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JULY 26, 2018

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July 26, 2018



An eight-ball of bars for adults

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Dems set prison payola free

GEO's dough has got to go

Following disclosures here regarding cash infusions from private prisons, California Democrats have vowed to eschew future money and disgorge prior donations. Party chairman Eric Bauman vowed that any contributions since May 21, 2017, would be “donated to organizations doing critical work to protect immigrants from the Trump administration or to support and rehabilitate recently incarcerated folks,” reports a July 13 dispatch by Capitol Weekly, which notes that the state party raised more than \$160,000 in contributions from two big private prison operators during 2017.

Democratic state leader

Senate leader Toni Atkins of San Diego donated \$12,000 that she said represented previously received prison industry contributions to “four local non-profit organizations actively involved with immigration justice issues,” Capitol Weekly said.



It's just not a good look at the moment.

“The Senate Leader Atkins never personally solicited these contributions nor have those contributions ever in any way affected her votes or her values,” according to a statement cited by a July 13 account from INTO. “Atkins donated \$3,000 each to the ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties, Alliance San Diego, the Casa Cornelia Law Center and the ABA Immigration Justice Project of San Diego.” An Atkins spokesman said the disgorgements were made after the June launch of an online petition against private prison contributions. “That’s when the issue first came to our attention,” the spokesman asserted. Also per the account, San Diego Democrat Todd Gloria’s campaign said it contributed its GEO money to Pillars of the Community and The Partnership Advancement for New Americans in equal amounts of \$750 on July 9.

Matt Potter

Business as usual for investor-owned utilities

Giving ratepayers the business, as usual California’s investor-owned utilities — San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, and Pacific Gas & Electric — already have among the highest rates in the nation.



Where there’s smoke, there’s fire, and where there’s fire, there’s skullduggery.

(San Diego Gas & Electric’s are consistently the highest.) Nonetheless, these utilities continuously try to stick ratepayers with even higher rates.

Now they are at it again: newly-amended bills would permit Pacific Gas & Electric to use state-authorized bonds to settle liability claims from the devastating wine country fires of last year. Those claims could be \$10 billion to \$15 billion. Buried in AB33 is the statement that the huge possible liability, and uncertainty over whether the costs can be passed to ratepayers “create an imminent threat to the utility’s financial stability.” The legislation may take a new route in utility regulation: global warming may get some of the blame, even if a utility is found negligent. The bonds’ costs could be passed in part to ratepayers.

Pacific Gas has already eliminated its dividend as its stock dropped. AB33 would be a “clear positive step” that would help shares recover, says Julien Dumoulin-Smith of Bank of America/Merrill Lynch. But Travis Miller of Morningstar explains why many investors are bearish on Pacific Gas stock: “California customer rates that are among the highest in the U.S. make it more difficult for [Pacific Gas] to push through higher rates to increase earnings and enhance shareholder returns.”

“We don’t expect many new data points until or at least August 6, when the [State] Senate reconvenes,” says Dumoulin-Smith. Diane Conklin of Ramona’s Mussey Road Grade Alliance says she would not be surprised by a “late August surprise,” similar to CPUC’s attempt in 2012 to sneak in a vote on whether ratepayers would pick up the tab for uninsured cost of the 2007

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USD’s Global Social Innovation Challenge

Human waste charcoal; food trucks for the poor, water quality mapping

By Dave Rice

‘You just drop it into the back of your toilet tank,”

explains David Vesay. “From there, it’s continually monitoring your water quality and you’ll get a message on your phone if it ever detects any issues.”

Vesay was part of a team of aspiring entrepreneurs getting ready to promote Water Sensei, his entry in the University of San Diego’s Global Social Innovation Challenge, when we first spoke in mid-June.

“Water quality issues are worldwide. Even here in San Diego, since I’ve been following this over the last year and a half it seems that nearly every week we’re seeing an alert from somewhere,” he continues. “We’re trying to build a map of water quality data around the world, and to share that information with everyone.”

Water Sensei is one of two USD finalists, culled from a field of 40 applicants, that was tapped to present at the challenge, held on the campus in late June. A total of 43 teams from 27 universities around the world were in town to pitch their business models designed around solving some sort of social, environmental, or economic justice issue. Top projects left the event with a share of \$47,000 in seed money or in-kind services such as web development or professional mentoring to continue developing their startups.

“As part of the university’s Catholic identity, we



David Vesay, right, was part of a local team that created the Water Sensei water quality monitoring device. With him is Dr. Amit Kakkad, director of the Center for Peace and Commerce.

want to encourage our students to think beyond themselves, to not limit their definition of success to personally doing well but thinking more about having a positive impact on the world,” says Dr. Amit Kakkad, director of USD’s Center for Peace and Commerce. “The thinking was that we wanted to give students a place not just to talk about this, but to practice these ideals before they go out into the world.”

What the contest doesn’t want, though, are business models that rely on charitable contributions or government grant money to fund the good work they aspire to complete. Kakkad is also a professor at the university’s school of business and designed the challenge, now in its eighth year, as an incubator for businesses designed to generate enough revenue to be self-sustaining.

“We’ve kept the topic focus open to ensure the

students are picking an issue they’re personally passionate about. We provide resources including mentors and coaches, workshops, and ultimately seed funding to the most promising ideas,” Kakkad continues. “The overarching goals are to support students’ entrepreneurial drive, channel that into what can be positive for the world, and along the way give them tools to cre-

ate positive impacts in their future careers.”

All of the teams are composed strictly of volunteers — no class credit is awarded for participation, and entrants aren’t assured they’ll even get to pitch their ideas to judges at the actual competition. Of the 40 entries Kakkad says were submitted at USD in February, only 22 were given a green light to develop expanded business plans. While 19 of the groups got that far, only two were selected for participation in the challenge.

Meanwhile, similar mini-competitions were taking place across town at San Diego State, UC San Diego, the NewSchool of Architecture and Design, and across the country at places such as Duke and the University of Kentucky. International entries came from places such as Trinity College of Dublin, Universidad del Pacifico in Peru, and Uganda

Christian University.

Back at Water Sensei the group honed its pitch, focusing on both the business model and the ecological impact it hoped to make.

“We want to do kind of a subscription model, every

back to refurbish and distribute to developing countries that otherwise wouldn't be able to afford the technology, while still turning enough profit through new sales and updates to keep the business viable.



Dreams Cuisine food truck caters to poor folks.

year we're going to add more sensors to the device,” Vesay tells me, saying his initial target customer is someone in a developed nation who's well off enough to drop \$99 on a basic monitor that will tell you whether or not you've got an abnormally high amount of dissolved solids in your tap water and whether you should consider further lab analysis.

“A big problem with sustainability in electronics like smartphones is that once you've got the 'old version' and a new one's available you tend to just throw the old device away,” he continues. “We want to buy back those devices by offering a discount on the update. Then we'll get those devices back and distribute them in developing countries where people can't afford them.”

As the tech industry continues to evolve, Vesay envisions newer generation sensors will be able to detect specific minerals, like the lead that sparked the recent water crisis in Flint, Michigan. The more wealthy customers he finds willing to splurge on upgrades, the more devices he'll then get

That's not all — the internet connectivity of Water Sensei means that its reach goes beyond the customers. With just a handful of sensors active in a neighborhood, enough data could be gleaned to map out water quality broadly across a region. And since the sensors give a new reading with every flush, the long-term results offer a more comprehensive look at the water system than single-use tests that only examine a single data point.

The reach of a project, however, doesn't have to be global.

“It was the heart of the recession, and at the time I was working with another non-profit on anti-poverty campaigns, including one

that provided hotel vouchers for the homeless,” recalls Dr. Teresa Smith, founder of the local nonprofit Dreams For Change. “We started seeing a new kind of face coming to us that were homeless, not our typical generational poverty. So we sent them down to the shelters, because that was our avenue for aid, and they'd come back and say ‘Oh my goodness, I can't do that. I just lost my job, lost my home, but I've always had money and been generally stable. I don't want to expose my fam-



Dr. Teresa Smith's Dreams Cuisine idea: “Let's get a food truck on the road, we can take it to where the homeless are going to be and they can use their benefit cards to purchase food.”

ily to that environment, I'd rather stay in my car.’ That was a theme we were hearing over and over again.”

Smith was working with Kakkad's Center for Peace and Commerce to establish her group's Safe Parking Program, which provides a secure overnight space for people living in their vehicles, when she learned about the challenge in its early days.

“We were hearing from our clients that they were spending their day chasing food, which was preventing them from looking for a job or accessing other resources.”

This problem inspired Dreams for Change to try branching out from her

continued on page 28

UNDER THE RADAR

Bums away Kept under wraps at city hall are punishments meted out to miscreant employees caught by complaints to the city auditor's hotline. “An allegation regarding a City employee parking at a restaurant for extensive time periods on a daily basis was investigated and found to be substantiated,” says the July 5 quarterly hotline report without further detail. “The Department took the appropriate corrective action with respect to the employee.” In another case, “an allegation regarding inappropriate access to City facilities and data by a non-City employee was investigated and found to be substantiated. Department management changed the door code to access the facility, reminded staff of City policies, and took the appropriate corrective actions with respect to the identified employee and supervisor.”

In still one more case, “an allegation regarding abuse and unethical behavior related to a hiring process was investigated and resulted in corrective action. In the future, the department's Appointing Authority will check against potential conflicts of interest or any perceived mismanagement of the interview and selection process.”

Missing city money also came up, but no mention as to how much. “An allegation of theft of petty cash was investigated and resulted in corrective action. The Department will conduct regular monthly Petty Cash Fund reconciliations, staff were provided with training materials and will undergo additional training, and appropriate corrective action was taken with respect to the identified employee.”

To Helsinki with liberals

The month before president **Donald Trump** hit Helsinki, Finland for his summit with Russian chieftain **Vladimir Putin**, a well-traveled House Democrat from San Diego dropped into the city on an all-expense-paid visit for a more militant parse of the Russia threat. **Susan Davis**, whose prior travel freebies have taken her to vacation spots around the globe, including Vienna, Tokyo, Barcelona, Canada's

Whistler Resort in British Columbia, and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, departed May 28 for a six-day excursion to Helsinki and Tallinn, Estonia, courtesy of the Aspen Institute,

run by ex-House Democrat **Dan Glickman**. The purpose of Davis's \$8430 international jaunt with husband Steve was said on her June 8 disclosure filing to be a need for “meetings with foreign affairs experts to facilitate national interests and national security.”

Per an attached itinerary, “Washington accuses Moscow of meddling in the 2016 U.S. election, attempting brazen attacks on U.S. and European targets, and undermining peaceful resolution of the Syria and Ukraine conflicts, and the North Korean nuclear standoff.” One pregnant question in the program:

“Are our current formats for official, second-track, and unofficial engagement adequate? Are other arrangements needed to manage this relationship?”

Monetary support for the excursion was supplied by the Democracy Fund, financed by e-Bay billionaire **Pierre Omidyar**, a Trump foe who has been called out by the conservative website InfluenceWatch.org for funding “liberal journalism.”

Comic interlopers The Los Angeles development outfit that has conducted hush-hush negotiations with the office of San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer** over the future of downtown's dilapidated Horton Plaza mall has picked up a new high-dollar lobbyist. Allen Matkins Leck reported July 16 that its client, Stockdale Acquisitions, LLC is getting the law firm's “assist with project entitlements for redevelopment of Horton Plaza in downtown San Diego.” Stockdale, run by Steven and Shawn Yari, based in Scottsdale, Arizona, has already been using the influence peddling firm of Southwest Strategies, records show, to obtain “Horton Plaza land use entitlements related to redevelopment of the site.”

Documents regarding the project requested of the city of San Diego have yet to be provided, but downtown real estate insider

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San Diego city employees are misbehaving, but the city won't reveal their identities.



Big money liberal Pierre Omidyar put up the eight grand for liberal Congresswoman Susan Davis, who never met a free trip she didn't like, to travel to Finland and Estonia.

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LETTERS

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

Convention Center expansion absurd City Lights July 18

The Convention Center is so under utilized now it is ridiculous. The subsidies offered to groups to entice them to come to San Diego should be considered embezzlement of the taxpayers. Mismanagement is rampant. So expanding a center that drains the general fund to subsidize hotel millionaires makes perfect sense in San Diego. Sadly, there is only one event annually, Comic-Con, that comes close to meeting the promises made when the Convention Center Complex was sold to San Diegans so many years ago. And now, in a desperate move to keep Comic-Con here, it too is highly subsidized.

— *Just Wondering*

I wish Comic-Con would depart (or be deported) to Las Vegas, just like they have threatened. San Diego will survive without the strange circus of Comic-Con, and the streets you might even be able to travel on around that area of the SD Convention Center. Heck, let El Centro host Comic Con, that will be a good source of revenue.

— *Darren*

When I look at pictures like this I am reminded how Millennial's complain about not being able to afford a home. When I grew up, my phone was \$8 a month. I did not dye my hair rainbow colors, get my skin pierced,

vape, get tattoos, download music, watch TV and movies all day, pay for the temporary use of bikes, scooters and Uber. I could not afford to go to something as expensive as Comic-Con; back then Disneyland was a treat. We didn't "lease" cars or have high-limit credit cards. When I see this generation complain about what they can't afford, I ask myself why they spend all their money on useless crap and temporary personal attire and appearances. Oh, and dogs have replaced having children.

— *Ponzi*

Sorry to Bother You Movie Review July 16

Can you elaborate on what you didn't like? "It helps, when making a satire, for the filmmakers to clearly define and develop the subject to be ridiculed." I thought the movie pretty clearly defined/developed the subjects of wage slavery /labor exploitation, viral culture, appropriation, rags-to-riches visions of personal success as an impediment to collective actions, etc. Your next sentence doesn't really follow: "But the majority of what we're told about the futuristic, government-run Worry Free Living slave labor program comes from a television commercial." We see a lot more of Worry Free and its telemarketing subsidiary outside of one commercial (and by the way, I don't think it's "government-run," so that just seems like an error on your part). What else does the movie have in common with Paul Blart, as you claim but don't explain? What does it mean to land face-first on the canvas—it's not clear what your critique is. Are you saying it's too slapstick? That's odd, because that didn't seem like a major part of the humor, and there was a lot more going on. What didn't you like about the lead's acting? Shouldn't he act apprehensive in that role? This seems like a lazy review.

— *Glorious*

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

EL CAJON

Newshound hounded? Reporter Kruze accuses Councilman Kalasho of canine commination

"Keep making me famous," said El Cajon city councilman Ben Kalasho to 10 of the 14 public speakers at the July 10 city council meeting.

Calls for Kalasho's resignation made up most of the meeting, along with allegations that he has treated young women in his beauty pageant like sex slaves, publicized fake nude pictures of one contestant, and offered the pageant crown to another contestant in exchange for sex, and told the 2017 contestants to call him God.



Also: dogs off our reporters!

Other speakers alleged fraud and efforts at retaliation, including *East County Magazine* reporter Paul Kruze, who told the city council Kalasho threatened him with a "lethal, barking, and snarling weapon."

Kruze and Kalasho crossed paths in a Parkway Plaza parking lot on June 23; not surprisingly, their accounts of the encounter differ. Kalasho directed me to a video he posted on Facebook titled "Death of Journalism." In the video, he says he and his wife Jessica left Office Depot and were walking to their parking spot when he noticed Kruze zoned in on his wife from 150 feet away, taking pictures. He says Kruze then advanced toward her and came within 15 feet, still taking pictures. (Kalasho admits he recognized Kruze as a news reporter who covers city council meetings. For her part, Jessica posted that she asked Kruze who he was, and as he continued to get closer he gave no response.)

Kalasho says he thought Kruze intended to harm his wife, so he brought his six-month-old German Shepherd from the back of his vehicle and used him as "a barrier to the danger I perceived." In the video, Kalasho asks, "What's the alternative? Have my wife



North Park: ready to look outside the neighborhood for neighborhood art.

hurt? No, I'd rather my dog maul him... I know what I signed up for. But you don't come barging toward my wife, not now, not ever."

As reported in the *Union-Tribune*, Kruze says he was taking pictures of the Kalasho campaign vehicle. He says he told the Kalashos at the time that he was a photojournalist and within his rights to take pictures. Kruze says it was Kalasho who advanced toward *him*, laughing while his dog was barking and snarling, and that he was standing 40 feet away when Kalasho closed that distance to 10-12 feet. Kruze says Kalasho said to him, "I'm going to take you down." The El Cajon Police Department says they are looking into the reports.

At the meeting, Taylor Abeel said to Kalasho. "I do not believe you are fit to make ethical decisions on our behalf. We risk the rights and freedoms we hold dear when we compromise our moral integrity." Nathan Cornett stated, "This is not a Democrat or a Republican issue. This is a bipartisan issue. Ben...your attempt to bully and intimidate people who don't agree with you is not welcome in our city." El Cajon City Planning Commissioner Tony Sotille told Kalasho: "Repentance is a gift from God, and I pray God will give you that gift."

Jim Sittiglierno was the only public speaker to defend Kalasho: "I didn't know this was going to be the Ben Kalasho hour here today. But Mr. Kalasho has been nothing but supportive as far as our issues with our rent mediation and being willing to learn."

ERIC BARTL

NORTH PARK

Humor and lightness vs. confusion and discomfort

Thornley removed from side of building
Longtime artist and North Park resident Blair Thornley's blown-up drawings have adorned the North Park parking garage since 2011. She responded to a call for submissions from North Park Main Street, and says she wanted

"to contribute to my neighborhood, hopefully to add humor or lightness. I have had only positive feedback, mainly from neighbors and friends."

In March of this year, North Park Main Street and Ace Parking announced a com-

petition to replace the existing artwork "with up to 15 new works of art by one to four artists." The requirements emphasized that artists should "create a cohesive look for the final project that fits the culture of the community." Deadline for artist(s)

selection was June 26; installation is set for Fall 2018.

Jake Romero, who holds and MFA in art studio practice and serves as assistant director at North Park Main Street, is the selection committee facilitator. (The selection committee includes Mathieu Gregoire, a lecturer in visual arts at UCSD; Matthew Segal, a North Park architect; and Katherine Hon with the North Park Historical Society.) Romero says they received 22 submissions, and that being a local artist is not necessary: "I think it's important to capture the setting and community of the space where the artwork resides, not whether it was done by a local or out-of-town-artist."

Ocean Beach resident Eva Struble is an associate professor of art at SDSU's School of Art and Design; she recently created an exterior mural at San Diego International Airport. Asked about art with a North Park theme, Struble replies that she's "keen on projects that dig up overlooked histories, or they could bring in something entirely different and surprising to the setting. Something radically different allows people to 'sit with' a bit of confusion or discomfort before they grow to like or understand an artwork."

DAVID BATTERSON

ESCONDIDO

Poor business methods What kind of dealer keeps no pay-and-owe?

Last March, police officer Stephen Brown observed people he knew "from prior drug contacts" approach a vehicle belonging to 41-year-old Sergio Sanchez Alvarez in the parking lot of Escondido's Mt. Vernon Inn. Officer Brown later found seven baggies of meth under Alvarez's car seat, containing various quantities and totaling 5.789 grams. Escondido police detective Shauna Grisler, a special investigator for narcotics and ICE, found Facebook Messenger messages on the phone, asking about prices and the possibility of being spotted for product — in all, "at least ten" messages relevant to drug sales.

But at Alvarez's July 16 hearing, defense attorney Lacey Golling told the judge that Alvarez — who has been arrested 19 times for drug possession in San Diego County and was on probation at the time of his most recent arrest — was not a dealer, merely "a man who



Is this the face of a man fretting over accounts receivable?

is hopelessly addicted to methamphetamine." As evidence, he cited the the fact that no "pay-and-owe sheets," nor scales, nor cash were found. To no avail: Judge David J. Danielsen ordered Alvarez to answer two felony charges, possession of drugs for sale and transport of drugs for sale. Alvarez pleaded not guilty, is currently held in lieu of \$32,000 bail, and is next due in court August 13 to set a date for trial.

EVA KNOTT

CARLSBAD

Hi-tech detecting Machines ID car and driver in take-and-drive

On May 5, Rigoberto's 2004 Volkswagen Beetle said his car went missing from his home near downtown. On May 30, a Carlsbad police officer responded to a hit on the fixed license-plate reader at La Costa and Saxony



Hi-tech, low-value: after getting his car back, Rigoberto said, "It's not worth anything."

road. He found the missing Beetle, but the driver gave him a false name. So another officer on the scene used a phone with a facial

continued on page 8

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recognition app, and the police were able to determine the true identity of their suspect: 35-year-old Javier Urioste Flores.

During a July 16 hearing, Rigoberto testified that Flores had worked as a delivery driver for him. "I have a little business, pizza and tamales, in San Diego." Flores made food deliveries for about two months, ending in March of this year. "The problem is that he would go out to make deliveries and park wherever he felt like it and they would give him tickets," Rigoberto explained. Paperwork for those tickets came to Rigoberto's home because he was the registered owner of the car. "He did not pay the tickets."

Defense attorney Lacey Golling claimed that defendant Flores had an agreement with his employer to purchase that car. She asserted that Flores has no other criminal record, except for a DUI from 2012, and then requested the felony car theft charges should be reduced to a misdemeanor.

Honorable judge David J. Danielsen ordered Flores to face two felonies: possession of stolen vehicle and felony take-and-drive. Flores pleaded not guilty to all charges, is currently held in lieu of \$25,000 bail, and is expected back in court August 13 to set a date for trial.

EVA KNOTT

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Today in euphemisms?

Sometimes a man just wants "a new home for his mother-in-law"

When Cardiff by the Sea resident and former NFL tight end star Kellen Winslow, Jr. was first arrested on June 7 for attempting to break into a unit in the El Camino Real neighborhood of Park Encinitas mobile homes, he claimed he was looking for a new home for his mother-in-law.



Well, maybe not a home invasion...

Some media outlets claimed racism and racial profiling. "Winslow Jr. is the latest Black person to get the cops called on them for doing very ordinary things around white people," stated reporter J.R. Gamble of *The ShadowLeague*, a sports-based website and internet radio station.

"A brother can't be in the neighborhood looking to buy a home. If he's Black with money

he's got to be an unsavory character. Or he's just a thief planning to do a home invasion." Angela Helm, a reporter for the news website *The Root*, led her June 10 story of the arrest with the hashtag #HouseHuntingWhileBlack.

Meanwhile, the San Diego County Sheriff's Dept. was receiving tips from several women over recent contacts with Winslow. On June 14, Winslow was re-arrested and jailed on additional charges. At a July 13 hearing, Winslow, 34, faced felony charges of kidnapping, forcible rape, forcible oral copulation, forcible sodomy, and misdemeanor counts of indecent exposure and trespassing. Several of his alleged victims testified against him.

Winslow was released on \$2 million bail and now is under house arrest, with GPS tracking, confined to his gated home in the 1300 block of Lake Drive in Cardiff.

KEN HARRISON

BANKERS HILL

St. Paul above all

But neighbors complain about too many stories



"Come, let us build ourselves a tower with its top in the sky."

A project to build a 20-story residential tower next to the St. Paul's cathedral on Sixth Avenue between Maple and Nutmeg won praise and criticism from the community at a well-attended meeting on July 16. More than 50 people came to review plans by Greystar Rental Construction and Development for a 15-story tower on the west edge of Balboa Park. The building would displace the 16-unit Park Chateau apartment building, and would be the tallest in the area. But "this isn't height for height's sake, it's height to meet important goals," said Omar Rawi from Greystar. "I would argue that if there was a site for a tall building, this is it."

St. Paul's has partnered with Greystar on the project: they have met regularly with the community, and are keeping detailed updates on the parish website. Of the 204 apartments now proposed (an increase from the 2011 plan that called for 65 condos), 18 would be for very low-income residents, held at well below market cost for 55 years. The rest will be higher-end. Retired Rev. Andrew Rank from the Society of St. Paul gave stirring support. "That building, the exterior will celebrate the congregation having a 150-year presence in San Diego," he said.

But others looked at it and saw a monolith



Bryndan Bedel based her design on the cats in her life.

out of character with the neighborhood and developers taking advantage of height and density bonuses (and an old development permit) to push through a project distasteful to the residents. "We're destroying 16 units and putting in 18, so we're not really gaining 18 low-income units, we're gaining two," said Nancy Moors of the Bankers Hill Community Association. "They're not gaining what they got the (affordable housing) privilege for." Susan Fleming argued, "We're the ones who provided the ambience the developers want to build around," she said. "And they're not listening to us." "It's a beautiful design," said Tom Mullaney. "I'd support it if it was at the 150-foot height limit." That height limit is a matter in hot dispute. Over and over, residents asked for the height to come down to 15 stories. But St. Paul's board member Marshall Moore argued, "You can't simply chop off five floors and expect the project to pencil out."

MARTY GRAHAM

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Boxes beautified

Utiligram? Instabox?

On July 14, 16 artists decorated utility boxes along Adams Avenue in Normal Heights. They had responded to a June call for submissions from the Adams Avenue Business Association and the Normal Heights Urban Arts Association, which collaborated on the project. Each artist provided a minimum of three photos of previous work, plus a conceptual drawing for their Adams Avenue box. Artists were paid \$125-\$675, depending on box size.

At 2:30 pm, I found Janine Wareham, an illustrator and letterer, painting the small (\$125) box on the north corner of 34th and Adams. "I'm trying to paint a bunch of positive messages for the community," she said. "This side's going to say 'You are magical.' I'm painting a cat on top meowing to the people, a dog, and a snake on the side. I've been working in the creative industry for a long time,

so I put together a pretty tidy presentation which includes my artwork and my website. Maybe that helps, especially in this day and age, where there's a lot of competition and everyone's 'insta-famous.'" (One artist who was declined reached out on the urban-arts Facebook page and offered to paint a utility box for free; another artist bypassed the selection process and "art bombed" a box close to Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park that wasn't on the masterplan.)



One of Bryndan's cats enjoying a cup of joe.

A couple of blocks to the east of Wareham, a box remained in grey primer and didn't get painted. "Something that might have fish on it won't work with our theme here," said Christopher Konrad, the CEO of the Konrad+King design studio on the corner of Hawley and Adams. "I just assigned a graphic artist to do a vinyl wrap for them," said Scott Kessler of the Adams Avenue Business Association. "They have a coffee table that's a Marshall amp, and they are paying for the artist to wrap their box with the same design as the guitar-amp."

MIKE MADRIAGA

RANCHO PENASQUITOS

Vacating the village

Filipinos forced to flee Penasquitos

"I'm kind of sad and my wife doesn't want to leave this place," says 63-year-old George Almanon, "because it's a nice area and quiet." "This place" is Peñasquitos Village (PQ Vil-

continued on page 72

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Dear Hipster:

Why do so many hipsters harbor ambitions as musicians?

— ERNESTO

It's actually the other way around, many musicians live hipster lives. The part of the human brain that makes music begins to atrophy starting around age 20 unless the musically inclined individual feeds it a steady diet of alcohol; "medical" marijuana; rich foods; and tumultuous, short-lived romances. Without these essential commodities, fledgling musicality degrades into a bitter tendency to complain about other people's music, which nobody likes.

Thus, the prerequisites of a musician's life push one towards a hipster lifestyle, where such needs are most easily met.

By the by, *Ambitions as Musicians* sounds like the name of a Ween album. There's a thought you can't unthink. You're welcome.

Dear Hipster:

I have been creating lists of hipster trends recently, because I believe some logic must underlie the natural progression between trendy social memes. The way I see it, if we can figure out how you get from craft beer to moustaches to donuts to cafe racer motorcycles to gluten-free avocado toast to retro 1980s stonewashed jeans, we can figure out how to time the hipster market. Imagine the possibilities. The obvious economic benefits need no explanation, but I suspect timing the hipster market would yield other salutary effects. For example, everyone hates being the last person to hear about a trend, right? Advance warning on



upcoming trends would reduce the incidence of behind-the-times embarrassment to zero. Similarly, being up on the next big thing before it becomes the next big thing would eliminate the risk of accidentally doing the old big thing after everybody else stops doing it; which, by my reckoning, is the biggest social faux pas of the new millenium. As it happens, I haven't yet unlocked the secret of hipster market timing, so I ask you, Mr. Hipster, how can we understand the trends of the past in order to predict the trends of the future?

— ZEB, HILLCREST

I used to know this hipster dude who had graduated from a prestigious business school only to open a bar and nightclub in a fashionable urban neighborhood. After a few years, he threw in the towel and started working for a hedge fund. He once told me he would rather try to time the market, which he knew was impossible, than waste his time staying ahead of social trends.

The unfortunate moral of the story is this: there's no rhyme or reason behind what captures the wily imaginations of the culturally savvy set. None whatsoever.

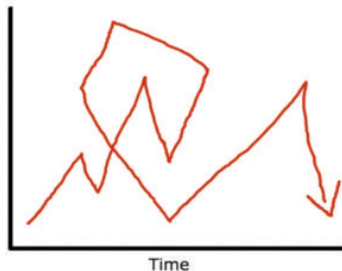
You might as well try to measure the length of a rainbow by singing nursery rhymes. You would make better use of your time counting waves at the beach and plotting a chart that predicts the results

of the midterm election. Pick a number between 35 and 7,892, divide it by a rye Manhattan, and add the result to your favorite Elliott Smith song, Instagram the result, and the fourteenth comment will be an equally accurate predictor of the next big trend as any theoretical model you could develop.

Never forget, there is no inherent value in a fashion, so kick back, relax, and enjoy the ride. If you spend your time looking for the next big thing, you'll almost certainly miss it when it comes around.

— DJ Stevens

Cooliness of Basically Anything



"Predicatble social trends" chart

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Driver shows scenes in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, when Eritrean leader arrives



Alem Zebib: keep talking



Santa Fe Depot taxi stand, Kettner Boulevard. Most drivers are Ethiopian or Eritrean

serene. It'll benefit your insomnia, depression, pain, UTI, digestive problems. We just want to take the edge off. Give it time."

Taja and I sit for a moment, like your proverbial stunned oxen. I've just met Taja. She came in after me, and started taking a selfie, which is funny, because she's wearing a black tee shirt that says, "No Selfie Control."

The heart of democracy

The one thing you notice about these taxi drivers is they're always talking. Laughing, shouting, arguing, confiding. They'll stop only if a passenger comes trundling across from the Santa Fe Depot to their Kettner Boulevard taxi rank.

I had to come by here to see what they think of the news, that Ethiopia and Eritrea, where they're all from, have declared peace, after more than 20 years of horrible warfare.

"You should see the celebrations!" says Eyob, who's Eritrean. His Ethiopian friend shows me a video on his smart phone. It's the streets of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, packed with rapturous throngs as cars carrying the two countries' leaders sweep towards a signing ceremony. It looks like Paris after France won the World Cup.

They're all at least cautiously happy. The young ones say only the older guys are still suspicious of the peace.

Me, I'm a bit cautious, too. I have a dog in this game. I was there, during Eritrea's war for independence from Ethiopia, making a television documentary. I have blurred memories of body-bashing travels in an old Land Cruiser by night (because the Ethiopian Migs bombed by day), of thousands of Ethiopian POW's repairing roads in the dark, of refueling via diesel pumps hidden in baobab tree trunks, of entire hospitals built underground, of afternoon conversations at safe houses with young members of the EPLF (Eritrean People's Liberation Front), talking of their idealism for a democratic future. These, to me, were a heroic people.

Then, the EPLF won, and for the last decades, not democracy but dictatorship. Terrible human rights record, ranked last in Reporters Without Borders' Press Freedom Index. And people, in their thousands, fleeing to escape.

These guys I'm talking to now on Kettner are part of that diaspora. "This peace is beautiful" says Michael. "We're not going to argue over details. The telephone line has been connected again. We haven't seen relatives for years, but planes are flying again."

It turns out many came to San Diego because it reminds them of Asmara, Eritrea's capital. "It has the same climate, and like here, it has beautiful architecture. The Italians call Asmara 'Piccola Roma,'" one guy says, Little Rome.

Do their cab passengers ask them about their homeland? "Oh yes," says Sam. "Military people have an idea about us, but mostly, we have to explain where Eritrea is. They have never heard of it. But America is such a large country. People have enough on their minds."

At the line of Prius taxis outside the Manchester Grand Hyatt, Alem Zebib sounds a cautionary note. "Do not take your democracy for granted. We Eritreans showed how easily it can slip away. Tyrants will steal it. It has to come from within you. I love San Diego, but you don't give yourselves enough time to talk. We Eritreans and Ethiopians, we talk, a lot. We have been shut down for so long back there, we value talk above just about everything. That is the one gift we can give. It is the heart of democracy."

Joy juice

"Two claps!" says Tysheen. "Now, shout it out."

"Bula!"

"OK. Gulp it down in one. And, one more clap!"

This is kava-drinking in City Heights. Boy. Have to say. It's ceremonial and it's fun. Only problem? The kava tastes like an old towel smells.

"Don't worry," says Tysheen. "This is going to help you relax. You'll feel

She's a new mom. Well, she has a couple of teens, but she's just started again with young Aleiyha, who's one year old.

And like me, Taja's a first-timer in the world of kava. Kava's the squashed-out sap of the *piper methysticum* ("intoxicating pepper") tropical plant that's been drunk forever through the Pacific Islands as a kind of worry-targeting joy juice.

I walked into this Sunset Wellness Bar, partly because I'm curious about kava. It's not like booze, or pot, and yet it seems to be a mood enhancer. Experts agree, it's for real. It is "more effective than placebo at treating short-term anxiety," says one respected group, Cochrane Systematic Review.

Also, the World Health Organization says this drink has "an acceptably low level of health risk" regarding such worries as liver toxicity.

So it works, and it's pretty safe. No wonder kava bars are starting to sprout on this side of the Pacific. And it's not just us: What started off in places such as Vanuatu and Fiji is now being drunk in places such as France and India. There's a worldwide kava thing going on.

"I stumbled on the magical kava place, 'Mystic Water,'" says Tysheen, when I ask how she got into it, "and I said, 'This place is weird.' But I like weird. So I went to work for them. Then I saw this location on Craigslist. It took two years to make it happen. I opened in March. It's a space where people can come, let go, meet, and still be a part of the community."

What's astonishing is that the authorities haven't made these guys run through hoops on what is definitely a psycho-active drug.

"It's even more active when women and children chew the stalks and spit the liquid into a bowl," Tysheen says. "They say the mixing of the kava juice with saliva extracts the active ingredients and makes them more effective. Right now I just squeeze it and filter it. But I could always spit."

Taja's face says, "No way." Tysheen's kidding, I think. Meantime, I have to know before the next round:

"What does 'Bula!' mean?"

"It's Fijian for 'Aloha!' Tysheen says. "Means 'Greetings!' and 'Love!'"

She's ladling more kava from the bowl.

"Now," she says. "Let's practice: Two claps! And shout it out."

"Bula!"



Tysheen



No selfie control: Taja captures the moment



Tysheen's kava place at 3675 University Avenue



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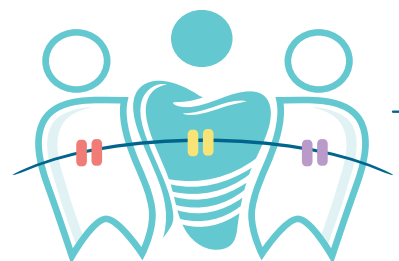
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Summer of love

Love is in the air. Patrick and I will be attending no fewer than six weddings in the family in the next half year. And one of them is my nephew marrying his niece. Get ready to party! Though they're marrying up Los Angeles way, the newlyweds will be honeymooning in San Diego. Smart kids. The problem is, they have a lot more love than money. They asked Aunt Eve to recommend some free or cheap but also romantic activities our vacation locale offers. I had a few of my own to offer, and I told the love birds I would talk to my people. As Headmistress Mullins — Joan Cusack's character in *School of Rock* — says, "I find it's best to over-prepare."

