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VOLUME 47 / NUMBER 4
JANUARY 25, 2018

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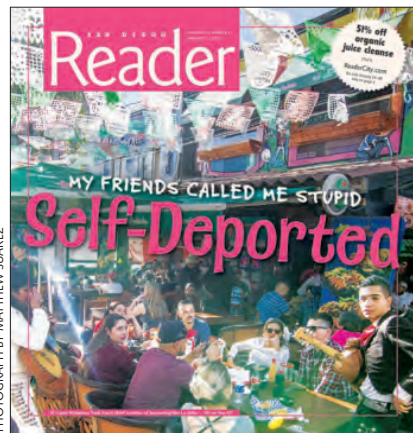
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January 25, 2018



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

It's not easy here or there — page 16



He rocks, he rips, he's Gar — page 44



Soldiers and Indians — page 51

ADVERTISING

Display Ads

Automotive	59
Career Training	57
Health and Beauty	27
Help Wanted	58
Legal Solutions	10
Music	44
Rentals	57
Research Studies	19
Services	58

NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights

Disbarred lawyer Bill Lerach now working with his lawyer wife — legally?; and News Ticker.....	2
Under the Radar	3

Letters.....

Neighborhood News.....

Ask a Hipster

What some are calling a new Golden Age of TV	9
--	---

SD on the QT

Almost factual news	12
---------------------------	----

Best Buys

100 years ago, a third of the world's population caught the flu.....	14
--	----

Self-Deported

Getting money and spending it in America is not life. By Matthew Suárez.....	16
---	----

Fatherhood Looms

"You look like you're about to pop." "Any second." By Matthew Lickona	24
--	----

Crossword.....

Sudoku.....

Brainstorms.....

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance, Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures, Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness	32
--	----

Roam-O-Rama

Man ended up doing Batiquitos Lagoon a solid.....	36
---	----

Poetry

Truly sorry man's dominion has broken nature's social union	36
---	----

Water Front

Peruvian local in La Jolla	38
----------------------------------	----

Restaurants

Ed's maw gets a tickling — best deal on the Orange Line.....	40
Feasters' delights (and disappointments).....	41
Happy Hour.....	43

San Diego Beer News

Green Flash Brewing won't be going national.....	43
--	----

Music

Blurt.....	44
Just Announced.....	48
The timid miss a beat-down at the symphony.....	50

Movies.....

Theater.....

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Local tourism rose this first year without Chargers

U-T admits economists were right

The *Union-Tribune* admitted January 14th that those “pointy-headed, sissy” economists were right all along: the San Diego economy remained strong during the year that the Chargers were gone.

From the mid-1990s to last year, the U-T,



Empty stadium, full hotels

radio and television stations, the hotel lobby-ists, and others vehemently argued that the Chargers and Padres were big stimulants to the local economy and deserved huge public subsidies. In my U-T and Reader columns, I regularly interviewed economists who said that was a bunch of hooley.

On January 14th, the U-T, tail wagging between its legs, admitted it was a bunch of hooley. Hotel occupancy has risen in the year the Chargers were gone. Economists always said that few people came from out of town to watch games. There were a few exceptions: Los Angelenos who came down to watch the Dodgers play, got drunk, and stayed overnight.

Also, in 2016 when Dean Spanos and Mark Fabiani were doing their darnedest to alienate San Diegans so they would lose the election and be free to move to L.A., out-of-towners came to San Diego to see their teams play the Chargers because they could get cheap tickets in good seats at the then-named Qualcomm Stadium.

Don Bauder

Less building, more drinking

Local unemployment rate, at 3.3 percent, bests state and nation

San Diego County's unemployment rate last month remained at a very low 3.3 percent, according to the state Employment Development Department. That 3.3 percent rate bettered the 4.2 percent rate in California and 3.9 percent for the nation during the period.

Educational and health services jobs fell by 2400 in the month. Construction jobs dropped by 1300, but local citizens and visitors kept drinking and eating in style: employment in food and drinking places rose by 1100.

Don Bauder

Near-doubling of Bahia Resort approved

Squeeze on local boat users

Mission Bay water-sport enthusiasts fighting a hotel expansion were dealt another blow from the San Diego Park and Recreation Board on January 18th.

Hundreds of kayakers, small sailboat enthusiasts, and stand-up paddlers showed up to a meeting two weeks ago, saying they were blindsided by plans to boost the Bahia Resort from 315 to 600 rooms. In the process, the resort would reconfigure the ground it leases from the city, gaining about an acre of land to the east and north of its current holdings.

At issue is 300 parking spaces along the Bahia Point peninsula, favored by bay users because of closeness to sandy beaches. About a third of those spaces would be replaced by a parking lot partway down the point, but most of the public parking would be relocated to areas where launching would mean scrambling over riprap boulders.

“This other parking would be located in parts of the park that are designated swim zones,” argued Clarke Graves, one of about 15 speakers who showed up to voice opposition to expansion — several speakers also showed up to support the plan, though they were outnumbered by a three-to-one margin. “That’s a tremendous danger for watergoers both in the water and on craft.”

While most presentations before the board were handled by city staff, local hotel magnate Bill Evans was on hand. Evans noted that a scheme to grant his resort the expansion he seeks is codified in the Mission Bay Park Master Plan, drafted in 1994 and approved by the city in 1996.



“This is going to be the biggest win for casual users.”

As part of the expansion, the Bahia is required to install a 20-foot strip of grass and 10-foot bicycle/pedestrian path around the point — while the grass exists alongside parking on the east and north sides currently, the west side is blocked to the public and the exclusive domain of resort guests.

“Anybody who makes a claim that this is going to restrict public access,” Evans told the committee, “they just haven’t read the plan. This is going to be the biggest win for Mission Bay Park casual users

continued on page 30

Would disbarred Bill Lerach dare practice law again?

He’s now a pension consultant for lawyer wife

By Don Bauder

San Diego’s most famous — and most infamous — attorney, Bill Lerach, is raising eyebrows again. Lerach, the onetime “King of Torts,” was known and widely hated for scaring the wits out of corporate executives and sucking money out of companies that would rather settle with him than spend even more money fighting him in court. Companies capitulating to his charges said they were “Lerached,” and the word found its way into the American business lexicon.

But Lerach committed fraud to fight fraud, and he pleaded guilty to obstructing justice and making material false declarations under oath. He admitted to paying fat kickbacks to dubi-

ous professional plaintiffs to gain an advantage in his multiple class-action suits.

Throughout his San Diego career, I agreed with Lerach on many points of smelly accounting and greed-sated corporate governance. But I thought many of his lawsuits were nothing more than blatant shakedowns.

He went to prison for a bit less than two years — a spell in which law enforcement became even more suspicious about his character. While he was serving time, his lawyer tried to get him committed to a residential drug-abuse treatment program. “Lerach has suffered for years with severe alcoholism and faces the substantial possi-



Bill Lerach

bility of relapse without the treatment offered,” wrote the lawyer.

Then Lerach offered a prison guard his tickets to a Chargers game, and as a result spent two months in a small cell, stripped of many privileges, for making a material offer to an officer of the United States Bureau of Prisons.

When he emerged from prison in 2010, he attacked the United States justice and prison systems, saying his crime was in a “gray area” and kickbacks to plaintiffs were “industry practice.” He then said that in 2007, when his firm had been indicted, he had been about to go after then-vice president Dick

Neal Obermeyer



FROM MCLAWGROUP.COM

Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach

Cheney and the company he headed — suggesting that the Justice Department, then in Republican hands, pursued him because he was a prominent Democrat.

Such statements enraged the judge who had sentenced him to two years plus a \$7.5 million payment. The judge said Lerach had fooled the court by claiming he had remorse. The sentence was “way too lenient,” said the judge.

Because Lerach won enormous sums for cuckolded investors in his lawsuits (taking 30 percent or more for himself and his firms), he is now worth an estimated \$700 million. He and his fourth wife, Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach, live on La Jolla Farms Road, on a six-acre estate that’s decorated with artwork worth millions of dollars. According to Zillow, the cliffside home has six bedrooms and 12 baths and is worth \$32.4 million.

Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach is a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law, clerked for a Kentucky appellate court judge, and worked for law firms in Lexington and Louisville. She came to California in 1999 and practiced law with Bill Lerach’s former firm, working on Lerach’s team that recovered more than \$7 billion for investors in the massive Enron fraud.

She has now formed a law firm, named with her own initials, MCL Law Group of La Jolla, specializing in “complex and class-



PHOTOGRAPH BY LIZ LYNCH

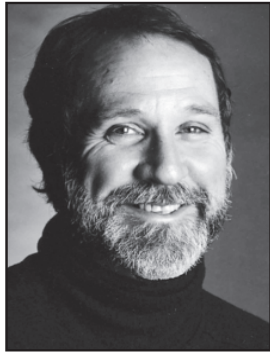
Carl Cannon

action litigations [covering] fraudulent business practices, human rights abuses, and labor and employment violation” — just what she did when working for her husband’s now-defunct law firm.

Bill Lerach, meanwhile, has come out of retirement to form a La Jolla-based firm, Pensions Forensics, which says it “provides investigative expertise and economic analysis and consulting services to determine the source and nature of pension fund financial and actuarial problems, including funding shortfalls, investment losses and fiduciary mismanagement.” The last words of the firm’s promotion document are “Mr. Lerach was disbarred several years ago and no longer practices law.”

Lo and behold, according to *Bloomberg.com*, MCL Law Group and Pensions Forensics, Mrs. and Mr. Lerach, are now working together on a Kentucky case. She and some other plaintiff lawyers have accused two of Wall Street’s richest and most powerful institutions, KKR & Co. and Blackstone Group, of putting the Kentucky Retirement Systems’ pension plan into some hedge funds that are underperforming. Bill Lerach’s Pensions Forensics is the consultant for Michelle Ciccarelli Lerach and her fellow plaintiffs attorneys.

To those who have followed Bill Lerach’s career, including his time in prison



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANNE DOWIE

Patrick Dillon

and his admission to making false declarations under oath, the question arises: is he actually practicing law, defying his disbarment?

I asked an official of the California State Bar. “The state bar has no regulatory power over this guy. I can’t verify that there are any pending complaints against this gentleman. The state bar does not comment on potential cases,” says the official.

In 2010, authors Patrick Dillon and Carl Cannon, formerly of the *Union-Tribune*, wrote a comprehensive book, *Circle of Greed: The Spectacular Rise and Fall of the Lawyer Who Brought Corporate America to Its Knees*. It was more laudatory than a book I would have written, but it was tough and balanced, concluding, “Bill Lerach was no monster, but he had indeed gone after fraud by committing fraud.”

Originally Dillon and Lerach were writing a book together. Then, when the criminal charges came, Dillon recruited Cannon to help him finish the book. Lerach appeared with Dillon at book signings, causing some to cock an eyebrow at the togetherness.

I contacted Dillon, who is now making wine in Sonoma County. “Based on what I know, Bill would not be doing anything that would arouse suspicion,” he says. “Bill is too smart. Once burned, he wouldn’t risk anything now.”

Matt Anderson, senior
continued on page 30

UNDER THE RADAR

The doctor is out In his heyday, San Diego city emergency medical services director **Jim Dunford** cut a dashing figure, with stylishly long hair and a jazzy automobile. His profile rose yet further after he became enmeshed in a controversial UCSD study involving artificial blood transfusions, given without prior consent to comatose victims picked up by paramedics in some of the city’s poorest neighborhoods. “Remember it is not the City Council that 1st determines the worthiness of this or any big issue in the City — it is the Mayor’s office,” wrote Dunford,

a UCSD medical school professor, in a 2006 email regarding the city’s pending approval of a subsequent cardiac arrest resuscitation study. “Now that the city has adopted a ‘strong mayor’ form of government, the City Council only becomes involved if the Mayor’s policy advisors recommend something... this is a big change since January. I am quite optimistic we will be all right.”

Per an August 2014 council document, Dunford’s 2017 compensation was set at \$246,170, in an arrangement that over the years has allowed him to acquire a bevy of lucrative outside consulting gigs. Following retirement last month from his city role after 30 years, Dunford filed a personal financial disclosure statement showing that his Dunford Medical Consultation grossed more than \$100,000, with clients including La Jolla nonprofit West Health Institute, once closely linked to chip-making giant Qualcomm. Prior years’ clients included Norcal Mutual Insurance Company of San Francisco, Mission Valley’s Bel-sky & Associates, and MedAmerica Mutual Risk Retention Group of Walnut Creek, each

paying him between \$1000 and \$10,000. Last year, “PennWell Publications provided a \$1000 honorarium (I received the lifetime achievement award) plus economy airfare to/from Salt Lake City and hotel fare (3 nights), which I estimated to be worth \$2200 total,” according to the document. “The Inst. of Behavioral

Healthcare Improvement covered my economy class airfare to/from San Antonio and hotel fare (3 nights), which I estimated to be worth \$1200 total. Vitalyst Health Foundation covered the cost of my economy airfare to/from Phoenix and hotel fare (1 night), which I estimated to be worth \$500 total.”

Fourth Estate’s prophetic email

Last May 11, local journalist **Megan Burks** sent an email of complaint to **Stephen Puetz**, then chief of staff for San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer**. “I’m the education reporter at KPBS but I’m wearing my constituent hat right now. I live in

District 8, at the border of District 3 and at ground zero of this city’s atrocious homelessness problem. As somebody who works with disenfranchised communities regularly, I have never been scared or bothered by my homeless neighbors — until now. The rate of incidences we experience is growing at an alarming rate and today takes the cake. Somebody entered our yard and smeared feces all over our dog’s face. Just yesterday, I had to step over a human shit to get into my car and drive to work. Last week, on a walk to the park downtown and within the same block, I stepped over a hypodermic needle and walked within 5 feet of a man who stretched his arm out of his car window to toss urine from a coffee mug into the gutter.” Burks added prophetically, “This is how a Hepatitis A breakout happens.” She noted, “You have an incredible liability on your hands when it comes to public health right now. Let’s hope I don’t have the Hepatitis A virus on my hands the next time I go into a school to interview children for work.”

Concluded Burks, “Vigorously washing my hands.” A month later Puetz left the mayor’s staff. In September Faulconer retained the services of spinmeister

Greg Block, who cast blame for the burgeoning hepatitis disaster on county health officials. “We never had any issues with the installation of hand washing stations, except they had to be self-contained and in compliance with (permits),” he told the *Union-Tribune*.

continued on page 30



Jim Dunford piled up some lucrative influence as San Diego’s emergency medical services director.



Greg Block shifted blame for the hepatitis outbreak to the county when he came onboard as spokesman for mayor Kevin Faulconer.

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Is an afro not simply a hair do?

27-Down has left me puzzled [Crossword puzzle, January 18].

Quotes in a crossword clue usually indicate a facetious or metaphorical answer. Imagine my surprise when the answer to clue 27, "Hair" do, was afro.

Is an afro not simply a hair do? Does the author believe it made of some kind of not-really-hair, necessitating quotes around "hair"? What a curious choice to include.

Simone
Lemon Grove

The Pamphlet

Your magazine felt a little light this week. Then I noticed your marijuana dispensary ads are not taking up their usual 20 pages. Is this a product of legalization or something else?

You'll survive if all the ads go. You always have. You'll have to change the name, though, from the *Reader* to the *Pamphlet*.

Sam King
El Cajon

No such thing as Le Croix

Kindly explain to Mr. Thomas Larson that there is no such expression as "the youngest of two" ["In my heart I hate it," cover story, January 18]. Youngest implies three or more.

Also, on page 48 of this week's issue ["Orphan Son, theater review, January 18], Mr. Jeff Smith mentions that Alexander Hamilton grew up on one the Caribbean island of Le Croix.

He was born on Nevis in the British West Indies and worked between his eleventh and thirteenth years on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands before heading to

the American colonies for his education.

I do not believe there is such a place as Le Croix.

Robert Rosenblum
Serra Mesa

Thomas Larson replies:

My bad. "The younger of the two."

Has Bauder indeed lost all credibility?

Re: "Nuclear waste at the beach saves money is why," News Ticker, January 18.

Dear Editor,

Don Bauder is frittering away his credibility writing another San Onofre story? It must be Thursday. In a January 3 article, Bauder interviewed a Carlsbad crackpot who claimed that humans are incapable of modifying the sea wall at San Onofre to keep pace with the rise in ocean level, currently at two centimeter per century.

He makes the deceptive claim that once over the wall, the sea water will quickly dissolve the stainless steel surrounding the fuel. The crackpot would have you believe that no one will know nor react because SCE does not monitor for leaks. SCE does in fact monitor for leaks and corrosion. The crackpot concludes this will be a Fukushima-style event. He fails to mention that no one has died from radiation at Fukushima, nor is there any mention of the effect on the rest of SoCal from his ludicrous projection of a ten-foot rise in sea level in thirty years.

In a December 15 article, Bauder, apparently relying on an undisclosed mechanical engineering degree, had determined that the fuel canister walls are too thin to safeguard the public as designed. No mention if SCE gave him access to the fuel bundle weight and heat load data for his calculation, or if Bauder simply made it up.

Now, in his latest, Bauder makes the ridiculous claim that SCE is trying to save rate payer money by keeping the fuel on site. In the

continued on page 15

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

ROLANDO

Kroc Center's soccer field to be finished in 2020

"You don't build nighttime facilities and not use them."

The soccer field at the Ray and Joan Kroc Center in Rolando will be on the roof of a new parking garage. The Eastern Area Planning



Will ice skaters park there, too?

Committee gave the project its approval on January 10th.

Right now, the soccer field is at ground level, with level as a relative term, project architect Ken Smith said. "It's five feet higher at one end than the other, so when you ask how high we're building, it depends on where you're standing."

The plan is to build a new 130-space parking garage and then put the field on top. The project will take eight months to a year to complete, and construction is not expected to start until 2019.

Once it's done, the center plans to ask for permission to have games later and remain open until 9 p.m.; the current closure time is 7 p.m.

The soccer field is part of the 12.4-acre Kroc Center at 68th and University Avenue, tucked between the administration building and the gymnasium, which houses a fitness area. There's an indoor ice-skating rink, a theater, and meeting rooms where the Salvation Army — which runs the facility — conducts religious activities.

"I live right next door to the Kroc athletic field and with the directional lighting, there's almost no impact on the neighborhood," Gawain Tomlinson said.

MARTY GRAHAM

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Without Villainous Lair, gamers adrift

Comic-store closure will leave some players with "nowhere to go"

"Deep crushedness is the general feel around here," said Matt Bantelman. "I've gone out of the way to not mention it this evening because everyone's trying to play [games] and have fun."

Over the January 14–15 weekend, hundreds of gamers like Bantelman congregated at the Villainous Lair Comics & Gaming store.

On January 12th at midnight, "over 70 gamers" lined up for first crack at scoring the Ixalan cards from the newest Magic the Gathering game set. But the exhilaration of obtaining the latest creatures, artifacts, and sorceries wore off as gamers spoke about the fate of their gaming hub.

"A message from the Evil Overlord of the Villainous Lair," posted Alison Flynn on the store's Facebook page on January 3rd. "The Villainous Lair will cease typical operations at the end of this month."

I visited the store during the tournament on January 13th, and Flynn was not available for an interview; however, I did find Chris Mitchell, who was managing the tournament for the new set. "I'm sad because Allison and myself helped put this [shop] together — we were the founders of it [six and a half years ago]," he said. "We did everything we could



The "cavern of gaming"

to keep the doors open but finances are what they are and we can't keep it open anymore."

Mitchell blames their slow sales on collectors being able to buy the card games at Walmart, Target, and "then Barnes & Noble."

Bantelman is a 36-year-old roofer from City Heights. "When I saw the [closing of the store] news on social media," he said, "I sat down and got emotional because there's a lot

of memories here at their 'cavern of gaming.'

"The one upside to the closing of the store, is that we can go out there and explore [just like the game] — it's like losing your home and having to stay at hotels for awhile, you know?"

MIKE MADRIAGA

BAJA

Ensenadan to be prosecuted for abortion

Three Misoprostol tablets found in the woman's vagina

A young Ensenada woman faces up to five years in prison after physicians at the city's general hospital reported her to authorities for using pills to provoke an abortion.

Abortion remains illegal in Baja California except in cases of rape, an illness that would put the mother's life at risk, artificial insemination performed without a woman's consent, or if the abortion is the result of an accident. Otherwise, the law provides for punishment of one to five years in prison for a woman convicted of obtaining an abortion and for anyone who assists her.

According to the daily newspaper La Jor-



Protesters stood up for the mother after she aborted her 18-week-old baby.

nada Baja California, the 23-year-old woman, who was not identified, went to Ensenada General Hospital on January 3rd "in a poor state of health" seeking medical attention. Physicians who examined her discovered three abortion-inducing Misoprostol tablets in the woman's vagina and reported their finding to hospital authorities, who then reported the woman to state prosecutors.

Use of the pills resulted in "the expulsion of a baby of 18 weeks' gestation," the newspaper reported.

Charges were filed against the woman on January 5th. A judge released her without bail and she is scheduled for a hearing on March 10th.

BOB MCPHAIL

ROLANDO

Councilmember got on catwalk project long ago

TV news' Turko blasts Georgette Gomez

City councilmember Georgette Gomez — called out by Michael Turko for not participating in his stories on the need to repair



Turko spotlighted the catwalks

Rolando's "catwalk" walkways — didn't want to appear to take credit for other people's efforts, a staff member told the area's planning group on January 10th.

"The segment Turko did made things start to happen faster," Keryna Johnson told the Southeastern Planning Group.

Repairs on the worst of the eight walkways (called "catwalks" by residents) were scheduled to begin January 15th, according to city spokesman Anthony Santacroce. "The most urgent and critical for safety repair is removing the wooden steps and rebuilding the walkway," he said, estimating the work would take about two weeks.

Neighbors near the eight walkways/stairways that connect pedestrians to streets they'd otherwise have to walk far to reach have been asking for repairs for years, resident Alex Soto told Turko. The walkways were built into the hilly neighborhood as part of

the village plan in the 1920s.

One of the walkways, connecting Lorca Drive with Bonillo Drive, is in particularly bad condition with rotting wooden stairs built over the broken-down remnants of a concrete staircase that is, in turn, built atop a storm drain. That walkway was deemed a safety risk in need of immediate work, Santacroce said. The other seven walkways, which need fixes such as concrete patching and leveling and sturdier handrails, will end up on the city's long list of neighborhood projects, Santacroce said. Those repairs haven't been scheduled.

The city's Get It Done app has one report, on October 17, 2017, calling for a repair of a dangerous condition on the catwalk between Lorca and Cartagena drives. "Someone WILL get hurt someday," the report says.

There are almost 1800 reports of problems with the sidewalks in 2017 and 2018. There are two other catwalk reports: one of a person sleeping and one of an abandoned shopping cart on the catwalks.

While reporting his story, Turko contacted the council offices, writing in an email,

continued on page 8

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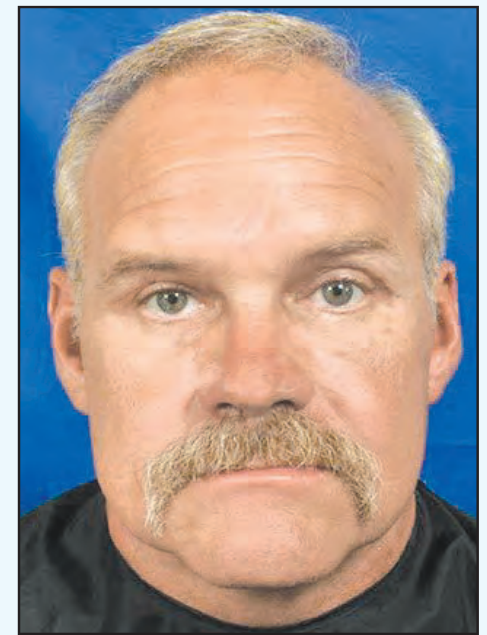


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"I have what I like to call an 'opportunity' for the council member." Roberto Torres, Gomez's communications director, and the office declined any appearances on the Turko segment, though they did send written comment, Torres said.

Turko went after the councilmember in the second segment, saying Gomez "has repeatedly refused to appear on the Turko Files."

Then Turko says that Gomez is "best known for her support of LGBT issues and her aggressive stance on climate change and global warming" and showed a series of unflattering photos of Gomez that date from before she ran for public office. He suggests that Gomez should appear on his show to outline her plans to work in the neighborhoods she represents.

Santacroce credits Turko's focus for getting the project moving, calling his reporting "the catalyst" behind the repairs being scheduled so quickly. The department had assessed the repairs before Christmas, he said.

MARTY GRAHAM

OCEANSIDE

East Coast migration story Home-invading burglar back home

A repeat felon from the East Coast was booked into jail in San Diego County last week and charged with second-degree murder in the stabbing death of an Oceanside man, David Patrick Viars, 33, who was found bleeding to death on January 1st.

Jereme Joseph Rasmussen, 25, pleaded not guilty and denied allegations of "strike prior" during his arraignment in the Vista courthouse on January 18th.

Public records state that Rasmussen was convicted of first-degree burglary in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 2011, when he was 19, and that he was in custody for one month for that offense.

Two years later, in 2013, when Rasmussen was 21, he was arrested for a home-invasion robbery in Surry County, North Carolina. San Diego County prosecutor Nikki Estrada asserts that Rasmussen was convicted of using a handgun to assault and rob one victim in that case.

Oceanside police released a statement saying Rasmussen and his 27-year-old wife were arrested by police in Westminster on January 16. The duo were trying to use stolen checks in Orange County, according to authorities.

EVA KNOTT



Rasmussen pleaded not guilty

BAY HO

Traffic circles coming to Moraga Avenue Some residents thrilled, some not

A topic of conversation for years has been the speeding, traffic, and accidents on Moraga Avenue. The city plans to remedy the situation by installing traffic circles on Moraga at Idlewild Way and Fox Place. Moraga runs between two main arteries in Clairemont — Balboa Avenue and Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

Longtime resident Nancy, who lives off Moraga, favors traffic circles over stop signs but thinks speed bumps are better at slowing drivers down.

"I guess it depends on the reason for adding [traffic circles] to Moraga — to keep up the flow or to calm the traffic."

Having lived there since 1992, Nancy said she has seen a lot of accidents on Moraga. ("Once a pickup was even upside down!") She said children crossing Moraga to get to Cadman Elementary are at great risk even with stop signs. "There is virtually no police presence anymore to help keep the speed down."

Traffic circles have been on the table before, but it wasn't until 2015 that the local planning group gave the official thumbs-up. Planning-group member Nicholas Reed said stop signs were placed in spots along Moraga to curb speeding in the early 2000s but it didn't do enough and that's why traffic circles got another look.

At a price tag of approximately \$291,000, Anthony Santacroce from city communications said the decision tilted toward traffic circles because the planning group chose them over stop signs.

The mention of traffic circles in the city's climate action plan probably didn't hurt their chances. According to the Air Pollution Control District, traffic circles used instead of stop signs or signals reduce emissions by reducing starts and stops.

Santacroce said there are approximately 17 roundabout/traffic circles citywide. The city started installing them in the 1990s; La Jolla has the most.

Bay Ho resident Reuben remembers the initial meeting when Moraga residents stated their case for traffic circles. He says he feels the opposing side wasn't heard. "When driving Moraga at 25 miles per hour, people ride my tail so close I feel they should at least pull my hair and kiss me. Some even zoom around me in spite of the double yellow line."

Claire Smith has lived two blocks off Moraga for 22 years and several times a week walks it. She said her biggest opposition to the traffic circles is that it "will result in a big expense and increased danger to pedestrians and bicyclists without positively impacting



"Virtually no police presence" is great for speeders.

the actual problem."

Instead of traffic circles, she wants a four-way stop.

Smith has concerns about median islands to split traffic. Without them, she said it's dangerous for pedestrians because, while cars might go a bit slower, they likely won't brake for pedestrians.

The flip side of the splitter-island coin, said Smith, is installing them could mean less space for parking due to the widening of the street by going into the sidewalk. "Technically, it's not a loss of property, it's an easement, but it's going to impact those corner houses."

At a 2015 planning meeting, the diagram the city shared clearly showed splitter islands and cutting away parts of the sidewalk.

JULIE STALMER

OTAY MESA

Cat on a wet tile roof rescued 10 days later Rotisserie chicken bait on edge, tuna water on ramp, fish feast in trap

Melaney and her sister heard a cat meowing atop their roof on Saturday, January 6th.

"[My sister] looked up and saw the cat's head peeking over the ledge." The gray cat was stuck on the roof of their two-story townhome near the Mattress Firm Amphitheatre in Otay Mesa. Melaney then called the fire department; they told her they couldn't help and referred her to the county's Animal Services department. They were closed by the time she called. Melaney then checked with her neighbors. No one was missing a cat.

The next day (Sunday, the 7th), "We didn't see the cat and assumed she got down, but then we heard her again on Monday evening and saw her head poking over the roof again looking down at us and meowing." She called for assistance again.

"The fire department told me again that they do not help with this type of situation and suggested that I contact Animal Control — which I already had," she said.

The next day (Tuesday, the 9th), after the storm had subsided, Animal Services came out but "didn't have a ladder, so she called out to

the cat [and] the cat never appeared or meowed." On Wednesday morning, the sisters saw the cat peeking over at them, but this time "crying and looking exhausted."

Melaney then called their homeowners' association and "the rep informed me that they could not help as they had no one with roof access."

By day five (Thursday, the 11th), Melaney's friend suggested a Facebook page called Lost and Found Pets of San Diego and Beyond, created by Sweetwater High School's Animal C.A.R.E. club to help reunite pets with their owners.

"This is when Aurora and Alondra and Animal Rescuers Without Borders contacted me and started asking about the cat.

Alondra Gomez is a veterinarian tech and founder and director of Animal Rescuers Without Borders.

They started the rescue by throwing cat food up on the roof because the homeowners' association was not fully cooperating with them.

"We established a food trail to lure the cat to the trap, which consisted of pieces of



Roofus's stubbornness was overcome with strong bait.

rotisserie chicken thrown along the edge of the roof, canned tuna water poured onto the plywood ramp leading from the edge of the roof to the balcony, and then canned cat food and water inside the live trap placed on the balcony."

Roofus remained on the roof Saturday and Sunday (January 13th and 14th).

On Tuesday morning (January 16), ten days after Melaney and her sister initially heard Roofus's meows, they got the good news: "One of my neighbors heard the cat in the cage around 5:15 this morning," she said.

