

SAN DIEGO

VOLUME 47 / NUMBER 11  
MARCH 15, 2018

# Reader

# SAN DIEGO MUSIC



Chili fries or Chinese porridge? – see Tin Fork

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DANIEL CATÁN

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March 15, 2018



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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## NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

**Lemon Grove drug war**

Councilman accused of drunkenly assaulting would-be pot peddler

Lemon Grove city councilmember David Arambula has been accused of hitting a constituent over the head with a beer bottle in a drunken rage.



Accused councilman David Arambula: insert "Call an Arambulance" joke here.

On Monday, March 5, the Lemon Grove City Council is expected to reject a legal claim made by Christopher Williams for medical costs and punitive damages resulting from the assault.

According to a claim obtained by the Reader, Williams had submitted a proposal to build a marijuana dispensary in Lemon Grove. On July 14, 2017, councilmember Arambula invited Williams to his home to discuss the proposal. The complaint says Arambula was "drinking heavily."

Just after midnight, according to the claim, Williams went outside to wait for an Uber and as he was looking down at his cell phone, Arambula hit him over his left eye with a beer bottle. Arambula then allegedly "bit, kicked, punched, and choked" Williams after striking him with the bottle.

Williams was taken to the hospital.

"I suffered a serious laceration above my eye, a bite wound, a broken rib, and other injuries," reads Williams's claim. "I required stitches and a tetanus shot in addition to other treatment. I have substantial medical bills, as well as damages for pain and suffering and lost work."

Williams filed a police report while at the hospital; however, according to the district attorney's case records, no charges were filed. Williams submitted a claim to Lemon Grove to recover his losses, the first step before filing a lawsuit.

Arambula had no comment on the accusations.

Dorian Hargrove

**Hostilities suspended, or at least delayed**

Broadcom's attempt to take over Qualcomm's board delayed by feds

On March 4, the federal government appeared to have dealt a serious blow to Broadcom's

attempt to take over Qualcomm by ordering the local chip-maker to delay its meeting scheduled for March 6.

Singapore-based Broadcom has bid \$1.17 billion for San Diego-based Qualcomm, which employs 13,000 people locally.

The Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States ordered a 30-day delay in the hostile-takeover vote. The reason for the requested delay is a general concern about safeguarding America's semiconductor technology over security worries. The semiconductor industry is in a race to develop a faster 5G wireless technology, and Qualcomm is one of the major competitors of



Qualcomm: a real American hero imperiled?

China, says Reuters.

However, Bloomberg reports that Broadcom is on course to win all six of the seats that it is seeking on Qualcomm's board. This will give it the thrust to push forward with the hostile takeover, delay or no delay. "Based on the count of more than half of the votes already cast, Broadcom would have a mandate" to overturn Qualcomm's opposition to takeover, says Bloomberg.

Don Bauder

**The conservationist Casanova**

Chula Vista pays \$400K in sexual harassment case

The City of Chula Vista has agreed to pay a former employee \$400,000 to settle a sexual harassment claim against a current employee.



The sign says City Hall, not The Love Shack

According to court documents, Mariana Garcia filed to dismiss the case due to a settlement having been reached on February 16. Garcia filed her lawsuit on March 2 of last year.

continued on page 26

**Tijuana's morgue can't keep up**

Twenty hours of horrible service amid the smell of death

By Matthew Suárez

"The smell doesn't reach all the way to my house," comments Diego Silverio, a writer and high school teacher who lives a couple blocks uphill from Tijuana's morgue. "But [the smell] is unbearable when I go by there, especially early mornings. If you go up La Juárez, you can perceive the smell, especially early morning and at night. *Mucho muerto.*"

Colonia Juárez, where the morgue is located, is at the end of Avenida Revolución, up the hill and behind the Torre de Agua Caliente on Boulevard Fundadores. Neighboring downtown Tijuana and nearby major intersections, La Juárez is a nifty precinct offering middle-class housing, offices, several restaurants, flower shops, ballet school, and Cervecería Tijuana (the city's oldest craft brewery).

And the morgue, surrounded by funeral homes and crematoriums.

Walking up the hill on a mid-afternoon, the first smell I encountered was the baking dough from Mamma Mia Pizza. As I approached the morgue the pizza smell faded and there it was, the smell of death. It reminded me of the smell of my unplugged refrigerator when I returned to my apartment after leaving for two weeks.

At the morgue, confused families crowd the stairs asking for information from an uninterested guard and an empty help window. Some sob while others console, and a few others stand outside shaking smoking cigarettes near a sign that reads

"Peligro: Área de No Fumar." Many of them cover their noses and mouths because of the smell.

"Everything was awful, starting with the unbearable smell and finishing with the bad administration," comments America Osuna about her experience at the morgue. "I was there to identify and claim my brother's corpse. I was there for more than 20 hours!"

The state's morgue, better known by its initials Semefo (Servicio Médico Forense), has been under scrutiny by the press and Profepa (Mexico's version of the Environ-

several other infractions, were discovered.

"They took too long, because there are no employees," continues Osuna. "I didn't see cadavers, but I often heard how they would yell: '*Traigo uno mas, llegaron dos.*'" (I'm bringing one more, two more arrived).

"It turns out that when they told us of my brother's passing, his body was already in [the morgue]. We went and it was already closed. They open from 8 a.m. and close at 7 p.m."

Osuna's brother died of an overdose late at night. She did not disclose his name.



"The smell doesn't reach all the way to my house," comments Diego Silverio, who lives a couple blocks uphill. "But it is unbearable when I go by there, especially early mornings."

mental Protection Agency). The complaints by citizens and neighbors of the smell emitted from the morgue caused an investigation.

Profepa's report from December 8th found the irregular handling of and lack of proper storage for hazardous biological material. A water tank for five thousand liters situated outside under the parking lot stored blood and other fluids without refrigeration. Toxic garbage not labeled or disposed of properly, and

"We get there the next morning and they tell me that I have to write myself on the list. That's when I started waiting. Three hours later, it was my turn. The person attending told me that I had to bring his birth certificate and *credencial de elector* and two family witnesses."

The morgue received around 3200 cadavers in 2017, nearly half of them were homicide victims. Dr. Raúl González Vaca, who oversees the morgue, admitted that there were more



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SILARZ

The Tijuana morgue received around 3200 cadavers in 2017. Nearly half of them were homicide victims.

cadavers that the facility could handle and the overload caused some of the storage for 120 corpses to malfunction.

"I get all the documentation and the other witness and I am thinking this will speed up the process. But they told me to sign up on the list again. Again, you could hear people bringing in corpses and people talking about how bad it smells. Talking to the guard of the place, he told me they get around 20 corpses daily, and that now they only give five days to claim a body and if not, they go to the *fosa común*" — the common grave.

In 2017, 833 unclaimed corpses were sent to the common grave. The morgue gave a 45-day period to claim a corpse, but the state of emergency reduced it to 15 days and many times, less than that.

"Well, four more hours went by with documentation in hand and the other witness, and the guard came out and says: *Señores, buenas noches*, we're closing now. Come back tomorrow at 8 a.m. Everyone there was shocked and really mad. We were there since 8 a.m. and the guard just says again: *'Aquí se cierra a las 7 p.m. y se abre a las 8 a.m.'*" — it closes

at 7 p.m., opens at 8 a.m.

"We return again the next morning at 8 a.m. and sign up on the same list. Again, three more hours and it was our turn. From the moment they open, there are approximately 60 people waiting for information about their families... crying, angry, and yelling because no one gives any information.

"Our turn comes up and they receive us. They ask the name of my brother, they show us pictures, and when we identify it, they sent us to the Ministerio for the signature so we can get my brother's body."

To claim a corpse after identifying it, one must present documents from Semefo to the Ministerio Público (District Attorney).

"We go to the Ministerio with all the papers for them to sign, they make us wait there for two hours, and it turns out the papers didn't have the cause of death. We start calling Semefo and wait to get an answer. But how are they going to attend the phone if they only have one person attending the front window? And I only saw like three other employees in the whole building? Who is going to answer the phone and give information?"

The Ministerio Público is located one mile away

from Semefo.

"After two more hours in the Ministerio, we got the signature they [Semefo] requested, with all the funeral services ready, all we needed to get was the body. They told us, you have to come with all funeral arrangements so you can take him. We get there with the hearse waiting outside, and they told us that we have to sign up in the same list again. We were like, 'Seriously?! We did all the paperwork.'

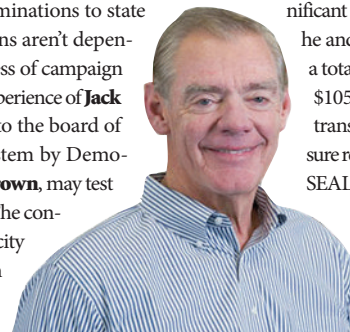
"More hours go by and in the meantime, more corpses arrive, more people crying, asking for their family members, some, just like us, with all the paperwork ready and hearses waiting outside. Crying and fighting. Another four hours or more go by. We got there at 3 p.m. with everything ready and they never let us through, because we weren't next on the list. At 7 p.m. and the guard comes out and says, *'Señores, this is closed. Come back tomorrow.'*

"We saw this coming, and the three families that have been there for two days with all the paperwork and the hearse outside, we got together and said: 'No, señor! We are not leaving this place until they give us our family

*continued on page 26*

## UNDER THE RADAR

**Moneybags McGrory** California politicians insist that nominations to state boards and commissions aren't dependent on the generosity of campaign contributions, but the experience of **Jack McGrory**, just named to the board of the state university system by Democratic governor **Jerry Brown**, may test that truism, critics say. The controversial ex-San Diego city manager grew super-rich after departing city hall to sign up to work for La Jolla mega-millionaire **Sol Price**, and later, Padres owner **John Moores**. While



Former city manager, Jack McGrory. "Council members complained they didn't understand his machinations."

at the city, McGrory carried water for Republican mayor **Susan Golding**, whose grandiose 1996 GOP convention plans, and Chargers stadium expansion required deft budgetary shape-shifting. "Golding ordered Jack McGrory to figure out how to pay for it all...no one quite understood how he did it, and that was his secret," wrote **Roger Lowenstein**, author of 2008's *While America Aged: How Pension Debts Ruined General Motors, Stopped the NYC Subways, Bankrupted San Diego, and Loom as the Next Financial Crisis*. "Council members complained they didn't understand his machinations... but the truth is they were happier not knowing what McGrory was up to."

Lately, McGrory has been leading the campaign to convince city voters to turn over control of the Mission Valley venue formerly known as Qualcomm Stadium to San Diego State University for academic and commercial development. Skeptics have questioned the motive in raising more than \$1.5 million, most of it from wealthy university alumni, per latest disclosure filings. How McGrory balances his theoretically non-partisan role as a state university trustee against his local political maneuvers remains to be seen. But quick confirmation by the state Senate is regarded as a slam dunk in light of his previous campaign contributions, including a total of \$8500 to Democratic Senate leader **Toni**



The inscrutable smile of the Union-Tribune's new owner billionaire Patrick Soon-Shiong.

**Atkins**. Asked by *Union-Tribune* columnist Logan Jenkins whether he had done any lobbying for his new position, McGrory responded, "I mentioned it to Toni a year ago." In all, McGrory has personally produced \$46,945 in state political money since 2001, most of it for Democrats, including Assembly members **Todd Gloria**, **Shirley Weber** and **Lorena Gonzalez**. An outlier was Republican Shirley Horton's unsuccessful race for the Board of Equalization in 2014, to which he gave \$6800. The

former city manager has played even more significant stakes at San Diego's city hall, where he and Allyson McGrory have kicked in a total of \$136,257 since 2013, including \$105,000 to SDSU's Mission Valley land transfer effort. Last June, federal disclosure records show, McGrory gave ex-Navy SEAL and Democrat **Josh Butner** \$3000 for his House race against Republican incumbent **Duncan Hunter**.

## Pure as Venter's wife?

Genome giant **Craig Venter**, whose privately-owned Synthetic Genomics was hit with a gender discrimination suit last fall alleging he put his arm around a female executive and said she was "the only one without a penis here!" or words to that effect, has been pulling down a big salary at his non-profit J. Craig Venter Institute at UCSD. Federal filings show that Venter has consistently gotten high-six figure salaries as institute president, the latest disclosed being \$807,135 in 2015. To sweeten the deal, the institute paid **Heather Kowalski** Communications \$150,000. Cited in a *Science Magazine* story as "Venter's personal spokesperson," Kowalski's other role is Venter's wife.

**Morrison's choice** The *San Diego Union-Tribune* is facing unknown changes as the date for its final takeover by Los Angeles billionaire **Patrick Soon-Shiong** nears. Meanwhile, the paper has abruptly revised its deal with GoFundMe.com intended to steer readers to charitable causes inspired by its news coverage.

"The first seven months of this project have taught us a few lessons," says the *U-T* website, including that "not every story on our site is likely to inspire a fundraising campaign." So, "instead of providing a GoFundMe widget on every page, we'll feature GoFundMe stories where we see significant interest." Adds the paper, "As always, our news reporters are prohibited from advocating for causes or raising

funds through their work," but the marketing department and opinion section can still "initiate campaigns on topics they consider worthy..." Big labor, in the form of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, came up with \$5000 February 14 to support Citizens for Real Term Limits, an initiative on June's ballot to limit National City city council members. A competing measure also slated for June would allow currently

*continued on page 26*

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## LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Submit them at [sreader.com/letters](http://sreader.com/letters) or phone them in at 619-235-3000, x460. Include your name and neighborhood. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

### La Jolla and the stench of fish

In your article about Coronado [“A shark-sized bite out of the real Coronado,” cover story, March 8], Mr. Walton mentions that La Jolla is now a crap hole.

I find that Mr. Walton is correct. We stopped going there because of the crap hole stench from the digested fish deposited on the rocks by the birds and seals. We joke of going back to visit when there is a Santa Ana wind condition, to blow the foul smell out to sea.

Walt Meier  
Carlsbad

### Peter Navarro and the facts

Just a correction. In the News Ticker [“Trump bump-restart reported for Peter Navarro,” February 29] you mentioned that Peter Navarro, after running for public office in San Diego unsuccessfully, went to work as a UC Irvine economics professor.

He already had that job when he was running for elective offices in San Diego.

[Name withheld]  
North Park

### Not one of the “quotes” you used was actually a quote

Dear Bill Manson,

What a truly odd interaction to have with you and what a strange subsequent piece you did about our bowties [“How to tie a bow tie,” Golden Dreams, March 1] in last week’s Reader.

You called my shop under the guise of being a customer, which you were not. I am still unclear why. After your seventh or eighth inquiry about my history and personal life, you admitted you were a journalist, though only after I prompted you.

You asked if you could come by to ask some questions in person. I informed you that I was busy at my work studio but that the following day you would be more than welcome to come by our retail location in Little Italy to chat. You implied that you would do just that. But some 30 minutes later, there you were standing in my work studio.

I was in the middle of four separate custom projects, so yes this “hole-in-the-wall” was a bit of a “mess,” as you kindly put it in your article. In an effort not to be rude by telling you to please meet me at the retail location the following day as requested, I entertained your somewhat odd line of questioning for longer than I probably should have, and you certainly lingered longer than was appropriate, even popping back in once or twice after finally leaving.

Not one of the “quotes” you used was actually a quote. Quotes are things that I would have said. What you used in your story are things you seemingly made up and attributed to me.

I honestly have no idea who George Will is, and the only utterance of “Tucker Carlson” was you asking me who the conservative talk show host was that wears a bowtie and my answering that question. I can assure you that I don’t believe Tucker Carlson or conservatives at large are leading any sort of a fashion charge.

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# TROLLEY CHANGES Coming Soon

*Better Connections to Expanded High-Frequency Bus Network*

**B**y May, MTS will open the brand new Courthouse Station in downtown San Diego that will be served exclusively by the Orange Line as the new western terminus. The eastern terminus for the Orange Line will also move to the Arnele Avenue Station. These changes will enhance the on-time performance of the Orange Line and allow for Trolley schedule changes on all lines to better connect to the expanded high frequency bus network, which launched earlier this year.

Getting people to their destinations faster and with less waiting time is the goal behind the Metropolitan Transit System's Transit Optimization Plan (TOP), which will include more than 30 routes with a frequency of 15 minutes or better when the plan is fully implemented in September. MTS is allocating an additional \$2 million to fund these new services.

"We know that frequency and speed of service are the keys for our current riders and attracting new riders," said Paul Jablonski, MTS chief executive officer. "We are investing into our system to make it as convenient and efficient as possible. Hundreds of

thousands of people already choose transit every day. We're working hard to make our system an even more attractive choice for people all over the San Diego region."

The public can view all changes online at [sdmts.com/TOP](http://sdmts.com/TOP). Along with changes already implemented, MTS will make more changes in June and September. In total, more than 60 routes will be changed to better meet market demands. Key changes to some of the busiest routes in the MTS bus system include:

**Trolley:** Orange Line terminals will be Arnele in the east and the Courthouse Station between State and Union streets on C Street in the west. There will be time schedule changes on all four Trolley lines.

**Route 3** (Hillcrest, Mission Hills, Balboa Park, Cortez Hill, Gaslamp Quarter, Lincoln Park): Weekday frequency increased from 15 to 12 minutes, and Sunday frequency increased from 60 to 30 minutes.



**Route 5** (Downtown, Sherman Heights, Stockton, Mt. Hope, Chollas View, Euclid): Weekday frequency increased from 15 to 12 minutes.

**Route 11** (Skyline Hills, Valencia Park, Southcrest, Logan Heights, Downtown, Hillcrest, University Heights, Normal Heights, SDSU): Split into two routes to improve reliability and on-time performance.

**Rapid 235** (Downtown San Diego, Kearny Mesa, Miramar, Rancho Bernardo, Escondido): Weekday midday service increased to a 15-minute frequency.

**Route 906/907** (San Ysidro, Otay Mesa West): Saturday service and Sunday afternoon service increased to a 15-minute frequency.

**Route 950** (Otay Mesa Border-Iris Avenue Station) Weekday service to Iris Avenue Transit Center increased to 10-minute frequency during morning peak hours and service span extended into late evening.

**Route 955** (SDSU, Talmadge, Oak Park, Southcrest, National City): Weekday service increased from 15 to 12-minute frequency.

**TOP Background:** TOP is an update of the 2004-2006 Comprehensive Operational Analysis (COA) that resulted in major changes to the system's Bus and Trolley services. In the 10 years since COA implementation, MTS experienced increased ridership, fare revenue and operational efficiencies for nine years straight. However, after record-breaking ridership in FY2015, ridership dipped in FY2016, and again in FY2017, which follows a national trend in declining public transportation use. TOP is designed to reverse that trend by attracting riders.

"Getting people out of cars and into alternative modes of transportation is absolutely critical in order for this region to achieve its Climate Action goals," Jablonski said. "MTS wants to do everything it can to enhance its services to make it as easy as possible for people to use transit. TOP is just one of the many ways we are working to make transit a viable option for many more people."



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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEAN BEACH

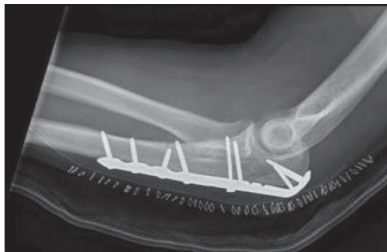
## Batter Up, Vendor Down Crystal commerce ends in brutal violence

Earlier this month, Christian Fischer's life changed after three swings of a baseball bat in Ocean Beach.

"The hospital said many things I hope to prove wrong," says Fischer. "Said it would be over a year before I have almost full mobility in my arm back. It will never fully extend like it used to and I'll need a year of physical therapy to even get that."

Fischer is a staple at the OB Farmers' Market every Wednesday, selling his crystals, oils, and dream-catchers, and during the week he can be found along the seawall at the foot of Newport Avenue selling his wares.

On Sunday, February 18, Fischer had set up shop along the seawall in O.B. At about 6:30 p.m., he sold a crystal to guy who felt he was overcharged by \$10.



Assault victim Fischer: "They literally had to screw my elbow back on."

"He assumed I ripped him off and came back for a refund, which he got," says Fischer. "Then he threatened me after that. He told me he could clear me outta OB. Five minutes later, another guy on a skateboard stole most of my friend Megan's art, so I ran after him. He took Niagara Avenue and I headed up the alley. When the guy came out, I ran into him head-on. He fell in the street, threw the art up, and said, 'He made me do it'...."

"I got the art back and cussed him out. When I got to the sidewalk I was cracked from behind with a skateboard to the head. Turned to see it was the guy who returned the crystal; this was the guy who 'made him do it.'"

"Like an idiot, I kept feeling like I could solve this situation with my words, so I returned the art and went back up Niagara to talk this out. He saw me, jumped the white concrete wall [behind Nati's], opened a car trunk, and pulled out a metal baseball bat.

I still tried talking to him for maybe a few seconds and then he swung towards my head.

"I put my arm up, heard the crack, and my whole arm went limp. As I turned, he hit me two more times in the side, and as I ran away he got me one last time in the lower back. Someone said they could see bone from my injury so I went to the ER."

"Surgery was supposed to be an hour but took four instead. I was admitted Sunday night and out by Wednesday for farmers' market; 48 staples and a bunch of screws. They literally had to screw my elbow back on...."

SDPD detectives are investigating the assault, and it is believed that the attacker has shaved his facial hair since the incident.

DELINDA LOMBARDO

NORTH PARK

## Presto-Chango, Apartment-Condo!

### North Park developers vex plodding planners

The North Park Planning Committee has lost track of how often apartment developers apparently realize they've built condos at the end of construction and come to ask for a map that divides the apartment building lot into unit-by-unit pieces.



Developers: "Why should we do all this work when they're going to vote no?"

But they've voted no every time, hoping to send a message to the planning commission that the developers are cheating. "These developers are deliberately doing this to avoid community input," says planning committee chairman Rene Vidales.

Maggie Roland, who guides developers through the approval and permit process, said it's true that developers use the last-minute change to condos to get through the development permit process quickly. "The process to get permits for a condo project slows down so drastically, no one does it," she said. "And people stopped presenting to the planning groups because [they think], Why should we do all this work when they're going to vote no?"

Roland said the unintended outcome is that the nays make it look like the planning group opposes condos and the chance for people to graduate from renters to owners, who are usually more involved with community organizations and efforts. Thus, she said, the planning group loses its chance to be heard on the project.

With condo buildings, the developers are

required to present their plan to the group's subcommittee, take their input, then return and present it to the whole group. The planning group's input is advisory rather than an order, so the developers can choose to ignore it. But they still have to show that they presented it.

Doing that can easily add six months to the permit process, Roland said. But if the developers say they're building apartments, their approval process is ministerial, and they don't have to get community-group input...until they declare the project to be condos, and then the only thing that goes to the planning groups is the tentative map that divides the lot into individual units.

MARTY GRAHAM

LOMA PORTAL

## Chowin' at the Chapel McMillin Companies' plan to turn NTC North Chapel into restaurant... and more!



North Chapel: your one-stop shop for both wedding and reception?

The Corky McMillin Company's plan to turn the historic North Chapel at the Naval Training Center into a "restaurant space" is meeting with growing community resistance ranging from the congregations that pray there to the historical and architecture communities.

At the end of February, Milford Wayne Donaldson, the architect of record for the restoration of the Naval Training Center, sent a letter to mayor Kevin Faulconer urging the city and the mayor to oppose any change in how the chapel is used.

"The North Chapel is one of those unique buildings, constructed immediately after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, to honor those men and women of the U.S. Navy. Although Liberty Station contains many old barracks buildings, now used for retail of which I participated and proud of the results, the uses of both the North Chapel as well as the Command Center (Building 200) are unique public spaces and their historical uses are an important public policy consideration," Donaldson's letter says.

Donaldson's voice joins the more than 1000 people who have signed an online petition created by Arlene Paraiso, who is the coordinator for one of the two congregations that hold services in the chapel every Sunday. Both Our Lady of Fatima and St. John Bosco Mission hold Masses; Our Lady at 11 a.m. and John Bosco at 4 p.m. They received notice last fall that their access to the chapel would

end at the end of June.

The McMillin Company and its commercial realtor declined to answer questions about the proposal. The company released a statement through its public relations company that says:

"Currently, the North Chapel building is significantly underutilized throughout the week. We are seeking a solution, and we're open to the possibilities of exploring the Chapel as a multi-purpose facility. The building is a historic property, and any future use will comply with adopted guidelines to protect this resource."

The city handed over 361 acres of the 504-acre former training center to the McMillin Company in 2000. According to KPBS, McMillin paid nothing but promised to split profits with the city and make a new community out of the NTC.

McMillin marker on Building 208:

"Completed in 1942, The North Chapel Building featured leaded glass windows representing the 41 different training schools on site and one window representing the recruit. As the recruits at the Naval Training Center practiced many different religions, different services for all religions were offered. Weddings for senior officers were held in the chapel as well. The Corky McMillin Companies is proud to preserve the history of NTC."

MARTY GRAHAM

RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS

## There goes the affordable neighborhood Bulldozers ready to obliterate Peñasquitos Village apartments

It took three years of planning, hours of contentious debate before the city council, and a last-minute deal with opposition forces, but Lennar Homes ultimately got approval March 5 to bulldoze some 332 former low-income housing units in Rancho Peñasquitos and replace them with 600 townhouses, condos, and apartments under the banner Pacific Village, most of which will rent at market rates.



Peñasquitos Village: conditions indicative of a property soon to face the wrecking ball

After facing stiff opposition backed by local labor unions, Lennar apparently agreed to a deal that allows remaining tenants to stay for another 120 days, allowing families with children to complete the school year. Also included in the deal are cash payments for remaining tenants to assist with moving

continued on page 8



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*E. Patterson*



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expenses and lease deposits at alternate locations, depending on how long a tenant has been a Peñasquitos Village occupant. The builder further pledged to ensure that all of its Section 8 recipients found new homes before their scheduled move-out dates. (Many tenants appear to have seen the writing on the wall: the property is already reportedly 60 percent vacant.)

Of the 276 new apartments to be built on the site (the other 324 homes will be offered for sale), 60 are to be reserved as “affordable housing,” meaning a household earning 65 percent of the area median income (\$51,545, based on a 2017 median income of \$79,300 for a single individual, higher for larger family sizes) could afford to rent there. These represent the 10 percent minimum for affordable units being built, but Lennar has further promised another 12 affordable units will be built off-site in connection with the project.

DAVE RICE

## NATIONAL CITY

### More and More Morrison? Mayor might manage fourth and fifth term if initiative passes

Two National City initiatives will face off in the June elections. Both received the necessary signatures to be placed on the ballot. Both are so similar, they may confuse voters.



National Citizens encourage Mayor Morrison to retire and relax

The National City Citizens for Responsible Government wants to impose a limit of two consecutive four-year terms for mayor and city council members. If passed, the initiative will also hit the “reset” button on the terms of all current elected officials. That means Ron Morrison could run again even though his 12 years and three terms as mayor are up. If the initiative passes, Morrison could be elected to serve two more terms.

In an interview, Morrison defended the initiative. He said it brings National City in line with a majority of smaller cities that are now instituting term limits. He also explained, “It’s harder and harder to recruit people to do this job. I would love to have someone come in and take over. I would love for it, but it needs to be someone who has a business understanding. We’re dealing with a nine-figure budget here at this level.”

Outraged by what some see as a political

power grab, another group of National City residents gathered enough signatures to place a competing initiative on the June ballot. The Citizens for Real Term Limits want to preserve the existing three consecutive terms for mayor. Morrison would not be able to run again. In addition, the measure would impose a limit of three terms for council members.

On Tuesday, March 6th, at a National City Council meeting, 20 public speakers came out to express their opinions on both initiatives. Many residents in the packed council chamber held up signs that said, “No Repeal Term Limits.”

José Rodriguez said, “We don’t need to spend \$70,000 on a special election.” The city clerk, Mike Dalla, confirmed in emails that the projected cost for the two initiatives will be anywhere from \$50,000 to \$70,000.

Eddie Perez complimented the mayor for doing a great job, but said, “Thank you and have a nice retirement because it’s time to move on.”

Council members then had to vote to place both initiatives on the ballot. City attorney Angil Morris-Jones first instructed, “The voters have signed the petition. Once you have been certified, you then have a duty to place this on the ballot.”

The motion passed 4-1. The initiative that has the most votes in June will prevail.

BARBARA ZARAGOZA

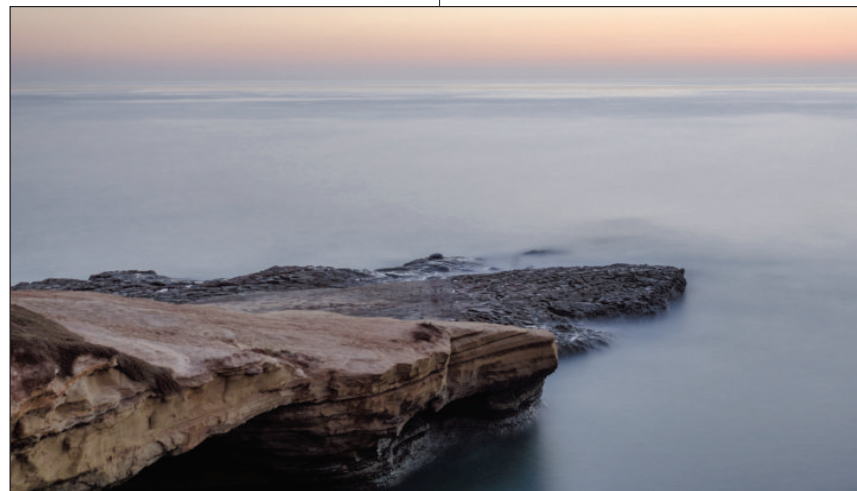
## OCEAN BEACH

### Concrete isn’t natural Sunset Cliffs wants you to think Torrey Pines, not Mission Bay

The master plan for the Hillside Improvement Project at Sunset Cliffs Natural Park mandates minimal structures for the park while providing access via a safe, non erosive, trail system. That means decomposed granite or compacted earth, sometimes three feet wide, sometimes six, and in one case, eight. According to engineers on site at the park, one “multi-use trail will have a decomposed granite surface and be eight feet wide. It will allow for pedestrians and bicyclists to access the loop road and Catalina Boulevard through Point Loma Nazarene University. It is the only trail in the park that will allow bicycles.”

Ellen Quick of the park advisory council says, “Walking in the park should be similar to how it is now, only better and safer. You’ll be able to walk safely with your kids and grandparents all the way to the Navy boundary. Think Torrey Pines Reserve, not Mission Bay Park. No concrete, no picnic tables, no playgrounds. The overlooks are natural dirt, too — no concrete.”

“Thirty-five acres will be revegetated with native plants. That’s going to bring more birds, more wildlife. The former ballfield area will be restored and graded to natural contours. It’s going to be awesome. A place for whatever is special when you walk in a beautiful place — connecting with someone



Sunset Cliffs: “A place for whatever is special.”

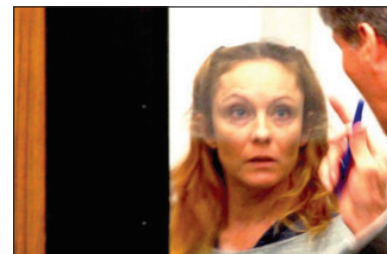
or solitude, planning the future or reminiscing about the past, being inspired by the beauty of the cliffs and coastal bluffs and ocean, and so much more.”

JIMI OLSEN

## BONSALL

### Looting little still looting? Patio umbrella and barbecue taken from evacuated home

On March 9, the attorney for Sacheen Fawn Silvercloud, 43, asked a judge to release her from jail on her own recognizance. Silvercloud is accused of looting a home that was evacuated during the Lilac Fire last December, 2017.



Sacheen Silvercloud, alleged grill grabber

Silvercloud pleads not-guilty to first degree burglary. Defense attorney Andy Zmurkiewicz informed the judge today that the home allegedly burgled by Silvercloud was in fact vacant at the time of the alleged offense, meaning no one lived there at the time, because the former owner had passed away six months prior. Zmurkiewicz said the home was mostly cleaned out, because the home was currently for sale, and was set to close escrow soon. Zmurkiewicz said the items allegedly taken by Silvercloud included a patio umbrella and an old barbecue unit, he said a witness estimated the alleged stolen loot at just \$100 in value.

The attorney for Silvercloud further informed the court that the danger from the Lilac Fire was over, and the evacuation order had been lifted for that area, Gopher Canyon in Bonsall, and so the accused could not have looted a home during a declared emergency.

Prosecutor Teresa Pham protested that the woman who was formerly caretaker for the homeowner was still living in the home, and because the evacuation order had only just been lifted, that caretaker was actually en route back to that house when Silvercloud was caught on the property, with stolen items in her car.

EVA KNOTT

## MISSION BEACH

### Permanent Vacation? Vacation rentals do not a neighborhood make

In 2014, when Jon moved to Abbott Avenue in Ocean Beach, he was surrounded by long-term renters. Every year since, he’s seen neighbors evicted to make room for short-term vacation rentals. Jon, now a homeowner, misses getting to know his neighbors.

Elyse Lowe, out of Mayor Kevin Faulconer’s office, is working on a proposal to address concerns of residents like Jon. This is according to Ann Kerr-Bach, who met with Lowe in mid-February on behalf of the Coalition of Town Councils.

One of the big asks is to limit the number of vacation rentals in any one community. The coalition is willing to grandfather in existing rentals as long as they’ve been paying taxes and other fees, but they don’t want permits transferring to new ownership.



Who are the people in your neighborhood? Who knows?

Per city documentation from August 2017, of the more than 3300 vacation rentals listed, 69-percent are located in Mission Beach (1044), Pacific Beach (495), La Jolla (475), Ocean Beach (240), and Sunset Cliffs (23).

continued on page 82

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## Dear Hipster:

What is the deal with advertising to hipsters? I would think that hipsters would be immune from marketing ploys, if for no other reason than hipsters wouldn't want to purchase something so mainstream as to be widely advertised.

— T.J. (NOT FROM T.J.)

Might as well double down on the old Ferrari similes today. In this case, it's more like how some dude might think he'll buy a Ferrari to attract girls, but in reality there is only one thing a Ferrari attracts: other dudes.

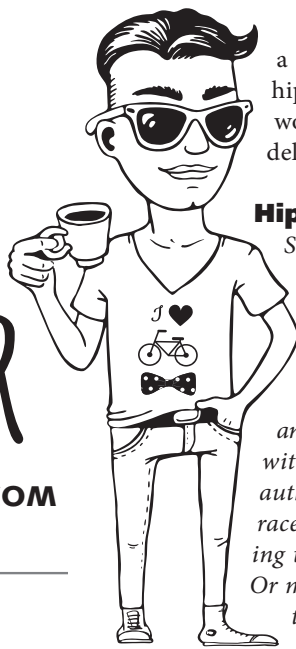
Here we have manufacturers and marketing firms desperately trying to woo the hipster consumer, but hipsters resist advertisements for several reasons:

(1) Advertisements = mainstream, and thus undesirable;

(2) Many hipsters work in marketing and advertising, thus remaining immune to the lure of a well-designed ad; and

(3) At its most basic, the hipster lifestyle epitomizes anti-consumerist sentiments, relying instead on word-of-mouth and underground popularity to promote services and products to the hipster audience.

For these reasons, despite their attempts to liberate hipster dollars from the hand-embroidered duck-tape wallets wherein such dollars hide, the only thing advertisers are attracting is non-hipsters who desperately want to be more like hipsters. Although, perhaps the joke's on us in the long run, and the clever ad gurus were just trying to rope in the hipsters the whole time by promising them



a commodity-driven hipster experience. That would be both smart and delightfully ironic.

## Hipster:

So, are there any notable hipster events held anywhere? Craft-beer festivals don't count. Beard contests, obscure craft hobbies and art on display, booths with books of unheard-of authors, single-speed bike races? I think this is starting to sound like a circus. Or maybe you get pieces of this on different days of the week if you live in the right place.

## Your thoughts?

— I ONLY DO HALF NAMES. FULL NAME WITHHELD.

Rest assured, all of those things that you wanted to know whether or not were actually things are actually things. The World Beard and Moustache Championships roam the hipster globe, drawing tens of hipsters every other year to hipster locations, such as Austin, Texas, where they compete for, if neither fame nor glory, at the very least some kind of trophy.

We lowkey already have single-speed bike races right here at the SD Velodrome, which routinely attract hipster spectators, including yours truly if the weather is nice; and if you routinely lurk around Retrogression Cycles, you will eventually hear about the underground, street-side version.

Much as I hate to sound like a total cynic, in the era of Netflix ubiquity, doesn't every literary event contain booths with books by unheard of authors?

Hipster events are all around... if you know where to look. It's kind of like the thing people say about a Ferrari or a Rolex ("if you have to ask how much it costs, then you can't afford it"); or that terrible piece of advice women's magazines give women ("if you have to ask where the relationship is going then you already know the answer"); except here it's "if you have to ask about the cool thing then you're probably not sufficiently into it."

— DJ Stevens

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## GOLDEN DREAMS

### Come you to the Waters

On this particular Sunday, the longest line at the Chino Farms vegetable stand in Rancho Santa Fe is not the one for the pricey produce, or even for the wood-fired Stinging Nettle pizza. Instead, it snakes steadily toward the table where celebrity chef and food activist Alice Waters is signing copies of her memoir, *Coming to My Senses: The Making of a Counterculture Cook*.

She is here as part of the Good Earth/Great Chefs Series; proceeds go to benefit her Edible Schoolyard Project. (Waters, founder of the Berkeley food mecca Chez Panisse, famously put Chino Farms on the map in the

1970s, when a friend sent her a box of their *haricots verts* — green beans — and they proved to be just like the ones she'd had in France.)

Rob Hillman is here because “it’s Alice Waters! She was a fun-loving girl who went to France and came back and started a restaurant with some friends on a lark, and look at her influence. Today, everybody talks about fresh, locally sourced foods, but back then, it was remarkable. My son actually worked for Bob Cannard at Green String Farm in Sonoma; Waters buys a lot of their produce. So she’s influenced his generation as well as mine.”

Carrie Dederich loves making Waters’ “roasted tomatoes, where you just take tomatoes off the vine, put them on a sheet pan, slather

them with olive oil and whole cloves of garlic, and throw them in the oven at 250 degrees for like ten hours. Then you pull them out and smash them on pasta, and that’s it. Her stuff is so simple and beautiful. There’s a line in the book: ‘Beauty is the language of caring.’ I think she’s reminding everybody that to be human is to recognize and appreciate beauty. If not, God would be playing to an empty house. That’s her message, and food is her medium.”

Gloria Aronson took her family to Chez Panisse six years ago. “My first time having persimmons as a garnish on a salad — sliced thin. I do that with my own salads now, when they’re in season. We had our table right near the kitchen, and when we finished, they asked if we wanted to have a tour. Two years ago, my daughter Kendra self-published *The San Luis Obispo Farmer’s Market Cookbook*, and left a copy for Alice at the restaurant. Alice made a wonderful comment that Kendra could use in her marketing. She sold 10,000 copies.”

Margeurite Gifka followed Waters into the business — and beyond. After learning restaurant work in New Orleans, she cooked at a fancy dude ranch in Montana, “with all this amazing produce that we could just go and buy. The most gorgeous vegetables. You let whatever you have talk to you. ‘Let’s take these celery leaves and make an Italian *salsa verde*. Then maybe pick up a piece of fish to

serve with that, and maybe some celery root to tie the two together.”

Today, she’s a food coordinator at Third Avenue Charitable Organization. “We serve two meals a week to the community. There’s a church garden that grows beautiful greens for us, and we pick up donations from Albertson’s three times a week. So it’s very seasonal: we get what’s available, and that determines what we make.”

### I won’t be wronged. I won’t be insulted.

The San Diego Film Foundation’s 2018 Oscar Viewing Party was held at the luxurious Hacienda del Corazón in Rancho Santa Fe. On January 5 of last year, it was the *Wall Street Journal’s* House of the Day, and it remains available for sale. “We’re honored to be able



The Duke at the bar of Hacienda del Corazón

to host an event like this,” says agent Jenna Daley, “to showcase this one-of-a-kind property. It’s 15,000 square feet under roof, and an entertainer’s dream.”

*continued on page 24*



Alice Waters, then (on the cover) and now (at the table).

MATTHEW LICKONA

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## UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

Listing materials bill the Del Mar estate at 507 Van Dyke Avenue as “a moving meditation.” Originally built in 1985, the four-bedroom, five-bath home underwent an extensive three-year renovation that was completed in 2017 and left no corner of the property’s 3740 square feet of living space untouched.

“Exhale as you enter through a privacy gate into the soothing garden featuring multiple water features and ocean view spaces,” the listing con-



A magnificent Moreton Bay Fig Tree arches over the exterior.

tinues. Inside, “custom grand pivot doors lead into airy interiors, seamlessly flowing onto spacious patios offering sit down ocean views from

every primary room.”

The residence sits on a one-third acre lot “just over the heart of Del Mar Village, a short walk to beaches, restaurants &

boutiques” — maps put it at just under a half mile inland from the city’s Powerhouse Park beach.

Luxury appointments include “Brazil-

ian cherry wood floors, Calcutta marble, lava-stone steps, custom glass accordion stack doors and gorgeous custom case-work throughout.” An ocean-view media room features a wood-burning fireplace, and the open-format dining room and kitchen were designed to accommodate the owner’s penchant for entertaining guests while cooking with “Miele, Bosch and Thermador appliances, walk-in pantry and adjacent gathering room.”