For Patrick and I, it's our beaches and bays which inspire romance. We Kellys love to relax on the beach alongside the Bahia Hotel on Mission Bay and watch the sailboats glide by. The Sail Bay section of Mission Bay on which this beach faces has a strictly enforced speed limit of five miles per hour for motorboats, so the area is delightfully free of noise. If the day is breezy, we're treated to a colorful parade of sails passing back and forth through the channel between Bahia Point and Vacation Isle. It's a public beach, which means free.

The La Jolla Coast Walk, particularly the northernmost section high on the bluff above the sea caves, offers views of the coast clear to Dana Point on a clear day. Benches along the trail make good cuddling nests for young (and old) love birds. Active types will enjoy a hike down to Torrey Pines State Beach through Torrey Pines State Reserve. A frolick in the cool ocean after a hot hike with my hot husband. Good stuff.

"Instead of going out for an expensive dinner," said my friend Bernice over a Perfect Pear cocktail (\$12) at Sycamore Den in Normal Heights, "sometimes Frank and I will pack a basket with our favorite nibbles and rent a boat from Seaforth on Harbor Island in the early evening (\$120 for a 17-foot Sundeck power boat). It's a little pricey, but sometimes we double or even triple date to split the costs. There are other rental spots, but we like Harbor Island because the golden evening light makes the downtown skyscrapers look dreamy."

"We get the same experience, but a lot cheaper," countered Michele. "We pack a picnic and a blanket, and we catch an evening

Wine and romance are like peanut butter and jelly, right? Can't have one without the other.

ferry over to Coronado. (\$9.50 per person round trip.) We lie our blanket on the grass or sand at Ferry Landing Park and canoodle while the setting sun makes San Diego's skyline change colors."

Sunsets — they shower the earth with romance. Cowles Mountain, Mount Helix, Torrey Pines Glider Port, Sunset Cliffs, Black Mountain: our glorious city is awash with gorgeous sunset viewing spots.

Live music ranks high on my romance list and summer concerts are aplenty in San Diego. But one series offers sand between the toes as the music plays: Summer Concerts by the Beach on Moonlight State Beach in Encinitas. The concerts are free, with bonus fun of contests and games. New Leaf will be playing on August 5th; August 19th the Pettybreakers will be rocking. Concerts run from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. No glass, alcohol, dogs nor smoking is allowed on the beach.

The Balboa Park Twilight Concert series plays at the picturesque Organ Pavilion. The beauty of Balboa Park with the added bonus of pre-concert strolling through the Japanese Friendship Garden, Botanical Building, or the free Timken make for a delightful outing. The one-hour concerts start at 6:30 pm and run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays through August 30th. A few upcoming concerts: July 24th

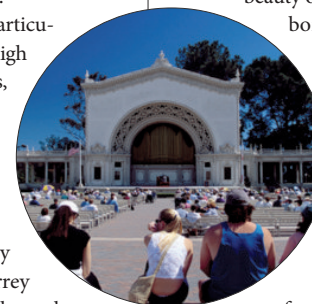
San Diego Youth Symphony, August 1st Jazz Jammers and August 21st Marine Band concerts. All are free.

Wine and romance are like peanut butter and jelly, right? Can't have one without the other. Throw a horseback ride into the mix and you've got a love trifecta. Milagro Winery in Ramona offers riding through their 110 acres vines growing in the rolling hills followed by wine tasting in their tasting room. (Full tasting, \$12. White by the glass, \$10, Red by the glass, \$12).

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An eight-ball of bars *FOR* adults

This isn't meant to be an comprehensive, exhaustive, or even representative sampling of the options available to the (relatively) mature San Diegan who seeks a copacetic watering hole.

In a city with hundreds (if not thousands) of bars, taverns, lounges, faux speakeasies, as

well as a smattering of saloons and a honky tonk or three — the task of reviewing watering holes is Sisyphean at best. Nonetheless, in the name of science, but in a mountebank affront to my hepatic function and its guardian, the U.S. Surgeon General, I present to you an eight-ball of bars for adults.

It's just another Wednesday night at **Filippi's** (9969 *Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa*), and if you don't know it's here, you just might miss it — the bar in the back of a pizza joint that's in back of a little strip mall, with an entranceway so subdued that it might as well be camouflaged. I'm here because it's our favorite neighborhood fallback place, five

minutes, or maybe three, from where my wife and I coexist, sometimes peacefully, with the suburbanites of Scripps Ranch.

There's a hoarse guffaw from a barstool and no need to get any ID, 'cause it's Johnny, the most regular of regulars, a 70-ish man in a baseball cap, sitting at his usual perch and sipping Chianti from a carafe. Not everyone here is 70 or even close to it, but it "ain't no thang" if you are, so leave your self-consciously hip mannerisms in the Gaslamp, because no one here will serve you faster or set down a better pour just because you're cool. And did I mention the pours? They're as generous as the cheese on the pizzas.

If righteous servings of spirits are the hard stuff here, prime rib must be the "gateway drug." According to the folks behind the bar, a lot of people who've discovered the DeFilippi family mini-conglomerate did so because they'd heard about the Paleo'-before-it-was-cool slabs of bovine bounty. Bartender Jeff Dreifuss, seemingly too youthful to have worked there 15 years, says, "It's unmatched in San Diego."

Dreifuss, who during daylight hours runs a North Park surplus store along with his dad, figures the average patron here is between 35 and 65. Opining on what makes Filippi's a welcome, incongruous

find, he asserts, "The ambience, the old-school-ness of it attracts a lot of people who don't like the new vibe, or who'd rather not deal with places that are so loud that you can't communicate. Also, everyone's friendly; if you're new at the bar, someone will talk to you. It's homey, sometimes compared to [the fictional sit-com bar] Cheers. There are very few bars like this left in San Diego." Although it's a neighborhood place, Dreifuss notes that one need not live within stumbling distance to be counted as a regular. "We draw from not only Scripps Ranch and Mira Mesa, but from Tierrasanta, Poway, and Carmel Mountain."

Technically in Mira Mesa (maybe that accounts for the markedly modest martini markups), my preferred Filippi's is part of a chain, but a family chain, and just about as non-corporate in tone as one can get in these parts. The Mira Mesa location opened in 1986, and the workplace longevity of its staff is, shall we say, a tad more prolix than that of the folks who toil near the Oval Office these days. The bartenders at Filippi's aren't cash-starved grad students, nor are they moonlighting actors or actresses. They're lifers, in a good way, and even if you're not a true-blue regular, service is reliably prompt, with no

bullshit *a la*, "I'm__ and I'll be your server tonight." Hell, I'm sure that neither Patty, nor any of the other salt-of-the-earth stalwarts, would mind being called "barmaids." And don't forget the deep-maroon booths, which may or may not be the archetypal red leather lounge slouches, but are as nice to sink into as anything I can think of, especially in the low, low light.

Speaking of low lights, but not an oversupply of low lives, check out the **Small Bar** in University Heights. Sitting kitty-corner from Muzita Abyssinian Bistro (itself a worthy destination), it's on a hip and hopping section of Park Boulevard a block south of Adams Avenue, but somehow manages to avoid the cooler-than-thou atmosphere so common in this long-gentrified sector of town. First thing I notice is something wafting from the jukebox in the back; rather than the ubiquitous thump-thump that rules the audio-sphere nowadays, hip-hop and all that crap, it sounds like actual music. Hell, it might even, God forbid, be stuff that predates 1970.

Tonight at any rate, the patrons appear to be mostly in their 30s, perhaps 40s and convivial. There are some folks here who might be termed "hipsters," but they're not brazen about it. I'm older,

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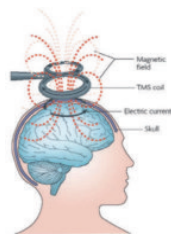

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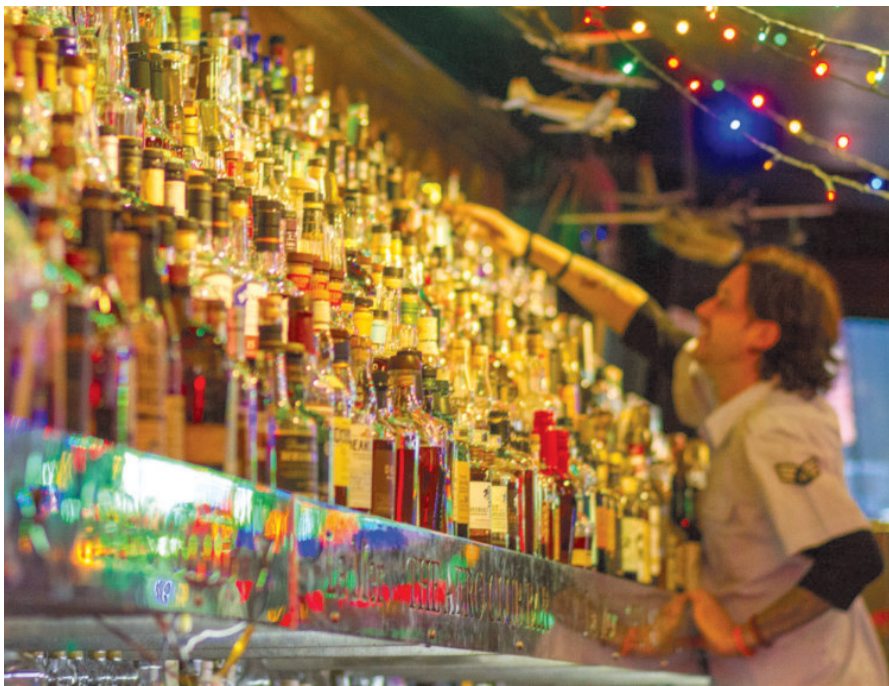
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Aero Club: "Whiskey World"

and less hip, but I don't feel out of place. Looking around, I spy a good deal of what's termed "diversity," with a table of young Asian women, a couple of

discreet gay couples, and a voluble "three sheets" black man who's downing water from a little cooler set up at the bar. "I don't want to get a DUI tonight, man,"

he volunteers, and having mentioned my daytime gig as an attorney, I'm quick to remind him that I don't practice criminal defense. However, the decibel level,



Eric pours \$350 Macallan 25 at Aero Club

while bearable, is a tad loud for legal advice.

Maybe I can chat with a bartender, but these guys are busy, really hustling. One of them looks like a white-haired iteration of Jerry Garcia with maybe a touch of Andy Warhol;

could be a disbarred bartender for all I know, but he knows his ethanol. And what about the alcohol? While not encyclopedic, the distillate selection here seems thoughtfully chosen — what's the buzzword these days,

"well curated?" I order a Compass Box Peat Monster and sip it neat while I survey the surroundings and assess the crowd. At \$9, it's reasonable — at least when you remember that a lot of places will ding you accordingly for a

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micro-pour of entry-level Chivas Regal or Johnnie Walker. And there aren't a lot of bartenders out there who'd know Compass Box from a compost box, so I'm already way, way ahead of the game here. And let's not ignore zymurgy: Lots of beer on tap listed on a chalk board, maybe a couple of dozen, including a cult favorite that's hard to find — Russian River Brewing's 'Pliny the Elder.' Not sure about 'Pliny the Younger' though.

At maybe 20 feet wide and 30 feet long, it's indeed small (not minuscule, mind you) and cozy. I guess there are about 30 people here, well short of apparent capacity. I'm not sure whether it's typical for a Saturday night. As for decor, it's eclectic, with a Moorish touch — four or five arches behind the bar and a series of lanterns hanging overhead. On the wall behind my table is a framed poster of the Kinks.

After I check out the jukebox, which is rife with late-60s and early 70s rock, I slink toward the rear which leads to a funky little alleyway lit by the glow of amber sconces. I don't try the food, but apparently, something called the "Impossible Burger" is a big deal here.

Perhaps you're looking to tone down the hip factor and you find yourself somewhere near Oceanside, looking for a drinking establishment that that's just divey enough to impress your chickenshit friends but not so edgy that you feel compelled to carry a shiv. They don't serve rooster at the **Red Rooster** (1985 Oceanside Boulevard), but they'll probably give you a free drink if you show up in full-on cock-a-doodle mufti. True, there's a nod to the bovine-abstainers, a chicken sandwich called the 'Mother-clucker.' But the plume of

char-broiled smoke wafting outside signals the Rooster's claim to fame, at least among North County burger aficionados; why, it's the Rooster Burger in the flesh. Cash only, pretty much a beer bar — wine's

an afterthought and the ABC says "no spirits." So, yeah, it's a fowl neighborhood dive — but the vibe is so friendly, that neither youth nor a propensity to slum in the name of drinking science is required to

hang here. It's a bit raucous, but never edgy enough to be unnerving.

It doesn't take long to get someone's attention here; before my wife and I have even the briefest chance to stare like

dorks at the nearest wall, a smiling, zaftig woman of uncertain age pulls two stools up to a table and sets us up. She looks vaguely Eastern European, her accent sounds Persian, but Kristina tells us she's from

Mexico, having landed in Oceanside via a circuitous route.

From roosters to owls, we've got you covered, ornithologically speaking. Have you ever cruised by the corner of Garnet and

RESEARCH STUDIES

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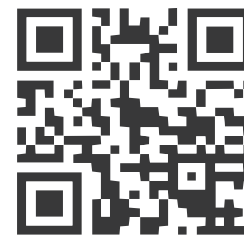


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Allysia at Starlite creates copacetic concoctions



"Space Mountain" chandelier over the bar at Starlite

Mission Bay Drive in east Pacific Beach and seen a wacky old tavern called the **Nite Owl**? Have you ever wondered what it's like inside, what kind of man (sorry, feminists) goes there, and whether you might need a 'Saturday night special' or maybe

just a blade to make it out at last call? Well, I'm both relieved and sorry to say that the Owl is not only non-threatening, but pretty spiffy inside with friendly regulars and a surprisingly soothing ambience.

From the outside, the Nite Owl looks a bit

sketchy, and I make a mental note of an eerie second-floor window where, perhaps, a poet-drunkard or proprietor lives right above the jukebox or the shitter. And who the hell spells night "nite" anyway? But let's give it a chance, I say to myself,

and when I walk in, notice that it's clean and — dare I say — a tad homey? With wood paneled sides and a brick back wall, it would make a nice den, lighting subdued enough to ease tomorrow's hangover.

As for the patrons, there are only a hand-

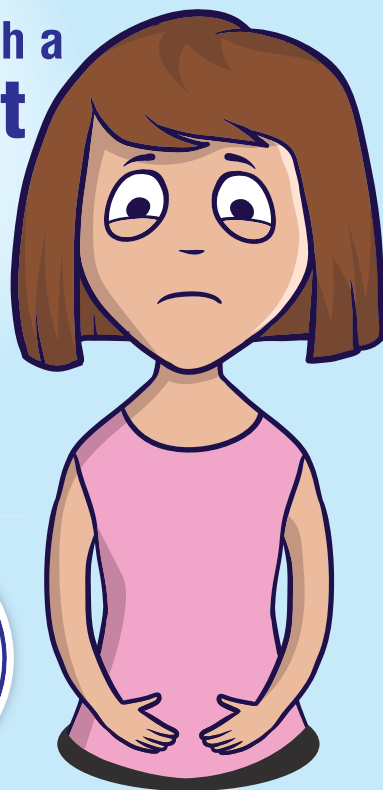
ful, but the first one who approaches me, Bill, insists on buying me a round. He's a white-haired, tanned guy — says he's 53 but looks a lot older — who tells me that he lives about a block away, that his wife succumbed to cancer a few years back,

and that he used to have a lot of money. Incongruously, he blurts out, "I'm a 'six-figure n----r.'" I have no ready response; is he reciting lyrics from a rap ditty? He's pretty drunk, so I'm not clear exactly where everything fits in his life story synopsis, but the

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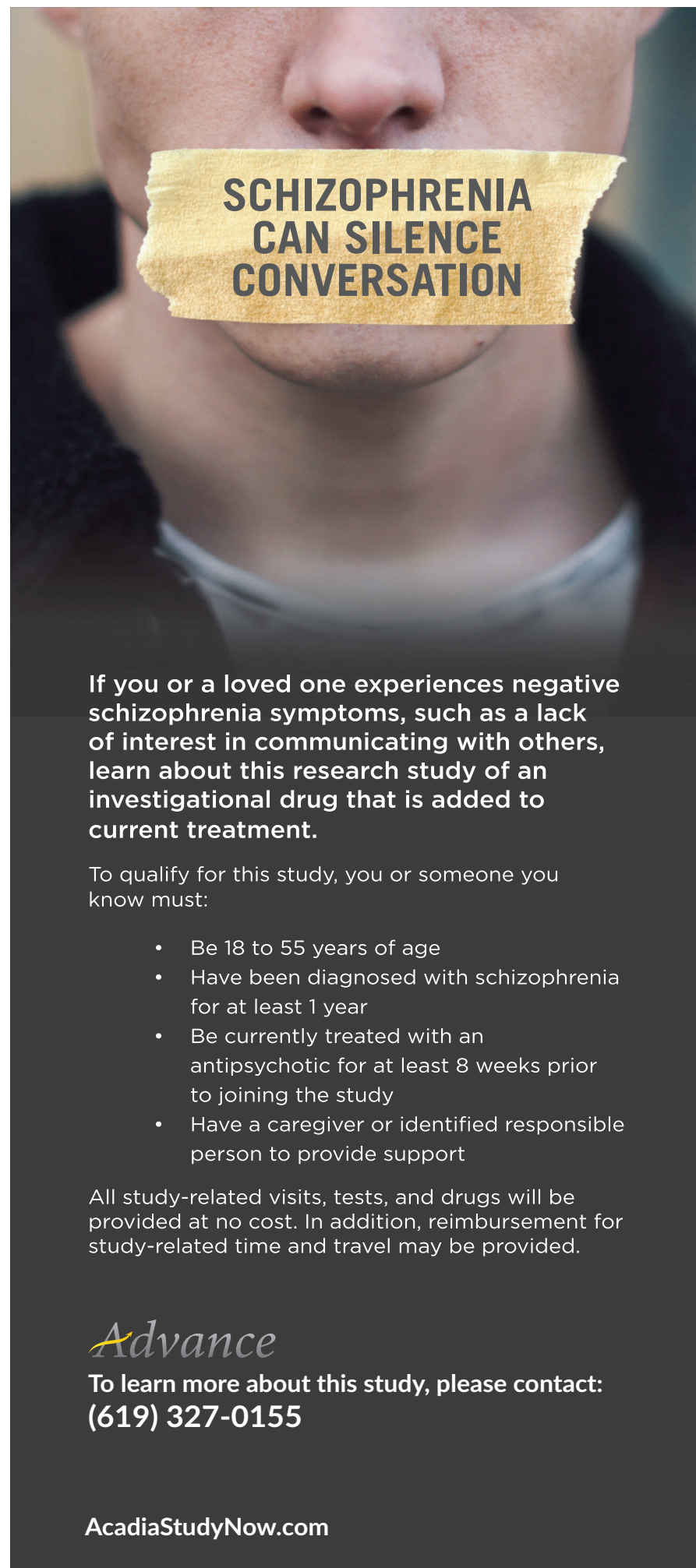
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Navy and UCSD surface between burps. And I'm pretty sure he hails from a farm state in the middle of the country.

I ask Bill, "What do folks drink at the Owl?" "Jameson with pickle back," he says. "I'm going to buy

you one. I know it sounds weird, but you'll like it." At that, the bartender, a 20ish woman who appears befuddled by the notion that some guy from the *Reader* is writing about the Nite Owl — "What are you doing again? — sets down

two shot glasses. I do as shit-faced Bill instructs: "Drink the Irish first, then the pickle juice." "Not bad," I say. "And thanks for the hospitality."

In the meantime, an older woman with a nose ring and two blotto

guys, maybe heavy-metal types, stare at my notepad and micro tape recorder. They're not hostile, but merely puzzled. I salute the bronze owl and walk out to the parking lot, where my wife — her role relegated at this late hour to

Uber-impersonator — has been waiting with admirable patience. The night's research is done, and my liver thanks me.

For something a bit more upscale, head up the 5, or maybe weave your way up past Bird Rock if

you'd prefer not to play 'CHP roulette,' and tip your cap to the customs agent as you enter the portals to "the Jewel." The prospect of parking on Prospect Street in the almost-renowned "village" of La Jolla can be a bit off-putting, but if you

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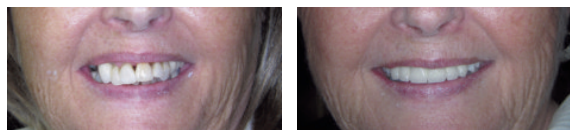
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luck out and land a few feet of curb space for your whip before your patience gives out, there are a few joints worth visiting for a casual cocktail or three.

One of these is the front-side bar at the **La Valencia Hotel** (1132 Prospect Street). Formally known as “Cafe La Rue,” it has a kind of genteel, but not overly stuffy, understated elegance. Featuring a marble bar-top, gluten-friendly stools, and old-style service, it’s a quintessential hotel lounge scene, an older crowd serenely sipping stalwarts such as martinis, manhattans, old fashioned, and well-mannered mules. The night I drop by, Nico’s manning the bar. An affable 24-year-old University of San Diego student, he’s got the old-timey get up I remember from my long-ago diploma from



Boston Sour at La Valencia: pricey, but the view is included

the American Bartending School — black bow tie, the whole shootin’ match. My wife — the whisky sour wonk — affirms that Nico knows how to whip up a righteous ‘sour. Not cheap, but try it on the ocean-view patio. After we leave, I fol-

low up with Chris Reid, the La Valencia’s food and beverage director, whose gracious demeanor is dead-on congruent with La Rue’s tone and tenor. According to Reid, the crowd ranges from late-30s through the 50s, trending younger as

the hour creeps later. As for the all-important San Diegan/tourist ratio, he says, “Locals are what sustain us, about 70 percent of our patrons.” The lounge dates back to 1948, and for the sharp-eyed, boasts some murals — appraised in the tens of thousands, notes Reid—painted by artist Wing Howard, who’d exchanged his work for room and board at the hotel. There’s also a Depression-era piano. But, says Reid, there’s nothing depressing about the menu. “It’s not antiquated at all. We’ve got newer, hip drinks like a ‘cucumber swizzle,’ and the food is very much nouveau cuisine, with a nod to the past.” As far as attire goes, don’t worry. While the typical La Rue quaffer isn’t in a tank top and flips flops, you

won’t be barred if that’s your sense of sartorial splendor. Reid says, “We don’t discriminate.”

Sometimes it’s nice to walk from bar to bar, which is a good reason to check out **Jose’s** (1037 Prospect Street), still officially monickered ‘Jose’s Court Room,’ and just a swerve, stagger, and stumble from the decorous ‘pink lady’ across the street. Compact, with an old, rectangular wooden bar at the center of the action, Jose’s has stood in the center of La Jolla since the time when the neighborhood was known more for white-shoe brokerage houses and the Christian Science Reading Room than Lambo dealers.

Jose’s is as far from cash ‘n flash as one can get around here, and for a ‘hood saddled with as much pretense as La Jolla, it’s a watering hole where understated, 60-ish coupon-clippers and bearded late-20 types alike can drink and chat. It’s a “less is more” kind of place. Boasting the second-oldest liquor license in La Jolla, it was opened in the early 1950s by a character known, apparently, as “the judge.” General manager Kristen Hollingsworth comments, “The judge left town mysteriously after only a year, and there have been a number of owners since.” According to Hollingsworth, who trekked down to the La Jolla His-

torical Society a while back to research the place, Jose’s has also moved around a bit, with a few in-Village location changes along the way before landing in its current spot, circa 1982-1983.

As for the alcohol offerings, Jose’s is pretty basic. The focus here is on Mexican beer and what Hollingsworth calls “old-ies but goodies Tequilas” as well as some small-batch Tequilas

The take-home menu and intro states, “We’re a little louder than the rest of the block,” but on this Saturday night in early April, there’s no need to shout to carry on a conversation; the vibe is low-key, mostly locals this time of year. But don’t discount the tourists of summer, says Hollingsworth “We are louder in the summer. We move the back tables and turn it into a dance floor, and we have some wild times, things you wouldn’t experience at La Valencia (no fights though).” On balance, it’s a good bet for over-40s who don’t feel like dressing up or being fawned over by acne-scarred valet boys in silly costumes. “We definitely cater to an older crowd, because that’s La Jolla; but we’re more casual than other places here. And we get a lot of different types of patrons: people coming in after work, after the beach, even women in their wedding

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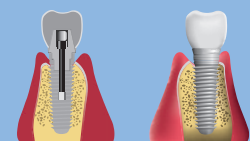
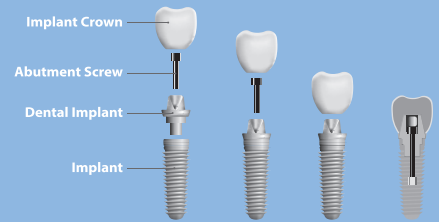
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dresses.” If you know the way to José’s, just remember to check your calendar. “In the winter, we have a lot of regulars,” states Hollingsworth, “but in the summer we’re probably 80 percent tourists.”

Easing on down the coast, just shy of Downtown, there’s a place I’ve passed hundreds of times while driving north on the 5. Maybe you’ve passed it too. I’d long been intrigued by the stylized neon plane, but maybe not motivated enough to find the frontage road, India Street, which looked like a parking nightmare. And if my eyes were (considerably) better, I might’ve also made out a sign that reads, “Best Whiskey Selection on the West Coast.” By now, you know that I’m talking about the **Aero Club** (3365 India Street, Midtown), which by San Diego standards, is a Methuselah of a saloon, circa 1947.

The Aero is small and narrow, maybe 15-20 feet from side to side and perhaps double that in length. Tonight there’s ample room toward the back, where we take seats at a low table. With no more than a few dozen patrons in the tav-



The rock-stocked jukebox at Small Bar

ern, the sound level is more than bearable. Surveying the joint, I look up and note that the low ceiling is festooned with lights reminiscent of a boozy Yuletide. Then I turn my head and ask my wife, “What’s back there?” Behind me, at the building’s rump, is a narrow passageway, a set of catacomb-like, unadorned concrete walls leading to an

outdoor smoking refuge. And I almost forgot to add: on an otherwise bare wall is one sign, with the spare, antediluvian command: “No spitting.”

After a while, I make my way to a bar stool near the door and ask the bartender about the Aero’s provenance. The fellow sitting next to me pipes in, “The place was here

before the 5” — Interstate 5 lies just across the street — “came in, and the commercial pilots would use it as a landmark as they approached the airport,” to which I quip, “Versus fueling up before flying?”

As for the crowd, Eric the bartender, who lays claim to a Mission Bay High exit in the mid-2000s, muses “We get a little bit of everything. We have a guy who comes in regularly who’s 91 years old, and some people who are 23, 24. Average is probably 35 to 45. Early in the evening, we have some of our middle-aged regulars; later, from 12 to 2 a.m., it’s a little younger crowd but with some older folks as well. We fit quite a few people in there (capacity is 49).” I ask, “Ever had to turn people away?” “We’ve had a line once in awhile” he replies, “but only on holidays. And it’s a really mellow place; I’ve been here four years and there hasn’t been one altercation. A whiskey bar not having even one fight is ridiculous.”

If the Aero were renamed “Whiskey World,” no sane devotee of the fruit of the still could complain of hyperbole. “The sign says 950,” notes Eric with ample modesty, “but we’re now over 1200 whiskeys. Of those, about 30 percent are Scotches, 20 percent Bourbons. Rye is also growing in popular-

ity; peoples’ palates have changed, and they like that spice. We have everything, including the new Japanese whiskeys that are comin’ in; the market for those really spurted about five years ago. We have over 80 now and had to create a separate section for them on our last menu.” Speaking of precious liquids, I have to ask: “Most expensive in the house?” “Macallan 25 is \$350 a pour, due to the fact that James Bond drank that in his last movie; everybody wants to be like James Bond.” And the infamously hyped and hyper-expensive Pappy Van Winkle Bourbon? “We have Old Rip Van Winkle in stock and always carry W.L. Weller Antique 107, which is called ‘poor man’s Pappy.’”

I watch as Eric ascends a small ladder to fetch an obscure Scotch. “We probably have 1000 bottles on the wall with a cage that has an independent distiller selection, as well as some rails down below with well whiskey.” And while only about 10 percent of the Aero’s bottles are devoted to other spirits — at 10 to 15 iterations of each — the non-whiskey selection still beats the stuffing out of what’s offered at many bars.

“Whiskey connoisseurs come here to try new ones; it’s word-of-mouth. ‘Go to the Aero, they have this hard-to-find whiskey

for you.’ But we also have people who just want a shot and a beer, those who just drink Jameson, and so on.” The Great Wall of Bottles beckons, and it’s scary, because I know I’ll never have enough time or liver function to drink one (that’s one bottle — not one drink) of every brand of booze they stock. It’s an immense selection of spirits, many of which might move me, and even with my glasses, I couldn’t begin to tell you what there is; all I know is that there’s a lot of it. I’m no saloon tyro, mind you, but the array is overwhelming — a jiggery juggernaut resting in shimmering, high-proof repose behind a classic copper bar top, patina courtesy of 70 years and a million elbows.

And, yeah, as I take in a flight of Japanese whisky selected by whiskey whiz Eric, I gab with some some random folks and find them amiable, low-key tourists and Midtown locals alike. As I’m leaving and wave a farewell to Eric and the ‘Diego short-timers I blurt to my wife, “I’d like to come back here.” Then the thought occurs: ‘Rose Canyon Fault, please don’t amp up the Richter here, because a tsunami of distilled spirits would be a sad thing indeed.’

According to Eric, the patrons are split roughly into three groups: Neigh-

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borhood denizens; other County residents; and out-of-towners weighing in at about one-third each. “We always have our local crowd; there are people I know I’m gonna’ see every day, people who come in after they get off work; but we also have other people who get right off a plane. And then there are the people who live in San Diego who’ve driven by every day but never stopped in ’til now; I hear that story every night. For some, it’s Aero is my bar, no matter how far I have to drive. It’s a place where you always feel at home where the bartender smiles and says, ‘How ya doin’? You’ll always be treated well at the Aero no matter who you are. It definitely has that ‘old school’ bar feel.” The barkeep concludes by advising, “Always take an Uber so you can have a little more whiskey than you intended.”

If you’d like to chase that 18-year-old nectar of the gods with a worthy gustatory companion, there’s no need to use an app. Just weave a few blocks west, and you’ll see **Starlite** sitting on the same side of India Street. If one were

to commission a wildly-reworked, new-fangled rendition of the hoary-but-comfy ‘bar ’n grill,’ this might be it. And if you’re looking for stylish decor and upscale fare to accompany your drinks, a place where a foodie in his, shall we say, middle years can let down his haunch, the Starlite is hard to top. Not that the establishment is a haunt for the dowdy, mind you; it’s just that the cool factor never vitiates the warmth of the welcome, as personified by bartender Jack Reynolds.

Comestibles are no side act here, and at the risk of bashing ubiquitous poppers, nuggets, and other gastronomic detritus one might throw down at a chain restaurant’s prolix happy hour, the Starlite takes food seriously — not grimly or pompously.

Notwithstanding the fact that “mid-century modern” has become a real estate cliché stalwart in recent years, Starlite more than exemplifies an eclectic approach to re-purposing, e.g., old ceiling beams. As I look around through the low light, dim and soothing, as if ordered by an ophthalmologist for dilated



Tequila at Jose’s, where it gets a little louder than the rest of the block

eyes, I’m drawn toward a chandelier which points down into the center of the bar area. I assigned it a mental moniker, ‘A thousand points of light,’ while bartender Allysia suggests “Space Mountain.” And on every side, I’m sheltered by stone walls, perhaps sandstone with a Copper-tone tan, because the term “brown” does them little justice. Maybe it’s the Vago mezcal talking, but I’m reminded of the slate fireplace in my folks’ circa-1952 ranch-style house in Riverside; and gently jostled by the surroundings, I do

something at the Starlite that I seldom do: I order a mixed drink rather than my standard “neat.” It’s a copacetic concoction of mezcal and a vanilla-imbued spirit whose name escapes me as I write this. And I’m not even the oldest guy at the bar.

And now, for a bonus bar:

If you’re neither looking for cutting-edge comestibles nor rare whiskeys, and if your proclivities run to the down ’n dirty, may I recommend for your drinking & drinking pleasure: the **Silver Fox** in

Pacific Beach.

“Deer and a beer is a “thing” at the Fox, a mile inland from Crystal Pier on Garnet Avenue. Any bottle of beer (no Belgian triples, OK?) and a shot of Jaegermeister. Rough around the edges, a little loud for my tastes, but nonetheless a dive — not a self-consciously hip iteration — where imbibers of all ages can hang out, play pool, and check out the rough ’n ready P.B. denizens.

At the front, there’s buzz of Uber and Lyft drinkers coming and

going, first through a small room where acrid cigarette smoke drifts, and then down a small flight of stairs into the tavern proper. Bouncer Seth is a burly, bearded tattooed-swathed biker type, but affable enough, and certainly not there to bar you on a sartorial or educational basis. Turns out he’s not that busy other than checking the state’s chronological imprimatur. “I’ve been here four years and never had to deal with a ‘situation,’” he notes.

As for the music, I can’t recommend it, at least if tonight’s sampling is representative; it’s godawful disco shit that was beneath contempt 40 years ago and has only gotten worse with time. But I doubt if anyone comes here for the tunes. They might come to play pool, though, as a brace of tables are the hub of the action here. One of the bartenders, maybe another biker type, kids a young woman who’s sitting on the felt to attempt some sort of trick shot — or maybe she’s had more than a few. “Hey, one foot on the floor at all times. It’s in the rules, right there on the wall!”

— Moss Gropen

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Innovation Challenge

continued from page 3

model of securing city parking lots for overnight stays.

“We landed on this food truck concept — let’s get a food truck on the road, we can take it to where the homeless are going to be and they can use their benefit cards to purchase food.

“I was hesitant to enter at first, because I thought the program was for big, global projects, and this one had just a small, local focus,” she remembered, though the group entered anyway and used the \$10,000 they won in seed funding to buy their first truck.

Now, there are three trucks on the road, including one focused on serving fixed-income seniors in the North County area.

“It’s like your standard taco truck. We wanted to bring human dignity to the process; often when people would roll up in their cars and offer handouts it was just mass chaos, there’s no dignity or choice in that. Our goal was to make it just like any other experience in everyday life, but with healthier options and a cheaper price. People can buy what they want, whether it’s a chicken burrito or a salad.

“We run what we call a double bottom line, because in addition to the food service component there’s a work training element. All our trucks are run by trainees that we’re helping to develop some soft skills. Most are just coming out of the prison system, or they’re youth in the 18-24 age range who’ve never had work opportunities, work on the trucks and in classes we conduct gets them trained and employable.”

Smith says her workers stay on the trucks for an average of three months, clocking a minimum of 175 paid hours and attending at least a dozen classes in addition to one-on-one

case manager sessions. Sixty-five people went through the program last year, and according to Smith 70 percent either found permanent employment or went back to school after graduating.

