

SAN DIEGO

VOLUME 47 / NUMBER 1
JANUARY 4, 2018

Reader



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STEVEN SCHICK,
FESTIVAL CURATOR

JAN 11

FEB 11
2018

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FESTIVAL LINEUP

JAN 11, 7:30PM
JAN 18, 7:30PM | JAN 25, 7:30PM

PERCUSSION LOVEFEST

Presented By:
FRESH SOUND

JAN 13, 8PM | JAN 14, 2PM

FASCINATING RHYTHM

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 16, 7:30PM

PERCUSSION: A LISTENER'S GUIDE

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 20, 8PM | JAN 21, 2PM

PLACES IN TIME

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 20, 11AM

STUART COLLECTION AUDIO TOUR

Presented By:
STUART COLLECTION

JAN 20, 2PM

CHARLES MINGUS: TIJUANA MOODS (DISCUSSION)

Presented By:
UC SAN DIEGO HELEN EDISON
LECTURE SERIES

JAN 20, 8PM

PAUL TAYLOR DANCE COMPANY

Presented By:
LA JOLLA MUSIC SOCIETY

JAN 21, 5PM

MINGUS DYNASTY: TIJUANA MOODS (CONCERT AT CECUT)

Presented By:
TIJUANA CULTURAL CENTER

JAN 22, 7:30PM

MINGUS DYNASTY: TIJUANA MOODS (CONCERT)

Presented By:
ATHENAEUM
MUSIC & ARTS LIBRARY

JAN 26, 7PM | JAN 27, 7PM
JAN 27, 10PM | JAN 28, 2PM

MARIA DE BUENOS AIRES, BY ASTOR PIAZOLLA

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO OPERA

JAN 26, 8PM | JAN 28, 2PM

STORIES IN TIME

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 27, 12:30PM

JOHN LUTHER ADAMS: INUKSUIT – A CROSS- BORDER PRESENTATION

JAN 27, 8PM

THE ROOTS OF RHYTHM

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 27, 10PM

THE RITE OF SPRING

Presented By:
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

JAN 31, 7:30PM

ROLAND AUZET

Presented By:
ARTPOWER AT UC SAN DIEGO

FEB 1, 7PM

LUIS ALBERTO URREA (DISCUSSION)

Presented By:
UC SAN DIEGO HELEN EDISON
LECTURE SERIES

FEB 2, 7:30PM

MICHAEL PISARO'S ASLEEP, FOREST, MELODY, PATH

Presented By:
UC SAN DIEGO
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

FEB 3, 7:30PM

REED FAMILY CONCERT: IGOR STRAVINSKY'S L'HISTOIRE DU SOLDAT

Presented By:
UC SAN DIEGO
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

FEB 10, 7:30PM | FEB 11, 2PM

CROSS WINDS

Presented By:
LA JOLLA SYMPHONY
AND CHORUS

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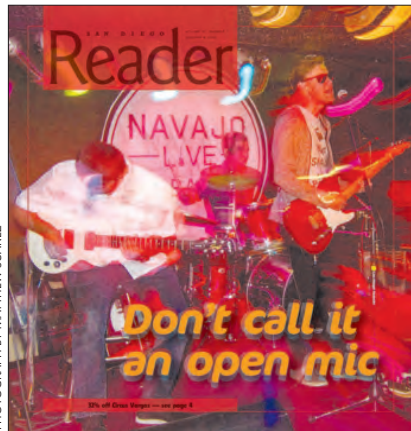
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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Merry tronc and a happy Ferro

New \$5 million consulting deal

While the scribes at his oddly named newspaper chain continue to worry about their jobs, year's end has brought considerable new riches for Michael Ferro, the Chicago-based wizard of tronc.

That jolly word for Ferro and his Merrick Ventures was tucked away in a pre-Christmas disclosure tronc quietly filed with the



Michael Ferro as depicted by the Los Angeles Times Guild

Securities and Exchange Commission on December 22 regarding a recently minted consulting deal between Ferro and tronc.

"The Agreement provides for the engagement of Merrick Ventures on a non-exclusive basis to provide certain management expertise and technical services for an annual fee of \$5 million in cash, payable in advance on the first business day of each calendar year," per the disclosure.

"The Agreement provides for a rolling three-year term, with the initial term continuing through December 31, 2020. Unless any party gives notice of termination by October 1 of any year during the term, an additional year is added to the term of the Agreement at the end of each year starting on December 31, 2018."

In exchange, according to the filing, Ferro and his firm have agreed to pick up their travel tabs associated with tronc business, giving up a controversial arrangement under which the company paid for use by Ferro of his executive jet.

"Mr. Ferro shall be responsible for all travel expenses (including private plane expenses) incurred by them in performance of their services for TPC rather than TPC reimbursing them for such expenses."

Members of the Los Angeles Times Guild, a freshly organized union seeking to negotiate a contract with tronc, pounced on the news.

"Tronc has handed Ferro and one of his companies a \$5-million-a-year 'consulting agreement' that would cover the cost of his sleek Bombardier jet and any other luxury travel he chooses to indulge in," says the guild on its web page.

"In fact, Ferro gets the money even if he never takes to the skies again — or leaves

the house. This is all according to a SEC filing that Tronc clearly timed for the Friday afternoon before Christmas."

"Could there be any better evidence for the need of a Guild at the Los Angeles Times?"

Matt Potter

Composters emerge from the shadows

Longtime trash-haulers concerned

It's a rule that small composters love, trash haulers dread, and the city can live with.

On December 7, the City of San Diego's Environment Committee voted in favor of a code change that will reduce food waste and increase food-waste sharing. On the road to the landfill, city trash trucks will lose some of their contents, and composters are cheering like dumpster divers. For the first time, both types of businesses can become certified to haul food waste.

"By recognizing these revisions you not only recognize San Diego as a place for craft beer but for craft compost," said Sarah Boltwala-Mesina, executive director of Food2Soil, one of a few small composters that will apply for a license to collect recyclable materials. The business has had to operate in a gray area in the city code when collect-



Compost has become a commodity now that small haulers have the city's permission to collect it.

ing food scraps, and a fee, from restaurants. Now, they can emerge from the shadows, Boltwala-Mesina told the committee.

"Stepping out of this gray area and into the spotlight with us are broccoli stalks, citrus fields, wilted salad greens, coffee grounds, and juice pulp from all over the city."

While meat, bones, and dairy will have to be sent to a permitted facility, vegetable scraps can go straight to community gardens or farms. Under the city's reporting requirements, collectors must provide a letter from property owners where composting occurs, acknowledging the work in case odor or nuisance issues arise.

Earlier this year, the city sent warning letters to soil business Closing the Loop after neighbors complained about odors from compost piles. Months later, another

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The Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami

DIGITAL GLOBE/WIKIPEDIA



Tom English

San Onofre 2050: Tide's in, nukes out

Edison's greedy-risky radioactive waste burial plan at coast

By Don Bauder

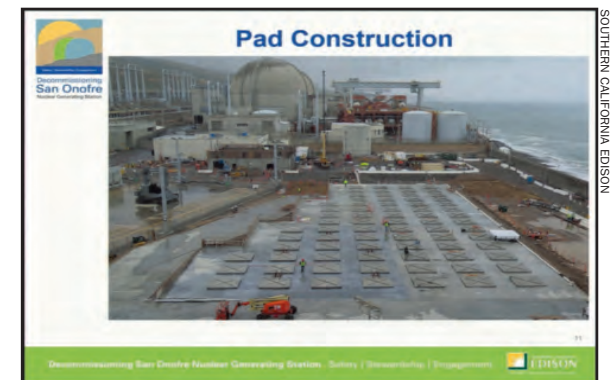
Are northern San Diego County and southern Orange County headed for another Fukushima Daiichi-like nuclear disaster? Possibly, but not necessarily in our lifetimes. The economic severity of such a disaster could destroy the California economy, flatten the United States economy, and severely harm the world economy while killing and maiming many people, says Carlsbad scientist Tom English.

English got a PhD in electrical engineering at Carnegie Mellon and did postdoctoral work in environmental engineering at Vanderbilt. He has lectured at more than 100 universities and given eight presentations at the White House. Now he is giving lectures about the greed and stupidity behind the decision to bury nuclear waste 108 feet from the ocean at the shuttered San Onofre nuclear plant.

Major owner Southern California Edison has quietly completed construction of its beach-front nuclear waste dump despite promises to look elsewhere.

Why is Japan's Fukushima disaster of 2011 a pos-

sible model for what could happen in Southern California? Japan's Fukushima Nuclear Accident Independent Investigation Commission concluded that people should not blame the tsunami for the disaster. Fukushima "cannot be regarded as a natural disaster," said the panel's chairman. "It was a profoundly man-made disaster... governments, regulatory authorities and Tokyo Electric Power lacked



Workers construct canisters to receive radioactive waste at San Onofre. The waste will be radioactive for the next 250,000 years. The canisters are warranted for 10-25 years.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON

greed and incompetence as Tokyo Electric and its regulators. As Californians have learned, Edison's corporate duplicity knows no bounds. The California Public Utilities Commission is a classic case of "regulatory capture," or regulators run by the utilities. The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission also bows to utilities, and the California Coastal Commission thinks spent nuclear fuel should be stored where it originated (in our case, at San Onofre) because the federal government hasn't developed any options for either temporary or permanent storage of this extremely deadly waste, says English.

On nuclear issues, the coastal commission believes that its mandate to include

a sense of responsibility to protect people's lives."

Edison's scheme to pawn the cost of the decommissioning onto ratepayers and to bury 3.6 million pounds of nuclear waste next to the ocean displays the same

environmental, health, and safety issues has been preempted by federal law, says English. Therefore, the commission has made a point of deliberately excluding these crucial considerations from their licensing hearings,

even though they are well aware of their critical importance. That is a fatal weakness in the commission's nuclear permitting process.

The regulators practice the malodorous "revolving door" policy — employees stay awhile at the regulator and then go work at a utility at a high salary. This is practiced at other so-called regulators such as the Securities and Exchange Commission. In effect, regulators

canisters will repose will vary with the tides, and salt water going up-down, up-down will cause erosion. English thinks the canisters are too thin and not fully protected. "If a crack is developing, they won't know it," he says. The San Onofre crew should have studied the old technique adopted years ago when gasoline tanks were leaking. "They tore out the old tanks and put in double-wall tanks. A

ism. "If you store the nuclear waste canisters on the beach, there is no existing adequate defense on the ocean side. A small group of motivated terrorists could attack the interim storage site and spread radioactive materials all over the place," he says. People within 50 miles would be evacuated — about 8.5 million persons. Abandonment of the region could cost \$1 trillion to \$2 trillion. Industrial output would



The radioactive material would be 108 feet from the ocean, but rising oceans will put it under water eventually.

are temps until they can get that fat job at a company.

Fukushima showed that storage of the dangerous spent fuel in pools of water has dangers, so now utilities put the spent fuel into dry storage, slipped into canisters that are surrounded by concrete. "You create a problem worse than the problem you were trying to solve," says English. To bury the canisters 108 feet from the ocean is "absolutely stupid." Canisters should be "as far away from water as possible." Reason: global warming is melting the earth's polar ice caps, causing massive sea-level rise. According to James Hansen, one of the world's leading climate-change experts, by the year 2050 the sea level could rise by ten feet. If this happens, the canisters holding the deadly spent fuel will be one-third under water.

English speaks of the "washing machine effect": the water level where the

leak in an inner tank can be detected right away, and no poisons are released into the environment. There is no protection like that with the proposed Edison canisters."

Edison's strategy "was driven by economics instead of safety," says English. "They have chosen both a bad location and containers that are not very good. The dry-storage canisters must be able to be monitored, inspected — inside and out for radiation leaks — and repaired. Edison came up with a plan with completely unacceptable risks."

It's that old mentality of "not on my watch," says English. Executives cut corners, getting bloated paychecks as profits rise, knowing they will be retired or deceased when despair sets in.

English is particularly concerned about terror-

plunge, severely damaging the California economy.

"Since California is the sixth-largest economy on Earth, this kind of event could be devastating to both the U.S. and world economy."

The 1986 Chernobyl accident was in Ukraine, then part of the Soviet Union. "The attitude was that it happened in the Soviet Union because the Russians weren't qualified," says English. Japan was considered

near-perfect industrially and technically. "But they screwed up at Fukushima," says English. The Japanese prime minister Naoto Kan came within an hour of evacuating 80 million people in the Tokyo area. The Fukushima disaster almost destroyed the Japanese econ-

continued on page 24

UNDER THE RADAR

Loose change As is traditional, San Diego taxpayers will be anteing up mightily in the coming year for fees paid to city councilmembers who sit through the board meetings of a bevy of local government agencies. The most sizable estimated annual jackpot, \$3600, will go to mayor **Kevin**

Faulconer if he manages to make each of the board meetings of the San Diego Association of Governments. Should the mayor fail to attend, his first backup, city councilwoman

Lorie Zapf, or

his second backup, fellow Republican councilman **Chris Cate**, are available to step in to reap the reward of \$150 for attending each meeting. The city's other compensated position on the Sandag board is set to be occupied by councilwoman **Myrtle Cole**, with first and second backups by fellow Democrats **Barbara Bry** and **Georgette Gomez**, respectively. Then there is a spot on Sandag's Borders committee, which pays \$100 per meeting, to be occupied by council Democrat **David Alvarez**, with the GOP's **Mark Kersey** serving as backup. Sandag's public safety committee seat, also worth \$100 a meeting, will be filled by Democrat **Chris Ward**, whose alternate is Zapf. A raft of other lucrative board positions at Sandag and elsewhere, including the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System and the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Joint Powers Authority, are being similarly distributed among San Diego elected officials, per a December 11 list of proposed appointments posted online by the city clerk.

Out of the money The *Union-Tribune*, which faced declining circulation and a shrinkage in its newsroom in 2017, continues to draw closer to its big northern sister, the *Los Angeles Times* and its satellites. Both papers, owned by Chicago-based tronc, have begun to accelerate the content-sharing that some think will ultimately end with the folding of San Diego's operation into the *Times*. Last Wednesday,

the *U-T*'s "Local Reports" section on page B-2 covered Costa Mesa with a December 22 story by **Luke Money**, Costa Mesa City Hall reporter for the tronc-owned *Daily Pilot*, about a house whose Christmas decorations garnered 23 million Facebook views.

Last year's "Valentine's Day Massacre"

saw a raft of reporters, editors, and photographers hit the streets on February 14, and there are fears that simi-

larly timed cuts are in the works for the new year. "Today, we're reducing our newsroom

by seven positions," wrote editor and publisher Jeff Light at the time. "In an organization of our size, it is a small number, but that does not lessen the sense of loss everyone in our newsroom will feel today."

Footballers and bankers for San Diego State

Professional football legend **Brian Sipe**, who played for the Cleveland Browns of the National Football League from 1974 to 1983 before two seasons in the upstart United States Football League, has kicked in \$10,000 to the campaign for the ballot measure to turn what used to be called Qualcomm Stadium over to San Diego State University. Sipe, an SDSU alumnus, ex-head coach at Santa Fe Christian High School, SDSU's onetime quarterback coach, and custom home designer, is listed as

a construction consultant with Brian Sipe Design of Del Mar. Banker **Terry L. Atkinson** of Tiburon, California, another wealthy SDSU alum, came up

with \$100,000 for the Aztec cause the same day Sipe gave on December 18, disclosure filings show.

— 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/.



Sandag meetings are opportunities for Lorie Zapf, Kevin Faulconer, or Chris Cate to put some gravy on their salaries.



23 million Facebook views? Wow. That's interesting.

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

Step up

Re: "Voice of Reason Be Damned," News Ticker, December 28.

Radioactive uranium and plutonium waste disposal from San Onofre is a serious issue. Don Bauder's note about Orange County city council member Pam Patterson being removed from Southern California Edison's Community Engagement Panel for raising safety concerns regarding nuclear waste disposal is alarming.

More alarming is his concluding paragraph: "Critics say Edison is just days away of beginning the process of burying 23.6 million pounds of radioactive waste in thin walled containers just 108 feet from the beach." Time for our congressional delegation to step up. We need solutions, not temporary stop-gap measures.

Chris Pearson
Spring Valley

Reverse Robin Hood

Re: "A crystal-ball view into San Diego's 2018 economy," City Lights, December 21.

I'd like to share a perspec-

tive about your article. Let's stimulate the economy by helping us, the people, instead of the already rich and powerful. Granny Rocks and their nerrevolution.org are fighting for a society that meets the needs of people and the earth.

The latest tax law gives the vast majority of benefits to rich individuals and corporations. A small percentage goes to the poor and middle class. If the justification for this tax cut is to stimulate the economy, here's a better way: Provide more money to the poor and middle class. We'll spend that money on goods and services, which will stimulate an overall business expansion.

Those who have pushed through this tax law oppose increasing the minimum wage to \$15/hour or offering people a guaranteed income. Yet these actions would help people meet their needs while boosting demand for goods and services. Why can't we see this? When poor and ordinary people get money, it's called an entitlement or a handout. When rich people get it, it's called an incentive.

This is Reverse Robin Hood. We need to see through the rationalizations for giving to the rich by taking from the poor. We need to refuse to be bought by short-term small tax cuts for us and long-term huge tax cuts for the rich and powerful. And we need to start thinking for ourselves: Reducing income inequality is good for people and the economy. History continuously supports this.

Name Withheld
Vista

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

ENCANTO

7-Eleven greenlit to occupy Greene Cat

“We’re not here to ask for a liquor license.”

Seven-Eleven — which proposes to buy out the Greene Cat liquor store if the franchise chain’s conditions are okayed —



“You’re going from a store that 90 percent of the sales are liquor to one where 10 percent of the sales are beer and wine.”

received permission to stay open 24 hours at a December 18th Encanto Planning Group meeting.

The corporation hadn’t signed to buy (pending permission to stay open 24 hours), and the decision has to be approved by the community. A 7-Eleven representative, Steve Laub, promised the store would sell only beer and wine, with those sales only between 8 a.m. and midnight; the cooler doors would be controlled by employees for the last two hours of the night.

“You’re going from a store that 90 percent of the sales are liquor and 10 percent are other things to one where 10 percent of the sales are beer and wine and 90 percent are other things,” Laub said.

Some residents said they would like to see the liquor sales go away entirely.

Grade-school principal Gina Olson and Sister Margaret Castro from from St. Rita’s Catholic Church School came and spoke against the project, saying the store will be selling beer and wine within 300 feet of the school.

Others expressed concerns that the store — the parking lot, in particular — would be a magnet for crime and homeless people. They pointed to problems with the nearby 7-Eleven at Division and Euclid, with pictures of transients sleeping in the parking lot.

The owners of the Arco gas station across the street brought a petition with more than 200 signatures against the store.

The group voted 9-2 in favor of recom-

mending a zoning waiver to allow the store to stay open around the clock.

MARTY GRAHAM

OCEAN BEACH

Vandals spread the hate Torched car, burned flag, about 40 tires punctured

On December 22nd, the fire department responded to a car fire at 2:50 a.m. in Ocean Beach, but as dawn broke, reports around town started coming in about punctured tires, broken car windows, a burned flag and hammock, and several scooters that had been pushed over.

Several residents reported hearing a loud “boom” around the time of the fire — on the 5000 block of Del Monte Avenue, near Cable Street. Other residents heard nothing, including the owners of the car.

“We woke up, my husband was going to the bathroom at 3 o’clock in the morning, and we just saw flames,” “Ann” told me.

The living room was all lit up, so he came out and saw the flames and was screaming, ‘Oh, shit!’ and then he got on the phone with 911 but the fire department had already come up and was taking care of it. They do suspect it’s arson.

“My glove box [in the burned car] was open and there was a bunch of paper on the front seat. It seemed like they broke in, but there was no sign of forced entry, so that’s confusing. And then we thought maybe it was a mechanical problem, but my neighbor said there were a bunch of slashed tires and burned flags, too.”

A neighbor said, “Yeah, my friend’s yard, her hammock and equality sign and flag burned up — this was [at] Niagara and Ebers. She reported it, too.”



“My friend’s yard, her hammock and equality sign and flag burned up — this was Niagara and Ebers.”

These were just a few in a string of incidents that have O.B. residents on edge. A car was stolen from Coronado Avenue and ditched two blocks away with a knife left inside. Punctured tires were reported on Coronado, Narragansett, Cable, Bacon, and Ebers.

From December 7th through the 11th, an arsonist or arsonists set fire to various items mainly located in O.B. alleys, partially burning one home and destroying a motorcycle, motorhome, utility trailer, car cover, and a tree. The incidents occurred on Orchard

Avenue (at Santa Barbara), Newport Avenue (near Venice), Newport Avenue (near Santa Barbara), Santa Cruz Avenue (near Santa Barbara), and Muir Avenue (near Guizot).

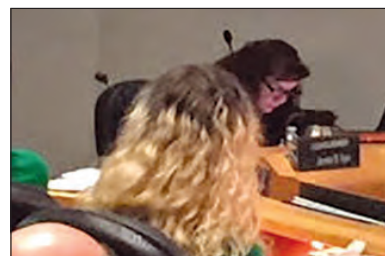
DELINDA LOMBARDO

OCEANSIDE

Council wafts toward pot decision

Councilwoman called out for eating on the job

The Oceanside City Council on December 20 voted 3-1 to forward the recommendations of the Medical Marijuana Ad Hoc Committee to staff and advisory boards/commissions for review and comments to be brought back to council.



Councilmember Esther Sanchez appeared to be eating and looking down at her phone.

The Ad-Hoc Committee began its work on April 19, 2017, to explore regulations that could be implemented to license commercial medical cannabis activities in Oceanside.

Oceanside currently has a ban in effect, with the exception of permitting delivery services affiliated with licensed dispensaries in other cities. There is currently one licensed delivery service in Oceanside, and according to deputy mayor Chuck Lowery, there is another one going through the permit process. He stated that there are multiple unpermitted delivery services showing up on Weedmaps that serve Oceanside.

Between 30 and 40 people signed up for their three-minute public comment. Approximately 75 percent of the speakers were in favor of adopting the Ad-Hoc Committee’s recommendations to staff; about 25 percent were opposed. One speaker (a cannabis entrepreneur) lost his cool with councilmember Esther Sanchez’s disinterest in the proceedings — she appeared to be eating and looking down at her phone and not paying any attention.

Another minor outburst came from the gallery when a Vista resident complained that the meetings were only publicized to proponents and “where [were] the parents and the PTA?” One person shouted out, “We’re here!”

With the resignation of mayor Jim Wood on December 13th due to health problems, there was the worry that the council was going to be deadlocked 2-2 on this vote. Wood’s resignation was effective January 1st, but he did not attend the December 20th council meeting.

JANE MACKENZIE

POINT LOMA

12 days of harassment and counting

“You do not sell magazines at 11 p.m. and 1 a.m.!”

Residents in the Point Loma/Ocean Beach area have been on alert since an aggressive “solicitor” began knocking on their doors a couple weeks ago.

On December 10th, a NextDoor post included a video of the solicitor at a resident’s door. In an interview, the resident, who lives near Nipoma Place/Nipoma Street, said, “I even took the video to the police station, they said there’s nothing they can do because he hadn’t committed a crime, and next time call the non-emergency number. He even read our mail.... I told him to leave and come back tomorrow, he came back at 1:00 a.m., and no we didn’t answer the door.”

After posting, the comments started...

“Came to our house as well. (Loma Portal)”

“Came to my house on Lotus Drive last night (Dec. 9) around 5:30.”

“Same guy has been going around Loma Palisades claiming to be selling magazine subscriptions for the YMCA. He has come to our door three times after 7 p.m., a neighbors place twice...I tried to call non-emergency after he approached me twice at work.”

“Same guy was at my door on Chatsworth between the High School and Browning...”

“Same guy came to my house on Dec 9th near PLHS...he asked for \$45 and then he offered me \$20.”

On December 11th, “Blair” shared the incident in several Facebook O.B. and Point Loma crime groups, and the responses keep pouring in about this guy.

“Anyone have experience with this man coming to your door (sometimes in the middle of the night) asking for donations... or claiming to be selling magazines? He’s been hitting up houses over in my neighborhood near the YMCA.... He seems to be very persistent and sometimes gets verbally aggressive when asked to leave...he came to my neighbors house when she was alone with her newborn and toddler and even with her huge dog barking at him and telling him that she was calling the police he didn’t seem phased [*sic*]. There’s several incidents others have had with this same guy, same scenario.”

“Yes. A guy showed up at our house at 7 p.m. on Saturday [Dec. 9th] asking for a subscription, then for the time, and then for money. My husband told him to go away.”

“He knocked on our door in Stonewood Gardens complex off Midway [Drive]. My husband barely opened the door and spoke with him and told him no and to leave.”

Another Point Loma resident commented on the morning of December 23rd:

“Later I heard my neighbors accounts of him following and returning repeatedly.

continued on page 8

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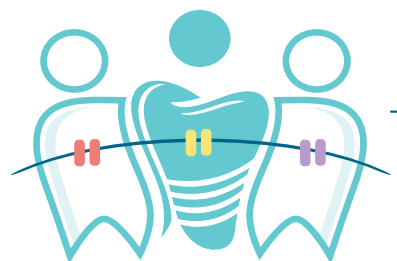
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

Then he approached me at home and work (now 5x). Additionally, I spoke to the staff at the YMCA and they definitely are not raising money this way and stressed they don't



"The police said there's nothing they can do because he hadn't committed a crime."

want anyone to give money to him on their behalf...please heed the warnings people are posting instead of doubting us. This individual is most certainly up to no good. You do not fundraise/sell magazines at 11 p.m. and 1 a.m.!"

DELINDA LOMBARDO

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO Sandag accused of eminent domain abuse

"We absolutely need this."

The San Diego Association of Governments is considering using eminent domain to take an entire downtown block. The land owners say they are concerned about what the agency plans to do with it, since the plan ranges from a parking lot with bathrooms to a multi-use residential high-rise.

An attorney who represents owners of two parcels called the staff plan "a bait-and-switch," pointing out that using eminent domain to take privately owned land and handing it to a private developer is not allowed. "We have two very different visions of the project and no idea of what's being done," said Jacqueline Vinaccia, who represents the San Diego County Bar Association.

Sandag staff says the land, the block between Union and State streets east and west, and A and B streets north and south, will be used as a much-needed bus layover facility. But Richard Chavez, the project manager, says the organization has been asked to con-

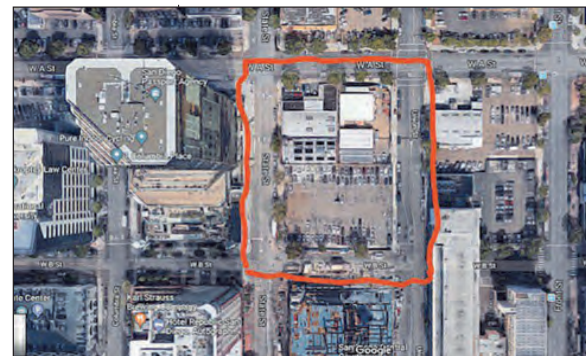
sider developing a building with residences and offices above the layover — and putting Sandag offices in the new building.

Private, mixed-use developers won't make a proposal for that building until they are certain that Sandag owns the land, Chavez said. He estimates the bus layover project cost at between \$75 million and \$85 million.

The six parcels that make up the block, mainly a parking lot with 164 spaces, an auto-repair shop, and two small commercial buildings, are owned by criminal defense lawyer Chuck Goldberg, King Stahlman's family, the Townsend Family trust, the McClellan Trust, and by two limited liability corporations set up by the San Diego County Bar Association. The parking lot is run by Ace Parking and the bar association reported about \$350,000 in income from their part in 2015.

The Stahlman family and Goldberg are interested in selling their land — for about \$9 million and \$3 million. McClellan uses the red brick building on Union Street to store cars and has an offer of \$3 million. He isn't inter-

ested in selling — nor is the bar association, which gets "significant" income from the two parcels. Sandag's appraiser valued those prop-



Will Sandag's eminent domain push get Sandag new offices?

erties at just under \$12 million, according to Sandag documents.

Scott Ward, who runs A Street Auto Repair, says the shop has been in the family for three generations. The shop has six employees, and he's getting ready to start looking for a new place.

"They're developing so much downtown that mom-and-pop shops have to leave," he said. "So I don't know when it will happen, but they're telling me it will."

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Dear Hipster:

What were the best and worst parts of 2017? What are we most looking forward to, from a hipster perspective, of course, in 2018?

— ANDREW

Despite a rising trend in declaring every year “The Worst Year Ever” as soon as it draws to a close, I think 2017 had plenty of bright spots. From where I’m standing atop Mt. Hipster, looking out at all the hipness before me, I’ll venture that the best (i.e. most hipster) part of 2017 was the vast selection of vintage-themed entertainment available to hipster and non-hipster alike.

Stranger Things 2 gave the world another peek into its romanticized version of the 1980s. The new *Thor* and *Guardians of the Galaxy* movies didn’t exactly go back to the ’80s, but they wrapped themselves in more layers

of satin-hued primary colors than an episode of *He-Man* wrestling a Lamborghini Countach for the last can of Tab.

The simplistic, plasticky synth tones that first started cropping up in obscure hip-hop and electronic tracks have become ubiquitous in mainstream pop music. Twenty-seventeen also brought us the Atari Flashback 8, which is basically an Atari 2600 except without any of the things that made vintage home video gaming consoles super annoying. What’s not to love?

Yet the blade cuts both ways, and this hipster nostalgia for all things retro is also the worst part of this last, and many other, years. Reproducing retro Moog and Korg tones on an iMac doesn’t exactly push music forward. Worse, today’s retro entertainment sanitizes the past, because



nostalgia (from the Greek for “return to pain”) necessarily involves remembering things as better than they were. We like to take the things that were totally shitty, like cookie-cutter synth tracks from terrible pop songs, and imbue them with quasi-mythic significance just because they happened a while ago. All humans bear some guilt for this, and it’s always a little sad.

Looking forward, I hope 2018 will be a year without band revivals.

Please stop replacing the absent member with a younger version and going on tour with watered-down versions of the old favorites.

Dear Hipster:

What is the best place to be a hipster during the wintertime? Is it a Colorado resort? The desert? Alaska? Florida? Whatever the place — why?

— DANA, CITY HEIGHTS

Hipsters love certain things about the winter: thick, fluffy flannel shirts and jackets fit for lumberjacks; the chance to grow a luxurious beard; hot toddies made with imported rum and a dash of hand-made bitters; ugly Christmas sweater parties; butternut squash ravioli; and mourning the loss of the daylight.

Hipsters also hate certain things about the winter, like shoveling snow and seasonal affective disorder.

The obvious solution is to pick some place like...oh, I don’t know, perhaps San Diego, California? Cold enough to invoke the former benefits, yet free of the actual hard, horrible stuff that makes winter such an epic bummer for the upstanding hipsters in places such as NYC, Chicago, and Boston.

Pretty much anytime you can soak up all the benefits of something without any of the drawbacks, you have a prime opportunity for hipster interest. Some people want to call that a bit disingenuous, but I really think they’re just envious of the fortunate hipsters who are having their gluten-free cake and eating it, too.

— DJ Stevens



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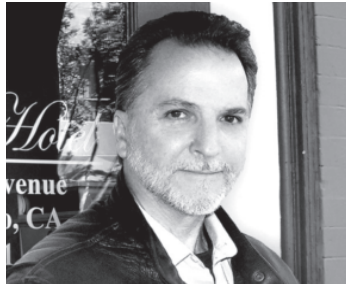
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GOLDEN DREAMS

Beat cancer, publish book. Check.

David Grant Urban was a fit 50something who had just finished hiking Mount Whitney when he found a lump on his neck.

“I went through cancer treatment with three other people, and they all died,” he recalls. “I told myself, *If I survive this, I’m going to get serious about my writing. And I did.*” Fat Dog Books published his novel, *A Line Intersected*, on November 3rd of last year.



David Grant Urban

He started by studying his favorite authors. “Not just reading — studying. I followed Raymond Chandler’s advice: take a scene from an author you like and rewrite it. Do it from memory, and then compare them: your first sentences, your metaphors and similes, how you lead the reader, image by image. You start learning the craft behind the magic. I remember doing the awesome opening scene in *The Big Sleep* where detective Philip Marlowe first meets General Sternwood in that greenhouse full of orchids. I’m not going to come up with a better simile than when he described the orchids as feeling like the newly washed fingers of dead men, but I got

to a point where I felt comfortable writing a scene like that.”

Local history provided his protagonist’s crisis. “In 1990, Cleo-phus Prince, Jr. committed a series of horrific murders here in San Diego. His first victim was a girl named Tiffany Schultz; he just brutally destroyed her with a knife. When her boyfriend Christopher James Burns came home, he discovered her dead. He called the police, and they promptly arrested him and threw him in jail for three days. Everybody thought he had done it — the papers, even her family. She had been a nude dancer and they figured it was a jealous rage. In interviews, he talked about what a horrible experience it was — first losing a loved one and then going through all that. I got to thinking that something like that could happen to anybody. My book’s title is about lines of good and evil and what happens at the point of intersection. I wanted to explore that, using Burns’s ordeal as a kind of basis.”

And San Diego provided his setting. “I love this town — it’s the biggest small town in America — and I know it so well.”

Urban was born in Mercy Hospital, grew up in El Cajon, and has spent time exploring San Diego’s homeless encampments, its monster mansions, and everywhere in between. The story

ranges from the De Anza Angel outside Borrego to the (only slightly) less historic Gaslamp Quarter.

“I spent a lot of time looking at the plaques on the buildings.