The master suite features a walk-in closet “dressing room” that’s nearly as large as the secondary bedrooms, and a private patio outside leads to the spa, perched on a hillside above the pool. The whole home is controlled by a Savant automation system that

“makes it easy to manage music, lighting, and mood of this gorgeous space.”

Outside features include “an endless exercise pool, heated alfresco dining pavilion with glass enclosure and chic rectangular fire pit, surrounded by private gardens and a magnificent Moreton Bay Fig tree,” along with a detached sauna/steam room and outdoor kitchen featuring a built-in barbecue with surrounding bar seating that reportedly had to be placed via crane.

“With gorgeous ocean views, stunning clean design and a private, quiet location, this home offers a private, tranquil retreat. The natural outdoor elements, peaceful gardens & layered terraces offer space for personal reflection while the

*continued on page 24*

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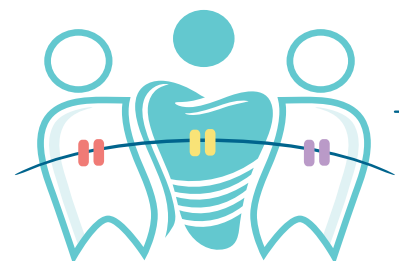
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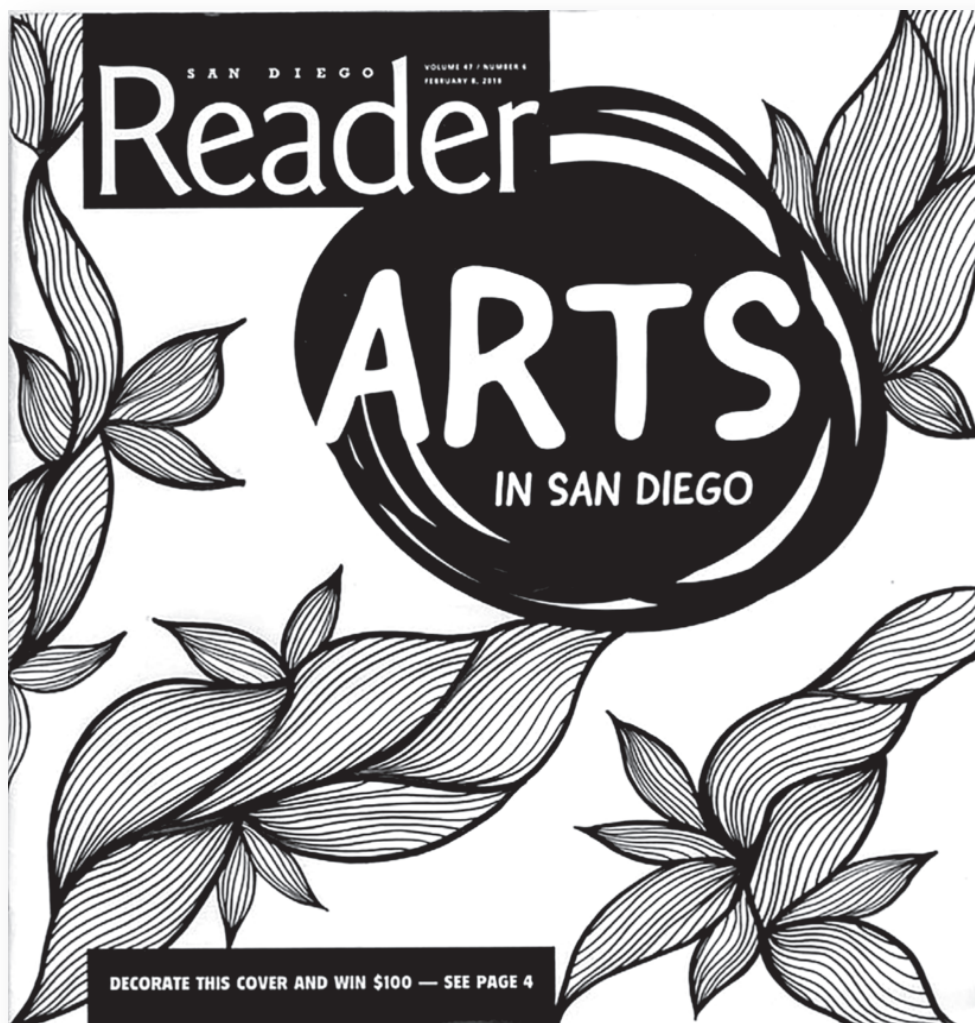
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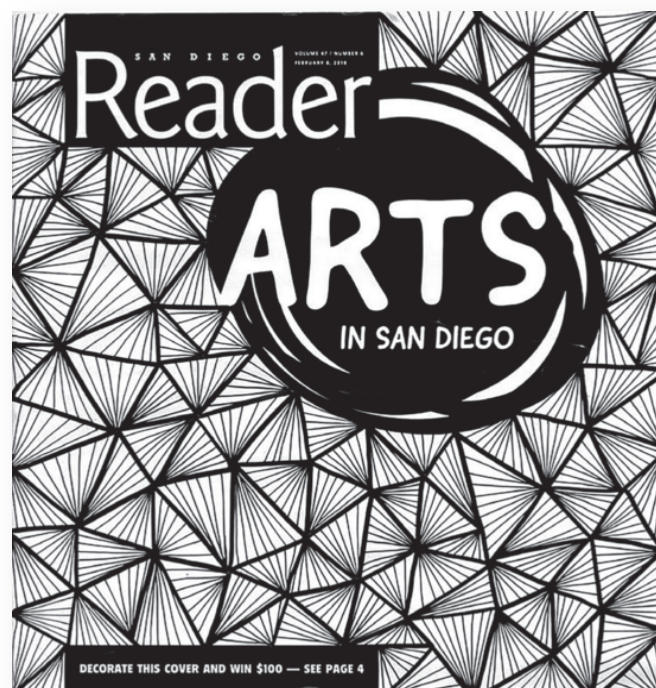
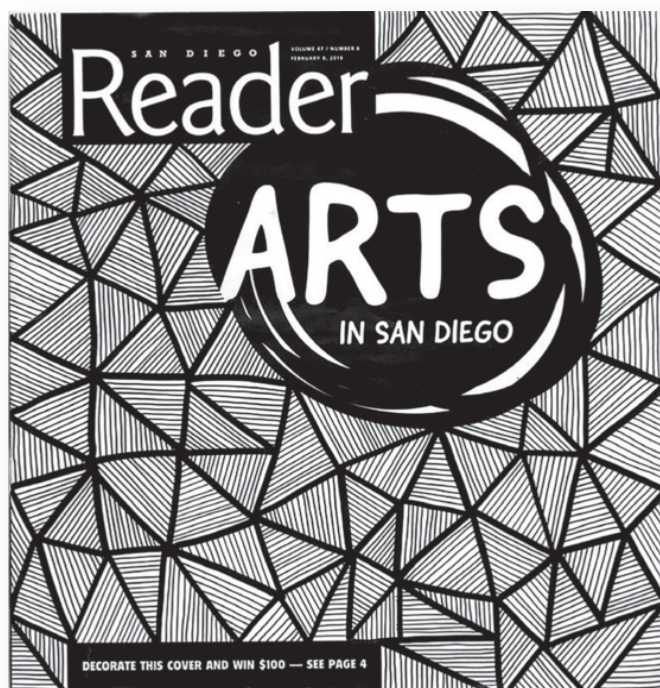
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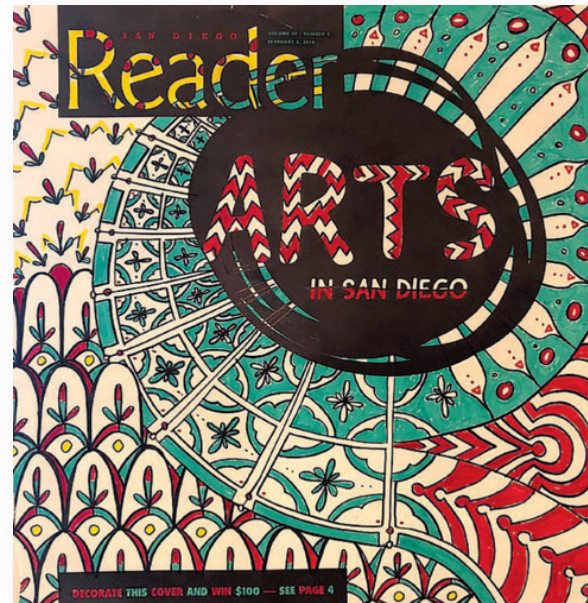


# CONTEST WINNERS

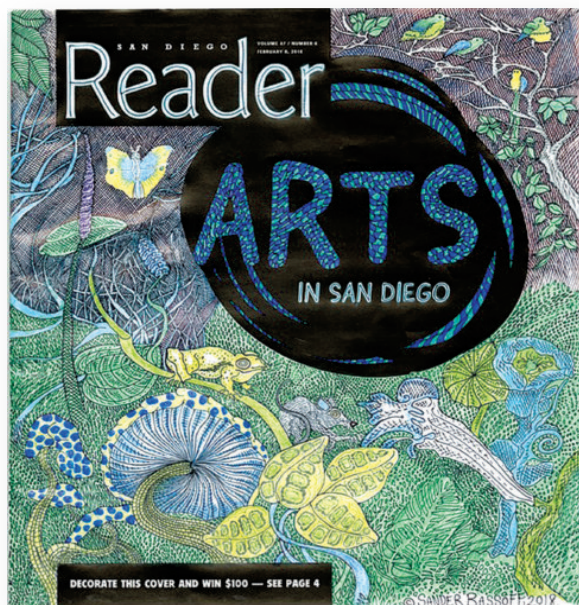
Our four runners-up will receive tickets to their choice of *Reader Tacotopia* or *Reader Burgers & Beer*



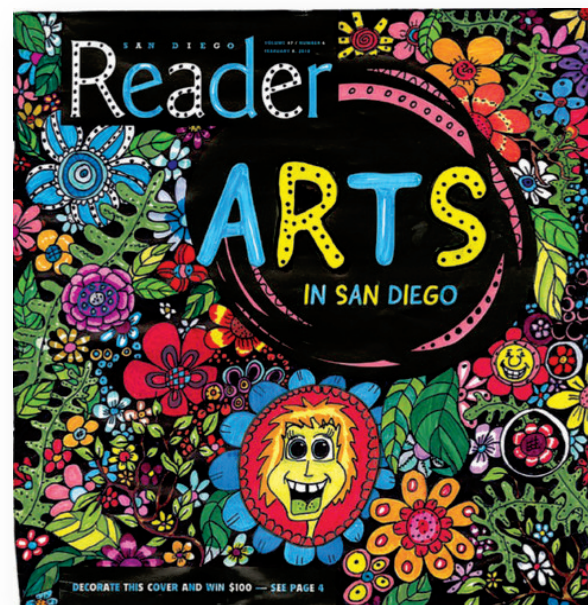
Jaruska Solyova



Sarah Conley



Sander Bassoff



Anita Fritz

Go to [sreader.com/artcover](http://sreader.com/artcover) to see these entries and more

# Mothers Wig

## Kleptomom

Alyssa Jones (not her real name) and I are five minutes or so into my visit to her Point Loma home one afternoon when she self-diagnoses, "I'm a kleptomaniac."

We're perched on adjacent couches in one of two living rooms in Jones's 2600-square-foot home, including four bedrooms, two and a half baths, and a lovely backyard. The current Zillow estimate of her home is just over \$1 million. Today, the stay-at-home mom wears a black shirt smeared here and there with milky gray spit-up stains. Her three-year-old daughter sits in a tiny chair by the coffee table eating popcorn and clementine sections. Her three-month-old son rests in a bouncy chair on the floor. Alyssa bounces the chair with her foot while



JUPITERIMAGES/THINKSTOCK

she explains herself to me. "I steal diapers, drinks, whatever. I got a toaster oven once. I think I got

a blender. I don't know. Just anything that fits at the bottom of the cart," she says. "They never

look at the bottom of the cart. But if they do, I'll just say, 'Oh, my gosh. Sorry. Totally forgot.'"

So far, no one has ever stopped her.

I ask Jones to start at the beginning, so she goes back to her pre-teen days when she got in the habit of pilfering jewelry, makeup, maybe a pair of shoes here and there. But that phase, she says, didn't last long.

"I guess it [ended] when I was a-r-r-e-s-t-e-d in seventh or eighth grade," she says, spelling it out for the sake of her three-year-old daughter who, I have noticed, is in the parrot phase of her life. "My friend handed me a pair of sunglasses and I put them in my bag."

The details of the arrest include an under-

cover officer, a paddy wagon, a police station, and ultimately, the disappointment of her parents. The incident never went on Alyssa's record because the sunglasses had no tag, and she convinced the

**"They never look at the bottom of the cart. But if they do, I'll just say, 'Oh, my gosh. Sorry. Totally forgot.'"**

authorities that when she put them in her bag, she thought they belonged to her friend.

Still, she suffered enough consequences to scare her into quit-

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ting. At least for a couple of decades.

“That kind of ended my career,” she says.

After a pause, I ask, “Until when?”

She laughs. And then, after a few start-and-stop half-sentences that begin with, “I mean,” and “Well, I guess,” she comes out and says, “I hate to say this, but after having kids and not working anymore and having a real cash shortage.”

Her voice drops almost to a whisper when she says the word “kids.”

Jones doesn’t specifically remember the first time she stole from the neighborhood Target (“I mean, it was numerous times”), but she swears she didn’t go in intending to do so.

“I think it was probably, like, a dawning on me at the register where I could just pull up and just

try it,” she says. “There’s a bunch of stuff on the bottom of the cart and they’re not coming around to check, and I’m just paying for the stuff on the top.”

So she did it once. Then she did it again. And then again.

“I just kept it consistent. I put all the big stuff at the bottom, all the drinks, like a case of beer, a jug of milk, or any big box item that would fit under there. Usually as much as I could get down there,” she says.

“Then it just became a regular thing where I would look for the register with the most” her voice drops again “fuck-off looking person there.”

Jones’s daughter has finished eating. She stands up from her tiny seat, approaches me, and, with her face upturned, asks, “Where’s my colors?”

After we spend a

moment looking for her “colors,” we find a container of markers under the coloring book on the coffee table. Smiling, the little girl takes the container and wanders off to another room. The baby bounces drowsily in his chair.

I ask Jones what she means by the most “fuck-off” person.

“I mean, for example, I wouldn’t go to an older woman,” she says. “I’d go to a teenage kid or the person who looks like they care the least.”

She estimates she’s been doing this for two years or so. When I ask how long it was between the first time she did it and when it became a regular occurrence that she would enter the store intending to steal, she’s quick to say, “I never go in with the intent to steal.”

“So, you just do your

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regular shopping, and then you assess whether or not it's feasible once you get to the register?"

"Yeah."

"But while you're shopping, you're putting stuff on the bottom of the cart?"

"Yes," she says. "But..."

Then, realizing she has contradicted herself, she starts laughing.

"There was even this one time when a manager-looking person with a walkie talkie was standing right in front, and I was, like, 'Oh, I'd better not.' But then she walked off. And there was another woman, and I don't know if I was just paranoid... I mean, I'm always, like, 'Who's watching?' but I felt like that woman was looking up and down between me and the bottom of my cart."

She emphasizes by acting it out, her eyes jumping between my face and my knees.

"And I still did it," she says with a tone of incredulity, "because the register person was clueless. I was having a conversation with them, and they were like, 'Lalalala, okay, thanks, bye!'"

She inhales deeply and raises her eyebrows.

"That was high risk," she says. "I probably should not have done that."

I ask if she enjoyed the thrill of that high risk moment and she begins to answer with a long, drawn-out, "Uuuuuuummm..." before admitting, "Yeah, I'd have to say yes. Because I always come home and I'm, like, 'James, look what I did!'"

James is her husband.

"Oh, so this is not a big secret?" I ask.

"No, but I mean, I wouldn't tell anyone else," she says.

She adds, laughing, "except for somebody who's going to publish it in the *Reader*."

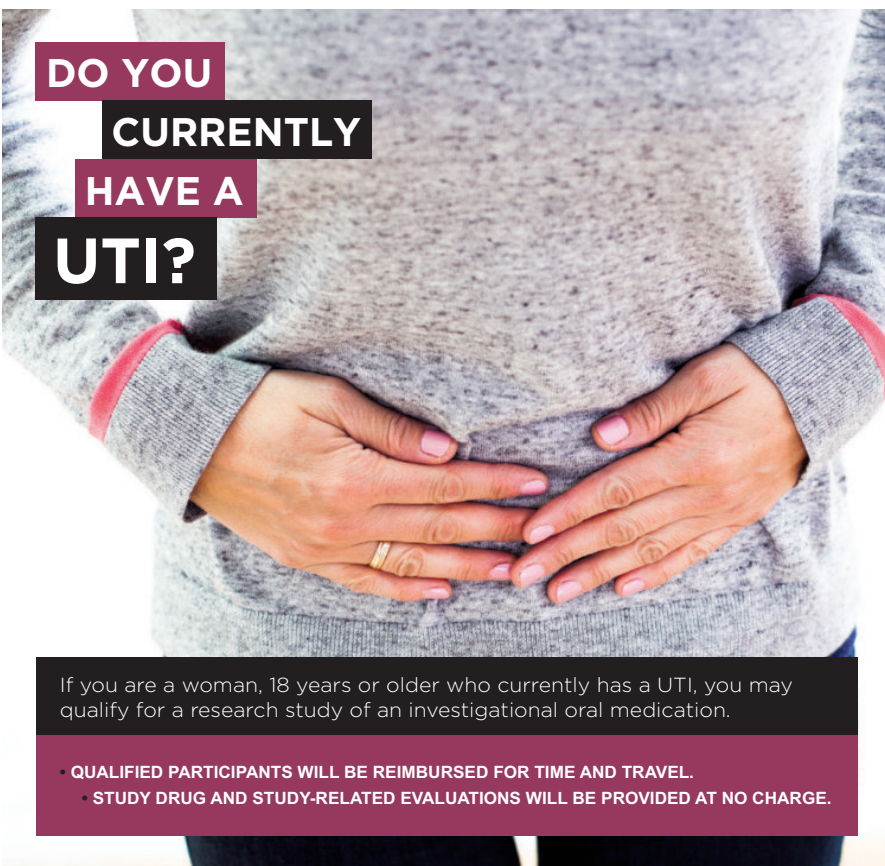
I ask if she has a psychological analysis of why she might be taking these risks.

She's quick to tell me, no, she has no analysis.

"We're just strapped for cash," she says. "I don't think I would have been doing this if it wasn't so tight for us. I mean, it's major savings." After a few minutes' thought, Jones explains that she once had a four-or-five-year relationship with a Mr. Moneybags who gave her access to a luxurious life I've heard her mourn on more than one occasion. Today, yes, she lives in a nice home, shops at Whole Foods, and vacations occasionally, but that

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other life was made of international first-class travel, furs, and the kind of shopping that does not require looking at prices.

She stops bouncing the fat baby in his chair. He's fast asleep. She lies back on the couch, props a pillow under her head, laughs, and says she's ready for my analysis.

I go back to the Mr. Moneybags thing and ask if she thinks the loss of all the promise that relationship held (materially speaking) could be connected to her self-diagnosed kleptomania.

"Yeah," she says as if it's an obvious question. "I mean, I think it's just... wanting to have more."

The toddler wanders back into the room and climbs up on the couch at her mom's feet. "I want airplane," she says in a quiet voice. "I want airplane. I want airplane."

But Jones doesn't seem to hear the girl. She's busy contemplating my question about how "strapped for cash" she can actually be when she says she's just returned from a three-day weekend in Napa Valley.

"We are strapped for cash," she says. "We're living off of James's paychecks, which are gone in three days, and then we have a week and a half until the next paycheck. We did Napa on credit, and we're trying to catch up from

that. We're just always a little bit behind it. But, no, it's not destitute. We're not on skid row."

She admits it wasn't

## "I probably cheated on every boyfriend I ever had. And that was because of the thrill."

lack that caused her to steal the rosemary-scented soap she took from an airplane bathroom over the summer. That was more of an "I like it, and I want it" moment.

"There is an ele-

ment of seeing what I can get away with," she says. "Maybe I'm just too bored in my life. I need some action, some thrills

and spills."

She follows with a weak giggle that sounds almost sarcastic.

"Just kidding," she says. "But, yeah. I have always been a little naughty, and once you get older, there's no excuse for the ways you [got your kicks] when you were younger. Because now I'm married, and I can't have visits with the postman, so to speak. I mean, previously to being mar-

ried, I probably cheated on every boyfriend I ever had. And that was because of the thrill."

She talks for a few minutes about being a bad girl living a happy domestic life. Then she goes back to the money thing.

"I want to be able to spend freely and not, when I'm in the grocery store, have to comparison shop. Just having a little bit of extra padding, regularly. That would be fine," she says, sitting up on her elbows for emphasis. "Which I can do if I just go out and get a job, but I mean, if you're going to pay somebody for decent child care today, it's \$15 an hour. And that's at least \$30,000 a year. At my last job, I made \$36,000. So how would I justify that? It means I have to find a job where I'm making at least \$60,000. But jobs in my field don't pay that in San Diego. So, what am I

going to do? I'm going to have to do something I'd be miserable at, and I don't want to be miserable."

Jones says she plans to stop stealing. This past December, she began by not stealing her Christmas tree. In 2013, she stole her tree from the neighborhood Rite Aid.

"There's nobody there. You have to go inside and ask, 'Is there anybody working at the trees?' The security guard is the one that's helping," she says. "So, I'm parked out front. He helps me load up, and he's like, 'Okay, there you go. You're all set.' Last year, I was, like, 'Okay, thanks a lot,' and I drove off."

But this year, she paid. "Why?" I ask.

"Because I don't think I should be doing it anymore," she says. "I just don't think I should. I mean, it's Christmas."

This makes us both laugh again.

But, seriously, I ask, what exactly is making her want to stop. Is it the fear of getting caught? Is it karma? What?

"It's just not good. I don't want to be an immoral person," she says. And then after a beat, "I think maybe I'm realizing that my reasoning isn't very sound. We're not destitute. It's not skid row. And I'm realizing that even though things are super tight, we're always managing. So, a \$20 tree here or there isn't going to put me over the edge, so why don't I just pay for it?"

What about the fear of getting caught?

"Yeah, that would be bad," she says.

But then she recounts a sitcom episode she remembers from childhood.

"I think it was *Diff'rent Strokes*, and Mr. Drummond's sister came to visit and she had this problem. There's a scene where she's

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in a store and she's looking all around and putting stuff in her bag. And she gets caught, and it's this family issue: 'Aunt Josie has a problem.'"

She finger-quotes "problem" and, laughing, adds, "I don't want to be Aunt Josie. I think I should have worked that out of my system in seventh grade."

I suggest to Jones that she might want to refrain from pulling off another heist at Target. "I know," she responds, "That's what I was thinking," she says. "What if the CFO of Target is, like, 'People are getting away with this, and we have to crack down.' Then you're ruining my gig with this story."

She laughs again.

"Right," I say. "But you want to stop."

"Yeah, I do," she says. "But you might be ruining it for other people."

Jones laughs, this time with enough force to startle the baby awake. She reaches one foot down to bounce his chair and his eyes close again.

"I think you might be Aunt Josie," I say.

"I might be," she says. "But I can stop anytime."

— Elizabeth Salaam

### Rage mom

I think I got my perfect pitch from my mother's side of the family. I got my anger from her side too. I call it the curse of perfect pitch. Or the chip-on-the-shoulder gene. My son has it. He used to scream every day for hours when he was younger. I would tell people that he channels my mother, and she isn't even dead yet. He and I are both extra-sensitive: to pitch, to socks (him), to temperature (me), to nonmatching clothes (both of us). He has

some kind of angst, and he likes to share it in the middle of the living room. I've taken to wearing earplugs. I discovered that my son had perfect pitch when he was five years old. My daughter, who is three years older than my son, does not have the ability to recognize pitches by sound, nor does my husband. One night my husband leaned over the dinner table and said to our daughter, "Don't feel badly; I can't do it either."

It never dawned on me that my ability might be genetic. I thought it was unusual that I could tell what the piano notes were when others couldn't, but it wasn't until I was 15 that a choir director realized I had perfect pitch and told me so. My parents never knew. My father recently e-mailed me that he thinks it comes from my mother's

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side. "Your grandfather was into music as a young man and played the trumpet in the Army in World War I, and your grandma was into playing piano. My family was never known as musical."

I remember my grandfather's trumpet and how my mother would warn me not to drop it for the few seconds that I got to put the mouthpiece to my lips for one quick blow. Then it was put away for another year. The trumpet was silver and had mother-of-pearl caps on the tops of its pistons. I remember the contrast of the silver metal lying there against the purple felt of the case's interior. It was nickel silver, the same material that plates my Holton Farkus French horn, which I have owned since I was 18. I'm 47, and I've played the horn for 37 years. My grandfather also

had a bugle: a smaller, dingier brass thing. I can only see them in my mind for I have no idea where they are now.

I can't ask my mother because I haven't spoken to her in eight years, ever since she threw a scene at Taco Auctioneer in Cardiff. I won't send her a Mother's Day card, because I don't have any emotion left for dealing with her. I know it's tough being a mother. I was in the 98th percentile in spatial relationships when I was seven, and I think all that ability has gone into loading the dishwasher. I am a master dishwasher setter. If it seems like overkill, you have some insight into the life of a mom. Highly skilled and changing diapers. Mothers wig. They lose it at some point. One mother confessed to me, "I never wash the dishtowels

with my underwear for fear of pubic hairs." You have to be crazy to really spend that much time thinking about your laundry. Another mother told me that her son wanted a tat-



**Jennifer Ball's mother**

too but she said absolutely not. He said, What about you? She confessed to me that she had gotten her lips permanently colored, but "that was different."

I use these reference points as a way to understand my own mother.

Even though I don't want to see her again (the therapist says you don't need to see your family if they make you crazy), it helps to put her in context. To realize that to be a mother is to

## My mother pointed a rifle at me when I was 13 and said she was going to kill me.

go a bit cuckoo at times. When I was breastfeeding my firstborn, I called the police at 3:00 in the morning to report a car driving down the street slowly with all its lights on. It looked as if there were four people in the car. The next night when I called again to report the same suspicious car, the dispatch

officer asked, "Could it be the newspaper deliverer?"

Yes, it could. I realized that what I thought were people were really stacks of newspapers. I also realized that I was losing it. In my

case, it was remedied by more sleep. In my mother's case, there is no remedy. People always ask, "What could she have done that was so terrible?" I don't like to be sensational, but if they force me, I will tell them about the time that my mother pointed a rifle at me when I was 13 and said she was going to kill

me. That tends to shut people up.

My mother has never had a lot of self-esteem. I remember her telling me that when her older brother died (she was 14, he was 16), her mother -- my grandmother -- told her that she wished my mother had died instead. My grandmother said that Sid had gone to live with the angels because he was too good for this world. My mother told me that Sid had died while pouring gas into the family car while it was running. She said, "People didn't know not to do that in those days." She told me that the gas tank exploded, and he fell off and hit his temple. I remember this story like a litany. But one time when I was visiting my aunt and uncle, I recited this story, and my aunt (who is not related to my mother but

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grew up in the same small Northern California town -- I have a picture of them in kindergarten together) inhaled sharply and said, "Is that what your mother told you?"

According to her, my grandfather, who was known for his inebriation, had accidentally run over my uncle in a stupor while the family watched. My aunt said, "The whole town knew it. He killed his son because he was drunk."

Remembering the time that my grandfather forced me to eat a bruised banana, which I said I didn't want, his breath hot and stinky as he leaned over me, I can believe he could be drunk enough to run over his son. I don't think I ever ate much of the rotting fruit because I was faster than he was.

Another time I remember my grandfather showing me a vial of gold that the company he owned had drilled out of the ground. It was a fine powder that he accidentally spilled on the floor then futilely tried to pinch up and put back into the vial, along with dog hairs and the detritus of an ancient house. When I think of my grandfather as a dad is when I realize that my mother had it tough too.

Knowing all this doesn't make up for my childhood, but it does

make my mother more human. It doesn't pay to romanticize, however. I hadn't seen my mother for ten years prior to the scene at the Mexican restaurant. The absence didn't seem to make her heart grow fonder. So I will spend the time that I would have spent with her with my children instead. Discovering their special talents rather than threatening them with firearms. It seems so easy as I write this and they are asleep. And now, for me, it is. ■

— Jennifer Ball

*{The preceding stories were originally published in the San Diego Reader February 4, 2015 (Kleptomom) and May 5, 2005 (Rage mom.)}*

### GOLDEN DREAMS

*continued from page 12*

Daley is the wife of the man who built the home in 2009: Jeff Daley, owner of Daley Custom Homes. And Jeff is the son of the man who owns it: John Daley Sr. "This was his dream," says fellow agent Criss Crozier. "And [his wife] Gina executed it, making sure of all the details."

"The idea was to have a Spanish hacienda," says builder Jeff. "We ended up going deep into Mexico and checking out all the architecture. The furniture was all made in Mexico. All the copper and silver in the inlays is from Mexico. And all the Cantera stone came out of Guadalajara; some of it hammered, some of it chiseled. We had about four truckloads."

But not everything came

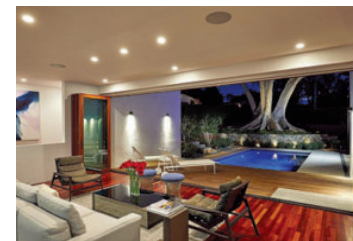
## UNREAL ESTATE

*continued from page 12*

openly designed interior blends effortlessly with the outside entertaining areas."

The home is owned by Ken Baca, a wholesale floral supplier who ships fresh flowers to retailers across the West Coast.

After buying the house in 2012 for a reported \$3.8 million, Baca and his partner Isabelle Guy got to work in 2014 with designer John McCully and landscape architect Marcie Harris to give the home a complete update.



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"Although it looked good, it just didn't feel good," Baca told *San Diego Home/Garden Lifestyles*, which profiled the home last fall before it was listed for sale. "I decided to do it all and

do it right."

Now that it's done, Baca appears ready to move on. The Van Dyke estate hit the open market in early March, carrying a price tag of \$8,950,000 that remains unchanged to date. ■

from Mexico. "[The owner] was a bridge contractor," says Jeff, gesturing toward the massive beam over the fireplace in the grand hall. "That's falsework from a bridge — the wood that holds it up before they pour it." The grand hall's floor came from President James Madison's estate. And the life-sized bronze statues are courtesy of sculptor Bradford Williams. On Oscar night, the hall boasts three, most notably John Wayne, the Duke himself, standing at one end of the bar. Beside the statue, on the bar, is a coaster bearing Wayne's image; atop that is a shot glass, also adorned by Wayne; and

behind that is a framed picture of Wayne captioned by "Duke's Code" from *The Shootist*: "I won't be wronged. I won't be insulted. I won't be laid a hand on. I don't do these things to other people, and I require the same of them."

The owner comes by the Cowboy Way honestly: his father Donald grew up working his father's 10,000-acre ranch in Jamul. (Later, Donald developed Rancho Bernardo and helped build Interstate 8.) The family's cattle brand is emblazoned in the woodwork over the bar. The love that went into the place is obvious; what's less clear is why they're selling. "They want to build another," offers Jenna. "They had horses and all this stuff," says Criss. "They sold it all because they're going to switch it up." Even The Duke is for sale if the price is right.

Another, smaller Williams statue illustrates "Born To This Land," a framed poem by Red Steagall: a boy and his grandfather, both on horseback. The penultimate stanza reads,

*And now that he's gone, things are certain to change*

*And I reckon that's how it should be*

*But five generations have called this ranch home*

*And I promise it won't end with me.*

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## Tijuana's morgue

continued from page 3

member, and you have to give him now. And if you don't we are calling a television station or a newsman. And that's when a man dressed in black with a tag that read Ministerial Semefo showed up, and we told him our case.

"This is after everyone had left the area, except the three families that were claiming bodies and had everything ready and we were all angry and sad. The man in black said, don't worry, you guys will get the bodies today, this is not fair and I'll take care of it. And he did. But it was until 10 p.m. that they finally gave us the body. After waiting for so long.

"As we were leaving the place, people were still arriving anguished and crying asking for their family members. The guard would only to say, 'Esta cerrado, regrese

mañana'" — It's closed, come back tomorrow. "That was my first experience at Semefo and it was a nightmare, the installations, the employees, the service, their schedule, everything. You get there uncertain, sad, full of pain, and then they make you wait for 20 hours and endure that smell and the horrible service." ■

## Under the radar

continued from page 3

termed-out mayor **Ron Morrison**, who has been mayor since 2006, to run again this fall. Labor's mayoral pick is Councilwoman **Alejandra Sotelo-Solis**, director of the UC San Diego Community Law Project.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

According to the complaint, **Garcia** began as an intern in the city's Economic Development Department in September 2013. She was hired on full-time in January of the following year.

Not long after starting at the city, **Garcia** met **Alejandro Ruiz Velasco**, a conservation specialist. In November 2013, **Velasco** began asking **Garcia** out to lunch. **Garcia** repeatedly refused the invitations. **Velasco** allegedly began telling **Garcia** that he wanted to wake up next to her and that she was beautiful.

In January 2015 the emails began. **Velasco** reportedly would ask her about her personal life. He wanted to know the type of men she liked. He later referenced how he craved a woman's genitalia.

The following year, **Garcia** told **Velasco** that she was not interested and would

never be interested in dating him. One month later **Velasco's** supervisor **Lynn France** wanted to meet with **Garcia**. At the meeting she told **Garcia** that other employees had accused her of sexually harassing them.

**Garcia** then began compiling emails and other evidence of **Velasco's** harassment. She went to the city's human resources department to file a complaint and show them the emails.

The city responded by transferring her to another department temporarily. **Velasco** was not disciplined. **Garcia** has since quit her job.

**Garcia's** attorney, **Dan Gilleon**, confirmed the settlement as well as the amount.

The city also confirmed that **Velasco** is still employed as a conservation specialist for the city.

Dorian Hargrove

## General Atomics' racial dynamics

Lawsuit seeks to include people of color on production side of drone warfare

"San Diego is the second-leading aerospace industry hub in the United States," says National Action Network vice president **Jared Moten**. "Congress has quietly passed a \$165

billion spending increase in defense spending — of that, \$9.2 billion will be coming to San Diego. We're looking for equity for blacks and Latinos in that spending."

**Jamil Couzens**, who's spent the past 30 years as a skilled aerospace machinist, is concerned that won't be the case. "If you look at the demographics of the city, we're 37 percent Latino and 5 percent African American, yet combined only 1 percent of that population has a footprint in advanced manufacturing," he says.

Following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and resulting aviation downturn, **Couzens** was laid off from his job at a major aerospace plant just months after receiving a positive performance review and a raise. He's since had trouble getting hired with a large firm, so he's worked with smaller outfits that don't offer the same health and retirement benefits.

"It took me 13 years before I could even get an interview with General Atomics. At this point in my

career I have nearly 40 years of experience as a machinist in an advanced manufacturing capacity," says **Couzens**.

In 2016, **Couzens** filed a lawsuit accusing General Atomics of racial discrimination over the course of more than a decade. In the suit, he says he applied for numerous positions begin-



Jamil Couzens and the National Action Network want a piece of the action

ning in 2002, some of which were well below his level of qualification. At the time, General Atomics requested that applicants identify themselves by race. **Couzens** never received a response to any of his applications.

By 2014, **Couzens** had been working for nine years at a smaller shop but decided again to try his luck with General Atomics, which still advertised many of the same positions open from a decade prior. This time there was no question on the application about race, and he soon was called in for a

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CITY LIGHTS

three-part interview with two human resources directors and a shop manager.

Though all parties allegedly agreed he'd be a good fit and the shop manager even offered him a site tour of his future workshop, HR stopped responding to his inquiries. A few weeks later, rejection letters started rolling in — while the positions Couzens had applied for remained open. In his legal complaint, Couzens notes that of the 60 or so machinists he encountered on the shop floor, only one was African American.

"Since [9/11], our [minority] numbers have continued to go down, even while the workforce goes up. Companies are now claiming that they can't find machinists, programmers, CAD [computer-aided design] operators — they're not looking. Or they're not looking in the right places, because San Diego is surrounded by

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Tooth in advertising: the board has also criticized Mansueto's misleading dental ads in the Union-Tribune.

three military bases, and all branches of the military have trained machinists and the like leaving service. If you can't find qualified blacks and Latinos from that pool, you're just not trying."

For its part, General Atomics filed a response generally denying Couzens's claims, citing 27 possible defenses they might pursue in court. A trial is tentatively set for early June.

Dave Rice

**Deceptive dentist or persecuting prosecutor?**

Dentist Robert Mansueto sues sheriff Gore Robert Frank Mansueto, a Coronado Cays dentist who has been in trouble

CITY LIGHTS

for his actions in dentistry, filed suit in federal court February 25 against county sheriff William Gore, claiming that Mansueto was wrongly charged with practicing dentistry in Mexico without a California license. Mansueto is out on bail from the Vista Correctional Facility, according to the suit.

In charging Mansueto, the state noted that he had taken patients from the U.S. to Mexico for treatment. Mansueto charges this is "an abuse of prosecutorial discretion."

As revealed in the Reader two years ago, Mansueto in 1995 was placed on probation and suspended from practice for 60 days by the Board of Dental Examiners for altering patient records. Four years later, the board disciplined him again and expressed "profound concern" about his "dishonesty." In 2005, the Dental Board of California (successor to the

Board of Dental Examiners) revoked his license for negligently handling three patients.

In 2016, the state charged him with practicing

dentistry without a license, treating the ill without a certificate, and practicing dentistry under a false name. He pleaded not guilty. He had been arrested at the border.

Since 2010, Mansueto has held a valid license to practice dentistry in Mexico, says his suit. Thousands of Mexican dentists practice in Mexico without a California license, says Mansueto.

Don Bauder

**Who wants to be a cop?**

Slogan sought to solve staffing shortfall Despite the offer of hefty new pay boosts, worthy prospects aren't exactly

continued on page 28

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## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 27

falling all over themselves to sign up to be San Diego cops. Now, with SDPD ranks dwindling to 1787 by recent count (down from 1833 in 2016) — and current vacancies at a record-breaking 250 — ex-public relations wizard Kevin Faulconer has hit the panic button.

Notes a February 23 online request for proposals, “The San Diego Police Department’s successful recruitment of talented Police recruits is a top priority for Mayor

Kevin L. Faulconer. The City seeks a Contractor to develop a branding and marketing strategy for the implementation of a recruitment campaign exclu-

sively for the San Diego Police Department.”

At the top of the city’s wish list is the creation of “a Slogan or Tagline which is specific to and captures the mission and goals of the SDPD.” Other needs include a “social media strategy,” a “billboard and print strategy,” along with “Radio and Television script (and production of one of



SDPD needs HQ PR PDCQ

either concept).”

Cost of the putative two-year contract is not to exceed \$350,000, says the call for proposals. Whoever gets picked likely will draw

the scrutiny of critics, who worry that the city should focus more on other ways of attracting quality recruits.

They point to other California cities, including Oakland, where only 11 of the 33 in the latest class of the basic recruit academy made it through to join the force as a result of rigorous pre-graduation screening.

Matt Potter

### County loses 20,500 jobs in January

Unemployment rate rises, but still low  
San Diego County lost 20,500 jobs in January, as the unemployment rate rose to 3.6 percent from 3.3 percent in December. However, the January rate compares with 4.6 percent for California and 4.5 percent for the nation.

Retail trade lost 4,200 jobs — a seasonal decline.

Food services and drinking places lost 4,500 jobs, according to the California Employment Development Department.

Between January 2017 and January 2018, the county gained 26,400 jobs.

Don Bauder

### Qualcomm quelling contributions?

End of era as top Qualcomm political fixer steps aside

News that Paul Jacobs, a son of Qualcomm co-founder Irwin Jacobs, is stepping down as chairman of the board won’t necessarily spell the end of his family’s power plays here, although tapping the company treasury could be a thing of the past.

The list of San Diego politically-related causes benefiting handsomely from Jacobs-steered Qualcomm largesse has run

the gamut from San Diego State’s public broadcasting operation KPBS and the non-profit Voice of San Diego website to Nathan Fletcher.



Irwin Jacobs & Co. knew how to spread it around

The onetime Republican Assemblyman left the party during a self-styled independent race for mayor, and turned Democrat, the party of the Jacobs family, before another failed try for the same office in the fall of 2013. During that campaign, the GOP Lincoln Club attacked Fletcher for accepting what the Repub-

licans alleged to be a do-nothing job at Qualcomm, drawing a sharp denial from Paul Jacobs.

After Fletcher’s defeat, father and son Jacobs, as well as a bevy of Qualcomm employees, embraced Republican mayor Kevin Faulconer, who paid back a series of suspiciously-timed political contributions by reviving Irwin’s controversial Balboa Park traffic and parking make-over plan.

During the weeks following arrangement of a secret meeting between the GOP mayor and Irwin Jacobs in March 2016 regarding the Balboa Park project, campaign filings later revealed, \$6150 materialized in Faulconer’s campaign fund from no less than ten high-ranking Qualcomm executives, including Paul Jacobs, who kicked in \$1000.