MIKE MADRIAGA

ROLANDO

Speeders' fun at intersection soon over Residents' petition earns stop signs

At 58th Street in Rolando, Meade Avenue is less than two blocks long and modestly sloped. But the rolling hills on 58th —

continued on page 62

ASK A HIPSTER

HIPSTER@SDREADER.COM



Dear Hipster:

I was sitting around the other day with friends, commiserating over the injustice of being forced to wait till 2019 for the next Game of Thrones series, and I realized that a surprising amount of my life revolves around TV shows. I watch them. I discuss them with my friends. I eagerly await their release, and then, if permitted, I binge them so hard my head spins for a few days afterward (which leads to some inevitable regrets over running through an entire show too quickly). I keep hearing about how we are "living in a new Golden Age of Television" because there are all these great shows to watch, and people are organizing their social lives around television shows — sort of how it allegedly was in the '50s and '60s

with families getting together to watch The Twilight Zone. I wouldn't know for sure, because I wasn't there. I think it matters, too, that there is now more great TV than anyone could ever watch, when you take into account Netflix, Hulu, etc. Golden Age or not, TV shows have become super important, so much so that I might venture the majority of Americans rearrange their schedules and/or lives to catch at least one show every week. Maybe that's a big claim, maybe not. I don't have the data. I'm just going on a hunch. Being the kind of person who commits himself to maybe half a dozen shows at any given time, my hunches are probably better than most. Anyways, that's a lot of background infor-



mation, but it sets up the one thing I want to ask you. Why don't hipsters hate TV more? It's the most mainstream thing you can think of, but you never hear about hipsters hating Game of Thrones the same way they hate, I don't know, Imagine Dragons.

— PAT

That's a damn good question, Pat, although, let's be fair, everybody hates Imagine Dragons. I think you're right that TV is the real national pastime, and maybe the answer to your question is as simple as that. Even the saltiest, crustiest curmudgeon of a hipster harbors an abiding love for some otherwise-mainstream TV phenomenon. Whether it's spinning out elaborate Westworld conspiracy theories, rewatching the "Chinese Restaurant" episode of Seinfeld on Hulu, or pretending that Rick and Morty is an intellectual exercise rather than a series of fantastic jokes, even a hipster has his fix.

That said, there are limits. Me, I'm kind of over it with mainstream TV these days, so I've been diving deep into the weird world of YouTube and Vimeo short-film uploads, which divvy up into three basic categories. You have your over-zealous fan films, your film-school art pieces, and your film-fest genre bits.

Now, I'll level with you: it's 80 percent crap and 19 percent almost-but-not-quite getting it right. But there are some gems out there, although the best part is in the discovery. If obscure Netflix discovery is the TV equivalent of finding a 20-dollar bill in your pocket, then hitting it big with an obscure, foreign YouTube short film is like finding a box in the attic filled with your great-great-great-grandfather's stolen pirate treasure. I just stumbled onto a two-year-old Star Wars fan film about the apprenticeship of Darth Maul, and I'm pretty sure it's twice the movie that The Phantom Menace was.

— DJ Stevens

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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Surrogate-gate?

Kanye and Kim rush to clarify reasons behind name for latest baby

West: "Less is more — more or less."

Less West was born into the famously famous Kardashian-West family in the wee hours of January 16, and it didn't take long for her to carry on the family tradition of media brouhaha. As soon as the celebrity couple posted a photo to Instagram announcing that the baby's name would be Less West, "the little scamp went and broke the internet," according to local media expert Brenda Clickbait.

The controversy stemmed from accusations that the younger sister of North West and Saint West was named Less because she was born from a surrogate mother based here in San Diego. (Kim chose surrogacy for her third child because she has

placenta acceta, a condition that can threaten the life of the mother following delivery.) The couple was charged with denigrating the very process that had allowed them to have a third child, and further, with punishing the child for the way she came into the world. "All her life, she's going to feel like she's somehow Less," tweeted @KimKarbashingin, an account devoted to criticizing the couple and their numerous celebrity relatives. "Less loved, Less worthy, Less gifted, even Less West. It's outrageous, even more than a mother posting nude selfies to the web for her kids to find, even more than a grown man turning sneakers into an investment property. Just because she got shoved into the world through a different door."

"Nah, it ain't even that,"

KKW spokesman Kevin Kool assured reporters gathered outside Cedars-Sinai Hospital, where Less was born. "The name 'Less' has nothing to do with her surrogate mother, and everything to do with her surrogate mother's hometown. We thought that would be clear. We want Less to know that she's got something to overcome, right from the get-go: being from San Diego."



Kanye West and Kim Kardashian West posted this photo of themselves with their new baby Less to Instagram less than 60 seconds after his birth.



El Cajones

East County city's Homeless Task Force chief Bill Meaney explains recent crackdown on people feeding the homeless on public land

"Education is key when you're trying to rally the public behind an unpopular statute," explains Meaney. "We're going with a kind of If You Give a Mouse a Cookie-type of lesson via these helpful signs. The homeless are, by definition, transient, because they don't have a home. But if you start feeding them in one spot on a regular basis, they lose the

motivation to keep moving. They settle in. That's Step 1. Word starts to spread, because they've all got free cell phones from the government, and I swear there's an app that lets them interface with Google Maps to show where the hand-outs are hot. More and more homeless gather where the getting is good. That's Step 2. But of course, they don't have



A Homeless Cat-astrophe: a waggish street artist has contributed a Banksy-style stencil to El Cajon's Alley Cat Art Walk behind Main Street to protest the city's policy against feeding the homeless. "That's fine by me," says Meaney. "Last I checked, you can't catch hepatitis A from a painting."

any stake in the place, not even a renter's level pride of ownership. So what do they care if they trash the place?

They know they're leaving as soon as the food is gone. That's Step 3. Step 4 is obvious: once you've got a park full of homeless people, it's not such a nice place to bring the kids or take a jog. The positive element flees the scene, and the park goes to hell. And finally, because it's a



"We have smelled the future, and it stinks," says Meaney. "We have a nice town here, the sort of place you'd like to visit. We don't want to become like that shithole La Jolla, where you can't even walk past the cove without holding your breath because of the sea-lion poop."

public park and not a shelter equipped to handle residents, the bathroom situation tends to break down. Now you're looking at hep A vectors. That's Step 5."

WHO PLAYS WHO

IMPRISONED KIDS EDITION



In *Bucky Larson: Born to Be a Star*, **Nick Swardson** plays a man-child who discovers his parents had a secret life.



David Turpin is accused of secretly trapping his 13 children, half of whom were adults, inside his Perris home.



In *Sweeney Todd*, **Helena Bonham Carter** plays a mad-woman who assists the wicked man she loves.



Louise Turpin reportedly seemed perplexed when authorities entered her home to unchain her children.



Salma Hayek voiced Esmeralda in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, the story of a recluse who was hideous to behold.

This neighbor said that the Turpins were not sociable and didn't want to look at people.

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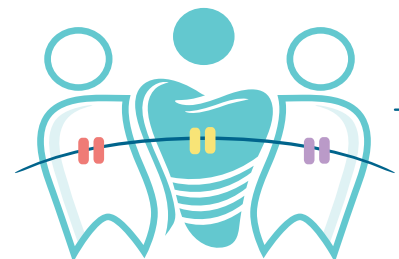
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—EVE KELLY

"The flu epidemic of 1918 infected something like a third of the world's population," I remarked, sitting with my friends over coffee. "From what I'm hearing, seems like we're almost back to that. Maybe we're in the middle of an every-hundred-years flu."

"I don't know if we're at a third," Monica said, "but I did hear the ERs are packed, something like a 100 people waiting. And people are dying of flu complications at unusually high numbers."

Everyone at the table had a house full of hackers. I took it as an opportunity to find out a few new remedies for coughs to share with the group.

At the Kelly home, we push Cold-Eeze Cold Remedy, assuming we can get our patient to take it (\$6.99 for 18 lozenges at Walgreens). I also encourage the Emergen-C 1000 mg Vitamin C drinks, with electrolytes to help with hydration (\$9.99 for 30 packets at Sprouts). Daily my people take the probiotic acidophilus (Yum Yum Dophilus, \$25.99 for 120-count at Sprouts) to fight possible infections and promote general health. And B & T Cough & Bronchial Syrup helps clear up coughs (\$12.99 for 8 ounces at Sprouts).

"As a general immunity builder," said Bernice, "we use raw garlic. I find it will often get rid of a cold within a day or two or keep it from starting once you feel yourself getting sick. Take a clove, smash it or chop it, wait ten minutes so it reaches maximum potency, put it on the back of your tongue, and swallow it down with a glass of water. Do this once a day for several days."

"Dayquil or Robitussin," suggested Lorraine. (Vicks Dayquil Severe Cold & Flu Relief, \$8.99 for 12 ounces at CVS; Robitussin Severe Cough + Sore Throat, \$12.79 for 8 ounces at CVS.)

"Hylands Defend Cough and Cold homeopathic," suggested Nicole (\$8.99 for 4 ounces at Sprouts). "Also an herbal tea called Throat Coat by Traditional Medicinals with a heaping teaspoon of honey." (Throat Coat Tea, \$6.64 for 16 tea bags on Amazon.)

"My first line of defense is Ricola cough drops with herbs," said Cherie (\$3.29 for 21 drops at Sprouts). "If I don't have to drive anywhere, also a hot toddy. My recipe is strong black tea, a generous splash of brandy, and a teaspoon each of lemon and honey."

Maire recommended two kinds of honey for their strong antioxidant properties. "Manuka or

"My recipe is strong black tea, a generous splash of brandy, and a teaspoon each of lemon and honey."

buckwheat honey, raw unfiltered," she suggested. (Dutch Gold Pure Buckwheat Honey, \$12.02 for 16 ounces on Amazon; Manuka Doctor Manuka Honey, \$20.89 for 8.75 ounces on Amazon.) "If you put the honey in tea, wait a bit for the tea to cool before adding the honey so it doesn't cook the honey," she added. Maire also added in some tea suggestions. "Mullein Tea, Bronchial Tea, or Thyme tea, brew one quarter thyme in water, have it no more than three times a day." (Celebration Herbs Mullein Tea, \$7.10 for 24 tea bags on Amazon; Gaia Bronchial Wellness Tea, \$15.98 for 20 tea bags on Amazon.) Lastly, Maire recommended Breathe Respiratory Blend essential oil from DoTerra (\$26.66 for .50 ounces at doTerra.com).

"My best old-school remedy," offered Suzanne, "is to slather Vicks VapoRub on the chest and neck area [\$7.29 for 1.76 ounces at Walgreens]. Lay in bed, cover area up to and including the nose with a blanket and breathe in the vapors with deep, calm breaths. Or put a teaspoon of Vicks in the bathroom sink, fill with hot water. Put your head down and breath in the steamy vapors. Make a tent over the sink with a towel and put your head under the towel to get more concentrated vapors."

"For the scary-sounding croup," offered Cathy, "something which you should keep on hand in an odor-proof, stable-temperature spot are these homeopathic remedies: Aconitum Napellus, Spongia Tosta, and Hepar Sulphuris Calcareum, all in 30x potency [\$7.99 for 250 tablets at Sprouts]. Give them in successive order at 15-minute intervals, no eating or drinking 15 minutes before or after. Two doses of Aconitum under the tongue, then two doses of Spongia Tosta. Then, if necessary — in that there is no change in the child — give two doses of Hepar Sulphur. This usually does the trick. As always with homeopathy, as soon as the baby seems to feel better, stop giving the remedy."

"Hot chamomile tea with honey and lemon," touted Sarah. "Honey and lemon are essential. Clears the sinuses up on the spot and cuts down on coughing."

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

thirty years I have lived in SoCal, SCE has never, to my knowledge, made a business decision that helped the rate payer unless it was as a side effect of another business goal.

What is worse, Bauder thinks that saving rate payer money is somehow a bad thing. The reality is, removing the fuel from pools to on-site dry storage and then shipping it to final disposition at a later date is much more expensive than if SCE had simply shipped the fuel to final disposition.

I'm not current on the situation (I rely on Bauder as a news source), but the last I checked the spent fuel at SONGS is required to stay on site until the Federal Government completes construction of a national repository. Edison has no choice in the matter. If this is true and it has been deliberately left out of your coverage, Bauder has indeed lost all credibility.

Greg Wade
San Clemente

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

"Partner dispute spells the end of Oceanside Ale Works," San Diego Beer News, January 8

The DUDE image is really not very appealing, or even funny. Maybe outlaw motorcycle gangs would like it.

— dwbat

Weird. It's their top selling beer sold pretty much everywhere.

— Kathy123

DUD would be more apt.

— Ponzi

No, he spelled it correctly: DUDE!

— Kathy123

Let me put it to you another way so perhaps you will understand (note sarcasm). Here goes: How would you like someone to write on a message board for all the world to see that an image of YOU was not appealing? Do you have any idea at all how completely RUDE and unforgivably hurtful your comment is?

While meaningless film trivia may be your strength it is abundantly clear that you seem to fall short on simple manners.

— Kathy123

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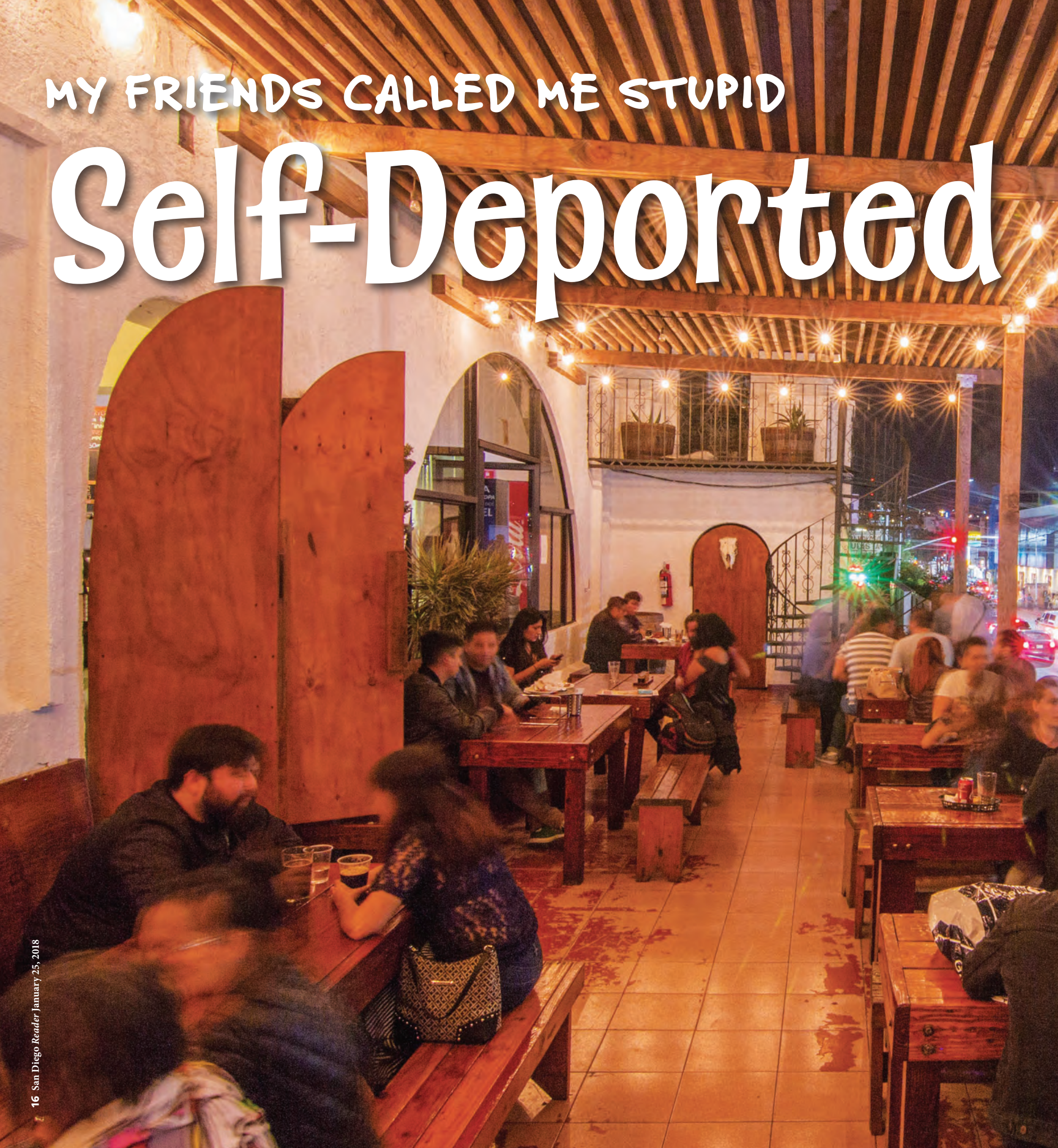
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MY FRIENDS CALLED ME STUPID

Self-Deported





My friend Jaime crossed the border illegally in late 2015. He didn't climb the fence, sneak through a tunnel, or swim around the wall. He walked up to the Otay gate and told a Customs and Border Protection agent that he had lost his non-existent passport after a night of partying. With help from a "white boy" that he met at a strip club, Jaime's story and American mannerisms were convincing enough that the agent let him through. After a year and four months of living undocumented in California, Jaime decided to self-deport back to Tijuana.

"You got fat," were my first words to Jaime before we hugged. I had not seen Jaime since he walked across and went to live in Pomona, 30 miles east of Los Angeles, with his aunt and grandma. He wasn't really fat, but he had gained some weight. We met in downtown Tijuana the day after he self-deported to catch up over beers.

Reunited with friends and family

"I got to my sister's house, it was nighttime on a Sunday. I opened the door, they cried, I hugged them," Jaime starts narrating what it was like to be back in his California home. Jaime grew up undocumented in Pomona with his aunt and his grandmother. He refers to his aunt, who is a couple months older than him, as his sister. Because his grandmother raised him, he calls her "Mom."

"All my friends wanted to give my family the surprise that I was coming. But my family

already knew, because I posted on Instagram that I was at a Starbucks in Chula Vista. It was in October, so I spent Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and my mom's birthday with them. I wasn't working throughout all that time. It was all family time. They were just happy to have me back."

Bullshit jobs and how to get them
 "So, the way you get a job over there," Jaime explains, "is to buy a fake Social [Security card] and a fake green card. It was the shittiest fake green card ever. My name was signed not even in cur- sive — they signed it for me. I found my jobs on Craigslist. I always had to go for low-paying jobs, start-ups, or fam-

ily owned businesses, because I knew they wouldn't check my Social Security for authentic- ity like a Walmart or other large corporation would. After three or four months with my family [not working], I got a job at a chiropractor's office." The chiropractor's office was only a few blocks away from where Jaime grew up. "They were paying me \$10 an

hour. They hired me to do one thing, but while I was there, two people left, so I had to do their jobs as well. They hired me to do assessments; most of his patients were workers' compensation cases. It was really easy shit, and I was just on the computer typ- ing their issues.

"But then I had to help them with therapy. Which was disgusting when they were old fat ladies, you know? I had to put electric patches wherever it hurt, and it was usually on their lumbar spine. The good thing was I learned a lot of medical terminology, but the bad... I would have to give them massages with a machine and rub lotion on them. It was not fun and uncomfortable. I was also answering calls, talk- ing to lawyers, insurance companies, clients, doing the appointments, all in both languages.

"I told them, 'Look, hey, I have no issues doing these jobs, but you gotta pay me at least one dol- lar more.' And they had me for a month telling me, 'Yeah, we'll do that.' I was doing a three-people job, so I insisted, and they said, 'We are not giving you more.' I just quit the next day.

"After that, I didn't have an actual job for a month. I was going through stupid-ass jobs. Have you heard about the Kirby vacuum? No? They don't advertise on televi- sion or have any other type of advertisement, because

or two after I bought it, I got pulled over because I was talking on the phone. The motorcycle cop asked for license and registration right away. But I had just got it. I didn't have insur- ance or registration. He was actually pretty cool.

"I had to help them with therapy. Which was disgusting when they were old fat ladies, you know?"

they pay people like me to go door-to-door. I didn't like it at all. During the training, I was, like, 'I'm not doing this shit.' That's the thing about living over there, I had to do these type of bullshit jobs."

I was shaking. I was, like, *Oh, f#@k.*"

Jaime had an AB 60 license, which are the product of a law signed by Governor Brown in 2013, directing the Cali- fornia Department of Motor Vehicles to issue a driver's license to any California resident who is eligible, regardless of immigration status.

"I was, like, 'Sir, I just bought this car a week ago. It's my friend's mom's car. I don't have any of that yet, but here's my license.'"

The cop looked at his license and asked, "Fed- eral limits apply...what

Cheap car, cool cop

"It was a '98 Nissan... uhh... Sentra, I think?"

Jaime realized that to get a better job, he was going to need a car.

"It was a shitty car. I got it for \$500. It was my friend's mom's car and said she was selling it for \$1000, but she would give it to me for \$500. A day

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Major Depressive Disorder (MDD) changes how you view the world. It causes extreme sadness and feelings of hopelessness.

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To qualify for this study, you or someone you know must:

- Be 18 to 55 years of age
- Have been diagnosed with schizophrenia for at least 1 year
- Be currently treated with an antipsychotic for at least 8 weeks prior to joining the study
- Have a caregiver or identified responsible person to provide support

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does that mean?" To restrict undocumented migrants from voting, AB 60 licenses denote that the rights of the holder are limited and only apply to the State of California.

"I was, like, 'I dunno,'" Jaime responded.

The cop asked, "Are you a U.S. citizen?"

"I went, like, 'Uhh... no.'"

The cop waved his hand in a dismissive way and said to Jaime "It doesn't matter anyway. But here's the thing, though, you don't have registration, you don't have insurance, that is a \$2000 fine."

"Why are you shaking?" asked the cop, "a pretty big white guy" by Jaime's description.

Jaime replied, "I'm shaking because you are scaring me and you are making me nervous, sir."

"Don't worry," the cop

said in a friendly tone. "I'm going to let you off with a warning, and I'm going to give you a ticket for being on the phone."

Jaime recalls the ticket was around \$150. He also believes he could have been screwed — they could have taken his car, or much worse, face jail and deportation. But local law enforcement cannot discriminate against people with AB 60 licenses.

Taking money from poor people

"So, anyway, after a month not working, I ended up getting a job at a collections agency. It was basically taking money from poor people, and as it turned out, I was pretty good at it." Jaime chuckled. "But my morals wouldn't let me keep getting money from them. Their debt

was, like, ten years old; you know, it was not good debt. I did that job for seven months and had to quit. And again I went another month not

"My friends were, like, 'You're stupid.' They said I took the easy way out, like going to Tijuana is easy."

working. I was just going to interviews, and it was the same shit, collection agencies, call centers, door-to-door salesmen. It was all bullshit jobs.

"I ended up going to this interview to be a car salesman at this dealership that was for like BMWs. I thought it was going to be

the same thing as before. I thought it was Mexican-owned, because the name of the place was Perez Motors or something like that. So I thought I would

be good; I thought, *I can work there and be okay*. I aced the interview, they gave me the job. They said I could start on Monday since it was Friday but that I had to go to the DMV as soon as possible to get my California license to sell cars."

Applicants for car-

selling licenses in California must undergo a criminal background check. Jaime knew he would not be able to get his salesman license as an undocumented migrant.

"I just lost hope. Being a car salesman is not my thing, but it's fine, it's whatever. I'm good at selling, I'm good at talking to people, it was going to be good money. But when they told me I needed the license to sell cars, I was, like, 'I'm done. I'm going back to Tijuana. F@#k it.'"

Goodbye party

"As soon as I got to San Ysidro and saw the Mexico side...my heart was coming out of my chest. In my head, I was, like, 'Am I doing the right thing? Is it too late to go back?' But I just had to do it. It was nerve-wrecking, it was scary. It was scarier

than the first time. The first time I was decided. This time it was so fast."

At age 24, this was the second time that Jaime self-deported to Tijuana.

"I didn't want to come back to Tijuana without a job, so I started looking for some. I knew the call centers were going to get me in no time. There was this call center that wanted me at a management position; they were going to pay me pretty good, but it's just not what I wanted to do."

The first time Jaime moved to Tijuana at age 20, he had a job as a writer and editor for an English-language sports website startup.

"Out of nowhere, my friend Pablo sent me a message saying, 'Hey, we are looking for content writers, but you have to live in Tijuana.' It was exactly what I wanted, so

RESEARCH STUDIES


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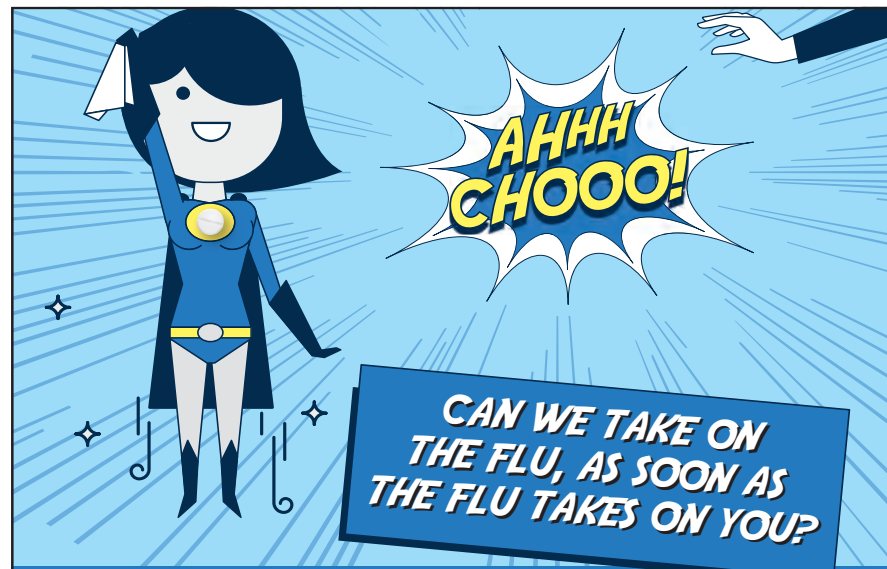
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To take part, participants must:

- Have had flu symptoms (such as fever, aches, pains, cough, sore throat) for less than 48 hours
- 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)

Because participants need to enroll in the study within 48 hours of becoming ill, it's important to get in touch with the study team as soon as possible after symptoms appear

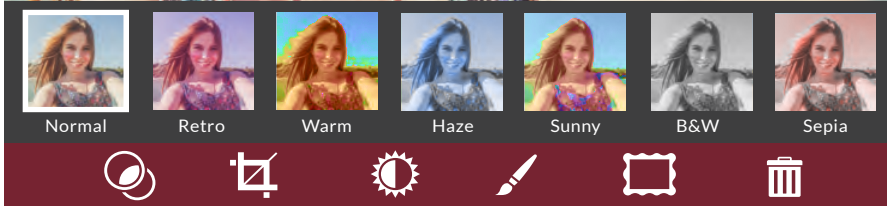
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I sent my application and articles. Two weeks after that, I had my interview in San Diego. The employer liked me. He was talking about Pablo, wondering why I would be friends with him if I were such a normal guy. He wanted me to start the next day, but I told him I had to go to Pomona to get my stuff and say my goodbyes."

Once south of the border, Jaime knew he would rarely be able to see his stateside family and friends. "My family understood," he says. "My friends were, like, 'You're stupid.' They said I took the easy way out, like going to Tijuana is easy. They said I should hustle over there and get past it. I am not the first or the last to be working undocumented. But f@#k that. I don't want to be working in a factory or a bullshit

job.... I want to be mentally stimulated at my job. I want to grow and learn. Even though I'm getting paid way less than what I would get paid working for McDonald's over there, the experience I am getting is...priceless, you know? What good am I going to do working over there when I'm not learning anything and I'm not growing. I'm just getting money and spending it. That's not life."

Jaime went home to Pomona, packed his things, sold his car for \$750, hugged his family goodbye, and partied one last time with his friends.

"My last Friday, my friends came to San Diego, we got a hotel, we partied, and I paid for everything. The \$750 was supposed to come back with me to Tijuana, but it was gone after the weekend. We

went back to Pomona on Saturday, still drinking, still partying. The next morning we were all hungover, but I told them I had to be in Tijuana that night.

"My friends were going to come over with me; they were going to cross and have a beer. But as soon as we got to the border, they reneged and didn't cross. They were hungover, and they had never been to Tijuana. I told them that I got it, that they didn't have to. And now, well, now I'm here."

After spending over a year undocumented in California, Jaime is now living with his brother in Tijuana as if he never left.

"In the end, and I knew from the beginning, it was not permanent, and I need permanent. I don't want to be living in limbo over in the U.S." ■

— Matthew Suárez

RESEARCH STUDIES



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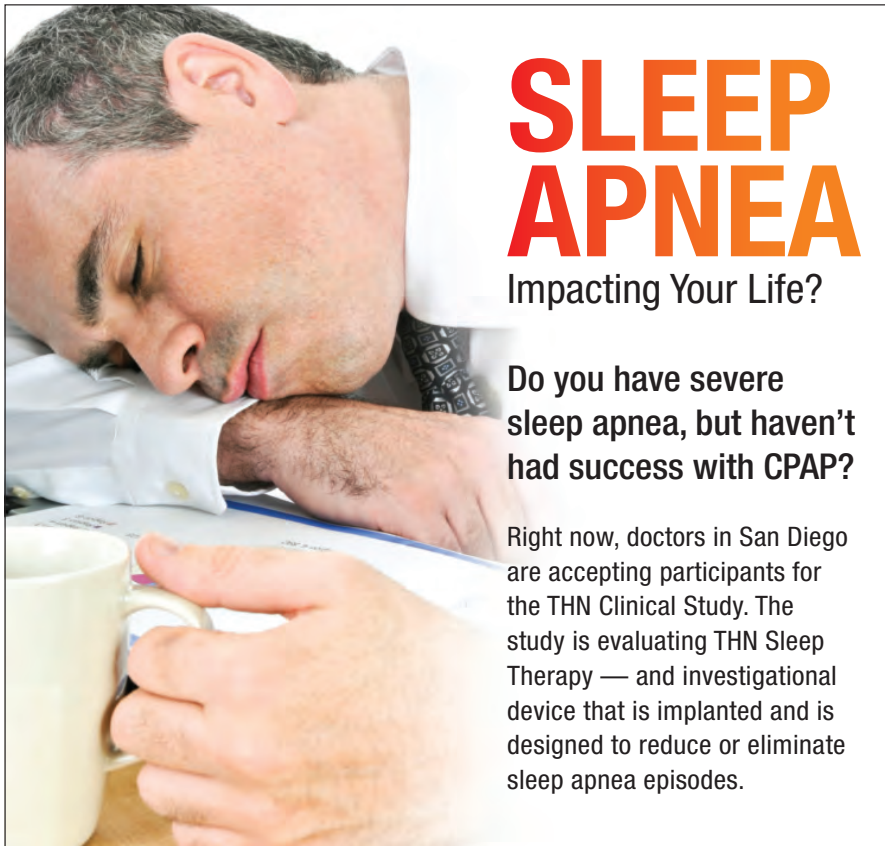
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TO QUALIFY, ONE MUST:

- Be Between Ages 18-55
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- Not be Bipolar
- Other criteria may apply.

