't be corporatized. Most magical of all, it's a celebration of childhood imagination that old-fashioned force that imbues ordinary life with extraordinary significance and wonder, all without the benefit of any sort of digital device. (It's telling that the parents' cameras are old-style, and even The Boss Baby's hotline to headquarters is a corded, rotary toy.) Director Tom

2017 — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

McGrath has the good sense to treat all this serious stuff with the lightest of touches, instead guiding the kiddies in the audience to focus on a battle between puppies and babies for human affection, the grown-ups on Baldwin's quippery, and everybody on the oft-crossed line between fantasy and reality in the mind's eye of a child. 2017. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Get Out — Cultural appropriation shifts from "problematic" to "horrific" in writer-director Jordan Peele's sharp take on the scary world of stuff white people like — starting with the "total privacy" of isolated country estates, like the one black photographer Chris Washington (Daniel Kaluuya) visits with his white girlfriend Rose (Allison Williams) on a meet-the-parents weekend. (On the drive up from the city, the car hits a deer, and when Washington goes to check the body, there's a telling shot of his foot leaving the asphalt and stepping into wilderness.) The jigsaw-tight structure is that of conventional horror done right — mercifully light on jump scares (instead opting for a number of disturbing reveals via moving camera) and mostly smart about mechanics. (Why go walking through a dark house in the middle of the night? Because you're trying to sneak a cigarette, away from your disapproving girlfriend and her even more disapproving family.) And layered atop that structure is a squirmingly funny portraval of tortured race relations. even among people of ostensibly good will. It's not subtle, but it is clever, and besides, this is a horror movie — one in which the black guy is determined not to die. 2017. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ghost in the Shell — A hot mess of a philosophical cyber-thriller. The hot is provided by Scarlett Johansson as a government agent (but corporate creation) built from a human brain and a synthetic body, the latter often on quasi-display in a shimmering sort of shell casing that she only occasionally uses as digital camouflage. The mess encompasses pretty much everything else. Philosophical: on the question of what defines us, memories or actions, the heroine explicitly comes

FILM FESTIVALS

CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

619-691-5069

Film Forum: Coming Through the Rye

Emmy-winning writer and director James Sadwith's film debut displays verve and charm in this memory piece about a prep school student (Alex Wolff) obsessed with Holden Caulfield, who writes a stage adaptation of "The Catcher in the Rye." He and his quirky (girl) friend Dee Dee (Stefania Owen) hit the road on a roller-coaster odyssey to find reclusive author I.D.Salinger (Chris Cooper) and obtain his blessing. 2015. 97 minutes. PG-13. Mini concert at 5:30 pm featuring singer Rachel Herrera, followed by the film screening at 6:00 pm. Sponsored by the Friends of Chula Vista Library. Info: 619-691-5069. Wednesday, April 12, 6:00pm

GREEN STORE

4843 B Voltaire St., Ocean Beach 619-225-1083

Symphony of the Soil Film Night at the Ocean Beach Green Center. Drawing from ancient knowledge and cutting-edge science, Symphony of the Soil is an artistic exploration of the miraculous substance soil. By understanding the elaborate relationships and mutuality between soil, water, the atmosphere, plants, and animals, we come to appreciate the complex and dynamic nature of this precious resource. Info: oceanbeachgreencenter@gmail.com. Thursday, April 13, 7:00pm

JACOBS MUSIC CENTER

750 B St., Downtown San Diego 619-235-0804

San Diego Symphony: Wizard of Oz The film's score will be performed live as it screens. Saturday, April 15, 8:00pm

LA JOLLA LIBRARY 7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla

858-552-1657



The Ramallah Concert On August 21, 2005, during the week of the Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip, an historic concert took place in the city of Ramallah, in the Palestinian Territory, given by a world-class orchestra of young Arabs and Israelis, conducted by Daniel Barenboim, Barenboim established the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra with the late Palestinian writer Edward Said in order to bring together young musicians from across the political divide in the Middle East. Their hope was that music would heal and help to bring understanding and tolerance of different beliefs and cultures. This was the first time the orchestra gave a concert in one of its members home countries. It was standing-room only in the 700-seat concert hall, and the atmosphere was electric. The programme included Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante in E flat major and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5. The event is sponsored by Jewish Voice for Peace, San Diego Chapter. Sunday, April 9, 1:00pm

LIBERTY HALL THEATER AT PARADISE VILLAGE

2700 E. 4th St., National City

Film Discussion Class: Spellbound

Alfred Hitchcock mixes a little Sigmund Freud with a bit of Salvador Dali in his mesmer izing tale of mad love. A psychiatrist (Ingrid Bergman) walks the fine line between lover and doctor to an amnesiac (Gregory Peck) who may or may not be a murderer. 1945. 111 minutes. With instructor Ralph De Lauro in Liberty Hall, on the second floor of Paridise Village Senior Living. Wednesday, April 19, 7:00pm

PEARL

1410 Rosecrans St., Point Loma 619-226-6100

Dive-In Theater A weekly "cinema social" combining eclectic film selections, food and drink, and conversation. The event takes place at the poolside lounge and theater located outdoors and connected to Eat at The Pearl. Scheduled films are projected onto a 10' x 13' foot projection screen with full sound, overlook ing the vintage, oyster-shaped swimming pool. Guests are invited to enjoy a range of classics, blockbusters, foreign, and independent features from The Pearl's private library. Showtime is at 8 pm, food is served until 10 pm, and bar's open until 1 pm. Wednesday, April 12, 8:00pm, Wednesday, April 19, 8:00pm, Wednesday, April 26, 8:00pm