After months of preparation, most of the student teams gathered at USD on June 23rd for a full day of presentations and pitches. A few that were unable to travel pitch remotely via video conference.

By five in the afternoon the field has been narrowed to ten finalists. Neither Water Sensei nor any of the other entries from San Diego schools make the cut, which will allow them one last chance to pitch before awards are announced. An entry from CETYS Universidad in Tijuana, however, is included — their proposal to convert household waste into energy using digester systems nets a \$1500 second-prize award in the Women Innovators category, one of three secondary prizes awarded alongside the primary category.

The \$15,000 grand prize winner is Team Charcoal, a group from Ghana working to convert human waste into organic charcoal to both reduce health hazards and provide energy in developing nations. They’re topped only by Keep Appy, a mental health and wellness smartphone app developed by an Irish team — the project raised \$17,500 by taking first place in all three subdivisions and second place in the main competition.

Though Water Sensei doesn’t receive a cash payout, the project is one of a host of participants receiving in-kind prizes, and Vesay says his group is committed to bringing their project to life. “Although it’s disappointing not to have gotten farther it’s a relief to have this behind us so we can work on further steps,” Vesay tells me in the days after the event. “We are still very much committed to this project and have much work to do.” ■

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

fires. Conklin and attorney Mike Aguirre immediately discovered the ruse, and the commission backed down. In 2017, the commission, under consumer pressure, said SDG&E had to pick up the \$379 million of uninsured fire costs.

Don Bauder

Tourists tout tourist tax

Traveling cash helps hotel hike

A growing segment of San Diego politics is being paid for from out of town. The list of non-San Diego play-



“Please make us charge more money!”

ers scattering their financial largess to local politicians stretches from short-stay operator Airbnb to private prison purveyor GEO Group, both of which are assisting the effort by San Diego Chamber of Commerce honcho Jerry Sanders and his protégé Kevin Faulconer, San Diego’s mayor, to get a convention center expansion room tax hike on November’s ballot.

The flow of outside money (and consequent foreign control) is revealed in the list of donors to Yes! for a better San Diego, a Sanders-led political committee bankrolling the putative ballot measure. From the beginning of this year to date, \$626,000, or 52 percent of the \$1.2 million donated by corporations and a few individuals to the tax hike petition drive has come from entities that are domiciled in San Diego, per campaign disclosure

filings. The rest of the cash was dispatched from Texas, Florida, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Maryland, and places in between, raising questions as to how much the operations benefit the local economy.

Host Hotels, listed as proprietor of the Manchester Grand Hyatt, and IA Lodging (Andaz San Diego), both with Oklahoma City addresses, came up with a total of \$93,175, placing the Sooner State first

among outside donors with 7.8 percent of the grand total. Among San Diego donors, Sempra Energy, battling efforts to break up its San Diego power distribution monopoly, placed first with \$125,000. Bartell Hotels, which leases the real estate occupied by its hostels from the Port of San Diego, was second at \$64,650, a little over 10 percent of the San Diego total. Downtown condominium developer Bosa Development US Corporation, placed third at 8 percent, with \$50,000.

Matt Potter

Vacation rentals voted on

Faulconer’s fix fails, Bry’s flies — for now

On July 16, the city council met to vote on Mayor Faulconer’s short-term vacation rental proposal, which mandated that everyone renting out a home to vaca-



Michael Costello of Birdrock knows his way around a vacation-rental metaphor.

tioners be licensed. Property owners would not apply for this license, “hosts” would. A host could be a property owner with a deed or a renter with a signed lease. Any dwellings that got their license revoked would have to wait a year to reapply (all licenses would be renewed annually). Each host could get up to two licenses as long as one of the addresses was their primary residence (granny flats were said to be off limits). For home sharing, no license was required unless there were five or more bedrooms.

After almost five hours of public testimony, the mayor’s proposal was voted down 6-3, with councilmember’s Mark Kersey, Chris Cate, and Scott Sherman voting in favor. After some discussion and a recess, councilmember Barbara Bry’s proposal, which left some rules proposed by the mayor intact (fees, a good neighbor policy, registration), was voted on. It passed 6-3, with councilmember’s Cate, Sherman and David Alvarez voting against.

Bry’s proposal, co-submitted with councilmember Lorie Zapf, allows licenses to be issued to a host’s primary residence only. One additional license for another dwelling unit will be allowed as long as it’s on the same parcel. Bry cited that primary residence-only regulations have made progress in other California cities such as San Francisco, Pasadena, Hermosa Beach, and Santa Monica. Same

parcel units could include apartment buildings where a tenant could feasibly rent an additional unit to rent out as a vacation rental. “The rational basis for primary residence only is that removing existing housing stock from the market negatively affects the already plunging San Diego vacancy rate and exacerbates the housing emergency that this council and councils before us have voted to declare on a monthly basis since 2002,” said Bry.

Zapf, whose district has been hardest hit with vacation rentals (Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, Ocean Beach), requested a one-year review to make any necessary changes and to schedule outreach at that time to the top ten impacted areas (Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, downtown San Diego, La Jolla, Uptown, North Park, Ocean Beach, Point Loma, Clairemont, and Golden Hill). Councilmember Chris Ward requested that the issue of accessory units (granny flats) come back to the city council to ensure that older units are okay for vacation rentals, but not newer ones that are getting expedited permitting and reduced fees.

Some expect lawsuits or an Airbnb-funded referendum. Others expect some will find ways to work around the new rules. One University City resident said in Santa Monica, some avoid detection from code compliance by removing

continued on page 33

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 26

ROADKILL ON THE DIGITAL HIGHWAY

On May 31, 2017, Bay City Television (XETV channel 6) closed its doors



for good. Bay City was the U.S. arm of the world's only bi-national television operation. Is Bay City the "canary in the coal mine" for locally owned and controlled broadcast stations? Presented by Chuck Dunning, general manager of Channel 6.

WHEN: Thursday, July 26, 10 am to 11:50 am

WHERE: Gateway Center, 5500 Campanile Drive, San Diego State

Saturday | 28



PINE VALLEY PARADE

The Mountain Empire Men's Club is staging a small-town parade with horses, bagpipers, clowns, dragons, and bands. Friday warmup, 5-10 pm: deep-pit BBQ with dancing under the stars to music by Barbwire. Saturday followup: craft fair at Pine Valley County Park, 28810 Old Highway 80.

Fair includes bounce houses for kids, rock climbing wall, music, horse shoe tournament, market place with over 30 vendors, and food.

WHEN: Saturday, July 28, 9 am to 10 am

WHERE: Along Old Highway 80, Pine Valley

HUNTING CHARLES MANSON

For their Manson book, *San Diego Union-Tribune* reporter Caitlin Rother and federal prosecutor Lis Wiehl have included interviews with Manson's grandson Jason Freeman, details about Manson's body and rights to his music, the story of former fiancée Star Manson, alternative theories about nights of the Tate and LaBianca murders, other murders committed by the Manson family, more on the seduction of Patricia Krenwinkel and Leslie Van Houten, the search in Death Valley for cadavers, and Mason's mental illness.

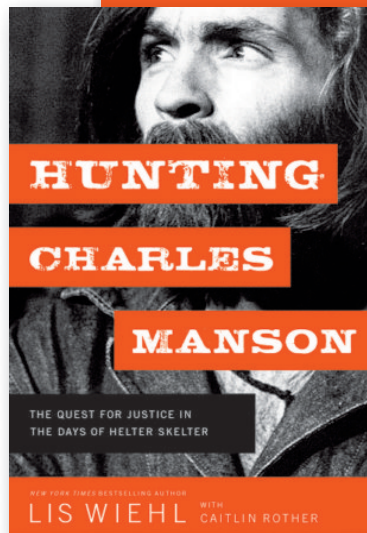
WHEN: Saturday, July 28, 4 pm to 5:30 pm

WHERE: Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard, downtown San Diego. sandiego.librarymarket.com

Sunday | 29

LEGALLY BLONDE: THE MUSICAL

Ellie Woods is not only president of Delta Nu at UCLA, she's engaged to THE Warner Huntington III. But



wait. He dumps her. He's headed for Harvard Law School and wants "someone more serious."

WHEN: Thursdays, 7:30 pm, Fridays and Saturdays, 8 pm, Sundays, 2 pm, through September 9

WHERE: New Village Arts Theater, 2787 State Street, Carlsbad. newvillagearts.org

ADAM ANT

Back when Adam and the Ants first hit MTV with videos such as "Goody Two Shoes," you could see that the charismatic singer's so-called Ant-music had more going for it than pirate getups and vaudeville dancing. Few new wave bands dared make percussion a lead instrument, an acoustic affectation



PHOTO BY DAREN SCOTT

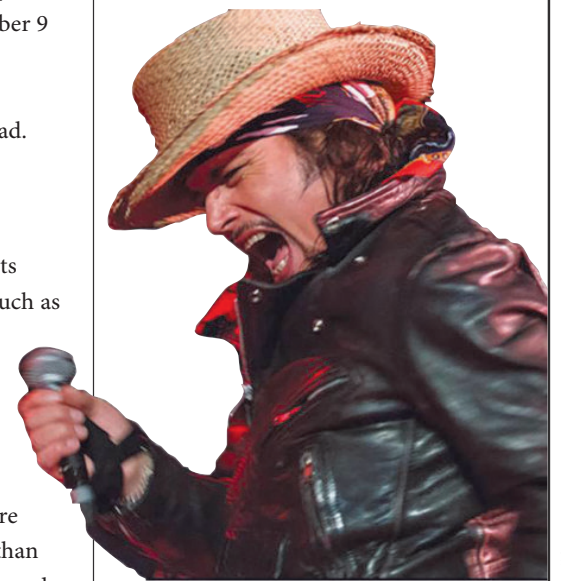
LEGALLY BLONDE



SATURDAY, JULY 28: HUNTING CHARLES MANSON

that now-solo bandleader Adam Ant has maintained for the unexpected comeback he launched in 2013 with his self-released

Adam Ant is the Blueback Hussar in Marrying the Gunner's Daughter. Nobody, including Ant, seemed to expect the homemade album to sell as well as his previous major label release, and subsequent U.S. tours have found him playing increasingly larger stages, most recently with his Anthems: The Singles tour.



ADAM ANT

WHEN: Sunday, July 29, 7 to 9 pm
WHERE: Humphreys by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island. humphreysrestaurant.com

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

STONEBRIDGE TRAIL: SAN ELIJO LAGOON

Enjoy the diverse natural environments of the eastern portion of the San Elijo Ecological Reserve.

Driving directions: (Solana Beach) From I-5 N, take exit 37, Lomas Santa Fe Dr., and continue straight across Lomas Santa Fe Dr. to Santa Helena Dr. From I-5 S, take exit 37, Lomas Santa Fe Dr., and turn left onto Lomas Santa Fe Dr., then turn left at the 1st cross street onto Santa Helena Dr. The trailhead, named "Santa Helena" on Lagoon signs, but "Stonebridge Trailhead" on Google maps, is at the dead end of Santa Helena Dr. **Hiking length:** 2.6 miles, out-and-back. Allow 1.5 hours hiking time. **Difficulty:** Easy. Elevation gain/loss 500 feet. Leashed dogs allowed. No bicyclists.



Pickleweed is a salt-tolerant plant

The San Elijo Ecological Reserve protects one of the largest remaining wetlands in Southern California as well as the bordering hills containing dense stands of maritime chaparral and coastal sage scrub. The Stonebridge Trail takes you through these chaparral-covered hillsides as it descends to and then crosses the marsh before ascending to the Stonebridge plateau, where you find grasslands and coastal scrub. The plateau provides lookouts to open water, with a chance to see a variety of beautiful wading birds and other domestic waterfowl. Be sure to bring your binoculars or spotting scope.

From the trailhead at the end of Santa Helena Drive, start hiking down the dirt service road going north. The chaparral on either side of the trail is

dominated by large lemonadeberry, black sage, buckthorn ceanothus, California sagebrush, broom baccharis, and flattop buckwheat. There are scattered Torrey pines and oaks further up the hillsides. Closer to the wetlands, numerous arroyo and Gooding's willows, mule-fat, and some cottonwood trees intermingle with chaparral and coastal sage species. La Orilla Creek discharges into the lagoon near here, bringing fresh water after winter rains.

Continue due north on the trail. After walking 0.4-mile, you come to the marsh crossing. From about May through the summer, the marsh crossing should be dry and uneventful. However, after rains and during winter and early spring, you could

continued on page 32



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

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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Wild Wonders Animal Show

Learn about amazing wild animals first-hand with a biologist or life scientist and at least 6 of their furry, feathered or scaly animal ambassadors! A unique educational experience that will make children eager to learn more. Friday, July 27, 10am; **free**. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Wild Wonders: Animal Show

Join us for a spectacular animal show from Wild Wonders. This performance is the last one we're offering as part of our summer reading program. Contact us with questions or visit sandiegolib.org for more info. Summer reading registration officially ends on August 1. Thursday, July 26, 10:30am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

BEER

22nd Anniversary Party We will be painting a 100' x 30' mural for Coronado Brewing Co. in conjunction with their 22nd Anniversary Party on July 28. There will be a live band, DJ, photo experience, food trucks, and the debut of their 22nd Anniversary Double IPA. It will be held at the Tasting Room location in Bay Park. Saturday, July 28, 2pm; **free**. Coronado Brewing Company, 170 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Brews & Views Back by popular demand, Brews and Views combines two of your favorite things: local craft beer and innovating short films. Join the SDJFF for an evening of short films, craft beers, and a good time with new and old friends. Sunday, July 29, 5:30pm; \$13-\$15. 21 and up. Two Seven Eight, 3687 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Hops & Curds with Venissimo Cheese Join us in downtown San Diego at Brew30 California Taps for an evening of Beer & Cheese pairings highlighting local beers and gourmet cheese. Ticket is per person and includes 5 cheese and 5 beer samples plus an evening of delicious beer and cheese education. Saturday, July 28, 5pm; \$50. 21 and up. Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Maryland Blue Crab Fest #2 We will be serving up heaps of all you can eat Blue Crab with salad and garlic bread. We are bringing in the crab straight from the source, so don't wait to buy your tickets! Guests will have tons of drink

options from beer and wine to rosé available for purchase to wash down all that glorious seafood. Sunday, July 29, 2pm; \$69. Beerfish, 2933 Adams Avenue. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Metal Yoga Do yoga set to metal. These classes are taught by a legit certified yoga instructor who happens to like Sabbath, Pelican, Howl, and Black Breath. Class is appropriate for all levels. \$15 gets you yoga and a Societe beer beverage afterward. Bring your own mat. Saturday, July 28, 10:30am; \$15. 21 and up. Societe Brewing Company, 8262 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

SIP of Julian The Julian Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 4th Annual 'Sip of Julian'. The Sip features many of Julian's alcoholic beverage purveyors. Proof that we're not just about apples and great pie, we have growers and producers of wine, craft beer, mead (honey wine), craft cocktails, and delicious hard cider, offering up a sampling of their delicious hand-crafted specialties. Saturday, July 28, 10am; \$25-\$35. Julian Town Hall, 2129 Main Street. (JULIAN)

Saint Archer's Party in the Plaza

Start your weekend off the right way with Saint Archer's Party in the Plaza at Del Mar. Enjoy half-off all of Del Mar's carefully-crafted signature cocktails and a special Saint Archer small batch brew unique to Del Mar, ending with the Friday headliner performance starring some of the music industry's biggest artists. Friday, July 27, 2pm; **free**. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Alexa Kingaard: Keep Forever

Local author, Alexa Kingaard, recently released her debut novel, *Keep Forever*, which relates fifty years in the life of a Vietnam Veteran and the burden he brings home to his loved ones. It is also a story about loyalty, devotion, and overcoming obstacles as a family learns to live with the reality of PTSD in their midst. Sunday, July 29, 2pm; **free**. La Playa Books, 1026 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Colleen Hoover: All Your Perfects

Colleen Hoover will discuss and sign her new book "All Your Perfects." Hoover is the #1 "New York Times" bestselling author of "Without Merit." This is a ticketed discussion, Q&A, and signing. Only books purchased from Warwick's will be signed. Thursday, July 26, 7:30pm; \$17. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Last Exit Reading

LAST EXIT is a brand new San Diego literary reading series, hosted by Julia Dixon Evans. Last Exit: Chelsea Hodson, Melissa Broder, Ana Carrete and Suzy Fincham-Gray. Friday, July 27, 8pm; **free**. Sash Bag, 3753 Sixth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Mickey Brent: Underwater Vibes

This is an opportunity to meet local multicultural author Mickey Brent, who spent nearly two decades living in Europe and writes quirky stories about Europeans, their diverse cultures, languages, and lifestyles. Her recent LGBTQ novel, *Underwater Vibes*, was published by Bold Strokes Books. Saturday, July 28, 6pm; **free**. 18 and up. Lhoq/Exrealism, 755 1/2 Carlsbad Village Dr. (CARLSBAD)

Thomas K Matthews: Ragged Justice

Local bestselling author Thomas K Matthews will be signing his latest mystery novel, *Ragged Justice*, the evening of Tuesday, July 17th from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. As a native of San Diego, he writes about issue and concerns that affect the city and the culture as a whole, while entertaining with his quick wit and interesting plots. Friday, July 27, 7pm; Barnes and Noble Bookstore Oceanside, 2615 Vista Way. (OCEANSIDE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Adam Greenfield: How to Create a Podcast

<http://www.sandiegowriters.org/2018-07-28-how-to-create-a-podcast-with-adam-greenfield/> Making the best podcast you can make takes time and preparation. The goal of this two-session class is to give you the tools and understanding you need about the pre-production stage of making a podcast to make the rest of the process go smooth. Saturday, July 28, 10am; \$60-\$72. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Anger Management: Finding a Peace of Mind

Anger, is one of the biggest poisons of the mind that is creating breakdowns in family & close relationships, demotion at your job, an unhealthy physical body; or unhappiness in general. Throughout this seminar, we will learn the following: (1) the consequences of having anger (2) how to control your & others' anger from a deep insight (3) the spiritual/religious virtue that can be attained by controlling your anger. We will also practice 2 different Meditations to Calm Your Anger and Control Your Mind Sunday, July 29, 1pm; **free**. Happy Science San Diego, 7841 Balboa Avenue #202. (KEARNY MESA)

Beat Production 101 Creative Workshop

This Each One Teach One creative workshop will teach you the fundamentals of music production, which includes sound design, basic song composition, the recording process and audio editing and mixing tips that will help you get on the fast track to producing professional music. Sunday, July 29, 11am; **free**-\$10. IDEA1, 899 Park Boulevard. (BANKERS HILL)

DIY Bromeliad Kokedama (Mossball) & Mimosa

Join Kodama Forest in learning how to make Japanese Kokedama's. In this class, each person will make and take their own beautiful bromeliad

Rhyme & Verse

Three baseball poems by Marjorie Maddox

Reading the Field

His tractor tugs dirt in a circle,
combs through clods as solid as baseballs,
then hoes the whole again,
signaling the mound a bull's eye.
Only then does he tip
his stare to the square
diamond, smooth all earth
between home and first.

The next man up throws lines
thick as cheers, the official
machine streaming Safe! or Out!,
a screaming geometry of summer
pitched cleanly into this field,
this noisy home for everywhere
we dare to run.

Working the Little League Concession Stand

It's childhood turn-taking
all over again, no matter
that I want to disappear,
duck out, develop a deadly disease
right at the last minute, but still
be in the stands to scream my offspring
to victory. A moral dilemma of the smallest kind:
I can't see the field behind the hot cheese machine,
and this double-duty of deep-fryer and burger-flipper
"models for our children" the all-important,
no-swearing-when-the-grease-hits-
and-the-hungry-line-up-thirty-deep
team spirit and camaraderie worthy, I'm told,
of our athletic parenting. Except that this afternoon,
the antiquated cash register strips me of all my degrees,
even my first-grade knowledge of subtraction,
and despite my straight-A pedigree, I'm suddenly
stupid-as-stupid-can-be as I trial-and-error my way

without instruction through punch and bings, No Sales
popping up unexpectedly just as I try to hand-off
six orders of fries, burgers, cokes, and two giant
blueberry Slushies that slide, like the best home-plate steal,
down the spotless T of the league's ten-year sponsor. Yea,
"Go, team!"

The Little League World Series: First Play Williamsport, PA

Teams crowd the hills,
fill in the land along the river,
uniforms, like patches of colorful cows amidst the fields.
All the corn points to the ballpark,
the small town's downtown leaning in for the anthem.
It's time to begin: the countries and counties
in parents' faces shuffle in the stands.
A TV camera shifts to a close-up.
At the plate, a child, half the height of a tractor,
breathes in his heroes, exhales the length of the state.
In the nervous grip of a twelve-year-old:
planting, youth, harvest, old age.



Sage Graduate Fellow of Cornell University (MFA) and Director of Creative Writing and Professor of English at Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania, Marjorie Maddox has published ten collections of poetry—including *True, False, None of the Above* (Poiema Poetry Series); *Local News from Someplace Else* (Wipf and Stock); *Transplant, Transplant, Transubstantiation* (Yellowglenn Prize); and *Perpendicular As I* (Sandstone Book Award)—the short story collection *What She Was Saying* (2017 Fomite), and over 450 stories, essays, and poems in journals and anthologies. Co-editor of *Common Wealth: Contemporary Poets on Pennsylvania* (Penn State Press), she also has published two children's books with several forthcoming soon. For more information, please see www.marjoriemaddox.com

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

kokedama (moss-ball) with a living bromeliad. The class fee includes all of the supplies needed to make your Bromeliad Kokedama, including moss, soils, and all other materials needed. Also included with this class is Mimosas & snacks. Saturday, July 28, 11am; \$47. Flower Hill Promenade, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

Emerging Tech Lab: 3D Printing National City Public Library has two 3D printers, a Lulzbot TAZ 6 and a Lulzbot Mini. The library offers classes in how to design objects for 3D printing, and makes the printers available for public use at no charge. Thursday, July 26, 6pm; free. 18 and up. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

Expanding Consciousness with Sound & Meditation Teresa's joyful presence is a blessing. Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss of meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound. Thursdays, 7pm; through Thursday, July 26, free. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Full Moon Writing Workshop The full moon is a time of mystery and creativity, of dream work and prophecy. Beneath July's Full

Buck Moon, Hay Moon, Moon of Thundering Nights, we'll take to our notebooks and write in our wild voices. With Judy Reeves. Friday, July 27, 7pm; \$40-\$45. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Hiring Fair: Navy Civilian Careers On-site resume review, interviews, and contingent job offers for qualified candidates in over 100 career fields for 450+ positions in 6 locations. Never before has getting a federal career been so EASY! Thursday, July 26, 2pm; free. 18 and up. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Intro to Beat Production Workshop This Each One Teach One workshop will teach you the fundamentals of music production, which includes sound design, basic song composition, the recording process and audio editing and mixing tips that will help you get on the fast track to producing professional music Sunday, July 29, 3pm; free-\$10. IDEA1, 899 Park Boulevard. (BANKERS HILL)

Intro to Video Editing Workshop This Each One Teach One workshop will give you the skills to take your videos from eh-h-h to top-of-the-line professional, and create memories for years to come. Compile multiple videos

into scenes, add titles, still images, and slick transitions using the same editing tool that the pros used to edit feature-length films. Sunday, July 29, 11am; free-\$10. IDEA1, 899 Park Boulevard. (BANKERS HILL)

Making Kombucha Kombucha is an amazing and ancient beverage. Revered throughout history for its healing and revitalizing properties – we know now that this is due to the bountiful essential amino acids and probiotics that kombucha contains. Sunday, July 29, 1pm; \$28. Modern Maker Market, 140 South Juniper. (ESCONDIDO)

Mama Flow & Glow: Allomamas Allomamas is partnering with Thread + Seed in Bankers Hill for Mama Flow & Glow – a yoga and clean beauty event specially tailored for working moms! This special edition of Flow + Glow is designed a community building opportunity for working mothers. Saturday, July 28, 10am; \$25-\$35. Thread + Seed, 2870 Fourth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Mat Pilates Classes Every Saturday at 2:30 pm at the National City Library, certified instructor Aurelia Valentin will lead a free mat pilates class to help strengthen your core. Yoga mat or floor covering required. Saturdays, 2:30pm; through Sunday, December 30, free. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

Rosicrucian Fellowship Summer Conference TRF offers presentations, classes and workshops in Natural Health and Spiritual Healing, Creative Art, Spiritual Astrology, Scripture Symbolism, Quantum Prayer, Wordless Storytelling, Esoteric Philosophy, Invisible world, Astro-biography, Light

Color and Sound. Sunday, July 29, 10am; free. Rosicrucian Fellowship, 2222 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

Using Biomagnetic Pair Therapy to Balance the Body In this session of the RestorMedicine Summer Lecture Series, Lisa Daley will discuss using Biomagnetic Pair therapy to balance the body. Thursday, July 26, 6pm; free. RestorMedicine, 928 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION HILLS)

COMEDY

Amanda Seales Amanda Seales, formerly Amanda Diva, (born July 1, 1981 in Los Angeles, California) is a Comedian, host, DJ, content creator, and more. Thursday, July 26, 8pm; Friday, July 27, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, July 28, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Chris Clobber Chris Clobber headlines Comedy Night at Spacebar Cafe. Gene Levin hosts this very funny evening of entertainers, SaraLee Steiner, Toni Torquato, Iris Neal and John Hafner. Friday, July 27, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Spacebar Cafe, 7454 University Ave., Suite A. (LA MESA)

Comedy Heights Thursdays, 7:30pm; through Thursday, April 11, 21 and up. Midnight Jack Brewing Company & Echo Room, 3801 Oceanic Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Kathy Griffin After a year of national scandal and following a sold-out run of stand-up shows and rave reviews around the globe, Kathy Griffin is returning. Saturday, July 28, 8pm; \$39-\$125. 18 and up. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Otherwise Improvise & The Naked Shakespeare Company This event is part of The Garden Theatre Festival 2018. An audience participatory improvisational event will occur every Saturday, with a

showcase of scenes from Shakespeare. Saturdays, 3pm; through Saturday, August 18, free. Zoro Garden, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Toiley T. Paper Join international celebrity Toiley T. Paper (America's Got Talent, Orange is the New Black) for a night of music, special guests and Toiley's outrageous brand of inappropriate comedy. Friday, July 27, 8pm; \$12-\$16. 18 and up. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

DANCE

DancerPalooza Thursday, July 26, 12pm; Friday, July 27, 12pm; Saturday, July 28, 12pm; Sunday, July 29, 12pm; San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Ellixir: The Intoxicating Glamour of Burlesque An intimate evening under the influence of BURLESQUE! The Drop Dead Dames are thrilled to welcome you to our exclusive home venue, The Queen's Hall! There is a raised theatre stage with a plush velvet curtain, assuring that there is no bad seat in the house! Friday, July 27, 7:30pm; \$25-\$450. 21 and up. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

FOR KIDS

Family Days Looking for something to do with the family this weekend? Join Del Mar for Family Days every Saturday and Sunday from 1 – 6pm The spacious Infield will be lined with several free attractions for your family to enjoy including pony rides, a game zone, face painters, a giant obstacle course and more. Saturday, July 28, 1pm; Sunday, July 29, 1pm; free. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

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SHEEP and GOATS

John Wesley

A Methodist is one who loves the Lord his God with all his heart, with all his soul, with all his mind, and with all his strength. God is the joy of his heart, and the desire of his soul, which is continually crying, "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth whom I desire besides

thee." My God and my all! "Thou art the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever." He is therefore happy in God; yea, always happy, as having in him a well of water springing up unto everlasting life, and over-flowing his soul with peace and joy. Perfect love living now cast out fear, he rejoices evermore. Yea, his joy is full, and all his

bones cry out, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, according to his abundant mercy, hath begotten me again unto a living hope of an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, reserved in heaven for me."

— from *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection* by John Wesley

John Wesley (1703-1791) was an English theologian, cleric, and missionary who, with his brother Charles Wesley and fellow English theologian George Whitefield, founded Methodism. Ordained an Anglican priest, Wesley spent two years serving as a missionary in the Georgia colony at Savannah before

returning to London and joining the Moravian Christians. On May 24, 1738, he experienced a conversion to evangelical Protestantism, which he described as a having his "heart strangely warmed." This experience was the first step toward co-founding Methodism.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship



Pictured: Partying Poets. Saturday, July 28, 2pm; free. Zoro Garden, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

LECTURES

HARRIER: The Knight in the Corps' Arsenal of Freedom

George Haloulakos, CFA, educator, museum volunteer and author of "High Flight" will discuss the capabilities, missions and lore of the "Harrier" jump jet. The Harrier is a technical marvel as it is the first truly successful jet Vertical-Short-Takeoff-Landing (VSTOL) aircraft in history. Open Tues-Sun, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. Free admission and parking. Saturday, July 28, 11am; free. Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, 4203 Anderson Avenue. (MIRAMAR)

Living with Alzheimer's: For Middle Stage Caregivers

This program is a four part series in collaboration with the Alzheimer's Association and the George C. Glenner Alzheimer's Family Centers. It aims to provide

caregivers with the knowledge, tools, and strategies needed to cope with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia. Thursdays, 10am; through Thursday, August 2, free. Town Square, 2765 Main St., Suite A, Chula Vista

Polynesian Settlement & Heritage Management in Western Raiatea

The Society Islands are central to understanding settlement patterns and human impacts among initial colonizing populations in East Polynesia. Archaeology on the island of Raiatea serves multiple roles in terms of academic research, archaeological and ecological conservation, and cultural knowledge of island residents. Saturday, July 28, 8pm; free. Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe, 12122 Canyonside Park Drive. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Rattlesnakes in Valley Center Friends of Hellhole Canyon Open Space Preserve are hosting Dr. Roy

Johnson, local rattlesnake expert on their behavior and toxicity will be speaking on July 28th, Saturday at the Valley Center Library located at 29200 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center 92082 This is a free event and all are welcome. Saturday, July 28, 10am; free. Valley Center Library, 29200 Cole Grade Road. (VALLEY CENTER)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Jazz Vespers Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archie Thompson & the Archtones and guest musicians. Saturdays, 4:30pm; through Sunday, December 30, free. First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 1700 Block of 4th Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Supergirl Pro Concert Series

The world's top professional female surfers are back in Oceanside, CA for the 11th Supergirl Surf Pro, a 3-day event July 27 - 29, 2018. Bands will perform, including Mitens. Friday, July 27, 8am; Saturday, July 28, 8am; Sunday, July 29, 8am; Junior Seau Oceanside Pier Amphitheatre, 200 North of the Strand. (OCEANSIDE)

The Mightier P.E.N.S.

As part of The Garden Theatre Festival 2018 in Zoro Garden, Balboa Park, The Mightier P.E.N.S. (Poetic Expeditionary Nation of Semanticists) have partnered with composers Steve Haralson, and TLaloc Rodriguez in a concert of ambient-down-tempo ritualistic pandemic invocative music and spoken word. Sunday, July 29, 2pm; free. Zoro Garden, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

NATURE

Always a Lizard Things are warming up on the trails but you can always rely on seeing a lizard or two. Learn how to tell if it is a Western Fence Lizard. It is also possible you will see a Harlequin Bug, Hollyleaf Cherry, or even a Bladderpod. Saturday, July 28, 9:30am; Sunday, July 29, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Birding Basics Increase your enjoyment of nature by learning 5 simple techniques to identify birds at a glance. Taught by experienced birder and trail guide Winona Sollock you'll also get tips on field guide use. Bring yours if available. Visitor Center Classroom A. Saturday, July 28, 1pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Shimmering & Shade Join our indomitable Mission Trails Regional Park Trail Guide for a walk through the Fremont Cottonwoods and Western Sycamore trees. Midsummer, catkins and blossoms are gone, but the leaves of the trees offer a welcome respite from the sun while you listen for the birds and other creatures of the park. Meet by the Kumeyaay Campground flagpoles at the camp-

ground entry station. Saturday, July 28, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Watershed Warriors: Alpine Community Cleanup

Join ILACSD and the County of San Diego for a litter cleanup in Alpine! We will be doing a street sweep along Alpine Boulevard to divert waste from the Sweetwater watershed and maintain the natural beauty of the community! We will have cleanup supplies, snacks, and water. We also provide community service hours and Letters of Appreciation for volunteers. All volunteers are required to fill out a waiver form to participate and anyone under the age of 18 needs a waiver signed by their parent or guardian. See you there! Saturday, July 28, 8am; free. Albertsons Market, 2955 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Obon Festival Obon Festival: weekend July 28-29, noon-8:00pm featuring Japanese food (until 6:00pm or when sold out), taiko drumming, koto performance, cultural demonstrations and performances, boutique items, game booths for children, talks on Buddhism and time (3:00pm) to familiarize yourself with the Bon Odori dances that start at 6:30pm both days. Family friendly, free admission, free parking. Saturday, July 28, 12pm; Sunday, July 29, 12pm; free. Vista Buddhist Temple and Japanese Cultural Center, 150 Cedar Road. (VISTA)

SPOKEN WORD

The Poetical Party of Choice The Garden Theatre Festival will be sponsoring an "Open Mic" Poetry Reading for four consecutive Saturday afternoons beginning Saturday July 28th and continuing to August 18th. All poets are welcome to read poetry of their choice, up to five minutes. Readings begin at 2pm, and sign-ups begin at 1:45pm prior to the readings. For further information call (619) 569-4922.

SPORTS & FITNESS

BurnYoga with Tabu BurnYoga with Tabu is back at SUNBURN Fitness. This upbeat rooftop Vinyasa class is free with online reservation and all experience levels are welcome. Mats are not provided but this class can be completed without one. All attendees get free entry into SUNBURN Pool Lounge after class as well as one drink ticket. Saturday, July 28, 11:30am; free. 21 and up. Hard Rock Hotel, 207 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Softball Thursday Pick-Up Game

For 55 and Up/Females 50 up. Batting/fielding practice starts 9 AM. Game starts 10 AM. Have extra bats/mitts if needed. Thursdays, 9am; through Thursday, December 20, free. 21 and up. John F. Kennedy Park, 1675 East Madison Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Solana Beach Triathlon & Duathlon

The surf-entry ocean swim is supported by lifeguards and swim buddies. The bike and run courses cruise down the world-famous Pacific Coast Highway. Finally, a tunnel of high-fives awaits you at the finish line. Sunday, July 29, 7am; Fletcher Cove, Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

WORSHIP

Sunday Gathering You are invited to join us as we gather together to celebrate a Positive Approach to Living Sunday mornings in Carlsbad! Our friendly and inclusive congregation invites you to visit and find out if the "Science of Mind and Spirit" is the teaching you've been searching for. 9:30 - 9:50 am Meditation 10:00 - 11:00 am Sunday Service email: truthliving@aol.com www. CSLCarlsbad.org Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 30, free. Woman's Club of Carlsbad, 3320 Monroe Street. (CARLSBAD)

ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 30

sink up to your knees in mud. Thus, it is prudent to stop here to avoid losing your boots and wait for a dry day in May before proceeding. You may find an improvised bridge across these muddy waters, but the Reserve considers the trail closed at this point until this stretch is dry.

While you are waiting for the mud to dry, look at the vegetation growing here. These marsh plants include highly salt-tolerant species, especially pickleweed, alkali heath, and salt grass. They can thrive here because their physiology allows them to take up brackish water, filter out the salt, and sequester the salt in special cellular organelles where it won't interfere with essential metabolic cellular functions.