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- Study Related Care at No Cost

IF YOU OR YOUR LOVED ONE IS INTERESTED, PLEASE CONTACT SYNERGY RESEARCH CENTER (888) 619-7272 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



(These essays are part of a series of stories on fatherhood by Matthew Lickona originally published in the Reader 1997–1999)

Fatherhood looms on a young man's horizon

“TALK TO HIM,” my wife commands, and I obey. I bend down, place my mouth against her belly, and say hello to my son, whose ears are fully developed by now. I tell him that I love him, but after that, I don't know what to say. What to say to someone I do not know? I know his name, Finian Thomas, but only because I helped decide it. I have felt him kick, but what I experience is a movement of my wife's body. I have seen

him on ultrasound, but wondrous as the picture was, it did not distinguish him from any other baby in any other ultrasound. I do not know his face, his body, his manner, his habits. I know him abstractly; he is a baby, my baby, but I do not know him, the concrete, particular Finian that he is.

Consequently, when I think of him, it tends to be in abstract ways. There is an advantage to this. While he is most abstractly a person now, he is most clearly the



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHAD WECKLER

Finian at six weeks with the author

fruit of my love for my wife Deirdre, the result of our union of body and soul. His existence refers back to our love for one another. This endears him to me before I even meet him. I imagine there will be times when his very concrete personhood will make this reference less clear, when he will

seem foreign and distant as a teenager, and even as an inconsolable infant. Abstract notions like the fruit of love can be a comfort at such moments.

Dealing overmuch in abstracts carries with it certain hazards, and a baby is good for these as well. A soul that loves abstraction

often ends up paralyzed by the possible. As he speculates, all roads lie open to him, even roads he does not yet see. How can he choose any one road, knowing that his choice will cost him any number of other possibilities? Before we got married, Deirdre had trouble understanding my occasional

bouts with fear of marriage. I was not in love with another woman, I could not imagine a woman more suited to me, a woman I could love more than her. So what was the problem? The problem was the possibility. What if, somewhere down the road.... Happily, love prevailed over the possible, and I married a wonderful, particular woman.

So also with Finian. What if this was not the right time? What possibilities would be lost to me once I had a child? I did not take the news of Deirdre's pregnancy well; it meant the loss of certain options. In particular, it meant delaying our trip to Ireland (what good is Ireland if you can't go pubbing with your wife?), but this was not the worst of it. I am still not sure what the worst of it is, but who knows what might come along and float by, just out of my fatherly reach?

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- 3) Regular, But Heavy, Heavy Periods

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- 3) Compensation For Time And Travel



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But such speculations are not the stuff that lives are made off. A child is blessing. God chose to send a baby into our lives, and I dare to think I see part of the reason why. Concrete particulars lead to life, to action. Here is something, someone, that I must tend to. To steal a phrase from Walker Percy, things like this are a reentry into the world from the realms of abstraction. Marriage was the first, children are the next, and even more so, because the child cannot get along with the neglect that comes from my being lost in thought. An infant cannot care for itself, even for a little while. In marriage, Deirdre forgives my selfishness, she bears with my failings. But you cannot treat a child in this way, a child cannot forgive and forget such neglect.

Against all this musing, there is the fact of my wife's belly and all that goes with it.

My first efforts at caring for my son come through the care of my wife. She was nauseated all of the first trimester and much of the second. My role as helpmate consisted mainly of holding her hair and rubbing her back; I have also learned the fine art of foot and hand rubbing. Deirdre often moans with pleasure as I massage the muscle between her thumb and forefinger.

The belly also means no more boozing. My wife and I fell in love over wine, bourbon, and cognac. We attended a college with a dry campus, and many evenings were spent sitting in my car under a highway overpass just off campus known to students as The Pit, a bottle between us and a candle on the dashboard. We went there to unwind at the end of the day — though we saw a great deal of each other on campus and drove all

over California, it was at The Pit that we developed the habit of each other, the ease of being together that bodes well for domestic bliss. The transition has not been difficult; we have not woken up to a more sober, less pleasant impression of each other, but there are evenings when we miss the pleasures of the vine and grain.

I have lost a drinking companion, but I have gained much that delights me. Being a father carries with it permission to revel in the things my own father used to do, things that drove me crazy, like singing tuneless songs about whatever is at hand. As I wander our rented Mission Hills guesthouse, I croon about my wife, her tendency to sleep late these days, my socks on the bedroom floor. I have purchased a gray cardigan sweater, an

icon of dadhood.

More serious matters. I am responsible for my son before God. Time to delve deeper into my faith, to recall the inarticulate yet deeply embedded truths that are the reasons behind my beliefs. Finian will look to me for an account of life and faith, and if I cannot share the burden of pregnancy, I can prepare in this way. I am playing the part of loving father, growing into it until it is no longer playing. At 23, I am married young. I am a father young. I am looking forward to this.

Men will rise to the level women demand of them

"...and there's his scrotum. It's a boy." As the doctor said this and pointed an arrow labeled "boy" at the white dot on the ultrasound, a wave

RESEARCH STUDIES



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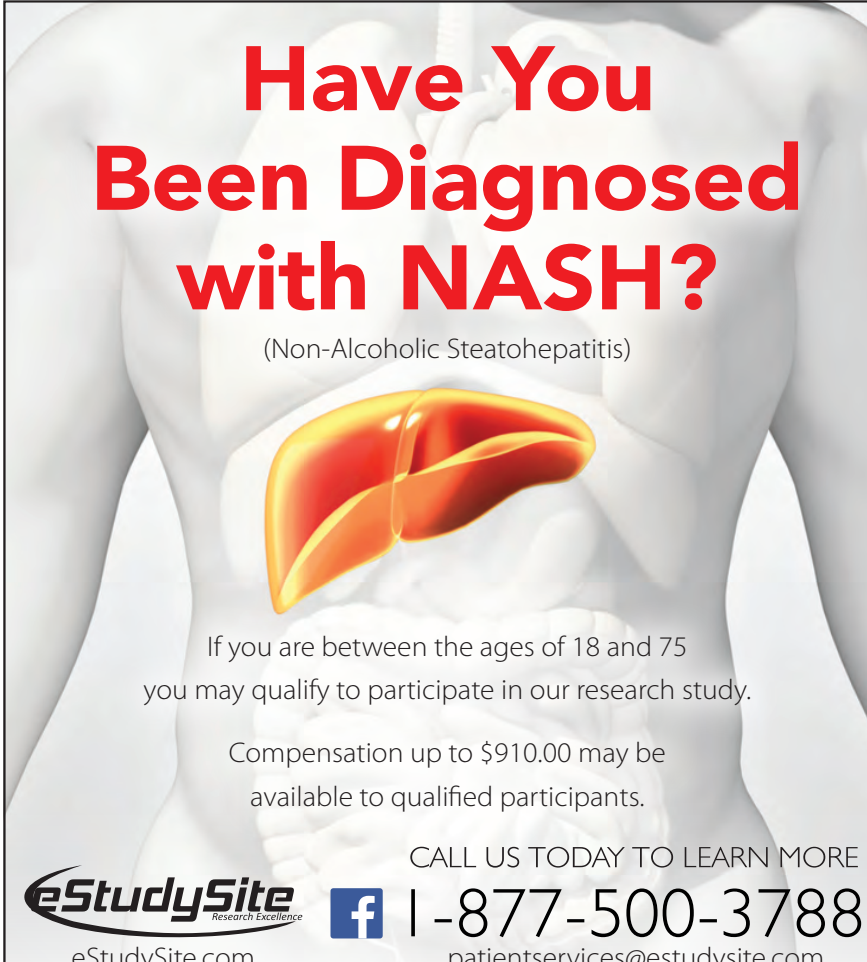
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of pride hit me. Yes, I admit to pumping my fist and screwing up my face with testosterone-induced emotion. But it was not all hormonal, and it was not simply a matter of chest-beating. It was not even the bottle of Maker's Mark I would be collecting as a result of a bet with my brother-in-law about the baby's gender. (Something in his assuring me it was a girl forced me to make the wager. He's not paying until the birth.) Thought it was a bit of all of these, there was more.

After the ultrasound, wrapped in a cloud of euphoria, Deirdre and I gleefully violated the first rule of infant's clothing, "Thou shalt not buy new, or at least not new at full price," and dropped 50 bucks at Baby Gap, most of it on a couple of rompers. His first khakis came later, a gift from a friend but if they hadn't, I am sure I would have broken down and bought him some. "Steve McQueen wore khakis. Miles Davis wore khakis. Finian Lickona wore khakis. Gap khakis." Oh my, yes.

The Gap spree also yielded the boy's first baseball cap. The cap harkens back to some of my clearest and fondest memories of my own father during my childhood in New York. I love my father, there are no rifts between us, no resentments festering in memory. But he was still my father, the chief source of authority for me in my youth. (Mom had authority, too, but she was often more sympathetic.) Coupled with a child's (my) desire to establish himself as an individual, I suppose this makes for distance.

Maybe this was why my father-son interaction could sometimes be awkward. Maybe not. For whatever reason, I don't

have too many memories of sitting down for a chat with Dad. It helped to be doing something else and let the conversation flow above the activity. Bike rides, canoe trips, even working in the vegetable garden, but especially catch. Rhythm, back and forth, effortless. Pleasure from every well-thrown and well-caught ball. The occasional break of the wild toss. An ideal backdrop for talk.

As pleasant as it was, baseball with Dad went well beyond catch. Dad loved baseball, and so did I, and he would spend hours teaching me technique and mechanics, then hammering these into habits. When I was a catcher, he pitched to me. "Ten pitches without a passed ball. "C'mon. One. Two..." When I switched to outfield, he hit flies. Most of all, we worked on the swing. No foot in the bucket. Eye on the ball. Don't pull your head. Elbow up. Arms back, no hitch. Keep the bat level. Over and over until whatever was wrong was corrected.

I mention all this because of what came after. In tenth grade, I decided I couldn't stand my coach and I quit playing baseball. And that was it. As intensely as dad had supported me, as hard as he had worked with me, he did not try to keep me where I did not need to be. It was a lesson to me. I am not for hands-off parenting. I do not believe children always know what is best for themselves. But here was a place where letting go, while it would not affect my quality of soul, might still be difficult. Dad let me be.

Which doesn't mean I won't try to influence the boy. When I talk to him, I often mention the four Bs — baseball, Bach, bourbon, and Burgundy — and sometimes Y — Yankees. Beethoven and Bordeaux will come later. I think

it's working, at least the baseball part. Deirdre has reported feeling the hand of his throwing arm under her rib.

A boy is familiar, and not only because I used to be one. Growing up, it was just me and my brother Mark. I had no sisters, and none of my friends had sisters who would have anything to do with us, we being boys. Boys are what I know. Since I was the youngest, and since this is my first, I don't have a lot of experience with childcare. This way, I will at least know something.

Speaking of Mark, he and his wife Lisa recently had their second child, a second girl. "Girls will save the world," he reminds me, echoing the belief that men will rise to the level women demand of them. He may very well be right, but whatever else they do, girls will probably not carry on the family name.

This is a matter of some consequence. If I have my history right, "Lickona" is an Americanized version of the French "Ligony," and it belong exclusively to our family. If you type in "Lickona" on the locator down at the San Diego library, my family is all that will come up — Grandma and Grandpa in Florida, Uncle Terry in Texas, Mom and Dad and Mark and Lisa and their kids in upstate New York, and my aunt in New York City, who goes by Lickona-Weckler. It has fallen to Mark and me to keep the Lickonas going.

With Finian's arrival, some of the pressure is off. He may become a priest, he may remain single for some other reason, but the possibility is there. I take pride in our family name, mainly because of the people who share it, but also because of its singularity; and so I also take pride in perpetuating it.

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that commercial for Visa, the one where the father muses during the birth of his daughter about the various expenses she will incur. He works his way through braces and college, up to a “huge black-tie wedding,” at which point the newborn, just before she begins to cry, proclaims, “with ice sculptures.” The father faints, and I heave a sigh of relief.

Our one and noble function

My wife left me while she still could. A ten-day visit with her family in Kansas City, to see her new nephew and to help a friend in need. Soon she will be too pregnant to fly, and soon after that, she will join the ranks of the resented — the dreaded Woman on Plane with Baby. (Memo to the

airlines: take a cue from another place where quiet is treasured, the church, and install “cry rooms” — groups of seats walled off from the rest of the cabin and reserved for people traveling with small children. Whichever of you picks up on this first will make a fortune. Those without children will rejoice in the relative silence of a child-free environment, and those with children will be grateful to escape the silent wrath of fellow travelers.)

After a scant nine months of marriage, I am a bachelor again, or at least I am living like one. My diet of burgers, pizza, and burritos remains unchanged, except that it is undergirded by the massive batch of Swedish meatballs Deirdre made before she left. Once again, I eat alone

at In-N-Out, my silence leaving me exposed to the conversations of those around me. “So, were you with him when you went out with this other guy?” Once again, I go alone to the movies. By the time I get into the premiere of *Absolute Power*, the theater is nearly full. Besides the neck-wrenching seats up front, all that remain are the buffers, spaces left by couples between themselves and the couple next to them. I have my pick, a rare advantage of solitary moviegoing.

To fill the time I am used to spending with Deirdre, I take up my old reading habits. I should dig into Shelby Foote’s *Civil War*, but I find myself casting about for something short and modern. Kerouac’s *On the Road*, an American novel I’m supposed to have read. All about mobil-

ity. Back and forth across the country, shoving off when the novelty of this or that place wears thin, or when the seasons change, or when there’s trouble, or whatever. At the heart of it is Dean Moriarty, a man who moves to live. In the process, he moves in and out of three marriages, leaving children in two. The narrator calls moving “our one and noble function of the time,” and Dean is right to sense a certain tension between his noble function and his family. It’s more than dirty looks on airplanes.

I get an early lesson in this when Deirdre returns with her friend Laura and Laura’s 15-month-old daughter Madeline. They arrive at LAX at midnight my time, 2:00 a.m. their time, and we’ve still got two hours on the road before bed. Madeline has been awake for most of the journey, two days pass before she establishes anything like a regular pattern of sleep. In the interim, she wakes up throughout the night. Finding herself in a strange place, she then wakes us up.

During the day, she howls from exhaustion, demanding and rejecting distraction after distraction.

When she does go down, we sigh with nervous relief, but not too deeply, for fear of waking her. I am sent upstairs to turn off the ringer on my office (her bedroom) phone, a mission that puts me in mind of the bomb defuser in *The English Patient*, except that I’m working in the dark.

When I was a bachelor, getting out of the house involved finding my keys and going. When I got married, things slowed down. Purse, hair, makeup, something. Pseudo-fatherhood adds to that list — diapers, bottles, toys, snacks, and strollers. And since Madeline sleeps almost exclusively in her crib at home, trips have to be carefully timed to allow for her naps. This is why Dean ditched the wife and kiddies, this is settling down.

Reading over those last lines I wince, because I hear myself sounding like another navel-contemplating, self-referential parent, forever marveling at the sacrifices I am making for my children’s sake, forever coming up with clever waves of describing my lack of sleep, lack of freedom, lack of time to myself. I want to be more like my own parents, people who thought more about my

brother and me than about how we affected their lives.

In *Mother*, Albert Brooks rejoices when he discovers that his mom resents him for squashing her career in writing. I cringed. Understanding is a good thing, but shouldn’t he be saddened as well? Is writing more important, more worthwhile, than raising a child?

My own mother graduated *magna cum laude* with a master’s in English. She taught for a while and was once one half of a catering service. But she had children, and we came first, for Mom and Dad. I’m not saying women shouldn’t work. I’m saying that parent ought to look to their children. That is the “one and noble function of the time.” It’s not a question of politics, it’s a question of love. As the narrator aunt tells Dean in *On the Road*, “You can’t go all over the country having babies like that. Those poor little things’ll grow up helpless. You’ve got to offer them a chance to live.”

In the early years, that chance means time. After her mother, what Madeline craves most is attention, contact. She cannot read, but she is happy to page through a magazine

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if you are paging with her. (*The New Yorker* proved a favorite, since it included a Mercedes ad featuring a butterfly and another ad picturing a lion.) She likes to feed me grapes and join in growling contests. She can spend forever putting her finger in your mouth, then hers, then yours, then hers....

Meanwhile, in preparation for the boy, we bought a beanbag gecko. He's about eight inches long, olive-brown above and ivory beneath, and he feels good in the hand. I place him on Deirdre's shoulder while she cooks and sit him upright, Buddha-like, on my desk while I write. Another thing fatherhood makes permissible is the purchase of cool toys you would otherwise have trouble justifying to the guys.

Call no man blessed until he is in the grave

Deirdre and I went home to my parents' for Easter. I still find myself calling it "home," even though I have been living and working in San Diego for almost two years and married for one. Deirdre

does the same for Kansas City. I have mentioned before the feeling of playing the part of husband and father. I wonder when the feeling will pass, when "home" will be here and my parents will be someplace I visit. I wonder if it will be when I bring Finian into our house, sit him down, and marvel, a la H.I. McDunnough in *Raising Arizona*, "What, are you kidding? We got us a family here!" I will know soon enough.

The boy is due in two weeks, and as the pregnancy winds down, events surrounding it slow to the speed of Deirdre's walk (She hasn't gained much — only 20 pounds — but that, combined with the disproportionate weight of her belly and the loosening in her hips and pelvis, has been enough to make moving an effort. She needs my help to get up off her back in the morning, leading me to dub her Turtle Wifey.) Pregnancy has gone from being a novelty to being the norm. Alarm and fear have yielded (mostly) to acceptance and faith. Finian is almost done developing;

all that remains is for him to gain weight, something Deirdre hopes he waits to do until after the birth. We've been through the first announcements, first and second sonograms, first swelling of the belly, first kickings. Nothing more to do except wait. Wait and acquire.

The accommodation hasn't been painful. The powers that be have begun to manufacture strollers, car seats, baby slings, and diaper bags in khaki, navy, burgundy, and black — a comfort to my vanity. Carrying a diaper bag and pushing a stroller I can handle; doing so amid a wash of brights and pastels is something else again. Baby equipment in neutrals and darks is business's way of encouraging dads to help out.

I do help, but it is clearer than ever that the baby is Deirdre's prospect for the time being. I help her up, I rub her back. I even encourage the boy to shift away from positions that give her pain, bellowing, "Move along now," and pressing where I think he is situated. But she bears the weight; and I often end up just being with her

and watching.

When Deirdre meets people, especially women, whether they be friends of friends, salespeople, or waitresses, they almost always ask, "When are you due?" (A notable exception was a saleslady at Macy's, who instead said blandly, "You look like you're ready to pop.") Together with "Do you know if it's a boy or a girl?" and "Do you have a name picked out?" this is part of the standard small talk with a pregnant person, replacing the more universal "How's it going?" Like asking someone in a cast, "What happened?" it is a more particular form of routine inquiry.

But although pregnancy and injury arouse curiosity — "Hmm, here is something out of the ordinary" — there is no more real interest behind those questions than there is behind "How's it going?" I doubt most people would remember Finian's due date for more than five minutes, except for a quirk of Deirdre's diction. The boy is due May 2, and when she answers the perfunctory question, her reply tends to be heard as "Any second." This usually snaps the ques-

tioner out of the automatic mode and into something of a panic. Amusement at this reaction makes hearing the question umpteen times a day more bearable.

Another general reaction to Deirdre's pregnancy is enthusiasm — "Congratulations!" "That's great!" People react the way they would if you told them you had landed a job or won an award. But pregnancy is not the result of an achievement of this sort. It is the result of sex, and though I believe sex with my wife is both an expression of love and an occasion of grace, the fact remains that most men and women can take part in the conception of a child. It requires no special virtue.

This is why I am intrigued by the happy reaction of people who do not even know us. How do they know to congratulate us? How do they know it's great? You don't have to think overpopulation is society's greatest ill to take pause. If you believe the numbers, child abuse of one sort or another is rampant. Many couples divorce, a traumatic event in the life of a child. And even if I don't beat Finian or

leave him and his mother, what sort of father will I be? I might resent the boy, or drive him to be all that I wasn't, or just be indifferent toward him. And finally, even if I love my son with all my heart, what if he goes astray, becomes a criminal? "Call no man blessed until he is in the grave," goes the old saying, and these people are smiling while he's still in the womb.

Not everyone smiles, of course, and some of those who do may just be unthinking, but another possibility is that people believe that life, all life, is good. That it is good for this boy to come into the world, in spite of what he may face. They feel hope for him, and given the world he is coming into, this hope speaks either to man's foolishness as to his sense that he is about something worthwhile, even when he suffers. Finian will no doubt suffer. He will no doubt cause suffering. But it is good for him to be here. ■

—Matthew Lickona

(These essays are part of a series of stories on fatherhood by Matthew Lickona originally published in the Reader 1997–1999)

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Under the radar

continued from page 3

Political elf Still under investigation by the state attorney general's office in the case of a confidential city attorney opinion leaked to lobbyists for SoccerCity, San Diego city councilman **Chris Cate** continues to gather cash from well-heeled special interests. Latest to give is Arkansas-based retail giant WalMart, which on December 9 came up with \$5000 at Cate's behest for 100 free Christmas Trees the councilman handed out to veterans, per a January 4 disclosure report. The politically embattled Cate showed up on KFMB-TV billed as a "special elf" to promote the handout. "We are a military town and we were able to secure the funding necessary to give a hundred free Christmas Trees to military families and veterans getting ready for the Christmas season." Walmart wasn't credited.

Cate picked up another \$5000 from Rancho Guejito, owner of the sprawling North County property ultimately believed slated for development. That money went to 2017's Asian Film Festival... Finally forced to retire from the county board of supervisors thanks to term limits, two long-standing Republicans remain in possession of tidy political war chests to be divvied up in as yet unknown ways. **Greg Cox** ended last year with \$64,305 and colleague **Dianne Jacob**'s 2016 re-election fund reported a record \$505,902 cash on hand. A \$1700 contribution to the Alzheimer's San Diego was more than offset by \$2724 in interest on the account from Charles Schwab & Co.

— 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/.

Disbarred Lerach

continued from page 3

vice president, global public affairs, for Blackstone, wouldn't comment on the Lerach-Lerach hookup but says the suit's "claims are baseless." The hedge funds that were recommended are outperforming peers, he says.

I explained a hypothetical situation, not identifying the Lerachs, to Bob Fellmeth, University of San Diego professor who specializes in ethics. "Is this a law practice or not? It is a tricky situation," he says, particularly since the married couple could inadvertently discuss legal aspects of the case at home. Fellmeth thinks the pension consultant should get a third-party expert to give him advice on whether he is crossing the line into the practice of law. "He is okay if he is not practicing law," says Fellmeth.

I made multiple calls and sent emails to both Lerachs (who have different phone numbers and email addresses) and got no responses. ■

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

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

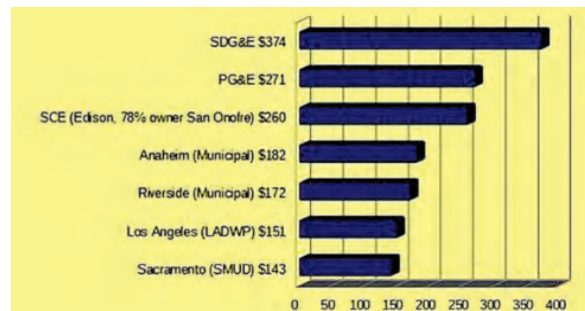
who come here to bike on the weekends."

Evans suggested that small-craft users relocate to nearby Mariner's, El Carmel, or Santa Clara point launches, while boardmember Katherine Johnston suggested Fiesta Island.

Dave Rice

Sempra hasn't paid corporate taxes since 2008

Don't expect them to reduce your utility bills. Utility regulators are noting all around the country that since corporate tax rates have been lowered from 35 percent to 21 percent, utilities should pass on those savings to ratepayers.



SDG&E — highest rates in nation

Don't expect your San Diego Gas & Electric bills to go down. Its parent, San Diego-based Sempra Energy, hasn't paid corporate taxes since 2008. Sempra officially says, "Sempra Energy is evaluating the impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act."

Ha-ha. Here's how this story unfolds. Recently, the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy calculated that 18 Fortune 500 companies had not paid corporate taxes for several years. One of those companies was Sempra. It had not paid corporate taxes from 2008 through 2015. Between those years, Sempra had earned \$7 billion in profit but received \$34 million back from the government, for a yearly tax rate of minus 0.5 percent.

Sempra admitted this to the *Union-Tribune*, saying it had used legal means to avoid taxes in those years. I called Sempra and said I wanted to know if it had paid those taxes in 2016 and 2017. I got a return message from Amber Albrecht, a senior public relations executive, who said that certain incentives "reduced Sempra Energy's federal tax liabilities in 2016 and 2017."

I wrote her back and said that didn't answer my question. Did Sempra pay any corporate taxes in 2016 and 2017? She wrote back and confessed: Sempra had not paid corporate taxes in those two years either.

Then she wrote back and made this outlandish claim: "Any tax benefits at Sempra Energy's two California utilities are passed on to customers, resulting in lower

rates for our customers."

I sent Albrecht some items I had written showing that SDG&E has consistently had the highest rates in the nation.

Don Bauder

Forbes eyed SD for Amazon and got it wrong

Article made flawed case

Preceding last week's news that Amazon had narrowed down the list of potential cities for establishing a second headquarters (and San Diego was not among them) *Forbes* magazine had an astonishing item in its January 16 issue.

The article gave three reasons why Amazon would pick San Diego. Reason two was "Talent pool." Get this: "The University of San Diego has one of the best computer science programs in the world. It is also home to the San Diego Supercomputer Center," reads the *Forbes* article. Actually, the supercomputer center is at the University of California San Diego, which has one of the best computer science programs in the world.

Then, under the title "Travel convenience," *Forbes* said, "San Diego has access to two international airports. The San Diego International Airport is right downtown, the most convenient international airport in any major metro area. With the Cross-Border XPress, the Tijuana International Airport is less than 30 minutes from downtown San Diego."

But how about the number of international flights? San Diego International Airport has flights to Canada, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland, and the U.K.

Tijuana has flights to Central America and Shanghai. But, come on. The U.S. airports with the most international flights, in order, are New York (JFK), Miami, Los Angeles, Newark, Chicago (O'Hare), Atlanta, San Francisco, Houston, Washington DC (Dulles), and Dallas-Fort Worth. Actually, convenience of international travel would be a strike against San Diego.

Don Bauder

Hotel union compensates Briggs, GOP lobbyist

Convention-center expansion's strange bedfellows

San Diego's mighty Republican hotel barons are yoking themselves to labor organizations to advance convention-center expansion plans, and city-hall insiders see a watershed moment for county politics.



Briggs gets \$15,000

Hastened by the gradual demise of the *Union-Tribune*, which acted as cheerleader for the party's priorities, the era of fealty to Republican kingpins appears over.

Rushing to fill the vacuum is a new set of characters.

A key player is Unite Here Local 30, whose website says it represents 4500 hotel, gambling, and food-service workers in the county.

Though an obvious backer of an expanded convention center, the union has cut a deal with Fifth Avenue Landing, would-be developers of a bayfront hotel project that would block the contiguous convention-center expansion plan pushed by the city's hotel moguls and their champion, GOP mayor Kevin Faulconer.

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CITY LIGHTS

A victory by Fifth Avenue would require the convention-center expansion to be located across Harbor Drive, an option opposed by hotel interests but backed by ex-Padres owner John Moores, whose JMI Realty dumped nearly \$1 million into an ultimately failed 2016 ballot drive mounted by lawyer Cory Briggs. JMI, it is said, still yearns to develop its downtown land.

The current convention-center expansion scheme, in the form of a ballot initiative to be circulated by a group calling itself Yes! For a Better San Diego, would boost taxes on hotel-room stays by 3.25 percent downtown and 1.25 percent elsewhere in the city from the current 12.5 percent.

Pushback from Unite Here, Fifth Avenue Landing, or Moores could play havoc with the proponents' unity pitch, as well as make it difficult to come up with six-figure political contributions from unions and hotel owners essential to footing the multimillion-dollar bill for a costly corps of paid signature-gatherers.

For its part, filings with the federal Department of Labor show Unite Here hasn't been reluctant to put down cash to back its sentiment. The union paid attorney Briggs \$15,000 for legal services related to representational activities, according to its 2016 annual financial report, filed last March; \$30,000 went to the influence-peddling outfit of Rath, Miller, LLC, cofounded by longtime Republican operative Phil Rath, listing the purpose of "market research for contract negotiation."

Matt Potter

Councilman plans for Sacramento

Mark Kersey funded state senate campaign with \$99,000

San Diego city councilmember Mark Kersey's state senate campaign now has the money needed to get up and running.

CITY LIGHTS



Kersey would run against Brian Jones

On December 31, Kersey contributed \$99,000 to the Mark Kersey for Senate 2018 committee.

Kersey formed the committee in June of last year. Doing so revealed his intention of maybe running for the seat that will be left vacant by state senator Joel Anderson who must leave the office due to term limits.

The \$99,000 cash infusion from Kersey to his campaign indicates that he is no longer mulling his candidacy but is now formally in the race.

Kersey will be running against state assemblyman Brian Jones from Santee.

Dorian Hargrove

Ray Lucia goes to Washington

Supreme Court accepts case of embattled investor The U.S. Supreme Court will hear the complaint of San Diego radio host Ray Lucia, who was slapped by the Securities and Exchange Commission, lost his appeal to that body, and then lost at

CITY LIGHTS



Lucia lost before SEC

the court level.

In addition to his radio/TV work, Lucia had a lucrative business giving seminars to investors. But the securities commission charged that he was giving false information — saying he had backstayed his strategy, showing that it would have worked in past markets, when in fact he had not. He lost his case before the commission, then lost his appeal to a lower court. He was barred from the investment advisory industry.