There’s a lot of history here that gets hidden away.” A lot of other stuff, too. “San Diego is light and bright and clean, but if you scratch the surface, you find it’s corrupt. No one seems to care until it affects them personally. My novel’s hero is a DINK yuppie with a beautiful wife and a promising career, and then this horrible thing happens and he’s just chewed up. He’s yesterday’s garbage, and nobody really cares except him.” That’s when the hero has to get serious.



Little free library at 3424 Little Flower Street

Read it and reap

Little free library boxes in front yards around Altadena/Burlingame.

2302 Montclair Street

Litterachur: *A Supposedly Fun Thing I’ll Never Do Again*, by David Foster Wallace

God, etc.: *The Shack*, by William P. Young

Crime: *Smokin’ Seventeen*, by Janet Evanovich.

Sexytimes: none

MATTHEW LICKONA

1750 OCEAN FRONT | DEL MAR, 92014

CURRENT OWNER: Trevtroy, LLC | LISTING PRICE: \$16 million | BEDS: 3 | BATHS: 4 | HOUSE SIZE: 2500 sq. ft.

UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

Listing materials for a pair of Del Mar condos at 1750 Ocean Front promise prospective buyers a “Once in a lifetime opportunity for this stunning architectural masterpiece” on the sand just north of Powerhouse Park.

“Exquisite design and attention to detail” went into renovating the pair of townhomes to combine them, forming a single home with just under 2500 square feet of living space, three bedrooms, and four baths. Design touches applied by



Windows equipped with electric storm roll-up shades for additional security

the award-winning local architectural firm Batter Kay Associates include “lighted stone, onyx and marble” that make “a beautiful combination

with hardwood floors” found throughout the residence. Custom crystal-inspired light fixtures are found in the living areas and master bath;

other baths feature modern vessel sinks that rest atop stone counters.

The “luxurious private master bedroom” sports a generous 22-by-

16-foot main room with fireplace and adjacent private patio. The bathroom suite features a steam shower and radiant floor heaters.

The kitchen includes chef-quality appliances with a large gas range mounted on a center island that doubles as a breakfast bar. The refrigerator and pull-out chest freezer are built in and face-matched to the rest of the cabinetry; there’s also a second dedicated wine refrigerator.

Other features include “smart home automation and life touch technology” and “integrated home audio/video throughout” that ties into a video-monitored security system. There are also “electric storm roll-up shades” for additional security and protection from the elements.

Outside, the patio’s

imported wood deck “has been preserved and eco treated for maximum durability and longevity.” The patios span the length of the property’s rear, directly abutting a sandy expanse of public beach.

Though no unit numbers are given in marketing materials, townhomes two and three in the five-unit complex at 1750 Ocean Front are both registered to Trevtroy, LLC, an entity established in 2015 with a mailing address elsewhere in Del Mar. Unit two, originally a 949-square-foot condo with two bedrooms and baths, last sold publicly to a group led by Howard Appel, a retired real estate investor and former president of local drug-testing outfit Millennium Health; that unit sold for \$2.44 million and was

continued from page 13

GOLDEN DREAMS

Kidz: *Troubling a Star*, by Madeline L'Engle
 BONUS: *Richard III*, by William Shakespeare

2421 Boundary Street

Litterachur: *The Bridges of Madison County*, by Robert James Waller
 God, etc.: *Lay Seige to Heaven: A Novel About Catherine of Siena*, by Louis de Wohl
 Crime: *The Butter Did It: A Gastronomic Tale of Love and Murder*, by Phyllis Richman
 Sexytimes: *Fifty Shades Darker*, by E.L. James
 Kidz: *Stealing Home*, by Mary Stoltz
 BONUS: *My Name is Asher Lev*, by Chaim Potok

3535 Juniper Street

Litterachur: *The Magus*, by John Fowles
 God, etc.: *Tribulation Force*, by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins
 Crime: *Innocent Blood*, by P.D. James
 Sexytimes: *Fifty Shades of Grey*, by E.L. James
 Kidz: *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, by Scott O'Dell
 BONUS: *A Short History of Nearly Everything*, by Bill Bryson

2263 Pentuckett Avenue

Litterachur: *Rebecca*, by Daphne du Maurier
 God, etc.: *Divine Evil*, by Nora Roberts
 Crime: *In Pursuit of the Proper Sinner*, by Elizabeth George
 Sexytimes: *Lady Chatterley's Lover*, by D.H. Lawrence
 Kidz: *Scooters!*, by Dregni & Dregni
 BONUS: *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin

3496 Juniper Street

Litterachur: *Exodus*, by Leon Uris
 God, etc.: *Revelation: Its Grand Climax at Hand!*, Watch Tower Publications
 Crime: *Desert Places: A Novel of Terror*, by Blake Crouch
 Sexytimes: none
 Kidz: none
 BONUS: *Tree of Smoke*, by Denis Johnson

2415 Commonwealth Avenue

Litterachur: *Brother, I'm Dying*, by Edwidge Danticat
 God, etc.: *Young People Ask*, Watch Tower Publications
 Crime: *The 9th Girl*, by Tami Hoag
 Sexytimes: *It Happens in the Hamptons*, by Holly Peterson
 Kidz: *The Cheerios Play Book*, by Lee Wade
 BONUS: *Whispers*, by Dean Koontz

3530 Cooper Street

Litterachur: *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, by Ishmael Beah
 God, etc.: *Seven Seasons with the Man in the Mirror*, by Patrick Morley
 Crime: *Presumed Innocent*, by Scott Turow
 Sexytimes: *What No One Tells the Bride*, by Marg Stark
 Kidz: *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, by Betty Smith
 BONUS: *Days of War, Nights of Love*, by Crimethink Workers Collective

3424 Little Flower Street

Litterachur: *The Book of Ruth*, by Jane Hamilton
 God, etc.: *Everything Matters!*, by Ron Currie, Jr.
 Crime: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*, by Stieg Larsson
 Sexytimes: none
 Kidz: *Lions at Lunchtime*, by Mary Pope Osborne
 BONUS: *Angela's Ashes*, by Frank McCourt

3412 Quince Street

Litterachur: *The Cider House Rules*, by John Irving
 God, etc.: *My Book of Bible Stories*
 Crime: *The Hunted*, by Elmore Leonard
 Sexytimes: none
 Kidz: *Firefighter!*, by Angela Royston
 BONUS: *The Birth Order Book: Why You Are the Way You Are*, by Dr. Kevin Leman

3143 Felton Street

Litterachur: *Pale Horse, Pale Rider*, by Katherine Anne Porter
 God, etc.: none
 Crime: *Death of a Stranger*, by Anne Perry
 Sexytimes: *Gabriel's Ghost*, by Linnea Sinclair
 Kidz: *The Masterharper of Pern*, by Anne McCaffrey
 BONUS: Mystery book with cover secured, by rubber band. ■

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 12

subsequently transferred to Trevtroj in October



Crystal light fixtures in bathroom

2017; while unit three, formerly a 1510-square-foot 2-bedroom, 3-bath

home, was purchased by Trevtroj directly in 2013 for just over \$3.1 million.

The combined units hit the market for the first time in late November, carrying a price of

\$16 million, currently the highest asking price for attached housing in San Diego County. For an additional fee, "Some high end art work by

local artist and furniture could be available for purchase [sic]." ■

LETTERS

continued from page 4

Stand up to Disney

Why are your film critics giving *The Last Jedi* positive reviews? It not only fails as a *Star Wars* movie, it fails as a movie full stop!

I can't see how a professional movie critic can give this movie anything other than a 0 out of 5. Its plot holes are numerous. There is next to no character development aside from that of the villain. The characters we have come to love are completely mishandled and their story arcs ruined. There is no chemistry between characters. The relationships are completely one dimensional. There are too many characters in pivotal roles for us to care about. The principal cast is way overblown. Entire plot lines are built up for half the running time and then completely abandoned and rendered inconsequential in the final act.

I could go on. My point in the end is to pose a question. Are your film critics too afraid to stand up to Disney and tell the truth when they have so obviously failed at not only making a good *Star Wars* movie, but have failed at even producing good basic cinema in the case of *The Last Jedi*?

P.S. I would be more than

happy to write honest film reviews for you if your own staff are not up to it and bow to the pressure of the big studios.

Richard Marenzi
 New Zealand

Matthew Lickona responds: Sir, I salute your bravery. But I wonder if you really understand the risk you are taking. It was hard enough to stand up to Disney when they just sent Ursula the Sea Witch around to give you the squeeze. But now they've got Lord Vader, and Thanos, and Animal from the Muppets. Scary stuff.

As for *The Last Jedi*, I agree that there were many things it did badly — though I do think there were some significant things it did well — and that intelligent people could disagree about its overall success or failure. I left the theater disappointed but eventually came around a bit.

In all seriousness, there are many factors that influence a critic's reception of a film; it's not impossible that I wanted to think well of it because I've so admired Rian Johnson's earlier work. It's certainly true that Adam Driver tends to fascinate me in whatever role he plays, even that of a tantrum-throwing sadboy. But the studio behind a given film is not one of those factors.

Thanks for reading!



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Bill Caballero at Border X Brewing:
"I just call the tunes. These guys are the ones
who take the music to a different place."





Don't call it an open mic

“We’re going to have a lot of musicians here tonight, and they all get a turn. Okay?”

A half dozen men circle around a thin man with a top bloom of white hair in long-sleeved plaid and jeans. Strict: “I don’t want this to turn into a mess. Let’s not all take a bunch of endless solos that go on forever.”

Standing on an otherwise empty dance floor, blue and green stage lights throw long shadows over a mound of band gear arranged like pieces in a puzzle on a stage behind them that is not much bigger than two dinner tables.

“Listen to each other,” the thin man warns, “and keep it about the music.”

It’s jam night at the Kraken in Cardiff. They call it a

biker bar and on some weekends it probably still is one. Otherwise, the Kraken — wedged between Highway 101 and the mouth of the San Elijo Lagoon — is an honest, old-school, no-frills road house of a kind that would not get built today. Loud bothers no one here, and the wearing of colors, if a biker is so affiliated, turns no head. But mostly, the Cardiff hang is a music-friendly place for people who like to be seen at a biker bar: a late-night flight of lithe little-black-dresses and their dates who generally arrive en masse, as if the bus from Money Town drops off at the Kraken’s front door.

Robert Cowan is the white-headed

man. The septuagenarian plays harmonica, beautifully, the one hand not holding a harp free-wheeling in the air of its own accord, as if conducting. Perhaps it is; Cowan runs this rhythm-and-blues jam. He's seasoned, a pro musician, gigging during his lifetime with musicians as motley as the Strawberry Alarm Clock, Trombone Shorty, Taj Mahal, and Antônio Carlos Jobim.

"He preferred that I call him by his nickname," Cowan says dryly. "Tom."

But at 9 p.m., the night is still young and the tank-top-and-cargo-shorts crowd hangs back in the Kraken's far room, shooting pool. Cool sea air blows in through open windows. A half dozen regulars cling to the bar like salt on a margarita. Otherwise, the place

is empty.

The opening set of any jam session generally belongs to the house

If the wellbeing of any given town's music scene can be gauged by the quantity and the depth of its jam sessions, San Diego is doing middling well.

band, which tonight includes Joe Norwood, Dante Fire, Cecil McBee, Cowan, and Frankie Dee. The element of surprise, anted up by the unspoken no-set-list-rule brings out the best in them. Tunes are called and arranged on the fly. Guest jammer

Leonard Lee gets called up first.

Lee's a jam regular around town. He chops

out some brilliant, quick solos, mindful that he is but one of three guitarists on the stage and that the other two axes, the harmonica, the keys, the bassist, and the sax guy will all want solos. An audience killer? When one song gets turned



PHOTOGRAPH BY ARNE REIMER

Charles McPherson: "You're free, but you have to have organization."

into a 25-minute ego fest. The seasoned jammer knows this.

Next up to the stage is Chill Boy. Gaunt, eye-

glasses enormous on his tanned features, he borrows a guitar. The word is that Chill lives here and there. He takes a quick

minute to study the guy's amplifier settings, adjusts for the tone he wants, and then the band rolls into Delbert McClinton's version of "Shakey Ground." His solo is bottomless and fickle and startling and impeccable. The heavens part. The bar flies applaud.

The only problem is that Chill's solo ends.

If the wellbeing of any given town's music scene can be gauged by the quantity and the depth of its jam sessions, San Diego is doing middling well. First, an explainer: an open mic is not a jam session. Each is a distinct entity. Open mics are for singer/songwriter original music, and jams cover jazz and blues. Rarely, if ever, do the two universes blend.

Tony Ortega jams jazz at Mr. Peabody's

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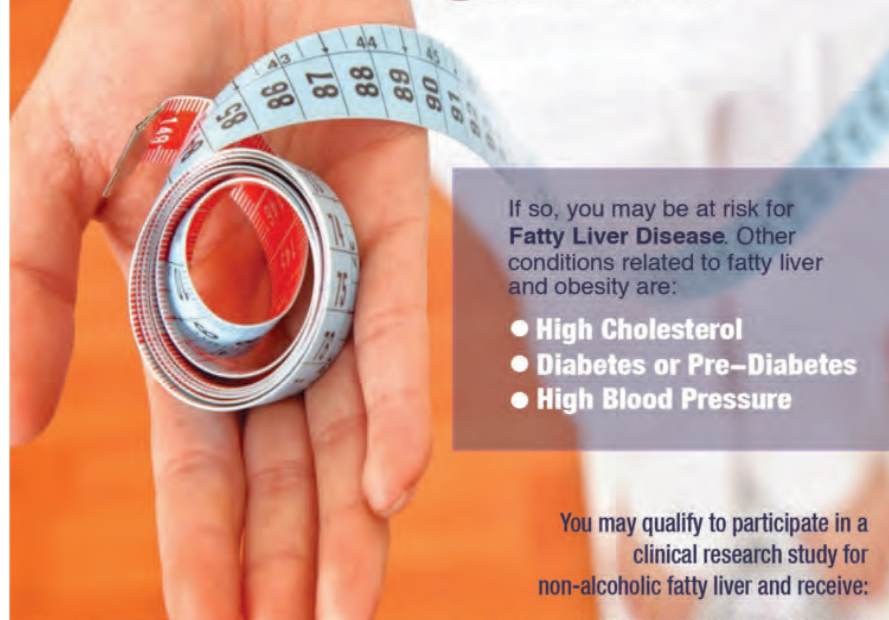


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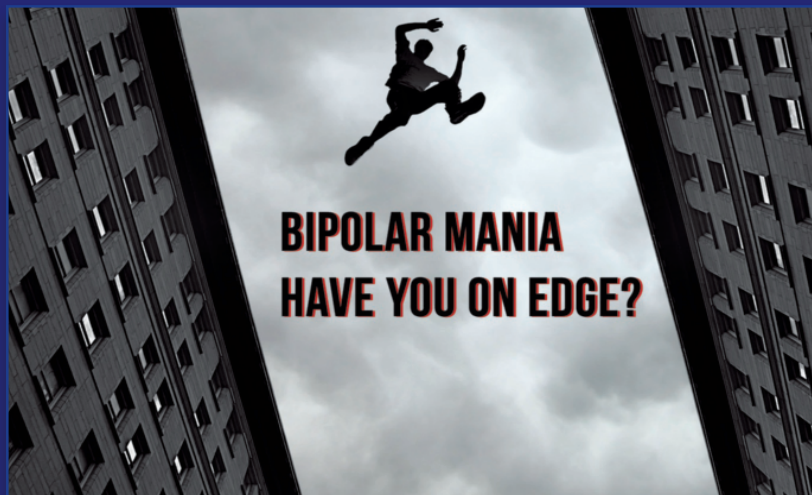
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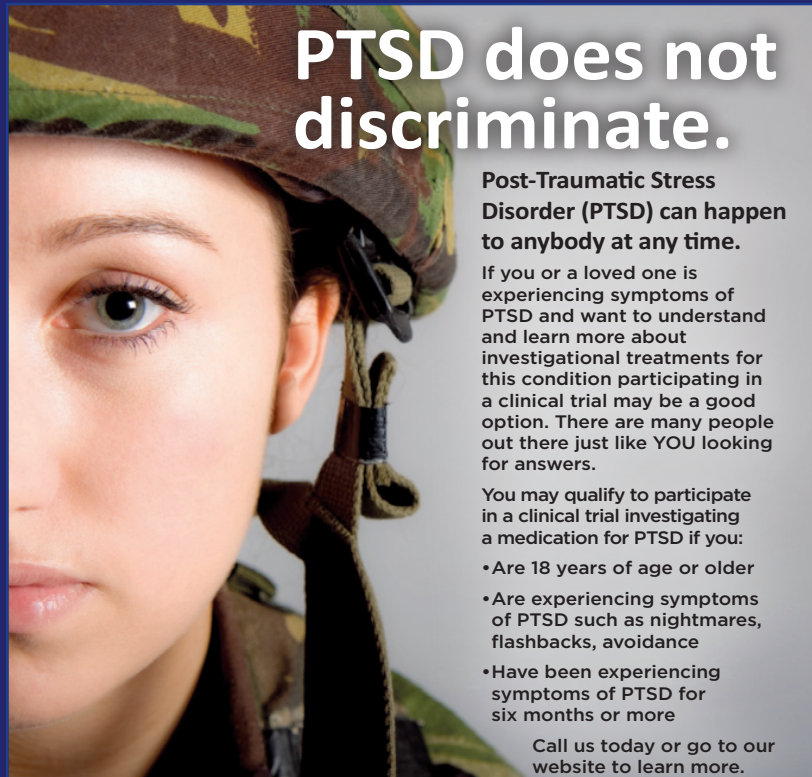
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in Encinitas on Sunday afternoons. Trumpeter/educator Gilbert Castellanos runs a Wednesday-night series at Panama 66 in Balboa Park. Music retailer Sam Ash hosts what may be the town's only classic rock jam on alternate Sundays. First Tuesdays see a jam of sorts at Pal Joey's in Allied Gardens. Patrick's II on random Tuesday nights in the Gaslamp stages a jam; trumpeter Burnett Anderson jams jazz on Wednesdays at Café La Maze in National City; another trumpet player named Gary Rich fronts a jazz jam on the first Thursday of each month at the Bourre Southern Bistro in Rolando; there's blues jamming going on at the Prohibition Lounge in the Gaslamp on Wednesday evenings; and City College jazz radio

88.3 FM likewise presents a Wednesday-night blues jam at Proud Mary's restaurant in the Ramada Inn in Kearny Mesa.

Charles McPherson, a jazz alto sax player perhaps best known for his dozen years with the Charles Mingus band during the '60s and '70s, has been to more than a few jam sessions in his time. He says there's camaraderie but that the truer value of jamming is that "it's a place where you can trade ideas. You can hear what a lot of other people are doing. It's a learning experience. You learn how to play spontaneously with a group. People are calling tunes out of the air. You're not necessarily in your comfort zone. But you do it anyway. It's a musical freefall, and you have to make something out of



Jeff Ousley (right) fronts the Rhythm Mongers band and runs the Thursday-night Navajo Live sessions.

nothing. To do that, you have to be organized." He thinks for a beat or two, then says that jamming has a bigger picture. You have to have your feet in both worlds — organized, and free. That's valuable, because life is like that.

You're free, but you have to have organization."

Violet-colored light leaks out the doors and onto the sidewalk in front of a green-tiled saloon; inside, a woman sits alone at the bar while men in undershirts shoot

pool to music thumping out of a jukebox, cumbia, norteño, whatever. Across the boulevard, low-riders and motorcycles bunch like moths under a dim yellow safety light above a VFW hall. After dark, Logan Avenue turns into

an Edward Hopper-scape of shadows and reflections. There are no street lamps down here. What little light there is tonight comes off a waxy harvest moon clearing the horizon, a crowded tiny storefront in which a dozen artists work over canvases, a restaurant, a brewery, and random silvery car headlights. A familiar trumpet melody glides down Logan Avenue. It is Miles Davis's "So What."

But all bets are off. This version, emanating from Border X Brewing, swings Latin. At the end of it, Bill Caballero approaches the mic. "I just call the tunes. These guys," he says of the bassist, the guitarist, and the timbalero standing with him along a back wall, "these guys are the ones who take the music to a

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


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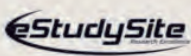



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different place.”

This is the place where Caballero, band leader and trumpet player, runs his Thursday-night Latin jam. The brewer's roll-ups are open to the fetid night air. A blonde woman in a black tank-top sits at a window table and undulates to the music like a jellyfish. The venue is packed, and loud. Ceiling fans whirl under Border X's gilded ceiling.

Caballero calls the old Bobby Hebb tune “Sunny.” The rhythm section makes it quake like something out of War's back-catalog. A tenor sax, an alto sax, and a trombone player materialize from the shadows. The players seem relatively young. The tenor sax takes a solo, no microphone, his reedy tone puddling around the melody like warm

champagne. The blonde drinks beer and undulates some more. The alto sax guy goes next.

He struggles to come up with ideas that flow with the song's chord progressions. Sounds pretty, but he struggles. When he finishes, he shrugs it off. The trombone player takes third solo. In a gray felt fedora, Caballero, his features steeped in shadow, says something to the alto player — one hopes words of encouragement, not condolence. After all, it wasn't a bad solo, and in patches here and there, the alto seemed almost weightless against the lunar tug of Caballero's rhythm section.

Some jam sessions are private, so private you have to know someone to be invited. Like the one at Bob Jones's house. It's been going on without



“It's like this every Thursday,” says Emily Bartell about Thursday's Navajo Live scene.

fanfare for years, two nights each week, and by now Jones's Peñasquitos neighbors are used to it. It's where jazz heavy-hitters go to work out. It's where Daniel Jackson

went to die.

No surprise that the celebrated tenor-sax man landed up here when he reached the end of his rope with cancer. Jackson, a sax player of such

renown that the first week in January was named Daniel Jackson week by the San Diego City Council, needed upkeep. Jones had a spare room, and in that way, Jackson passed surrounded by his own kind: jazz musicians of the highest cut.

On any Tuesday or a Thursday evening at the Jones jam, straight-ahead jazz tunes are called by the musicians, solos are assigned round-robin, and starts and endings and bridges are worked and re-worked. There's camaraderie in the room, but one also gets a sense that there is no messing around.

Jones jammers recall Jackson rallying in a morphine glaze during those last weeks and days and hours of his life, sometimes joining in on piano — too weak to blow

any saxophone — until he finally gave out.

The Thursday-night jam at the Navajo Live Bar, on Navajo Road at Lake Murray Boulevard in Lake Murray, started across town on Sundays at the Parkway Bar. That's what an auburn singer named Carrie Shannon says, but she has a little skin in the game: her sister owned the Parkway, a La Mesa watering hole that got gobbled up in a development deal. After the Parkway shuttered, those jammers needed a new stage.

“Jeff Ousley,” Shannon says during a smoke break outside the Navajo, “won't deny that.”

Jeff Ousley fronts the Rhythm Mongers band, and he runs the Thursday-night Navajo sessions. “It's not really a jam,” he cautions when I tell him I'm writing about that scene. “Well, it's a little of both — a jam, and an open mic.” Which is a rare combination in the jam world; usually, it's one or the other.

Navajo Live is one of those neighborhood dives granted a new lease on life. A decent crowd tonight — close to 50 clubbers are inside the venue, a mix of musicians and fans, and another dozen or so are outside smoking.

“It's like this every Thursday,” says Emily Bartell, a 50-ish woman in op-art threads with a craze of black hair, referring to the crowd size. She says she is here tonight to glad-hand and possibly to launch a booking agency using Navajo Live talent.

“I'm re-inventing myself right now.”

For going on three years, Jeff Ousley has put order on the Thursday jam with a sign-up sheet and a table microphone in back. “I can't believe

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three songs have gone by," he announces when the band onstage finishes. The band is fronted by an older man in a straw fedora who plays guitar and sings lead. His original stuff sounds J.J. Cale-ish. "Yep. That's our three." The fedora smiles into the stage lights. "You want us to do another one?"

Friendly applause. That's an up vote. The band winds into their fourth song of the evening.

"A lot of original music gets performed here." Carrie Shannon snuffs her cigarette. "There's a featured band, and they get two sets. Thirty minutes. Fifteen

minutes is what everybody else gets. That's about three songs."

Shannon explains that the difference is that this open mic/jam hybrid provides a full backline (drums and amplifiers) and that there's a skilled sound guy running the sound system. "Honestly? Whoever shows up, if Jeff can fit them into the schedule, plays."

All originals?

"No. Sometimes, bands do cover songs."

Like what, "Freebird"? "Mustang Sally"?

"No." Jimmy Graham, for example. "You know Jimmy Graham was on the *Turko Files*, right? He got gyped out of his new teeth. Now he has teeth,



Carrie Shannon with friend Mark Nissenbaum

and he can play his flute again. He does a lot of Jethro Tull."

Think fast: Nik Simon calls "Get Back to the Chicken Shack" in the key of G. It's closing in on 5 p.m. This is the last set of the day at Chet Cannon's blues jam.

But I learned "Chicken Shack" the old Jimmy Smith way, which is in the key of F. I play tenor sax. This means that if I stay and play, I'll have to transpose the melody on the fly into the new key (which is A for me), and that means the turnaround will have a couple of accidentals (additional sharp or flat notes that are not in the key) that I need to be thinking about. I'm not certain if it would be worse to tank in front of the audience or tank in front of these remarkable musicians.

But then, for some, jamming is all about the risk and a fear of failure that goes all the way back to the 1930s when a teen-aged saxist named Charlie

Parker famously got himself thrown off a stage for sucking. Then again, in Parker's day, jams were peopled by gatekeepers of merit who demanded the very jazz best. If a player train-wrecked (that's what we call it when the music doesn't work), he/she was politely asked to step down. Which doesn't happen so much at jams here.

For many, the weekly jam is the only place to get stage time. Some jammers seem content to play the same songs week after week. But there's another reason a fan might hear a lot of "Stormy Monday" and "Red House" and "Thrill Is Gone" at blues jams: much of the time, it comes down to finding songs that all of the jammers in a given set know.

Cannon's jam is a blues tradition going a dozen years strong at the Downtown Café in El Cajon. It draws a variety of players, from weekend warriors to pros. This jam has also fostered some young players who have since gone on to various degrees of music careers: Wyatt Lowe, Leilani Kilgore, Anthony Cullins, and Serena Geroe are

names that come to mind.

An imposing guitarist with a full sleeve down one arm, Simon has partnered up today with a capable electric slide guitarist, a first-call bassist, and an eminent drummer. I am in way over my head. If all goes according to the unspoken plan, the two guitars and I will play the "Chicken Shack" melody in unison.

Am I nervous? No. Aware, but not nervous. Aware of Nik Simon's movements, aware of the vibe of the band chatter, aware of the wave of late-day energy coming off the audience, and all of that transiting with the musical footnotes that are my immediate focus. My old sax teacher's stern voice suddenly surfaces in there somewhere: "Make every damned note mean something!" Just then, Simon looks over his shoulder at the band, and he counts us in and just like that, his large, reassuring guitar tone reaches through his amplifier and envelops the set like a warm blanket. I step up to the microphone, shut my eyes, take a huge breath, and blow. ■

— Dave Good

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CITY LIGHTS

Tide's in nukes out

continued from page 3

omy. Dislocated people are still ailing physically and psychologically because of Fukushima.

In common with several other activists, English believes that a mesa across I-5 from San Onofre might accommodate the temporary storage of spent fuel.

"It's limited space that [Edison] has in its lease with the Navy. It's maybe 50 to 80 feet higher than the beach storage site. That mesa is the only place that would not be totally stupid. This location would at least eliminate the near-term climate-change threat to canisters." There is

CITY LIGHTS

also some space on the ocean side that might work, but Charles Langley of Public Watchdogs believes that Edison has dumped toxic (non-nuclear) waste on that site and wouldn't permit dumping of nuclear waste there. ■

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

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

city code change threatened to shut down such small enterprises in San Diego. That code, effective in July, helped fund the city's zero-waste plan through fees paid by certified haulers, but it barred the composters from charging fees to collect the small amounts of scraps that

CITY LIGHTS

restaurants are allowed to discard. Food waste was left out of the materials the city's certified recyclable material collectors were allowed to haul.

Ken Prue, the city's program manager of waste reduction, explained that haulers could take up to 1000 tons per year of "exempted materials," but food waste wasn't included since none of the certified haulers was taking food waste. Also, there were concerns about public health and odors. As July 1 approached, "we had concerns from the newly formed Healthy Soils Coalition," Prue said, mainly on the prohibition on certified collectors picking up food waste.

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CITY LIGHTS

So, the city is amending the amendment, which now goes to the city council for final approval. The revision allows food waste and adds two new exclusions that renew scraps. One is for juice pulp or spent brewery grains, which could be self-hauled, say, by a brewer or farmer taking it to a farm to feed livestock. The other is for liquid byproducts from beverage processing, mainly used cooking oil and juice-pulp trappings.



Ace is accused of creating opportunities for identity thieves.

Facing the new competition, franchise haulers spoke out at the meeting.

“Our concern really is with the potential impacts to the city’s revenues,” said Jeremy Obel, spokesman for the San Diego County Disposal Association, which represents the city’s three largest franchise haulers. “Every ton of food material



An anti-Trump protester said he was attacked by a policeman.

excluded from the franchise is not subject to the \$27 in fees” that pay into the city’s refuse disposal and recycling funds.

Sheila Pell

Ace Parking sued for printing TMI on receipts

Plaintiff(s) says credit-card digits must be better protected

A putative class-action suit was filed against Ace Parking Management on December 1 in federal court. Joseph

CITY LIGHTS

Samo, and potentially others, get Ace credit and debit card receipts that give too much information, “subjecting them to a substantially higher risk of an identity theft or fraud,” according to the suit.

On November 8 of this year, Samo parked his vehicle in one of Ace’s La Jolla lots. He paid with a Visa debit card “that illegally displayed the last four digits of his debit card, along with the debit card’s full expiration date,” according to the suit. This violates the Fair and Accurate Reporting Act, claims the suit.

The suit focuses more on the printing of the full

expiration date of credit card holders. In 2003, Visa’s chief executive, at a press conference on Capitol Hill, said, “the card’s expiration date will be eliminated from receipts altogether.”

Don Bauder

Cop-whacked at an anti-Trump rally

Lawsuit comes a year later

Marco Amaral has filed suit in federal court, saying he was beaten up by San Diego cops when he shouted at four police officers thrashing a protester at an

anti-Trump rally. Amaral filed the suit on November 30, more than a year after the alleged beatings took place.

He says that before the election, on November 9 of last year, he saw four San Diego cops beating a prone man who had been part of an anti-Trump protest. He shouted at the police to stop hurting the man. Suddenly, he was tackled by a police officer — so violently that he hit his head and lost consciousness. Amaral says

continued on page 48

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Now in its 11th year, the soundON Festival of Modern Music brings together an international roster of composers and performers in a four-day exploration of contemporary chamber music with a series of concerts, performances, workshops, lectures, and art. “The format allows us to present



SOUNDON FESTIVAL OF MODERN MUSIC: VOYAGES

unconventional works in an informal and enjoyable setting,” say the promoters. “We also reach out to young artists and audiences through an interactive workshop to build a new generation of new music supporters and artists.” The January 4 concert, “Exotic images from an inner journey,” features works by composers Toshio Hosokawa, Anne LeBaron, Juan Pablo Contreras, Roger Reynolds, and Adam Greene. One-day pass: \$20 members, \$25 nonmembers, \$10 students. Festival pass available.

WHEN: Thursday, January 4, 7:30 p.m.

WHERE: Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla.
ljathenaeum.org

Friday | 5

A CULTURE SHOCK NUTCRACKER

Culture Shock San Diego presents a modern rendition of the family classic, a mash-up of dance genres, theatrical styles, and holiday traditions. Tchaikovsky’s original score is fused with contemporary music and pop-culture references. “For our fifth season, we’ve moved from a hip-hop show to a broader focus.

We will continue to use hip-hop and street styles to tell much of the dance portion of the story, but our motivation is pop culture and we’ve added more dance forms.” The show begins with an homage to the musical-theater hit *Beauty and the Beast* with tap, contemporary

dance, and popping while referencing everything from *Star Wars* to Bowie’s *Labyrinth*. \$20–\$45.

WHEN: Friday, January 5, 7 p.m.

Also on Saturday and Sunday.

WHERE: Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway, downtown.
cultureshockdance.org

SAN DIEGO SPRING HOME SHOW

“A wide selection of home-improvement professionals in a fun, interactive environment.” Features a kitchen showcase, outdoor living showcase, solar-energy expo, and a hot-tub blow-out sale.

WHEN: Friday, January 5, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Also on Saturday and Sunday.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 5: A CULTURE SHOCK NUTCRACKER

WHERE: San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive, downtown San Diego.
homeshowsandiego.com

Third Avenue, downtown San Diego.
ticketmaster.com

Sunday | 7

CARNAVAL FANTASTIQUE

Carnaval Fantastique presents a show called “Entertainment at the Speed of Light” for one night only, a combination of acrobats, Vegas-style dancers, and laser special effects. Performers

Saturday | 6

HAMILTON, THE MUSICAL

The costumes are late 18th and early 19th Century, with knee breeches, velvet coats, and the occasional scented kerchief. The stage looks candlelit. And the characters are America’s founding fathers (Washington, Jefferson, John Adams). But instead of Mt. Rushmore statues creaking into stony life, the multi-racial cast sings and raps the story of Alexander Hamilton’s rise (from illegitimate child to first secretary of the treasury and commander of the new U.S. Army) to his fall in the famous duel with Aaron Burr. \$200 and up.

WHEN: Saturday, January 6 through Sunday, January 28

WHERE: San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100



CARNAVAL FANTASTIQUE

from around the world will bring their talent to the stage with feats of strength, balance, and contortion. \$49–\$59.

WHEN: Sunday, January 7, 5 and 8 p.m.