Matt Potter

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# Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

## Thursday | 15

### SAN DIEGO LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

Media Arts Center San Diego celebrates the 25th anniversary of the San Diego Latino Film Festival March 15 to 25. The festival will occupy five screens for eleven days and will present over 160 films

**WHEN:** Ongoing through Sunday, April 15.

**WHERE:** San Diego Zoo Safari Park, 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, Escondido. [sdzsafaripark.org/butterfly-jungle](http://sdzsafaripark.org/butterfly-jungle)

**BACHELORETTE.** Becky, in her late twenties, is getting married. She arranged a posh hotel suite with a view of NYC's Central Park for her maid of honor. Becky didn't invite Katie and Gena to the wedding. They arrive anyway, with a need to self-medicate. (Gena. "We



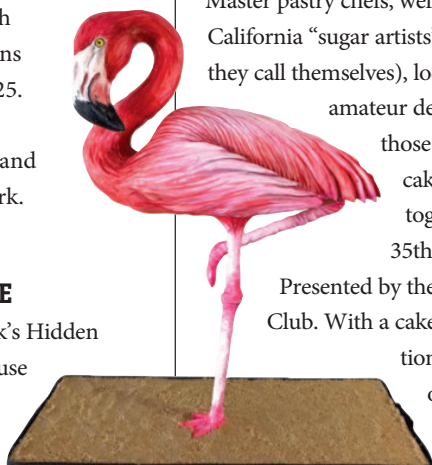
CAMINO A MARTE

from Latin America, the United States, and Spain as well as Opening Night and Closing Night Parties, the 3rd Annual Sonido Latino Food, Beer & Wine Festival, Q&A sessions with visiting filmmakers, free student outreach screenings, and more. Audiences will have the rare opportunity to meet filmmakers and actors from all over the world. Individual films, \$12.

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 15, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Runs through Sunday, March 25.  
**WHERE:** AMC Fashion Valley in Mission Valley and Digital Gym in North Park. [2018.sdlatinofilm.com](http://2018.sdlatinofilm.com)

### BUTTERFLY JUNGLE

Each spring the Safari Park's Hidden Jungle rain forest greenhouse is filled with 10,000 exotic butterflies of all colors and sizes, and guests can walk among them, take photos, and learn different species using a butterfly identification guide. If you wear bright colors, a few might just perch on you to take a closer look. Free with park admission.



don't do heroin." Katie: "We should start.") The ensuing trash-farce turns Neil Simon's *Plaza Suite* upside down and flattens it. Through April 1 at the Backyard Renaissance at Diversionary Theatre. Theater, [page 70](#).

## Saturday | 17

### SAN DIEGO CAKE SHOW

Master pastry chefs, well-known California "sugar artists" (that's what they call themselves), local bakers, and amateur decorators and those who just enjoy cakes will come together for the 35th annual event.

Presented by the San Diego Cake Club. With a cake design competition open to everyone, a variety of decorating classes for all skill levels,

decorating demonstrations, and raffles and vendor booths featuring a wide range of decorating tools, tips, and supplies.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 17, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Also on Sunday.



THURSDAY, MARCH 15: BUTTERFLY JUNGLE

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

## Sunday | 18

### PUPPY LOVE 5K

Enjoy the flat, fast course around the Embarcadero at this ninth-annual event. Bring the kids and pups and enjoy the expansive bay view. Timed runners will complete the race as fast as they can, or register as a walker and stroll around the bay. At the finish line head over to the BARKetplace for food, giveaways, costume contests, opportunity drawings, kid's activities, and awards. \$18 to \$40.

**WHEN:** Sunday, March 18, 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Embarcadero Marina Park South, 200 Marina Park Way. <http://bit.ly/2FvBO5m>

### WALTER TROUT.

Blues-rock guitarist Walter Trout continues the "come-back" tour that began after recovering from his 2014 bout with liver failure. Not that he ever really went away, as he continued to drop approximately one album

every year, even after his emergency liver transplant, an ordeal he chronicled on his next full-length, *Battle Scars*. He did take a brief break from recording to put out a 2016 live album, but he came roaring back last year with *We're All in This Together*, which debuted atop the *Billboard* blues chart and will be featured prominently when he returns to the Belly Up for the fourth time in six years on Sunday, March 18. Music, [page 68](#).

## Monday | 19

### LPGA KIA CLASSIC

The Kia Classic features 144 of the best women golfers playing for a \$1.8 million purse. The field features 2017 Kia Classic Champion Mirim Lee and crowd favorites Lydia Ko, Paula Creamer, Stacy Lewis, Michelle Wie, and Lexi Thompson. \$40-\$150.

**WHEN:** Monday, March 19, 8 a.m. Runs through Sunday, March 25.

**WHERE:** Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, 7100 Aviara Resort Drive, Carlsbad. [kiaclassic.com](http://kiaclassic.com)



# ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

## RIDGELINE TRAIL: RANCHO LA COSTA PRESERVE (CARLSBAD)

Scenic hike with views of the ocean and Batiquitos Lagoon

**Driving Directions:** From I-5, exit at Palomar Airport Road and drive east 4 miles to El Fuerte Street. Make a right turn and continue for 2.5 miles on El Fuerte to the Ridgeline Trailhead, on your left. There is unrestricted parking along the curb near the trailhead. **Hiking length:** 4.2 miles, out and back. Allow 2 hours. **Difficulty:** Moderate. Elevation gain/loss of 1400 feet. Leashed dogs and bicycles are allowed. The trail is open from sunrise to sunset. The trail is best in winter for views and spring for wildflowers.



Batiquitos Lagoon is visible from the trail.

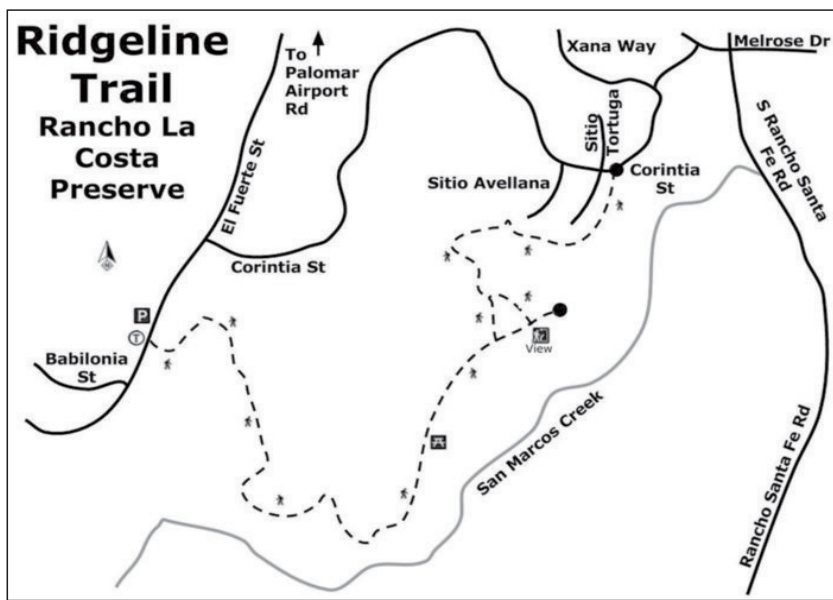
The Ridgeline Trail is a highly scenic trail through native chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat. It has inspiring views of the Batiquitos Lagoon and the Pacific beyond as it takes you along a ridge high above the dramatic cliffs of San Marcos Creek's Box Canyon. It is one of the most interesting of the many trails within Carlsbad's Rancho La Costa Preserve.

Begin hiking on the gravel road leading east-northeast from the El Fuerte Street Ridgeline Trailhead. Initially the trail is on the west side of a small tributary canyon. After 0.3 mile, the trail crosses an intermittent stream then gradually turns south and becomes a well-marked dirt trail. As you descend, views down into Box Canyon gradually open up. In some places, the walls of the canyon are sheer cliffs. It appears to contain a vigorous riparian forest

habitat. Note: Hiking into Box Canyon is prohibited and is clearly marked with no trespassing signs. Violators face a heavy fine. Further on, the trail crosses an intermittent stream with riparian habitat containing southern cattails, mule fat, black willows, and arroyo willows, as well as flowing water after rains. This will be your best opportunity to enjoy a close encounter with the riparian habitat.

After hiking about 0.6 mile, the trail bends toward the east and more or less follows the power lines. Don't forget to look behind you to the west. On clear winter days you will have excellent views of Batiquitos Lagoon and the Pacific beyond, although on hazy June mornings they may be obscured by coastal fog or overcast.

*continued on page 32*



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

## ANIMAL FRIENDS

**Birds of Prey** See the power and agility of native predatory birds up close in this live demonstration. Plus you'll learn about the vital role these birds play in our ecosystem and the importance of their conservation. You won't think of these birds of prey in the same way! Free with general admission. Saturday, March 17, 1:30pm; \$13. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Naturally Wild: Seasonal Program** Get ready for close encounters of the wild kind. Naturally Wild incorporates new animals, new hands-on exhibits, and a summer full of family-friendly events and activities. Each day we will feature presentations, animal encounters, and hands-on activities where you will learn about wildlife and how animals thrive and survive in their natural habitat. March 17 to September 3. Saturday, March 17, 10am; free. Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

**Pet Therapy** Rabbits, guinea pigs, and rats may be small, but these therapy animals can change lives. See and pet small therapy animals who visit people who, for a variety of reasons, aren't able to experience the joys of pet ownership in this live demonstration. Free with general admission. Thursday, March 15, 1pm; \$13. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Water Wise** We are partnering with Sweetwater Authority to bring you a family-friendly day full of access to water resources, water-saving tips, and water fun for all ages. And of course we will get up close with animals that depend on us to protect these valuable water resources. Free with admission. Saturday, March 17, 10am; \$11-\$16. Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

**Zoo Wild** Explore the world of animal friends with fun, hands-on activities. Discover a suit of armor, a warm jacket of fur, and a slimy coat that all serve the same purpose: protection. Come face-to-face with frogs, go nose-to-nose with our beaked friends, and connect with some of the coolest looking animals in the zoo. This event is in collaboration with Zovargo, which provides unique animal encounters and educational animal programs for all ages. Sunday, March 18, 10am; \$11-\$16. Living Coast Discovery Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

## ART

**Anna Stump: Nudes** San Diego artist Anna Stump began her *Large Nudes* body of work while she was a Fulbright Scholar in Turkey. The artist would paint in her spacious Turkish studio, enlarging 20-minute gouache studies into formalized works. Each painting was started upside-down, then turned to the side, the other side, and finally finished upright. For her solo exhibition at Sparks Gallery, Stump returns to this central practice with an interesting twist. Opening reception wine sales benefit Planned Parenthood. Guests who RSVP receive one free drink ticket. Sunday, March 18, 6pm; free. Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Bee Leaf** The Southwestern Artists' Association presents an art exhibit featuring San Diego artists Anita Chateau and Wess Abruzzo. The exhibit runs March 16 to 31 in the Southwestern Artists Association gallery in Gallery 23, Spanish Village Art Center. Friday, March 16, 10am; free. Gallery 23 in Spanish Village, 1770 Village Place. (BALBOA PARK)

**Beelzeop: Opening Reception** Abstract artist Rebecca Grohowski announces her latest art exhibit. This one-woman show is a collection of abstract works on canvas, a series of non-representational works composed of whimsical dark and playful imagery. The artwork is a mixture of acrylic on canvas and mixed media pieces including acrylic, charcoal, pencil, pastel, paper, and cloth. Meet the artist at a mid-exhibition reception with hors d'oeuvres and wine. Swing and Latin jazz melodies by The Paper Moon Trio. Sunday, March 18, 1pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**Between the Future and the Past: Photographs of Cuba** Opening reception for new exhibition by photographer Virginia Beahan featuring photographs of Cuba since normalization of U.S./Cuban relations in 2014 takes place in Fine Arts Gallery in USD Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. Thursday, March 15, 5pm; free. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

**Japanese Brush Painting Art Exhibition** The Year of the Dog is the 16th-annual Japanese brush painting show theme for the Taka Sumi-e art show highlighting Japanese art, culture, and traditions. Original artwork and live demonstrations. Saturday, March 17, 11am; Sunday, March 18, 11am; free. Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**TAG: Artistic Intervention** Inspired by the collective actions of artists featured in the exhibition *Memories of Underdevelopment: Art and the Decolonial Turn in Latin America, 1960-1985*, as well as explorations in food justice and their conversations with other teens both in San Diego and Mexico City, MCASD's Teen Advisory Group (TAG) will host a participatory

event during the museum's free monthly program, Downtown at Sundown. Thursday, March 15, 5:30pm; Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

## BEER

**Duck Foot Small Batch: Irish Coffee Stout** We start with freshly brewed Black Leprechaun Irish Stout, back for the first time since 2017. We follow that up with a few days spent soaking with whole coffee beans. To round it all out and harmonize the flavors, we let the beer/coffee combo spend time on heavily toasted oak staves that themselves spent some time immersed in Jameson Irish Whiskey. The result is the perfect St. Paddy's day stout. Available for tastes and pours starting Thursday, March 15. Thursday, March 15, 12pm; free. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

**Grand Reopening Anniversary at Quantum Brewing** To thank you for your continuous support, on my birthday, we will release three different casks: Whiskey oak barrel aged red ale 650 nanometers (three months), Whiskey Oak barrel aged Bavarian wheat ale Hadron Collider (three months), Fissile Material IPA punched with fresh mosaic hops. We will tap it at 5 pm. Thursday, March 15, 12pm; free. Quantum Brewing Company, 5375 Kearny Villa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

**SeaWorld's Seven Seas Craft Beer & Food Festival** Sip and sample your way around the world of international street food traditions, craft beers and wines, and enjoy live musical performances along the way. Waves of flavor will tantalize the taste buds with gourmet offerings created by SeaWorld's Executive Chef, Axel Dirolf and his culinary team. This event features fresh cuisine featuring local, sustainable ingredients and unique signature flavors from around the world. New in 2018: 7 Daring Flavors. Guests with culinary courage and curiosity can brave this challenge featuring seven dishes prepared with some of the world's most exotic ingredients. Saturday, March 17, 10am; Sunday, March 18, 10am; SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

**Shamrock 2018** San Diego Shamrock 2018 block party is back to celebrate its 24th year. Over 20K attendees from across the U.S. attend. Three stages of non-stop music and plenty of green Bud Light beer and Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey libations. Use promo code SHAMROCK to save \$5 on GA tickets and \$10 off VIP tickets. Saturday, March 17, 4pm; \$40-\$80. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Patrick's Day Lucky Libations** Green beer? For St. Patrick's Day? Groundbreaking. Those looking for something beyond a classic green beer this St. Patrick's Day will



## Rhyme & Verse

"The Lorica," by St. Patrick

I arise today

Through the strength of the love of cherubim,  
In the obedience of angels,  
In the service of archangels,  
In the hope of resurrection to meet with reward,  
In the prayers of patriarchs,  
In the predictions of prophets,  
In the preaching of apostles,  
In the faith of confessors,  
In the innocence of holy virgins,  
In the deeds of righteous men.

I arise today, through  
The strength of heaven,  
The light of the sun,  
The radiance of the moon,  
The splendor of fire,  
The speed of lightning,  
The swiftness of wind,  
The depth of the sea,  
The stability of the earth,  
The firmness of rock.

I arise today, through  
God's strength to pilot me,  
God's might to uphold me,  
God's wisdom to guide me,  
God's eye to look before me,  
God's ear to hear me,  
God's word to speak for me,  
God's hand to guard me,  
God's shield to protect me,  
God's host to save me  
From snares of devils,  
From temptation of vices,  
From everyone who shall wish me ill, afar and near.



St. Patrick (circa 5th Century) was the Apostle of Ireland, the first to bring the Catholic faith to the Emerald Isle and the man whose name has forevermore been associated with the "Isle of Saints." While most likely not written by the saint, "St. Patrick's Breastplate" is a poem-prayer recalling the protection that God gave St. Patrick and his followers, turning them into deer so that they might pass unharmed through an ambush set by their pagan enemies. Whether it is original to St. Patrick, the "Lorica" (Latin for "breastplate") captures both the faith and the poetry of a country that could just as well be called the "Isle of Poets."

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

delight in Carnitas' Snack Shack Embarcadero's lucky libations: Shamrock Sour (tequila cocktail) and West Coast Luck (whiskey mixture). Thursday, March 15, 11am; Friday, March 16, 11am; Saturday, March 17, 9am; Sunday, March 18, 9am; Carnitas' Snack Shack — Embarcadero, 1004 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Patrick's Day Party Hop** Pass includes 10+ welcome libations, drink and dining deals, and free entry to over 20 premier clubs and bars including: American Junkie, Analog, Area 51, Bassmnt, Coyote Ugly, Double Deuce, Garage, Greystone, McFadden's, Omnia, Osetra, Parq, Pendry Hotel (Nason's Beer Hall) Queensbor-

ough, Sevilla Nightclub, Side Bar, Tin Roof, Vin De Syrah, Whiskey Girl. Saturday bonus: Bassmnt, Omnia, and Queensborough. Friday, March 16, 3pm; Saturday, March 17, 3pm; \$20-\$60. McFadden's, 731 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Patrick's Day Tournament & Social** Includes golf, two pints of Irish beer, and corned beef and cabbage dinner for two. Check in begins at 4 pm with a 5:30 pm shotgun. Remember to wear (and stay on the) green. Saturday, March 17, 4pm; \$75. Loma Club, 2960 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

## BOOK SIGNINGS

### Denise Lee Yohn: Fusion

Denise Lee Yohn is the go-to expert on brand-building for national media outlets, an in-demand speaker and consultant, and an influential writer. She is the author of *What Great Brands Do: The Seven Brand-Building Principles that Separate the Best from the Rest*. Thursday, March 15, 7:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

### Lindsay J. Cropper Memorial Writers Series

Shane McCrae has written five full-length books of poems: *In the Language of My Captor*, *Forgiveness Forgiveness*, *The Animal Too Big to Kill*, *Blood*, and *Mule*. Thursday, March 15, 6pm; free. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Challah Circle** During the circle you will learn how to make a holiday-themed challah, knead the dough, let it rise, and shape it. While the dough is rising, you can join in a text-based conversation or shmooze with your friends. You'll leave with your ready-to-bake challah which will bring sweet and aromatic smells to your kitchen on Friday, in time for Shabbat. Fol-

lowing registration, you'll receive a list of basic supplies to bring to prepare your challah. All ingredients provided. Thursday, March 15, 7pm; \$10. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Exploring Portraits with Acrylics** Class concentrates on shape, value, and color using acrylics. Thursday, March 15, 3:30pm; \$30. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

**Foundations of Genomic Technology: A Bio Tech Workshop** Calling all biohackers, aspiring scientists, and curious members of the public. Get hands-on with polymerase chain reaction, the Nobel Prize-winning technology that has transformed biomedical science over the past 30 years. This workshop includes both hands-on and computer activities. Bring a laptop if you have one; we have a limited number of laptops for participants to use. Recommended for ages 14 to adult. Limit 20. Saturday, March 17, 3pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Mosaic: Glass on Glass** In this two-part workshop, experience more mosaic fun as you learn how to cut stained glass and combine it with mosaic techniques to produce light-gathering objects of art. Use of colorful glass, (rather than traditional tile, dishes, or smalti) is what makes this workshop a unique experience. Also on 4/4. Saturday, March 17, 1pm; \$110-\$122. Bravo School of Art at Liberty Station,

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**\$10 FREE PLAY**

**Saturday, March 17**  
**• 10AM - 10PM •**

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**SDCCU STADIUM**

CALENDAR **HOME** **AWAY** CLAUSURA 2018

WEEK 14  7:00PM 6 APR	WEEK 15  7:00PM 13 APR	WEEK 17  7:00PM 27 APR	WEEK 13  4:00PM 1 APR	WEEK 16  7:06PM 21 APR
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San Diego Reader March 15, 2018 31

# SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish,

**Contact:** 1770 Kearney Ave, San Diego 619-233-3838 [www.olgsd.org](http://www.olgsd.org)

**Membership:** 1,300 families registered (3,000 attendance per weekend)

**Pastor:** John Auther, SJ

**Age:** 60

**Born:** Phoenix, AZ

**Formation:** Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles; Universidad Pontificia Comillas, Madrid, Spain; Jesuit School of Theology-Santa Clara University, Berkeley

**Years Ordained:** 27

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

**Father John Auther:** The parish has a Bible study on the weekly readings. In preparing

the Bible study, which takes me a couple hours, I share with the people for an hour. That's my preparation for my sermon. My sermons generally have to do with life application. The Bible study always has some of the reflections of the Pope on the reading for the week. **SDR:** What is your main concern as a member of the clergy?

**FJ:** I think it's a constant challenge to integrate God into our lives, and I don't think it's happening as much as it should. There was a time when people's bodies were engaged in activities and their minds were free to fly spiritually and prayerfully; now, our bodies seem to be

less active, but our minds are always being stimulated by things that have nothing to do with God. Whether we're on the computer, playing games or watching cable TV sports or something like that, whatever it is our minds are engaged in, there's no spontaneous space for God in our lives. There's no interior silence. It was so much a greater part of life than it is now. We've got what we looked for, which is to be entertained and not be bored. But I guess we're getting bored with the entertainment things we have, so we have to create new things. **SDR:** Why did you become a priest, and particularly a Jesuit?

**FJ:** I wanted to serve the Lord in a way that was a hundred percent. I was raised in a Jesuit parish and went to a Jesuit high school. But I decided that when I wanted to be a priest, it wasn't as a Jesuit. When I got out of high school, I didn't want to just go to college right away as I did not know what to do. So I went to Mexico and worked in an orphanage there and prayed, "Lord, what do you want me to do?" During Holy Week in Mexico it hit me when I was coming out of a church there: "Be a Jesuit." And that was that. **SDR:** Where do you go when you die?  
**FJ:** If I can make it to purgatory, I'll be happy. Of course



John Auther

purgatory and hell are not places as such. Purgatory is the state where I will be purified of what's clinging to me that's not going to make me happy with God forever. It's not a place; your soul and glorified body doesn't require a place. But it is a state of some sort. You need the purification because

you're not going to be happy with God unless you're 100 percent for God because heaven is 100 percent for God. The first stage then is the purification. Then, please God, the second stage is being with God forever in heaven. As for hell, if there's no possibility for hell, then we're just robots who have to love God. If we don't have the freedom not to love God, and freedom to choose definitively away from God, we're just walking around somehow programmed to love God eternally. Humanly speaking, that doesn't seem part of our faith.

— Joseph O'Brien

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

2690 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 19, Studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

**Taste of Art: Assemblage and Collage** Robert Rauschenberg used his artistic genius to combine multiple images into a single cohesive work. Processes such as frottage, collage, assemblage, and printmaking will be taught and demonstrated by Robin Douglas so that each participant has the opportunity to create and take home their own contemporary masterpiece. All supplies provided, including drinks and appetizers. Thursday, March 15, 6pm; \$40-

\$50. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

**Teeling Irish Whiskies: Tasting** Celebrate the day before St. Patrick's Day with some of the world's finest whiskies. We will be serving Irish Whiskies from the Teeling Distillery, the only active distillery in Dublin. Included will be three different whiskies, an Irish cheese plate, and a taste of Irish Whiskey Liqueur for dessert. Friday, March 16, 6:30pm; \$35. Vom Fass, 1050 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

## COMEDY

**Vickie Shaw: A Very Vickie Venture** An evening of laughter, merriment, and mirth as Vickie Shaw returns to MA4 for a one-night only appearance. No one is safe, not even her son and daughter (who happen to be in the room). Thursday, March 15, 8pm; \$25-\$30. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

## FOOD & DRINK

**Cannabis-Paired Dining Experience** Four strains, four courses. Lego Optimo in collaboration with Flor Franco, Javier Plascencia, and Urbn Leaf, Golden Hill will hold San Diego's second "smoking hot" cannabis-paired dining experience for the cannabis connoisseur. Cannabis-consumption optional. The prepared food is not infused.

We will be pairing hand-selected cannabis strains with each course of the meal. Thursday, March 15, 6pm; \$135-\$200. Urbn Leaf, 3385 Sunrise St. (GOLDEN HILL)

**Contemporary Cuban Cuisine** Culinary Historians of San Diego presents Richard Feinberg, who will enlighten us about the ways Cuban cuisine has been influenced by the dishes of Spain, France, Africa, and China, as well as the broader Caribbean Basin. He will also explain how it has blossomed within the last decade after the regime turned from the Fidel Castro-era nationalized restaurants with standardized fare to permitting private restaurants, mostly within homes, with seats ranging from 12-50. In the Neil Morgan Auditorium. Saturday, March 17, 10:30am; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the recently opened Modern American brewpub. Listen to live music by the

Coral Bells from 4pm-9pm while enjoying games and food and drink specials for the holiday. Sip on the specialty cocktail 3 licks 4 Paddy with Paddy's Irish Whiskey, Fernet Mentha, Kerrygold Irish Cream, Giffard Creme de Cacao, nutmeg, and mint, or a \$5 house pint. Irish food, too. Saturday, March 17, 11am; free. Bell Marker, 602 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

## FOR KIDS

**Randel McGee & Groark** Randel McGee will be coming to JFG for the first time, and he's bringing his spectacular dragon Groark. Mr. McGee is a professional performer and ventriloquist who has given entertaining and educational shows around the world, in the native languages of each audience. Mr. McGee's lively characters and illustrations capture the audience's imagination. With his dozens of different voices, chameleon-like face, and energetic

body, he transforms a story into a memorable life experience. Sunday, March 18, 4:30pm; \$15-\$25. Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

**Sound Science: Big Science for Little People** Investigate sound and how it travels through different substances. We'll explore waves and vibrations, and make an imaginative musical instrument. Presented by Fleet Science Center. Part of the monthly Big Science for Little People series. Friday, March 16, 10am; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

## LECTURES

**Art of Gardening** Learn to create year-round beauty in your landscape, be it a field or patio garden. John Noble has over 30 years of garden design experience. He and his friends have adopted and maintained the garden in front of the Lily Pond Garden in Balboa Park. Mention the *Reader* and get a one-time 50% discount of \$12.50. Friday, March 16, 6:30pm; \$25. Coastal Sage Gardening, 3685 Voltaire Street. (POINT LOMA)

**Crowdfunding: Organize, Market, & Launch** Crowdfunding information on how to organize, market, and launch a campaign on Kickstarter, Indiegogo, or any portal. This workshop series is focused on equity crowdfunding, not non-profit. Info: [lizzy@crowdfunding-media.com](mailto:lizzy@crowdfunding-media.com). Four out of every 20 seats are free for veterans. Thursday, March 15, 6:15pm; \$10. Lazy Acres Market, 150 Encinitas Boulevard. (ENCINITAS)

**From Kuwait to Jerusalem** Mark Halawa was born into a secular Muslim family in Kuwait. His father owned a successful construction business that provided a privileged life for him and his four

## BRASILIENSE ORIGINAL BRAZILIAN MUSIC

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## ROAM-O-RAMA

continued from page 30

One mile after leaving the trailhead, you will come upon a picnic table under a ramada — a good place for lunch or resting in semi-shade. It is also a good place to observe the habitat the trail has been traversing. The dominant shrubs are California sagebrush, black sage, coyote brush, chamise, and flatter buckwheat, all common plants of coastal sage scrub. One of the more unusual plants here is spine-shrub (*Adolphia californica*). It is relatively rare in other locations and considered to be endangered, but is quite common here.

The trail now heads in a northeast direction. In another 0.36 mile it forks. Taking the loop trail to the right will lead to the top of a rounded hill, giving you more views into Box Canyon and also views of the lands to the east where Denk Peak and Double Peak dominate the horizon. From here, another fork in the trail on the right leads to a dead end.

Take the trail to the left, marked by a post with a red arrow. In another 0.1 mile it merges with the main trail and then continues for another 0.15 mile before turning sharply east (right).

In another half mile you will come to the Corintia Trailhead and the end of the Ridgeline Trail. You could arrange to be picked up here for a one-way 2.14 miles hike or go back the way you came for the recommended out-and-back hike. If you elect the out-and-back hike, be prepared for the last 0.35 mile of the trail, which is quite steep and paved with concrete.

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

siblings. Then the First Gulf War changed his life when he was 12 years old. His father's business was destroyed and the family left Kuwait, moving first to Amman, Jordan, and eventually immigrating to Canada. Sunday, March 18, 7:30pm; \$18-\$36. Chabad of Poway, 16934 Chabad Way. (POWAY)

## NATURE

**Bird Lake Murray** For avian adventure along Lake Murray's scenic shores, join Mission Trails Regional Park birders Jeanne Raimond and Millie Basden. Follow the antics of both migratory and local species. Binoculars and bird book recommended. Meet at north side of lake, Murray Park Drive and Belle Glade Ave. Park in dirt lot by baseball fields. Saturday, March 17, 8am; **free**. Lake Murray Community Park, 7001 Murray Park Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

**Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch** For over 60 years, Mother Nature has transformed the rolling hills of North San Diego County into a spectacular display of natural color and beauty. The 50 acres of Giant Tecolote Ranunculus flowers that make up The Flower Fields at Carlsbad Ranch are in bloom for six to eight weeks each year, literally bringing the famous fields back to life. 2018 brings new landscaping and renovations. See the display gardens developed by the San Diego Master Gardeners, walk through the fragrant sweet pea maze with

new pathways, learn about composting and gardening in the new greenhouses with classes, and enjoy a new picnic area. \$16 adults, \$8 children three to ten. Through Sunday, May 13, \$8-\$16. Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo del Norte. (CARLSBAD)

**Public Food Forest Tour** On the third Sunday of every month, join us for an in-depth walking tour of Coastal Roots Farm's food forest where you'll learn about food forestry, silvopasture, soil building, perennial planting, crops that do well in our coastal climate, and more. The tour will be led by Food Forest Coordinator LyOr Rabinowitz. Anyone 17 or under must be accompanied by an adult guardian. Sunday, March 18, 3pm; \$12. Coastal Roots Farm, 441 Saxony Road. (ENCINITAS)

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Adobe Home Tour North County** Tour five unique adobe homes built between 1951 and 1980. Anyone interested in home design, green construction methods, or water-wise landscaping will be able to see firsthand the special features and design of these homes and be able to talk to the homeowners, who maintain their homes with an eye to preservation. Proceeds go to the Escondido History Center. Sunday, March 18, 10:30am; \$25. Heritage Walk Museum, 321 N. Broadway. (ESCONDIDO)

**Global Influence Summit 2018** "Break through the barriers and claim the missing pieces to uplevel the influence of your business as a transformational thought leader." Three-day event. Thursday, March 15, 9am; Friday, March 16, 9am; \$400. Dana Hotel on Mission Bay, 1710 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

**Rolando Street Fair** Over 100 vendor booths for unique shopping and culinary experiences, beer tastings, a performance stage, bands, and rides for the kids. Sunday, March 18, 10am; **free**. Rolando Bl., between El Cajon Boulevard and Solita Avenue

**South Park Walkabout** A quarterly festival that showcases all the unique and independent businesses within South Park. Enjoy complimentary treats, live entertainment, and special offers. Highlights both the south and north end of the South Park business district. The north end starts at Kalmia and 30th Street and extends south to Beech Street. Saturday, March 17, 6pm; **free**. Graffiti Beach, 2220 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

**St. Patrick's Day Parade and Irish Festival** The largest St. Patrick's Parade west of the Mississippi starts at Fifth Avenue and Laurel Street. The parade travels north down Fifth to Upas Street and then returns south on Sixth Avenue to Laurel. An event-filled Irish Festival follows in Balboa Park with live entertainment with craft booths, an authentic Irish Food Village and other food booths, a beer garden, a Celtic village, and a kids zone with rides. Saturday, March 17,

10:30am; Sixth Avenue and Maple, Balboa Park

**Villa Montezuma Museum Free Tour** Guided tours by the Friends of the Villa Montezuma, Inc. on the half hour from 9 am to noon. No inside photography allowed. Info: fovm@villamontezumamuseum.org. Saturday, March 17, 9am; **free**. Villa Montezuma Museum, 1925 K Street. (SHERMAN HEIGHTS)

## SPOKEN WORD

**St. Patrick's Stories and Songs** Join the Storytellers of San Diego and a roundup of local musicians with traditional and original stories and songs celebrating the Irish traditions on St. Patrick's Day. With Gemini Junction, Jim Hinton, and Eric George Tauber. Saturday, March 17, 7:30pm; \$15-\$17. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**St. Patrick's Day Open Reading of Irish Poetry and Prose** Thirtieth annual St. Patrick's Day Open Reading of Irish Poetry and Prose. Members of the public are invited to read from their favorite selections of James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, Samuel Beckett, George Bernard Shaw, Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde, Edmund Burke, Sean O'Casey, and others. Messrs. Guinness and Harp will officiate the proceedings. Saturday, March 17, 7pm; **free**. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Storytelling Festival** Join us in stories of the wearin' of the green.

This is a day of performance with the Irish harp, workshops, and students performing for all ages. There are designated children's concerts, and the finale is a story concert for adults when the sun will be setting on the ocean just outside our window. Saturday, March 17, 10am; **free**. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

## SPORTS & FITNESS

**Fitness Business Summit** Bedros Keuilian, creator of FBS and CEO of Fit Body Boot Camp, is back to host another year of "empire building with the leading fitness experts of today." Speakers include Drew Manning, Randall Pich, Lori Harder, Jason Philips. Friday, March 16, 9am; Saturday, March 17, 9am; Sunday, March 18, 9am; Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Hell Fire Fat Tire** Hell Fire Fat Tire is a challenging mountain bike race featuring varied terrain, elevation, and panoramic views of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. Saturday, March 17, 7am; Camp Pendleton, Harbor Drive at I-5. (OCEANSIDE)

**St. Patrick's Day 10K, 2 and 4 Mile Run** Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a scenic flat and fast run, Domino's pizza, and beer. Saturday, March 17, 7:30am; \$35-\$45. Mission Bay Park, Vacation Isle, off Ingraham Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**St. Patrick's Day 5K & 15K** Seventh-annual event. Race through country roads and vineyards and wind your way to the finish line where you will be awarded with a well-deserved glass of green bubbly. 21+ race entry includes optional T-shirt, champagne, a collectible stemless flute, custom race bib, and the cutest succulent you've ever seen (this is in lieu of a finisher medal). This is a challenging, hilly course. Saturday, March 17, 7am; \$40-\$60. Cougar Vineyard & Winery, 39870 De Portola Road. (TEMECULA)

## WORSHIP

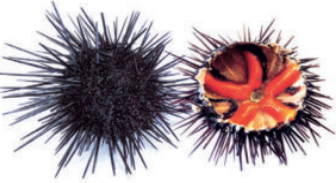
**Kingdom Creativity Conference** Creativity flows through everyone. God is the Creator and we are made in His image. We co-create with Him. The Kingdom Creativity Conference explores the depths of this subject by releasing Kingdom inspiration to unlock the creativity inside each person. This conference is designed to encourage the imagination given to us to bring change not only to ourselves but also to the world. Friday, March 16, 5pm; Saturday, March 17, 9am; \$59-\$89. Crosspointe Life Church, 8809 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

**Origin of Devils** Why does evil exist? Why does the Creator allow Devils to exist? Find out the answers to these fundamental questions. Sunday, March 18, 1pm; **free**. Happy Science San Diego, 7841 Balboa Avenue #202. (KEARNY MESA)

**Saranya's Thai Café**  
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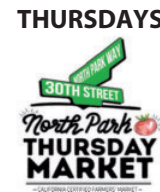


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# WATER FRONT

## Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
<b>THU, MAR 15</b>	02:54	1.22'	03:32	-0.5'	8:56	5.74'	9:47	4.81'
<b>FRI, MAR 16</b>	03:25	0.88'	3:58	-0.46'	9:28	5.78'	10:10	5.03'
<b>SAT, MAR 17</b>	03:58	0.6'	4:24	-0.3'	10:02	5.68'	10:35	5.23'
<b>SUN, MAR 18</b>	04:32	0.38'	4:50	-0.02'	10:36	5.45'	11:02	5.37'

## Waves (POINT LOMA)

Height	Direction	Interval
2'-4'	W	11 seconds
1'-2'	WNW	10 seconds
2'-3'	WNW	11 seconds
2'-3'	W	7 seconds

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

## EVENTS

**Champagne Brunch Cruise** Includes a buffet stocked with classic American breakfast dishes and seasonal lunch entrées. A guide will tell stories and provide historical context as you sail past the Coronado Bay Bridge, the Star of India, the North Island Naval station, and the barking sea lions at Point Loma. Info: [sd@hornblower.com](mailto:sd@hornblower.com). Sundays, 10:30am; through Sunday, March 25, \$66. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Grunion Run Times 2018** The times given for each date reflect the probable two-hour interval during which a spawning run may occur. The second hour is usually better. The best runs normally occur on the second and third nights of a four-night period. March, June, July, and August, grunion can be harvested by hand only. Those 16 years of age and older need a California Fishing License. The runs during the months of April and May are observation only, and grunion cannot be harvested. Where the forecast run starts at or after midnight, the date of the previous evening is shown. Saturday, March 17, 10:30pm; Sunday, March 18, 11:05pm; Monday, March 19, 11:30pm; Tuesday, March 20; free. Beaches throughout Southern California

**Harbor Seal Talk and Walk** It's Pupping Season for La Jolla Harbor Seals. The Seal Society of Sierra Club San Diego Chapter docents presents an educational talk followed by a short walk to Casa Beach (aka Children's Pool) to view the newborn pups and nursing mothers in their nearshore habitat every other Saturday during pupping season. Free but donations accepted. Info: 858-551-9553. Saturday, March 17, 2pm; free. Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Hops on the Harbor with Duck Foot** Every Friday night we host our Hops on the Harbor craft beer dinner cruise featuring a different San Diego brewery each month. Chef Brian Gist collaborates with the brewers to create a dinner menu that pairs with the distinctive flavors of each brewer's beer selections. Throughout the month of March we are hosting Duck Foot Brewing. Duck Foot shatters the myth that beer that is gluten-free can't be dynamic and flavorful. The San Diego brewery produces a lineup that's accessible to people with celiac disease or gluten sensitivity. With rotating local brews and craft-beer flights, gourmet food stations,

meet-and-greet with brewers onboard, and giveaways and prizes. Friday, March 16, 7:30pm; \$45-\$75. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Outrigger Paddling** San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club is looking for a few good men and women! Come out to Campland on the Bay for the next couple of weeks on Saturday morning at 8:30 am. It's a water sport, so dress accordingly. We'll have a paddle for you. Drive into Campland and go straight down to the water on the right — you can't miss us. Saturdays, 8:30am; through Saturday, March 31, free. Campland on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Sunday Champagne Brunch Cruise** All-you-can-eat buffet includes made-to-order omelets, carved meats, fresh seafood, pastries, breakfast favorites, vegetarian options, and bottomless champagne and mimosas. All food is prepared onboard. The two-hour cruise will take a tour past scenic sights along the San Diego and Coronado waterfront. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, December 30, \$39-\$65. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Sunday Prime Rib Dinner** The Prime Rib Sunday Dinner Cruise features two-and-a-half-hours of fine dining, live musical entertainment, and nighttime views of the San Diego skyline. Sundays, 6:30pm; through Sunday, December 30, \$42-\$70. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**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)

**Waterski and Wakeboard** The Convair Waterski Club is active year-round on Mission Bay. The club provides two ski boats for waterskiing and wakeboarding, with instruction and equipment available on request. Nominal fee per run. Meet at the south end of Crown Point Beach, 3500 Crown Point Drive. Guests of any skill level are welcome. Info: [convairwaterskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:convairwaterskiclub@gmail.com). Thursdays, 5pm; Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, December 23, Crown Point, 3700 Crown Point Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)



Paloma Aguirre Bacalski: "I like to do a reverse 360 spin into a rollo."

## Hurt in backflip by I.B. pier

**NAME:** PALOMA AGUIRRE BACALSKI

**AGE:** 40

**FROM:** IMPERIAL BEACH

**LOCATION:** IMPERIAL BEACH PIER

**OCCUPATION:** COASTAL AND MARINE DIRECTOR FOR WILD COAST

Paloma Aguirre Bacalski was one of about 12 that paddled out in honor of Doug Bradley last Monday (January 29th) by the Imperial Beach pier.

At about 10 a.m., Aguirre-Bacalski caught a 1-2 foot wave on her Science bodyboard. "I like to do a reverse 360 spin into a rollo," she said. "A 360 spin is basically what it sounds like, a spin but in opposite direction of the wave. A rollo is when you do a flip off the tip of the wave and land in front of it."

Aguirre-Bacalski's family lived in Puerto Vallarta in the early '90s and this is where she taught herself how to bodyboard. At the time, she was 16 years old and the only one in her city there that "sponged." She has body-

boarded in Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca and at Baja Malibu (north of Rosarito). "The heaviest and scariest [surf for me] was in Pascuales, Colima Mexico," she said. "It is one of the heaviest beach breaks in the country."

At times, she surfs on a longboard and paddle boards, but loves bodyboarding the most. "I think it's extremely fun, you can take off on heavier waves (than surfing) and can get deeper in the barrel."

