

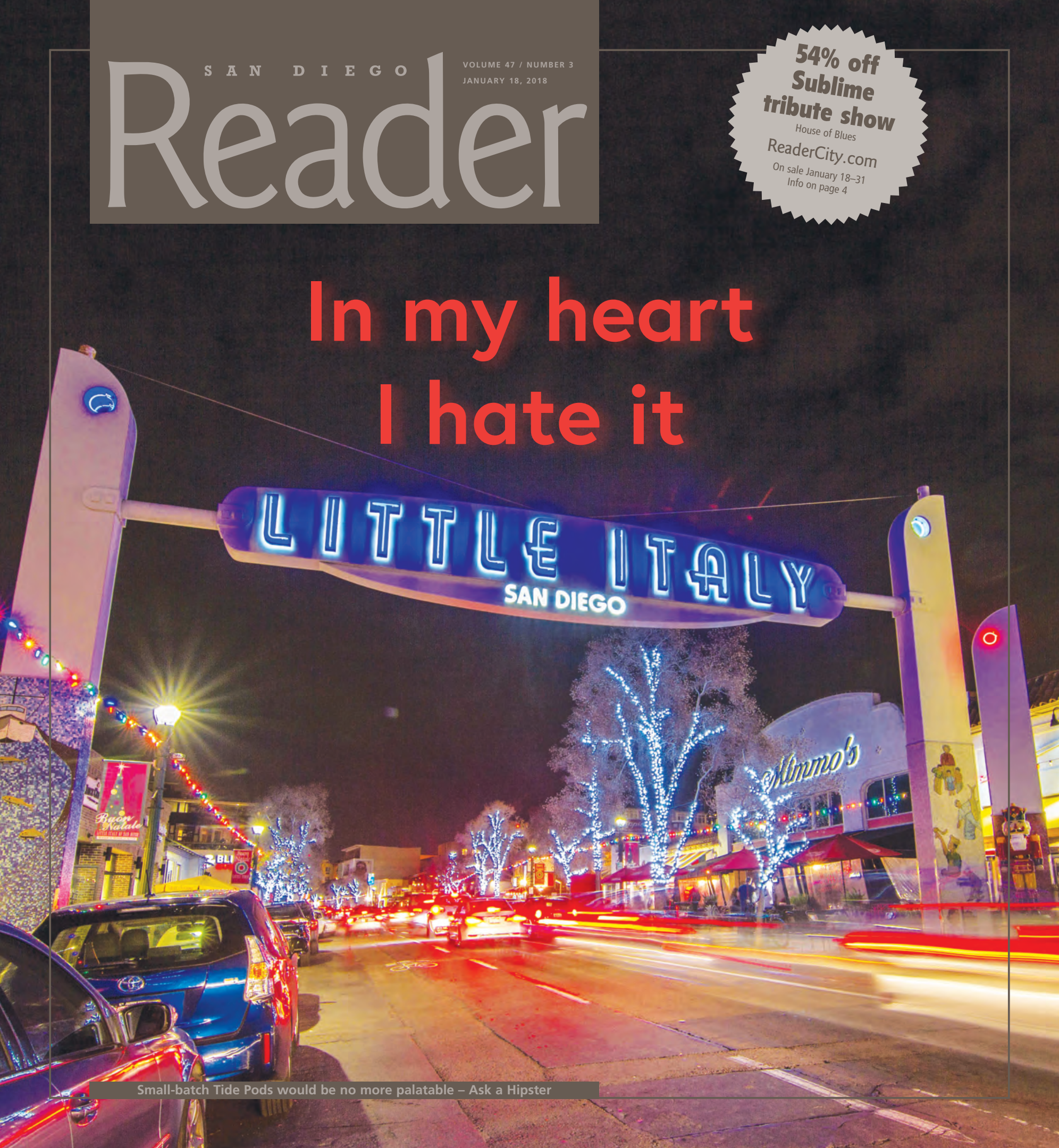
SAN DIEGO

VOLUME 47 / NUMBER 3  
JANUARY 18, 2018

# Reader

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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## NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

**Tronc's Times newsroom blowback**

*U-T's big sister* ponders Santa Monica Chicago wheeler-dealer Michael Ferro's tronc, which has been shrinking the staff and newsroom space of the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, is encountering resistance from Los Angeles Times staffers, worried about putative plans to move the *U-T's* big sister from downtown L.A. to somewhere in the metro area's upscale western reaches.



Smollens: "I'm making a racket when I go."

"Tronc is actively looking at the Westside as a possible future location for our newsroom, according to several well-connected sources," per a January 10 blog post by the Los Angeles Times Guild, the labor union seeking to represent the paper's staff.

"Santa Monica, Playa del Rey (perhaps Playa Vista) have been floated as prospective addresses. We have also obtained an older proposal for Tronc's plan to move our newsroom to the Aon building downtown."

When the union attempted to confer with *Times* publisher Ross Levinsohn, it was rebuffed, says the post.

"We voiced concern that a move out of downtown — our address since the founding of the paper — could seriously impact our news gathering and newsroom budget, as well as the commutes of hundreds of *Times* staffers. We asked Ross to meet with us and include the newsroom in discussions. He declined."

Said the guild in its email to Levinsohn, "Westside communities — such as Santa Monica and Playa del Rey — are wonderful places to live and important to our news coverage. But relocating to that area would make our jobs more challenging and nearly double the commute times of the average staffer."

"Downtown is the most central location to many of the communities and institutions that are vital to our daily reporting, including city, county, state and several federal government offices, big financial houses and law firms, and centers of culture and sport, such as the Music Center, a cluster of major museums, the Staples Center and Dodger Stadium."

Unlike their brethren in Los Angeles,

*Union-Tribune* staffers have thus far made no effort to organize, and most remain mum in public about their declining ranks, though one appears to have a dark sense of humor about persistent reports of *U-T* shrinkage, possibly leading to its ultimate demise as a free-standing paper.

"That settles it. Heralded or not, I'm making a racket when I go (provided it's not feet first)," tweeted columnist Michael Smollens following a January 10 report here about the departure of investigative reporter James DeHaven, bringing the count of the paper's so-called watchdog reporters per its online staff list down to three.

Matt Potter

**Rent-control guy for city council**

Rafael Bautista's good-works momentum On January 8th, rent-control advocate Rafael Bautista filed paperwork with the city to run for the District 4 council seat now occupied by Myrtle Cole.

Bautista is a real estate broker and one of the founding members of San Diego Tenants United, a group whose goal is to establish rent control in San Diego.

"Renters are experiencing substantial rent hikes that are not consistent with salary increases, and hard-working San Diegans face the stressful situation every year of being forced from their home if they don't pay exploitative rent increases," reads the group's petition on *Change.org*. As of publication, more than 9500 people have signed the petition, close to the group's goal of 10,000.



Bautista has pursued Linda Vista landlords

Besides rent control, Bautista has strived to hold apartment-complex owners responsible for their properties that have fallen into disrepair.

Bautista joined several groups, including the local Socialist party, to call out a Linda Vista apartment-building owner on Eastman Street whose tenants were living among rats and cockroaches and with inadequate plumbing and sewage systems.

Besides Cole, Bautista joins candidates Monica Montgomery and Neal Arthur in the race.

Dorian Hargrove

continued on page 54

**Burglary victim leads cops to crooks**

"I was kind of dragging the police along behind me."

By Dave Rice

Following a round of burglaries at his University Heights apartment complex, Andy Boyd (a *Reader* employee) was able to recover his stolen computer and tablet, along with his neighbor's stolen car. Still, thousands of dollars' worth of other heisted loot seems to have slipped through the fingers of the police officers whom Boyd led right to the perpetrators.

place I saw drawers, closet doors open, and it was, like, *Okay, someone's broken in here,*" Boyd explains. "So I go down and ask an Officer Mendoza, who's taking a report at my neighbor's, if there's been a burglary — yeah? Well I've got another one for you."

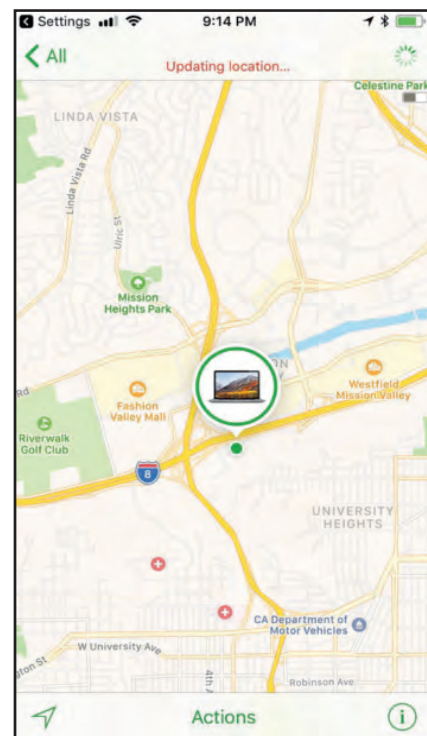
It's believed that the break-ins were of the "hot prowler" type, a particularly aggressive crime meaning



Andy Boyd

place got burgled, but they didn't get woken up."

The total haul from Boyd's unit included an iPad, a work-issued laptop, several motorcycle and car keys, and about \$6000 worth of high-end camera gear. His neighbor also lost a laptop and some car keys, but in this case the keys were used to locate and steal the neighbor's car.



Boyd's laptop sent out location data when it was turned on.

Boyd spent a Saturday night in mid-December with his girlfriend before returning home to minor chaos. "I come home on Sunday morning, and there's a police officer out front, so immediately things are a little weird. As soon as I walked into my

thieves entered knowing or believing that the occupants of the apartments were home.

"They didn't go into the bedrooms — I know because my safe was untouched," Boyd continued. "My neighbors were home when their

A copy of the incident report provided by Boyd instructs the responding officer to attempt to obtain fingerprints, or explain why an attempt was not made. Likewise, the officer is instructed to survey the scene for evidence or explain

why an investigation wasn't performed. Both tasks had an "N" ticked inquiring whether they were completed, with no further comments. A later comment section in the report notes that Boyd had activated tracking software on his Apple devices and would contact police if and when he got a location on his missing gear.

It didn't take long for that to happen.

"About 10:00 that night, I got a notification on my phone that my MacBook's been powered on, and there's a GPS location," Boyd continues. "So I check out where it is — if it had been in Mexico or Carlsbad I wouldn't have bothered, but this is a hotel a half-mile away. That was enough for me to want to go check it out."



Burglars with cops outside hotel

with any information on the room's occupants, so he vowed to return with police in the morning. On the way out of the lot, however, he spied a car that looked convincingly like the one that had just been stolen from his neighbor.

On a hunch, he made a phone call to the neighbor.

"He goes down there, finds the car, so we've got that back. We call AAA and they show up, the police show up, we get some paperwork done to signify this is no longer a stolen vehicle," Boyd says. "But the burglars still have the keys, so we can't just park it where it was — the burglars can just come

back and steal the car again. Instead we've got to stash it a couple blocks away, but now he's going to have to have his car completely re-keyed — they also got my car keys and two of my motorcycle keys, so that's going to be really annoying."

First thing Monday morning, Boyd was back on the case.

"I'm up early and calling police dispatch in the Western Division, where a detective has my case. He's not in yet, so I ask them if it would be a dumb idea to go back down there myself.

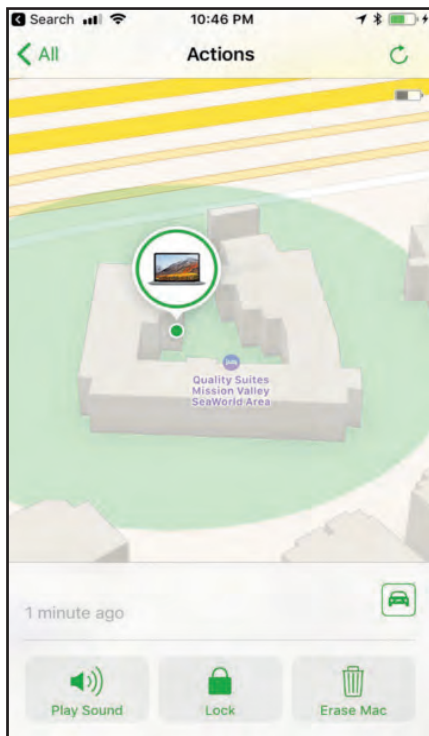
Yes, it would be, they told Boyd.

"My experience with police and stolen stuff is that they don't really care: once it's stolen, it's gone," Boyd laments. Statistics bear out his theory, with 3.41 burglaries per 1000 San Diegans reported in 2016, but the national arrest rate is just 0.64 per 1000 for this crime type. "That was sort of the vibe I got from the detective once he comes in on Monday morning; the case is on his desk but he hasn't really gotten a chance to look at it yet. I reach him in the office and tell him here's the deal — I know where these guys are, I'm going down there.

"He tells me, 'No, don't do that,' but I tell him I'm going down anyway, you might want to meet me there. So he goes down and meets me, but it's almost like he didn't expect to see me there waiting in the lobby when he and his partner show up."

Even after successfully arranging a meeting with

*continued on page 54*



The laptop finally ended up at the Quality Suites hotel on Hotel Circle.

The GPS image Boyd shares is remarkably specific, down to the corner and even floor elevation — room 351 of the Quality Suites near the west end of Mission Valley's Hotel Circle.

Upon arrival, hotel staff were unable to provide Boyd

## UNDER THE RADAR

### Democrat dad's cram school

Super-rich Democratic congressman **Scott Peters** of La Jolla, who has touted his efforts to lower federal student loan rates, has invested between \$15,000 to \$50,000 of his own money in a La Jolla start-up called Winward Academy, LLC, per a personal financial disclosure statement filed with the clerk of the House of Representatives. Recently opened Winward, according to its website, "is transforming how students master the ACT and SAT, thrive in math class, and shine in their college applications — all to build confidence for life." The online cram school

was founded by Jennifer Winward, a private tutor and teaching professor at UCSD who specializes in college entrance exams. Tuition at Winward tops out at a sizable \$499 for the Game Changer SAT or ACT package. "If you know you want to review every subject for the test and have several months to study, then the Game Changer is perfect for you. You'll have access to 100 hours of lessons and 5000 practice questions," says the online course description. A Crunch Time option is available for \$249. "If you have just one month until the test and want to maximize your studying, then the Crunch Time package is for you. We've picked the 25 most tested lessons and bundled them together, so you can be sure to get the most improvement in the short time you have to review." The company also pitches "full access" subscriptions to high schools.

Winward began soliciting equity investors for her academy in June 2016, per a filing with the federal Securities & Exchange Commission. Credited as Educational Content Coordinator is

**Ben Peters**, son of the congressman, an alumnus of Francis W. Parker prep and Duke University, his father's school, both also academic homes to Ben's sister Ellie. For those not as entitled, Win-

ward says it "donates one Game Changer package for ACT or SAT whenever that same package is purchased. Donations are made to Computers 2 SD Kids, a charity that provides 9000 computers to San Diego students each year." Offers Ben Peters, in an online testimonial, "Throughout my time working at Winward Academy, I have been truly able to

realize the time, effort, experience, and passion necessary to build a successful company from the ground up. What I have learned will continue to have a positive and lasting impact on my professional development and my career for the rest of my life!"



Scott Peters invested in an academic testing business.

### GOP mayor's cold shower

It's been a downward trip for San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer** from touting a new taxpayer-subsidized NFL stadium to taking care of the humble business of cleaning up downtown's homeless hepatitis epidemic, as evidenced by

the city's latest bid solicitation. A January 5th notice posted online by the city seeks to rent trailer-borne mobile shower units with "no less than eight shower heads with a minimum of twenty PSI water pressure and two gallons per minute flow at the head." Adds the advertisement, "Rental includes Full Service, 7 Days a Week. Full service includes Water Tanks, Pumps, Hoses, Hauling and DAILY filling (if needed), DAILY Grey Water Waste Removal, Hauling and Grey Water Waste Disposal (if needed), DAILY Sanitizing, Interior Janitorial Cleaning, Garbage Removal from stalls, and propane servicing (if required)."

The potentially pricey on-call public shower deal, for which no cost is estimated, is to last five years, presumably longer than the current siege of homelessness that plagues downtown, but present usage may be heavy.

"When the Contractor is providing acceptable service and demand of the Contract exceeds the capability of the mobile shower facility, the City will either order another mobile shower facility or provide additional potable water to the existing mobile shower facility. If a water use fee is required for the City designated source, the City will be responsible for payment of the fee."



Ric Grennell (right) is waiting on the Senate to confirm his ambassadorship to Germany.

### Trump's local ambassadors

Two Californians on president **Donald Trump's** list of administration nominees submitted to the Senate this week for confirmation have longtime San Diego ties. Most famous is ex-*Union-Tribune* publisher **Douglas Manchester**, whose 2017 nomination by

*continued on page 54*

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## LETTERS

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

### “Jehovah’s Witnesses to settle sex-abuse case,” News Ticker, January 12

This mind-controlling cult demonized the Catholic Church for decades over child abuse while covering over the same crimes. The JW leadership is more concerned about the image of their organization more than protecting children. Hypocrites.

— Mimi Doria

I have very recently left the JW organization, though from the platform at the Kingdom Hall they just said I was “No longer one of Jehovah’s Witnesses.” Many brothers and sisters will probably think I was dis-fellowshipped for doing something wrong. It seems that now they will not say if someone left or if they were cast out.

I wonder why? Is it because so many people are

leaving of their own accord? My reason for leaving was of course finding out about all the Child Abuse within the JW organization earthwide. Here in the UK, in America, Canada, Australia, and the Netherlands.

— John Butler

It appears Lopez had his price, or Zalkin’s expenses were about to exceed the cost benefit. In the end, this was never about “justice” — this was always about getting the largest paycheck possible.

— Bob J Murphy

So, tell me Bob, what would have been justice for you? The victim to receive nothing? What amount for the victim would have been justice?

— Stephane Laliberte

The victim deserves compensation. But my point is that neither the victim nor his legal team are symbols of justice and warriors of truth — they had a price in mind, plain and simple.

— Bob J Murphy

Bob J Murphy: Huh? Because money is involved (like every single civil case ever) there is no justice being served? The dude raped several kids, and now he’s facing justice and so is the WT for hiding it. So according to you, people should never seek justice or monetary damages for being raped. Great point Bob, well done.

— Alex Chenarides

Jehovah’s Witnesses (JWs) predicted the end of the

*continued on page 27*

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

LINDA VISTA

### Skate park open to law-breakers only “What did they think was going to happen?”

The Linda Vista skate park was supposed to open in August. Then in September...November...January... By all appearances, the facility looks open. Skaters are spotted there all the time — though, kids sneaked into the park for much of 2017.

Construction hasn't taken so long — ground was broken in August 2016 — but neighborhood kids have waited years for it to appear.

Chris Limon started advocating for the park in 2013. “We have a winner. Every day I see new videos posted by kids showing off [at] the skate park.”

Limon said the reason given for the park not opening — a 90-day period to allow establishment of new plants — is the same reason given for the park not opening in October. He was told planting was going to happen in September, making January the estimated month to open. According to Limon, the planting didn't happen until November 10, pushing the opening date into February.

“Skaters don't want to wait for a plant to grow when it doesn't affect skating,” says Dakota Olave. He has skated the new parks in both Linda Vista and City Heights. Even though neither are officially open, the city allowed skaters into the City Heights park in December (the official ribbon-cutting was January 17).

The skate park has support from the community with the exception of some on social media lodging concerns about noise, graffiti, trash, kids darting in between cars, and parking. One neighbor said online that there was an attempted stabbing of a security guard a couple months ago by trespassing skateboarders.

San Diego police spokesman Billy Hernandez checked service calls going back to October 1. The only incident found was a call

about someone using a hammer to vandalize the park, but when officers arrived, no damage was found.

According to councilmember Scott Sherman's office, calls from concerned citizens have prompted Sherman to request increased police patrols.

As far as the complaints about kids trashing the park, Limon said he's seen skaters doing impromptu cleanups at the park. He said he has pushed for a more secured site.

“I mean, who is in charge of this stuff? Who writes this schedule and what did they think was going to happen? Kids are going to want to skate it. I mean, look at the place.”

Limon said his inquiry about security was met with a “we will look into it” response. “And, lo and behold, kids are skating it and there is absolutely no security to show them otherwise.”

The Friends of Linda Vista Skate Park will be the voice of those who use the facility. Limon said they'll be working with the community to iron out any kinks.

Alec Phillipp from the city said they are aware of the trespassing. “We've heard concerns about the public not using the designated crosswalks and crossing in the middle of the street to access the skate park. There is currently no authorized use of the skate park, and any individual using the park while [it's] closed for construction and plant establishment is trespassing.”

Security guards are currently onsite Friday evening through Monday morning. “After the park opens, it will be staffed/patrolled like other skate parks in the city. There will be no security guards onsite, except to open and close the skate park when staff is not present in the recreation center.”

Phillipp confirmed the park will open in early 2018, but nothing more specific. “Several rain events and unforeseen conditions that made the subgrade difficult to work with contributed to delays in the schedule.”

JULIE STALMER

NATIONAL CITY

### Reddish-brown water not so sweet

#### Sweetwater Authority blames sediment and algae

“The people in Western Chula Vista and National City are getting Ice Age, prehistoric water that is incredibly good,” said Michael Garrod, the engineering manager at the Sweetwater Authority during a recent tour of the Richard A. Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility. “It's 16,000-year-old



16,000-year-old water that hasn't been touched by man's hands.

water that hasn't been touched by man's hands. No pesticides. Nothing in it.”

But on Wednesday, January 10th, a Facebook post went up on We Are National City that complained of an ice tray filled with discolored water. The post stated, “Looks like we have brown water again my friends.”

This wasn't the first time. In December, a post went up on the “National City CA, Politics and Current Events” Facebook page with a photo of reddish water that the resident said had poured out of their tap for about 15 minutes.

Sweetwater Authority spokesperson Leslie Payne confirmed that the water district is aware of the problem. In a phone interview, she said, “We have had challenges this year with discolored water.”

In December, the authority attributed the reddish water to the repair of pumps on National City wells. For January 10th, according to Payne, the National City wells had been turned back on as part of routine operation. Both actions meant a change in flow of water pressure; this can lead to a break-up of sediment that then runs through the pipes.

The National City wells aren't the only reason water customers have seen color, taste, and odor changes. During the past year, the authority — which provides drinking water to people in National City, Bonita, and western portions of Chula Vista — finally came out of a long drought. Local rainfall meant that for the first time in three years the authority began using water from its Sweetwater Reservoir, but this also created an unexpected problem. According to their annual performance report, “...the Authority received a total of 97 reports of taste and odor concerns regarding the water distributed to 33,000 accounts of 190,000 customers. The number of reports increased over the past fiscal year due to a naturally occurring algae bloom in Sweetwater Reservoir.”

In addition, the authority reopened its groundwater desalination plant this past summer. The plant, which had originally treated approximately 4 million gallons of water per day, shut down for a year and a half. When the plant came back online, capacity had increased from 6 to 11 underground wells. Payne said that the authority may have had some changes in water quality after the plant reopened because of the fact that it was putting more water into the system.

BARBARA ZARAGOZA

TIJUANA

### Rain + garbage + rats = chaos

#### Planned water outage kicks in after the storm

Many Tijuana residents woke up on Wednesday (January 10th) to find garbage in the streets and no running water in their homes.

The state's water utility, known by its initials CESPT, had planned to suspend water service for two days starting January 10th, and they did: 284 neighborhoods — around 600,000 people — in Tijuana and Rosarito had to plan on no running water until January 12th.

The outage came after two days of heavy rain that left many parts of the city without electricity for several hours. The strong winds caused utility poles, trees, and billboards to topple while the heavy rain created landslides and waterfalls of black water carrying garbage.

The shutdown is to fix a leak that was dis-



Doug “Pineapple” Saladino on the full pipe at Linda Vista

PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS LIMON



Garbage collectors stopped working until they got new uniforms.

covered a year ago on the Aguaje-Planetario aqueduct. The leak became a crisis two weeks ago as more than 13 gallons of potable water were spilled per second.

“We need to suspend the flow of water so the workers can access the pipes,” said CESPT director Miguel Lemus Zendejas. “The repairs will take 15 hours, concluding on early Thursday morning. The recovery of the system is slow.”

Water delivery to some of the lower-elevation neighborhoods was expected by Thursday afternoon; water for the higher-elevation neighborhoods wasn't expected until Friday evening. The repair cost to fix a mile-long 48-inch-wide pipe was estimated at 300,000 pesos (around \$15,500).

Every time it rains, the city becomes cha-

continued on page 8



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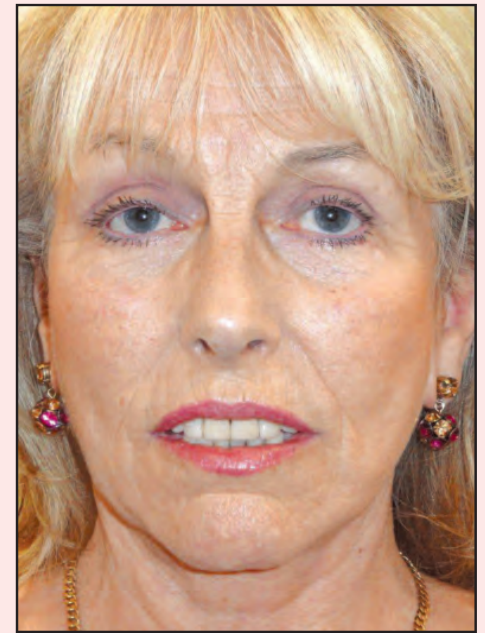


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otic: the streets become rivers, mudslides and car accidents occur, the Tijuana River is flushed with garbage, and polluted water flows across the border into Imperial Beach and Border Field State Park.

The pollution problem is more pronounced this time due to a backlog of garbage pick-ups. Since the beginning of 2017, there had been ongoing disputes between the local government and garbage collectors, causing delays in pick-ups; in some neighborhoods, trash has not been collected in weeks. On December 29th, garbage collectors stopped working until the government met their demands of new uniforms (jackets, gloves, and boots) and a pay bonus. The city had mountains of garbage on the street with rats feasting after New Year's celebrations.

The strike ceased on January 3rd after the city reportedly promised to meet their demands by January 16th; however, pick-up has been irregular in many neighborhoods.

MATTHEW SUAREZ

## BAY PARK

### GoPro not pro enough, say drone pilots

**"No manufacturer has gotten beyond a 15-minute job flight."**

"GoPro is known for cameras, not aviation," said Sean Randle during an interview shortly after GoPro released a press release on January 8th announcing that it was dissolving its drone-manufacturing arm.

"The [Karma drone] faces margin challenges in an extremely competitive aerial market," stated the press release. "Furthermore, a hostile regulatory environment in Europe and the United States will likely reduce the total addressable market in the years ahead. These factors make the aerial market untenable and GoPro will exit the market after selling its remaining Karma inventory."

Randle is a mid-city resident who has been flying drones since 2001. When I called him, he was in Los Angeles awaiting his next flight up to help monitor the fires. He and his drones were also contracted to help locate victims in Mexico City during the September 19th earthquake. "No manufacturer has really, in my opinion, gotten beyond a 15-minute job flight," he said, "so regardless of the technology [it] is still short flight time for commercial work."

Randle blames the demise of the \$799 GoPro Karma drone on their short flight times, "then you have to fly back, too [which cuts into the flight time]." His souped-up APID 5 (gas-powered) helicopter drone that he pilots can stay airborne for up to four hours and it sends back high-definition footage via

the CM202G Gas Hound camera to his laptop. "[And] those battery-operated drones [like the GoPro Karma] cannot take the extreme heat up there either," he said.

Richard Tiland, 36, owns New Evolution Video in Bay Park. He can get 30 minutes of flight time on his DJI Phantom 4 Pro Plus,



GoPro was founded by Nick Woodman, a 1997 UCSD grad.

the GoPro Karma's nemesis.

"[The GoPro drones] were falling from the sky and unreliable," Tiland said.

A few Karma owners on the GoPro Karma Drone Owners Group on Facebook agreed with Tiland's assessment. Some of the 5000 members reported that they lost control of their Karma and they fly away on their own. One member said that they contacted support at GoPro after their drone took off. Support then helped the owner locate the fallen drone through logs and GPS location from the controller. A few others on the forum insured their drones through State Farm for about \$36 a month with a \$0 deductible but said they cannot make a claim if they were using the drone to make money when it got lost or damaged.

In late 2016, GoPro issued a recall on the Karma after reports were made that the drone would lose power and fall from the sky. The issues were supposedly fixed. Then, on May 22nd, there was that one Karma drone that flew into the San Diego Padres game and crashed into some fans in the stands.

GoPro was founded by Nick Woodman, who graduated from UCSD in 1997. The development of the camera came about to record the surf escapades of his buddies at Black's Beach before and after class.

According to the press release, GoPro has been reducing its global workforce from 1254 employees as of September 30, 2017, to fewer than 1000 employees worldwide (which also includes their Carlsbad offices). Woodman will reduce his 2018 cash compensation to \$1 and they will continue to provide service and support to Karma drone customers.

MIKE MADRIAGA

## OCEAN BEACH

### The sham sales group

**"They said he has been wreaking havoc around there."**

On December 24th of last year the *Reader* published an article about an overly aggressive solicitor who'd been knocking on doors

at all hours of the day and night.

Since the article posted, complaints continue to fly in via social media platforms and community-watch groups where residents routinely alert each other if he comes to their door.

On January 9th, a resident reported on social media that she was home alone with her children and the suspicious

guy was at her door. That's when two O.B. residents decided enough was enough.

"Isaac and I happened to be discussing the story when a report came over the police scanner that someone was being harassed on Emerson Street by a solicitor," Dylan explained, "so I hauled ass over there hoping to catch him in action, but when I arrived no one was there."

At the same time, Isaac was out, going from motel to motel looking for "the" solicitor. Not only did he find the guy, but he also discovered a hotbed of highly suspect behavior.

"Sir Isaac and I met up briefly before parting ways," Dylan continued. "He said he was going to look into a few hotels in the area, with the description and photo of the guy who has been menacing the area. Within a few minutes, Sir Isaac called me saying he found the guy at the Heritage Inn [3333 Channel Way, near the I-8 on-ramp]. I rushed over there and found Isaac frustrated because the manager was telling him to leave."

While there, they learned of two different teams of solicitors staying at the hotel and were approached by a couple employees from the Sierra Solutions soap company.

"They insisted their team wasn't doing anything bad," Dylan said. "We showed them the photo [of the menacing solicitor] and their demeanor instantly changed. They said he has been wreaking havoc around there and everyone was scared of him.... As this was happening, drug-addicted people started swarming around us, at least two were on the ground at my feet — looking for crack that wasn't there. Others began eyeballing us. One guy even asked us for a ride."

The Sierra Solutions employees directed them to the "menacing" solicitor's room.

"In front of the room there were vehicles, including a motorhome. We photographed the license plates, but as we were heading away, a security guard came to me and asked what was going on. I showed him the photo of who it was we were looking for. Instantly he got upset. Said that guy is a piece of shit and just about spit on my phone! He said

he also would help but was fearful of hotel management and needed his job.

"He confirmed what room the guy was staying in, but we hightailed it out of there after we got pictures of the room and vehicles. We both decided it was best to leave at this point. We were just blown away by all we saw going on at that hotel — it was like a real-life zombie scene at 11 p.m."

Of the two teams currently staying at the Heritage Inn, the menacing solicitor is said to belong to the magazine sales crew, which, based on what residents have reported, is not legitimate.

The SeaWorld Heritage Inn reviews on Trip Advisor and Yelp, meanwhile, include numerous complaints about prostitution, drugs, homeless people, bedbugs, roaches, incompetent staff, excessive police activity, people parking and living in cars and RVs in the lot, etc.

DELINDA LOMBARDO

## NATIONAL CITY

### Community garden to grow Healthy food amid fast-food landscape

Old Town National City will build a community garden after more than a decade of collaboration between the city, residents, and the Environmental Health Coalition.

Mundo Gardens, a "National City-grown" nonprofit, will operate the Paradise Creek Park Community Garden on a quarter-acre



Future community garden: "We don't assign plots."

plot adjacent to the creek, Kimball Elementary, and housing.

"It's more than a garden," said Sandy Naranjo, who lives in the area with her two children and works with the Environmental Health Coalition. "We hope it will grow with the health of the community. It can be frustrating, with more fast-food choices and little access to healthy food."

In 2005, a survey of National City residents conducted by the Environmental Health Coalition showed that they favored a public garden as part of a path to a healthier neighborhood. Residents at subsequent planning sessions expressed the same thing. The city's 2011 general plan incorporated the principle. But "the city determined that it lacked the financial means and knowhow to operate a community garden," said Naranjo.

Mundo Gardens, which runs Joe's

continued on page 58

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**Dear Hipster:**

*Will I die if I eat a Tide Pod?*

— DEREK

You will probably die, yes.

I won't blame you. Wanting to eat the Tide Pod, at least a little bit, is perfectly natural. It is designed to look like delicious candy "in order to enrich consumption experience." The detergent company can and will play mind games that get you to pay more for soap, and never mind the guarantee that at least a handful of kids will die from eating laundry pods every year.

Sad, right? It turns out that the depths to which we can and will sink are actually pretty shallow.

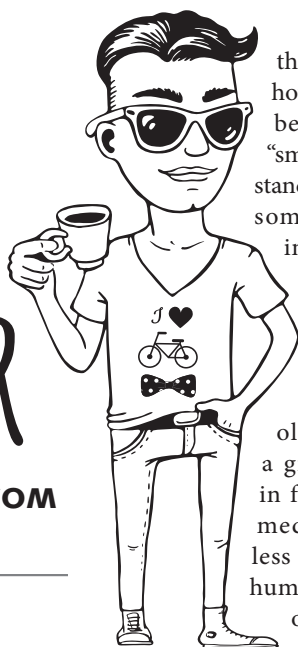
**Dear Hipster:**

*Is "craft" beer more authentic than "artisan" bread? Am I better off with hand- or homemade? Is small batch better or worse than limited edition? I am lost in a sea of hipster adjectives.*

— LESLIE

I see what you did there! You tried to make fun. But — surprise surprise — bamboozled again by the hipster, you hit upon one tremendously salient point.

The buzzwords that spring up to define various popular phenomena, and which later enter common parlance on permanent loan from the hipster lexicon, demonstrate one of the most universally powerful human tendencies. I mean, of course, the irresistible urge to name that which was formerly nameless, thus bestowing meaning upon the meaningless. By attaching a simple adjective, we crystallize a complex idea into a single term. That's a powerful thing. Despite the fact



that nobody can agree on how small a batch has to be before something is "small batch," we all understand that the phrase means something specific and implies certain super-value judgments.