WHERE: Sycuan Theatre, 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon. sycuan.com

KISS THE BRIDE: BRIDAL SHOW

With runway bridal-fashion shows, wedding-cake samples, advice from wedding professionals, and lots of contests and prizes. First 100 brides receive a pink swag bag. Oh, and there's a "grooms' corner," with TVs to catch the NFL games.

WHEN: Sunday, January 7, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Pala Events Center, 11154 Highway 76, Pala. palacasino.com

SLOW DEATH III: A NOISE MUSIC FESTIVAL. This is the newest Stay Strange Production from local experimental musician Sam Lopez, who sometimes performs as Zsa Zsa Gabor. Local performers include electro-headbangers Skrapez, ambient experimentalists Monochromacy, and a new side band from onetime Trummerflora Collective honcho Marcelo Radulovich called Son of Radul, which Lopez describes as "demon



SATURDAY, JANUARY 6: HAMILTON, THE MUSICAL

Orleans, tape-loopers Proud/Father and bleak-moaners Dolce. Yours Truly Jane Palmer performs between sets on homemade instruments constructed from everyday items. Music, [page 45](#).

TOP TEN OF 2017. *Reader* movie critic Matthew "One Star" Lickona thinks last year was a pretty good one for directors realizing their vision onscreen. There were also some good movies. Sometimes — let's say ten

times — the two overlapped. There will be no "best" list from Scott Marks. He couldn't find ten good films, so he follows Lickona with a shovel to scrape up a list of this year's must-avoids. Movies, [page 49](#).

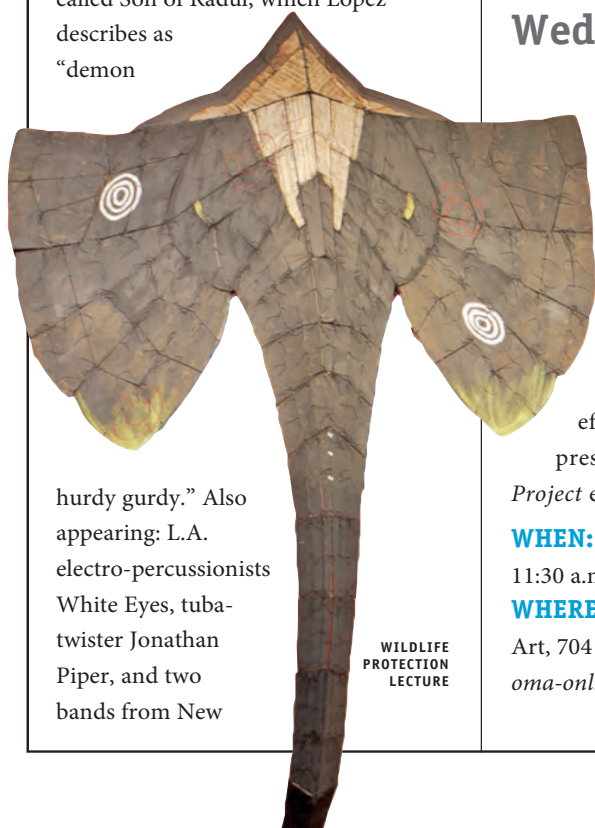
Wednesday | 10

WILDLIFE PROTECTION LECTURE WITH BIG LIFE

Join a speaker from Big Life Foundation to explore the plight of animals threatened by poaching and illegal ivory trade and peruse artist Wendy Maruyama's efforts to promote wildlife preservation with *The Wildlife Project* exhibition. \$10.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 10, 11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way, Oceanside. oma-online.org



hurdy gurdy." Also appearing: L.A. electro-percussionists White Eyes, tuba-twister Jonathan Piper, and two bands from New

WILDLIFE PROTECTION LECTURE



THE TOP TEN COMMANDMENTS: THOU SHALT NOT SEE IT!

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

DAMON LANE COUNTY PARK

Hidden slice of riparian habitat in the midst of suburbia

Distance from downtown San Diego: 15.5 miles (Rancho San Diego). Allow 25 minutes driving time. From downtown San Diego, take State Route 94 east into Casa de Oro and just as the divided highway ends, turn left at the signal for Via Mercado. Go 0.2 mile and turn right onto Calle Verde. Drive 0.3 mile and make another right onto Fury Lane. After 0.8 mile, turn left onto Wieghorst Way. Go 0.6 mile, turn left onto Calle Albara, and go a final 0.4 mile to the end of the road and park in the cul-de-sac. No facilities. **Hiking length:** 2-mile loop, add another half mile if exploring side trails. **Difficulty:** Easy (moderate if climbing to the high point). Elevation gain/loss up to 150 feet. The trails are open to hikers, horses, leashed dogs, and mountain bikes. Park hours are from sunrise to sunset, daily.



To the park's 738-foot high point

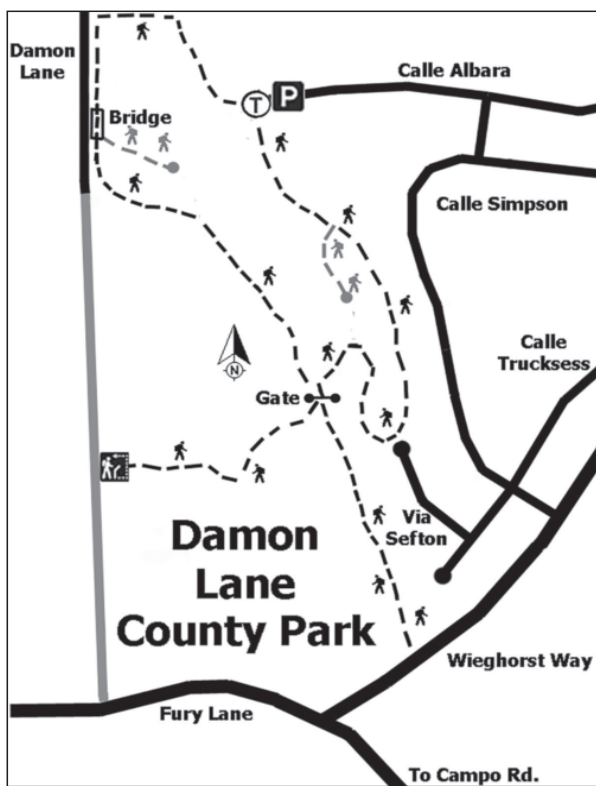
Tucked discreetly into a Rancho San Diego neighborhood and unknown to many is a 29-acre county park that offers a shady retreat in the form of eucalyptus groves towering above a year-round creek. Several short trails can be linked together to create a longer walk that includes sunny stretches

through coastal sage scrub habitat as well as a steep use trail to the high point at the southwest corner of the park, affording near-panoramic views. Varieties of options exist, but the one described below utilizes the major trails and goes in a clockwise loop. The park can be visited any time of year,

however, after heavy rains the trails near the creek may be flooded.

Start from the parking area, walking around the gate and turning left onto a wide dirt trail that heads south. The path passes behind several houses before the trail makes a slight curve to the right and reaches the edge of a grove of tall eucalyptus trees at 0.2 mile. Spot a path on the left and take this as it weaves through the grove, providing welcome shade on warmer days. While common and beloved throughout San Diego County, eucalyptus is a nonnative species from Australia that creates a heavy layer of leaf litter that does not allow native plants to thrive. The trail continues at a slight descent and a small creek on the right comes into view. Arroyo willow, mule fat, and other moisture-loving plants can be seen streamside. At just over

continued on page 31



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

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.

ART

Coffee and Conversation with OMA Artist Alliance Socialize with fellow artists, enjoy drinks and snacks, learn more about the community, and explore exhibitions at OMA for free. Sunday, January 7, 12pm; **free**. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Lost and Found: Opening Reception San Diego-based artist June Rubin invites you to meet the artist while enjoying her mixed-media artworks. When artist June Rubin's "lost" her 98 year old artist mother recently she "found" many things in her belongings and the emotions left behind. Old family photos, keys to everything from diaries to luggage and doors, eyeglasses, scarves, and more. The show reflects the multi-layered and veiled unfolding and re-finding of Ms. Rubin's own artistic and spiritual identity. Friday, January 5, 5pm; **free**. June Rubin Studio/Gallery, Liberty Station, 2690 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Seeing Is Believing: Opening Reception Take a trip into the unconscious mind of 21 Southern California artists as they transform the everyday mundane into thought provoking explorations of the body, relationships, emotion, form, and inanimate objects. Photography, sculpture, painting, and illustration are all employed to create otherworldly expressions of each artists' innermost thoughts. Saturday, January 6, 6pm; **free**. Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

State of the Art: Opening Reception The San Diego Watercolor Society presents *State of the Art*, an art exhibition juried by artist Sean Barrett. Opening reception has 95-100 original ready-to-hang paintings for sale plus wine and food. Friday, January 5, 5pm; **free**. San Diego Watercolor Society, 2825 Dewey Road #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

BEER

Bread & Cheese Catering Anniversary Party The kid-friendly event includes live music, beer specials, new menu items, bread, and cheese, along with custom Bay City beer. Sunday, January 7, 12pm; **free**. Bay City Brewing Co., 3760 Hancock Street. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Hikyoga & Beer San Diego Hikyoga leads vinyasa-style yoga classes at Bitter Brothers Brewery on the first Sunday of each month. Get your flow on and then sample

Bitter Brother's newest release. Sunday, January 7, 10:30am; \$15. Bitter Brothers Brewing Co., 4170 Morena Boulevard. (BAY HO)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Robert Crais: The Wanted Crais is the author of 20 novels, 16 of them featuring Elvis Cole and Joe Pike. He has won a Grand Master Award from the Mystery Writers of America as well as the Anthony, Barry, Shamus, Macavity, Gumshoe, and Ross Macdonald awards. Before becoming a novelist, Crais wrote scripts for such landmark television series as *Hill Street Blues* and *L.A. Law*. Friday, January 5, 7:30pm; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Robert Kittle: Franciscan Frontiersmen Robert Kittle, author of *Franciscan Frontiersmen: How Three Adventurers Charted the West*. In the tumult of Spain's colonization of the West, Pedro Font, Juan Crespi endured terrifying storms at sea, blood-soaked Indian attacks, starvation, thirst, scurvy, dysentery, malaria, earthquakes, marauding bears, and lonely isolation as they carved trails through forbidding deserts, uncharted swamps, high mountain passes, and desolate lands. The book brings to life this powerful, untold narrative. Saturday, January 6, 1pm; **free**. Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Shadab Zeest Hashmi Friends of Central Library invite you to the first 2018 presentation of Author of the Month. Our guest author for January is local poet Shadab Zeest Hashmi, author of *Kohl and Chalk* and *Baker of Tarifa*, recipient of the San Diego Book Award, the Nazim Hikmet Prize, and multiple Pushcart nominations. She has been published in *Prairie Schooner*, *The Cortland Review*, *Poetry International*, *The Adirondack Review*, *Vallum*, *Atlanta Review*, *POEM*, and other journals worldwide and has presented her work in the UK, Spain, Turkey, Pakistan, and Mexico. Saturday, January 6, 1pm; **free**. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

HOLIDAY EVENTS

Global Winter Wonderland An international celebration featuring the largest display of traditional Chinese lanterns outside of China, "Cirque du Soleil-level acrobatics," 35+ carnival rides, holiday-themed activities and games, and international food and shopping. The luminescent, hand-crafted lanterns are inspired by international landscapes from around the world such as the Taj Mahal and the Eiffel Tower, many of which are newly designed for San Diego. Nearly 100 Chinese artisans arrive eight weeks prior to hand sew the

intricate lantern displays that can reach heights of 20 feet. The art of designing and illuminating lanterns is a rich Chinese custom dating back 2000 years. San Diego has not hosted a large-scale holiday lights attraction since 2013 when the Holiday of Lights at the Del Mar Fairgrounds closed after nearly two decades. Runs select days through Sunday, January 7, \$19-\$22. SDCCU Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

SeaWorld Christmas Celebration More than the other local theme parks, SeaWorld is honoring the religious aspects of Christmas with a new show, "O Wondrous Night," that tells the story of the Nativity with puppets, 30 carols, and live animals (camels, not killer whales). On the secular side, there is Rudolph's Christmastown, a place where fans can take photos with the characters from the beloved animated special. There are also holiday shows featuring dolphins and seals. For people who want a one-of-a-kind experience, there is the option of having a special breakfast with Santa next to the tank with killer whales. Through Saturday, January 6, \$90. SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Fast and Healthy Can healthy and delicious peacefully coexist on the same plate? Yes! We'll show you how. From cooking quinoa to spicing up winter soup, sautéing greens to making vinaigrette, we'll share tips for creating great-tasting, guilt-free meals in minutes. Menu: Spiced Butternut and Pear Soup, Herb Marinated Chicken with Sautéed Kale, Quinoa Salad with Apple and Toasted Almonds. Thursday, January 4, 6:30pm; \$69. Sur la Table, 1905 Calle Barcelona. (CARLSBAD)

Portraits, People, Pets, & Beyond Find out how you can improve your people, pet, and nature photography in just one day. We will be in the classroom discussing camera functions, then move to the garden and apply what we have learned. Instructor: Sandy Zelasko, Sandra Lee Photography. Saturday, January 6, 9am; \$55-\$66. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Sketching at the Gallery Every First Thursday of the month, drop in and sketch from live clothed models to objects in our gallery. All ranges of drawing experience are welcome, including visitors who are picking up a sketchbook for the first time. Peer-to-peer advice and guidance on drawing techniques is always encouraged. Drawing materials are provided as well as music and drinks, all within the gallery showroom surrounded by talented artists to inspire you. Info: info@monarchfineart.com. Thursday, January 4, 6pm; **free**. Monarch Arredon Contemporary, 862 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

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COMEDY

Drew Michael Drew Michael is a New York based comedian who has written for *Saturday Night Live*, guest starred in *The Carmichael Show*, recorded a stand-up special for Comedy Central's *The Half Hour* as well as two full-length stand-up albums: *Lovely and Funny to Death*. He has also done many other things, most of which are not relevant in this context. Thursday, January 4, 8pm; Friday, January 5, 8pm; Saturday, January 6, 7:30pm; \$18. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

In the Va Va Voom Room Diversionary Theatre presents a new installment of choreographer Michael Mizerany's popular, 60-minute contemporary burlesque that "will make even the bawdiest San Diegan blush." Audiences can expect to warm up with many different types of contemporary dance including modern, heel dancing, and pole dancing. "Leave your inhibitions at the door." Friday, January 5, 7pm; Saturday, January 6, 8pm; Sunday, January 7, 8pm; \$15-\$35. Diversionary Theatre, 4545 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

FOR KIDS

Dance Pants Party Recommended for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary-school age kids, this simple dance program will feature the Hokey Pokey, the Chicken Dance, and more. Families, it's time to get your groove on. Thursday, January 4, 10:30am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

ScholarShare Story Time An enriching and engaging experience that allows your child to hear stories from museum staff. This isn't your typical story circle, however. The New Children's Museum brings stories to life by enhancing the experience with puppet shows, skits, and more. Friday, January 5, 10am; \$14. New Children's

Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

LECTURES

Sierra Talks Sierra Club: Return of the Wolves Return of the Wolves: Myths and Realities. In December of 2011, wolves made their historic return to California for the first time in almost 90 years, but what does this mean for the Golden State? Meanwhile, in the southwestern United States, the Mexican gray wolf struggles to regain a foothold for a population that at one time had been reduced to only seven unrelated individuals. Join with the California Wolf Center as we dispel the myths about wolves, evaluate the ecological need for these top predators, and take a closer look at the need for coexistence as wolves return to our rural communities. Friday, January 5, 6:30pm; **free**. Joyce Beers Uptown Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

NATURE

Maximize Your New Year's Resolve Gain inspiration, have adventure and satisfy your desire for healthier living while appreciating the natural beauty offered at Mission Trails Regional Park. Join your trail guide for a fun informative walk and learn about the vibrant natural world. Saturday, January 6, 9:30am; Sunday, January 7, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Star Party Marvels Mission Trails Regional Park resident star gazer George Varga tells us the moon will not be visible during star party hours affording less light pollution as we view Pleiades (Seven Sisters), Double Cluster in Perseus, Andromeda Galaxy (M31) and its companion galaxy (M32). Also targeted are Orion Nebula to the southeast and Open Clusters of Auriga, M36, M37, M38 and more. (Rain/cloud cover cancel). Meet at the far end of campground day use parking lot. Saturday, January 6, 5pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Charles Harper Webb

Pen Balanced on a Window Frame

Who stood it upright on its rounded end:
tiny obelisk, or rocket poised for space?
Was it placed to overlook the library's

universe of books, the grass outside
sprouting white seeds countless as stars
while, under cherry-blossom constellations,

Spring winds whisked Fall leaves away?
Did it rise here to defy gravity's law?
Is it a monument to ignorance,

and therefore stands in a university?
Is it a skill-display, like a one-armed
hand-stand — or a prank, like a glass

of milk upside down on a desk?
Last night, I called my son "Bad
boy," and made him cry. But how

could he — new to this world — not think
our drab beige wall improved
by room-length blue curlicues from the pen

he's seen so often in my hand? Did
his ecstatic scrawls track some electron's
wandering, or all creation, rushing out

from the Big Bang? Has he materialized
this balanced pen to say my lack of vision
won't unbalance him? To suggest I leave

childish tantrums behind, and pray,
by this miracle aimed at the sky,
"Father of Wonders, forgive me?"

The Crawl

"Dunk our heads in water? Teacher —
do you want to make us dead?"
the Pollywog class wails in body-

language, heads thrust skyward,
bent legs running, arms flailing
like dogs burying ham-bones

beneath the chlorinated blue.
"Why make us wallow through
what we were meant to drink?"

their scared looks cry, tossing eye-
grenades at parents forced to watch
like witnesses around The Chair.

"We've worked so hard to stand
upright. Why should we crawl
again?" they say. And why

should they trust us — noosed by neckties,
choked by panty-hose?
Better to imitate our poodle,

Bidet, who, flung into a pool,
dog-paddles out, head high,
then shakes off the whole

degraded water-grovel
in a shower that howls, loud
as any wolf, "No bloody way!"



Charles Harper Webb's latest book, *Brain Camp*, was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in 2015. *A Million MFAs Are Not Enough*, a book of essays on contemporary American poetry, was published by Red Hen Press in 2016. Recipient of grants from the Whiting and Guggenheim foundations, Webb teaches creative writing at California State University, Long Beach.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

SPECIAL EVENTS

Carnaval Fantastique Carnaval Fantastique presents a show called "Entertainment at the Speed of Light" for one night only, a combination of acrobats, Vegas-style dancers, and laser special effects. Performers from around the world will bring their talent to the stage with feats of strength, balance, and contortion. Sunday, January 7, 5pm

and 8pm; \$49-\$59. Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre, 5469 Casino Way. (EL CAJON)

Crossroads Doll & Teddy Bear Show The show brings contests, demonstrations, and an international group of high profile artists sharing what they do — for enthusiasts of all ages with a sales floor packed with dolls, teddy bears, antiques, miniatures, clothes supplies, from antique to modern and the carefully handcrafted. Saturday, January 6, 10am; Sunday, January

7, 10am; \$8-\$10. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

First Thursday at the Lafayette San Diego Made is hosting its Monthly First Thursday event. Includes a creative workshop, a free coloring station, a free tote bag for the first 15 people to arrive, live music, a free photo booth, outdoor courtyard games, a free raffle, happy hour drink specials all night, and a San Diego Made Pop-up Shop with 20+ local makers. Thursday,

January 4, 6:30pm; **free**. Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Kiss the Bride: Bridal Show With runway bridal-fashion shows, wedding-cake samples, advice from wedding professionals, and lots of contests and prizes. First 100 brides receive a pink swag bag. Oh, and there's a "Groom's Corner, with plenty of flat-screens to catch the latest NFL games...come and support your future bride." Sunday, January 7, 10am; \$10-\$12. Pala Events Center, 11154 Highway 76. (PALA)

Modern Love Event This will be like no other wedding show you've been to before. You won't find rows of booths and tables with brochures. You will find creative designs much like what you see on Pinterest but better. We have interactive Hair and Make-up stations where you can tryout a potential wedding day look and live demos by various vendors. There will be multiple caterers offering up menu options to sample and custom cocktails flowing all day. It's all about meeting vendors, getting to experience their work firsthand, and seeing if they are a good fit for you. Sunday, January 7, 12pm; \$20-\$50. Brick, 2863 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

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Reader

SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Christ Community Church

Contact: 9535 Kearny Villa Road, #101-103; 858-549-2479

Membership: 200

Pastor: Darrell M. Dunlap

Age: 49

Born: Clifton, NJ

Formation: Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ; Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Chicago; Azusa Pacific University, Azusa

Years Ordained: 18

San Diego Reader: What's your favorite subject on which to preach?

Pastor Darrell Dunlap: "If God is for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31). What challenge can be too big if you're friends with God? In our world today, so many people

feel alone; and even when they're with people and connected through their electronic devices, they often feel alone when they have to face life's hurdles and difficulties.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PD: To help people love God and one other more. We want to help people to love God with their whole heart in a world that is so much about hate and tearing each other down; we want to be a shining light calling people to love one another, whether they're friends or enemies. As part of this mission, for example, this past year we partnered with a local school, Walker

Elementary School. We provided backpacks filled with school supplies for needy kids throughout Mira Mesa. We contacted all the area elementary-school principals and made sure we got backpacks for all the kids that needed them.

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

PD: I was at an AIDS hospice where everyone was basically dying, had no family members visiting, and no one to take care of them. I remember it was one of the saddest places I've ever been to in my life. I sat down with some patients and played checkers and visited with them. In the midst of their pain, their medicine, and rejection by

society — in many ways, AIDS is the leprosy of our generation — these people still had a piece of joy in them. That was interesting to see. One of the fellows in a wheelchair asked me to take him out for a cigarette. He said he was going to die anyway, so what's the big deal? So I took him outside and we were talking. In the midst of our conversation, he asked me whether God really loves him. In that moment I was able to sit there and talk to him about God's love. It was one of those moments that God showed up in a big way. When we went back inside, that gentleman put his heart in Jesus's hands and asked Jesus into his life. He



Darrell Dunlap: "In many ways, AIDS is the leprosy of our generation."

told everyone that God loves them, and they're not alone. It was the darkness in the place that changed; there was a light that started to shine. It brought so much hope to me. As Mother Teresa used to say — even in the darkest places, God is there. He hasn't forsaken anyone.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PD: When we die, every human has an eternal soul and they go to either heaven or hell. Hell sounds like a nasty word but basically it is a place where God isn't — it's the absence of God. Where we go after we take our last breath in this life depends on whether we've placed our faith and hope and trust in Jesus Christ; and if we do, we go to heaven to be with God and if we don't, we spend eternity apart from God and his goodness.

— Joseph O'Brien

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

Psychic Fair Browse the vendors, wander through the meditation garden, relax under an ancient oak tree, or purchase lunch as you await a reader. "All readers are an established professional medium with a highest of ethics and accuracy." A reading is \$25 for 15 minutes. Saturday, January 6, 10am; free-\$25. Harmony Grove Spiritualist Association, 2975 Washington Circle. (ESCONDIDO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Resolution Run 5K & 15K Start your year right with a San Diego run that is good for the body and good for the world. The San Diego Resolution Run 5K & 15K event will take runners on a

waterfront course from along Mission Bay while raising funds for San Diego Roots Sustainable Food Project. The Resolution Run features both adult and youth 15K & 5K races, fun blingy medal, post-race celebration and Wellness Village. Sunday, January 7, 7:30am; Tecolote Shores Park, 1725 E. Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

WORSHIP

Tapestry: A Community Celebration of Learning Tapestry brings together hundreds of people

from diverse ages, backgrounds, learning styles and interests for one evening to learn, socialize, and be inspired. The evening begins with a Community Havdalah and continue with two sessions (24 topics to choose from) and con-

cludes with an dessert reception (dietary laws strictly observed). Saturday, January 6, 6:15pm; \$40-\$55. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

ROAM-O-RAMA

continued from page 28

0.3 mile from the start, a residential street becomes visible. Via Sefton, another access point to the park. Continue on the trail as it turns right, dropping to the bottom of the ravine.

A fence marks the edge of private property on your left, so turn back northward to walk along a path at the water's edge. Enjoy the respite from the city hustle and bustle as the sound of flowing water, singing birds, and wind through the trees create a peaceful setting. Carefully cross the creek via a few small logs to reach the west side, then continue north on the path until you come to a junction at 0.45 mile. A trail comes down from the right and two paths go up to the left — climb up either one on the left to reach the wide trail above the west side of the ravine at 0.5 mile from the start.

From this junction, turn left (south) once more, pass through a metal gate, and emerge from tree cover to a more open landscape. Many native species of coastal sage scrub habitat are abundant here, including broom baccharis, goldenbush, flat-top buckwheat, white and black sage, California sagebrush, and laurel sumac. Pass behind more houses and reach the access point at Wieghorst Way after .75 mile from the start, marked by a California Riding and Hiking Trail signpost. From here, turn around, retrace your steps to about 90 yards before the metal gate, and spot an obscure use trail on the left. To add a little elevation gain on this walk, turn uphill on this somewhat overgrown path as it winds its way west through low shrubs and over rocks to the high point of the park at 738 feet and near the

edge of a fenced private-property boundary. Enjoy the wide-sweeping views of El Cajon Mountain, Viejas Mountain, Bell Bluff, McGinty Mountain, Lyons Peak, and San Miguel Mountain. Retrace your steps down to the main trail.

Continue north on the main trail, once again going through the metal gate and bypassing the paths coming up from the creek. At just under 1.5 miles, reach a split — the trail to the right crosses a low spot and later rejoins the outer trail — stay left to skirt the western edge of the park for a slightly longer option. Note the variety of plants in this area: willows, mule fat, tree tobacco, palm trees, pepper trees, and castor bean growing in or near the riparian corridor, with horehound, sages, toyon, California sagebrush, and the large amount of broom baccharis in the drier, open areas.

Cross a small wooden bridge and reach the northwest corner of the park around 1.7 miles. Here is where Damon Lane comes into view, another access point. Continue curving right, heading east, passing through one more shady area with palm and pepper trees overhead as well as stands of olive trees. You'll approach the close of the loop at around 2 miles, where you will spot the trailhead gate and where your vehicle awaits.

Canyoniers 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 Canyonier Trail Guide to San Diego Outdoors.

MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

<p>WIN A GIFT CERTIFICATE</p>		<p>Win a \$30 gift certificate to Giorgino's.</p> <p>Deadline to Enter: Friday, January 5 at 1pm.</p>
<p>WIN TICKETS</p>		<p>Win a pair of tickets to see Tom Gun Live!</p> <p>Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 8 at 1pm.</p>
<p>WIN TICKETS</p>		<p>Win a pair of tickets to Circus Vargas.</p> <p>Deadline to Enter: Tuesday, January 16 at 1pm.</p>

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

WATER FRONT

Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, JAN 4	4:04	1.7'	5:17	-1.4'	10:12	6.9'	11:51	4.6'
FRI, JAN 5	5:01	1.9'	6:05	-0.8'	11:03	6.2'		
SAT, JAN 6	6:07	2.1'	6:55	-0.2'	12:46	4.6'	11:59am	5.3'
SUN, JAN 7	7:27	2.2'	7:49	0.4'	1:45	4.7'	1:05	4.5'

Waves (TRESTLES)

Height	Direction	Interval
1'-2'	WSW	09 seconds
1'-2'	SSW	15 seconds
1'-2'	W	14 seconds
2'-3'	SSW	05 seconds

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

EVENTS

Famosa Slough Nature and Bird Walk Monthly nature and bird walks are hosted by the Friends of Famosa Slough and are held on the third Saturday of each month at 1 pm. The main goals of Friends of Famosa Slough are to help restore the slough and to promote public awareness of the importance of wetlands. Meet at the kiosk by the corner of Famosa Blvd. and W. Pt. Loma Blvd. Saturday, January 6, 1pm; **free**. Famosa Slough, West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)



LA JOLLA KAYAK

La Jolla caves

La Jolla Kayak Cave Tour Kayak La Jolla and the 7 Caves during this guided tour. Explore sea cliffs and caves as you glide through the La Jolla Ecological Reserve filled with marine life. Paddle to Sunny Jim's Cave, the Arch Cave, the Clams' Cave and other sea caves for close-ups of sandstone formations. Witness sea lions, garibaldi, leopard sharks, shovelnose guitarfish, and the occasional dolphin. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; Mondays, 9am; Tuesdays, 9am; Wednesdays, 9am; through Monday, December 31, \$39-\$99. Bike and Kayak Tours La Jolla, 2158 Avenida de la Playa. (LA JOLLA)

Harbor Seal Talk and Walk It's Pupping Season for La Jolla Harbor Seals. The Seal Society of Sierra Club San Diego Chapter docents presents an educational talk followed by a short walk to Casa Beach (aka Children's Pool) to view the newborn pups and nursing mothers in their nearshore habitat every other Saturday during pupping season. Free but donations accepted. Info: 858-551-9553. Saturdays, 2pm; through Saturday, March 24, **free**.

Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Marine Mammals of California Mira Mesa library hosts this Marine Mammals of California course. This course introduces middle school students to the many marine mammals native to San Diego, including seals, sea lions, dolphins, and whales. The class explores how researchers identify and study these animals. After their marine biology lessons, students can sculpt their favorite animal out of clay for a fridge magnet memory to help inspire future marine biologists. Saturday, January 6, 1pm; **free**. Mira Mesa Library, 8405 New Salem Street. (MIRA MESA)

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)

Youth Fishing Clinic at Chollas Lake This kids-only fishing clinic is open to children 15 years and under, Saturday and Sunday year-round. No experience or equipment necessary. Fishing lessons, bait, and fun provided. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Monday, December 31, **free**. Chollas Lake, 6350 College Grove Drive. (OAK PARK)



YOUTH FISHING WATSON

Chollas Lake



Skip Frye with some of boards he has made

"When you add it all up, a surfboard costs a few cents a wave."
— Surfboard shaper Bill Caster

The anti-Wavestorm arguments

Generally ranging between \$800 and \$1200 each, custom surfboards seem expensive until considering the seven steps involved in making them: 1) shaping a foam blank; 2) laminating the shaped blank; 3) coating the laminated blank with resin; 4) glassing in fins or routing in fin boxes; 5) sanding the board; 6) glossing the board; 7) fine sanding and polishing the board. Each of these steps requires a craftsman to have it done properly. When considering this and that resin has quadrupled in price in less than a decade, surfboards seem like a bargain.

Aside from a few sticks of antique furniture handed down from grandparents, few of us own any handmade items. New handmade furniture is still more rare since it can equal the price of a new car. A custom surfboard, one made specifically for your height, weight, surfing ability,

and in whatever colors you choose, costs a fraction of that amount.

Still, when compared to a \$150 Wavestorm, the top-selling surfboard in the world, mass-produces hundreds of thousands of boards that can resemble an eight- to ten-foot surfboard-shaped sponge. Their construction is much more detailed than a sponge, and the boards are more durable and safer than their foam and fiberglass cousins.

As the name unintentionally implies, Wavestorm has hit traditional surfboard builders like a tsunami. A second wave to slam the domestic surfboard market comes from traditional-looking surfboards being built overseas by factory workers. While skilled in their labors, these workers generally have little contact with the ocean and rarely understand the performance differences between a 5'8"

Perfect wave? Fish tale? We'll pay up to \$150 for your story. Send to sdreader.com/waterfront

CALL FOR NAUGHT — SOME 2017 LIFEGUARD EMERGENCY CALLS THAT WEREN'T

From San Diego city lifeguards

September 4
- Medical: Tower 21 reports an unconscious 49 year-old male and request medics. Lifeguard and medical respond. No aid, patient sleeping.

September 6
- Medical: Call box hang-up with incoherent voices in background.

Lifeguard and UCSD PD respond. UCSD PD transports to unknown location.

September 9
- Other: Smoke, possible boat fire near Campland by the Bay. Multiple lifeguard boat units and emergency on scene. Not a boat fire. Reported flag burning ceremony on the street.

September 19
- Boating: Lifeguards respond to Orchard St. for a report of a person who can't stay up on their stand up paddle board. Clear upon arrival.

September 23
- Other: Ringing Alarm at 850 Coast Blvd. Casa Lifeguard Station. Emergency and lifeguards on scene. Area checks clear. Alarm reset.

September 27
- Swimming: 911 call for people yelling in the water at 333 Coast Blvd. Lifeguard shore, boat and air units respond. Search of land and water checks clear, noise determined to be sea lion.

September 30
- Enforcement: Disturbance, 2 suspects in the water at north Pacific Beach. Lifeguards respond. No fight according

to surfers interviewed after exiting the water. SDPD and lifeguards clear.

October 1
- Swimming: Lobster diver calling for help at South Boomers. SDPD along with lifeguard shore, boat and air units respond. Lifeguard meets with reporting person and deploys another lifeguard with rescue board. Lifeguards clear the water of lobster divers and all swimmers are accounted for.

Water Conditions

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **60°F** HIGH **54°F**

VISIBILITY
5'-15'

With the high tide swing early in the week and occasional rain with T-storms expected midweek through the weekend, it will be a bit sketchy for those peering around under the surface. For the surf crowd, Friday early looks okay, as long as not too much runoff or lightening. The next good surf days will be Tuesday and Wednesday next week. Lobster season is open now, so boaters should especially keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves and area appropriately.

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

Moon Calendar

	THUR 4	SAT 6	MON 8	WED 10
JANUARY				
SUNRISE	6:52	6:52	6:52	6:52
SUNSET	16:56	16:58	16:59	17:01
LENGTH OF DAY	10H 4M	10H 6M	10H 7M	10H 9M



Lobster hunter in La Jolla



Canepa's WindAnSea surfboard brings up bad memories

thruster and a 9'6" noserider.