REMINGTON CLUB II

16916 Hierba Dr., Rancho Bernardo 858-673-6340

Film Discussion Class: Sleeper Woody Allen takes a 200 year snooze after an operation and awakens in a totalitarian future where he is enlisted by underground revolutionaries (Diane Keaton, John Beck) to help overthrow the police state. 1973. 89 minutes. Presented by the Continuing Education Center at Rancho Bernardo, with instructor Ralph DeLauro, in the second floor Multipurpose Room. (858) 487-0464. Wednesday, April 26, 7:00pm

SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY

1775 Dove Lane, Carlshad



Arrival When 12 mysterious spacecraft appear around the world, linguistics professor Louise Banks is tasked with interpreting the language of the apparent alien visitors. Movie special features begin at 5:30pm Wednesday, April

Manchester by the Sea An uncle is asked to take care of his teenage nephew after the boy's father dies. Movie special features begin at 5:30pm Wednesday, April 19, 6:00pm

Carlsbad Film Series: La La Land Nominated for 14 Academy Awards, this original musical about everyday life explores the joy and pain of pursuing your dreams through telling the story of an aspiring actress (Emma Stone) and dedicated jazz musician (Ryan Gosling) who struggle to make ends meet in a city known for crushing hopes. Movie special features begin at 5:30pm 2016, PG-13, 128 min. Wednesday, April 26, 6:00pm



Going in Style - Three senior citizensaim to augment their meager pensions with armed robbery, though not having much of either time or energy left to enjoy their spoils. A hearty dish of morbidity nearly ruined by smothering the characters in an attitude of pure sugar. The somber direction of Martin Brest an outside-the-mainstreamer known in a small circle for his Hot Tomorrows. suggests that he personally would just as soon go the way of morbidity, but he supplies the characters with so little personality that they are inevitably taken over by the well-known and well-loved idiosyncrasies of the actors who play them: George Burns, Art Carney, and Lee Strasberg. 1979. — D.S. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

John Wick: Chapter 2 — What a great opening! An olde-timey movie, projected onto an urban facade, showing an automotive crash. Pan down to a motorcycle, sliding on its side along the rain-slicked street — the crash has actually happened; the movie is reality. The bike's owner scrambles into view, picks it up, takes off, and VROOM here comes his pursuer, skidding across the purple neon asphalt in a roaring muscle car. No further introduction is required: here comes John Wick (Keanu Reeves), avenging angel, out to tie up the last loose end from the lean, mean, '80s-themed first installment: the recovery of his stolen '69 Mustang. But here's the problem with avenging angels: after a while, their invincibility gets both boring and silly, and the viewer starts pining for something recognizably human. (You wouldn't want to make a drinking game out of every time Wick gets hit by a car/stabbed/shot/beaten up, only to shake it off and get back to work.) And this particular angel isn't even especially righteous - his big decision about whether or not to honor a marker has less to do with integrity than pragmatism. The first chapter's '80s efficiency and sincerity give way to '90s excess and jokey cool; body armor gets replaced by a bulletproof sportcoat; loving attention to the realities of reloading surrenders to outright fetishization of the gun. Alas: for John Wick: Chapter 2, reality is just a movie. Directed by Chad Stahelski. 2017. — M.L. ★ (AMC MIS-SION VALLEY; REGAL OCEANSIDE)

Julieta — Midway through director Pedro Almodóvar's lovely treatment of guilt and its attendant sorrows, the titular character pays a visit to her parents in their new home on a small farm. Mom is failing in mind and body, and Julieta is quick to determine that Dad is getting more than help from the pretty live-in assistant. "Be a bit more generous and understanding with me," he pleads, but Julieta can't get over her resentment on Mom's behalf — even though she herself





The Night of the Hunter

STERLING ANNO

Film festival organizer and programmer

Silent, menacing, and oddly enticing all the same — this is how I'd describe the avant-garde documentary, Leviathan, which puts you in the POV of a North Atlantic fishing freighter amid a black, endless void of both nothing and anything. With neither dialogue nor narrative aside from the muffled voices of near ghostly crewman, it's a sensory experience worth the plunge for its untraditional execution alone.

Charles Laughton's sole directorial venture, The Night of the Hunter, presents not only a visionary tale of cat-and-mouse, but also an exploration into religious hypocrisy and two-faced societal figureheads. Shot to near perfection and masterfully led by the alwayscompelling Robert Mitchum, this story of greed from Hollywood's noir era flew well under the radar of its time. This uncovered classic is now readily streaming.

LEVIATHAN (USA) 2012, Cinema Guild Available on Fandor and iTunes

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (USA) 1955, United Artists Available on FilmStruck and Vudu



Too Late

JAMES FRAZIER

Semi-pro movie critic and reluctant adman

Too Late is a wicked little gem that went practically unnoticed last year. Rectify that immediately by checking it out. The film is a neo-noir about revenge and remorse told in five 22-minute takes. Don't let the gimmicky sound of that fool you, as it looks great, and features a hard-boiled yet soulful performance by John Hawkes that proves he's a national treasure.

Speaking of neo-noirs, there's no time like the present to honor the late Bill Paxton by watching A Simple Plan. Directed by Sam Raimi and adapted by Scott Smith from his own novel, it's the frostbitten tale of greed and murder that occurs when small-town accountant Paxton finds several million dollars with a dead body in the woods. Contemplative, bloody, and suspenseful, A Simple Plan also features impeccable, Oscar-nominated supporting work by the great Billy Bob Thornton.

TOO LATE (USA) 2015, Vanishing Angle Available on Netflix and Google Play

A SIMPLE PLAN (USA) 1998, Paramount Available on Hulu and EPIX



Rewind This!

KRISTIAN SMOCK

San Diego artist

The Voices was virtually ignored when released but this hilariously insane horror comedy is destined to be a cult classic. Ryan Reynolds delivers one of his finest performances as a likable schizophrenic trying to be "normal." His talking pets represent his internal struggles; the dog is sweet and kind-hearted, but the cat is wicked and murderous. Marjane Satrapi brilliantly directs, and as dark as the premise is she keeps everything light and funny.