Cynics will say that this creates a system ripe for abuse, whereby any old hipster can string a grip of adjectives out in front of his otherwise mediocre product. The less universally powerful human tendency to jump on a bandwagon being what it is, this probably happens. In fact,

I'm sure it happens all the time. And yet, hipster sophisticates that we are, you and I can spot the average bandwagon-jumper a mile away.

**Dear Hipster:**

*Why does the Valentine's Day stuff come out the day after Christmas?*

— S.

Commerce, bruh!

Sometimes, I actually think we are headed toward a future straight out of a George Saunders story, where it's always some holiday, celebrated endlessly till the next holiday, which smoothly emerges from the remains of the former like a soft-shelled crab scuttling from its too-small carapace.

This future would not be very hipster at all, as we hipsters disdain commercialism run amok. Be it posers latching onto (and subsequently diluting) the newest trend, multinational conglomerates disguising poison detergent as snacks, or big-box retailers cashing in on holiday spending; consumer culture in all its forms is, somewhat ironically, one of the main reasons we have hipsters in the first place. Without a mainstream from which the hipster could diverge, there would never have been a reason to engage in at least trying to be a more socially relevant human, one who breaks away from the corporate state. Being essentially countercultural figures, hipsters, and the many people who embrace hipster values in whole or in part, are, in an odd way, inspired by the mainstream in the way that the bombing of Guernica inspired Picasso.

— DJ Stevens

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# UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

The newly constructed estate at 7750 Lookout Drive sits at the northern foot of La Jolla's Mt. Solidad, privately tucked into the hillside yet still affording ocean views toward La Jolla Shores.

"Enter this elegantly appointed warm contemporary home," listing materials invite, "and be immediately greeted by peaceful ocean views from the main living level.

"Neutral colors seamlessly blend the kitchen, dining, and living spaces" that comprise



Saltwater pool and low-maintenance backyard among the selling points

nearly 9000 square feet of "meticulously detailed living space."

As one would imagine, "the kitchen is a chef's dream, featuring

commercial quality Wolf double oven and 48" Wolf range, Sub Zero refrigerators, two dishwashers, large butler's pantry, white quartz countertops,

and wine cooler." A "stunning bar area" downstairs adds another wine cooler, refrigerator, ice maker, and dishwasher.

A private office

retreat features its own fireplace (one of three within the home that "allow you to create the perfect ambiance on cooler evenings") and views of the entry courtyard with its "relaxing water fountain."

Ascending from the main level, prospective buyers encounter the "sanctuary master suite," with access to an ocean-view deck, "artfully designed master bath" that creates "a gorgeous oasis bathed in natural light, complete with spa bathtub," and an unfinished walk-in closet awaiting the home's first master to select an appropriate series of built-in cabinetry.

The top floor also houses two other en-suite bedrooms and a chute to drop laundry to the home's first level (there's

another laundry room on the middle, or main level). Below the main living area, meanwhile, is a fourth bedroom and bath, two bonus rooms (the listing hints at a potential wine cellar), and a large living space with floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors that open from the bar and great room to the pool deck.

The professionally landscaped backyard was designed with low maintenance in mind, with a focus on the saltwater pool and spa and adjacent fire pit and built-in barbecue area.

Other amenities include a garage pre-wired to house an electric car, full home security and fire protection, central vacuum, dual 75-gallon water heaters, nine-zone climate control, LED

*continued on page 27*

## GOLDEN DREAMS

### Wife locks husband in chicken coop

I gave my wife five chickens for Christmas. A friend gave her three more, for a total of eight, which is also the number of children we've conceived. (Two made their *exitus* before being born.) I'm just going to leave that tidbit here at the outset; all comparisons going forward are your own affair.



**Astonishingly, no one makes you take a class or get a license before you can have chickens.**

This is not our first batch of chickens. It's maybe our fifth. Predators come for them, because they are so delectable and defenseless. Coyotes carry them off. Raccoons take their heads. Possums eat their guts. Skunks dismember them. It mostly happens at night. We gather what information we can from the aftermath and the internet. After every slaughter, we try to do a little better at protecting them, even as our coop starts to age into decrepitude. No more free ranging. Then no more

plastic ties securing patches on the run's chicken-wire roof. And after something opened a neat round hole in the run's wall, no more chicken-wire walls. Steel hardware cloth instead. My wife jokes about 300-dollar eggs as she sends me down to the coop for its installation. It's a lousy return on investment, but that's not the point.

The new chickens wander around the run, pecking and scratching peacefully until, inexplicably, one of them charges another. A feathery fracas follows, and then ends, just as inexplicably. Eventually, a pecking order will emerge, though I'm stumped as to the point. At night, for instance, I find five chickens crammed into a single nesting box. It can't be comfortable.

Gah. One of these little monsters just pecked me. Because it does not matter to my chickens that I am hunched amid them in the dirt, painstakingly and also painfully twisting individual bits of chicken wire around other bits of chicken wire in an effort to create a multi-layered barrier at the juncture of coop and chain link fence so that some critter with nothing else to do in life but find a weak spot in this run's defenses does not make a mockery of all my other efforts and find his way in for a highly secure killing spree. No, what matters to my chickens is that I might be useful as a food source.

The film director Werner Herzog can be found on YouTube suggesting that you "try to look at a chicken in the eye with great intensity... the intensity of the stupidity that is looking back at you is just amazing." But that's not what I see right now. I look in the eye of the chicken that has just pecked me and I see something truly alien. There is a great gulf between us,

millions of years wide. I am looking into the eye of something primal. A T-Rex, perhaps. Just look at those feet.

My wife comes to check on my progress. Before she leaves, she locks the door on the coop from the outside, trapping me with the chickens. Later, she will claim she did this without thinking.

### That fat analog sound

Maybe it's when a man starts to feel a bit broken down and disposable himself that he starts to look around for things that are worth repairing and saving. Things like this Belles A



**Fixing old stuff in an old space: Mike Rubenhold in front of Audio Design's sprawling storefront**

amplifier that's been tucked in my closet ever since a friend cleaned out his garage in my direction. Seems it's the first amp ever designed by David Belles, the man behind Power Modules,

*continued on page 27*

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# In my heart I hate it

*The Little Italy I love* has always been its sumptuous food and sensual people, both of which, despite the nouveau riche takeover of late, remain as present and prosperous as ever. That Little Italy is alive in Mona Lisa Italian Foods, the tang of parmesan, the toasty fume of fresh-baked sourdough, the nasal snap of balsamic vinaigrette dousing a saucer of extra-virgin olive oil. It's alive in the cannoli — the crispy-shelled, ricotta-filled, sugar-fairy pastry, just out of the freezer at RoVino (shoehorned next to the Waterfront) and served by two generations of homegrown cooks, the Tarantinos.

On the other side of the cannoli are Rosalie Tarantino and her nephew Tom, the 52-year-old owner of RoVino. The pair love parsing their shared history, all things Italian except the family meatball recipe. Rosalie, her features still fine-boned at 84,

keeps the face of a beloved in an oval locket. She, like Tom's mother and Tom's daughter, and his brother's daughter, are all Rosalie Tarantino. Of course, their friends and

neighbors know by sight and sound who is whom. But this naming tradition is like a bulwark against the risk that their ethnic claim may be vanishing.

When I eye and ear the surroundings, that risk is everywhere apparent.

The neighborhood's home and its Italianness has been dwindling for decades. The major blow (two words, commonly repeated: *ruined* and *destroyed*) was the 1960 bisecting of Little Italy by Interstate 5, decimating a third of the community. Some moved up to Mission Hills or out to El Cajon. By then, the fishing industry had also drooped. The Tarantino clan retooled. Rosalie worked

**Hard work and staying put and a savings account — such values required three generations in Little Italy to toil, apparently without complaint, in the fishing industry.**



for the city. Others staffed government jobs, did laundry, canned at home, opened specialty shops, or majored in the fine art of marinara-cooking, pasta-serving, and cork-popping. One famous family member owned the legendary Harbor Drive eatery, John Tarantino's.

Rosalie and Tom, who grew up a generation apart, recall youths when few locals stepped out for dinner. "In our neighborhood," Rosalie says, "everyone ate at home." There weren't that many restaurants."

"Leonardo's," Tom adds, "which is now Mona Lisa, Cash-and-Carry, which is now Filippi's — and Solunto's made bread. That's all there was." The onslaught of fancy urban villas in which to showcase traditional Italian food roared in during the stock-mad 1990s.

"No one in the old day called it 'Little Italy,'" Tom goes on. "You just went down India Street and found a deli." To hear these two recall the past — beauty salon, butcher, gasoline station, shoe repair, barber shop, drugstore with soda fountain, pistachio ice cream, jukeboxes, candy cigarettes, even the still-occurring procession from Our Lady of the Rosary down to the waterfront to bless the boats — is to catch the stuttering vibrato of Frankie Laine singing "That's My Desire" from a wide-finned Oldsmobile rolling by.

"Every Italian kid my age was brought up with food, family, and faith," today, RoVino's tagline. "You went to church every Sunday. When our elders were in the room, you got up and kissed them. You called older people aunt and uncle whether they were or not. It's just how

it was."

Rosalie and Tom recall during the late 1990s, one day, on-street parking was scarcer than usual. This was a bellwether. Suddenly, they noticed buildings rising above the wire wreaths of telephone poles. Since then, the encroachment is on. The new generation of occupiers are carless; they like not having a Vons or a Target; they Uber or ride the trolley; they are cool, hip, and options-fat. Rosalie says her home on India is surrounded by only two remaining householders. They're hunkering down as the phone rings daily with offers of two-million-plus for their postage-stamp plots. To which Tom rejoins, "No one's going to buy her house as a house. They're going to buy it for the land."

On the land, Tom ticks off the new eateries, which, like modern art galleries, arrive captained by celebrity chefs like Richard Blais and Brian Malarkey. Already in place is the \$6.5 million Born and Raised on India at Fir Street with its wood-sculpted, bison-ribbed entrance. And plans are finalizing for Mark Wahlberg's Wahlburgers and

the retro/glossy/chain Shake Shack.

"Why would you want to stop this," Tom says, his tone laced with irony. This, the hyper-bourgeois institutionalization of the "dining out experience" as though it's a city dweller's human right.

The gaseous part of Little Italy's foodie bubble for Tom?

"As a businessman down here, I love it. As growing up down here" — he motors in from Scripps Ranch — "in my heart, I hate it. I don't enjoy living down here now. It was never like this. It's too urban."

#### A new kind of Italian identity

The Italian Historical Society of San Diego's book of photographs, San Diego's Little Italy, one in the series of "Images of America," outlines the enclave's attraction to sunny skies and fishable waters 100 years ago. Many streamed in from Porticello, in Sicily, (the south) and Genoa and Riva Trigoso, in Liguria (the north), escaping poverty and a First World War in southern Europe. Prior to this, some came from San

Francisco, battered by the 1906 earthquake. While the community "served to reinforce the strong ties to the mother country... San Diego's Little Italy allowed for a new kind of Italian identity — an American Italian identity — to be shaped by a variety of experiences."

What fostered the character that became Little Italy's 6000 families? Settlers combined hard knocks — before, during, and after the Great Depression — with a cocoon-like sense of place, a magnet by which adventuresome relatives could set their compasses. All spoke Italian (including the dogs); most learned English. Add in the lure of American opportunity, the myth (sometimes true, at least, then) that hard work and staying put and a savings account meant



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PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Rosalie Tarantino, 84, with her nephew Tom Tarantino, recalls when few locals stepped out for dinner. "In our neighborhood, everyone ate at home. There weren't that many restaurants."

spare coins jangling in your purse. Such values required three generations in Little Italy to toil, apparently without complaint, in the fishing industry — long-poling, boat-building, net-mending, cannery-managing,

or belly-slitting and slime-lining the catch of the day. In 1937, 140 million pounds of skipjack and yellowfin are hooked by the California tuna fleet. For a boy wandering the dock that year, boats and their ice-packed

cargo steam in at sunset. On Harbor Drive, the cannery night crew are stitching their uniforms, passing around copies of Sun Harbor's *Catch & Can News*. The whistle sounds, and stevedores fin-toss the fish onto conveyor belts



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

"Downtown," says Gary Smith, president of the San Diego Downtown Residents Group, "we think density is a great thing."

that ramp into the plant. Assembly-line workers decapitate, gut, and filet the tuna, pack minced portions in cans. For that Italian-American boy (his sister, stuck cooking at home), the smell of fish innards is the smell

of money. The romance of tuna-boating and the dreamed-of riches landscape the bay like the Seven Seas of Sinbad. Bright-night clouds tell the boy the moon is grinning. His pocket knife is the sword of Hercules.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Marco Li Mandri, who pushed for and has led the Little Italy Association for 20 years, says, "In 1990, 10 percent of San Diegans knew there was a Little Italy. Now, 10 percent don't."

Creeping home, he senses God lurking in alleyways, hiding under a stairwell and visible only when he's alone.

All this happened once and may, on some level, happen still. The lonely present bulges, tumor-like, with the starry past. Saint Augustine

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- ✦ Be at least 12 years old
- ✦ Be at risk of developing further complications (for example, those with another health condition and those over the age of 65)

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reminds us that our ancestors, the dead, are invisible. They're not absent.

#### Managed unaffordability

Exit the old, enter the new, and Little Italy in this century births a new identity. It's a place to dine, to drink, to seek that starry past. And, for the neighborhood's promoters, to market itself as such. Taking a walk on the sales side, we encounter a labyrinthine tautology: Little Italy's boosters, like an ouroboros, have granted themselves the opportunity to make money off of boosting it. The chief espousers, Marco Li Mandri and Steven Galasso, began the Little Italy Association in 1997 and still apportion its \$2.5 million annual revenue. That year the pair got its 67 acres designated a small Business



Intersection of India and Date streets, 1998, before the condo and restaurant revolution began.

Improvement District. It's an unfortunate noun string, BID, but without it, so it's claimed, the locale could not have been tendered to the one percent as its favorite urban hot spot.

As proof of its civic activism, here's the Little

Italy Association's most recent annual report (2016) in which their Monopoly-board metrics are enumerated: the number of employees (6300), the number of media hits and TV segments (450), the number of Little-Italy-marked trash cans (250)

and recycling receptacles (100), the number of property owners (1858), the number of apartment units and condos (2866), the number of hotel/motel/B&B rooms (1275), the number of trees (1300), the number of banners (two dozen)

celebrating among other famous Italians (Lady Gaga; Antonin Scalia; few San Diegans), the number of social media dings (52,341 Facebook posts; 21,000 Instagram pops; 5724 tweets), and the number of public spaces (13), which includes piazzas, a dog park (whose square feet of K-9 Grass, "The Artificial Grass Designed Specifically for Dogs," where play and defecation thrive, is 6100), and Amici Park at State and Date. (It matters not how many parking spaces there are — the number is never enough.) Thus, it is claimed, "San Diego's Little Italy is seen as one of the top Little Italy neighborhoods in the nation."

I had no idea the number of Little Italy neighborhoods in the nation is quantified, stand-

ing today at a dozen. A few are successful while most have "fallen by the wayside" and need associational love.

Marco Li Mandri, the chief flag-waver of the neighborhood, is 100 percent Sicilian. I ask about what's happening to Little Italy: a good thing? a bad thing? His response snaps back before my question ends. Even by the late 1990s, he says, "Little Italy was a forgotten land: asphalt sidewalks, parking lots. We didn't know that some 4000 residential units were coming." They organized the improvement district to corner redevelopment funds and sell the visibility/livability of the historic locale. Li Mandri's maxim is that "in 1990, 10 percent of San Diegans knew there was a Little Italy. Now, 10 percent don't."

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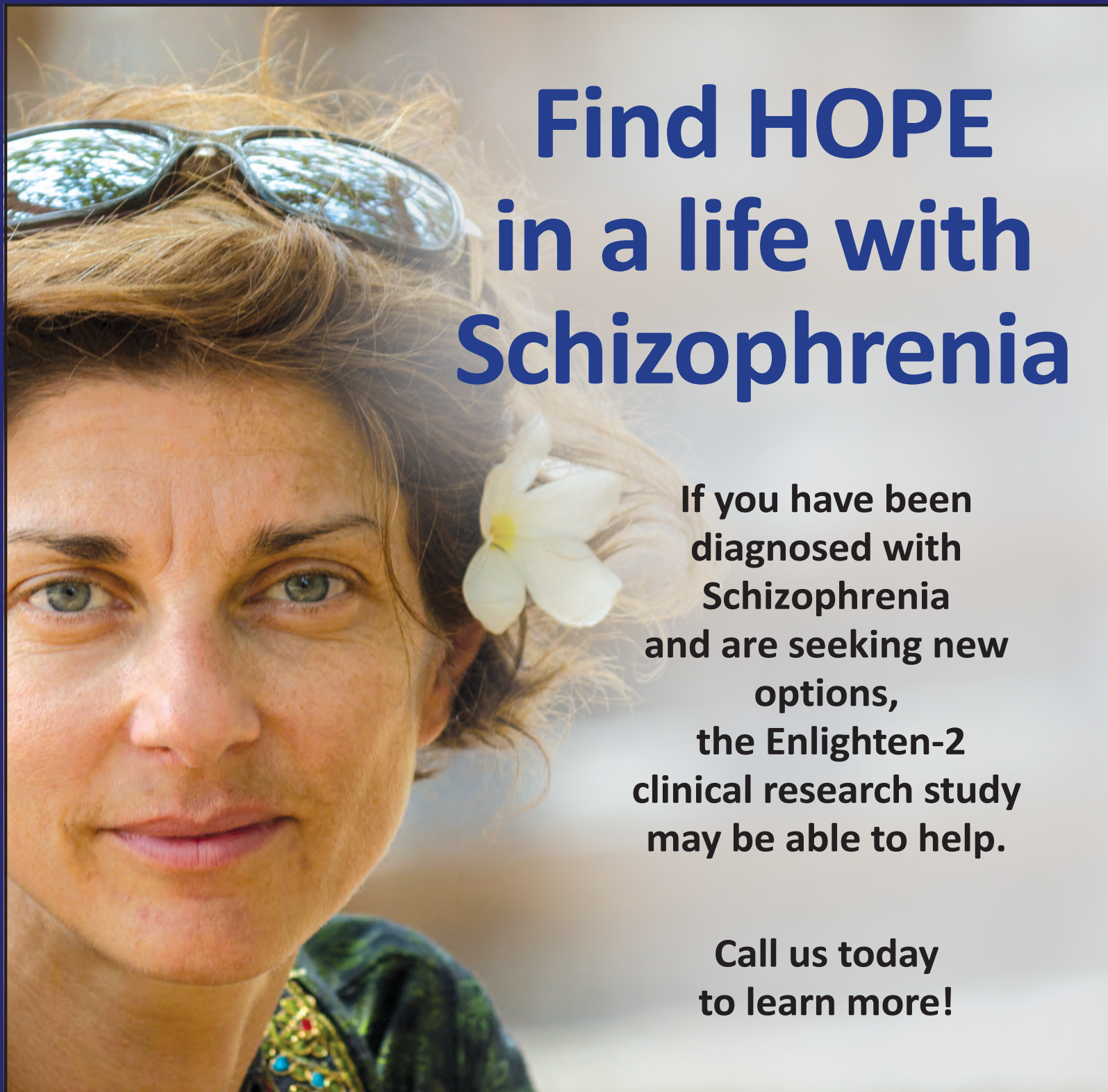
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After tuna, Depression-era hard times, necessary and ginned-up American wars, and the U.S. Navy all came and went, what was left? In a word, nostalgia. For Li Mandri, an essential word. To commodify that nostalgia is to harness San Diego's mom-and-pop past: for rainbow-tiled plazas, for yesteryear façades, for monetized management, and for nests of people, in Li Mandri's summation, who are "highly motivated to keep Little Italy growing vertically but maintain its historical nature."

Is there any tension between those who want to erect more glass-and-steel boxes and those who want to keep the funky Mediterranean Revival homes of yore?

"No tension, no conflict," Li Mandri boasts. "The people who live in



**An aerial view of Little Italy from 1950. Note the lack of Interstate 5 and the neoclassical Washington Elementary (top left) since torn down.**

the neighborhood love living here."

What about the mounting number of condos sprouting on the last of the blacktop parking lots?

"Would I rather have people or cars on those lots?" Li Mandri says. "I'd rather have people." He tallies how the having-people idea completes itself in the many potted

piazas he's midwived in the neighborhood: Piazza Basilone (India and Fir), for "the boys who never came home" from World War II and the Korean War; Piazza Pescatore (at

Kettner and Grape), for the local Italian fishing families; and the large, carless, big-fountain Piazza della Famiglia (Date Street, between Columbia and India), now in its fifth year of construction.

The "vision thing" for Li Mandri is to buttress the current trend — less shopping ("Amazon's got that covered") and more fine dining and people-watching. He's quick to credit foot-traffic to the neighborhood's "pedestrian" lifestyle. Walk Score, a walkability indexer, rates San Diego as "somewhat walkable," though Little Italy, its sidewalks bench-packed, is quite high, third behind Core-Columbia and Horton Plaza. (Call it also the Mom-ability index: a safe neighborhood reveals itself in the number of perambulators on India.) "We've

been able to develop," Li Mandri says, "a 16-hour day here: seven in the morning to late at night." Breakfast, lunch, especially for county workers, dinner, plus inbound riders on Uber, Lyft, or FRED, a free, app-summoned van service.

But to rent or own? Another story. Most prices for owners and renters are way beyond affordable. A Little Italy studio (good luck finding one) is \$1600 a month; a one-bedroom apartment, \$2400; two bedrooms, \$2900.

Ever a moot argument, housing developers must include affordable housing, 10 percent by law, into their projects — if they want to reap tax benefits, post-construction. Its inclusion will also fast-track the permitting process. Even then, most companies pay the fee so

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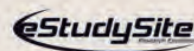
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they don't have to mon- key with affordable. Those who need reasonable rents the most, getting to and from Little Italy's food-service work, are stuck in roommate-bulging apart- ments in our Scrooge- ish city.

Topmast is Vici Lux- ury Rentals, going up where the *Reader* building used to be. Note the out- front ad: "Dare to Live." (Dare to pay the high six figures or the low seven figures.) With its rooftop garden and European- style living, the behemoth,

hobbled by construction and weather delays, is only one-third leased. Projected opening, full or no, March 2018.

A relentless optimist, Li Mandri wants for Little Italy what San Francisco's North Beach or Green- wich Village has: "hipsters and hip-replacement peo- ple...mixed income, mixed race, mixed use."

I counter that all this mixing is Little Italy's noisy self-dramatization: the rumble of delivery trucks, the ding-ding zipline of trains, the belly-

wide roar of planes, the sloshed choirs in one after another beer joint.

"All that was there before" — he volleys back — "the cruise ships, the Navy, the freeway, the freight trains, the trolley, the airport — all that was there before there was any development."

Li Mandri says, there's no downside to devel- oping within the com- munity. It's only outside forces — infected home- less and one car per per- son — that threaten. The community wants him to

oversee it, he says — Li Mandri's been described as an "assessment guru," one who creates a neigh- borhood plan for which residents and businesses must pay if they want the fruits of his executive vision — "because," he says, "if you don't man- age it, it will lead to crisis."

Also known as eco- nomic stagnation or entrepreneurial neglect. Yet, can't a community be loved — and over-orga- nized — to death as well?

### Keep circling

In Little Italy, every night is date night. It used to be that the enclave's res- taurants had seasonal or weekend crowds. It was a first-date place, 18-inch pizzas, he finishing what she couldn't. But less so in the glossy urban era. Cruise in, and there they are. The scenesters, men and their sketchy three- day beards, aspiring logo

designers, their hands waist-guiding high- heeled brunettes with middle-parted long hair, aspiring logos. They've arrived at the second- story unwindowed bars where thump-thump house music has replaced candlelight balladry. Once, Frankie Valli's fal- setto. Now, Bruno Mars's pronking. Driven in, their cars have been holstered by valets, (\$7, \$9), young men in jazz-hat fedoras, the identity gear of park- ing attendants. Carousers have been Lyft-dumped by those who need not park, their faces illumined in the greenish blue light of dash-mounted cell- phones, which tell them how close they are to the destination (the crush in front of the Waterfront, with man, woman, and mug high-chaired on the sidewalk, is exasperat- ingly slow) and his/her next ping.

Indeed, the Lyft ride is a metaphor for Little Italy. Easy in, easy out. No responsibilities, no reason to overnight. Con- vergence: where people congregate there's life. Convergence, congrega- tion. Every now and then, two cars pull up to a stop sign and neither moves, the (competitive) feeling is, I'm passing through more slowly than you are.

Maybe the thing I can't see, stuck in the sub- urban drollery of my life, is how certain enclaves compact the eating, enter- taining, moonlighting, dreaming, and more — in a public forum, an agora, which the TV-quieted homes of Clairemont, lit- tle temples to blasé, never know or can't imagine as a worthwhile night on the town. Unless we get in our Hondas and drive there.

### Density is good

Gary Smith, president of the San Diego Downtown Residents Group, epitomizes the urban lounge. Still in shorts and T-shirt on a fallish day, he is as unfazed as he is energized by all the bustling and hammering, the grind- ing and beeping of back- ing-up trucks. Residents and homeowners, 37,452 people, he tells me, live downtown, around 6000 in Little Italy; maybe 10 percent are members of his group.

He's nested down- town, west of the 5 (he has his car in a paid-for parking spot), since 1985. When did the race from one-story buildings to six stories take off? Smith says there was no launch. It's been incremental — and only seems boom-ish in retrospect.

"Remember the Huff- man six-pack" he asks.

Say what?

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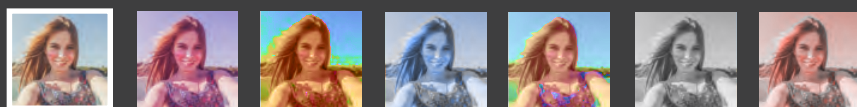
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lot, six units stacked like soup cartons on a store shelf with six parking slots under a carport: visual repugnancy. Such is “what other neighborhoods think density is,” Smith says. Not downtown. He and his group have, to date, held architects to a classier standard; the Huffman six-pack has not materialized in Little Italy.

“Downtown,” he continues, “we think density is a great thing,” attracting the right mix of supportive residents, classy development, and beehive activity. “Density is good.”

To those residents who flap foul about infill in their backyards, Smith says, “They don’t have my sympathy.” From our perch in Caffè Italia, he sweeps his hands outward like Jesus: “Go out and walk up and down the street. It ain’t San Francisco. It ain’t New York. So, don’t even talk about being over-densified. Until you’re shoulder-to-shoulder with crowds — give me a break.” Everyone who’s involved in what he calls “planning the city’s future, none of them are nimbys or bananas.” Bananas? “Build absolutely nothing anywhere near anything.”

An example of how to “protect” the enclave’s charm is — get



**Piazza della Famiglia is being constructed on the section of Date Street between Columbia and India Streets. The condo tower in the background is on the former site of the Reader building.**

ready — the Little Italy Sun Access Overlay. At Kettner and B towers the elegant Treo@Kettner, just south of Little Italy’s southern border. The 326-unit building’s north-facing façade is like a staircase of Legos. The design rule is that “the sun has to be able to get to the northside sidewalk,” says Smith. The result, apparently architect Rob Quigley’s brainchild, captures the quiddity of San Diego. You can’t block the street’s access to the sun, our golden state’s gold. Parks reap the benefits: in the rare event of a steady rain, the soggy soil needs to dry out. This slicing away of giant glass rectangles fosters angled

views of the bay for the movie-mogul condo. That is, until another developer Manhattanizes the block in front.

I suggest to Smith that he may be in the preservationist game. In other words, the very kinds of building regulations he favors in Little Italy may, one day, be seen as the neighborhood’s salvation.

He doesn’t think we’re even close today to 2050’s “enough already” for Little Italy. “In Paris,” he says, “they clamped solid limits” on modernist development, forcing the truly excremental structures “to spread. But nobody,” in San Diego County particularly,

“wants ‘spread’ anymore. If I can’t go above 35 feet in the burbs, I got to do it somewhere. It’s going to be downtown.” Infill. Living on top of each other. Every wall a common wall.

Infill is more a mandate of the State of California long-term planning offices than it is the rapacious Doug Manchesters and Corky McMillins of the Southland pushing it. Smith says these decisions are top-down. “They are telling us, rightly, that we need to accommodate, going forward, X number of jobs and X number of people.”

Despite the anti-regulatory zeal of the Trump administration, agencies that configure regional transportation needs have to plan growth. (And where are their angelic blueprints for Mission Valley?) Wherever I go in Little Italy I hear this: If people are going to have jobs in San Diego, they must live near where they work. How can this not be true, let alone missed in the master plan?

The bottom line for Smith is that developers are the Magi. “We welcome them,” he says. “The apartment/condo vacancy

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rate is one percent. San Diego's city bird is the 200-foot crane!"

### Father Louis

There is something luminous about Father Louis Solcia, for 25 years a priest at Our Lady of the Rosary, at State and Date streets. It radiates from his salty Milanese accent, which epitomizes the ethnic legacy and its continuing vigor in Little Italy. I'm trying to zero in on *le mot juste* for the glow as I talk with the 86-year-old, black-attired, "God bless you, real good" priest — why he was called to be a Catholic missionary and teacher with degrees in education and sociology.

Growing up in Milan during the war, he sheltered from bombing raids and prayed over much destruction. "I said, 'This can't go on.'" He felt called to "do good" and attended seminaries in America and Canada. He wanted "an active life," not a contemplative one. Touching his hand to his heart, he tells me his order was the Barnabites whose goals, Wikipedia reports, are "preaching in general, catechizing, hearing con-



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

**Since 1925, Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic church has been the spiritual heart of Little Italy. But it's been more a commuter parish than neighborhood parish for decades now.**

fessions, giving missions, ministrations in hospitals and prisons, and the education of youth."

When he arrived at Our Lady in 1992, he noticed neighborhood gangs peddling drugs, getting corruptibly close to Washington Elementary. Father Louis, sparking community attention, oversaw building renovations and upgrades, which, he says, pushed out the druggies.

"I'm very proud of this neighborhood," he says, "because of the

love of family, the love of food, and the love of succeeding. Italians work hard, are humble, are not assuming" (He also adores Italians because they are a "sweet, kind, generous, social, happy people.") The chief quality, he says, is humility: "Nobody's bragging about succeeding." He's heard stories of women from the old days who "would make bread in their backyard ovens, sell them for 25 cents a loaf, and did very well." Plus, he says, many "still speak Italian or Sicilian." Walk India

Street and weave among its outdoor tables. You'll hear tough dialects from men who never speak with their mouths full, the pizza is that good.

Alas, most old-country sorts are long gone — to the suburbs for school or to the retirement homes. Today, Our Lady is a beacon and a magnet, not a neighbor.

In recent years, Father Louis has watched an influx of "yuppies." He spies them from this second-floor office window on Columbia Street.

They congregate in Little Italy "to make a fast buck." Such is not the Italian way. "You have to be patient."

One change he points to is the church's open arms toward immigrant Filipinos. (When I meet the youngest of the two Filipino priests, on the stomach-stuffed side of a spaghetti-dinner fundraiser one Saturday, he is blessing — holy water anointing — a Nissan Highlander. He tells me, "You want to talk about the growth of Little Italy? I don't see any growth. There's just a lot of people who need me.") Half of the church's congregation is not Italian, Father Louis says. Those who want in, "love our culture, our traditions."

I think, surely, love of culture and tradition is undeniable. But there's also a faith-based lastingness about Father Louis, amid the Bible reference books weighing down one office wall, that's also part of his aura. Or else it's the food and the Romanesque beauty of the churches he's said Mass in and the Latin classes he's taught for 60 years. He seems, in the self-aggrandizing world where everyone has to

make a buck off of Little Italy's facelift, to be different kind of developer, another sort of Magi.

I rarely meet people who love the Catholic church. Those I've known do nothing but argue with it. Pick and choose their Catholicity. Dispute doctrine, tribalize divisions, weaponize faith, ignore their brothers and sisters. Not Father Louis. He's a rare one. One with an accept-all amplitude about his mission. One with an unselfish duty to officiate at funerals, Masses, blessings, classes, answering letters from the sick, listening to the ashamed, forgiving the criminals, cleansing the burdened of that which Zoloff and psychotherapy cannot clean. One who goes where none of us goes — into a wing of Children's Hospital where babies and children are so ill that they do not survive.

The word I'm searching for is devotion. As long as that devotion to community is pure of heart and requires no payback and is evident in even one person between Laurel and Ash, State and Pacific Highway, its wave carries Little Italy on. ■

— Thomas Larson

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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For smoothing and resurfacing skin.

Special package: 4 Fraxel & 2 Free IPL.

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# UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 12

lighting “expected to last nearly the lifetime of the home,” shaded glass interior passage doors and bidets.



A bathroom “bathed in natural light”

Public records indicate ownership of the property currently lies with Lookout Drive LLC, a holding com-

pany established by John Cicone, owner of Cicone Construction Company and builder of the estate. The 2017 property tax valuation of the parcel was just under \$2.2 million, a nearly \$1 million jump over the previous year due to lot improvements jumping in assessed value from \$10,000 to \$940,200 following construction of the new residence.

The Lookout Drive estate hit the open market for the first time in mid-November of 2017, carrying an asking price of \$8,688,000 that remains unchanged to date. ■

# LETTERS

continued from page 4

world, in writing, numerous times. Not once did they come true. They truly are known for their false predictions the world over.

JWs are taught that they alone are true Christians and that all other people not JW will soon be destroyed. This is no exaggeration.

JWs will allow their own children to die rather than accept a life-saving blood transfusion, even in severe medical emergencies. It has already happened thousands of times!

— Vince Tylor

The KKK peaked in San Diego in the 1920s, City Lights, January 10

Then as now, “some very fine people.” The tendency to sanitize the past leads some to believe one can cherry-pick stories or ideas (“The KKK protected widows and children”; “Hitler did some good things but went too far”), without understanding that everything done in

# Golden Dreams

continued from page 12

Inc. He gets a lot of love in the online audiophile forums.