Does it matter? Jay Grygera, who owns and operates Grygera & Sons surfboard-glassing shop with his father Jeff and brother Gino, thinks so. Jay had this to say about the invasive species: "Those overseas boards can look good, but they often need repair because the manufacturers have cut corners in making them. One of the unseen ways they do this is in the installation of the fin box. More than once a customer has come to us with a fin box broken out. When I cut away the exterior fiberglass, I can see that the box has been installed without any fiberglass to reinforce it. Another reason locally made surfboards make sense is because it takes someone who regularly surfs your local breaks to recommend the best boards for local surf spots."

Grygera & Sons along with the other dozen or so glassing shops in the San Diego area have somehow managed to hang on to a decreasing percentage of the surfboard

market. According to Grygera, "Most of our custom orders are from surfers who began surfing decades ago, when most surfboards were handmade."

— Chris Ahrens

Five best snorkeling places in San Diego

The following list comes from *Surf You to the Moon*.

1. La Jolla Cove. Underwater kelp forests, sandy plains. Swim out 20 yards to see sea lions, fish, lobster, and sheep crab.
2. Mission Point Beach (located at the south end of Mission Blvd). A shallow and quiet cove that features garibaldi fish and coral plants. You may come across some octopuses, sea cucumbers, spiny lobsters, and kelp bass.
3. Boomers and Shell Beach feature big bottom rocks with eelgrass and an abundance of California's state fish: the garibaldi.

4. La Jolla Shores is a sand-bottom beach, so halibut and flounder pre-dominate. You will encounter stingrays and sand dollars.
5. Sea Lion Cave and Devil's Slide. Massive rock outcroppings lie submerged in 15 to 20 feet of water a little less than 25 yards out. Sightings of bat rays, shovelnose guitarfish, and tons of tiny lobsters are not unusual.

NAME: STEPHANIE CANEPA

AGE: 37

FROM: MISSION BEACH

LOCATION: OCEAN BEACH

OCCUPATION: ADMINISTRATIVE TECH FOR FINANCE COMPANY

"There's a lot of stuff to do here, and the vibes are upbeat and family-oriented — and we go fishing here, too. The water was flat today with some two-footers — a good day to paddleboard."

On this day Canepa also surfed her hand-7'8" WindAnSea surfboard, named after the

La Jolla beach.

"Windansea [Beach] is more famous for their locals being territorial," Canepa said. "You gotta be, like, 'in,' really good — or not scared [because] they will drop in on you, yell at you, and threaten you."

Her son, who is a junior lifeguard, agreed, and reminded his mom about another scary surf incident.

"I [have] had three concussions [while surfing]," Canepa said.

Her worst injury happened in 2014 at San Clemente after she and another kid caught the same wave. They both "ate it" and were caught in the whitewater when the kid kicked her in the stomach. "When I was coming back to shore I was already, like, disoriented and then [another] wave hit me right in the head and then I just hit the ground. I had a concussion and it was pretty bad, [so much that] I couldn't drive and go to work for the whole month."

— Mike Madriaga

ALL INDICATIONS GOOD FOR LOCAL FISHING IN 2018

Saltwater: With the boats doing so well on bluefin tuna and yellowtail this late in the season, I had to take a look back at last year's counts during December. Yellowfin tuna, a few skipjack tuna and bluefin tuna pretty much shut down within 1.5 day range after the first week of December 2016, compared to this year with some boats still getting limits on yellowtail and bluefin tuna in US waters as the year ends. All signs are good for the good

bite to continue into January.

The normal wintertime local catch is groundfish, including sheephead, rockfish, whitefish and lingcod and though the pelagic species are getting a lot of attention, the bottom fishing has been excellent as well. Whitefish are biting in good numbers and are a bit larger than the norm, as are sheephead. Another thing I noticed different than last year is that the favorite prey of larger sheephead - the spiny

lobster - are in fewer numbers but much larger than the average size 'bug' caught last year. There were reports of over 300 raised with less than a dozen of them legal size. Many trips posted a one in twenty or higher ratio. This year, the legal to short ratio has been anywhere from one legal for every three raised to one out of ten, which speaks well to conservation efforts as well as the health of the inshore fishery as the spiny lobster is a good indicator species.

Fish Plants: 1/3 - Wohlford, trout (3,000), 1/9 - Cuyamaca, trout (1,200), 1/10 - Poway, trout (1,500)

Rude energy

One has to be careful not to reverse engineer what one sees in a show like this.

One pleasure of anthology exhibitions is discovering pictures by unfamiliar artists. The English-born artist Leonora Carrington was new to me when I saw a small picture by her in *Modern Masters from Latin America*, currently at the San Diego Museum of Art, which showcases 99 pictures from the collection of Mexican billionaire Pérez Simón. (*From El Greco to Dali*, a broader historical selection from his holdings, was in Balboa Park in 2011.) Carrington trained in England, later met and lived with the Surrealist Max Ernst, spent three years in a mental institution, and finally married a Mexican diplomat and moved with him to Mexico.

Her pastoral picture *Pied Cow of Heath* at first look comes straight out of the tradition of English rural landscape painting going back to John Constable in the early 19th Century. The animal's patchy coloring, its pied-ness, is so darkly lit that it takes a long look to piece out the image's strangeness. This is a cow with a difference. Carrington (1917–2011) was an avowed Surrealist, and Surrealism's foundation was "the uncanny," the familiar turned strange. Her cow resembles less an actual cow than it does the totemic creatures painted on the walls of Chauvet and Lascaux. Out of a bovine body



La india, by Ramos Martínez

rises a thick horse's neck, and the head, which looks like a shrunken adornment glued to the body, is a narrow, horned, ungulate head. In its moonlit, mud-toned landscape, it's a fabulous creature transforming.

Another pleasure is being surprised by a familiar artist. David Alfaro Siqueiros is usually

wadded together with José Clemente Orozco and Diego Rivera, the nationalist muralists who emerged in the 1920s after the Mexican revolution. Like them, he spent time in

ART

W.S. DI PIERO

the United States. Teaching in his later career in New York, Siqueiros taught students Navajo sand-painting, which is poured hand-to-floor; Jackson Pollock was among his students. His work's rude energy and immediacy are emotionally overwhelming and sometimes tip into mannered excess. But *Death in Life (or Black Christ)*, a muscular depiction of enslavement and frustrated fury, is among his greatest pictures. A black male kneels in a field of crusty flowers, fists clenched, head bowed; he's self-sacrificial and defiant — bloody red rivulets outline parts of his body.

The muralists are all represented here, and the subtext to their inclusion is that they were critical in bringing to Mexican art changes being worked in Western Europe by Cubism, Surrealism, and Expressionism. One has to be careful not to reverse engineer what one sees in a show like this. It's wrong-headed to read the pictures as a checklist of European influences enlivened by indigenous subject matter. At the same time, a little reverse engineering is inevitable when the influence lies heavily, as it does

in the hard-edged Minimalist imagery of the Argentine-born Japanese Kazuya Sakai, whose swooping ribbons and sharp triangulations of solid colors in his 1971 *Genroku*, speak to the kind of hard-edge abstraction being practiced in North America and Europe. And the Chilean Roberto Matta, in his 1971 *Tornado of Sensations*, pays unmistakable homage to his friend Arshile Gorky's biomorphic language of fangs, talons, ribs, and bones rendered in tissue color.

Most of these painters were claiming local, native materials and mediating their expression with modernist means. A few paintings are heavy with local-color preciousness, but an artist like Benito Quinquela Martín takes a modest local subject, a boat graveyard (*Cementario de barcos*, from 1930), but exerts such pictorial pressures with heavy slabs and bars of pigment laid on with brush and palette knife that he pulls his motif out of the taming sentiments of the picturesque. A different drama occurs when an artist like the Uruguayan Pedro Blanes Viale transforms a familiar motif of women standing under or-



Death in Life (or Black Christ), by David Alfaro Siqueiros

Modern Masters from Latin America: the Pérez Simón Collection is on view at the San Diego Museum of Art until March 11, 2018.

Point/Counterpoint: Contemporary Mexican Photography is on view at the Museum of Photographic Arts until February 11, 2018.

ange trees into a storm of congested tropical color: he draws energy from the Fauve bravura of Derain and Matisse to dramatize how the human gets caught up and nearly obliterated in nature's cyclical energies.

The dominant image of womanhood in *Modern Masters from Latin America* is the iconic *campesina*, who in Alfredo Ramos Martínez's monumental celebration of solemn Indian beauty, *La india*, appears as a sculptural, mineralized peasant woman carrying a basket of mangos on her head. There are other female types, like the Rita Hayworth glamour of Rivera's portrait of the Mexican actress Maria Félix, whose high-arching eyebrows point toward her wildly wavy indigo mane. A more socially ambiguous representation is the Nicaraguan Armando Morales's painting of two nude women bathing in an irrigation ditch; the women look mythic in their modesty and ordinariness, risen from the dim canal waters. The bluish-gold marbling that defines the concrete ditch also wraps around the women's heads like shining verdigris helmets.

* * *

Modern Masters from Latin America reminds us, if we need to be reminded, that Modernism knew no borders. *Point/Counterpoint*, a com-

elling selection of 19 contemporary Mexican photographers currently at the Museum of Photographic Arts, has borders on its mind, the actual physical borderlands separating Mexico from North America and the social, moral, and political borders that define human activities. Smaller in size than the Pérez Simón exhibition, *Point/Counterpoint* has more dash and punch, and a generous breadth of visual idioms, from street photography to conceptualism to ethnography.

Some of these photographers are interested in the fervor and social ambiguity of religious visions. Since 2007 Federico Gama has been going to Mexico City for the annual feast day of Our Lady of Guadalupe, when Mexicans from all walks of life gather at the Basilica to celebrate her. Everyone bears an image or statue (or, in one instance, wears an Our Lady costume), and the devotees have many identities: an Indian family; a punker; a homeless man; a student; and, most prominently, gangbangers. Gangsters of many kinds tend to be religious sentimentalists, like the man-boy Gama photographs whose face is written over with prison tattoos, and the two wiry, head-shaven men, one with an Our Lady tattooed on his back, embracing and flashing gang signs. There are pieties and there are

pies. Provoked by a 2012 “end of days” prediction, José Luis Cuevas has been making an episodic essay on spiritual adventurers that includes nervous, unsettling images of priests, UFO worshippers, masons, and witches. Some of

pand the dimensions of “border” issues.

Another kind of separateness runs between the very rich and everybody else, defined by the ability of some Mexicans to insulate themselves from the



Gangsters of many kinds are featured in the images of Federico Gama

Cuevas’s images starkly represent soul conditions. A serpent’s head dangles through the blank space of the picture frame, as if waiting for us to enter it, too. The most thrilling image in the show is Cuevas’s picture of a cave light-flecked by hundreds of bats flaking through a syrupy darkness.

A lot of the work here is saturated by drug crime and death. Teresa Margolles spells out suicide notes (example: “*Por la constante reprecion que recibo de mi familia*”) on the marquees of abandoned movie houses in Guadalajara, and Guillermo Arias’s series *Muerto diario* (“the daily dead”) observes the too many varieties of bloody drug-war scenes: a corpse hangs from an overpass, a police car bashful in the background; a youth with bullet holes in his T-shirt sprawls on a dirt road with other “trash”; an intense theatrical spotlight falls on a gloved detective’s hand marking crime-scene evidence, which tells us that with tens of thousands of bullet casings to tag and examine in many Mexican cities, no law enforcement can keep pace with drug crime. And if we need visuals to conceive the scale of all this, Pablo López Luz’s aerial photos of borderlands, the barren landscapes of its far reaches along with the crowded towns that crop up along the way, ex-

street violence other social classes have to live with. Yvonne Venegas has made images of inhabitants of San Pedro Garza García, one of the wealthiest communities in the country. Her shots of polo players, children in a garden, and well-to-do couples young and old, have a crisp realistic finish but the subjects and scenes are all “off” in some way: why are we looking over the shoulder of a young man — servant? boyfriend? — bringing a cup of coffee to a woman waiting on a bench in an unidentifiable place? Why does a vacant, idyllic clearing in a park quiver with menace?

Daniela Rossell, an impeccably educated member of the upper middle class and self-described “child of the P.R.I.,” the Institutional Revolutionary Party that governed Mexico for 71 years, persuades girls she grew up with, filthy-rich girls, that is, to pose in their domestic surroundings, which are stuffed with the gold-plated gauds and vulgar, crass imagery that some plutocrats consider high art. To many of us, it’s in spectacularly bad taste. Rossell’s friends happily collaborate on the scenes and poses. The moral tones are inflected almost to incoherence. It’s hard to tell where self-regarding irony begins or leaves off. In one picture, a dozen or so self-ab-

sorbed young women strike smugly alluring odalisque poses in a harem, in imitation of an actual image of a seraglio that covers the wall behind them. Rossell also gets the patronizing cynicism of certain people who turn history into a personal precious artifact. A feisty blonde sitting in a saddle perched on a study/library table dressed as a showgirl-cowgirl (red heels, hot shorts, Stetson) flicks her cigarette at what’s around her, namely books and images of Zapata and other Mexican worthies. It announces that crude wealth treats history and learning not as the furnishings of consciousness but as the personal frivolities of the entitled. ■

ART

Coffee and Conversation with OMA Artist Alliance Socialize with fellow artists, enjoy drinks and snacks, learn more about the community, and explore exhibitions at OMA for free. Sunday, January 7, 12pm; free. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Lost and Found: Opening Reception San Diego-based art-

ist June Rubin invites you to meet the artist while enjoying her mixed-media artworks. When artist June Rubin’s “lost” her 98 year old artist mother recently she “found” many things in her belongings and the emotions left behind. Old family photos, keys to everything from diaries to luggage and doors, eyeglasses, scarves, and more. The show reflects the multi-layered and veiled unfolding and re-finding of Ms. Rubin’s own artistic and spiritual identity. Friday, January 5, 5pm; free. June Rubin Studio/Gallery, Liberty Station, 2690 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Seeing Is Believing: Opening Reception Take a trip into the unconscious mind of 21 Southern California artists as they transform the everyday mundane into thought provoking explorations of the body, relationships, emotion, form, and inanimate objects. Photography, sculpture, painting, and illustration are all employed to create otherworldly expressions of each artists’ innermost thoughts. Saturday, January 6, 6pm; free. Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

State of the Art: Opening Reception The San Diego Watercolor Society presents *State of the Art*, an art exhibition juried by artist Sean Barrett. Opening reception has 95-100 original ready-to-hang paintings for sale plus wine and food. Friday, January 5, 5pm; free. San Diego Watercolor Society, 2825 Dewey Road #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

LATIN AMERICAN FILM SERIES

A provocative exploration of violence and revenge told in six darkly comic vignettes.

WILD TALES

(Argentina, 2014) Rated R

Friday, January 5 at 8:00 p.m.

\$10 general admission / \$7.50 seniors & military / \$5 members & students

BALBOA PARK
THE SAN DIEGO
MUSEUM OF ART



SDMA.org

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Ed's Benedict

If I give Carla half the omelet, she might not miss the second egg.

'Benedict?" says Carla. "Actually, the name's Ed." "I know, you... But I have this insane desire for Benedict. Oh darling, please. For *moi*?"

I know what she's talking about. Eggs Benedict. She's officially addicted. Especially on holidays. Problem? This was Christmas day.

"Nothing'll be open!" I say. "No way!"

Sigh. Half an hour later: Clayton's Coffee Shop, Coronado. Totally crowded. Also, about to close. At 3 p.m. Fifteen minutes. I sit up to the U-shaped counter, grab the last of the seats, ask Katie the waitress for change for a dollar for the jukebox (you get two songs for a quarter), hit H3 (Chuck Berry, "No Particular Place to Go") and H7 (Petula Clark, "Downtown") and then I hunker down with the menu.

Whole page of "Breakfast All Day" here. And all day usually goes to 10 at night. But not this day. So, none of the usual dithering around. Eyes clang onto "Scrambles & Benedicts." Ooh. Chorizo scramble, with cheese, beans, and a flour tortilla, \$10.95. About as cheap as it gets in this high-rent ville. But, okay, Eggs Benedict, \$10.95 with hash browns?

Should've just gone for that, except they also have Eggs Florentine Benedict, with spinach, tomato, smoked bacon, plus hash browns, \$11.95. And then, for \$14.95, Country Benedict, with spicy sausage, thick-cut bacon, two poached eggs, country gravy on a toasted biscuit, with hash browns.

In for a penny, in for a pound, as they say. And, to stop me from picking at Carla's Benedict, I order a Meat Lover omelet, with bacon, sausage, ham, and cheddar for me. Costs \$12.95. It's only after Cheryl, the head waitress, is up handing my order slip to the cooks that I see I could've had a poached egg with toast and hash browns for \$7.95.

This is when Bob sets down next door,

where a couple has just left. He asks for a Coke. "Nothing," he says when Katie asks what he wants to eat. "You know me. Chili, if anything."

Turns out Bob's an ex-Navy pilot. Katie's his granddaughter. She's home from Arizona State, studying politics there. Is working at Clayton's during her vacation.

Bob's wearing a cap. U.S. Naval Academy. Class of '62. "Flew S2's, S3's," he says. "I've been coming here to Clayton's since 1972. Ever since the start, I pretty much ordered chili. Cup or bowl. That's it. Most dishes are way too loaded for one person these days. I don't know how people get through their orders."

'Course, this is when Katie comes up with my two crammed dishes, Carla's Country Benedict on a plate, my omelet to go. Oh, lord. Needed to have Benedict to go, too. Shouldn't touch it, but it looks so good. Moral crisis on Orange Avenue! I'm starved, so I'm thinking: *they have two eggs in the Benedict. If I give Carla half the omelet, she might not even miss the second egg.* I stare at the white gloop all over the eggs with chunky bacon underneath and a nicely burned lava of hash browns. It would be cruel and unusual to not just take a taste.

But why's the sauce white? Oh, now I get it: there is no hollandaise. Country Benedict means the sauce is country gravy. It's the hollandaise Carla gets this dish for. She is definitely going to kill me now.

So, what the heck? I take a mouthful of egg, country gravy, bacon, and biscuit. Suddenly I'm beyond guilt. It's so crunchy, so oozy, so scrumbly — and hot! Real peppery country gravy. I add some hash browns to temper the pepper. And now that I know what I'm dealing with and stop looking for any hollandaise, I realize this is supercalifragilistically good.

Can't help noticing Bob next door, sipping his Coke. He's been coming here since 1972



Bob and granddaughter Katie



My country Benedict

and eating mostly chili? Certainly makes pocketbook sense. Even now, 45 years later, a cup only costs \$3.95, and a bowl's \$5.95. And while self-indulgent, pasty-faced schmucks like me eat way too much and then complain about being too full, Bob looks mighty trim for his age.

Hmm... And I think Bob may not be alone. Throughout last year, I noticed similar trends. Like, Burgerim, the Israeli chain that I found down in the park at Horton Plaza. They make a big deal about smaller burgers. Theirs aren't sliders, but they're on the way to slider scale. Then, look at the whole happy-hour revolution. The three-slider plates you usually get on happy-hour menus are enough for any man-jack. More and more people are making a meal out of happy hour. Less is more!

But is this just a hiccup, a burp in trends? Or the start of something big here in San Diego: small is cool? You can see the restaurant boardroom argument: if people eat less, you make less, but they live longer. Ergo, longer-

lasting customers!

'Course, these deep thoughts last exactly 16 seconds. Then it's 'scuse me while I plunge back into my — uh, Carla's — eggs non-Benedict.

I do have the decency to eat only one of the eggs. And I'll offer her my entire Meat-Lover's omelet by way of compensation. I taste it just to make sure it's good enough for her. *Mmm.* Sausage and substantial, I'd say.

"Sorry, guys, we're closed." Cheryl's up front telling this to folks trying to come in. Lordy. Nearly 3:30. Carla will be starving. I didn't even notice how the place emptied out. Bob and I are the last customers.

I pick up the boxes and make a solemn New Year's resolution: stop stealing Carla's food. ■



Bob: Naval Academy grad



3 p.m., closing time. Chefs celebrate.

The Place: Clayton's Coffee Shop, 979 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5425

Hours: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m. daily

Prices: Oatmeal bowl, \$6.50; one egg with hash browns, toast, \$7.95; cheese omelet, \$9.95; meat-lover's omelet (bacon, sausage, ham, cheddar), \$12.50; chorizo scramble (cheese, beans, flour tortilla), \$10.95; eggs Benedict with hash browns, \$10.95; eggs Florentine Benedict (spinach, bacon, hash browns), \$11.95; Country Benedict (spicy sausage, bacon, two poached eggs, country gravy, hash browns), \$14.95; strawberry shortcake waffle, \$10.95; short stack, \$6.95; Clayton's Stacker hamburger, with onion rings, Swiss, bacon, BBQ sauce, \$12.95; border dog (bacon-wrapped, grilled onions, jalapeños), \$9.95

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After Pike Place

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Just for the uni

Fishbone Kitchen, 2820 Historic Decatur Road, Liberty Station. It's fair to say Liberty Station has become a good place to find yourself hungry.

I did on a recent Saturday afternoon, and since I only had a short window to remedy the situation,

I wandered into the amped-up food court collectively known as Liberty Public Market.

With no fewer than 16 food counters to choose from, I followed my cravings past the likes of sausages, Thai food, and empanadas. What finally hooked me were the words "Raw Bar" on a sign dangling over the counter of FishBone Kitchen.

A number of appealing signs hang over FishBone's corner stall in the bustling marketplace, advertising its poke bar, crab cakes, and seafood chowder. Perhaps the most telling is one proclaiming, "sustainably sourced seafood."

FishBone is part-owned by Dan Natrass, a longtime vet of Catalina Offshore Products, the city's preeminent fresh fish market that's practically synonymous with the words "locally caught seafood." If you're going to trust anyone to serve fish in a public market environment outside of Pike Place, Seattle, make it this guy.

So, how fresh is the fish? When I asked a knife-wielding chef behind the counter whether most of the seafood being served came from Catalina Offshore, he shook his head, no. "Straight off the fishing boat," he said.

Not all the fish here is strictly local, but when sourced elsewhere it's with good reason. A few barstools at the counter offer a chance to belly up and choose from a menu featuring blue-crab-salad sandwiches, six types of oyster, and poke made from Scottish salmon and/or yellowfin tuna.

But the thing to get here seems to be the uni — several other customers ordered it while I sat at

the counter. Historically called sea hedgehog due to its body covered in needles, sea urchin may be our most underappreciated local delicacy, but FishBone gives the spiny sea creature its due. A 14-dollar order turns out a full serving of orange sea-urchin roe, triple or more the helping of uni nigiri at a sushi restaurant. Here it's served over strands of daikon radish, still in its shell and so

fresh the needles are still moving.

Some people are turned off by the sliminess of uni. I suppose

some people avoid oysters for the same reason. Those of us who know better can appreciate the similarities between the two, and if anything this uni tastes more purely of the ocean than a briny oyster.

Sushi's another offering at FishBone Kitchen, with a handful of rolls, plus \$3 servings of nigiri or sashimi. I wasn't surprised to see salmon and yellowtail and ordered a couple pieces of each.

I was surprised to find California halibut and grouper, so added a piece each to my order.

The latter are far more likely to show up in a traditional sushi restaurant, and I'm told FishBone employs a legit sushi chef. However, he'd left for the day this Saturday afternoon, so my sashimi wasn't prepared with his practiced knifework. While this didn't stop the fish

from being fresh, delicious, and generously apportioned, it did reveal how much slicing raw fish the proper way impacts its texture. Sliced better, it would have exhibited more buttery texture, and I wouldn't have found little bits of cartilage at the edges.

Even if FishBone only served oysters and uni, it would be enough to bring me back.

by Ian Anderson

Crispy croquettes

Havana 1920, 548 Fifth Avenue, downtown San Diego. I haven't had much opportunities to try Cuban food in San Diego — a taco shop always seems to get in the way — but I was intrigued

FEAST!



A healthy portion of sea-urchin roe, served in its quivering, spiny shell



The bocaditos platter included turnovers, plantain chips, and croquettes.

when I discovered a new Cuban restaurant open in the Gaslamp.

Havana 1920 is promoting itself as a bar/restaurant specializing in Cuban dishes and tropical drinks featuring lots of rum. It certainly adds some variety to the neighborhood, and a good Cuban sandwich.

The restaurant is upstairs from Prohibition Lounge and seats about 80 people. There's live music most nights, an acoustic duo playing Latin music the night I went there and a cool vibe.

The waitress wanted to seat us in front of the band, but we opted to sit in the back closer to the bar so we could talk. Oh and drink.

I knew I wanted to try the daiquiri, which comes on the rocks or up. I chose mine up, which is how Ernest Hemingway apparently liked it. I liked mine. It was nice and limey and tart but I'm not sure I tasted much alcohol (\$12).

My friend ordered the Hotel Nacional (\$12), which had rum and lime juice and pineapple juice and an apricot liqueur. He liked the taste but didn't feel the overwhelming flavor of alcohol either.

We switched to beer for our food courses — a Cuban lager called Hatuey. Yes, we could taste the alcohol, and it was a food-friendly brew, and there was some food I felt friendly toward — the appetizers.

The \$20 Bocadito Platter was a good starting point for exploring the menu. The fried plantain chips were thin, crispy, and addictive. There was jostling as we each tried to grab our share; the ham-and-cheese croquettes were crispy, creamy, and cheesy. We ordered three more at \$3 each.

The picadillo-stuffed potato was flavorful, thanks to a filling of beef, potatoes, olives, rai-

sins and garlic. I wish I'd had the picadillo for my entrée. Instead, I opted for the Ropa Vieja (\$20), meat stewed with peppers and onions in a tomato sauce. It was good but lacked the depth of the picadillo.

The best part of the meal was the Cuban Sandwich (\$16). It's a huge loaf of bread cut in three sections and filled with ham, roasted pork, swiss cheese, pickles, and mustard. That sandwich ensured a return visit.

The flan was sweet and slightly caramelly, but the mango sorbet and wafers were a nice, tangy topper to the meal.

by Patrick Henderson

Empanadas sold out

San Telmo, 531 Broadway, suite B, downtown San Diego. Minus a few empanada shops, there are only a handful of Argentine restaurants around San Diego, so I perked up when I heard that San Telmo Argentine Café had opened in the Gaslamp.

Argentine cuisine has a fair amount in common with American, mainly having to do with cowboy culture. That is, grilled beef figures prominently. Spanish and Italian cultures take up more room in Argentina's melting pot, so cuts of beef are butchered differently.

And any steak sauce we might prefer plays second fiddle there to the green, herbal sauce chimichurri. However, the biggest difference may be how steaks are cooked, the focus being less on how rare the center remains and more on achieving uniform color and tenderness.

So it's no surprise the restaurant's signature San Telmo Sandwich (\$13) features steak. In this case, New York strip, served with sautéed Portobello mushroom, Swiss cheese, and pesto aioli on a ciabatta roll. I ordered at the counter, choosing the San Telmo over pork and chicken sandwiches, and another featuring sliced ribeye.

At \$2.50 apiece, I definitely had my eye on a few empanadas as well. Options include beef, chicken, ham and cheese, or onion and cheese. Each are available baked or fried, and the baked menu includes a spinach ricotta option. I wanted one of those for sure, and since San Telmo had



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Calendar RESTAURANT

sold out its morning batch of them, the cook offered to bake one fresh if I was willing to wait 20 minutes.

I was, especially considering I ordered both cheesy ham and onion empanadas from the fried menu. These came out first, and their melted insides oozed out of the crispy fried crust when I cut them open. The gooey onion empanada particularly won me over, all the onion's fibers had broken down to leave the saucy, aromatic cheese just savory as can be. Armed with the side of decent chimichurri provided, I indulged happily.

When my baked empanada arrived, the crispy crust was replaced with chewy, toasted texture, while the spinach filling proved less saucy and more substantial. I'd have gladly eaten several more.

So it was a bit of a letdown when I sunk my teeth into the steak on that sandwich. I'd expected it to be more tender, and be more flavorful. Instead, the bland and listless beef leaned more than it should have on the pesto aioli and sautéed mushroom to make the sandwich interesting.

While this bodes well for vegetarians looking for a

quick, casual Gaslamp meal, it's not a great showing for a national cuisine dominated by steak.

by Ian Anderson

Lemon Grove goes upscale

Giardino, 8131 Broadway, Lemon Grove. Lemon Grove doesn't get hyped as a dining destination like North Park or Little Italy, but it may be San Diego's hole-in-the-wall capital. Foodies know that in between the chain restaurants are wonderful ma-and-pa-type restaurants providing great food at reasonable prices, especially Coop's West Texas BBQ, Charley's Famous Hamburgers, El Pollo Grill, and Lido's Italian Restaurant.

Yep, a person can eat pretty well in Lemon Grove, provided they want unpretentious eateries, but the place hasn't had anything that might be called upscale until now.

Giardino is open and airy with cool touches such as using wine bottles as light bulbs and elaborate chalk drawings that read, "You can't buy happiness, but you can buy pizza and that's kind of the same thing."

My daughter and I started with the meatball lollipops (\$9), which are made from a combination of beer, pork,

veal, garlic, and tomato sauce and served with toothpick skewers.

"This is the way meatballs should taste," she said. I agreed and used the opportunity to explain how each type of meat in the mixture adds a flavorful component. The tomato sauce was creamy, slightly tart, and cheesy, thanks to grated parmesan cheese.

The Arugula and Prosciutto Salad (\$12) dressed with lemon, olive oil, and shaved parmesan was also light and refreshing, and the saltiness of the prosciutto worked well.

For my entrée, I decided on the Pork Belly Roll (\$18), which was wrapped around spinach, mozzarella, and pancetta and served with a creamy mushroom sauce and mashed potatoes. This was great comfort food, though the pork in the middle was more tender than the part on the outside.

My daughter ordered lasagna (\$15), which came with two kinds of sauce: bolognese and bechamel. My daughter liked it, but when I tried it I noticed that it was at room temperature. I asked for it to be warmer, and they put it in a mini-cast iron skillet in the outside pizza oven.

Once properly heated, it was heavenly. There were a variety of homemade desserts, but we chose the tiramisu (\$6). Good call: it was a creamy blend of cocoa and coffee without being excessively sweet.

Giardino is the nicest restaurant in Lemon Grove, a town that has proven it will support restaurants that are good. The prices are fair, considering the quality, and I suspect Giardino might attract even those people who are afraid to go east of I-15.

by Patrick Henderson

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Wait, What?

— In case eating fried chicken isn't enough for KFC fans in Japan, Twitter users there have an opportunity to luxuriate in the essence of one of 100 KFC "bath bombs" — bath salts infused with the fast food giant's signature "11 herbs and spices." KFC tells United Press International that the limited-edition bath bombs won't be sold in stores, but people who retweet the chain's promotional post will be entered to win one.

Unusual Hobbies

— Kung fu master Li Weijun used his bare hands to smash 302 walnuts in 55 seconds on Nov. 1, breaking a Guinness World Record. The previous record, held by a man in India, was 212 walnuts in one minute, according to United Press International. Weijun accomplished the feat in Foshan City, Guangdong Province, China, with video cameras rolling to capture the proof, which has been submitted to Guinness for official recognition.

Send your weird news items to WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com.

HAPPY HOUR

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

ALLIED GARDENS

Emiliano's Mexican Restaurant: Monday, 2-6pm: \$1 off all wine and beer, \$2 off Cadillac and flavored margaritas. \$2 off appetizers. Monday margaritas \$2.50 all day. Tuesday, Tuesday happy hour all day: \$1 off all wine and beer, \$2 off Cadillac and flavored margaritas. \$2 off appetizers. Wednesday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$1 off all wine and beer, \$2 off Cadillac and flavored margaritas. \$2 off appetizers.

BALBOA PARK

The Prado Restaurant: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5.50 local draft beer, Prado wells, house margarita, lounge chardonnay, cabernet, strawberry margarita, sauvignon blanc, Spanish blend wine, Prado mule, \$4-\$8 appetizers.

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

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

CHULA VISTA

El Comal: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: Two-for-one draft beer, rotating drink specials.

Galley at the Marina: Monday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$4 well drinks; house chardonnay, cabernet, and merlot; Budweiser, Bud Light, or Shock Top 16-oz. pints.

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CLAIREMONT

Little Sheep: Daily, 11:30-7pm and 9:30-close: \$1 off beers, \$2 off sake.

COLLEGE AREA

4.0 Deli: Daily, 2-6pm: \$6 "cheap" pitchers of beer, \$10 "good" pitchers of beer.

Junk House Gastro-Pub: Monday, 2-6pm: \$4 Smirnoff cocktails. \$9 select flatbreads. Tuesday, 2-6pm: \$4 Jose Cuervo margaritas. \$3 specialty tacos. Thursday, 2-6pm: All 36 drafts \$6. \$3 specialty tacos, \$9 flatbreads.

CORONADO

Bistro d'Asia: Daily, 3-6pm: \$3.75 domestic bottled beer, \$4 Kirin Ichiban draft, \$5.50 Gekkeikan sake (served warm) \$5.75 sake-tini. \$5.50 California roll, \$6.50 spicy tuna roll, \$7 crispy calamari.

Nicky Rottens: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house wines, half off select appetizers.

Primavera Ristorante: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3 off any drink. \$9 macaroni & cheese, \$10 calamari fritti, \$12 crostini florentina, eggplant

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

New tax bill a win for craft brew and booze biz?

A part of the federal tax overhaul that passed through Congress in December 2017 was a provision likely to impact local craft-beverage business. The Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act lowers the federal excise tax on alcoholic beverages.