Rewind This! is a fun. informative walk down memory lane that documents the history of magnetic tape and the impact home video had in the '80s, which ultimately changed people's relationships with film and television forever. It's a labor of love by director Josh Johnson. He does a great job documenting the rise and fall of VHS. Insightful interviews with filmmakers, producers, actors, and collectors make this mandatory viewing for serious movie buffs. Long live analog!

THE VOICES (USA) 2014, Lionsgate Available on Hulu and Amazon Video

REWIND THIS! (USA) 2013, Film Buff Available on Comic-Con HQ and YouTube

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had a one night stand with a man whose wife was in a coma, and conceived her daughter in the process. The ensuing estrangement proves karmic, and the moral of the story is clear: watch out for morals. They corrode the aforementioned generosity and understanding, leaving us lonely and bereft. (They may corrode other things as well: the only woman who actually advocates thwarting desire is also the only one who is not thoroughly

gorgeous, and she's miserable to boot.) It's a seductive claim, especially given the director's ravishing visuals and deep sympathy for the suffering souls in this amorality tale. You may have to narrow your vision a bit to accept it, but goodness gracious, what a view. 2016. — M.L. **

Kedi — A feature-length alternative to a YouTube kitty video. It doesn't matter

if one's a cat person or a dog person; the film person inside all of us knows full well that just because humankind has reached a point in history where anyone with a phone can make a movie doesn't mean they have to. This latest example of "shoot now, figure it out later" digital craftsmanship finds Turkish documentarian Ceyda Torun dogging a half-dozen or so felines with a Steadi(cat)cam through the streets of Istanbul, hoping to find a hook — or

at least cough up a golden furball or two. He doesn't. The result is a wisp of a film that barely sticks to the screen. The 80 minutes would be better spent at home scratching your best friends belly fur or tossing around a catnip mouse. Better yet, rent any of the Benji films to brush up on how to tell a story from a housepet's POV. 2016. — S.M. ★ (LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

The Last Word — What is it about this grab-bag of contrivances, this last word in geezer porn, that attracted the likes of Shirley MacLaine? To set the plot in motion, the newspaper that leisure-class dowager Harriett Lauler (MacLaine) uses to blot up the wine spilled during her botched suicide attempt is conveniently open to the death notices. Not wanting to leave her obituary to chance, the control freak - she "put the 'bitch' in 'obituary' - hires the town necrologist (Amanda Seyfried) to jerry-build a memorialization. Having firmly established his heroine's disesteem, novice screenwriter Stuart Ross Fink attempts a complete character 180 that entails Harriet dragging Seyfried and an adorable at-risk youth (Ann'Jewel Lee), on a road trip to patch things up with Harriet's estranged daughter (Anne Heche). The occasionally retired Ms. MacLaine is ever quick with a retort, but this is one lead-footed comeback we all could have done without. Mark Pellington directs. 2017. — S.M. ★ (LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

Life — Okay, so it's like *Alien*, in that a bunch of people in space wind up with a smart, deadly xenomorph on board and have to figure out how to stop it. And it's like Gravity, in that one of those people would rather be melancholy among the stars than miserable on earth. And it's like The Martian, in that smart scientists are constantly having to innovate and recalculate based on new difficulties. And it's like Independence Day, in that the critter has tentacles and sort of a rudimentary face. And it's like Deadpool, in that Ryan Reynolds cracks wise and suffers horribly. What of it? It's also unlike all of those films, in that director Daniel Espinosa is capably doling out tension over horror, personal sacrifice over personal crises, the limits of intelligence over its glories, animal instinct over alien malice, and genuine, endless darkness over its chuckleheaded imitation. Here is a story that knows how to put the nihilism in the vast nothingness of space. If you're into that sort of thing. With Jake Gyllenhaal, Rebecca Fergusun. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Lion — I'd be lyin' were I to express indifference to Lion, the story of a young man who, twenty years after an unexpected trip on an decommissioned train car deposited him 1000 miles from home, uses Google Earth to reunite with his long-lost family. The task of wringing overpowering visuals out of the simple act of watching characters interface with a computer display has proved daunting to most. Screenwriter Luke Davies and director Garth Davis bypass the cliches with the greatest of ease only to be briefly set off course with a repetitive third act. How many pensive shots of a Christlike Saroo (Dev Patel) staring into space do we need? Nicole Kidman as Patel's adoptive mother from down under and Rooney Mara as his supportive girlfriend leave one wanting more of both. The same can be said of five-year-old Sunny Pawar, whose work as the young Saroo deserves major attention from Awards groups. 2016. — S.M. ★★★ (ANGE-LIKA FILM CENTER; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA)

Logan — Director and co-writer James Mangold takes another stab at the

Calendar

adamantium-clawed superhero (after 2013's Japanese noir The Wolverine), this time turning him into an ailing Western hero tasked with transporting a very special youngster to safety, and winds up making the best superhero movie in years. It helps that the normally lone-wolf Logan also has an elderly father figure in tow: Charles Xavier, a super-psychic whose mind is going — a dangerous prospect. Xavier wants Logan to have a life before he dies, and sees the kid as a signpost pointing toward hope. Our hero knows better, knows that it's all bullshit and bloodshed and bad guys stomping on good. The kid was grown in a lab! There is no promised land! And yet. It also helps that from the outset, we know that death is a real possibility, and that it takes a toll on the one who deals it. (When you deal with enemies by carving them up at close range, your life is nasty and brutish, no matter how long it's made by your mutant healing factor.) Hugh Jackman stars alongside Patrick Stewart and newcomer Dafne Keen. 2017. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Phillauri — In order to wed the girl of his choice, a young boy must first marry a tree. One problem: the sapling of his dreams has a ghost that's waiting to marry her lover living inside it. 2017. (EDWARDS MIRA MESA)

Raw — Rush week at Veterinary School should be a bastion of humane deportment, not a time when the forecast calls for it to rain horse blood or students to dine on raw rabbit kidney chased by a shot of hooch. Garance Marillier stars as the vegan vet student who during the course of the hazing decides it's time to trade in the garden for a slaughterhouse and get back on the cow. Before long she's dining on the arm. Reports that Toronto film festival attendees couldn't keep their popcorn down or that ambulances were called to the scene because a couple of audience members fainted should only help to put butts in seats. The sly splashes of nuance and character shading that go into Marillier's superbly functional performance can't help but be pushed to the background in favor of mounting gore effects. Still, I was never bored by director Julia Ducournau's stylish debut.