Sometimes, her neck locks up due to a super-gnarly wipeout that occurred on the north side of the pier back in 2007. She attempted a backflip off of a wave to land in front of it, but "I landed in an awkward position and suffered two vertebral subluxations," she said. "This means they shifted a bit out of place and I had to spend a week lying flat on my back."

The IB Pier and the entrance point by the

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

## PANGA ON THE ROCKS – TEN LIFE JACKETS FOUND

**From San Diego city lifeguards**

**Feb 9**  
-11:41 Other: Fire hydrant down at La Jolla Cove. Lifeguards, San Diego Police and San Diego Fire respond. Lifeguards secure perimeter and Fire to handle once on scene.  
-15:32 Boating: Report of PWC's too close to other vessels with skiers in tow.

Lifeguard vessel responds and makes appropriate warnings in the area.

**Feb 8**  
-09:48 Medical: 21 year-old male with dislocated shoulder from surf accident at South Mission Beach. Lifeguard, medical units respond. Medical transports patient to Scripps Mercy.  
-10:29 Medical: Traumatic Injuries 70

year-old female on east Mission Bay bike path. Lifeguard and medical units respond. Fire to handle.  
-16:53 Medical: 26 year-old male, fainting at Dike Rock. Lifeguard, emergency and medical units respond. Patient advised and released.

**Feb 7**  
-09:06 Medical: La Jolla Shores Station request medics for a large laceration to leg of an unknown age male.

Lifeguards, medics respond. Patient is transported to Scripps La Jolla.  
-19:55 Diving: 911 caller at Carmelo St. reports 2 divers possibly in distress. Lifeguard responds to find 1 diver on the beach and clear. Second diver was a float with a light towed by diver mistaken by reporting party.

**Feb 6**  
-15:06 Medical: Lifeguard responds to slip and fall at El Paseo Grande. Treat

and release.

**Feb 5**  
-10:51 Swimmer: 911 caller states a woman is stuck on the reef below the Clam. Lifeguards respond to find the person was able to walk out.  
-14:03 Boating: VHF caller states his vessel is disabled off Mission Bay Channel. Lifeguard vessel responds to find skipper had contracted with Vessel Assist.

# Water Conditions

## SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **58**°F HIGH **61**°F

VISIBILITY  
**5'-15'**

The water will be a bit chewed and cold this week for those wanting to peer around beneath the surface. Thursday in the morning hours looks doable nearshore, but the jetties in the bay might be best for those getting their last shot at lobster before the season ends. Thursday and Saturday should set up well for surfers, with two to four foot waves and light winds, especially in the morning hours.

*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 15	SAT 17	MON 19	WED 21
MARCH				
SUNRISE	6:59	6:57	6:54	6:51
SUNSET	18:57	18:58	18:59	19:01
LENGTH OF DAY	11H 58M	12H 1M	12H 5M	12H 10M



"The farthest I've been from this spot is the cafe."

Seacoast Drive are Aguirre-Bacalski's favorite surf spots, so much, that in the last 12 years she's been advocating for clean water in the border region.

"I work to prevent and mitigate sewage spills that generate across the border and work locally with agencies to ensure beach water quality monitoring is the best it can possibly be for Imperial Beach."

— Mike Madriaga

## Every fishing pier between here and Santa Monica

I ask Calvin how long he and his wife have been fishing the pier. "We've been fishing this pier since.... How long have we been here, honey?"

"Since summer."

"See," Calvin continues, "since I was forced into early retirement two years ago..." "He means laid off," Candy interjects.

"...We've fished every fishing pier between here and Santa Monica. We're fishing to eat. Mostly, I'm trying to catch sharks — leopard sharks, sand sharks, mako sharks. Any sharks I can catch I can keep, except a great white. But I also fish for bass. I usually have a shark line out and a couple of bass lines out too."

"We live in a motorhome parked at the base of the pier," Candy explains. "We drive around to the different piers, and we've been coming here, off and on, since July. We've been here for about a week now." "I've been out here on the pier for two straight days," adds Calvin. "I've got my sleeping bag out here, and I sleep on the bench. The farthest from this spot I've been is to the cafe there, because Candy brought me some coffee this morning, but she forgot the cream and sugar, and I've got to have my cream and sugar. But usually, I don't even go over there to take a piss. I just chum the water."



The Beverly Hillbillies Grunion Invasion show aired in 1971.

From "At night with the mackerel queen," San Diego Reader, by Ernie Grimm, January 28, 1999

## Grunion Invasion!

The headline of the *Malibu Sandpiper* screamed "Grunion Invasion Tonight" in the largest font possible that still allowed the three words in a single row. Granny came from the kitchen with a double-barrel shotgun, sounding the alarm; Jethro, from outdoors with a carbine; Jed from the parlor with a muzzle-loader; Ellie May, last but not least, bounding down the stairs with her slingshot.

This mustering of troops came about because Mr. Drysdale didn't want to lose any of ol' Jed's money from the bank after Jed decided he wanted to sponsor an ocean-research project with \$48 million dollars — something Drysdale couldn't fathom with his shallow mindset, so he concocted

the 'Invasion' story based on the headline.

If you need to add to the grunion invasion conspiracy theory, one of the top oceanographers in history, Columbus O'Donnell Iselin, died the very night the *Beverly Hillbillies* Grunion Invasion show aired in 1971 (season 9, episode 13).

Either way, the grunions from the island of Grun have not yet been thwarted and they will begin their annual assault on southern California and northern Baja beaches this weekend. The second hour of the second day during each run is usually the best, so Sunday, March 8, just before midnight to 1 a.m. or so might be the best time to 'defend the beachhead.' Grunion can be collected by hand only during March, June, July, and August runs, and there is no bag limit other than the advised 'only what you can use'. During April and May runs, the spawning grunion are protected and there is no take.

— Daniel Powell

## TIME TO HEAD TO GONZAGA BAY FOR LEOPARDS

**Dock Totals Mar 4 – Mar 10:** 1,253 anglers aboard 61 boats out of San Diego landings this past week caught 2 bluefin tuna, 176 yellowtail, 14 calico bass, 12 sand bass, 4,321 rockfish, 816 whitefish, 10 lingcod, 40 bonito, 4 halibut, 222 sculpin, 268 sanddab, 2 triggerfish, 52 sheephead, 97 bocaccio, and 27 spiny lobster.

**Saltwater:** Though there are pelagic species around, namely some bonito, yellowtail and even a couple of bluefin tuna, the focus of the local fleet has been on rockfish. Reds, vermilion, sheephead, bocaccio (aka 'salmon grouper), whitefish and sheephead have all been biting well for the 'up and down' anglers getting out to the high spots. Most of the yellowtail and bonito came from the Coronado Islands on three-quarter day and overnight runs.

On the other side of the Baja peninsula in the upper Sea of Cortez the cabrilla fishing has been off the hook for the anglers pitching lures just alongshore near the steep rocky edges they like to hold to. These fish will break off a lot of lures as they usually ambush their prey and

duck back into the crevices and holes in the reef. It takes heavier line than normal 'bass' fishing and a strong back to get the leopard grouper and flag cabrilla to the boat once they strike. Though plastics work well, rapalas and spoons are better due to the triggerfish that plain destroy any lure not made of solid material. If using plastics swimbaits or grubs in the Gulf of California, you better have a whole lot of them to spare.

Captain Juan Cook is working out of Gonzaga Bay for the next couple months and is a cabrilla guru of sorts, so if down that way, look him up, he will definitely get you on the fish and shorten the learning curve. You can get ahold of him by phone at: 011-521-616-109-6877 from the US, or by email at: CaptainJuanSQ@hotmail.com

# Hungry critters

Oh, wow. This chilly night, chili fries? That would fit the ticket.

**T**he long and winding road,” sing the Beatles on this bus’s sound system. And, boy, have they nailed it. I look

out the bus window and see rocks, bluffs, isolated houses with dusty trucks in their yards. Horses watch us over their corral railings.

Then we come up and over and into a valley with a bunch of scattered buildings, car parks, and, hey, a parking structure, a hotel, a casino, and beyond, somewhere further along the valley, the Barona Museum and cultural center. I grab a minibus down there, because I want to see a chef who’s come to talk about Kumeyaay food. I’ve always thought acorns could make the basis for a truly San Diego bread. So I wanna listen, and I want to throw that idea at him, see if he laughs or maybe thrusts a million-dollar contract in my face, har-de-har.

Long story short: never really get to talk, because there’s another couple dozen people who also want his undivided attention. *Sigh*. Well, guess I could eat. I’m famished.

First I’ve got to get back to the main action. The casino. I ask one of the ladies which way I have to walk.

“Sir, I wouldn’t do that,” she says. Victoria. “We have coyotes out there, and they’re starting to have their families. Meet a pack of those hungry critters and we could lose a customer. I’m going to call you a shuttle.”

And she does. Jes’ for li’l ol’ me. I’m impressed that they care that much.

So, now I’m in the main casino. I kinda follow my nose. Wander past what looks like their main buffet. “Seasons Fresh,” think it’s called. All right! Lobster, steaks, all you can eat. Except, uh! You pay \$44 for the privilege. Today’s price. What happened to casino prices?

I head around the corner, into a way-big food court. Starts with the 24-hour Sage Café, with not bad prices. Like \$8.95 for an “Iipay Benedict” breakfast, \$11.95 for a New York steak and eggs, ten bucks for any omelet, \$7.95 for bacon or sau-

sage and eggs, \$3.95 for flapjacks, short stack. And breakfast’s on 24 hours a day.

Oriental chicken salad’s \$11.95, and if you want cheap and healthy, it’s \$5.95 for an iceberg wedge with cotija cheese and bacon. Sandwiches are

\$8-10, half-pound burgers (or 6-oz grilled chicken breast), or spam and fried rice are \$8.95. Big plates like baby back pork ribs start at \$14.95 (half rack, full is \$19.95). And, uh, steak and lobster’s \$40.95.

They don’t stop there, Bolalo oxtail soup (we’re talking Filipino) is \$11.95. “This item is available 24 hours a day,” it says. Guess Barona has a loyal Filipino following.

And, wow. Checked the time. Buses only every hour. Gotta have something quick. So moving on down the line here, Italian Cucina, Plaza Grill, Barona Oaks Steakhouse, and Ho Wan Noodle Shop, all mostly open 5 p.m.–10 p.m. And a rack of smaller outlets like Three Amigos and, hey, Feisty Kate’s Burgers & Malts. She’s next to the Ho Wan, a basically Vietnamese noodle shop. The two of them look the most crowded. Guess I’ll follow the crowd.

So I’m up to Feisty Kate’s counter. The guy ahead of me, turns out, is picking up a moby steaming plate of chili-fries. Oh, wow. This chilly night, chili fries? That would fit the ticket.

“How much?” I ask him.

“I can’t believe it, but \$3.50,” he says. “And no taxes. This is Indian land. And 50-cent gelatos, too.”

Huh. “I’ll have what he’s having,” I say to the gal, Tannia.

Here’s the thing: While I’m waiting for my little buzzer thing to buzz, I can’t resist wandering through to Ho Wan. Because I notice they’re basically Vietnamese. Have *banh mi*, like their

#5, BBQ pork, for \$4.25. But what hooks me is a “specials” sign, something about *congee*. *Congee* = Chinese porridge, which I’ve always loved. They’re offering standard *congee* choices starting at \$2.95 for plain *congee* and topping out at \$28 for abalone and chicken *congee*. But



Sweet congee: well-marinated fruits and beans

the one I notice is the sweet *congee*, for \$4.88. Karla, the gal behind the counter (who tells me “Ho Wan” means “Good Luck” in Cantonese), says yes, sweet is beautiful.

Result: I’m sitting, with 20 minutes to spare, with this wacko two-course meal in front of me. The mountain of a ground meat and onion mess on fries topped by melted cheese, and with a pretty tasty house hot sauce I pour over it all, plus this bowl of slightly pink Chinese porridge, steaming its sweet raisin and bean and bulgur wheat and rice fumes up my nostrils. In Asia, it’s what you have for breakfast, or if you’re feeling off. But sweet *congee*? Never had it. A new gastro experience. At Barona.

I take my first slurp. Mm. Nutty, beany, warm on the belly, gentle. Truth be known, this could



My chili fries. At \$3.50, what’s not to love?



Ho Wan (“good luck”), built around *banh mi*, but go for the sweet *congee*

be a complete meal, too. Also, what a perfect late-night snack to warm your gut, calm you down. Man. Gentle on my mind. It’s so good I forget to go get one of their 50-cent bargain gelatos.

Then I’m in the bus, heading down into the complete black of the long and winding road of Wildcat Canyon. It’s like leaving Shangri-La, descending back to reality. Guess I should be grateful I’m not coming down like some fellers here, stone broke. Me, I’m just a little broken inside. But you know that story. ■

**The Place:** Feisty Kate’s, in the food court of Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino, 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside, 888.722-7662, or 619-328-6009

**Hours:** 11 a.m.–2 a.m. daily

**Prices:** Buffalo chicken wings, \$5.50 for 6 pieces; quarter-pound burger, fries, \$3.50; chili fries, \$3.50

**The Place:** Ho Wan Noodle Shop (n.b. it will be closed for expansion through May, but the food will be available through Sage Café), 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside, 1-888-722-7662, or 619-443-2300

**Hours:** 24/7

**Prices:** Sweet congee, \$4.88; plain congee, \$2.95; lean pork congee with century egg, \$6.95; chicken or beef congee, \$6.95; seafood congee, \$8.95; abalone and chicken congee, \$28; BBQ pork *banh mi* with pickled daikon, \$4.25; beef *banh mi*, \$4.25; veggie *banh mi*, \$4.50; Thai-style tom yum noodle soup, \$11.95;

**Bus:** Barona Casino bus

**Nearest Bus Stop:** El Cajon Transit Center, at trolley stop

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# Light and Lemony

For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit [SDReader.com/feast](http://SDReader.com/feast)

## Light Greek

Meze Greek Fusion, 345 Sixth Avenue, downtown San Diego. When my family and I managed to beat all odds and get Hamilton tickets through the lottery, we knew we wanted to make it an evening out by also getting dinner.

But Dad had just one decree: "I want to eat something light. Those tickets were expensive and I'll be damned if I fall asleep from a food coma!"

We decided to go to Meze Greek Fusion in the Gaslamp since it was only a mile from the theater and, being Greek, it was likely to have lots of vegetarian items for my wife. Also, meze is a Greek term for small plates, so the chances of me getting heavy foods that might encourage that dreaded food coma were slim.

Like many Gaslamp places, Meze is huge — about three stories.

We found a good table on the second floor that allowed a clear view of the many TV sets at the bar.

Typically, Greek food, like Mexican, is one of those cuisines that is on the cheaper side, so much so that people might blanch at paying Gaslamp prices. Granted, the dishes here are a few dollars more per item than at your neighborhood Greek place, but the setting and the service (and the full bar) make Meze a worthy downtown stop.

We started off with two standard Greek appetizers: feta and olives (\$10) and the dolmas (\$11). The cheese was high-quality feta: tart, pleasantly

crumbly, with a smooth taste. The olives were a good blend of different types of Greek-style olives. The dolmas were also good quality.

That said, much of the price here is the Gaslamp surcharge.

The saganaki (\$16) was when the action really started: A slab of kasseri cheese flambéed in brandy into an ooey-goopy delight. Our waiter put on a show with the flaming fromage, and the final result was full of flavor. One downside for my vegetarian wife: it looked like the plate that held the flaming cheese had previously been used for meat, and she could taste hints of beef. If you're a stickler about that, make sure you speak to the waiter beforehand.

Next came an octopus appetizer (\$14): one char-grilled tentacle served with a salad and a lemony dressing. The octopus had a firm chew and paired with the lemon dressing. One tentacle seems small for sharing — especially because the tentacles are bigger at one end than the other, so you might want to get extra portions if you have octopus lovers in your group.

I was a fan of the meatballs (\$10), which mixed ground beef and lamb with feta cheese, garlic, onion, and mint and were topped with a red-pepper sauce. The cheese made this dish pop. I'll take the red-pepper sauce as an alternative to tomato sauce next time.

My wife enjoyed the spanakopita (\$11), which was sort of a Hot Pocket-like pie made with puff-pastry dough. It was crispy on

the outside, with a blend of spinach, garlic, and feta filling.

The lemon potatoes (\$7) were great. We

## FEAST!



The dolmas are grape leaves stuffed with rice and spices and have a nice lemony flavor.



The octopus is chargrilled and served with a salad with a lemony dressing.



A Reuben for \$9, with beer and fries for \$5 more

scarfed them up before we remembered to take a photo. It happens.

by Patrick Henderson

## Even a sandwich snob likes a deal

Working Class, 4095 30th Street, North Park. At the North Park street corner where Ritual Tavern sat for the past decade or so, a new, neighborhood-oriented bar and eatery has opened, refurbishing the space and offering a different interpretation

of the gastropub concept. They call it Working Class, which seems like solid branding these days. In the event someone like me comes along to say it's not very good, everyone can just chalk it up to white-collar snobbery. Which it might well be.

But I'll start by saying this: there's plenty to like about Working Class. It's designed to be bright and wide open, giving the interior plenty of sunshine during the day. In the front, bright blue storage-container siding meets the striking contrast of an orange-stained wood pergola framing a patio that feels connected to happenings along busy 30th Street.

Like the restaurant itself, these happenings usually involve food and craft beverages. Specializing in American-style comfort food, Working Class's prices are great for a table-service restaurant, particularly by North Park standards. A menu of all-day breakfast and lunch plates start at \$8,

with dinners topping out at \$12, and a three-hour weekday happy hour boasting \$5 starters and \$4 pours. The menu of brews gets handily divided into styles of beer (hoppy, malty, sour, etc.), with tags distinguishing not only which beers were produced in San Diego but which are local to North Park.

Beer and wine list aside, Working Class aims for a family- and pet-friendly environment, to the extent it furnishes both kid and dog menus. However, nearly the entire front portion of the restaurant, interior, and patio is bar-stool seating only, a fair amount of it belly-up to a long, wrap-around bar.

Better for families and fur kids is the spacious back patio. It's a whole other world back there, made of bright green artificial turf and wood-bench picnic tables. Whereas the inside walls are dominated by TVs tuned to sports, out back

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## news of the WeIRD

Andrews McMeel Syndication

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### It's Complicated

— As Hurricane Irma bore down on Florida in early September, the Pasco County Sheriff's Office announced that registered sex offenders, who would not be able to shelter with other citizens, "need someplace to go just like any other citizen." The Tampa Bay Times reported that sex offenders were directed to Wiregrass Ranch High School in Wesley Chapel. Pasco County Sheriff's spokesman Kevin Doll noted that offenders found in other shelters where children were present

were subject to arrest, but said the predator shelter would welcome offenders from other counties. In nearby Polk County, officials were not so generous, telling sex offenders, "If you are a predator, find somewhere else to go," and announcing that they would be checking IDs at the door and arresting anyone with an outstanding warrant.

Send your weird news items to [WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com](mailto:WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com).

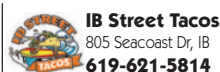
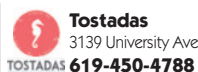
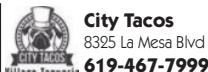
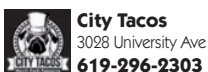
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there are living-wall planters and heat lamps.

Even if nothing stands out as distinctive, there's a little something for everyone, and it makes a solid addition to the neighborhood in that regard. There's only a problem if the lack of distinction carries over to the food. Alas, at first taste, I found myself struggling with a too-bland burger and a too-sweet (yet otherwise bland) fried-chicken sandwich.

Disappointed with the sandwiches, I returned to try one of the working-class-themed dinner entrées. It was either going to be the Salisbury steak plate or the chicken pot pie, but somewhere in my deliberations I noticed a deal I had missed: for five bucks you can add fries and a half pour of beer to any sandwich order.

That brought the sandwiches back to my good graces. I decided to check out the pastrami Reuben, grilled on sourdough with sauerkraut and melted swiss, then added a favorite local Belgian-style ale, the Lost Abbey's Devotion, to go with the crisp, parsley-seasoned fries.

I enjoyed the meal, but like the burger patty before it, the pastrami itself didn't offer as robust a flavor as I expect from that most glorious deli meat. However, I enjoyed the diced scallions tossed over the crispy grilled sourdough, and it tasted like caraway seeds were added to some component of the sandwich as a creative sort of rye-bread reference.

That showed me, finally, that food here isn't entirely erring on the side of mild. I do view it as

an accomplishment that Working Class's community-friendly amenities manage to add value to a neighborhood that wasn't exactly aching for a new beer-and-grub spot. But until I eat something more memorable, it won't be one of the first places that comes to mind when I want to eat in North Park, unless my dog is with me.

by Ian Anderson

### How is this cold sandwich better than a hot one?

1044 W. Valley Parkway, Escondido. It looks like I've missed many opportunities to visit Rock n' Jenny's Italian Subs. The East Coast-style Italian deli has been dishing up sandwiches and pasta since 1989, and I've always driven right past the Escondido strip mall it calls home.

When I finally noticed the place last week, I misread the sign as "Rockn' Jenny's," assuming Jenny must have been a huge fan of the hair metal that dominated the charts in '89. But that's not it. Turns out the name refers to Rock and Jenny, the father and daughter who founded the business. I'm glad, because their sandwiches have aged better than most of that music.

And those sandwiches start with the turkey sub. "This one made us famous!" says the menu. I admit I found the claim dubious — not disputing any local fame the deli has acquired in 30 years, but since when is any turkey sub good enough to be considered fame-worthy?

I didn't even want to commit my full lunch to something so mundane, so I ordered a six-inch sandwich (rather than nine or twelve) and supplemented

with another six-inch of my usual Italian-deli favorite: a meatball sub.

After ordering at the counter, both sandwiches were brought to my table, each cut into two adorable small halves. I started with half the turkey and then moved on to try half the meatball.

The meatball was good: warm with oregano-rich meatballs, melted mozzarella, and tangy marinara that seeped into the interior of a warm, crusty Italian roll so it resembled the moist, doughy texture you find hiding under the cheese of a pizza. It's all that I look for in a meatball sub, and I enjoyed it.

But to my surprise, I didn't like it as much as the turkey.

This has never happened. Why should I like a cold sandwich better than a hot one? How could I crave turkey and mayo over ground beef and marinara?

For starters, the turkey itself tasted good. The shredded lettuce and thinly sliced tomato were fresh, and there was a splash of Italian dressing to add an herbal kick of vinegar that kept it from being boring. That Italian sub more than held everything together. It's a great, crunchy, yet soft-in-the-middle roll. Even when the turkey ran out at the end of my sandwich, its last, breadly bite satisfied.

There are just shy of 20 sandwiches on the Rock n' Jenny's menu, and I don't know which I'll try next. Whether it be pastrami, chicken parmesan, the beef au jus, or one stacked with Italian cold cuts, I'll probably get a small turkey sandwich to go with it. It's famous, you know. And it does rock.

by Ian Anderson

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# HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at [SDReader.com/drinks](http://SDReader.com/drinks)

## 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.

## BANKERS HILL

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

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

## BARRIO LOGAN

**¡Salud!:** *Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 2-5pm:* \$4 beers and free chips. *Tuesday, 2-5pm:* \$4 beers and free chips. Three tacos for \$6. *Thursday, 2-5pm:* \$4 beers and free chips. \$2.50 empanadas.

## CITY HEIGHTS

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

## CORONADO

**Bluewater Boathouse Seafood Grill:** *Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 3-6pm:* \$5 craft and imported bottled beer, \$6 house wine and champagne, well drinks. \$4 charred edamame, salt and vinegar fries, oyster shooters, crispy calamari. \$6 grilled fish tacos, blackened fish bites, seafood ceviche, asian drumsticks. \$8 grilled artichoke, crispy oyster sliders, bur burger, crab & artichoke dip.

## DEL MAR

**Jake's Del Mar Waterfront Grill:** *Monday, All night:* \$2 off starters, sea drinks, drafts. \$6 wines. *Tuesday, 3-6pm:* \$4 Baja fish tacos. \$2 off draft beer. *Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$2 off starters, sea drinks, drafts. \$6 wines.

## DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

**Cafe Sevilla Tapas Bar:** *Daily, 3pm-6pm:* \$3 off everything on food and beverage menu.

**Carnitas' Snack Shack — Embarcadero:** *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$5 draft beers, \$6 wines, \$10 specialty cocktails, \$5 tacos (carnitas, fish, steak) with chips and salsa.

**Dublin Square:** *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm:* half off all beer, wine, and select craft cocktails, \$4 wells, half off all appetizers. *Sunday, 11am-8pm:* half off all beer, wine, and select craft cocktails, \$4 wells, half off all appetizers.

**The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant:** *Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm:* \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3.50 imported bottles, \$4 wells, Irish coffee, \$5 16oz draft beer, house wine, \$5.50 16oz craft draft, \$6 20oz draft, \$6.50 20oz craft draft, \$2 off specialty cocktails. \$3 lamb sliders, black and blue sliders, \$5 Irish

## BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

### Vikings and beer

**Longship Brewery** (10320 Camino Santa Fe, Sorrento Valley) opened in 2016 with two specific areas of interest: Vikings and beer. Downie, the historian responsible for maintaining the Brewchive, a special collection of the Cal State San Marcos library documenting San Diego brewing history.

Downie's series begins March 22nd with a lesson on San Diego's beer history, beginning with the city's first commercial brewery, all the way back in 1868. "Of course home brewing was likely before then," she notes, "but I haven't found any evidence to prove that." She'll return April 5th with a talk on craft beer's "hidden women," taking a look at the contributions women have made to local brewing history and culture, including Audrey Eckblom, the owner of **Beer and Wine Crafts** (7235 El Cajon Boulevard) in El Cajon, who Downie reports was instrumental in founding the QUAFF homebrewers club.

Next (April 19th), Downie will offer a talk on what she terms the Third Wave of local beer, looking at the 1987-1997 time frame. She'll finish

up May 3rd by dispelling a few San Diego beer fables and myths, including one about the number of breweries that operated locally prior to Prohibition. "According to some scholars, there were seven breweries," she points out, "but that is not true. A lot of businesses called themselves breweries but were actually only bottlers."

Longship founder and brewer Dan Jachimowicz sees the lecture series as a way to bring people to his tasting room, and make learning fun. "We wanted to share our love of history," he says. "It's a chance to come in, have a beer, and learn something you wouldn't normally have access to, from people you wouldn't normally have access to."

From day one, he says, he's watched his tasting-room crowds become quiet and attentive as they were drawn in to Saldivar's lectures. He's already planning future topics — next will likely be a series on the history of beer styles.

In other Longship news, the brewery aims to release its first packaged beer on March 24th. Available in four-packs of 16-ounce cans, Wildlife Guardian kölsch was brewed as a fundraiser beer to benefit Global Conservation Force, a nonprofit devoted to protecting endangered species such as African rhinos and elephants from poachers.

Jachimowicz developed this 5.25 percent ABV beer to be crisp and refreshing, with tangerine flavors stemming from the use of Mandarin Bavaria hops. He deems it something the conservationists would enjoy drinking "after a long day out in the sun doing their work protecting wildlife."

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



Vikings and beer promo photo

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY LONGSHIP BREWERY

## ESCONDIDO

**Brigantine:** *Monday, 3:30pm-close:* \$1 off drafts, well drinks, featured wine; house margarita \$5.75. *Tuesday, 3:30-6pm:* \$1 off drafts, well drinks, featured wine; house margarita \$5.75.

## GOLDEN HILL

**Turf Supper Club:** *Friday-Sunday, Noon-4:30pm:* \$1 off all drinks. \$2 off selection of steaks, burgers, and sandwiches.

## HARBOR ISLAND

**The Boathouse:** *Daily, 2:30-5pm:* \$4 house margarita, chips & salsa, \$5 Cuervo Gold margarita, Karl Strauss, sangria, \$6 Cuban mojito. \$6 nachos, shrimp cocktails, jalapeno poppers, \$7 spicy wings, quesadilla, chicken strips with fries, ceviche, \$9 fish tacos.

## HILLCREST

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

**The Buffalo Public House:** *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm:* \$2 off all drafts, \$5 cocktails.

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

## IMPERIAL BEACH

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

## JAMUL

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

## KEARNY MESA

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

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

## LA JOLLA

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

## 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.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:** *Daily, 3-7pm, 10pm-close:* \$1 off drafts, glasses of wine, call drinks, \$3 off bottles of wine.

## LITTLE ITALY

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

**The Glass Door Restaurant & Lounge:** *Daily, 3-7pm:* \$4 domestic bottled beer, \$5 imported bottled beer, house brand wells, \$6 house wines, \$7 house infused cocktails, \$6 fig bruschetta, fish tacos, duck fat frittes, GD wings, ahi poke tower, sweet potato fries.

**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 BEACH

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

## MISSION HILLS

**Brooklyn Girl:** *Monday-Friday, Sunday, 4-6:30pm:* \$6 tap beer, \$7 wine, \$7 BG standards cocktails. \$7 BG famous hummus, \$9 shrimp tacos, margherita pizza, \$12 Michael's choice pizza, oysters on the half shell \$10 half dozen \$20 dozen.

## NORTH PARK

**The Air Conditioned Lounge:** *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 4-9pm:* \$2 off all liquor, draft beer, and wine. *Wednesday, 4-9pm:* \$2 off all liquor, draft beer, and wine. 9-10pm: 1/2-off all mixed drinks. 10pm-2am: \$5 wells.

## OCEAN BEACH

**Bar 1502:** *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* Half off selected beers, \$4 wells, half off hot sake, half off most whiskeys over \$10. *Saturday, 12-5pm:* \$5 select cocktails, \$6 select draft beer and hot sake, \$12.50 pitchers of select beer.

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

**Winstons Beach Club:** *Monday-Friday, 1-5pm:* \$3 wells.

## OLD TOWN

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

## PACIFIC BEACH

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

## POINT LOMA

**Royale:** *Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm & after 9pm:* \$2 off all drafts, wine, and cocktails.

## 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.

## RANCHO SAN DIEGO

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:** *Daily, 3-7pm, 10pm-close:* \$1 off drafts, glasses of wine, call drinks, \$3 off bottles of wine.

## SOUTH PARK

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

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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

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# SAN DIEGO MUSIC



JONAH VALDEZ  
**SAN DIEGO  
 RAPS, TOO**

“San Diego got talent, but ain’t got ~one fuccen [sic] person that understands business,” a local rapper Freemind619 posted on his Twitter earlier this month. The tweet is the latest of many diagnoses offered to a lingering question: how come San Diego’s hip-hop artists don’t find as much commercial success as those in Los Angeles, Atlanta, Chicago, Oakland, Houston, or Detroit? The answers one hears never settle on a single theory: the city lacks a major radio station or publication committed to local talent, DJs at local clubs don’t play local music, rappers from San Diego are divided and unwilling to work with each other, San Diego’s inner-city black community is too small, or, as Freemind619 said, artists just do not have the business acumen.

Maybe the answer is found in the exceptions, the artists and venues that are creating an alternate narrative in which San Diego is home to a growing scene of hip-hop emcees, producers, DJs, and fans.

**Rossi Rock: the  
 main chambelán**

“The main *chambelán*, bask in my ambience,” Rossi Rock raps on his 2017 single, “Belly 17,” featuring Saviorself. At a *quinceañera*, the *chambelán* is the main male escort to the birthday girl. Rossi Rock’s clever nod to his Latino heritage, in the context of this song, is one of masculine pride and supremacy. But dig into Rossi Rock’s music, you will find stories of childhood, insecurities, earnest ambition, and heartache.

“There was a fan that stopped me [at Trader Joe’s]. I could tell that he connected with my music ‘cause he brought up the thing that I would talk about — my dad passing away — and

he brought up how his dad had passed away, too. So he felt like he had that connection. Sometimes you feel like you’re the only one. And then when you hear something like that, like when you speak to somebody that went through the same thing, you’re just going to automatically connect with the music.”

In 2017, Rossi Rock signed with the Los Angeles-based label Private Club Records. His new album, *Wolfe Boy*, is set to release later this year.

**Ryan Anthony:  
 “Family in these  
 streets”**

Ryan Anthony performs under the same name he was born with, a rarity in hip-hop. It’s fitting for an artist who packs the trunk of his sedan full of CDs of his most recent album and accompanying merchandise, hoodies, and T-shirts then meets up in person with fans who order online. Anthony’s ironically-named album *Barely See the Beach* tells a tale of two cities: one near the coast where people live in mansions and tourism thrives, and another that exists in areas such as Southeast San Diego, or Anthony’s own Spring Valley, where the beach is an unseen luxury.

In one of his songs, “Da[Y]Go,” Anthony shouts out to local spots across the county. He feels loyalty to the experience of the common San Diegan. “I really made a family in these streets out here,” Anthony said.

He recalled an experience at the end of a day selling CDs across town: “I was coming out of Foster’s Freeze and this kid, he came up to me. He was, like, ‘Yo I really like your music. I got this birthday party in, like, two, three weeks. How much for you to perform here.’ And I was like, ‘Where is it at?’ And he was like, ‘Right here.’ It was kinda by Dictionary Hill [Spring Valley]. So I was like,

**A fan stopped Rossi Rock at Trader Joe’s. “He brought up how his dad had passed away, too.”**

"If I'm in town, I'll pull up. You don't gotta give me nothin'. The morning of the party, I got back in town, and he hit me. He was like, 'Hey, can you pull up?' I was like 'Yeah I'll be there.' So I pulled up, did my thang, everybody was rocking with it. It was crazy, it was dope."

A video posted online shows Anthony perform "Da[Y]Go" at the house party, and a group of kids are seen jumping, phones out to record, singing the hook in unison, "Bitch I'm from D-A-Y-G-O, D-A-G-O!"

Find Ryan Anthony on Instagram (@Spring-ValleyRyan), message him for a CD, sweater, or t-shirt, and meet the man himself.

#### LvrD Daphne: rogue kids

"I've been writing a lot less," LvrD Daphne said, explaining her process of

creating music.

She used to take notes a bunch of notes on her phone. But now, when she records, she often puts her phone down, and steps toward the recording microphone in her home studio. The beat starts playing. Her eyes close. Words begin to leap from her mouth.

"*Young enough to still believe that love my strongest weapon. Love my mama cause she help me learn my biggest lesson.*"

The music ends. One take.

"It's kind of like trusting the feeling," she said.

LvrD Daphne has been busy recording her new mix tape titled *Rogue*. I ask about the tape's theme and she tells me to envision a group of runaway kids, stowing away in the forest, living in a tree house. The kids don't know what they want to do



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

#### Rob Stone, San Diego's most commercially successful rapper, started Grove Town records, named after his hometown of Lemon Grove.

with their life, but in the forest, they are creating things, exploring, learning about themselves.

"That's the type of energy I want to bring to the people listening to my tape. I want it to be

for like people who don't feel like they fit in, feel like they don't belong. Just rogue kids, like renegades. People that need a place to connect," Daphne says.

LvrD Daphne performs live at Studio M.I.F. in North Park on March 16 at 5:00 p.m.

#### Rob Stone is free

Though San Diego's most commercially successful rapper in recent memory has a double-platinum single to his name, along with the riches of Billboard Top 100 success, these dollar signs are not the key to Stone's freedom. In 2016, he signed with RCA Records. But a contract disagreement with RCA executives kept Stone from completing the deal. As a result, Stone's music could not be distributed for profit, barring him from platforms such as Spotify and Apple Music. In 2017, Stone

cut ties with RCA, and started his own label, Grove Town Records, an homage to his hometown Lemon Grove. In October, Stone released his latest album, *Don't Wait for it*.

"It feels like I'm more free. I feel like a boss. I felt like a boss before, but now, I really dig this shit, you know?" Stone said.

Rob Stone began his first headlining tour earlier this month, making a stop at San Diego's Music Box on March 3. "This tour is big for me," Rob Stone said. Finishing the tour's 17 stops will be a feat in itself. Rob Stone was removed from a tour with Desii-gner last year after a violent altercation between his camp and that of his touring mate, Ski Mask The Slump God. "I'm just praying to finish this tour with no drama or anything," Stone said.



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His next stop in Southern California will be on April 20 in Los Angeles at The Roxy.

### Amon: 10 Beats a Day

It started with a broken heel. In 2010, while he was in high school, Amon and his friends were skating in La Jolla. He wanted to land a trick called a “tre flip” in which a skater must pop his or her board in the air. While in the air, the board completes a 360-degree turn, then it flips over once, and the skater must land with two feet back on the board. Amon had landed the move before, but this time he wanted to do it while jumping off a staircase with nine steps. He gave

himself space, kicked and pushed off the pavement, rode toward the drop-off, sending him into the air down the staircase. The board turned and flipped, like it was supposed to, but something was off. Amon landed awkwardly and broke a bone in his heel.

Unable to skate, Amon turned to music. Eight years later, Amon still skates — “I definitely can’t not skate”—but he also produces 10 beats a day in his home studio. He said out of the 10, he uses 3 or 4 for an actual song. From August of 2016 to August 2017, Amon wrote, produced, and released one song every week. One of the songs, “Lately,” found

success on Spotify’s viral charts, reaching number one in Canada, peaking at 8 in the U.S. and 10 in the world.

Hip-hop blogs are starting to promote his music. “Just gotta put your head down, and stay focused, and love what you’re doing,” Amon says. He opened for Rob Stone at Music Box for his March 3 performance.

### Music Box

1337 India Street  
LITTLE ITALY  
Formerly known as Anthology, Music Box opened in 2015 under new ownership. Though a musical home across all genres, hip-hop acts are a main part of the venue’s rotation. In the

past few months, Snoop Dogg, E-40, Talib Kweli, and Chief Keef performed at Music Box. While most of its acts are out-of-towners, three artists from this list, Rob Stone, Rossi Rock, and Amon, performed there on March 3. Future hip-hop performances include Sir Mix-A-Lot on March 24, Bilal on April 11, and Big K.R.I.T. with Cyhi the Prince on April 20.

### Air Conditioned Lounge

4673 30th Street  
NORTH PARK  
Since August of last year, Air Conditioned Lounge in North Park on 30th Street is home to an ongoing series of hip-hop music called “Hip Hop Weds.” The name is a play on the term “Hip-hop heads,” which partakers of hip-hop culture are often called. “It’s curated,” said Kahlee, organizer of the Wednesday night series. “It’s not just a bunch of homies on the lineup, and then two months later the same homies again.” The first Wednesday of every month, the night features DJ sets from Norm Rockwell and Freddie Joachim, who has worked with Brook-

lyn rapper Joey Badass. The second Wednesday, March 14, Skinny Veny and Lecha Leech are hosting “Farout,” with performances from local emcees. On March 21, Kahlee, Karlo, and DJ Tramlife are hosting Hip Hop Weds’ flagship event, “The Hip Hop House,” featuring performances by Noa James, Steez 76D, Sam R.I. Fre Cat, Lexsea, Santé Prince. March 28th is an event called “Seance,” led by Ill Atmospherics and Ill Poetic. There is no cover charge all month. Follow Hip Hop Weds on Instagram for more updates (@hiphopweds).

### DRYW KELTZ BANDS DESERVE WHAT THEY CAN EARN

Everybody loves a great underdog story, even when it comes to live music venues. Instead of focusing on some of the bigger players (Belly Up/Observatory/Casbah/HOB), let’s zero in on some of the smaller venues that continue to showcase bands and run successful operations. This is especially relevant in an era when bars are

increasingly abandoning live bands in favor of DJs. Here’s what three insiders helping to keep the local, live music flame burning strong had to say.


### SPACE

3519 El Cajon Boulevard  
NORMAL HEIGHTS  
SPACE is a new bar that has taken over a location on El Cajon Boulevard that is known for both live music, and heavy turnover. Within the past ten years, the establishment has existed as The Radio Room, Bar Eleven, The Void, and The Hideout. SPACE is angling to be the bar that the Che Café crowd hits once they are old enough to drink. They are courting the punks and oddballs, and offer a unique ambience for their shows. Performances are often complemented by video (primarily sci-fi and horror films) projected behind them.

Andy Arredondo, manager of SPACE, fielded questions about the venue.

*What do you guys offer that sets you apart as a live venue?*

“San Diego has cracked down on house shows, so it’s harder for bands to do DIY shows.



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*A lot of bars are switching away from featuring bands, and instead focusing on DJs. Have you considered making this switch as well?*

“We like sticking to anything that’s a live performance. We don’t go for the booty-basement crowd or nightclub sta-

tus. We try to focus more on guys like Prince Paul, the producer that used to work with De La Soul. We had him come through here, and we accept acts like that, because he’s pretty legendary and he’ll actually put on a show. That is what we would rather have. We do have plenty of DJ’s that come here and play a little bit of music at night. We give them a place, because a lot of venues don’t want to offer a night to these people that aren’t necessarily bringing the biggest crowds. A lot of these people are just looking for a place to play. They’re not asking for anything, they just want somewhere where they can play their music and enjoy it.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

**Over 90 percent of the bands that play at The Merrow in Hillcrest are locals such as Kirby’s Dream Band.**

*What is up with videos projected onto the stage?*  
“The concept of

SPACE kind of falls into that. The idea is to keep a sci-fi/horror theme going constantly — especially when bands are playing. We set-up a projector, and we just thought it would be something extra for the crowd to see. Something that would draw their attention. We’ll play *Alien*, or *2001: A Space Odyssey*...those types of sci-fi/horror films or just weird movies. We just wanted something that people would be like ‘that’s pretty interesting.’”