The fact that the amp weighs half a million pounds is strangely encouraging, even if it does make it harder to haul it to Audio Design in the College Area, there to see Mike Rubenhold, who runs the repair department. The business has grown over 25 years to occupy a fair portion of the Trenfel Block (b. 1940) at the corner of El Cajon and Rolando boulevards. The great majority of its warren-like space is given over to sales stock and rental equipment: stages, lighting, speakers, mixing boards, drum kits, guitar cabinets — everything except the band. But there are still two or three rooms for repairs: speakers that can be re-coned, DJ equipment, old reel-to-reel recording machines... and lots and lots of keyboards, some of them dating back to the '70s.

“Most of them are analog,” says Rubenhold. “They became trendy again in the last 15 years or so — probably because of the rise of electronic dance music — because they have a really fat, analog sound. A lot of people describe digital sound as very harsh and dry, and analog sound as warm and rich.” (The reel-to-reels remain popular for the same reason.) “But they can be tricky to repair. There are no computer chips or replaceable modular pieces. It’s typically

one big rat’s nest that you have to go through” to find the proverbial bad bulb that’s darkening the whole strand. “Often, you’ll have to create mods or fabricate parts that are no longer available.” Sometimes, he’ll search eBay to see if a particular unit is worth the expense. But because of that sweet analog sound, “music is probably one of the few industries that puts value on older equipment. I do a lot of vintage restoration, and my job will probably never be obsolete.”

That’s good news for a man who used to build and sell personal computers, and who turned musical passion (26 years on drums) and an electronics hobby (Mom and Dad bought him kits at Radio Shack) into a job after getting laid off as an engineer. “That was around 2000, when I answered an ad for an electronics tech at Professional Sound and Music on Mission Gorge.” During the economic downturns that followed, “fewer people were buying new gear. In the last few years there, repairs kept the business alive.” He opened the service department here in 2015.

O happy day: my Belles A is an ancient analog beast. “It’s absolutely worth repairing,” opines Rubenhold as he slowly ramps up the power to test for the excessive draw that will indicate a short circuit. (He finds it.) “It will sound very, very good.” ■

the service of evil is tainted and irredeemable.

Pseudohistory is just as dangerous as pseudoscience. — Cassander

Cassander: Yours is a perceptive remark. The Klan in the 1920s really wanted society to go back to a time run by an all-white majority. If it took

continued on page 54

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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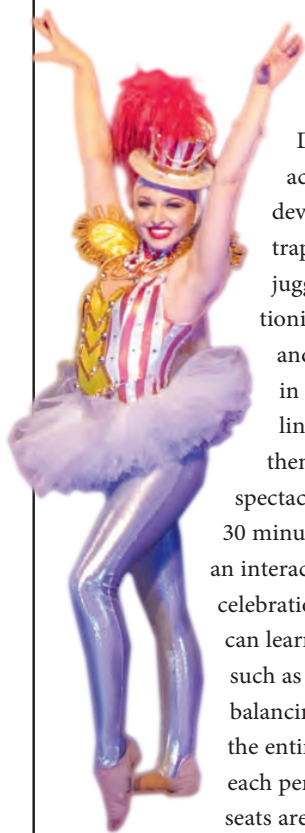
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# Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

## Thursday | 18



### CIRCUS VARGAS: PIRATES

Death-defying acrobats, dare-devils, flying-trapeze artists, jugglers, contortionists, clowns, and motorcycles in a swashbuckling, pirate-themed circus spectacular. Arrive 30 minutes early for an interactive pre-show celebration, where kids can learn circus skills such as juggling and balancing. Meet with the entire cast after each performance. VIP seats are individual chairs in the front center of the performance ring. \$15–\$72.

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 18, 7 p.m. through Monday, January 22

**WHERE:** Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. [circusvargas.com](http://circusvargas.com)

### LA VENTANA CLASSIC

The La Ventana Classic is an annual kiteboarding, windsurfing, SUP, and mountain-biking event in La Ventana, Mexico. Along with the races (that bring top competitors) is a Party Island Downwinder Poker Run on giant inflatable rafts, a concert by Kilometro (one of the top bands in Cabo), and the popular KiteXpo. La Ventana is a 40-minute drive from La Paz Airport and 2.5 hours from the Cabo



LA VENTANA CLASSIC

Airport. Once a quiet Mexican fishing village, it was discovered by windsurfers about 15 years ago and has become a perfect kitesurfing spot, thanks to the steady winds from November to March.

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 18, 7 a.m., through Sunday, January 21

**WHERE:** La Ventana, Baja California Sur, Mexico. [laventanaclassic.com](http://laventanaclassic.com)

## Saturday | 20

### WOMEN'S MARCH SAN DIEGO 2018: HEAR OUR VOTE

“This march is designed to engage and empower voters to support women’s rights, human rights, social and environmental justice, and to encourage participation in 2018 midterm elections.” The San Diego march will be one of many worldwide events honoring the movement that brought out millions of marchers on January 21, 2017, one of the largest single-day demonstrations in U.S. history. With speeches by senator Toni Atkins, congresswoman Susan Davis, rabbi Laurie Coskey, Nancy Nagle of the Santa Ysabel Kumeyaay Nation, and others. “First we march, then we vote!”

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 20, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway, downtown San Diego. [womensmarchsd.org](http://womensmarchsd.org)



SATURDAY, JANUARY 20: WOMEN'S MARCH

**THE LAST WIFE.** On her own, Kate Parr has all the world before her. She’s smart, confident, and capable. Then she becomes the sixth wife of King Henry VIII: “To six wives he was wed; one died, one survived, two divorced, two beheaded.” Which will this ardent champion of women’s rights become? Through February 11 at Cygnet Theatre in Old Town. Theater, [page 49](#).

### SANTEE ACTIVE LIFESTYLE EXPO

The City of Santee hosts the national USA Track & Field National 50K Race Walk Championships along with a health-and-fitness expo. Try your hand at race-walking and meet professional race-walkers. The expo includes the Extreme Fit

Obstacle Course with more than 200 feet of inflatable obstacles and fire-fighter challenges. BMX professionals will be flying through the air on a half-pipe ramp. Attendees wearing fitness attire and athletic shoes can try out a different fitness class every 30 minutes on the amphitheater stage. Nearly 50



vendor booths will have samples and health-and-wellness tips. Free breakfast sandwiches and açai bowls while supplies last. The race will take place on Town Center Parkway and Riverview Drive from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The winner gets an \$8000 prize.

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**WHERE:** Santee Trolley Square Town Center, 9884 Mission Gorge Road, Santee. [bit.ly/2BnSTgy](http://bit.ly/2BnSTgy)

### MONSTER TRUCK JAM

This year's lineup includes super-truck icons Grave Digger and Max-D along with world-final champions El Toro Loco and Avenger. Nine trucks will make their San Diego debut, including the newest member of the Monster Jam beasts family — the menacing giant shark Megalodon. Come to the stadium early for the Monster Jam Pit Party pre-show for a close-up view of the trucks and autographs and photos with the drivers. New for 2018, a Pit Party Early Access Pass gets you in one hour before the general public. \$24–\$80.

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 20, 2:30 to 7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard, East Village. [atmlb.com/2mcSqmT](http://atmlb.com/2mcSqmT)

**HATS OFF: 30 YEARS AT SAN DIEGUITO HERITAGE MUSEUM.** There's a new sheriff at the Heritage Ranch, home of the San Dieguito Heritage Museum, where former *Homegrown Hour* host and busy *Listen Local* promoter and performer Cathryn Beeks has taken up both residence and employment. Dedicated to preserving artifacts, records, and stories of Native Americans and early homesteaders from the San Dieguito River area, the museum marks its 30th year on Saturday with Beeks hosting Hats Off, an all-day celebration featuring beer, wine, special exhibits, and bluegrass music from Rosa's Cantina, who will perform at 3 p.m. Proceeds from food and



SATURDAY, JANUARY 20: MONSTER TRUCK JAM

drink sales go to support the museum. Music, [page 47](#).

## Sunday | 21

### SAN DIEGO RESTAURANT WEEK

The 14th annual San Diego Restaurant Week returns Sunday, January 21, through Sunday, January 28, a culinary tour of the diverse food culture of San

Diego with over 180 participating restaurants offering three-course prix-fixe dinner options for \$20, \$30, \$40, or \$50 and two-course prix-fixe lunch menus for \$10, \$15, or \$20. The restaurants span the county, from the South Bay to East County to the Oceanside and Fallbrook to the north.

**WHEN:** Sunday, January 21, through Sunday, January 28  
**WHERE:** Throughout San Diego County. [sandiegorestaurantweek.com](http://sandiegorestaurantweek.com)

## Monday | 22

### THE AGE OF THE BAROQUE

"The story of the Age of Baroque is a tale of today. To examine the 17th Century is to reveal the 21st — two centuries united by tribalism, sectarianism, and acquiescence to unreasoning power. We shall explore this dynamic period through the lens of its greatest artists." Host Linda Blair has lectured on diverse topics in European art history for many years, primarily on the East Coast. The

January 22 lecture covers Caravaggio, whose death results in one of the oddest DNA investigations in Western art. \$14–\$19.



**WHEN:** Monday, January 22, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Additional lectures throughout January and February.  
**WHERE:** Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla. [ljathenaeum.org](http://ljathenaeum.org)



# ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

## LA COSTA VALLEY AND LA COSTA GLEN TRAILS

Experience different habitats on nearby trails

**Distance from downtown San Diego:** 30 miles (Carlsbad). Allow 40 minutes driving time. From I-5N turn right (east) onto Leucadia Boulevard in Encinitas and drive to Garden View Road. Turn left (north) onto Garden View Road. It will become Calle Barcelona as it bends toward the east. Turn right at the first signal into the Forum Shopping Center. Park in the northeast corner of the parking lot, then walk east on Calle Barcelona, crossing at El Camino Real. Then take an immediate right (east) to Paseo Aliso. Go left (north) onto Paseo Aliso to the signed La Costa Valley Trailhead to start the first trail for a total of 0.5 mile. No facilities. **Hiking length:** 4.15 miles. **Difficulty:** Easy with minimal elevation gain/loss. Bicycles and leashed dogs are allowed.



View of Batiquitos Lagoon from La Costa Glen Trail

**B**oth La Costa Valley and La Costa Glen are Carlsbad City trails that are near each other and relatively short. They are within or in close proximity to similar riparian and coastal chaparral/sage scrub habitats, but the trails do not directly connect.

The trip described here assumes the goal is to do both trails in an expeditious manner and presents a simple way to accomplish this. The La Costa Valley Trail begins on Paseo Aliso and continues along a well-maintained, decomposed granite path for 0.5 mile to Avenida Helecho. The trail is about 50 feet above a broad wetland but immediately below the backyards of homes that line the north side of the path. This provides a stark contrast between these semi-wild lands that are the remnants of coastal San Diego's native flora and exotically landscaped, suburban habitat that has replaced most of it.

As you walk along the path, notice numerous native shrubs along the south (right) side of the trail. Prominent among these are toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), with its bright red berries in the fall, California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*) in bloom nearly throughout the year, lemonadeberry (*Rhus integrifolia*), coast prickly pear (*Opuntia littoralis*), and laurel sumac (*Malosma laurina*). The public is prohibited from entering the wetlands below, and observing them from the distance of the trail makes it hard to identify most of the species living there. However, southern cattails (*Typha domingensis*) are likely to be prominent in the wettest areas and white plumes of the invasive, nonnative pampas grass (*Cotaderia jubata*) are easy to spot from this distance.

The Carlsbad City Trail ends when you reach Avenida Helecho. A similar trail continues on the other side of this street, but it is owned and maintained by a local homeowners' association and has a prominent sign stating that it is for the use of La Costa Valley residents only and that trespassers will be prosecuted. Instead of wandering up this illegal option, stay to the west side of Avenida Helecho, turn right, and walk about 200 feet to the La Costa Valley South Trailhead. Follow this paved trail west and then south for 0.3 mile to Calle Barcelona.

continued on page 32

### 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 [sdrreader.com/events/submit](http://sdrreader.com/events/submit).

## ANIMAL FRIENDS

**Sea of Symphony** In the ocean, communication travels at the speed of sound. Explore the sea of symphony and the cacophony of critters that make up our ocean soundscape, and get a behind-the-scenes look with Scripps scientists at the cutting-edge research that is changing the way we understand and protect the planet. Sunday, January 21, 9am; \$50-\$60. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

## ART

**Age of the Baroque** The story of the Age of Baroque is a tale of today. To examine the 17th Century is to reveal the 21st. Two centuries united by tribalism, sectarianism, and acquiescence to unreasoning power. We shall explore this dynamic period through the lens of its greatest artists. Art has always been the handmaiden of power, a truism magnified in this era, which was all about power — its uses and abuses. The power of grand monarchs, whether Philip IV of Spain or France's Sun King, Louis XIV; the power of a monolithic Church confronting the existential threat of Martin Luther's Reformation; the power of belief and of ideas and, ultimately, the power of great art. The January 18 lecture will cover Gian Lorenzo Bernini. Thursday, January 18, 7:30pm; \$14-\$19. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

### Lisa Ross: Opening Reception

Fine-art photography at MK Envision Galleries. Opening reception for Lisa Ross, MK's local feature in its 2018 Winter Exhibit. Mingle with the artist while enjoying small bites and sips at the gallery. Must RSVP. Saturday, January 20, 4pm; free. MK Envision Galleries, 2710 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 17. (LIBERTY STATION)

### Lunchtime Lecture: Art of the Americas

Learn about the pre-Columbian objects presented in *Art of the Americas* from Dr. Janet Esser, art historian and Professor Emerita of San Diego State University. Dr. Esser has lived in Peru and Mexico, has published books and articles in Mexico and the United States, and has presented many professional papers written extensively on ancient, ethnographic, contemporary, and personal adornment. Free with museum admission. Friday, January 19, 12pm; \$7-\$10. Mingei Inter-

national Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

### Panel Discussion on Border Art Today

Moderated by *unDocumenta* curator Alessandra Mocczuma, panel members include curator of education at MCASD Cris Scorza, Sara Soleimani (UCSD Ph.D. program), and independent curator Leticia Gomez-Franco. Thursday, January 18, 6pm; \$10. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

### San Diego Surf Ladies Art Show

Our first ever art show featuring surf and other nature related art. We will have lots of art to see and buy, food and drinks for sale, and live music. A portion of proceeds go to charity partner, Girl's Rising of San Diego. San Diego Surf Ladies is a registered nonprofit whose mission is to bring together female surfers of all abilities to bond, have fun, share skills, and promote female surfing. We have over 200 members all over San Diego County. Saturday, January 20, 5:30pm; free. Torque Moto Café, 3604 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

### Seven Artists Paint at the Marston House

Artists Dorothy Oldson Herman, Pamela Ingwers, Rita Pacheco, Jeffrey Remmer, Lynne Schulnik, Toni Williams, and Joan Boyer will paint en plein air (on location) around the Marston House gardens and exhibit iconic views of Balboa Park. A selection of paintings will be for sale. All are members of Plein Air Painters of San Diego. Saturday, January 20, 10:30am; free. Marston House Museum, 3525 Seventh Avenue. (HILLCREST)

### Wine & Lecture: Coronado's Public Art Collection

Learn more about Coronado's growing Public Art Collection from the comfort of the Coronado Museum of History and Art. Coronado's Contract Art Administrator, Kelly Purvis, guides the lecture through the history of the artwork that is hidden throughout Coronado. Friday, January 19, 5:30pm; \$15-\$18. Coronado Museum of History and Art, 1100 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

## BEER

### Small Batch Hazelnut Stout of Your League

This beer is not for the nut-averse. In order to impart a big, bold, hazelnut flavor into our Oatmeal Stout, we made a one-time exception in our anti-extract rule. The extract process itself is all natural and relies only on real hazelnuts and alcohol in the extraction process. Friday, January 19, 12pm; \$3-\$8. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

## BOOK SIGNINGS

**Author Talk: Thrift Style** Join Author Reise Moore and Allison Engel for insider tips on how to create a perfect "style ID" without

sabotaging your budget. *Thrift Style* comes to life with live demonstrations on ways to cultivate your thrift shop finds into chic and eye-catching outfits. Audiences will get easy "dos" and "don'ts" to spot quality used items and customize their own style. The January Author Talk is made possible by Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund and the Friends of the Carlsbad Library. The program is presented in partnership with Adventures by the Book. Info: 760-602-2026. Saturday, January 20, 2pm; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

### Diana Lindsay: Anza-Borrego Desert Region 6th Edition

For almost 40 years The Anza-Borrego Desert Region has been the most comprehensive guidebook for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreation Area, and the surrounding region including federal Bureau of Land Management desert lands. It is the book given to new ABDSP rangers to introduce them to their assigned patrol areas and is considered "the bible" for anyone thinking about visiting these desert lands. The new 6th Edition has been updated and includes new areas that are now completely part of ABDSP, including more acreage in the Laguna Mountains and connecting trails to adjacent Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. Saturday, January 20, 10:30am; free. Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78. (JULIAN)

### Mystery Books & Brews

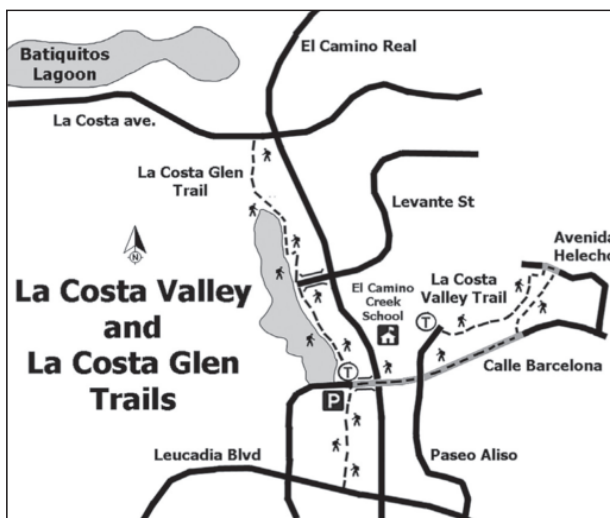
Adventures by the Book is excited to introduce our newest series, Mystery Books & Brews, and we couldn't be more pleased that our inaugural event will feature *New York Times* bestselling author Christopher Reich. As you enjoy a casual, light buffet dinner and beer, Chris will discuss his international spy thriller *The Take*, which is one part James Bond and one part Jack Reacher. Meet the author up-close and personal in a fun and intimate setting. Thursday, January 18, 6pm; \$40-\$70. Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**All India** Learn about spices and curries. This class is a lot of work but a lot of fun. Menu: veggie samosas; papadums with mango chutney, raita, and green sauce; saag paneer; spicy and sassy fish curry; chicken tkka masala; basmati rice. Friday, January 19, 6pm; \$70. Hipcooks, 4048 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

### Cheesemaking Fundamentals

Learn the fundamental processes behind fresh cheesemaking as well as the techniques for making pressed cheeses and aged cheeses such as cheddar, gouda, and camembert. We will make fromage blanc, ricotta, and queso fresco, and demonstrate the processes involved in making feta, swiss-style cheeses, and mold-ripened cheeses



Find maps for the hikes and more Roam-O-Rama columns online at [SDReader.com/roam](http://SDReader.com/roam)



## Rhyme & Verse

Seven haiku by Andrew Hamlin

Library sink tableau  
two pages hardcore poem  
small sunscreen tube

The bride and the groom  
and a little brown-haired girl  
sticking out her tongue

Fourteen hours  
waiting for this train  
hello again, wink the stars

The spider, quiet  
center-web, disdains  
raindrop pearls

Election Day  
Spider strands over the glass doors  
silver in the sun

On the road: a rock  
and my disinclination  
to kick at it

Russet leaf shower  
benediction to one man  
walking with his dog



WENDY DOWLING

Andrew Hamlin likes to photograph shoes and write about dog shit. He was born and raised in Seattle, Washington, where he resides today. He attended the Evergreen State College, where he wrote and edited arts coverage for the *Cooper Point Journal*. He is the film critic for the *Northwest Asian Weekly*, and he's published arts coverage and criticism in the *San Diego Reader*, *Village Voice*, *Seattle Times*, *Seattle Weekly*, *Goldmine*, and other publications. He misses Helen Wiggan. Hamlin's website is [andrewhamlin.org](http://andrewhamlin.org).

Find more poetry online at [SDreader.com/poetry](http://SDreader.com/poetry)

such as camembert/brie-style and blue cheeses. We will have samples of the various styles of cheeses you can make at home from Venissimo, as well as other refreshments. Finally, you will receive a packet with a recipe booklet to make the cheeses from the class as well as basic supplies to get you started with your cheesemaking. Saturday, January 20, 1pm; \$75. Curds and

Wine, 7194 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

**DIY Kimchi Workshop** Learn how to make killer kimchi. Kimchi is an ancient Korean pickle (usually spicy) and there are hundreds of ways to make it. We will explore some of them. We'll explain fermentation and have a brief discussion about the benefits of making and eating fermenting foods, and

the history and different styles of kimchi. We'll show you how easy it is to start making fermented foods yourself at home. We'll demo some simple seasonal fermented recipes which are loaded with healthy probiotic bacteria. Taste a variety of fermented kimchis to sample. Saturday, January 20, 12pm; \$30. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

**Taste of Art: Wild Beasts of Henri Rousseau** Robin Douglas will delve into the lush, exotic jungle of Henri Rousseau's paintings over appetizers and drinks. Be inspired by his post-impressionistic, soulful, and primitive animals to create a composition of beasts and landscapes in his signature style with watercolor and acrylic paints. All materials supplied.

Thursday, January 18, 6pm; \$35-\$45. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

**Tuscany Wine Dinner** Following the walk-around tasting, enjoy a true taste of the Tuscany with our chef Gustavo Perez and Italian sommelier Stephano Butto as they work together to create the perfect wine-paired dinner menu. Saturday, January 20, 6pm; free. Wine-Sellar and Brasserie, 9550 Waples Street #115. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

## COMEDY

**Comedy Improv Show: Attack of the Rotten Tomatoes** Comedy Improv team Attack of the Rotten Tomatoes tackles Hollywood's biggest blockbusters and remakes them into something never seen before. On Saturday, January 20, they take on the '80s classic *Back to the Future*. Saturday, January 20, 9pm; \$15. Finest City Improv, 4250 Louisiana Street. (NORTH PARK)

**Harland Williams** Comedian and actor Harland Williams is known for his movie roles and stand-up and sketch-comedy routines with roles in films such as *Dumb and Dumber*, *Something About Mary*, *Half Baked*, *Rocketman*, *Sorority Boys*, and *Down Periscope*. Thursday, January 18, 8pm; Friday, January 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10-\$20. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Jay Chandrasekhar** Director/writer/comedian/actor Jay Chandrasekhar has contributed and appeared in a wide variety of critically acclaimed television programs and films throughout his career. Thursday, January 18, 8pm; Friday, January 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Sinbad** American stand-up comedian and actor Sinbad is best known for his comedy specials on HBO, appearing on several television series and starring in the films *Necessary Roughness*, *Houseguest*, *First Kid*, *Jingle All the Way*, and *Good Burger*. Thursday, January 18, 8pm; \$59-\$69. Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre, 5469 Casino Way. (EL CAJON)

## DANCE

**Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater: ~+Janus II** This concert honors Jean Isaacs' past and future while providing a platform for upcoming local choreographers Trystan Loucado and Gina and Kyle Sorensen. Friday, January 19, 7:30pm; Saturday, January 20, 7:30pm; Sunday, January 21, 2:30pm; \$15-\$40. Saville Theatre at San Diego City College, 14th and C Street. (CITY COLLEGE)

**The Totally 90s Burlesque Show** This show features a full cast of professional dancers, sing-

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# SHEEP AND GOATS

## I ANSWERED THE CALL

### Temple Beth Shalom

**Contact:** 208 Madrona St., Chula Vista; 619-420-6040; bethshalomtemple.com

**Membership:** 60

**Rabbi:** Michael Samuel

**Age:** 64

**Born:** San Francisco

**Formation:** Tomthei Temmimim, Israel; San Francisco Theological Seminary, San Anselmo

**Years Ordained:** 41

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

**Rabbi Michael Samuel:** I think about it all week and ask myself, "What is the message I want to get across?" Once I'm able to answer that, it will take me ten minutes to write it. The key to writing a good sermon is to have an idea you wish

to communicate — a specific idea, moral, or concern.

**SDR:** What's your favorite subject on which to preach?

**RS:** Ethical monotheism is important. It is a belief in God that inspires people to live a good, decent, and ethical life. Ethical monotheism creates a nexus between people and faith. With faith, it's not enough to "believe" in God. You're not doing God any favors. It's more important to be living in God. It's a pun — be-living instead of believing.

They sound alike but they're different: faith has to be totally engaging and help you want to make the world a better place.

**SDR:** Why did you become a rabbi?

**RS:** Many years ago, I knew I

wanted to be a rabbi. I felt as if God spoke to me as a child through the marvels of nature, and astronomy in particular.

That inspired me to pursue a path I've remained committed to ever since. The universe is a phenomenally expansive place, and that we're able to understand a small part of it, and ask why we are here and how we got here, signifies a miracle that is on par with the Big Bang. The emergence of sentient, self-reflective life defies astronomical odds. That life should exist may not be a great miracle, but that life should be capable of understanding its origin and asking the great question "Why?" is at the heart of all faiths. That's what inspired me as a teenager

to become a rabbi.

**SDR:** Why Judaism?

**RS:** Judaism is a religion that appeals to reason, mindfulness, and how we conduct ourselves in this life. Judaism is not a closed religion; it does not look at the world and other religions in a negative way. Judaism is a beautiful, challenging, engaging religion that is always pushing me to be at my best.

**SDR:** What is the mission of your community?

**RS:** Our mission is to help Jews of any background to reconnect with their ancestral heritage. That is the mission statement of Temple Beth Shalom. We have classes and help people learn Hebrew, both biblical and modern



Michael Samuel

conversational Hebrew. We also have classes which focus on Jewish philosophy and ethics, and we study the Bible every Saturday. I encourage my students to challenge the text. The best question is the question that makes you think.

**SDR:** Where do you go when you die?

**RS:** It's better to live your life

as if it has absolute meaning and purpose than to live a life that has no purpose. When I talk about the afterlife, that's one approach I take. There's another approach, too. The question of the afterlife is irrelevant. Why? If there is an afterlife, we'll know about it soon enough; and if there is no afterlife, then we'll never know the difference. Thus, Judaism is more a functional faith that is concerned with how you act. It keeps you directed toward the divine and transcendental while keeping your feet firmly planted in this world.

— Joseph O'Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at [SDReader.com/worship/](http://SDReader.com/worship/)

ers, and aerialists. As with any Pixie Stixx production, this will be an interactive experience, with dancers getting up close and personal with audience members. Saturday, January 20, 7pm; \$20-\$45. Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

**Jane Austen Literary Tea Society: Northanger Abbey** Jeanne Talbot of the Jane Austen Society will facilitate a discussion of Austen's novel *Northanger Abbey* while

we enjoy tea and historical delicacies. We encourage (but do not require) you to dress for the occasion in modern or period tea party finery, and we hope you've read the book (movie doesn't count)! Saturday, January 20, 2:30pm; free. Alpine Library, 1752 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

**Modern Marvels: Candy** Candy-making evolved from a handmade operation to high-tech mass production. In this sugary documentary, we digest the latest sensations and visit several of the leading candy-makers — Hershey's, See's Candy, Schimpff's Confectionery, Jelly Belly, and more. Presented by Professor of Psychology,

Seth Senecal. Documentary Discussions is a recurring program, held on the last Saturday of the month. Saturday, January 20, 2pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

## FOOD & DRINK

**San Diego Restaurant Week** The 14th Annual San Diego Restaurant Week returns Sunday, January 21 through Sunday, January 28, a culinary tour of the diverse food culture of San Diego with over 180 participating restaurants offering three-course prix-fixe din-

ner options for \$20, \$30, \$40, or \$50 and two-course prix-fixe lunch menus for \$10, \$15, or \$20. The restaurants span the county, from the South Bay to East County to the Oceanside and Fallbrook to the north. Sunday, January 21, 11am; \$10-\$50. Throughout San Diego County

**San Diego Restaurant Week at Decoy** We invite you to our peaceful lakeside retreat to feast among the flora and fauna on a menu of new American cuisine inspired by the great outdoors and prepared by Executive Chef David Warner. Enjoy three courses on the lake: \$40 and \$50 dinner menus available. Sunday, January 21, 5pm; \$40-\$50. Lakehouse Hotel & Resort, 1025 La Bonita Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

**San Diego Restaurant Week at George's** San Diego Restaurant Week is January 21 through January 28 and this year, and all three levels of George's at the Cove are participating. Enjoy prix-fixe menus featuring a variety of appetizers, entrees, and desserts at restaurant week pricing. Sunday, January 21, 11am; \$20-\$50. George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

**San Diego Restaurant Week at Top of the Market** Three-course dinner \$50. Bluefin Crabcake, Asian Pears and Burrata, Grilled Spanish Octopus, and more from Executive Chef Stafford Mather and Sous Chef Francisco Contreras. Sunday, January 21, 4pm; \$50. Top of the Market, 750 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**San Diego Restaurant Week at the Westgate Room** Executive Chef Fabrice Hardel has specially created exquisite lunch and dinner menus for gourmets to enjoy a fine culinary experience during this special week. Two-course lunch menu

\$20, three-course dinner menu \$50 per person. Sunday, January 21, 11am; \$20-\$50. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Tagines & Couscous: A History** Culinary Historians of San Diego presents Kitty Morse in the Neil Morgan Auditorium with the story of Moroccan cuisine and culture. Kitty Morse's career as cookbook author, cooking teacher, television host, food and travel writer, and tour organizer spans close to 30 years. She has authored eleven cookbooks, five of them on the cuisine of her native Morocco. *Mint Tea and Minarets: a Banquet of Moroccan Memories* is a memoir with recipes and focuses on Dar Zitoun, her family's Moorish riad near her hometown of Casablanca. The book was selected as Best Book Arab Cuisine USA by the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards and her French translation is soon to appear in eBook format. Info: chsdca@gmail.com. Saturday, January 20, 10:30am; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

## FOR KIDS

**Circus Vargas: Pirates** Death-defying acrobats, daredevils, flying-trapeze artists, jugglers, contortionists, clowns, and motorcycles in a swashbuckling, pirate-themed circus spectacular. Arrive 30 minutes early for an interactive pre-show celebration, where kids can learn circus skills such as juggling and balancing. Meet with the entire cast after each performance. VIP seats are individual chairs in the front center of the performance ring. Thursday, January 18, 7pm; Friday, January 19, 4pm and 7pm;

Saturday, January 20, 1pm, 4pm and 7pm; Sunday, January 21, 12:30pm, 3:30pm and 6:30pm; \$15-\$72. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

**Make 'N' Play Family Music Day** Tailored to children ages 4-12 and their families, Make 'N' Play days give kids the opportunity to create an instrument of their own. In this, the first of these interactive workshops, the focus will be on making a box guitar. Younger children will be able to make simpler instruments such as shakers and rattles. Adults must accompany children. Saturday, January 20, 1pm; \$10. Museum of Making Music, 5790 Armada Drive. (CARLSBAD)

**Science of Dairy: A Bio Tech Workshop** Discover the chemistry and microbiology of cheese, yogurt, and other dairy products. Learn how to make cheese and remove lactose from milk in this fun, hands-on workshop exploring food technology. Appropriate for ages 10-18. Limit 20 participants. Register online. Saturday, January 20, 3pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Science, Exploration, & Adventure: Whale Tales** Experience all three at SEA Days. Each month, guests are invited to meet researchers from Scripps Institution of Oceanography and learn about their exciting research and current ocean topics. Whales are a diverse group of animals that have fascinated people for thousands of years. At this family-friendly event, meet a Scripps Oceanography scientist and find out about their current whale research. Included with admission. Saturday, January 20, 11am; \$14-\$18. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

## ROAM-O-RAMA

continued from page 30

It passes through a similar suburban-wild land interface, but with more riparian species thriving beside the trail. These include a number of large trees: sycamore (*Platanus racemosa*), coast live oak, (*Quercus agrifolia*), cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*), and black willow (*Salix gooddingii*), as well as smaller coastal scrub species, such as coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*), coastal sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*), California sunflower (*Encelia californica*), and San Diego sunflower (*Bahiopsis laciniata*). Upon reaching Calle Barcelona, turn right and continue west on the paved roadside path for 0.7 mile to the La Costa Glen—Calle Barcelona Trailhead.

The La Costa Glen Trail takes you north about a mile, from Calle Barcelona to La Costa Avenue, giving you a nearly 2-mile out-and-back addition to your adventure. The trail is a broad decomposed-granite path that parallels Encinitas Creek as it flows toward Batiquitos Lagoon. There is a large retirement community along most of the west side of the trail. However, there is enough of a buffer between the retirement village and the trail to have allowed for a dense growth of native chaparral and coastal sage shrubs to complement those on the

east side of the trail.

In addition to the species mentioned above, expect to find black sage (*Salvia mellifera*), California buckwheat, coastal bushmallow (*Malcothamus fasciculatus*), goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*), and the San Diego wreath plant (*Stephanomeria diegensis*). These species bloom at different times of the year. Visits in the spring and early summer are rewarded with brilliant displays of lavender bushmallow blooms, while in late summer and fall the bright yellow of goldenbush inflorescences will dominate the trail. Even late fall and early winter provides a show with the three different *Baccharis* species found here looking as though they are covered with snow as a result of their small but abundant white flowers.

To extend the walk, continue down an unpaved trail to Leucadia Boulevard before returning to your vehicle.