For local breweries, that means the excise on the first 60,000 barrels of production will be cut in half, dropping from \$7 per barrel (31 gallons) to \$3.50. For higher-volume businesses, the excise on volume over 60,000 barrels will change from \$18 to \$16.

Craft-beer trade organization the Brewers Association has been advocating for the bill for ten years and estimates \$142 million in annual savings for the U.S. beer industry, with \$80 million of that applied to craft breweries producing under 6 million barrels per year. A statement

from the Brewers Association suggests the tax relief is designed to help small brewers "reinvest in their businesses, expand their operations, and hire more workers."

For one of the nation's largest craft breweries, Samuel Adams producer **Boston Beer Co.**, production numbers suggest savings will amount to more than \$8 million. *Bloomberg* reported that Boston Beer founder Jim Koch became craft beer's first billionaire in 2013.

Based on the most recent published production numbers for San Diego's largest independent producer, Stone Brewing, the change could save the company more than three quarters of a million dollars each year. However, most local craft brewers operate on a much smaller scale, and immediate reactions were mixed.

Societe Brewing Co. cofounder Douglas Constantiner calls the change, "A big victory to bring the excise tax to a modern-day craft-brewery climate," noting the existing excise was established long before the rise of craft beer. At current production rates, Societe would stand to net about \$14,000 in annual savings. Constantiner suggests the new bill "allows more operating cash flow to afford new equipment or increase benefits to employees."

Curtis Chism, cofounder of **Council Brewing**, appreciates what the Brewers Association's efforts mean for the industry. However, he notes Council's small production numbers (1000 barrels per year) means the new rate won't help growth just yet. "[It] doesn't amount to a particularly large overall tax cut and will likely be used to off-

set our other overhead expenses," Chism says. "As we grow larger, the savings will amount to much more."



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY BOVO

The cost of selling beer goes down, but will it help?

Alex Van Horne, cofounder of **Intergalactic Brewing Company**, operates on a very small scale, producing about 250 barrels per year. "It will save us a few hundred dollars next year. Maybe a thousand," he says. Van Horne recently announced he may need to sell or shut down his brewery due to rising competition, and he doesn't envision lower federal taxes changing that. "The beer industry is so capital-intensive, going from a nano setup to a true micro costs hundreds of thousands," he says. "It's a win, but it won't be the deciding factor in a brewery's success or failure."

Meanwhile, **Modern Times** founder Jacob McKean acknowledges his growing business —

which is about to open new breweries in Los Angeles and Portland, Oregon — would appear to benefit. However, he speculates, "Whatever direct savings we will have from the tax bill will unfortunately be wiped out many times over by the terrible toll this bill will take on society as a whole. The increased cost of health care alone will make this tax cut worthless for breweries."

The local businesses standing to benefit the most may be craft distilleries. The new bill drops the excise per proof gallon of spirits from \$13.50 all the way down to \$2.70 for small producers (under 100,000 proof gallons).

"This is a huge deal for small distilleries," says Bill Rogers, founder of **Liberty Call Distilling** and president of the San Diego Distillers Guild. He explains the change could average a saving of \$1.71 per 750ml bottle for the manufacturer (vs. \$1.75 per keg of beer). He believes it could help craft distillers in the uphill battle to compete against large manufacturers. "It might mean the difference in losing money or breaking even," he says. "It's definitely a silver lining in the controversial tax bill." ■

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

melanzane, \$13 scampi alla griglia, \$14 cozze e vongole, crab cocktail.

Stake Chophouse & Bar: Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: \$5 craft beers, \$6 wines, \$8 martinis, \$15 glass of Veuve. \$1 oysters, \$6 oyster shooters.

Village Pizzeria: Daily, 3-6pm, 9-10pm: \$4 domestic drafts, \$5 craft drafts and glass of wine. \$2.50 pizza slices, half off appetizers.

DEL MAR

The Clubhouse Grill: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-6pm: \$7 beers, \$5 wines, \$6 appetizers.

Pacific Del Mar: Monday, Sunday, 4pm-close: \$2 off beers, wine by the glass, featured cocktails, Ocean Bar Bites, half off small plates. Tuesday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$2 off beers, wine by the glass, featured cocktails, Ocean Bar Bites, half off small plates.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

Cafe Sevilla Nightclub: Monday-Thursday, 3pm-6pm: The dollar amount spent on alcohol get equivalent in free food. Friday-Sunday, 3pm-6pm: \$3 off everything on food and beverage menu.

Dobson's: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 drafts, well drinks, house wine.

House of Blues: Tuesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: \$4 well cocktails, Fireball or Sauza Blue tequila shots, select beers, \$5 call cocktails, sangria, house wine, \$6 Moscow mule, house margarita, select 23 oz. draft beers, \$4-\$6 appetizers

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 all beers, flights, house wine.

Knotty Barrel: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off craft beer, house wine, and well drinks. Appetizer specials.

Lager: Daily, 3-7pm: Half off pints & bites.

Pinzimini: Daily, 5-7pm and 9-11 pm: \$6 house wine, well drinks, \$1 off draft beer, \$6-\$9 appetizers, \$10 build-your-own pizza.

Stout Public House: Daily, 4-8pm: \$4 select drafts. Half-off wings, calamari, chicken tenders.

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: Daily, 3-8pm: Half-off all drinks.

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

EAST VILLAGE

Café Chloe: Daily, 3:00-5:30pm: \$6 specialty beer, \$8 house wine. \$6-\$7 cup of soup du jour, salad, or french fries.

Monkey Paw: Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: \$1 off wine by the glass, \$2 off Monkey Paw pints and all appetizers.

Neighborhood: Daily, 4-7pm: Half off select local drafts.

EASTLAKE

Savoie Eatery: Daily, 4-7:30: \$4 beers, \$5 wines, \$7 specialty cocktails. \$2 off appetizers.

EL CAJON

Black Angus Steakhouse: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$5 16-oz drafts and double-pour classic martini, \$6 gold-strike margarita, \$7 beer & a bullseye boilermaker.

Nicolosi's Italian Restaurant: Daily, 3-5:30pm: \$1 off draft beer, wine by the glass.

ENCINITAS

3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro: Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6pm, 10pm-1:30am: \$5-7 mixed drinks, \$12-20 wine flights.

D Street Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$4 beer of the month, wells, \$5 house wines.

Encinitas Ale House: Monday, 4-6pm: \$2 off premium drafts and select wine. Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off premium drafts and select wine.

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

GOLDEN HILL

Kafe Sobaka: Daily, 4-6pm: \$5.50 international brews, \$4.50 infused vodkas. \$4.50 tapatchkas.

GRANTVILLE

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

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

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

HARBOR ISLAND

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

Tom Ham's Lighthouse: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Select beers \$3 for 8 oz, \$5 for 16 oz. \$1 off wines by the glass. \$2 off craft cocktails. \$1 oysters, \$2 off small bites, \$3 off appetizers.

HILLCREST

7th Ave Pub: Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: Select \$4 pints, all wine by the glass \$1 off.

Akinori Sushi: Daily, 5-7:30pm: \$.99 small hot sake, \$2.50 draft beer,

\$7.50 sake combo (beer and sake), \$12.50 draft beer pitcher.

Blue Forno Grill: Daily, 3-7pm: \$2 off beer and wine. Small-plate specials.

The Brew Project: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 house wine, wells, half off wings. Saturday, 9am-3pm: \$5 mimosas with brunch.

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

Refill: Friday-Sunday, 4-8pm: \$5 all wine, beer, mimosas.

Trust: Monday-Thursday, 5-7pm: \$5 beers, \$6 wines, \$7 cocktails. \$2 off bar bites.

Whistling Duck Tavern: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: All beer on tap and Han Soju cocktails \$5.

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JANUARY MUSIC LINE-UP

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WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
3 BLUES Jam Night 6:30pm Guest Artist: LoVotets	4 6pm to 9pm TomCat Courtney	5 Give Me Back My Wig	6 Blue Largo
10 BLUES Jam Night 6:30pm Special Guest: Vicior Marquez	11 THROWBACK THURSDAY Tomcat Courtney \$5 Drafts 1/2 PRICE BOTTLES OF WINE	12 THE BRASS BAND	13 Blitz Watson
17 BLUES Jam Night 6:30pm Special Guest: Stoney B Blues	18 6pm to 9pm TomCat Courtney	19 Nathan James & The Rhythm Scorchers	20 Robin Henkel & Whitney Gray
24 BLUES Jam Night 6:30pm Special Guest: Bill Magee	25 Tomcat Courtney's 89th B-DAY BASH	26 Soul and	27 89th B-DAY BASH
31 BLUES Jam Night 6:30pm Special Guest: Lady Jay	89th B-DAY BASH TomCat Courtney starts at 6pm Be part of Celebrating of Local Blues Legend's 89th Birthday - Thursday, January 25th		

HAPPY HOUR

IMPERIAL BEACH

SEA180 Coastal Tavern: Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$6 beers, sangria, margaritas, and wines by the glass.

The Salty Frog: Monday-Friday, 2-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts and \$3.50 wells.

JAMUL

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

KEARNY MESA

Crab Hut: Monday-Friday, 2-5pm: \$4 beer on tap. 75 cents/wing, \$1.50 oysters, \$3 onion rings, \$4 mixed fries, crab poppers.

Ichiro's Happy Japanese Restaurant: Daily, 5-6:30pm: \$3.50 Sapporo drafts, large hot sake, glass of house wine. \$3.50 garlic edamame, homemade gyoza, garlic potato.

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

Quantum Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, Noon-2pm: \$4 pint craft beer.

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: Monday-Saturday, 11:30am-6:30pm: \$1-off micro craft drafts, \$4.50 bottled beer, \$6 margaritas, mules, \$6.50 house wine. Sunday, 11:30am-6:30pm: \$1-off micro craft drafts, \$4.50 bottled beer, \$5.50 well cocktails, \$6.50 margaritas, mojitos, mules, \$6.50 house wine.

Chedi Thai Bistro: Daily, 5-7pm: \$3 beers, \$5 red and white wine. \$4 select appetizers.

Eddie V's: Daily, 4-7pm: \$8 handshaken cocktails and wine by the glass, \$2 oysters, \$7-8, other appetizers.

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

LA MESA

BO-beau Kitchen + Garden: Tuesday-Friday, 4:30-5:30pm: \$4 beers, \$5 wines, \$6 select cocktails, half off appetizers.

The Hills: Monday-Friday, 2-5pm: \$4 drafts, \$6 specialty cocktails.

Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



RYAN ANDREWS

Havana 1920
548 Fifth Ave.,
Gaslamp District,
619-369-1920
havana1920.com

The Gaslamp's newest Cuban eatery, Havana 1920, seeks to capture the heyday of America's Playground and its pre-communist jazz-and-limelight nightlife. The restaurant's beverage director Ryan Andrews says that its owners were inspired to open the restaurant after taking a trip to Havana a few years ago, after the travel embargo against Cuba was temporarily lifted under the Obama administration.

"We had no idea at the time," Andrews says, "that we would come back to open up a Cuban rum bar."

While Cuban cuisine is its forte, Havana 1920 also offers 150 kinds of rum, Andrews says — including Havana Club Anejo Blanco, the mojo in Havana 1920's mojito.

In reimagining the famous Cuban highball, Andrews says, the Havana 1920 recipe returns to the mojito's sugar-cane roots with a one-of-a-kind (for

San Diego, anyway) electric sugar-cane juicer.

"It's a metal box about half the size of a college refrigerator with a hole in top to feed the cane through," he explains. "It has three rotating crushers, like big rolling pins with teeth, which suck the cane right in, crush it flat, and extract every bit of fluid."

Why so much trouble to make sugar water? For a mojito, Andrews says with pride, like no other on the West Coast.

"What's unique about our mojito," he says, "is that cane juice has a naturally grassy flavor with nice herbal notes that back up the aged rum."

The rum, too, has a story, Andrews says, noting that Havana Club's Puerto Rico distillery uses a secret family recipe, smuggled cloak-and-machete-like, out of Cuba as Castro came to power.

The aging process used to produce Havana Club, Andrews says, besides adding notes of caramel, vanilla and oak, mellows the mojito's sweetness. "Typically a mojito is made with an unaged rum, which is going to be a little harsh, a little acrid, not as refined," he says. "But Havana Club's aged rum distinguishes the cocktail. It's something you'd get at, well, a hotel casino in old Havana."

HAVANA 1920'S CLASSIC MOJITO



- 2 oz. Havana Club Anejo Blanco
- 1 oz. fresh lime juice
- 1 oz. cane juice
- ¾ oz. Demerara syrup
- 2 oz. soda
- 8-10 mint leaves

In highball glass, bruise mint with syrup, cane, and lime. Add rum and soda, fill with crushed ice, stir. Top with ice and lime-wheel garnish.

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.

Narumi Sushi: Daily, 5-7pm: 99 cents for select appetizer (includes 6 kinds of sushi or gyoza, fried oyster, edamame, takoyaki, tuna popper) with purchase of large beer or sake.

LINDA VISTA

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

LITTLE ITALY

Crack Shack: Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off beer and wine, \$3 off specialty cocktails. Thursday, 3-6pm: \$2-off beer and wine, \$3-off specialty cocktails.

Davanti Enoteca: Daily, 3-6pm: \$6 Davanti Spritz, \$5 house wines, \$6 wells. \$5 ricotta vasi, \$6 calamari.

Puerto la Boca: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:30pm: \$4 house wine, \$4.50

wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers. Bar only. Sunday, All day: \$4 house wine, \$4.50 wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers. Bar only.

MIRAMAR

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

Legacy Brewing Co. Tap and Kitchen: Monday-Thursday, 4-7pm: \$5 pints. Sunday, All day: \$5 pints.

MISSION BEACH

Cannonball: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$6 Sapporo, sake, wells, house wine. \$5 edamame or 2-piece nigiri, \$7 California or Philadelphia roll, \$12 shrimp ceviche.

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-6pm: Half off entire bar + 20% off all appetizers.

MISSION HILLS

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

Starlite: Daily, 5-7pm: \$5 select drafts and well drinks, \$2 off specialty cocktails, \$5.50 food specials (chick-pea battered greens, mini kale Caesar, pulled pork toast).

Toma Sol Tavern: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$1 off wine by the glass. \$6 all appetizers. Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 drafts, \$1 off wine by the glass. \$6 all appetizers.

MISSION VALLEY

Islands Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: Well drinks \$3.55, Woodbridge chardonnay and cabernet \$4.29, mai tai, mojito, featured IPA (16-oz.) \$4.69.

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

NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

The Rabbit Hole: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$5 select local drafts, glass of wine, specialty cocktails. \$5 small plates.

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, 4-9pm: \$2 off all liquor, draft beer, and wine.

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

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$2 off draft beer, wine by the glass, \$4 well drinks.

Seven Grand: Monday-Saturday, 4-8pm: \$5 beers, \$6 select house cocktails.

OCEAN BEACH

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

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

Winstons Beach Club: Monday-Saturday, 1-8pm: \$3 wells.

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

OLD TOWN

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

Café Coyote: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6pm: \$4 select draft beers, \$6.50 select shots, \$7.50 Coyote Gold Margarita, \$8.50 fruit margarita, \$3 tacos (\$4 shrimp tacos).

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

Sushi Tadokoro: Monday-Friday, 5-6:30pm: \$2.50-\$3 draft beers, \$5 wine, \$2 edamame, \$3 Garrick edamame, \$4 seaweed salad, \$6 spicy tuna roll.

PACIFIC BEACH

Ambrogio15: Daily, 4:30-6pm: \$4 local craft beer or house wine, biodynamic (organic) wine flight \$15. Mini house salad \$5, margherita pizza \$9.

Hoboken Pizza & Beer Joint: Daily, Noon-8pm: \$4 pints, \$12 pitchers. \$7.50 two slices & soda, \$9.50 two slices & beer.

JRDN: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$6 drafts, wells, select wine.

Latitude 32: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 glass of wine.

SD Taproom: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, cocktails, wines. \$2 off appetizers.

POINT LOMA

Banzai Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, wells, wine; \$2 sliders (cheese \$5.00).

POWAY

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off wells, beers, and wine by the glass. \$6 cocktails. \$10 baby back sampler.

SOUTH PARK

Del Sur: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 beers, \$5 sangria (\$25 pitcher), \$6 margaritas (\$30 pitcher), \$7 cocktails. \$7 apps.

Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro: Daily, 3-7pm: \$5 beers and wine.

Hamilton's Tavern: Daily, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

Piacere Mio Ristorante Italiano: Monday-Thursday, 5-6pm: \$3 wines, \$5 appetizers.

SPRING VALLEY

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

De Oro Mine Co: Monday-Friday, 12-7pm: \$5 beer and shot. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-7pm: \$5 beer and shot.

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

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Daily, 3-6pm: All bottled beer \$3.75 or \$4.25. Small plates starting at \$3.75.

Draft Republic: Daily, 2-6pm, 10pm-close: \$6 select beers, select wines, well cocktails. \$7 snacks. \$17.95 any burger or sandwich with a beer.

Drift: Daily, 4-7pm: \$5 for 16 oz drafts, \$10 craft cocktail of the day, \$4 off wine carafes, \$10 shares and flatbreads.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Beerfish: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off "core beers" and select wines. \$1 oysters, \$3 oyster sliders.

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

Madison: Tuesday, 4-7pm: \$10 burger and beer (fries \$3 extra).

Park & Rec: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm, 10pm-2am: \$5 PBR or Tecate with tequila or bourbon shot, \$6 house wines, P&R old fashioned, margarita, P&R Pimm's cup, daiquiri, Moscow mule, cucumber gimlet, champagne.

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blurt the inside track

Bass Lion. John Murray is an up-and-coming bassist who attends the Young Lions Jazz Conservatory at Liberty Station alongside studies at the School of Creative and Performing Arts in Paradise Hills. He is 13 years old. Bass was not his first instrument.

"I started out playing the piano when I was about five years old," says Murray. "It just didn't click with me. But my dad still wanted me to play an instrument, so he took me to a jazz show and asked me what instrument I wanted to play, and I chose the bass because I liked how it looked and sounded and thought it would be the perfect instrument for me.

"So I asked my parents for a bass, and they got me one for Christmas, which was one of the best days of my life."

Murray has already been at

the double bass for six years.

"At first I was playing classical music in the youth orchestra. I loved the music — I mean, classical music is the



John Murray clicks with his standup

best ever — but it's too structured for me, and what I love about jazz is the improvisation and where you can take it."

The musician spends about two hours every day practicing at home, another three at the Young Lions Conserva-

tory, and about ten at school. He's especially excited to be studying under the tutelage of Gilbert Castellanos.

"The conservatory is completely amazing for the way that Gilbert and Rob [Thorsen] can lead you from being a beginner to actually being able to play," says Murray. "We get so many great performance opportunities, and it really gives you a taste of what it's like to be a real working jazz musician.... By the time I'm 16, I hope to be playing more with Gilbert."

He also has higher aspirations, including a dream of attending the Juilliard School in Manhattan and following in the footsteps of bass hero Christian McBride. But in the meantime, he's working on the balance of experiencing his youth while developing his virtuosity.

"I like to play sports and hang out with my friends. I love being a musician, but I never let it get in the way of being a kid."

— Robert Bush

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT SANCHEZ

2017 encore. While no locals dominated the national scene in 2017, Unwritten Law, Clint Westwood, Cattle Decapitation, Little Hurricane, and Earl Thomas continue to tour the world. And while the fall-off in record sales continues to bedevil all musicians, a number of locals found in 2017 that there is decent money to be made by getting their songs placed in TV shows, movies, and commercials. Consider Lindsay Perry, the Surrealistics, Vokab Company, Sprung Monkey, and Super Groupie, all local artists who earned performance royalties in 2017.

All-ages stutter.

Although Alma Rodriguez says she is working on opening a second Queen Bee's in Oceanside, the news was generally not good for all-ages venues in 2017. For seven years the 450-capacity Irenic in North Park was the favorite venue for the Soda Bar and Casbah to host national touring artists who had outgrown their own half-as-big

venues. Besides, many of their more popular artists wanted to play an all-ages venue instead of a bar. Mission Gathering Church — the Irenic's owner — did not explain why concerts by



Now making landfall around the world (Little Hurricane)

outside promoters were nixed as of December, but insiders think the church found weddings were more profitable and less risky. UCSD's Che Café was closed for remodeling in March and its supporters hope it will reopen by the spring. The Industry, an all-ages 250-capacity punk/metal venue located in a Chula Vista industrial park, closed in January. It will reopen eventually, says founder Francisco Garcia-Velasquez, a Methodist minister. "I still believe in the passion of punk

and hardcore," he says.

Smells political. SD's music and political worlds continued to intersect in 2017 as Tommy Hough, a local AltRock

DJ since 2002, left his 91X morning-show gig and announced he would run as a Democrat to unseat District 6 city councilman Chris Cate. Longtime local bluegrass picker Dwight Worden assumed the mayorship of Del Mar last month. Meanwhile, self-professed music-lover and elected mayor

Serge Dedina of Imperial Beach pledged his support for a day-long outdoor music fest near the IB Pier. Chula Vista rap-rocking headliners P.O.D. announced in October they would be headlining the Lower Left Fest in July 2018 during Sandcastle Days. Last month it was learned the Lower Left Fest would probably be moved to a date in the fall.

Airwaves, baby. While most cities have no locally produced TV shows dedicated

(continued on page 42)



Firestarter's Delight

"The arsonist attempted to set 31 hay stacks afire the first night, and 17 of them burned. Night patrols of the Sheriff's Department immediately were expanded and aircraft and electronic equipment were used in an effort to catch the arsonist in the act."

Angel Magallanez was identified as the suspect. Municipal judge Harold Chaille, in El Centro, eventually reduced the suspect's bail from \$100,000 to \$50,000. That may seem like a lot of money for someone suspected of burning Sudan grass and alfalfa (in fact, bail initially was set at

\$500,000), but the number of fires, their frequency, and the adroitness with which the arsonist eluded the sheriff department's helicopter, the infrared scopes, the patrols disguised as joyriders and as hitchhikers, the farmers armed in their fields, and the \$1000 offer of reward for information leading to the arsonist's arrest and conviction — these contributed to a peculiar state of mind in the valley, where farmers are used to tolerating a fire or two every season, set off by kids.

BY JOE APPLIGATE, AUG. 6, 1981

San Diego Reader

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to pop music, San Diego has two. *SounDiego* and *Unherd* will return to the airwaves Saturday nights in 2018. Meanwhile, *Tonight in San Diego*, styled after the *Tonight Show*, et al., continues to tape a new show before a studio audience each week even though it lost its broadcast TV platform in March when XETV (channel 6) went off the air. In 2017, *Tonight in San Diego* had local bands such as Behind the Wagon, Casey Hensley, Skyterra, and Shay and the Hustles perform on the internet show.

Dismangement. Based in Encinitas for 13 years, heavy-hitting talent manager Pat Magnarella was fired by his biggest client in September. Green Day axed Magnarella after his 21 years of career guidance that led to 12 albums that sold 30 million copies. The pop-punk trio went with New York-based Crush, which handles Panic at the Disco and Fall Out Boy. Also last year, Oceanside singer/songwriter Jason Mraz parted ways with former San Diego concert promoter Bill Silva, who discovered Mraz 18 years ago and guided him to multi-platinum stardom.

Del Mar un-Fair. Manuel the Band won \$5000 at the Del

Mar Fair's 2017 Battle of the Bands contest while third place Big Bad Rooster won \$1000 for third place. They are both from Long Beach. After some controversy, it's unclear whether the fair will restrict its contest to local bands in 2018.

420 soundtrack. Reggae tunes didn't get much regular-rotation radio airplay on local music radio last year. But a daylong concert series called "Beer X," held at Waterfront Park, drew a sold-out 8500 with its reggae-based lineup in August, three times the amount that attended a punk-skewed Beer X the previous year. Rebellion sold out Mattress Firm Amphitheatre while Damian Marley sold out his headlining show at Harrah's. Soulja, Cali



Tribal Seeds keeps spreading the reggae

Buds, and Stick Figure sold out their North Park Observatory shows. Steel Pulse drew over 15,000 to the Del Mar Race Track and local band Tribal Seeds brought in 13,000 in separate shows. The reggae buzz was not lost on the operators of the Sports Arena. They became co-promoters in the Boom Shaka reggae fest headlined by Tribal



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Seeds and co-promoted by the Belly Up. It was the first time in five years the Sports Arena was used for a President's Day Monday reggae fest, previously known as Bob Marley Day.

Wandering concertgoers all set.

Pacific Records, whose offices and studios are located adjacent to the Sports Arena, continued to operate its unusual label-with-a-venue relationship. Based on its arrangement with the Sports Arena, Pacific booked its own bands to play at the Sports Arena lounge (long known as Players Lounge) to entertain wandering concertgoers. Last year Pacific presented its own artists, including Ottopilot (playing during Ed Sheeran's show), Sandollar (Hall & Oates), and Felice Garcia (Green Day). Pacific will continue to book acts during 2018, providing

lounge entertainment during shows by Sports Arena headliners such as the Killers and Lana Del Rey. Pacific will also continue to host its roster artists in the lounge during Friday Gulls hockey games.

Warped Tour's days in the sun done.

Kevin Lyman announced in November that 2018 would be the last Warped Tour after 24 years. The action sports/trash music "punk rock summer camp" was credited with giving blink-182, Pennywise, and Bad Religion their first national exposure. Mainsail was the only local band to play Warped Tour last year. The final local Warped Tour date is June 22 at an as-yet-unannounced location.

A hip-hop guy walks onto a stage... Hip-hop in San Diego seemed to take a hit when Florida rapper

XXXTentacion was body-slammed onstage at a June 7 North Park Observatory show. Local rapper Rob Stone, an XXX adversary, told an L.A.



Don't look at him — he didn't do it (Rob Stone)

radio station he knew about the assault but did not orchestrate it. Bloggers noted how the whole XXX/Observatory affair made hip-hop seem like a joke since XXX's vocals continued even while he was lying on the Observatory stage (they'd been pre-recorded — he was lip-syncing).

Zzzzzzzzz...RANG! The San Diego Music Awards was dormant in 2016. It returned last year, downsized to the House of Blues where it returns March 19.

Big Belly Up. 2017 was a good year for the Belly Up, which was given the booking keys to the Music Box, the Four O' Clock Fridays series, the Del Mar Fair's Coors Light stage, and the Birch Aquarium's Green Flash Concert Series. It awaits news if it will also be given the rights to book the 1900-capacity concert facility being built in the former Surfside Raceplace facility on the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

— Ken Leighton

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Bush, Chad Deal, Dave Good, Andrew Hamlin, Dryw Keltz, Ken Leighton, Jay Allen Sanford

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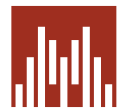
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<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 3 MONARCH • COLOR • AGE OPERATION MINDBLOW LIGHTS DJ LEXICON DEVIL</p> <p>THURSDAY • JAN 4 TSOL • LOVE CANAL AUTHENTIC SELLOUT AUDIO ADDICTION</p> <p>FRIDAY • JAN 5 CASBAH 29 YEAR ANNIVERSARY THE LITTLE RICHARDS DEADBOLT • THE BASSICS</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 6 PETTY - A TRIBUTE TO TOM PETTY</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 7 AJ FROMAN • BOYCHICK COLOR TIL MONDAY</p> <p>MONDAY • JAN 8 DAVID BOWIE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION DJ'S CLAIRE • PAT & LETY VAUGHN AVAKIAN MAZEE + PERFORMANCE BY ARIEL LEVINE - FREE</p> <p>TUESDAY • JAN 9 SUZANNE SANTO OF HONEYHONEY</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 10 THE OXEN • POKETHOLE SWEET MYTHS</p>	<p>THE Casbah</p> <p>COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • casbahmusic.com</p> <p>THURSDAY • JAN 11 EGYPTIAN ACID ROCK STONE HORSE • XIV</p> <p>FRIDAY • JAN 12 DIRTY SWEET HAMMERED SATIN DJ MARIO RUBALCABA</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 13 RED AUNTS • THE GOLDETTES</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 14 LUNA</p> <p>TUESDAY • JAN 16 BUCK O NINE MUSTARD PLUG THE LEXICONS</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 17 THE FLESH EATERS SEAN WHEELER</p> <p>THURSDAY • JAN 18 SURFER BLOOD TERRY MALTS</p>	<p>FRIDAY • JAN 19 SOUND DIEGO PRESENTS THE MAGNIFICENT THEE ALLYRGIC REACTION BAD KIDS</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 20 GET BACK LORETTA</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 21 BODY/HEAD FEATURING KIM GORDON/BILL NACE STEVE GUNN</p> <p>MONDAY • JAN 22 QUEL BORDEL • BJ JEZBERA FOLK HOGAN • FORKROOT</p> <p>TUESDAY • JAN 23 POND</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 24 JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD</p> <p>THURSDAY • JAN 25 THE DEEP DARK WOODS</p> <p>FRIDAY • JAN 26 TAKEN BY CANADIANS CREATURE AND THE WOODS BAD VIBES</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 28 FLAMINGOSIS</p> <p>MONDAY • JAN 29 TUESDAY • JAN 30 WEDNESDAY • JAN 31 PINBACK</p>
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MUSIC BOX



FRIDAY

**KELLY MCGARRY PRESENTS
OCEANS** (PEARL JAM TRIBUTE)
A PERFECT TOOL
SMACK THIS, TOWNSHIP REBELLION

**JAN
05**



SATURDAY

**THE WINEHOUSE
EXPERIENCE**
AMY WINEHOUSE TRIBUTE

**JAN
06**



FRIDAY

DESERT DWELLERS
KAMINANDA, LIQUID BLOOM
TREVOR MOONTRIBE AND
DELA MOONTRIBE

**JAN
12**



SATURDAY

FUNK SOUL SOCIAL
FT. QUEENS OF SOUL REVUE
THE ROUTINE, ELEKTRIC VOODOO

**JAN
13**



SUNDAY

TOM GUN LIVE!
THE ULTIMATE HOMAGE TO TOM CRUISE

**JAN
14**



SATURDAY

ILL NICKY
RISTON DIGGS, ALIEN FAM
MIKEY CEASER

**JAN
20**



FRIDAY

STEPPING FEET
DAVE MATTHEWS EXPERIENCE
SUPERUNLOADER

**JAN
26**



SATURDAY

**IGOR STRAVINSKY:
LE SACREN DE PRINTEMPS**
(THE RITE OF SPRING)

**JAN
27**

JUST ADDED

**Bermuda Triangle ft. Brittany Howard (Alabama Shakes),
Becca Mancari, Jesse Lafser 2/5 - pre-sale 1/4**

COMING SOON

1/28 Lee "Scratch" Perry and Subatomic Sound System	2/24 The Aggrolites feat. Slightly Stoopid Horns	3/16 Morgan Leigh Band w/ The Delta Saints and Electric Mud
1/31 Gilberto Santa Rosa	2/25 Enter Shikari	3/17 DSB (Journey tribute)
2/2 Kristin Chenoweth	2/27 Real Estate	3/23 RJD2
2/3 Rebel SoulJahz	2/28 Burger A-Go-Go feat. Dengue Fever	3/24 Los Pericos
2/9 Ooklah the Moc	3/1 Suicide Girls: Blackheart Burlesque	3/29 Declan McKenna
2/10 Typhoon	3/2 Langhorne Slim w/ special guest Twain	3/30 Whiskey Myers
2/15 Yacht Rock Revue	3/7 K. Michelle	3/31 The Oh Hellos
2/16 Como La Flor (Selena Tribute)	3/9 Talib Kweli	4/6 Autograf
2/17 Dorothy	3/10 Billie Eilish - Sold Out!	4/20 Big K.R.I.T.
2/18 Lotus	3/15 Emancipator Ensemble	5/9 The Weepies Hideaway 10 Year Anniversary Tour
2/21 Julian Lage Trio (An Evening With) - seated show		5/11 Echosmith

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A.J. CROCE

W/ LISA SANDERS
WEDNESDAY 1/3



ALIKA & QUINTO SOL

W/ SM FAMILIA AND DJ STEPWISE
THURSDAY 1/4



KI

W/ LOS BEAUTIFUL BEAST, AVIATOR STASH
FRIDAY 1/5



**BILLY JOEL TRIBUTE
THE STRANGER**

W/ GRACEBAND (ELVIS TRIBUTE)
SATURDAY 1/6



THE PALADINS

W/ RICK ESTRIN AND THE NIGHTCATS
SUNDAY 1/7



DAVID LINDLEY

W/ GREGORY PAGE
TUESDAY 1/9



**SCOTTY CLAYTON'S BIRTHDAY
SIMPKIN PROJECT**

W/ NEW LEAF, SHOCKS OF MIGHTY
WEDNESDAY 1/10



**EASY WIND:
GRATEFUL DEAD TRIBUTE**

W/ BACK TO THE GARDEN (C,S,&N TRIBUTE)
THURSDAY 1/11



**KARL DENSON'S TINY
UNIVERSE**

W/ ORGAN FREEMAN
FRIDAY 1/12



**TOMMY CASTRO AND
THE PAINKILLERS**

W/ HAMISH ANDERSON
SATURDAY 1/13



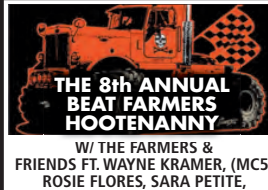
**JOSH RITTER
& THE ROYAL CITY BAND**

W/ NICKI BLUHM
TUESDAY 1/16



MYKAL ROSE

W/ BLAINE MAZZETTI AND
THE ORIGINATORS
FRIDAY 1/19



**THE 8th ANNUAL
BEAT FARMERS
HOOTENANNY**

W/ THE FARMERS &
FRIENDS FT. WAYNE KRAMER, (MC5)
ROSIE FLORES, SARA PETITE,
JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS
SATURDAY 1/20