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2016. — S.M. ★★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Split — or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love My Dissociative Identity Disorder. Writer-director M. Night Shyamalan reminds everyone why folks used to associate him with Alfred Hitchcock, swiping a mental condition from Psycho, a sympathetic shrink from Spellbound, and a bold theorist from Rope. (Oh, and there's some good use of the camera as eye, both looking and looked into.) But he's also happy to borrow from Thomas Harris's motherabused, often-used Tooth Fairy (Manhunter, Red Dragon,, TV's Hannibal) and his talk

of Glorious Becoming. (Shyamalan juggles all these borrowed balls with grace and skill; it's only when he adds in some of his own that he falters. Viz. the big-idea talk of transcendence through suffering.) As in the Fairy's case, the Becoming of James McAvoy's superman requires sacrifice: in this case, three pretty teens in gradually increasing states of undress. But one of these girls - Anya Taylor-Joy's Casey is not like the others: for one thing, she listened when her father taught her about deer hunting, and that listening begets a watchfulness that proves most useful. For another, she...well, there's no sense spoiling

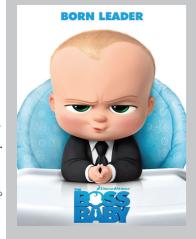
the surprise Shyamalan so carefully reveals. It's all quite engrossing (thanks in no small part to the committed performances) until the end, when what played like a queasily fun (read: overheated and at least a little exploitative) psychological thriller recordscratches its way into becoming something else, something rather more franchisey and, once the initial *whoa* fades, rather less interesting. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA)

T2: Trainspotting — Unless the entire cast suddenly found it hard to make their mortgage payments, file this one under

"unnecessary sequels." The passage of 23 years finds Begbie (Robert Carlyle) on the lam, Spud (Ewen Bremner) a suicidal junkie, and Simon (Jonny Lee Miller) managing a questionable extortion ring - when he's not tending bar and snorting coke. The brains of the organization (Ewan MacGregor) is still running, only this time it's at a health club. The opening gag involving a stalled treadmill flashes a warning sign that a lightweight comedy reunion lies ahead. As a courtesy to its forerunner, screenwriter John Hodge works in a few gross-out jokes. The least offensive crudity involves a sparkling porcelain commode, a reverse reference to the original's most memorable moment. Director Danny Boyle (Millions, Slumdog Millionaire) is simply too nice a guy to work against his minions. Following closely in the footsteps of its predecessor, T2 is the second sweetest film ever made about a caboodle of heroin addicts. 2017. — S.M. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

The Zookeeper's Wife — Dramatization of the efforts by real-life Warsaw zookeepers Jan and Antonina Zabinski to smuggle and shelter Jews during the Nazi occupation of Poland. It's easy to see the story's appeal: a loving couple (Johan Heldenbergh and a radiant Jessica Chastain), struggling to preserve their life's work but still risking everything to do what's right, comforting the oppressed even as they have to make nice to the oppressors. (After their zoo is shut down, they turn the grounds into a pig farm to feed German soldiers.) Chief among those oppressors is Daniel Brühl as a Berlin zookeeper turned Nazi officer, a former colleague who enlists Chastain to aid him in his project of beastly eugenics, and maybe some other stuff, too. Brühl is the right man for what could have been a great job, easily conveying the character's vacillations between professional esteem and growing personal desire, between courtly seduction and the naked assertion of will, between basic decency and the gradual corruption of same. But the film fails him, spending too much time documenting the degradation of the Warsaw ghetto and the goodness of the Zabinskis and their refuge, and not enough on the clash of ideologies and personalities that could have made the story hum. Again and again, the fuse is lit and then fizzles. Eventually, bewildered disinterest sets in. Directed by Niki Caro. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Diego Reader April 6, 2017

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LEAD STORY

— A highlight of the recent upmarket surge in Brooklyn, N.Y., as a residential and retail favorite, was the asking price for an ordinary parking space in the garage at 845 Union Street in the Park Slope neighborhood: \$300,000 (also carrying a \$240-a-month condominium fee and \$50 monthly taxes). That's similar to the price of actual one-bedroom apartments in less ritzy Brooklyn neighborhoods like Gravesend (a few miles away).

Compelling Explanations

— Saginaw, Michigan, defense lawyer Ed Czuprynski had beaten a felony DUI arrest in December but was sentenced to probation on a lesser charge in the incident, and among his restrictions was a prohibition on drinking alcohol — which Czuprynski acknowledged in March that he has since violated at least twice. However, at that hearing (which could have meant jail time for the violations), Czuprynski used the opportunity to beg the judge to remove the restriction altogether, arguing that he can't be "effective" as a lawyer unless he is able to have a drink now and then. (At press time, the judge was still undecided.)

Fine Points of the Law

— Residents in southern Humboldt County, California, will vote in May on a proposed property tax increase to fund a community hospital in Garberville to serve a web of small towns in the scenic, sparsely populated region, and thanks to a county judge's March ruling, the issue will be explained more colorfully.