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

## LECTURES

**China Through the Lens of Friendship Delegations in the 1970s** The UC San Diego Library is pleased to launch a new digital collection of images of early 1970s China contributed by members of the Committee of Concerned Asian Scholars Friendship Delegations. You are invited to a dialogue and reception with CCAS delegates and contributors in Geisel's Seuss Room. Info: xic031@ucsd.edu. Thursday, January 18, 4pm; free. UC San Diego Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Climate Change, The Essentials** Dillon Amaya, graduate student researcher at Scripps Institute of Oceanography, UCSD will discuss the basic science behind climate change, the role of nature, and evidence of human contribution. Amaya will share his experiences from major United Nations Summits about the Paris Climate Agreements. Presented by San Diego Independent Scholars. Free parking in Gilman Parking Structure. Room 111A, Chancellor's Complex, Lyman Way. Saturday, January 20, 1:30pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Refusal of Treatment and How Best to Die with Dementia** Join us as we hear experts (Alzheimer's Association, medical and hospice community, clergy) discuss the end of life with dementia and how to achieve a more peaceful death. A question-and-answer discussion follows. Hemlock Society of San Diego. Sunday, January 21, 1:30pm; free. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

**Third Saturday Lecture: Sheldon Lou** The San Diego Chinese Historical Museum is thrilled to have special guest and author Sheldon Lou as their Third Saturday Lecture speaker. As he has traveled and taught in China extensively, Lou will be speaking about the dramatic changes in the Chinese economic and political landscapes. He will also be sharing about his memoir titled "Sparrows, Bedbugs, and Body Shadows." Saturday, January 20, 2pm; free. Chuang Archive and Learning Center, 541-B Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

## NATURE

**Bird Spring Canyon and Grasslands** Join Mission Trails Regional Park birders Jeanne Raimond and Millie Basden for avian adventure in two habitats, grassland and Spring Canyon. We anticipate seeing hungry hawks and coastal sage scrub birds that frequent this area of the park. Binoculars and bird book recommended. Rain cancels. Meet at north end of large dirt parking proximate to north trail head. Saturday, January 20, 8am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park East

Fortuna staging area, Mast Boulevard at SR-52. (SANTEE)

**Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike** Join naturalist Les Braund for a new hike location, leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall chaparral vegetation and follows a switchback trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the summer holly shrub and others. Les says this is one of the most beautiful walks he knows of. The park is located at the junction of Camino Ruiz and Calle Cristobal in Mira Mesa. Saturday, January 20, 8am; free. Camino Ruiz trailhead, 11489 Camino Ruiz. (MIRA MESA)

**VCTA Daley Ranch Hike** Join the Valley Center Trails Association for a moderate to strenuous seven-mile hike in the Daley Ranch. We will start on the Caballo trail and make our way up to Stanley Peak – the highest point in the Daley Ranch at 1983 feet. We will travel through chaparral and past high meadows. At the top are lovely views of Valley Center and Palomar. Allow 3-1/2 hours. Valley Center Trails Assn is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the creation of non-motorized trails and pathways in Valley Center. Sunday, January 21, 8am; free. Daley Ranch – Caballo trailhead, 3450 East Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Monster Truck Jam** This year's lineup includes super-truck icons Grave Digger and Max-D along with World Final Champions El Toro Loco and Avenger. Nine trucks will make their San Diego debut, including the newest member of the Monster Jam beasts family – the menacing giant shark Megalodon. Come to the stadium early for the Monster Jam Pit Party pre-show for a close-up view of the trucks and autographs and photos with the drivers. New for 2018, a Pit Party Early Access Pass gets you in one hour before the general public. Saturday, January 20, 2:30pm; \$24-\$80. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**Nuno Trunk Show** Nuno, which simply means "cloth" in Japanese, blends the traditional and the contemporary in their bold and modern hand-printed textiles. Led by world-renowned designer Reiko Sudo, who launched the company more than 35 years ago with textile icon Jun'ichi Arai, Nuno works with independent spinners, dyers, and mills that still survive in villages throughout Japan to create pieces that are original and distinctive. Shop their scarves, shawls, and learn more about the company's unique process. Friday, January 19, 10am; Saturday, January 20, 10am; free. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

## SPORTS & FITNESS

**San Diego Prospectors Minor League Baseball Tryout** The San Diego Prospectors will host their inaugural season in 2018. \$100 pre-registration required (sorry, no walk-ups). Sunday, January 21, 11am; \$100. Mission Bay Park, Vacation Isle, off Ingraham Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Santee Active Lifestyle Expo** The City of Santee hosts the national USA Track & Field National 50K Race Walk Championships along with a health-and-fitness expo. Try your hand at race walking, and meet professional race walkers. The expo includes the Extreme Fit Obstacle Course with more than 200 feet of inflatable obstacles and firefighter challenges. BMX professionals will be flying through the air on a half-pipe ramp. Attendees wearing fitness attire and athletic shoes can try out a different fitness class every 30 minutes on the amphitheater stage. Nearly 50 vendor booths will have samples and health-and-wellness tips. The race will take place on Town Center Parkway and Riverview Drive from 7:30am to 2:30pm. The winner gets an \$8000 prize. Saturday, January 20, 9am; free. Santee Trolley Square Town Center, 9884 Mission Gorge Road. (SANTEE)



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# WATER FRONT

## Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
<b>THU, JAN 18</b>	3:08	1.9'	4:19	-0.7'	9:17	6.1'	10:43	4.1'
<b>FRI, JAN 19</b>	3:42	2'	4:50	-0.5'	9:48	5.8'	11:17	4.1'
<b>SAT, JAN 20</b>	4:19	2'	5:22	-0.2'	10:21	5.5'	11:54	4.2'
<b>SUN, JAN 21</b>	5:04	2.1'	5:56	0.2'	10:57	5'		

## Waves (BEACONS)

Height	Direction	Interval
3'-5'	W	13 seconds
6'-9'	WNW	7 seconds
3'-5'	W	13 seconds
2'-4'	W	12 seconds

For daily updates to waves, water conditions, and fish reports, go to [SDReader.com/waterfront](http://SDReader.com/waterfront)

## EVENTS

**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)

**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)

**La Ventana Classic** The La Ventana Classic is an annual kiteboarding, windsurfing, SUP, and mountain-biking event in La Ventana, Mexico. Along with the races (that bring top competitors) is a Party Island Downwinder Poker Run on giant inflatable rafts, a concert by Kilometro (one of the top bands in Cabo), and the popular KiteXpo. La Ventana is a 40-minute drive from La Paz Airport and 2.5 hours from the Cabo Airport. Once a quiet Mexican fishing village, it was discovered by windsurfers about 15 years ago and has become a perfect kitesurfing spot thanks to the steady winds from November to March. Thursday, January 18, 7am; Friday, January 19, 7am; Saturday, January 20, 7am; Sunday, January 21, 7am; free. La Ventana, Baja California Sur, Mexico

**Salsa on the Beach** A gathering combining a beach day and salsa social. There are usually classes on salsa shines, rueda, zouk, and more. Family-friendly. Salsa, cha cha, and bachata music. Bonfire and healthy potluck at the end. At Ventura Cove, 1030-1298 W. Mission Bay Drive. Saturday, January 20, 1pm; free. Bonita Cove, 1100 W. Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

**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)

**Surfrider Cleanup Meet-Up** The Surfrider Foundation San Diego County Chapter and San Diego Coastkeeper coordinate cleanups on the third Saturday of the month at Moonlight State Beach in Encinitas. Group meets on the sand by the beach stand and showers/restrooms. To help out at an already coordinated cleanup, all you have to do is show up. For all beach cleanups, please wear comfortable clothes, closed-toed shoes, and sunscreen. All volunteers are welcome to participate and must sign a liability waiver. Volunteers under 18 must have a parent or guardian sign the waiver before the minor can participate. Saturday, January 20, 9am; free. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

**Tall Ship Adventure** Join the crew in sailing a traditionally rigged tall ship. Passengers will be invited to haul a line, man the helm, and end their day with a cannon salute. Watch the crew as they scamper up and down the rigging to set and furl the sails. Listen as the *Californian's* crew relates the history of sailing and exploration in San Diego, tales of whaling and sea otter trade, local sea battles, the art of ship's gunnery, life at sea, and more. Sundays, 11:30am; through Sunday, March 25, \$44-\$62. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**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)



**Californian** — purchased by the Maritime Museum in June of 2002

## Let's hope she doesn't run aground

Her length, including bowsprit, is 145 feet, though when considering just her hull at 130 feet by 24 feet, the *Californian*, a replica of the mid-19th century revenue cutter *C.W. Lawrence*, weighs in at one ton per foot. Built from the ground up at Spanish Landing and completed in time to be exhibited at the 1984 summer Olympics in Los Angeles, the tall ship has sailed the West Coast, to Hawaii, and to the East Coast.

Built in Washington DC in 1848, the *C.W. Lawrence* was launched and sent to San Francisco by way of Cape Horn to patrol the coast of a newly acquired California. The trip took over 11 months before the *Lawrence* arrived in San Francisco Bay and began working under the federal Revenue Cutter Service. The ship was responsible for "enforcing customs regulations, assisting in the rescue of some ships, and the quelling of mutiny in others."

Nearly three years after first entering the water in the nation's capital, the *C.W. Lawrence* was abandoned after running aground during a storm at Punta Lobos south of

San Francisco in November of 1851.

Side note on the *Californian* replica: Catherine Bach, who played Daisy Duke of the *Dukes of Hazzard* TV series from 1979-1985, was used as the model for the replica ship's carved figurehead of Queen Califia, namesake of California.

The replica was purchased by the Maritime Museum of San Diego in June of 2002, and during the following winter-spring, she was hauled out, refitted, and rigged with new sails and mechanical systems and a redesign and refurbishing of the areas below deck. On Sundays, from 11:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., the Maritime Museum of San Diego is offering a three-hour Tall Ship Sailing Adventure aboard the *Californian*. Passengers will be invited to haul lines, man the helm, and watch the crew as they scamper up and down the rigging to set and furl the 7000 square feet of sails. During the sail,

*Perfect wave? Fish tale? We'll pay up to \$150 for your story. Send to [sdreader.com/waterfront](http://sdreader.com/waterfront)*

## BOAT AGROUND OFF POINT LOMA CAUSES JURISDICTION CONFUSION

### From San Diego city lifeguards Dec 10

-13:41 Medical: Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond to Littlerock Jetty for surfer with shoulder injury. Patient transported to UCSD  
-13:38 Medical: Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond to beach under Ocean Beach Pier for 20 year-old

male for head injury from 6' fall. Person is unconscious and breathing. Subject regains consciousness and elopes.  
-14:32 Medical: Lifeguard responds to Tourmaline Parking Lot for 911 call of stingray patient. Patient treated and released.  
-14:51 Swimming: Lifeguard responds to 911 call of possible swimmer in

distress off Del Mar Ave. and calls clear after witnessing swimmer in wetsuit with good stroke.  
-21:12 Boating: Lifeguards, rescue, Fed Fire, Navy Security, and SDPD respond to Coast Guard request for help (via SD Fire-Rescue Dispatch) with 18' runabout with two uninjured persons on board aground south of Pt. Loma

Tide Pools. Boat operator can't get boat re-launched. Coast Guard refuses to respond. Lifeguard makes initial contact and person on board non-compliant, refusing to leave their boat and come up cliff with lifeguard. Coast Guard and Navy Security not sure who's jurisdiction this is under. SDPD requested. Lifeguards clear and leave enforcement in hands of Navy Security at 12:13hrs.

### Dec 9

-10:21 Cliff: Multiple lifeguards including cliff unit respond to a reported fall in Box Canyon with ankle injury. Victim packaged and extricated by lifeguards. Patient transported to Scripps La Jolla.  
-10:32 Other: Lifeguards, Coast Guard and SDPD respond to a 911 transfer from jumper off Ingraham bridge. Jumper rescued by lifeguard. Patient transported to Ski Beach, then

# Water Conditions

## SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **60°F** HIGH **64°F**

## VISIBILITY

**5'-10'**

The week will start off with good chest-high to overhead surf for the carvers Monday midday through Thursday with the best sets Tuesday and Wednesday. Conditions will deteriorate Friday as driving onshore winds will build up very large 'dirty' surf by the afternoon and through the night. That mess should lay down with conditions improving through the weekend and into next week. Diving will be unadvisable for shore-based divers and snorkelers until late in the weekend and into next week's lesser tide swing. 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

JANUARY	THUR 18	SAT 20	MON 22	WED 24
<b>SUNRISE</b>	6:50	6:50	6:49	6:48
<b>SUNSET</b>	17:08	17:10	17:12	17:14
<b>LENGTH OF DAY</b>	10H 18M	10H 20M	10H 23M	10H 26M



**Peter Ramseier: "In 1997 I hit the bottom and it drug me along the sand for about 200 yards."**

crew will relate the history of sailing and exploration in San Diego, tales of whaling and the sea-otter trade, local sea battles, the art of ship's gunnery, and life at sea. Tickets \$44-\$62.

## Piranha in the I.B. Pier lineup

**NAME:** PETER RAMSEIER

**AGE:** 47

**FROM:** IMPERIAL BEACH

**OCCUPATION:** AIRPLANE MECHANIC

Peter Ramseier paddled out with his two sons and their friends just hours before the Christmas Eve festivities. They surfed by the Imperial Beach pier and showed off to their family on the East Coast.

"I've posted some pictures [on our social media]," he said. "I get a kick out of it, especially now that they're getting blasted with that cold air from Canada."

It was 65 degrees in I.B.

"The wave in I.B. is a little bit faster, you

really have to get up and get in," Ramseier said. "You can't hang out on your board for too long."

He's got five surfboards in his collection and brought his 6'11" Rusty Piranha board for the two-foot waves this day.

"This is a good place for floaters," he said. "The floater is when you come in, make a bottom turn, go back up the wave, ride the top of the crest, then drop back down into the wave, and keep on cruising."

Locally, his favorite place to surf is at Sunset Cliffs on a winter swell, because of "its nice easy channels for paddling out and nice form coming in."

Ramseier has surfed in Hawaii and Guam, thanks to his job as an airplane mechanic at Los Angeles International Airport. "I get to travel a bit and I took my kid down to Costa Rica last year," he said. "We both surfed, and the water is nice and warm. [Despite] it being all touristy now, no amount of new construction is going to



**Amidships at the Hogan**

ruin some nice breaks down there."

Ramseier had his craziest "slam-and-bam" wipeout a few feet away from where we interviewed. "In 1997 I hit the bottom and it drug me along the sand for about 200 yards. It was gnarly and I didn't think I was gonna make it up."

— Mike Madriaga

## Diving wrecks near the border

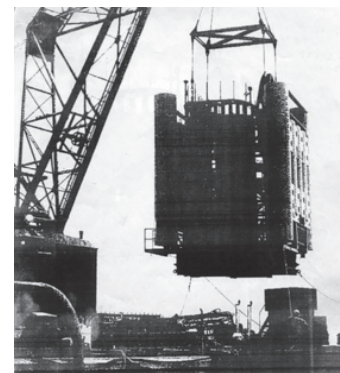
(The following two dive sites come from [divebums.com](http://divebums.com))

### USS Hogan

The 314-foot *Hogan* is the only wreck in this area which is serviced by San Diego's commercial dive-boat operators. She is a WWII-era Destroyer, intentionally sunk in November 1945 during bombing tests. She sits in water approximately 130' deep and is at 32 31.74, 117 12.57.

### The Missile Tower

The Missile Tower was used by the U.S. Navy to test-launch Trident submarine-based missiles.



CALIFORNIA ARTIFICIAL REEF PROGRAM

**Missile tower just before sinking.**

It was floated at the surface, where they would test fire a missile while filming the break-away cover with many very high-speed cameras. It "is a large object, about 60' high when it was upright, and 25' on the sides. A catwalk goes around the top of the structure. It is covered with large metridium anemones, literally by the thousands."

When the Navy was done with the missile tower, the State of California convinced the Navy to let them have it to sink as an artificial reef, which they did in 1993.

## MASSIVE YELLOWFIN TUNA CAUGHT OFF LORETO

**Dock Totals Jan 7 - Jan 13:** 1,168 anglers aboard 66 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 127 bluefin tuna, 1,584 yellowtail, 82 calico bass, 303 sand bass, 568 rockfish, 1 lingcod, 221 bonito, 15 whitefish, 25 sanddab, 4 halibut, 15 bocaccio, 1 finescale triggerfish, 1 halfmoon, 183 sculpin, 2 rubberlip seaperch, and 25 spiny lobster.

**Saltwater:** Some rough weather midweek kept the boats at their slips for a couple days, but the fishing leading up to the blow

was excellent. Then it was kind of slow for a day and is already heating back up. The yellowtail just off of Point Loma were biting for the ½ day boats with lots of limits caught. That the fish are on the small side probably accounts for a lot of five fish limits instead of ten. If confused, here's the skinny on yellowtail from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife: "The fishery for yellowtail (*Seriola lalandi*) remains open year-round. The daily bag and possession limit is ten fish. The minimum size limit is 24 inches fork length, except that up to five fish less than 24 inches fork length may be taken or possessed."

Further down the coast, from the Coronado Islands through Camalú and down towards Punta Baja by El Rosario, whitefish (some very large), rockfish, lingcod, and sheephead are all biting well on the bottom, while yellowtail are throughout the water column and eating flat-fall jigs and yoyo irons deep, while surface irons and trolled Rapalas are working on the surface.

This past week out of Loreto, Baja California Sur, angler Jorge Lazo of Tijuana boated three massive yellowfin tuna three days in a row. On January 6th, he landed a very nice 267 pound tuna two amberjacks over 70 pounds each.

# Splot on

“No,” says Vinh. “These have flavor already. No need to put anything on.”

There ain't nothin' in this whole wide world as comforting and warming and tastebud-caressing as Asian porridge. Known as *jok* in Thailand, *baw baw* in Cambodia, *cháo* in Vietnam.

At this very moment, I'm chowing down on *cháo*, right here in the middle of Little Saigon.

I came in dripping from the rain, and I was stuck between bus stops on El Cajon Boulevard up around Euclid as a #215 express took off. Not another for a half hour. Decided to find someplace warm.

I pass names like Hoai Hue, Da Nang, Pho King, Nha Trang. Mostly in new buildings housing doctors, bookkeepers, and sandwich shops. They're all signs of the prosperity that three decades of hard work have created since the post-Vietnam boat people started settling back in the '70s and '80s.

Two minutes on, I'm getting damp, cold, and miserable when an extra spurt from the rain gods sends me scuttling into this generic corner place. Com Tam Nhu Y. “Com Tam” is about broken rice, a Vietnamese favorite. Nhu Y, not so sure about.

As I come in, one of the Vietnamese crew, Vinh, is winding the wheels of a sugar cane grinder to press a stick of cane. Its juice falls into a jar (\$2.25) for another customer.

He hands me a big menu and gestures to the whole restaurant to sit down in. It's pretty empty, mostly folks sitting at window seats, watching the people outside scatter through the rain. Couple of Asian girls come in. One has a ukulele. She starts plunking and singing, until a waiter waves the two outside. I sit down

at a circular table of polished varnished wood, topped by an inner glass spinner surface. You can see these are for big family gatherings.

The walls are butter cream and yellow, with murals of, like, Ha Long Bay and other Vietnamese scenes.

“Jok?” I say.

Vinh looks puzzled.

“Breakfast: Rice, egg,

Ginger.”

“Ah.” He turns the page to a section called “Cháo.”

This is where I learn that “cháo” is “jok” is “congee” is rice soup with different names for



My cháo, one of the great porridges of the world

different countries. That it's maybe the most ancient food in China, going back at least to the Yellow Emperor. Here, you can have it with fish, chicken, beef, or a combination. It costs \$6.99.

I order the beef version.

Then I start looking over the rest of the menu. And, dang... I'm wanting some of this stuff. Like, braised fish in a clay pot (\$8.99). Or *suon ram man*, braised pork short rib, for \$8.99. Or with shrimp, or a shrimp-and-pork combo, \$13.99. Or countless other meat-and-veg combos I can't work out because they're

described in Vietnamese. So, yeah, most of their customers have to be Vietnamese. Good sign.

Anyway, I order the braised pork rib. And when it and the *cháo* arrive, I ask Vinh which of the bottles of hot sauce I should splot on.

“No,” says Vinh. “These have flavor already. No need to put anything on.”

He says it like, don't insult the cooks' work here. They have infused all the flavors you need.

The pork's good, sweet in a porky way, helped by cilantro and onions, and really tasty with the rice I ask for. But I decide to save most for Carla and me, for brekky tomorrow. Right now, just want to concentrate on the *cháo*. It's a little lemony, with scallions and fried onions, and shredded beef in there giving heft and flavor. But tonight, just as when the Yellow Emperor slurped it up 5000 years ago, it's mainly about the warmth, the gentle flavors, the ease on the digestion, the pleasure of watching the wild weather outside.

In my *cháo* tonight, there's no 100-year-old duck's eggs, or *youtiao* — fried bread sticks. Probably get that at breakfast time. But that's it: there's never just one *cháo*, even if it does spring from simple roots. It started off as food for hard times, a way of making a rice ration go further. Usually, today in Vietnam, they make it from the broth that a chicken has been boiled in, so you get basic flavor right away.

There's scallions and fried onions in there, but I do add bean sprouts and a couple of jalapeños to give it a little zap. And as you drink and chew it down, everything gets richer.



Suon ram man, braised short rib, bone in. Sweet, in a gingery way, worth the \$8.99

“We open at seven each morning,” says Vinh. “That's when people really love to eat it.”

“But isn't *pho* popular, too? Why don't you have lots of that?”

“Right across the Boulevard is a very famous *pho* restaurant. Pho Hoa. We let them do the *pho* specialties.”

Vinh's a pretty recent arrival from the fertile Mekong Delta. He struggles with English, but here, in Little Saigon, that's not really a problem.

He gets me boxes to pack the leftovers. “So what does ‘Nhu Y’ mean?” I ask a customer who's waiting for her to-go dish.

“It means, ‘May your wishes come true,’” she says. “We say ‘Van Su Nhu Y’ at Tet, our New Year, a month from now.”

I head back out into the rain thinking about, well, porridge. We hardly give it a thought, but this gloopy stuff's everywhere, sometimes made from grains, sometimes from rice. Easy food on every continent, but more than anywhere else, Asia. Heck, these people at Nhu Y — Wishes Come True Restaurant, right? — may be serving the most-eaten nosh in the world. Quaker Oats ought to look into it. ■

**The Place:** Nhu Y Restaurant, 4712 El Cajon Boulevard, suite A; 619-282-4545

**Hours:** 7 a.m.–9 p.m. daily

**Prices:** Cháo (porridge), with fish, chicken, beef, or combination, \$6.99; braised fish in clay pot, \$8.99; suon ram man, braised pork short rib, \$8.99; braised shrimp, or shrimp-and-pork combo, \$13.99; vegetarian dry chow foon, \$7.99; hot and sour Thailand shrimp soup, \$8.99; banxao (crepe-like rice pancake), \$6.99; shrimp-and-pork rolls (2), \$3.50; bean-curd-wrapped shrimp, \$2.75 each; BBQ pork chop, \$2.75; BBQ shrimp paste on sugar cane, \$3 per piece

**Buses:** 1, 215

**Nearest Bus Stops:** (Route #1) El Cajon Boulevard at Menlo Av.; (215) El Cajon Bl. at Winona

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# Salmon candy

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## Bull's fish

*Fishmonger's Market & Seafood Bar, 1735 Hancock Street, suite R, Little Italy.* I'm never sure how many San Diegans have discovered Fifty-Seven Degrees. The huge wine bar and art gallery offers tasty wine and beer and enough space that I've never failed to find an open table for a date or casual meeting. Despite a central location, the place is off the beaten path, squeezed between the airport and the 5 freeway, just west of Mission Hills.

Well, there's now a second reason to seek it out. Fishmonger's Market & Seafood Bar opened in the same property this fall, carving out 5000 square feet of dining room, patio, and market-counter space at the south end of the wine bar.

Fans of the fish market/restaurant concept may wonder who had the nerve to open one on the wrong side of the highway from Food Network-famous Blue Water Seafood Market & Grill. That would be another Food Network celebrity: Frank "Frankie the Bull" Terzoli, inaugural winner of the network's cooking competition show, *Cutthroat Kitchen*.

Terzoli's big personality made him a favorite on season two of *Top Chef* back in 2006, and he's gone on to open restaurants including Bull's Smokin' BBQ in Bay Park.

However, besides being a restaurateur and TV chef, Terzoli has seen virtually every side of the seafood industry, from growing up working on local fishing boats to wholesaling fish on a massive scale for his job with a national importer.

But aside from a glass counter showing off fileted fish and piles of prawns, Fishmonger's operates differently from Blue Water. Rather than follow the San Diego fish-market model, where you line up at a counter to order a choice of fish in taco, salad, or sandwich form, Fishmonger's adopts a European approach: white linens, table service, and a menu packed to the gills with fish prepared with a loftier culinary mindset.

Take the crudo bar. You cannot go wrong ordering the basics, particularly a selection of oysters served with cocktail sauce or mignonette. But this bar aims to ramp up the creativity, effectively resulting in Mediterranean-style sushi, such as a cuttlefish caprese that features tomato and micro-basil, while swapping a piece of raw fish for mozzarella. Though not as pretty as the strawberry oyster — dressed with mango, garlic oil, and lumpfish caviar — the familiar inspiration makes it a less convoluted introduction to

the adventurous crudo concept, as well as the slippery sweetness of raw cuttlefish itself.

The menu covers sandwiches and seafood pastas and grilled, pan-seared, and fried filets of fish, plus a smoked Alaskan salmon treat dubbed "Indian candy," that's maple-cured and smoked to produce sweet, jerky-like strips — also known as salmon candy — from the indigenous traditions of the Pacific Northwest.

My favorite dishes so far have been the richer, comfort dishes, in particular a decadent lobster macaroni and cheese that was devoured so quickly I didn't have time to nab a photo. But if you're looking for an introduction to the Fishmonger's menu on a cold day this winter, I'd start you with a hefty \$9 serving of its New England-style clam chowder.

A lunch conversation with my mom rarely slows down, but it came to a stop as we both spooned bits of clam and potato from large bowls of creamy broth culled from a roux with onion, celery, and red bell pepper. I can't compare the hearty, warming soup to the East Coast chowders that inspired it, but I've tried clam chowders all along the West Coast and never found one thicker.

by Ian Anderson

## Meat radar

*Cowboy Star, 640 Tenth Avenue, East Village.* Call it economic anxiety, call it freelancing for a living, but for whatever reason this past year, my fine-dining experiences were limited to a handful of special occasions. When you spend more money than you're comfortable spending on a night of food and drink with friends, it only feels "worth it" when the experience is as nearly flawless as my recent dinner at Cowboy Star.

I hadn't been to the East Village steak house in many years, but my friends Jordan and Katie — who had been there a few times in the past year — suggested we take our friend Shawn there for his birthday.

The waitstaff was welcoming and friendly, and service was prompt and attentive without being overbearing. We began with an *amuse bouche* — one tiny, flavor-packed bite on a silver spoon — that combined apple, prosciutto, curry, and chive. Our palates had been awakened.

Despite the focus on meat, the magical bite that had us talking well into the week was the Roasted Beets (\$12), an appetizer with endive, fromage blanc, hazelnut brittle, and saba (a reduced grape juice not unlike a balsamic vinegar). I'm not a fan of the bitter endives, so I pushed those aside. But what remained! The earthiness of the beets, the softness of the cheese, and the crispy, sweet nuttiness of the hazelnut brittle made for

a spectacular flavor/texture combination.

My only two quibbles of the evening had to do with the entrée. I ordered the 8-oz. Filet Mignon (\$49). No pun intended, but it's rare that my steak isn't cooked exactly to order at a steak house. At a place where steak is the thing, you'd think they'd have that down. But the "medium" came back on the rarer side of a medium rare (David, who ordered a medium rare, thought mine looked more rare than his).

Not a big problem. I'd rather have it undercooked than over because you can always throw it back in for a few minutes. But in this case it was more like ten minutes, and when it came back, though our server insisted I try it to be sure and I said it was fine, it was still more medium rare than medium. I ended up giving the middle to David.

The second of the two quibbles had to do with the fact that Cowboy Star charges \$3 per steak-accompaniment sauce. That's like a hotel that charges separately for Wi-Fi — I wish they'd just include it in the price of the dish without extra fees. For example, if you want a little "crumbled bleu cheese" for your meat, here it'll set you back another \$6.

All that said, the 21-day-aged "Natural" Angus was an exceptional cut of meat. That "Natural" in the quotation marks is how it reads on the menu. I have no idea what "Natural" means in this context.

Of the sides, the Foraged Mushrooms (\$14) were a table favorite, even over the Mac and Cheese (\$14) with smoked garlic, bourbon shallots, and bacon lardons.

When one of us asked for the leftovers to be boxed, we were given a ticket to pick it up on the way out. This is a great option, as the bag would have cluttered the table, and we were staying through dessert. I thought it was cute, like a



The "medium" came back on the rarer side of a medium rare



Inside the bustling Cowboy Star on a Saturday night

coat check, but for food.

by Barbarella Fokos

## Lost in meat sandwiches

*Roast Meat & Sandwich Shop, 2820 Historic Decatur Road, Liberty Station.* I never seem to wind up where I mean to at Liberty Public Market. Once I get caught up in the crowd, I just roll whichever way it carries me, hoping there will be something good to eat at the end of the line.

This time the crowd spit me out at Roast Meat & Sandwich Shop. With a self-contained stall on the outer edge of the market, it's easy to miss if you don't exit the building on the north side. Unlike most market vendors, it's got its own outside door and almost feels like a distinct restaurant — albeit a tiny one.

Whether you take your food to one of the

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## Calendar

### RESTAURANT

market's dining patios or take it home, Roast is definitely more a take-out spot. As its name spells out, it specializes in house-roasted meats, most "naturally raised" and made into sandwiches. As far as this carnivore's concerned, any sandwich shop that asks me to choose between porchetta, roast beef, and prime rib is off to a good start. Each sandwich runs about \$10, so a friend and I agreed to split a couple.

Most of the meats sit atop a large cutting board behind a glassed-in counter, so you can get a good look at them before

you order. Based on this, my friend opted for the roast beef, which exhibited a lovely pink bit of rareness toward the center. My choice to go with the porchetta — topped with broccolini and salsa verde — was derailed at the last second when I noticed something intriguing about the meatball sub: it's topped with salsa verde.

I haven't seen that before. Most meatball subs are topped with tomato-rich marinara, and in this case Roast goes for arrabiata sauce — basically marinara with red chili peppers, so therefore better. In that context, the green chili and tomatillo of the salsa verde mingling with the Italian red sauce starts to make a lot of sense, at least

on paper.

In practice as well, I thought. The tanginess of the salsa brightened the roasty arrabiata, and any dish predicated on meat, cheese, and bread can use all the brightness it can get. The cheese featured here was *grana padano*, the three meatballs a beef-and-pork blend, well seasoned with Italian herbs, and so finely minced it almost resembled processed meat. The locally baked french roll looked bit small to me — by meatball-sub standards — and had a relatively funky shape, too. But that didn't stop me from demolishing my sandwich.

That is, my half sandwich. I dutifully shared my meatball sub in return for half a roast beef with onion jam and chimichurri. Following the meatball, I'd half-expected the roast beef to be a hot sandwich, but it was not. The beef was cool like deli meat, and while more tender than anything you'll find out of a package, flavor-wise it was a letdown after the meatballs, and the chimichurri lacked vibrancy. A tomato might have helped. Better yet, some of that green salsa.

by Ian Anderson

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## ALLIED GARDENS

**San Diego Brewing Company:** Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4 selected house beer, house wine, well drinks, \$6 happy hour food specials.

## BANKERS HILL

**Balboa Bar & Grill:** Daily, 4-6pm: \$1 off all drinks. \$5 Balboa Burger.

**Bankers Hill Bar + Restaurant:** Daily, 4:30-6pm: \$7 cocktails, \$6 sangrias. \$4.50 pulled pork sandwiches and cheeseburger sliders, \$5.50 deviled eggs.

## BONITA

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

**Romescio:** Monday, Sunday, All day: \$5 draft beer, \$6 sangria and house margaritas, tequila or mezzal shot, \$7 house wine and martinis, \$3 tacos, \$4 tostadas. Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$5 draft beer, \$6 sangria and house margaritas, tequila or mezzal shot, \$7 house wine and martinis, \$3 tacos, \$4 tostadas.

## CARLSBAD

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

**The Land and Water Company:** Daily, 3-5:30: \$2 off house cocktails, wine by the glass, beer, and sake.

## 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: \$20 bottles of wine, \$1 off all glasses of wine and wine cocktails.

## 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.

**Coronado Bayside Grill:** Daily, 3-6pm: \$3 domestic drafts, \$4 cocktails and house wine.

**Costa Azul:** Monday-Friday, 3:30pm-6:30pm: \$4 drafts and house wine, \$4.50 sangria, \$8.50 signature drinks, \$23 beer buckets (six bottles).

**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.

**Crudo:** Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 3pm-7pm: Well drinks and house wine, \$5; house sparkling wine and

## BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

### Dude, Oceanside Ale Works is done... for now

Officially, Oceanside Ale Works has closed. But the brewers at 1800 Ord Way expect to be making beer again soon.

On January 5th, Oceanside's first brewery used social media posts to announce it would close the following day: "It is with a heavy heart that we announce that this Saturday the 6th will be our last day," one read. "After 12 years of #goodtimes with #good-people we have to say goodbye."

It marked the third San Diego County brewery in as many weeks to announce its closure, and made Oceanside Ale Works the oldest active brewery to close in the 29 years of San Diego's craft-beer era.

Except, this is not the story of a longtime brewery forced

out of business by rising competition; rather, it's the dissolution of a partnership. "I've been in a business-partner dispute for four years now," revealed cofounder Mark Purciel during his tasting room's last day open to the public. "I have a 50/50 business partner. He went Bowe Bergdahl on me four years ago."

In 2006, math teacher Purciel opened Oceanside Ale Works with a homebrewing partner, firefighter Scott Thomas. Purciel contends Thomas left the business abruptly and hasn't come back — hence the comparison to the infamously AWOL Bergdahl. "He just bounced," Purciel recalled. "He got pissed off about the Dude label."

That would be the Dude Double IPA, which the brewery began releasing in 22-ounce bottles in late 2013 following a gold-medal win at that year's San Diego International Beer Festival. The label depicts Purciel in thick beard and sunglasses, echoing "The Dude" character from 1998 film, *The Big Lebowski*.

Scott Thomas could not be reached for comment.



A can release of Dude double IPA, depicting Oceanside Ale Works cofounder Mark Purciel on the label

Purciel characterized the split as "litigious" and said his preference was to buy out Thomas's half of the partnership, but "He never gave me a legitimate [buyout] offer." Four years on, Purciel ultimately decided to shut down the business as a means of ending the partnership, planning to "liquidate the assets and then split the profits."

However, Purciel indicates many of the assets belong to him alone and that he will use them to re-open under a new business entity. "I own the building, and I own the equipment," he said, "so I don't have to do anything, really, if I wanted to reopen."

However, first the closure of Oceanside Ale Works must be completed, which he anticipates will take a month or longer. "You have to make a clean break," he said. "Close the books on the partnership. Get rid of all the inventory. Close down for a few weeks... then I can go back and re-open."

Purciel added that he owns the trademark as well but doesn't yet know whether he'll return to the San Diego beer business under the name Oceanside Ale Works, suggesting it could just as well be something like Oceanside Barrel Project or North County Ale Works. "The name's really irrelevant," he said. "It's what's in the glass that's important." ■

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

draft beer, \$6. Friday-Saturday, 3pm-6pm: Well drinks and house wine, \$5; house sparkling wine and draft beer, \$6.