**TY SEGALL &
THE FREEDOM BAND**

WEDNESDAY 1/24



JOHNNY A

W/ JIMMY WOODWARD
THURSDAY 1/25

**JUST
ADDED!**

Paul Thorn 7/15

Upcoming Shows:

1/5 Atomic Groove Happy Hour	2/14 Lettuce & The Motet @ Observatory	3/16 The Infamous Stringdusters
1/15 Kris Kristofferson - Sold Out!	2/16 & 17 The English Beat	3/17 Beatles vs. Stones ft. Abbey Road & Jumping Jack Flash
1/17 Benefit Concert w/ Burt Bacharach and friends - Sold Out!	2/18 Betamaxx Presidents' Weekend Flashback Party	3/18 Walter Trout
1/18 Al Stewart - Sold Out!	2/19 Mike Gordon	3/22 Phillip Philips
1/19 The White Buffalo @ Observatory	2/20 Shovels & Rope	3/23 Phillip Philips - Sold Out!
2/23 Bahamas	2/22 The Wood Brothers	3/23 The Main Squeeze @ Casbah
2/24 Steve Poltz 9th Annual 50th Birthday Party	2/23 Bahamas	3/24 Brett Dennen
2/25 Herb Alpert and Lani Hall	2/24 Steve Poltz 9th Annual 50th Birthday Party	3/29 Galactic
2/26 Snarky Puppy	2/25 Herb Alpert and Lani Hall	4/3 Arlo Guthrie: The Re:Generation Tour
2/27 Burger A-Go-Go ft. The Coathangers	2/26 Snarky Puppy	4/4 Brian Fallon & The Howling Weather
2/28 Spafford	2/27 Burger A-Go-Go ft. The Coathangers	4/7 Jefferson Starship
3/1 They Might Be Giants	2/28 Spafford	4/12 Elephant Revival
3/2 Margo Price	3/1 They Might Be Giants	4/20 & 21 Super Diamond
3/3 Anderson East	3/2 Margo Price	4/22 Los Lonely Boys
3/4 Stone Temple Pilots @ Observatory - Sold Out!	3/3 Anderson East	5/3 Baths
3/7 Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band - Sold Out!	3/4 Stone Temple Pilots @ Observatory - Sold Out!	5/6 Keb' Mo' - Sold Out!
3/8 Antibalas	3/7 Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band - Sold Out!	5/7 Keb' Mo'
3/9 Dead Man's Party	3/8 Antibalas	5/14 Nada Surf
3/15 Rachael Yamagata	3/9 Dead Man's Party	5/17 Pedro The Lion
	3/15 Rachael Yamagata	5/28 Madeleine Peyroux

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JUST ANNOUNCED

One of the strangest things you can do with music, among the most feel-good notions ever concocted by humankind, is to make it depressing. Even the blues manages

to celebrate rising above, or at least toughing it through, life's most adverse happenstances and hardships. Then came goth and, later, an endless array of bleak, nihilistic subgenres that all share the same hopeless world view: everything sucks, and here's why. L.A. trio **Glaare** embraces the same dark muse that haunts the grooves of Joy Division, the Cure, Zola Jesus, and all the other inward-obsessed oracles of depression, but in a reverb-heavy post-punk context that adds a welcome edge to the usual female-fronted shoegazers they're compared with. And by reverb, I mean aggressive, just drenched in echoes that vibrate your eardrums like something recorded by Portishead on Xanax, but listened to on LSD. Psychedelic shoegaze, forever turning them from dream pop to something more akin to a fever dream. The band greatly benefits from Rachael Pierce's powerful vocals, which somehow manage to rise above the razor-like guitar riffs that drive their new single "Desiree," from their debut full-length *To Deaf and Day*, which dropped in October. Their appearance at Blonde



GLAARE AT BLONDE BAR ON JANUARY 21

You don't hear so much about harmonious brothers with over a decade of increasingly successful collaborations under their belt,

but that's the situation that Spence and Shannon Koehler find themselves in with their San Francisco-based blues rock band the **Stone Foxes**. Their bond has only been strengthened by Shannon's health problems, which so far have included nearly a dozen heart surgeries. A self-titled debut earned little notice, but a followup in 2010, *Bears & Bulls*, scored a couple of minor hits with "Mr. Hangman" and "Stomp." Most of us got our first earful of the group's blend of Southern rock and blues when their screeching version of Slim Harpo's "I'm a King Bee" was heard in a prolific Jack Daniel's commercial (the one with a glowing white super-bee zooming into a whiskey bottle). The online chatter really began to build over the year or so it took to release the tracks comprising their fourth album, *Twelve Spells*. By putting out one free song per month and then compiling them along with concert and bonus material in August 2015, they



YACHT ROCK REVUE AT MUSIC BOX ON FEBRUARY 15

baffling line between tribute and parody. No 1970s soft-rock act is safe from their setlist, from the worst of Michael McDonald to the best of Steely Dan, all presented as a vaudevillian late-night TV commercial for some half-remembered K-Tel compilation. The genius of the production is its ability to capitalize on the way classic-rock programming, from radio to satellite stations and retro movie soundtracks, has made that music part of the DNA of multiple generations, earning the band a fan base of Deadheadian devotion that calls itself the Nation of Smooth. We tried to find out if Yacht Rock Revue will be performing one of their entire-album shows at the Music Box on February 15, since past SoCal gigs at the Belly Up and elsewhere have found them tackling everything from

Thriller to *Dark Side of the Moon* and *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*. The only reply we received was a set of links to YouTube clips featuring occasions where the band has been joined onstage by Gary Wright (of "Dream Weaver" fame), Robbie Dupree ("Steal Away"), and John Oates of Hall and Oates. That could mean attendees will be treated to a special guest star, or it could just as likely refer to a new mashup or even a planned "battle of the bands," where the group pits songs against each other as audience-fueled battle royales. Whatever they have in mind should be a lot more fun than anything else you're likely to find in Little Italy on a Thursday night.

Inspired by socially conscious afrobeat collectives like Fela Kuti, Brooklyn's 12-piece **Antibalas** modernizes that evergreen sound with touches of electronic, dub, and hip-hop beats that blend seamlessly with vintage funk grooves. They've only released a half dozen albums since forming in 1998, along with a handful of EPs and singles, but they've maintained a perpetual presence on the road as both headliner and opening act. They're celebrating their 20th anniversary with a tour that hits the Belly Up on March 8, where you can expect them to showcase their first album in five years, *Where the Gods Are in Peace*, released via Daptone in September. It's



ANTIBALAS AT BELLY UP ON MARCH 8

a typically politically charged record that kicks right off with a scathing condemnation of America's treatment of Native American races, "Gold Rush," with singer Duke Amayo shouting down a checklist of decimated or destroyed tribes. There's also a 15-minute suite called "Tombstown" that seems almost Pink Floydian in both conception and scope, recounting the tale of an idyllic island of 1800s-era refugees from America who've abandoned the political division, corruption, and exploitation of their forsaken homeland in favor of utopian cooperation and cohabitation. It's a somewhat simple-minded narrative — imagine Canada as if founded on *Gilligan's Island* — that will surely play a lot more epic as performed live on the Solana Beach stage.

"Although not as well-known on the West Coast, especially Southern California, as they are in many places, **the Mammals** have been especially big in the world of festivals," says AMSDconcerts honcho Carey Driscoll of his newest booking. The quintet from New York's Hudson Valley struck sonic gold with a repertoire of originals mined from the same vein tapped by revivalists such as the Lumineers and Fiction Family who've opened up the charts to last-century



THE MAMMALS AT AMSDCONCERTS ON MARCH 9

sounds that were once the sole province of long-gone legends Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, and Johnny Cash. The Mammals's March 9 appearance at the National City venue (currently housed in the Sweetwater High auditorium) will be the band's first U.S. headlining gig south of San Juan Capistrano.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find JUST ANNOUNCED online at SDReader.com/music



STONE FOXES AT CASBAH ON FEBRUARY 1

Bar on January 21 will be preceded by openers Hexa, an electronic pop project featuring Carrie Gillespie Feller, who in the past three years has also launched bands Pleasure Model (with No Knife's Mitch Wilson), Hours (with husband Scott Feller), and, recently, Possible Man with a Possible Gun.

The history of rock and roll is full of feuding siblings, from Ray and Dave Davies up through Liam and Noel Gallagher and San Diego's own Collage Menage twins, Hans and Fritz Jensen, who seem to have parted ways after a quarter century of gigging together.

managed to keep their name in the blogs during the whole two years they spent touring in support of the record. The Stone Foxes recently resurfaced with a couple of new singles, "Broken" and "Fight," from a reportedly back-to-basics EP titled *Visalia* that they'll be plugging at the Casbah on February 1.

What do you get when you cross *SNL*'s original Not Ready for Prime Time Players with the Black Lips? Probably something a lot like **Yacht Rock Revue**, best described as the musical equivalent of TV's *The Orville*, straddling an often

High standards set in 2017

There were a few performances of note from 2017 that we will now revisit in a mood of celebration as we enter 2018. I have four concerts in mind that were the peaks of San Diego's classical music trek. They are in chronological order:

Verdi's *Requiem* will always be a pinnacle so long as singers have breath with which to sing. The La Jolla Symphony and Chorus put on a performance of the Italian masterpiece on March 18, which expressed the heart of the composition. What is the heart of Verdi's *Requiem*? "*Libera me.*" Deliver me. And deliver, the La Jolla Symphony did. The legend of music director Steven Schick continues to grow.

The following weekend was Bruckner *Symphony No.*

8 at the San Diego Symphony. This was not only a jewel in the crown of 2017, it was the crowning accomplishment of Jahja Ling's tenure as music director of the San Diego Symphony. There were some patrons who left in the middle of the performance. To my mind, that confirms the stature of this concert. There are those who can drink from the Brucknerian firehose and those who can't.

On May 20, the San Diego Symphony gave the best concert I have ever heard them give. The conductor was Charles Dutoit. The program consisted of four pieces and each of the four set a new standard for the orchestra. The performance featured a mid-concert standing ovation for the orchestra after

Stravinsky's *Petrushka*. The concert included music by Beethoven and Mozart. The perfection of style that the orchestra displayed under Dutoit's leadership is now the standard for all future performances of those composers.

The Mainly Mozart Festival will almost always have a concert that is a peak in the classical year. There is no way for that orchestra to not be sublime, so when the stars align at the Balboa Theatre there's magic. We might expect the composer providing the magic to be Mozart, but that's not always the case. Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony*, from June 18, might have been the best moment of the entire year. Conductor Michael Francis was in his third year as music



Anton Bruckner: Drink from the firehose, bitches.

director for the festival. He and the orchestra are coming together as a formidable unit.

Here's hoping that in 2018 classical music in San Diego lives up to, maybe exceeds, the standards it set in 2017.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

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

710 Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Liquid Courage Karaoke.

Friday, 9pm — Johnny Love and Tape Heads.

Air Conditioned Lounge:

Thursday, 9pm — Eliasar Gordillo.

Tuesday, 9pm — DJ Swaygo.
Wednesday, 9pm — DJ Tramlife.
Free.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Thursday, 7:30pm, Saturday, 7:30pm, Sunday, 7:30pm — SoundOn Festival of Modern Music: Voyages. \$10-\$25.

Monday, 7:30pm — QuinTexas Quintet. \$40-\$45. CANCELED.

Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 6pm — Resurrection Radio.

Saturday, 6pm — End Castle.

BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Friday, 6pm — Classic Buzz Band.

Saturday, 6pm — Street Heart.

Bancroft:

Saturday, 8pm — Namazu and Beria.

Monday, 8pm — Scenic Byway.

Bang Bang:

Friday, 9pm — Ardalán B2B Worthy.

Saturday, 8pm — Late Night Jackin'.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Alika. \$15-\$27.

Friday, 8pm — KI and Los Beautiful Beast. \$10-\$12.

Saturday, 9pm — The Stranger and Graceband. \$18-\$32.

Sunday, 8pm — The Paladins. \$20-\$35.

Tuesday, 8pm — David Lindley and Gregory Page. \$20-\$22.

Wednesday, 8pm — New Leaf and Shocks of Mighty. \$11-\$20.

Black Plague Brewing:

Friday, 7pm — Flipside Burners.
Free.

Bourre Southern Bistro:

Thursday, 7pm — First Thursday Jazz Jam. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Saturday, 7pm — Iron Maidens.

Casbah:

Friday, 8pm — T.S.O.L. and Love Canal. \$20.

Friday, 8pm — Deadbolt and the Little Richards. \$5.

Saturday, 8pm — Petty Jam. \$10.

Sunday, 8pm — AJ Froman and Boychick. \$6.

Monday, 8pm — David Bowie Birthday Bash. Free.

Tuesday, 8pm — Suzanne Santo and Mapache. \$12-\$14.

Wednesday, 8pm — The Oxen. \$6.

Club M:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dueling Pianos. Free.

Donna Jean:

Sunday, 10am — Tinkersmith.
Free.

Field Irish Pub and Restaurant:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Miss Demeanor.

Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen:

Friday, 1pm — Blues Jam.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, 5:30pm — Lenore

Raphael, Rob Thorsen & Duncan Moore. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, 8pm — Willie Nelson & Family. \$65-\$458.

Helmuth Projects:

Sunday, 2pm — Slow Death III: A Noise Music Festival. \$8.

House of Blues:

Friday, 7pm — DJ Quik and Warren G. \$25-\$75.

Saturday, 7pm — Damage Inc and Epic. \$15-\$25.

Monday, 7pm — Milky Chance and Lewis Capaldi. \$35-\$55.

Tuesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Wednesday, 7pm — Cadillac Wreckers. \$5.

Java Joe's:

Saturday, 8pm — Robin Henkel & Anna Troy.

Kraken:

Sunday, 7pm — Flipside Burners.
Free.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Justin Newman.

Friday, 6pm — Los Reyes.

Saturday, 6pm — Roman Palacios.

Monday, 6pm — Oscar Aragon.

Tuesday, 6pm — Lisa Campbell.

Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.

Legacy Brewing Co.:

Saturday, 2pm — Gino & the Lone Gunmen.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Natural Selection.
Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Scooter Brown Band.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Grand Canyon Sundown.

Friday, 8:30pm — Kimmie Bitter & the Night Howls.

Saturday, 4pm — Serena Geroy.

Saturday, 8:30pm — Miss Demeanor.

Music Box:

Friday, 7:30pm — Alice Un-Chaind and A Perfect Tool.

Saturday, 8:30pm — Miss Demeanor. \$5.

Saturday, 7pm — The Winehouse Experience. \$20-\$22.

Observatory North Park:

Saturday, 8pm — Sweet & Tender Hooligans.

Omnia San Diego:

Friday, 9:30pm — Jack Novak.
Free.

Saturday, 9:30pm — WeAreTreo.
Free.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Saturday, 9pm — The Sleepwalkers.

Skyline Hills Branch Library:

Tuesday, 4pm — Sean Gaskell.
Free.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Major Threat. \$10.

Friday, 8pm — Black Sabbath. \$12.

Saturday, 8pm — Mrs. Magician and Crutch. \$12.

Sunday, 8pm — WENS and Shydoll. \$10.

Monday, 8pm — Pumphouse and Pocket Hole. \$6.

Tuesday, 8pm — Naiveté. Free.

Wednesday, 8:30pm — Veronica May and Sarah Rogo. \$6.

Space Bar:

Saturday, 9pm — Hide and Go Freak. \$15-\$20.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:

Sunday, 2pm — Raúl Prieto Ramírez.

Til-Two:

Saturday, 9pm — Sameland and Midnight Track.

Tower Bar:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Oceanside Sound System and Mochilero All Stars. \$7.

Winstons Beach Club:

Saturday, 8pm — Action Andy & the Hi-Tones.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Europa Galante: Vivaldi, the Farewell Concerti After years in Venice and great success, Vivaldi goes to Vienna for a new start, hoping for patronage. Tragically, he is cut off both by his intended patron's death—and then his own. Hear both the master's final violin and strings concerti as well as rarely heard works by some of his competitors, Galuppi, Reutter, Holzbauer, and Reinhardt. They will be performed by Europa Galante under the direction of violinist Fabio Biondi. Sunday, January 7, 7:30pm; \$10-\$50. St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect Street.

Igor Levit Winner of Gramophone's 2016 Recording of the Year and one of the most sought-after young artists of this generation, Russian pianist Igor Levit brings a program featuring diverse works that include Brahms' virtuosic Chaconne in D Minor for the Left Hand (after Bach's Partita for Solo Violin, BWV 1004), Wagner's Solemn March to The Holy Grail transcribed from his opera, Parsifal and Shostakovich's Preludes

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Tito Minott

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Sat Jan 6
Ghost Party, Manganista
Action Andy & The Hi-Tones

Sun Jan 7
Girls Night Out
(2 shows 5pm & 7pm)
OBOKE Karaoke, Jose Sinatra

Mon Jan 8
Electric Waste Band

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and Fugues for Piano. Sunday, January 7, 6pm; Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute, 10620 John Jay Hopkins Drive.

Raúl Prieto Ramírez Sunday, January 7, 2pm; Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 1549 El Prado.

UPCOMING SHOWS

83 Degrees:

January 17 — Ben Powell
January 24 — Nathan James
January 31 — Billy Watson

AMSdconcerts:

January 12 — Ramblin' Jack Elliott and Peter Rowan
January 13 — The Subdudes

The Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:
January 22 — Mingus Dynasty: Tijuana Moods

Aztec Brewing Company:
January 13 — Milk Money

BNS Brewing & Distilling:
January 12 — Ass Pocket
Whiskey Fellas
January 13 — 8 East Band

The Bancroft:
January 12 — Ol' Fashion Depot and Reverie Noise
January 13 — Street Cleaner and FaceXHugger

Bang Bang:
January 12 — Wongo
January 13 — Codes

Belly Up Tavern:
January 11 — Easy Wind and Back to the Garden
January 12 — Karl Denson's

Tiny Universe
January 13 — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters:
January 13 — Robin Henkel

Black Cat Bar:
January 11 — Uptown Rhythm Makers
January 12 — Gary Wilson and Beehive & the Barracudas

Blonde Bar:
January 21 — Glaare

Bourre Southern Bistro:
January 13 — Bobby Simmons

Bread & Salt:
January 11 — Fresh Sound: Percussion Lovefest
January 12 — Silent and Possible Man With Possible Gun

Brick by Brick:
January 11 — White Wizzard
January 13 — Fates Warning
January 14 — Demun Jones

The Casbah:
January 11 — Egyptian Acid Rock

January 12 — Dirty Sweet and Hammered Satin
January 13 — Red Aunts
January 14 — Luna

The Coyote Bar & Grill:
January 14 — Flipside Burners

De Oro Mine Co:
January 12 — King Taylor Project

Encinitas Library:
January 12 — Joe Garrison & Night People: Broken Jar

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:
January 12 — Mary Fetting Trio

! OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

It was a dark month, October. When reports of Tom Petty's sudden death got leaked by the press, the loss felt personal. In the minutes and days and weeks to follow, Swiss psychiatrist Elizabeth Kübler-Ross's five stages of grief were in play all over social media: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and, finally, acceptance that the rock icon was gone at the age of 66. Who among us in Del Mar in September, at what would ultimately be among the last of the Heartbreaker's gigs didn't think the man, and his band, had miles to go? That's not how it played out.

And so now come the Heartbreaker tributes, of which I am generally not a fan. But, acceptance, right? Not to mention, the artists

involved in this particular gig are first-call hometown players. There's ex-pro skater-turned-drummer Mario Rubalcaba. He's a veteran of Rocket from the Crypt, Hot Snakes, and Off! (fronted by Keith Morris of Black Flag and Circle Jerks fame). Next is Chris Torres, who played bass and sang in an intense but short-lived local band named the Grass Heat. Ben Moore's in there, a record producer and a keyboardist whose gifts sparked up the Styletones and Pocket, among others.

Timothy Joseph from Buckfast Superbee and the Palace Ballroom is on guitars in this Petty tribute, possibly covering Mike Campbell's role. Dunno. It could go either way, Petty or Campbell. TJ's got chops enough. Then, there's Andrew McKeag, likewise on guitars and vox. He was a member of Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver and the Presidents of the United States of America. McKeag lives here now and subs in Lady Dottie and the Diamonds and



TOM PETTY AND THE HEARTBREAKERS

Dirty Sweet. And he has his own trio as well, a covers-originals hard-rocking band that books around town. What we've got here is a local supergroup. I'd want to hear them whether or not they played Heartbreakers covers.

PETTY: A Tribute to Tom Petty, Saturday, January 6, Casbah, 619-232-HELL, 8:30 p.m., \$10/\$12

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

House of Blues:
January 11 — Steel Panther
January 12 — Electric Mud and Broken Stems

La Valencia Hotel:
January 11 — Keni Yarbrow
January 12 — Los Reyes
January 13 — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds

Lestat's Coffee House:
January 28 — Robin Henkel Band

January 28 — Robin Henkel Band

The Loft:
January 11 — Berhana and Kyle Dion
January 25 — Liz Vice

Main Tap Tavern:
January 13 — Miss Demeanor

Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD:
January 31 — Roland Auzet
February 2 — Michael Pisaro

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
January 11 — Mark Winkler & Cheryl Bentyne
January 18 — Rayvon Owen
January 25 — Bria and Chrissy

The Merrow:
January 16 — Cherry Road

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:
January 12 — Still Around
January 19 — Safety Orange

Moonlight Amphitheatre in Brengle Terrace Park:
February 10 — Lucie Arnaz

Moonshine Beach:
January 19, January 20 — The Matte Gray Band
February 9 — Brandon Lay

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
January 20 — Sonic Tonic and Kes O'Hara
February 3 — Sonic Tonic and Kes O'Hara

Museum of Making Music:
February 1 — Muriel Anderson

Music Box:
January 12 — Desert Dwellers and Kaminanda
January 13 — Queens of Soul Revue and the Routine
January 14 — Tom Gun Live
January 20 — iLL Nicky
January 26 — Stepping Feet
January 28 — Lee "Scratch" Perry and Subatomic Sound System
January 31 — Gilberto Santa Rosa
February 2 — Kristin Chenoweth
February 3 — Rebel Souljahz
February 9 — Oolah the Moc
February 10 — Typhoon

Navajo Live:
January 21 — The Innocent Bystanders and Limited Jurisdiction

Observatory North Park:
January 13 — K.Flay

Omnia San Diego:
January 12 — DVBS
January 13 — Eric Dlux
January 14 — Griffin DJ Set

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
January 12, January 13 — Fab Four

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:
January 13 — Ken Lehnig
January 27 — Nathan James & Sharifah Muhammad

The Pour House:
January 13 — Roman Watchdogs and Making Incredible Time
January 19 — Flipside Burners

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:
January 14, January 28 — Big Band Sundays!

Ruocco Park:
January 13 — Multi-Cultural Festival

San Diego Art Institute:
January 30 — Art of Élan: The Ecology of Sound

San Diego Museum of Art:
January 12 — Art of Élan Pop-Up Concert
February 2 — Art of Élan Pop-Up Concert

Soda Bar:
January 11 — TV Girl
January 13 — The Generators and Rat City Riot
January 14 — Pkew Pkew Pkew and Daydream

Soma:
January 30 — Anti-Flag and Stray From the Path

Spin Nightclub:
February 3 — Destructo

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas:
January 19 — The Hutchins Consort: Bach & Rock

St. Mark's United Methodist Church:
January 14 — Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir

Sycamore Den:
January 14 — The Big Decisions

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:
January 14, January 15 — The O'Jays

Tio Leo's:
January 13 — Fuzzy Rankins

Winstons Beach Club:
January 14 — The Innocent Bystanders

BRICK BY BRICK CONCERT CALENDAR

VIEW ALL UPCOMING SHOWS AT BRICKBYBRICK.COM

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ALIEN SATAN, MELTDOWN
FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 8PM | \$10 ADV & \$12 DOS | 21+

SKINLAB

PISSING RAZORS, SHATTERED SUN, AGHORI
THURSDAY JANUARY 25, 8PM | \$15 ADV & \$18 DOS | 21+

HAMMERFALL

CAGE, BATTLEFRONT, NIGHTSHADOW
FRIDAY JANUARY 26, 7PM | \$30 ADV & \$35 DOS | 21+

CONVERGE

SUMAC, CULT LEADER, FIREBURN
SATURDAY JANUARY 27, 8PM | \$22 ADV & \$25 DOS | 21+

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 WED, JAN 17	 THU, JAN 18
 FRI, JAN 19	 TUE, JAN 23
 FRI, JAN 26	 SAT, JAN 27

MORE UPCOMING SHOWS!

1/28 — REVEREND HORTON HEAT	2/7 — LIGHTS
1/29 — DVSN	2/8 — DON DIABLO
2/1 — PASSION PIT	2/9 — JA RULE & ASHANTI
2/2 — STRFKR	2/11 — 2/15 — CAIFANES
2/6 — MAJID JORDAN	2/14 — LETTUCE

2891 UNIVERSITY AVE. SAN DIEGO, CA | TICKETS AT OBSERVATORYSD.COM
 OBSERVATORYNORTH PARK OBSERVATORYSD

Worship it

No slam-bam and out the door — Hamilton will be here for three weeks.

Hamilton, the Musical is coming! Hamilton is almost here! Beginning January 9, and ending January 28, the most decorated Broadway show in eons will run at the San Diego Civic Theatre.

Lin-Manuel Miranda, genius, based his musical on the life of Alexander Hamilton. A bastard child (“son of a whore and a Scotsman”) and an orphan, he grew up in poverty on St. Croix in the West Indies. Through fierce dedication, he rose from a lowly clerk to a prolific writer, one of the founders of the U.S., and the face on a ten-dollar bill.

He also had a hair-trigger ego. Theodore Roosevelt called him “the most brilliant American statesman who ever lived, possessing the loftiest and keenest intellect of his time.” Woodrow Wilson called him “a very great man, but not a great American.”

Instead of Anglo actors playing Washington, Jefferson, and the others with stern solemnity, Miranda chose a multi-racial cast which sings the story with rap, hip-hop, and jazz. The result’s a maelstrom of ticket sales with no end in sight.

Those who haven’t made a pilgrimage to the Great White Way will finally see/hear what the shouting’s been about.

And they really shout. Theater-savvy friends tremble and beam as they struggle to describe the experience. Then explode: “Greatest show I’ve ever seen — ever!” “You won’t just love it, you’ll worship it!”

Those who say “awesome” don’t count, since almost everything on the planet’s worn that label. (“How’s that languid lentil soup?” “Awesome, dude.”)

Tickets for “premium” seats on Broadway now cost \$849. Regular seating runs from \$179 to \$279. Could it be the Chosen praise it so highly to justify the expense of traveling to New York, food and lodging, and beacoup bucksheesh for tickets? Convince themselves the trek was worth it?

Don’t think so. People who have seen thousands of shows, done live theater, breathe theater, say Hamilton is the zenith of them all.

But this is a “touring show,” a replica, not the original. All elements must be mobile, like a circus. So the set will approximate Broadway’s. Lighting may be a mix of traveling and local elements. The music done with traveling orchestra or a collection of locals? And, most important, the sound. Hamilton is sung-through, with little or no dialogue, and Miranda’s lyrics have been praised beyond measure. They must be clear.

A touring show sets up predictable reactions. The Chosen who saw the original can say “much better in New York; you’re just chugging from a plastic cup.”

The hyper-hype brings pressure from the other side as well, even a built-in bias: “Oh sure, it fooled them, but I’m made of sterner stuff, by jiminy!” And, of course the Perpetual Nay-sayers, who’d

look for fissures in the Holy Grail, will detect egregious errors.

A Tony Award-winning actor once told me, though he certainly appreciates glowing reviews, he doesn’t want them. They bring added pressure to his performance.

THEATER

JEFF SMITH

One aspect in its favor, *Hamilton* will have several preview nights before it opens. Get kinks out. Adjust to the new space. This

is rare. Also, the musical’s no slam-bam and out the door — hit town for six days and scoot. It will be at the Civic Theatre for three weeks.

With so many ecstatic reviews, the production must first break down these barriers before it can work its alleged magic. So, a first-ballot Hall of Fame musical or something for the lesser arcana? Who knows. But it’s exciting to see what the shouting’s been about, if only a glimpse. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Around the World in Eighty Days

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Mark Brown’s theatrical adaptation of the Jules Verne novel. Phileas Fogg circles the globe in a race against time. Five actors play all 42 characters. Allison Bibicoff directs. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM WEDNESDAYS.

Culture Shock Nutcracker

Culture Shock San Diego presents a modern rendition of the family classic, a mash-up of dance genres, theatrical styles, and holiday traditions. Tchaikovsky’s original score is fused with contemporary music and pop-culture references. “For our fifth season, we’ve moved from a hip-hop show to a broader focus. We will continue to use hip-hop and street styles to tell much of the dance portion of the story, but our motivation is pop culture and we’ve added more dance forms.” The show begins with an homage to the musical-theater hit *Beauty and the Beast* with tap, contemporary dance, and popping while referencing everything from *Star Wars* to Bowie’s *Labyrinth*. SPRECKELS THEATRE, 121 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-235-9500. 7PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAY, JAN. 6, 1PM & 6PM SUNDAY, JAN. 7.

Hamilton, The Musical

The multiple Tony Award-winner comes to San Diego. With book, lyrics, and music by Lin-Manuel Miranda, the show follows the life of Alexander Hamilton: an orphan at age 12, then a committed activist for American independence, and by age 19 a Founding Father. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Magic Tree House: Pirates Past Noon Kids

San Diego Junior Theatre stages a “sensory-friendly” adaptation of Mary Pope Osborne’s adventure books from the Magic Tree House book series. Jack and Annie travel to an exotic island with pirates, where the two discover the power of friendship and the simple pleasures in everyday life. The ASL-Interpreted performance is Saturday, January 20 at 2pm. SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO #208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. 7PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.



The Hamilton cast offers no stern solemnity

Mystifique Theater: a Macabre Masquerade

Canyon Crest Academy presents “the wild, wondrous world of Edgar Allan Poe” in a fusion of theatre, puppetry, and music, co-created in collaboration with Canyon Crest students.

CANYON CREST ACADEMY, 5951 VILLAGE CENTER LOOP RD., CARMEL VALLEY. 858-350-0253. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS.

The New One

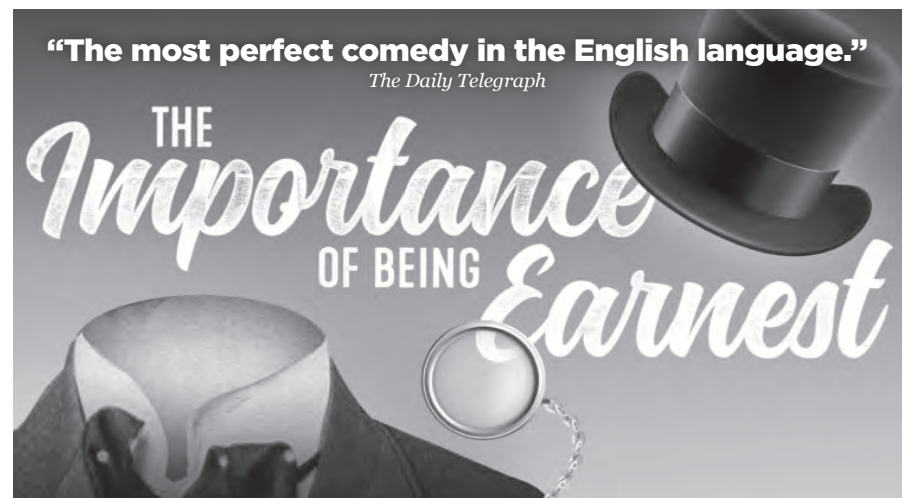
The La Jolla Playhouse hosts a week-long engagement for solo comedian Mike Birbiglia’s latest piece. His other shows include, “Thank God for Jokes” and “My Girlfriend’s Boyfriend,” both filmed for Netflix. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 7:30PM TUESDAY, JAN. 9 & WEDNESDAY, JAN. 10.

New Village Arts: New Play Festival

New Village Arts presents its inaugural festival of new plays “from the local playwrighting community”: *The Velocity of Celebration*, by Dallas McLaughlin; *The Seer & the Witch*, by Jenny Lane; *The Price of Peace*, by Lance Arthur Smith. The festival includes a workshop (“Crafting a Synopsis That Sings with Dramatists’ Guild”) and a panel discussion (“Artistic directors weigh in on producing new work”). For days and times of each, contact the theater. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM, 4PM, & 8PM SATURDAY, JAN. 6.

Who Dunit?! Gaslamp Quarter

Murder Mayhem presents “a scavenger hunt-style murder mystery adventure,” a two-hour tour of several of the Gaslamp Quarter’s most popular destinations. “Hot on the heels of a killer, you will collect virtual clues and



By **Oscar Wilde**
Directed by **Maria Aitken**

January 27 – March 4

Oscar Wilde’s wildly entertaining comedy sparkles with dazzling wordplay and hilariously unlikely situations. This “trivial comedy for serious people” features two carefree bachelors, Jack and Algernon, each with a carefully hidden double life. Silliness ensues with whimsical ingénues, jealous fiancées, indomitable dowagers, and the most famous handbag in theatre history.

Tickets start at \$30

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Calendar THEATER

evidence to solve whodunnit?"
HENRY'S PUB, 618 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-238-2389.
7PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 4:30PM SUNDAYS, 7PM MONDAYS, TUESDAYS, & WEDNESDAYS.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Around the World in Eighty Days

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Mark Brown's theatrical adaptation of the Jules Verne novel. Phileas Fogg circles the globe in a race against time. Five actors play all 42 characters. Allison Bibicoff directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. JANUARY 11 THROUGH FEBRUARY 4.