Opponent Scotty McClure was initially rebuffed by the registrar when he tried to distribute, as taxpayer-funded "special elections material," contempt for "Measure W" by including the phrase "(insert fart smell here)" in the description. The registrar decried the damage to election "integrity" by such "vulgarity," but judge Timothy Cissna said state law gives him jurisdiction only over "false" or "misleading" electioneering language.

Wrong Place, Wrong Time

— "Life's full of peaks and valleys, man," Californian Georgiy Karpekin told a reporter, but Jan. 18 seemed all valley. Karpekin had both a pickup truck and a car, and as he was leaving Sacramento City College that day during violent storms, a falling tree crushed the truck. When he got home, he learned that the same storm had taken down another tree — on top of his car. (Karpekin, insured and uninjured, called himself "the luckiest guy.")

Readers' Choice

- Miami defense lawyer Stephen Gutierrez caused quite a spectacle on March 8 when, representing a man accused of arson, he rose to address jurors, and his pants appeared to catch fire. He insisted afterward that a malfunctioning e-cigarette caused smoke to billow from his pocket, but observers had a field day with metaphors and "stunt" theories.
- Despite an exaggerated, widely read headline in London's *Daily Mail*, the recent death of a 50-year-old man in Japan was indeed pornography-related. The man was a hoarder of porn

magazines, living alone with a large collection, and when he suffered a fatal heart attack sometime early this year, he collapsed atop the piles, where his body was found in February. (The *Daily Mail* headline had him "crushed" to death under a six-ton stack, but the *Mail* conceded below the headline that he might have just fallen.)

Can't Possibly Be True

 News of the Weird has written several times (as technology progressed) about Matt Mc-Mullen's "RealDoll" franchise — the San Marcos, California, engineer's richly detailed flexible silicone mannequins that currently sell for \$5,500 and up (more with premium custom features). Even before the recent success of the very humanish, artificially intelligent (AI) android "hosts" on TV's "Westworld," McMullen revealed that his first AI doll, "Harmony," will soon be available with a choice of 12 "personalities," including "intellectualism" and "wit," to mimic an emotional bond to add to the sexual. A recent University of London conference previewed a near future when fake women routinely provide uncomplicated relationships for lonely (or disturbed) men. (Recently, in Barcelona, Spain, a brothel opened offering four "realdolls" "disinfected after each customer" though still recommending condoms.)

— Scientists at Columbia University and the New York Genome Center announced that they have digitally stored (and retrieved) a movie, an entire computer operating system and a \$50 gift card on a single drop of DNA. In theory, wrote the researchers in the journal Science, they might store, on one gram of DNA, 215 "petabytes" (i.e., 215 million gigabytes — enough to run, say, 10 million HD movies) and could reduce all the data housed in the Library of Congress to a small cube of crystals.

— An office in the New York City government, suspicious of a \$5,000 payment to two men in the 2008 City Council election of Staten Island's Debi Rose, opened an investigation, which at \$300 an hour for the "special prosecutor," has now cost the city \$520,000, with his final bill still to come. Despite scant "evidence" and multiple opportunities to back off, the prosecutor relentlessly conducted months-long grand jury proceedings, fought several court appeals, had one 23-count indictment almost immediately crushed by judges, and enticed state and federal investigators to (fruitlessly) take on the Staten Island case. In March, the city's Office of Court Administration finally shrugged and closed the case.

Bright Ideas

— A councilman in Overtornea, Sweden, introduced a bill (a "motion") that workers be given paid "sex breaks" during the business day in order to improve well-being and, thus, job performance. The primary beneficiaries would be married, fertile couples, but all workers would receive the benefit. And employers, said Councillor Per-Erik Muskos, would have to "trust" their employees because some surely would "cheat" (by not having sex!).

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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Brainstorms

by Don Rubin

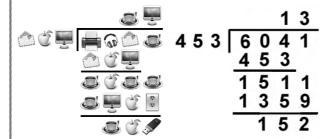
Word for word

This is the word for "word" in shorthand.



Armed with that information, a person even totally unfamiliar with shorthand—a person like yourself, for instance—should find it fairly easy to identify a wide variety of additional expressions. Take our word for it.

Last Week's Solution Divide and Conquer





Bookstand Crossbowman **Bagpipe** Slaughterhouse

Playback

Smog Check

*Cars, light truck and Diesel. (Plus \$8.25 for certificate)

1995 and older vehicle \$20.00 additional

*Motorhome & full size Van: See manage

Overpass Wordplay Offhand **Passbook**

Crossword

- **Bowstring** Lineman Housefly
- Standoff **Turnover Pipeline**
- Manslaughter **Backhand**
- **Password** Handbag

Check Engine Light Diagnostic Service

*Perform scan test and retrieve codes *Provide the cause of a system(s) failure and a corrective action plan

*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 **Brake Service**

*Life time Brakes Available

Oil Change Service from \$1595

ended 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



Precision =Tune= **Auto Care**

A/C system

Recharge

Sports Arena /Pt. Loma











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3425 Midway Dr. (Behind Shell station) 619-450-1262