**Poseidon:** Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$4 Michelob Ultra and Budweiser, \$5 well margarita, \$6 house wine, well Cosmopolitan, \$8 appetizers.

## 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.

**Asti Ristorante:** Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3.50 domestic beers, \$5 imported beers, \$6 house wine, martinis, cocktails.

**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.

**Grant Grill:** Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-7pm: \$7 red, white, or sparkling wine, cocktails made with New Amsterdam vodka, \$10 martinis. \$2 off lounge cuisine.

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

**Quad Alehouse:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 off select drafts and all whiskey, \$3 specialty cocktails. \$3 off appetizers.

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Gaslamp:** Monday-Friday, 3-6pm, 9pm-close: \$4.50 any 14-oz. draft, well drinks, fireball shot; \$5.50 Jameson shot, house margaritas; \$6.50 wine by the glass, Jack Daniels, Grey Goose, any 25-oz. draft; \$7.50 select cocktails.

**Rustic Root:** Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 local beers and wines, \$8 cocktails, half-price appetizers.

**Searsucker Gaslamp:** Monday-Friday, 4:30-7pm: \$5 drafts; \$7 house wines, house infusions, \$8 Peter Rabbit cocktail.

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

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

## EAST VILLAGE

**El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:** Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 7-9pm: \$6 signature cocktails. Friday-Saturday, 5-9pm: \$6 signature cocktails.

**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.

## ESCONDIDO

**Vintana Wine + Dine:** Daily, 4-6pm. In the lounge: \$8 martinis. Half-off appetizers.

**The Wooden Spoon:** Tuesday-Saturday, 5-6pm: All beer & wine \$2 off.

## 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

**The Boathouse:** Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$4 house margarita, chips & salsa, \$5 Cuervo Gold margarita, Karl Strauss, sangria, \$6 Cuban mojito. \$6 nachos,

shrimp cocktails, jalapeno poppers, \$7 spicy wings, quesadilla, chicken strips with fries, ceviche, \$9 fish tacos.

**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

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

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

**FruitCraft Fermentery & Distillery:** Wednesday-Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5 glass of wine, \$8 cocktails. Sunday, All day: \$20 red and white sangria pitchers.

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

## 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

**94th Aero Squadron:** Monday-Friday, 3:30-7pm: \$3.25 glass house wine, \$3.50 glass beer (Bud draft), \$3.75 wells and most domestic bottled beer, \$1 off imported and microbrew beers, \$4 margaritas, \$5 sangria, \$5.50 lemon drops, cosmos.

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

**Pampas Argentine Grill:** Tuesday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1 off all beers, \$5 wine by the glass, margaritas, \$5 (\$15 pitcher) sangria, \$6 wells, \$6.50 mojito, house martini. Bar area only.

**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.

## KENSINGTON

**Bleu Bohème:** Daily, 5-6pm: \$ Champagne cocktails, \$12 moules frites, \$12 gnocchi.

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# blurt the inside track

**On the ship, with the band.** Multi-instrumentalist Gabriel Sundy came to an important insight four years ago. “I had been performing in San Diego for a long time, but I wasn’t making enough money, even though I was doing a lot of different gigs with several bands and theater shows and playing with the symphony — I was still struggling to pay the rent,” says Sundy. “I thought maybe I should try something different, so I looked into playing on a cruise ship. I went to Europe on a four-week contract, then came back home. I decided I should really go for it so I could save some money and put some away to invest in my career.”

Sundy spent the next nine

months doing various tours on several different ships and he took advantage of whatever downtime he could acquire to work on writing original music



Gabriel Sundy wrote a lot of music while at sea.

for his band Nexus 4000, which debuted that music at the Whistle Stop in South Park on January 11. “I really tried to find time to practice saxophone and my flute as well as time to compose on the piano. I wrote a lot of that music

while I was out to sea.”

On the ships he played with a “show band” that consisted of four horns, piano, bass, and drums, backing up a variety of guest artists playing jazz, funk, R&B and even light classical music.

Each ship is different when it comes to amenities, according to Sundy. “It depends — sometimes you have deck privileges and sometimes the musicians get to eat in the officers’ mess hall, which is good. One ship I was on had a pretty nice crew bar with an amazing jukebox. On the days I didn’t have to work, that was my favorite place to go — to read, hang out, and play tunes.”

Sundy kept pretty busy, generally, so there wasn’t always a lot of free time. “Finding a quiet spot to practice can be tricky — because the entertainment directors try to have something happening for the passengers on sea days — sometimes you have a performance on one end of the ship,

then have to book it to the other end in a half an hour to make the next performance.”

The musician does have a fond memory from two years ago. “We docked in Amsterdam for New Year’s Eve. I was able to get off the ship in one of my favorite cities and spend the whole night out on the town.”

— Robert Bush

## Belly Up vs. Kaaboo.

The coast was clear for the Belly Up Tavern to take over booking for the state-of-the-art concert venue located on the Del Mar Fairgrounds. A committee appointed by the board that oversees the fairgrounds (the 22nd Agricultural Association) had announced in December that they wanted the team that books the Belly Up to bring 60 or so headliners a year into the 1869-capacity facility after its \$13 million renovation is completed in early 2019.

All that was left was for



The Raceplace ought to be ready for concerts in a year.

the nine-member board to officially approve the deal with the Belly Up team, headed by Grammy winner Chris Goldsmith and talent buyers Pete McDevitt and Chad Waldorf.

But two weeks ago came an 11th-hour protest. A representative of Kaaboo addressed the monthly meeting of the Del Mar Fair board January 9th, saying that their three-year relationship with the Fairgrounds should give them the rights to book the new venue. The Colorado-based Kaaboo team enters its fourth year hosting the three-day music festival, which is held in September.

According to Fairgrounds

spokesperson Annie Pierce, Fairgrounds general manager Tim Fennell expects the board will probably accept the initial decision of the committee and award the keys to the new venue to the Belly Up crew. She added that it is too late for any other entity to bid.

The committee noted that the Fairgrounds already had a relationship with the Belly Up, which has booked the Coors Light stage at the Del Mar Fair for five years and was also given the reins to the 4 O’clock Friday series during the thoroughbred racing season. The Belly Up took over the Music Box schedule in Little Italy in late 2016 and also books the Green Flash music series at the Birch Aquarium.

Insiders say the two major, national concert promoters did not put in any bids since they already have existing commitments to get headliners and their fans into other local ven-

(continued on page 42)

## BRICK BY BRICK CONCERT CALENDAR

VIEW ALL UPCOMING SHOWS AT BRICKBYBRICK.COM

### MONTE PITTMAN

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+

### CORE 10 (EX-KORN)

SQUIRRELLY ARTS, THE FLOOD, FINDING THETIS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2, 8PM | \$10 ADV & \$14 DOS | 21+

### JOE LYNN TURNER

SYMBOLIC, RDG

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3, 7PM | \$25 ADV & DOS | 21+

### TIM RIPPER OWENS

CAGE, BUNCH OF HEATHENS

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10, 7PM | \$20 ADV & \$25 DOS | 21+

### TRAUMA

THE BASTARD SAINTS, VANGUARD

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17, 8PM | \$15 ADV & \$20 DOS | 21+

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9419 BELLY UP & TRIBAL SEEDS PRESENT

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MON, JAN 29	THU, FEB 1

**MORE UPCOMING SHOWS!**

2/2 - STRFKR	2/10 - THE GREEN
2/6 - MAJID JORDAN	2/11 - 2/15 - CAIFANES
2/7 - LIGHTS	2/14 - LETTUCE
2/8 - DON DIABLO	2/16 - SWEET & TENDER HOOLIGANS
2/9 - JA RULE & ASHANTI	2/17 - GRAMATIK

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ues. AEG/GoldenVoice, which owns Coachella, principally books the Sports Arena, Humphreys, and the North Park Observatory. Live Nation owns the Mattress Firm Amphitheatre and House of Blues and books the two venues on the campus of SDSU. The new Del Mar Fairgrounds venue will be competing with all of those venues to attract headliners and their fans.

The 100,000-square-foot venue takes over the building formerly known as the Surfside Raceplace. There will still be a part of the building reserved for bettors. The new concert venue has yet to be named.

The new arrangement is particularly lucrative for the Belly Up, since it does not endure any risks should any of their bookings lose money at the door: the Belly Up will get a flat fee for booking the talent.

— Ken Leighton

**King and him.** “The band started as something Josh and I joked about when we got engaged, that we were starting a ‘King Taylor project’ together,” says singer Sandi King of her collaboration with singer/guitarist Joshua Taylor. The pairing came about after Taylor opened for King on a national

tour with her former group 22 Kings; Taylor later invited King to appear on his 2015 solo album, *About Time*.

“Our first show as King Taylor Project was a Natalie Cole tribute night on Valentine’s Day 2016. We started with a bang: we had an eight-piece band, including a horn section.” Since then, the duo has been playing several times monthly in San Diego, as well as mounting four full tours over the past couple of years.

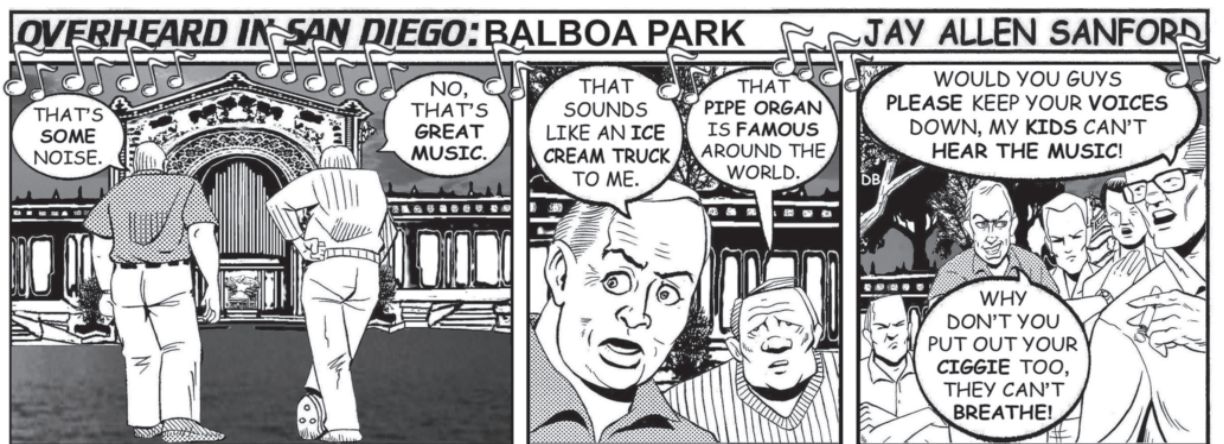
Their group includes keyboardist-singer Josh Weinstein, electric violinist Jay Chu, bassist/singer David Ryan Norgren (aka DavyRockett), and drummer Eric Strickler. Their music covers a lot of stylistic ground, from soul to funk, blues, and jazz rock. “We’re heavy on the improvisation,” says King. “Every member is a songwriter, and we all have a big part in writing new music for the band.”

*What’s in your music player?*



King, Taylor, Chu, Norgren, Weinstein, and Strickler are all songwriters.

King: “Grace Weber’s album *The Refinery*. She’s a phenomenal vocalist I discovered on accident while talking to my



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friend about people that sound like Adele, but do it better. She’s a joy to listen to and watch perform...we actually cover one of her songs, ‘Oil and Gold.’”

Taylor: “*Fly South*, by Allen Hinds, my favorite guitar player and an incredible composer. This record comprises his most beautiful, masterfully written collection of tunes to date.”

*Anything you were embarrassed to mention?*

King: “Frequently on tour, we put on NSYNC’s debut album or *No Strings Attached* and just sing it out at the top of our lungs.”

*Something we don’t know about you?*

King: “I cut my own hair and make my own lotion, hair pomade, hairspray, sunscreen, deodorant, lip balm, and other toiletries.”

Taylor: “I studied counseling psychology in grad school and provided psychotherapy services to groups, adults, and children as an MFT trainee.”

King Taylor Project appears January 18th at Sycamore Den.  
— Jay Allen Sanford

**Record Roundup.** Jazzy Americana troubadour Ken Lehnig debuted his folk opera, *Dr. Daniels Miracle Cure and Magic Show*, at Carlsbad’s Pilgrim United Church of Christ on January 13th. “The album features songs from a western musical written in the ‘70s,” says Lehnig.

Roman Watchdogs released their first album, *Death & Romance*, at Oceanside’s Pour House on January 13th. “This album has been a long time coming — five years, in fact,” says drummer Richard Mestaz. “The album cover is meant to mimic an old, leather-bound book. Each song is a

chapter in this story of death and romance.”

Robin Henkel’s 13th album, *Slippery Like a Watermelon*



Ken Lehnig’s folk opera features songs from a western musical written in the ‘70s.

*Seed*, mostly featuring solo acoustic blues, premieres January 28 at Lestat’s. “Attendees can witness the performance of some fine inbred countrified blues,” says Henkel, “as well as hear thoroughly entertaining historical anecdotes, documentary stories, mythology, and lies about this rich cultural tradition of

American music, the blues.” Henkel will also play an afternoon set of jazz and funk with a full horn section at the same venue.

Also new this month is the debut release from O.B.-based Rick Wolfman, *The Whole World Is Gonna Die*. “Broadly speaking, I describe my music as Americana indie rock with loud, melodic guitars and contemplative lyrics,” says Wolfman. “This EP

is a collection of songs about the things that keep me up at night, sometimes with a lighthearted or uplifting take, and sometimes not.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at [SDReader.com/blurt](http://SDReader.com/blurt)

**CONTRIBUTORS**

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

<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 17 <b>THE FLESH EATERS</b> SEAN WHEELER AND THE RELUCTANT MESSENGERS</p>	<p><b>THE Casbah</b> COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • <a href="http://casbahmusic.com">casbahmusic.com</a></p>	<p>MONDAY • JAN 29 TUESDAY • JAN 30 WEDNESDAY • JAN 31 <b>PINBACK</b></p>
<p>THURSDAY • JAN 18 <b>SURFER BLOOD</b> TERRY MALTS</p>		<p>THURSDAY • FEB 1 <b>THE STONE FOXES</b> ANDREW MCKEAG BAND THE BASSICS</p>
<p>FRIDAY • JAN 19 SOUND DIEGO PRESENTS <b>THE MAGNIFICENT</b> THEE ALLYRGIC REACTION BAD KIDS DJ GIRLGROUPGIRL</p>	<p>TUESDAY • JAN 23 <b>BLOOMCASTER</b> CORAL BELLS MODERN HISTORY</p>	<p>FRIDAY • FEB 2 <b>EXMAG • BASS PHYSICS</b></p>
<p>SATURDAY • JAN 20 <b>GET BACK LORETTA</b> BUCKFAST SUPERBEE NITE LAPSE • LOS SHADOWS</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 24 <b>JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD</b> SUN SEEKER</p>	<p>SATURDAY • FEB 3 EARLY 11AM - <b>VINYL JUNKIES</b> RECORD SWAP 9PM - <b>THE CREEPY CREEPS</b> FORD MADDOX FORD THE LOONS</p>
<p>SUNDAY • JAN 21 EARLY 2PM - <b>GRAMPADREW'S</b> FLIM FLAM REVUE 8:30PM - <b>BODY/HEAD</b> FEATURING KIM GORDON/BILL NACE STEVE GUNN/JOHN TRUSCINSKI DUO</p>	<p>THURSDAY • JAN 25 <b>THE DEEP DARK WOODS</b> THE MIDNIGHT PINE</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • FEB 7 <b>THE WIND AND THE WAVE</b></p>
<p>MONDAY • JAN 22 <b>QUEL BORDEL • BJ JEZBERA</b> FOLK HOGAN • FORKROOT</p>	<p>FRIDAY • JAN 26 <b>TAKEN BY CANADIANS</b> CREATURE AND THE WOODS BAD VIBES</p>	<p>FRIDAY • FEB 9 <b>THE SCHIZOPHONICS</b> JASON HANNA AND THE BULLFIGHTERS</p>
<p>casbahmusic.com facebook.com/CasbahMusic instagram.com/casbahsandiego</p>	<p>SATURDAY • JAN 27 <b>SIGHTS AND SAGES</b> THE PARAGRAPHS FASHION JACKSON</p>	<p>SATURDAY • FEB 10 <b>FU MANCHU</b></p>
	<p>SUNDAY • JAN 28 <b>FLAMINGOSIS</b></p>	<p>SUNDAY • FEB 11 <b>THE PHENOMENAUTS</b> PRIMA DONNA • SORAIA</p>

## The View from El Dompe

One of the most beautiful views of San Diego is from the summit of a small hill in Tijuana’s municipal garbage dump. People live on that hill, picking through the trash with long poles that end in hooks made with bent nails. The city looks cool in the summer, when heat cracks the ground and flies drill into the garbage-pickers’ noses. And in the winter, when wind chill drops night temperatures into the 30s, and rain turns the hill into a gray pudding of ash and mud, and babies are wrapped in plastic trash bags for warmth, San Diego glows like a big electric dream.

BY LUIS URREA, NOV. 15, 1990

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SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY  
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## PLACES IN TIME

CLASSICAL

SAT JAN 20, 8PM | SUN JAN 21, 2PM

Rhythms of Italian music pervade this concert with Gioacchino Rossini's famous *William Tell* Overture, Giuseppe Martucci's *Notturmo*, and Ottorino Respighi's *The Pines of Rome*. Rising young Italian conductor Jader Bignamini leads the San Diego Symphony for this multi-faceted program at the Jacobs Music Center.



## STORIES IN TIME

CUTTING-EDGE

FRI JAN 26, 8PM | SUN JAN 28, 2PM

This concert explores the curious relationship between music and time. Rhythm can give programmatic music the texture that moves the story along, as is illustrated in Béla Bartók's *The Miraculous Mandarin*, Maurice Ravel's gentle *Suite from Mother Goose* and more! Festival curator Steven Schick conducts the San Diego Symphony Orchestra on this concert at the Jacobs Music Center.



## ROOTS OF RHYTHM

JAZZ

SAT JAN 27, 8PM

This concert will explore the origins and evolution of the various rhythmic styles that made their way from all over the world to America, becoming part of the modern jazz idiom. John Santos, one of the foremost exponents of Afro-Latin music in the world today, will survey jazz's "root system" by way of his remarkable personal collection of percussion instruments in performance with several special guests.



## RITE OF SPRING

MODERN CLASSICAL

SAT JAN 27, 10PM

An "It's About Time" Festival Special Concert  
at The Music Box in Little Italy

In 1913 Igor Stravinsky's *Le Sacre du printemps* (The Rite of Spring) exploded on the scene with a barrage of rhythm, color, choreography and energy. Using only 12 musicians instead of a full symphony orchestra, and adding video and live performance, the Music Box will become a virtual torrent of sound and sights – a one-time performance not-to-be-missed!

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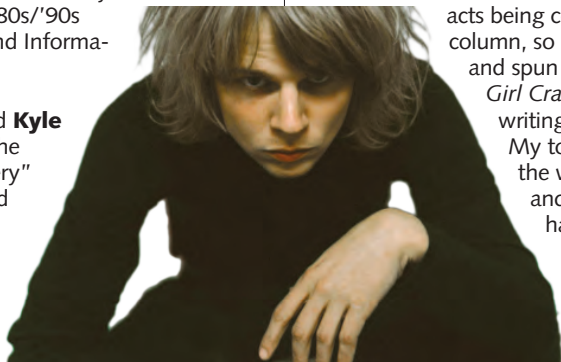
# JUST ANNOUNCED



PSYCHEDELIC FURS AT THE BELLY UP ON MARCH 6

For most locals who spent time in our cars listening to the radio in the '80s, one could almost guarantee that any skip across the dial would find the **Psychedelic Furs** oozing out the back seat speakers, probably thanks to 91X and its groupie-like devotion to the UK band. Led then and now by singer-songwriter Richard Butler and his bassist brother Tim, the Furs pretty much defined alt-rock before that term was even a thing, with omnipresent radio and MTV hits like the soundtrack slice "Pretty in Pink," as well as "Heaven," "Love My Way," etc. Their videos may look hokey now, with all the primitive wipe effects, shiny outfits, and far too many unnerving, endless closeups of Richard trying to look as much as possible like David Bowie's coked-out Thin White Duke, but pretty much all the vids from that era look like Bowie's late-night hallucinations. The Furs went away for a few years in the '90s (pity few radio stations favored the spinoff group, Love Spit Love, the way they saturated the airwaves with their predecessors, since two members went on to join Guns N' Roses), but they're back on the classic rock circuit, with a date at the Belly Up on March 6. This time around, the Butler brothers will be accompanied by guitarist Rich Good (who co-founded the Pleased with Joanna Newsom), jazz saxophonist Mars Williams (the Waitresses), drummer Paul Garisto (an off-and-on member since 1983), and keyboardist Amanda Kramer, one of around two dozen players who've cycled through the fondly remembered '80s/'90s new-wave band Information Society.

Portland-based **Kyle Craft** is only the latest "discovery" from long-lived label Sub Pop, which years ago ceased being novelty grunge



KYLE CRAFT AT THE CASBAH ON MARCH 8

enablers and now embraces everything from hardcore to new age. Craft's 2016 debut for the label, *Dolls of Highland*, was basically a 1970s garage-rock album tailored for 21st-century ears, with jukebox sing-alongs and plenty of ciggie-soaked guitar riffing and solo singer-songwriter lyricism. Then a few weeks ago, he kind of took a left turn with *Girl Crazy*, a collection of songs covering female acts that one wouldn't assume to be a natural fit, including Patsy



PALE WAVES AT SOMA ON MARCH 24

Cline, TLC, Jenny Lewis, Patti Smith, Sharon Van Etten, and even Cher's "Believe." With an upcoming gig at the Casbah on March 8, you might expect the tour to be in support of *Girl Crazy*, but advance press indicates he's actually trying out songs from a second Sub Pop full-length due later this year, *Full Circle Nightmare*, his first non-homemade album to be recorded in a full studio, assisted by Decemberists producer Chris Funk. That's a lot of music in two years. No preview tracks were available at this writing, and I prefer to listen to the newest music by upcoming acts being covered in this column, so I went ahead and spun a few random *Girl Crazy* tracks while writing this blurb.

My toes tapped the whole time, and that rarely happens. Either I'm suffering early onset of Parkinson's or this is

some pretty catchy and engaging stuff, even if it did apparently start on a lark that doubled as commercial product between his "real" albums. Let's hope the concert setlist manages to include tracks like these dating back at least as far as late 2017.

Dark alt-pop quartet **Pale Waves** seems to have what used to be called a "sleeper" hit; i.e., a release that goes all but unnoticed for months or even years and then all of a sudden everybody wants to talk about it (even though the artist has, most likely, moved on to more fruitful efforts). Their EP, *All the Things I Never Said*, came out at the beginning of last year, but it's only been over the past few months that their name is popping up in the U.S. among those whose chatter matters (meaning the press and bloggers who think they're the press). In England, that positive ink included a career-making cover on the revered *NME* magazine (basically UK's *Rolling Stone* crossed with the *National Enquirer*), though American ears may find tracks such as "Television Romance" and "My Obsession" a bit too glib, or even unintentionally comedic, given the thin production and lack of any hooks or choruses that don't seem arch in their desperation to get you to pay attention to the clever lyrics (think the Cure

as if fronted by a female

Benny Hill). Their first U.S. headline tour finds them playing an all-ages show at Soma on March 24, where the bill includes fellow Brits Inheaven, an alt-rock quartet from South

London who've been dropping singles since summer 2015 but only released their debut self-titled album last September. Britain seem to love that one, too, with *NME* calling it "indie's most dangerously exciting debut album." Ignoring the fact that "indie" isn't really a genre, it's more of an adjective (and yet *NME* uses it as a noun), this seems a deliriously excited overstatement. After sampling several tracks, we're calling Inheaven the frontrunner in a crowded field of competitors hoping to be this year's My Bloody Valentine or Arctic Monkeys.

Colombian-born, Toronto-based **Lido Pimienta** describes herself as an "interdisciplinary musician and artist curator," which basically means that her artistic palette includes everything from sounds to art, fashion, and politics. Musically, her newest album, *La Papessa* (nominated last year for a Polaris Prize), is a musical travelogue built on an engine of afrobeat backgrounds and EDM foregrounds, treading interesting lines between tribal jazz and elec-



LIDO PIMIENTA AT THE CASBAH ON MARCH 31

tronica. Lyrically, hers is a distinctly Latin American POV, sharing her take on both Canada-centric topics as well as on more universal themes of gender, identity, race, and what it means to raise a child in this increasingly fugazi world. She appears at the Casbah on March 31.

First, they said they'd only reunite "When Hell freezes over." Now, even death can't make them go away. One guy who cofounded the **Eagles** in 1971, two dudes who joined up a few years later, plus the son of a dead Eagle and a fading country music star with apparently nothing else to do have announced more dates for their upcoming tour, currently set to wrap at Petco Park on September 22. Now, if original co-founder Randy Meisner were aboard, and/or long-estranged guitarist Don Felder (who first joined in 1974), you'd have yourself an actual Eagles tour, but at least they'll be letting latter-day Eagle Joe Walsh steal the show as always, with tracks from his own projects.

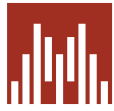


THE EAGLES AT PETCO PARK ON SEPTEMBER 22

Tickets go on sale Friday, January 19, for a concert promised to start at 5 p.m., with opening acts the Zac Brown Band and this year's version of the Doobie Brothers.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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FRIDAY

JET SET  
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INDUSTRY  
NIGHT

JAN  
19



SATURDAY

**ILL NICKY**  
RISTON DIGGS, ALIEN FAM  
MIKEY CEASER

JAN  
20



FRIDAY

**STEPPING FEET**  
(DAVE MATTHEWS EXPERIENCE)  
SUPERUNLOADER

JAN  
26



SATURDAY

**IGOR STRAVINSKY:**  
LE SACRE DU PRINTEMPS  
(THE RITE OF SPRING)  
SEATED SHOW

JAN  
27



SUNDAY

**LEE "SCRATCH" PERRY**  
AND SUBATOMIC SOUND SYSTEM  
BOOSTIVE, DJ STEPWISE

JAN  
28



WEDNESDAY

AN EVENING WITH  
**GILBERTO SANTA ROSA**

JAN  
31



THURSDAY

DJ CARLOS CULTURE'S B-DAY  
**LAYNE TADESSE**

FEB  
01



FRIDAY

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY PRESENTS  
**KRISTIN CHENOWETH**

FEB  
02

## JUST ADDED

Mike Pinto and Josh Heinrichs & Skillinjah 2/22  
Rob Garza DJ Set (Theivery Corporation) 2/23  
Gaby Moreno 3/14 • Moon Hooch 3/22 • Bilal 4/11 • Always 4/18

## COMING SOON

2/3 Rebel Soullahz	2/27 Real Estate	3/16 Morgan Leigh Band, The Delta Saints, Electric Mud
2/5 Bermuda Triangle ft. Brittany Howard (Alabama Shakes), Becca Mancari, Jesse Lafser	2/28 Burger A-Go-Go feat. Dengue Fever	3/17 DSB (Journey Tribute)
2/9 Ooklah the Moc	3/1 SuicideGirls: Blackheart Burlesque	3/23 RID2
2/10 Typhoon	3/2 Langhorne Slim w/ special guest Twain	3/24 Los Pericos
2/15 Yacht Rock Revue	3/7 K.Michelle: The People I Used to Know	3/29 Declan McKenna
2/16 Como La Flor (Selena Tribute)	3/9 Talib Kweli: The Radio Silence Tour	3/30 Whiskey Myers
2/17 Dorothy	3/10 Billie Eilish: Wheres My Mind Tour - Sold Out!	3/31 The Oh Hellos
2/18 Lotus	3/15 Emancipator Ensemble: 'Baralku' Tour	4/6 Autograf
2/21 Julian Lage Trio - seated show		4/20 Big K.R.I.T.: Heavy is the Crown
2/24 The Aggrolites feat. Slightly Stoopid Horns		5/9 The Weepies: Hideaway 10 Year Anniversary
		5/11 Echosmith: Inside a Dream

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FRIDAY 1/19



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ROSIE FLORES, SARA PETITE,  
JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS  
SATURDAY 1/20



**TOWEY FAMILY FUNDRAISER  
LIFE AFTER ELECTRICITY  
AND SUPER NACHO**  
MONDAY 1/22



**TY SEGALL &  
THE FREEDOM BAND**  
SHANNON LAY  
WEDNESDAY 1/24



**JOHNNY A**  
JIMMY WOODWARD  
THURSDAY 1/25



**VAUD AND THE VILLAINS**  
TROUBLE IN THE WIND  
FRIDAY 1/26



**TAINTED LOVE**  
DJ SCOTTO  
SATURDAY 1/27



**INFINITE FLOYD**  
PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE  
SUNDAY 1/28



**JOHN MAUS**  
HOLY SH\*T  
MONDAY 1/29



**CHEF BANDS**  
A RIGHTEOUS NIGHT IN SUPPORT OF  
CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS  
TUESDAY 1/30



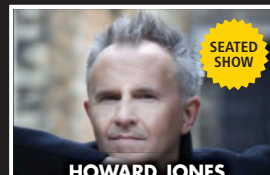
**AN EVENING WITH  
LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBO**  
THURSDAY 2/1



**WILD CHILD**  
(DOORS TRIBUTE)  
DAZED AND CONFUSED  
(LED ZEPPELIN TRIBUTE)  
FRIDAY 2/2



**ALO**  
JOHN CRAIGIE  
SATURDAY 2/3



**HOWARD JONES**  
RACHEL SAGE  
MONDAY 2/5



**KATHRYN CLOWARD**  
LEE COULTER, HEATHER NATION  
AND CHERRY ROAD  
TUESDAY 2/6

JUST  
ADDED!

Six String Society presents Casey Hensley Band 2/14

Stephanie Brown & The Surrealistics 2/15

Banding Together's Greatest Hits Matinee 2/24

G. Love & Special Sauce 3/10 & 3/11 • Yonder Mountain String Band 3/30

The Mother Hips 3/31 • Ibeyi 4/16 • Rogue Wave 5/8

## Upcoming Shows:

1/17 Benefit Concert w/ Burt Bacharach and friends - Sold Out!	2/24 Steve Poltz 9th Annual 50th Birthday Party	3/17 Beatles vs. Stones ft. Abbey Road & Jumping Jack Flash
1/18 Al Stewart - Sold Out!	2/25 Herb Alpert and Lani Hall - Seated Show	3/18 Walter Trout
1/19 CalPhonics Happy Hour	2/26 Snarky Puppy - Sold Out!	3/22 & 23 Phillip Phillips - Sold Out!
1/19 The White Buffalo @ Observatory	2/27 Burger A-Go-Go ft. The Coathangers	3/23 The Main Squeeze @ Casbah
1/23 John Hiatt & The Goners ft. Sonny Landreth - Sold Out!	2/28 Spafford	3/24 Brett Dennen - Sold Out!
1/31 Tower of Power - Sold Out!	3/1 They Might Be Giants - Sold Out!	3/25 Brett Dennen
2/7 Daring Greatly	3/2 Margo Price	3/29 Galactic
2/8 Allah-Las	3/3 Anderson East	4/3 Arlo Guthrie: The Re:Generation Tour
2/10 Wayward Sons	3/4 Stone Temple Pilots @ Observatory - Sold Out!	4/4 Brian Fallon & The Howling Weather
2/14 Lettuce & The Motet @ Observatory	3/6 The Psychedelic Furs - Sold Out!	4/7 Jefferson Starship - Sold Out!
2/16 & 17 The English Beat	3/7 Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band - Sold Out!	4/12 Elephant Revival
2/18 Betamaxx Presidents' Weekend Flashback Party	3/8 Antibalas	4/20 & 21 Super Diamond (Neil Diamond Tribute)
2/19 Mike Gordon	3/9 Dead Man's Party (Oingo Boingo Tribute)	4/22 Los Lonely Boys
2/20 Showels & Rope - Seated Show	3/15 Rachael Yamagata - Seated Show	5/3 Baths
2/22 The Wood Brothers	3/16 The Infamous Stringdusters	5/6 Keb' Mo' - Sold Out!
2/23 Bahamas - Sold Out!		5/7 Keb' Mo' - Seated Show
		5/14 Nada Surf
		5/17 Pedro The Lion
		5/28 Madeleine Peyroux
		7/15 Paul Thorn

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## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

### 83 Degrees:

Wednesday, 7pm — Nathan James. Free.

### Air Conditioned Lounge:

Thursday, 9pm — Gordon Davis.

### Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — San Diego Baroque Soloists. \$40-\$45.

### Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:

Monday, 7:30pm — Mingus Dynasty: Tijuana Moods. \$30-\$35.

### Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 6pm — Blaine Mazzetti & the Originators.

Saturday, 4pm — Cherry Road.

### BK Cellars Urban Winery & Tasting Lounge:

Sunday, 2pm — Scott Huntington.

### Balboa Theatre:

Friday, 7:30pm — Tommy Emmanuel.

Saturday, 7:30pm — G3: Satriani, Petrucci, & Collen. \$37-\$121.

### Bancroft:

Sunday, 3pm — Bob's Blues Jam.

### Bang Bang:

Saturday, 8pm — Drez.

### Bar Pink:

Thursday, 9pm — DJ Chris Freeman.

Friday, 9pm — Marsharks. \$5-\$5.

Sunday, 8pm — Alvino & the Dwells.

Monday, 9pm — DJ Girl Group.

Tuesday, 9pm — The Garners.

Wednesday, 9pm — DJ L.

### Bassmnt:

Friday, 9pm — Alexander Lewis.

Saturday, 8pm — Bassmnt Saturdays.

### Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Al Stewart.

\$35-\$62.

Friday, 8pm — Mykal Rose.

\$23-\$41.

Saturday, 8pm — Beat Farmers Hootenanny. \$23-\$41.

Monday, 8pm — Towe Family Fundraiser with Super Nacho.

Tuesday, 8pm — John Hiatt & the Goners.

# IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

## Carmen as a revenge fantasy

An Italian opera company is said to be producing a version of *Carmen* in which Carmen is not stabbed to death by Don José. In fact, she lives at the end of this production. In addition to living, she shoots Don José dead. The company claims this change addresses the problem of violence against women.