Building the Wall

Different Stages in association with the Point Loma Playhouse presents the San Diego premiere of Robert Schenkkan's drama "written in direct response to the immigration policies of the Trump administration." In the near future, when a writer interviews the former supervisor of a private prison, "it becomes clear how federal policy has escalated into a terrifying, seemingly inconceivable, yet inevitable, conclusion." Jerry Pilato directs.

POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. JANUARY 20 THROUGH JANUARY 28.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center stages the popular story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, a young prince trapped by the spell of an enchantress. "If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out."

LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. MARCH 3 THROUGH MARCH 18.

Les Miserables

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center states the "epic tale of broken dreams, passion, and redemption, set against a nation in the throes of revolution." Popular songs include: "I Dreamed a Dream," "On My Own," "One Day More," and "Do You Hear the People Sing?"

LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. JANUARY 13 THROUGH JANUARY 28.

Outside Mullingar

In a co-production with Oceanside Theatre Company, Scripps Ranch Theatre stages John Patrick Shanley's rustic comedy about Anthony and Rosemary, lovelorn farmers in rural Ireland. "These hopeless singletons will need to overcome a bitter land feud, familial rivalries, and their own romantic fears to find happiness."

Kathy Brombacher directs. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. JANUARY 19 THROUGH FEBRUARY 18.

CITY LIGHTS

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 25

It was an hour before police called for medical assistance, and an hour and a half before help arrived. He says he was treated for a concussion, broken collar bone, and bruised ribs.

Don Bauder

San Ysidro School District sued (again)

Former superintendent's \$400,000 severance pay
Legal problems continue to mount for the San Ysidro School District over the \$400,000 severance package it gave to former superintendent Julio Fonseca earlier this year.

On December 15, public watchdog group San Diegos for Open Government sued the district, Fonseca, and the board of trustees for violating state meeting laws when it approved the package. It was the third lawsuit filed against the district this year.

Trouble began in Janu-



Julio Fonseca

ary 2015 when the district, at Fonseca's urging, fired Enrique Gonzalez. Gonzalez had allegedly seen Fonseca out on a date with Alexis Rodriguez, a woman who had recently been hired at San Ysidro School District. Gonzalez then discovered that Fonseca had failed to notify the board of their relationship before he lobbied for her employment. Gonzalez was fired. But, before he was, Fonseca and other board members agreed to give him \$113,000 in severance pay.

Fast-forward to September 1 of this year, Fonseca suddenly resigned over a per-

CITY LIGHTS

sonnel issue. On that night, trustees for the district held a closed-door meeting wherein they discussed terminating an employee (read: Fonseca) as well as the approval of a "separation package" with the newly retired superintendent.

At that meeting, trustees approved \$400,000 in severance pay for Fonseca. They did so despite the fact that, according to his employment contract, he was not entitled to severance worth more or equal to 18 months of pay, nor was he entitled to any post-employment health benefits. Despite the restrictions, Fonseca received those benefits and more.

Now, the district is asked to recover that money and bring the matter up again in a public meeting.

Dorian Hargrove

San Diego's Merrill Lynch in trouble

Suspicious transactions
The mammoth brokerage Merrill Lynch, a unit of Bank of America, was slapped on December 21 with several charges of money laundering by the Securities and Exchange Commission. The firm was given cease-and-desist orders by the regulator.

The only office that I could find cited in the 11-page report is one in San Diego.

The SEC notes that a registered broker-dealer is required to file a suspicious activity report on a transaction or pattern of transactions of at least \$5000 that the broker knows or suspects involves funds from illegal activities, is designed to evade money laundering requirements, and has no business or lawful purpose. In a number of instances, Merrill failed to file such reports, says the SEC.

The firm sent its employees a report on what to look for, among them, "wires originating from jurisdictions which had been flagged in relation to black market peso exchange activities"

CITY LIGHTS

and "many funds transfers sent in large, round dollar amounts." Merrill had used a system called "Mantas" for the automated monitoring of retail brokerage accounts "to detect potential money laundering activity," according to the report. But Merrill failed to use Mantas in two high-risk scenarios, and did not investigate certain Mantas reports.

On page 7 of the SEC's cease-and-desist order is the headline, "MERRILL LYNCH DID NOT FILE CERTAIN SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY REPORTS." Below are these words: "As a result of the deficiencies in the [anti-money laundering] policies and procedures identified above, Merrill Lynch failed to file [suspicious activity reports] on suspicious movement of funds through its accounts. For example, from January 1, 2009, to July 1, 2015, in just one Merrill Lynch branch office in San Diego, California, which principally served non-U.S. resident customers, Merrill Lynch failed to file [suspicious activity reports] on numerous suspicious money movements."

The SEC goes on to say that suspicious accounts at the San Diego branch included "patterns of large currency deposits through [automatic teller machines] where there were no apparent [indications] of business operations," and "accounts that engaged in complicated movements of large, even-dollar-denominated funds."

Don Bauder

Chula Vista firefighters get overtime money

City says audits will cover short paychecks
The City of Chula Vista will pay more than \$1 million to settle a lawsuit filed by more than 120 city firefight-



Chula Vista firefighters finally got paid

ers over unpaid overtime pay.

The lawsuit alleges that the city knowingly did not pay non-exempt firefighters overtime pay. The statute of limitations is three years for employees to file complaints over pay.

According to Simon Silva, a deputy city attorney who helped with the case, the city discovered the errant payment structure around 2014 after a random audit by the state pension board. The city, says Silva, also conducted an audit confirming that firefighters were shorted one hour of overtime pay per pay period. It then notified the firefighters' union, prompting the lawsuit.

Dorian Hargrove

Local unemployment keeps dropping

Plunged to 3.3 percent in November

San Diego County non-farm unemployment dropped to 3.3 percent in November from a revised 3.7 percent in October and 4.3 percent a year ago.

The big gainer was retail employment, a seasonal phenomenon. Retail employment rose by 6300. But another sector that should grow in the holidays, drinking and food service, lost 2300 jobs, the largest month-over-month decline.

The county gained 20,800 jobs from a year ago, a gain of 1.4 percent. The highest county rate in November was Bostonia (near El Cajon) at 5.9 percent. Imperial Beach followed at 5.1 percent. The lowest was Del Mar at 0.3 percent.

Don Bauder

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Listless

Looks back over the twisted landscape of 2017. Well, that was weird. Look, if lifelong cinephile Scott Marks can't manage to put together a Top 10 List for this year, I don't see why Matthew "Mr. Middlebrow" Lickona should be expected to come up with one. And really, how could I, what with Mr. Marks seeing at least half of what falls under the *Reader's* critical eye? So instead, here's a list of 18 favorites (as opposed to "bests"), helpfully gathered into groups of three.

MOVIES

1. Art Begins in a Wound. It was a good year for the notion that Happy People Don't Make Art — because they don't need to, you see.

James Franco's *The Disaster Artist* allowed director James Franco to get star James Franco to explore artist James Franco's creative urge stripped of all notions of commercial success or even aesthetic quality, and he didn't even have to play James Franco to do it!

Dave McCary's *Brigsby Bear* gave us a man-child who had a very good reason for his arrested development, and who entered the story that had defined his existence in an effort to deal with what had been done to him. A remarkably tender film.

Aisling Welsh's *Maudie* refused to sentimentalize or sensationalize the twisted frame and constricted world of Canadian folk artist Maud Lewis, and made a quiet case for suffering as the crucible of beauty.

2. Women Against the World. It will be interesting to see how the current Women's Moment in Hollywood plays out in the coming years. In the meantime:

Maudie is already taken, so I'm going to include Darren Aronofsky's *mother!* here, first because of the different sorts of feminine strength displayed by Jennifer Lawrence and Michelle Pfeiffer, and second because it's such a bold articulation of the director's vision as seen through the dynamic of a woman's relationship to her world. Third, because it's kind of crazy.

Greta Gerwig's *Lady Bird* has screenwriter Greta Gerwig's smart take on mother-daughter relations (and other sorts of relations), is elegantly fashioned, and is sweet n' sourly moving. Plus, it stars Saoirse Ronan!

Sean Baker's *The Florida Project* pierced me by again (after *Tangerine*) finding something gorgeous in the gut-

ter, and impressed me with its uncut but thoroughly loving presentation of a child being raised by a slightly older child in tenuous circumstances.

3. Is a documentarian someone who watches nothing but documentaries? This was, by all accounts, an amazing year for documentary films. I have to say "by all accounts" because I seem to have missed most of them.

Hoping to catch up this year and take in *The Work, Faces Places, Rat Film, Last Men in Aleppo, Ex Libris, Dawson City: Frozen Time*, and others. Three I did manage to see and enjoy:

Saul Schwarz and Christina Clusiau's *Trophy* did the work and got the access required to present a properly complicated take on the surprisingly complicated issue of big-game hunting.

Vanessa Gould's *Obit* made the business of documenting the recently deceased for the *New York Times* both fascinating and weirdly exciting. (Deadlines do have a way of adding drama.)

Ryan Soffern's *Finding Oscar* was a powerful portrayal of the painful, protracted quest for justice (as opposed to revenge) in a brutal, unjust world.

4. Don't Be Afraid of the Subtitles. I thought this year's foreign slate was especially strong. Maybe the best stuff I saw this year.

Amat Escalante's *The Untamed* was, in my view, a much sharper treatment of sexual desire than the much-lauded *Call Me by Your Name*. Of course, the latter didn't have tentacles, so the ick factor was much reduced.

Speaking of sharp treatments of sexual desire, John Trengove's *The Wound* has the *cojones* to set its gay love drama within the sort of traditional culture that still links manhood with virility — i.e., procreative force.

Martin Zandlivet's *Land of Mine* reminded us that war may be hell, but it's fought — hopefully — in the service of humanity. And it's in the aftermath that that hope is either realized or abandoned. A bunch of teenaged German POWs are assigned to clear a beach of the mines their army planted there. Roland Møller is outstanding as the poor Danish officer put in charge of the poorer kids.

5. America, this is You. James Mangold's *Logan* gave us a classic Western dressed up like a superhero movie.

Jordan Peele's *Get Out* gave us white America vs. black America



Pennywise the Dancing Clown is not pleased that *It* is #2 on Scott Marks's "must-avoid" list for 2017.

John Lee Hancock's Ray Kroc biopic *The Founder* gave us capitalist America vs. corporate America.

6. Wow. It does a middle-aged critic's heart good to find that his jaw has dropped slightly because of what he's just seen.

Bong Joon-ho's *Okja* was five different film genres roped together and ridden with wild, gleeful abandon in the service of a genuine (if debatable) moral vision. It goes well over the top, but it carried me along with it.

Tarik Saleh's *The Nile Hilton Incident* was a Swedish thriller set in Cairo and based on a true story about a corrupt cop who finds himself compelled to do the right thing for once. Structurally, it's an absolute noir throwback, but the shift in setting and culture makes everything new.

Christopher Nolan's *Dunkirk* actually had me gripping my armrests during the dogfights between Tom Hardy's Spitfire and the enemy's Stuka. He also managed to pack in an impressive amount of felt life for a cerebral film about a multi-part military operation.

— Matthew Lickona

The year in must-avoid movies

Such a monumentally bad year for movies just passed... Will Hollywood studios finally take the hint and look beyond the comic-book rack to find source material? The good news is that for the first time in franchise history, even *Star Wars* is underperforming.

How awful must a film have been to have earned a spot in this year's bottom ten? I'd rather watch a moth's trail of dust after being smashed against a windshield than any of the films

on this list. The only reason *Wonder Woman* didn't make the cut is my strict rule not to include walk-outs. Happy New Year, folks. Here's hoping 2018 gives us something to look at.

10. James Foley's *50 Shades Darker*. Writer E.L. James had better hope that her yente readers never discover internet porn. As for it being darker, given the sparsity of people of color in the cast, they just might as well have called it *Fifty Shades Ofay*. On a high note, after the film's release, the sale of ben wa balls went through the roof.

9. David F. Sandberg's *Annabelle: Creation*. Those yearning for more from this generation's answer to Rod Serling's "Talking Tina" were no doubt disappointed when all the sequel had to show for itself was a nun and a group of orphans trapped in a haunted house. You know you're in trouble when the titular killer playing isn't in the picture for more than ten minutes.

8. João Pedro Rodrigues's *The Ornithologist*. The press kit cries, "This enigmatic and surrealist survival story reimagines the legend of Saint Anthony of Padua through a queer lens." It's more like an exercise in staring at a screen for two hours that couldn't have ended soon enough.

7. Jeffrey Blitz's *Table 19*. A group of wedding crashers wind up seated at the same table. With barely enough structural nutriment to sustain an *SNL* skit, screenwriters (and mumblecore initiators) Jay and Mark Duplass pad a rail-thin premise and call it a feature. One more choice of scripts like this and it'll be time to start seriously questioning Anna Kendrick's sanity.

6. Seth Gordon's *Baywatch*. All that's required of Zac Efron is remedial memorization technique and a willingness to work topless. Frankie and Annette vehicles were tsunamis of veracity and personal artistry compared to this two-hour showcase of boobs, six packs, and wink-wink homoeroticism geared for low-grade morons.

5. Michael Showalter's *The Big Sick*. Further proof of the blurred lines between film and television is this pathos-laden big-screen sitcom from producer and master of the form, Judd Apatow. It always amazes me how people will gladly leave their house and purchase a ticket for something that's beamed into their living rooms on a nightly basis.

4. Jason Hall's *Thank You For Your Service*. One week a firefighter (*Only the Brave*) followed quickly by a chance to cash in on playing a returning vet. It appears Miles Teller's choice of projects has taken a heroic turn for the worse. And in case you didn't know going in, war is bad and it screws people up.

3. Steven Soderbergh's *Logan Lucky*. A band of country set play actors affect bad haircuts and even worse Huckleberry Hound accents in this sneering, shit-kicker caper comedy. Soderbergh does for *Smokey and the Bandit* what he did for *Ocean's 11*. Absolutely nothing.

2. Andy Muschietti's *It*. It's best to add an "Sh" to the title. The most genuine shock of the year came when I glanced at my watch and realized that there was still two hours left to go in this horror snooze. Fright-free to the point it makes *Blair Witch* look like *Repulsion*.

Calendar MOVIES

Verena Paravel's *Caniba*. A cannibal acquitted by reasons of insanity is allowed to move back to Japan where he currently lives with his outstandingly dysfunctional brother. Credit a group of experimental filmmakers operating under the designation the Harvard Sensory Ethnography Lab for this celebration of a slaughterer. It's seldom that a film screened at a local film festival — in this case the San Diego Asian Film Festival — makes, let alone tops, my ten worst list. As a work of documentary storytelling, it's slightly more visually compelling than a colonoscopy. ■

— Scott Marks

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

Aircraft Carrier: Guardians of the Sea 3D 2016. (FLEET SCIENCE CENTER)

All the Money in the World — The most sensational celebrity kidnapping this side of Patty Hearst become this year's most controversial movie. J. Paul Getty (Christopher Plummer) was the richest man that ever lived. What shocked the world more than the actual kidnap-

ping and subsequent unharboring of his grandson's (Charlie Plummer) ear was gramp's famously unfavorable response to the ransom demand of \$17 million. Even with Christopher Plummer's superb job of bottom-of-the-ninth, out-of-the-park pinch-hitting as John Paul Getty, Ridley Scott needed more than just a Kevin Spacey substitute to keep it from drifting off into the land of poor relations. As Fletcher Chance, the ex-CIA operative-turned-paid-fixer who had Getty's ear, Mark Wahlberg's performance is a wooden diving board off which Michelle Williams and Plummer execute faultless gainers. What it packs in performances it lacks in vision. After about an hour, the film begins its flagrant fictionalization of facts for dramatic purposes followed by a slow and steady deceleration into formula and all the money in the world can't save it. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Call Me By Your Name — Director Luca Guadagnino's sunnily seductive ode to *eros* tells the story of a summer romance between 17-year-old Elio (Timothée Chalamet, looking 15) and 24-year-old Oliver (Armie Hammer, looking 30). Or rather, it explores the dynamics between them, operating at a cool remove from its own frank depiction of desperate teenage longing and volcanic sexual passion among brilliant Jewish outsiders in gorgeous Catholic Italy. There are people involved, sure, but the main thing you need to know about them is their wanting and being wanted, so that you may consider what that might mean. (The title is telling on this score.) Elio's dad (Michael Stuhlbarg) is an archaeology professor who swoons over the sensuality of Greek statuary even as his son swoons over Pop's statuesque grad student/house-guest. Mom serves up fresh-squeezed apricot juice, which Oliver guzzles before explaining how we got "apricot" from the Latin *praecocia* — "early ripen." Everyone is terribly sophisticated and sensitive, so the drama surrounding the romance must be mostly self-generated. "Is it better to speak or to die?" Overall, the film throbs with feeling, but the pulse of

felt life is faint. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Coco — Pixar has dealt in the themes of memory and/or family for so long that it's a wonder it took them this long to hit upon The Day of the Dead as a setting. A whole holiday dedicated to honoring and remembering your ancestors, complete with the visual splendor of *ofrendas* covered in flaming orange marigold petals and skeletal *Calaveras* just waiting to be animated. For narrative drive, they've taken a page out of *Ratatouille* and given us a frustrated artist whose family just doesn't understand: 12-year-old Miguel, who longs to play guitar like his hero (and also his hometown's favorite son), Ernesto De La Cruz. Trouble is, he comes from the only family in Mexico that doesn't like music, due to a rascal four generations back who set out to play for the world and never came home. (Thanks for nothing, ancestors.) When Miguel sets out to follow his hero's lead and seize his moment, he winds up further from home than he could have imagined: the realm of the dead. And getting back will mean growing up. Not entirely original, but almost entirely delightful, from the fantastical glowing afterlife to the street-dog sidekick to the surprisingly sharp critique of celebrity culture. Lee Unkrich directs. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Darkest Hour — A cup of weak tea indeed from director Joe Wright, one that sorely needs a shot of something stronger to brace it for the unenviable task of manufacturing drama out of the question of whether Prime Minister Winston Churchill will take Britain into war with Germany or sit down for peace talks with Adolf Hitler. Gary Oldman, visually unrecognizable but vocally present, plays the British Lion as mostly toothless: doddering, doubtful, and deeply dependent on his adoring wife, his sympathetic sovereign, and (oh, the hilarity) his plucky public. Because how else will you know to cheer at the end if the butterfly doesn't emerge from its sarcophagal chrysalis, waving its newfound wings in the morn-

ing air? But it's the script that is the real stinker here, laden with insipid humor ("We're broke," "I'll economize; only four cigars a day"), ginned-up drama (can we possibly sacrifice 4000 soldiers to save 300,000?), and gobs and gobs of painful exposition. Personal exposition, philosophical exposition, political exposition. And yet for all that telling about how it was, the film feels much more like happy fantasy than detailed history, a fond look back on the lead-up to a moment of moral righteousness. 2017. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Downsizing — Director and co-writer Alexander Payne gets Matt Damon to go full Everyman as Paul Safranek, a middle-aged, lower-middle-class white guy who's rightly worried about the future: the world's, sure, but mostly his own, which looks pretty bleak, at least by American Dream standards. When he starts hearing about the economic benefits reaped by downsizing — i.e., getting yourself shrunk down to a few inches tall via a remarkable scientific process — he decides to think small and start a new, more sustainable, and much more comfortable life. Alas for him, it turns out that people are the same whatever their size, the world is always ending, and doing the right thing for the wrong reasons doesn't really help matters much. Payne's brand of prickly humanism is on full display here; he seems to revel in the notion that it's only when we're uncomfortable that we have any chance at being good. That attitude is personified in Ngoc Lan Tran (Hong Chau), a hobbled Vietnamese political dissident who grates against all sorts of polite sensibilities as she goes about making the world a better place. Payne dares you to despise her despite her decency, then complicates matters by making the alternatives to display even more intolerable. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ferdinand — Author Munro Leaf's beloved children's book is a pacifist primer intended to advise kids on how not to follow in the kamikaze footsteps of jingoistic bovines eager to lay down their lives on the field of honor. Disney's 1938

short will forever remain the definitive adaptation, but that wasn't enough to stop the gluttons at 20th Century Fox Animation from blowing it up into a 107 minute holiday blockbuster. If one must expose children to fables in which testosterone-fueled picadors gets their jollies by stabbing animals to death in the name of sport as thousands look on, there isn't a better starting and stopping point than *Ferdinand*. The film is rife with anachronistic pop-culture throwaways. Changing our hero's nickname from "Ferdinand the Pious" to simply "F-Bomb" bombed, but I did have to chuckle when a decumbent nag whinnied, "I've fallen and I can't giddyap!" 2017. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Greatest Showman — Director Michael Gracey sprinkles age-defying pixie dust all over song-and-dance man Hugh Jackman to produce a modern musical version of the PT Barnum story that transforms the Great American Flamflammer into Saint Circus, patron of the outcast and unwanted (but also profitable). It turns out that rounding up freaks and putting them on a stage for the rubes to gawk at isn't exploitation, it's empowerment! (It helps that his freaks here don't seem all that freakish; the Bearded Lady glows with charisma, and everybody's fit enough to dance in the numerous Yes We Can anthems.) Maybe PT goes astray along the way, but that's only because his high-class father-in-law was mean to his dad. Historians now agree that Barnum wasn't the one who said "There's a sucker born every minute," but it's hard to escape the feeling that you're being sold a postivist bill of goods here. Michelle Williams co-stars as Barnum's angelic bride and mother to his moppets, while Zac Efron revels in the role of slumming, starstruck lover. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Lady Bird — There's much to admire in indie darling Greta Gerwig's first solo venture behind the camera, particularly for those willing to overlook colorless screen direction, dialog that thrives on pop culture references, and a pair of running time-padding skits — an anti-abortion pep rally gone wrong and a gym coach assigned to oversee the high school drama club — that play like outtakes from a Christopher Guest satire. Copious critical accolades already abound, but to end the comparisons to *Terms of Endearment* keep you from the picture. (No Kleenex needed.) The raves that bear attention are the ones championing the daughter and mother combatants played by her generation's gift to acting, Saoirse Ronan, and the criminally underused Laurie Metcalf. Their precision-engineered salvos of overlapping dialog are the film's highlights and a sure test of the limits of Dolby Atmos. And kudos to the dizzilying-denominated Beanie Feldstein for her performance as Ronan's brilliant flake of a BFF. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Molly's Game — Word-pusher Aaron Sorkin makes his debut as a director, and whaddya know, he directs a lot like he writes: fast and smooth, bordering on slick. But just bordering, because love demands at least a soupçon of sincerity, and he's found someone to love in Molly Bloom (Jessica Chastain). She's a smart girl who's even tougher than she is smart, who weathers illness, injury, and something that looks a little like injustice in her journey from top-tier skier to poker hostess par excellence to penniless supplicant in the office of a grudgingly sympathetic lawyer (Idris Elba). (He's a strict and attentive dad — almost as strict and attentive as Molly's was — and he's hesitant to dismiss his daughter's admiration

FILM FESTIVALS

BORREGO SPRINGS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs
760-767-4275

Borrego Springs Film Festival A showcase of narrative, documentary, animation, and Latino features and shorts. Films will be screened at the 180-seat Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center, and every show is expected to sell out. Networking events and parties occur at local resorts throughout the weekend. Multi-day passes available. Runs through January 18. **Thursday, January 11, 4:00pm, Friday, January 12, 10:00am, Saturday, January 13, 10:00am, Sunday, January 14, 10:00am, Monday, January 15, 10:00am**

BREAD & SALT

1955 Julian Ave., Logan Heights
619-851-4083

Torse Maryanne Amacher discussion and listening led by Dr. Amy Cimini and Bill Dietz at 5 pm. Screening of *Torse* by Merce Cunningham and Charles Atlas, with music by Amacher, starting at 8:30 pm, followed by a discussion with Cimini and dancer Justin Morrison. **Sunday, January 14, 5:00pm**

CENTRAL LIBRARY

330 Park Bl., East Village
619-236-5800

Unrest The documentary tells the story of 28-year-old Jennifer Brea, who was working on her PhD at Harvard and just months away from getting married when she gets a mysterious fever that leaves her bedridden and looking for answers. Disbelieved by doctors yet determined to live, she turns her camera on

herself and discovers a hidden world of millions confined to their homes and bedrooms by ME/CFS, commonly known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome. Following the screening Dr. Robert Naviaux of UCSD will provide a brief synopsis of the Naviaux Lab's current research. Refreshments will be served. In the Neil Morgan Auditorium. Info: rriggs@ucsd.edu. **Saturday, January 13, 5:00pm**



CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

365 F St., Chula Vista
619-691-5069

Film Forum: Dunkirk Director Christopher Nolan's rousing, boldly experimental spectacle captures the sounds, sights and spirit of the 1940 Battle of Dunkirk. A number of civilian boats set out to rescue 400,000 British/Allied troops trapped on a beach in France. 2017. 106 minutes. PG-13. Sponsored by the Friends of the Chula Vista Library. This program is made possible in part by a grant through the City of Chula Vista Performing and Visual Arts Grant. **Wednesday, January 10, 6:00pm**

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO

4190 Front St., Hillcrest
619-298-9978

Ramallah Concert Daniel Barenboim established the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra with the late Palestinian writer Edward Said to bring together young musicians from across the political divide in the Middle East. Their goal: a better future. Small group discussions during intermission will invite viewers to open new channels of communication between Jews and Arabs. **Sunday, January 14, 2:00pm**

LA PALOMA

471 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas
760-436-7469

Carving a Life Red carpet and screening of inspirational drama romance indie film *Carving a Life*, produced in San Diego. This is the San Diego premier which was released Oct 13 with a limited theatrical release in Hollywood. Meet the cast and crew and walk the red carpet. Followed by Q&A with the filmmakers. A portion of the proceeds donated to Smart Recovery San Diego, a non-profit that offers self-empowering (non 12-step) addiction recovery support meetings in San Diego. **Tuesday, January 9, 6:00pm**

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

1450 El Prado, Balboa Park
619-232-7931

San Diego Museum of Art: Frida A biopic about one of Mexico's most iconic artists. USA, 2002, Rated R. Come dressed as Frida, her contemporaries, or her paintings for this night of events. This screening is presented as part of the Museum's Latin American Film Series, a

selection of five films that bring to life characters, stories, issues, and themes portrayed or evoked in the special exhibition *Modern Masters from Latin America: The Pérez Simón Collection*. Show your O'Alm screening ticket for free museum admission during Art After Hours from 5–8pm The *Frida* film screening starts at 8pm The evening also includes an Art of Elan pop-up concert, 7pm in the galleries. **Friday, January 12, 8:00pm**



TEMPLE EMANU-EL

6299 Capri Dr., Del Cerro

Film Discussion Class: Fill the Void

Director Rama Burshtein's debut film shines a light on the hidden world of the Haredi community in Tel Aviv. This stirring inquiry into women's choice centers on an 18-year-old girl on the threshold of womanhood who is being pressured by her mother to marry her late sister's husband. 2012. 105 minutes. Hebrew with English subtitles. Film discussion class with instructor Ralph DeLauro at College Avenue Center, located at Temple Emanu-El. Sponsored by Jewish Family Service. Members free; all others \$2. Information: 858-637-3270. **Monday, January 15, 1:00pm**

of a woman who's not just driven, but also decent.) It's a showcase role for Chastain — everyone else is just there to influence her environment and then listen to her respond — and she handles her card-happy charges as adroitly as she handles Sorokin's reams of talk. (She even makes the voice-overs feel necessary and worthwhile.) The only thing she can't quite manage is seeming lost, desperate, and vulnerable, which is a bit of a problem here. With Kevin Costner. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Star Wars: The Last Jedi — Many things move quickly in writer-director Rian Johnson's entry into the famous story from a long time ago in a galaxy far, far away: ships zipping through hyperspace, wild horselike critters rampaging through a casino, the droid BB-8 rolling to seemingly anywhere he wants to go. But the film itself lumbers like an AT-AT walker, the sort that once threatened the rebel outpost on the ice planet Hoth — or the sort that here threatens the rebel outpost on the salt planet Crait. As in *The Force Awakens*, the *Star Wars* recombina-tor is in full effect, serving up rejiggered elements aplenty from the original trilogy. The devoted will no doubt be delighted; for the rest, a resigned acceptance may be the safest path to enjoyment. What's new here is that the Force is female — or at least, it's women who shape the story. Bold pilot Poe wants to fight and save the rebellion's last remnant, to the point where he needs regal Vice Admiral Amilyn Holdo to show him what true leadership means. Legendary Jedi Luke wants to avoid another mistake like wayward pupil Kylo Ren, to the point where he needs earnest prodigy Rey to remind him who he is and what he means. Former stormtrooper Finn wants to protect Rey, to the point where he needs spunky maintenance worker Rose Tico to remind him where his duty lies. And over and above all, the gentle guiding governance of Carrie Fisher's Leia Organa. Maybe Kylo Ren's real problem is that Mom wasn't around when he was little? It might help to explain the tantrums and the sulking, and the general desire to imagine himself as the start of something wholly new, unbehalden to what's come before. When the salt settles, we are left with neither triumph nor tragedy; instead, it's one more chapter in the continuing saga, punctuated by a few moments of genuine awe. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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The LOT Liberty Station
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Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

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1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

San Diego Natural History Museum - Kaplan Theater
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

UltraStar Mission Valley
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United Artists Horton Plaza
475 Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

Thor: Ragnarok — Call it The Starkening. After Iron Man's alter ego got neurotic in *Iron Man 3* and morally serious in *Captain America: Civil War*, his spirit of devil-may-care quippiness was forced to roam the MCU, seeking new hosts. And it found some, however unlikely: first a master of Eastern mysticism (*Doctor Strange*), and now a Nordic war deity. Director Taika Waititi's take on the God of Thunder plays a bit like the rock mockumentary *This is Spinal Tap*: it's front-loaded with jokes, built around a severe humbling, and full of silly bombast. (Stonehenge! Asgard! Though he does have an eye for tableau.) Humor

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1025 Tierra del Rey (844-462-7342)

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2170 Coronado Ave (619-423-2727)

NORTH INLAND

Digiplex Poway
13475 Poway Rd ((858) 679-3887)

Digiplex River Village
5256 Mission Road, Bonsall (760-945-1365)

is great — nobody wants Thor and Hulk adopting the dark 'n dour tone of *Batman v. Superman*. But maybe not so great that both story and character should be forced to bend the knee to its whims? (A hammy Jeff Goldblum is a happy exception: his slave-driving showman need be nothing more than a monstrous hoot.) Knee-bending is the ostensible issue here: with Odin's passing, who should ascend the throne? Thor? His older sister Hela, Goddess of Death? None of the above? The story, which is concerned with the foundations of power, demands a reckoning. Instead, the script provides a couple of one-liners. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN

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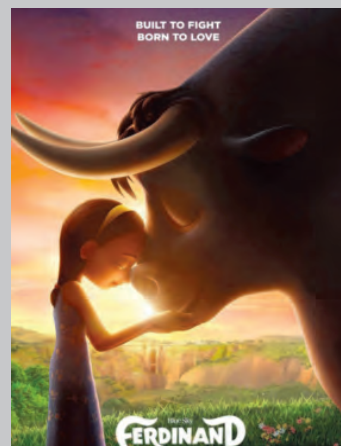
Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri — Writer-director-producer Martin McDonagh's (*Seven Psychopaths*) presents the story of a heartbroken but otherwise rarin' to go woman (Frances McDormand, billy-club blunt) who plasters the titular roadside ads with a direct question to the local police chief: why haven't you caught the guy who raped and killed my daughter? She's gotta do something to stave off the feeling that "there ain't no God and the world's empty and it doesn't matter what we do to each other," and the billboards are close at hand. It doesn't matter that the chief

(Woody Harrelson, laconic) is a good man who is dealing with cancer, or that a violent man-child cop (Sam Rockwell, alarming) is out to stop her. She's suffered to the point where suffering holds no more terror for her. Yessir, shit gets real. Or does it? For starters, McDonagh works way too hard to inject nearly every scene with his patented solution of acid wit and dark-roast comedy: *go ahead, laugh in the face of horror, I dare you*. It's jarringly effective until it starts to feel like shtick, at which point it works only as a numbing agent. For another, his fondness for the outlandish and over-the-top doesn't mesh well with his effort to tease out the ordinary humanity in his creations. And finally, there's a serious over-reliance on coincidence and under-portedray of consequence. Good acting, though. 2017. — M.L. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA; LANDMARK KEN)

Walk With Me — Meditative documentary about a community of Zen Buddhist monks and nuns who have dedicated their lives to mastering the art of mindfulness with their world-famous teacher Thich Nhat Hanh. Marc Francis and Max Pugh direct. 2017. (UNITED ARTISTS HORTON PLAZA)

Wonder — Auggie (Jason Tremblay), a fifth-grader born with severe facial deformities, attends public school for the first time. When handling similar material in *Mask*, Peter Bogdanovich surrounded his lead with a support system that would have made John Ford proud. Writer-director Stephen Chbosky's inspiration apparently came from watching hours of ABC After-school Specials. It's another politically incorrect wonder from Walden Media masquerading as family friendly fare. The investment company that brought us *Parental Guidance* once again proclaims that the best way for a child to deal with bullies is by beating the shit out of them. Were that not disgraceful enough: teachers rightfully discourage impressionable grade-school students from staring at their new classmate, but it's okay to simultaneously sully cinema and set the kids on the road to macular degeneration by showing them a copy of *The Wizard of Oz* in the wrong aspect ratio. With Owen Wilson and Julia Roberts, the latter making a semi-annual bid to keep her name out there. 2017. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

MOVIE SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS AT SDREADER.COM/MOVIES



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REAL ESTATE

Out Of Area

WENDEN, ARIZONA, \$48,500
40 acres of land. Easy access. Electricity and water available. Very good terms by owner. Call 1-888-444-1220.