When you can safely cross the marsh, continue up the trail, now periodically marked with signs, which will take you up onto the Stonebridge mesa. The mesa is mostly flat with swales periodically cutting down to the wetlands below. The swales are thickly vegetated with large lemonadeberry shrubs, elderberry trees, California sagebrush, black sage, and other coastal scrub species. The mesa itself is covered with filaree and non-native grasses, interspersed with widely scattered clumps of coastal cholla, prickly pear cactus, and lemonadeberry.

The trail forks about 0.5 mile from the trailhead. Keep to the left and in about 0.3-mile, you will come to a bench overlooking pools of brackish water where waterfowl can be observed. Birds that have been observed in the San Elijo Lagoon include both snowy

and great egrets, double-crested cormorants, common loons, pied-billed grebes, northern shovelers, mallard ducks, and several others. The pied-billed grebe builds a floating nest anchored to marsh plants, and the young chicks ride on the parent's back after hatching. One of the most unusual birds that may inhabit the marsh is the least bittern, a beautiful small bird. There are records of least bittern nests in the San Elijo Lagoon, but you are unlikely to spot either its nest or the bird as it moves slowly and hides in dense cattail and sedge thickets. If you do, consider yourself very lucky.

Continue on the trail as it snakes around the Stonebridge mesa, eventually crosses the heads of two adjacent swales, and then proceeds due west down a peninsula separating the wetlands from Escondido Creek. It ends 1.3 miles from the trailhead at a point on the peninsula overlooking Escondido Creek's entrance into the wetlands of the lagoon. Although no flowing water is evident, there is a dense riparian growth following the creek bed with an abundance of sycamores and willows festooned with a luxurious growth of wild grape. The trail officially ends here. Return the way you came for a 2.6-mile hike or explore some of the many use trails that meander around the mesa.

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to lead interpretive nature walks that teach appreciation for the great outdoors. For a schedule of free public hikes, refer to the San Diego Natural History Museum website.

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 28

their vacation rental ads during the day and putting them back up at night when code enforcement is off-duty. As for enforcement, some residents expect they will still be on the frontlines of having to police their own neighborhoods and report illegal vacation rentals and nuisances from legal rentals.

Belinda Smith, co-founder of the Short Term Rental Alliance of San Diego (advocate for vacation rentals), said after the vote, "I see today's vote as a huge win for the hotel lobby and a huge loss for property rights."

Julie Stalmer

Bird-brained

Helmet-hostile bill would allow riders to ride Birds, get brained
On June 20, mayor Kevin



Almis Udrys knows what he likes, and what he likes is this bill.

Faulconer's government affairs public policy manager Adrian Granda sent an email mayoral staff members — including Almis Udrys, Faulconer's deputy chief of staff for Innovation & Policy — regarding AB2989, a

bill that regulates "stand-up electric scooters," as a separate vehicle class than motorized scooters." According to the email, the bill, co-authored by Assembly Democrat Todd Gloria of San Diego, would allow riders of Bird scooters to use "sidewalks when a bike path is not available," and would also allow them "to be used by non-minors without a helmet." Responded Udrys, "I like this bill."

The one-page email exchange was the single document released by Faulconer in response to a June 25 public records act request for all city records regarding the legislation, introduced in February and currently awaiting hearing by the Senate Transportation Committee. But the city has denied access to the remaining documents, claiming attorney-client privilege.

Granda's email notes that it is "good to know this is out there as the Council discusses potential regulations" and that "a city could restrict

them in areas if they choose to do so." The bill has been heavily lobbied by Bird as well as opponents — including the cities of San Francisco and Santa Monica — as it has morphed its way through the legislature. The most



You know, rich people have to live somewhere.

recently amended version of the legislation posted online would bar scooter speeds "in excess of 35 miles per hour unless the motorized scooter is operated within a Class II or Class IV bikeway," and require helmets only for those under the age of 18, which to critics remains a worrisome provision of the bill. "If you hit a pothole on this little thing, you're going to go down," forensic kinesiologist James Kent recently told CNET. "If I fall over sideways and I can't break that fall and don't have a helmet on, I can potentially kill myself."

According to her most recent disclosure filing, dated April 24, San Diego influence peddler Clarissa Reyes Falcon of Falcon Strategies got \$10,000 from Bird during the first quarter of the year, lobbying councilmembers Chris Ward, David Alvarez, and Georgette Gomez, and Faulconer staffer Elyse Lowe, along with five other city employees.

Matt Potter

You can only join the spectacularly endowed Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club if you own a place within the Covenant, which is basically an elite community within an elite community, the Navy Seals of wealthy-people living."

Don Bauder

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Jason Hughes — whose employees have given Republican Faulconer a total of \$23,000 since 2011, according to city records — has blogged that "the mall either gets a minimal facelift—or a massive re-entitlement/redevelopment to transform to today's success standard. I'll keep everyone updated as escrow evolves—but fingers crossed for complete redo!"...How quickly is the *Los Angeles Times* under L.A. billionaire Patrick Soon-Shiong moving to grab control of its little sister to the south, the San Diego Union-Tribune? One foreboding sign cited by concerned

locals is the L.A. paper's takeover of part of the Comic-Con beat, long a *U-T* sacred cow, which the paper hypes as the reason for expanding the downtown convention center with public money. "Wouldn't it be great to have Comic-Con more than four — or counting preview night, five — days a year? Soon that dream will become a reality with the Comic-Con Museum officially in the works at Balboa Park — and *The Times* has a first look at what fans can expect from the new venue."

The glowing dispatch is not the product of the usual *U-T* suspects but by Jevon Phillips, identified in the *Times* online staff box as a former *Variety* staffer who covers "topics ranging from comic books to hip-hop dance to TV fairy tales."

— 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/.

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Burgled secrecies

The shots are exposures of exposure, sometimes detailed with bite marks, scars, bruises, and burns.

The first photograph I saw by Brassai, many years ago, was a 1948 portrait of Jean Genet. Hands in pockets, slight of form, his face an ambiguous index of skittishness and cunning, Genet offers and withdraws his presence in the same instant. The image, unlike Genet himself, is docile and cautious. Brassai had made his reputation in the 1930s with images not at all docile and cautious. His photographic book *Paris de Nuit* essayed Paris's nocturnal lives: street exteriors of hookers, cops, gangsters, laborers, lovers; and interiors of brothels, bars, dance halls, opium dens, party scenes of any kind.

A big technical problem with night imaging was the light given off by street lamps, which developed into a chalky halation that blasted against darks. Brassai learned to avoid halos by using scenic elements—walls, trees, bridges—to mask the street lights, converting direct into indirect lighting, which contributed to the seething menace of pictures like those that featured a bunch of unworthies called Big Albert's Gang. In one image we see the gang from the tarry darkness behind them, as they look into a super-scouring lamplight that has the physical force of the spaceship lights in

Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

Born Gyula Halász in 1899, in Brasso, Transylvania (a part of Rumania), Brassai aspired to be a painter and sculptor but gave it up in

the 1920s. Having adopted in 1925 the name "Brassai" after his hometown, he acquired his first camera in 1930 and com-

mitted his life to photography. His subjects in the 1930s were shadow lives lived in shadow zones. Brassai was attracted to sensual excess and transgression. His images inflected the degrees of exposure and social concealment that we all cultivate. Even an endearing picture of a man dressed in a gorilla suit playing with a baby is drained of playfulness by Brassai's intensity: the baby is alarmingly blond, the gorilla's oversized plaid suit and bowler hat make him look like a goofy but scary predator.

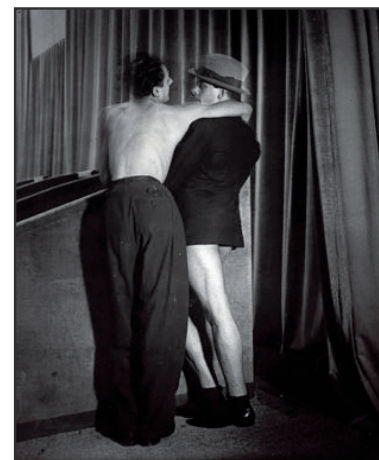
Brassai loved the off-center worlds of bordellos, gay and transvestite clubs, red light districts, and bridges or benches where at night lovers necked and *clochards* slept. He photographed cultures where people want most to be seen or beheld or admired for their style or moral audacity while also staying partly out of sight. He intensified the crowdedness of club interiors by shooting close to mirrors.

ART

W.S. DI PIERO



Diane Arbus, A young man and his pregnant wife in Washington Square Park, N.Y.C. 1965, 1965, gelatin silver print, 20 x 16 in. (50.8 x 40.6 cm),



Brassai, Young couple wearing a two-in-one suit at the Bal de la Montagne Sainte-Genevieve, c. 1931, gelatin silver print,

Real Worlds: Brassai Arbus Goldin

Museum of Contemporary Art, 250 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles Through September 3. For additional information, call 213-626-6222.

Two lovers in a booth sit by kitty-cornered mirrors that complete the parts of their heads hidden from us. We get a mini-panoramic view of their hilarity and ecstasy. Brassai's images are themselves shadow boxes, executive darks swelling with metallic or vaporous illumination that looks crushed into the frame. The images are also little cultural vitrines: men's hair is brilliantined to an eight-ball finish, women are branded with lipstick and show off fashionable spit curls, and there's drink and smoke everywhere. One motif that attracted Brassai for its special privacy was the public urinal. In 1930s Paris there were more than 1300 of them, and in *Paris de Nuit* he writes with a proprietary fondness of the secrets housed in these round-house "chapels," as he called them, marked by a little tower and illuminated dome, which men used as gay hook-up spots.

Brassai is one of three photographers included in *Real Worlds*, currently at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles. The other two, Diane Arbus and Nan Goldin, stream behind his example into our present. Brassai's book is a great classic of early modern photography; his autobiographical, I-was-there text scrolls Parisian culture of the time around the images presented. He was captivated as a cultural anthropologist might be, the outsider inside, infiltrating the hidden and forbidden. He was passionate about the life of crowds, beginning with the crowd composed of two lovers kissing on a bench.

The life of the crowd and the busy social information it enfolds didn't interest Arbus. She wanted a scrupulous report of her subjects, who encode secrets we might get access to if we stare long enough. (A photograph, she liked to say, "is a secret about a secret.") Her pictures cast a studious spell. Their strangeness is an enchantment. *Real Worlds* offers many of her classic images: identical twin sisters staring artlessly at the photographer; a boy in Central Park gripping a toy hand grenade while striking a spastic fake-terror pose; a gaunt flirtatious

young man in hair curlers staring us down; Down Syndrome patients frolicking outdoors. Compared to Brassai's nervous, patrolling energy, Arbus's imagery has little wobble in it: compassion, concern, inquisitiveness, and curiosity are locked down in a straitened field of ambiguity.

Her work has a silencing stillness and an exquisitely calibrated emotional reserve: I always feel as if I'm looking through an opaque plane of affect between photographer and subject that's re-negotiated picture to picture. She doesn't so much peer into identity as paralyze it. Her visual imagination didn't allow much dynamic play between the subject represented and our own emotional and intellectual response. She or her subjects usually pull back to some appropriate and manageable emotional remoteness. Which makes a picture like *Puerto Rican Woman with a Beauty Mark* from 1965 so stunning by contrast. The woman's dense wind-blown hair barely tamed by a hair net, her beauty mark looking like a satellite of her blackest-of-black eyebrows, her confrontational gaze rich with sexy discontent—she's hardly containable in the frame.

One image that sets loose vitalizing ambiguities is that of an old lady in a wheelchair having fun, maybe having fun with us, lolling in her chair while pretending to be a grotesque, wearing a warty, broken-toothed witch's mask. Brassai's couples are good-timers. Arbus's couples are either affectively muted or have crafted a look for the camera, a look that usually involves possessiveness. You see the will engaged in fashioning a self-image. To exclude or include us? (Or the photographer?) When she literally photographs the self-exposure of nudists, a shirtless *Mexican Dwarf in a Hotel Room*, a sunbathing suburban couple, or *A Naked Man Pretending to be a Woman* (his genitals tucked behind his thighs to create the illusion of a vagina), the tone is demure, affable but not cozy. One of the subtlest images of erotic entanglement as romantic possessive-

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ness shows a young couple on a bench in Washington Square in New York. His arm around her back and leg thrown over hers are loose tethers; she holds him over the shoulder as if laying claim; he looks down and away from us in a pose of supreme cool (and low-wattage threat), while she looks half-smiling straight at us.

Arbus's apparently bold greeting of her subjects has an opacity and emotional deflection. Brassai worked on the fly. "Look here!" his pictures say, "No! Look *there!*" Arbus is more composed, her imagery better behaved. Then there's Nan Goldin, who reminds me of certain drummers I think of as furniture breakers (Buddy Rich, Ginger Baker, Tommy Igoe) whose raucous chew-everything-up energy turns into its own kind of gorgeous manic lyricism. The longer I look at Arbus, the thicker becomes the plane that isolates and seals in the contents of her pictures. Goldin, who has acknowledged Arbus's influence, takes a hammer to that and dumps us into a jarring, jaw-grinding intimacy with the people she has photographed with ardent urgency. Born in 1953, she started taking pictures as a teenager (and became her high school's official photographer), but she used the camera as what she called a "personal diary," with all the self-absorption and emotional neediness that come with that. From the beginning, she has said, she took pictures out of "emotional need, not aesthetic choice." In Arbus and Brassai we see aesthetic choices being made and adjusted for a certain effect. In Goldin we see such choices blown apart by the artist's desire to make the image itself seem a member of the secret society she photographs – family, friends, lovers.

In 1979, living on the Lower East Side, hanging with other artists, musicians, writers, and performers, she made a slide show of her pictures for a club. She expanded it in the 1980s, when it became one of the grand photographic suites of our time, *The Ballad of Sexual Dependency*, which



Nan Goldin, *Millie with the cheeseburger radio at home, New York City, 1980, Cibachrome print, 10 3/4 x 14 in. (27.31 x 35.56 cm)*

in its latest form (included in *Real Worlds*) runs to forty-five minutes of about seven hundred images. Distance, in Goldin's pictures, exists to be crushed. She jams us tightly into raw lived moments. She photographs with an ecstasy of intrusiveness, though she would never use that word; she's part of the society she's intruding on. Along with images of lovers on park benches by Brassai and Arbus, the exhibition offers Goldin's image of the same; but her lovers, kissing, clenched around each other on a Tompkins Square bench in pied sunlight, are closer to the lovers Schiele painted. They're not cool or canny. Their embrace is hungry, feral; they're taking each other hostage, and like Schiele's couples they look bound in a pact of youthful future-less mortality.

Consider the beds in Goldin's images. They're hazard zones, messy habitats, sanctuaries, fossil sites, drapery studies. They look as beaten up as some of Goldin's human subjects do, including herself, in *Nan After Being Battered*, where she presents herself as evidence, with two black eyes, one of them a really ugly mouse from blows that nearly blinded her. The companion photo is *Nan and Brian in Bed*. Brian, her boyfriend at the time (1983), beat her, and in the double portrait he sits on their bed smoking while Nan looks at him with longing and trepidation. (Brian is one of many cute bad boys who turn up in the slide show.) Goldin is a fiery chronicler of a certain kind of domesticity. You see how erotic greed and sexual

(or social) neediness create fields of anxiety, delirium, elation, despair. In the extreme catalog of presences in *Ballad* we see Nan's friends naked in tub or shower or bed, shooting up, fucking, sleeping, kissing, self-fellating, eating and drinking and sometimes mugging the camera; *Ballad* is a directory of all the ways we have of turning toward and away from each other, especially in bed. The shots are exposures of exposure, sometimes detailed with bite marks, scars, bruises, and burns. She makes a photographic image itself look like a guilty thing surprised, except that nobody feels guilty, especially not Nan.

As a photographer she pushes back at life, she doesn't pull back. Her camera burgles secrets. *Ballad* takes us inside dressing rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, clubs, bedrooms, and finds whatever's there: tots, dirty laundry, cigarette butts and smoke, grimy fingernails and feet, vulvas and penises, junkies' works, guns, booze, and downtown celebrities like Vincent Gallo, Jim Jarmusch, and John Waters.

But it wasn't just her friends at home she photographed. Her 1983 picture *'Variety' Booth, New York City* tightly frames the already tight frame of a movie-house ticket booth and the woman in a small swell of light selling tickets. It has tremendous compression. The booth looks like the guardhouse to the secretive sensuous dream world of movies, and the sign tells us the price of admission is only two dollars. ■

ART

2-Hour Pottery Wheel Workshop What can you do in two hours at the pottery wheel? Quite a bit! We'll cover the basics of centering, opening, and lifting the wall. If you end up with something you want to keep at the end, we will fire your untrimmed piece and glaze it for you to pick up later. Ages 16+ mudlilyclay.com hello@mudlilyclay.com Saturday, July 28, 10am; \$60. 18 and up. Mud Lily, 7881 University Avenue. (LA MESA)

A Midsummer Daydream The Southwestern Artists' Association is proud to present "A Midsummer Daydream", an art exhibit featuring San Diego artists Janet Voss, Leah Higgins, and Susan Binford. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Tuesday, July 31, free. Gallery 23 in Spanish Village, 1770 Village Place. (BALBOA PARK)

DIY Zine Camp July 23 - July 27. Ages 10 to 18 Literature, comic books, photography, movies, illustration, any visual art — Zine Camp is for students who love all of these and want to learn how to edit, create, and distribute art in DIY magazines. A zine is a self-published book or booklet that can be reproduced to share or sell. Thursday, July 26, 9am; Friday, July 27, 9am; San Diego Art Institute, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Modi Operandi: The Processes of Creation in Confinement The Hill Street Country Club and Linksoul Lab is proud to present ART IS FOR EVERYONE new works created by featuring artworks from Project PAINT artists in Donovan State Prison. This exhibition focuses on the often-inventive processes behind the finished products created in our courses. Sunday, July 29, 4pm; \$10. Linksoul Lab, 530 S. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Pop Up Art Show The Talmadge Art Show is celebrating its Silver Anniversary – 25 years with two main shows and 2 Pop Up shows in 2018. It will feature 18 artists who create and sell high quality crafts. Saturday, July 28, 2pm; free. Cygnet Theatre, 4040 Twigg Street. (OLD TOWN)

Secluded & Convenient Art show Edifying a Hidden Gem in North County, "Secluded & Convenient" Art Exhibit Set for this Summer. "Secluded & Convenient" is a visual story about past, present and future in a scarce undeveloped area in Carlsbad, North County San Diego. Thursday, July 26, 6pm; free. Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, 9888 Genesee Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

The Gaslamp Artisan Market More than 30 local artisans will offer carefully-curated homemade and unique local products. Situated in the heart of the historic Gaslamp Quarter, with jewelry, hand crafted items, and home goods to be on display. Sundays, 10am; through Monday, April 30, Fifth Avenue between Market Street and Island Avenue

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JULY 27 - 29

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FREE EVENT



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WATER FRONT

Tides

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	AM	HT.	PM	HT.	AM	HT.	PM	HT.
THU, JULY 26	3:52	-0.46'	3:06	2.20'	10:16	4.28'	9:17	6.48'
FRI, JULY 27	4:22	-0.49'	3:38	2.16'	10:46	4.34'	9:48	6.44'
SAT, JULY 28	4:51	-0.43'	4:10	2.14'	11:14	4.38'	10:18	6.31'
SUN, JULY 29	5:19	-0.30'	4:43	2.16'	11:42	4.42'	10:49	6.08'

Waves (PONTO)

Height	Direction	Interval
2'-4'	W	8 seconds
2'-3'	W	8 seconds
1'-3'	W	7 seconds
1'-2'	SW	18 seconds

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

EVENTS

Bands on the Bay Dinner Cruises Dance the night away to the sound of live music from a great local San Diego band called Republic of Music aboard Hornblower every Friday night. Boarding champagne, a three-course meal, live music, and breathtaking views of the city on warm summer nights on San Diego Bay. Fridays, 7pm; through Friday, September 28, \$85. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Captain Ron Baker's Kids Fishing Derby Join Captain Ron Baker and the San Diego Anglers Foundation for this annual kids fishing derby. Now in its tenth year, this event attracts over 400 kids from San Diego County for a day of fishing competition on Crystal Pier. There are three age categories: under 7, 8 to 11, and 12 to 15. Prizes will be awarded to the top three from each age category, and a grand prize for the largest fish by weight. Lunch is provided for the kids and there is a great raffle at the end of program for the kids that are registered to fish. Saturday, July 28, 7am; free. Crystal Pier, Garnet Avenue at Ocean Boulevard. (PACIFIC BEACH)

City Lights Fireworks Dinner Cruises Come aboard for our most popular three-hour Dinner Cruise, combining a mouth-watering three-course dinner, DJ entertainment, views of San Diego and a fireworks show above San Diego Bay to top it all off. Friday, July 27, 7pm; \$85. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Greenpeace Ship Arctic Sunrise: Free Tours Come on board Greenpeace's historic ship, The Arctic Sunrise, for a free tour. Meet the crew, tour the ship, and learn about Greenpeace's work. All ages welcome. Ofreceremos recorridos en Español. Saturday, July 28, 10am; Sunday, July 29, 10am; free. Cruise Ship Terminal, 1140 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Hops on the Harbor 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 an exciting dinner menu that pairs perfectly with the distinctive flavors of each brewer's beer selections. Throughout the month of July we are hosting AleSmith Brewing. AleSmith is a San Diego-based brewery that specializes in

handcrafted ales inspired by the European classics. Their year-round brews include the popular San Diego Pale Ale.394 (honoring Padres great Tony Gwynn) and the pitch-black Speedway Stout. AleSmith also has a special list of barrel-aged brews including the Old Numbskull, which spends up to one year maturing in premium bourbon barrels. Cruise Highlights: - Rotating local brews and craft beer flights - Selection of gourmet food stations - Meet and greet with brewers onboard - Prizes and giveaways - Spectacular views of San Diego Bay Friday, July 27, 7:30pm; \$41-\$74. 21 and up. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Junior Over-the-Line Tournament The Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC) invites children and young adults between the ages of 5-20 to participate in the 2018 Junior Over-the-Line (OTL) Tournament. The Junior OTL Tournaments will be played at Fiesta Island on July 29 There is a \$5 entry fee per player. Check-in begins at 7:30 AM on tournament days. The format is round robin, single elimination and playoffs with three players per team. Single players will be matched with other players to make a team. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be provided to all. For more information about Junior Over-The-Line including the rules of the game, pee wee, boys and Girls divisions, please visit <http://www.ombac.org/main-page/otl-jr-otl/> or contact Scott Valenti at ombacjuniorotl@gmail.com. Sunday, July 29, 7:30am; free-\$5. Fiesta Island, 1500 Fiesta Island Road. (BAY PARK)

Ride the Patriot Jet Boat Get ready for speed, screams and splashes! That's right, you will get wet during this turbo-charged thrill ride across San Diego Bay. Jump aboard the most entertaining tour of San Diego waterfront's most scenic spots—past military ships, along the downtown skyline, and under the iconic Coronado Bridge. Propelled by two 1,400 horsepower jet engines, it's the best way to cool down this summer. Summer Schedule: 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30 Highlights: - 30 minute tour on open-air jet boat - High-speed spins, tricks, and turns - Spectacular San Diego views Thursdays, 11:30am; Fridays, 11:30am; Saturdays, 11:30am; Sundays, 11:30am; Mondays, 11:30am; Tuesdays, 11:30am; Wednesdays, 11:30am; through Monday, September 3, \$25-\$30. Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



Steve Jones - "This is paradise compared to Scotland."

I saw the shark go past the tip of my board

NAME: STEVE JONES

AGE: 51

FROM: CHULA VISTA

LOCATION: TOURMALINE SURF PARK

It was a cloudy day at Tourmaline when Steve Jones finished his morning session. Jones has been surfing for ten years; he started in Scotland.

"It's somewhat of an adventure surfing in Scotland. There's no restrooms, you've got to carry your board across fields, there's a lot of rain, and it's cold. Here is a lot warmer and the conditions are a lot more consistent. So this is paradise compared to Scotland."

"When I was first taught to surf in Scotland, I didn't even get into the water for two days because I was learning etiquette. There was no one in the water! But I still learned it."

On this particular day, there were about 30 surfers out on the water, but according to Jones, that's not crowded for Tourmaline.

"I come here often, because I've had a few injuries in the past, playing soccer. So I come here to help get over my injuries. Surfing keeps me exercised, but I'm not doing something as hard as soccer."

Jones had never seen a shark while surfing until last Wednesday. "There were about six of us in the water and some guy was shouting, 'Shark!' and I turned my board around towards them and said, 'Let's stay together, guys, and it'll go away.' And as I turned, I saw the shark go past the tip of my board. It was eight foot, at least. A wave came straight away, and I caught it back to shore."

— Evelyn Grimm

Floating celebrity

"Watch out, San Diego Comic Con 2018 because Captain Kevin Smith is going to be onboard the IMDb boat," Smith said in an online video.

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

HARBOR POLICE REPORT

Jet skiers in distress, fuel spills and fugitive harboring in the harbor.

June 29 Harbor Police responded to Point Loma Peninsula for two jet skiers in distress. The jet ski operators got tangled in the kelp which stalled the motors making them vulnerable in the wind, currents and waves. One of the jet skiers eventually had to jump in the water due

to his ski getting caught in the waves. The jet ski wound up grounding on the rocks at the beach. The operator was picked up by surrounding boaters. Harbor Police responded to the Commercial Basin to investigate a small fuel spill. Harbor Police notified all regional environmental agencies.

Harbor Police responded to the area near the Caesar Chavez Pier to investigate the strong smell of paint. It was found that a tug boat company was painting sections of a barge. The company was using tarps and covers to avoid environmental issues but they did not get a permit for the work.

June 26 Harbor Police investigated a vessel burglary that occurred near the A-3

Anchorage. An unknown subject broke a window entering the vessel and stole several items. The crime is still under investigation. Harbor Police stored a small dinghy that was found adrift near the Maritime Museum. Harbor Police contacted a vessel towing another in Glorietta Bay for a lighting violation. The contact led to the apprehension of a fugitive and other subjects taken into custody for

harboring a fugitive, warrants and various other charges.

June 24 Harbor Police responded to a Harbor Island marina for a vessel taking on water. As Harbor Police arrived, marina management was already dewatering the vessel and doing what they could to contain a small fuel spill. The cause is believed to be a broken pipe in the engine room.

Water Conditions

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **70°F** HIGH **73°F**





VISIBILITY

10'-20'

After an early midweek W/SSW swell featuring a fun chest-high wave for south-facing breaks, the surf will drop off into and through the weekend to the 1'-2' range. With that, diving and snorkeling conditions should clean up as well; though a stiff breeze Monday might stir it up a little. Paddling will be best through the weekend mornings with slow, incoming $\frac{3}{4}$ foot-per-hour tides, and light to moderate wind.

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

				
JULY/AUGUST	THUR 26	SAT 28	MON 30	WED 1
SUNRISE	5:58	6:00	6:01	6:02
SUNSET	7:51	7:49	7:48	7:46
LENGTH OF DAY	13H 52M	13H 49M	13H 46M	13H 44M



IMDb yacht. Last year, hundreds of fans hung out to watch live interviews on the screen.

Smith is a 47-year-old actor, and the director of movies *Mallrats* and *Clerks*.

This is his third year of hosting up on the *California Spirit*, a 158-foot yacht moored behind the San Diego Convention Center.

Smith added that this year, he's bringing cast members from *Bumblebee* (a movie about a yellow Volkswagen Bug that transforms into a robot), *The Flash* movie, and *Arrow*, the superhero television series.

IMDb, an acronym for Internet Movie Database, is the world's most popular and authoritative source for movie, TV and celebrity content. It was launched online in 1990.

On July 17, I parked over by Joe's Crab Shack and walked about an eighth of a mile to the Fifth Avenue Landing (east gate) to check out the yacht. Upon entering the stern,

the celebrities and fans are greeted with giant IMDb letters in between the set of stairs that leads to the first level. On the third level of the yacht, staff members were constructing a truss frame with a large jumbotron screen facing the convention center.

The IMDb party began Thursday, July 19, and the spirits flowed in the two cocktail bars within the two climate-controlled lower levels.

Last year, hundreds of fans hung out by the landing to watch the live interviews on the screen and waited as celebrities were escorted to and from the convention center, which is about a hundred yards to the north.

Alan Hickey, a photographer, covered the 2017 Comic-Con for his college newspaper, *City Times*.

"Men in white polo shirts started running



It should take a good swimmer about ten minutes to swim out and around it.

two lines of rope across the footpath over to the IMDb yacht," he said. "As I turned around, the cast of *Fear the Walking Dead* and their handlers started to walk through. I photographed Sam Underwood, Colman Domingo, Kim Dickens and Alycia Debnam-Carey."

— Mike Madriaga

David Buoy

Every summer, lifeguards place orange buoys in the waters off Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, and Mission Beach, prompting people to ask, "What's that orange thing in the water?"

"It's out there every summer," one lifeguard told me. "Primarily for the junior lifeguards. Lifeguards use it as a destination for their training and so do Olympic athletes,

triathletes, college swimmers, water polo players, and people off the street."

"David Buoy started as part of a program for lifeguards to stay in shape." Buoy's handler was walking up and down Newport Avenue in OB, asking businesses to write messages all over him.

It will be placed in the water about 200 yards offshore, north of the OB Pier (June 19) and will remain through September. It should take a good swimmer about ten minutes to swim out and around it.

There are about eight buoys placed throughout the beaches, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, and Ocean Beach, "You can even take your own marker and leave a message on David Buoy."

— Delinda Lombardo

SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND HAS BEEN POINTING AT THE TUNA

Dock Totals July 15 – July 21: 5,356 anglers aboard 199 trips out of San Diego landings this past week caught 669 bluefin tuna, 243 yellowfin tuna, 19 dorado, 777 yellowtail, 1 white seabass (released), 289 bonito, 259 barracuda, 2,365 calico bass, 594 sand bass, 1,243 rockfish, 93 whitefish, 4 lingcod, 1,398 sculpin, 42 sheephead, 4 halibut, 151 sanddab, 2 thresher shark (released), 10 bocaccio, 1 cabezon, 3 black seabass (released), 2 yellowfin croaker, 1 brown smoothhound shark, 2 bat ray (released), and 1 escolar.

Saltwater: The large area of tuna outside are from deep into Mexican waters to west of San Diego. For the fish off our coast in American waters, the basic area has shifted west a little more, putting the majority of the action within 15 miles of San Clemente Island. I don't expect much of a change during the next couple weeks. Except maybe they'll start biting better. So far, they've been a bit hesitant and are keyed in on ball of tiny baitfish.

Looking at San Clemente Island on a map or chart, you can see that the lower end looks like a pointing hand. Basically, San Clemente Island is pointing at Todos Santos Island off Ensenada, some 112 miles away. Anywhere along that line or parallel to it by twenty-five miles might hold a school of yellowfin or bluefin tuna. Kelp paddies are collecting dorado as the water warms and they start filling into the area with the yellowfin. Some of the counts look horrible; a handful of bluefin to a few dozen anglers doesn't look like good fishing. But when you see fish pushing 300 pounds hitting the deck and foaming schools of tuna blowing up bait balls, one has to conclude that the numbers of fish-per-angler landed will go way up shortly. It's not only that the fish are concentrating on the fry-sized bait in the water; they are brutish fish and just about everyone fishing them has lost more than they have landed.

China Point sits five miles east-southeast of Pyramid Head, and is the southern-most part of the Island. I remember anchoring there in the summer of 1980 catching small bluefin tuna on light line and small hooks due to the tiny bait we had. It was a one fish in four or five hook-ups to land a fish once

hooked. Between the fish chewing you off or a sea lion taking a tired fish, we lost the vast majority. But if the hook was set just right and the 'dogs' left your fish alone, the Penn 500s we used had room for about 600 yards of 15 pound test line on the spool; plenty to wear the fish down. Be glad the big fish this season are not so line shy – a 287 pounder hit the deck this past week that ate a 200 pound leader tied to 130 pound mainline, and it took every bit of that to complete the feat.

On that note, as far as gear and terminal tackle, be sure and ask the landing when making reservations, or message the specific boat or landing on their Facebook page. I can say that so far, it's a lot of trolling and then bait on a stop, or bait and lures casted into a metered school or sighted foamer, so anglers need to take the full quiver of rods and reels, and terminal tackle from surface irons and flyline-able circle hooks in 2/0 to 4/0 sizes, to flat-falls, heavy irons and weights for dropper loops. Go get 'em!

Fish Plants: July 27, Lake Poway, catfish (TBD), Santee Lakes, catfish (1,000), July 30, Jennings, catfish (1,000).

Sam the taco guy

"I'm not a purist. I'm a food agnostic."

When is a taco not a taco? I've come to this brand-new Little Italy Food Hall's opening day to find out.

From The Princess Pub, you can see it happening at the other end of the Piazza della Famiglia. Crowds mill around the food hall entrance near the fountain. Red chairs, black umbrellas dot the piazza's broad space between.

But I'm searching for this TV food guy who's supposed to be here, the guy who's invented a new take on the taco.

I make it to the food hall's entrance, by the fountain. And right outside sits this 3-wheel, white and blue tuk-tuk with a counter cut into its side. I go up to the gal at the counter. Misa. "Is the food hall open yet?" I ask. "They're just having a little ceremony in there," she says. "Then we'll be open for business."

Turns out she's selling beer and wine. Or will be when this whole operation launches.

"Wow. We can drink it out here?"

"You got it."

"We don't have to sit behind barriers or go inside?"

"You got it. Anywhere in the piazza."

OMG. That's a revolution. Where else can you drink on a public street?

Somebody comes running out.

"They're open!"

"Alright. That makes you Customer Number One. Beer or wine?"

Hey hey! I ask for a beer. Get draft Pizza Port Chronic Ale. Go sip it at a public table near the fountain. Cool! That's one small sip for man, one giant gulp for social San Diego.

Now I peek inside. Huh. All the different food places. Roast, a beef place from Canada; Ambrogio 15, a pizza place with a \$50,000 Italian oven, so someone says; Wicked! Maine Lobster; Single Fin Kitchen, fish place, and at the other end; Mein Street, a noodle joint; and aha! "Not Not Tacos."

Except, what da heck does "Not Not Tacos"

mean?

Its sign says "By Sam the Cooking Guy." Turns out he's a TV cooking celeb. I join the line. Prices range from \$4 to \$6.50. People stew aloud over which ones they're going to order.

Let's see: Sam's Meatloaf Taco (\$6) promises meatloaf with a chipotle apricot glaze, monterey jack, sour cream. The, uh, Mashed Potato Taco (\$4), is basically that, mash, plus sour cream, cholula, and chips. You can add bacon for 50 cents. Deal.

Then there's one called "Sunday Dinner," (5.50). It's chicken, stuffing, gravy, crispy onions, parsley, and sour cream.

Starting to get this. We're pushing the taco way out of its comfort zone. Each one feels like a fresh idea. Smokey pork and mac (\$6) promises real mac'n cheese on the pork, plus a bit of hot sauce and sour cream. Curried egg salad (\$4.50, or \$5 if you add bacon) is "Sam's favorite," menu says. Me too. I've always loved curried eggs. But in a taco?

Plus there's a pastrami taco, a shrimp taco, an Asian salmon taco, and a Korean short rib taco. And, uh, a dessert taco? Lawdy.