In other news, Gilda will now kill the duke in *Rigoletto*, Nedda will kill Canio in *Pagliacci*, Butterfly will cut Pinkerton's throat in *Madama Butterfly*, Desdemona will poison Otello in *Otello*, and so on and so forth.

The point of all these feminine deaths is to demonstrate the misguided masculine destroying the redemptive or innocent feminine. We are supposed to have our emotions moved in such a way that we begin to enact changes in the way we interact with each other.

Having Carmen shoot José

removes the whole point of the opera. Here is a woman struggling to be free who is then destroyed by the worst elements of a tyrannical patriarchy embodied in Don José. If Carmen suddenly shoots Don José, that falls under an aggressive and patriarchal action.

José is a deserter of his family and his military unit. He is a coward who literally attempts to stab Escamillo in the back, and he ends up murdering Carmen. It's clear that José represents all that is wrong with the masculine energy.

I think this Italian production is childish. It does nothing to promote reconciliation or even an admission of guilt by José. They are taking a feminine archetype — Carmen is very much Medusa — and having her perform an act of violence so we can have a vengeance fantasy.

There is a gross imbalance

between masculine and feminine qualities in our culture both past and present. The imbalance is so extreme that we even find it in our most recent feminine hero.

Do we admire Wonder Woman for her womanhood or for her ability to fight violence with violence?

Her superhero powers are expressed in masculine terms — except for the lasso of truth. (We could use more lasso of truth.)

When women become powerful as men are powerful it only reinforces and legitimizes the problem of masculine violence. It reduces to the absurd position that if only women were more violent then everything would be better.

The imbalance is on the masculine side: that means we need to reduce the negative masculine qualities of violence and aggression with



PHOTOGRAPH BY YOSSIE ZWICKER

Carmen is very much Medusa.

feminine qualities of healing and nurture. We don't need women coming over to the violent aggressive side — we need men to move toward healing and nurture.

Medusa turns heroes to stone with a glance. That is a feminine expression of power. It's a negative expression in the same way that the tyrannical patriarchy is negative. Gaia, the earth mother, is a positive expression of the feminine power to provide sustenance, renewal, rebirth, spring, etc. The benevolent king would be the masculine equivalent.

In the opera *Carmen* we

have two negative archetypes in Carmen and José, but they are clearly feminine and masculine and the masculine destroys the feminine yet again. Clearly one of the ideas we can take from *Carmen* is "Don't be this guy."

I think ending the show with a living, breathing Carmen who has turned José to stone with her steady gaze — forcing him to admit his cowardice and leaving him a shattered vessel — that would be quite a satisfactory conclusion.

However, there's nothing wrong with the way Bizet wrote it.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at [SDReader.com/classical](http://SDReader.com/classical)

Wednesday, 8pm — Ty Segall. \$28-\$30.

**Bernardo Winery:**  
Sunday, 2pm — Joe Bigham & Friends. Free.

**Blonde Bar:**  
Thursday, 9pm — Chocolate.  
Sunday, 8pm — Glaare.

**Bluefoot Bar and Lounge:**  
Thursday, 8pm — Vibrant Crew.  
Friday, 8pm — Dox Ellis.  
Saturday, 8pm — Overeasy.  
Sunday, 7pm — VJ Bang.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Dunekat.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Wax Wednesday.

**Bourre Southern Bistro:**  
Friday, 7pm — Tony Muhammad & Roosevelt Carter. Free.

**Bread & Salt:**  
Thursday, 7:30pm — Fresh

Sound: Percussion Lovfest. \$10-\$20.

**Brick by Brick:**  
Friday, 8pm — Monte Pittman and Alien Satan. \$10-\$12.  
Saturday, 8pm — Esham. \$15-\$15.

**Cafe 21:**  
Thursday, 7pm — Flamenco Night. Free.  
Saturday, 7pm — Bossa Nova with Stephanie & Marcus.  
Sunday, 7pm — Rhumba with Bruno Serrano.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Sister Speak.

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido:**  
Sunday, 7:30pm — The Hillbenders: Tommy. \$32-\$42.

**Capri Blu:**  
Friday, 7pm — Hans Orapallo.

Saturday, 7pm — Sanders & Flores.

**Carvers Steak & Chops:**  
Friday, 7pm — The Reflectors.

**Casbah:**  
Thursday, 8pm — Surfer Blood. \$13-\$15.  
Friday, 8pm — The Magnificent and The Allyrgic Reaction.  
Saturday, 8pm — Get Back Loretta and Buckfast Superbee. \$10-\$10.  
Sunday, 8pm — Body/Head with Kim Gordon & Bill Nace. \$20-\$20.  
Monday, 8pm — Quel Bordel and BJ Jezbera.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Pond. \$20-\$20.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Jessica Lea Mayfield and Sun Seeker.

**Central Library:**  
Saturday, 2pm — Charles Mingus: Tijuana Moods. Free.

**Cheers Bar & Grill:**  
Saturday, 9pm — Josie Day Band. Free.

**Clairemont Lutheran Church:**  
Saturday, 2pm — San Diego County Recorder Society. Free.

**Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD:**  
Saturday, 11am — The Stuart Collection Audio Tour. Free.

**Coyote Bar & Grill:**  
Thursday, 8pm — The Terribles.  
Friday, 6pm — NuVintage.  
Saturday, 2pm — Patton Pending.  
Sunday, 5pm — Jerome Dawson.  
Wednesday, 6pm — Daring Greatly.

**De Oro Mine Co:**  
Thursday, 8pm — Gold Standard.  
Friday, 8pm — Skyler Lutes Band. Free.  
Saturday, 8pm — Los Chido and Captain Viejo.  
Monday, 7pm — Joshua Thompson. Free.  
Tuesday, 9pm — Louie Fontaine and Lord Bishop Rocks. Free.

**Dirk's Niteclub:**  
Friday, 8pm — Cover Conspiracy.

**Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:**  
Friday, 8pm — Hugo Suarez & Friends. \$15-\$15.  
Saturday, 8pm — Ian Buss Quintet. \$10-\$15.  
Sunday, 6pm — Django Jazz Fest. \$20-\$20.

**First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego:**  
Saturday, 7:30pm — Re-Covering the Music of Carole King. \$10-\$35.

**Garage Kitchen + Bar:**  
Wednesday, 8pm — DJ Pretty Slick.

**Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:**  
Friday, 5:30pm — Ian Buss Trio. Free.

**Headquarters:**  
Friday, 6pm — Salsa Under the Stars. Free.

**Henry's Pub:**  
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Mark Fisher.

**House of Blues:**  
Friday, 7pm — Ken Block & Drew Copeland. \$25-\$25.  
Saturday, 3pm — Arctic Lights. \$25-\$25.  
Saturday, 8pm — Gods of Thunder and A Cheaper Trick.  
Friday, 7pm — Joyner Lucas & Dizzy Wright. \$22-\$22.  
Wednesday, 6:30pm — August Burns Red and Born of Osiris. \$23-\$70.

**King of Kings Lutheran Church:**  
Sunday, 4pm — San Diego North Coast Singers. Free.

**Kraken:**  
Saturday, 9pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Circa Sonic.

**La Mesa Wine Works:**  
Friday, 6:30pm — The Ideas. Free.  
Saturday, 6:30pm — Baja Blues Band.  
Sunday, 1:30pm — Schrodinger Jazz Cats.

**La Valencia Hotel:**  
Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbrow.  
Friday, 6pm — Los Reyes.  
Saturday, 6pm — Roman

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w/ Go By Ocean

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Mango Habanero  
Band of Gringos with DJ Green T

Mon Jan 22  
Electric Waste Band

Tue Jan 23  
Cherry Road, Lost Monarchs  
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Approaching Fiction  
Almost Young



# NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

**You can't make this stuff up. John Hiatt, from Indianapolis, left home as a teen troublemaker in a rock band. He landed work in Nashville — not as a dishwasher or a grocery bagger, but as a songwriter. Hiatt could neither read nor write music, but his songs rang the dinner bell. In short order, Epic Records granted Hiatt a deal. He recorded them some gems, but they failed to sell. No matter. An early song penned by Hiatt got recorded by a major pop act of the day, went big as a radio hit, and for a long time after put money in Hiatt's mailbox. Epic dropped him anyway.**

This happened many more times in Hiatt's career: labels came, labels went. It turned out

that John Hiatt was a great songwriter — for everyone, that is, except himself. Many artists spun gold with Hiatt originals, until the late 1980s and the release of *Slow Turning*. That's the record that finally put Hiatt on the radio in his own voice, small vindication perhaps for the legions of followers who already knew the man's worth.

Last year, Sonny Landreth released a live collection called *Recorded Live in Lafayette*. Landreth, 66, is a good old boy, a slide guitarist of rare gifts and abilities. Like Eddie Van Halen (minus the overstatement), Landreth has likely reinvented the manner in which musicians will approach that instrument for years to come — or until someone comes along and bests him at it. He bills himself as the King of Slydeco.

Once a member of John Hiatt's Goners, Landreth's fronted his own bands for so many years that the inevitable has happened. Like



**JOHN HIATT AND THE GONERS**

all of the guitar greats before him, he became a better singer. Don't get me wrong — his guitar is amazing. But the way he sings "Keys to the Highway" or "True Blue" is what it's all about: a great artist, creating a moment.

**JOHN HIATT AND THE GONERS, FEATURING SONNY LANDRETH: Tuesday, January 23rd, 7 p.m., \$50 advance; \$55 day of show.**

*Find more OfNote columns online at [SDReader.com/note](http://SDReader.com/note)*

Palacios.  
*Monday, 6pm — Oscar Aragon.*  
*Tuesday, 6pm — Ryan Brolliari.*  
*Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.*

**Larry's Beach Club:**  
*Saturday, 5pm — Gone Blonde.*  
**Free.**

**Lestat's Coffee House:**  
*Friday, 8pm — Lee Coulter.*  
*Saturday, 8pm — Alex DePue and Miguel DeHoyos.* \$30-\$30.

**Mainstream Bar and Grill:**  
*Saturday, 8pm — Grand Nova.*

**Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Rayvon Owen.* \$35-\$40.

**Merrow:**  
*Wednesday, 9pm — Black Heart Saints and Kodasounds.* \$5-\$5.

**Midnight Jack Brewing Company:**  
*Saturday, 5pm — Cam Meekins.* \$5-\$30.

**Mission Trails Regional Park:**  
*Sunday, 3pm — JAZZ BeND.*  
**Free.**

**Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:**  
*Friday, 9pm — Safety Orange.*  
**Free.**

**Moonshine Beach:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — DJ Nicky Z.*  
**Free.**

*Friday & Saturday, 8pm — The Matte Gray Band.* **Free.**

**Mount Soledad Presbyterian Church:**  
*Saturday, 7pm — Odeum Guitar Duo.* \$10-\$5.

**Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:**  
*Thursday, 8:30pm — California Rangers.*  
*Saturday, 8:30pm — Sonic Tonic and Kes O'Hara.*

**Museum of Making Music:**  
*Friday, 7pm — German Lopez.* \$25-\$30.  
*Saturday, 1pm — Make 'N' Play Family Music Day.* \$10-\$10.

**Music Box:**  
*Friday, 9pm — Jet Set with DJ Mikey Beats.* \$5-\$5.

*Saturday, 9:30pm — iLL Nicky.* \$10-\$20.

**Navajo Live:**  
*Friday, 9pm — FX5.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — Hot Gin.*  
*Sunday, 7:30pm — El Dorado Slim.*

**Observatory North Park:**  
*Thursday, 7pm — Big Boi.* \$20.  
*Friday, 7pm — The White Buffalo.* \$18-\$25.  
*Tuesday, 7pm — Wolf Parade and Charly Bliss.* \$28-\$30.

**Omnia San Diego:**  
*Friday, 9:30pm — R3hab.* **Free.**  
*Saturday, 9:30pm — Tay James.* **Free.**

**Poway's Irish Pub:**  
*Saturday, 9pm — West of 5.*  
**Free.**

**Rancho Bernardo Library:**  
*Wednesday, 6:15pm — Orvieto Piano Trio.* **Free.**

**Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Casey Hensley.*  
*Friday, 9pm — True Stories.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — Creepxotica.*

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Oceanside:**  
*Wednesday, 5pm — Boo Stubbs.*  
*Wednesday, 5pm — Hans & Janine.*

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town:**  
*Friday, 5pm — Gary Seiler.*  
*Saturday, 5pm — Santana Pa Ti.*

**Salty Frog:**  
*Saturday, 9:30pm — Iguanadon and Steeltoe.* **Free.**

**San Dieguito Heritage Museum:**  
*Saturday, 3pm — Hats Off: Celebrating 30 Years.* **Free.**

**Soda Bar:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Fossil Youth and Born Without Bones.* \$10-\$10.  
*Friday, 8pm — Eukaryst, Boostive, Monarch.* \$8-\$8.  
*Saturday, 8pm — Pulley and Versus the World.* \$15-\$15.  
*Sunday, 8pm — Judas Priestess and Tzimani.* \$15-\$15.  
*Monday, 8pm — Willy Tea Taylor.* \$8-\$10.

*Tuesday, 8pm — The Toasters and Half Past Two.* \$12-\$12.  
*Wednesday, 8pm — Spirit Award and Wild Wild Wets.* \$8-\$8.

**Space:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Cold Showers and Second Still.* \$8-\$10.  
*Saturday, 8pm — Shiro Schwarz and Funk Freaks.* \$10-\$10.

**Spin Nightclub:**  
*Friday, 8pm — Dennis Ferrer.*

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas:**  
*Friday, 8pm — The Hutchins Consort: Bach & Rock.* \$15-\$35.

**Studio West:**  
*Wednesday, 2pm — Drum Clinic & Recording Session.* \$50-\$75.

**Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:**

*Sunday, 7pm — Under the Street Lamp.* \$49-\$59.

**Til-Two:**  
*Thursday, 9pm — Rock 'N' Roll Preservation Society.* **Free.**  
*Saturday, 9pm — Burn Infinite and Nowhere Safe.*  
*Wednesday, 8pm — Ceschi Ramos and Sammus.* \$8-\$8.

**Tin Roof San Diego:**  
*Friday & Saturday, 9pm — Coriander.*

*Sunday, 8pm — Keep Your Soul.*  
*Monday & Wednesday, 8pm — Kenny Eng & Rob Deez.*  
*Tuesday, 8pm — Tay Watts.*

**Tio Leo's:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Mercedes Moore Band.* \$5-\$5.  
*Friday, 8pm — Funk's Most Wanted.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — Detroit Underground.*  
*Tuesday, 7pm — Sue Palmer.*

**Tower Bar:**  
*Thursday, 8pm — Dirty Fences and Mean Jeans.*  
*Friday, 9pm — The Dodges.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — The Sloths and the Resonars.*  
*Tuesday, 9pm — Knocked Down.*

**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito:**  
*Saturday, 7:30pm — Carrie Newcomer.* \$20-\$30.

**Viejas Casino:**  
*Friday, 8pm — Great White.* \$30-\$35.

**West Coast Tavern:**  
*Friday, 8pm — Eddie Cutlass.*  
*Saturday, 8pm — Brett Bodley.*  
*Sunday, 8pm — DJ Billy the Kid.*

**Westfield University Towne Centre:**  
*Thursday, 12pm — Ben Benavente.*  
*Friday, 12pm — Marcela Mendez.*  
*Saturday, 12pm — Joe Cardillo.* **Free.**

**Whistle Stop Bar:**  
*Friday, 9pm — Fking in the Bushes.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — '80s vs '90s.*

**Winstons Beach Club:**  
*Thursday, 9pm — Zoelopt and the Higgs.*  
*Friday, 9pm — Wise Monkey Orchestra.*  
*Saturday, 9pm — Band of Gringos.*  
*Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band.* \$5-\$5.  
*Tuesday, 8pm — Cherry Road.*  
*Wednesday, 9pm — Bodhi Rock and Gentle Giants.*

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

**Aeolus Quartet** Formed in 2008 at the Cleveland Institute of Music by violinists Nicholas Tavani and Rachel Shapiro, violist Gregory Luce, and cellist Alan Richardson, the quartet is committed to presenting time-seasoned masterpieces and new cutting-edge works with freshness, dedication, and fervor. Since its inception, the all-American quartet has been awarded prizes at nearly every major competition in the United States and performed across the globe with showings "worthy of a major-league quartet" (Scott Cantrell, Dallas Morning News). Program: Franz Joseph Haydn: String Quartet in D Minor, Op. 76, No. 2; Philip Glass: Quartet No. 3 "Mishima"; Ludwig van Beethoven: String Quartet No. 14, Op. 131. Friday, January 19, 8pm; \$40-\$54. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive.



### LIVE MUSIC & DANCING

Wed 1/17 San Diego Live  
Thu 1/18 Mercedes Moore  
Fri 1/19 Funks Most Wanted  
Sat 1/20 Detroit Underground  
Mon 1/22 Salsa  
Thu 1/25 Blue Largo  
Fri 1/26 Kicks  
Sat 1/27 The Clairemonsters  
**5302 NAPA ST.  
SAN DIEGO 92110  
619-542-1462 • TIOLEOS.COM**

**DINNER WITH THE**  
*Divas*  
**CELEBRITY IMPERSONATORS SHOW**  
hosted by *Tootsie* as *Cher*  
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*Lips*  
**THE ULTIMATE IN DRAG DINING**  
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3036 El Cajon Blvd • in North Park • [LipsUSA.com](http://LipsUSA.com)  
NEW YORK • SAN DIEGO • FT. LAUDERDALE • ATLANTA • CHICAGO  
The best place in **SAN DIEGO** to celebrate **ANYTHING!**

# Orphan son

“Justice shall be done to the memory of my Hamilton.”

Art can alter life, literally. In 2015, the Treasury Department planned to take Alexander Hamilton’s portrait off the ten-dollar bill. The indefatigable Founding Father was too controversial (he came close to advocating dictatorship and a “president for life”). Lin-Manuel Miranda’s *Hamilton* opened on Broadway August 20, 2015, and won 11 Tony Awards and the Pulitzer Prize. The musi-

cal became such a cultural force, the Treasury changed its mind: keep Hamilton on the 10, have Harriet Tubman, legendary member of the Underground Railroad, on the 20-dollar bill.

*Hamilton* is at the Civic through January 28, and...wow!

During intermission I heard people saying they preferred actor X in the New York production over Y. Could be true. Having no basis for comparison, other than American musical theater in general, I have never seen a show with such blazing, curtain-to-curtain theatricality and that packed in more information. Or, for that matter, of that size and scope with such detail. They say Truman Capote’s last words were about writing: he wanted it to be “faster and deeper.” Tru, meet *Hamilton, the Musical*.

In 1854, Alexander Hamilton’s then-97-

year-old wife, Eliza, felt that history never gave him a fair shake. After all, he was a Founding Father, wrote 51 of the 85 Federalist Papers, was Secretary of the Treasury, advocated a national bank, a professional army, etc. Yet those who wrote about America’s beginnings shunted him off to the side. “Justice shall be done to the memory of my Hamilton,” Eliza told one and all. What was needed was to change

who told the story.

Ron Chernow’s biography, *Alexander Hamilton* (2004) and Lin-Manuel Miranda’s musical took control of the narrative. Even the telling’s brand new. The cast wears late-18th-, early-19th-century outfits, with suggestions of contemporary apparel. Instead of traditional “How do you solve a problem like Maria?” Great American Songbook tunes, they sing hip-hop and rap, R&B and jazz — and everything rhymes! They dance split-second steps as one, with such precision they would have freaked out the characters they’re playing. And not just the dancing. Most of the cast are non-white: Thomas Jefferson, for example, is a black man with a basketball-sized afro, a florid violet tailcoat, knee-length breeches, and an impish need to meddle. He also owns slaves.

The originals might want to know where

## THEATER

JEFF SMITH



*Hamilton*: an honest, flaws-and-all look at the painful, often clumsy birth of America.

**Hamilton**, book, music, and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue, downtown.

**Directed by Thomas Kail**, cast: Austin Scott, Raven Thomas, Ryan Vasquez, Sabrina Sloan, Isaiah Johnson, Jordan Donica, Mathenee Treco, Reuben J. Carbajal, Amber Iman, Rory O’Malley, Desmond Newson, Andrew Wojtal, Daniel Ching, Raymond Baynard; scenic design, David Korins, costumes, Paul Tazewell, lighting, Howell Brinkley, sound Neven Steinberg, music supervision and orchestrations, Alex Lacamoire, choreography, Andy Blankenbuehler.

**Playing through January 28**; Tuesday through Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 6:30 p.m. Matinee Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m.

these African-Americans and Latinos came from. One even wonders if they’d approve. After all, this isn’t melodramatic, heroic-dudes-versus-evil-foes history: it’s an honest, flaws-and-all look at the painful, often clumsy birth of America.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt once began a speech with “Welcome, fellow immigrants.” *Hamilton* opens with a musical bio. He was “a bastard orphan son of a whore and a Scotsman,” who grew up in poverty on the Caribbean island of Le Croix. Banging into walls at every turn, he dug in, taught himself, and immigrated to the American colonies, where the promise of freedom beckoned. He could be the model immigrant, rising from less-than-humble beginnings to greatness (“It’s my chance to socially advance”).

Or would he? “We’ll never be truly free,” he sings, “until those in bondage have the same rights as you and me.” These lines come from “My Shot (Rise Up Remix).” As so often happens in the musical, one watches a black man singing as Hamilton. But at the same time it could be Hamilton singing as a black man today (as in “When even role models tell us we’re born to be felons”). The lyrics cut both ways — to then and now.

“My Shot” is an amazing number. It builds on its own aspirations. It also does something else: several times it approaches a stock, showbiz resolution. The audience prepares to applaud. But then it sidesteps the cliché and leaps to another level. It’s as if the song says, “Think we’re done? Come on, we’re just getting started.”

Like much of the musical, “My Shot” has an extra gear. Just when you think a song or a scene has given its all, it ups the stakes, as if eager to top itself. “My Shot” also drips with irony since Aaron Burr’s one pistol shot will end Hamilton’s

life at age 49.

*Hamilton* has so many unforgettable stage pictures it’s hard to pick one or two out. They coalesce into an image of constant, kaleidoscopic movement. But the eye, thanks to Thomas Kail’s direction, always knows where to focus. And scenes present original ways to treat potentially dull subjects. How, for example, should one stage debates between Hamilton and Washington (“Cabinet Battle #1”) and Hamilton and Jefferson (“Cabinet Battle #2”) ? Why not give them microphones for a spoken word/“rap battle”? These can-you-top-this word-wars give the material a passionate urgency to match the originals.

The scenes about George Washington and the Revolutionary War unmask the traditional view where destiny dominates. The outcome is in grave doubt. The harried general has one-third the troops promised, and they’re just gaggles of rag-tag volunteers. *Hamilton* shows that the outcome could have been otherwise.

X in New York may have been better than Y in San Diego, but Y was good enough for me. Led by Austin Scott (Hamilton), Ryan Vasquez (the passive-aggressive Aaron Burr), Raven Thomas (Eliza Hamilton), and Rory O’Malley (daffy King George III, who promises to “send a fully armed battalion to remind you of my love”), every cast member communicated the thrill of doing *Hamilton*, which may have occupied the first three choices on their bucket lists.

In one sense, opening night resembled a rock concert. As the lights dimmed, people hooted and hollered, whistled and screamed with excitement. At the time I thought, *Can’t you wait to see what they do?* Now I’m convinced that, if I ever get to see this wonderful musical again, I’ll join the chorus of curtain-raisers. ■

“The most perfect comedy in the English language.”

The Daily Telegraph

# THE Importance OF BEING Earnest

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. But when Algernon discovers that Jack has been posing as a man named Ernest to escape to the city, he promptly travels to Jack’s country estate to pose as the fictional figure himself! Silliness ensues with whimsical ingénues, jealous fiancées, indomitable dowagers, and the most famous handbag in theatre history.

**Tickets start at \$30**

THE OLD GLOBE (619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623) [TheOldGlobe.org](http://TheOldGlobe.org)

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## 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 Fog 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 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS.

### As Bees in Honey Drown

OnStage Playhouse presents Douglas Carter Beane's genuinely funny comedy about Evan Wyler. A writer. Promised fame and fortune by Alexa Vere de Vere ("truth of truth"), he learns it was all a sham and goes on a quest to find the truth about Alexa. Bryant Hernandez directs.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### 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. 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### The Color of Light

Vantage Theatre, in association with Talent to aMuse Theatre Company, presents Jessie Kornbluth's world premiere drama about Henri Matisse, one of the 20th century's most revered artists. "But his true story, an atheist's romance with a young nun, which culminated in the creation of his final masterpiece, "The Chapel at Venice" is practically unknown." 619-940-6813.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS.

### 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 THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 6:30PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

### The Last Wife

Cygnat Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of Kate Hennig's political thriller, a contemporary take on Katherine Parr, her volcanic marriage to infamous King Henry VIII, and how, in spite of his sexist control urges, she educated her daughters, Elizabeth and Mary, both of whom would rule England. Rob Luffly directs.

CYGNAT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

### Les Misérables

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. 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 4:30PM SUNDAYS.

### 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 Mousetrap

Lamplighters Community Theatre presents the longest running mystery in the world. "A terrible snowstorm traps strangers in a quaint boarding house. To everyone's horror, it soon becomes clear that a murderer lurks among them." Keith A. Anderson directs.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### 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.

### 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. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### P.S. Your Cat Is Dead!

PowPac stages James Kirkwood's comedy about Jimmy Zoole. The 30-ish writer's been robbed twice (including the only copy of his first novel), fired from a play, his lady fair's dumping him, and, yes, his cat's on the critical list. Robyn Smith directs.

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Plays by Young Writers Festival

Playwrights Project presents its 33rd annual festival, comprised of the winning plays from the California Young Playwrights Contest. A panel of judges selected from 432 scripts submitted by students statewide. "Despite stripping all identifying information, we were astonished to discover that all six of our winners were female!" Four plays will receive full productions, and two younger writers' scripts will have staged readings.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7:30PM SATURDAY.

### Pygmalion

Patio Playhouse, partnered with the San Diego Humane Society, stages George Bernard Shaw's 1913 comedy about phonetics professor Henry Higgins, and a bet he made to turn "a lowly flower girl" (Eliza Doolittle) into a duchess. Sound familiar? The comedy was the source for *My Fair Lady*.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 E. GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Smoke on the Mountain

Connie Ray's bluegrass gospel musical is enjoying a healthy run at Lamb's Players. Using mostly old hymns, familiar to many but not all members of the audience, the production's rousing, energetic romp on traditional Christmas themes. Set in a Mount Pleasant, North Carolina Baptist church in 1938, it focuses on the Sanders Family Singers, a colorful, lively clan that's a mite accident prone. Each character has a monologue and a featured song, and the Lamb's cast performs with gusto. The drawback is music unfamiliar to someone without a Christian churchgoing background, and some of the monologues suffer from inferior writing and awkward placement. Musical director Jon Lorenz does an impressive job coaching the cast on vocals and playing various instruments. *Worth a try*. Review by *Larry Steckling*.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

### Tuesdays with Morrie

Vista's Broadway Theatre hosts a production of Mitch Albom's autobiographical play about Mitch, an accomplished journalist, and Morrie, his former college professor. Sixteen years after graduation, Mitch learns that Morrie is battling Lou Gehrig's disease. Randall Hickman directed.

BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 E. BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 1PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

### Twelfth Night

San Dieguito Academy presents William Shakespeare's revered comedy, reset in the 1920s. Viola and her twin brother Sebastian are shipwrecked. Neither knows the other is alive as they try to survive in chaotic Illyria.

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER, 800 SANTA FE DR., ENCINITAS. 760-752-1121. 7PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS.

### 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 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.

### The Year of Magical Thinking

Linda Purl performs a solo piece based on Joan Didion's memoir. "This play is a tribute to an extraordinary marriage and a love letter to Didion's daughter." Purl is known for her roles on "Happy Days," "Matlock," "Robin's Hoods," "The Office," and most recently "Designated Survivor."

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 7:30PM MONDAY, JAN. 22 & TUESDAY, JAN. 23.

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## UPCOMING SHOWS

### Around the World in Eighty Days

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Mark Brown's theatrical adaptation of the Jules Verne novel. Phileas Fog 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. JAN. 25 THROUGH FEB. 4.

### As Bees in Honey Drown

OnStage Playhouse presents Douglas Carter Beane's genuinely funny comedy about Evan Wyler. A writer. Promised fame and fortune by Alexa Vere de Vere ("truth of truth"), he learns it was all a sham and goes on a quest to find the truth about Alexa. Bryant Hernandez directs.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. JAN. 25 THROUGH FEB. 10.

### 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. JAN. 26 THROUGH JAN. 28.

### Cloud Tectonics

New Village Arts presents Jose Rivera's "apocalyptic love story." When Anibal de la Luna meets pregnant Celestina del Sol at a rainy bus stop in L.A., they learn "that time and love don't always behave as they should." Herbert Siguenza directs.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. FEB. 3 THROUGH FEB. 25.

### The Color of Light

Vantage Theatre, in association with Talent to aMuse Theatre Company, presents Jessie Kornbluth's world premiere drama about Henri Matisse, one of the 20th century's most revered artists. "But his true story, an atheist's romance with a young nun, which culminated in the creation of his final masterpiece, "The Chapel at Venice" is practically unknown." 619-940-6813.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. JAN. 25 THROUGH FEB. 3.

### The Full Monty

San Diego Musical Theatre stages a show based on the cult hit film of the same name. "Six down-on-their-luck steelworkers, desperately looking for work to support their families, come up with a bold way to make some quick cash": become strippers.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. JAN. 26 THROUGH FEB. 25.

### Les Misérables

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. JAN. 27 THROUGH JAN. 28.

### The Mousetrap

Lamplighters Community Theatre presents the longest running mystery in the world. "A terrible snowstorm traps strangers in a quaint boarding house. To everyone's horror, it soon becomes clear that a murderer lurks among them." Keith A. Anderson directs.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. JAN. 26 THROUGH FEB. 4.

### 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. JAN. 26 THROUGH APR. 21.

### Of Sound Mind and Dead Body

The Old Spaghetti Factory hosts the Experts in Mystery Entertainment and their interactive murder mystery dinner show, which promises "a night of intrigue and deception in this comedic thriller."

OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 275 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-233-4323. JAN. 25.

### P.S. Your Cat Is Dead!

PowPac stages James Kirkwood's comedy about Jimmy Zoole. The 30-ish writer's been robbed twice (including the only copy of his

first novel), fired from a play, his lady fair's dumping him, and, yes, his cat's on the critical list. Robyn Smith directs.

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. JAN. 26 THROUGH FEB. 11.

### Plays by Young Writers Festival

Playwrights Project presents its 33rd annual festival, comprised of the winning plays from the California Young Playwrights Contest. A panel of judges selected from 432 scripts submitted by students statewide. "Despite stripping all identifying information, we were astonished to discover that all six of our winners were female!" Four plays will receive full productions, and two younger writers' scripts will have staged readings.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. JAN. 26 THROUGH JAN. 27.

### Pygmalion

Patio Playhouse, partnered with the San Diego Humane Society, stages George Bernard Shaw's 1913 comedy about phonetics professor Henry Higgins, and a bet he made to turn "a lowly flower girl" (Eliza Doolittle) into a duchess. Sound familiar? The comedy was the source for *My Fair Lady*.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 E. GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. JAN. 26 THROUGH JAN. 28.

### Seeger

The North Coast Repertory Theatre hosts Randy Noojin's multimedia solo show about the beloved singer/activist Pete Seeger. Songs include: "If I Had a Hammer," "Turn, Turn, Turn," "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?," and "We Shall Overcome." Mary Beth Easley directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. JAN. 29.

### Smoke on the Mountain

Connie Ray's bluegrass gospel musical is enjoying a healthy run at Lamb's Players. Using mostly old hymns, familiar to many but not all members of the audience, the production's rousing, energetic romp on traditional Christmas themes. Set in a Mount Pleasant, North Carolina Baptist church in 1938, it focuses on the Sanders Family Singers, a colorful, lively clan that's a mite accident prone. Each character has a monologue and a featured song, and the Lamb's cast performs with gusto. The drawback is music unfamiliar to someone without a Christian churchgoing background, and some of the monologues suffer from inferior writing and awkward placement. Musical director Jon Lorenz does an impressive job coaching the cast on vocals and playing various instruments. *Worth a try*. Review by *Larry Steckling*.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. JAN. 25 THROUGH JAN. 28.

### Tuesdays with Morrie

Vista's Broadway Theatre hosts a production of Mitch Albom's autobiographical play about Mitch, an accomplished journalist, and Morrie, his former college professor. Sixteen years after graduation, Mitch learns that Morrie is battling Lou Gehrig's disease. Randall Hickman directed.

BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 E. BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. JAN. 25 THROUGH FEB. 4.