He changed strategies in going to the high court. He has charged that administrative law judges, who settle cases such as his own before the commission, are not appointed constitutionally. The commission says that administrative law judges are mere employees of the agency. Lucia argues that they are "officers" who should be appointed under the Appointments Clause of the Constitution. The Trump administration sides with Lucia.

Don Bauder

CITY LIGHTS

Porn thief in our midst?

Delaware company claims its films being stolen via BitTorrent

In San Diego federal court, Strike 3 Holdings is suing an unknown person who is allegedly stealing the company's "adult" websites and DVDs. In this case, the plaintiff has the defendant's internet provider address.

Strike 3 Holdings says its headquarters is in Camden, Delaware, but that's like saying your headquarters is in Liechtenstein or some Caribbean secrecy haven. Delaware is the United States' Cayman Islands, offering corporate-friendly courts and secrecy. Strike 3's lawyer is in Los Angeles, the film capital.

Strike 3 brags that one of its owners, Greg Lansky, is the adult film industry's "answer to Steven Spielberg." One of Strike 3's sites has been named "adult site of the year."

Movie companies are suing unknown people who are using BitTorrent protocol to illegally download movies for free, often distributing them. In this case, the defendant has infringed on 25 movies, according to the suit.

Don Bauder



Where have all the Pads fans gone?

We're talking baseball again. Not that fans ever really stop. The off-season is a tricky time. Those of us who cheer for teams besides the Yankees need a respite from our unrequited

love, but at the same time, the winter is about prospects. It's about every connotation of the word: rookies, new acquisitions, rising averages, the meaning of last year's late-season surge,

dreaming about surveying those below you from the top of the field. First place. Winning. Winning the World Series.

BY JUSTIN WOLFF, APRIL 13, 2000



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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 25

DISNEY ON ICE: FOLLOW YOUR HEART

New for 2018, stories and characters from the animated movies *Finding Dory* and *Inside Out*.

“Just keep

swimming’ with Dory, Nemo, Marlin, and new pal Hank from Disney-Pixar’s *Finding Dory* as they embark on a life-changing excursion to find her parents and discover the true meaning of family. Cheer with Joy, Sadness, and the rest of the Emotions from *Inside Out* as they help Riley find the confidence to win the big hockey game.” \$12–\$15.



WHEN: Thursday, January 25, 7 p.m. Runs through Sunday.

WHERE: Valley View Casino Center, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District. disneyonice.com

SUNROAD MARINA BOAT SHOW

The 28-year-old event expands this year, with the addition of more floating docks to moor several larger vessels. South Coast Yachts will



display a full range of Beneteau vessels, including the West Coast debut of the 60-foot Monte Carlo 6. In addition to the sailboats and yachts, you'll find marine vendors with the latest nautical products and services, seminars on topics such as destination boating, electric propulsion, and downwind sailing, and food, music, beer, and spirits. General parking at the corner of Harbor Drive and Harbor Island Drive; shuttle service provided.

Admission \$13, children 12 and under free.

WHEN: Thursday, January 25, noon to 6 p.m. Runs through Sunday.

WHERE: Sunroad Resort Marina, 955 Harbor Island Drive, downtown San Diego. bigbayboatshow.com

FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN

With defending champion Jon Rahm, Phil Mickelson (three-time winner), Jason Day, Bubba Watson, and seven-time champion Tiger Woods. This is the 67th PGA tour that has been held in San Diego, beginning with the San Diego Open in 1952. The event includes “authentic Cali food” and vendors. The Torrey Pines Golf Course will also host the 2021 U.S. Open. \$50–\$285.

WHEN: Thursday, January 25, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Runs through Sunday.

WHERE: Torrey Pines Golf Course, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. farmersinsuranceopen.com



TUESDAY, JANUARY 30: SHEN YUN: CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCE

Friday | 26

VIETGONE. Quang and Tong flee from Saigon, Vietnam, in 1975. They fall in love at a refugee camp in Arkansas. Strangers in a strange land, they take a life-changing road trip across America — amid odd customs and incomprehensible language — and give birth to a son, Qui Nguyen. That son wrote this play about his parents’ story and uses hip-hop and comic-book aesthetics to tell it. Through February 18 at the San Diego Repertory Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown. Theater, [page 56](#).

KILOWATT OCEAN BEACH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

Kilowatt Brewing celebrates the one-year anniversary of their Ocean Beach Tasting Room. On Friday, a dueling-Randall night between a Strawberry Shortcake Blonde and a Mexican Hot Chocolate Ale. Saturday offers a

barrel-aged beer release of a new triple IPA, “350 kWh.” On Sunday, catch a beer-pairing with Nomad Donuts from noon to 2 p.m. with pastry chef Kristianna Zabala — tickets are \$18 and get you a 4x4 pairing (four donuts and four 4-oz. tasters). A new art exhibit by local artists featuring psyche-



KILOWATT OCEAN BEACH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

delic ’60s and flower-power themes is on view all weekend.

WHEN: Friday, January 26, noon to 10 p.m. Runs through Sunday.

WHERE: Kilowatt Brewing,
1875 Cable Street, Ocean Beach.
[facebook.com/kilowattbeer](https://www.facebook.com/kilowattbeer)

PLAYS BY YOUNG WRITERS FESTIVAL

Playwrights Project presents its 33rd annual festival, composed of the winning plays from the California Young Playwrights Contest for ages 18 and under. 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



THURSDAY, JANUARY 25: FARMERS INSURANCE OPEN



PLAYS BY YOUNG WRITERS FESTIVAL

full professional productions, and two younger writers' scripts will receive staged readings. At the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre in the Conrad Prebys Center. \$25.

WHEN: Friday, January 26, 7:30 p.m.; two performances on Saturday.

WHERE: The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way, Balboa Park.

[playwrightsproject.org](https://www.playwrightsproject.org)

Saturday | 27

TINY BUT MIGHTY: SMALL-ANIMAL DEMONSTRATION

Museum guests are invited to pet and hold hamsters, rats, and

guinea pigs. Tiny But Mighty Small is a Living with Animals program and has two 30-minute demonstrations. Free with museum admission, \$13.



TINY BUT MIGHTY: SMALL-ANIMAL DEMONSTRATION

PHOTOGRAPH BY KEN JACQUES

WHEN: Saturday, January 27, noon and 1 p.m.

WHERE: San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park.
[museumofman.org](https://www.museumofman.org)

HANOHANO HUKI OCEAN CHALLENGE

This is one of the longest-running paddle-sport races in California, featuring OC1 outrigger canoe, surf-ski, traditional and standup paddleboard, and kayak. This Saturday is the event's 23rd and will draw competitors from beginners to professional athletes, with plenty of viewing spots for spectators. Read more in Waterfront, [page 38](#).

Tuesday | 30

SHEN YUN: CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCE

Shen Yun returns with an all-new program for Chinese New Year with a 5000-year journey through ancient dynasties and faraway lands including hundreds of dancers and singers, hand-made costumes, and animated backdrops accompanied by a concert orchestra blending Western and Chinese instruments. Part of a 20-country world tour. Also runs February 2, 3, and 4 at the San Diego Civic Theatre,

downtown. \$80–\$180.

WHEN: Tuesday, January 30, 7:30 p.m.

Also on Wednesday and Thursday.

WHERE: California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard, Escondido.
[shenyunperformingarts.org](https://www.shenyunperformingarts.org)

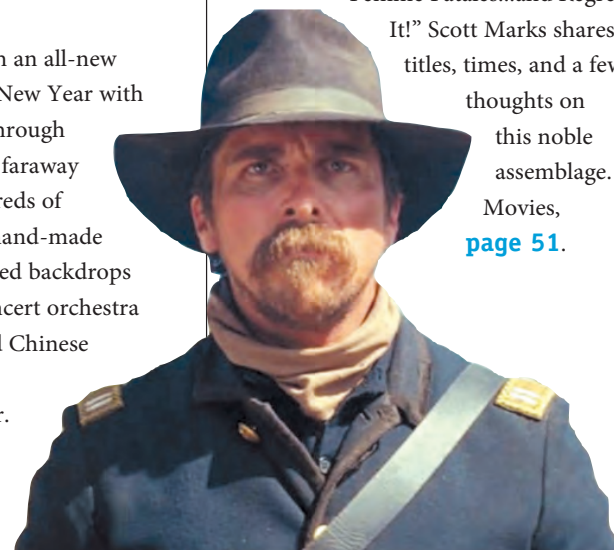
HOSTILES. Christian Bale plays a man who has been brutalized by his own brutality in Scott Cooper's slow-burn Western. Matthew Lickona talks with the actor about working with his director to create and portray captain Joseph J. Blocker, a man on his last mission. And, for those who still remember black-and-white, the San Diego Chapter of the Laurel and Hardy Fan Club opens their 40th season on January 27 with the one-night mini-festival, "Laurel & Hardy Flirt with

Femme Fatales...and Regret

It!" Scott Marks shares titles, times, and a few

thoughts on this noble assemblage.

Movies, [page 51](#).



HOSTILES

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

BATIQUITOS LAGOON NORTH BLUFF TRAIL

This hike shows how man can restore a lagoon ecosystem

Distance from downtown San Diego: 31 miles. Allow 45 minutes. Exit I-5 at Poinsettia and go west. Turn left on Avenida Encinas and travel southwest for 1.5 miles to Ponto Dr. Turn right onto Ponto Dr. and park. Walk back to Avenida Encinas and head east, crossing the bridge over the railroad tracks, to find the trailhead on the southeast side of the bridge. **Hiking length:** 1.5 miles out and back. Allow 1 hour. **Difficulty:** Easy. Elevation gain/loss is negligible. Leashed dogs and bicycles allowed.



A sandbar in the Batiquitos wetlands as viewed from the North Bluff Trail.

The North Bluff Trail is on a coastal plateau at an elevation of 60 to 100 feet above sea level, overlooking the Batiquitos Lagoon. The plateau once was almost entirely covered by coastal sage scrub habitat, but most of this habitat has been replaced by large suburban housing developments. Only remnants of native vegetation remain. This trail skirts through some of these remnants and in addition offers outstanding, almost aerial, views of the lagoon.

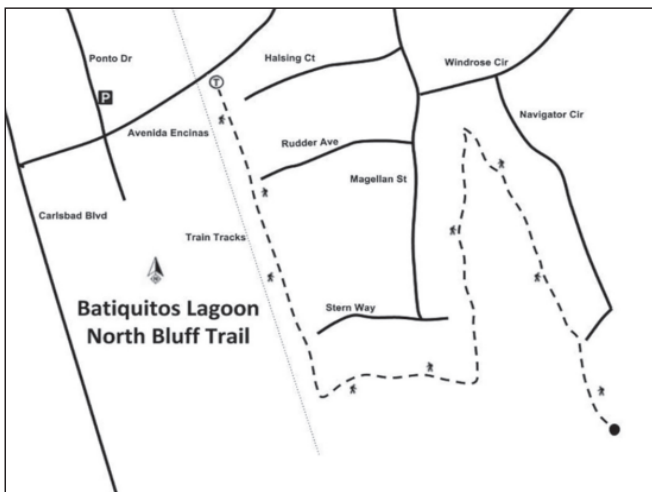
Descend the stairs leading from the trailhead and follow the official trail, which has a decomposed granite surface, and proceed straight south on the ocean side of a wall. Both sides of the trail have been landscaped with nonnative plants, especially myoporum and lantana. Coastal sage scrub vegetation occupies a strip between the landscaped area and the railroad right-of-way. A dirt bike trail parallels the official trail and goes through the coastal sage scrub habitat, joining the official trail when it

reaches the bluff overlooking the lagoon.

This trail is important for the perspective it gives on the significance of Batiquitos Lagoon for birds, both seasonal visitors and permanent residents. However, binoculars are necessary if you want to identify most of them. The trail is high on the bluff above the lagoon and does not provide access to the wetlands surrounding the lagoon. You should be able to identify large wading birds, such as great blue herons, egrets, and many flying raptors even without binoculars, but there are so many more birds here. These include 14 species of shore birds, 11 species of waterfowl, 8 species of raptors, and 10 species of flying/diving birds.

Coastal lagoons are flooded valleys, prone to becoming meadows as silt accumulates in the basins due to the erosion of the hills that surround them. This is a natural process known as eutrophication. However, it is greatly accelerated when development in the surrounding watershed flushes a much greater volume of sediment into the body of water. By the 1980s, Batiquitos Lagoon was no longer open to the ocean, so tidal flushing did not remove the sediment washed into the lagoon from the surrounding watershed. The lagoon had almost completely silted up and also had ceased to be a home to most of these bird species.

The least tern (*Sterna antillarum*)
continued on page 36



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

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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Farm Animal Encounter Join San Diego Children's Discovery Museum on the last Friday of every month and meet some farm animals. The hands-on workshop includes a special storytime, meeting animals, and a themed craft or activity. Each of the workshops has a different theme and features different farm animals. Friday, January 26, 10:30am; \$8. San Diego Children's Discovery Museum, 320 N. Broadway. (ESCONDIDO)

Freedom, Connection, and Play Workshop with Horses As 2018 begins, what qualities do you need to be more successful, joyful, and on purpose this year? Horses embody and teach the power of living a life full of freedom, connection, and play. Through interactive exercises, learn how both stillness and movement create magnetic ways of being that attract goodness. Let the horses and LA-based equine-partnered life coach Kate Neligan bring you closer to your authentic self and childlike awe. Sunday, January 28, 1pm; \$75. 18 and up. War Horse Ranch, 3712 Valle del Sol. (BONSALL)

Snapshot of Nature Calling all photography professionals and amateurs alike. We are hosting a photography day filled with guided photography hikes, animal photo ops, photographic scavenger hunts for the kids, and nature crafts to capture the memories. Free with admission. 10am to 2pm – Photo Scavenger Hunts & Nature Crafts. 10:30am – Guided Photography Trail Hike. 11am – Member Only Animal Photo Op. Noon – Guided Photography Trail Hike. 1pm – Animal Photo Op for all guests. Saturday, January 27, 10am; Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Tiny But Mighty: Small-Animal Demonstration Museum guests are invited to pet and hold hamsters, rats, and guinea pigs. Tiny But Mighty Small is a Living with Animals program and has two 30-minute demonstrations. Free with museum admission. Saturday, January 27, 12pm and 1pm; \$13. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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 unreason-

ing power. We shall explore this dynamic period through the lens of its greatest artists. Thursday, January 25, 7:30pm; \$14-\$19. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Alexander Arshansky: Illuminated Alexander Arshansky's paintings tumble onto the canvas directly from his subconscious. A kaleidoscopic compendium of inanimate objects made with his self-proclaimed "biomorphic cubism" style, the works form a narrative sparked by the observer's imagination. The subjects of Arshansky's paintings seem to "read" us while also providing a point of departure for reflection. On view at Sparks Gallery January 27 through March 22. Opening reception wine sales to benefit a local non-profit organization. Guests who RSVP receive one free drink ticket. Saturday, January 27, 6pm; free. Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Meet the Curator Come to the Women's Museum for a last look at our exhibit *Beauty or Torture?* and a chance to chat with the curator, Marley Healy. Hear from Marley about her inspiration and motivations in researching and curating this exhibit and ask her any questions. The evening will also allow time for a roundtable discussion on women's fashion and beauty trends throughout history. We'll begin the discussion at 5 pm; join us when the doors open at 4:30 for wine and light refreshments. Sunday, January 28, 4:30pm; \$8-\$15. Women's Museum of California, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16, #103. (LIBERTY STATION)

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; \$5. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, Suite 3. (BALBOA PARK)

The Way I See It: Opening Reception Peter Fay has captured photographic treasures in exotic locales across the globe as well as within the western United States. His fusion of light, color, and forms create dramatic images spanning genres of landscape, portraiture, wildlife, documentary, and fine-art photography. Runs January 23 to March 15. Saturday, January 27, 6pm; free. L Street Fine Art, 628 L Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

BEER

Stringray IPA Day Join Coronado Brewing for our 3rd annual Stringray IPA Day. We will be holding events all over the country featuring limited-edition variations of

this IPA. Coronado representatives will be holding promotions, talking beer and educating people about the IPA. Join us at any of our three locations for Happy Hour deals all day long or at your favorite watering hole. And make sure to follow Coronado Brewing on Instagram for an opportunity to win a prize pack. Friday, January 26, 11am; 21 and up. Coronado Brewing Company, 170 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Ancient Sounds for a New Age Sounds True recording artist, educator, and author Diáne Mandle performs an intense transformational sound immersion with ancient precision-tuned Tibetan bowls, Planetary gong, and percussion to awaken, soothe, and inspire the body, mind, and spirit. The concert is designed to relieve stress, enlighten the mind, and bring people into a transcendent state of being. Bring a mat to lie on. Chairs will also be provided. After the concert there will be a launch and signing of Diáne's new book, *Ancient Sounds for a New Age*. In the Inamori Pavilion. Sunday, January 28, 5pm; \$15-\$25. Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Fred Dickey: Stories with Faces Award-winning journalist and Pulitzer Prize nominee Fred Dickey will read from and discuss his new book *Stories With Faces: The Tightrope Lives of Next-Door People*. Dickey's topics of over 30 inspiring or colorful lives include a barrio girl who elevated herself with help of a prize-winning steer at the county fair, a 19th-century eccentric who crowned himself emperor of the United States and protector of Mexico, and a good woman who faces life after her husband is convicted of murder. Sunday, January 28, 2pm; free. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Gregory Boyle: Barking to the Choir Gregory Boyle is a Jesuit priest and the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, the largest gang-intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world, founded in 1988. He has received the California Peace Prize and been inducted into the California Hall of Fame. In 2014, the White House named Boyle a Champion of Change. He received the University of Notre Dame's 2017 Laetare Medal, the oldest honor given to American Catholics. Thursday, January 25, 7pm; \$28-\$38. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

ILLUME: Father Greg Boyle of Homeboy Industries The University of San Diego is proud to welcome Father Greg Boyle to campus as part of USD's ILLUME Global Impact, Humanities, Speaker/Lecture Series. Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries in Los Angeles, CA, the largest gang

intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world and author of the New York Times-bestseller *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*. Admission comes with a free copy of his book *Barking to the Choir*. Thursday, January 25, 7pm; \$28-\$38. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

ABCs of Brandy Join us as we sample the best expressions of brandy from around the globe. We'll take a tour of the Cognac and Armagnac regions of France and make brief stops in Italy and the Andalusian islands of Spain. We'll add food pairings. Saturday, January 27, 6:30pm; \$35. 21 and up. Vom Fass, 1050 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Chocolate Adventure Series: Truffle Rolling Your sweetest dreams are finally coming true. Make your own chocolate and eat it, too, in a new hands-on, 90-minute chocolate truffle rolling experience. Enjoy a guided tour of the Joy Factory, learn the sweet history of the Wild Truffle, get a hands-on lesson in truffle rolling with your tour guide, get your hands dirty playing with your food. All the truffles you make — eat them all or take them home. Thursday, January 25, 3pm; free-\$60. Chuao

Chocolatier Boutique & Joy Factory, 2350 Camino Vida Roble. (CARLSBAD)

Dip-Dye Macrame Plant Hanger Create a dip-dye macrame plant hanger. Workshop will feature natural dyes, a hand-made cement planter (for an additional \$10), music, snacks, and drinks. In this beginner workshop, you'll learn various macrame knot techniques that can be used for a variety of designs. You will leave with a completed dip-dyed plant hanger. Grand-opening of the venue. Saturday, January 27, 10am; \$75. Keep Studio, 3180 Adams Ave., Normal Heights

Fire Safety: Ready, Set, Go! Living in the backcountry means we all look out for each other, and the New Year is a good time to assess your fire prevention IQ. Alpine Fire Marshal Jason McBroom will give life-saving tips for making sure you and your family are prepared for fire safety throughout the year. Bring your questions and suggestions for fire prevention topics you'd like to see in the future. Friday, January 26, 1pm; free. Alpine Library, 1752 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

Genealogy: Be An Ancestor Detective Have you always wondered what information is available on the internet about your family? How much do you really know about your family? Now is the time to find the answers to questions about your ancestors: where they lived, how they lived, how they came to the

U.S., and lots more. Knowing your ancestors is knowing about yourself. The class will cover how and where to begin. Instructor: Randy Seaver, San Diego Genealogical Society. Saturday, January 27, 2:30pm; free. Mission Hills Library, 925 W. Washington Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Traditional Compost & Intro to Worms Are you wild about reducing food waste? Improve the quality of your soil, reduce waste and air pollution, while saving energy, money, and water — learn how to compost! Join Solana Center for this two-hour presentation where you will learn the basics of backyard composting and vermicomposting (composting with worms) at the San Diego Zoo. Using trial-tested advice and interactive demonstrations, our expert educator will teach you all you need to know to get started with a bin that fits your needs and lifestyle. This workshop is funded by the City of San Diego. Register online. Saturday, January 27, 8am; free. 18 and up. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

COMEDY

Adam Sandler Adam Richard Sandler (born September 9, 1966) is an American actor, comedian, screenwriter, film producer, and musician. After becoming a *Saturday Night Live* cast member, Sandler went on to star in many Hollywood feature films that

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combined have grossed over \$2 billion at the box office. — *Wikipedia* Sunday, January 28, 7pm; Pechanga Resort & Casino, 45000 Pechanga Parkway. (TEMECULA)

Colin Kane If you like dirty comedy, Colin Kane's your man. An insult comic that acknowledges the line and leaps over it, Kane is best known for his in-your-face delivery and off-the-cuff crowd work. Featuring an unlikely blend of piercing bite and authentic heart, Kane's R-rated act tackles sex, relationships, race, and everyone who is brave enough to sit in the front row. Thursday, January 25, 8pm; Friday, January 26, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 27, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$18. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

T.J. Miller Visit Funner, CA for the comedic stylings of T.J. Miller, one of *Variety's* "Top 10 Comics to Watch" and *EW's* "Next Big Things in Comedy." Saturday, January 27, 8pm; \$34-\$193. Harrah's Resort Southern California, 777 Harrah's Rincon Way. (VALLEY CENTER)

DANCE

Inside the Whale The multimedia, bilingual, and solo dance performance tells the tale of a woman swallowed by a whale. Features the work of creator Aurora Lagattuta, who toured the work across Europe. Lagattuta is a second-year MFA candidate in Contemporary Dance Marking and Performance at UC San Diego, where she received the prestigious San Diego Fellowship. Lagattuta will collaborate with MFA Visual Arts candidate Maya VanderSchuit and first-year MFA Sound Design student Zhongran Wang for the performance. Inside the Whale addresses issues including body image, interconnected identities, and ocean ecology awareness. Thursday, January 25, 7:30pm; UCSD Calit2 Auditorium at Atkinson Hall, 9500 Gilman Drive #0436. (LA JOLLA)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

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, 2pm; **free**-\$5. Chuang Archive and Learning Center, 541-B Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Women's Museum of California Book Club Join the Women's Museum of California for their first feminist book club meeting. The first book of the month is *The Yellow Wallpaper* by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, a 6000-word short story first published in January 1892 in *New England Magazine*. It is regarded as an important early work of American feminist literature, illustrating attitudes in the 19th Century toward women's health, both physical and mental. Friday, January 26, 5:30pm; **free**. Women's Museum of California, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16, #103. (LIBERTY STATION)

FOOD & DRINK

Caffeine Crawl San Diego Line-up includes over 25 local roasters, cafes, and companies — many long-time industry veterans and several new shops. Total of nine routes to choose from, each with a different roster of participants and times. Grab your travel mug, your caffeine-loving friends, and join us as we explore Various coffee shops around San Diego, Carlsbad, and Oceanside. Friday,

Rhyme & Verse

To a Mouse

A poem by Robert Burns — for Burns Day (1/25)

Wee, sleekit, cowrin, tim'rous beastie,
O, what a panic's in thy breastie!
Thou need na start awa sae hasty,
Wi' bickering brattle!
I wad be laith to rin an' chase thee
Wi' murd'ring pattle!

I'm truly sorry man's dominion,
Has broken nature's social union,
An' justifies that ill opinion,
What makes thee startle
At me, thy poor, earth-born companion,
An' fellow-mortal!

I doubt na, whiles, but thou may thieve;
What then? poor beastie, thou maun live!
A daimen icker in a thrave
'S a sma' request;
I'll get a blessin wi' the lave,
An' never miss't!

Thy wee bit housie, too, in ruin!
It's silly wa's the win's are strewin!
An' naething, now, to big a new ane,
O' foggage green!
An' bleak December's winds ensuin,
Baith snell an' keen!

Thou saw the fields laid bare an' waste,
An' weary winter comin fast,
An' cozie here, beneath the blast,
Thou thought to dwell —

Till crash! the cruel coulter past
Out thro' thy cell.

That wee bit heap o' leaves an' stibble,
Has cost thee mony a weary nibble!
Now thou's turn'd out, for a' thy trouble,
But house or hald,
To thole the winter's sleety dribble,
An' cranreuch cauld!

But Mousie, thou art no thy lane,
In proving foresight may be vain;
The best-laid schemes o' mice an' men
Gang aft agley,
An' lea'e us nought but grief an' pain,
For promis'd joy!

Still thou art blest, compar'd wi' me;
The present only toucheth thee:
But och! I backward cast my e'e,
On prospects drear!
An' forward, tho' I canna see,
I guess an' fear!



Robert Burns (1759–1796) was the premier Scottish poet and balladeer, regarded in Scotland with the same reverence as Shakespeare in England. He is celebrated throughout the world on his birthday, January 25th, known as Burns Day, with haggis, tripe, and various and sundry malted barley distillations.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

January 26, 1pm; Saturday, January 27, 9am; Sunday, January 28, 9am; \$25-\$37. InterAmerican Coffee, 1205 J Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Chef Dinner by Baja Calypso Owner and chef of The Calypso and now Baja Calypso will be at Pardon My French serving a set menu with music by Big Mountain front man Quino McWhinney. Thursday, January 25, 5pm; \$50. Pardon My French Bar & Kitchen, 3797 Park Boulevard. (HILLCREST)

Fish & Game: Tequila-Pairing Dinner The evening will begin with tray passed appetizers and refreshing tequila cocktails, followed by a "Fish and Game" celebration where you'll enjoy a

thoughtfully crafted four-course pairing dinner prepared by chefs Brian Malarkey, Shane McIntyre, Jason Gethin, and Adrian Mendoza. Tequila will be front and center as we feature the premium brands Casa Noble and Arette, curated by Certified Catador and Food & Beverage Director, Chris Simmons. Thursday, January 25, 6:30pm; \$98-\$166. 21 and up. Herb & Wood, 2210 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

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. Thursday, January 25, 11am; \$10-\$50. Throughout San Diego County)

Wine Tasting Join Craveyon CloudWines for a complimentary tasting of our current and new wines: dry Gewurtztraminer, Ruby-styled Cabernet Sauvignon-based port, and a slightly peach flavored Sparkling will be served. Thursday, January 25, 5:30pm; **free**. 21 and up. Belching Beaver Brewery Tavern & Grill, 302 E. Broadway. (VISTA)

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 25, 7:30pm; Friday, January 26, 4:30pm and 7:30pm; Saturday, January 27, 1pm, 4pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, January 28, 12:30pm, 3:30pm and 7pm; \$15-\$72. Westfield Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North. (MISSION VALLEY)

High Tech Fair High Tech Fair aims to enlighten students in grades 7–12 to the possibilities of a scientific career. Students experience real-life applications for the science they learn in the classroom through interactive experiences provided by participating local STEM-related businesses. Interactions fostered at the High Tech Fair create new sources of inspirations for students and teachers and enhance the value of education outreach for exhibitors. See over 30 different exhibitors showcasing San Diego's latest technologies. Thursday, January 25, 5pm; **free**. Balboa Park Activity Center, 2145 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

Building Puppets in Prague Join Jason Johnson, raconteur, writer, puppeteer, and teacher on his nearly mythic journey from San Diego to Prague in search of the elusive string-puppet master. Stories, visuals, demos, with the culminating hand-carved puppet prodigy. Reception with the artist to follow. A City Heights Puppet Project event. Saturday, January 27, 7:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Focus on Health: Update on the Management of Parkinson's Disease Join us for a free seminar as Irene Litvan, MD, director of the Parkinson and Other Movement Disorders Center at UC San Diego Health, welcomes Brenton Wright, MD, to the program. Dr. Wright will present an overview of the benefits of physical exercise for patients with Parkinson's disease. He will discuss a variety of recommended exercise regimens and any evidence supporting their effectiveness, as well as the role of physical therapy. Thursday, January 25, 6pm; **free**. Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute, 9452 Medical Center Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Holistic Approach to Digestive Health Dr. Emily Poccia and Lauren Ursch M.S. RYT200 are teaming up with Movement Warehouse for this workshop on common digestive issues and how

ROAM-O-RAMA

continued from page 34

rum), a small flying/diving bird that is white and gray with a black hood, is an extreme example. It is a migratory bird. It is only with us from April, when it arrives from its winter home in the Caribbean and South America, until September. Once abundant, it had become rare — not only here, but also throughout San Diego County and beyond. In 1970 it was designated an endangered species. One of the reasons it is endangered is that it nests in the open, preferably on sandy beaches, where it must compete with humans who also love the beach, especially in summer when the least tern is nesting on the sand. In the case of the lagoon, these sandy beaches and dunes had been lost as eutrophication occurred.

If human activities had greatly contributed to the endangerment of the least tern, at least in this case we came to their rescue. A number of beaches

have been designated least tern breeding areas and humans and their vehicles are prohibited access to them. In the case of the Batiquitos Lagoon, a plan was put into action to save not only the least tern, but also the whole Batiquitos ecosystem. The restoration was completed in 1997. Sediment was dredged from the lagoon, sand bars were created as least tern nesting sites, the wetlands were restored, and the lagoon opened to the ocean to permit tidal flushing. The least tern population has recovered, along with an increase in the population of numerous other birds, and even fish.

While on this hike, stop to reflect on the success of this restoration.

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.

SHEEP and GOATS

Silvester Jenks

To make it plainly appear that the love of God above all things is the greatest duty of a Christian, one would think it were enough to show that it is a duty which comprises all our other duties; that it is a total sum of Christianity; and that without the least hyperbole, it is the whole duty of man;

because all other precepts whatsoever only are so many branches of this Great Commandment, which is the root of all the rest. If we draw the prospect nigher, we shall find an infinite variety of pressing motives which enforce our obligation. Every single excellence of the object we adore is all divine. No shadow there

of any blemish to obscure those charms, which challenge our affection. Nothing in our God but what is infinitely amiable, and deserving infinitely more than all the love that we are able to return.