*Do you match bands with the videos?*

“Absolutely. Last night, we put on that Tupac film, *Juice*. We had hip-hop DJ’s, and we were looping the scene when they were going back and forth in the club when the DJ’s were scratching records. It kind of just fit perfectly.”

**The Merrow**

1271 University Ave  
HILLCREST

Located on the eastern end of Hillcrest, The Merrow has hosted live music for close to five years now. Live bands are rare in Hillcrest, so The

Merrow is an outlier in their neighborhood. Over 90 percent of the bands that play at the venue are local, even though the bar is known for hosting the occasional national act. The Merrow can also transform its parking lot into an expanded outdoor drinking space on special occasions four times a year. I asked owner Paul Smith how many nights feature live music.

“We do four or five nights a week. Most of what we do is live bands, and then we have some club nights, or DJ’s once or twice a week. Mondays we have an off-night right now. We’re not really programming it too much.”

*Are weekend draws always better than weeknights for bands?*

“No. I’ve actually seen it where my weeknights will have better draws than my weekends. I think the customers and guests have so many other things they could be doing. It really just comes down to the band, and what their draw is in general. I’ve seen where a band did really well on a Wednesday or Thursday. So I put them on a Saturday night and they don’t do half as well.”

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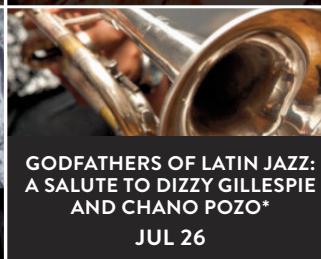
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Is it a relief to not have to compete for national acts with other venues?

“I enjoy working with both the Soda Bar and the Casbah when they’re able to send us over shows. They’ve been around so long that they’ve got all the real good contacts. If it’s a Casbah show or Soda Bar show it definitely adds a lot of clout to the bill. There’s a level of competition, but, at the same time, I don’t view it that way. I feel like I’m in a slightly different position. We’re not competing directly. We’ve got our local bands that are playing here. We’ve got our daytime crowd. We’ve got our neighborhood crowd and neighborhood events that we do. I look at it as whenever we can do something with those guys it’s more along the lines of let’s just help build the local scene to be a little better.”

I’ve apparently been mispronouncing the name of the bar for years...

“As long as you’re there drinking and enjoying the music, I don’t really care what you call it. I wanted to give it kind of an Irish feel, and it’s a Gaelic term. It’s actually gender-neutral. It means mermaid or merman. I thought that was kind of a fitting thing for the neighborhood as well. A little more androgyny there.”

(Morrow is pronounced mur-oh, not mare-oh.)

### Winstons Beach Club

1921 Bacon Street  
OCEAN BEACH

The long-reigning king of the Ocean Beach live music scene, Winstons has been hosting bands for 27 years now. Beginning in 1990, Bill Winston transformed a blues and biker bar into a popular

hangout for a younger crowd that displayed a keen interest in reggae and jam bands. The club books 75 percent local acts, and countless San Diego bands have graced their stage — most-notably a 26-year run by the Grateful Dead tribute the Electric Waste Band.

Winstons booker Ted Wigler was kind enough to answer some questions:

*Being a beach bar, how much of an uptick do you get with live shows during the summer months?*

“Being a beach bar does bring more people to the community in the summer for sure, and we do get some overflow no doubt about it. Though we are a destination, when people have to pay a cover charge, summer or winter, we can have a sold out show if the band is hot. It helps a lot in the summertime in the afternoons when we can

leave our window open and people hear that we have live music. It’s quite an inviting environment when the band is fun.”

*From a booking standpoint, how tough is it to compete with the clubs around town that consistently book well-known national acts?*

“From a booking standpoint we are probably the smallest fish in town when it comes to booking nationals. So, at times, I book shows that could possibly be at the Belly Up and certainly at the Casbah when it comes to size.”

*Winstons seems really clever with scheduling early evening entertainment such as trivia and comedy. Does the turnout for these help even out thin turnouts for live shows?*

“Since we’re off the beaten path and truly only have a few things to offer, entertainment and cock-

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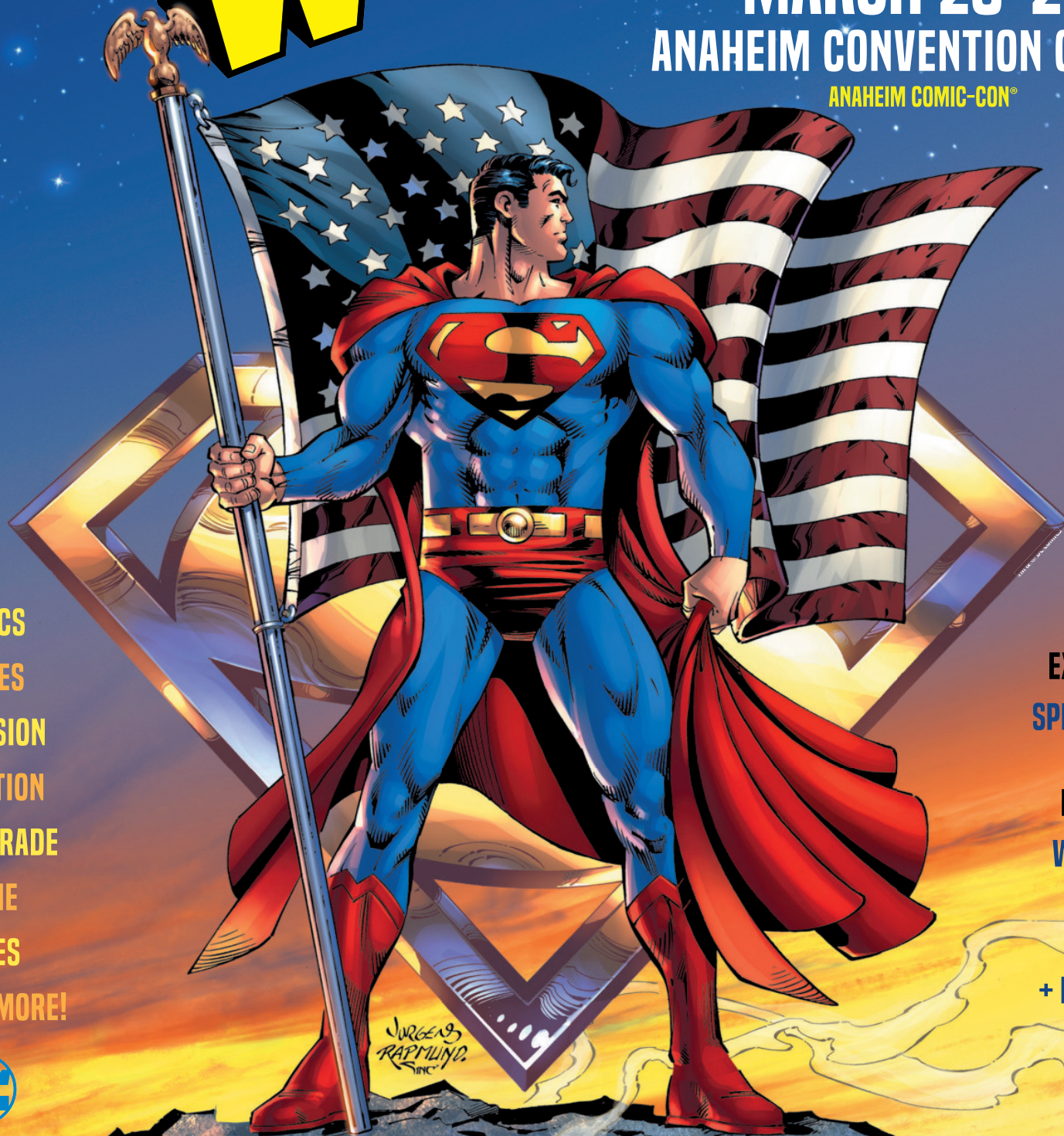
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tails, and we have zero food, we must come up with other gimmicks that make it worth being there in the daytime. I've had a long run with trivia and comedy for some happy hour events. We've also tried out other things like open mics, open jams, painting parties and tie-dye parties that all make for a much more successful afternoon — which seems to be a catalyst for people willing to come in at night. Nobody likes to be the first person to pay to come into a room, though people are always willing to pay to come into a party.”

**DAVE GOOD  
GIGS IN THE  
RETIREMENT  
DIGS**

“It's like no other scene. It's an audience that's appreciative,” Peter Marin says, “but, in another way.” Marin, 63, is a jazz



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN NAUGLE

**“It's like no other scene. It's an audience that's appreciative,” jazz singer Peter Marin says.**

singer. He performs at venues throughout San Diego, including senior retirement homes. “For three or four years, I per-

formed at Seacrest Village in Encinitas with a guitarist. It was his mother who was living there.”

Marin says he knows



**Singer/guitarist Michael Jay Dwyer sometimes plays for pie.**

of local musicians who make a career out of performing at retirement homes. He says they hire an abundance of entertainers, the work pays

well, is almost always during daylight hours, is less fickle than the nightclub scene, and the rewards are many. But, there's a catch.

“In a three-year run,

you get to know people. You form attachments. And on the days when I went in to perform, and they were gone, as in deceased, well, it can certainly set you off in the wrong way.”

Marin brings a Tony Bennet-ish vibe. He performs the jazz standards out of the venerable American Songbook. “That was this generation's music. People in Memory Care (a special unit for residents suffering from dementia or Alzheimer's,) who couldn't remember what they'd had for lunch? They sing along with the words to songs that even I sometimes forget.” He chuckles.

“I remember one woman who didn't talk, ever. They wheeled her in flat on her back on a gurney every time I sang there. They had her wrapped up in blankets.

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And whenever I sang "Georgia on my Mind"... uh, hold on a second."

Marin pauses, takes a little time out, and when he comes back on the line, I can hear his voice breaking. "I'm actually tearing up." He pauses again.

"She'd yell, 'Georgia, Georgia!'"

Tina Cetrone is the activities manager at the Montera, a senior residential facility near Lake Murray in La Mesa. "Three times each week, we book live music for our Memory Care group, and we book live music every Friday for our assisted liv-

ing group. Sometimes we have special events. [On Valentine's day] we'll have this accordion duo playing love songs."

Cetrone books a wide variety of entertainment at the Montera. "Cowboy Jack is a regular. Sometimes, big bands, groups with eight or nine members. There's even a group that calls themselves the Rhinestone Grannies."

She describes a kind-of Vegas revue, in sequins and feathers. "They range in age all the way into their 90s."

The Montera pays "anywhere from \$50 to

\$150 for an hour of entertainment, and sometimes more for a special event. I probably get two or three calls per week from entertainers wanting to get on our calendar. I'll try them out, and, it's either thumbs up or thumbs down."

What's the deciding factor?

"If the residents are happy, that's what matters."

"They usually only want you to play for an hour." Michael Jay Dwyer, a singer/guitarist, works around town as a solo act. "No, I don't perform at retirement homes regu-

larly, but I do whenever they come up. I learned a lot of songs from the '40s and the '50s — Dean Martin, Tony Bennett, and Sinatra. Stuff they would have heard when they were young. Most of them pay a hundred bucks. Not bad," he says. "A hundred bucks an hour. But, at the Mt. Miguel Covenant Village, you play for pie."

Pie, as in dessert.

"I do it because there's a lot of people there at Covenant Village that I know from Skyline Methodist, back when I was in charge of the music ministry. The residents

are really appreciative of you coming out and playing for them. They usually want to hang out and talk after a show. Maybe you played a song they got married to, or a song that was popular when they were dating. Memory is so important when you are a senior citizen. You practically subsist on your memories."

"In Memory Care, all of a sudden a woman in the audience stood up. She started walking towards me." Pianist/entertainer Robert Parker performs at retirement homes frequently. He

thinks they make up 80 percent of his gigs. "It turns out," he says, "that she'd once been a concert pianist." On the day in question, Parker was playing straight-laced classical music. "It was Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring, and the woman remembered having played it too. I sat her next to me on the piano bench. She managed to bang out a few notes. The song," he says, "triggered memories in her. Music is so powerful."

Mostly, Parker says he performs themes from the 1930s and the 40s. But, he also admits

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to a little Elton John, and maybe some Beatles. "And they say, I know that song because my kids listen to that."

He discovered the senior home circuit by accident. "I've been doing this for about five years now. I did it to make ends meet at first, to have a little money coming in while I figured out what to do next." Parker says the secret to his success is that he is good, but not the best piano player. "I entertain. I connect with people, and I make sure they are all having a good time."

"Once, when paramedics were summoned and had to come in the room to deal with a medical emergency they asked me to turn my volume down. I did, but I kept the party going."

"Convalescent homes? They are amazing," says Deeja Marie



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE ANDERSON

**Robert Parker's secret: "I entertain. I connect with people, and I make sure they are all having a good time."**

Pope "Some residents, they'd be so excited to see me. I'd talk to them. I'd go to each and every one of them after a show, and I'd shake their hands. I'd look in their faces. If they wanted a hug, I'd give them one. It was so

special to me. Tears are coming up in my eyes now while I'm remembering them."

Pope, who now lives in Los Angeles, is a familiar voice in the San Diego club scene. She fronts Sue Palmer's Motel Swing

Orchestra. "When I was living in San Diego, I was doing a lot more of that kind of work with Doug Buchanan, a sax player. We booked at about four of those homes. And the people in those homes, they will sit there and be

attentive and listen."

Pope remembers working senior centers in El Cajon, "And the Casa de Mañana in La Jolla.... Even though I was only getting paid \$50 dollars a performance, I still felt good. Those people, they just lifted my spirits up. I looked forward to doing it. It's consistent work, if they like you."

ROBERT BUSH  
**CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUNG LIONS**

Trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos decided to turn his weekly Young Lions performance series at Panama 66 in Balboa Park into a fully functional after-school music program called the Young Lions Jazz Conservatory last fall. He started with a roster of 30 students. "I think the word is out that we're doing something special Castellanos.

"Because we've doubled our enrollment.... We may have more than a hundred students next semester."

Between classes on a Sunday afternoon at Liberty Station, Castellanos says, "This is my bread and water, my heart and soul. I can't wait to get here, and I'm always thinking about ways to challenge these young adults."

Performance opportunities are the *raison d'être* of the Young Lions concept. Learning on the job. In addition to the weekly shows at Panama 66, some students play an opening set in the lobby prior to each Jazz at the Jacobs concert that Castellanos curates at Symphony Hall.

"One of our ensembles was selected to compete in the Next Generation Jazz Festival in March," said the trumpeter. "Only six

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<b>SUN., MAR. 18</b> <b>MICHAEL GRAVES</b> Fishing For Chips, Dusty Mitchell Midnight Track	<b>FRI., APR. 27</b> <b>DAS MORTAL</b> Street Cleaner, Shredder 1984, Facehugger	<b>WED., JUN. 27</b> <b>DIO DISCIPLES</b> Symbolic, Deliverance Machine
<b>WED., MAR. 21</b> <b>ROYAL THUNDER</b> Pinkish Black, Beira	<b>SAT., APR. 28</b> <b>TRAUMA</b> The Bastard Saints, Vanguard	<b>FRI., JUN. 29</b> <b>COMBICHRIST</b> Wednesday 13, Night Club, Prison, Death Valley High
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<b>SAT., MAR. 24</b> <b>DOGWOOD</b> No Innocent Victim, The Beautiful Mistake, Bossfight	<b>SAT., MAY 5</b> <b>WILL HAVEN</b> Fake Figures, Open Hand, Weight Of The Sun, Condor	<b>SAT., JUL. 28</b> <b>OFU</b> Madman
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schools in the country got that distinction.”

Here are some of the conservatory’s most accomplished players.

### Nick Caldwell

“Nick is probably the best 12-year-old saxophonist I’ve ever heard,” Castellanos says.

Caldwell attends Grant K-8 in Mission Hills and has been studying with Castellanos and bebop icon Charles McPherson for several years. “My mom met Gilbert at a gig he was playing at 98 Bottles. He told her about the Young Lions, which he probably does every gig,” says Caldwell, laughing at the memory. “I went to check it out, and I loved it. Right away, I started improving. We learn the songs real quick, and then he drills us over and over until we get them right.”

Like most of his



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

**“Being a Young Lion is like being part of a really cool family,” says singer Zion Dyson. Behind her plays 13-year-old bassist Murray. “He’s already playing at a professional level,” Gilbert Castellanos says.**

peers, Caldwell sees music school and work outside San Diego in his

post-high school future.

“Ultimately, I want to move to New York and

become a top player like Chris Potter.”

### Zion Dyson

Vocalist Dyson, age 16, attends the Bishop’s School in La Jolla. “I’ve been studying with Gilbert for three years now,” she said. “I’m planning on going to college for music. I might end up doing music as a career or working as a music educator — I’m interested in both fields.”

I asked Dyson what compels her to spend so much of her time doing this particular activity.

“Because we’re all really into jazz. Being a Young Lion is like being part of a really cool family.”

Who does she admire?

“I love Ella Fitzgerald... also Chet Baker. I love his sound and I gravitate to that sound.”

### Alvin Paige

Castellanos says, “what makes him stand out is the gorgeous sound he gets from his horn.”

Fifteen-year-old saxophonist Paige goes to the School of Creative and Performing Arts in Paradise Hills under the guidance of Dr. John Reynolds. “I hope to be in college somewhere playing music soon. I believe that’s what I was meant to be doing.” His inspirations? “I listen to a lot of John Coltrane and Dexter Gordon, but Daniel Jackson is my favorite.

Of Young Lions, Paige says, “I don’t think there’s another place in town where I’d be able to play gigs and perform as much as I do here.”

### Brenda Greggio

“Brenda came to us from the classical world, and she has developed at an

amazing pace in the last few years,” Castellanos says. “I predict she’ll be the pianist for the number one ensemble next year.”

Thirteen-year-old Greggio makes the trip south every week from Poway, where she attends Black Mountain Middle School. “In five years, I hope to be at Juilliard,” says Greggio. “My goal is to play jazz in New York. I love Herbie Hancock, Chick Corea and Oscar Peterson. I didn’t know much about jazz when I got here and now it’s one of my favorite things to do.”

How much time does she devote to the instrument?

“I practice a minimum of two hours a day, but on the weekends, when I have time to really explore — it’s more like six. My goal is music. I don’t really have a backup plan.”

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## Tiger Diep

"Tiger is a newcomer to the conservatory, and I really admire his love and dedication to the music," says Castellanos. "He's got a real depth in his approach."

Seventeen-year-old alto saxophonist Diep originally made quite the commute to participate in the San Diego jazz scene. "I moved here from Murrieta, which is about an hour north. I've transferred to the School of Creative and Performing Arts. I definitely came to pursue music."

Word of mouth led Diep to the Young Lions. "I heard about the program while I was attending Jazz Camp at UCSD. Gilbert is a phenomenal educator, and I'm getting a lot from working with him. He has so much knowledge to offer."

Diep has his sights set on attending Juilliard or Temple University.

## Carmen Murray

"I've watched her development as a musician skyrocket over the last few years," Castellanos said. "She is so mature. I don't know what is in the water over there at the Murray household, [Carmen's



Teenaged saxophonists Tiger Diep (left) and Alvin Paige (center) play with a Young Lions ensemble.

younger brother John, is a rapidly evolving bass player] but they should bottle it."

Fifteen-year-old drummer Murray sees a clear benefit to Young Lion membership. "It helps me further my jazz education." [She also attends the School of Creative and Performing Arts]. I get to work with one combo all semester, and I make a lot of friends. We're all learning how to survive in the professional jazz environment. We're learning some music theory and

how to improvise."

I asked her if she had a favorite drummer. "Not just one," she answered. "I really like Tony Williams, Max Roach, and Jimmy Cobb."

## John Murray

"I put him in a separate category," Castellanos paused, reflecting on 13-year-old bassist Murray. "I honestly believe John is a child prodigy. In many ways, he's already playing at a professional level. He's so wise, musically speaking, and he sounds so natural and

organic when he's playing the bass."

"It does take up a lot of my time," says John Murray. "But I really love the program. Gilbert is by far the best teacher I've ever had, and he sets an amazing example."

Does he have a backup plan, in case the jazz prodigy thing doesn't work out?

"I really have my sights set on being a professional musician. But if that didn't work out, I'm also interested in engineering, so that might be another possibility."

DAVE GOOD

## JAZZ PEOPLE

"There's live jazz every night here in town." When I arrive, Robert Dove, a tenor sax player, a jazz guy, is waiting at the Ken Club's bar. We pool our resources: between us, \$22 dollars. "We're good," he says. He calls for a Guinness. I order a ginger ale. We recess to the adjoining hall where bands play, empty for now and quieter than the bar. Dove, bearded, in dress shirt, tie, vest, and jeans, is here to blow some horn and help run a jazz jam. It's been going every Thursday at the Ken since he helped start it last Thanksgiving. The room's four walls are painted blood red. In the semi-dark, I imagine it's like what sitting inside of a whale's heart might be like. Music starts at 10 p.m., and it's not over until last call. Dove teaches music part time at a private school clear across town in Chula Vista.

"Class starts at 9:30 a.m.," he says, in reference to the long night ahead. He arrives on campus by 6:30 in the morning. "That's what coffee is for."

Dove recounts,

from memory, all the jazz shows in San Diego. "Monday night, there's a jazz jam at Rosie O'Grady's from 9 p.m. to midnight. Tuesdays, there's a new Latin jazz jam at Prohibition in the Gaslamp. Wednesday evening is Gilbert Castellanos and his jazz jam at Panama 66 in Balboa Park. Thursday nights, you have a lot of choices: Bill Caballero's Latin jazz jam at Border X in Barrio Logan, Gary Rich and his monthly jazz jam at Bourre in Rolando Park, and here."

The ground floor of San Diego's jazz scene is an independent radio station. Later, when I talk to *Downbeat* Rising Star Holly Hofmann, a jazz flutist who lives here, she reminds me that KSDS Jazz 88.3, along with the Athenaeum series in La Jolla and Jazz at the Jacobs, brings national level acts into San Diego. Add to that education: many area high schools mix band class and jazz, and both UCSD and SDSU have jazz degree programs. Our city its own church service: Jazz Vespers, at the First Presbyterian church downtown Saturdays at 5 p.m.

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But, like any other jazz scene, venues come and go. Losses in recent years include Anthology, which became the all-purpose Music Box, and 98 Bottles, a busy venue that closed, came back as the Loading Dock, then ditched live jazz for sports. Jazz in the Park shuttered and began Jazz in North Park at the North Park Theater (now the Observatory,) a stop on the national circuit that lasted but a few seasons. Old timers will remember way back to Chuck's Steak House, Elario's, and La Jolla's Blue Parrot, all long gone.

Then there's Dizzy's, a moveable feast of jazz music that, like the drum-toting bunny, keeps on going.

Since Chuck Perrin first opened Dizzy's in the East Village in April of 2000 he has been forced to relocate his live jazz

venue at least four times. "Four times officially." But fans will remember even more moves. These days, the jazz collective runs out of the meeting room in the Musician's Union Hall on Morena Blvd. "It's a destination, Dizzy's. Fans pay for the right to sit in the audience," Perrin says. "They don't make noise. It's unreal. They're appreciative."

The reason Dizzy's survives, he says, is that "there's a lot of good music going on in this city, a lot of great musicians living here, and a lot of young musicians coming up. And the jazz veterans we've had living here in San Diego through the years has been just staggering. The late Joe Marillo," he says. "Gary LeFebvre, and Mundell Lowe."

Some names to augment Perrin's list of deceased jazz greats:

Daniel Jackson, Barney Kessel, and James Moody. They all lived and died here. And some national-level working jazz giants still live here. Consider Charles McPherson and Tony Ortega, both sax players, Grammy-winning trumpeter Curtis Taylor, and guitarist Peter Sprague, to name a few.

"The audience here is not in the large numbers," Hofmann explains. If there is a downside to San Diego's jazz scene, she blames it on demand. "In other cities, we have bigger audiences willing to pay more to hear jazz." She and Wofford, a pianist, perform together in jazz venues across the country. "But compared to the cities we go to? San Diego is one of the better scenes. It's more inclusive here of all levels of players, from student to pro level."

Hofmann is cheery

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about youth jazz education here as well. She likes UCSD's annual Jazz Camp, and jazz trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos' Young Lions series. One would think that the large amount of jazz education going on here would produce more jazz fans, but Hofmann says no. "What it does," she says, "is it generates more competition for fewer local gigs." Was there ever a time when a jazz musician could pay the bills just by working San Diego clubs?

"I don't remember one. But I came here in the late 80s. Mike [Wofford] might remember such a time; he was raised here. But as far as I know, there never was a time when clubs paid enough to live on artist fees alone. The best jazz musicians have combination careers that include recording, teaching, performing, and playing community

outreach gigs, like fundraisers and so on."

Hofmann herself has been known to book national jazz acts from time to time at her Handlery Hotel jazz series in Mission Valley. "We've been there three years now," a gig she says is standing-room-only Friday afternoons. "Every single Friday. It packs up. We're only talking 70 seats," she admits, "but compared to Small's in New York, which is a renowned jazz venue, the Handlery is big."

I first met Dove four years ago. He had just moved to San Diego from his native Ohio. He came here specifically for the jazz scene. Why not New York? "For me, San Diego was a fresh new opportunity and a different perspective. I'd been on the East Coast. I wanted to be on the front end of something that was establish-

ing itself." How did that work out? Is it better these days, the jazz scene here?

"Better? I don't want to say better. It's just different. For example, the younger guys aren't young any more. I got here when I was 23 years old and I didn't know which way was up." Dove says he's since been able to leave his day job wrenching on high-end bicycles, this due to the amount of work he is getting here as a jazz musician, plus the teaching.

"Are there more opportunities to perform now? Yeah. Sometimes, you have to be creative. If you try to go the traditional route as a performer, I don't think you'll do quite as well. Sometimes, it pays to step outside the box. That's how we got this session." Dove is referring to the Ken Club jazz jam, the Ken being a venue known



As Captain Beefheart would say, "If you got ears, you gotta listen" to the Android Trio.

for indie, punk, rock, and blues shows.

"We wouldn't have found this if we hadn't been willing to take a chance." Thus far, it seems to be working. The Ken's sound guy confirms 40+ fans at the door last Thursday, at a cover charge of \$5 each. Average age? He thinks about it for a minute. "Yeah, there were a few seniors," he says. "But mostly, people in their middle 20's."

CHAD DEAL

### SHOWS TO GET THIS SELLOUT OFF HIS COUCH

Last month, a local

Facebook friend posted: "There's no music/art scene in SD. Sure there is, but you are in your room missing it." Easy for him to say, I thought. He's the promoter of a particularly interesting hardware-based acid techno monthly (*Acid Varsity*), which has generated the closest thing to an underground scene as you'll find without a spelunking helmet. But he was right. There's little shortage of good reasons to get out on a weekend, or even weeknight, provided you're able to forego bongloads and *Black Mirror* long enough to, you know, talk to people.

My bandmate Brandon recently said it best while we were waxing wistful about San Diego circa the early 2000s: "I can't tell if San Diego ever stopped being cool or if I just started getting older." Hell, I'm missing the Thurston Moore Group at the Casbah right now just to stay home and meet an extended deadline. Early 2000s me is shaming 2018 me as a sellout. But that just goes to show that there's something fundamentally adolescent and quixotic about the idea of a scene in the first place, as if it were a cohesive movement affirmed by midnight high fives, blasé



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name drops, and self-referential dating circles. You know, early 2000s stuff. So, without further ado, here are a handful of things about, from, and coming to San Diego that will get fat, old, sellout me off the couch.


One of San Diego's finest storytellers hasn't lived in San Diego for over a decade, but he can tell you all about going out in the early 2000s. Adam Gnade recounted a raucous Golden Hill house party in his 2016 novella *Locust House* which over-the-hill farts like me get pretty back-in-my-day about. His latest dispatch — *Voicemails from the Great Satan*, released in February via San Diego's own Three One G Records on hot pink cassette tape — follows *Locust House* punk rock protagonist Agnes McCanty as she flees civilization in a van after the

presidential inauguration. One senses Gnade projecting more than a shadow of himself onto the character as she navigates Trump-era America in a string of bleak narrations that have come to characterize Gnade's "talking songs." Gnade recorded his downcast passages in Logan Heights while in town to present at the San Diego Zine Fest last October. The story skulks over devastating, neverended end-of-the-world ambient guitar textures by Demetrius Antuña, reminiscent of his work with apocalyptic post-rock projects KATA, ANA, Ilya, and current darkwave endeavor Warsaw. Gnade is fresh off a U.K. tour and will be announcing West Coast dates shortly.

Sip over to Soda Bar on March 16 for a Singing Serpent & 91X Loudspeaker showcase

featuring a rare appearance from local skronk-monster Glen Galloway's scripturally-informed experimental hip hop outfit Soul-Junk, his no wavy trio Sumatraban, Pistolita, Lion Cut, Kenseth Thibideau, Miss New Buddha, and Daniel Crawford & The Unkind Ravens, hosted by Tim Pyles and Lou Niles with visuals by analog acid-droppers Operation:MINDBLOW.

The following Monday, March 19, experimental jazz threesome the Android Trio becomes self-aware with special guest James Brandon Lewis on tenor sax at Space Bar. The Los Angeles trio's recent *Road Songs* (via Orenda Records, home to local percussion wizard Nathan Hubbard) includes a track titled "Dear Osper," paying homage to late San Diego strummer Bryan "Hot Licks" Osper, who





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made a name for himself in Humboldt-based new-grass group Bucky Walters and alongside the Shook Twins, among countless others, before his death in 2011. Assembled as a side project from members of the Magic Band (of Captain Beefheart notoriety) while touring Australia in 2014, the Android Trio features CalArts alumni Andy Niven on drums, Eric Klerks on bass and 8-string guitar, and guitarist Max Kutner from the Grandmothers of Invention.

The Magic Band was reunited (and later reinvented with new members) by original drummer John “Drumbo” French in 2003, sans frontman, as a matter of both nostalgia and necessity. French said in a podcast interview last year: “Because my experience was on Mars, where am I gonna get a

job on Earth?”

The Magic Band’s jilted rhythms — which he transcribed from melodies transmitted from Beefheart via cacophonous piano lines and fragments whistled over late-night phone calls — were all he knew (apart from a few oddball projects that, while compelling, never garnered comparable traction). The songs also never got a chance to stand on their own outside of Beefheart’s tyrannical rule, which usurped credit and royalties from compositions that several bandmates have since insisted were their own co-creations.

Maybe nostalgia’s not the right word. The genesis of the Magic Band’s now-revered albums such as *Trout Mask Replica* and *Lick My Decals Off, Baby* was a saga of physical and emotional abuse that was so extensive it takes



**This photos of Father/son guitarists Chris Stone (left) and his dad Josh Steely was taken in the 1990s.**

up the bulk of French’s 880-page book, *Beefheart: Through the Eyes of Magic*. Yet, like a victim returning to the scene

of the crime, French has transitioned from behind the traps to in front of the mic, where he offers a formidable impersonation

of his gravel-throated tormentor while the virtuosic young musicians who now comprise the Android Trio and keyboardist Jonathan Sindelman lurch through hits such as “Floppy Boot Stomp,” “Bat Chain Puller,” and “Electricity.”

Maybe it’s adumbrations of the tremendous, singular ego that was Captain Beefheart (aka Don Van Vliet, who passed away in 2010), but the band’s 2017 tour took them exclusively abroad due to a resounding lack of interest from stateside promoters. The new Magic Band seems to have the same problem as the old Magic Band; it doesn’t make any money. Barring the hyper-accelerated evolution of popular opinion, we probably won’t be seeing the Magic Band in San Diego anytime soon. But the Android Trio’s meandering, inquisitive jazzscapes are the next best thing. And, as the great Captain once growled, “If you got ears, you gotta listen!” *Fistfights With Wolves* and *INUS* round out the bill.

Get your bad self over to Liberty Station on March 31 for a post-reverent Stay Strange showcase in collaboration with NTC Foundation titled *Hand of God: Conceptualizing Spirituality Through Experimental Music*. The free event will be held in the Historic North Chapel and kicks off at 6 p.m. with an opening prayer from Ædwyrde Lancsaubre followed by MONOCHROMACY, Tatsuya Nakatani, and Bill Orcutt interspersed with a crowd-sourced confessional sung by Meghann Welsh over doom tubist Codex Confitour (Jonathan Piper, formerly of Aquapuke) and tarot

readings by Fátima Courroux in the sanctuary.

And finally, boisterous garage pop duo Gloomsgay will be releasing a new EP, *ANXIETY, DISBELIEF, WONDER*, at a free Whistle Stop show on April 27 with Exasperation and Miss New Buddha.

“The songs on the EP feel more relaxed and they have more sonic space to them,” says drummer Lori Sokolowski. “It’s a chiller, more grown-up Gloomsgay.”

See, even us big kids still have fun every once in a while. What’s your excuse?

#### KEN LEIGHTON **SECOND GENERATION LOCAL TALENT**

Guitarist Jerry Raney of the world famous cowpunkers The Beat Farmers often shares the stage with his son, guitarist/drummer Nathan. And Josh Kmak’s *Undertone* album (recorded under the name Creepseed) was one of the most acclaimed local albums of the last two years. He follows the lead set by Uncle Joel who drummed in such well-known local bands as the Penetrators and the Crawdaddys, while Uncle Jeff plays all the time with Joey Harris and the Mentals.

Here, for your consideration, are four more examples of local talent that did not skip a generational beat.

#### **Josh Steely and son Chris Stone**

Carlsbad’s Josh Steely was working as an electrician’s assistant and playing in a power trio called Sandjacket when fellow North County-borne guitarist Stevie Salas (Rod Stewart, George Clinton) brought him up to Hollywood to fill out Chris Daughtry’s



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band. Daughtry was a top-four *American Idol* contestant in 2006 which lead to the formation of his self-named band. Daughtry's four albums have racked up sales of eight million worldwide. "They just finished their [fifth] album in Nashville," says Steely's oldest son, Chris Stone. "You don't hear about Clay Aiken or Ruben Studdard or any other *Idol* finalists still going out on tour."

Like his dad, son Chris has a love of intricate guitar work, as was evidenced in his trash metal band Brutalion (2005-2014). "I parted ways with the group. I got married, had kids, and focused on recording heavy groove, multi-track stuff in my home studio [in Vista]." Stone says his all-instrumental work reminds some of Buckethead. "My dad said he was thoroughly

impressed and he would show it other musicians on his next tour."

Stone says his dad's day job keeps him from launching solo projects. "His commitments to Daughtry keep him tied down. But when he is in town he loves to play around town with Sandjacket."

Stone, 31, has two children. His youngest, at two years old, is older than his dad's latest. "When [Josh] is town he's a full time dad. They have a newborn."

### Candy Kane and son Evan Yearsley

What do you do when your mom, the bigger-than-life burlesque boogie queen Candy Kane, dies young due to pancreatic cancer? You organize 100 of her closest friends and stage a mardi-gras-style parade in the streets, celebrating

her wild, colorful life. "We marched from my house to Cassidy Street Beach with the Euphoria Brass Band," says Candy's son Evan about the South Oceanside party/wake he launched in 2016 just after Kane died.

"We all did a paddle out then we all went bowling at the Surf Bowl. We all did what mom wanted. We all wore feathers. There were a lot of feather boas and sequins at the bowling alley that day."

Evan now plays drums in the Casey Hensley Band. "We definitely want to pick up where she left off. It's very therapeutic for all of us."

Evan acquired his last name when Candy married Paladins bassist Thomas Yearsley (who owns the analog Thunderbird Studios just two blocks from Kane's old house in South Oceanside).

### Paul Kamanski and daughter Tennessee

Because of his cinematic, country-tinged songs he wrote such as "Bigger Stones," "Hollywood Hills" and "California Kid," Paul Kamanski was sometimes called the fifth member of San Diego's premier '80s band The Beat Farmers. He eventually released five albums with his own band Comanche Moon or as a solo artist including last year's "Derailed."

"In my early teenage years I was really secretive about what I was doing musically," says Paul's daughter Tennessee, 21. "I didn't even want him to know I was learning guitar... Being an only child going into the same line of work as your dad, I was embarrassed. But embarrassment is such a useless emotion. Singing with him now is my favorite thing in the whole wide world. When I make demos I always ask him what he thinks."

"The thing I can thank him the most for is introducing me to Gram Parsons and Emmy Lou Harris. I used to fall asleep on the cot in the backyard listening to [Parson's] *Grievous Angel*."

Paul says parents can push their kids too hard. "I never hovered."

But he still takes some credit. "When my wife was pregnant, Tennessee heard [Comanche Moon album] "Dreams in Rewind" in utero ten hours a day. When I sang those songs to her as a newborn her eyes would come alive. She was dancing to it at two weeks old."

"When she was little we'd make up a verse like 'Deep in the forest where the cantaloupes grow,' and then we'd each add a new verse and have to remember it



**As a teen, songwriter Tennessee Kamanski didn't want her songwriter dad Paul know she was writing songs.**

for next time. I think that helped her learn how to write songs."

Tennessee is now based in L.A. with her boyfriend Aaron Dennis. "We live in Silverlake after a weird stint in Las Vegas... I met him at the Che Café when I was 16 and he was playing with his band at the time Tan Sister Radio. We are both now working on solo stuff."

Her favorite song by her dad is "Marilyn." "It sounds like what it feels like to be a 22-year-old kid living in L.A. which is what he was when he recorded it."

### Joaquin "Quino" McWhinney and son Jakob

Quino McWhinney's vocals made "Baby I Love Your Way" an international smash for Big Mountain in 1994. Quino's son Jakob admits the Top Ten hit pushed him away from the reggae vibe that helped make the song huge. "I grew up reacting to reggae as vampires react to garlic," says guitarist/keyboardist/singer Jakob McWhinney, 27, about his early years.

But his rabid rasta reaction subsided. "Over the years I started to gain respect for my dad's early work." The younger

McWhinney even joined his dad's band for a tour. "I made more money on that Big Mountain tour than I probably ever will."

Long based in the South Bay, Quino moved to Ensenada five years ago. "He just wanted to be in Mexico," says Jakob. "He opened the Big Mountain Kombucha Café there."

And the elder McWhinney still tours in Big Mountain. "Since he got the full band back together they've been booking tours in the Pacific Islands and Southeast Asia where they are really big."

Father and son handle conscious music differently. "I didn't realize how politically active he was with his lyrics early on," says McWhinney the younger. "I think activism has a place in art, but for me for me I prefer to not be a propagandist with my music."

Instead Jakob and singer Frank Mindingall created Field Trip, a collective of local musicians that stages live shows to raise money for causes. "We raised \$2000 for the American Suicide Prevention and \$900 for an LGBT youth center in Hillcrest."

Field Trip has also been a side project incubator that has spun off a number of bands like the "weirdo new wave" Spooky Cigarettes, the poppy Space Heat, the punkish Soaks, the post-punk Trips, and the garage Kooties. The latest is New Me.

"My whole life as a songwriter I had my tail tucked away from pop songs," McWhinney says. "New Me allows me to fully embrace the pop and big fat hooks."

Spooky Cigarette appears March 24 at the Hellmuth Projects in Bankers Hill. ■



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“Ukulele is the easiest musical instrument in the world to learn and play,” says Ukulele Ray, Fender’s first sponsored ukulele artist. “With a single finger on a single string, one can create a chord, with many of the chords needing only one or two fingers. It’s the perfect instrument for children because of its small size, making it easier than a guitar, and it’s truly the gateway to guitar, as it shares the same chord shapes.”

The author of the Hal Leonard music book *Ukulele for Guitar Players*, Ray points out that it was the first instrument picked up by guitarists like George Harrison. “I would not be Ukulele Ray had it not been for George, who came to my home to view my ukulele collection and inspired and encouraged me to be a steward to the ukulele to help play it forward. This is the reason why I don the Sgt. Pepper motif, in honor and memory of George.”

Before relocating to Escondido, Ray headed a Las Vegas uke review called Ukapalooza (“The show featured me doing songs saluting the American pinup girl from each decade”) and ran a ukulele museum in San Francisco housing more than 1000 vintage ukes. “I’ve been working on plans to reopen here in San Diego and should be securing the right location soon, which will not only house my vast collection, but will also be a restaurant café and concert venue.”

However, Ray’s handmade custom instruments are what he’s probably best known for, including the Lunchbox-A-Lele, which combines a ukulele and a lunchbox, and the Warhol Soup-A-Lele, made from a Campbell’s soup can. “I’ve been creating and building cigar-box ukuleles since 1981, but it wasn’t until 2001 when I was inspired to create a ukulele from a tin

lunchbox.... I’ve made custom pieces for Paul McCartney, Gene Simmons, Cheech and Chong, and Steven Tyler,



Ray dons the Sgt. Pepper outfit to honor George

and have made well over 1000 pieces to date.” Most instruments run \$250 and up.

“San Diego has been the inspiration for many of my newest creations, including the world’s first Quadra-lele, a



Lorraine Castellanos is in an experimental phase

four-necked Campbell’s soup-can uke featuring all four scales of a ukulele: soprano, concert, tenor, and baritone.”