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SUDOKU

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

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Across

- _ deferens
- 4. What a conservative has that a member of the Conservative Party lacks, in political-speak
- **10.** "Me say" this word in a 1957 hit
- 14. Biblical verb ending
- 15. "Negotiations are off!"
- **16.** Fe. to chemists
- 17. Conductor who co-wrote a 2016 bestseller containing his conversations with novelist Haruki Murakami about classical music
- 19. Tiptop
- 20. Artist's paint holder
- 21. Mess around (with)
- 23. " __ a roll!"
- 24. Use bad words
- 25. "This Old House" airer
- 28. Basketball great who wrote a 2011 autobiography detailing his 19-vear career in the NBA
- 33. Gun belt contents
- **34.** Germany's von Bismarck
- **35.** Classic 1902 Rudyard Kipling work ... or, read another way, a description of the literary output of 17-, 28-, 43- and 61-Across
- 41. Native American tribe with a rain dance
- **42.**"I could
- 43. Celebrity who wrote a 2006 memoir featuring the chapter
- 50. Éxplosion maker
- 51. Covet
- **52.** Chaplin of "Game of Thrones'
- **54.** lam
- 55. In the direction of
- 58. Length x width
- 61. Japanese sports legend who wrote a 1984 book subtitled "A Zen Way of Baseball"
- 63. Mercedes-
- **64.** Bring out
- 65. Nor. neighbor
- 66. Do some computer programming
- **67.** Like some bad film **scenes**
- 68. OVC alternative

Down

- 1. Italian scooter brand
- 2. Groups of starting players
- 3. Battlefield of April 6-7, 1862
- 4. Agitated state
- 5. Like some points
- 6. Woodworking tool 7. "Glee" actress Michele
- 8. Within the rules
- 9. Part of a contract
- 10. Cameron of "Charlie's Angels"
- 11. Rainbow's shape
- ___ Kippur 12.
- **13.** Not you specifically
- 18. Actress Malone of "The Hunger Games"
- 22. General ____ (name on a Chinese menu)
- 24. Least remote
- 25. Sampras or Seeger
- **26.** Upside-down sleepers
- __-mo replay
- 29. Chewable Mideast stimulant
- **30.** Speech coach's targets
- 31. "If you ask me ...," in texts
- ___ won't be afraid" ("Stand by Me" lyric)

- **35.** Chief Justice Roberts
- the crack of dawn
- **37.** Word before and after "ves"
- 38. Neighbor of Caps Lock
- 39. Ear: Prefix
- 40. President Johannes ___ Germany, 1999-2004
- 41. Successor to FDR
- **44.** Carry a balance
- **45.** Former Egyptian leader with a lake named after him
- 46. Discounted
- 47. #1 Katy Perry hit whose video features a tiger wearing the name tag "Kitty Purry"
- 48. "Take your time"
- 49. Helps a hospital, say
- 53. Ghostly white
- **54.** Puzzle with a start and a finish
- **55.** Dash gauge
- **56.** Its state tree is the buckeye
- 57. Light bulb unit
- 58. "black-ish" network
- **59.** Rock's ____ Speedwagon
- **60.** "Tight" NFL position
- 62. Belittle

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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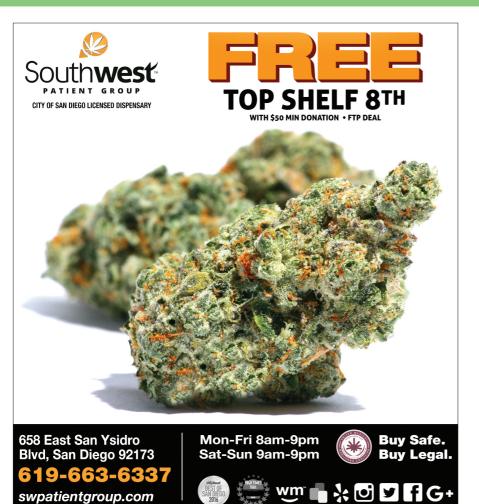
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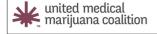


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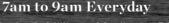
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MUST COME IN WITH A NEW PATIENT TO RECEIVE \$20 STORE CREDIT. PATIENT MUST DONATE \$40 MIN.

50% OFF FLOWERS

\$3 GRAM HOUSE SPECIAL \$4 GRAM MULTIPLE STRAINS \$5 GRAM MID SHELF \$7 GRAM TOP SHELF \$10 GRAM EXCLUSIVE SHELF

MOON ROCKS - PREMIUM \$15 GRAM / \$45 1/8TH

\$89 ALL NUG OUNCES

WEED STOP \$35 CAP

DAILY BOCO SUPERDEALS

AMAZING FTP DEALS

AS LOW AS \$30

3/8THS OF YOUR CHOICE SHELF

.5G SHATTER
PREMIUM PREROLL
(INDOOR FLOWER, ROLLED IN HASH OIL AND KEIF)
EDIPURE CANDY!
FREE DAB

FREE DOCTOR'S REC

(WE PAY \$45 FOR YOUR DOCTOR'S REC NEXT DOOR)

KUSHY KICK SPECIALS

"FEEL THE POWER OF THE KICK!"
LIMIT 3 PER PATIENT

60% THC CLEAR CARTRIDGES

.5G KICK STICKS \$12 1G KICK STICKS \$18 100MG KUSHY CHEWS \$10 100MG KUSHY BARS \$10 KUSHY PUNCH \$8

PREMIUM PRE ROLLS \$8

PRESIDENTIAL, BOMB, PREMIUM INDOOR
PREROLLS (FTP ONLY) LIMIT 3

VAPE DEALS

BRASS KNUCKLES 1 GRAM \$40 PLATINUM VAPE 1 GRAM \$25 KICK STICK CLEAR 1 GRAM \$18 FLAVRX 1/2 GRAM \$15 KUSHY KICK 1/2 GRAM \$12 (FTP ONLY) LIMIT 3

UP TO \$100 FREE STORE CREDIT ON 4/20

VISIT US ON 4/20 FOR AMAZING FREE STUFF.

FEEL FREE TO COMBINE ALL DEALS!