# 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](http://SDReader.com/movies).

**12 Strong** — In the aftermath of 9/11, the United States sent a Spec Ops team into Afghanistan to assist with the country's resistance to the Taliban. In 2012, Alex Quade made a short documentary about it called *Horse Soldiers of 9/11* — so named because the operation marked the first time in decades that U.S. soldiers rode horses into battle(!) In 2017, Greg Barker made a longer documentary about it called *Legion of Brothers* — so named because of the camaraderie that held among the team even as everything else fell apart. Those were movies about war. *12 Strong* is a war movie, complete with men promising their women that they'll come home, leaders insisting they won't lose a single man, a bad guy executing schoolgirls (as if that has anything to do with the mission against him), oracular pronouncements from the wise native ("Your mission will fail because you fear death," "I don't have soldiers, only warriors," etc.), and oh yes, Chris Hemsworth picking off enemies with an assault rifle from atop a charging horse at full gallop. But even if all that sounds grand, the film fails in other, more intrinsic ways: combat scenes seem more interested in the faces than the fracas, missions are undertaken with no apparent outcome, and great difficulties loom and then dissolve like mist. Still: it was a helluva mission, there are at least nods in the direction of complexity, and the bomb strikes convey something of what must have been meant by "shock and awe." Directed by Nicolai Fuglsig. 2018 — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**All the Money in the World** — The most sensational celebrity kidnapping this side of Patty Hearst became 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 kidnapping 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)

**All the President's Men** — The movie version of the Carl Bernstein-Bob Woodward book betokens the promotion of mild-mannered Clark Kent to the hero's role, protector of Truth, Justice, and the American Way. This post-Watergate permutation of the newspaper genre clings to plenty of starry-eyed ideas (Gordon



**12 Strong:** Chris Hemsworth trades Thor's hammer for an assault rifle, but remains pretty divine.

Willis's lighting, for instance, sets up an overstated contrast between the fluorescent spic-and-span world of the Free Press and the dim-lit treacherous world outside); but it is often impeccable on naturalistic details of behavior, speech, and journalistic procedure; and it is blessedly free of post-Watergate gloating (as in Jimmy Breslin's melodramatically titled *How the Good Guys Finally Won*). The old-news aspect of the story and the conspicuous absence of an after-the-fact point of view give the movie serious shortcomings as journalism and as detective story. Its chief strength is as an adaptation of book into movie, on which score it reveals the fine qualities of discretion, concision, and lucidity. With Robert Redford, Dustin Hoffman, and Jason Robards; directed by Alan J. Pakula. 1976. — D.S. ★★★★★ (CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS VISTA)

**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/houseguest. 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. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST; READING CINEMAS TOWN SQUARE; REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA)

**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 nar-

rative 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)

**The Commuter** — The opening may have you wondering if you've walked into the wrong theater as it presents the same household morning scenario again and again with minimal variation: *is this some kind of arty drama about the perils of middle-class existence?* Nah, it's just director Jaume Collet-Serra playing around with a pretext of context before he puts Liam Neeson through his violent paces for a fourth time, swapping out *Non-Stop's* plane for a commuter train and tossing in some financial anxiety for motivation. It's fun for a while, as Neeson's ex-cop starts to shake off 10 years of insurance work and get back to his real self: observant, resourceful, and inhumanly tough. (Go ahead, knock him silly as many times as you like. He'll be right as rain in two ticks.) The mystery is less a whodunit than a whogotit, the "it" being a bag containing something stolen that the owner is desperate to recover. If you don't think too hard about why Neeson gets brought in or how the baddies operate or what the point is, you may be able to enjoy yourself. At least until the final act, when the film goes off the rails. Like a train might do. 2018. — 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 morning 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)

**Den of Thieves** — Aging action hero Liam Neeson had his shot last week with *The Commuter*. Now it's aging action hero Gerard Butler's turn; he plays a cool cop out to take down a heist-happy crew. Directed by Christian Gudegast. Review forthcoming at [sandiegoreader.com](http://sandiegoreader.com). 2018 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Disaster Artist** — Director and star James Franco's ode to artistic ambition and invention — two things which, it should go without saying, have no necessary connection to artistic excellence or triumph. Indeed, if you really want to examine them in their purest form, you're probably better off focusing on a failure — and if that failure has already become famous precisely because it's a failure, so much the better. So Franco astutely assumes the role and persona of producer-director-writer-star Tommy Wiseau, the man behind the midnight screening staple *The Room*. That film has been dubbed the *Citizen Kane* of bad movies, and Wiseau makes a fine fun-house mirror version of Orson Welles: a mischievous boy who seems weirdly old, an outsider auteur who doesn't know what he doesn't know, an egotist who can't see past the vision of his own genius, etc. Wiseau also makes a pretty good avatar for Franco himself: a mercurial, relentless performer whose ambition encompasses a thrilling willingness to crash and burn. And it's that identification that makes the comedy work here, even at its broadest: Franco kids because he loves. Maybe even admires. James's brother Dave co-stars as the slightly more knowing would-be actor who joins Wiseau on his quest to make a great movie and win the love that all artists crave. 2017. — M.L. ★★★★★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY; AMC MISSION VALLEY; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**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 on display even more intolerable. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Faces, Places (Visages, Villages)** — Jean-Luc Godard was 33 when he starred in Agnes Varda's short comedy *The Fiancés of the MacDonald Bridge*. That's the same age as the photographer JR, the sole person ever to share a director's credit with the New Wave pioneer, and also her co-star here. By Varda's own admission, an appreciation of their work depends on how one sees things. (She suffers from a degenerative eye disease, while he refuses to remove his shades.) To help muddy matters, JR is a dead ringer for JLG. Together, the pair makes an oddly compelling Harold and Maude coupling, touring the countryside in a minibus-cum-box camera and honoring the locals by turning the facades of buildings into ephemeral open-air portrait galleries. For a climax, Varda calls on alleged old pal and proven architect of cinema Godard. Will he come to the door, or forever sabotage her film's narrative structure? You'll have to see this captivating movie to find out. 2017. — S.M. ★★★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

**Félicité** — That it took ten minutes to realize that *Félicité* wasn't a documentary was itself a miracle, as the camera wound sinuously through a sparsely populated dance floor in a tottering nightclub, picking up conversations that alternated between rape and romance. And the next 50 minutes — spent following the titular nightclub singer (Véro Tshanda Beya Mputu, superb in a physically demanding role) as she hits up friend and enemy alike for cash to pay for her son's unexpected and urgent operation — had the making of a strong genre picture. Think *High Noon* set in Kinshasa and backed by a Congolese beat. A natural, unforced air surrounded the relationship of *Félicité* and Tabu (Papi Mpaka), the neighborhood handyman determined to improve her life. But instead of focusing on her strength, director and co-writer Alain Gomis strayed in the direction of a grayscale fantasy sequence that ran throughout the picture. Let's call the hollow, unfulfilled arthouse dabbling that comprised the film's second half regrettable at best. 2017 — S.M. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM)

**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 Fierce" 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)

**Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool** — Paul McGuigan directs Annette Bening as aging film star Gloria Grahame in a story based on a memoir by the actor Peter Turner. 2017 (ANGELIKA CAR-MEL MOUNTAIN)

**The Florida Project** — Director and co-writer Sean Baker's lavender-tinted, tragedy-tinged followup to *Tangerine* trades Southern California for Florida but keeps its focus fixed on the margin and the sustaining dreams of its denizens. Moonee (Brooklyn Prince) is a six-year-old spitfire spending her summer vacation at The Magic Castle motel outside of Disney World — the sort of place where an unemployed stripper like Moonee's mom Halley can struggle through with a little help (and free waffles) from her friends. (Baker loves his characters and knows his business, so it's easy to excuse the sometimes indulgent depiction of Magic Castle living.) The kid's days are spent in moseying and mischief, a feral Alice amid the wonderland of fantastical souvenir shops and food stands. It's a sad old world, but she gets by on pluck and positivity: the belief that she'll get away with things, that Mom will provide, that everything will be all right in the end. And she's almost mostly right: her charm is undeniable, her Mom will do whatever it takes to pay the rent, and hotel manager Bobby (a weary but warm Willem Dafoe) keeps watch like a benevolent but overwhelmed god. But fantasy has its limits, at least outside the realm of Disney... 2017. — M.L. ★★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**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 Flimflammer 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 pessimistic 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)

**Happy End** — A wealthy European family discovers the refugee crisis. The

## MOVIES@HOME



Life of Pi

### MATT DUNFORD

President, Little Fish Comic Book Studio, and chairman, San Diego Comic Fest  
People always dread when their favorite novel gets adapted into another medium. So you can imagine how I felt when I heard Ang Lee was going to direct *Life of Pi*. But I was never so glad to be proven wrong.

Back in college, I had the chance to watch many hidden gems that slipped under the public's radar. One film that stood out was *In Bruges*. A hitman goes into hiding in the city of Bruges after he botches an operation. His boss didn't like the way things went so he sends a new hitman after the old one and chaos ensues. Dark, witty, with unexpected turns and shows an amazing sense of visual storytelling.

#### LIFE OF PI

(USA/Taiwan/UK) 2012, Fox 2000 Pictures

Available on YouTube and Amazon Video

#### IN BRUGES

(USA/UK) 2008, Focus Features  
Available on Amazon Video and Vudu

latest from director Michael Haneke is Austria's submission for this year's best Foreign Language Film Oscar. 2017. (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Incredible Predators 3D** — This IMAX presentation promises to deconstruct the world of major predators as never before. 2017. (SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM)

**Insidious: The Last Key** — A parapsychologist's discovers that her family house is haunted in this fourth installment in the series. 2017. (IN



Far From Heaven

### CARRICK ESQUIVEL

Cartoonist and assistant, Little Fish Comic Book Studio  
The two films I would recommend would be *Far From Heaven* and *Brief Encounter* because both deal with the marital struggles of a mid-century housewife being conflicted with what is desired by them and society. Though both films approach the subject matter in a visually distinct manner from each other, *Far From Heaven*, with its striking use of color, is truly a painting come to life as it pays homage to the melodramas of Douglas Sirk.

*A Brief Encounter*, on the other hand, takes a more noir aesthetic to create tension. This is enhanced by Celia Johnson's performance where she's able to communicate her character's inner-conflict without any dialogue. However, *Far From Heaven* goes deeper into the social issues of the period.

#### FAR FROM HEAVEN

(USA) 2002, Focus Features  
Available on iTunes and Vudu

#### BRIEF ENCOUNTER

(UK) 1945, The Criterion Collection  
Available on iTunes and Amazon Video



The Witch

### ALONSO NUNEZ

Founder, Little Fish Comic Book Studio  
*The Witch* is a supernatural horror story that is wonderfully menacing and draws a gloomy, sinister picture of a Puritan family living on the edge of the woods in 17th-century New England after being banished from their colony. Events occur methodically slow and tense, leading us into claustrophobic darkness. At its dark heart it is a paradoxical art lover's dream, with visual references to Holbien, Baldung, and Goya. *The Witch* has no easy answers, and it leaves you with both release and dread.

*Russian Ark* attracts you with its novelty, hooks you with beauty, and resonates with humanity. Shot in one 90-minute take by Russian master Alexander Sukarov and set in the stunning Hermitage (Russia's national art museum), you'll be transported through time and space and experience humanity not unlike walking through a museum of emotion.

#### THE WITCH

(Canada/USA) 2016, A24  
Available on Netflix and Google Play

#### RUSSIAN ARK

(Russia) 2002, Wellspring Media  
Available on Sovietmoviesonline and on Blu-ray

Find more Seen on DVD reviews at [SDReader.com/dvd](http://SDReader.com/dvd)

WIDE RELEASE)

**I, Tonya** — Director Craig Gillespie (*Lars and the Real Girl*) finds his signature image in a cigarette butt bouncing to a halt on the ice before being snuffed in two by a skate blade. The real villain in the piece is screenwriter Steven Rogers who too often deems his audience as dumb as his redneck characters. How many times must the cast stop dead in their tracks to directly address the camera? At one point, we find the appallingly brilliant Allison Janney lamenting, "Well, my story line is disappearing

now." Margot Robbie never once resorts to camp, transforming what could easily have been just another grotesquerie in a grand guignol into a fully rounded, albeit unremittingly unsympathetic, character. Given all of the emotional and physical violence these characters heap on each other, it's frequently difficult to find humor in them. The filmmakers spend so much time focusing on the freakshow side of the story that it might be difficult to find room in your heart to laugh. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle** — Star-studded reboot of a movie based on a video game. Look how far we've come from the river. 2017. (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 don't let 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 dizzyingly-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 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 Sorkin'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)

**Ocean Oasis** — Short film explores the oceanography of Baja California. 2000. (SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM)

**Paddington 2** — It may be difficult to find a review of director and co-writer Paul King's followup to his first take on Michael Bond's émigré bear from darkest Peru that does not employ some form of the word "charming." This is right and just, and the achievement is surely harder than the devoted cast makes it look. (How tempting it must be to slum in a kids' movie, thinking that the little blighters either don't care or don't know the difference. But there's none of that here.) But there's something else as well, something more: a sweet but solid decency underlying the charm the way good bread underlies marmalade. It's Paddington's great gift from his Aunt Lucy: personal integrity, good manners, and the grace to persist in faith, hope, and love when all signs indicate otherwise. And it's his desire to make

## Calendar MOVIES

some return for what he's been given that drives the story here, as he sets out to acquire a rare and expensive pop-up book of London so that his aunt may finally see the city of her dreams. But someone else is interested in the book, and for less altruistic reasons: Hugh Grant, magnificent (and magnificently attired) as a washed-up actor seeking funding for a comeback show and conversing with the great roles of his past as he carries out his dastardly plan. He very nearly steals the show as well, but he's thwarted there by Brendan Gleeson's grumpy prison cook. A gentle, genuine delight all 'round. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Phantom Thread** — Actor Daniel Day-Lewis has played any number of difficult, even unpleasant men over the course of his remarkable career. And he is famously exacting and disciplined in his approach to his art. So perhaps it's fitting that his (self-proclaimed) final role is that of Reynolds Woodcock, a difficult, even unpleasant man who is also exacting and disciplined about his art — designing ladies' couture in '50s London. The film opens on the face of his muse and lover Alma (Vicky Krieps), who purrs that he has made her dreams come true before noting, "And I've given him what he desires." Just what exactly that means — some pleasures are decid-



**Phantom Thread: Daniel Day-Lewis's relationship status: it's complicated.**

edly more rarefied, or at the very least less obvious, than others — is writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson's subject here. It's a mystery that doles out its first clue in Woodcock's opening-scene dismissal of his final pre-Alma paramour: he simply doesn't have the time for her. The level of control all 'round — director, actor, script, character — borders on oppressive; if Anderson's *The Master* was a swirling miasma, *Phantom Thread* is

an unforgiving dress. It presents an ideal and even inspires wonder, but it does make breathing difficult, and heaven help you if all you want is to have a good time. 2017 —M.L. ★★ (LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

**Pitch Perfect 3** — Part 3 of any movie franchise means one thing: F.U. money for all! This time, the Bellas enter a singing competition at an overseas USO tour.

Here's hoping Al Franken doesn't show up. 2017. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Post** — Characters speak across office desks and restaurant dining tables as Janusz Kaminski's camera lackadaisically encircles them in what could be Steve Spielberg's stagiest work to date. And not since *1941* has the director slathered on the comic relief with such a leaden hand. Meryl Streep is superb

as usual playing publisher Katharine Graham while the generally reliable Tom Hanks yanks at, but can't quite get a firm grip on Ben Bradlee's Boston accent. The filmmakers can't resist laboring the topicality. While the Trump allusions are inevitable, did novice screenwriters/brick-throwers Liz Hannah and Josh Singer have to include the word "collusion"? Why not tag as "fake news" the injunction sought by the Justice Department against "The New York Times"? We end at the Watergate Hotel, which makes this a prequel of sorts to Alan J. Pakula's *All the President's Men*, a film Spielberg can only aspire to. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Premiere Event: Mary and the Witch's Flower** — Based on "The Little Broomstick" by Mary Stewart, a strange flower grants a girl magic powers. 2017. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Proud Mary** — Taraji P. Henson stars as a Boston hitwoman working for the mob. It sounded promising until the part where her life is completely turned around when she meets a young boy whose path she crosses when a professional hit goes awry. Beware the pathos! 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Raiders of the Lost Ark** — Director Steven Spielberg and executive producer/co-writer George Lucas pay homage to the cliffhanger serials of the Thirties and Forties — and they pay handsomely, pumping the project so full of money, production values, and technical razzle-dazzle that it no longer remotely resembles its grade-B models. Not intending exactly a spoof, but not maintaining entirely straight faces either, Spielberg/Lucas seem to want to play both sides of the street, to have both the innocent thrill and the sophisticated titter. Some will find that this two-facedness tends to lower the level of excitement, that although the action is consistently lively it is also without real suspense, and that the viewer is always required to meet the moviemaker more than halfway and fake a response that otherwise would never be extracted by such rudimentary perils as a shower of poison darts, a roomful of human skeletons, a blanket of furry spiders, an army of sadistic Nazis photographed with shadows crawling up their cheeks. The essential point to be made about *Raiders* is that it is really just a kiddie movie — a kiddie movie *de luxe*, but a kiddie movie all the same. With Harrison Ford and Karen Allen. 1981. — D.S. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**The Shape of Water** — Gather 'round, allegory fans, and behold this fish-out-of-water tale of man's inhumanity to what he deems inhuman from director and co-writer Guillermo del Toro. The action is recalled as a sort of adult fairy tale, and concerns a woman (Sally Hawkins, mesmerizing) without a voice and the mysterious creature who captures her heart (among other things). On the one side, you have love, sexual indulgence, science, art, magic, racial harmony, fidelity, kindness, great movies, and lonely but decent gays (Richard Jenkins, transporting). On the other, you have hatred, repressed sexuality (corn flakes!), politics, commerce, religion, racism, betrayal, cruelty, crap television, and married but wretched straights (Michael Shannon, terrifying). It's a testament to the storyteller's skill that he manages to cram all that into his narrative with nary a lump and still keep his characters dancing with only one or two minor missteps. What's it all about? Well, our heroine lives above a movie theater that happens to be showing *The Story of*

## FILM FESTIVALS

### CENTRAL LIBRARY

330 Park Bl., East Village  
619-236-5800



**Picture This: Nothing Is Truer Than Truth** Edward de Vere, Seventeenth Earl of Oxford, A-list party boy on the continental circuit, and a budding writer with a pseudonym: William Shakespeare. 75 Minutes. 2017. There will be a post-film discussion with filmmaker Cheryl Eagan-Donovan. **Monday, January 22, 6:30pm**

**Tony: The Movie Featuring Filmmaker Dennis Stein** When Tony ends up homeless after losing his job as a waiter in San Diego, he is faced with the daily struggles of life on the streets. 67 Minutes. 2017. There will be a post-film discussion with filmmaker Dennis Stein. **Monday, January 29, 6:30pm**

### CHUANG ARCHIVE AND LEARNING CENTER

541-B Second Ave., Downtown San Diego  
619-338-9888

**Finding Samuel Lowe** The SDCHM will screen *Finding Samuel Lowe*, which is based off the book *Finding Samuel Lowe: China, Jamaica, Harlem* by Paula Williams Madison, a *New York Post* must-read book. The story follows Madison and her two siblings, who are from Harlem, as they unfold the story of their heritage, leading them through the story of their Chinese grandfather, Samuel Lowe. This film was an official selection at the San Diego Black Film Festival in 2015, and we are excited to host the screening as it makes its return to San Diego. Author and filmmaker Paula Williams Madison will be joining us at the museum for a book signing.

Saturday, January 27, 2:00pm

### CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY

365 F St., Chula Vista  
619-691-5069

**Film Forum: Laura** Elegance mixed with decadence in Otto Preminger's chic murder mystery. Gene Tierney is the independent "dream girl"; Clifton Webb is the snide columnist and former-companion; Dana Andrews is the "crude" police detective in love with a "dead" woman. Co-starring Vincent Price and Judith Anderson. 1944. 88 minutes. Discussion after the film. 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 24, 6:00pm**

### DAVID AND DOROTHEA GARFIELD THEATRE

4126 Executive Dr., La Jolla  
858-362-1348

**Giants of Jazz** With a vast archive of more than 12,000 films and clips, music-maven Mark Cantor's collection of jazz and blues performances is widely considered one of the world's premier collections of American popular music on film. Cantor screens rare clips and shares detailed documentation and lively commentary. "Mark Cantor has one of the very best collections of jazz films in the world." — Ken Burns. **Wednesday, January 24, 7:00pm**

### GROSSMONT CENTER

5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa

**Film Discussion Class: Your Name** Time loops, body-swapping, tumbling comets, eco-disaster, metaphysics, and romance combine in Makoto Shinkai's inventive animation. This lush vision focuses on two complete strangers — a boy in Tokyo and a schoolgirl from the sticks — who begin having out-of-body experiences in each other's body, as a comet passes over Japan. 2016. 106 minutes. In Japanese with English subtitles. "Film on the Fringe" with instructor Ralph DeLauro at San Diego OASIS Lifelong Learning Center, Suite #325 in Grossmont Center. Ages 50+. Info: 619-881-6262. **Tuesday, January 30, 1:00pm**

### LA JOLLA RIFORD LIBRARY

7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla  
858-552-1657

**Modern Marvels: Candy** Candy-making

evolved from a handmade operation to high-tech mass production. In this sugary documentary, we digest the latest sensations and visit several of the leading candy-makers — Hershey's, See's Candy, Schimpff's Confectionery, Jelly Belly, and more. Presented by Professor of Psychology, Seth Senecal. Documentary Discussions is a recurring program, held on the last Saturday of the month. A series of documentary film viewings followed by a discussion to explore a wide variety of topics and matters of interest. **Saturday, January 20, 2:00pm**

### MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park  
619-238-7559



**The Choral Consortium of San Diego: Sound of Music Sing-Along** The Choral Consortium of San Diego invites you to a Sound of Music Sing-Along in the Museum of Photographic Arts movie theater, the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Theater, where the film will be shown. Costumes are encouraged, singing is encouraged, raffle prizes available. **Sunday, January 21, 1:30pm**

### SAN DIEGO HISTORY CENTER

1649 El Prado, Suite 3, Balboa Park  
619-232-6203

**The Butterfly Project: Film Screening & Art Creation** In recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27), San Diego History Center will host a powerful call to action through the arts, using the lessons of the Holocaust, to discuss the dangers of hatred and bigotry. This timely and family-oriented event will include a film screening of *NOT the Last Butterfly* (film is suitable for fifth grade and older), painting ceramic butterflies, painted butterfly installation, and scavenger hunt. **Sunday, January 28, 1:30pm**

### SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad

760-602-2049

**Carlsbad Film Series: Dean** A son and father must navigate loss and love. Their different approaches to dealing with grief put to test the unbreakable bond between parent and child. This movie is rated PG-13 and is 94 minutes long. Movie special features begin at 5:30pm. The film will begin at 6pm. A post-film discussion will take place after the screening. This movie is made possible in part by the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund. Info: 760-602-2026. **Wednesday, January 24, 6:00pm**

**Carlsbad Cinema: Moonlight** Winner of Academy Award for Best Picture 2017, *Moonlight* chronicles the evolution of Chiron, a young African-American gay man that comes of age in 1980's Miami. Neglected as a child, introverted Chiron struggles to find himself throughout childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood as he grapples with bullying, his sexuality, and falling in love. This movie is rated R and is 111 minutes long. Introduction and discussion led by Brandon Cesmat, professor at California State University San Marcos. This event is made possible by the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund. Info: 760-602-2026. **Saturday, January 27, 2:00pm**

**Carlsbad Film Series: The Big Sick** Kumail, a struggling stand-up comedian, meets Emily, a hackler at his show. Their casual relationship turns into something more when Emily is hospitalized by a sudden life-threatening illness. Kumail comes to her aid, meeting her protective parents for the first time after their breakup. All the while, he is pulled between his heart and his traditional Muslim parents' expectations of marriage. This movie is rated R and is 120 minutes long. Special features begin at 5:30pm followed by film at 6pm. Stay afterward for a post-show discussion of the film. Film screening is made possible by the Carlsbad Library and Arts Foundation's Robert H. Gartner Cultural Endowment Fund. Info: 760-602-2026. **Wednesday, January 31, 6:00pm**

### TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

3902 Kenwood Dr., Spring Valley  
619-417-9032

**Laurel and Hardy Flirt with Femme Fatales** Several films will be shown. **Saturday, January 27, 6:30pm**

*Ruth* — you know, the Biblical woman who famously declared, “Whither thou goest, there goest I.” And Del Toro’s religious rascality doesn’t stop there: Samson and Delilah help to drive the drama, as does a certain someone drawn from amid the bulrushes. 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* recombinator 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 storm-trooper 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, un beholden 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)

**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

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**AMC Mission Valley**  
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**ArCLight La Jolla**  
4425 La Jolla Village Dr (858-768-7770)

**Digital Gym Cinema**  
2921 El Cajon Blvd ((619) 230-1938)

**Landmark Hillcrest**  
3965 Fifth Ave (619-298-2904)

**Landmark Ken**  
4061 Adams Ave (619-283-3227)

**The LOT La Jolla**  
7611 Fay Ave (858-777-0069)

**The LOT Liberty Station**  
2620 Thruway Rd (619-566-0069)

**Reading Town Square**  
4665 Clairemont Dr (858-274-9994)

**Regal Horton Plaza**  
Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

**Reuben H. Fleet Science Center**  
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**  
7510 Hazard Center Dr #100 (619-574-8684)

**United Artists Horton Plaza**  
475 Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

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 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

# MOVIE THEATERS

**Vintage Village Theater**  
820 Orange Ave, Coronado (619-437-6161)

## EAST COUNTY

**Reading Grossmont**  
5500 Grossmont Ctr Dr (619-465-3040)

**Regal Parkway Plaza**  
405 Parkway Plaza (619-462-7342)

**Regal Rancho San Diego**  
2951 Jamacha Rd (844-462-7342)

**Santee Drive In**  
10990 Woodside Ave (619-448-7447)

## SOUTH BAY

**AMC Chula Vista**  
555 Broadway #2050 (619-371-9105)

**AMC Otay Ranch**  
Otay Ranch Town Center (619-216-7545)

**AMC Palm Promenade**  
770 Denney Rd (619-662-2698)

**AMC Plaza Bonita**  
3050 Plaza Bonita Rd (619-475-2200)

**Regal Rancho Del Rey**  
1025 Tierra del Rey (844-462-7342)

**South Bay Drive In**  
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)

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 WIDE RELEASE)

**Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri** — Writer-director-producer

**Digiplex Temecula Tower Cinemas**  
27531 Ynez Rd (951-699-2205)

**Krikorian Vista Village**  
Highway 78 at Vista Village Dr (760-945-7469)

**Angelika Carmel Mountain**  
11620 Carmel Mtn Rd (858-207-2606)

**Regal Escondido**  
350 West Valley Parkway (844-462-7342)

**Regal Mira Mesa**  
10733 Westview Parkway (844-462-7342)

**Regal San Marcos**  
1180 W. San Marcos Blvd (844-462-7342)

## NORTH COASTAL

**Cinépolis Del Mar**  
12905 El Camino Real (858-794-4045)

**Cinépolis La Costa**  
6941 El Camino Real (760-827-6700)

**Digiplex Mission Marketplace**  
431 College Blvd (760-631-5700)

**La Paloma**  
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)

**Regal Oceanside**  
401 Mission Avenue (844-462-7342)

**Regal Carlsbad**  
2501 El Camino Real (760-720-5392)

## GET SHOWTIMES & TRAILERS: SDREADER.COM/MOVIES

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

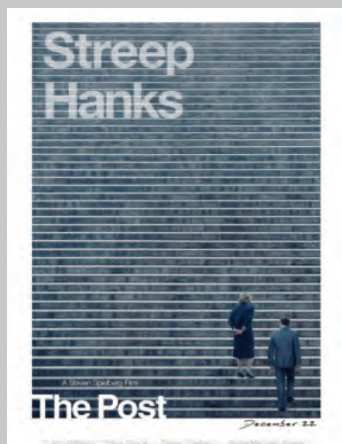
(Sam Rockwell, alarming) is out to stop her. She’s suffered to the point where suffering holds no more terror for her. Yessir, shit gets real. Or does it? For starters, McDonagh works way too hard to inject nearly every scene with his patented solution of acid wit and dark-roast comedy: go ahead, laugh 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-portrayal of consequence. Good acting, though. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Titans of the Ice Age 3D** — IMAX documentary narrated by Christopher Plummer. 2013. (SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM)

**Tommy Wiseau’s The Room** — Camp isn’t made, it’s born or in this case excreted. Buyer beware! 2003. (EDWARDS MIRA MESA; REGAL SAN MARCOS)

**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



## Under the radar

continued from page 3

Trump to be U.S. ambassador to the Bahamas has been resubmitted after failing to garner a final vote last year. The second is ex-San Diego mayoral spokesman **Ric Grennell**, nominated by the president as his ambassador to Germany. In 2004, after a stint at city hall as press secretary to GOP mayor **Susan Golding**, Grennell was briefly named vice president of corporate communications for La Jolla-based military contracting giant Titan Corp, where Golding was on the board. But amid allegations about the company's role as a contractor in Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison torture scandal, Titan subsequently said Grennell had not been hired. Grennell also played a pivotal role in the bitterly fought 2014 House campaign of ex-city councilman **Carl DeMaio** against victorious Democratic incumbent Scott Peters.

— 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/.

## Victim leads

continued from page 3

his detective, dumb luck may have played the biggest role in Boyd making a partial recovery of his property.

“We’re talking in the lobby and not even 30 seconds later three guys walk by, one of them wearing a backpack they took from me. The detective and his partner follow them out, detain all three of them, and search their stuff. My backpack had my iPad in it, my laptop, another laptop that we didn’t identify, and in his pocket were my neighbor’s car keys.

“The guy with all this stuff on him was arrested for possession of stolen prop-

erty; the other two guys just got let go. The police went up to the hotel room and knocked on the door. There was somebody there but they didn’t go in. There’s no doubt in my mind the rest of my stuff was in that hotel room. I don’t know what probable cause is, but I’d think a guy coming out of that room with half my stuff ought to count.”

A police media services officer informed the *Reader* that because an arrest had been made the department would be unable to comment on specifics of the case. An initial offer to provide a broader interview discussing investigative procedures and establishment of probable cause never materialized.

Returning to the initial police report prepared at the scene of the crime, it concludes: “Evidence: None. Injuries: None. Property Damage: None. Follow-up: None.”

“I felt the whole time like I was kind of dragging the police along behind me, going ‘Come on, can we please maybe try to catch these guys?’” ■

## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

### West Coast real-estate bubble?

**32% of San Diego homes sold over list price. Almost one-fourth (24.1 percent) of U.S. homes sold above the listing price last year, according to Zillow.com. The median price paid over list was \$7000.**

**In San Diego, 32.1 percent sold above the listing price, for a median \$10,100 above the asking level. But San Diego badly lagged many West Coast cities: in San Francisco, 64.5 percent of homes sold above the listing price, for a median of \$41,000 above asking. In San Jose, 68.5 percent of homes sold above the asking price — a median \$62,000 above list. More than half of Seattle homes went for a median bonus of \$20,100**



San Diego — ahead of the country but lagging other West Coast cities

to the seller.

**This is getting into bubble range. Will the wildfires bring these transactions back to Earth on the West Coast?**

Don Bauder

### North County congressman Issa to retire

Barely survived the 2016 election

**Republican North County congressman Darrell Issa on January 10th announced that he will be retiring from his post in the 49th District this fall. The publication Politico called Issa’s move “the latest sign of a growing Democratic wave in this year’s midterm elections,” although North County may not be riding the same wave.**

**Still, there is agreement that Issa faced a tough reelection fight in the fall. He was first elected in 2000 and in 2010 became chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. He aggressively led investigations of the Obama administration.**

**“Issa barely survived the 2016 election,” noted Politico, and Democrats were aiming to displace him this fall. Hillary Clinton carried his district by 7 points in the 2016 presidential race.**

**Issa won much praise for coming up with an H-1B bill that is making headway in the House and winning**

Don Bauder



Edison made fast transfer of nuclear waste into dry casks.



Clinton carried Issa’s district by 7 points.

**praise from those who want reforms of the program that brings foreigners in to take jobs in the U.S.**

Don Bauder

### Nuclear waste at the beach saves money is why

Edison opts for less labor and red tape

**Local activist Donna Gilmore points out that back in October, engineers involved in decommissioning shuttered nuclear plants stressed that fast transfer of deadly nuclear waste into dry casks saves a utility money. That appears to be a good explanation of why Edison, while it was promising to look for burial sites other than next to the ocean, has sped ahead with the project, endangering people within a 50-mile radius of the closed San Onofre plant.**

**A report in October came from a publication, NuclearEnergyInsider.com. Gilmore points out the key words from that article: “Swift fuel transfer into dry cask storage generates significant cost savings for operators by reducing monitoring and security requirements and cutting labor costs.”**

**On August 28 of last year, Edison said it would look for another site for the San Onofre nuclear waste. But it continued work on the burying of the waste right near the ocean.**

— shirleyberan

## LETTERS

continued from page 27

murder to help accomplish that, so be it. I looked at San Diego Klan material from the mid-1920s: they really did want a nation run completely by whites, although in some instances they would put up with cheap labor provided by blacks and Latinos.

— Don Bauder

So, what has changed? Republicans want the government to be run by the white elite and want cheap labor.

— AlexClarke

We would like to forget but shouldn’t: Tom Metzger, who won thousands of votes locally in the 1980s.

— Psycholizard

Psycholizard: Metzger should not be forgotten, although he was around in the 1980s and beyond. However, I am not sure he got even 20 percent of the vote in the main election. Incidentally, my column mentions that Indiana was the major Klan state. Metzger came from Indiana

— Don Bauder

I met Metzger in the early 80s. He was pleasant and well spoken. To his followers he sounded knowledgeable and reasonable. Metzger was, as I recall, had a small electronics repair shop. He attracted disaffected whites and a lot of biker types. At gatherings no one ever spoke in opposition to anything Metzger said. He and Trump are very much alike.

— AlexClarke

I can’t stand the thought of race hate. Any relatives of mine, they know who they were/are (or neighbors) can go to Hell for eternity as they asked for. Thank Mafioso racist Trump and his overtly skewed supporters for renewing pop sickness. Oprah-Hanks in 2020. Together, we shall overcome at the mountaintop with MLK.

— shirleyberan

shirleyberan: Maybe the racists you know will indeed go to hell. I must warn you, however, that this statement is coming from a religious skeptic (me) who believes in neither heaven nor hell, nor a god who provides divine intervention.

— Don Bauder

Louis Farrakhan used to show up on my TV (when I had one) at odd times while channel switching. What a captivating character! His dynamic style of speech, his thoughtful presentation and impressive persona just blew me away. He would always be surrounded by security personnel and a huge audience of enthusiastic worshippers.

So yes, he is a black racist and he makes no excuses for it. But interestingly he has no complaints about the KKK. He feels that it is their right to stand up for white folk and protect their interests. He agrees that segregation is good. He understands their aggressive behavior. They are brothers in Hate!

— swell

swell: I have never seen or heard Farrakhan, but he sounds like a publicity hound to me.

— Don Bauder

Farrakhan is also a concert violinist. Not a great one, but devoted. It’s easy to label people but most have several dimensions that get missed in the process.

— swell

swell: I would like to hear Farrakhan doing the Franck violin sonata.

— Don Bauder

swell: the correct response to evil treatment is not thank-you, it’s F you. I read the autobiography of Malcolm X in the 70s. Too bad he learned late we’re all shades of [imperfect] human.

— shirleyberan

shirleyberan: The fact that nobody is perfect should be learned at about age 4.

— Don Bauder







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**RED MEAT** guttersnipe finishing school from the secret files of **max cannon**

If I could travel through this mirror, I bet I'd end up in a parallel dimension that's the exact opposite of this one.

Don't do it! If both of us ended up on the same side, it would set off a quantum chain reaction and destroy the entire universe.

Whoa...is that really true?

Naw. It's just that our mom would definitely notice if both of us were stealin' her Kools.