Most of his instruments are easier to create than the Quadra-lele. “Nothing difficult in wiring a lunchbox at all, since I’m able to work from the inside of the box. My lunchbox ukuleles still open after conversion, so it makes it easy to install anything, as well as still carry your lunch.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

**Kissed and said goodbye, reluctantly.** Fans of the all-female Latin/Classical/Jazz trio Besos de Coco featuring the guitar and vocals of Lorraine Castellanos, the bass of

Evona Wascinski, and the tap-dance percussion of Claudia Gomez are advised that the group has dis-

banded, reforming without Castellanos as the Besos Trio with new guitarist Beston Barnett.

“I needed to start a new chapter,” says Castellanos. “There was no dustup or drama; we are all still really close friends, which actually made it really hard to leave. I love those two and feel so lucky to have played with them for more than five years.”

Castellanos had other music she heard in her head.

“I was starting to get anxious to do something different. Being in Besos de Coco took up a lot of time. Even though I’ve always been involved in music outside the group, there was a limit on booking shows on my own or personal projects....

“So now I am looking forward to writing some new music and working on developing my own sound, which is important to me as a musician....

“I’m also learning to say ‘no’ sometimes, because I was being stretched so thin from saying ‘yes’ to everything. I’m working on clearing this artist’s block that I’ve been experiencing for a while now.”

This new-found freedom is manifesting itself in her immediate plans.

“Right now, I really love to mix it up in terms of who I’m playing with. I’m kind of in an experimental phase — so I’m doing duo gigs with [guitarist] Bob Boss, [pianists] Bobby Cressey, and Irving Flores, and trio gigs at the Westgate. I especially love playing with [bassist] Dean Hulett.

“I’m enjoying this learning process and when I get it together, I will be recording a new album under my name. I haven’t made up my mind about the material yet, but I’m really set on doing a song in Tagalog, because that is in my roots even though I don’t speak it. I can sing, though, in any language.”

Moving away from a classical guitar regimen is also part of the plan.

“I used to practice eight hours a day just to keep my



The Lunchbox-A-Leles play music...carry lunch

chops, working on Bach and other composers. Now I’m really tapping into the language of jazz again and what my version of that sounds like. I feel most free and confident doing that.”

Lorraine Castellanos and Bob Boss play Panama 66 on March 22.

— Robert Bush

**Che’s evolution.** After a long dormancy that involved a threatened eviction, a widespread community reaction, and a last-minute rescue from chancellor Pradeep Kholsa, UCSD’s Che Café will finally reopen after a year of dormancy.



Don’t look for it to be classy now — look for it to be open

“We’re waiting final word back from the manager of construction about when we will actually reopen,” says Cameron Royce, a so-called core member of the Che Collective that runs the 30-year-old, all-ages, alcohol-free venue.

Royce says an official June 2 Che Café grand reopening featuring past Che headliners is a for-sure thing, and that a May 11 show with Teenage Pleasure Club is tentatively booked,

based on a hoped-for reopening schedule.

Royce says that the previously announced March opening was delayed when the Che Collective objected to the building of a wheelchair-accessible bathroom within the main building that would have swallowed up precious hallway space. He said it was eventually agreed that the handicapped bathroom would be built in an adjoining room formerly called Dark Star Books that was once a science-fiction book store.

Royce says the new Che Café will not have a half-foot wooden riser that existed

before, and that the floor will now be a one-level concrete deck.

“It got a little crazy when there were [mosh] pits,” says Royce. “The different level could cause people to lose balance.”

Royce says local promoters like the Casbah and Soda Bar are still welcome to access the Che Café to bring in nationally touring acts. “We are still figuring out the insurance costs,” he says about the pro-

(continued on page 64)

PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT SANCHEZ

cess to determine future rental rates for outside promoters.

Royce says the Che Cafe's previous capacity of 170 will probably be the same.

The 550-capacity UCSD music venue formerly known as Porter's Pub is now up and running and operating as the Stage Room. The prime concert space that once hosted such popular headliners as Common, Unwritten Law, Kendrick Lamar, Nipsey Hussle, and KRS-One is now used by student groups for their own events or by the same UCSD in-house booking talent booker that books The Loft. The restaurant group Soda and Swine operates the adjoining Stage Room restaurant space. Since it opened last fall, the Stage has hosted R&B artists Daniel Caesar and Smino.

Meanwhile, the downtown Quartyard venue is about to reactivate at its new space at 13th and Market Street. Headliners include Moose Blood with Lydia and McCafferty April 2, and Frankie Cosmos with Ian Sweet and Lomelda April 10.

—Ken Leighton

**The Metal Monarch is none too pleased.**

Monarch is an Encinitas-

based Allman Brothers-ish instrumental jam band. They released their album *Two Isles* on the El Paraiso label in 2016.

One problem: there was another band named Monarch that had been banging out thrash metal some nine years before.

"I wouldn't care if they were in a different state," says Oceanside-based metal Monarch bassist Alex Pickard. "But we're both based in North County. They basically took our name."

Pickard says he contacted to the newer Monarch about the issue. "They basically said it was not their problem. They said since they were signed to a record

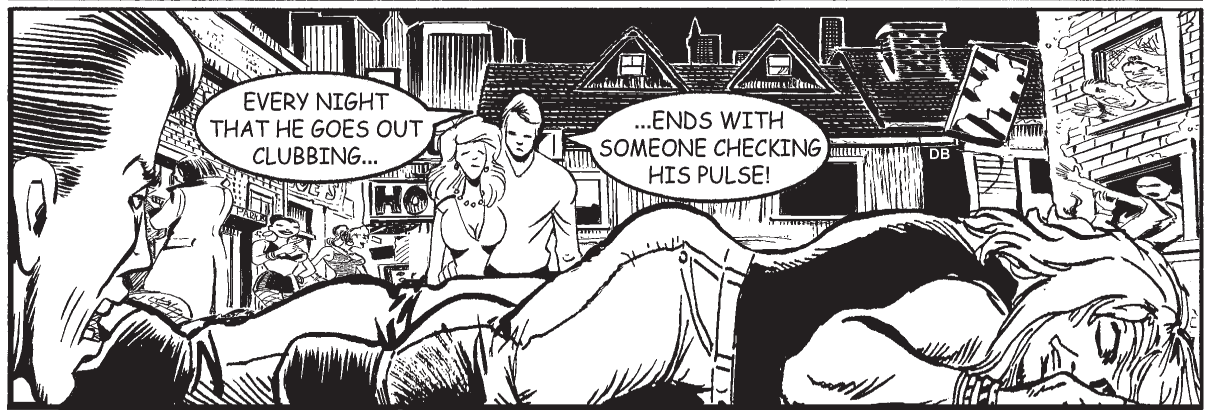


The half-foot wooden riser in front of the stage? Gone.

company, they didn't have to change it. I tried to talk to them respectfully about it. They said they didn't care because it wasn't affecting their business. I think it is pretty disrespectful to us."

Matt Weiss plays bass in the Encinitas Monarch. He responded: "I'd rather not

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comment... But there is a whole other story to this. It's not just a one-sided thing."

Pickard says the name-sharing led to some confu-

last year.

Four years ago Pickard also joined Cage, the SD power-metal band founded in 1991. "I started off as a roadie for them. Then I auditioned and was picked to play bass.... I got to tour Europe with them. Nineteen countries in five weeks."

He says the eighth Cage album has already been recorded and will be released later this year. "Sean [Peck, Cage lead singer] wanted to do something different this time. Three different power-metal vocalists are singing lead. We got Tim 'Ripper' Owens, who filled in for Rob Halford for a couple years in Judas Priest, and Harry Conklin

of Jag Panzer to each sing lead vocals."

Pickard says the music tracks were sent to Owens and Pickard, who then

project will have a different name than Cage, although all Cage members participated.

Monarch the metal band appears March 30 at Brick by Brick with other locals Temblad, Gravespell, Sentinel, and Gus McArthur. That show is a preliminary battle-of-the-bands competition to help decide which American band gets to play at the three-day Wacken Open



Monarch aims to avoid the heartache.

added their vocals in their own studios, and then sent them back to Peck. "I think they both live in Texas. Each song will have three power-metal vocals. This will shake the metal community."

He says the name of the

Air metal festival in Germany in August.

—Ken Leighton

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

**CONTRIBUTORS**

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

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**L.A. SALAMI CAT CLYDE**

SUNDAY • MAR 25  
**THE GO! TEAM SKATING POLLY**

MONDAY • MAR 26  
**NICK BONE AND THE BIG SCENE • THE DODGES WEASEL DUST**

TUESDAY • MAR 27  
**EVERYTHING IS TERRIBLE'S "THE GREAT SATAN"**

WEDNESDAY • MAR 28  
**SISU • WITNESS 9 BATTERY POINT DJ JON BLAJ**

THURSDAY • MAR 29  
**THE LIL SMOKIES MAPACHE**

FRIDAY • MAR 30  
**ELLA VOS FREYA RIDINGS**

SATURDAY • MAR 31  
**LIDO PIMIENTA**

MONDAY • APR 2  
**PUMPHOUSE LOS PINCHE PINCHES ROODE**

TUESDAY • APR 3  
**THE DICKIES THE QUEERS • SCULPINS RECORDS WITH ROGER**

WEDNESDAY • APR 4  
**MOONCHILD ELISE TROW**

THURSDAY • APR 5  
**ELECTRIC SIX**

FRIDAY • APR 6  
**AGENT ORANGE**



**Harlem of the West**

During the 1930s and '40s, the famous "Chittlin' Circuit" always stopped in San Diego. The country's top African-American entertainers — Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday, the Mills Brothers, the Inkspots, Duke Ellington,

Lionel Hampton, Count Basie — performed at the Creole Palace and stayed at the Douglas Hotel. Patrons danced the Lindy Hop, the Black Bottom, the Shimmy, and the Susie Q, and the Palace came to be known, in the minds

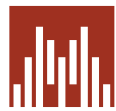
of many, as "Cotton Club West." "While black people were not allowed to enter other San Diego businesses, the Douglas served everyone" and had a color-blind hiring policy."

BY JEFF SMITH, AUG. 5, 1999



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# MUSIC BOX



WEDNESDAY

**GABY MORENO**  
SEAN WATKINS  
ROSBY

MAR  
14



THURSDAY

**EMANCIPATOR ENSEMBLE**  
BARALKU TOUR  
LITTLE PEOPLE

MAR  
15



FRIDAY

**BAND OF GRINGOS**  
**THE DELTA SAINTS**  
ELECTRIC MUD

MAR  
16



SATURDAY

**DSB (JOURNEY TRIBUTE)**  
SANTANAWAYS (SANTANA TRIBUTE)

MAR  
17



SUNDAY

**THE POLISH AMBASSADOR**  
SCOTT NICE

MAR  
18



THURSDAY

**MOON HOOCH**  
THE ACCIDENTALS

MAR  
22



FRIDAY

**RJD2**  
PIGEON JOHN

MAR  
23



SATURDAY

FUNK SOUL SOCIAL PRESENTS  
**SIR MIX-A-LOT**  
KIM JACKSON & THE ROUTINE PLAYERS

MAR  
24

## JUST ADDED

**Berner: The Big Pescado Tour 4/10 • The Foundation 4/15**  
**The Verigolds 4/28 • Earl Thomas 4/29 • Tricky 5/17**  
**The Deep End presents: Purple Disco Machine 5/27**

## COMING SOON

3/18 The Polish Ambassador - Sold Out!	4/7 Joshua Radin w/ William Fitzsimmons	5/1 WATSKY: low visibility tour
3/25 Tom Gun Live! A Maverick's Homage	4/8 Art of Élan presents: Kontras Quartet w/ Branford Marsalis	5/8 Meshell Ndegeocello - seated show
3/27 91X's Inspired By Music Series: lovelytheband	4/11 Bilal	5/9 The Weepies: Hideaway 10 Year Anniversary
3/28 El Haragan y Cia	4/12 Angel Olsen - Sold Out!	5/10 Ekolu
3/29 Declan McKenna - Sold Out!	4/13 The Steely Damned 2 (Steely Dan Tribute)	5/11 Echosmith: Inside a Dream Tour
3/30 Whiskey Myers	4/14 Fruition	5/12 Dirty Projectors
3/31 The Oh Hellos	4/18 Always	5/26 The Winehouse Experience (Amy Winehouse Tribute)
4/5 Stanton Warriors w/ Omega Squad	4/20 Big K.R.I.T.: Heavy is the Crown Tour	6/1 Mark Farina
4/6 Autograf	4/21 The Deep End presents: DJ Sneak	6/3 Tomorrows Bad Seeds
	4/22 La Santa Cecilia	6/8 She Wants Revenge

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OH SEES

PRETTIEST EYES, DJ HOFMANN,  
DJ PERI LEVIN  
WEDNESDAY 3/14



SEATED SHOW!

RACHAEL YAMAGATA

CRAIG STICKLAND  
THURSDAY 3/15



MORGAN LEIGH BAND  
WISH & THE WELL

SHANE SHIPLEY  
FRIDAY 3/16



WALTER TROUT

THE BLITZ BROTHERS  
SUNDAY 3/18



DTO AND KIYOSHI

FT. NICKY GENESIS AND  
JON GOODHUE  
TUESDAY 3/20



THE PARAGRAPHS

THE HA, THE BAD VIBES  
WEDNESDAY 3/21



BRETT DENNEN

LET'S...TOUR

DEAN LEWIS  
SUNDAY 3/25



WORLD PREMIERE  
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SCOUNDREL,  
CHARLATAN,  
SAVANT

SCHIZOPHONICS  
SOUL REVUE

SHAKE BEFORE US,  
TIGERS OF BENGAL  
WEDNESDAY 3/28



GALACTIC

SOUTHERN AVENUE  
THURSDAY 3/29



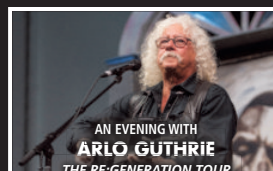
YONDER MOUNTAIN  
STRING BAND

OLD SALT UNION  
FRIDAY 3/30



THE MOTHER HIPPS

TROUBLE IN THE WIND  
SATURDAY 3/31



AN EVENING WITH  
ARLO GUTHRIE  
THE RE:GENERATION TOUR

TUESDAY 4/3



BRIAN FALLON  
& THE HOWLING WEATHER

RUSTON KELLY  
WEDNESDAY 4/4



AJ FROMAN

FEATHERSTONE, FISTFIGHTS WITH WOLVES  
THURSDAY 4/5



CIRCLES AROUND  
THE SUN

FRIDAY 4/6



Poptone ft. founding members of Bauhaus, Love and Rockets,  
Tones on Tail 5/10 - pre-sale 3/14  
Beatles vs Stones - Abbey Road (The Beatles Tribute) and  
Jumping Jack Flash (Rolling Stones Tribute) 6/16  
Donavon Frankenreiter 6/20 • Dead Man's Party (Oingo Boingo Tribute) 8/4

## Upcoming Shows:

3/16 Atomic Groove Happy Hour	4/27 Date Night for a Cause ft. Atomic Groove	5/19 The Brothers Comatose
3/17 Beatles vs. Stones - Sold Out!	4/27 The PettyBreakers (Tom Petty Tribute)	5/24 Rufus Wainwright
3/22 & 23 Phillip Phillips - Sold Out!	4/29 The Weight Band ft. members of The Band, Levon Helm Band, Rick Danko Group	5/25 Cash'd Out (Johnny Cash Tribute)
3/23 The Main Squeeze @ Casbah	5/2 John Doe & Exene - seated show	5/26 Kimbra and Son Lux
3/24 Brett Dennen - Sold Out!	5/3 Baths	5/28 Madeleine Peyroux
4/7 Jefferson Starship - Sold Out!	5/4 Khruangbin w/ The Mattson 2 - Sold Out!	5/29 & 30 Xavier Rudd
4/8 Mud Slide Slim (James Taylor Tribute)	5/5 Roger Clyne & the Peacemakers	5/31 The Dead Milkmen
4/11 The California Honeydrops	5/6 Keb' Mo' - Sold Out!	6/1 Greg Laswell
4/13 Common Sense	5/7 Keb' Mo' - Seated Show	6/3 Calexico
4/14 Pine Mountain Logs	5/8 Rogue Wave	6/6 The Yardbirds
4/15 The Chairman and the Board (Rat Pack Tribute) - seated show	5/9 Taimane Gardner	6/12 JD McPherson
4/16 Ibey!	5/11 Easy Wind (Grateful Dead Tribute)	6/15 The Highwayman (The Highwaymen Tribute)
4/17 Tank & The Bangas	5/12 & 13 Ben Harper & Charlie Musselwhite - Sold Out!	7/7 Tainted Love
4/18 Kinky Friedman	5/14 Nada Surf: 15th Anniversary of 'Let Go'	7/13 Jefferson Starship
4/19 Jessie Ware	5/15 & 16 Ben Harper & Charlie Musselwhite - Sold Out!	7/15 Paul Thorn
5/12 Dirty Projectors	5/17 Pedro The Lion	7/25 Dave Alvin and Jimmie Dale Gilmore
5/26 The Winehouse Experience (Amy Winehouse Tribute)	5/18 Vaud and the Villains	7/25 Jenny and the Mexicats @ Casbah
6/1 Mark Farina		7/28 Wayward Sons
6/3 Tomorrows Bad Seeds		8/2 Femi Kuti & The Positive Force
6/8 She Wants Revenge		8/25 Punch Brothers @ Observatory

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# JUST ANNOUNCED



CIRCLES AROUND THE SUN AT THE BELLY UP ON APRIL 6

Two different types of psychedelic jam bands seem to fancy themselves heir to the devotional horde of Deadheads still willing, even anxious, to rejoin their tie-dyed and squinty-eyed brethren at the electric altar: those who are inspired by, and those who aspire to. The “inspired by” crowd includes locals like Electric Waste Band and Travel Agents, who approach the music of the Dead as a blueprint to follow, sometimes for decades at a time, with little or no deviation. **Circles Around the Sun** instead aspires to create something new from the basic elements of the Dead sound, using it more as an unfinished roadmap than a blueprint,

leading to musical explorations that allow for expansion and improvisation that even actual members of the Dead might find too far-out to fathom. The group was originally founded by Chris Robinson Brotherhood guitarist Neal Casal in order to create an instrumental soundtrack for a short film being created to screen at 2015 concerts by surviving Dead members, directed by the son of Dead drummer Bill Kreutzmann. Casal, who also toured with Dead bassist Phil Lesh, brought in Brotherhood/Lesh keyboardist Adam MacDougall, Beachwood Sparks bassist Dan Horne, and drummer Mark Levy, and the result is a band that, in concert and on their debut album, *Interludes For the Dead*, is more akin to jazzy prog bands with classical leanings like Spirit and Love than to groups more inclined toward endless note noodling like Phish. With less than two dozen live performances notched to date, the April 6 appearance of Circles Around the Sun at the Belly Up will be an opportunity to catch an adventurous new ensemble

right out of the wildest fever dreams of Timothy Leary, Ken Kesey, and the late head Deadhead himself, Jerry Garcia.

Acid drenched R&B throwback **Nick Hakim** is still touring in support of his debut release from last year, *Green Twins*, which sounds like something straight

out of a 1970s Blaxploitation movie, but with the echo and reverb turned up to 11. All greasy and grooving, the entire album is drenched in swishy pop keyboards that would be considered “disco” if not juxtaposed against such dreamy midnight movie soundscapes. His South American heritage definitely



NICK HAKIM AT HOUSE OF BLUES ON MAY 6

influences some of the tracks, but there's a wide mix of regional U.S. inspirations, thanks to time spent living everywhere from Washington D.C. to Boston and Brooklyn NYC., where *Green Twins* coalesced. One can easily imagine each of those city skylines as backdrop to various selected tracks found on his major label debut. The production's full-blown depth and sheen could easily have overwhelmed the introspective and personal nature of his songwriting, which was more solo-ish on the earlier self-released EPs that so-impressed the *New York Times* and NPR (whose Tiny Desk Concert with Hakim is said to be the radio network's most requested repeat so far this year). As if to remind everyone that he's still a solo troubadour at heart, 27 year-old Hakim just finished a short tour that found him doing acoustic solo renditions of his debut album. However, it appears he's bringing his full band to House of Blues on May 6 for this year's Desert Daze Caravan

Tour, which includes DIY retro rocker Ariel Pink and L.A. space-drone trio Jjuujjuu (also playing July 6 at SDSU with Primus).



TRASHCAN SINATRAS AT THE CASBAH ON MAY 16

Pop music is rarely considered clever or pithy, but try telling that to Scottish pranksters the **Trashcan Sinatras**, whose witty command of language brings to mind the best of Groucho Marx and Tom Lehrer. After being “discovered” playing in a rural pub, the group became unlikely alt-rock heroes in 1990 with the release of *Cake*, which resulted in their biggest worldwide hit single to date, “Obscurity Knocks,” as well as yielding longtime radio staples like “Circling the Circumference” and “Only Tongue Can Tell.” It took three years, most of them spent touring, to brainstorm a follow-up, *I've Seen Everything*, which was certainly a more polished and radio-friendly album than its predecessor, though by that time the band's constant exposure on the road and on MTV (who plucked that album's “Hayfever” single for *Beavis and Butt-head*) had caused their welcome to be somewhat worn out. It's not easy to find their next album, which wasn't even released in America, and by 1996 they had no label, had sold their Shabby Road recording studio, and were in bankruptcy court. Several comeback recordings were attempted in the early 2000s, and they embarked on their first U.S. tour in over a decade in 2004, but few of their releases since then have attracted much more than occasional press and moderate concert crowds. It's a shame that so few noticed, let alone listed to, catchy singles like their 2008 ode to Pink Floyd founder Syd Barrett, “Oranges and Apples,” but it looks like, at least for now, pretty much all anyone wants to hear from the band is music from *Cake* and *I've Seen Everything*.

To that end, Trashcan Sinatras will perform acoustic versions of both albums at the Casbah on May 16.

The synth-heavy space rock of the '70s has never really fallen out of favor in Australia, where soundtrack songs like “Living in the Land of Oz,” from the vintage cinematic tripfest *Oz: A Rock 'N' Roll Road Movie*, are now considered national anthems. After all, this is a country where a tribute band only needs to bookend the name “Pink Floyd” with the words “Australian”

and “Show” in order to sell out concert halls across the continent, so it should come as no surprise that **Ocean Alley** is quickly emerging as the country's most Floydian original export since Billy Thorpe dropped his 1979 sci-fi rock opera *Children of the Sun*. The band has spent most of the past two years touring behind their 2016 debut, *Lost Tropics*, highlighted by a single for “The Comedown” that evokes the best syrupy keys and rolling basslines of early Supertramp and even Styx (pre-Dennis DeYoung), with a touch of island reggae thrown in for contemporary measure. The languid, almost slow-motion video for that track presents an interesting dichotomy wherein the protagonist seems to be depressed and drinking heavily, moving from a dingy sickroom cluttered with empty bottles through a stoner concert where the band plays for a blissfully grooving audience, all completely oblivious to the sad soul wandering in and out of their party. The band's lyrics, likewise, tend to be dark, but couched in enough Xanax-dosed psychedelia to be almost unnoticed unless sought, matched in their other videos to the



OCEAN ALLEY AT SODA BAR ON MAY 23

same sort of long wandering takes and speeding up and slowing down of the imagery that emulates either getting or losing a good high. There's not a lot of live footage out there to go by, so it's anybody's guess how their aloof and somewhat ironic approach to island psychedelia will play on stage when they hit the Soda Bar on May 23, as part of their first U.S. tour.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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MAY 24



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## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

### 710 Beach Club:

Thursday, 8pm — Liquid Courage Karaoke.  
Friday, 9pm — Pali Roots.

### Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 6pm — Julius Witherspoon.  
Saturday, 6pm — Dulaney & Company.

### BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Friday, 6:30pm — The Contingencies.  
Saturday, 6:30pm — Groove Mercenaries.

### Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, 7pm — Disney Junior Dance Party.

### Bancroft:

Saturday, 8pm — Dark Globe and the Phantoms.  
Sunday, 3pm — Bob's Blues Jam.

### Bassmnt:

Friday, 8pm — Flux Pavilion.  
Saturday, 8pm — Joyzu.

### Bel Vino Winery:

Friday, 6pm — Sexteto Sonero Del Caribe.  
Saturday, 12pm — Chris Fast Band.  
Sunday, 12pm — OC British Invaders.

### Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Rachel Yamagata. \$22-\$39.  
Friday, 8pm — Morgan Leigh Band and Wish & the Well. \$12-\$14.  
Saturday, 8pm — Beatles vs Stones. \$20-\$35.  
Sunday, 8pm — Walter Trout. \$20-\$22.  
Tuesday, 8pm — DTO and Kiyoshi. \$11-\$20.

Wednesday, 8pm — The Paragraphs and the Ha. \$8-\$14.

### Black Cat Bar:

Friday, 9pm — The Widows and the Downs Family.  
Saturday, 8pm — Focke-Wolves.

### Bluefoot Bar and Lounge:

Thursday, 8pm — Vibrant Crew.  
Friday, 8pm — Dox Ellis.  
Saturday, 8pm — Overeasy.  
Sunday, 7pm — VJ Bang.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Francy Pants & P-Star.

# IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

## No, women singing tenor roles is not a good idea

Give the arts enough time and zero resistance and they will confuse madness with innovation. Let's look at the macro and then zoom into the micro.

From a macro point of view, Russian composers dominated the 20th Century. It isn't even close. The primary Russian composers are Stravinsky, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, and Rachmaninoff. Can we find any nationality which can add a composer to that list in the 20th Century? Richard Strauss could join, as could Benjamin Britten and maybe Ralph Vaughan Williams. Maurice Ravel and Claude Debussy are candidates but they both died before World War II. Bela Bartok was a solid composer, but he hasn't enjoyed the widespread popularity of the Russians. Gustav Mahler is another, but he died in 1911. How about Jean Sibelius? He lived until 1957 but stopped composing in 1926. Giacomo Puccini lived until 1924 but his major successes, save *Turandot*, were from the 1890's. There

are bunches of other names, such as Steve Reich, Arnold Schoenberg, and Alban Berg, but they aren't of the same stature as Stravinsky, Prokofiev, or Shostakovich.

Accuse me of confirmation bias if you must, but I think the Russians are dominant. Why are they so much better? Because they went through the horrors of the Russian Revolution, faced the full brunt of the Hitler's *blitzkrieg*, and were then actively censored by the communist party. No composers faced more adversity in the 20th Century than Russian composers.

Experimentation without consequences and political correctness are the censors of The West. It has become difficult to find a music critic who is willing to say that any concert anywhere was less than "glowing" or "sparkling". We in The West think the arts need to be propped up with false rhetoric — just like our kids.

The most recent development is the idea of contraltos singing tenor roles in opera because of identity

politics. That is the stupidest thing I've heard all year.

Yes, there is a tradition of women singing male characters in the operas of, most famously, Mozart and Richard Strauss, but the roles were written for women. The great composers are keenly aware of where the pitches of the vocal line are in relationship to vowel and intensity based on the voice type they are composing for. They base their orchestration on this ratio as well.

When a tenor sings a high C, the orchestra can be as loud as they want to be without covering the note of the vocal line. Should a contralto sing the same exact pitch it will not be as audible, because of the overtones in the voice.

The vocal cords function like a string instrument. The higher the pitch the shorter the string. The higher the pitch the shorter the segment of the vocal cords. A full grown tenor singing a high C has a smaller percentage of his vocal cords vibrating compared to a contralto

singing the same pitch.

The effect is like a nozzle on a garden hose. The smaller and tighter the nozzle is adjusted the more intense the stream. This is why a tenor singing a high C is terrifying and thrilling at the same time. A contralto singing the same pitch doesn't have the same consequences of the pitch are less intense.

The article I've referenced asks the question, "Who is to say only a man should ever sing Puccini's 'Nessun Dorma'?" I shall answer this asinine rhetorical question.

For starters no one has ever said that. Women sing "Nessun Dorma" all the time in concert settings. If the question is broadened to "Who is to say only a

man should ever sing the role of Calaf, the character which sings 'Nessun Dorma,'" again no one — not even Puccini. However, Puccini did write the role for a tenor with specific vocal abilities.

Should a woman arise whose voice fits the quality which Puccini was writing for, then let her have at it. That woman has never existed, but should a trans singer arrive with the appropriate vocal talents, then fine. Let that person have a shot if ze (gender neutral pronoun) wins the audition.

Given our current arts culture of equality of outcome, aka Marxism, this is going to happen sooner than later. It will be terrible, but no one will say it.

Trans-gender pride flag.

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

### Border X Brewing:

Sunday, 12pm — DJ Cutlos Supreme & Mister Hek. \$10-\$25.

### Bread & Salt:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Fresh Sound: Thomas Buckner. \$10-\$20.

### Brick by Brick:

Friday, 8pm — Eye of Solitude and Marche Funèbre.  
Saturday, 8pm — Up the Irons and Hardwired. \$10.  
Sunday, 8pm — Michale Graves and Dusty Mitchell. \$15-\$18.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Royal

Thunder, Pinkish Black, Beira. \$12-\$16.

### Cafe 21:

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

### Carnitas Snack Shack:

Saturday, 1pm — Mojo Jackson.

### Carnitas' Snack Shack — Embarcadero:

Sunday, 12pm — Ben Powell.

### Carvers Steak & Chops:

Friday, 7:30pm — Ramshackle.  
Saturday, 7pm — The Reflectors.

### Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — Mainsail and Avenue Army. \$6.  
Friday, 8pm — The Redwoods Revue. \$15.  
Saturday, 8pm — Grampadrew's Flim Flam Review. \$5-\$10.  
Sunday, 8pm — Wsprgrl, Matize, Sempra Sol. \$5.  
Monday, 9pm — Ziggy Shuffledust & the Spiderz From Mars.  
Tuesday, 8pm — DJ Artistic's

Hip-Hop Battle Bot. \$10.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Lucy Dacus & the Kids. \$12-\$14.

### Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 9pm — FX5.

### ChuckAleK Biergarten:

Friday, 7pm — FuseBox.

### Clairemont Lutheran Church:

Saturday, 2pm — San Diego County Recorder Society. Free.

### Club M:

Saturday, 8pm — The Wildside Band and DJ Showtime. \$10.

### Coyote Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 6pm — High Minded.  
Friday, 6pm — The Bill Magee Band.  
Saturday, 6pm — Groove Squad.  
Sunday, 1pm — Flipside Burners. Free.  
Wednesday, 6pm — Ultra Sound.

### Cuyamaca College:

Thursday, 7:30pm — ML TRIO.

### De Oro Mine Co:

Thursday, 8pm — Sam Bybee. Free.  
Friday, 8pm — 10,000 Dudes and Mario Esteban.  
Saturday, 8pm — The Merge. Free.  
Monday, 7pm — Tobi D'Amore.

### Dirk's Niteclub:

Saturday, 8pm — Cover Conspiracy.

### Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Friday, 8pm — The Benedetti Trio: 1970s Tribute.  
Saturday, 8pm — Quarteto Brasileira. \$15.  
Sunday, 8pm — Sinne Eeg. \$20.

### Downtown Café:

Friday, 6pm — The Good Mojo Band.  
Saturday, 6pm — Brown Sugar.  
Sunday, 2pm — Dane Terry Benefit.

### Dublin Square:

Saturday, 9pm — Finnegan Blue.

### Duck Dive:

Wednesday, 7pm — Jonny Tarr.

### Duke's La Jolla:

Friday, 4pm — Keni Yarbrow.

### Encinitas Elks Lodge:

Friday, 7pm — Stoney B. Blues.

### Field Irish Pub and Restaurant:

Thursday, 9pm — Eamon & George.  
Friday, 9pm — The Fooks.  
Sunday, 8:30pm — Eric French.  
Monday & Wednesday, 8:30pm — Fiore.  
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Chris Del Priore.

### Firehouse American Eatery and Lounge:

Friday, 4pm — Solset. Free.

### Florent:

Sunday, 8pm — Cheyenne Giles.

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**Fluxx:**

Saturday, 8pm — Too Short.

**Garage Kitchen + Bar:**

Friday, 8:30pm — Sophia Szentes.  
Saturday, 8:30pm — DJ Pretty Slick.

**Ginger's:**

Thursday, 8pm — John Rankin.  
Friday, 9pm — Billy the Kid.  
Saturday, 8pm — Huy Believe.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Sando and Sam.

**Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad:**

Friday, 6pm — Dante Fire.

**Henry's Pub:**

Tuesday, 9pm — Tommy Price & the Stilettoes.

**Herringbone:**

Saturday, 3pm — Ryan Hiller.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:**

Friday, 9pm — Amy & the Unknowns.  
Saturday, 9pm — Tony Cummins.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:**

Friday, 9pm — Evans and Raney.  
Saturday, 9pm — The Heroes.

**Hotel Indigo Del Mar:**

Thursday, 7pm — Tim Wray.  
Saturday, 7pm — Jeff Moore.  
Sunday, 6pm — Patrick Quillin.  
Tuesday, 7pm — Kathleen Murray. Free.

**House of Blues:**

Thursday, 7pm — Ferg, Denzel Curry, IDK. \$32-\$60.  
Saturday, 7pm — Andy Grammer. \$30-\$55.  
Sunday, 5:30pm — Arctic Lights. \$25.  
Sunday, 3:30pm — Farrah Mechael and Justin Blake. \$23-\$80.  
Monday, 7pm — San Diego Music Awards.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Sonreal. \$15.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Thirdstory. \$20-\$45.

**Kava Lounge:**

Sunday, 8pm — Seance.

**L'Auberge Del Mar:**

Friday, 7:30pm — Tolan Shaw.  
Sunday, 7pm — Whitney Shay. Free.

**La Valencia Hotel:**

Thursday & Friday, 6pm — Rick Ross. Free.  
Saturday, 6pm — Roman Palacios.  
Monday, 6pm — Oscar Aragon.  
Tuesday, 6pm — Bobby Wade.  
Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.

**Lestat's Coffee House:**

Friday, 8pm — Jordan Renzi and Kahlil Nash.  
Saturday, 4pm — Queer Cuties Got Talent.  
Sunday, 8pm — Dixie Maxwell and Caroline Corn.

**Loews Coronado Bay Resort:**

Friday, 8pm — Christine Parker.  
Saturday, 8pm — Steven Ybarra.

**Mainstream Bar and Grill:**

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

**Martinis Above Fourth I**

**Table + Stage:**  
Wednesday, 8pm — Jeffrey Scott Parsons. \$25.

**McP's Irish Pub and Grill:**

Saturday & Sunday, 8pm — Ron's Garage.

# NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

**C.W. Stoneking, in his milkman whites and bow tie, is a bluesman from Australia. Well, sort of. He's more like an artist who got inspired by the blues, by the chords and the promises blues makes, and by the raggedness of the music. Otherwise, Stoneking is original. "It's all been made up fresh," he once said about his approach to song craft.**

That said, *Jungle Blues*, Stoneking's second album, won a nice prize of blues affirmation: in 2009, the ARIA (Australian Recording Industry Association) Music Awards called it the Best Blues and Roots album. This, for a performer who rarely uses the standard 12-bar form that defines the genre. Perhaps Stoneking sees tradition as a ball and chain. At the very least,

his revisionism comes with no lack of sureness. When asked about his cover of "Maggie Mae," he told a reviewer that his re-make was better than the Beatles' original.

Stoneking turns 44 this year. He released his first album, *King Hokum*, a dozen years ago. Although his San Diego appearance will be solo this time around, he also has a band. He calls it the Primitive Horn Orchestra. Along with Stoneking's guitars and banjo, the lineup includes tuba, cornet, drums, and trombone.

C.W. Stoneking as an act was a long time coming to the larger stages. His debut album didn't materialize until after he'd turned 32, an age that the music industry (and fans) once considered over the hill. Stoneking busked for years. That's where he put himself together, in plain view of the public court of immediate gratification/instant rejection. It can go either way gigging out like that. But I find that artists who made their coin on street corners and such



**C.W. STONEKING**

are generally the best among them, because they've learned how to entertain and to connect with anybody. That describes Stoneking, who, by the way, hasn't made a new album in three years and seems in no hurry to do so.

Stephen El Rey also performs.

**C.W. STONEKING: Sunday, March 18, Soda Bar, 619-255-7224, 8 p.m., \$15**

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

**Merrow:**

Monday, 8pm — Chrome. \$12-\$15.

**Moose Lodge:**

Friday, 7pm — The Oxen.

**Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:**

Friday, 8:30pm — Flipside Burners. Free.  
Saturday, 4pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.

**Music Box:**

Thursday, 8pm — Emancipator Ensemble. \$23-\$25.  
Friday, 7:30pm — Band of Gringos and the Delta Saints. \$14-\$16.  
Saturday, 8pm — DSB and SantanaWays. \$18-\$20.  
Sunday, 9pm — The Polish Ambassador. \$25.  
Wednesday, 5:30pm — Shadowplay and Los Duques. \$15-\$70.

**Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:**

Friday, 7pm — Black Market III.  
Saturday, 7pm — Josie Day.

**Observatory North Park:**

Friday & Saturday, 8pm — Hippie Sabotage.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Queens of the Stone Age. \$22-\$25.

**Omnia San Diego:**

Friday, 9:30pm — Ookay DJ Set.

**Pal Joey's:**

Saturday, 9pm — Outta Sync. Free.

**Park & Rec:**

Friday, 9pm — K. Emeline & the Fellas.

**Patricks Gaslamp Pub:**

Friday, 9pm — Ron's Garage Band.

**Pour House:**

Friday, 8pm — The Focke Wolves.  
Saturday, 5pm — Gone Blonde. Free.

**Poway Center for the**

**Performing Arts:**  
Friday, 8pm — Los Lobos.

**Poway's Irish Pub:**

Friday, 9pm — Grand Nova. Free.

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

Saturday, 7pm — Mercedes Moore.

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Oceanside:**

Wednesday, 5pm — Boo Stubbs.

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town:**

Friday, 5pm — Nitro Express.  
Saturday, 5pm — Jim Allen.

**Rustic Root:**

Sunday, 10:30am — David Shyde.  
Monday, 6pm — Christine Parker.

**Saddle Bar:**

Thursday, 9pm — Dante Fire. Free.

**Searsucker Del Mar:**

Wednesday, 6:30pm — Rebecca Jade.

**Soda Bar:**

Thursday, 8pm — Mac Ayres, Cehryl, Psalm. \$12-\$15.  
Friday, 8pm — Soul-Junk and Pistolita. \$10.  
Saturday, 8pm — Blockhead and Yppah. \$12-\$15.  
Sunday, 8pm — C.W. Stoneking. \$15.  
Monday, 8pm — Liza Anne and

Valley Queen. \$10-\$12.

Wednesday, 8pm — Crumb and Combo Chimbata. \$10.

**Spin Nightclub:**

Saturday, 9pm — Overdrive.

**Til-Two:**

Thursday, 8pm — Whipstriker and Negative Vortex.  
Saturday, 8pm — Channel 3, Spent Idols, Glitter Trash.

**Tio Leo's:**

Friday, 9pm — Funk's Most

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Wed 3/14	SDMA Best of Blues Nominees Review
Thu 3/15	Mercedes Moore
Fri 3/16	Funks Most Wanted
Sat 3/17	Alan Iglesias & Crossfire
Tue 3/20	Uptown Rhythm Makers
Wed 3/21	San Diego Live
Thu 3/22	Johnny Deadly Trio
Fri 3/23	Gruvmatic
Sat 3/24	Colour

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Tuesday, 7:30pm — Uptown Rhythm Makers. \$5.  
Wednesday, 8pm — San Diego Live.

**Tower Bar:**

Friday, 8pm — Good Time Girl! Sweetie Darling!  
Monday, 9pm — Wolves & Wolves & Wolves and Bad Idols.  
Wednesday, 8pm — War Cloud and Holy Grove.

**UCSD Calit2 Auditorium at Atkinson Hall:**

Thursday, 7:30pm — Robert Blatt & Jon Paden.

**University of San Diego:**

Friday, 7:30pm — Mariachi Showcase with Orchestra. \$10.  
Sunday, 2pm — Mariachi Showcase with Orchestra. \$10.

**Village Faire Shopping Center:**

Saturday, 1pm — Lady of the Loch Celtic Concert. Free.

**Whistle Stop Bar:**

Sunday, 8pm — Shopping and French Vanilla. \$5.

**White Labs Tasting Room:**

Monday, 7pm — The Choral Consortium of San Diego. \$12.

**Winstons Beach Club:**

Thursday, 9pm — Eldorado Slim & the Commodore Hotel Orchestra.  
Friday, 10pm — Stranger. \$12.  
Saturday, 4pm — Wise Monkey Orchestra and Mango Habanero.  
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Ghost Light.  
Wednesday, 9pm — Kindred and DJ Carlos Culture.

## THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

### A Bench in the Sun

PowPAC presents Ron Clark's comedy-drama about "the seasons and the sacrifices one makes in life, and reflections on the way the world is changing." Lifelong friends Burt and Harold share a bench at Valley View Gardens, a home for the aged. Then retired actress Adrienne Bliss wants a seat. Mary L. Smith directs.

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### A Jewish Joke

Roustabouts Theatre stages Phil Johnson's "drama about comedy." It's "one man's journey during the 1950's Hollywood blacklist, when careers were ruined by a whisper. Screenwriter Bernie has to make the most serious decision of his life." David Ellenstein directs.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 8PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY, MAR. 17, 7PM SUNDAY, MAR. 18.

### A Little Night Music

Cygnat Theatre stages one of Stephen Sondheim's most beloved works, inspired by the Ingmar Bergman film, *Smiles of a Summer Night*. Desiree Armfeldt has always captured the hearts of men. Then both of her lovers and their wives show up on a midsummer night's eve. Sean Murray 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.