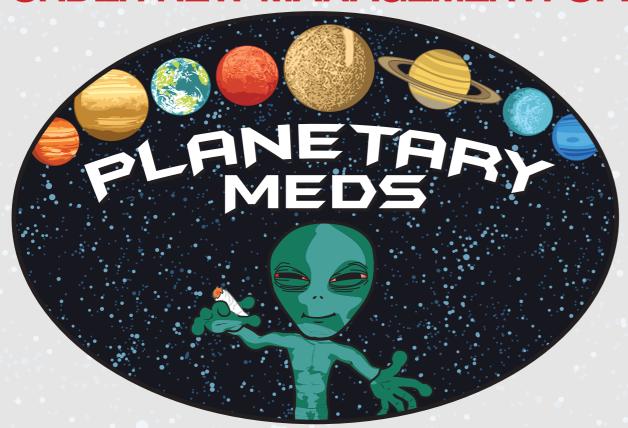
5000+ WEEDMAPS FEEDBACK WITH 5 STARS!

WANT FREE GIFTS, 50% OFF DEALS OR GET ANOTHER FTP DEAL?
JOIN OUR TEXT SPECIALS! TEXT "WEED" TO 619-249-7784

132 W WASHINGTON AVE, EL CAJON 92020 | 10AM TO 10PM EVERY DAY

Walk-ins Welcome / Delivery Hotline: 619-249-7784

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT! OPEN 24 HOURS!





FREE BONG OR DAB RIG!

FTP ONLY WITH MIN. \$40 DONATION. LIMIT 1 PER PATIENT.

HAPPY HOURS: 10PM-12 NOON DAILY

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAMS

NO MINIMUM OR MAXIMUM

5-GRAM 1/8THS ON ANY SHELF!

VALID FOR PLANETARY EXCLUSIVES OR PRIVATE RESERVE ONLY.

20% OFF ALL CONCENTRATES

10% OFF ALL VAPES

11-GRAM 1/4S ON ALL PLANETARY EXCLUSIVE STRAINS

FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT

\$10 GRAMS OF PRIVATE RESERVE

FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT!

5-GRAM 1/8THS, ANY SHELF!

FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT!

\$10 GRAMS OF GORILLA GLUE #4

FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT!

VAPE OR CONCENTRATE

DONATE FOR 1, GET 150% OFF! EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE.

\$250 PRIVATE RESERVE OZ

FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT!

FREE EDIBLE

DONATE FOR 2, GET 1 FREE! EQUAL OR LESSER VALUE ONLY.

ANY PATIFNT!



619-635-6115 9952 DOLORES ST. SPRING VALLEY, CA 91977 OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY!

FREE ATM \$0 ATM FEES! (NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR BANK FEE)











GAL TRUM and Dab Bar

the best, hands down, satisfaction guaranteed!



flovR \$15 0.5G cartridges. Any patient, anytime!

IPAD GIVEAWAY ON 420 & FREE GIFT BAG WITH **ANY \$50 DONATION**

First-Time Patient DEALS

LA MESA'S NEWEST BEST SPOT! 6903 UNIVERSITY AVE. 619-201-3387 **OPEN 24 HOURS!**

2 GRAM SPECIAL! BUY 1 GRAM OF ANY STRAIN, GET 1 GRAM FREE! MON-THURS. ONLY. LIMIT 2 GRAMS.

- \$6/G top-shelf
- \$10/G exclusive/private reserve shelf
- \$15/G hydro shelf

- 20% off all edibles
- \$10 off 1G concentrate
- FREE dab or pre-roll

FREE SAMPLES EVERYDAY!

FREE HOT DOG FRIDAYS

SUN: \$10 SUNDAY

HAPPY HOUR:

8am-12pm everyday 9pm-12am everyday

VOLUNTEERS WANTED 420HERBAL619@GMAIL.COM

- - \$3 DABS ALL DAY!!!

FREE coffee & donuts in the AM! FREE medicated popcorn & drinks in the PM!

Come See for Yourself! Fedipure Thate Leafly













20% OFF for Vets, Senior Citizens













CHULA VISTA GENERAL HOLISTIC ("THE ONE IN THE MIDDLE")

OUR BEST SHEL

FTP only, limit 10. Cannot be combined with other FTP deals. Must present ad. After 10 grams, patient gets unlimited amount of private reserve for \$10/gram.

ON ANY CONCENT CARTRIDGE, OR I

FTP only, limit 3. Valid on Saturday or Sunday only. Cannot be combined with other FTP deals. Must present ad.

FTP only, limit 4. Cannot be combined with other FTP deals. Must present ad.

FTP only. Cannot be combined with other FTP deals. Must present ad.

AVI CONES & RESIDENTIAL VALID ALL WEEK LONG FOR A

CAVI CONE

APRIL 5-11



REE EDIBLES WITH MIN. \$20 DONATION.

FREE \$20 CREDIT W EN YOU REFER A FRIEND!



619-395-0926

7 DAYS, 9AM-2AM

124 27TH ST. · CHULA \

(BEHIND OTAY FARMS MARKET IN CHULA VISTA)





























MAIN ST



Thurs, Apr. 20, 6:30-8:30pm \$40 for 2 Grams of Vapes! Limit 1 per patient during the event only.

Valid for up to 14 grams. First-time patients only. Cannot combine flower deals.



















(Indica/Sativa/Hybrid)

First-time patients only. Limit 4 total.

(3 dose, limit 3) (5 dose, limit 3) 🕛 (6 dose, limit 3) (10 dose, limit 3) BLACK BAR (limit 3)



First-time patients only.

619-366-5334 • 7 Days, 8am-Midnight

3617 Bancroft Drive, Suite Spring Valley, CA 9197 (directly across the street from Bancroft Market)

ATM On-Site • Plenty of Parking • Security

Refer a Friend, Get a \$20 Store Credit! Friend must donate min. \$30.



























Text "BMW" to **858-205-6050** to get \$9 private reserve

grams or 15% off any edible, wax

Get \$25 store credit with 4 loyalty





HAPPY HOURS: 8AM-11AM & 10PM-2AM DAILY 0/GRAM

Limit 10, any patient! FREE GOLANI PRE-ROLL EVENT! Fri, Apr. 7, 4-7pm

Free Golani pre-roll with donation for any Golani product during the event!