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### Yu Spa Grand Opening

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Come see what Yu Spa has to offer: Red clay sauna, Himalayan salt sauna, ice room, dry and steam saunas, hot and cold tubs, body scrub, massage, restaurant. 3927 Convoy Street, San Diego, 92111. 858-987-0476. YuSpaSD.com. \*With this ad. Expires 2/10/18.

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Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call 619-303-8031; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ST. JUDE'S NOVENA**  
May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. (State intention.)  
Say the above novena sincerely nine times a day for eight consecutive days, and promise to publish it or otherwise distribute it to others. It has never been known to fail.

## EVENT LISTINGS

**READER TACOTOPA 2018**  
Join the San Diego Reader in our continued search to find the best taco at the 4th Annual Reader Tacotopia in Golden Hill Park on Saturday, May 12th, 2018. Try signature tacos from more than 60 of the best restaurants in San Diego, TJ and LA as they compete to win the "Best Taco" award. Curated exclusively by our food writers, this event brings together the very best taco vendors. At and you decide who will ultimately win. | ReaderTacotopia.com

## PETS

**FREE PET ADS:**  
Selling a pet for under \$200? Email your wording & photo to [pets@SDReader.com](mailto:pets@SDReader.com).

ALL OTHER ADS:  
Call 619-235-8200.

**DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.**  
**FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & KITTENS**  
Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.



**GREYHOUND ADOPTION**  
Greyhound rescue needs your skills and experience. For information about volunteering at Greyhound Adoption Center, call 1-877-HOUNSAVERS, email [info@houndsavers.org](mailto:info@houndsavers.org), or visit [www.houndsavers.org](http://www.houndsavers.org).

## PET SERVICES & SUPPLIES

**DOGWALKER/DOGSITTER**  
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**\$20/hr** with coupon

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**Hot Stone & Oil**

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## Grand Opening



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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

Pocket Farm on the east side of National City, stepped up. On December 19th the city council approved a measure to move forward with a review of contract with the local organization.

Joe's Pocket Farm, where alongside plots of fruits and veggies they host music, art, and yoga classes, will provide a model for the new garden. Cofounder Janice Luna Reynoso said she expects to serve between 500 and 1000 people in the first year, including children and teachers from Kimball Elementary. Anyone who works in the garden can take home a share of the harvest.

"It's a communal approach, like going back to rancho days," Reynoso said. "We don't assign plots." Reynoso attended the December 19 council meeting with a garden spade in her hand, showing Mundo Gardens to be shovel-ready when the city gave the green light. The garden plan includes a pizza oven for cooking classes, a gathering place, a play and picnic area, and plenty of room for planting.

Fiscal sponsor YALLA San Diego, another local nonprofit, will provide funding for two part-time positions at Paradise Creek Com-

munity Garden that will pay about \$25,000 each. The National City City Council will vote on the final contract January 16.

LEORAH GAVIDOR

## CITY HEIGHTS Manzanita Canyon rain hikers

"People were wanting to see how bad it gets."

"There were more than 24 [people] interested [in hiking] in the rain," said Justin Boone of Azalea Park. On January 2nd he had announced on his coffee-business Facebook page that he would be leading hikes. "People were wanting to see how bad it gets down there [in the canyons and] if the trails are usable or not."

On Tuesday (January 9), Boone went into Manzanita Canyon, which is a block away from his Burly and the Bean Coffee Cabin (3014 Columbine Street) and snapped photos of the small rivers flowing as it rained. He posted them on his social media accounts, earning 70-plus likes.

"They [the 24 neighbors] just want to see

what it looked like to have rivers and stream in their neighborhood," Boone said. "These are all the same trails we will be hiking on Sunday the 14th [of January] for the next 6.5-mile Burly hike tour."

The day before Boone took the photos, he

both from Lemoore, near Fresno. They were staying at an AirBnB spot in Boone's neighborhood, which they choose because of the proximity to downtown and the adjacent canyons.

Romero said that it was an easy walk and the grades weren't steep. "It was good because

some of the people with us wouldn't want the trail to be too strenuous [to hike]," he said. "It was more to enjoy the nature because we don't have these trails back home."

"Swan Canyon has a short course that is shaped as a V," Boone said of a more active hike he will lead in the near future. "There are stairs, incline, decline, switchbacks, and it's great for a quick-stride back-and-forth workout."

Boone said nobody slipped, despite the change in weather from "some sun peeking out of the clouds" at 8 a.m. to the minor shower around noon. Boone doesn't charge anything for the hike, but he accepts donations that go toward a cup of coffee and water.

MIKE MADRIAGA



Hikers met at Burly and the Bean before heading into the canyons.

met with over 20 hikers at his coffee shop and led them on a 2.2-mile hike in and around the canyons. Boone took along his infant son, the youngest attendee of the "Azalea Park hiking trail aka coffee loop." A couple hikers in the group were in their 70s," said Vanessa, Boone's wife.

Liz Krulder, 24, and Camilo Romero, 23, are

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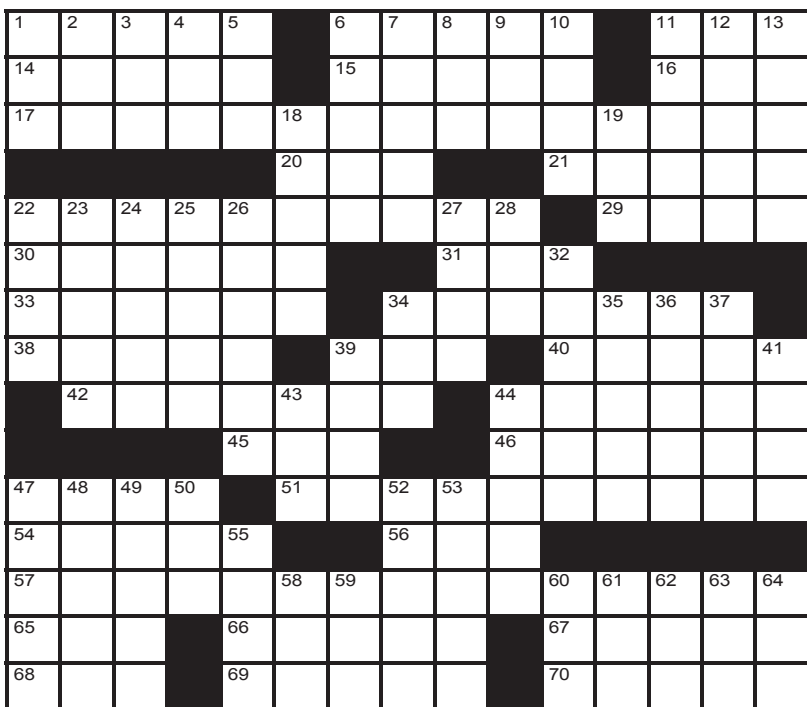
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warranty



# CROSSWORD



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## Across

1. Rum-soaked cakes
6. 2016 Disney film set in Polynesia
11. 1-800-FLOWERS alternative
14. Blood's partner
15. Pains' partner
16. "... \_\_\_\_ lack thereof"
17. Expose oneself to passengers aboard a former international airline?
20. "Zero Dark Thirty" org.
21. "Calvin and Hobbes" girl
22. Say, for example, "You ate the apple!?! What were you thinking?!?!"
29. Starts' partner
30. TV's "\_\_\_\_ Howser, M.D."
31. Pudding fruit
33. Tomfoolery
34. Sigmund Freud's nickname?
38. Number of days in una semana
39. Scooby-\_\_\_\_
40. Have \_\_\_\_ with (speak to)
42. Emeril Lagasse delivery when he opens his mouth?
44. Any of a comedic trio
45. Brynner of "The Magnificent Seven"
46. "Spill it!"
47. Lacking rainfall
51. What you might call a guy whose claim to fame is making Dutch cheese?
54. Filmmaker \_\_\_\_ B. DeMille
56. \_\_\_\_ polloi
57. When a hangover usually hits you ... or this puzzle's theme
65. Boating aid
66. Have \_\_\_\_ to pick
67. Little Havana locale
68. Barry Sanders and Walter Payton, e.g.: Abbr.
69. Casual evenings?
70. Cover image on Pink Floyd's "The Dark Side of the Moon"

## Down

1. OMG, like, the greatest pal

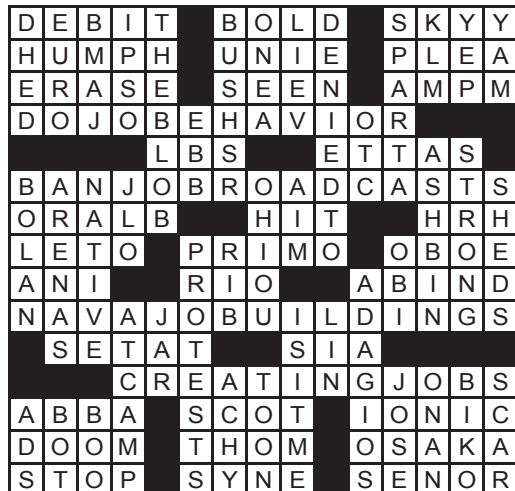
## 2. A to Z

3. Actress Arthur of "Maude"
4. Ninny
5. Admonition in a movie theater
6. Craze
7. Spider's legs, e.g.
8. "Yes ... ri-i-ight there!"
9. Hillary Clinton \_\_\_\_ Rodham
10. Deadly snakes
11. "Despacito" singer Luis
12. Hazel eyes or curly hair
13. Women, in pulp fiction
18. Clinton adviser Harold
19. "\_\_\_\_ Wiedersehen!"
22. Ones helping a public prosecutor, for short
23. "Pagliacci" clown
24. Caddie, basically
25. Feeling of anxiety
26. Tyson of "Sounder"
27. "Hair" do
28. Prefix with day or night
32. Gadget for Parmesan
34. \_\_\_\_ Pérignon (brand of bubbly)
35. Where to learn anglais

## 36. "Get \_\_\_\_ of yourself!"

37. Underground molten rock
39. Artist who said "I don't do drugs. I am drugs"
41. Swarm (with)
43. Mooch, as a cigarette
44. "Pete's a Pizza" children's author William
47. Oldman or Newman, e.g.
48. Where "they tried to make me go," in an Amy Winehouse hit
49. They put the frosting on the cake
50. Poorly lit
52. Perform very well
53. Mutes, with "down"
55. \_\_\_\_ shark
58. Stat for A-Rod or Hammerin' Hank
59. Word after waste or want
60. Hype (up)
61. Cone producer
62. Mai \_\_\_\_ (cocktail)
63. Ambulance letters
64. Volcano feature

## SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:



## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Monster Truck Jam** This year's lineup includes super-truck icons Grave Digger and Max-D along with World Final Champions El Toro Loco and Avenger. Nine trucks will make their San Diego debut, including the newest member of the Monster Jam beasts family — the menacing giant shark Megalodon. Come to the stadium early for the Monster Jam Pit Party pre-show for a close-up view of the trucks and autographs and photos with the drivers. New for 2018, a Pit Party Early Access Pass gets you in one hour before the general public. Saturday, January 20, 2:30pm; \$24-\$80. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**Nuno Trunk Show** Nuno, which simply means "cloth" in Japanese, blends the traditional and the contemporary in their bold and modern hand-printed textiles. Led by world-renowned designer Reiko Sudo, who launched the company more than 35 years ago with textile icon Jun'ichi Arai, Nuno works with independent spinners, dyers, and mills that still survive in villages throughout Japan to create pieces that are original and distinctive. Shop their scarves, shawls, and learn more about the company's unique process. Friday, January 19, 10am; Saturday, January 20, 10am; free. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Women's March San Diego 2018: Hear Our Vote** On January 20, we will unite in San Diego to reaffirm our commitment to building a positive and just future for all and to celebrate the spirit of resistance efforts over the past year. This march is designed to engage and empower voters to support women's rights, human rights, social and environmental justice, and to encourage participation in 2018 midterm elections. Saturday, January 20, 10am; free. Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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# SUDOKU

EASY:

		3		2		5		
	9				3	4	6	
		7		8				1
9	7	2			1	6	5	
8				9				4
	6	4	7			8	9	2
7				6		9		
	5	6	1				4	
		9		5		1		

MEDIUM:

8		9		7		4		6
				8	6	3		5
4		7		1	5			
2		6				5		1
			4	6		8		3
7		1	8	2				
6		8		3		7		2

HARD:

	7		6			4		
						1		9
5		8		9			7	
			9		2		1	5
2								7
6	1		5		8			
	2			4		5		6
4		6						
		1		6		9		

EVIL:

		8				2	6	
3	9			5		4		
				3				9
7		5			6			
			4			1		2
5				1				
		9		6			3	8
	7	3				9		

**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:**

EASY:

1	3	5	7	9	4	6	8	2
9	4	8	5	6	2	7	1	3
2	7	6	1	8	3	4	5	9
6	1	2	9	7	8	3	4	5
5	9	3	4	2	6	8	7	1
4	8	7	3	5	1	9	2	6
8	5	1	6	4	9	2	3	7
7	6	4	2	3	5	1	9	8
3	2	9	8	1	7	5	6	4

HARD:

3	6	1	8	2	5	7	9	4
2	4	9	1	3	7	5	8	6
7	5	8	6	9	4	3	2	1
4	2	3	5	8	1	6	7	9
5	1	6	9	7	2	8	4	3
8	9	7	4	6	3	2	1	5
6	8	2	3	4	9	1	5	7
9	3	5	7	1	8	4	6	2
1	7	4	2	5	6	9	3	8

MEDIUM:

9	8	2	4	6	7	3	5	1
1	5	6	8	3	9	7	2	4
7	3	4	2	5	1	8	6	9
4	6	3	9	2	8	5	1	7
2	1	9	5	7	3	4	8	6
5	7	8	6	1	4	2	9	3
3	2	1	7	8	6	9	4	5
8	4	7	1	9	5	6	3	2
6	9	5	3	4	2	1	7	8

EVIL:

4	8	9	1	6	7	3	2	5
7	3	1	5	4	2	9	8	6
5	2	6	3	8	9	1	7	4
1	7	3	8	9	6	5	4	2
9	4	8	2	7	5	6	1	3
6	5	2	4	3	1	7	9	8
3	9	7	6	2	4	8	5	1
8	1	4	7	5	3	2	6	9
2	6	5	9	1	8	4	3	7

## MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

**WIN TICKETS**



Win a pair of tickets to see August Burns Red at House of Blues.

Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 22 at 1pm.

**WIN TICKETS**



Win a pair of tickets to see ALO at Belly Up.

Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 29 at 1pm.

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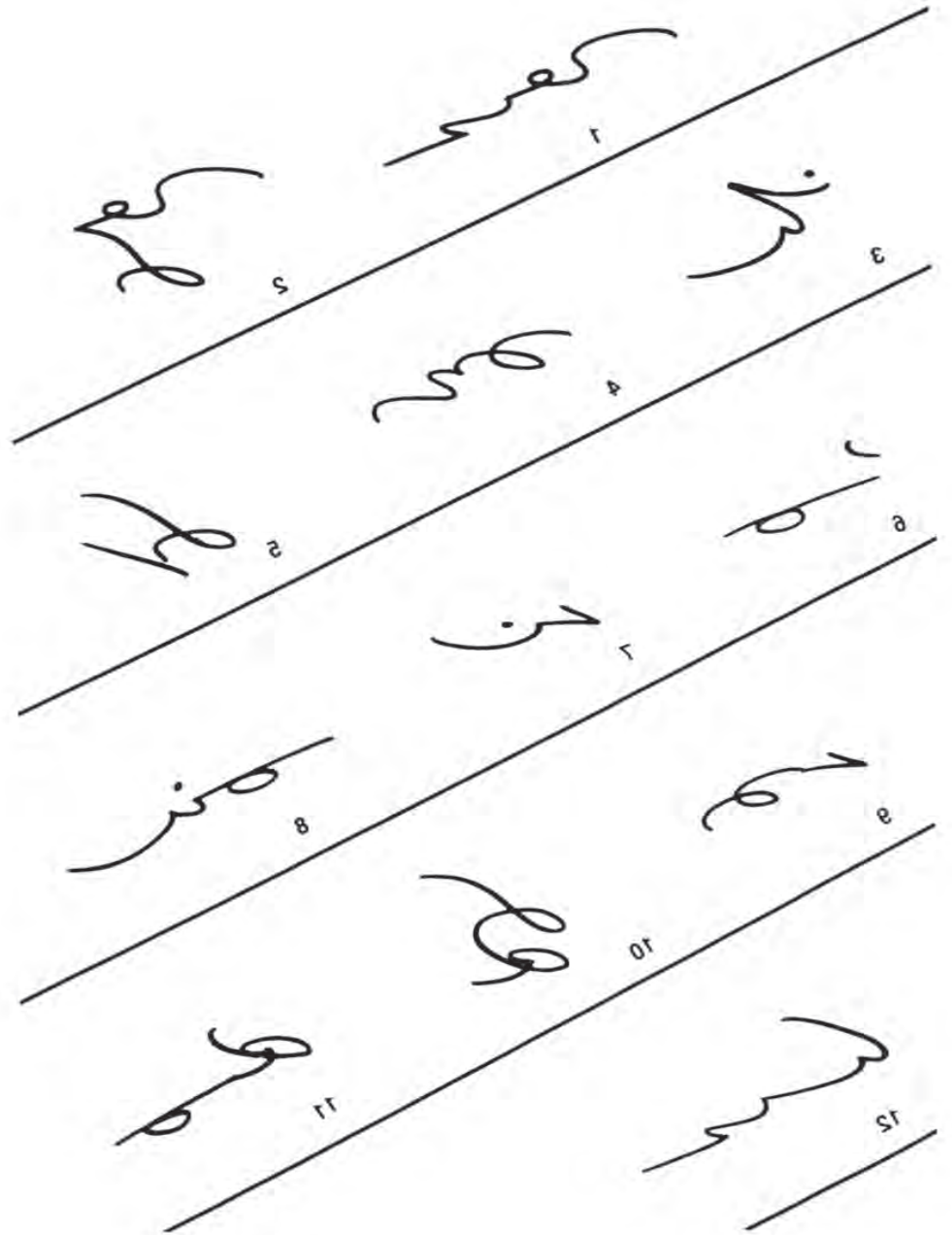
# Brainstorms

by Don Rubin

## Backwords

You don't need to know any shorthand to solve this puzzle. But since some of you may already, we've written the words at the right backward. Using the example below to start you off, see if you can match the rest.

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| <u>5</u> backward | __ fireman   |
| __ handball       | __ greenback |
| __ superman       | __ shortcake |
| __ cakewalk       | __ ballroom  |
| __ greenroom      | __ backfire  |
| __ manhole        | __ shorthand |



## Last Week's Solution

SVM FVN

The sum (6,501,006,101) in Roman numerals represented two-thirds of a Latin quotation, "Veni, vidi, vici" (I came, I saw, I conquered), attributed to Julius Caesar.

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**Check Engine Light  
Diagnostic Service  
\$25 Off**

\*Perform scan test and retrieve codes  
\*Provide the cause of a system(s) failure and a corrective action plan.  
\*Repairs, monitor drive cycles and additional test at additional cost.

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\*Motorhome & full size Van: See manager.

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\*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 \$79<sup>95</sup>  
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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\*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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## LEAD STORY

— Members of the Spann family of Comanche County, Oklahoma, keep running afoul of that state's incest law, with the latest dust-up over the marriage of 26-year-old Misty Spann and her 43-year-old mother, Patricia, in March 2016. The two had been separated after Patricia lost custody of her young kids, but when they resumed contact a few years ago, Patricia told investigators, "they hit it off." KFOR reported that Patricia also married one of her sons in 2008, but two years later that marriage was annulled. Another son reported to KSWO-TV that Patricia tried to start an inappropriate relationship with him, but he shut her down. In early November, Misty received a ten-year deferred sentence and will serve two years' probation. Her mother/ex-wife (their union was annulled in October) will be sentenced this month.

## Nerd Alerts

— Since Twitter announced that it would allow 280-character messages rather than its original 140, a whole new world has opened up for the game-addicted among us. Gizmodo reports that tweeters are using the expanded tweetspace to play board games such as chess, Connect Four, Shogi, and Go. Games are even being customized; one tweet enthuses about "Marine biology twitter-chess. With a new marine biology fact every time a piece is moved, and a scientifically accurate death scene when a piece is taken."

— A sharp-eyed Google Earth user from Leeds, England, searching for Longcross Studios in Surrey, came across a *Star Wars* fan's dream: the Millennium Falcon, nestled inside a ring of stacked

shipping containers and covered with a tarp. Andi Durrant tweeted about his find on Nov. 8. The spaceship was used in filming *Star Wars Episode VIII: The Last Jedi* at Longcross.

## Sweet!

— Becky Reilly of Omaha, Nebraska, was forced to call in a roofing company after discovering thousands of honeybees had invaded her home's attic, producing so much honey that it was dripping down the side of the house. "We heard a loud and rhythmic buzzing, and it was somewhat terrifying because we knew what it meant," Reilly told KETV. Jason Starkey of Takoda Green Roofing said he removed about 40 pounds of honey on Oct. 26 before moving the bees and tackling the damage, which he called "horrible." Local beekeeper John Gebuhr moved the bees to his garage, but he is pessimistic about their survival through the winter. But Reilly's friends and neighbors are thrilled: they're getting honey for Christmas!

## Inappropriate

— An Indonesian museum, De Mata Trick Eye Museum in Yogyakarta, has been forced to remove an exhibit that encouraged visitors to take a selfie with a waxwork of Adolf Hitler. The figure, which stood in front of a giant image of the entrance to Auschwitz concentration camp, had been on display since 2014, and the museum said it was one of the most popular displays. *Metronews* reported that the museum originally defended the exhibit as "fun," but when the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles demanded its removal, the museum complied, taking it down on Nov. 10.

## Ewwwww!

— Sean A. Sykes Jr., 24, of Kansas City, Missouri, has discovered one way to avoid the justice system. Sykes was detained in a Sept. 1 traffic stop, but he denied any knowledge of the drugs and handguns found in the car, the *Kansas City Star* reported. As he was being questioned at the police station, the detective wrote in his report, Sykes was asked his address. In response, he "leaned to one side of his chair and released a loud fart before answering with the address. Mr. Sykes continued to be flatulent and I ended the interview," the detective wrote. Charges were not filed at that time, but Sykes was pulled over again on Nov. 5 and was in possession of marijuana, crack cocaine, and a stolen pistol. He was in custody awaiting a bond hearing.

## Least Competent Criminals

— A loss-prevention officer at a Vero Beach, Florida, Walmart happened to catch 25-year-old Cheyenne Amber West and another woman as they carried out some complicated maneuvers in the electronics aisle on Nov. 6. The officer told the Indian River County Sheriff's Office that West and her friend chose a computer, video-game controllers, and other items worth a total of almost \$2,000 then covered the bar codes with stickers taken from less-expensive clearance items. They then moved to the self-checkout lane, where their loot totaled just \$3.70. "I am just trying to get gifts for my son that I cannot afford," West told officers. "The computer is for my husband. Since he just got me a Coach purse, I figured he deserved something nice as well." *Treasure Coast Newspapers* reports that West

was charged with felony grand theft and felony shoplifting and was released on \$3000 bail. The other woman was not charged.

## Naked and Weird

— Joseph Vaglica, 40, of Edgewater, Florida, surprised a woman at her New Smyrna Beach home on Nov. 7 when, naked, he burst in through the garage door and ran through her kitchen "acting irrationally." The homeowner dashed next door to her stepson's house and called 911, reported the *Daytona Beach News-Journal*. Meanwhile, Vaglica helped himself to some of the woman's clothes, then ran outside and started banging on the windows at the stepson's home. When New Smyrna Beach police officers arrived, Vaglica was rolling around in the grass. Police said he was intoxicated; he was later charged with burglary with assault.

— Sullivan, Missouri, police department Lt. Patrick Johnson joined the town's residents in witnessing a barrage of weird behavior on Nov. 3 and 4. Johnson thinks the people who were "barking like dogs or other farm animals, running up and down the street, entering people's homes, breaking into a business" were high on flakka, a synthetic drug, mixed with methamphetamine, although the substances have not yet been tested. Some of the people broke into a nightclub, stripped down to their birthday suits and showered in fountain water or soda, according to the *Sullivan Independent News*. Two people were arrested, and others were treated at a hospital.

Send your weird news items to [WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com](mailto:WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com).

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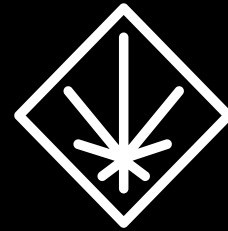
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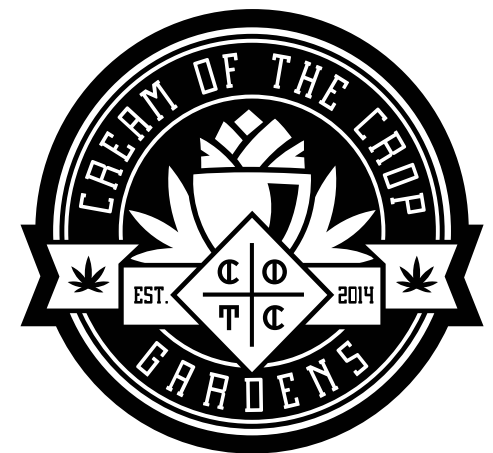
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- HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE
- 3 SECURITY GUARDS FOR YOUR SAFETY
- VENDORS WELCOME • FREE ATM! NO FEES!

**TOP-SHELF:  
3 GRAMS \$20**  
or \$8/Gram!

**PRIVATE RESERVE:  
5 GRAMS \$40**  
or \$10/Gram!

**EXOTIC:  
5 GRAMS \$45**  
or \$13/Gram!

**PRESIDENTIAL:  
5 GRAMS \$55**  
or \$15/Gram!

**South Bay's #1 Collective!**  
We do things so right, even our  
competition shops with us!

★★★★★

"Beyond dank! Besides the awesome herb, the staff is what brings be back. Awesome people with the best herb for sale!"  
-westcoast90

★★★★★

"Awesome place! staff is friendly happy and knowledgeable. Love this place!"  
-payasaloca48

★★★★★

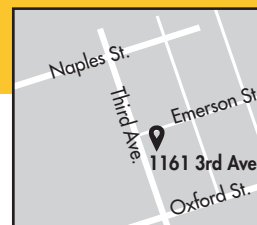
"No complaints! I've never really had anything bad to say about this place because they make sure to fulfill my need and at a great price!"  
-sd2lbc

★★★★★

"Thanks guys! Definitely feel special every time. Thanks for being honest and the staff always amazing. Great concentrate. And deals always 5 stars."  
-2JZ\_lexus

★★★★★

"The spot right here! hands down they have such friendly staff, great herb, and always some awesome deals. keeps me coming back for sure. 🙌"  
-BenOfficial



Text "CVX" to 619-762-6420  
to opt into our Loyalty Program!

OPEN  
24/7!

**1161 3rd Ave., Chula Vista, CA 91911**  
(Parking and entrance in the back)  
**619-655-9986**



## FIVE STAR

**HOME OF THE 5-GRAM 1/8TH!**  
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!**

**TOP SHELF:  
3 GRAMS  
\$20**  
or \$8/Gram!

**EXOTIC:  
5 GRAMS  
\$45**  
or \$13/Gram!

**PRIVATE RESERVE:  
5 GRAMS  
\$40**  
or \$10/Gram!

**PRESIDENTIAL:  
5 GRAMS  
\$55**  
or \$15/Gram!

★★★★★

"Top notch! Great products and very good flower, top notch quality. Totally friendly atmosphere. Monica was excellent and extremely informative and knowledgeable. Best shop I've ever been to."  
-StonerKing

★★★★★

"My new favorite place! Amazing shop. Everyone is friendly and they know their stuff! Vanessa was awesome and helped me find everything I was looking for and made great recommendations, can't wait to go back! Thanks 5star!"  
-YesJuliette

★★★★★

"Aweosome shop in the county! Super chill environment and everyone is so friendly and helpful. Good buds and can't complain with their specials everyday, it's literally the adult candy store."  
-DaltWisney619

★★★★★

"Satisfied customer! I love this place! I walk in, and the staff are very friendly. Hannah is the best! She was really nice & helpful. Definitely coming back again 🙌"  
-Rivas.61

Text "Star" to 619-558-2420  
to join our Loyalty Program!



- NON-PROFIT DISPENSARY
- HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE
- LAB-TESTED FLOWERS
- ARMED SECURITY FOR YOUR SAFETY
- VENDORS WELCOME

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El Cajon, CA 92021**





San Diego's  
first  
Recreational  
Dispensary!

**FREE COFFEE!**  
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**OPEN 24 Hours**



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TO KEEP UP WITH THE DEALS

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With Donation of \$40

Clear  
CO2 or BHO  
Distillate

**FREE 1/4**  
With Donation of \$70

\$10 1/2 G \$20 a G

**FREE DaB Rig or bubbler**  
With Donation of \$40

ALL FTP GET  
A DAB OR BONG HIT

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\*21+ with Valid Govt ID and 18+ with Valid Medical Recommendation/State Card\*

San Diego's Finest

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get medicated

## NEW STORE ALERT!!!

COME VISIT US AT  
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AMAZING DEALS!

Free parking

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NOW ACCEPTING RECREATIONAL AND MEDICAL DELIVERIES  
ASK ABOUT OUR PICKUP WINDOW TO SAVE TIME!

## AOTA RESERVE \$100 HALF OR \$55 QTR

BUY 2 W-VAPE 1G CARTS, RECEIVE A BATTERY FOR A PENNY

SPECIAL WEEKLY DISCOUNT FOR CANCER PATIENTS - CALL FOR DETAILS

## -SELECT INDOOR \$135 OUNCES-

BUY 2G FLAVOR WAX GET AN EXTRA GRAM FOR A PENNY

\*SPECIALS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. EXCISE TAX NOT INCLUDED IN AD PRICES

5G GOLDEN STATE GREENS  
PRE-ROLL BOX \$60

SELECT \$130  
BOXED OUNCES

VOTED SAN DIEGO'S #1 LEGAL DISPENSARY 3 YEARS IN A ROW

**FREE DELIVERY**  
WITH PURCHASES OF \$60  
(WITHIN 20 MILES)

**10% OFF**  
SENIOR, VETERAN, DISABLED  
AND STUDENT DISCOUNT

**FIRST TIME PATIENT  
FREE 8TH**  
W/ MINIMUM DONATION AND STATE CARD

LEAVE A REVIEW  
RECEIVE A GIFT

WINNER  
BEST OF SAN DIEGO 2017

San Diego's Premier Dispensary

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HOURS  
STOREFRONT: 7AM - 9 PM  
DELIVERY: 7 AM - 7:30 PM

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED  
OFF THE 5, ACROSS THE STREET  
FROM THE CHULA VISTA MALL,  
NEXT DOOR TO THE STARBUCKS!



# CHULA VISTA'S FIRST RECREATIONAL DISPENSARY!

## NO DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION NECESSARY!

### 21+ WITH VALID I.D.!

★★★★★ Rated 5 Stars on Weedmaps! ★★★★★  
Come check out what the hype is about!

★★★★★  
"420 all day! They've got a great selection of exotic strains.  
Service is A+++!" -cavalriday

★★★★★  
"Fantastic dispensary! I come here all the time and am never disappointed. The  
customer service is great and their products are always top quality." -noahnine

Mon-Sat:  
8am-12am  
Sun:  
9am-12am

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CHULA VISTA  
91910**

**619-655-1585**



CONVENIENTLY LOCATED next to STARBUCKS on the corner of H & BROADWAY, across the street from the MALL



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1G \$20 • 2G \$35 • 3G \$50 • 6G \$100

Top Shelf \$5 /Gram  
\$100 0Z Private Reserve Shake  
\$10 0Z House Shake  
\$50 0Z Fire Shake  
Any Strain \$10 /Gram

HEAVY HITTERS (1 Gram Vapes) \$35  
PLATINUM VAPE (1G Vapes) \$15  
Krush EXTRACTS (0.5 Gram Vapes) \$8  
KANEH CO 1000MG BROWNIE \$35

BUBBLE HASH \$10 /G  
Kushy Punch and Cheeba Chews \$9  
SHATTER \$10 /G  
Happy STICKS \$20

PUNCH EXTRACTS \$30  
OZ SPECIALS \$50 \$60 \$70 \$100  
ALPINE VAPES \$40 (1G) \$25 (0.5G)  
DELTA 9 (1 Gram Vapes) \$35

DELTA 9 CHOCOLATE (240mg) \$10 100mg \$20 (210mg)  
BRASS KNUCKLES (1 Gram Vapes) \$40  
BOLAM PRE-ROLLS \$10

FlavRx 0.5 Gram \$15  
ETERNAL (1G Vapes) \$20 \$15  
KNOCKOUT \$15

MOONROCKS \$10 /G

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2 Armed Security Guards 24/7 for Your Safety

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ALL NEW HAPPY HOUR  
8am - 10am, 11pm - 2am  
\$7 TOP SHELF, \$9 PR, \$12 BL!

FTP DEALS!

\$8 1G PRIVATE RESERVE FTP, No Limit  
\$6 1G TOP SHELF FTP, No Limit  
\$14 500MG VAPE FTP ONLY LIMIT 3 Cannot combine with other Vape offers  
\$25 1G KRUSH KLEAR VAPE FTP ONLY Cannot combine with other Vape offers  
\$35 1G VAPES FTP ONLY LIMIT 3 Cannot combine with other Vape offers  
\$15 GOLD SHATTER or CRUMBLE FTP ONLY, NO LIMIT  
\$30 HEAVY HITTER VAPES FTP ONLY, LIMIT 3 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 1G GOLD SHATTER OR CRUMBLE Any Patient, No Limit

MUST PRESENT AD FOR DEALS!  
ALL OFFERS EXPIRE 1-23-18

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619-481-2863  
stand alone building next to burger king, plenty of parking!  
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MUST BE 18+ with VALID CA ID & ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION



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Messy adhesives, Discomfort  
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Can promote gum disease  
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More secure than  
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Removable, Bulky Snaps  
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Multiple office visits



Permanently Secured  
Not bulky  
90% chewing ability restored  
Usually performed in 1 office visit  
Only 4 implants per arch



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Save 60% off regular prices on 2 year treatments

World-class Specialists all in one office!



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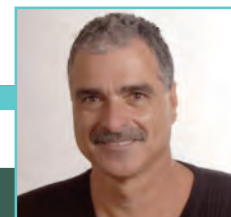
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Deep Cleaning ..... from **\$125** <sup>per quadrant</sup>  
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