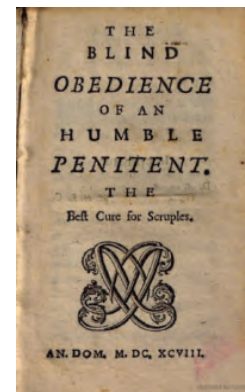
— from *A Contrite and Humble Heart*, by
Silvester Jenks

Silvester Jenks (c.1656–1714)

was an English Catholic theologian and priest. Born in Shropshire, England, Jenks attended the English College in Douai, France, where he also taught as a professor of philosophy. Official court preacher to the Catholic English king, James II, when James was overthrown in the Glorious Revolution of 1688, Jenks fled to Flanders. He is known for having written

in opposition to Jansenism, a heresy that emphasized predestination at the expense of human freedom. He also wrote *A Contrite and Humble Heart*, a work on the importance of humility and the little acts of love necessary to battle the arrogance of Jansenism.

Find more excerpts online at
SDReader.com/worship



to naturally address them. Some topics include the gut/immune and the gut/brain connection, what to avoid and what to eat to support gut health, natural treatments for digestive issues, guided meditation, and mindful eating. Sunday, January 28, 10am; \$30. Movement Warehouse, 1425 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

NATURE

Darkwood Finger Canyon Hike

Join Mike Kelly for an easy 2.5 mile round trip hike up a wildlife corridor connecting Peñasquitos Preserve with the Del Mar Mesa Preserve. See early flowers and learn about the rare habitat in this finger canyon. Meet at the kiosk near the corner of Park Village Road and Camino del Sur Road. Saturday, January 27, 9am; free. Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, 12020 Black Mountain Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Green and Gorgeous Gorge

Winter rains bring seasonal greenery that steadily blankets the park. For resident animals it cues the New Year's reproductive calendar as adults feast in preparation. Take in the sights and sounds of renewal, stroll its sage and chaparral domains as your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide reveals the secrets of life in Mission Gorge. Saturday, January 27, 9:30am; Sunday, January 28, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Lopez Homestead History Walk

Hike with Will Bowen into Lopez Canyon to learn about the Ramon Lopez Homestead, a small dairy farm from the 1880s. Visit the orchard, the old Lopez road, and see the remains of the house, barn, milking station, and cistern. Find out about the importance of the Lopez family in early San Diego history. Sunday, January 28, 3pm; free. Lopez Canyon, 4300 Sorrento Valley Boulevard

Mystic Mission Dam Always picturesque and changing in appearance centuries-old Mission Dam is a centerpiece of fervent beauty. Whether swelled by winter rains or stilled by low waters it complements the charm of time

spent in nature. Join our fun and informative naturalist-led walk and experience real magic. Meet by flag poles at Kumeyaay Campground entry station. Saturday, January 27, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Tu B'Shvat Food Forest Festival

Tu B'Shvat, the Jewish New Year of Trees, is often celebrated by planting trees, eating fruit, and honoring our connection to and dependence on the world around us. Here at Coastal Roots Farm, we acknowledge Tu B'Shvat with an annual festival in our food forest. Third annual event — enjoy tree planting, guided walks through the

forest, live music, food from local vendors, and hands-on activities. Sunday, January 28, 10am; \$10. Coastal Roots Farm, 441 Saxony Road. (ENCINITAS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Paranormal Investigations of the Davis-Horton House

The Davis-Horton House: Alive with Spirits from the Past? Find out for yourself. Touted as "the most haunted house in the Gaslamp Quarter," the Davis-Horton House has become a popular place for

investigating paranormal activities — occurrences that fall outside of what's considered normal or that can't be explained scientifically. Paranormal research teams present evidence to support their claims of having made contact with several house spirits. They've recorded voices, taken photos, and shot video to document their surprising findings. Saturday, January 27, 10pm; \$40. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Button Club Sale

Antique/modern clothing buttons will be sold at the club's 21st-annual Button Bazaar. Many dealers from across the USA will be offering but-

tons from the mid 18th Century to the early 21st Century. Info: 760-789-4133. Saturday, January 27, 9am; free. Tecolote Canyon Natural Park & Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

San Diego Franchise Show

The Franchise Show invites you to attend a two-day event. Buying a franchise means you are in business for yourself, but not by yourself. Explore the option of self-employment. Meet face to face with representatives from top franchise concepts and business opportunities who want to expand or develop in your area. Compare a variety of opportunities and learn about many different industries at every

investment level. Saturday, January 27, 11am; Sunday, January 28, 11am; \$8. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

WORSHIP

For Babylon, Sermon Series

An inspiring worship series from the Book of Daniel. Sundays, 10:30am; through Sunday, March 25, free. GC2 Church, 16150 4S Ranch Parkway. (4S RANCH)

LATIN AMERICAN FILM SERIES

A sweeping melodrama set in Venezuela, starring María Félix, in her seminal role.

DOÑA BÁRBARA

(Mexico, 1943) Not rated

Friday, February 2 at 8:00 p.m.

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

BALBOA PARK
THE SAN DIEGO
MUSEUM OF ART



SDMA Art.org

777 SUPER PRIZE WHEEL

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FOLLOW US ON:

WATER FRONT

Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, JAN 25	10:27	1.2'	9:28	1.8'	3:18	5'	4:21	3.1'
FRI, JAN 26	11:37	0.4'	10:40	1.9'	4:18	5.5'	5:51	3.3'
SAT, JAN 27	12:32	-0.4'	11:44	1.8'	5:15	6'	6:55	3.7'
SUN, JAN 28	1:19	-1.2'			6:07	6.5'	7:44	4.1'

Waves (BIRDROCK)

Height	Direction	Interval
3'-5'	WNW	8 seconds
2'-3'	WNW	14 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	9 seconds
1'-2'	SW	16 seconds

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

EVENTS

Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge The Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge is one of the longest-running paddle-sport races in California, featuring OC-1, surfski, traditional paddleboard, standup paddleboard, and kayak. The event is in its 23rd year and draws competitors from beginners to professional athletes, from age seven to over eighty. There are plenty of viewing spots for spectators along both courses, in Mission Bay and from Crystal Pier. For those interested in entering competition, pre-entry is recommended, though day of race entries will be accepted. Free for spectators. Saturday, January 27, 7am; **free**. Bonita Cove, 1100 W. Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

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)

Max Action Sports Kite Night Max Action Sports Meetup group hosts Kite Night. Kitesurfers from newcomers to pros are welcome to come and meet with other kitesurfers for Q&A about kiting spots, gear, how to, and more. This group meets on the last Thursday of the month. <http://bit.ly/2lhOxP6> Thursday, January 25, 7pm; **free**. Off Shore Tavern, 2253 Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Restore Nesting Habitat We will be working to remove invasive plants from North Fiesta Island. We're doing this to promote nesting by the California Least Tern (an endangered species) and to create space for native coastal dune plants. The meeting location will be on the northern edge of Fiesta Island in Mission Bay. Info: flaherty@sandiegoaudubon.org, Sunday, January 28, 9:30am; **free**. Fiesta Island, 1500 Fiesta Island Road. (BAY PARK)

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)

Sunroad Marina Boat Show The 28-year-old event expands this year, with the addition of more floating docks to moor several larger vessels. South Coast Yachts will display a full range of Beneteau vessels, including the West Coast debut of the sixty-foot Monte Carlo 6. In addition to the sailboats and yachts you'll find marine vendors with the latest nautical products and services, seminars on topics such as destination boating, electric propulsion, and downwind sailing, and food, music, beer, and spirits. General parking at the corner of Harbor Drive and Harbor Island Drive; shuttle service provided. \$13; children 12 and under free. Thursday, January 25, 12pm; Friday, January 26, 12pm; Saturday, January 27, 10am; Sunday, January 28, 10am; \$13. Sunroad Resort Marina, 955 Harbor Island Drive. (HARBOR ISLAND)

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)

Tidepooling Adventure with Birch Aquarium Visit a local tide pool to learn how these amazing habitats and their inhabitants truly survive between a rock and a hard place. The optimal season for tidepooling is December to March when minus tides reveal wider beaches and tide pools teeming with life. During those months, you can sign up for a Tidepooling Adventure where our trained naturalists will show you how to tread lightly during your visit and help you discover the wonderful world of tide pools. Ages 2+. Under 15 must be accompanied by a paid adult. Location determined based on date. Sunday, January 28, 1pm; \$13-\$16. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)



Plan would expand the current 315 Bahia rooms to 600

La Jolla like the Riviera

When mentioning this small town I am not referring to San Diego. For San Diego has outgrown its diapers and is a city now. But I am referring to La Jolla which, although technically a part of San Diego, is nevertheless its own community and always has been.



Max Miller

or feel flattered.

— from *The Town with the Funny Name*, by Max Miller (1948)

There are some who say the place reminds them of the Riviera. They will say this over and over as if to impress us. Or they may go more general and say it is just like living “someplace on the Mediterranean, don't you think so?”

Yet I never have learned what our answers are supposed to be to this kind of remark, whether we are supposed to start an argument or agree

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

Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge ramps up buzz on Bahia

The Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge is one of the longest running paddle-sport races in California, featuring OC-1, surfski, traditional paddleboard, standup paddleboard, and kayak. This year's races on Saturday will take place amid controversy across West Mission Bay Drive from the start/finish line.

In the late 1940s, sand and silt were dredged to create Mission Bay. When the Bahia Resort Hotel opened in 1953 on the north side of West Mission Bay Drive at Gleason Road, it was the first commercial lessee on the bay. Today, the Bahia boasts 315 rooms. Bracketed by Ventura and Santa Barbara coves, the resort's footprint takes up all of Bahia Point, save for public access to the shoreline, restrooms, and parking

HARBOR POLICE REPORT

From San Diego city lifeguards

Dec 9
-13:49 Medical: Overdose at 1904 Quivira Way. Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond. Patient transported to UCSD.
-15:15 Boating: 911 call at Windansea. Lifeguard responds. Good Samaritan assists vessels clogged intake. Clear at 15:20.
-16:05 Boating: Ocean Beach lifeguards requests surfboat for 2 persons in distress

at the pier. Surfboat cancelled Ocean Beach lifeguards make rescue.

Dec 7
-09:10 Boating: Lifeguard boat unit responds to Coast Guard request to undertake tow of disabled vessel off Mission Bay Channel. Joint Harbor Operations Center notified of possible illegal activity. Vessel towed to lifeguard reception dock.

SDPD clears vessel and boat remains at dock awaiting Vessel Assist.
-11:00 Boating: Lifeguard boat unit responds to possible kayaker in distress in Sail Bay. Unable to locate. Clear.
-12:51 Medical: Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond to Adair at Osprey for non-breather. Fire handles.
-12:30 Boating: Lifeguard boat units respond to call for 30' sloop dragging anchor and close to hitting another boat in Mariner's Basin. Vessel drifts and runs

aground in Mariner's Basin.
-13:10 Boating: Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond to VHF call for sinking boat off Pt. Loma Light House. Harbor Patrol and US Coast Guard on scene and handle call.
-15:00 Boating: Lifeguard boat units respond to vessel listing in Mariner's Basin. Same vessel that broke anchor earlier still aground, but anchor reset for tide.
-16:32 Medical: Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond to Ocean Beach

Tower for altered level of consciousness. Patient elopes.

Dec 6
-11:40 Enforcement: Person acting crazy and scaring beachgoers at the north end of Blacks Beach. Lifeguard responds and meets with reporting person. Suspect leaves area.
-12:32 Boating: Report of a canoe entering Kendall Frost Reserve. Crown Point. Lifeguard boat unit responds. Unable to locate.

Water Conditions

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:





LOW **60°F** HIGH **64°F**

VISIBILITY
5'-15'

The week begins with smallish but decent surf and deteriorates Thursday with stiff onshore winds and building yet trashy surf. By Friday am, the surf conditions should clean up a bit while there will still decent waist to head-high surf. Dive conditions look best Wednesday morning before the blow, and next-best during the coming weekend, though the slack-ish two foot daytime tide swing makes Weds the better option. Lobster season is open now, so boaters should especially keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves and area appropriately.

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

Moon Calendar

	 THUR 25	 SAT 27	 MON 29	 WED 31
JANUARY				
SUNRISE	6:48	6:47	6:46	6:44
SUNSET	17:15	17:17	17:19	17:20
LENGTH OF DAY	10H 27M	10H 30M	10H 33M	10H 36M



FROM HANOHANO.COM

Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge

along the eastern and northern shoreline. The resort owner, Bill Evans, has had a plan in the works for some years now to eliminate the 250 public parking spaces along the water and relocate them further from the shoreline.

On January 2, The Mission Bay Park Committee voted that the Bahia Development Plan is consistent with the Mission Bay Master Plan. Evan's overall plan after getting final approval would expand the current 315 rooms to 600 and add a 10-foot walkway and 20-foot grass area around the eastern and north shorelines, turning the current parking area into a park.

Most who oppose the planned expansion worry about parking and access. The location makes it easy to unload and walk to a launchable beach. Parents of young children like the play area steps from parking.

Leading up to this week's Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge, paddling groups

have been abuzz on social media about the planned development at the Bahia resort. Many showed up to the January 2nd meeting to voice their disapproval, and even though the initial vote in the process went in the developer's favor, the paddling community is calling for groups such as the Coastal Conservancy and Surfrider Foundation to join the effort. Though the plan was approved by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board on January 18th, it still must be okayed by the city council and then the state coastal commission.

The Hanohano Huki Ocean Challenge will take place across West Mission Bay Drive at Bonita Cove, south of the Bahia. Accommodating over 600 entrants last year, the parking lots between Mission Beach and the bay provided ample space for the event. The race courses are 4.5 miles and 9 miles long; the short course, starting at Bonita Cove in Mariner's Basin, goes past



Benjamin: "I like to hit the lip of the wave."

SeaWorld and turns along Fiesta Island, then out and around Vacation Isle and returns to Bonita Cove. The long course starts at Bonita Cove, goes out Mission Bay Channel, along the coast north to Crystal Pier, turns offshore about a mile, around the Yukon buoy, and returns to Mission Bay and Bonita Cove.

— Daniel Powell

The Hospitals local from Peru

NAME: BENJAMIN

AGE: 46

LIVES: LA JOLLA

OCCUPATION: REAL ESTATE AGENT

I saw Benjamin by his vehicle at Hospitals in La Jolla. It was one of the last days of 2017 and it was 74 degrees out.

He said that the 3-4 foot waves "esta increíble" (are incredible), that the reef makes the waves break cleanly.

In 2003, Benjamin moved from Peru to San Diego. He's been surfing at this spot ever since and considers himself a local. "Usually it is [territorial] here at Hospitals," he said. "If people are respectful and don't get into your waves and paddle around you, that's fine."

Benjamin is a 46-year-old real estate agent. He says he gets to surf at his favorite spots whenever he wants because of the flexibility of his job.

"I like to hit the lip of the wave," he said. "And I've caught some barrels here once in awhile." This day he brought out his 5'10" Rusty, which he said was perfect for the "buenas" (the good) waves.

He's been surfing for 34 years. His craziest wipeout happened in Peru when he caught a 12-footer "but I couldn't stand up and I fell and there was a lot of rocks. I was down there for a lot of time."

— Mike Madriaga

SAND BASS BITING WELL INSHORE

Dock Totals Jan 14 – Jan 20: 980 anglers aboard 41 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 115 bluefin tuna, 408 yellowtail, 51 calico bass, 504 sand bass, 1,035 rockfish, 36 lingcod, 15 bonito, 129 whitefish, 2 halibut, 25 halfmoon, 482 sculpin, 4 rubberlip seaperch, 1 sheephead, and 22 spiny lobster.

Saltwater: The bluefin tuna are still out there giving the 1.5 and longer boats a shot at decent grade tuna when they'd normally

be focused on rockfish this time of year for south of the border freezer-filling trips while the fishery is closed on the US side of the line. Yellowtail continue to bite throughout the water column when found, some coming on surface irons and fly-lined sardines, while others have been caught in the normal winter-spring deeper waters on flat-fall jigs and yoyo irons. South of the border along the northern Baja coast, the rock fishing has been fantastic for vermilion, sheephead and whitefish – with a few decent lingcod in the mix. Even some of the ½ day boats are making the extended run and still getting limits with the

shortened amount of fishing time.

Along the beach in water out to 60 feet or so, halibut have been showing well on the slacker tides while from 40 to 80 feet of water, sand bass have been going off anywhere they are stacked up along the sandy patches between reefs. Plastics, including swimbaits, grubs and scampis in the 6 to 8 inch size, are working very well on them. If using plastics for sand bass, make sure to use an appropriate leadhead that will keep the lure in the bite zone considering wind, drift and current.

One-man band

“He makes the dough, adds everything, puts it in the oven. He’s it.”

I’m on the Orange Line. Where I get out at Park and Market in the East Village, a whole gang of kids is sitting on the railings goofing off, hanging out, clacking skateboards. And behind them, this new storefront. No signs up. Just a menu stuck in the window. And it says: “\$3.99 menu. \$3.99 each.”

Four bucks for anything? It lists about 20 items. Meat or veggie lasagna, spaghetti, fettuccine, linguini, capellini, calzone, ten-inch pizza, and a bunch of six-inch torpedo sandwiches.

Pizza, \$3.99? Calzone? Lasagna? I can’t believe it. Got to see if this is real. Then I notice a second menu stuck on the window. It says “Florenzia’s Pizza. Grand Opening.”

I head in. Ten tables, white walls, black acoustic-tile ceiling, a few Scotch-taped pictures of places like that famous dome in Florence, and a small counter with kitchen sounds coming from behind.

I talk to a customer, Kendra, and her four kids, while I’m waiting. They’re sitting at one table, sharing two pizzas. “I save up to come here every two weeks,” she says. “This cost me around \$17.”

I see their pizzas are way bigger than ten inches.

So I stand at the counter, waiting. Nothing happens.

“Hello!” That’s me.

“He’s a one-man band,” says Lewis, a guy eating a pizza slice at a wall table. “He makes the dough, adds everything, puts it in the oven. He’s it. So, at least you know everything’s fresh-made.”

Finally the guy comes out. Flour on his apron.

“Pizza?” I say.

“What on it?”

“Uh, what’ve you got?”

“Here.”

He slides me an overstuffed menu like you’d see in the slickest Italian restaurant. It has a 29-strong selection of pizza and calzone with everything from anchovies (a good sign...so many places avoid anchovies) to ham-and-pineapple.

It also has more regular prices, like a dinner of, say, baked cannelloni or eggplant parmigiana for \$10.49. Or, for \$10, half-and-half dinners with, like, spaghetti and lasagna or veggie lasagna and ravioli. And any pasta, plus sauces such as sautéed mushroom, for \$11.49.

I scree through lists of ravioli, appetizers, salads, and 12-inch sandwiches for nine, ten bucks.

No sign of the window deals.

“Actually, I was talking about those dishes going at \$3.99.”

“On the window,” he says.

“Right,” I say. I head out to check it again and come back. “I’ll have the \$3.99 meat lasagna, a calzone, and a ten-inch pizza,” I say.

I know. Twelve bucks already. But I’ve gotta see if he’s for real, and what you get for that.

“On the pizza, calzone?”

“Uhh... Pepperoni on the pizza? Sausage in the calzone? And a drink?”

“Only cans. Fountain’s out. Coke?”

“Fine,” I say. It’s \$1. I pay for everything — cash only tonight. Card connection’s down — and go wait.

And, whoa, when...let’s call him Florenzio (never learned his real name) — when Florenzio starts bringing stuff out, I realize how much I’ve over-ordered. The pizza may only be ten-inch, but that turns out to be a lot anyway. If the bubbling lasagna wasn’t in a take-out aluminum dish, you’d happily pay \$15 for it down in the Gaslamp, seven blocks away. And the calzone looks straight out of rustic Italy. Florenzio made it. Looks like a giant shark’s egg case, with the dough hand-crimped around the edges. Some call it a rollover or a folded pizza, but to me it tastes different. For starters, the thing that tickles the inside of your maw is the taste of fennel, with zippy little tangs from a pepper in there. Must be the bits of Italian sausage.

“Three cheeses in there, too,” says Florenzio.

Next, I hit the lasagna. Oh, boy. Lush, cheesy, layered with pasta, tomatoey, and hot, like lava.



Kendra and kids: twice-a-month treat

Pizza’s, well, springy and pepperoni-tasty.

“This is the regular crust,” says Florenzio. “But back in Florence, they make their pizzas with crusts so thin, you can hardly see it.”

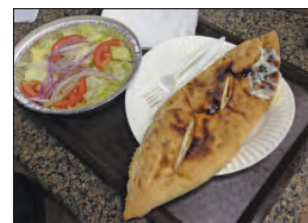
Oh, and he’s brought a heavily buttered garlic bread as well. Whole lot of bread going on, so I ask for a dinner salad with red onions.

Costs all of \$2.49.

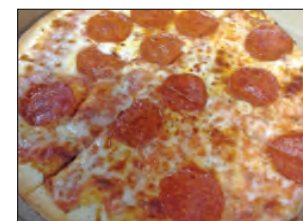
Except, this is all way too much food for me. I ask Lewis if he wants to help out. He had a slice and doesn’t look done. I also rip off half my calzone for him. And the pair at the next table, Kenosha and Squeaky, have gobbled their slices of pepperoni pizza, too. “It was \$5 for the two of us, Kenosha says. “Two slices of pizza and two Cokes. That is a good deal.”

“Feel like some more?” I ask. Squeaky says he’s full. Kenosha takes a slice of pizza. Me, I’m plowing into the lasagna with the garlic bread while it’s hot.

“Definitely coming back,” says Kenosha.



My \$3.99 calzone. Baked here same as in Florence.



My ten-inch, \$3.99 pepperoni pizza



Kenosha

Me, too. While I’m thinking about it, I go order a \$3.99 sausage pizza for the beautiful Carla.

“Where are you?” she asks when I call.

“At the best deal on the Orange Line,” I say.

Lewis leaves. Paid \$1.75. Kenosha and Squeaky take off, five bucks poorer. My bill’s a little higher, but with what I’m packing to go, Carla and I could hole up for a week.

“We’ve got a new menu coming soon,” says Florenzio. “We’ve only been open two months and food prices are already rising.”

Uh-oh.

“And the \$3.99 specials?”

“Maybe up a buck.”

“\$4.99?”

“I think so.”

Sigh. So what does that make this? The good ol’ days already? ■

The Place: Florenzia’s Pizza, 565 Park Boulevard (at Park and Market trolley stop), East Village, 619-337-2788
Hours: 5–10 p.m. daily

Prices (may be rising soon): \$3.99 menu items include dishes of lasagna (meat or veggie), spaghetti, fettuccine, pani, linguini, capellini, rigatoni with meat sauce or marina; also calzone, ten-inch pizza (toppings include anchovy, ham and pineapple, “Meat Feast” of sausage, bacon, meatballs); six-inch torpedo sandwiches include ham and cheese, turkey, roast beef, pastrami, sausage, meatball; pizza by the slice, \$1.75; pizza slice with soda, \$2.50; 14-inch pizza with one topping, \$5.99; dinners, including baked cannelloni, eggplant parmigiana, \$10.49; half-and-half dinners (e.g., spaghetti and lasagna), \$10; pasta, sautéed mushroom sauce, \$11.49

Buses: 3, 5, 901, 929

Nearest Bus Stops: Market Street near Park Boulevard (3, 5); 11th Avenue and Market (901, 929)

Trolleys: Blue Line and Orange Line

Nearest Trolley Stop: Park and Market

Pretty dang good

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

The Impossible Burger

Stone Brewing, 1999 Citracado Parkway, Escondido. It was last February I first read an NPR story about the Impossible Burger — a meatless burger patty that “bleeds like the real thing.” The sizzling, plant-based burger apparently debuted to rave reviews in select restaurants on the East Coast, so, naturally, I’ve been eager to try it. But, like most trends that start in New York City, this

one took about a year to reach San Diego. Finally, in late December, it began to turn up at a small number of local restaurants: Jayne’s Gastropub in North Park, and both the Escondido and Liberty Station locations of Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens.

I headed over to Liberty Station to try it at Stone — a fitting choice considering, like beer, the secret ingredient in the Impossible Burger is a byproduct of yeast.

As the story goes, scientists at Impossible Foods — a Silicon Valley company founded by a Stanford biochemistry professor — identified the flavor compounds and proteins that give cooked beef its distinctive flavor and texture, then sought plant-based replacements for both.

The resulting burger patty is pressed together with wheat and potato proteins for chew, (flavorless) coconut oil for fat, and common thickening agents like xanthan gum and konjac gum to gel it together. But what really makes the Impossible Burger unique is heme. That’s the iron-rich compound found in hemoglobin that gives blood its red color, and gives cooked beef a meaty flavor that no well-meaning veggie burger has ever

gotten right.

Impossible discovered that heme exists in soybean roots, though in amounts too small to supply food production. Its clever workaround was to modify the gene of a species of yeast so that it converts sugars into heme. So whereas Stone uses yeast to produce the dank, citrusy IPAs it pairs with its burgers, Impossible Foods uses it to concoct a blood-red soy leghemoglobin.

FEAST!

Ah, science. Knowing all this, I was cautiously optimistic approaching the Impossible Burger. I tried its key competitor, the Beyond Burger, last year. That



Stone World Bistro's plating of the plant-based Impossible Burger



A veggie burger has never, ever looked this close to the real thing.

pea-protein and bamboo cellulose patty uses beet juice to “bleed,” and while I deemed it the best veggie burger I’d ever tried, it couldn’t match beef’s texture, nor quite its flavor. I figured this would be more of the same, and if nothing else would give astronauts another dining option up on that space station.

Safe to say the Impossible exceeded my expectations. Stone serves it with avocado, crispy sunchoke, Peruvian peppers, and melted cheese on a brioche bun (cheese-free on a ciabatta if you want it vegan). But served

with simple cheddar, onions, and pickles, my incredulity would have been the same.

That faux beef patty looked remarkably similar to the sort of puckish, pre-formed burger patties you might find sold in bulk at Costco. It caramelized on the grill and approximated the grayish-brown shade of any burger you’d find at a cafeteria or fast-food joint. But it wasn’t till I started breaking pieces of “beef” off the patty to nibble on that I was truly confounded. These little bits looked like ground beef. They had the texture of ground beef. And had a flavor I could only call “beefy.” It’s not exactly as juicy or robust as the real thing, but I wouldn’t compare it to anything else. Bot-

tom line, it tastes savory, a little salty, and pretty dang good.

Served with smashed potatoes, Stone charges \$17 for its Impossible Burger, which is roughly in line with the rest of its menu. Jayne’s charges \$18.50. Real burgers rarely cost this much, and for now the real thing still tastes better. But that doesn’t take away the accomplishment. This thing’s a legit beef replacement, should you be looking for one, and an exciting moment of the present-day catching up to science fiction.

by Ian Anderson



Khao soi: crispy noodles add to the fun of a soupy noodle curry dish

lunch crowd.

We’d come here looking for a specific dish: *khao soi*. It’s a Burmese-influenced dish I’d tried and loved during a trip to San Francisco a few years back. At this moment in history, Myanmar may not seem like an exemplary melting pot of cultures. But geographically, the nation formerly known as Burma sits at an enviable crossroads for fans of eastern culinary traditions. In addition to Thailand, it shares a border with India and China.

Which brings me back to *khao soi*: chicken curry served over egg noodles. Technically, I think it’s egg noodles served in a soup of chicken curry, pickled cabbage, and shallots. But either way it’s topped with crispy egg noodles. That means, in addition to the novelty of eating curry over noodles instead of rice, you get the novelty of crunchy noodles soaking up curry to create a pleasing mix of crunchy and chewy textures.

The yellow curry sits somewhere between Indian and Thai style curries, pungent and nutty, with a coconut-milk base. What I discovered from that first experience with Aaharn

Elusive mid-range of curry heat

Aaharn Thai, 1202 Kettner Boulevard #104, Little Italy. “Hey, what’s the name of that Thai spot we liked?” my friend called to ask.

Good question. I’d found its menu on a web delivery service, and I’d never once had to pronounce the restaurant’s name out loud: Aaharn Thai (officially, it calls itself AAHARN by Koon Thai).

“It’s called Ah...” I started, “Ah.... Oh, just pick me up,” I said. “I’ll show you where it is.”

It’s downtown, a block up from the Museum of Contemporary Art. It’s not the most visible restaurant location, sharing a small indoor complex with wellness businesses including a massage therapist and a float spa. But it had a decent

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Deadline to Enter: Tuesday, February 13 at 1pm.

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

Calendar RESTAURANT

is that their take on *khao soi* is an incredibly spicy dish. I'd ordered medium spice — right in the middle between very mild and super hot — and it burned.

My brain loved the flavor of the curry so much I wanted to savor it, but with each bite my mouth told me to down a beer and try to salvage the smoldering embers of my tongue instead. It went on like this, to my pain and delight, until I put my leftovers in the fridge. The next day I went back for more and ate it cold, as if doing so would cool the spice down a bit. It did not.

So, on our visit to the restaurant, I confidently ordered the *khao soi* as mild as can be. Too mild, it turned out. While the pleasant nuttiness was there, the curry didn't seem to have enough midrange without the heat to bolster it. Fortunately, service included a ramekin of chili oil, which I could use to get it just right.