I go for the top two, Sam's meatloaf and the mashed potato taco. Figure they'll go with my beer. And hey, the meatloaf would go with anything. The meat is herby, and with that chipotle apricot glaze and the cheese and fresh-looking spring onions, the word is lush, the feel is louche. And it sluices down beautifully with the Chronic Ale. Even this crazy idea of dumping a wad of mash in a tortilla gets me feeling Sam the Cooking Guy knows his gastronomical stuff. Because the mashed potato taco, which coulda been totally bland, is saved by the Cholula green onion, and sour cream, plus salty potato chip pieces. This one hits the bullseye.

Sam the Cooking Guy himself comes by. Have to ask him how he got this idea. "On TV, I do weird," he says. "I'm not a purist. I'm a food agnostic. And one day I was sitting eating a taco. Good *pollo asado*. Then I thought 'But why not load it with other stuff?'" It was as simple



Food Hall Ambassador Shaunta holds my beer, three minutes after the official opening.



First to exercise the piazza's freedom to imbibe laws: Lauren, Gina, Amanda, Vanessa.

as that."

I mean, what he's doing takes guts. He's stealing the taco idea out from under the noses of an entire culture. But he's got a palate I'm starting to trust. It's not just splotting anglo nosh into a Mexican tortilla. It's creating new taste experiences. I find myself saying "Huh," about every second chomp. I think he's onto something. I know taco purists will roll their eyes just as much as Tokyo sushi chefs do at the mention of "California roll." But I think: now that he's done the unthinkable, it doesn't feel unthinkable any more.

So, about a week later, I'm back, and desperate to try the taco with macaroni and cheese on it. Just because, well, outrageous, right? Can it actually be tasty too? I end up getting



Sam



Sam's Meatloaf Taco.



The new reality: mashed potato taco.

three tacos.

The smokey pork and mac is definitely interesting. Flavor's bolstered by the pork's sour cream and sriracha mix-up. The macaroni adds the cheesy note. Not bad. I move on to Kelly's Shrimp Taco (named after Sam's wife, turns out). Good and garlicky, and plenty of the little guys. But the standout has to be the Korean short ribs. They taste like... well, just like Korean short ribs. Dark, juicy. Sour cream and ginger garlic soy sauce carry the day. The *gochujang* red pepper sauce adds zip and flavor. The crispy panko gives crunch. Beautiful combo.

I'm way full. Next time, I'll venture on to Sam's dessert taco, the Vanilla Mango (\$5). It's a crispy cinnamon sugar tortilla with fresh mango, vanilla ice cream, almonds, spicy honey and lemon.

Finally, I'm starting to get what the name's about. They're not not tacos. They're kinda tacos. Heck, let's just call them what they are: Gringo tacos.

The Place: Not Not Tacos, in Little Italy Food Hall, 550 West Date Street, Little Italy, 619-269-7187

Hours: 11:00am - 10:00pm (till 11pm, Friday, Saturday)

Prices: Sam's Meatloaf Taco, \$6; Mashed Potato Taco, \$4; Sunday Dinner Taco (chicken, stuffing, gravy), \$5.50; Smokey Pork and Mac, \$6; curried egg salad taco, \$4.50; Izzy's Pastrami Taco, \$6.25; Kelly's Shrimp Taco, \$5; Asian Salmon Taco, \$6; Korean Short Rib Taco, \$6.50; Vanilla Mango Dessert Taco, \$5

Bus: 83

Nearest Bus Stops: India at Cedar northbound; Kettner at Cedar (southbound)

Trolley: Green Line

Nearest Trolley Stop: County Center/Little Italy

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These noods are for noobs

WestPac Noodle Bar, 1166 Orange Avenue, Coronado. In military parlance, *West Pac* refers to the western Pacific, which may include Hawaii, Japan, and much of southeast Asia. As a military brat, I grew up familiar with the term, and ultimately spent time living in West Pac myself, where I recall eating plenty of noodles. Because, regardless of where I've lived, a noodle dish has always constituted comfort food.

So when West Pac Noodle Bar opened in Coronado, I could get behind the concept. Heck, I was willing to look past the restaurant's tendency to refer to its noodle dishes as "noods." (Just to be clear, if the place were called West Pac Noods Bar, I promise I would have never made it through the front door.)

I did make it inside, though, and found a good-looking dining room, built around a bar backed by white subway tiles and colorful fish scale artwork.

Though happy hour had concluded, most of the bar seats were full, and plenty of tables as well. A patio section, parallel to the Orange Avenue sidewalk, proved equally busy.

Whether undermanned or overtasked, the wait staff didn't seem to have a moment to spare to seat one more, and I was forced to hover

for ten minutes before an alert busboy offered to set me up at an outside table. He would prove my saving grace throughout the meal. Though unable to take my order, or issue my check, neither of

these transactions would have taken place had he not been vigilant about tracking down my harried waiter, time and again.

To be fair, that's not a deal-breaker for me. I don't exactly make it easy on restaurant staff. I've got questions about the menu, and if you're unlucky enough to have answers, I'll have follow-up questions that will probably require consultation with the chef. For example, what is the idea behind "velvet chicken?"

Apparently, that's West Pac menu speak for chicken breast poached in a broth seasoned by cardamom, ginger, and anise. It's a feature of the lo mein I ordered — at my server's recommendation — over options ranging from ramen to dan dan noodles.

Whereas everything else moved slow, delivery of the food came quick. The "Shanghai noodles" described by the menu turned out to be thick wheat and egg noodles, stir fried with scallions, carrots, onions, sesame seeds, and Shitake mushrooms. For \$13,

it wasn't a large portion, but a reasonable amount of food considering its Crown City location.

That said, I detected nothing velvety about the chicken, which had the generic taste and texture of having been reheated rather than cooked fresh. The noodles had a rubbery elasticity that might have been all right had the dish not been dominated by sodium and overcooked garlic. At least the bar part of the formula works: I was grateful to have a crisp local beer to wash

it down.

Based on the combination of uninspiring food and less-than-stellar service, what does this place have that its crowd was so lively on a Thursday

FEAST!



Not a lot of lo mein to get excited about.



A tourist-friendly location keeps the noodle bar hopping.



Sonora or no, chilaquiles in a burrito.

night? Location. West Pac Noodle Bar seems to have touched upon that magic formula of a tourist restaurant, designed to serve mediocre food at favorable price points to customers who aren't worth impressing because they're just going home to Seattle, or Saint Paul, or Virginia Beach anyway. It may sound cynical, but there will always be a new set of tourists arriving next week, tourists in search of comfort food. Maybe in search of noods.

by Ian Anderson

What's inside this burrito?

Sonora Express Mexican Fusion, 3130 University Avenue, North Park. On the opposite shore of the

Sea of Cortez from Baja California, due south of Arizona, sits the Mexican state of Sonora. Despite our relative proximity, San Diego doesn't see a lot of restaurant dishes attributed to Sonoran traditions. And when we do, most often, it's bacon-wrapped hot dogs.

But at least one local place has, at any given time, banked on the Sonoran name. Small branches of Sonora Express Mexican Fusion have been cropping up around the county over the past two years. And, in the cases of locations downtown and in El Cajon, promptly closing.

You have to admire the tenacity. A current Murphy Canyon spot has remained in business over a year, and three months back, a second opened

GRUBBY'S
POKE
FISH MARKET

Now Open

From The Creators of **SONORA GRUBBY'S**

Located at The Shoppes at Carlsbad
2525 El Camino Real Suite 216C
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bfd
big front door

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san diego, ca 92103

619-255-4100

open daily 11-8

now open in solana beach
437 Hwy 101, Suite 107
solana beach, ca 92075

bfdsandiego.com

savory deli ■ wine & beer shop ■ catering



1/2 Off Appetizers

Everyday between 3-6pm all of our appetizers are half off. From our famous Buffalo Chicken Bites to our delicious Pepperoni Crisps!



699 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA
makesandiego.com

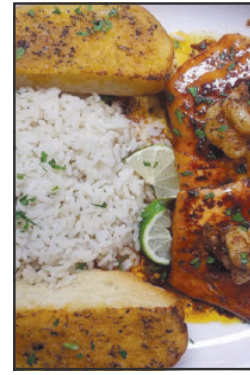


50% Off Entrée

50% off entrée with purchase of entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Valid Mon-Fri Only. 1 coupon per table. Expires 8/24/18.



3 Locations.
Visit our website:
themiissionsd.com



Yummy Appetizers

Half off all appetizers up to \$15.00 from 2:00 to 6:00 pm Tuesday through Friday.

Sand Crab Tavern

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Buy 1 Street Taco
Get a Free Quesadilla!
Limit 1 per person



IB STREET TACOS
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www.imperialbeachstreettacos.com



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Limit 1 per person



TNT TORTILLA N TACO FACTORY
130 South Mollison, El Cajon, CA 92020
619-938-2211
www.tortillantacofactory.com



BUY ONE TACO & GET ONE FREE

Any Taco, Buy one & Get one of equal or lesser value FREE!
With this ad, expires August 23, 2018.

BEST TACOS IN SAN DIEGO!



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(619) 528-8574
info@ElToroGrillTaqueria.com



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Buy 1 Get One Free!

Buy one frozen yogurt, get one free!
*Of equal or lesser value.



1886 Garnet Ave, San Diego, 92109
(858) 274-3950



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Free Quesadilla

Limit 1 per person



3028 University Ave. San Diego, CA 92104 (619) 296-2303
8325 La Mesa Blvd. La Mesa, CA 91942 (619) 467-7999
www.citytacosd.com



Buy 1 Thai Tea Get 1 For Free

Brewed daily by Korat, Thailand native chef JJ. Dont miss this special! Also offering other Thai beverages. Limited time only.



4965 Cass St, San Diego, CA 92109
619-369-1688
www.hotornotthai.com



Buy One Burger + Get One Free!

Fresh food made to order. Buy a Biggie's burger and get one free, of equal or lesser value.



4631 Mission Blvd, San Diego, 92109
858-263-4433



2 For 1 Fish Tacos!

Buy one of our delicious fish tacos and get one free!
Offer valid for regular size OR street taco size, you decide!



Bahia PB Mexican Grill and Juice Bar
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Buy one, get one 50% off

Rakitori Japanese Pub & Grill offers Happy Hour special with any draft beer, house hot sake, cold nigori sake, and 10 selected appetizers.

Rakitori Japanese Pub & Grill

530 University Ave
San Diego, 92103
619-501-4091



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Over 70 sandwiches to choose from! One discount per person, per ticket. Must mention ad. Tues-Sat, 11:30-4:30, thru 8/11/18 only!



Classic Rock Sandwiches
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sandwichessandiego.com



Buy One Appetizer & Get a Thai Soup Free!

Authentic Thai garlic wings, garlic crab and potstickers made fresh to order. Get one free Tom Yum or Tom Kha soup with order of an appetizer. Offer valid for takeout orders!



4965 Cass St, San Diego, CA 92109
619-369-1688 • www.hotornotthai.com



**Buy one entrée,
get one free**

Buy one entrée get second one for free with purchase of 2 drinks. Exclude lunch special and happy hours.



859 Hornblend St, San Diego
858-272-1600 • spicelounge.com



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BOGO any size ice cream!
4:30PM-6:00PM



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Hookah
50% off**

Happy Hour | Everyday | 3pm-7pm



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**Buy One Dinner
Get One Free**

Buy one Dinner Entree & get the 2nd FREE (maximum discount \$10; Expires August 9, 2018)
Serving Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.
A Hidden Gem in Serra Mesa.



3232 Greyling Dr, San Diego CA 92123
(858) 430-6755

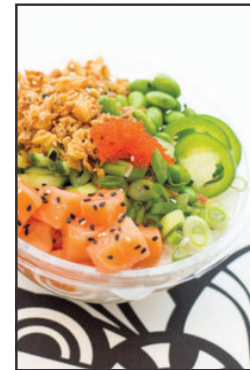


**Buy 1 Potsticker
appetizer & a beer,
Get 2nd Potsticker
appetizer free**

Beer not included with free appetizer
Cannot be combined with any other offer
One per person



623 Pearl Street, La Jolla, CA 92037
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**Buy one Poke Bowl
Get One Free
"Extra"**

Packin' the freshest bowls in town!
Come check out our new location in PB, and get this awesome deal with mention of this coupon.



740 Hornblend Street, San Diego, CA, 92104
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City Heights Community.



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Gyro Salad**

With purchase of
14" one topping pizza.
We serve breakfast,
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Gus's Subs & Pizza

5620 Baltimore Drive
La Mesa, 91942
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**Buy 1 chicken pie,
gravy and roll for \$5.99
and receive the second for**

50% OFF

Weekdays between 2pm - 8pm
This offer cannot be combined with
any current promotion.
Please present coupon to the server.



2633 El Cajon Blvd, North Park
www.chickenpieshops.com
(619) 295-0156



**Buy One Pizza &
Get One Free!**

Serving authentic New York pizza
and ice cream sandwiches with
homemade cookies! BOGO pizza
of equal or lesser value. Bring this
coupon for validation.



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**2 for 1
appetizers**

3:30-6pm
Monday-Wednesday.
With this ad.

**Dan Diego's
Euro Café & Pub**

2415 Morena Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92110
619-276-2100



**Dinner for 4
only \$19.99**

Free spaghetti or lasagna
with purchase of a large 14"
two topping pizza for \$19.99.

**Fletcher Hills
Bottle Shop**

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El Cajon, 92020 • 619-469-8410
Delivery Uber & GrubHub



**2 for 1 Dinner
Entree**

Must be of equal or lesser value
(\$16 maximum)
Cannot be combined with any other offer.
One per person



623 Pearl Street, La Jolla, CA 92037
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lajollachinache fsd.com



Got Fish!!!

Free Brownie Sundae
with \$30 purchase.



**Bay Park
Fish Company**

4121 Ashton Street
San Diego, 92110
619-276-3474



**Buy One Lunch
Get One Free**

Buy one Lunch Entree & get the 2nd Free
(maximum discount \$10; Expires August 9, 2018)
Serving Breakfast, lunch & Dinner
A Hidden Gem In Serra Mesa.



3232 Greyling Dr, San Diego CA 92123
(858) 430-6755

Calendar RESTAURANT

in North Park. That's where I finally found it, on University Avenue, in what could legitimately be called a *hole in the wall*. There's no going inside the restaurant; it's mainly a kitchen with a Dutch door open to take orders, and a few tables on the sidewalk.

What really caught my atten-

tion was the menu posted next to the door, which offered burritos the likes of which I've never seen.

A sign hanging over the sidewalk calls Sonora Express "House of the Rockefeller," and a Rockefeller burrito heads up the \$9.50 burrito list. It offers steak, shrimp, grilled onions, and cheese rolled into a flour tortilla grilled with bacon crumbles embedded in a schmear of cream cheese. Other



A North Park hole in the wall with memorable burritos.

burritos follow suit. I ordered one that swapped the surf and turf for carne asada and garlic sautéed mushrooms. A third employed strips of grilled jalapeño.

The use of cream cheese and bacon in this way is new to me. A man claiming to be an owner told me he hails from Sonora, and when I asked whether such toppings are common there, he offered a shrug and sly grin. The closest indication I could find online is a place in Tucson that wraps a burrito in crispy strips of bacon.

But here is an interesting bit of trivia about Sonora: is it's one part of Mexico where European wheat crops flourished. Consequently, the use of flour tortillas

is more prevalent in the region. Which means burritos. Sonoran cities are credited for the creating the *burro percherón*, better known in the United States as a super burrito. To give you an idea, a *percherón* means large work horse, whereas *burrito* means small donkey.

This carne and mushroom burrito wasn't so massive at that. Rather, it was fairly big, but burritos larger than my forearm have become the norm in this town, so its size didn't stand out. The meaty, greasy, salty scope of it sure did. The cream cheese melts into an all-encompassing dairy lubricant. This is hangover food.

Which brings me further down the burrito menu. Sonora

Express opens at noon, but it serves "all day breakfast burritos" for \$6.99. A couple of these are pretty standard: bacon, eggs, potatoes, etc. The chicken and waffles burrito is not.

Nor is the *chilaquiles* burrito, filled with corn tortilla strips cooked in what tastes like a guajillo chili sauce, rolled in a flour tortilla with beans, caramelized onions, and a fried egg. Not as decadent as the Rockefeller, say, but pretty solid execution of a mashup concept. And cheap.

Whether these burritos are truly Sonoran or merely creative, they wind up memorable. I didn't even think to try one of the eatery's three takes on a bacon-wrapped hot dog.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK

Awakening 2018 with Jonathan Butler Awakening Outreach presents a night filled of music, food, drinks, and fun with two-time Grammy nominated jazz artist Jonathan Butler. Concert will be held on the naturally-created amphitheater lawn area, by the clock tower at the MiraCosta College. All ticket holders will have access to picnic food and beverages. VIP package includes valet parking, seating closest to the stage, and access to backstage VIP area,

with charcuterie and hors d'oeuvres provided by world culinary artist, Chef Roc. Saturday, July 28, 6pm; \$25-\$100. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

California Dreaming California Dreaming, the beach party of the summer, returns to the Bahia just in time to celebrate warm nights on Mission Bay. Watch the sunset with family and friends while enjoying the fresh clambake and fiery BBQ on the sand with a cocktail in hand. Then dance the night away to the tunes of The Mar Dels. Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, August 30, \$28-\$52. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Daybreak at Del Mar Calling all early birds! Come down to where the turf meets the surf to enjoy a delicious breakfast in the open-air Clubhouse Terrace Restaurant and witness some of the world's most prestigious Thoroughbreds do their morning workouts every Saturday and Sunday during the summer season at Del Mar. Saturdays, 7:30am; Sundays, 7:30am; through Sunday, September 2, free-\$10. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Dinner & a Concert A different band plays every week. Fridays, 6pm; through Friday, May 11, free. Prescott Promenade, 201 E. Main Street. (EL CAJON)

Donuts Day Come down to where the turf meets the surf for free coffee, orange juice and decadent donuts to kick start your day. Enjoy your delicious treats while listening to Q&A sessions led by track announcer Trevor Denman with world-class jockeys and watching the beautiful horses during their morning workouts. Kids will love all the free activities being offered including face painting, entertainers, free prizes and a meet and greet with Del Mar Mascot, Pony Boy. Saturday, July 28, 8am; free. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Street Food Friday Street Food Vendors come together to provide our residents and food junkies exquisite food from far and beyond. Fridays, 5pm; through Friday, September 28, free. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

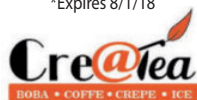
Tapas Thursdays Spend an evening enjoying the best tapas and live music Carlsbad has to offer with Tapas Thursday at TWENTY/20 Grill every week! Thursdays, 5:30pm; through Thursday, August 9, free. Twenty/20 Grill & Wine Bar, Sheraton Hotel, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Taste of the Turf Club Enhance your Sundays with Taste of the Turf Club! One of San Diego's most celebrated chefs, Chef Brian Malarkey, will create new culinary marvels for guests to enjoy at the exclusive Turf Club every Sunday of the season. Sundays, 12pm; through Sunday, September 2, \$100. Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)



Free Small Classic Milk Tea With Boba!

Get a free small classic milk tea with boba with a purchase of our NEW BELGIAN WAFFLE! Must mention Reader ad when ordering. Can substitute classic for any milk or fruit tea of the same size. *Expires 8/1/18



1001 Garnet Ave #105, San Diego, 92109
858-732-0040



1/2 OFF a 1 Topping Pizza

Buy any pizza at regular menu price and receive a second 1 topping pizza 1/2 off. Limit 1 coupon per customer, per visit, not to be combined with any other offers.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-283-2333



Buy a Wrap & Get a Free Fruit Smoothie!

Buy a deli wrap sandwich and get a 12oz fruit smoothie free! Mango, blueberry, strawberry, banana.

*No Acai smoothies



909 Grand Ave #7 • (858) 581-0670



Buy One Curly Fries + Get Steak Fries Free!

Our curly fries are the talk of the town, come in and try for yourself! Only at Biggie's.



4631 Mission Blvd, San Diego, 92109
858-263-4433



A BIG THANK YOU!

FROM  TOSTADAS
FRESH FRUIT & SEAFOOD BAR

TO ALL OF OUR WONDERFUL PATRONS

We will be closed starting August 1, reopening in early fall 2018.
Something New and Exciting is coming!

In the meantime don't forget to check out #STREETFOODMADEWITHLOVE in all our other locations:



City Tacos
3028 University Ave.
619-296-2303



8325 La Mesa Blvd
La Mesa, CA 91942
619-467-7999



IB Street Tacos
805 Seacoast Dr, IB
619-6221-5814



130 South Mollison Ave
El Cajon, CA 92020
619-938-2211

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ALL YOU CAN EAT!

American-Chinese-Japanese Cuisine

THE LARGEST SELECTION BUFFET • Serving 158 items and Crab Legs Daily



LUNCH Mon-Sat 11am-3:30pm | DINNER Mon-Thurs 3:30pm-9:30pm; Fri-Sat 3:30pm-10pm | SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS 11am-9:30pm

10% OFF
TOTAL BILL

With this coupon. One coupon per party per table. Dine-in only. Not valid on holidays, or with other coupons. Expires August 8, 2018.

FREE
Child's Buffet

With purchase of 2 adult buffets & 2 beverages (child under 10 years of age) With this coupon. One coupon per party per table. Dine-in only. Not valid on holidays, or with other coupons. Expires August 8, 2018.

15% OFF
Total Bill for Seniors

At regular price. With this coupon. One coupon per party per table. Dine-in only. Not valid on holidays, or with other coupons. Expires August 8, 2018.

1840 Garnet Avenue • Pacific Beach, CA 92109 | 858-273-6868
www.greatplazabuffet.com

natsumi

SUSHI & SEAFOOD BUFFET

Enjoy Our Newly Remodeled Restaurant
Try Our New Fresh Menu Items



Hours: Sun.-Thurs. 11am-9:30pm, Fri. & Sat. 11am-10pm

\$1.00 OFF

Regular Lunch Buffet

No limit to number of adults that can use this coupon. Not valid on Holidays and cannot be combined with other offers. Dine in only. Surrender coupon for redemption. Photocopies or digital images NOT accepted. Expires August 9, 2018.

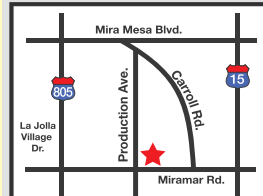
\$2.00 OFF

Regular Dinner Buffet

Limit of 10 adults can use this coupon. Not valid on Holidays and cannot be combined with other offers. Dine in only. Surrender coupon for redemption. Photocopies or digital images NOT accepted. Expires August 9, 2018.

FREE
BIRTHDAY MEAL

with at least six regular paying adults. Cannot be combined with other offers. ID required.



7040 Miramar Rd., San Diego, CA 92121 • 858-695-0888 • www.natsumibuffet.com

Saranya's Thai Café
\$1 pancake for every \$10 purchased with coupon



\$1 OFF any 2 Paninis

At Little Italy

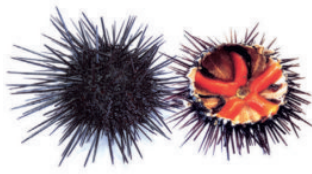
Valid through Aug 2, 2018 only. One coupon per customer per booth.



Find us at Little Italy Saturday

Seb's Paninis

Fresh fish and local sea urchin from
SALMON SLINGER



at Little Italy

Mikolich Honey



Little Italy



SAN DIEGO

Wednesday Market
NOW OPEN
Every Wednesday
9 am to 1 pm
West Date Street
From Kettner Blvd to
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HAPPY HOUR

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

BANKERS HILL

The Caliph: Tuesday-Saturday, 6-8:30pm: \$4 domestic beers, \$4.50 well drinks, \$1.50 off premium beers, \$2 off everything else.

BARRIO LOGAN

MishMash: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 craft beer, wine, sangria. \$1 off fries.

¡Salud! Tuesday, 2-5pm: \$4 beers and free chips. Three tacos for \$6.

CHULA VISTA

Galley at the Marina: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 well drinks; house chardonnay, cabernet, and merlot; Budweiser, Bud Light, or Shock Top 16-oz. pints, \$6 galley drinks. Appetizers \$1.99-\$8.99. Saturday-Sunday, 9am-noon: \$4 well drinks; house chardonnay, cabernet, and merlot; Budweiser, Bud Light, or Shock Top 16-oz. pints, \$6 galley drinks.

CITY HEIGHTS

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

Analog: Thursday-Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine, \$2-\$9 appetizers including \$2

burger sliders, \$7 calamari, and \$9 jalapeño mac & cheese.

Asti Ristorante: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3.50 domestic beers, \$5 imported beers, \$6 house wine, martinis, cocktails, pizza \$9.

Buster's Beach House & Longboard Bar: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 2-5pm: \$1 off drafts, wine, well drinks, \$6 margaritas, mai tai, Long Island iced tea, \$5 and \$6 appetizers.

Cafe 21: Daily, 3-6pm: Half off craft beer, mimosas, and sangria pitchers.

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

Currant: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 to \$13.95 appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 9am-2:30pm: \$15 per person bottomless mimosa, \$7.50 to \$15.95 brunch menu.

Dobson's: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 draft beer, \$6 well drinks and house wine.

Double Standard: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 off glass of wine, cocktails, half off wine bottles, \$5 draft beer, \$10 oysters.

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: Five cocktails, five wines, and five appetizers, \$6 each.

Florent: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 wells, drafts, and house wines, half off share plates.

Grant Grill: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-7pm: \$7 red, white, or sparkling wine, \$10 martinis. \$2 off lounge cuisine.

Henry's Pub: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, wines, and wells. Sunday, \$12 bottomless mimosa until 1pm.

The Hopping Pig: Daily, 11am-7pm: \$4.50 select pints and wells, \$1 off all craft drafts. \$3 tacos or sliders.

Meze Greek Fusion: Daily, 3-6pm: \$3-\$5 Greek bottled beer, \$4 off Greek wine, \$5 draft beer and well cocktails, \$6 select vodka, gin, whiskey, tequila, rum.

Mint Downtown Thai: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 sake, \$3 beers, \$5

Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



MEGHAN BALSER

Herb & Wood
2210 Kettner Blvd,
San Diego 619-
955-8495 [www.
herbandwood.com](http://www.herbandwood.com)

If your tongue is quiet enough, it can taste the whisper of Japanese whisky folded gently into the other spirits that Herb & Wood's cocktail curator Meghan Balser puts into her Vodka & Lavender.

"I think the bar spoon of Suntory Toki ties it all together," she says. "It binds all the flavors — with a tiny unexpected note of honey and vanilla."

That honeyed hint is only part of the subtlety in this variation of the classic vesper, now appearing in the new cocktail program at Herb & Wood.

With all the global scope of a James Bond adventure, Balser's take on 007's first love includes not only an elegant token of *uisuki*, but also lavender-infused Cocchi Americano (Italy's iteration of Lillet Blanc, the tonic wine traditionally used in a vesper), San Diego's own You & Yours Vodka, and the Spanish-made Gin Mari. In sorting out this melee of spirits, Balser says,

the gin's botanicals serve as a sort of focusing principle for the cocktail.

"The Gin Mari has some light rosemary and Mediterranean herbal influences," she says. "I wanted to marry these two flavors together with some vodka and some whiskey."

Admitting her love for "direct cocktails" that don't fool around with much beyond distilled spirits and clean, assertive flavors, Balser says her vesper starts with a hard edge but ends in gentle repose.

"It's a strong stirred direct cocktail," she says, "but the lavender softens it around the edges."

The lavender was also a sticking point in developing the drink, Balser adds.

"It was a challenge finding the balance in the lavender," she says. "I didn't want it to have an overly perfumed or soapy flavor."

All the same, Balser sought to honor her favorite classic cocktail as much in the herb-cum-whisky breach as in the gin-cum-quinine-cum-vodka juncture.

"The Vodka & Lavender offers a floral and more feminine version of the vesper," she says. "Since I used to work at a whiskey bar and love working with whiskey, I wanted to bring that into the cocktail as well."

HERB & WOOD'S VODKA & LAVENDER



- 1 ½ oz. Gin Mari
- 1 oz. You & Yours Vodka
- ½ oz. Lavender-infused Cocchi Americano
- 1 bar spoon Suntory Toki Japanese Whisky

Pour ingredients into mixing glass three-fourths filled with ice, stir and strain into coupe with lemon twist garnish.

featured wine or small beer & small sake, \$7 large beer & small sake, half off selected starters.

Pinzimini: Daily, 5-7pm and 9-11pm: \$6 house wine, well drinks, \$1 off draft beer, \$6-\$9 appetizers, \$10 build-your-own 3 topping pizza.

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

Rustic Root: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 local beers and wines, \$6 premium drinks, \$8 cocktails. Appetizers \$4.50-\$7.

Searsucker Gaslamp: Monday-Saturday, 2:30-6pm: \$6 local craft beer and sangria, \$7 glass of wine and

wells, \$9 specialty cocktails. Appetizers \$4-\$12.

Stout Public House: Daily, 4-8pm: \$4 select drafts.

Striders Clublounge: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 well drinks and select drafts, \$5 Jameson all day every day. Saturday-Sunday, \$5 Jameson all day every day, add a beer to any lunch order for \$3.

Topside Terrace Kitchen & Bar: Daily, 3pm-6pm: \$6 craft beer, \$7 well cocktails, \$8 seasonal wine selections.

Vin de Syrah Wine Parlor: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 5-7pm: \$7 well cocktails, draft beers, featured wines, and housemade sangria (red or white).

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

EAST VILLAGE

Bootlegger: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 3pm-7pm: \$5 wells and calls, house wines, and draft specials. \$5 small plates. Tuesday, 11am-1:30pm: \$2 tacos. Thursday, 11am-1:30pm: \$10 build your own burger and domestic draft. Saturday-Sunday, 9am-1pm: \$14.95 bottomless mimosas, \$10-\$12 brunch menu.

The Deck at Moonshine Flats: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 2 for 1 Buena Cerveza, \$5 we-call-its.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday, 7-9pm: \$6

signature cocktails. Friday-Saturday, 5-9pm: \$6 signature cocktails.

Nectar Room at Hive Sushi Lounge: Monday-Saturday, 5-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off all drafts and specialty cocktails, \$1-\$6 sushi. Sunday, All day: \$1 off all drafts and specialty cocktails, \$1-\$6 sushi.

Neighborhood: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: Two-for-one local beers.

EL CAJON

The Junction Steakhouse & Sports Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half off all alcohol and appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 9am-5pm: Half off all alcohol and appetizers.

Main Tap Tavern: Monday, 3-6pm: \$6 lunch specials. Tuesday,



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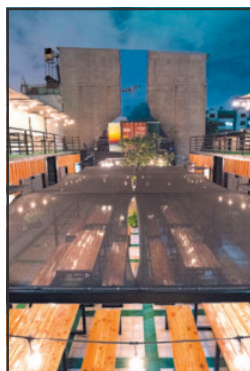


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3-6pm: \$4.50 appetizers. \$2.50 fish tacos. *Wednesday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$4.50 appetizers. *Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4.50 appetizers. All day \$4 shots. *Saturday*, 3-6pm: \$5 meatball sandwich. *Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$3 Bloody Marys and mimosas.

GOLDEN HILL

Kafe Sobaka: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4.50 infused vodkas, cocktails, wine by the glass, \$5.50 all beers. \$4.50 tapachkas.

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

GRANTVILLE

Camel's Breath Inn: *Monday*, 10am-8pm: \$1 off margaritas. *Tuesday*, 10am-8pm: \$3 domestic beers, \$2.50 for PBRs 12-ounce cans, \$4.50 Pacifico.

Longhorn Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3.75 Budweiser/Bud Light pints and well drinks.

HILLCREST

Akinori Sushi: *Daily*, 5:30-7pm: \$99 small hot sake, \$2.50 draft beer, \$7.50 sake combo (beer and sake), \$12.50 draft beer pitcher. Appetizers \$6.95 to \$12.95.

Blue Forno Grill: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$2 off beer and wine. \$4 Hummus Plate, Baba Ghanoush.

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

Chocolat: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$2 off wines by the glass.

IMPERIAL BEACH

The Salty Frog: *Monday-Thursday*, 2-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts and \$3.50 wells, 10% military discount. *Friday*, 2-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts and \$3.50 wells. *Sunday*, \$5 Make-your-own Bloody Mary bar, 10% military discount.

KEARNY MESA

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium wells. \$5 appetizers including porky grilled cheese, smokey chicken wings, BLT sliders, fried cornmeal green tomatoes, loaded fries, fried mac-n-cheese.

LA MESA

Casa de Pico: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Complimentary appetizer buffet with any drink purchase.

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

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.

Jolt'n Joe's La Mesa: *Tuesday*, 4-7pm: \$3 well drinks. *Wednesday*, 7-11pm: \$3 you call it.

Narumi Sushi: *Daily*, 5-7pm: 99 cents select appetizers with purchase of large beer or sake.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: *Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday*, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$6 Mules and Art Snob. *Friday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$6 Mules and Art Snob.

West Coast Barbecue and Brew: *Monday*, 11:30am-3pm: \$1 off all pints. *Tuesday, Thursday*, 11:30am-3pm, 8-10pm: \$1 off all pints. *Wednesday*, \$1 off all pints all day. *Friday*, 11:30am-3pm, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints. *Saturday*, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints. *Sunday*, \$14 craft beer pitchers all day.

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Blimey, that's my local!

For those of us in South Park, a visit to our friendly neighborhood brewery often means a short walk to **South Park Brewing Company** (1517 30th Street.) But it's not always a no-brainer. Owner Scot Blair opened the brewery right next door to his popular pub, **Hamilton's Tavern**. Hamilton's offers 30 or more highly regarded brews, compared to maybe a dozen house beers at the brewery.

From a craft beer fan's standpoint, choosing brewery over bar seems limiting.

It hasn't helped that South Park Brewing spent much of its first three years in flux. Originally, it was a brewery and seafood market restaurant, with broad, west-facing windows and a cramped kitchen. But sunlight

shining through the windows during prime, late afternoon hours filled the room with glare and heat; not a great environment for seafood. The kitchen was reconfigured, the menu switched to pub fare, and the windows got darkly tinted.

But the dark tint made the brewery appear closed, even when it wasn't. Meanwhile, head brewer Cosimo Sorrentino, whose local name recognition proved a top lure for beer enthusiasts early on, left to pursue opportunities abroad. From the perspective of a beer writer, there was reason to be concerned.

But something else was happening, irrespective of efforts to bring home beer competition medals, or generate buzz among the beer set. South Park slowly became what it was originally conceived to be: a neighborhood brewery. Drop by in the afternoon, and I run into neighbors, enjoying a day off, catching up with friends over a pint, and enjoying the brewery's patio. Visit in the evening, and I often find young parents, enjoying the chance to walk to dinner, accompanied by beer thirst and children.

South Park Brewing is surrounded by crowd-pleasing. Next door, stylish bar **Kindred** serves vegan food and tiki cocktails to throngs of fashionably attired young adults. Across the street, Italian eatery **Buona Forchetta** attracts two-hour waits for dinner. But the people descending upon these places don't live in South Park; they drive

in from all parts of the city.

As street parking has filled up, South Park Brewing has become a de facto oasis for local residents who want a family- and pet-friendly

variety, including trending styles such as hazy and brut IPAs.

But as brewing has been taken over by Blair and head brewer, Ryan Sullivan, I've come search-

ing for English beer styles, such as the deliciously understated Grassmarket 80 shilling ale, and 2 Griffs, originally released in the guise of an English pale ale, but now unabashedly identifying itself as an Extra Special Bitter.