### Antigone

Canyon Crest Academy stages Sophocles' great tragedy about obedience to higher laws. "What happens when idealism conflicts with societal responsibility? When what we vehemently believe is right is against the law? Where is the line between protest and anarchy?"

CANYON CREST ACADEMY, 5951 VILLAGE CENTER LOOP RD., CARMEL VALLEY. 858-350-0253. 7PM THURSDAY, 2PM SATURDAY, MAR. 17.

### Bachelorette

Backyard Renaissance stages Lesley Headland's comedy-farce about an unplanned bachelorette party the night before Becky's wedding. Two uninvited guests trash the posh hotel room, and everyone else, as things go miles out of hand. Anthony Methvin directs.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Camping with Henry and Tom

Lamb's Players presents Mark St. Germain's historical piece. To

escape their hectic lives, Henry Ford, Thomas Edison, and President Warren G. Harding went on a camping trip to the Maryland Woods in 1921. "What they couldn't escape was each other."

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

### 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. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, MAR. 17.

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

### Fuddy Meers

The Carlsbad Playreaders perform David Lindsay-Abaire's comedy-

## ANTI-REVIEW MICHA BARNES

# Not an invitation to take more selfies

POSING FOR A PHOTOGRAPH today doesn't mean the same thing it did when Neil Simon's *I Ought to Be in Pictures* premiered in 1979. The appearance of a camera no longer signifies a special moment is taking place. Now there's one in every pocket, primed to share a parade of commonplace moments, made special when you apply the right filter.

That thought might appeal to Simon, who set many of his best plays entirely within a regular New York apartment. As if to say, the ordinary is worth looking at for two or three acts, and that watching the comedy or drama of our modern lives unfolding anywhere else feels manufactured.

This particular comedic unfolding takes place in Los Angeles, in a Hollywood bungalow. Which doesn't make the setting any less regular, nor strip the material of Brooklyn accents.

And nobody's looking to be a movie star in this play,

not really. The aspiring starlet routine is merely a device used to reunite a girl with her 16-years-a-deadbeat dad. Herb's

has us believe. As photography has become ubiquitous, it's tarnished the outside world for us camera-shy folk. Can't go to a party, can't go to brunch, can't go to a ballgame without a horde of amateur paparazzi forcing a group pose. Like I want to look back and remember all the times I was tasked to smile on command.

But there's a reason Simon doesn't call it, "You ought to be in pictures." His sense of photography is not about making sure people see how much you're succeeding at life. It's about creating relics of the personal connections

we make. Like, I ought to smile for a photo now and then, if only to enjoy the ordinary fame of being seen and fondly remembered by the people who count.

*I Ought to Be in Pictures* should not be mistaken for an invitation to take more selfies. It ran at the Patio Playhouse Community Theatre in Escondido through March 11. ■



For those who found it hard to pose for photos back in the Kodak Instamatic days, the iPhone era is hell.

a deadbeat screenwriter too, and deadbeat boyfriend to a makeup artist. So when the kid breaks out the Instamatic to capture their special moment together, Herb's first impulse is not to have his deadbeatness documented for the ages.

A lot of us can relate to not wanting to be on camera; more than the insta-media age might

drama about Claire. Her rare form of amnesia erases her memory whenever she goes to sleep. This morning, like all mornings, she wakes up a blank slate. "It's a world where nothing is as it seems, and trusting the wrong person can get you locked in the basement or hit over the head with a frying pan."

### Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library

1775 DOVE LANE, CARLSBAD. 760-602-2049. 7PM MONDAY, MAR. 19.

### Hans Christian Andersen

The City Heights Puppet Project presents Randel McGee's one-person show about the famous story teller. Wearing a top hat and period costume, McGee tells Andersen's tales "while snipping paper cuts." Admission is free.

CITY HEIGHTS PERFORMANCE ANNEX, 3791 FAIRMOUNT AVE., CITY HEIGHTS. 619-641-6103. 7:30PM FRIDAY.

### Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical

Canyon Crest Academy presents a musical based on Robert Louis Stevenson's antithetical characters. "Murder and chaos are pitted against love and virtue in this sweeping gothic musical. (Contains mature content)."

CANYON CREST ACADEMY, 5951 VILLAGE CENTER LOOP RD., CARMEL VALLEY. 858-350-0253. 7PM FRIDAY.

### Macbeth

Trinity Theatre Company and the San Diego Shakespeare Society present the Bard's tragedy of inflamed ambition. Just because three witches predict that something strange and wonderful will happen doesn't mean that collateral damage won't result. Thomas Haine directs.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### New Play Festival

The San Diego City College Dramatic Arts Program presents the third annual Festival of New Plays. "Several talented students realize their hard work in the spring semester with a fully-produced ten-minute play" in the black box theater.

SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE, 1313 PARK BL., EAST VILLAGE. 619-388-3400. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Night, Mother

Lamplighters Community Theatre stages Marsha Norman's multi-award-winning drama. A mother and daughter spend a high-stakes evening together. Their debate "ultimately gives rise to some of our deepest, most personal questions about the value of a life." James P. Darvas directs.

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

### 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. 6PM THURSDAY.

### Rent the Musical: School Edition

Point Loma High School performs the "school edition" of Jonathan Larson's Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical about East Village artists doing their work and keeping a roof over their heads.

POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL, 2335 CHATSWORTH BL., POINT LOMA. 619-223-3121. 3PM & 6:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 6:30PM SATURDAY, MAR. 17.

### 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. 7:30PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MAR. 17.

### Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Jr.

Mission Hills United Church of Christ presents "a scumdidilyumptious musical" that follows enigmatic candy manufacturer Willy Wonka as he stages a contest by hiding five golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever finds these tickets will win a free tour of the Wonka factory as well as a lifetime supply of candy. But four of the five winning children are insufferable brats."

MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 4070 JACKDAW ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-296-2169. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### The Skriker

UCSD Department of Theatre & Dance stages Caryl Churchill's "fantastical story of love." An ancient fairy transforms itself into objects and people as it pursues two teenage mothers it will manipulate, seduce, and entrap. Jon Reimer directs.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, MAR. 17.

# "A big-hearted musical play, gorgeously executed!"

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Heather Velazquez, Jennifer Paredes, Natalie Camunas, and Crissy Guerrero. Photo by AdamsVisCom.



### Smoke on the Mountain

Lamb's Players have moved their popular version of Connie Ray's bluegrass gospel musical to the Avo Playhouse for a limited run. Using mostly old hymns, familiar to many but not all members of the audience, the production's a 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 & FRIDAYS, 4PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Spike Heels

OnStage Playhouse presents Theresa Rebeck's comedy/drama. The updated take on Shaw's *Pygmalion* "explores the power play between the sexes, the American class system, feminism, sex, and the possibility of a four-sided love triangle." Charley Miller directs.

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

### Staged Readings for SWAN Day

In conjunction with SWAN Day (Supporting Women Artists Now, March 31), the La Jolla Theatre Ensemble performs staged readings of 10-minute one-acts. by Liz Coley and Alexa Samaniego's one-act "thriller" about an Amber Alert. LA JOLLA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6811 LA JOLLA BL., LA JOLLA. 858-459-0831. 2PM SUNDAY, MAR. 18, 7PM TUESDAY, MAR. 20.

### Ten Minute Madness XI

The North Park Vaudeville presents its annual — and popular — production of ten minute plays by playwrights from around the country, including seven new plays presented by an ensemble cast.

NORTH PARK VAUDEVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BL., NORTH PARK. 619-220-8663. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### This Random World

Intertwining plotlines and well-timed character reveals take center stage in Steven Dietz's drama. The beauty of the play is that it's not random. The eight characters fall in — and out — of each other's lives with purpose. Embracing mortality is a major theme, as one character learns she doesn't have much time left. Another tries to take her own life in a *Romeo & Juliet* twist. Unfortunately, the story line is left dangling with no resolution. The ensemble cast is solid, though at times difficult to hear. Diana Irvine is the breakout performance, haunting and raw in her portrayal of Claire. *Worth a try.* Review by Nikki Katz.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS.

### Write Out Loud: Voices of Ireland

Write Out Loud, the popular group that performs "story concerts" ("short stories and literature read by trained actors") celebrates Ireland with an evening of Irish stories, dance, song, and music. 619-437-6000.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM MONDAY, MAR. 19.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### A Dance With Death

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. Their newest show is a "night of intrigue, deception, and food, in this comedic thriller!"

OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 275 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-233-4323. APR. 12.

### A Jewish Joke

Roustabouts Theatre stages Philip Johnson's "drama about comedy." It's "one man's journey during the 1950's Hollywood blacklist, when careers were ruined by a whisper. Screenwriter Bernie has to make the most serious decision of his life." David Ellenstein directs.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. MAR. 22 THROUGH APR. 8.

### American Mariachi

The Old Globe Theatre, in association with the Denver Center for 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 Theatre 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 read 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.

### Antigone

Canyon Crest Academy stages Sophocles' great tragedy about obedience to higher laws. "What happens when idealism conflicts with societal responsibility? When what we vehemently believe is right is against the law? Where is the line between protest and anarchy?"

CANYON CREST ACADEMY, 5951 VILLAGE CENTER LOOP RD., CARMEL VALLEY. 858-350-0253. MAR. 22 THROUGH MAR. 30.

### Anyone Can Whistle Gala Concert

As a fundraiser for the company, Roustabouts Theatre presents a concert performance of Stephen

Sondheim's rarely produced musical. Residents of a beleaguered town face difficult choices: sanity or madness, individualism or conformism, love or bigotry? "Corrupt cronies, traveling pilgrims, and Nurse Fay Apple (whose patients live in the 'Cookie Jar') get caught up in the knotty mess." Ruff Yeager directs, with musical direction by Patrick Marion. MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. APR. 2 THROUGH APR. 3.

### Bring It On: The Musical

San Diego Musical Theatre stages a "pre-professional" production of a theatrical version of the popular movie. It's the National Cheerleading Championship. Campbell, "cheer royalty" at Truman High, has changed schools, and now cheers for "hard knock" Jackson High. Carolyn Agan directs.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. MAR. 23 THROUGH MAR. 25.

### The Happiest Place on Earth

Diversionary Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of Philip Dawkins' one person show about "a magical kingdom built on the founding principles of dreams, American idealism, and our wildest hopes." The piece moves from 1955 to 2005, and stars Jacque Wilke. Jonathan L. Green directs.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. MAR. 24 THROUGH APR. 15.

### Jekyll and Hyde: The Musical

Canyon Crest Academy presents a musical based on Robert Louis Stevenson's antithetical characters. "Murder and chaos are pitted against love and virtue in this sweeping gothic musical. (Contains mature content)." CANYON CREST ACADEMY, 5951 VILLAGE CENTER LOOP RD., CARMEL VALLEY. 858-350-0253. MAR. 23 THROUGH MAR. 31.

### Jesus Christ Superstar

OB Playhouse presents a concert version of the Webber/Rice rock opera about the last week in the life of Jesus Christ. Told entirely through song, the story explores the personal relationships and struggles among Jesus, Judas, Mary Magdalene, his disciples, his followers, and the Roman Empire. OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. MAR. 23 THROUGH APR. 8.

### King Charles III

The Coronado Playhouse offers Mike Bartlett's drama about "the British royal family, seen through a modern, Shakespearean lens. Queen Elizabeth II is dead. After a lifetime of waiting, Prince Charles prepares to ascend to the throne. But what do Prince William, Princess Kate, and Prince Harry really think about their father's ascension?"

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. MAR. 23 THROUGH MAY 27.

### Little Women

Village Church Community Theater presents Gary Peterson's theatrical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's popular novel about four sisters, each with a distinctively different personality, and their joys and disappointments as they grow up. VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 6225 PASEO DELICIAS, RANCHO SANTA FE. 858-756-2441. APR. 27 THROUGH APR. 29.

### Love Never Dies

In Andrew Lloyd Webber's sequel to *Phantom of the Opera*, it's 1907. Ten 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.

### Men on Boats

New Village Arts presents Jaclyn Backhaus' "gender-bent, anachronistic re-telling of John Wesley Powell's harrowing attempt to chart the Colorado River." Ten men made the trek. In Backhaus' version, 10 women play the men. Melissa Coleman-Reed directs.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. MAR. 31 THROUGH APR. 22.

### Next to Normal

The Goodmans appear to be a typical American family, yet their lives are anything but. The Coronado Playhouse performs the musical about "a suburban family and how they handle mother's 16-year battle with bi-polar disorder." Chad Oakley directs.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. MAY 25 THROUGH JUNE 17.

### Soul Doctor

The San Diego Repertory Theatre hosts a touring production of a "biographical musical," based on the story of legendary Jewish folk-singing rabbi, Shlomo Carlebach, including his "unlikely friendship with Nina Simone, high priestess of soul." SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. APR. 10 THROUGH APR. 22.

### South Pacific

San Diego Musical Theatre stages Rodgers and Hammerstein's 10 Tony Award-winner. Set against the dramatic backdrop of an idyllic South Pacific island during WWII, and based on the anecdotes of a U.S. Navy Commander stationed on an island, the story intertwines the themes of romance, duty, and prejudice.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. MAR. 23 THROUGH MAY 27.

### Sweeney Todd: School Edition

The Patio Playhouse Youth Theatre stages Stephen Sondheim's brash musical about "The Demon Barber of Fleet Street." He makes pies, but doesn't fill them with custard or the occasional pecan. Laurissa Rudgers directs.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 E. GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. MAR. 23 THROUGH APR. 15.

### Yo, Vikings!

The Theatre School at North Coast Rep presents the musical — book and lyrics by Marcus Stevens, music by Sam Wilmott — about the time punky, 10-year-old Emma Katz gave her World Discovery Day report on Erik the Red — and began to channel her "inner Viking." NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. MAR. 29 THROUGH APR. 1.

## LETTERS

continued from page 4

All in all, a bizarre interaction and a dishonest and disappointing bit of writing. Best of luck in the future.

ZB

### Bill Manson responds

Dear ZB, Thanks for your letter. I am very sorry you felt offended by the piece. I truly admired what you are doing and hoped that would come through.

The "mess" reference was meant to show what a true artisan's place this was, where real work takes place. Yes, a deadline was involved, so I did have to move quickly, and I appreciated you talking to me then and there.

I thought I portrayed the information in our conversation accurately, though I did have to compress for the sake of length. But I shall endeavor to do better in future.

BTW, I have had only positive responses to the story, from people who gained hope from the fact that you had created this unique business out of nothing.

With best wishes,  
Bill Manson

### That is not true

I am writing to you to request a correction to a factual error in the February 1 issue.

My name is Michael Casinelli. The article states, at the bottom of column one, page 22 ["The casino's been built — Jamul is still fighting it," cover story, February 1], that I am a member of the Jamul Action Committee. That is not true. In fact, it could prove harmful to me in my role as an elected member of the Jamul Dulzura Community Planning Group. I therefore want the San Diego Reader to correct this false statement.

I did not state to the reporter that I was a member of JAC, nor was I asked by the reporter if I was a member. The interview was recorded, therefore you can verify this. Furthermore, I

have a history of correcting others on the few occasions when they mistakenly made that same misassumption.

One day several months ago, as I was about to leave my home to workout at a Rancho San Diego exercise facility, I was invited by Marcia Spurgeon to be interviewed within the hour for an article on the Jamul casino, conducted by Ms. Siobhan Braun.

I was invited because I am knowledgeable regarding the Jamul Indian casino. That is, I have for several years read legal filings submitted by both sides, have attended legal hearings, town hall meetings, and state government agencies' meetings, have spoken with the Jamul Village representatives (both at the JDCPG meetings and at the Village property), and have researched many pertinent government documents. Most importantly, I have done all of these things for more than ten years through my elected position.

The JDCPG is a non-paid, publically elected position, with elected terms of four years. The JDCPG was established to be the voice of the community within our jurisdiction and to respond to and/or act on community concerns, mainly dealing with issues of land use, environmental concerns, and public safety — all of which pertain to the Jamul casino.

On the other hand, the Jamul Action Committee is a not-for-profit citizens advocacy organization that has a similar goal of looking out for the local community's interests. While I have been supportive of the JAC's efforts that coincide with the JDCPG's position, I am not a member, in the same way that I might be supportive of a person or an issue that is affiliated with a particular political party while not being a registered member of that party.

I look forward to the Reader correcting this error. Thank you.

Michael Casinelli

# Telenovelas no, melodramas si

**B**efore congratulating Moisés Esparza, Programming Manager for the San Diego Latino Film Festival and Digital Gym, on this year's outstanding lineup, let's unleash a whole lotta love in the direction of festival papa Ethan Van Thillo on the occasion of the festival's 25th anniversary.

## MOVIES

My requests to Moisés were simple and few. No Telenovelas. (Sorry, Ethan!) No well-intentioned but visually bankrupt documentaries. No overt message pictures. No cheeseball horror. (He fills my plate with enough IFC Midnight throughout the year as is.) If possible, bring on the romantic melodramas, funny R-rated comedies, and dark crime pics. (Nudity and profanity is always a plus!) Admittedly there wasn't much to laugh at this time 'round, but when it came to delivering on the rest, the lad socked it out of the park. Here are three must-see movies playing at Festival 25.

Did you hear the one about the

traveling salesman and the modest maid?

A telling moment opens *The Desert Bride*: a mistress gives her domestic Teresa (Paulina Garcia) a manicure so that her mitts might look spectacular when she's handed her walking papers. Other than a devotion to their grow-

ing son, we come to learn very little about Teresa's relationship with the family for whom she spent the majority of her life working.

What little information there is arrives in the form of flashbacks sprinkled throughout the course of the film. What drives this narrative is Teresa's desperation to find a gray bag containing her life's possessions, a bag she left with a guy known only as "Gringo" (Claudio Rissi). Adding to the confusion: while en route to her new place of employment in San Juan, the threat of a storm brewing is compounded by the presence of a natural-born speller, gently pressuring her into trying on a dress.



**Alanis:** Sofia Gala stars as a multitasking mom capable of texting her Johns while nurturing Junior.

What awaits our travelers is a life-altering romantic journey about a pair of "stones in the road" who blossom into roadside Saints. Thinking that he might have accidentally left the bag at one of his numerous stops, Gringo invites Teresa to join him on his rounds. It's just a matter of time before

she lets down her guard, he eases up on the sales pitch, and together they find love among the turquoise tiles of a saloon lavatory.

Co-written and directed by Cecilia Atán and Valeria Pivato, this is one of the great screen romances in recent memory. I will be shocked if *Bride*

doesn't receive a second life at the Digital Gym. Just in case it doesn't, here are three opportunities to see it at the festival: at the Digital Gym Cinema on March 15 at 7:55 p.m. or at AMC Fashion Valley on either March 18 at 8:40 p.m. or March 25 at 5:40 p.m.

Next up, *Tigers Are Not Afraid*



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PG-13 for thematic elements and some violent images.

Please note that passes will be given away on a first-come, first-served basis, while supplies last. Passes received through this promotion do not guarantee you a seat at the theater. Seating is on a first come, first served basis, except for members of the reviewing press. Theater is overbooked to ensure a full house. No admittance once screening has begun. All federal, state and local regulations apply. A recipient of tickets assumes any and all risks related to use of ticket, and accepts any restrictions required by ticket provider. Fox Searchlight Pictures, San Diego Reader and their affiliates accept no responsibility or liability in connection with any loss or accident incurred in connection with use of a prize. Tickets cannot be exchanged, transferred or redeemed for cash, in whole or in part. We are not responsible if, for any reason, recipient is unable to use his/her ticket in whole or in part. All federal and local taxes are the responsibility of the winner. Void where prohibited by law. No purchase necessary. Participating sponsors, their employees and family members and their agencies are not eligible. NO PHONE CALLS!

**IN THEATRES MARCH 28**

which on the surface appeared to be yet another just-say-no-to-drugs fantasy as filtered through the eyes of children. A local drug cartel known as the Huascas will stop at nothing — including killing innocents — to advance their cause. Five children orphaned by their bullets band together to put an end to the *bandidos* and avenge the death of their parents.

The title refers to a fairy tale assignment presented by Estrella's (Paola Lara) homeroom teacher just moments before gunfire rips apart the classroom. Violence surrounds the student. On the way home from school, she turns and walks the other way to avoid a blanketed body lying on the sidewalk. Like ink-blown paint, the river of CG blood from the corpse begins to follow her, all the way into her home. The effect was so convincingly staggering that I hit rewind to make sure it was the result of a computer technician and not a well-aimed fan suddenly gusting off-camera. Animated moments dot the fabric of the picture — at times threatening to, but never quite leaving a lasting stain on the memory.

Don't expect young actors assigned precocious dialogue and invested with wisdom far beyond their years. These are children, something the filmmaker never lets us forget. Hollywood thinking being what it is, would no doubt assume that those purchasing tickets were the same age as the youngsters appearing on screen. And so any semblance of real life interactions would immediately be watered down as the studio, eager to help boost ticket sales, would invariably aim for a PG-13 rating. Here's one child's-eye look at the world we live in that isn't afraid to play unrated.

Issa López's *Tigers Are Not Afraid* screens at the Digital Gym, March 17 at 6:00 p.m. and AMC Fashion Valley on March 24 at 6:15 p.m.

Finally, there's a young woman who goes by the handle Alanis (Sofia Gala). It's neither her hooker name nor a tribute by a fanatical mother to Ms. Morissette, but her real name. *Alanis* is an intimate, slice-of-life gander at the Buenos Aires underworld that centers on a young prostitute (with child in tow) who gets bounced from her "house" by the same law enforcement officers sworn to help keep her off the streets. In this case, writer-director Anahí Berneri's fly-on-the-wall technique frequently translates into long takes from a fixed camera, giving ample time (if not space) to observe our lead character.

Other than its naturalistic presentation, the film doesn't offer much in the way of drama. But whatever preconceived notions about sex industry

workers accompany you into the theatre are bound to be shattered, thanks in large part to Ms. Gala's frank and tender performance. There are explicit scenes, but given the self-conscious, downright clinical presentation of the sex acts, don't expect anything that could possibly be construed as pornographic. And there are more images of breastfeeding than you're likely find on a pregnancy website, to the point where the repeated shots of Alanis suckling her baby while on the run eventually bring a smile — a sly, sweet running joke.

*Alanis* screen at the Digital Gym, March 22 at 6:10 p.m. and AMC Fashion Valley on March 25 at 8:20 p.m.

For more information visit <http://2018.sldlatnofilm.com/>

— 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](http://SDReader.com/movies).

**7 Days in Entebbe** — *Elite Squad* director José Padilha returns to the big screen after his success with Netflix's *Narcos* to revisit the 1976 hijacking of a plane en route from Tel Aviv to Paris. Review forthcoming at [sandiegoreader.com](http://sandiegoreader.com). 2018 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**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. ★ (REGAL OCEANSIDE)

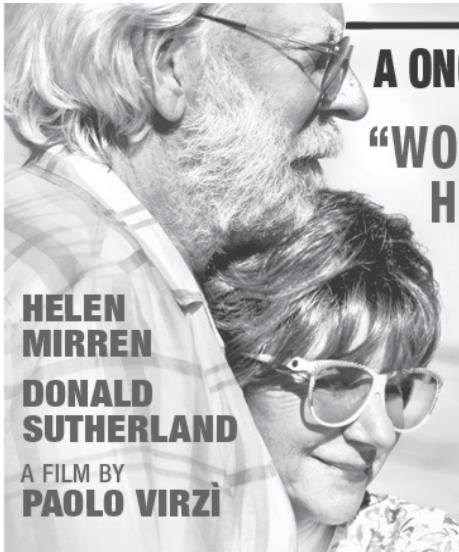
**The 15:17 to Paris** — Director Clint Eastwood goes from flying first class (*Sully*) to riding the rails in unreserved coach for another real-life tale of transitory heroism. And this time, instead of relying on Oscar-winner Tom Hanks to land his Airbus in the freezing waters of the Hudson River, he turns to the actual heroes in question to tell the story of three men who foiled a terrorist attack in 2015. It might be tempting to think of it as stunt casting, except it's hard to imagine professionals doing it any better. The big action payoff is spectacular, but the film's minor plot disturbances might have been smoothed a bit by less travelogue footage of the boys touring Germany and Amsterdam and a few more childhood flashbacks, especially since the boys' formative years — with parents who worked hard to raise good kids — contributed to their valorous behavior as grownups. And short of blasting Dino's all-pervasive "That's Amore," there couldn't be a more stereotypical choice of tunes to underscore time spent in Italy than "Volare." 2018. — S.M. ★★ (REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA)

**Annihilation** — Writer-director Alex Garland continues his assault on human specialness (and humanity in general), this time going so far as to loop in the self among the parts of us subject to genetic malleability. He does a neat job of it, noting that we die naturally because of a fault in our genes, and that we behave in self-destructive ways because of a fault in our...selves. "These aren't decisions; they're impulses," observes the film's psychologist — you know, a person who studies the soul. (Read: the ruin is built right in!) Further, the particular threat borne by the film's rocky messenger from the heavens — not so much an angel of death as an agent of change — works to remove us from the drama of our own obsolescence. (At least in his previous feature, *Ex Machina*, humanity had a hand in crafting its replacement, even as that was presented less as a moral choice and more as an evolutionary necessity.) The story concerns the efforts of a soldier-scientist (Natalie Portman) to undo the damage done by her own self-destructive tendencies by going into The Shimmer, the mysterious and metastasizing region around ground zero. She's joined by a team of equally damaged experts — all women, because all the all-male teams never came back — and together, they seek to unravel the mystery of a land where nature seems to have gone berserk at the intracellular level. This gives Garland a chance to go a little berserk himself with the visuals — you may have a hard time looking at molds and fungi for a while, even if you grant the unsettling appeal of his landscapes — while he slows the action to something approaching stately, presumably to give the meaning (or maybe the lack of it) time to sink in. The result is a film that is fascinating (in the sense of "bewitching") but a bit hard to watch. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Big Lebowski** — There are actually two Lebowskis, a big one and a little one, a multimillionaire philanthropist and a lazy, laid-back bowler, both christened Jeffrey; and when the latter — who prefers to be addressed as "the Dude" — is mistaken for the other by a pair of dim-bulb thugs, he is pulled into an apparent kidnapping plot of rapidly deepening complexity: "a lot of ins, a lot of outs, a lot

of what-have-yous." The Coen brothers, writer-director Joel and writer-producer Ethan, are here having fun with, among other things, complexity per se. Fun with the very idea of complexity. Fun with the concrete and mountainous evidence of complexity. And one of the richest sources of fun, played off in the sharpest contrast to complexity, is the glorious spectrum of stupidity on exhibit: the dope-addled but gropeably rational Dude (Jeff Bridges); the big lug who is always absolutely sure he is right in spite of the fact that he has never been right yet (John Goodman); the woolgatherer who falls behind in the slowest of conversations (Steve Buscemi); the several teams of hired "muscle" (all brawn, no brains), one team of which are self-styled Nihilists; the nympho bimbo; the adolescent joyrider who afterwards forgets his corrected homework ("Use a dictionary," "Spelling") in the abandoned car. The complexity is no illusion. It is right there in front of us in frightening and multiplying detail. It brutally illuminates the stupidity. And at the same time it forms the philosophical foundation for a broad and accepting, if aloof and frosty, view of humankind. The Coens — who better? who else? — are able to make wonderful sport of deadbeats and boneheads from the high ground of diligence and ingenuity. They never play "down" to the audience. They demand effort and intelligence, and they reward these by the truckload: lively characterizations, flavorful dialogue, dense atmosphere, clever and convoluted plotting, rich and well-developed themes, abundant allusions, "in" jokes, grace notes, and red herrings, each element teamed with the others in common purpose. Julianne Moore, David Huddleston, Sam Elliott, Peter Stormare, Ben Gazzara, John Turturro, Jimmie Dale Gilmore. 1998. — D.S. ★★★★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**Black Panther** — The first entry in the Marvel Cinematic Universe to feature a black superhero feels more like the first black Bond film, minus the cavalier attitude toward women and plus some supernatural elements. You've got your central drama over who gets to get their hands on the advanced technology. Your tour of the gadget lab prior to embarking on a mission. Your slightly creaky humor



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# Calendar MOVIES

— in this case, a “What are those?” shoe joke and a reference to whipping one’s hair back and forth. Your entanglement with the CIA and punch-up with an evil black-marketeer in a casino. And most importantly, your bad guy bursting with dreams of world domination — the violent creation of a new world order to replace the current, admittedly miserable one. It’s also a bit ponderous (Bonderous?), and prone to answering profound political questions via mortal combat. That’s one thing when you’ve got a licensed-to-kill operative trying to stop a countdown, but it’s another when you have it as the accepted method for legitimate political rivals to determine a nation’s foreign policy. Credit to director and co-writer Ryan Coogler for envisioning an epic and assembling the requisite elements: a struggle for the throne, a nation on the brink of transformation, a compelling juxtaposition of father-son relationships, a brilliant array of women determined to aid their king in his hour of need, and a daring mix of the ancient and the very new. Points off for poor pacing, action, and dialogue; goofy physics (including a charging rhino stopping on a dime for laffs); and an overall failure to make his dramatic beats register in regions below the brain. Ultimately, it’s more interesting to think about than it is to watch. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

## Bombshell: The Hedy Lamarr

**Story** — Mention her name, and anyone who has seen *Blazing Saddles* will smile and say, “That’s Hedley!” But if it was Mel Brooks who brought the actress eternal fame and instant recognition, *Bombshell* is out to set the record straight. At 18, actress Hedy Lamarr grabbed headlines when she appeared nude in the Czechoslovakian film *Ecstasy*. MGM put her under contract based on her looks, but what they (and everyone else) overlooked was that as an actress, Lamarr was a brilliant inventor. “Wifi and Bluetooth — that’s my mother’s technology,” attests her son, Anthony Loder. Oh, and

during World War II, she came up with a way of frequency hopping that made it impossible for the Germans to jam the signals of radio controlled missiles. But perhaps the film’s biggest revelation is that Hedy Lamarr was Jewish. Not surprisingly, this documentary based on her real-life exploits proved to be more fascinating than many of the scripts she was saddled with by Metro’s story department. 2018. — S.M. ★★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Call Me By Your Name** — Director Luca Guadagnino’s sunnily seductive ode to *eros* tells the story of a summer romance between 17-year-old Elio (Timothée Chalamet, looking 15) and 24-year-old Oliver (Armie Hammer, looking 30). Or rather, it explores the dynamics between them, operating at a cool remove from its own frank depiction of desperate teenage longing and volcanic sexual passion among brilliant Jewish outsiders in gorgeous Catholic Italy. There are people involved, sure, but the main thing you need to know about them is their wanting and being wanted, so that you may consider what that might mean. (The title is telling on this score.) Elio’s dad (Michael Stuhlbarg) is an archaeology professor who swoons over the sensuality of Greek statuary even as his son swoons over Pop’s statuesque grad student/houseguest. Mom serves up fresh-squeezed apricot juice, which Oliver guzzles before explaining how we got “apricot” from the Latin *praecocia* — “early ripen.” Everyone is terribly sophisticated and sensitive, so the drama surrounding the romance must be mostly self-generated: “Is it better to speak or to die?” Overall, the film throbs with feeling, but the pulse of felt life is faint. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST; READING CINEMAS TOWN SQUARE)

**Con Man** — The true life story of Barry Minkow, a businessman who lies and cheats his way to the top. Looks like the producers are trying to con us with another *Goodfellas* rip off. With Justin Baldoni, Armand Assante, and James Caan. 2018. (LOT)

**The Cured** — Writer-director David Freyne dares to ask what happens after the zombie plague has been eradicated.

“Um, so about that time when you went around eating other people’s brains...” Review forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2017 (LANDMARK KEN)

**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. ● (AMC FASHION VALLEY; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**Death Wish** — For those looking to score a front row seat in a shooting gallery comes a remake of the unthinkable. The original vigilante fable was directed by rape connoisseur Michael Winner and if there’s one good thing to be said for this otherwise undesired remake, it’s director Eli Roth’s decision to do without the graphic plot-motivator. By day Dr. Paul Kersey (Bruce Willis) lives in accordance with the hippocratic oath, while at night he’s a hippocratic oaf decimating dozens in search of the thugs who murdered his wife and beat his daughter to a vegetable pulp. So much for praising Roth’s restraint, particularly when chunks of this are played for laughs. And is Willis really as bored as he looks or is his narcoleptic approach to acting a deliberate tribute to

Charles Bronson? Timing is everything and the release of this wedge of NRA porn in the wake of yet another unimaginable school shooting should hopefully put a crimp in business. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

## A Fantastic Woman (Una mujer fantástica)

— A pre-op transsexual’s (Danièle Vega) word begins caving in after the death of her divorced, much-older boyfriend, mostly because it gives his largely intolerant family the opportunity to make her life miserable. Vega’s performance is riveting, but writer and co-director Sebastián Lelio’s use of sex and gender to shape his narrative is straight out of a ‘50s melodrama. There’s even a quotidian subplot involving a mysterious key that just happens to show up every time the pacing needs a swift kick in the ass. The plethora of tracking shots following a character from behind may be intended as a tribute to Gus Van Sant, but they’re wasted here. And short of dropping bricks on our heads, it’s hard to imagine anything as painfully, tuddingly obvious as having Aretha Franklin’s “(You Make Me Feel Like) A Natural Woman” playing at a car wash. I’m shocked that anything this hackneyed could come from the same filmmaker who gave us *Gloria*. Now there was a fantastic woman! 2017. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

## Game Night

— From John Francis Daley and Jonathan Goldstein, the team that crapped out the saddening remake of *Vacation*, comes something a bit more tolerable. As the competitive couple whose weekly game-playing ritual turns deadly after an even more cutthroat participant brings a corpse to the party, Rachel McAdams and Jason Bateman spark and maintain enough comedic chemistry to make things tolerable even when Mark Perez’s (*The Country Bears*) script lets them down. (McAdams hasn’t fully tapped into her funny side since playing mean girl Regina George and try as I might to like one of Jason Bateman’s big screen comedies, the laughs — providing there are some — have been few and far between.) An infectious moment where the gag-reflexing pair exchange hacks found me hocking up popcorn hulls and even more unexpectedly awe-

some was a one-take, CG-embroidered indoor chase scene. Credit Kyle Chandler and Jesse Plemons with many of the film’s laughs. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

## The Greatest Showman

— Director Michael Gracey sprinkles age-defying pixie dust all over song-and-dance man Hugh Jackman to produce a modern musical version of the PT Barnum story that transforms the Great American Flimflammer into Saint Circus, patron of the outcast and unwanted (but also profitable). It turns out that rounding up freaks and putting them on a stage for the rubes to gawk at isn’t exploitation, it’s empowerment! (It helps that his freaks here don’t seem all that freakish; the Bearded Lady glows with charisma, and everybody’s fit enough to dance in the numerous Yes We Can anthems.) Maybe PT goes astray along the way, but that’s only because his high-class father-in-law was mean to his dad. Historians now agree that Barnum wasn’t the one who said “There’s a sucker born every minute,” but it’s hard to escape the feeling that you’re being sold a pessimistic bill of goods here. Michelle Williams co-stars as Barnum’s angelic bride and mother to his moppets, while Zac Efron levels in the role of slumming, starstruck lover. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

## Gringo

— Another action/drug comedy that does as much to promote Mexican tourism as our President. Director (and star Joel’s brother) Nash Edgerton (*The Square*) seems more interested in clogging his dithered narrative with sudden developments (many lifted from other movies) than he is in allowing his thoroughbred cast a little breathing room to grow. It’s through the sheer force of his screen presence and fresh, unpredictable interplay with fellow castmates that David Oyelowo builds a strong case for actor-as-auteur. A scene that calls upon him to play drunk is so effective that by the time it’s over, you’ll feel the theatre spinning. On the opposite end of the casting spectrum is the otherwise reliable Charlize Theron, co-starring agreeably enough as a stereotypically empowered man-eater with a libido stuck in overdrive. Fortunately the script was budgeted for implausibility because without it, the last half of the picture would go nowhere. 2018. — S.M. ★ (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 unremotely 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. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA)

## Lady Bird

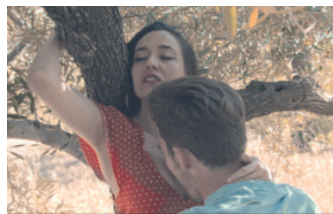
— There’s much to admire in indie darling Greta Gerwig’s first solo venture behind the camera, particularly for those willing to overlook colorless screen direction, dialog that thrives on

# FILM FESTIVALS

## AMC FASHION VALLEY

7037 Friars Rd., Mission Valley  
888-262-4386

**San Diego Latino Film Festival** Media Arts Center San Diego celebrates the 25th anniversary of the San Diego Latino Film Festival March 15 to 25. The festival will occupy five screens for eleven days and will present over 160 films from Latin America, the United States, and Spain as well as Opening Night and Closing Night Parties, the 3rd Annual Sonido Latino



Food, Beer & Wine Festival, Q&A sessions with visiting filmmakers, free student outreach screenings, and more. Audiences will have the rare opportunity to meet filmmakers and actors from all over the world. **Thursday, March 15, through Sunday, March 25, films shown throughout the day and night**

## CENTRAL LIBRARY

330 Park Bl., East Village  
619-236-5800

## The Homeless Chorus Speaks

A new documentary by Susan Polis Schutz. The film highlights Voice of Our City Choir and the work they are doing to help alleviate homelessness in San Diego. The film airs on KPBS on Thursday March 22 at 8:30pm. There also will be public screening at the San Diego Central Library, followed by a question and answer session with the director and producer and a performance by Voices of Our City Choir. **Wednesday, March 28, 6:45pm**

## LA JOLLA RIFORD LIBRARY

7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla  
858-552-1657

## The Greatest Knight: Documentary

**Discussions** BBC’s *The Greatest Knight* tells the story of William Marshal, the “greatest knight of the Middle Ages.” If you’ve never heard of him, it may be because Marshal is “a forgotten hero of English history.” Marshal was an English soldier and statesman who served four kings of England in the 12th and 13th Centuries. Historian Thomas Asbridge reveals how Marshal fought in battles across Europe, survived court intrigue and exile, put his seal to the Magna Carta, and remained loyal to those he served through disaster and victory. Presented by Professor of Psychology, Seth Senecal. Documentary Discussions is a series of documentary film viewings followed by a discussion to explore a wide variety of topics and matters of interest. Held on the last Saturday of the month.