As for the chicken itself, it didn't seem as good at lunch as it had with my dinner order (a bit of gristle), so consistency

with this dish could be lacking. But when it's on, it's on. I recently learned they serve *khao soi* at Soi 30th in North Park, so I'll revisit soon in my quest to find anything like Burmese food in San Diego. If anyone knows where to get a good tea-leaf salad, do share.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK

Caffeine Crawl San Diego Line-up includes over 25 local roasters, cafes, and companies — many long-time industry veterans and several new shops. Total of nine routes to choose from, each with a different roster of participants and times. Grab your travel mug, your caffeine-loving friends, and join us as we explore Various coffee shops around San Diego, Carlsbad, and Oceanside. Friday, January 26, 1pm; Saturday, January 27, 9am; Sunday, January 28, 9am; \$25-\$37. InterAmerican Coffee, 1205 J Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Chef Dinner by Baja Calypso Owner and chef of The Calypso and now Baja Calypso will be at Pardon My French serving a set menu with music by Big Mountain front man Quino McWhinney. Thursday, January 25, 5pm; \$50. Pardon My French Bar & Kitchen, 3797 Park Boulevard. (HILLCREST)

Fish & Game: Tequila-Pairing Dinner The evening will begin with tray passed appetizers and

refreshing tequila cocktails, followed by a "Fish and Game" celebration where you'll enjoy a thoughtfully crafted four-course pairing dinner prepared by chefs Brian Malarkey, Shane McIntyre, Jason Gethin, and Adrian Mendoza. Tequila will be front and center as we feature the premium brands Casa Noble and Arette, curated by Certified Catador and Food & Beverage Director, Chris Simmons. Thursday, January 25, 6:30pm; \$98-\$166. 21 and up. Herb & Wood, 2210 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

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. Thursday, January 25, 11am; \$10-\$50. Throughout San Diego County)

Wine Tasting Join Craveyon CloudWines for a complimentary tasting of our current and new wines: dry Gewurtztraminer, Ruby-styled Cabernet Sauvignon-based port, and a slightly peach flavored Sparkling will be served. Thursday, January 25, 5:30pm; free. 21 and up. Belching Beaver Brewery Tavern & Grill, 302 E. Broadway. (VISTA)

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

ALPINE

Mediterraneo: Daily, 11am-7pm: \$1 off wells and craft beer, \$3.50 Coors Light draft, \$5.50 house wine.

BALBOA PARK

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

CHULA VISTA

El Comal: Daily, 2-6pm: \$4 drafts.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

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

HILLCREST

Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage: Daily, 4-7pm: \$10 8-oz martinis, \$6 sweet potato fries.

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

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

LA MESA

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

LITTLE ITALY

Puerto la Boca: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:30pm: \$4 house wine, \$4.50 wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers. Bar only. Sunday, All day: \$4 house wine, \$4.50 wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers. Bar only.

MISSION VALLEY

Dave & Buster's: Monday-Wednesday, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-midnight: Half-off appetizers and cocktails, \$1 off 22-oz. drafts and wine glasses, \$3 off wine bottles. Thursday, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-1am: Half-off appetizers and cocktails, \$1 off 22-oz. drafts and wine glasses, \$3 off wine bottles. Friday, 4:30-7pm: Half-off appetizers and cocktails, \$1 off 22-oz. drafts and wine

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Green Flash cuts staff, stops shipping to 32 states

Amid a new round of layoffs, the first San Diego craft brewery to sell beer in all 50 states has announced it will no longer distribute to 32 of them.

Green Flash Brewing (6550 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa) gives the number let go at 15 percent, including employees at both its San Diego brewery and the one it opened in Virginia in 2016. Reporting by *West Coaster* magazine and the *Brewbound* website indicate 33 employees were let go from sales, administrative, and operational positions.

The news comes almost a year to the day since 25 Green Flash employees were laid off in January of 2017 — estimated at the

time to be a 10 percent workforce reduction.

Green Flash stated in a press release that its plan will be to limit distribution to regional markets within easy reach of its breweries — which will also include Nebraska, once a previously announced Green Flash brewpub opens in the town of Lincoln later this year.

At the time of the press release, Green Flash said its San Diego brewery would distribute to Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, Texas, Utah, and Nebraska. The Virginia Beach brewery would ship to Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The press release cites these East Coast states as comprising the company's fastest-growing sales region. Reached by phone, Green Flash founder and CEO Mike Hinkley stated, "We had the biggest chunk of our market — about 82 percent — in the states we kept." He then added that, as of January 16th, the decision had been made to continue distributing to Connecticut after all. "It's probably 83 percent now."

He said the remaining 17 percent of sales were untenably split among the 32 states no longer in the brewery's plans. "They were in pretty steady decline," Hinkley said. "We were spending far too much in sales and marketing activities." He attributed the "hard decisions" to cut staff to that 17 percent loss in revenue.

Hinkley acknowledged that this is "definitely a step back" from the company's previous aspiration to be a national brand, but he no longer

Flash to corporate interests, he said, "It's not a plan to sell the company. That's for sure." He stopped short of saying it would never happen, citing the unpredictability of a rapidly changing craft-beer business. "The market is nothing like it was 2 years ago, 5 years ago, 15 years ago, when we started," he said. "Green Flash is still a good, strong business... but it remains to be seen whether we can survive as an independent brewery."

As of 2016, the Brewers Association counted Green Flash the 37th-largest craft brewery in the nation and the second largest in San Diego; 2017 marked its 15th year in business. It purchased the East County brewery, taproom, and restaurant **Alpine**



Green Flash was the country's 37th-largest craft brewery in 2016.

believes marketing to 50 states is attainable for a brewery with Green Flash's resources. "A brewery with greater resources, possibly one bought out by a big corporation, could make that leap," he speculated. "For an independently owned brewery, that ship may have sailed."

Asked to address rumors that arose last year suggesting Hinkley was looking to sell Green

Beer Company (2363 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine) in 2014, and he notes no employees of those Alpine properties will be impacted by the layoffs. Nor will retail employees at Green Flash tasting rooms. ■

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

SPRING VALLEY

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cafe 21: Monday-Saturday, Half off craft beer, mimosas, and sangria pitchers. 21% off organic cocktails. \$6 tapas. Sunday, 3-6pm: Half off craft beer, mimosas, and sangria pitchers. 21% off organic cocktails. \$6 tapas.

Great Maple: Monday-Friday, 5-6pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 cocktails.

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

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

Small Bar: Daily, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, well cocktails.

VISTA

Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6pm: \$6 wells, \$1 off wines by the glass and 16-oz. pints.

glasses, \$3 off wine bottles. Sunday, 10pm-midnight: Half-off appetizers and cocktails, \$1 off 22-oz. drafts and wine glasses, \$3 off wine bottles.

OCEAN BEACH

Mother's Saloon: Monday-Friday, 12noon-5pm: \$11 burger, beer & fries. 3-7pm: \$3 wells, \$1 off drafts, half off appetizers.

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

POINT LOMA

Banzai Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, wells, wine; \$2 sliders (cheese \$5.0).

Shanghai Bun: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off all draft beer; \$3 house wine; \$5 well drinks.

POWAY

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

ROLANDO

Effin's Pub & Grill: Daily, 4-5pm: Half off drinks and appetizers.

Ugly Dog: Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$1 off full pours, \$2 off pitchers.

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blurt the inside track

Year of the Snakes.

It was 25 years ago when major record label reps came to town to scout local bands like Inch, Lucy's Fur Coat, and Truman's Water. San Diego was called the "next Seattle," suggesting the local scene could produce a phalanx of heavy hitters just as Seattle birthed Nirvana and Pearl Jam on cue two years earlier. It never really happened here. But one local label/distributor, Cargo Music, glowed for a few years as the home of many of those hot bands, such as Rocket

formed with his longtime fellow singer/guitarist/songwriter Rick Froberg. The two formed Pitchfork in their teens and also fronted Drive Like Jehu. Three Hot Snakes records were released on Swami



Hot Snakes in the old days

"The [industrywide] vinyl bottleneck is not as bad as it was a few years ago." He says Froberg designed the artwork for *Jericho Sirens*. It features Hot Snakes bassist and surfer Gar Wood (Fishwife, Tanner, Beehive and the Barracudas) inside the tube of a wave. "Rick also designed the mirrored stickers that come with each album."

The drumming duties for Hot Snakes are shared by Mario Rubalcaba (Earthless, Rocket from the Crypt) and Jason Kourkounis (Night Marchers). Froberg, still based in New York, will reunite with the Hot Snakes for the March tour.

Sub Pop's Jacobs says he expects more 2018 tour dates to be announced. Hot Snakes appear March 7th at the Casbah. Sub Pop celebrates its 30-year anniversary with a free outdoor festival in August.

— Ken Leighton

Hey, kids — GET A CLUE! After graduating from Helix High School in 1985, Steve Moramarco left San Diego to study theater at UCLA. He befriended Jack Black in college and went

didn't get before."

Last week Jacobs announced Sub Pop would also be releasing a new studio record called *Jericho Sirens* right before a Hot Snakes tour in March. He says, "It was recorded in Philadelphia and at the Singing Serpent studios in San Diego."

Jacobs says since Sub Pop is hooked up with a pressing plant in Camarillo, it does not have a problem meeting vinyl deadlines.

on to front a series of bands, most of which featured bean-related names. First there was the folkie duo Hill of Beans (1988–1990), then there was just plain old Bean (1991–1993). Crying out to the heavens with the ultimate statement of bean evolution, Moramarco now fronts Superbean — an L.A. trio that is enjoying an unexpected blast of interest, thanks to a video for their song "Fuck Youth."

"I feel like I'm expressing frustration of our generation, aloud, that a lot of people have identified with. I personally think young people are great. I'm just saying 'fuck youth' as a concept. Our society is obsessed with youth culture, and that's a great time of our lives, which is so brief and fleeting. It's just wasted on the young. I'm just saying, 'Fuck youth. Enjoy your life, your whole life.'"

The video has over 300,000 views on Facebook and has resulted in Moramarco's most successful musical moment since Bean appeared on a split single with a pre-"Loser" Beck, circa 1993.

"People are messaging me all over the world, and they're commenting in different languages," Moramarco explained. "A Spanish-language fanzine posted an article on us and compared us to the Jam, Wire, and the Small Faces, and I was, like, 'Yes! That's what I want!' People seem to get this band."

Superbean has traditionally just played gigs around Moramarco's homebase of L.A., but the video has brought concert invites as well. One of these was for the Mods vs. Rockers event at Nicky Rotten's in Rancho San Diego on January 27th. It's a good fit, since Moramarco's vision for this version of Superbean is very mod, indeed.

"My childhood heroes were the Jam. I always loved

Paul Weller, the Rickenbackers, the suits, and the whole lifestyle. I just wanted to go back to that. Play some guitar. Play some power-pop. So we really sort of stuck to that model," Moramarco said.

Though he was a disciple



No ill will intended, youths, just get out there and enjoy life (Superbean)

of both the mod and Paisley Underground scenes while he was a student at Helix, Moramarco says he never played with any group that was anything more than a "living room band." He didn't start gigging out until he was in college, but he still managed to catch some great shows in San Diego while in his teens. This included a "half-full" REM show at SDSU during their *Murmur* tour, before the "Radio Free Europe" single had been released.

"Back in those days, downtown was a ghost town," Moramarco explained. "I think there was a club called Studio 517 where we used to go. The garage scene was really taking off at that time. We would see all the shows that Tim Mays would do. NE1 was the band that was the gem of San Diego."

— Dryw Keltz

Flogging will continue.

Practice sessions for Flogging Molly's Matt Hensley used to be a pain. He's been in North County for decades. The other six Celtic punkers lived in greater L.A.

Lately it's gotten a lot harder for the pro skater-turned-accordion player. "I'm the only guy in the band who lives in California now," says Hensley. "The singer and fiddle

player live in Ireland. The bassist and mandolin player in Colorado, and the drummer in Detroit."

Yet the Flogging Molly lineup somehow works, Hensley says. "We've had only two [member] changes in 26 years.... But

it does get hard to work on new material."

They leave this week for a five-week tour of Europe with Dropkick Murphys. "We had four [European tours] last year. We're always on the road. That's why it took so long to get the last record out."

Life Is Good, Flogging Molly's sixth studio album, was released last summer.

It's been almost five years since Hensley sold his own venue, Hensley's Flying Elephant (now the Stag & Lion), which was near his Carlsbad home. He liked the fact he could walk to his own bar where he could present his favorite artists like Exene and members of the Pogues. But after six years he admits bar ownership was like "walking on grenades." He says playing in a world-famous band and being responsible for keeping a bar/restaurant/venue afloat was not for him. "It left a horrible taste in my mouth for a while."

But last Wednesday (January 17th) Hensley had a full-circle moment: he played a local bar he had an ownership stake in and he didn't have to worry about paying the bills or broken tap handles. Along with Tony Hawk, Hensley has become a minority owner of Black Plague Brewing,

(continued on page 46)

HOT SNAKES JERICHO SIRENS

SUB
POP
SP1224



Gar Wood in the shack, on the new album cover

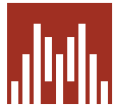
from the Crypt, Drive Like Jehu, and Uncle Joe's Big Ol Driver. While Cargo did cash in with blink-182's *Dude Ranch*, by 2010 the label was toast.

Two of those Cargo bands were Rocket from the Crypt and Drive Like Jehu, both launched by John Reis. Rocket drummer Mario Rubalcaba says he has "no idea" what happened to the masters for those Cargo releases.

Not thrilled with Cargo, Reis launched his own label, Swami Records. Its first release was 2000's *Automatic Midnight*, by Hot Snakes, the garagey yet complex side-project he

before the band broke up and Froberg moved to New York to pursue graphic design and form the band Obits.

Last year Sub Pop Records, the Seattle label known for its success with Nirvana, Soundgarden, the Shins, and the Postal Service, announced it would be re-releasing the three Hot Snakes records on CD, vinyl, cassette, and all digital formats. "In my opinion, those three Hot Snakes records were some of the best rock records of the last 20 years," says Sub Pop general manager Chris Jacobs. "I want those records to get the exposure they maybe



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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
MAIZ
LAYNE & THE NEW NATION
GINGER ROOTS ACOUSTIC

**FEB
01**



FRIDAY

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY PRESENTS
KRISTIN CHENOWETH

**FEB
02**



SATURDAY

REBEL SOULJAHZ
THE STEPPAS
CRSB

**FEB
03**



MONDAY

BERMUDA TRIANGLE
FT. BRITTANY HOWARD (ALABAMA
SHAKES), BECCA MANCARI, JESSE LAFSER

**FEB
05**

JUST ADDED

"Shadowplay" w/ DJ Viejo Lowbo and DJ Saul Q 2/8
KPBS pres. Ethan Bortnick "Generations of Music" w/ special guest Assia Ahhatt 3/11
Steely Damned 2 4/13 • Ekolu 5/10 • Mark Farina 6/1

COMING SOON

2/9 Ooklah the Moc	3/1 SuicideGirls: Blackheart Burlesque	3/22 Moon Hooch
2/10 Typhoon	3/2 Langhorne Slim w/ special guest Twain	3/23 RJD2
2/15 Yacht Rock Revue	3/7 K. Michelle: The People I Used to Know	3/24 Los Pericos
2/16 Como La Flor (Selena Tribute)	3/9 Talib Kweli: The Radio Silence Tour	3/29 Declan McKenna
2/17 Dorothy	3/10 Billie Eilish: Wheres My Mind Tour - Sold Out!	3/30 Whiskey Myers
2/18 Lotus	3/14 Gaby Moreno	3/31 The Oh Hellos
2/21 Julian Lage Trio - seated show	3/15 Emancipator Ensemble: 'Baralku' Tour	4/6 Autograf
2/22 Mike Pinto and Josh Heinrichs & Skillinjah	3/16 Morgan Leigh Band, The Delta Saints, Electric Mud	4/11 Bilal
2/23 Rob Garza DJ Set (Thievery Corporation)	3/17 DSB (Journey Tribute)	4/18 Alvvays
2/24 The Aggrolites feat. Slightly Stoopid Horns		4/20 Big K.R.I.T.: Heavy is the Crown
2/27 Real Estate		5/9 The Weepies: Hideaway 10 Year Anniversary
2/28 Burger A-Go-Go feat. Dengue Fever		5/11 Echomsmith: Inside a Dream

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



JOHNNY A
JIMMY WOODARD
THURSDAY 1/25



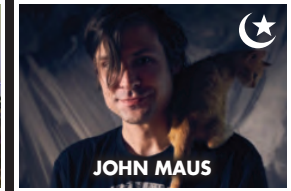
VAUD AND THE VILLAINS
TROUBLE IN THE WIND
FRIDAY 1/26



TAINED 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



LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBO
AN EVENING WITH
THURSDAY 2/1



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



ALO
JOHN CRAIGIE
SATURDAY 2/3



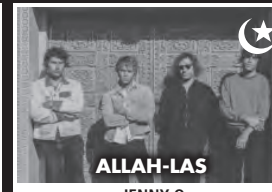
HOWARD JONES
RACHEL SAGE
MONDAY 2/5



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



DARING GREATLY & FRIENDS FT.
JIMMY & ENRIQUE
WEDNESDAY 2/7



ALLAH-LAS
JENNY O
THURSDAY 2/8



WAYWARD SONS
WAY COOL, JR.
FRIDAY 2/10



Sully & The Blue Eyed Soul Band 2/11
The Weight Band ft. members of The Band,
Levon Helm Band, Rick Danko Group 4/29
Ben Harper & Charlie Musselwhite 5/12 & 5/13 - pre-sale 1/25
Rufus Wainwright 5/24 - pre-sale 1/24 • Kimbra & Son Lux 5/26

Upcoming Shows:

1/26 Atomic Groove Happy Hour	2/28 Spafford	3/25 Brett Dennen
1/31 Tower of Power - Sold Out!	3/1 They Might Be Giants - Sold Out!	3/29 Galactic
2/14 Six String Society pres. Casey Hensley Band	3/2 Margo Price	3/30 Yonder Mountain String Band
2/14 Lettuce & The Motet @ Observatory	3/3 Anderson East	3/31 The Mother Hips
2/15 Stephanie Brown & The Surrealistics	3/4 Stone Temple Pilots @ Observatory - Sold Out!	4/3 Arlo Guthrie: The Re:Generation Tour
2/16 & 17 The English Beat	3/6 The Psychedelic Furs - Sold Out!	4/4 Brian Fallon & The Howling Weather
2/18 Betamaxx Presidents' Weekend Flashback Party	3/7 Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band - Sold Out!	4/7 Jefferson Starship - Sold Out!
2/19 Mike Gordon	3/8 Antibalas	4/12 Elephant Revival
2/20 Shovels & Rope - Seated Show	3/9 Dead Man's Party (Oingo Boingo Tribute)	4/16 Ibeyi
2/22 The Wood Brothers	3/10 & 11 G. Love & Special Sauce	4/20 & 21 Super Diamond (Neil Diamond Tribute)
2/23 Bahamas - Sold Out!	3/15 Rachael Yamagata - Seated Show	4/22 Los Lonely Boys
2/24 Banding Together's Greatest Hits Matinee	3/16 The Infamous Stringdusters	5/3 Baths
2/24 Steve Poltz 9th Annual 50th Birthday Party	3/17 Beatles vs. Stones ft. Abbey Road & Jumping Jack Flash	5/6 Keb' Mo' - Sold Out!
2/25 Herb Alpert and Lani Hall - Seated Show	3/18 Walter Trout	5/7 Keb' Mo' - Seated Show
2/26 Snarky Puppy - Sold Out!	3/22 & 23 Phillip Phillips - Sold Out!	5/8 Rogue Wave
2/27 Burger A-Go-Go ft. The Coathangers	3/23 The Main Squeeze @ Casbah	5/14 Nada Surf
	3/24 Brett Dennen - Sold Out!	5/17 Pedro The Lion
		5/28 Madeleine Peyroux
		7/15 Paul Thorn

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located in the Tri-City area of Oceanside that started hosting live music last summer. Hensley played with Brogue Wave, his San Diego-based Irish music side project that, compared to Flogging Molly, is more trad and less thrash.

“Now I have a place I can go locally and just play music,” he says. “The only hesitation I had was the name Black Plague. It seemed like it had a negative connotation. But look at Death Wish Coffee: it’s really good coffee. Black Plague is all about skaters



Matt Hensley (left) rides the Brogue Wave at Black Plague

coming together for good beer and music.”

Flogging Molly appears March 14th at the North

Park Observatory.
— Ken Leighton

Imagery Machine recasts. “We’re going to be releasing a new song every month in 2018,” says Imagery Machine singer Jennie Lynn. “We call the project the Monthly Machine.... The band came to the conclusion that trying to put out higher quality recorded songs with better production would help us more in the long run than playing the same bars over and over again.” The songs will be out on the second Monday of each month, streaming via Spotify and the band’s website.

Tunes being tracked in El Cajon with Sean Tolley at Clarity Recordings feature

Grim Slippers to play bass for them. Former singer Daechelle Hernandez, who’d only recently returned to Imagery Machine, has left again to pursue a solo

career that kicked off with her Gef-fen Records single, “Fearless,” heard in the film *Bratz*. Her departure seems unrelated to the title of their first Monthly Machine single, “She’s Gone,” which kicks right in with a vintage-sounding siren torch song, somewhat of a departure from the music they debuted with just three

years ago.

“Earlier [Imagery Machine] had a more defined reggae sound, but we’re moving away from that for a modern rock foundation,” says Lynn. “The new songs have more elements of dream pop, with ethereal harmonies and vintage effects.”

The shift away from reggae may seem surprising, given the national press seems to have declared island music to be today’s “San Diego sound,” thanks to local acts such as Tribal Seeds and Hirie recently topping the reggae charts. “We love reggae, and it’s a very popular sound in San Diego,” says drummer Tyler Shimkis. “Unfortunately, we’re a band that has always ridden the line between rock and reggae, and with that come challenges in

meeting expectations live or in recording when you’re labeled as such. A reggae

expect at a show: a vibey, driven, beat-oriented rock band. We’re looking for a



Imagery Machine shifts out of the reggae mode

fan who comes to show may not have liked our harder rocking songs, and a rock fan might not be so into the slower, beat-y reggae songs.”

“We’re trying to meet people in the middle, so they know exactly what to

sound that can be played on any radio station.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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

<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 24 JESSICA LEA MAYFIELD SUN SEEKER</p> <p>THURSDAY • JAN 25 THE DEEP DARK WOODS THE MIDNIGHT PINE</p> <p>FRIDAY • JAN 26 TAKEN BY CANADIANS CREATURE AND THE WOODS BAD VIBES DJ LEXICON DEVIL OPERATION: MINDBLOW</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 27 SIGHTS AND SAGES THE PARAGRAPHS FASHION JACKSON</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 28 FLAMINGOSIS • DJ TAYE</p> <p>MONDAY • JAN 29 TUESDAY • JAN 30 WEDNESDAY • JAN 31 PINBACK</p> <p>THURSDAY • FEB 1 THE STONE FOXES ANDREW MCKEAG BAND THE BASSICS</p> <p>FRIDAY • FEB 2 EXMAG • BASS PHYSICS</p>	<p>THE Casbah</p> <p>COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • casbahmusic.com</p> <p>SATURDAY • FEB 3 EARLY 11AM - VINYL JUNKIES RECORD SWAP</p> <p>9PM - THE CREEPY CREEPS FORD MADDOX FORD THE LOONS</p> <p>MONDAY • FEB 5 WESTERN SCENE STATE TO STATE THE ANOMALY</p> <p>TUESDAY • FEB 6 POLUX • ARIEL LEVINE HAIL HAIL</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • FEB 7 THE WIND AND THE WAVE</p> <p>THURSDAY • FEB 8 OPEN OSCILLATOR SHOWCASE</p>	<p>FRIDAY • FEB 9 THE SCHIZOPHONICS JASON HANNA AND THE BULLFIGHTERS</p> <p>SATURDAY • FEB 10 FU MANCHU</p> <p>SUNDAY • FEB 11 THE PHENOMENAUTS PRIMA DONNA • SORAIA</p> <p>MONDAY • FEB 12 MOCHILERO ALLSTARS MALACHI HENRY AND THE LIGHTS CREW D'ETAT BRASS BAND</p> <p>TUESDAY • FEB 13 DJ ARTISTIC'S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • FEB 14 CHUCK RAGAN JESSE LAMONACA</p> <p>THURSDAY • FEB 15 MARY TIMONY PLAYS HELIUM ALLISON CRUTCHFIELD</p> <p>FRIDAY • FEB 16 GAMEFACE</p> <p>SATURDAY • FEB 17 HA HA TONKA</p>
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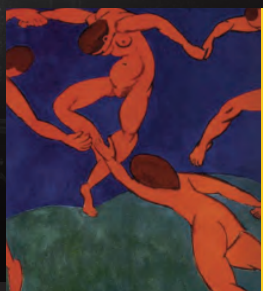
<p>THU, JAN 25 SKINLAB Pissing Razors, Shattered Sun, Aghori</p>	<p>BRICK X BRICK</p>	<p>SAT, FEB 17 TRAUMA The Bastard Saints, Vanguard</p>
<p>FRI, JAN 26 HAMMERFALL Cage, Battlefront, Nightshadow, Warpath</p>		<p>THU, FEB 22 EYEHATEGOD Final Conflict, Deep Sea Thunder Beast, Fantasy Arcade</p>
<p>SAT, JAN 27 SOLD OUT CONVERGE SUMAC, Cult Leader, Fireburn</p>	<p>THU, FEB 08 ZEBRA Snew, Taz Taylor</p>	<p>FRI, FEB 23 SEPTICFLESH Dark Funeral, Thy Antichrist, Helsott, Sergulath</p>
<p>FRI, FEB 02 CORE 10 Squirrely Arts, The Flood Finding THETIS</p>	<p>SAT, FEB 10 TIM RIPPER OWENS Cage, Bunch of Heathens</p>	<p>MON, FEB 26 YEAR OF THE COBRA Desert Suns, Nebula Drag</p>
<p>SAT, FEB 03 JOE LYNN TURNER Symbolic, RDG, Sledd</p>	<p>THU, FEB 15 BLACK PUSSY Amigo, Space Wax, Well Well Well</p>	<p>SAT, MAR 3 MURKOCET Motive, The No Name Gang, The Killing Word, Defy The Tyrants</p>

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BEYOND THE SCORE®:
THE ISLE OF THE DEAD

FRI | FEB 9, 8PM

Have you ever thought about going to a classical concert, but not sure if you would like it? Then we have the concert for you! Beyond the Score®, a special type of concert, uses actors and video to dramatize the "behind the scenes" story of one piece of music. In this concert, we look at Rachmaninoff's famous piece, *Isle of the Dead*, which was inspired by a luminous painting – which you'll learn all about before the symphony performs the piece.

Tickets start at just \$25. Give it a try!



PRELUDES
AND PREMIERE

SAT | FEB 10, 8PM

SUN | FEB 11, 2PM

This concert opens with **Franz Liszt's** most popular tone poem, in which he paints feelings rather than pictures in a series of delightfully contrasting episodes built from a few simple themes. Violinist Anne Akiko Meyers then offers the world premiere of *Orchard in Fog*, a melodic and lovely violin concerto written just for her by acclaimed young American composer **Adam Schoenberg**. The program concludes with **Jean Sibelius'** hopeful, life-affirming Symphony No. 5, composed as Europe was recovering from the First World War.

TICKETS & INFORMATION | SANDIEGOSYMPHONY.ORG

JUST ANNOUNCED

The Six String Society presents local songstress **Casey Hensley** at the Belly Up on February 14, where the bluesy soul singer will perform a Valentine's Day concert of lovestruck and lovelorn classics, obscurities, and originals. While still a teen, Hensley fronted Chasing Norman, featuring students from the Vista School of Rock, before striking out on her own

with the Casey Hensley Band, alongside her life partner and drummer Evan Caleb, son of the late blues diva Candye Kane. Hensley had a banner year in 2017, headlining the Ojai Blues Festival, appearing at Gator by the Bay, playing the Doheny Blues Fest, as well as touring the Pacific Northwest to Seattle and back. Vizztone Records recently released *Casey Hensley Live Featuring Laura Chavez*, recorded in one take at Thunderbird Analog Recording Studios in Oceanside with Kane's ex-husband/Caleb's dad, Thomas Yearsley. It's a solid album that demonstrates an impressive set of vocal chops for someone in their mid-20s, as well as breaking out some surprisingly rock-and-roll guitar from time to time, mostly courtesy of Chavez, who also played on Candye Kane's final studio album. The Valentine's setlist is likely to include several tracks from *Live Featuring Laura*, including "I Just Want to Make Love to You" and "Ball and Chain," with the latter known to run over ten minutes at Hensley's jam-filled live shows.

J-Pop fans can thank Tim Mays for finally bringing **Chai** to the Casbah on March 12, where the four-piece female band from Nagoya City, Japan, will make their San Diego debut. Chai's memorable single and video for "Gyaran-Boo" is almost surely what brought the ladies to Mays's attention. Though the foursome was founded



CASEY HENSLEY AT BELLY UP ON FEBRUARY 14

in 2012 (before one of them had even learned to play an instrument), it's only been since their recent *Hottaraka-Series* EP and related video promos that you could find out anything about the band online that didn't need to be translated from Japanese.

That seems to be because the self-represented quartet actually bypassed Japan

entirely, instead launching the EP on international platforms (iTunes, Spotify, Amazon Prime, etc.) and thus actually scored chart positions in the UK and elsewhere. I enjoy the so-serious-it's-silly look of their music videos (usually featuring them all in matching one-color uniforms), but I wanted to see what their Casbah show might be like, so I watched several concert clips from small rooms like the Amoeba Records store in San Francisco to last summer's full Rookie A Go-Go set, which has racked up over 100,000 views. Their act is probably best described as Josie & the Pussycats crossed with the Pretenders, as choreographed by an octogenarian marching-band director. Not something you see every day in Midtown.



ALWAYS AT MUSIC BOX ON APRIL 18

Canadian five-piece **Always** managed to impress with their first self-recorded demos, getting themselves signed to Polyvinyl Records and

hopping onto the musical merry-go-round in hopes of grabbing that same great white northern brass ring that has so enriched Barenaked Ladies and the Tragically Hip. Frontwoman Molly Rankin grew up watching her dad fiddle with the famed Celtic folk group the Rankin Family. After forming Always, a decidedly more rocking (but still as much traditional) ensemble, she booked a South by Southwest showcase that led to their Polyvinyl deal and a self-titled debut album. The first blip they made on the



CHAI AT CASBAH ON MARCH 12

national radar was a single from that record, "Archie, Marry Me," but their sophomore follow-up full-length from three months back, *Antisocialites*, seems a much more polished, mature, and cohesive effort, despite the lack (so far) of any standout singles or notable chart activity. You may want to give the up-and-coming jangle-pop band a shot by catching them April 18 at the Music Box, with tix running a mere 18 to 20 bucks. For that, you also get an opening set from rocker girl Frankie Rose, a founding member of Dum Dum Girls with a new solo album to sell you, *Cage Tropical*.