The small brewery turns out a surprising number of these maltier brews, and my latest round of \$2 tasters skewed British as well. An English mild, called Bugger Off, brought malt into the foreground, exhibiting flavors I associate with brown

bread. The Totally Bollocks English brown drank crisp, revealing dark toffee rounded out with nuttiness.

I don't visit Hamilton's any less these days, but I do visit South Park Brewing more, and try more English style beers than I have in years. Call it a lucky quirk of my neighborhood.

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



English ales and hoppy west coast styles, both available amid rock poster decor at South Park Brewing Company.

place of our own. The food got an upgrade early this year when the Tacos La Mezcla food truck took over the kitchen. A section of window was replaced with an outward-facing counter, the minor change that helped the place feel more open and engaged with the neighborhood.

Perhaps most important — getting back to the beer writer's perspective — the beer has continued to deliver since Sorrentino's departure. Hoppy ale fans can always count on a

LITTLE ITALY

Princess Pub and Grille: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, \$6 draughts, half-price appetizers including super nachos and potato skins.

Puerto la Boca: *Monday-Saturday*, 4:30-7:30pm: \$4 house wine, \$4.50 wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers, \$2.50 bread and chimichurri. Bar only. *Sunday*, All day: \$4 house wine, \$4.50 wells, drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers, \$2.50 bread and chimichurri. Bar only.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Phil's BBQ: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm - 6pm: \$5 all draft beer, all wine, all signature cocktails and preferred spirit brands. Also available are food specials featuring a new BBQ wings recipe.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

The Ould Sod: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm: \$3.50 Fireball shots and well drinks, \$5 draft beer.

The Rabbit Hole: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$5 select local drafts, \$6 glass of wine, specialty cocktails. *Saturday-Sunday*, Bottomless bubbles until 2pm.

Triple Crown Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off select pints and 30%

bottles. *Saturday-Sunday*, Noon-5pm: \$1 off select pints and bottles.

NORTH PARK

The Air Conditioned Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 4-9pm: \$2 off draft beer, \$1 off specialty drinks.

Bar Pink: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$3 wells, \$2 PBR, \$1 off drafts and calls.

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything. *Saturday-Sunday*, 10am-7:30pm: \$1 off liquor.

Jayne's Gastropub: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-6:30pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off regular cocktails, \$5 Guinness. \$6-\$8 appetizers.

One Door North: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$1 oysters, \$6-\$12 appetizers.

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

OCEAN BEACH

Mother's Saloon: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off craft cocktails, \$2 drafts \$3 wells, half off appetizers.

Newport Pizza & Ale House: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off all pints, \$3 off all pitchers.

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

Winstons Beach Club: *Monday-Friday*, 1-6pm: \$3 wells.

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

PACIFIC BEACH

Barrel Republic: *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday*, 3-6pm: All taps 20% off. *Wednesday*, 3-9pm: All taps 20% off.

Café Athena: *Daily*, 3-6pm: All bottled beer \$3.75 to \$4.25, wine by the glass \$5 to \$5.50. Small plates \$3.75 to \$9.50.

Dirty Birds: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: Half price select pitchers and half price wings.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Phil's BBQ Rancho Bernardo: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm - 6pm: \$5 all draft beer, all wine, all signature cocktails and preferred spirit brands. Also available are food specials featuring a new BBQ wings recipe.

available are food specials featuring a new BBQ wings recipe.

ROLANDO

Effin's Pub & Grill: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$1 off mules, \$4 wells, 25% off drafts and appetizers.

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

SAN MARCOS

Phil's BBQ San Marcos: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm - 6pm: \$5 all draft beer, all wine, all signature cocktails and preferred spirit brands. Also available are food specials featuring a new BBQ wings recipe.

SANTEE

Phil's BBQ Santee: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm - 6pm: \$5 all draft beer, all wine, all signature cocktails and preferred spirit brands. Also available are food specials featuring a new BBQ wings recipe.

SOUTH PARK

Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$5 beers and wine by the glass. *Tuesday*, 3-close: \$5 beers and wine by the glass.

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

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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

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

Madison: *Tuesday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$7 signature cocktails, red or white wine by the glass. Appetizers \$6-\$10, \$11 skirt steak, \$12 burger and beer.

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blurt the inside track

To be nomadic Local jazz fans remember saxophonist Nathan Collins from his high school days as a member of Gilbert Castellanos' Young Lions movement, before he left for USC. Collins had every intention of furthering his jazz studies, but he switched majors last year, opting instead for a degree in popular music performance.

for another show in another state, going three days on, then getting a day off. I had to acclimate myself to that.

"In the beginning, I was terrified. Dusty Hill (ZZ Top bassist) came off the stage, introduced himself, and said I was going to be great. That really put me at ease, even though I was kind of star-struck by him."

He's enjoying the perfor-



PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB FOGERTY

John Fogerty told Nathan Collins his sax solos are better than Fogerty's originals.

"I think you get a more global view than the jazz department offers," says the 21-year-old Collins, who is looking to graduate next year. "I switched because I felt more at home in a pop, r&b horn section type vibe."

The results have been palpable.

"Almost immediately, I started getting these incredible opportunities. I did three gigs with Solange Knowles, playing at two big festivals, plus a show at the Hollywood Bowl. Gigs all over the Sunset Strip. Then one of my professors recommended me for this tour with John Fogerty."

Since May, Collins has been on the road with Fogerty and ZZ Top's "Blues and Bayous Tour," already logging in more than 20 shows across the U.S. "I've had to learn to be nomadic. It took me a minute to adjust to living on a bus, waking up in a different city

mances more now. "Onstage, I get to do a couple of saxophone solos during our set. At first, I was very nervous, trying to do them exactly as they were on the record (John Fogerty actually played the solos himself), but John told me I was playing them way better than him, and that allowed me to have fun with it. He seems to dig what I'm doing."

The Fogerty band includes drum session ace Kenny Aronoff (John Mellencamp, Jon Bon Jovi) and bassist James LoMenzo (Megadeath, Snakepit) and Collins is determined to absorb as much information from them as possible.

"I've learned a lot about tour life and music in general. They could have

chosen to shine me on as a 21-year-old kid, but everyone has been cool about giving me pointers on how to survive"

—Robert Bush

When you're Hawk spawn

Riley Hawk's earliest rock memory was attending Boom Boom HuckJam, the extreme sports/music tour launched by his dad Tony in 2002. "I was 9 or 10," recalls the younger Hawk. "At the time I didn't really understand how massive it was. But it was packing stadiums. I was super proud. I got to meet a lot of cool people."

As one could imagine, meeting a lot of cool people comes with the territory when you are Hawk spawn. It surely didn't hurt when it came to the younger Hawk getting sponsored by Baker Skateboards, Lakai Shoes, Independent Trucks and Spitfire Wheels.

But his interest in the heavy psychedelic scene was cradled by the other heavy-hitting local acid crushers such as Earthless, Sacri Monti, Harsh Toke, and Joy. Hawk is the

Plus there was [now closed] Thirsty Moon Records. That's where I got into records by all the psych bands from the 70s like The Groundhogs. When you start discovering one obscure psychedelic band it leads to another. It's like falling down a rabbit hole. It's super easy to get lost in that world."

Petryr includes bassist Luke Devigny, drummer Nick McDonell and newest member Holland Redd who sings and plays guitar and keyboards. "I met him on a skate trip to Salt Lake City in 2014. He was in UFO TV which was one of their heaviest psych bands. He wanted to get out of Salt Lake so he moved down here."

East Coast-based Outer Battery Records just released the second Petryr album, *Smolyk*. "They put out like 350 copies on vinyl," says Hawk. "I think they all sold out. We recorded it at Lost Ark Studio in Pacific Beach. It's this super cool analog studio that you would never know is there. They have no signs out front."

The largest Petryr gig so far was in April at the



"Making videos in my home studio for social media is where I perform," says self-professed "guitar geek" Mando Padilla.

Diego takeover."

"The Dutch government forked over a \$20,000 cultural grant to pay for 32 guys from San Diego to fly over from San Diego to play this festival," says Dave Sweetapple who is one of the principals of Outer Battery Records.

The irony that San Diego has become the home of heavy stoner psych rock, even while the city itself does not pay much attention, is not lost on Sweetapple. "I remember when I first met Earthless ten years ago," recalls Sweetapple. "They told me 'Nobody here gives a shit about this music.' The perception worldwide is a lot of people think San Diego is the epicenter with this type of music. Because of all these bands, San Diego's presence is overpowering."

Hawk, 25, says he is recovering from recent ankle surgery due to skating injuries. "They took out a piece of chipped bone. My ankle was beat up pretty bad over the years."

—Ken Leighton

Guitar geek "I'm a solo musician-guitarist who also licenses and mixes music for multimedia videos," says Mando Padilla, who played thrash metal in bands like Yabutifida, Meagan's Jar, and OHK in the 80s and 90s. He began

self-releasing indie collections under his own name in 2001. "These days, I'm a guitar geek who likes to focus on musicianship and recording music." A new release, *Tripping the Riff*, is his first instrumental album featuring him playing guitar on all tracks. "The main riffs of every song were written on the fly, with the rest of the compositions composed and recorded shortly thereafter." The first single, "US Fest Metal Day Tribute I & II" consists of two songs marking the 35th anniversary of the US Festival's Heavy Metal Day, with an ambitious musical collage inspired by the bands on that 1983 bill.

"I was ten years old at the time. I drove out there with my uncles and their friends from Santee. Quiet Riot wasn't even popular yet... Motley Crue freaked me out a little bit. They were really intense for the times, almost punk." Other acts included Ozzy Osbourne ("Jake E. Lee's guitar playing was incredibly fluid"), Van Halen ("took forever to hit the stage"), Triumph ("I actually fell asleep"), Judas Priest ("I remember the rumbling sound of Halford's Harley"), and the Scorpions (That was my band in those days). "The idea was to create a sort of musical conglomerate in the styles of those bands. From there, it was a matter

(continued on page 48)

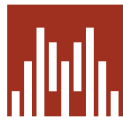


San Diego has become the home of heavy stoner psych rock (such as Petryr) even while the city itself does not pay much attention.

frontman singer/guitarist in Petryr.

"I think it all has to do with the fact that I grew up around these other bands," Hawk says. "I obviously looked up to those guys.

four-day Roadburn Festival in Tilburg, Holland. "There were six bands from San Diego," says Hawk about the annual experimental metal festival that draws 5000. "We called it the San



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THURSDAY

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SKA ORCHESTRA**

JUL
26

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SAN DIEGO CITY SOUL CLUB DJs**



FRIDAY

**THE PETTYBREAKERS
FOOZ FIGHTERS**

JUL
27



SATURDAY

**COMO LA FLOR BAND
(SELENA TRIBUTE)
GRUPO BRONCO TRIBUTE
DJ VIEJO LOWBO**

JUL
28

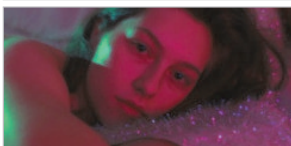


SUNDAY

**SHAWN MULLINS
SOUL'S CORE REVIVAL TOUR
MAX GOMEZ**



JUL
29



MONDAY

**KING PRINCESS
DONNA MISSAL**

JUL
30



WEDNESDAY

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THE PLASTIC REVOLUTION
THE FRETS
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CORAL BELLS, GOLDEN HOUR**

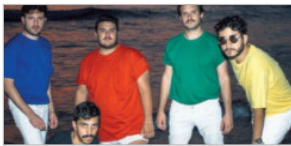
AUG
01



THURSDAY

**SEAN HEALY PRESENTS
MYA**

AUG
02



FRIDAY

LITTLE JESUS

AUG
03

JUST ADDED

Lucky Chops 10/25 • Throwing Shade Live 2018: There's No Place Like Condo Tour 11/1
G Jones: The Ineffable Truth Tour 11/15

COMING SOON

8/4 Lies N Roses (Guns N' Roses tribute)	8/24 Cash'd Out	10/3 Chelsea Wolfe & Russian Circles
8/8 DoSD - How We Do San Diego - Best of 2018	8/29 Tyrone Wells (seated show)	10/4 Mexrrissey Mexico goes Morrissey
8/9 Quinto Sol	8/31 Collie Buddz	10/14 Gregory Alan Isakov
8/10 Museum of Making Music Benefit Concert ft. Herb Alpert and Lani Hall	9/1 The B-Side Players	10/21 Alex Clare
8/11 CK4 Benefit with Electric Mud, Rhythm and The Method, Broken Stems, Funk Shui Planet	9/2 The Steely Damned 2 (seated show)	10/26 Beats Antique
8/15 SALES	9/6 CloZee	10/27 The California Honeydrops
8/16 Flora Cash 91X Inspired by Music Series	9/8 Protoje	11/4 The Menzingers
8/17 Stepping Feet (Dave Matthews Band Experience)	9/9 Yacht Rock Revue	11/10 The Crystal Method
8/23 Katastro	9/11 Bad Gyal	11/12 Dermot Kennedy
	9/12 Azealia Banks	11/16 Suicide Girls: Blackheart Burlesque
	9/14 Desert Dwellers	12/13 La Santa Cecilia
	9/22 Macy Gray	
	9/23 Madeleine Peyroux	
	9/27 Jedi Mind Tricks	
	10/2 Ghostland Observatory	

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DALE GILMORE
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JON LANGFORD'S FOUR LOST SOULS
WEDNESDAY 7/25



SEATED

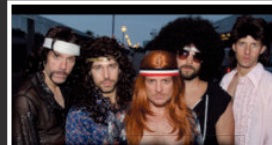
**HENRY KAPONO
WELCOME TO MY PARADISE! TOUR**

DUKES ON SUNDAY BAND
SPECIAL GUEST JOHNNY VALENTINE
MANGO MELODY
THURSDAY 7/26



BETAMAXX

CASSIE B'S '90s REMIX
FRIDAY 7/27



WAYWARD SONS

RADIO THIEVES
SATURDAY 7/28



**BANDING TOGETHER PRESENTS
COREY LEAL DUO
JUNGLE POPPINS
(ALBUM RELEASE)**

RYAN HILLER SOLO
TUESDAY 7/31



**AN EVENING WITH
EASY WIND
JERRY GARCIA BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION**

PERFORMING CORNELL '77
WEDNESDAY 8/1



**FEMI KUTI
& THE POSITIVE FORCE**

DJ JAMES BARAK
THURSDAY 8/2



**DEAD MAN'S PARTY
(OINGO BOINGO TRIBUTE)**

THE BLACK 52's (B-52's TRIBUTE)
DJ RICHIE
SATURDAY 8/4



SEATED

**AN EVENING WITH
THE CHAIRMAN & THE BOARD
ULTIMATE RAT PACK TRIBUTE
DIRECT FROM LAS VEGAS**

SUNDAY 8/5



SHOOTER JENNINGS

HELLBOUND GLORY
WEDNESDAY 8/8



ACE FREHLEY

THE BLITZ BROTHERS
THURSDAY 8/9



PATO BANTON

HAZMATT
FRIDAY 8/10



SUPER DIAMOND

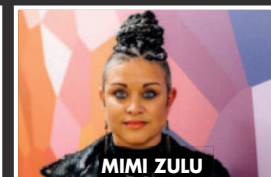
CALPHONICS
SATURDAY 8/11



SEATED

**AN INTIMATE ACOUSTIC
PERFORMANCE W/
SHAWN COLVIN**

RETT MADISON
SUNDAY 8/12



MIMI ZULU

MIKI VALE, XIV
TUESDAY 8/14



No Duh 9/28 • Thievery Corporation w/ Julian Marley 10/17 - pre-sale 7/25
Metalachi 10/19 • Welshly Arms: No Place Is Home Tour 10/20
Matthew Sweet 10/22 • Tennis w/ Matt Costa 11/7
Billie Eilish: 1 by 1 Tour @ SOMA 11/17 • Colter Wall 12/12

Upcoming Shows:

7/27 Atomic Groove Happy Hour	9/6 The Original Wailers performing the album Legend	10/26 Dead Man's Party (Oingo Boingo tribute)
8/15 Tape Heads, Secret Lynx, Sweet Tooth	9/7 JJ Grey & Mfiro	10/26 Vernon Reid's Band of Gypsies Revisited @ Casbah
8/16 Rodrigo y Gabriela	9/8 Lee Fields & The Expressions	10/27 Tab Benoit
8/17 Tribal Theory	9/9 & 10 Kenny Wayne Shepherd Band	10/28 Jesse Colin Young (seated show)
8/18 Mustache Harbor & GRACEBAND	9/11 Murder By Death	10/29 Eric Hutchinson & The Believers
8/19 Songs of Merle Haggard with Brawley & Friends	9/12 Todd Snider (seated show)	10/29 Dawes @ Observatory
8/22 Wish & The Well and The Jankeys	9/13 ROSTAM	11/2 The Motet
8/23 The Alarm	9/14 Rayland Baxter	11/4 Willie K
8/24 Karl Denson's Tiny Universe	9/15 Tainted Love	11/7 Lucero @ Observatory
8/25 Pivit, Buckfast Superbee, Kut U Up	9/16 Whitney Shay (album release)	11/9 Spafford
8/25 Punch Brothers @ Observatory	9/18 Jon Cleary	11/9 Greensky Bluegrass @ Observatory
8/26 Israel Vibration & Roots Radics	9/20 The Dean Ween Group	11/10 The Record Company @ House of Blues
8/28 & 29 Rodrigo y Gabriela - Sold Out!	9/21 The Spazmatics	11/12 Blitzzer Trapper Furr 10th Anniversary Show
8/30 The Expendables	9/22 Common Sense	11/14 Todd Rundgren
8/31 Black Uhuru	9/23 J Roddy Walston & The Business	11/25 Steven Page Trio (formerly of Barenaked Ladies) (seated show)
9/1 Midge Ure & Paul Young	9/24 Liz Phair	11/30 Dweezil Zappa "Choice Cuts" Tour
9/2 One Drop	9/27 Loudon Wainwright III (seated show)	12/9 Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn (seated show)
9/4 The Marcus King Band	9/29 Marc Broussard	12/20 Dick Dale
9/5 Justin Hayward (seated show) - Sold Out!	10/3 Pigeons Playing Ping Pong	12/22 Beatles vs. Stones
	10/4 Nick Lowe & Los Straitjackets	1/19/19 Tommy Castro & The Painkillers
	10/6 Keller Williams	2/23/19 Steve Poltz 10th Annual 50th Birthday
	10/10 Shannon and the Clams	3/21/19 Ladysmith Black Mambazo (seated show)
	10/14 Too Many Zooz	
	10/15 King Khan & The Shrines	
	10/16 Mason Jennings (seated show)	
	10/21 KT Tunstall	

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of topping it off with harmonized guitar solos.” Padilla enjoys the freedom afforded solo acts and no longer performs live. “The last band that I played in was OHK in 2000 at a club in San Diego. I just remember there being a good sized mosh pit. Making videos in my home studio for social media is where I perform now. I’ve explored alternative, folk, and metal, but am now 100-percent dedicated to shred metal-style guitar.” To that end, Padilla has created a popular YouTube channel with frequent new posts and lengthy discussion threads. “The videos that get the most views are my cover songs. Sometimes YouTubers will ask me for the tablature or how I play a certain part. The interaction between viewers is what motivates me to create the videos.” His most commented-on videos cover songs such as “Infinite” by Forbidden, “Fatal Tragedy” by Dream Theater, and the violin solo from “Cold Hearted Snake” by Paula Abdul. “I’ve also reviewed the Kirk Hammett guitar pick, and made videos with light-up and glow-in-the-dark gloves.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

East County native

Gayle Skidmore may call Amsterdam her home now, but she recently returned to San Diego before embarking on an eight date US tour — a “quick three-week jaunt out to Cleveland and back.” She has toured with a full band on past occasions, but these shows will all be solo. Existing on the road is no issue for her though. She was inadvertently trained at an early age to endure lengthy car rides.

“I didn’t know if I would like that vagabond life,” Skidmore explained. “My family always took long road trips when we were little. We never flew anywhere. I was always mad about that, but I think it really prepared me for driving long distances. I really enjoy being on the road.”

But the life of a traveling musician also presents conundrums, such as, “How do I continue to generate income in a streaming world?” Skidmore came up with a rather ingenious method for selling her music in physical formats — she coupled them with coloring books. Besides helping to sustain her life on the road, the coloring books also provide her fans with an alternative pathway to immerse themselves in the world of her albums.

“There’s been a lot of research on the therapeutic

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aspects of coloring and how good it is for you. It’s something that I, personally, have always done. I write a lot

give my fans to be able to do the same thing. To have something where they could escape into it — color and

listen to the whole thing, so it’s an enticement for people to do that,” she said.

Skidmore’s show at Lestat’s will be a bit of a homecoming for the veteran of the local music circuit. She has played that room before, and was quite worried when she heard the venue was on the ropes, and happy to hear later that a deal was struck in late-April that brought Lestat’s back from the brink of extinction.

“I really wanted to come home and play there, because that was such a special place for me when I was starting out in San Diego and learning how to perform.

I just really wanted to come back and support them,” Skidmore said.

The community aspect of Lestat’s is exactly what Skid-

more seems to be missing in Amsterdam. She is looking for her scene, but hasn’t found it just yet.

“There’s some great people I’ve met there so far, and maybe I don’t know the right people yet. But I feel like here even if you meet people that aren’t super-involved in the music scene, they still know where the people are who are running things. I don’t really get that vibe. A lot of the bigger venues only work with certain booking agencies. In San Diego, they’re much more supportive of their local talent,” she said.

— Dryw Keltz



Gayle Skidmore sells her music coupled with coloring books.

of my music to get through crazy experiences in my life and just process my life. It’s something that I wanted to

listen to music and have it be this whole experience. I come from an age where you would buy an album and

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

<p>WEDNESDAY • JULY 25 JENNY AND THE MEXICATS MARUJAH</p>	<p>THE Casbah COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • casbahmusic.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY • AUG 4 VACATIONER • SEGO</p>
<p>THURSDAY • JULY 26 STEPHANIE BROWN AND THE SURREALISTICS THE STRAWBERRY MOONS MISS NEW BUDDHA THE HAVNAUTS</p>		<p>SUNDAY • AUG 5 MORRICONE YOUTH HEXA THE COLOR FORTY NINE</p>
<p>FRIDAY • JULY 27 THE WEIRDOS EGRETS ON ERGOT EXECUTIVES</p>		<p>WEDNESDAY • AUG 8 ZAC CLARK BOB OXBLOOD</p>
<p>SUNDAY • JULY 29 FAUST FEATHERSTONE DUUNS</p>		<p>THURSDAY • AUG 9 FOREST GROVE GLOOMSDAY HOURS LO AND BE TOLD</p>
<p>MONDAY • JULY 30 DJ ARTISTIC'S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT</p>		<p>FRIDAY • AUG 10 BEN NICHOLS OF LUCERO</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY • JULY 26 STEPHANIE BROWN AND THE SURREALISTICS THE STRAWBERRY MOONS MISS NEW BUDDHA THE HAVNAUTS</p>	<p>TUESDAY • JULY 31 LOUDSPEAKER 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY LOW VOLTS • NE1 ROB CROW PALL JENKINS CHRIS COTE PONY DEATH RIDE PANTS KARAOKE</p>	<p>THURSDAY • AUG 23 FLOR DE TOLOACHE</p>
<p>FRIDAY • JULY 27 THE WEIRDOS EGRETS ON ERGOT EXECUTIVES</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • AUG 1 RIVER WHYLESS ADAM TORRES</p>	<p>SATURDAY • AUG 25 SWINGIN' UTTERS</p>
<p>SUNDAY • JULY 29 FAUST FEATHERSTONE DUUNS</p>	<p>THURSDAY • AUG 2 SUPERSUCKERS HENCHMEN</p>	<p>SUNDAY • AUG 26 JARED & THE MILL</p>
<p>MONDAY • JULY 30 DJ ARTISTIC'S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT</p>	<p>FRIDAY • AUG 3 REBECCA JADE AND THE COLD FACT EUPHORIA BRASS BAND STEPHEN EL REY</p>	

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<p>FRI. JUL 27 BRUME Mustard Gas and Roses, Beira, Nebula Drag</p>	<p>BRICK X BRICK</p>	<p>FRI. AUG 10 CHILDREN OF THE KORN BYOB</p>	
<p>SAT. JUL 28 OFU Motorbabe, Madman</p>		<p>SAT. AUG 11 TIME MACHINE R.i.p., Side Hustle</p>	
<p>SUN. JUL 29 TAIPAN Hand of Fire, Contortion, Death Therapy, Convent</p>		<p>FRI. AUG 3 PATHOLOGY Within Destruction, Parasitic Ejaculation, Orphic Eye</p>	<p>WED. AUG 15 POWERGLOVE Cage, Monarch, Sergulath, Nightshadow</p>
<p>MON. JUL 30 BUTCHER BABIES Hyro the Hero, Tetrarch, A Hero Within</p>		<p>SAT. AUG 4 SHOT OUT HOODS Powerflo, Authentic Sellout, Jinx</p>	<p>FRI. AUG 17 DEAFHEAVEN Drab Majesty, Uniform</p>
<p>TUE. JUL 31 THE FACELESS Lorna Shore, Dyscarnate, The Convalsence</p>		<p>SUN. AUG 5 ALTERBEAST Reaping Asmodeia, Silence The Prince, Reaction Phase</p>	<p>SAT. AUG 18 HELSTAR Warpath, Sentinel, Mezzoa, Follow Coffins</p>

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JUST ANNOUNCED



SHONEN KNIFE AT CASBAH ON OCTOBER 6

The very first description I ever heard of **Shonen Knife**, back in the mid-80s when they were still a cult-ish underground sensation, is the one that remains for me the most accurate. I was working in a comic book shop, and a buddy was trying to talk me into going to see the DIY trio by calling them “The Archies if the Archies were three Japanese punk chicks.” Yep, 25 albums later, that still sums it up pretty well. I was working in a comic book shop, and a buddy was trying to talk me into going to see the DIY trio by calling them “The Archies if the Archies were three Japanese punk chicks.” Yep, 25 albums later, that still sums it up pretty well. Home-made garage rock viewed through pink heart-shaped glasses, with aspirations of bubblegum pop in the tradition of every precocious kid who ever talked their friends onto a stage with little more to work with than “Hey, kids, let’s put on a show!” Several members have come, gone, and come again through the years, many switching instruments during their various tenures. Naoko Yamano is the sole founding player to serve with all the band’s incarnations. Interestingly, the version wrapping up its current tour at the Casbah on October 6 includes co-founder Atsuko Yamano, who has been in and out of the band, covering at different times drums, bass, and vocals. She’s been back on stage as a touring member for European and Japanese road trips over the past few years, but her full-time return to the roster seems to be official as of this support tour for their most recent album, *Adventure*.

Escape the Fate has really been three different bands who just happen to share the same name. The first group was founded in Las Vegas circa 2005 as intentionally cartoonish horror rockers a la Danzig and Marilyn Manson. They seemed to quickly tire of powdering their faces and downtuning their guitars and evolved – or at least tried to – into stadium album rockers along the lines of Metallica



ESCAPE THE FATE AT SOMA ON OCTOBER 14

and Iron Maiden. Their grasp somewhat exceeded their reach, however. By trading in the screaming vocals for one-size-fits-all radio rock, the second version of *Escape the Fate* ended up closer to fairground jokers like Anvil and Quiet Riot, endlessly playing the same MOR setlists, at least after they peaked with their self-titled 2010 album. Meanwhile, former singer Ronnie Radke seemed to

grab the brass ring they missed out on with the buzz band *Falling in Reverse* (which also briefly included former *Escape the Fate* bassist Max Green). That caused yet more lineup shifts, so that now, despite having just over a dozen years of history, they’re already down to just one original member, drummer Robert Ortiz. His third incarnation of *Escape the Fate* recently released the band’s sixth album, *I Am Human*, which seems to bring the group into its glossy Queensyichian singles-era, at least judging from the hook-heavy aural circus heard on the lead single, “Broken Heart,” resting at this writing at number sixteen on the Billboard Mainstream Rock Songs Chart. Their October 14 appearance at Soma includes *Slaves*, *Set to Stun*, and *Picturesque*.

The **Deftones** only have two gigs planned for California this year, and one of them is happening at Petco Park on November 3. The debut edition of the *Dia de los Deftones* festival promises food, drink, craft beer, and a full slate of music acts ranging from hip-hop to pop, punk, and death metal. “For years, we’ve played on festivals with such amazing and diverse lineups,” says Deftones singer-guitarist Chino Moreno on the band’s website, “and that is what



GOBLIN AT IRENIC ON NOVEMBER 7

we have achieved with our first lineup for *Dia de los Deftones*. We want this event to be a celebration; with the incredible artists we’ve assembled, and the experiences we’re curating for the festival site.” The Deftones used to be somewhat stand-offish from the heavy metal scene from which they spawned, taking pride in musicianship that nearly qualifies them as experimental or prog,



DIA DE LOS DEFTONES AT PETCO PARK ON NOVEMBER 3

even as it leaves metal fans scratching their heads instead of banging them. The group had since opened their arms and thrown up devil fingers to the metal audience that remains attracted to the head-splitting bass and log-splitting riffs. “Math metal” is as good a description as any for their most recent album *Gore*, which – as evidence of just how much they’ve loosed up – includes a rare guest guitar solo courtesy of Jerry Cantrell from *Alice in Chains*. The *Dia de los Deftones* festival bill includes Superfly producer Future, Roman death metal band *Vein*, Linkin Park singer Mike Shinoda, punk hip-hop duo H09909, “Roll With Us” singer Doja Cat, Australian-

LA death pop duo *Voww*, and hometown heroes *Rocket From the Crypt*.

It took me around 20 years to accumulate 4,000 vinyl albums and, in all that time, the most I ever paid for a record was for a compilation of film soundtrack music by Italian acid rockers **Goblin**. That’s how hard it was to find their stuff in the States, where the terrifying movies they scored (Dario Argento’s 1977 splatter horror classic *Suspiria*, the European version of *Dawn of the Dead*, etc.) were often as hard to track down as their respective soundtrack albums. *Goblin* makes music exactly like their namesake, sounding like tiny, feral creatures running around madly on electrified instruments, while swinging microphones occasionally pick up the noise of the infernal creatures giggling and gurgling as they frolic. Now known as Claudio Simonetti’s *Goblin*, the group has taken to performing their wonderfully wonky film soundtracks in live settings, in front of the movies as they screen. This admittedly isn’t a rare occurrence in San Diego, with everyone from civic organists accompanying silent pictures in Balboa Park to former locals *Morricone Youth* playing in front of *Mad Max* and the San Diego Symphony providing live scores to *Star Wars* movies. But to see the actual band who did the original film soundtrack re-creating it in concert as the movie unspools, well, that’s the best reason you’ll ever need to get down to the Irenic on November 7 to see *Goblin* playing along to *Suspiria*, a fever dream of witchery with *Phantom of the Paradise* star Jessica Harper and *Dark Shadows* matriarch Joan Bennett. As if that wasn’t enough to let the little demons pry open your wallet and ride roughshod all over your boggled brain, the performance will be followed by a second set of music spanning the band’s entire career.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Air Conditioned Lounge:

Friday, 8pm — Summer Twins and Twin Ritual.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Andrea Motis Quintet.

Bancroft:

Saturday, 8pm — Planet Asia and N.B.S. \$10.

Belching Beaver Brewery:

Saturday, 6pm — Tim Yancey. Free.

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Karaoke Tuesdays. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Henry Kapono and Johnny Valentine. \$25-\$44.

Friday, 8pm — Betamaxx.

Saturday, 8pm — Wayward Sons.

Tuesday, 8pm — Corey Leal Duo and Jungle Poppins. \$9-\$16.

Wednesday, 8pm — Easy

Wind's Jerry Garcia Birthday Celebration. \$12-\$14.

Brick by Brick:

Saturday, 8pm — OFU and Motorbäbe.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, 7pm — Yale Strom & Hot Pstromi.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — The Surrealistics and the Strawberry Moons. \$6.

Friday, 8pm — The Weirdos and Egrets On Ergot.

Saturday, 8pm — Swindle, Agent 51, Classified. \$20.

Sunday, 8pm — faUSt. \$22-\$26.

Tuesday, 8pm — Low Volts and N-E-1. \$8-\$10.

Wednesday, 8pm — River Whyless and Adam Torres.

Civita Park:

Saturday, 2pm — San Diego Concert Band. Free.

Club M:

Sunday, 12pm — Sunday Session. Free.

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Sunday, 1pm — Flipside Burners. Free.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club:

Friday, 4pm — Steel Pulse.

Saturday, 4pm — Switchfoot. \$6-\$10.

Dirk's Niteclub:

Saturday, 8pm — DJs Jersan & K-Reed.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Sunday, 8pm — Chase Morrin. \$10-\$15.

Embarcadero Marina Park South:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Godfathers of Latin Jazz: Dizzy Gillespie and Chano Pozo. \$18-\$95.

Friday, 7:30pm — Marc Cohn and the Blind Boys of Alabama. \$18-\$95.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Patti LaBelle. \$18-\$95.

Forum Shopping Center:

Saturday, 1pm — Israel Maldonado & Puente. Free.

Four Points by Sheraton:

Friday, 7pm — Delfonics Revue. \$45.

Full Circle Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — West of 5. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, 5:30pm — Allison Adams Tucker. Free.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Saturday, 8pm — The Jamacha Project. Free.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Evaride. Thursday, 6pm — RAW Artists Showcase. \$22.

Friday, 8pm — Emo Night Brooklyn. \$12-\$20.

Friday, 6pm — School of Rock All Stars. \$10.

Saturday, 6pm — Rock 'n'

! NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

"It sounded like they were in a complete other zone from the rest of music." Neil Young wrote these words in his autobiography *Waging Heavy Peace: A Hippie Dream*. He wrote them about Givers, a Louisiana indie-pop band. He'd chanced to hear them while channel surfing his TV. "They blew my mind. It was completely original." Young (Crosby Stills Nash and Young, Buffalo Springfield, Crazy Horse) knows about Other Zones. He, after all, perfected the near one-note rock guitar solo in his 1969 song "Cinnamon Girl."

As the story goes, it's about a hurricane. When singer Tiffany Lamson and guitarist Taylor Guarisco found their New Orleans apartment under 15 feet of water post-Katrina, they went back home to Lafayette, Louisiana, and they

busked. The promise of a last-minute booking prompted the two to phone some musician pals from high school days, and together they more or less jammed their way through the gig. But the story isn't as thin as it sounds. All had played professionally in Zydeco, Cajun, and jazz bands. The club liked what they heard, booked them again, and Givers was born. Three or so years into the game, Givers released their first of two full-length albums: 2010's *In Light*, followed by *New Kingdom* in 2015.

Over the years, Givers has boiled down to the creative core of Lamson, Guarisco, and bassist Josh LeBlanc. Theirs is Zydeco as realized by kids who grew up listening to their parents' records: punk, funk, and world music. What likely grabbed Neil Young's ears was a pop sound that plays out as if the members of the Tom Tom Club and Snarky Puppy and Fela Kuti and Arcade Fire formed a songwriting committee and made records. Add subtle references to Gamble and Huff's Philly soul sound, and it's hard to call Givers anything except original.

GIVERS: Wednesday August 1, Soda Bar, 619-255-7224, 8 p.m., \$12/15 (Naughty Palace also performs)



GIVERS

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Saturday, 7pm — Snow Tha Product. \$18-\$40.