Miscellaneous

HOTEL OWNER WILL BUY
property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land and notes. Call 619-204-0610, bkr.

ROOMMATES

Central San Diego

SAN DIEGO, \$600-\$750.
Downstairs room \$600, upstairs room \$750, shared bathroom, utilities negotiable, one person per room. Upstairs available now, with new furnishing, downstairs coming soon. Call 858-581-3411.

East County

EL CAJON, \$725
Room for rent in 2BD/2BA, upstairs unit, utilities included. Laundry on site, hardwood floors and new appliances. Street parking or monthly parking fee. Male preferred, available February 1st, call Sarah 619-724-3530.

EL CAJON, \$800.
One bedroom shared bath, senior citizen welcome, no deposit or utilities, no smoking or drugs, room service available, Wifi and kitchen privileges. Call 619-504-7511. Available now.

RENTALS

Commercial Rentals

DOWNTOWN, \$150-650.
Gaslamp creative space! 100-600 sqft. Artists, painters, sculptors, writers, photographers, fiber, design, etc. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 402 Market Street. 619-471-7054 call or text - by appointment only.



DOWNTOWN, \$250-495.
Artist work spaces: Office or work spaces and retail available. 636 C Street, 92101. Inquire inside (C Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www.jspropertymanagement.com.

GASLAMP RESTAURANT SPACE
for lease. Excellent ground level, corner spot. 4300 square feet, \$3 per square foot. 619-471-7054.

Beaches

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1475.

1BD+1BA; large downstairs updated unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry; sparking pool; parking; no pets; available now; 1433 Oliver Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1325.

1BD+1BA unit. Quiet, gated entrance. Ceiling fans, laundry, off-street parking, pool. Building well maintained. No pets. Available now. Call or text 202-851-9478; e-mail akarnazes@gmail.com; www.mpsandiego.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.

1BD+1BA upper and lower units, completely remodeled. Quiet. Wood floors, ceiling fans, microwave, dishwasher, on-site laundry, reserved parking. No pets, nonsmoking. 2006 Diamond Street. Call or text 202-851-9478; e-mail akarnazes@gmail.com; www.mpsandiego.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1600.

1BD+1BA Large, remodeled upper unit 3 blocks to beach. Wood floors, laundry, parking, ceiling fan. No pets. Available now. 1043 Law Street. Call or text 202-851-9478; e-mail akarnazes@gmail.com; www.mpsandiego.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1675.

2BD+1BA; remodeled upstairs unit in East PB; new carpet and blinds; new stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; granite countertops; garage; cat OK with extra deposit; available now; 4552 Bond Street (behind 4548). Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2045.

2BD+2BA; large remodeled unit in the Crown Point area; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; garage space; HUGE private patio; EZ freeway access; no pets; available now; 3711 Ingraham Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

Downtown

DOWNTOWN, \$1050 & UP.

Studio+1BA. Water, trash, gas and electric included! On-site laundry. Street parking. No pets. Near Balboa Park / Hillcrest, 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN, \$1500.

1BD+1BA upstairs unit, 1/2 off 1st month with one-year lease! Newly renovated kitchen. Great floor plan. Coin operated laundry on site. Street parking. No pets. 1747 5th Avenue #34. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN, \$525-655

Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

DOWNTOWN, \$525-880.

Under new management! Renovated, furnished Gaslamp rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Horton Plaza, restaurants, shops and laundry. Cable TV, telephone and utilities included. 720 4th Ave. 619-233-7594.

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3BD+2BA (\$2190) and 2BD+1BA (\$1990) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

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Central San Diego

COLLEGE AREA, \$1395.

1BD+1BA upstairs apartment. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room. No pets. 5275 Monroe Avenue #4. Agent, 619-232-6811.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1500 & UP.

2BD+1BA Extra large, downstairs apartment. Newly renovated. Off-street parking, laundry facilities. Available now. 858-455-5956.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1525.

2BD+2BA apartment. Fireplace. Central heat/ air. Microwave, dishwasher. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. 4828 Art Street #15. Agent: 619-298-7724.

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Old Town & Uptown

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1350.

2BD+2BA upstairs apartment in quiet complex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Small, private patio. Assigned parking in gated garage. Water and trash included. Easy freeway access. No pets. 4416 47th St #7. Call agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1125.

STUDIO+1BA downstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, laundry on site, off-street parking. Water, gas trash included. No pets. 3359 Madison Avenue #14. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK, \$1495.

1BD+1BA spacious downstairs apartment near Morley Field. All appliances. Off-street tandem parking for 2 cars. On-site laundry. No pets. 3711 Arnold Ave. Ask about our move-in special! Agent: 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK, \$1600.

2BD+1BA. Large, upper, newly remodeled apartment. Reserved

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VACATION RENTALS, \$600

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20% Off Any Massage or Body Scrub*

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An Oasis of calm and spiritual well-being. Euphoric sensations. Be dazzled with private matters. Experience balance, nourishment in earth's element. Sublime delight! Blends of styles- Waves of melodies flow through you. Pleasures of warmth, alluring therapies, fingertips massage and holistic spa treatments. Seven days of unending bliss. In/ out calls. Hotel visits. (HHP-0075 CMT-4327). Krizia, 619-298-6661.

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Free Hot Stone

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El Cajon 92021
619-588-8888



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Foot Massage
\$14.99/hr

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Only Tuesday

Couple Massage
\$70/hr

(Reg. \$80/hr)

With coupon

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San Diego 92115
619-724-6464



Blue Sky Spa

Full Body Massage
\$35/hr

(Reg. \$40) (10am-12pm)

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\$70/hr

(Reg. \$80/hr)

includes FREE Hot Stone, or
Coco Oil, or Salt Scrub
(Only with Full Price)

With coupon

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San Diego 92115
(College Area)
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Foot and Body Care

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\$40/hr

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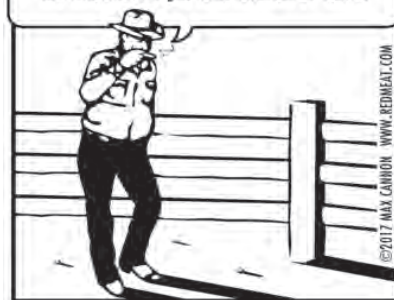


RED MEAT

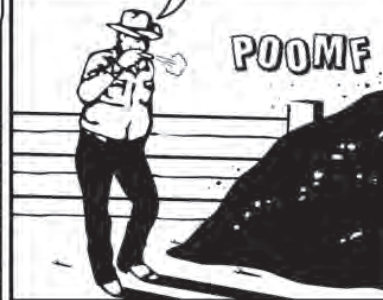
riders on the longhorn shortbus

from the secret files of
Max Cannon

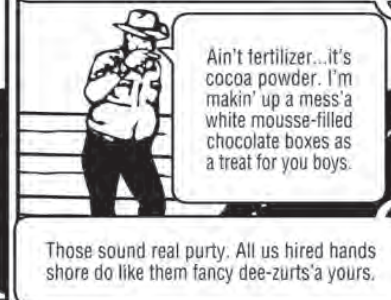
Okay, Dwight...back 'er up real slow, then go ahead an' hit them hydraulics an' dump the whole load right here next tuh th' fence.



That'll do 'er right there, Dwight. Thanks.



Whut kind'a fertilizer is this, Boss? It don't smell like th' regular manure we been usin'.



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+ \$5 hazardous materials fee

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Brainstorms

by Don Rubin

Nameographs

The first "Nameographs" appeared in Collier's magazine in 1927, and within a few months they were a national obsession. Very simply, a nameograph is a graphic that both spells and illustrates a person or thing. Well, what do we have to do, spell it out for you?

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1) _____ | 12) _____ |
| 2) _____ | 13) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 14) _____ |
| 4) _____ | 15) _____ |
| 5) _____ | 16) _____ |
| 6) _____ | 17) _____ |
| 7) _____ | 18) _____ |
| 8) _____ | 19) _____ |
| 9) _____ | 20) _____ |
| 10) _____ | 21) _____ |
| 11) _____ | 22) _____ |

Last Week's Solution

Copy right

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>16</u> load paper | <u>13</u> darker |
| <u>9</u> check toner | <u>3</u> reduce |
| <u>5</u> close cover | <u>8</u> 8½ x 14 |
| <u>14</u> insert counter | <u>2</u> transparency |
| <u>6</u> wait | <u>15</u> lighter |
| <u>10</u> print | <u>7</u> cut-in (interrupt) |
| <u>11</u> same size | <u>4</u> check sorter |
| <u>18</u> enlarge | <u>19</u> misfeed |
| <u>1</u> 8½ x 11 | <u>17</u> call service rep |
| <u>12</u> hand feed | |



**Check Engine Light
Diagnostic Service
\$25 Off**

*Perform scan test and retrieve codes
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\$15 Off**

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**Oil Change Service
from \$15⁹⁵**

*Recommended every 3 months/ 3000 - 7500 miles. Service includes up to 5 quarts multi grade 10w30 motor oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

*Vehicles requiring 5w20 or 5w30 are \$19.95

*canister filters and synthetic oil @ additional cost.

**A/C system \$79⁹⁵
Recharge**

*includes system evaluation, evacuation, 15 minute vacuum hold test and recharge to specification

*134a Freon additional *additional repairs may be required for proper system operation, leak detection and diagnostic service available at additional cost

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per axle.

*Life time Brakes Available

*We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicles requirements are vehicle specific.

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\$49⁹⁵**

*includes toe adjustment of the front axle *4 wheel alignment \$20.00 additional cost, includes toe adjustment of front and rear axles. *camber, caster adjustment at additional cost. See consultant for details.



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El Cajon



**12/12
WARRANTY**

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most 4 cyl cars

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AC SERVICE \$75
Most cars

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4-cyl., most cars.

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And have an event-full day.

Reader

Smog Check \$36.75

+\$8.25 Certificate of Compliance (most cars). Bring DMV Notice. Model years 1976–1995 \$10 extra for Evap Test. RV's: call for details.

<p>Oil Change Special \$18.95 Most 4-cyl. cars. Includes new oil filter, EPA, up to 5 qts. oil. 6-cyl. & 8-cyl. extra, some oil filters extra.</p>	<p>Basic Tune-Up with oil change 4-cyl. \$45 6-cyl. \$99.95 8-cyl. \$149.95 Most cars. Includes new plugs and oil filter. Inspect cap, rotor wire, air filter. Some oil filters extra. Some cars labor extra. Platinum plugs extra.</p>	<p>A/C Service \$25 Includes performance test on compressor, visual inspection for leaks and damaged components and recharge (freon EXTRA.)</p>
<p>60K/90K/120K Services 4-cyl. from \$149.95 6-cyl. and 8-cyl. extra. Platinum plugs extra. Call for details.</p>		
<p>Check Engine light and Smog Failure Diagnostics \$60* (FREE if repairs are performed on site).</p>	<p>Fuel Injection Service 3-Step \$109.95</p>	

Chris's Auto Smog & Repair Center
2920 Damon Ave. #C & D (Behind In-N-Out Burger)
858-270-1888 • Pacific Beach 92109

NEW YEAR'S BLOWOUT SALE!!!

<p>Pioneer BLUETOOTH CAR STEREO</p> <p>DEH-S4000BT • CD/AM/FM • Android/iPod/iPhone Control • Front Auxiliary Inputs (USB & 3.5mm) & Detachable Faceplate</p> <p>Installed! \$79</p>	<p>cerwin uega mobile BASS PACKAGE</p> <p>BH-X7212S \$189 3000 watts 2-12" Subwoofers Amplifier with Bass knob</p>
<p>CAR CARE & DETAILING Now Available ELITE DETAIL INCLUDING FULL EXTERIOR & INTERIOR \$99 FOR ONLY Limited time only!</p>	<p>REARVIEW MIRROR 2 CAMERA DVR \$189</p> <p>• Built in 5" HD Monitor 1080P • Front & Backup Camera 2 year warranty Clips over existing Mirror Includes installation</p>

3 YEARS NO INTEREST FINANCING OPTIONS AVAILABLE! 100 DAYS SAME AS CASH FINANCING APPROVAL GUARANTEED!
(619) 728-5935 • 997 Broadway • El Cajon
All Sales Items Require Installation, Most Cars require add'l parts which is sold at an added cost. Free Installation on any stereo purchased. Photos for illustrative purposes only.

AUDIO SHACK

WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL \$21.75*
+ \$8.25 cert.
Smog Test or  All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through March 31, 2018.

STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41.75
+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older

<p>OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER \$24.95 from Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.</p>	<p>FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (both locations)</p> <p>FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (Cliff Brown location)</p>	<p>ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$69.95 Most vehicles. With add. Limited time offer.</p>	<p>30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL from \$179.95 4-cyl. Most vehicles. Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension</p>
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NEW CV AXLE from \$159.95 Parts & Labor

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price
Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
14						15				16				
17					18					19				
				20					21					
22	23	24	25					26	27					
28						29	30							
31				32	33		34							
	35						36			37	38	39		
				40					41			42		
43	44	45	46					47		48				
49								50	51	52				
53							54							
55						56	57				58	59	60	61
62						63				64				
65						66				67				

- Across**
- They may be technical
 - Look inside?
 - AOL and MSN
 - Navel formation?
 - Lose vibrancy
 - Cheese
 - Longtime slogan of Little Caesars
 - Morales of "La Bamba"
 - land
 - "Since you didn't hear me the first time ..."
 - Bad look
 - 1909 Matisse masterpiece
 - Flower girl?
 - Proprietor of a sort
 - Scored between 90 and 100, say
 - Gram or dram
 - Message on a JumboTron intended to amp up fans ... or a direction for solving 17-, 29-, 43- or 56-Across
 - 1970s-'80s sitcom locale
 - Become lenient
 - Swimming equipment that may be anti-leak or anti-fog
 - Face cream additive
 - Salon supply
 - Briefly
 - Arm bones
 - Nickel or dime
 - South American monkey
 - Tool that can extract nails
 - "... hardly wait!"
 - Musical with the song "The Gods Love Nubia"
 - It may be dramatic
 - Like a busybody
 - To a smaller degree
 - Potbelly or Franklin, e.g.

- questionnaire
- Snack brand featured on "Mad Men"
 - ____ Lemon, "30 Rock" character
 - Bobby who co-founded the Black Panthers
 - Unsolved cases, in TV journal
 - La ____ (term signifying Latino pride)
 - Woodworker's tool
 - Vote of support
 - Arctic fishing tool
 - "Valley of the Dolls" author
 - What odes do
 - Mini-burger
 - Fork over
 - "Same here!"
 - Joule fraction
 - "Va-va-va- ____!"
 - Suffix with fashion
 - Job for a plumber
 - With no help
 - Mimic's ability
 - Bactrian camel's pair

- Enya's genre
- Help desk sign
- Spoken
- "____ Mommy kissing ..."
- With no help
- ____ effort
- One of the Kennedys
- Confined
- It may be spotted in a pet store
- Utah mountains
- Opposite of dense
- Great Plains tribespeople
- Biomedical research org.
- Diarist Nin
- Poor dating prospects
- Low-____
- "Bald-faced" thing
- Star of the short-lived reality show "I Pity the Fool"
- Part of a stock exchange?
- Stationery item: Abbr.
- Marble ____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

O	I	R	N		R	O	S	S		A	M	W	A	Y									
						A	N	T	I		S	T	E	P	S								
H	A	S	I	N	H	O	U	R			I	F	E	E	L								
U	R	A	N	U	S					H	A	U	L										
N	E	R	D	S		A	L	D	A		J	A	I	L									
T	S	A	R			A	A	S	I	N	A	I	S	L	E								
S	O	S	A			L	A	D	Y	D	I		S	L	O								
						G	A	L			A	L	E										
O	T	T				H	O	T	W	A	X		M	C	A	T							
W	A	S	I	N		W	R	I	T	E			B	O	A	R							
L	I	E	V			M	U	T	E				T	A	M	M	Y						
						L	O	P	E				P	A	N	I	C	S					
C	H	I	T	A								K	A	S	I	N	K	N	O	T			
O	B	O	E	S								I	W	I	N								
N	O	T	D	O								T	E	N	K					H	A	W	K

- Down**
- Snappy dresser
 - Response on un

SUDOKU

EASY:

		7						5
9	6		2					1 8
7				3		2		
4	3		6		2			9
			3	4	5			
6			9		7		3	2
		8		2				6
3	9				8		7	1
5				9				

MEDIUM:

3	2				9		4	
		9		4		3	1	2
4		6		3				
					8		6	5
			4		6			
7	6		2					
				6		1		8
9	8	2		1		6		
	1	8					5	3

HARD:

3					7	2		
5	6	2	4					
8				5	2		4	
							6	
4		3				9		8
	2							
	3		1	9				2
					3	1	5	9
		9	6					3

EVIL:

8					6			
2		5				9	8	
7				4		1		
					4		1	
			5	3	1			
	3		2					
		9		6				1
	5	6				7		3
			4					2

**SOLUTION
TO LAST
WEEK'S
SUDOKU
PUZZLES:**

EASY:

2	1	5	9	7	4	3	6	8
3	6	9	5	8	1	7	4	2
8	7	4	3	2	6	9	5	1
9	8	7	6	1	5	2	3	4
5	3	1	2	4	7	6	8	9
6	4	2	8	3	9	1	7	5
4	5	6	7	9	2	8	1	3
1	2	8	4	6	3	5	9	7
7	9	3	1	5	8	4	2	6

HARD:

8	1	5	7	2	4	3	9	6
4	3	7	6	1	9	5	8	2
9	2	6	5	3	8	4	1	7
7	4	9	2	6	5	1	3	8
3	8	2	1	4	7	6	5	9
6	5	1	9	8	3	2	7	4
2	6	8	3	7	1	9	4	5
5	7	3	4	9	6	8	2	1
1	9	4	8	5	2	7	6	3

MEDIUM:

1	7	6	4	8	5	2	3	9
8	4	9	2	3	6	7	5	1
2	3	5	9	7	1	8	4	6
5	8	2	6	9	7	3	1	4
6	1	7	5	4	3	9	8	2
4	9	3	8	1	2	6	7	5
7	6	1	3	2	4	5	9	8
3	2	8	1	5	9	4	6	7
9	5	4	7	6	8	1	2	3

EVIL:

1	3	4	8	7	2	5	9	6
5	8	2	9	3	6	1	7	4
6	9	7	5	1	4	2	3	8
9	7	5	1	6	3	8	4	2
4	2	8	7	5	9	3	6	1
3	1	6	2	4	8	9	5	7
8	5	1	6	9	7	4	2	3
7	4	9	3	2	1	6	8	5
2	6	3	4	8	5	7	1	9

SPECIAL EVENTS

Carnaval Fantastique Carnaval Fantastique presents a show called "Entertainment at the Speed of Light" for one night only, a combination of acrobats, Vegas-style dancers, and laser special effects. Performers from around the world will bring their talent to the stage with feats of strength, balance, and contortion. Sunday, January 7, 5pm and 8pm; \$49-\$59. Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre, 5469 Casino Way. (EL CAJON)

Crossroads Doll & Teddy Bear Show The show brings contests, demonstrations, and an international group of high profile artists sharing what they do — for enthusiasts of all ages with a sales floor packed with dolls, teddy bears, antiques, miniatures, clothes supplies, from antique to modern and the carefully handcrafted. Saturday, January 6, 10am; Sunday, January 7, 10am; \$8-\$10. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Kiss the Bride: Bridal Show With runway bridal-fashion shows, wedding-cake samples, advice from wedding professionals, and lots of contests and prizes. First 100 brides receive a pink swag bag. Oh, and there's a "Groom's Corner, with plenty of flat-screens to catch the latest NFL games...come and support your future bride." Sunday, January 7, 10am; \$10-\$12. Pala Events Center, 11154 Highway 76. (PALA)

Modern Love Event This will be like no other wedding show you've been to before. You won't find rows of booths and tables with brochures. You will find creative designs much like what you see on Pinterest but better. We have interactive Hair and Make-up stations where you can tryout a potential wedding day look and live demos by various vendors. There will be multiple caterers offering up menu options to sample and custom cocktails flowing all day. It's all about meeting vendors, getting to experience their work firsthand, and seeing if they are a good fit for you. Sunday, January 7, 12pm; \$20-\$50. Brick, 2863 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

\$25 Bring in Ad NEW PATIENTS! **\$15** + RENEWALS

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OIL CHANGE **\$14.95**
Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. most cars
Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl.

SMOG CHECK **\$11.75**
Sedan only. SUV and Trucks extra. NON STAR CERTIFIED SMOG +\$8.25 cert
INSPECTION ONLY. Smog only for 2000 and newer vehicle. +\$1.30 DMV transfer fee

BRAKES **From \$49**
Front or rear most cars
*Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.

30K 60K 90K **\$65**
Scheduled Services most cars
*Prices may vary depending on make and model.

RADIATOR **\$45**
or Transmission Services most cars
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. 4 cyl.

TIMING BELT **\$75**
Parts & Labor most cars
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. 4 cyl.

STARTERS, RADIATORS, **\$95**
OR ALTERNATORS Plus labor. most cars. 4 cyl.

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FTP DEALS!

\$9

1G PRIVATE RESERVE
FTP, No Limit

\$7

1G TOP SHELF
FTP, No Limit

\$35

1G VAPES
FTP ONLY LIMIT 3
Cannot combine with other Vape offers

\$15

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\$14

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Cannot combine with other Vape offers

\$25

1G KRUSH KLEAR VAPE
FTP ONLY
Cannot combine with other Vape offers

\$30

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Cannot combine with other Vape offers

\$50

5G EXCLUSIVE
FTP ONLY

DAILY DEALS

\$250

PRIVATE RESERVE OZ
ANY STRAIN. Any Patient

\$80

OUNCE SPECIAL!
Select Strains, Full Nugs, Any Patient

\$25

2G EXCLUSIVE SHELF
Any Patient

\$20

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Any Patient, No Limit

MUST PRESENT AD FOR DEALS!
ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 1-7-18



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1 Year, New Patient,

\$30

1 Year Renewal

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4533 College Ave

Tues-Fri

11am-5pm

\$40

1 Year, New Patient,

\$30

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El Cajon

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Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10am-6pm

Thurs 11:30am-7:30pm

Saturday 11:00am-5:00pm

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Heavy Hitters 1g Vape \$30
1000mg 90% THC Bomb Vape \$25
Jetty Gold Dablicators \$20**

**Now get a
First-Time Patient
deal every time
you visit!**

\$9 Any Gram! - Even Exotic shelf! (was \$20/g)

Best \$5 grams
100mg Candy Bars \$7
300mg Candy Bars \$12
1000mg Candy Bars \$30

**Presidential Pre-rolls \$8
Bomb Pre-rolls (keif/oil/nugs) \$8**

Huge Wax selection!



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SATURDAY 11am - 5pm

SUNDAY 11am - 3pm

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7400 El Cajon Blvd., #103, La Mesa

El Cajon: 619-457-3176

130 W. Washington Ave., El Cajon

Downtown: 1-855-665-3825

4101 Market St., Ste. B, San Diego

Vista: 1-855-MMJ-EVAL (665-3825)

510 Civic Center Dr., #D, Vista

South Bay: 619-386-0288

1067 Broadway #113, Chula Vista

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recreational**

**100 mg
Candy bars \$7**

**Bomb
Pre-rolls \$8
(Keif/oil/nugs)**

**Gorilla Kush
10g \$30**

**Presidential
Pre-rolls \$8**

**\$70
Flower. Ounces**

**Best \$5
grams**

**1000 mg
Candy bars
\$30**

**Huge Wax
selection**

10am to 10pm Everyday!

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\$7/G

EXCLUSIVE SHELF, OUR BEST SHELF!

FTP only, limit 10 per patient. After 10 grams, cost is just \$10/gram all the way up!

\$30



1G VAPES
FTP only, Limit 3.



\$28 HY VAPES

1G, 80% THC FTP only, Limit 5.



BUY 1 EDIBLE, GET 1 50% OFF!



HOLIDAY SPECIALS! VALID FOR ANY PATIENT WITH AD!

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Valid from Wednesday, Jan. 3 thru Tuesday, Jan. 9 for any patient!

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\$10 PRE-ROLLS Presidential & Golani. Any patient, no limit!

\$15 ETERNAL OR PLATINUM VAPES
1G VAPES

4 FOR \$10 CANNA CANDY JOLLIES 60MG EDIBLES

\$110

Full nuggs! Select strains, all day every day!

\$15

CLONES

\$5 GRAMS

Select strains. All day, every day!

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\$25 (0.5G) OR \$45 (1G)
INCLUDES A FREE BATTERY!
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420 619 EVALUATIONS

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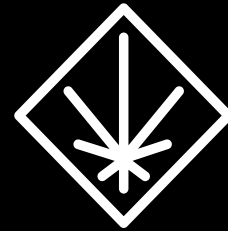
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1/8THS!

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\$40**

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Any patient, no limit!

**5 GRAMS
\$45**

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That's just \$9/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

**5 GRAMS
\$50**

Exotic Strains

That's just \$10/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

**5 GRAMS
\$60**

Cali Kush

That's just \$11/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

**4 GRAMS
\$25**

Big Jar Specials!

That's less than \$6/gram! Select jars. Any patient, no limit!

**3 GRAMS
\$25**

Exotic Green Crack

That's less than \$9/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

**5 GRAMS
\$45**

Exotic Blueberry Cookies

That's just \$9/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

**\$99
0Z**

Select house strains.
Any patient!

**2 GRAMS
\$50**

High Demand Shatter

That's just \$25/Gram!



\$12

Any patient with ad!

\$40



1G Vapes.
Any patient with ad!



\$10

Any patient,
limit 2.

**10%
OFF**

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Special!
5am-9am daily.

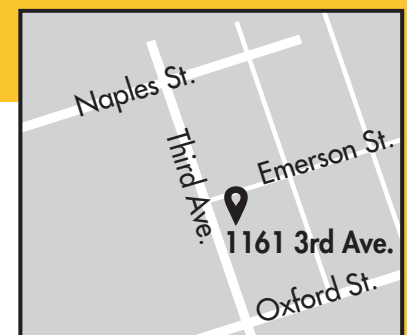


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Our 5 grams are better than their 3.5 grams!

EAST COUNTY'S # 1 COLLECTIVE!

There's a reason we have the following we do!
Come see for yourself!

DAILY DEALS FOR ANY PATIENT!

5 GRAMS \$40
BIG JARS

That's just \$8/gram! Any patient, no limit!

4 GRAMS \$25
BIG JAR SPECIALS!

That's less than \$6/gram!
Select jars. Any patient, no limit!



2 GRAMS \$50
High Demand Shatter
That's just \$25/Gram!

5 GRAMS \$45
PRIVATE RESERVE

That's just \$9/gram! Any patient, no limit!

3 GRAMS \$25
EXOTIC GREEN CRACK

That's less than \$9/gram! Any patient, no limit!



\$12

Any patient with ad!

5 GRAMS \$50
EXOTIC STRAINS

That's just \$10/gram! Any patient, no limit!

5 GRAMS \$45
EXOTIC BLUEBERRY COOKIES

That's just \$9/gram! Any patient, no limit!



\$40

1G Vapes.
Any patient with ad!

5 GRAMS \$60



That's just \$11/gram!
Any patient, no limit!

\$99 OZ

Select house strains.
Any patient!



\$10

Any patient, limit 2.

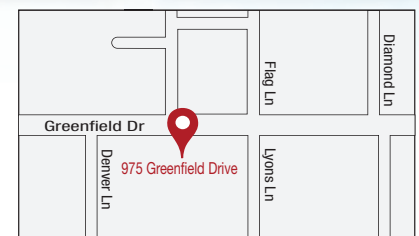
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STOREFRONT: 7AM - 9 PM
DELIVERY: 7 AM - 7:30 PM

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5G GOLDEN STATE GREENS
PRE-ROLL BOX \$60
GOLDEN STATE GREENS
1 OZ COLLECTORS BOX \$220

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WINNER
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BUY 2 W-VAPES 1G CARTS, RECEIVE A BATTERY FOR A PENNY
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- SELECT OUNCES \$100 -
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10% OFF
SENIOR, VETERAN, DISABLED AND STUDENT DISCOUNTS

*SPECIALS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

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get medicated

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FREE DaB Rig or bubbler With Donation of \$40

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\$10 1/2 G \$20 a G
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The Dank House +1238+

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\$5/GRAM
GRAMS OF WAX
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PRIVATE RESERVE
\$8/GRAM
CARTRIDGES
STARTING AT \$7
VIP
\$10/GRAM

PLATINUM VAPES \$14 (1G)
HOUSE CARTRIDGES \$7 (0.5G)
HEAVY HITTERS \$34 (1G) • \$74 (22G)

ALPINE \$39 (1G)
MIGHTY MEDS \$24 (0.6G)
ETERNAL \$14 (1G)

BRASS KNUCKLES \$39 (1G)
INVISIDAB INHALER \$44
FLAVRX \$14 (0.5G)
\$39 (BLACK LABEL)
\$24 (CBD)

JANUARY 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1/1 \$5 WAX 6	1/2 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/3 \$6/G P.R.	1/4 \$6/G P.R.	1/5 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/6 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/7 \$8/G EXOTIC
1/8 \$5 WAX 6	1/9 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/10 \$6/G P.R.	1/11 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/12 \$6/G P.R.	1/13 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/14 \$8/G EXOTIC
1/15 \$5 WAX 6	1/16 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/17 \$6/G P.R.	1/18 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/19 \$6/G P.R.	1/20 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/21 \$8/G EXOTIC
1/22 \$5 WAX 6	1/23 \$6/G P.R.	1/24 \$6/G P.R.	1/25 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/26 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/27 \$8/G EXOTIC	1/28 \$8/G EXOTIC

Free 100mg Edible w/donation

Free pre-roll w/donation

Free dab w/donation

1238 Oro St. • El Cajon, CA 92021
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Every Day

MUST PRESENT AD FOR SPECIAL PRICING. OFFERS CANNOT BE COMBINED.

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FOR OUR FULL UPDATED MENU!

January Specials

RECREATIONAL
21+ W/ VALID ID

ALL EDIBLES
BUY 1 GET 1 HALF OFF
1ST EDIBLE AT FULL PRICE. EDIBLES MUST BE SAME PRICE.

\$300 PRIVATE RESERVE OUNCES

\$200 TOP SHELF OUNCES

\$80 VANILLA OG OZ SPECIAL (LIMIT 1 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.)

\$35 1G CARTRIDGES (SELECT, BRASS KNUCKLES, HEAVY HITTERS, BLOOM & CENTURION) (LIMIT 3)

\$35 .5G MOXIE LIVE RESIN (LIMIT 2)

\$15 HOUSE WAX GRAM (LIMIT 3)

\$13 FLAVRX 500MG CARTRIDGE (LIMIT 3)

\$10 KUSHY PUNCH (100mg INDICA, SATIVA, HYBRID) (LIMIT 3)

\$10 PRIVATE RESERVE GRAM

\$8 TOP SHELF GRAM

\$7 .5G HOUSE CARTRIDGE (LIMIT 3)

OPEN DAILY 9AM - MIDNIGHT
9215 BIRCH ST.
SPRING VALLEY, CA 91977
619-929-9330
24 HOUR ARMED GUARDS

YOU CAN ONLY COMBINE UP TO 3 OFFERS. SPECIALS APPLY UNTIL 1/14/18. MUST PRESENT AD.

Brass Monkey Event! Friday, Jan. 5, 4-7pm

FREE SAMPLES & DISCOUNTS ON PRODUCT!

Top Shelf
\$4
/Gram

SHATTER and CRUMBLE 1G
\$15

\$100
OZ Private Reserve Shake

\$10
OZ House Shake

\$50
OZ Fire Shake

Any Strain
\$10
/Gram

HEAVY HITTERS (1 Gram Vapes)
\$35

PLATINUM VAPE (1G Vapes)
\$15

KRUSH (0.5 Gram Vapes)
\$8

KOROVA UNRIVALED POTENCY BLACK BARS
\$35

BUBBLE HASH
\$10/G

Kushy Punch and Cheeba Chews
\$8

SHATTER
\$10/G

Happy
\$20

MOON BARS
\$10

OZ SPECIALS
\$50 \$60 \$70 \$100

VAPES
\$40 (1G) \$25 (0.5G)

DELTA 9 (1 Gram Vapes)
\$35

DAB FACE DISTILLATE (1G)
\$10 (100mg) \$20 (210mg)

PRE-ROLLS
\$8

FlavRx 0.5 Gram
\$15

\$20

ETERNAL (1G Vapes)
\$15

MOONROCKS **\$10/G**
Text VIP to 619-369-1475 to receive exclusive deals and offers!

\$15

We carry CBD creams and tinctures!
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619-486-4028 | 7 Days, 9am-11pm
 2 Armed Security Guards 24/7 for Your Safety

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First-Time Patient Deals

ETERNAL
\$15
1G Vapes
FTP only, no limit!

\$7/GRAM PRIVATE RESERVE
Our Best Shelf!
This is REAL Private Reserve!
FTP only. Limit 7 at this price.

BRASS MONKEY
\$15/G
FTP only, no limit!

1G VAPES
\$35
FTP only, limit 2.

Everyday Deals

LIVE RESIN SUGAR \$50/GRAM

PRIVATE RESERVE
2 GRAMS \$25 OR
5 GRAMS \$60

1000MG BROWNIE
\$25

MOONBARS
\$10
250mg Edibles

★★★★★
I love everything about this shop! They have a nice selection and price points. Security is super! -lynned

★★★★★
"The Best in Chula Vista! Great helpful staff! I love the special and the greens are always fire. Thanks, keep it up!" -agiminton

10% OFF FOR SENIORS, VETERANS, AND THE DISABLED!
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