Monday: Free Edible Free edible with min. \$30 donation. Tuesday: Free

Top-Shelf Pre-Roll w/ min. \$40 donation.

Wednesday: 10% Off any Wax/Crumble/ **Shatter Donation**

Thursday: Choose Any **Deal Of The Week**

CHOOSE FROM 10 STRAINS!

Valid now through the end of the day on 4/20!

Any patient, mix & match! Multiple brands to choose from, see store for details.

OF MID-SHELF \$20 OF TOP-SHELF \$20 S OF PRIVATE RESERVE \$20 VALID ON THURSDAY, 4/20, ONLY.

FTP FLOWER DEALS!

FREE GRAM

No donation necessary!

MID-SHELF

56/GRAM

ZS OF FIRE SHAKE!

Get a Free Gram!

2 OZS OF FIRE SHAKE \$40

Any patient!

Friday: Buy 1 Presidential

Pre-Roll, Get 1 Free! w/ any donation.

Saturday: OG Shatter

\$18/G or 10% Off Shatter

Sunday:

Free Pre-Roll

& 10% Off

w/ min. \$50 donation

CHROME CARTRIDGES \$15 OR 5 FOR \$50

> Valid for 0.5G cartridges. Any patient, anytime, no limit! While supplies last.

*flov*R

FTP only, limit 5. Valid for 0.5G cartridges.



OPEN ALL DAY, EVERY DAY! 7140 University

Ave. Suite B Look for green light 619-813-8167

BEST MEDS IN TOWN!

Free Snacks Daily! Check out our new

snack stand for free non-medicated treats

TWO KINGPE **HALF-GRAMS FOR \$55**

FREE KOROVA **BUY 2, GET 1 FREE!**

ANY PATIENT, ANY STRENGTH!

Equal or lesser value only

Spend \$50, get a point! Four points gets you \$20 in store credit! See store for details









Text "LMFWM" to 424-333-8167

for More Offers and Specials!

































(Parking and entrance in the Back of the Building)

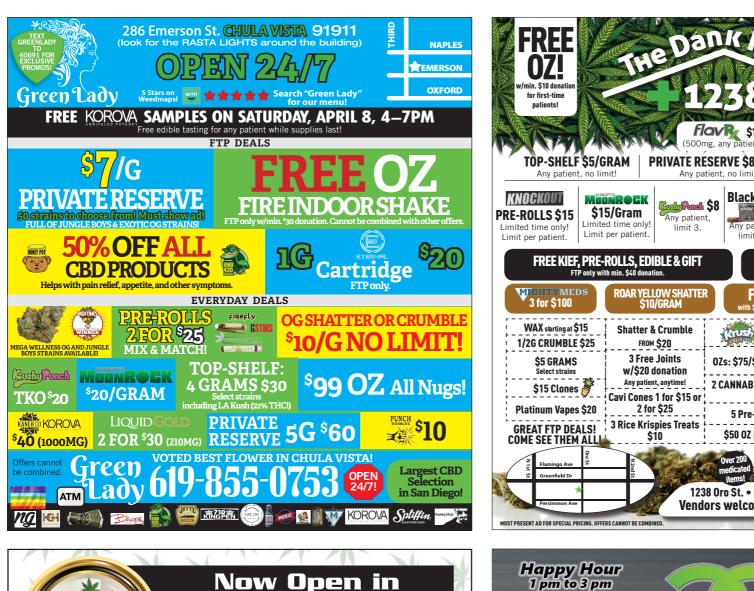
619-486-4028 • 7 Days, 9am-11pm

BHOSS KIVA KOROVA

2 Armed Security Guards 24/7 For Your Safety



MEDS





KOROVA Cookies

EdiPure



VOTED SAN DIEGO'S #1 DELIVERY IS NOW

SERVING NORTH COUNTY AREA!

Call for FREE DELIVERY • 619-735-0872 • gcpetals.com

FTP Sampler

\$85

2g Private Reserve

1 200mg Hi-Fi Bar

2g Top Shelf

1g Mid Shelf

1g GC Shatter

3 Pre-Rolls

PAD SPECIALS
THOUSANDS IN FREE GIVE AWAYS!

· Up to 25% off on Edibles ·

\$200 -280 Oz Private Reseverve

 10g Top Shelf for \$100 -5g Private Reserve for \$60

•\$5 OFF Concentrates •

FREE Edible samples

AND MANY MORE DEALS!! DON'T MISS OUT!!

Daily Specials

4g 1/8ths

2g for \$25 any strain

15% OFF CBD products

Specical FTP deals for Returns

Free Monster Pre-roll

5g Private Reserve for \$60

Take up to \$10 off entire order

Sun-Thurs Take 10% OFF **Entire Order**

ge Kush, Grape Ape, Critical Mass, Gogi OG,

FTP Platinum Pack

\$100

4g Private reserve

4g Top Shelf

5 Pre Rolls

2 Edibles

1 Gift

3.5g Mid Shelf

Kali Mist, Lemon Pie, Island Sweet Skunk, Day

Dream, Jilly Bean, Hash Berry, Cherry Pie, Tropicali

FTP Gold Pack

2g Private Reserve

2g Top Shelf

3 Pre Rolls

1 Edible

1.5g Mid Shelf

Your Transit Fare.

Anytime.

Anywhere.

COMPASS CLOUD



The new mobile ticketing app.

- One-Day & 30-Day Passes,
 Special Events
- Good on Buses, Trolley, SPRINTER & COASTER
- Multiple Riders per Phone
- Fast. Easy. Convenient.

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CHANGING THE WAY SAN DIEGO MOVES