Humphreys by the Bay:

Thursday & Friday, 8pm — Joe Bonamassa. \$149-\$224.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Adam Ant.

Monday, 7:30pm — The Decemberists.

In Gallery:

Saturday, 9pm — Rhythm Nation 1 Year Anniversary. \$10-\$20.

Indian Joe Brewing:

Friday, 6pm — Karaoke & Brews. Free.

Irenic:

Friday, 7pm — Rob Vicious featuring Da\$h. \$15.

Saturday, 5:30pm — Sleeping With Sirens. \$25.

Jacobs Music Center:

Thursday, 7pm — American Idol Live.

Junior Seau Oceanside Pier Amphitheatre:

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 8am — Supergirl Pro Concert Series.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company:

Saturday, 7pm — Well Well Well and Little Hurricane. \$10.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, 7pm — Christopher Hollyday, Mike Wofford & Rob Thorsen. \$18-\$23.

La Jolla Cove Hotel & Suites:

Thursday, 5pm — The Heart.

Friday, 5pm — K. Emeline.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Friday, 6pm — Rick Ross.

Saturday, 6pm — Los Reyes.

Monday, 6pm — Javid & Naoko.

Tuesday, 6pm — Elliott Lawrence.

Lakehouse Hotel & Resort:

Saturday, 3:30pm — Zeppelin USA. \$30.

Lestat's Coffee House:

Friday, 8pm — Everything Undone and JARA. \$8-\$10.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Gayle Skidmore.

Lhooq/Exrealism:

Thursday, 7pm — Warm Drag and Wax Chattels. \$10.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:

Saturday, 8pm — Sonic Tonic and Xanadoodz.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:

Thursday, 8pm — John Lloyd Young. \$30-\$55.

Tuesday, 8pm — Breakthrough Revue 2018. \$20.

Mattress Firm Amphitheatre:

Sunday, 7:30pm — 311 and the Offspring. \$27-\$85.

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Foreigner and Whitesnake. \$20-\$500.

Wednesday, 7pm — G-Eazy and Lil Uzi Vert. \$29-\$79.

Merrow:

Wednesday, 8pm — Ash Williams and Roger!

MiraCosta College:

Saturday, 6pm — Awakening 2018 with Jonathan Butler. \$25-\$100.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Alter Ego. Free.

Saturday, 9pm — Steelehorse. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Friday, 8pm — Craig Wayne Boyd.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Rick Elliot.

Friday, 8:30pm — Elastic Waste Band.

Saturday, 4pm — Celeste Barbier.

Saturday, 8:30pm — Cougar & the Snaxx.

Music Box:

Thursday, 9pm — Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra. \$17.

Friday, 8pm — The PettyBreakers and Fooz Fighters. \$10-\$15.

Saturday, 9pm — Como La Flor.

\$20-\$22.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Shawn Mullins. \$24.

Monday, 7pm — King Princess and Donna Missal. \$18-\$20.

Wednesday, 7pm — The Plastics Revolution. \$5.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 8pm — Roni Lee.

Saturday, 9pm — Sonic Moonshine.

Sunday, 8pm — Grand Nova.

Wednesday, 8pm — Marujah.

Nicky Rottens Bar & Burger Joint:

Friday, 6pm — FX5.

Saturday, 7pm — Serious Guise.

Old Venice:

Saturday, 9pm — Dante Fire. Free.

Poinsettia Village:

Friday, 6pm — Evan Marks. Free.

Point Loma Community Park:

Friday, 5:30pm — Young Guns. Free.

Poway Library:

Saturday, 2pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.

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

Friday, 7pm — Chris Fast Band.

Saturday, 7pm — Len Rainey.

Pure Platinum:

Saturday, 8pm — The Yucks, Focke Wolves, Social Spit. \$8.

Rancho Bernardo Inn:

Sunday, 6pm — Adrienne Nims.

Salty Frog:

Friday, 8pm — Pinkeye and Sweetie Darling. Free.

Santee Lakes Recreation Preserve:

Saturday, 4pm — Polyester Express. \$40-\$65.

Soda Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Mrs. Magician. \$12-\$14.

Saturday, 8pm — Night Nail and Creux Lies. \$5-\$10.

Sunday, 8pm — The Body and Lingua Ignota. \$10-\$12.

Wednesday, 8pm — Givers. \$13-\$15.

Space:
Thursday, 9pm — BrokenBeat
Night. Free.
Wednesday, 8pm — Dentist. \$8.

Spacebar Cafe:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Happy Ron
Hill.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:
Monday, 7:30pm — International
Summer Organ Festival. Free.

Spreckels Park:
Sunday, 6pm — AbbaFab. Free.

**Standley Park and
Recreation Center:**
Sunday, 5pm — Rachel Aldous &
the Long Road Home. Free.

Sunshine Brooks Theatre:
Saturday, 8pm — Trouble in
the Wind and the Red Fox Tails.
\$15-\$20.

Tiger! Tiger!:
Saturday, 8pm — Reggae Night.

**Town Center Community
Park:**
Thursday, 6:30pm — Ultimate
Stones. Free.

**Veterans Museum and
Memorial Center:**
Sunday, 5pm — The Downbeat
Big Band. \$5-\$10.

**Viejas Casino Concerts in
the Park:**
Saturday, 8pm — Loverboy.
\$40-\$50.

**War Horse Ranch, 3712
Valle Del Sol, Bonsall. :**
Saturday, 5pm — Justin Paul
Sanders. \$15.

Water Conservation Garden:
Saturday, 6pm — The Gregory
Page Trio. \$25-\$42.

Westgate Hotel:
Saturday, 8pm — Allison Adams
Tucker Trio. Free.

Whistle Stop Bar:
Wednesday, 8pm — Swearin' and
Mike Krol.

Winstons Beach Club:
Thursday, 9pm — Pink Floyd.
Friday, 9pm — Sure Fire Soul
Ensemble.
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste
Band. \$5.
Tuesday, 9pm — After Funk. \$10.

WorldBeat Cultural Center:
Saturday, 8:30pm — The
Abyssinians. \$15.

Wynola Pizza Express:
Saturday, 6pm — Rio Peligroso.

Zoro Garden:
Sunday, 2pm — The Mightier
P.E.N.S. Free.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Bali Hai:
Wednesday, Aug. 8 — Tiki Oasis
Opening Night Meet & Mingle.
\$36.

Bancroft:
Friday, Aug. 10 — Sluka. Free.

Bar Pink:
Friday, Aug. 10 — The Dinettes.

Bazaar del Mundo:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Latin American
Festival & Mata Ortiz Pottery
Market.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Latin
American Festival & Mata Ortiz
Pottery Market.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Latin

American Festival & Mata Ortiz
Pottery Market.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — Femi Kuti &
the Positive Force. \$22-\$39.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Dead Man's
Party. \$20-\$35.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — The Chairman
& the Board. \$16.
Wednesday, Aug. 8 — Shooter
Jennings. \$18-\$32.
Thursday, Aug. 9 — Ace Frehley.
\$38-\$67.

Friday, Aug. 10 — Pato Banton.
\$20-\$35.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Super
Diamond. \$22-\$39.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Shawn
Colvin. \$50-\$88.
Tuesday, Aug. 14 — Mimi Zulu,
Miki Vale, XIV. \$8-\$14.

Bernardo Winery:
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Chris
Hillman & Herb Pedersen.

**Bethany Lutheran Church/
Holy Trinity Anglican
Church:**
Friday, Aug. 3 — Songwriters
Acoustic Nights: Jerry Burgan.

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters:
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Robin
Henkel.

Brick by Brick:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Shot Out
Hoods and Powerflo. \$15-\$20.

**California Center for the
Arts, Escondido:**
Friday, Aug. 3 — Darryl
Williams.
Friday, Aug. 10 — Louis
Valenzuela.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Mexihco:
The Journey Continues. \$15-\$20.



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Carvers Steak & Chops:

Friday, Aug. 10 — Miss Demeanor. Free.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Casbah:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — Supersuckers and Henchmen. \$15.
Friday, Aug. 3 — Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact. \$10.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Vacationer and Segó. \$15-\$17.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Vinyl Junkies Record Swap. \$5.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Morricono Youth and Hexa. \$10-\$12.
Wednesday, Aug. 8 — Zac Clark and Bob Oxblood. \$12-\$14.
Thursday, Aug. 9 — Forest Grove and Hours. \$5.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Lemuria, Dusk, Katie Ellen. \$15.

Cheers:

Saturday, Aug. 4 — Miss Demeanor. Free.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, Aug. 11 — The Lemon Squeezers.

Club M:

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Sacha Boutros. \$20.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Matisyahu.
Friday, Aug. 10 — Aloe Blacc.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Ziggy Marley.

Dirk's Niteclub:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Nemesis.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — DJs Jersan & K-Reed.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Jennifer Lee & the Ever-Expanding Universe.

El Camino Memorial Park:

Sunday, Aug. 12 — Allison Adams Tucker Quartet.

Embarcadero Marina Park South:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Burt Bacharach.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — SD

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IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

As Beavis and Butthead once said

I did a very strange thing this week. I went to the library and checked out a book.

First let me say that the not-so-new Central Library Branch is a distinct failure. (Except for the theater. That's quite nice.) The whole thing feels as if it were designed by a devotee of steampunk culture. Nothing about the building feels as if it supports learnedness. I had initially intended to read at the library, but quickly abandoned such thoughts and longed to wash my hands.

I was at the library to get a book which I believe will support my view of said library and its architecture. However, there isn't enough space to get into all of that now. The book is *The Origins and History of Consciousness* by

Erich Neumann.

Neumann was devoted to Carl Jung's work and furthered the Swiss master's work on mythological archetypes, depth psychology, and the collective consciousness. I had read the first 56 pages of the book as a free sample on my iPad but balked at the \$50+ price for the ebook version. Neither did I want to wait for a more reasonably priced print version to arrive.

Early on in this seminal work, Neumann identifies the problem which I believe classical music is facing and has been facing for as long as there has been classical music. Neumann contends that the vast epoch of pre-consciousness is the natural state of humanity.

"...The desire to remain unconscious, is a fundamental human trait. Yet

even this is a false formulation, since it starts from consciousness as though that were the natural and self-evident thing. But fixation in unconsciousness... cannot be called a desire to remain unconscious, on the contrary, *that* is the natural thing...The ascent toward consciousness is the 'unnatural' thing in nature."

To summarize: tending toward unconscious behavior is the overwhelming trait of humanity. It acts as gravity upon the collective consciousness of the species. Every now and then a rocket such as Bach or Mozart reaches escape velocity and defies the gravitational pull of the unconscious. It blasts out into the unknown and brings back a vision of what our lives could be.

Does this or does this not



Steampunk homeless shelter.

explain why it is difficult to get a significant number of people to participate in classical music and the humanities in a meaningful way? There is a general desire in most of humanity to explore the arts, to explore opera, to explore consciousness but the gravity of the unconscious keeps pulling us back to the mundane. As Beavis and Butthead once said, "Fire, fire, fire."

Neumann's assertion makes the accomplishments of the great masters even

more astounding than mere genius. They are overcoming how many hundreds of thousands of years of unconscious humanity?

"...Being oneself is still a wearisome and painful experience..." says Neumann. Is he wrong? The last person I've wanted to be for most of my life is myself. I don't think I'm alone in that sentiment. What do we most admire in an artist of great stature? We admire that they know who they are and remain true to themselves.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Symphony: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. \$18-\$95.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — SD Symphony: Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire. \$18-\$95.

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Bird" on the Bay: A Charlie Parker Tribute feat. Charles McPherson. \$18-\$95.

Friday, Aug. 10 — San Diego Symphony: West Side Story. \$18-\$95.

Saturday, Aug. 11 — San Diego Symphony: Hooray For Hollywood. \$18-\$95.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Pablo Montero. \$18-\$95.

Field Irish Pub and Restaurant:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — Sonic Tonic.

Gaslamp Fish House:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Grassroots Oasis:

Thursday, Aug. 16 — Roy Zimmerman.

Grossmont Center:

Tuesday, Aug. 14 — Hullabaloo. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Chase Morrin Trio. Free.
Friday, Aug. 10 — Frank Potenza Trio. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — The Drunken Hearts.
Thursday, Aug. 9 — Paul Cauthen.

Herringbone:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — Durell Anthony Duo. Free.

Hilton San Diego Bayfront:

Saturday, Aug. 11 — St. Paul's Senior Services LUV Gala.

House of Blues:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — Vansire, Boyo, Loving. \$12-\$15.
Friday, Aug. 3 — Camilo

Septimo. \$20-\$25.

Saturday, Aug. 4 — Saved by the 90s. \$15-\$35.

Sunday, Aug. 5 — Chuponcito. \$35-\$75.

Sunday, Aug. 5 — Trinidad Cardona. \$15.

Friday, Aug. 10 — Wale. \$21-\$55.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Yachtley Crew. \$10.

Humphreys by the Bay:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons. \$95.

Sunday, Aug. 5 — The Gypsy Kings.

Tuesday, Aug. 7 — Toto. \$67-\$142.

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — Hippiefest.

Tuesday, Aug. 14 — Buddy Guy and Jonny Lang. \$70.

Indian Joe Brewing:

Friday, Aug. 10 — The Originators. Free.

Irenic:

Sunday, Aug. 5 — Hop Along and Thin Lips.

Junior Seau Oceanside Pier Amphitheatre:

Sunday, Aug. 12 — Longboard Surfing Club Contest & Beach Festival. Free.

Ki's Restaurant:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center:

Sunday, Aug. 5 — Songs for a New World.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

Sunday, Aug. 12 — The Redwoods Revue.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

Friday, Aug. 10 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Market Creek Plaza:

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Kenny Lattimore and Reggie Codrington. \$40-\$80.

Marriott Vacation Club Pulse:

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:

Monday, Aug. 6 — Marya Grandy. \$20-\$25.

Tuesday, Aug. 7 — Ben Vereen. \$35-\$40.

Wednesday, Aug. 8 — Ben Vereen. \$35-\$40.

Mattress Firm Amphitheatre:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Chris Brown. \$25-\$149.

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Weezer and the Pixies. \$25-\$89.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Steal Dawn. Free.

Moonlight Beach:

Sunday, Aug. 5 — New Leaf. Free.

Music Box:

Thursday, Aug. 2 — Mya. \$24-\$27.

Friday, Aug. 3 — Little Jesus. \$16-\$20.

Saturday, Aug. 4 — Up the Irons and A Perfect Tool. \$10.

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Quinto Sol and SM Familia. \$12-\$14.

Friday, Aug. 10 — Herb Alpert & Lani Hall.

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Electric Mud and Broken Stems. \$5-\$10.

Nate's Garden Grill:

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Robin Henkel.

Navajo Live:

Friday, Aug. 3 — Side Hustle and Black Crowes Revival.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, Aug. 3 — American Football and Phoebe Bridgers. \$25.

Saturday, Aug. 4 — A

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Crucial Blend (Seven Launch Party)

Saturday July 28
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Tuesday July 31
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Sunday, Aug. 5 — Beach House.
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Thursday, Aug. 9 — KRS-One.
\$5.

Open Air Theatre:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Lucinda Williams, Steve Earle, & Dwight Yoakam. \$29-\$129.
Friday, Aug. 10 — Alison Krauss and Willie Nelson & Family.

Pala Casino:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Taj Mahal & Keb Mo.

Pala Mesa Resort:
Friday, Aug. 10 — West of 5.
Free.

Piazza della Famiglia:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Marine Band San Diego.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Phil Salazar & the Kin Folk. \$18.

Poinsettia Village:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Will Sumner.
Free.
Friday, Aug. 10 — Mic Maga.
Free.

Point Loma Community Park:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Full Strength Funk Band. Free.
Friday, Aug. 10 — The Mighty Untouchables. Free.

Pour House:
Thursday, Aug. 9 — BlackWater and Red Wizard.

Quartyard:
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Fresh Fest.
\$12-\$24.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Summ Music Fest. \$13-\$15.
Monday, Aug. 6 — David Liebe Hart. \$10-\$12.

Rosie O'Grady's:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Bonneville 7. Free.

SDCCU Stadium:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Island Vibe Music Festival. \$10-\$35.

San Diego Botanic Garden:
Sunday, Aug. 12 — The Big Band & Jazz Hall of Fame Orchestra. \$25-\$40.

San Diego Children's Discovery Museum:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Ruth & Emilia.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — Wimps. \$8-\$10.
Friday, Aug. 3 — Buyepongo. \$10-\$12.

Saturday, Aug. 4 — Levitation Room. \$10-\$12.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Whiskerman and AJ Froman. \$8.
Tuesday, Aug. 7 — Them Evils. \$10-\$12.

Thursday, Aug. 9 — Matthew Logan Vasquez and Dustin Lovelis.

Saturday, Aug. 11 — Jessica Hernandez & the Deltas and Kera. \$13-\$15.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Giraffes? Giraffes! \$10.
Monday, Aug. 13 — Jess Williamson.

Space:
Thursday, Aug. 9 — The Ataris. \$16-\$18.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Pyrrhon, Succumb, Korbukow. \$10-\$12.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — The San Diego Concert Band. Free.
Monday, Aug. 6 — International Summer Organ Festival. Free.
Tuesday, Aug. 7 — Raúl Prieto Ramirez. Free.

Monday, Aug. 13 — International Summer Organ Festival. Free.

Spreckels Park:
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Gilbert Castellanos Latin Jazz Review.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Mustache Harbor.

Stag and Lion:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Plunderbund. Free.

Standley Park and Recreation Center:
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Full Strength Funk Band. Free.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Siers Brothers. Free.

Sunset Temple Theater:
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Peter Sprague & Randy Phillips.

Sunshine Brooks Theatre:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Night of the Living Dead: Live Soundtrack by Morricone Youth. \$15.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Mad Max: Live Soundtrack by Morricone Youth. \$15.

Thornton Winery:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — The Rippingtons, David Benoit & Marc Antoine. \$85-\$160.
Sunday, Aug. 5 — Robert Cray Band. \$85-\$160.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Chris Botti. \$105-\$180.

Tin Roof San Diego:
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Blues Summit: Stoney B. Blues, more.

Tio Leo's:
Sunday, Aug. 5 — The Hurricanes.

Tower Bar:
Friday, Aug. 3 — Jason Lee & the R.I.P. Tides.

Town Center Community Park:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — Sully & the Blue Eyed Soul Band. Free.
Thursday, Aug. 9 — Wingstock: Back to the Garden. Free.

Veterans Museum and Memorial Center:
Sunday, Aug. 12 — The Downbeat Big Band. \$5-\$10.

Viejas Arena:
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Darryl Hall & John Oates. \$49-\$129.

Viejas Casino Concerts in the Park:
Friday, Aug. 10 — Eddie Money. \$35-\$55.

Westgate Hotel:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — Lorraine Castellanos. \$25.
Saturday, Aug. 4 — Allison Adams Tucker Trio. Free.

WorldBeat Cultural Center:
Friday, Aug. 10 — Return of the Gods. \$20-\$150.
Saturday, Aug. 11 — Return of the Gods. \$20-\$150.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — Return of the Gods. \$20-\$150.

Zel's Del Mar:
Thursday, Aug. 2 — Robin Henkel.

Zoro Garden:
Sunday, Aug. 5 — The Mightier P.E.N.S. Free.
Sunday, Aug. 12 — The Mightier P.E.N.S. Free.

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Saturday July 28: **Dave Booda** 12pm
John Lowery 6pm
Swinging Johnsons 8:30pm

Sunday July 29: **John Bennett** 12pm
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8/25 - PUNCH BROTHERS
8/29 - THE EXPLOITED

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THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

Comedy abounds on the North Coast Rep stage, as the Roman slave Pseudolus attempts to win his freedom by finding a way for Hero, his master's son, and Philia, a virgin courtesan sold to Captain Miles Gloriosos, to be together. Things unravel quickly, resulting in faked deaths and mistaken identities, but there is, of course, a happy ending for nearly the entire cast of characters. The ensemble of actors is impeccable in their comic timing, vocal strength, and acting. They move fluently around the brightly colored single set consisting of three neighborhood home fronts. Favorite songs included "Everybody Ought to Have a Maid" and "I'm Calm." Witty and laugh-inducing, albeit on the lengthy side, *Forum* is definitely *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, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

A Man of No Importance

This musical, lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, music by Stephen Flaherty, book by Terrence McNally, tells of Alfie Byrne, "a bus conductor with a poet's heart, who has secrets he can't share with anyone but his imagined confidant, Oscar Wilde. Manny Bejarano directs the Coronado Playhouse production. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Alice: A Wonder-Full Musical

Patrick Henry High School presents a contemporary musical version of Lewis Carroll's famous story. Set in a modern day high school, Alice takes a musical journey down the rabbit hole as she meets unforgettable characters and embarks on an adventure of self discovery. PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL, 6702 WANDERMERE DR., SAN CARLOS. 7PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS.

Annie

Patio Playhouse Youth Theatre, partnered with Boys and Girls Club of Greater San Diego, presents the popular musical about the orphan who dreams of finding her parents. Favorite songs include: "I Think I'm Gonna Like It Here," "it's the Hard Knock Life," and "Tomorrow." KIT CARSON PARK, 3333 BEAR VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS.

Catch Me if You Can

The Star Theatre Company pres-

ents a musical comedy based on the movie, starring Leonardo DeCaprio and Tom Hanks, "about chasing your dreams and not getting caught. Seeking fame and fortune, precocious teenager Frank Abagnale, Jr., runs away from home to begin an unforgettable adventure."

STAR THEATRE, 402 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-721-9983. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Disney's Frozen Jr.

A 60-minute musical adapted & developed for middle-school students. When their kingdom becomes trapped in perpetual winter, fearless Anna joins forces with mountaineer Kristoff and his reindeer sidekick to find Anna's sister, Snow Queen Elsa, and break her icy spell. With music and lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez. 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA, CA 92037. 8PM SATURDAYS, 12PM SUNDAYS.

Disney's Newsies

Moonlight Stage Productions offers the regional premiere musical based on the two-week newsboy strike of 1899. Tony Awards went to musical score (Alan Menken, lyrics by Jack Feldman) and book (Harvey Fierstein). Larry Raben directs. MOONLIGHT AMPHITHEATRE IN BRENGLE TERRACE PARK, 1200 VALE TERRACE, VISTA. 760-724-2110. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, & WEDNESDAYS.

Dr. Seuss' The Lorax

The Old Globe Theatre presents a new musical adaptation of Dr. Seuss's classic children's book. It's a cautionary tale of a greedy businessman who disregards the warnings of the Lorax, defender of the trees.

There's plenty of Seussian wordplay, and diverse music that largely tickles the senses and gets toes tapping. Sets and costumes are charming, both in the somber framework story and especially the vibrant world of the Lorax. The hard-working and talented cast members play a multitude of characters, with a few performing double-duty as puppeteers and musicians. While some aspects seem particularly suited to kids - bodily function gags and the near-frenetic pace - *The Lorax* is full of all-ages whimsy, stage magic, and, importantly, hope. **Critic's Pick.** Review by Jennifer Chung Klam.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Forever Plaid

Welk Resort Theatre stages the popular musical revue about Sparky, Smudge, Jinx, and Frankie, who harmonized the pop hits of the 1950s until, on the way to their first big gig, were broadsided by a school bus and killed instantly. Now they have just one chance to prove their stuff. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS.

Hard Day's Night

The Welk Resort Theatre hosts a touring production of "Southern California's #1 Beatles Tribute Show." Wearing early black suits, Sgt. Pepper's regalia, and Abbey Road attire, and speaking in a "Liverpudlian dialect," the Fab Four sings "Penny Lane," "Day in the Life," "Yesterday," and many others, with video scenes

on a backdrop.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

The Haunted Theatre

Sabine Silver, an avant garde solo performing artist, presents "an elegant and dramatic spectacle, with original music with harp, vocals, and thematic monologues of a phantasmagorical, psychedelic, and romantically gothic nature." 575-779-7543 CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LA JOLLA, 1216 CAVE ST., LA JOLLA. 858-459-5045. 7PM SUNDAY.

Legally Blonde, The Musical

New Village Arts opens its 18th season with the musical based on Amandia Brown's novel and the movie starring Reese Witherspoon. Delta Nu President Elle Woods goes on a journey of self-discovery as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery, and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. Kristianne Kurner directs, with musical direction by Tony Houck. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS.

Monty Python's Spamalot

You could call it King Arthur's nightmare. As he and his mates of the Round Table quest for the Holy Grail, instead of righting wrongs and rescuing damozels in distress, they confront a Trojan Rabbit, knights who say "ni," and all manner of untoward opposition. The Tony Award-winning musical's in fine hands at Cygnet Theatre, thanks to standout work by Sean Murray (King Arthur) and Christine Hewitt (Lady of the Lake with glowing vocal chops). Bryan Banfield, James Saba,

and David S. Humphrey excel in multiple roles, and the rest of the cast, directed by Murray, dances, cavorts, and pratfalls with elan. Mostly played loud, the production could use more calmer sections, and the videos are long in the tooth, but the Monty Python spirit reigns supreme. **Critic's Pick.** CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

Murder Ballad: A Rock Musical

The Tenth Avenue Arts Center is serving up a rock-opera tale of a love triangle gone horribly wrong. "Taking place in New York, the set is an underground bar, which welcomes the adult audience to order a drink at our cash bar." TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 7PM FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SUNDAY.

On Your Feet

Broadway/San Diego hosts a musical based on "two people who believed in their talent—and each other—to become an international sensation: Gloria and Emilio Estefan." Jerry Mitchell directs, with choreography by Sergio Trujillo. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7:30PM TUESDAY, JULY 31 & WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1.

On Your Feet!

Broadway/San Diego hosts a touring production of the popular Broadway musical about Emilo and Gloria Estefan. They came to America and became a crossover sensation. But

THE SUMMER'S HIT MUSICAL EXTENDED AGAIN!

Once

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SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE

"FABULOUS!"
SCENE

"★★★★★!"
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Critic's Choice
"A wholly rewarding treat of a show, with plenty of Seuss-ian visual wit and a gifted ensemble cast!"
The San Diego Union-Tribune

The Lorax

Based on the book *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss
Adapted for the stage by David Greig
Music and Lyrics by Charlie Fink
Directed by Max Webster
Presented by The Old Globe and Children's Theatre Company,
in partnership with The Old Vic
Originally produced at The Old Vic in London

Final Weeks!
Must close August 12

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THE OLD GLOBE

The cast of Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*. Photo by Dan Norman.
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"just when they thought they had it all, they almost lost everything." SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7PM TUESDAY, JULY 31 & WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1.

Once

The musical, based on the 2007 sleeper hit film, tells a classic boy-meets-girl story. Set in Dublin, he's an Irish busker who's lost his way. She's a Czech immigrant inspired by his songs and intent on fixing him. They've both been battered by love, but fall nonetheless. Kerry Meads leads this intimate and impressive production at Lamb's, with lighting and choreography well serving the various moods and music, from folk rock and ballads to Czech and Irish folk songs. As the would-be lovers, Michael Louis Cusimano and especially Katie Grady, lend their lovely, soulful voices and stand out among a multi-talented cast who play many instruments on stage. There's some corniness and humor that doesn't hit the mark. But never mind. *Once* is more concert than story, and Lamb's puts on one helluva concert. **Critic's Pick.** Review by Jennifer Chung Klam.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

Otherwise Improvise & The Naked Shakespeare Company

This event is part of The Garden Theatre Festival 2018. An audience participatory improvisational event will occur every Saturday, with a showcase of scenes from Shakespeare. The Otherwise Improvise Workshop and The Naked Shakespeare Company host the event. These events will take place from 3pm to 4pm on Saturdays from July 28th to August 18th. For further information call (619) 569-4922. Pictured: Former Naked Shakespeare Company Production, The Comedy of Errors.

ZORO GARDEN, 1649 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK. 3PM SATURDAYS.

Queens

Martyna Majok's latest work couldn't be more topical. 1713 Putnam Ave., Queens, is a half-way house for female immigrants. Much as they would wish otherwise, the women are behind enemy lines. The play is, in effect, notes from an underground few would know. *Queens* has a vitally important subject, but it needs shaping, a clearer presentation. The women are their issues, pretty much, and it is hard to follow. Led by Brenda Meaney's almost soulless Riena, the cast performs with obvious skill and versatility. But their accents, well coached by Christine Adaire, are at times so accurate, the words are hard to grasp. *Queens* is fascinating and frustrating. The sketchy structure, however, is filled with tough compassion and packed with insights. Worth a try. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS.

Reefer Madness

The Ocean Beach Playhouse stages the musical comedy, inspired by the 1936 film, that takes "a tongue-in-cheek look at the hysteria caused when clean-cut kids fall prey to marijuana, leading them on a downward spiral filled with evil jazz music, sex

ANTI-REVIEW CHERIE PEACOCK

Something about vulnerability

WHEN I SAW A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM, I was reminded me how much I prefer anything live to anything recorded. As in, I might really enjoy a live music event and yet have no desire to buy the CD.

It's funny because I grew up on TV. In our house, it went on when the first person got up in the morning and didn't go off until the last person went to bed.

I don't think I saw a live performance of anything until my dad took me to see George Carlin's "Seven Dirty Words" when I was about 10. (If you're going to corrupt your child, you might as well do it with a comedic master such as Carlin.)

I've seen bits of the film version of *AFTHOTWTF* over the years, and I sat down and watched the whole thing before

seeing it on stage. I thought it was a big meh.

But on stage? It was hilarious.

Why the difference? I think it has something to do with the



A dynamism that's lost on film

vulnerability. There are no second takes, no do-overs. There's so much more at stake, and that makes comedy funnier and tragedy scarier. In a good production, the audience is rooting for the actors, willing them to succeed. They're invested in

the outcome, and that creates a dynamism that's lost on film.

Live performances also require a scaling down which, when done well, intensifies the action. In the film, some of the funniest parts were the elaborate film tropes that couldn't be approached in a theater.

I also think the difference has to do with genre. *A Funny Thing Happened* is one part farce, one part Vaudeville, and three parts Plautus. I've never read a whole Plautus play, because they didn't seem

funny to me. But maybe they're funny on stage. At this point, I think I'd go see something Vaudevillian if it were possible.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum runs at North Coast Rep through August 12.

and violence."

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS.

Romeo and Juliet

PowPAC and Pickwick Players' co-production stages Shakespeare's tale of star-crossed lovers, feuding families, and fate. Tyler Hewes directs. The production is also Creating Community to benefit Urban Street Angels, host of the only emergency shelter for homeless youth in San Diego County.

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Tales of Dreaming, Part I

This one act performance piece is based on three Australian Aboriginal tales from *The Dreamtime*; a family friendly production, written and directed by Sharyn Noll, as part of The Garden Theatre Festival 2018. Why does the Kookaburra laugh? Come find out.

ZORO GARDEN, 1649 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK. 4PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY.

Village Church Summer Theater Camp

Our Camp this year has a common theme of self-sacrifice and giving to others, and this will be reflected in our two plays. Our Youth Camp will prepare *Once Upon A Parable* by Tom S. Long and Allen Pote, retelling parables and the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Jesus in a beautiful musical, and the Teen Camp will rehearse *What's Up, Zak?* by Kim Ingram and Joe Milton, using the story of the tax collector Zaccheus to show how everyone and anyone can have a personal encounter with Jesus. You will find detailed camp information at our website: VILLAGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 6225 PASEO DELICIAS, RANCHO SANTA FE. 858-756-2441. 9AM THURSDAY & FRIDAY.

Who Dunit? Seaport Village Who Dunit? Seaport Village

hosts a scavenger hunt style Murder Mystery Adventure that lasts approximately 2 hours. The "interactive, self-guided tour" has checkpoints along the way. Audience members will collect clues, crack codes, decipher riddles, and participate in crazy challenges."

SEAPORT VILLAGE, 849 W. HARBOR DR., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-235-4014. 4PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS.

Xanadu

OnStage Playhouse presents a musical "based on one of the worst movies ever made." "A beautiful Greek muse descends from the heavens of Mt. Olympus to Venice Beach on a quest to inspire a struggling artist to build his greatest creation." Teri Brown directs.

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

The Zoo Story

Peter just wants his Sunday ritual: read a good book at his favorite Central Park bench. He's an exec. at a small publishing firm (text-books) and relishes his quiet time. Jerry, a rebel without a connection, needs to talk. He's manic and urgent, since he couldn't even befriend his landlord's gnarly dog. So Jerry, sly as a salesman, gets Peter to talk, and listen. In Edward Albee's 55-minute one-act, they couldn't be more opposite. In *Backyard Renaissance's* terrific, jackhammer of a production, smartly directed by Rosina Reynolds, they couldn't be better cast. Francis Gercke makes hyper-Jerry a time bomb with few ticks left (his lengthy monologue/shaggy dog story is excellent). Phil Johnson, one of San Diego's reigning comedians, displays his impressive acting skills. He reveals mostly mute Peter's emotional interior with often brilliant reactions. **Critic's Pick.**

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

to married life in their run-down, New York walk-up. Jessica Stone directs. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. AUG. 2 THROUGH SEP. 2.

Hairspray

San Diego Musical Theatre presents the eight Tony Award-winner about Tracy Turnblad and her dream to dance on the *Corny Collins Show*, in 1962 in Baltimore. Can Tracy and her friends "triumph over high school bullies, racism, and enemies everywhere of big girls with big hair"?

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. AUG. 3 THROUGH SEP. 1.

La Cage aux Folles

For two evenings only, as a benefit for its Artist Advocate Program, Cygnet Theatre offers a concert reading of the hugely popular musical about gay partners Albin and George, George's son, and the "normal" girl he's in love with.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. AUG. 6 THROUGH AUG. 7.

Long Story Short: The Gooder, The Badder, and The Uglier

Long Story Short's annual "best-of" review returns to the *Diversionary*. Seven "all-star performers will hit you with their best shots," with live musical accompaniment by Dan Steinman. Featured performers are: Ryan Hicks, Kelsey Schultz, Kevin Manley, Paul Georgeades, Kirk Faulkner, Shiela Shaw, and David Latham.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. AUG. 3.

Mexihco: The Journey Continues

Experience history come to life as you journey through the time of the Mayan Civilization (Los Mayas) to the Mexican Revolution. Discover the legends from the "Corridos" that came thereafter, and enjoy the debut of our highlight piece: "Homenaje a Pedro Infante."

The most ambitious project by Tierra Caliente Academy of Arts in its 2nd annual performance, "Mexihco" is a stage production that combines theater and dance with the purpose of sharing culture and promoting the performing arts.

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. Join us for a night of intrigue, deception, and delicious food in this comedic thriller.

OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 275 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-233-4323. AUG. 16.

Barefoot in the Park

The Old Globe Theatre stages Neil Simon's early comedy about how newly-weds, free-spirited Corie and buttoned-down Paul, struggle to adjust

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR (PRE) TEENS (10 - 17 Y.O.)

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Mission: Impossible's Modest pleasures

There's a moment near the beginning of *Mission: Impossible: Fallout* — when can-do American agent Ethan Hunt is receiving the recorded details of his impossible mission via reel-to-reel video embedded in a copy of Homer's *Odyssey* and activated by blood sample, because *hey wouldn't it*

be cool if — when the attention is caught and the interest roused in altogether unexpected fashion. *Rogue agent... terror for hire... evil network... nuclear bomb... mad scientist... extreme anti-religious views... wait, what?* Is Mission: Impossible going to serve up a bad guy on a crusade against religion? A truly militant atheist, dedicated to the belief that belief is what's poisoning the world, that faith is what must be expunged if civilization is to be saved? Is Tom Cruise, whose religious beliefs are the one thing that keeps him from being utterly anodyne (my companion at the screening called him “The McDonald’s hamburger of

movie stars — nobody wants to admit they like him, but every now and then, you just want one”), going to have to fight on the side of the angels — literally? Will the villain get his chance to make true believers squirm as he pontificates (heh) about the Crusades, the Inquisition, honor killings, and the many instances of man’s inhumanity to man in the name of his gods?