It's a double-barrel team-up at Observatory North Park on May 9, where **Afghan Whigs** and **Built to Spill** will both perform headline sets. Slightly grungy and mighty soulful, the Cincinnati-based Whigs mostly disappeared from 2001 through 2011, but they've released two new albums since reuniting, including their eighth studio album from last year, *In Spades*. If recent setlists are any indication, expect much of that album, as well as covers of songs by the Supremes,



AFGHAN WHIGS AND BUILT TO SPILL AT OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK ON MAY 9

Frank Ocean, Prince, the Fugees, and maybe even Pink Floyd's *The Wall*, which they've been known to play in its entirety. Built to Spill will be leaning heavily on their most recent Warner Brothers release, *Untethered Moon*, their first album in six years and the first to feature new bassist Jason Albertini and drummer Steve Gere. The bill includes British singer-songwriter Ed Harcourt, who cites among his influences Tom Waits, Jeff Buckley, and Nick Cave.

Tickets go on sale Friday, January 26, for one half of the White Stripes, **Jack White**, who'll play Viejas Arena on August 21, in support of his solo album *Boarding House Reach*. The record doesn't come out until March, with only one preview single available, "Connected by Love." It's a bluesy organ-heavy number promoted



JACK WHITE AT VIEJAS ARENA ON AUGUST 21

with a noir-ish video that opens with a guy shaving his head before spinning thru scenes of what looks to be a conflicted love affair that he hopes to rekindle, punctuated by shots of White pleading the lyrics and shaking his fists at the walls of a barren hotel room. For this tour, White says he's trying to keep ticket prices low, with seats going for 59 to 79 bucks, which is mid-range for rock shows at the SDSU campus venue formerly known as Cox Arena.

Also just announced is this year's Jazz at the Athenaeum winter series, a quartet of concerts at La Jolla's nonprofit music-and-arts museum that opens February 9 with saxophonist **Ralph Moore**, who played with *The Tonight Show* band from 1995

through 2010 and will be accompanied by pianist Eric Reed (Wynton Marsalis Septet) and drummer Willie Jones III. The series continues with the Dave King Trio (February 15), Ben Allison & Think Free (February 22), and Claudia Villela with Kenny Werner (March 2).



RALPH MOORE QUARTET AT ATHENAEUM MUSIC AND ARTS LIBRARY ON FEBRUARY 9

— Jay Allen Sanford

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Calendar

MUSIC SCENE

You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

710 Beach Club:

Friday, 9pm — Jet West, Ease Up, Sandollar.
Saturday, 8pm — Electric Mud.
Tuesday, 9pm — Cherry Road.
Free.

AMSConcerts:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dave Stamey.

Air Conditioned Lounge:

Thursday, 9pm — SubDrip.

Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 6pm — Amy & the Unknown.
Saturday, 6pm — New Leaf.

BK Cellars Urban Winery & Tasting Lounge:

Sunday, 2pm — Eric Daniel.

BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Friday, 6:30pm — Ron's Garage Band.

Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dariush.
\$60-\$200.

Bancroft:

Thursday, 9pm — Missie Page & the Rifftones. Free.
Friday, 8pm — Lolita and Smarter Than Robots.
Saturday, 8pm — Year of the Dead Bird.
Sunday, 8pm — Some Kind Of Nightmare and Sculpins.

Bar Pink:

Thursday, 9pm — The Anomaly and Black Cat Sabbath.
Friday, 8pm — Forest Grove and Blood Ponies.
Saturday, 8pm — Funk Manifesto's Coming Out Party.
Sunday, 9pm — Rat Sabbath with DJ Ratty.
Monday, 9pm — Tori Roze & the Hot Mess.
Tuesday, 9pm — DJ Angie.
Wednesday, 9pm — Strangers in a Fire.

Bassmnt:

Friday, 8pm — Bassmnt Fridays.
Saturday, 8pm — Lookas.

Beaumont's:

Friday, 9pm — Dave Gleason Trio.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Johnny A. \$22-\$39.
Friday, 8pm — Vaud & the Villains. \$18-\$20.
Saturday, 8pm — Tainted Love and DJ Scotto. \$22-\$39.
Sunday, 8pm — Infinite Floyd. \$12-\$14.
Monday, 8pm — John Maus. \$15-\$27.
Tuesday, 5pm — Atomic Groove.
Tuesday, 7pm — Chef Bands. \$30-\$100.
Wednesday, 8pm — Tower of Power. \$50-\$88.

Blonde Bar:

Thursday, 9pm — Part Time and Los Blenders.
Saturday, 9pm — Santiago

OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Live electro-fusion throwdown: in the band Kung Fu's own words, they describe themselves as a part of the new-funk movement. Not that funk didn't need revising — it did. Consider that the funk of old was often just about a groove. Sometimes, two notes would suffice, as long as they were the right notes. That kind of minimalism in and of itself took some artistry of a kind not required by new-funk.

Kung Fu, a jazz/funk/fusion band, is more about an EDM approach to old fusion: electric jazz from the likes of Weather Report or Miles Davis set into a jam band's framework. It's a noisy, eclectic ride. Kung Fu has been a festival favorite for the past five years or so. Originally from Con-

necticut, the original members formed after a jam session, as the story goes, in 2009.

Last year Kung Fu toured the East Coast and Midwest as part of the Fez Tour. They split their set into half original music and half Steely Dan covers. Among musicians, Steely Dan tunes are held as something of a gold standard for their melodic complexity: that Kung Fu could play them and play them well says much about their instrumental chops. Slightly less funky than Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, more EDM than Lettuce, Kung Fu is Tim Palmieri on guitars and vocals, tenor saxist Robert Somerville, Beau Sasser on keys, bass guitarist Chris DeAngelis, and Adrian Tramontano on drums.

In the final analysis, the new-funk band thing comes down to that endless one-chord jam. Again, not a new musical device. No, Phish did not invent the form. Think James Brown, way deep in the 1960s, for the source. And if



KUNG FU

good old Sly Stone taught us anything, the trick of funk is to take us en masse to the edge of boredom with that one chord and make us dance. Yeah. Kung Fu's got that.

KUNG FU: Thursday, January 25, Winstons, 619-222-6822, 9:30 p.m., \$15 advance, \$18 day of show (guests tba)

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

Salazar. \$7-\$10.

Sunday, 9pm — Hideouts and Hard To Hit.

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm — Good Music for Good People.
Friday, 8pm — Mindz Alike.
Saturday, 8pm — The Hangtight.
Sunday, 7pm — Sunday Hangover.

Bourre Southern Bistro:

Saturday, 7pm — Holly Hofmann.

Bread & Salt:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Fresh Sound: Percussion Lovfest. \$10-\$20.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, 8pm — Skinlab.
Friday, 8pm — Hammerfall. \$30-\$35.
Saturday, 8pm — Converge and Sumac. \$22-\$25.

Cafe 21:

Thursday, 7pm — Flamenco Night. Free.

Saturday, 7pm — Bossa Nova with Stephanie & Marcus.

Sunday, 7pm — Rumba with Bruno Serrano.

Wednesday, 7pm — Sister Speak.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Saturday, 6pm — Steam Powered Giraffe. \$20-\$80.
Sunday, 2pm — Pacific Coast Horns Brass Quintet.
Tuesday & Wednesday, 7:30pm

— Shen Yun Chinese Music and Dance. \$80-\$180.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — The Deep Dark Woods. \$12-\$14.
Friday, 8pm — Taken by Canadians and Creature & the Woods. \$10.
Saturday, 8pm — Sights & Sages and Aviator Stash. \$7.
Sunday, 8pm — Flamingosis. \$15.
Monday, 8pm — Pinback and

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 REVEREND HORTON HEAT SUN, JAN 28	 DVSN MON, JAN 29
 PASSION PIT THU, FEB 1	 STRFKR FRI, FEB 2
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2/9 — JA RULE & ASHANTI	2/17 — GRAMATIK
2/10 — THE GREEN	2/19 — DAN AUERBACH
2/11 — 2/15 — CAIFANES	2/20 — TUNE-YARDS
2/14 — LETTUCE	2/22 — SEVDALIZA

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Saturday, 7pm — Lola Demure's Burlesque & Variety Show. \$25-\$35.

Sunday, 9pm — Mario Aguilar. \$52-\$102.

Wednesday, 4pm — DJ Mike White. Free.

Kava Lounge:

Friday, 9pm — Omega Squad.
Saturday, 9pm — Party Like A Bollywood Star. \$8-\$12.

Kensington Club:

Saturday, 8pm — Marujah.

Kraken:

Saturday, 3pm — Rat Motor.
Wednesday, 8pm — Robert Cowan.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Friday, 6pm — Los Reyes.
Saturday, 6pm — Whitney Shay.
Monday, 6pm — Oscar Aragon.
Tuesday, 6pm — Elliott Lawrence. Free.
Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.

Loft:

Thursday, 8pm — Liz Vice. \$23-\$30.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:

Saturday, 8:30pm — Sonic Tonic and Kes O'Hara.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:

Wednesday, 8pm — Dina Martina. \$25-\$30.

Merrow:

Friday, 9pm — Trick and DJ Mateo Segade. \$10.
Saturday, 8pm — Mystic Ritual and Funeral Chant. \$5.
Monday, 8pm — Marbin. \$10.
Tuesday, 9pm — Neon Dreams. \$10.

Mike Hess Brewing North Park:

Wednesday, 7pm — Choral Consortium of San Diego: Beer Choir. \$12.

Modern Times Lomaland Fermentarium:

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

San Diego Symphony — beastmasters and beat-downs

We are in an Olympic year, which means we will care, for a minute, about sports and events that are out of sight, out of mind four years at a time. Yet to those individuals who compete in a sport such as bobsled or curling, it's an everyday thing.

I think the same thing can be said of percussion soloists such as San Diego's Steven Schick. He was the soloist for the San Diego Symphony concerts on January 13th and 14th.

Percussion is an everyday event for Schick, but for the rest of us? Not so much. When we rose to our feet to applaud after Schick's performance of *Con madera, metal y cuero*, by Roberto Sierra, it was in recognition of his abilities.

The music itself was

occasionally impressive but ultimately tedious. As much as I admire Maestro Schick as a conductor and performer, there is no getting around the fact that percussion is limited when it comes to emotional content.

The setting also defeated the purpose of the percussion. If we were in a situation that compelled us to get up and move with the rhythms that would be one thing, but just sitting still and listening to percussion can only take one so far. Where it took me was to admiration for the abilities of the musicians and no further.

If I'd gotten up, stripped off most of my clothes, and started a fire, then we'd be closer to an authentic experience of percussion. Maybe

next time.

Conducting the concert was Venezuelan dynamo Rafael Payare. The setting did not keep him from moving. Of the conductors we've seen this season, Payare is — by far — the most demonstrative.

A demonstrative conductor can ignite an orchestra and the audience so long as the demonstration is grounded and makes sense. From where I was sitting, that was the case with Payare: not only was he authentically demonstrative, he also conveyed a deep respect for the music. There was a focus and purpose to his conducting that I found to be compelling.

The repertoire entrusted to Payare, besides the



Venezuelan dynamo Rafael Payare

percussion concerto, was Berlioz's *Roman Carnival* and Prokofiev's *Symphony No. 5*. Both were excellent.

If Prokofiev's 5th is a beast, then Payare and the San Diego Symphony are beastmasters. The first two movements were colossal, and then we came to the third movement. In this movement there were moments of ecstasy and moments that lasted too long for the

feeble-minded, as a minor evacuation occurred at the conclusion of the movement.

Too bad, so sad for the timid, because they missed the exuberant violence of Prokofiev's finale. The symphony ends with a great deal of energy, but that energy feels more like a beat-down than a triumph. Yet the concert, as a whole, could not have been more triumphant.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Saturday, 10:30am — Metal Yoga. \$15.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Chaos Theory. Free.
Saturday, 9pm — Barbwire. Free.

Music Box:

Friday, 9pm — Stepping Feet. \$15-\$17.
Sunday, 7pm — Lee "Scratch" Perry and Subatomic Sound System. \$20-\$25.
Wednesday, 9pm — Gilberto Santa Rosa. \$55-\$60.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 9pm — Straitjacket.
Saturday, 9pm — I-90.
Sunday, 6pm — The Innocent Bystanders and Limited Jurisdiction.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, 7:30pm — Rob Bell and Pete Rollins.
Saturday, 7pm — St. Vincent. \$44.

Sunday, 8pm — Reverend Horton Heat. \$5-\$20.
Monday, 8pm — DVSN. \$18-\$20.

Office:

Monday, 9pm — The Who Under Cover.

Omnia San Diego:

Thursday, 9:30pm — DJ Jauz.
Friday, 9:30pm — Bassjacks. Free.
Saturday, 9:30pm — Crankdat. Free.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:

Friday, 7pm — Southland Soul. Free.
Saturday, 7pm — Bayou Brothers.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:

Sunday, 3pm — Big Band Sundays! \$10.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Thursday, 8pm — Brennon

Orndorff.
Friday, 9pm — Bedbreakers.
Saturday, 9pm — Tori Roze & the Hot Mess.

Sanctuary Lounge:

Sunday, 7pm — Patrick Yandall. \$15-\$20.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Grace Mitchell. \$12.
Friday, 8pm — Zeros and Strangers In A Strange Land. \$12.
Saturday, 8pm — Twin Ritual and Watch For Horses. \$5-\$8.
Sunday, 8pm — Piebald. \$20.
Monday, 8pm — The Lillingtons and the Last Gang. \$15.
Tuesday, 8pm — Naïveté. Free.
Wednesday, 8pm — Prawn and Caravela. \$10.

Soma:

Tuesday, 7pm — Anti-Flag and Stray From the Path.

Spin Nightclub:

Saturday, 9pm — Warehouse Takeover: Lunice. \$10-\$15.

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:

Thursday, 8pm — Blue Oyster Cult. \$49-\$59.
Friday, 8pm — Mötley 2. \$10-\$15.

Til-Two:

Friday, 9pm — New Crimes and Christ Killer.
Saturday, 9pm — Shake the Baby Til the Love Comes Out. \$6.
Tuesday, 9pm — Fetid and Mortiferum. \$6-\$8.

Tin Roof San Diego:

Friday, 6pm, Saturday, 7pm — Chad & Rosie.
Friday, 9pm — Keep Your Soul.
Monday, 8pm — Lauren Leigh and Sam.
Tuesday, 8pm — Tay Watts.
Wednesday, 8pm — Kenny Eng & Rob Deez.

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8pm — Blue Largo.
Friday, 8pm — Kicks.
Saturday, 8pm — The Clairemonsters.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Sue Palmer.
Wednesday, 4pm — Leonard Spins Vinyl.

Tower Bar:

Friday, 9pm — Tiltwheel and the Waste Aways.
Saturday, 9pm — The Serotonin Experiment and Que Oso. \$5.

Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:

Friday, 9:30pm — Big Boss Bubaleh. Free.
Sunday, 8pm — Middle-Earth Ensemble Belly Dance Show.

Valley View Casino Center:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — The Killers. \$48-\$98.

Viejas Arena:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Pepe Aguilar. \$41-\$220.

West Coast Tavern:

Friday, 8pm — Dom King.
Saturday, 8pm — DJ Schoeny.
Sunday, 8pm — DJ Billy the Kid.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Thursday, 12pm — Nathan & Jessie.
Friday, 12pm — Dustin Jake.
Saturday, 12pm — Marcela Mendez.
Sunday, 12pm — Sam & Stacy.

Whistle Stop Bar:

Saturday, 9pm — Booty Bassment.

Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 9pm — Kung Fu.
Friday, 8pm — New Kingston.
Saturday, 9pm — Joe Marcinek and the Moves Collective.
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Tuesday, 9pm — A Little Louder and Drinkin' For Jesus.
Wednesday, 9pm — Club Kingston: Synrgy, DJ Carlos Culture.



LIVE MUSIC & DANCING


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Fri 1/26 Kicks
Sat 1/27 The Clairemonsters
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Tue 1/30 Sue Palmer
Thu 2/1 GINO AND THE LONE GUNMEN
Fri 2/2 Graceland "The Voice of Elvis"
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Soldier on

In *Hostiles*, director and cowriter Scott Cooper re-teams with his *Out of the Furnace* star Christian Bale to tell the story of Captain Joseph J. Blocker, a man of war facing a violent transition — physically and otherwise — to peacetime living. After a lifetime spent killing because those were his orders, he is ordered to preserve the life of his bitterest enemy, an ailing Cheyenne who wants to die on his home turf and needs

protection for the journey. To complicate matters, the caravan picks up a pioneer woman (Rosamund Pike) who has just endured the slaughter of her family by the natives. Bale nails the portrayal of Blocker's cold hatred, honed by experience, bound by a strict code, and tempered — perhaps in both senses — by a fierce intelligence. Throughout, a great deal is communicated even as very little is said. By turns deliberative and chaotic, brutal and merciful, definitely bleak and just maybe hopeful.

A friendly chat with Christian Bale about *Hostiles*:

Matthew Lickona: You made *Out of the Furnace* with director and cowriter

Scott Cooper in 2013, and now you're working with him again. What do you like about it?

Christian Bale: He's very open to my ideas. We start long before filming, right from the get-go, through every single scene. It seems to work well.

ML: In particular, I'm guessing, in the development of your character, Captain Blocker.

CB: Captain Blocker is a man of few words who is very comfortable with few words.

I liked very much that through the whole story, you really learned about Blocker through the characters around him. He's fascinated by Rosalie, who is as incredibly damaged as he is, but who is far freer in expressing it. He hates the Cheyenne warrior Yellow Hawk because he's seen his brothers in arms killed by him. But he also has respect for him, because he knows he would behave exactly the same way. And he recognizes that Yellow Hawk has a family, has substance, and that without Yellow Hawk, he himself doesn't have any purpose. He's defined by his enemy.

ML: Okay, let's talk about a couple of



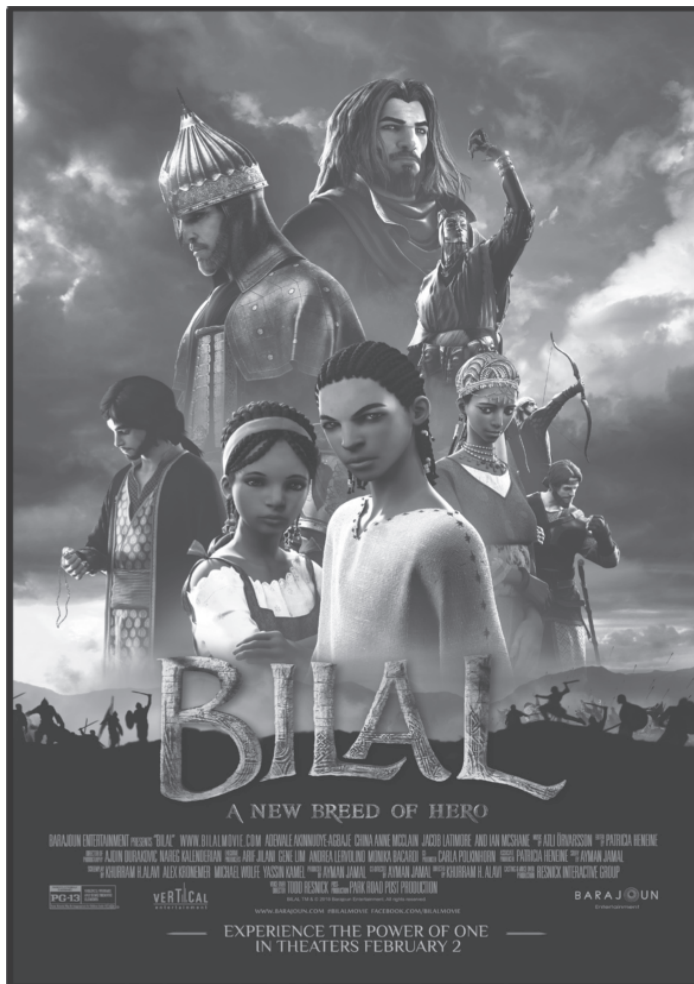
Hostiles: Christian Bale breaks out his thousand-yard stare for Scott Cooper's story about killing and what it does to a man.

the other characters around Blocker. In the opening scene, Master Sergeant Metz says to Blocker, "I got the melancholy," and Blocker replies, "There's no such thing." What does he make of his friend Metz, then?

CB: He's been through what Metz has been through. He's seen his men go

through the same thing. He knows it exists. But as the captain, he says that it does not exist. And he makes a huge statement about that when Metz says, "They took my guns," and then on the parade ground, Blocker hands him his guns back. That was something I brought in; I was making a film in

late 2004, early 2005, and I was reading the *Army Times* quite a lot. I was pleasantly surprised: they were talking about PTSD and military suicides far more than the conventional media. And I went down and met with a Marine recon team at Camp Pendleton — those guys are out in front of ev-



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Calendar MOVIES

everybody — and I mentioned PTSD, and they said, “There’s no such thing.” What I found was that when you spoke with them as a group, they said it didn’t exist, because they do not want to be the one who shows vulnerability that then becomes infectious. But when you spoke with them one-on-one, they said, “Yes, it’s there, but I don’t want to talk about it, because I need to hold it together.” I relayed that to Scott.

ML: Later, he has Sergeant Wills tied to a tree, held prisoner for murder. Wills says that it could as easily be Blocker tied to the tree, and Blocker counters that he was just doing his job. Does he believe that somehow absolves him? **CB:** No. He knows that Wills was a good soldier. It was just a matter of time and place. That stems from a conversation I had with Scott about my namesake, a Private Bales in Afghanistan. He left his post and went out and massacred an Afghan family. That’s why Wills brings up Wounded Knee, where there were massacres of women and children. Blocker was involved with that, and he would understand that the guilt would be equal. There are some fascinating letters from generals who were involved with Wounded

Knee and who have objections about it. So the film is a journey in an attempt to see if he can have any sort of usefulness outside of killing.

ML: One of the places where Blocker does seem to let himself show is in his attention to, and discussion of, religious faith. He studies Scripture and professes belief but can’t imagine God having much to do with the world.

CB: We discussed that a great deal as well. I don’t think it’s in the film, but there was a scene where it came out that Blocker, after the Civil War, wished to become a theology student. But by this point, while he doesn’t want to let go of the possibility of faith, because it holds a hope for something better and a hope for the friends who he has lost, he hasn’t seen evidence of it through his years of witnessing death. Whereas Rosalie is absolutely holding on to her faith, because otherwise, she sees no reason to go on living. When he speaks to her, there’s the desire to be honest, but also the recognition of how much it means to her. He doesn’t want to destroy that belief, even though it’s been eroded in him.

(More of this interview can be found on “The Big Screen” at sandiegoreader.com.)

— Matthew Lickona

Bring the kids to this riot

The San Diego Chapter of the Laurel

and Hardy Fan Club aka Saps at Sea, open their 40th season on January 27 with another riotous one-night mini-festival.

“I usually try to make each program a theme,” says John Field, chapter president, festival organizer, and all-around Grand Sheik. “In this case it’s ‘Laurel and Hardy Flirt with Females... And Live to Regret It.’” Field chose a trio of thematically linked shorts — *We Faw Down*, *Mixed Nuts*, and *Chickens Come Home* — all highlighting what happens “when the boys venture outside their marriages and do a little harmless flirting. Needless to say, it backfires hilariously.”

There are also a couple of “surprise” shorts and a Tex Avery cartoon to round out the program.

I must confess to not coming around to the genius of Laurel and Hardy until well into my 40s. A MoPA member left in my care several filing boxes containing VHS copies of every one of the shorts and features the duo had appeared in. For the next however many months, I spent my nights logging at least two shorts or a feature, all in chronological order.

It’s not like the films were out of circulation during my formative years. A local UHF outlet showed a block of Laurel & Hardy shorts every Saturday and Sunday afternoon. It’s just that compared to the Warner Bros. car-

toons, Marx Bros. features, and Three Stooges shorts I cut my teeth on, the Laurel and Hardy offerings seemed slow and repetitive, as if each of their shorts were nothing more than two or three gags stretched over a 20-minute period.

How does one chide Stan and Ollie for being repetitive while savoring every Stoooge eye-poke and gag rehashed without variation? Let’s say I found room in my heart for all. Who am I kidding? Compared to Moe, Larry, and Curly, Laurel and Hardy stretched gags to the unlimited.

Groucho called Leo McCarey “the only director we ever worked with,” but it didn’t occur to me until much later in life that the genius who signed *Duck Soup* was also the man responsible for teaming Stan and Ollie. McCarey spent a good deal of his early years acting as their mentor and guiding light. The silent short *We Faw Down*, a sterling example of McCarey’s perception of the boys, will be presented with live musical accompaniment by Russ Peck.

Chickens Come Home is not only one of the boys’ funniest shorts, it’s as timely as today’s headlines. “Fertilizer King” Ollie thinks his chances at a mayoral run are destined to fail when former gal pal (Mae Busch in the Stormy Daniels role) shows up with an incriminating photo and blackmail on the brain. Field chose this short

“as a great example of the beauty and comedic timing of Thelma Todd as Ollie’s wife.”

Substituting one house of worship for another, Williams Hall at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3902 Kenwood Drive, will double as the screening venue. The show begins at 6:30 and tickets are \$7. And do the world a favor: don’t let your kids be as stupid as I was. Bring them along and give them a headstart on life.

For more information visit: way-outwest.org/sandiego/

— Scott Marks

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

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 become this year’s most controversial movie. J. Paul Getty (Christopher Plummer) was the richest man that ever lived. What shocked the world more than the actual kidnapping and subsequent unharboring of his grandson’s (Charlie Plummer) ear was grandp’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

FILM FESTIVALS

CENTRAL LIBRARY

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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
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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**

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 lustrous 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**

MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park
619-238-7579

Human Rights Watch Film Festival The Human Rights Watch Film Festival returns to the Museum of Photographic Arts. Now in its eighth year, the festival presents a unique program encompassing six films and discussions that address a wide range of human rights issues from around the world. The film festival brings to life human rights abuses through storytelling in a way that challenges each individual to empathize and demand justice for all people. **Thursday, February 1, 7:00pm, Friday, February 2, 7:00pm, Saturday, February 3, 3:00pm, Sunday, February 4, 3:00pm**

PACIFIC BEACH UNITED METHODIST

1561 Thomas Ave., Pacific Beach
858-274-6573

Tony the Movie Learn about how to solve homelessness in San Diego through the eyes of someone who lives on its street every day. Also learn what is currently being done in the Pacific Beach community of San Diego. Welcome by Pastor Bob Rhodes & short introduction of PB programs. Q&A with Dennis Stein and Tony. **Tuesday, February 6, 6:30pm**

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, hand-terry installation, and scavenger hunt. **Sunday, January 28, 1:30pm**

SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY

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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. Arrive at 1:30pm for the pre-show introduction. The film screening begins at 2pm 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 hacker 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**

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Film Discussion Class: 12 Angry Men

Sidney Lumet’s debut presents a snapshot of 1950s America on the verge of a change. Henry Fonda is the lone dissenting member of an all white jury ready to pass judgment on a Puerto Rican teenager accused of murder. With Lee J. Cobb, E.G. Marshall, and Jack Klugman. 1957. 96 minutes. Film discussion class with instructor Ralph DeLauro, sponsored by the Continuing Education Center of Rancho Bernardo. Residents are free; \$5 for members; \$7 for others. Info: 858-487-0464. **Wednesday, February 7, 1:30pm**

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Fatales Several films will be shown. **Saturday, January 27, 6:30pm**

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)

Brick — Affected debut film from Rian Johnson, writer and director, a test-tube species of teen noir, a hard-boiled high-school hybrid, featuring a junior detective, a *filie fatale*, a small-time Mr. Big, and a brawny henchboy. Opaquely plotted, arcanely scripted, darkly photographed, and reverberantly recorded, incomprehensible on several levels. With Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Lukas Haas, Nora Zehetner. 2006. — D.S. ● (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

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. ★★ (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)

Cuando Los Hijos Regresan — Director and co-writer Hugo Lara seeks to find comedy in the nightmarish scenario of happy, unencumbered empty nesters being forced to take in their adult children. In Spanish with English subtitles. 2017 (DIGITAL GYM)

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 — Gerard Butler may have found the perfect late-middle age role in director and co-writer Christian Gudegast's quasi-stylish, both-sides-of-the-law crime drama. He tears into his performance as nasty cop (well, sheriff) and lousy husband Nick Flanagan the way Flanagan tears into a crime-scene donut, and crams the screen with a combination of Russell Crowe's burly menace and Mel Gibson's manic rage. He needs both to go up against a team of ex-military outlaws that's planning something big, even if he does have an informant in their midst (O'Shea Jackson, charismatic as ever). Why "quasi-stylish"? Because for every interesting choice — the utterly empty LA streets in the opening scene, the frequent elimination of anything resembling background noise when there is

dialogue or gunfire to be listened to — there is another that just feels dumb and indulgent — the unstripped stripper on a mission, cops instigating a firefight mid-gridlock. The story isn't as clever as it would like to be, and wouldn't have been stronger if it spent more time on heist mechanics and less on escalating tension between the good bad guys and the bad good guys, but Gudegast's direction is mostly clean and clear. And he's thoughtful in his depiction of unglamorous Los Angeles. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool — Annette Bening stars as the sadly forgotten Hollywood bad girl, Gloria Grahame, an actress whose assertive sensuality lit up the screen in such memorable films as *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Big Heat*, and *The Bad and the Beautiful*, for which she took home a deserved supporting-actress Oscar. Nobody looks like Gloria Grahame — least of all the actress playing her — and all of the makeup wizards and digital scalpels that Bening can avail herself of can't change that fact. The actress knows it, and instead of piling on pounds of lipstick to accentuate a pout she doesn't have or studying hours of footage to achieve the right vocal affectation (see: *Ray*, *Beyond the Sea*, *Hitchcock*, *The Disaster Artist*, etc.), there are moments where Bening takes you inside the actresses' head that go far beyond mere mimicry. As her last lover, Jamie Bell nails all of the psychological pitfalls surrounding his dating a dying movie star that's twice his age. Given the strength of his cast, director Paul McGuigan (*Lucky Number Slevin*, *Victor Frankenstein*) had little more to do that point the camera and call "Action!" Those with strong stomachs might want to consider watching this on a double-bill with Wim Wenders' *Lightning Over Water*. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY; ANGELIKA FILM CENTER; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

Hostiles — Reviewed this issue. 2017 — M.L. ★★ (IN 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)

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

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Calendar MOVIES

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)

The Maltese Falcon — The third and the most revered (but, please, not the definitive) movie version of Hammett's mystery novel. It insists on the fun involved in private-eye escapades, as it wobbles underneath the consequences of some whimsical casting and playing — Sidney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre, Elisha Cook, Mary Astor, and Bogart as Spade. This is John Huston's first directing job, and he seems determined to make a lark of it. Some of that spirit is contagious. 1941. — D.S. ★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Maze Runner: The Death Cure — Director Wes Ball's final installment of this YA dystopia trilogy about a zombie plague-ravaged world, the plucky teens lucky enough to be immune, and the desperate scientists who want to harvest that immunity by any means necessary is... not great. But it's better than it has any right to be, given the genre's exhaustion, the lameness of Chapter Two (*The Scorch Trials*), and the three-year delay between that film and this. Most of the credit goes to Ball, who infuses the rescue-mission plotline with enough verve and momentum to keep the silly bits from sinking in while avoiding other silly bits altogether. But there's also something to be said for the script, which does out just enough data to remind us why we should care, mostly manages to convey feeling without getting goopy, and even ekes out some stub-bon complexity. And the cast, led by Dylan O'Brien, is gamely sincere. 2018 — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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

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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 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

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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

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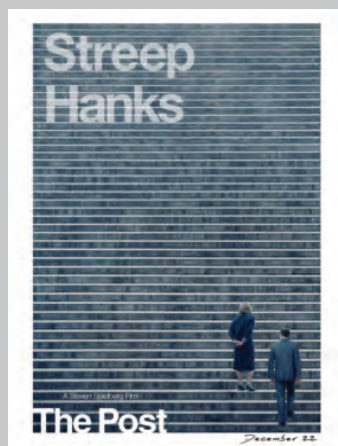
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miasma, *Phantom Thread* is an unforgiving dress. It presents an ideal and even inspires wonder, but it does make breathing difficult, and heaven help you if all you want is to have a good time. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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 belaboring 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)

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 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: Samsón and Delilah help to drive the drama, as does a certain someone drawn from amid the bulrushes. 2017. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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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 Fogg circles the globe in a race against time. Five actors play all 42 characters. Allison Bibicoff directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS.