## Saturday, March 24, 2:00pm

## LIBERTY HALL THEATER AT PARADISE VILLAGE

2700 E. 4th St., National City

## Film Discussion Class: Rebel in the Rye

Debut director Danny Strong offers a window into the life and times of J.D. Salinger. The film brings to life young Salinger (Nicholas Hoult) — his love affair with a famous socialite, his leaving for the front lines, the publishing of *Catcher in the Rye*, and his withdrawal from the public eye. Co-stars Kevin Spacey, Victor Garber, and Sarah Paulson. 2017. 106 minutes. Film discussion class with instructor Ralph DeLauro. **Wednesday, March 21, 7:00pm**

## SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY

1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad  
760-602-2049

## Carlsbad Film Series: The Meddler

An aging widow, Marnie, is lonely and heartbroken. When her daughter Lori moves to Los Angeles, she follows along with the hope of restarting her life. She begins interfering with Lori’s life, but soon she meets other people who are more in need of her assistance and she starts helping them. Join us for previews and additional information about the film beginning at 5:30pm Film begins at 6pm Stay afterward for a post-show discussion of the film. **Wednesday, March 21, 6:00pm**

## TEMPLE EMANU-EL

6299 Capri Dr., Del Cerro

## Film Discussion Class: Take Me Home

A wild and romantic ride on the road less traveled. This clever and comic meditation on marriage features Sam Jaeger as an unemployed photographer moonlight-



ing illegally as a NYC cab driver. When he picks up a distraught woman (Amber Jaeger) with her marriage in shambles, the two strangers set off on a cross-country odyssey to leave their problems behind. 2012. 97 minutes. Discussion after the film. Film discussion class with instructor Ralph DeLauro at College Avenue Center, located at Temple Emanu-El. Sponsored by Jewish Family Service. Members free; all others \$2. **Monday, March 19, 1:00pm**

# MOVIE THEATERS

## CENTRAL

### AMC Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Rd (888-262-4386)

### AMC La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Dr, Ste 129 (888-262-4386)

### AMC Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)

### ArCLight La Jolla

4425 La Jolla Village Dr (858-768-7770)

### Digital Gym Cinema

2921 El Cajon Blvd ((619) 230-1938)

### Landmark Hillcrest

3965 Fifth Ave (619-298-2904)

### Landmark Ken

4061 Adams Ave (619-283-3227)

### The LOT La Jolla

7611 Fay Ave (858-777-0069)

### The LOT Liberty Station

2620 Thruxton Rd (619-566-0069)

### Reading Town Square

4665 Clairemont Dr (858-274-9994)

### Regal Horton Plaza

Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

### Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

### San Diego Natural History Museum

#### - Kaplan Theater

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

### UltraStar Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Dr #100 (619-574-8684)

### United Artists Horton Plaza 8

475 Horton Plaza (844-462-7342)

and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day) and director Will Gluck (*Fired Up!, Easy A*) for contemporizing the Beatrix Potter classic in such a way that even the compulsory fart jokes play as decorous. 2018. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Phantom Thread** — Actor Daniel Day-Lewis has played any number of difficult, even unpleasant men over the course of his remarkable career. And he is famously exacting and disciplined in his approach to his art. So perhaps it's fitting that his (self-proclaimed) final role is that of Reynolds Woodcock, a difficult, even unpleasant man who is also exacting and disciplined about his art — designing ladies' couture in '50s London. The film opens on the face of his muse and lover Alma (Vicky Krieps), who purrs that he has made her dreams come true before noting, "And I've given him what he desires." Just what exactly that means — some pleasures are decidedly more rarefied, or at the very least less obvious, than others — is writer-director Paul Thomas Anderson's subject here. It's a mystery that does out its first clue in Woodcock's opening-scene dismissal of his final pre-Alma paramour: he simply doesn't have the time for her. The level of control all 'round — director, actor, script, character — borders on oppressive; if Anderson's *The Master* was a swirling miasma, *Phantom Thread* is an unforgiving dress. It presents an ideal and even inspires wonder, but it does make breathing difficult, and heaven help you if all you want is to have a good time. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Red Sparrow** — Lurid but not quite trashy thriller from director Francis Lawrence, who puts his *Hunger Games*

### Vintage Village Theater

820 Orange Ave, Coronado (619-437-6161)

## EAST COUNTY

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### Regal Parkway Plaza 18 & IMAX

405 Parkway Plaza (619-462-7342)

### Regal Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Rd (844-462-7342)

### Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Ave (619-448-7447)

## SOUTH BAY

### AMC Chula Vista 10

555 Broadway #2050 (619-371-9105)

### AMC Otay Ranch 12

Otay Ranch Town Center (619-216-7545)

### AMC CLASSIC Palm Promenade 24

770 Denney Rd (619-662-2698)

### AMC Plaza Bonita 14

3050 Plaza Bonita Rd (619-475-2200)

### Regal Rancho Del Rey 16

1025 Tierra del Rey (844-462-7342)

### South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Ave (619-423-2727)

## NORTH INLAND

### AMC Poway 10

13475 Poway Rd ((858) 679-3887)

### AMC CLASSIC River Valley 6

5256 S Mission Road, Bonsall (760-945-1365)

star Jennifer Lawrence through trials that never made it into their previous, PG-13 collaboration. It's not just the rape and torture — though there is that, along with a nude scene that serves nicely as Ms. Lawrence's rejoinder to everyone who enjoyed her hacked iCloud photos online. There's also the storyline, which involves a pervy Russian official (Matthias Schoenaerts, just one of the fine actors having a lark here) who seems more than happy to force his beautiful niece into a life of sexual spycraft. He sends her to Sparrow school, where she learns to profile her targets in order to determine what they most desire, then give precisely that in order to establish the kind of intimacy that yields useful information. (Plus boring stuff like how to pick locks and handle a weapon.) "Learns" might be a little strong, however; it's more than she gets the chance to really show her skills. Not so much in the bedroom — contra her instructor's (Charlotte Rampling) teachings that her body is State property and sex is essentially impersonal, the film derives a good bit of its drama from the question of when and how our heroine yields herself — but definitely in the headspace. She is always thinking ahead, and following that thinking is the real fun here, the thing that keeps you going through the sexual ickiness, the 140-minute runtime, the slummy accents from Jeremy Irons and Ciarán Hinds, and the many plot twists. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (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

### AMC Temecula 10

27531 Ynez Rd (951-699-2205)

### Krikorian Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Dr (760-945-7469)

### Angelika Carmel Mountain

11620 Carmel Mntn Rd (858-207-2606)

### Regal Escondido 16 & IMAX

350 West Valley Parkway (844-462-7342)

### Regal Mira Mesa 18 & IMAX

10733 Westview Parkway (844-462-7342)

### Edwards San Marcos 18

1180 W. San Marcos Blvd (844-462-7342)

## NORTH COASTAL

### Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas Del Mar

12905 El Camino Real (858-794-4045)

### Cinépolis Luxury Cinemas La Costa

6941 El Camino Real (760-827-6700)

### Digiplex Mission Marketplex

431 College Blvd (760-631-5700)

### La Paloma Theater

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)

### Regal Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (844-462-7342)

### Regal Carlsbad 12

2501 El Camino Real (760-720-5392)

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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, "Whether thou goest, there goest I." And Del Toro's religious rascality doesn't stop there: Samson and Delilah help to drive the drama, as does a certain someone drawn from amid the bulrushes. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

### Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri

— Writer-director-producer Martin McDonagh (*Seven Psychopaths*) presents the story of a heartbroken but otherwise rarin' to go woman (Frances McDormand, billy-club blunt) who plasters the titular roadside ads with a direct question to the local police chief: why haven't you caught the guy who raped and killed my daughter? She's gotta do something to stave off the feeling that "there ain't no God and the world's empty and it doesn't matter what we do to each other," and the billboards are close at hand. It doesn't matter that the chief (Woody Harrelson, laconic) is a good man who is dealing with cancer, or that a violent man-child cop (Sam Rockwell, alarming) is out

to stop her. She's suffered to the point where suffering holds no more terror for her. Yessir, shit gets real. Or does it? For starters, McDonagh works way too hard to inject nearly every scene with his patented solution of acid wit and dark-roast comedy: *go ahead, laugh in the face of horror, I dare you*. It's jarringly effective until it starts to feel like shtick, at which point it works only as a numbing agent. For another, his fondness for the outlandish and over-the-top doesn't mesh well with his effort to tease out the ordinary humanity in his creations. And finally, there's a serious over-reliance on coincidence and underportrayal of consequence. Good acting, though. 2017. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Tomb Raider** — Director Roar Uthaug reboots the action heroine franchise with Alicia Vikander in the title role. One can only hope that he has the good sense to lend his outstanding name to the film's villain. Review forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2018 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Warriors** — Walter Hill's unrealistic, or anti-realistic, street-gang movie has an obvious kinship with the hostile-territory branch of action films, including both the *Stagecoach*-type Western and the *Objective Burma*-type war story. It also owes a special debt to the samurai films of Akira Kurosawa for its conception of the feudal clannishness of New York youth gangs and the strict martial-arts hierarchy that sets apart the true "soldiers" and "boppers" from the mere "wimps" and "faggots." A simple problem in logistics (how to get from here to there), it offers no more character or plot development — but then again, no less drama and color and precociousness — than the annual Golden Gloves tournament. The otherworldly feeling is established immediately by the magical opening shot of Coney Island's "Wonder Wheel," a minimalist tracing of neon dots and dashes against a black sky, and is maintained throughout by the continuous fashion parade of peacock-prodigious gang costumes (magenta vests, New York Yankee pinstripes, Marcel Marceau flour faces, etc.), which, for people-watching purposes, makes this movie as much fun as a punk-rock or glitter-rock concert. With Michael Beck, James Remar, Dorsey Wright, and Deborah Van Valkenburgh. 1979. — D.S. ★★★★★ (CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS LA COSTA; CINÉPOLIS VISTA)

**A Wrinkle in Time** — Four reasons to take a child to see *A Wrinkle in Time*: 1. They display a keen interest in physics. 2. They've read the book. 3. They don't frighten easily. 4. You hate them. More thought went into Disney's United Colors of Benetton approach to casting than to hammering out a cohesive throughline in the ever-shifting narrative. "Visionary" director Ava DuVernay's concept of getting inside a character's mind translates into keeping the camera so close that Tarzan could pluck a nostril hair and swing across the screen. And while I'm generally a sucker for imaginative art direction, the Technicolor gargon of overflorid hues on display here barely sticks to the screen, let alone to the memory. Surely there must be something positive to say about the production, but thoughts of an *Attack of the 50-foot Oprah* sequel notwithstanding, calling this an incomprehensible mess would be a compliment. Add to this the frustration brought on by sound effects that drown out crucial dialog passages, and the only thing you'll take away from the experience is a wrinkle in your ass. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

pop culture references, and a pair of running time-padding skits — an anti-abortion pep rally gone wrong and a gym coach assigned to oversee the high school drama club — that play like outtakes from a Christopher Guest satire. Copious critical accolades already abound, but don't let the comparisons to *Terms of Endearment* keep you from the picture. (No Kleenex needed.) The raves that bear attention are the ones championing the daughter and mother combatants played by her generation's gift to acting, Saoirse Ronan, and the criminally underused Laurie Metcalf. Their precision-engineered salvos of overlapping dialog are the film's highlights and a sure test of the limits of Dolby Atmos. And kudoes the the dizzyingly-denominated Beanie Feldstein for her performance as Ronan's brilliant flake of a BFF. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**The Leisure Seeker** — Paolo Virzi directs Donald Sutherland and Helen Mirren as a couple of RV enthusiasts heading into the Florida sunset, with a proposed stop at Hemingway's Key West Digs. 2017 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Loveless** — Director and co-writer Andrey Zvyagintsev fixes his unblinking, pitiless eye on the way that, in the words of the film's miserable wife (who is also, what do you know, a miserable daughter and miserable mother), "love and happiness lead to pain and disappointment...a miserable heap of shit." The heap in question is a marriage, and the family that resulted from it. Mom and Dad have both found new love elsewhere, and their heartbroken son cannot help but serve as a painful reminder of their abysmal failure. Naturally, neither one wants him around, but they don't expect him to be so obliging about it as to disappear. As in Zvyagintsev's previous feature, *Leviathan*, the Russian Church has been reduced to a whitened sepulcher (in this case, a corporate policy against divorce) and the State has no time for humanity. (There are rebellions to crush!) But he is here bold enough to introduce a note of hope in the form of a volunteer network that takes up the search for "the squirt." Its members are as unsentimental as the director himself, but they also seem to share his sense of moral urgency in the midst of disaster. Everything here — from the image to the dialogue to the landscape to the film's vision and judgment — is clean, cold, and bracing. 2017 — M.L. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Love, Simon** — Director Greg Berlanti takes on the work of bringing homosexuality into a mainstream big-screen high-school rom-com. Review forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2018 (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Peter Rabbit** — An affectionate note of Tex Avery mayhem opens the story — in an instant, a bucolic chorus of Disney-esque birds in flight is rendered utterly *oofty-magoofy* — and for the next 90 minutes, I looked on in amazement as the studio that regularly begot cartoon child abuse in the form of *Alvin* squeakuels finally found the winning formula for combining live-action characters and anthropomorphized rodentia. I've yet to be fooled by CG humans, but damned if this blue-jacketed upright cottontail and his woodland pals don't exude the illusion of both life and charm. In terms of textured character design and movement, this is right up there with the best of Pixar, and when it comes to storytelling in animation, it outclasses everything its competitor has produced since *WALL-E*. Credit the combined creativity of screenwriter Rob Lieber (*Alexander*

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1BD+1BA; downstairs end unit; stove, refrigerator; coin laundry; parking; cat OK with extra deposit; on the Southwest corner of Jewell and grand; convenient location; close to shopping; EZ freeway access; available now; 1669 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). 858-270-2071.

#### PACIFIC BEACH, \$1375.

1BD+1BA unit. Quiet, gated entrance. Ceiling fans, laundry, off-street parking, pool. Building well maintained. No pets. Available now. Call or text 202-851-9478; e-mail akarnazes@gmail.com; [www.mpsandiego.com](http://www.mpsandiego.com).

#### PACIFIC BEACH, \$2400.

2BD+2BA; large downstairs end unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; parking; 7 blocks to ocean; 1/2 block to bay; no pets; available now; 1346 Pacific Beach Drive. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). 858-270-2071.

### Downtown

#### BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN, \$1475.

1BD+1BA apartment. 720sqft., hard vinyl flooring, air conditioning/central heat, on-site laundry. Parking included. One pet OK! Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

#### BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN, \$1975.

900sqft., hard vinyl flooring, patio, air conditioning/central heat, on-site laundry. 2 secured parking spaces included. One pet OK! Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

#### BANKERS HILL, \$1195.

STUDIO+1BA. Downstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, laundry room. No pets. Near Balboa Park, 2254 5th Avenue #4. Agent, 619-232-6811.

#### DOWNTOWN, \$525-655

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Under new management! Renovated, furnished Gaslamp rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Horton Plaza, restaurants, shops and laundry. Cable TV, telephone and utilities included. 720 4th Ave. 619-233-7594.

### East County

#### LA MESA, \$1395.

2BD+1.5BA apartment in La Mesa/Lake Murray. Small, quiet complex. Stove, refrigerator, A/C, dishwasher. Near lake, sun deck off master bedroom with view to Mt. Helix. Laundry, parking. No pets. 7490 Collins Avenue #11. Agent, 619-232-6811.

#### LA MESA, \$1790-1990.

3BD+2BA (\$1990) and 2BD+1BA (\$1790) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

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### Old Town & Uptown

#### CITY HEIGHTS, \$825.

Unfurnished studio alcove apartment. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5111 Towle Court, Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off-street parking. Low deposit. Call 619-281-9451.

#### NORTH PARK, \$1225.

1BD; large downstairs unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; new carpet; air conditioned; coin laundry; parking; EZ freeway access; CAT OK with extra deposit; available now; 4152 Utah St. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). 858-270-2071.

#### NORTH PARK, \$1295.

1BD+1BA updated downstairs apartment with private patio. Small, gated community. 1 assigned parking space. Water and trash included. No pets. Easy freeway access/bus. Available now. 3753 Cherokee. Agent, 619-298-7724.



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Home

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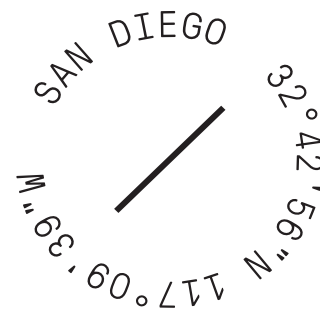
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#### NOTICES

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\*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

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\*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

#### TIMING BELT Parts & Labor \$75

\*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

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<b>OIL CHANGE &amp; OIL FILTER</b> from <b>\$24.95</b> Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.	<b>FREE BRAKE INSPECTION &amp; ESTIMATE</b> (both locations) <b>FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION &amp; ESTIMATE</b> (Cliff Brown location)	<b>ENGINE STEAM CLEAN</b> <b>\$69.95</b> Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.	<b>30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL</b> from <b>\$179.95</b> 4-cyl. Most vehicles. Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension
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www.sdsmogandrepair.com

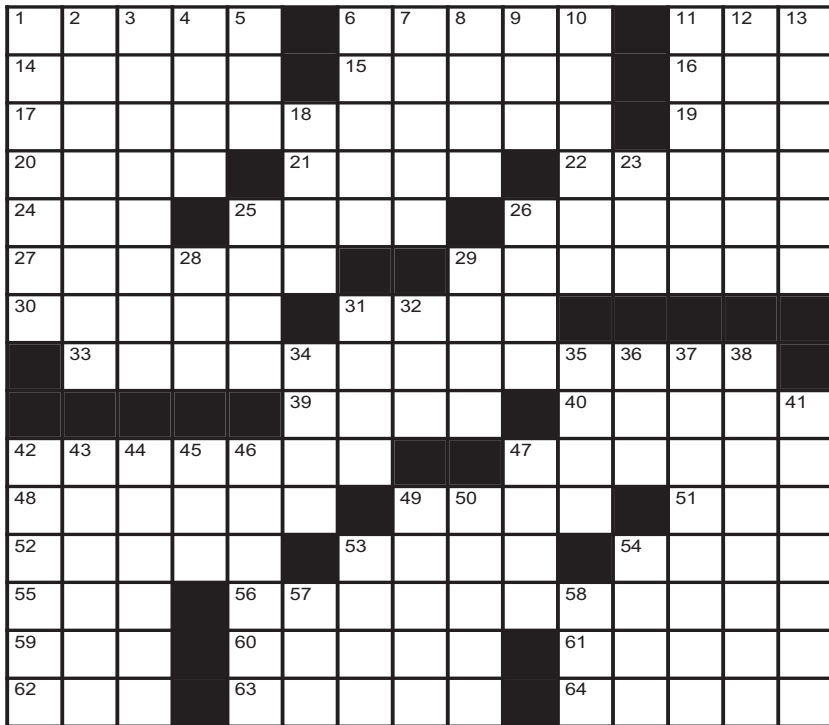
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# CROSSWORD

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt



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### Across

1. Have a great night at the comedy club
5. Attack vigorously
11. Layover locale, perhaps
14. Love letters?
15. Amateur
16. Opposite of "Dep." on a flight board
17. Really get the grit off some fruit?
19. Slugger's stat
20. Triumph
21. Gardener, at times
22. "Thirteen" actress \_\_\_\_\_ Rachel Wood
23. Healthy routine of some reef material?
27. Tries to rip open
30. What egg whites aren't
31. "Four little letters, three billion little people": Stephen Colbert
32. \_\_\_\_\_ facto
33. "Why, can you possibly mean me?!"
36. It's been left on 17-, 23-, 49- and 58-Across
41. 18%, maybe
42. Like someone whose photographs are all selfies
43. Wallach and Whitney
44. Signs of things to come
46. Address
49. Snacker's discarded item in ancient Peru?
52. Two-time NBA All-Star Vandeweghe
53. Cambodia's Phnom \_\_\_\_\_

### 54. "So THAT'S it!"

57. Bridal bio word
58. Like a TV lover uninterested in cutting the cord?
62. Leaf-peeping mo.
63. Grande with the 2014 hit song "Love Me Harder"
64. Atypical
65. Director Craven who said "Horror films don't create fear. They release it"
66. Benghazi native
67. Singer with the 1988 album "Y Kant Tori Read"

### Down

1. Annual Austin, Texas music/film festival named for its loc. in the U.S.
2. Centers of activity
3. Neural conductor
4. Whom Uncle Sam wants
5. Sweater material
6. Angry with
7. Traffic problem
8. Fruit Ninja, e.g.
9. Red state?
10. Part of UCLA
11. 2014 U.S. postage stamp honoree depicted with the colors of the gay pride flag
12. Kind of legend or **sprawl**
13. Pickler's need
18. They precede sigmas
22. Room in an apt. big enough to accommodate a dining table, in real estate ads
23. Animal always spelled out in Scrabble?

24. Syringe, for short
25. Ned who, in 2015, became the manager with the most victories in Kansas City Royals history
26. Icky stuff
27. Diplomat's asset
28. Actor Morales who plays Elian Gonzalez's dad in a 2000 TV movie
29. Causes of sudden altitude drops
32. Charged particle
34. Doing the job
35. "Don't take \_\_\_\_\_ seriously!"
37. Pizza \_\_\_\_\_
38. Half of Mork's goodbye
39. \_\_\_\_\_ bump
40. Authentic
45. It follows Avril in Paris
46. "For Your Eyes Only" singer Easton
47. Author
48. K-12
49. "Tell me about it!"
50. Whitney Houston, to Dionne Warwick
51. Spread out
54. Driver of "Girls"
55. "My \_\_\_\_\_!"
56. Drinks at sidewalk stands
58. Baseball's Ripken
59. Jackie's second husband
60. A little kid might drool over it
61. Org. from which George H.W. Bush resigned his membership in 1995

### 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](http://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 emailed to [puzzles@sdreader.com](mailto:puzzles@sdreader.com). Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
  - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
  - 3) We will draw 5 names from weekly puzzle winners.
  - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
  - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

### SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

S	L	A	Y	A	S	S	A	I	L	H	U	B
X	O	X	O	N	O	N	P	R	O	A	R	R
S	C	O	U	R	G	R	A	P	E	S	R	B
W	I	N	H	O	E	R	E	V	A	N		
T	E	A	R	S	A	T	Y	O	L	K	Y	
A	S	I	A				I	P	S	O	M	O
C	A	R	B	O	N	F	O	O	T	P	R	I
T	I	P	V	A	I	N				E	L	I
O	M	E	N	S			S	P	E	A	K	T
I	N	C	A	N	U	T	S	H	E	L	L	
K	I	K	I				P	E	N	H	A	H
N	E	E		C	A	B	L	E	M	I	N	D
O	C	T		A	R	I	A	N	A		R	A
W	E	S		L	I	B	Y	A	N		A	M

### SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: [www.SDReader.com/puzzle](http://www.SDReader.com/puzzle). The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

- Jeff Ball, San Diego, 5.
- Gary Torgerson, San Diego, 5.
- Randy Paddock, San Diego, 2.
- Hirsh Gottschalk, San Diego, 1.
- Martin Taubman, San Diego, 1.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

# SUDOKU

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

### EVIL:

	1			2		7	
					3	6	2
2			3				
5		4					
6		4		1		9	5
				6			1
				9			7
3	5	8					
	6		2				5

### 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](http://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 emailed to [puzzles@sdreader.com](mailto:puzzles@sdreader.com). Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
  - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
  - 3) We will draw 5 names from weekly puzzle winners.
  - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
  - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

### SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: [www.SDReader.com/puzzle](http://www.SDReader.com/puzzle). The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

### SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

### EVIL:

6	2	8	7	1	9	3	4	5
9	1	4	8	5	3	6	2	7
5	3	7	2	4	6	9	8	1
2	4	9	1	6	7	5	3	8
1	8	5	9	3	4	7	6	2
3	7	6	5	2	8	4	1	9
8	5	3	4	7	1	2	9	6
7	6	1	3	9	2	8	5	4
4	9	2	6	8	5	1	7	3

### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

- Blair Fadem, San Diego, 1.

# BRAINSTORMS

BY DON RUBIN

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

### What's the point?

How many different objects are protruding through this puzzle? Be careful. Some of the items have created more than one hole.

### Last Week's Solution You rule

**Ruler A = 18" Ruler B = 12" Ruler C = 6"**

The rulers were scaled from opposite ends.

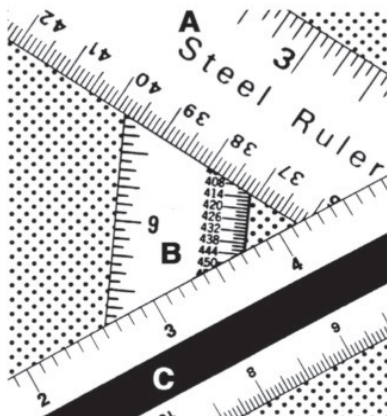
Ruler "A" was scaled in inches and in centimeters. At 3 inches from one end ruler "A" was nearly 38 centimeters (about 15 inches) from the other.

Ruler "B" was scaled in inches and in points, a unit of measurement used in printing (not that you had to know that).

There were 144 points between 6 inches and 4 inches, or 72 per inch. At 6 inches

from one end ruler "B" was 432 points, or 6 inches, from the other.

Ruler "C" was scaled in inches and in thirds of an inch, a proportional unit used by architects and puzzle creators. At 4 inches from one end ruler "C" was six thirds of an inch, or 2 inches, from the other.



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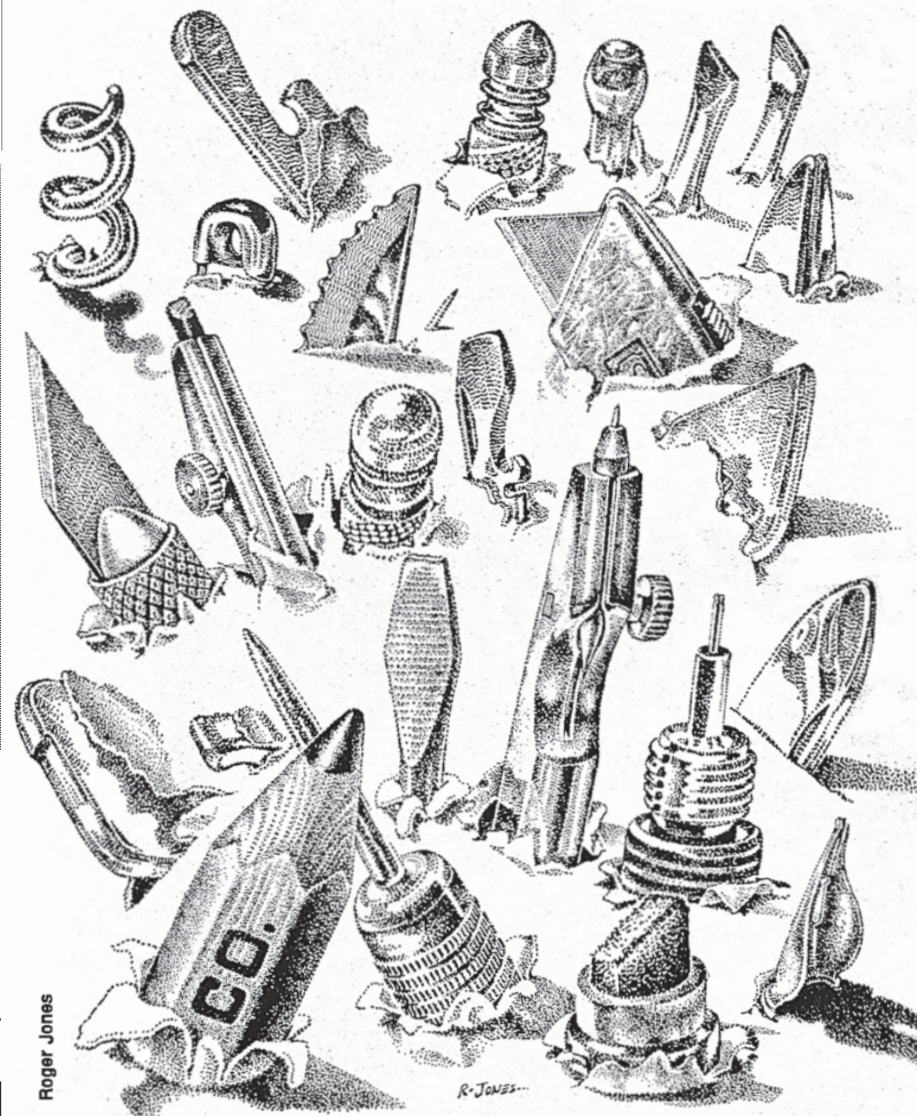
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#### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

- Joseph Ciprian, San Diego, 7.
- Holly Kennelley, San Diego, 1.
- Bruce Mengler, Solana Beach, 1.



Roger Jones

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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- \*canister filters and synthetic oil @ additional cost.

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\*134a Freon additional \*additional repairs maybe required for proper system operation, leak detection and diagnostic service available at additional cost

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

On February 27, the San Diego Unified School District unanimously passed a resolution asking the city to pass vacation rental regulations. Their concern is that turning residential neighborhoods into commercial zones, via vacation rentals, will further decrease student enrollment and increase budget shortfalls.

The city reported \$21,263,722 in total tax revenue for vacation rentals in 2017. The total includes penalties. According to the city, the exact number of residences wasn't available since third-party online hosting platforms don't remit payments via specific properties.

Per 2017 documentation, five streets were listed as having 587 (17 percent) of the rentals in San Diego — all in close proximity in Mission Beach (458) and Pacific Beach (129).

Owners of the rentals are a mixed bag of locals and those outside of San Diego, and as far away as China. Ten firms were listed as managing near 25 percent of all vacation rentals in San Diego.

Belinda Smith, co-founder of the Short Term Rental Alliance of San Diego (advocate for vacation rentals), said short-term rentals should continue to operate along the coastal communities as they have for the past

100 years.

While she agrees there needs to be regulations, she argues that San Diego's housing problem existed long before Airbnb came along in 2008. "I have one. And yet I hate them. Airbnb called me last week asking for feel-good stories on hosting. I didn't have much to offer. If people want to feel good, they can volunteer at a soup kitchen, not sell out the community."

Tom lives in one Ocean Beach unit and rents out the other 450 square-foot unit. Last year, he made about \$45,000 renting it out — saying it covers the mortgage for the entire property.

Tom sees those with a lot of money and no ties to the community as the biggest threat. Tom has seen granny flats meant to boost housing stock converted to Airbnbs in Ocean Beach.

JULI STALMER

## SCRIPPS RANCH

### Chabad Yoga?

#### Come study at the campus of life!

If you rent one of the 84 apartments at the Scripps Ranch Chabad's Campus of Life, now offered on a variety of apartment rental sites, your enrollment in a class is part of the rent. But not to worry, rental reps say, attendance isn't mandatory.



Chabad: "Our community was created for people who are passionate about life."

That's because when the city signed off on the 280 apartments south of Pomerado Road in 2008, there were a few conditions attached, among them: the apartments were only for faculty, students, and their families. The students in the apartments had to carry a minimum of eight credits. Chabad had made a private agreement with the planning group, but the city noted it had no ability to enforce it.

By making that promise, the Chabad project was able to get about \$2.5 million in development impact fees waived — along with other standard development requirements like inclusionary housing. Those fees, in theory, are used to pay for community infrastructure, including fire-department upgrades and parks.

With the first wave of apartments (84, according to the rental sites) coming to market, the Scripps Ranch Planning Group and its civic association are sounding the alarm.

"The community wants to have them

rezoned and we want them to pay the impact fees that were waived," says Bob Ilko, chairman of the planning group. "They carved out \$2.5 million in savings by calling them dorms and that's what they're supposed to be. If they want apartments, they should do the project as apartments and stop calling them dorms."

Messages left with three people at the Campus of Life (two rabbis and the accounting office) were not returned.

The Scripps Ranch Planning Group was the first to propose the restriction on the project, and its members have been angered to find the rentals offered to anyone in the county. But a quick call to the apartment leasing office cleared up the confusion: by including automatic enrollment in classes that include pilates, yoga, and wellness and nutrition, anyone who can afford luxury-apartment rent can live there.

One-bedroom apartments will rent for \$2016 or more, and two bedrooms go for \$2385, according to the listings on Zillow, HotPads, and Apartments.com. The first wave of apartments become available on April 16, according to the listings.

"Our community was created for people who are passionate about life and our Ascent at Campus of Life offers an extraordinary array of learning and growth opportunities," the rental ads say.

MARTY GRAHAM

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### EVENT LISTINGS

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### PETS

**FREE PET ADS:**  
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Call 619-235-8200.

DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.

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**GREYHOUND ADOPTION CENTER**  
Open house at Greyhound Adoption Center Sunday from 1:00 to 3:00p.m. 4821 Dehesa Rd. El Cajon. 1-877-HOUNSAVERS, [info@houndsavers.org](mailto:info@houndsavers.org), [www.houndsavers.org](http://www.houndsavers.org).

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\*\$99 top shelf oz

\*\$250 on all private reserve oz

\*all 8ths are 4 grams

\*\$10 vapes of 550 mg

\*\$15/gram crumble/shatter or 3 for \$40

\*Minimum donation \$40 mention this ad

**\$10 edibles**

**TEXT ClubKMK 760-670-3130** to opt in to our loyalty program

tax included, no hidden fees

ClubKMK SAN DIEGO'S PREMIER DELIVERY SERVICE

**619-343-9112**

Call or text "KMKMenu"



Military, Veteran, Senior or Disability

**10% OFF** with ID

Gram eights specials on Sonoma Pacific Organic Flower

Student Discount **10% OFF** with ID

Bring a Friend and you both get **10% OFF**

Guest Vendors with Exclusive Promotions every Friday & Saturday

SAFE ACCESS - KNOWLEDGEABLE STAFF - HIGH QUALITY PRODUCT



ORGANA BRANDS



bloom CANNABIS



PLUS



BRANDS WE CARRY

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Between 163 and 15 Freeways

Pull in between the two buildings and cross 3 speed bumps. We are the last unit on the right.

OPEN EVERY DAY 7AM-9PM

HAVE QUESTIONS? CALL US 858.598.5983



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**HOME OF THE \$14 PRIVATE RESERVE!**

- Educated, heavy-handed tenders
- High Quality Flowers
- Edibles, Vapes, CBD's
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**+** 619 EVALUATIONS

REAL DOCTOR MARIJUANA CARDS PHONE AND ONLINE VERIFICATION

**WHY PAY TAX?**

**\$25**  
6 month New Patient

PROP 215 Patients Tax Exempt

**\$15**  
6 Month Renewal

**CHULA VISTA 1**  
45 Third Ave. #105-B  
619.651.5041



**WALK-INS WELCOME**  
MON-FRI 10AM-6PM • SAT-SUN 11AM-6PM

LOCATIONS, HOURS, & DAYS MAY VARY  
MUST BRING AD  
[www.619evals.com](http://www.619evals.com)

**\$25 1gram Cartridges 85% THC!**

**Brass Knuckles \$45**

**No Rec Required! Tax Included. No Hidden Tax!**

**COMPASSION ENTHUSIAST**

**New Exclusive & Private Reserve Strains Daily!**

Wholesale to the Public

**\$30** 1/8th  
**Exclusive Shelf**

Lowest Price Everyday!

**\$9 Exclusive Grams**  
**Best \$5 & \$3 Grams**

Sungrown  
Flower

**\$65** 0z

Cannabis  
Prime

**120mg**  
**Edibles \$8**

\*Restrictions apply

130 W Washington Ave, El Cajon CA 92020

619-415-6458 • Open Daily 8am-12am

Huge flower and Product selection!

**Now offering Exotic Moonrocks 2g for \$30**







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**The strongest blunt in the universe**

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**urbn leaf**  
A FEEL GOOD DRUG BOUTIQUE

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**619.275.2235**



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**THE GHURRO**

**GET A CHURRO FOR \$35 WHEN  
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**\*LIMIT 1 PER VISIT\***  
**OFFER GOOD THROUGH 3/19/18**

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NO DOCTOR RECS REQUIRED  
JUST BRING A VALID I.D.  
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CLOSE TO HOTEL CIRCLE | ATM ON SITE  
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NEXT TO SHERATON

**LARGE FACILITY**  
GROUPS WELCOME  
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EST 2018

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SAN DIEGO RECREATIONAL CANNABIS

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WWW.SANDIEGORECREATIONALCANNABIS.COM

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SAN DIEGO, CA 92108

HAPPY HOUR ANYTIME  
**10% OFF**  
ENTIRE ORDER  
COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED.

**\$40 FULL GRAM CARTRIDGE**  
FULL CIRCLE  
JACK HERER, SKYWALKER OG,  
GORILLA GLUE, NORTHERN LIGHTS,  
GRAND DADDY PURPS  
COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED.

PRE-ROLLS  
**BUY 1 GET 2ND FOR \$1**  
COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED.

**\$150 OUNCES**  
BLUE DREAM, SUPER BERRY,  
TRAINWRECK, CHEESE, BLUE SKUNK  
COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED.

EXCLUSIVELY AT SDRC

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CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY ONLY BE POSSESSED OR CONSUMED BY PERSONS 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER UNLESS THE PERSON IS A QUALIFIED PATIENT. THE INDICATING EFFECTS OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY BE DELAYED UP TO TWO HOURS. CANNABIS USE WHILE PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING MAY BE HARMFUL. CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE AND OPERATE MACHINERY. PLEASE USE EXTREME CAUTION. CA LICENSES: M10-18-0000173-TEMP/A10-18-0000126-TEMP

**APOTHEKARE**  
*get medicated*  
Mission Valley

**20%**

**FIRST TIME VISITORS**

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*HOME OF THE BEST OG'S IN SAN DIEGO*

Recreational 21+ and Medicinal Patients Welcome

**Happy Hour 7am-10am**  
**\$5 Off** Top Shelf and Private Reserve Strains

Buy a Cartridge, Get a Battery for **\$.01**

**10% Off** Entire Order  
1st time patients

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Everyday: **\$5 Off** Moxie Shatter  
3 Eternal 1g Cartridges for **\$90**  
Twisted .5g Cartridge **\$25**  
**\$6** grams Flower Shelf  
**\$20** 1/8ths Flower Shelf

**24-HOUR SECURITY • ATM ON SITE**  
**EXPRESS DELIVERY HOTLINE:**  
**619-841-2045**

2405 E. HARBOR DRIVE, SD 92113  
(1 mile south of the Convention Center)

**10% OFF** for Seniors, Disabled and Veterans

**ALL PREVIOUS DEALS EXPIRED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

**San Diego's First Recreational Dispensary**

**Club 64**

**OPEN 24 Hours**

NO Doctor Recommendation Necessary  
TEXT "club64" To 858-203-9799

SCAN THE SNAPCODE TO KEEP UP WITH THE DEALS

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**Flower Discounted For FTP**

**FREE**  $\frac{1}{8}$  With Donation of \$40

**FREE**  $\frac{1}{4}$  With Donation of \$70

**\$10 OFF ANY** GRAM OF HASH OR WAX

**Every Day Deals**

**\$5 OFF** when you spend \$50

**\$10 OFF** when you spend \$100

**Clear CO2 or BHO Distillate**  
**\$10 1/2 G \$20 a G**

(619)-480-4399 Safe and Secured Access  
club64mmj@gmail.com 24 HOUR ARMED SECURITY

3650 1/2 BANCROFT DR  
SPRING VALLEY, CA 91977

BEHIND BANCROFT MARKET AND LIQUOR  
PRIVATE PARKING IN THE BACK OF THE BUILDING

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Open 24/7!

- NON-PROFIT DISPENSARY • LAB-TESTED FLOWERS
- HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE • 3 SECURITY GUARDS FOR YOUR SAFETY
- VENDORS WELCOME • FREE ATM! NO FEES!

HOME OF THE 5-GRAM 1/8THS!

Private Reserve:  
5 GRAMS  
**\$40**

Exotic Strains:  
5 GRAMS  
**\$45**

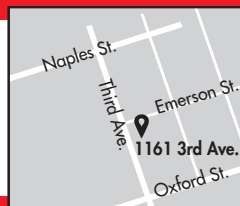
Presidential Strains:  
5 GRAMS  
**\$55**

South Bay's #1 Collective!  
We do things so right, even our competition shops with us!

Text "CVX" to 619-762-6420 to opt into our Loyalty Program!

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CA 91911  
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OPEN DAILY 9AM - MIDNIGHT

pure vape

3/17/18  
PATIENT APPRECIATION DAY  
3PM - 7PM

BUY ANY PURE VAPE PRODUCT GET A FREE ITEM!

**\$280 PRIVATE RESERVE OUNCES**

**\$200 TOP SHELF OUNCES**

**\$45** BRASS KNUCKLE, ALPINE & HEAVY HITTER (LIMIT 2)

**\$35** PURE VAPE, HAPPY STICKS & HY EXTRACTS 1G CARTRIDGES (LIMIT 2)

**\$25** PUNCH EXTRACTS 1G WAX (LIMIT 2)

**\$17** 1G HOUSE CARTRIDGE 1G WAX (LIMIT 2)

**\$15** HOUSE WAX GRAM (LIMIT 3)

**\$15** FLAVRX 250MG EDIBLE OR FLAVRX 500MG CARTRIDGE (LIMIT 3)

**\$10** KUSHY PUNCH OR CHEEBA CHEWS (100mg INDICA, SATIVA, HYBRID) (LIMIT 3)

**\$10** PRIVATE RESERVE GRAM

**\$8** TOP SHELF GRAM

**\$7** 1G HOUSE CARTRIDGE (LIMIT 3)

ALL EDIBLES BUY 1 GET 1 HALF OFF (SECOND ITEM MUST BE SAME PRICE.)

9215 BIRCH ST.  
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24 HOUR ARMED GUARDS

YOU CAN ONLY COMBINE UP TO 3 OFFERS. SPECIALS APPLY UNTIL 3/18/18. MUST PRESENT AD.



BUY 2 GET 1 FOR A PENNY MOON LION HASH

**\$5 OFF ALL 1/8THS**

GET 2 JETTY GOLD CARTS FOR \$55. 1/4 BLUE DRAGON \$35

\*SPECIALS WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. EXCISE TAX MAY NOT BE INCLUDED IN SPECIALS. CUSTOMER MUST PRESENT THIS AD TO REDEEM SPECIAL.

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ASK ABOUT OUR PICKUP WINDOW TO SAVE TIME!

SPECIAL WEEKLY DISCOUNT FOR **CANCER PATIENTS**, CALL FOR DETAILS.

FIRST TIME VISIT **1/8TH FOR \$1** W/ MINIMUM DONATION AND DOCTORS REC

HOURS OF OPERATION  
STOREFRONT: 7 AM - 9 PM  
DELIVERY: 7 AM - 7:30 PM  
PHONE: 619-268-8035

**MATTRESSFIRM AMPHITHEATRE**

**THE 20TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
SEASON**



- MAY 4** LUIS MIGUEL
- MAY 13** KENDRICK LAMAR
- MAY 18** DIRTY HEADS + IRATION
- MAY 19** LYNYRD SKYNYRD
- JUNE 21** KENNY CHESNEY
- JULY 6** DEAD & COMPANY
- JULY 20** BRAD PAISLEY
- JULY 22** JEFF BECK  
AND PAUL RODGERS
- JULY 25** FIVE FINGER DEATH  
PUNCH + BREAKING  
BENJAMIN
- JULY 31** FOREIGNER
- AUG 16** CHRIS STAPLETON
- AUG 17** NIALL HORAN
- AUG 24** MARILYN MANSON  
+ ROB ZOMBIE
- AUG 25** LADY ANTEBELLUM  
AND DARIUS RUCKER
- AUG 26** ROD STEWART  
& CYNDI LAUPER
- AUG 31** EVANESCENCE  
& LINDSEY STIRLING
- SEPT 8** REBELUTION
- SEPT 14** RASCAL FLATTS
- SEPT 20** JASON ALDEAN
- OCT 9** OZZY OSBOURNE
- OCT 12** DIERKS BENTLEY