As Bees in Honey Drown

OnStage Playhouse presents Douglas Carter Bean'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 FRIDAYS & 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.

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. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

Hamilton, The Musical

Lin-Manuel Miranda's epic musical about the early days of America won countless awards (Pulitzer among them). And deserves each one. I have never seen a show with such blazing, curtain-to-curtain theatricality. The story, the music, the stage pictures create a constant, kaleidoscopic movement as they recount Alexander Hamilton's rise from less than humble beginnings to become one of the Founding Fathers (and also the subject of America's first sex scandal). And tell it with rap music and a mostly non-white cast that communicates, above all, the pride and the thrill of doing this landmark musical. **Critic's Pick.**

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 6:30PM SUNDAYS.

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 Lutfy directs.

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

Les Miserables

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center states the "epic tale of broken dreams, passion, and redemption, set against a nation in the throes of revolution." Popular songs include: "I Dreamed a Dream," "On My Own," "One Day More," and "Do You Hear the People Sing?" LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 4:30PM SUNDAYS.

Letters From The Wall

Students from Bayfront Charter High School and Coronado School of Arts come together to perform a series of vignettes based on letters and stories, gathered by Dave Rivas and Richard Griswold del Castillo, of people dealing with immigration, deportation and separation. Kim Strassburger and Linda Libby co-direct.

CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL, 650 D AVE., CORONADO. 619-522-8907. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM 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.

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. 6PM THURSDAY.

Open Up: Staged Readings

For two performances only, the La Jolla Theatre Ensemble opens its 2018 season with plays by Liz Coley, Kim Cromwell, Jeanette Farr, and Werner Hashagen, about "becoming vulnerable, personally evolving, and not judging books by their cover." LA JOLLA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6811 LA JOLLA BL., LA JOLLA. 858-459-0831. 2PM SUNDAY, 9:15PM TUESDAY, JAN. 30.

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, composed of the winning plays from the California Young Playwrights Contest for ages 18 and under. 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 professional productions, and two younger writers' scripts will receive staged readings. At The Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre in the Conrad Prebys Center.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 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.

The Ragman

As part of the Free Family Arts and Literacy Connection, San Diego State University Performing Arts Troupe presents "a journey of empa-

thy, humanity and caring for each other." Using the children's book by Lauren Miles called "The Rag Coat" as inspiration, the story focuses on a symbolic everyman who needs a helping hand. Jerry Hager directs.

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.

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 church-going 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.

True West

Carlsbad Playreaders perform the late Sam Shepard's gonzo comedy-drama about two brothers as far apart as brothers can be. One's a screenwriter (with few credits), the other's a thief. Or is the screenwriter actually the thief? "So what happens when Mom's away and her boys get to play?." SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY, 1775 DOVE LANE, CARLSBAD. 760-602-2049. 7:30PM MONDAY, JAN. 29.

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.

Vietgone

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages Qui Nguyen's "love story like no other." At the end of the Vietnam War, Quang and Tong fall in love in a refugee camp in Arkansas, then take a life-changing trip across America. Jessa Prudencio directs the piece, performed with a mash-up of

comic book aesthetics, martial arts, and hip-hop.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

Who Dunnit?! 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.

UPCOMING SHOWS

A Raisin in the Sun

UCSD Department of Theatre & Dance presents Lorraine Hansberry's American classic. Walter Younger and his family in Chicago feel confined by their home and the social roles they've been assigned. When an insurance payout offers an opportunity to improve their lives, priorities come into question.

MANDELL WEISS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-4574. FEB. 7 THROUGH FEB. 17.

American Mariachi

The Old Globe Theatre, in association with the Denver Center for

Starts Saturday!
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

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the Performing Arts Theater Company, presents the world premiere of Jose Cruz Gonzalez' comedy about Lucha's need to break a monotonous routine. How about an all-girl mariachi band? Come on. These are the 1970s. There's no such thing. But can there be? James Vasquez directs. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. MAR. 29 THROUGH APR. 29.

Anna in the Tropics

SDSU TheatrD Department stages Nilo Cruz's 2003 winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Passions and ill-fated love ignite when a charismatic new lector comes to the Ybor City cigar factory to Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina* to the workers."The scandalous lives of Tolstoy's characters become dangerously intertwined with the lives of his listeners." CJ Keith directs.

DON POWELL THEATRE AT SDSU, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., SDSU. APR. 20 THROUGH APR. 29.

Around the World in Eighty Days

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Mark Brown's theatrical adaptation of the Jules Verne novel. Phileas Fogg circles the globe in a race against time. Five actors play all 42 characters. Allison Bibicoff directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. FEB. 1 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. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 10.

Bliss (or, Emily Post Is Dead)

Moxie Theatre opens its 2018 season with Jami Brandli's comedy about life for women in 1960. "Housewives are dutiful. Husbands are brawny, and Emily Post's guide to etiquette is keeping America 'great.'" Then along comes a stranger with a new way of thinking. Delicia Turner Sonnenberg directs.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. FEB. 3 THROUGH FEB. 25.

The Cake

The La Jolla Playhouse presents Bekah Brunstetter's drama about Jen and her wish to have Della, legendary baker, do the honors of making the wedding cake for Jen's ceremony. But "there's not just one bride, but two, forcing Della to re-examine deeply held beliefs." Casey Stangl directs.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. FEB. 6 THROUGH MAR. 4.

Cardboard Piano

Diversions Theatre stages the West Coast premiere of Hansol Jung's drama. Chris, daughter of an American missionary, falls in love with a local teenage girl in Northern Uganda. They meet in a church and exchange vows, but the civil war outside invades their fragile union. Jacole Kitchen directs.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. FEB. 3 THROUGH FEB. 25.

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 a Muse 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. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 3.

Company

SDSU stages Stephen Sondheim and George Furth's classic musical. On the night of his 35th birthday, confirmed bachelor Robert contemplates his unmarried state. Over the course of a series of dinners, drinks, and even a wedding, his friends explain the pros and cons of taking a spouse. Stephen Brotebeck directs. SDSU'S EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., SDSU. 619-594-6884. MAR. 9 THROUGH MAR. 17.

Daebreon Poema: The Reason Why I Sing

Actress Daebreon Poema makes her cabaret debut sharing life stories and songs at ClubM, the Moonlight Amphitheatre's intimate and indoor concert space offering food and beverage service.

MOONLIGHT AMPHITHEATRE IN BRENGLER TERRACE PARK, 1200 VALE TERRACE, VISTA. 760-724-2110. MAR. 3.

Disney's Beauty and the Beast

The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center stages the popular story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, a young prince trapped by the spell of an enchantress. "If the Beast can learn to love and be loved, the curse will end and he will be transformed into his former self. But time is running out."

LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. MAR. 3 THROUGH MAR. 18.

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. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 25.

I Love You Because

OB Playhouse stages a modern, musical twist on Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. A young, uptight greeting card writer's life changes when he meets a flighty photographer. Along with their eccentric friends and siblings, they learn to love each other not in spite of their faults, but because of them. Justin Tuazon directs, with musical direction by Michelle Gray.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. FEB. 2 THROUGH FEB. 25.

The Importance of Being Earnest

The Old Globe Theatre opens 2018 with Oscar Wilde's "trivial comedy for serious people." Jack and Algernon are free-style bachelors. "But when Algernon discovers that Jack's been posing as a man named Ernest to escape the city, he poses as the fictional figure himself." Maria Aiken directs.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. FEB. 1 THROUGH MAR. 4.

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 Lutfy directs.

CYGNAT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 11.

Letters From The Wall

Students from Bayfront Charter High School and Coronado School of Arts come together to perform a series of vignettes based on letters and stories, gathered by Dave Rivas and Richard Griswold del Castillo, of people dealing with immigration, deportation and separation. Kim Strassburger and Linda Libby co-direct.

CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL, 650 D AVE., CORONADO. 619-522-8907. FEB. 2 THROUGH FEB. 4.

Love Never Dies

It's 1907, 10 years after his disappearance from the Paris Opera House, the Phantom has escaped to New York. "In this new electrically charged world, he has finally found a place for his music to soar. All that is missing is his love - Christine Daaé." SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. MAR. 27 THROUGH APR. 1.

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. FEB. 2 THROUGH FEB. 4.

Mystifque 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. FEB. 2 THROUGH APR. 28.

Of Sound Mind and Dead Body

The Experts in Mystery Entertainment are now performing live public and private interactive murder mystery dinner shows in San Diego and surrounding areas throughout California. Join us for a night of intrigue, deception, and delicious food in this comedic thriller! Please Visit Our Website: The Murder Mystery Company in San Diego

OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 275 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-233-4323. MAR. 15.

Othello

UCSD Department of Theatre & Dance presents Shakespeare's soaring tragedy about Othello, the Moor of Venice, his new bride, Desdemona, and the green-eyed monster abetted by the equally monstrous Iago. Dylan Key directs.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. FEB. 23 THROUGH MAR. 3.

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. FEB. 2 THROUGH FEB. 18.

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. FEB. 2 THROUGH FEB. 11.

Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again

UCSD Department of Theatre & Dance presents Alice Birch's "feminist alarm" that "scrutinizes the language, actions, and hidden biases of our society that unfairly favor men over women." The play advocates dismantling or sabotaging "anything that is complicit" in the oppression of women. Sean Graney directs.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. MAR. 8 THROUGH MAR. 17.

Tuesdays with Morrie

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Vietgone

The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages Qui Nguyen's "love story like no other." At the end of the Vietnam War, Quang and Tong fall in love in a refugee camp in Arkansas, then take a life-changing trip across America. Jesca Prudencio directs the piece, performed with a mash-up of comic book aesthetics, martial arts, and hip-hop.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 18.

Wrestling Jerusalem

For one evening only, Aaron Davidson performs his solo show about one man's journey to understand the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. "Giving voice to over a dozen different characters, the play sheds light on one of the most entrenched conflicts of our time." Michael John Garcés directs.

DAVID AND DOROTHEA GARFIELD THEATRE, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 858-362-1348. FEB. 1.

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BANKER'S HILL, \$1295.
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RED MEAT

sunny side of the sarcophagus

from the secret files of
Max Cannon



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East Village • Golden Hill • Little Italy
Logan Heights • Sherman Heights
South Park • Stockton

EAST COUNTY

Alpine • Borrego Springs • Boulevard
Campo • El Cajon • Imperial Valley • Jamul
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Mount Laguna • Potrero • Ramona
Rancho San Diego • Santee
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Allied Gardens • Bay Park • Clairemont
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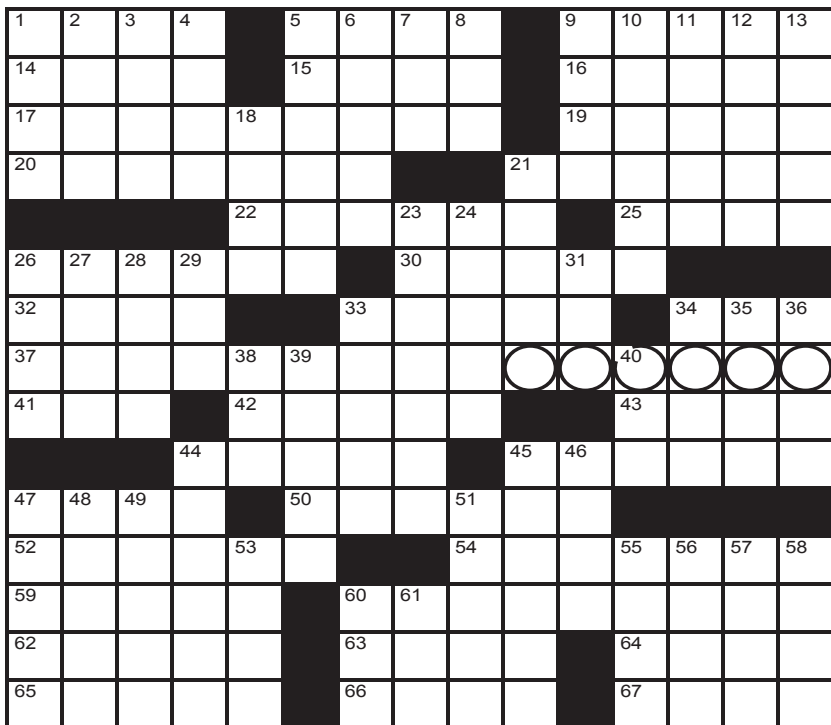
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CROSSWORD

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Across

1. "Stop that!"
5. Degr. held by George W. Bush and Colin Powell
9. Anticipate
14. "Now _____ me down ..."
15. "I Got Plenty O' Nuttin,'" e.g.
16. Baby monitor?
17. With the grid's circled letters, what Ernest Moniz became in 2013
19. With the grid's circled letters, Red Bull, e.g.
20. The FCC first authorized it on 12/17/1953
21. Walker who was "Dy-no-mite!" on "Good Times"
22. Sent Manx messages, say
25. Caddie's pocketful
26. With the grid's circled letters, a brainiac uses a lot of it
30. Only U.S. state whose state seal was designed by a woman
32. Oxygen's lack
33. Best of the best
34. Adversary
37. Its source is not depleted when used
41. Opposite of WSW
42. German neurologist _____ Alzheimer
43. "Bloody"
44. Coach with the most wins in NFL history
45. With the grid's circled letters, it's spent unproductively
47. Farm unit
50. Anteater, but not an ant
52. Donnybrook

Down

1. Part of CD-ROM
2. Nondairy item in the dairy aisle
3. Table salt, to a chemist
4. Beginner
5. "Apples to Apples" toymaker
6. "Well played!"
7. _____ guitar
8. Speak
9. "_____ quote ..."
10. Begin liking
11. Japanese cartoon art
12. Navel type
13. They ride trikes and rhyme with trikes
18. "Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died" humorist Bombeck
21. Online singles service that allows users to browse its website in English and

- Hebrew
23. Hurt on camera
24. Brickell and Falco
26. Greedy cry
27. Opening setting of George Bernard Shaw's "Back to Methuselah"
28. What the fourth little piggy had
29. One less than quattro
31. Mother _____
33. Virus named for a river in the Congo Basin
34. Campus home for some com
35. Shrek, e.g.
36. Observed
38. Baby's cry in "The Wheels on the Bus"
39. Bill and Hillary, to Yale
40. Some TV drama settings, for short
44. Word on many bumper stickers in Texas after the 2012 U.S. presidential election
45. In a cautious way
46. Tina's costar on "30 Rock"
47. Half-step above A
48. Joe Cocker's "You _____ Beautiful"
49. "Alice" actress Linda
51. Word never spoken in "The Godfather"
53. Audrey Hepburn and Honey Boo Brew, for two
55. Sound of a fork on a wineglass
56. Catch wind of
57. Hold 'em opener
58. Dish that may be ladled
60. Mayhem on the far left and far right?
61. Corpulent

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and e-mailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
- And now for the really small print:
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 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

B	A	B	A	S	M	O	A	N	A	F	T	D		
F	L	E	S	H	A	C	H	E	S	O	R	A		
F	L	A	S	H	I	N	T	H	E	P	A	N	A	M
				C	I	A		S	U	S	I	E		
A	T	T	A	C	K	A	D	A	M	F	I	T	S	
D	O	O	G	I	E		F	I	G					
A	N	T	I	C	S	D	R	D	R	E	A	M		
S	I	E	T	E		D	O	O	A	C	H	A	T	
	O	R	A	L	B	A	M		S	T	O	O	G	E
				Y	U	L		T	E	L	L	M	E	
A	R	I	D		M	I	S	T	E	R	E	D	A	M
C	E	C	I	L		H	O	I						
T	H	E	M	O	R	N	I	N	G	A	F	T	E	R
O	A	R		A	B	O	N	E		M	I	A	M	I
R	B	S		N	I	T	E	S		P	R	I	S	M

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

EVIL:

	6	7					4	2
			7		2	1		
8		1				5		
		5	3					
	9						5	
			9	1				
		1			8			5
		6	2		4			
4	2					6	7	

THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

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- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified.
- 3) We will draw 5 names from weekly puzzle winners.

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

6	1	3	4	2	7	5	8	9
2	9	8	5	1	3	4	6	7
5	4	7	9	8	6	3	2	1
9	7	2	8	4	1	6	5	3
8	3	5	6	9	2	7	1	4
1	6	4	7	3	5	8	9	2
7	8	1	2	6	4	9	3	5
3	5	6	1	7	9	2	4	8
4	2	9	3	5	8	1	7	6

MEDIUM:

8	2	9	5	7	3	4	1	6
1	7	4	9	8	6	3	2	5
5	6	3	2	4	1	9	8	7
4	8	7	3	1	5	2	6	9
2	3	6	7	9	8	5	4	1
9	1	5	4	6	2	8	7	3
3	4	2	6	5	7	1	9	8
7	5	1	8	2	9	6	3	4
6	9	8	1	3	4	7	5	2

HARD:

1	7	9	6	3	5	4	2	8
3	6	2	4	8	7	1	5	9
5	4	8	2	9	1	6	7	3
7	8	4	9	6	2	3	1	5
2	9	5	3	1	4	8	6	7
6	1	3	5	7	8	9	4	2
9	2	7	1	4	3	5	8	6
4	5	6	8	2	9	7	3	1
8	3	1	7	5	6	2	9	4

EVIL:

1	5	8	9	4	7	2	6	3
3	9	2	6	5	8	4	1	7
4	6	7	2	3	1	8	5	9
7	2	5	1	9	6	3	8	4
9	4	1	8	2	3	6	7	5
8	3	6	4	7	5	1	9	2
5	8	4	3	1	9	7	2	6
2	1	9	7	6	4	5	3	8
6	7	3	5	8	2	9	4	1

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

BRAINSTORMS

BY DON RUBIN

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

Take two tablets...

Hieroglyphics are pictures or symbols of objects or ideas. They're signs. (Of course, many of them had phonetic values, too. But that's another puzzle.) Each of the numbered hieroglyphs corresponds to an object or idea below. Try to match them.

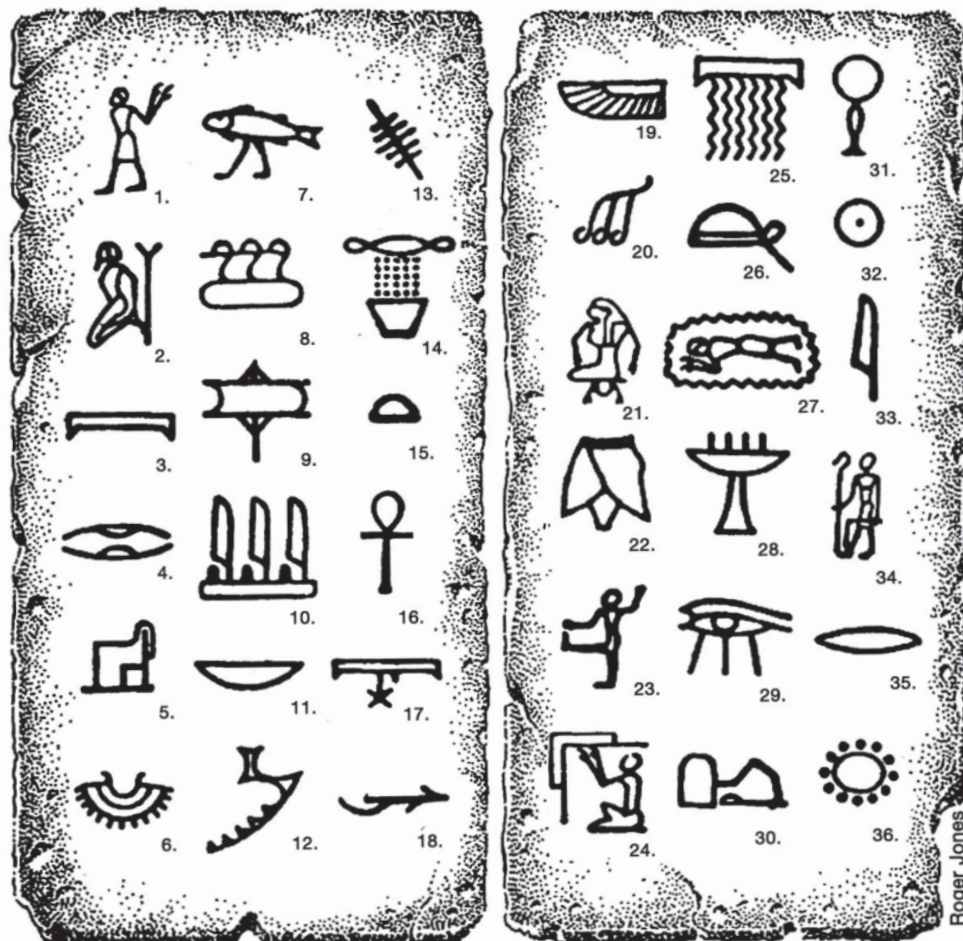
- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------|
| ___ heaven | ___ crops | ___ captive |
| ___ reed | ___ hide | ___ grape juice |
| ___ mouth | ___ altar | ___ nest |
| ___ headgear | ___ mirror | ___ fly |
| ___ storm | ___ king | ___ backbone |
| ___ fight | ___ transport | ___ hair |
| ___ swim | ___ dance | ___ wind |
| ___ throne | ___ childbirth | ___ jawbone |
| ___ weep | ___ lord, bowl | ___ branch, wood |
| ___ life | ___ radiance | ___ cake |
| ___ night | ___ tunic | ___ go back, retreat |
| ___ lips | ___ day | ___ breastplate |

Last Week's Solution

Backwords

- 5 backward
3 handball
6 superman
4 cakewalk
1 greenroom
8 manhole
11 fireman
2 greenback

- 9 shortcake
12 ballroom
10 backfire
7 shorthand

Roger Jones

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Name: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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 \$25 Off**

*Perform scan test and retrieve codes
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 from \$15⁹⁵**

*Recommended every 3 months/ 3000 - 7500 miles. Service includes up to 5 quarts multi grade 10w30 motor oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

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 Recharge**

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*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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*Life time Brakes Available

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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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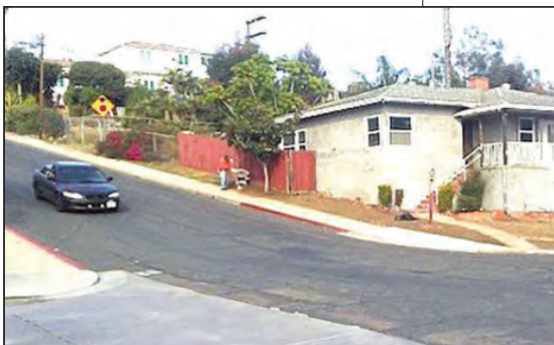
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

pled with poor visibility and unrestricted right-of-way — are creating danger for residents, who are now in the final stages of getting four-way stop signs at the intersection.

Two weeks ago, the local planning group voted unanimously to support the effort after



People try to catch air coming down 58th.

Meade Avenue residents brought in nearly 100 signatures on a petition to the city.

After a brief study, the city's Traffic Engineering department had put the brakes on the request because the street didn't score high enough on the city's point system, according to residents.

"They found that the average speed was really high but there weren't enough accidents," said Andrew Johnson, whose family lives near the intersection. Horace Mann Middle School and Iftin Charter School stand at the west end of the block and kids headed there have to cross 58th Street against the fast-moving southbound traffic.

"It's down a hill and people try to catch air off it," Johnson said. "It's right next to the school and there are a lot of kids crossing there."

After it crosses El Cajon Boulevard and heads south, 58th Street heads dramatically downhill, flattening at the intersection and then into more downhill travel.

While no pedestrians have been hurt there for as long as anyone can remember, Johnson and many neighbors say it's just a matter of time. The traffic engineer's report found

the average speed was in the high 30s, well above the 25 mph marked on signs.

So the city set up an alternate route to getting stop signs, by rallying the support of neighbors, gathering signatures to petition for such changes. Neighborhoods have gotten their streets outfitted with speed humps

and parking can also be modified through the grassroots approach of gathering signatures.

MARTY GRAHAM

ENCINITAS

Chino prison escapee covered some distance

How did Michael Garrett bust out?

Michael Martin Garrett, 33, a felon who escaped from a California state prison on Sunday, January 14th, was captured in front of a Vons grocery store in Encinitas at about 6 p.m. Monday, less than 24 hours later.

San Diego County sheriff's deputy Giovanni Pantoja responded to a call of "a suspicious person" at a shopping center in the 400 block of Santa Fe Drive. Pantoja assisted a team from the California Department of Corrections to take Garrett back into custody, described as "without incident."

"The San Diego's Sheriff's office responded to the location where they observed Garrett standing in front of the store," according to a Department of Corrections news release.

The Twitter account for California prisons tweeted out at about 7 p.m. Monday night that their prisoner had been captured.

Garrett's time at liberty was an "escape" and not a "walkaway" from any public service work, which inmates sometimes perform. The Chino facility is described as minimum-and-medium security for 3400 inmates.

By mid-day Tuesday, January 16, Garrett was back in Chino, not in his usual cell but in "administration segregation" because "he is facing discipline."



Captured in front of Encinitas Vons

Garrett was arrested in San Diego County in June 2017. He was convicted of all charges at trial: four felonies and three misdemeanors. His convictions were: first-degree burglary of an inhabited dwelling, evading an officer with wanton disregard, possession of a stolen vehicle, concealment of a stolen vehicle, resisting an officer, and hit-and-run.

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EVENT LISTINGS

READER TACOTOPIA 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, and you decide who will ultimately win. ReaderTacoTopia.com

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FREE PET ADS:
Selling a pet for under \$200? Email your wording & photo to pets@SDReader.com.

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Call 619-235-8200.

DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.

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Smog Check \$36⁷⁵

+ \$8.25 Certificate of Compliance (most cars). Bring DMV Notice.
Model years 1976-1995 \$10 extra for Evap Test. RV's: call for details.

<p>Oil Change Special \$18⁹⁵ Most 4-cyl. cars. Includes new oil filter, EPA, up to 5 qts. oil. 6-cyl. & 8-cyl. extra, some oil filters extra.</p> <p>Check Engine Light and Smog Failure Diagnostics \$60* (FREE if repairs are performed on site).</p>	<p>Basic Tune-Up with oil change 4-cyl. \$45 6-cyl. \$99⁹⁵ 8-cyl. \$149⁹⁵ Most cars. Includes new plugs and oil filter. Inspect cap, rotor wire, air filter. Some oil filters extra. Some cars labor extra. Platinum plugs extra.</p> <p>60K/90K/120K Services 4-cyl. from \$149⁹⁵ 6-cyl. and 8-cyl. extra. Platinum plugs extra. Call for details.</p>	<p>A/C Service \$25 Includes performance test on compressor, visual inspection for leaks and damaged components and recharge (freon EXTRA.)</p> <p>Fuel Injection Service 3-Step \$109⁹⁵</p>
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619-709-1724
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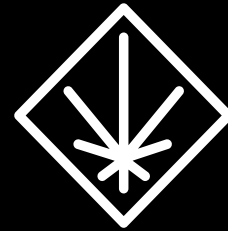
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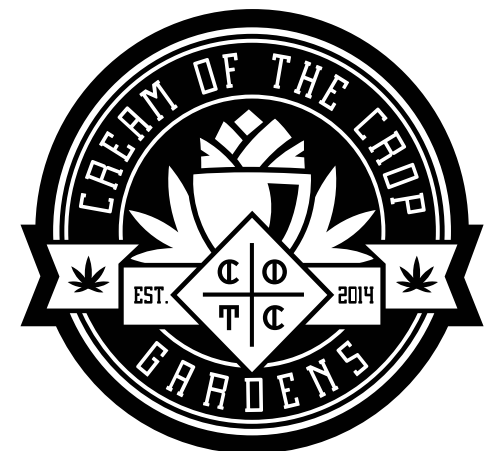
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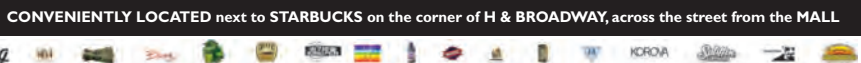
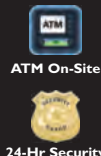
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\$6 TOP SHELF, \$6 PR, \$12 BL!

FTP DEALS!

\$8

**1G PRIVATE
RESERVE**
FTP, No Limit

\$6

1G TOP SHELF
FTP, No Limit

\$15

**GOLD SHATTER
OR CRUMBLE**
FTP ONLY. 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

**HEAVY
HITTER
VAPE**
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 1-30-18



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MUST BE 18+ with VALID CA ID & ORIGINAL DOCTOR'S RECOMMENDATION



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San Diego, Jan 25 - Feb 5
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