How...invigorating. Original, even — given the context.

Alas. The anti-religious aspect is done away with before the opening credits — though not before an arresting news montage showing the aftermath of nuclear attacks on the Vatican, Jerusalem, and Mecca, and the mad scientist’s mad claim that, having suffered mutual catastrophes, adherents of Catholicism, Judaism, and Islam will finally be at peace with one another. It’s a pity, because without it, all we’re left with is formula, however proven. The McDonald’s hamburger of action movies.

MOVIES



Mission: Impossible: Fallout: the mission may be impossible, but the views are amazing.

Well, maybe that’s not entirely fair. Maybe the Wendy’s. Everything was exactly as expected — the switcheroos, the goofy tech, the acrobatic punch-ups, the motorized mayhem, the subdued romantic longing, and oh yes, the bloated indulgence within nearly every set piece — but there were some darn tasty aspects. I swooned as Cruise plummeted through the sky toward the lights of Paris. I grinned like an idiot when he started running, running, running across

the rooftops, face rigid with determination as he simultaneously pursued his quarry and eluded the ravages of time. I gasped in awe at the deadly splendor of his cliffside struggle with the big baddie. In short, I had a pretty good time, wincing only when loyal friend Ving Rhames was forced to manipulate heartstrings instead of bomb wires and when various higher ups were forced to comment on the tricky ethics of choosing one life over a million. *Hrm* — maybe it’s a

good thing they steered clear of religion.
— Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.



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IN THEATERS JULY 27

f @MissionImpossibleMovie i @MissionImpossible t @MissionFilm #MissionImpossible

1945 — Beware of Jews bearing perfume. August 9, 1945 is the day America bombed Nagasaki; in another part of the world, the magistrate of a small Hungarian village (Péter Rudolf) is about to have his son's nuptials torpedoed by a pair of unexpected guests. His missus is a druggie, his wimpy son is cuckolded on his wedding day, and to make matters worse, a surprise pair of money-lenders are parading their goods through town. Can I get an "Oy, gevalt!" Normally, a complex, multi-character melodrama that finds its diffuse cast converging on one location for a climactic reveal is this critic's Shangri-La. But the second the strangers refused to hop a ride on the cart was the very moment their destination (and the contents of the mysterious boxes) became obvious. Worth seeing for cinematographer Elemér Ragályi's fine-grained black-and-white frames and László Rajk's meticulous production design. Too bad they weren't in service of a better picture. Ferenc Török directs 2017. — S.M. ★★ (READING CINEMAS TOWN SQUARE)

2001: A Space Odyssey — Much of its reputation comes from exposing the masses to special effects that had been done much more excitingly, not to mention economically, in experimental shorts. Only where money really counts — the finicky construction of model spaceships — does it move into new territory. Kubrick's paranoid spoofs on modern technocracy have never been very sharp — not then, not before (*Dr. Strangelove*), and not after (*Clockwork Orange*). Nonetheless a definite feeling of awe creeps in now and then during this incomprehensible chronicle of mankind from birth to rebirth. 1968. — D.S. ★★★★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

Across the Universe — Two-and-a-quarter-hour promo for the Beatles without ever mentioning them by name. A generous, even overgenerous sampler of their songs (thirty-three of them, by the count in the press notes, leaving aside the numberless others that are quoted from or alluded to) has been re-recorded, or "covered" as they say in the business, by a fictitious cast of characters plunked down against the billowing backdrop of the Sixties: the war, the draft, the protests, the drugs, the psychedelics, the Sexual Revolution, all that. To link the Beatles with the upheaval makes a certain sense. Unlike, say, the more enduring Rolling Stones or the going-nowhere Dave Clark Five, the Beatles were a group that really did evolve (or, as some would prefer, devolve) swiftly and dramatically, making them a useful weathercock for the winds of change. You are here reminded afresh of their range and their riches; and in new mouths, you hear the songs with new ears. (The tremulous, down-tempo rendition, for example, of "I Wanna Hold Your Hand" by an Asian-American high-school cheerleader, T.V. Carpio, brings the song a new, a renewed feeling, all by itself almost worth the price of admission.) By the second half, however, the inspiration irreversibly runs out of steam en route to a spluttering climax of "All You Need Is Love." (Wearily, now: yeah, yeah, yeah.) Part of the problem is that, as the counterculture gains momentum in the sequence of events, there's a visible increase in music-video vulgarity, ornamental surrealism, Fellini-esque fantasy, all the elements that go into director Julie Taymor's fabled "vision." Another part of the problem may be that the later songs, even though the playlist in the film does not observe a strict chronology, tend to be more turgid. Part, too, may simply be that two-and-a-quarter hours are too long for a promo. With Evan Rachel Wood, Jim Sturgess, Joe Anderson, Dana Fuchs, Martin Luther McCoy, and cameos by Bono, Eddie Izzard, Joe Cocker, Salma Hayek. 2007. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ant-Man and the Wasp — "Amiable" is the big aim here for director Peyton Reed. Pleasant rather than pleasurable. Amusing rather than funny. Diverting rather than delightful. Having gone full Gotterdammerung with *Avengers: Infinity War*, Marvel gets modest and zings to the opposite extreme for the featherweight tale of Hank Pym (Michael Douglas), a man seeking to rescue his wife (Michelle Pfeiffer) from her 30-year exile in the Quantum Realm. But to succeed in his quest, he needs help from Scott Lang (Paul Rudd), the man who effectively ruined his post-wife life by stealing his size-shifting supersuit and heading off to Germany to break a treaty in Captain America: Civil War. Not only that, Lang's decision also squelched his romance with Pym's daughter Hope (Evangeline Lilly). Lots of potential for small-scale (hey-o!) interpersonal drama here, but you'd never know it from the principals, who skip over the emotional depths like so many water bugs skittering on the surface of a pond. The setup may be for a love story, but the story is pure caper flick, with multiple parties scrambling to get their hands on Pym's shrinkable laboratory while simultaneously dodging the law. Which would be okay and maybe even fun were it not for the frequent presence of a gruesome ghost haunting the proceedings: a woman in constant physical and emotional agony who is trying desperately not to die. A weirdly disturbing fly in the amiable ointment. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Blindspotting — Rafael Casal and Daveed Diggs write and star in a portrait of Oakland circa Right Now, directed by Carlos López Estrada. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2018 (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

AMICI PARK

State Street and Date St., Little Italy

Little Italy Summer Film Festival Every Saturday night of the summer, San Diego locals can travel to Italy through a movie screen. From June 23 to August 25, the Little Italy Association and Cinema Little Italy will host their annual Little Italy Summer Film Festival where Italian films with English subtitles will show at 7:30pm at the Amici Park Amphitheater. \$5 donation. **Saturday, July 28, 7:30pm, Saturday, August 4, 7:30pm**

CARLSBAD VILLAGE

2930 Roosevelt St., Carlsbad
760-720-9161



Flicks at the Fountain The Carlsbad Village Association (CVA) will host its annual Flicks at the Fountain, a weekly series of family-fun films at Carlsbad Village's prominent fountain. The movies scheduled to play this year are: July 26 — *The Neverending Story*, August 2 — *The Lion King*, August 9 — *Wonder Woman*. For more information, please visit <http://www.carlsbad-village.com/events/flicks-at-the-fountain> **Thursday, July 26, 6:00pm, Thursday, August 2, 6:00pm, Thursday, August 9, 6:00pm**

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Jeffrey Lehmann's Maritime Silk Road Documentary & Lecture The San Diego

The Cakemaker — A young baker moves from Berlin to Jerusalem in search of his late lover's family only to end up playing semblant husband and father to the dead man's widow and son. Credit first-time writer/director Ofir Raul Graizer with pulling off something of a miracle. Not only is the unorthodox premise kept plausible, for a change it's prejudiced Jews — unable to certify as kosher pastries made by German hands — making like tough on a peaceful tution. At the outset, Thomas (Tim Kalkhof) is a watcher confined to the sides of the frame. It isn't until he finds safety and comfort within enemy lines that Thomas allows his imposture to take center stage. (The reasoning behind the decision to withhold his true identity from Anat (Sarah Adler) is never made clear, but don't let that throw you.) And there hasn't been anything to match the intensity of their fully-clothed courting since Jack and Jessica heated up a kitchen in *The Postman Always Rings Twice*. 2017. — S.M. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far on Foot — Friends don't let friends drive drunk, lest they wind up spending the rest of their lives paralyzed and in a wheelchair. With a title like this, can it get any cuter? It can — when the viewer finds Gus "I Traced Psycho" Van Sant at his well-intentioned best. From the man who brought us *Drugstore Cowboy* — one of the few narrative films to actually explore the reasons behind America's love affair with taking drugs — comes a cautionary tale of "Just say no." It's based on the book by John Callahan (Joaquin Phoenix), who turned what many would view as a life-halting handicap into a career as a cartoonist. Jonah Hill is in full Dr. Brains mode, fer sure, as the puffed up AA guru dismissively flipping his hair while carting around a cigarette holder as a fashion

accessory. The film also doubles as a lesson in 12-step filmmaking: instead of filming group encounters in eye-gouging closeup, maybe try moving the camera at least 12 steps back from the characters' nostrils. 2018. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Eighth Grade — Spend the last week of grade school with Kayla Day (Elsie Fisher), a straight-out nonregreous teen who uses earbuds to muffle the monotony her brought forth by her doting dad (Josh Hamilton), fidgets her way through starting a daily PMA video blog, and joins her classmates under their desks for an Active-shooter drill. The latter is worth mentioning, since it's the first on film that, thankfully, isn't here to foreshadow the outcome. Heather Matarazzo's Dawn Wiener in *Welcome to the Dollhouse* set the gold standard for this type of painfully awkward teen-in-transition, but Fisher's performance is nothing short of cringeworthy (high praise in this case). Still, the real delight is Hamilton's equally ungainly dad, who grows up faster than any of the kids in the picture. Writer/director Bo Burnham ratchets up the mean-spiritedness a bit by scrutinizing every one of his star's teenager's imperfections, highlighting rolls of back-fat and using an 85mm lens to scan every inch of her acne-ravaged face more painstakingly than a lunar rover. 2018. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Equalizer 2 — Add a fourth to the angelic trio of Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael — Denzel. Washington reprises his role as McCall, the former CIA operative who now spends his time helping people in need: old Jewish men, middle-aged Muslim ladies, young black men, younger white girls, and oh yes, his friends. Much of the time, he doesn't

even need to get violent, but when he does, the old fellow turns into an avengeful agent of divine retribution. Time slows for him; the most minute details present themselves for his consideration; and he brutally dispatches hosts of baddies without breaking a sweat. Heck, the climax pits him against a team of fellow Black Ops vets in a hurricane, and he doesn't even get wet. Some folks might call that lazy filmmaking from director Antoine Fuqua, but maybe it's just in keeping with McCall's supernatural character. It's not much of a movie — more a parade of rah-rah triumphs obscuring a batch of logical oddities — which makes Washington's committed performance stand out like the heavenly host in the night sky over Bethlehem. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ferdinand — Author Munro Leaf's beloved children's book is a pacifist primer intended to advise kids on how not to follow in the kamikaze footsteps of jingoistic bovines eager to lay down their lives on the field of honor. Disney's 1938 short will forever remain the definitive adaptation, but that wasn't enough to stop the gluttons at 20th Century Fox Animation from blowing it up into a 107 minute holiday blockbuster. If one must expose children to fables in which testosterone-fueled picadors gets their jollies by stabbing animals to death in the name of sport as thousands look on, there isn't a better starting and stopping point than *Ferdinand*. The film is rife with anachronistic pop-culture throwaways. Changing our hero's nickname from "Ferdinand the Fierce" to simply "F-Bomb" bombed, but I did have to chuckle when a decumbent nag whinnied, "I've fallen and I can't giddyap!" 2017. — S.M. ★ (ULTRASTAR MISSION VALLEY AT HAZARD CENTER)

FILM FESTIVALS

Chinese Historical Museum will be hosting Emmy award-winning Producer Jeffrey Lehmann for a screening of *Maritime Silk Road: Birth of the Global Economy*. **Saturday, July 28, 1:00pm**

DIGITAL GYM CINEMA

2921 El Cajon Bl., North Park
619-230-1938

1945 In this Hungarian film, the unexpected arrival of an Orthodox man and his son to a rural Hungarian village results in a reckoning for the townspeople, many of which benefited from the deportation of the Jewish population during WWII. **Thursday, July 26, 11:00am**

SD Film Geeks Presents: The Postman Always Rings Twice The SD Film Geeks presents: *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (1946) Part of our Noir In The Boulevard Series. **Sunday, July 29, 1:00pm**

SD Film Geeks Presents: Body Heat The SD Film Geeks presents: *Body Heat* (1981) Part of our Noir In The Boulevard Series. **Monday, July 30, 7:30pm**

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH CARLSBAD

2700 Rancho Pancho, Carlsbad

Movie Night: The Greatest Showman Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join us for a free summer movie night on the grass. **Friday, August 10, 7:30pm**

GROSSMONT CENTER

5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa

Film Discussion: The Women's Balcony Director Ben Shimon's jaunty, rousing tale of women speaking truth to patriarchal power. 2017. 96 minutes. (In Hebrew with English subtitles). Discussion after the film with instructor Ralph DeLauro at Oasis Lifelong Learning Center, Suite #325. Film on the Fringe information: 619-881-6262 **Tuesday, July 31, 1:00pm**

LOT

7611 Fay Ave., La Jolla
858-777-0069

Spotlight Screening: Shanghai Calling

Directed by Daniel Hsia (USA, 100 min.). Film starts at 7PM, followed by a Q&A with special guest Aynne Kokas, author of *Hollywood Made in China*. **Monday, July 30, 5:45pm**

LINKSOUL LAB

530 S. Coast Hwy., Oceanside

Oceanside Takes on Straws Come by The Hill Street Country Club on July 27 for *Oceanside Takes on: Straws* film screening. This will be a fun night of informative and interesting information on the negative impact that plastic straws have on our oceans and local environment. **Friday, July 27, 7:00pm**

RUOCCO PARK

585 Harbor Lane, Downtown San Diego

Street Food Cinema: The Goonies It's more than just a movie! Street Food Cinema features cool outdoor movies, picnic-ready food



trucks, live music from emerging artists, interactive games and more! TIME: Doors 5:30pm. Live Music 6:30pm. Movie 8:30pm. **Saturday, July 28, 5:30pm**

MANCHESTER GRAND HYATT

One Market Pl., Downtown San Diego
619-232-1234

Rooftop Cinema Club: Romeo & Juliet **Thursday, July 26, 6:30pm**

Rooftop Cinema Club: Coming to America **Friday, July 27, 6:30pm**

Rooftop Cinema Club: Top Gun **Saturday, July 28, 6:30pm**

Rooftop Cinema Club: The Dark Knight **Wednesday, August 1, 6:30pm**

STONE BREWING LIBERTY STATION

2816 Historic Decatur Road #116, Liberty Station
619-269-2100

Raiders of the Lost Ark Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and settle down for a fabulous evening of great beer and great cinema. **Tuesday, July 31, 8:00pm**

THE FATHERS HOUSE

1185 Linda Vista Drive, San Marcos

Sex Trafficking in San Diego Join us for dinner and a night to learn more about sex trafficking in San Diego, hope for healing and what YOU can do to help! We will have experts in the field for a Q & A panel following the film. All proceeds benefit Hidden Treasures Foundation and their efforts in opening Tiffanys Place - a sanctuary for sex trafficked girls in San Diego. **Sunday, July 29, 4:30pm**

TWO SEVEN EIGHT

3687 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest
619-278-0080

Brews & Views Back by popular demand, Brews and Views combines two of your favorite things: local craft beer and innovating short films. Join the SDJFF for an evening of short films, craft beers, and a good time with new and old friends. **Sunday, July 29, 5:30pm**

UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY LIBRARY

4155 Governor Dr., University City
858-552-1655

West-Eastern Divan Orchestra Documentary Screenings Please join us for the award winning documentary series about the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra founded by Daniel Barenboim with the late Palestinian writer Edward Said in order to bring together young musicians from across the political divide in the Middle East. "The Ramallah Concert." The events are free and open to the public. **Saturday, July 28, 1:30pm**

Calendar MOVIES

The First Purge — After the series opener, I vowed to *Purge* no more. Funny how air conditioning on a 105 degree day has a way of changing one's mind. White devils brainwash blacks into spending a governmentally sanctioned extended grace period killing other blacks. Describing three dudes on a stoop as, "Moe, Larry, and Jheri Curley" is about as scintillating as the discourse gets in this otherwise gray and violent stockpile of insignificant social commentary. They're calling it a horror film for the Trump era which in this case amounts to once alluding to a Russian by name and having a female character fend off a male combatant with, "Hey! Stop grabbing my pu**y." Marisa Tomei stars as the woman whose idea it was to turn ethnic cleansing into a giant block party. She brings nothing to the role but indifference. The Academy has every right to rescind her supporting actress Oscar and give it to Vanessa Redgrave. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Hearts Beat Loud — A fairy tale for grownups? A grown-up fairy tale? Either way, don't be fooled: the setting of writer-director Brett Haley's father-daughter dramedy — a failing vinyl record store in Brooklyn's Red Hook neighborhood, with frequent stops at a local bar that stays in business thanks to its reputed "authenticity" — augers prickly hipster irony. But the story is barrel-proof earnest sentiment, straight no chaser. How to keep the eyes from rolling in response? Well, it helps to have Nick Offerman at the center of things as a single dad facing the closing of his beloved business and the departure of his even more beloved daughter — the latest sorrows in a life already darkened by a dead wife and a failed dream. Besides being supremely likable, he is capable of expressing simple, direct emotion (verbally and otherwise) in a way that makes cleverness, irony, and ironic detachment look like childish poses. (For that matter, so is his impossibly sweet co-star, Kiersey Clemons.) But for all the sadness and struggle on display, the film itself is never heavy hearted. Haley's touch is too light for that, and besides, there are so many Good Fairies about: from the Spotify algorithm that picks their one track for an indie playlist, to the sweet landlady (Toni Collette) who wants to save the store, to the laid-back barman (Ted Danson) who's quick to bust out The Good Stuff when needed. And happily ever after doesn't have to mean getting everything you want. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA; LA PALOMA)

Hereditary — Writer-director Ari Aster's debut feature is not coy about its intentions: it opens on an obituary and then gives us mourning(?) daughter Toni Collette at her mother's funeral, noting all the strange new faces present and also, oh yes, Mom's "secret rituals." (Some mention should be made of Collette's go-for-broke performance here as a woman processing her pain by recreating it in miniature, her face continually contorting under the triple strain of grief, horror, and mental overload.) Rather, having announced itself, it works as a bravura technical exercise in the slow reveal — on both the micro and macro levels. Cameras are forever following terrified gazes to the source of the terror, and revelation builds on revelation until an awful culmination begins to seem inevitable. But "awful" should not be confused with "astounding." Sometimes, the banality of evil is the point: the transcendent lengths to which people will go to achieve their mundane



Eighth Grade: Just the title alone is scarier than most horror films' entire runtime.

ends. And "technical" should not be confused with "clinical" or "unfeeling" — because the gradual accumulation of sorrow and dread is integral to the technique. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (AMC MISION VALLEY; REGAL OCEANSIDE)

Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation — Sony's episodic, dialogue-driven, animated series on vampirism for youngsters rolls on with a third installment, this one set aboard a 20-story ocean liner. Hideous background and character design ahead, captain: the animation is so claustrophobic, one would swear that it was filmed entirely on a Hollywood soundstage. Were those Gremlins from the Kremlin? Did I get an earful of the "oggly-oggly-oggly" sound-effect? Quoting *Love Boat* is inevitable; cribbing Termite Terrace in this company is unthinkable. Adam Sandler returns as the voice of Dracula and Mel Brooks deserves every penny they paid him for the five inaudible moments of schtick he contributed to this debacle. (Can father-and-daughter matching fart jokes be near-at-hand?) And when all else fails, since there is no formal conclusion in sight and no loose plot ends to cinch, let's close with the characters joining in song — in this case the ear-emulsifying *Macarena*. Don't insult your children by letting them hear this. Genndy Tartakovsky wrote and directed. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Incredibles 2 — Writer-director Brad Bird picks up right where he left off 14 years ago in terms of both narrative and theme. Narrative: the arrival of The Underminer to ruin the peace and happiness of the Parrs, a family of superheroes that has finally gained those things after years of unhealthy repression. Except not really: it turns out The Underminer just wants to rob a bank. And that brings us to theme: the real underminer, then as now, is us normies, the bean-counters who made superheroes illegal in the first place. Even the big-time villains are just bitter regular folks: in the first, you had Syndrome, a wannabe super who devoted his life to the notion of "If you can't join 'em, beat 'em." In the second, you have The Screenslaver, who hates supers because they make the rest of us passive and weak — damsels in distress awaiting salvation from our betters instead of taking matters into our own hands. It's especially bad when we sit around on our lazy backsides and watch them on TV. Which, it turns out, is exactly the supers' plan for gaining legitimacy: a change in public percep-

tion through good televised PR. The obvious counter to the Screenslaver's argument is the notion of inspiration: that we can strength from the example of the Incredibles and become super in our own lives. Instead, Bird gives us a superhero movie that rebukes its audience for showing up to watch it. On top of that, it's talky, chunky, and clunky, and relies heavily on the slapstick deployment of super-baby Jack-Jack's rainbow of powers to distract from all that. Only the story of teen super Violet's frustrated romantic yearnings achieves the blend of action, wit, and intelligence that the original so expertly managed. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom — Golly, maybe life really will find a way, even in a franchise whose last installment played like a zombified version of the original entry from Steven Spielberg. Director J.A. Bayona's most recent feature was titled *A Monster Calls*, and featured a child dealing with painful news about his mother. Bayona weaves a remarkably similar storyline into a tentpole film about dinosaurs, and even more remarkably, he makes it work to genuine emotional effect. The film asks the question, "Having created monsters, do we have the right — perhaps even the obligation — to destroy them?" The answer comes from the little girl who spends so much of the film screaming, running, and hiding from the monsters in her house. And the dinos *are* monsters here, make no mistake. It's not just the (admittedly absurd but still chillingly creepy) scene where the mop-pet cringes in bed while the bloodthirsty beastie crawls closer and closer. The biological definition of "monster" is "a grossly anomalous fetus or infant," and the word is taken from the Latin *monstrum*, which may be translated "unnatural event." Like Victor Frankenstein's awful experiment, these critters were cooked up in a lab, and the deviation from the natural order — expounded upon so delightfully by Jeff Goldblum at the film's beginning and end — has very real, concrete consequences. (Short version: babies need a mother, and monsters will take care of their own.) Some very fine visuals here — silhouettes and shadows — which unfortunately have to do battle with a very intrusive score. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Leave No Trace — Homeless by choice — due in large part to the emotionally crippling time Dad spent serving his country — a veteran with PTSD (Ben Foster) and his teenage daughter

(Thomasin Harcourt McKenzie) live peaceably for years in the woods of Portland. The girl's curiosity about life in the forbidden zone eventually gets the best of her and the two are placed in the care of social services. It does a heart good to see a movie about decent people. Newcomer McKenzie hands in a star-making performance and as the father forced to make the hardest decision of his life, Foster allows tones of quiet defiance to outshout inner-anger. Debra Granik (*em>Winters Bone*) directs with a touch that's as gentle on the audience as bees are to her ten lead. Don't let the title fool you: *Leave No Trace* will make an everlasting impression on all who see it. 2018. — S.M. ★★★★★ (AMC LA JOLLA; ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

The Lego Batman Movie — Director Chris McKay's whirlwind romp through The Dark Knight's universe keeps things kid-friendly by operating from the notion that Batman is a seven-year-old boy, his development arrested by the traumatic experience of losing his parents at a tender age. He doesn't want to share: he regards his greatest enemy as "rival" good guy Superman instead of actual bad guy The Joker. He's frightened by his feelings, so much so that he invents "snake clowns" as a more plausible phobia. And when his butler tells him he has to go to a social occasion, he literally rolls on the floor shouting "No," until he's reminded that going out means getting to play dress-up. The story is similarly juvenile: a bland affirmation of the importance of working together, and a casual brush-off to the pain of loss. Anything realer, one suspects, might have gotten in the way of the rat-a-tat barrage of gags, jokes, riffs, zingers, etc., wrought by the script's five(!) authors, to say nothing of the ravishing riot of brick-based set design. It may look like a children's movie, but it feels like it's aimed at Mommy and (more likely) Daddy. 2017. — M.L. ★★ (CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS LA COSTA; CINÉPOLIS VISTA)

Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again — They cast wasn't kidding when they sang S.O.S., because if ever there was a case of same old shit, it's this. Like being forcibly breastfed impalpable cheer for two hours, *Mamma Mia!* was a colorful travelogue bestrewn with sweeping shots of movie stars vacationing on Universal's dime and doing calisthenics in the name of creative dance. The inspiration remains the same in *MM2*; hatch a plotless narrative from

the ABBA songbook and hire a Curves instructor who specializes in low-intensity workouts to choreograph. Much of it's a prequel, detailing how a young Donna's (Lily James) exploits abroad led up to daughter Sophie (Amanda Seyfried) calling three men her dad. The present day material finds the original cast (plus special guest star Cher as the broken-in albino catchers mitt) doing as little as possible to pick up the biggest paychecks imaginable. Good ole Ol Parker's biggest challenge as writer/director was counting how many transitional devices fell after rattling the cliché tree. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Mission: Impossible - Fallout — Reviewed this issue. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ocean's 8 — Same dross, different gender. Danny Ocean's kid sister Debbie (Sandra Bullock) whiles away a five-year stretch in the pokey by conspiring to knock over the annual Met Gala. Her seven same-sex associates are all assigned one function/trait needed to advance the plot: Rihanna as the spiff-rolling hacker (with the floating Jamaican accent), Mindy Kaling as the jewelether with an endless supply of asides, etc. Only Helena Bonham Carter's fussy designer makes proper use of her screen time. The Rat Pack delivered on its promise of campy misogyny. Clooney and the boys showed off their sartorial flair and little else. Listen closely and you can hear the ghost of Mr. Sinatra wheeze, "Dumb broads can't even count to eleven." The best that can be said is Eigel Bryld's cinematography is easier on the eyes than a dimmed screensaver. And as cheesy as the 1960 original is, not one of the twists in any of the four remakes/sequels is a patch on its socko payoff. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

RBG — She may look like a sparrow going dressed as Woody Allen for Halloween, but when Ruth Bader Ginsburg speaks, she has the power to change the world. Currently the only serving female Supreme Court justice, her accomplishments are too abundant for one feature, perhaps especially this one. Once looked upon as an escape from reality, movies have now assumed the role of escape from television. So what incentive is there, really, for the public to plunk down a sawbuck or more for a ticket to a CNN-produced documentary? I've yet to see a CNN production that suffered from a small-screen viewing, and it seems more than likely that the network will find a slot for this one in its permanent rotation. Directors Julie Cohen and Betsy West do earn some points for bringing to light the great love affair between Ginsburg and her heart's dearly departed desire: husband Martin. But the rest is about as visually stimulating as paging up and down through her Wikipedia page. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA)

Shrek 2 — Another dose of foam-rubber animation, rapacious capitalism, mainstream hipness, and coy vulgarity ("It looks like we're up Chocolate Creek without a popsicle stick"). Viewers of the forerunner will know what they are in for, and will have only themselves to blame. One new character, Puss 'n Boots, is well drawn whether coughing up a hairball or soliciting poor-kitty pity, and well voiced by Antonio Banderas. With the returning voices of Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, and Eddie Murphy; co-directed by Andrew Adamson, Kelly Asbury, and Conrad Vernon. 2004. — D.S. ★ (READING CINEMAS TOWN SQUARE)

Sicario: Day of the Soldado — As if in imitation of the ruthless Mexican drug cartel its heroes go after, director Stefano Sollima's sequel decapitates, disembowels, and castrates Denis Villeneuve's beautiful, tough, and sad 2015 original. Head: what had been a smart take on the difficulty of doing right even when you're righteous — particularly when it comes to drug wars — here becomes an action movie that merely uses the border as a setting, full of talking heads (televised and otherwise), coincidental meetings, and inexplicable motives. (Why exactly does the young feller from a loving home sign on with the murderous bad guys?) Guts: the stony-hearted operatives from the first go-round — Josh Brolin's government heavy and Benicio Del Toro's cartel agent — go weirdly, uncharacteristically soft. (The first film established what Del Toro's character thinks of cartel kiddies.) Cojones: never mind having the courage of the first film's convictions, how about just having the courage of your executions? There's plenty of gore and sentiment to cover over the flaws, but nothing approaching the horror of the first film's house with walls full of bodies, or the heartbreak of the heroine's final confrontation. 2018. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Skyscraper — Good news: Dwayne Johnson's take on *Towering Inferno* is at least better than his *Earthquake* update, *San Andreas*. The pleasures here come from watching an extraordinary physical specimen go through a lo-tech workout routine thousands of feet above the ground as he tries to rescue his family from a burning superskyscraper. Ladder climb (up a crane tower), monkey bars (along the crane arm), pull ups (at the edge of a building), sit ups (inverted, natch), rope climb — you get the idea. Oh, and just to hammer home the "extraordinary" part, he does it all while missing the lower half of one leg. He's further hampered by his reluctance to pick up a gun — after the botched FBI operation that took his limb, he's laid his weapon down for some reason. And of course, the bad guys responsible for the fire use his familial attachments against him. But none of these deterrents matter much, not when our man has plenty of duct tape, a thorough technical knowledge of the building's system ops, and his own marvelous muscles. It's not a good movie, exactly — the action is clumsy, the structure creaks, the plot is an afterthought, et alia — but it's not unpleasant, either. The sort of thing you might watch if you came across it while channel surfing. *Just look at that man work*. Written and directed by Rawson Marshall Thurber. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Solo: A Star Wars Story — There was, of course, no need for this story to be told. Some might even argue that there was a need for it *not* to be told, so that some shred of mystery could be preserved in a franchise that devoted three films to unveiling a Dark Father as a sad kid/mopey teen/angry young man. But Disney is in it for the money, Princess, so here it is: where he got the name, when he got the blaster, how he won the Millennium Falcon. Happily, young Solo is no Ani; he's a cocky Oliver Twist, already working the angles and making plans to break out. Everyone involved seems to know exactly what's expected of them, and everyone delivers, especially Woody Harrelson as Han's reluctant mentor Beckett and Donald Glover as smarmy smooth operator Lando. Even star Alden Ehrenreich's take on "juvenile Harrison Ford" has its virtues, especially in the vocal department, but it doesn't matter much, because the movie is having too

MOVIES@HOME

Sorry to bother you, but this week's digital downloads (all available through Amazon) comprise a trio of superior, laugh-out-loud satires.

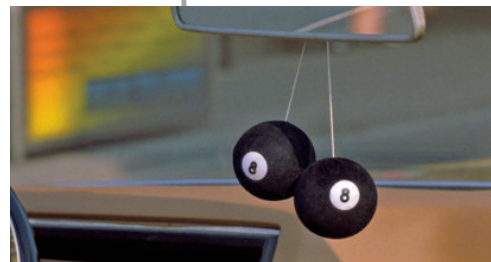
— Scott Marks

C.S.A.: THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA (2004) C.S.A. explores what might have happened had the South won the Civil War, gained control of the United States, and kept the business of slavery alive and thriving. A film professor at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, Kevin Willmott devised this gutsy, ultra-low budget (\$20,000!), and meticulously detailed faux documentary. Not since SCTV had this level of brilliant mimicry been achieved on such a miniscule budget. Atlanta-based Turner Broadcasting seemed the likeliest target to represent the telecaster, but Willmott instead went with the pretend British Broadcasting Service (BBS). (There's nothing like a British narrator to add authenticity.) The obvious antecedent is Spike Lee's *Bamboozled*, a reworking of Mel Brooks's bad-taste Nazi laugh-getter *The Producers*. Lee was there when C.S.A. played Sundance, and was so impressed that he did the right thing by lending his name to the finished product. (Willmott went on to co-write Lee's *Chi-Raq*.) At-home viewing bonus: because it's structured as a History Channel special, complete with commercials, it doesn't suffer on the small screen.

much zip-zoomy fun for you to pause and consider the matter. For the first half, that is. Han the master escape artist still has something to learn here, and can only watch helplessly as the gravity of the *Star Wars* children's crusade overwhelms him, and the wondrous fun run gives way to a joyless slog that actually undermines the heroism of *A New Hope* even as it seeks to foreshadow it. Small wonder that the man Young Skywalker finds drinking in Mos Eisley is a faithless cynic. Directed by Ron Howard. 2018. — M.L. ★ (REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA; REGAL SAN MARCOS)

BLACK DYNAMITE (2009) Even his mother calls him Black Dynamite. Forget about Jim Brown, D'Urville, The Hammer, Rudy Ray, and Richard Roundtree: part man-at-arms, part Father Flanagan, and 100% woman's dream, Black Dynamite is the biggest, baddest, blackest mother of 'em all. There have been several blaxploitation spoofs over the decades, most notably *I'm Gonna Get You, Sucka*, but *BD* refuses to stop at merely duplicating hairstyles and awkwardly staged fight scenes. Michael Jai White, no stranger to action or exploitation pictures, co-wrote the script and also stars. As authentic as the film's trappings are, it's White's performance, coupled with an uncanny ability to shift vocal ranges, that holds the film together. Director Scott Sanders finds his greatest pleasure in lampooning the haphazard style in which these films were slapped together. The watchword is accuracy, from sloppy zooms that scramble to reframe the action, to synthesized stock music cues, to split screens, to flat lighting, to garish fight sound effects, to death by process shot. There's even a purposely rank (and squarely executed) substitution of a double in mid-take.

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Don't forget Undercover Brother's big black fuzzy balls!

UNDERCOVER BROTHER (2002) Undercover Brother (Eddie Griffin) is a modern-day Robin Hood with a plan to stick it to "The Man," the sobriquet generally assigned that nameless, faceless symbol of racial oppression and modern day slavery that acts as antagonist in 90% of 70s blaxploitation pics. In this

case, one particular (but shadowed) face (Robert Trumbull) personifies "The Man" and its owner is looking to take down America's first African-American presidential candidate (Billy Dee Williams). Director Malcolm Lee (Spike's cousin) counters *Austin Powers* with a comedy that's leaps and bounds hipper and funnier than all three of Mike Meyers' films combined. We can all look forward to seeing Dave Chappelle in what one assumes will be the Jack Carson role in Lady Gaga's latest conjuring of *A Star is Born*. But was the last Eddie Griffin film to play town really — you should pardon the expression — *Norbit*? Here's your chance to see them together in service of a satire worthy of their talents.

Living slave labor program comes from a television commercial. In an attempt to say something important about the human condition, rapper-turned-director Boots Riley spends most of the time landing face-first on the canvas. Lakeith Stanfield plays the part with all the apprehension of a pup caught scarfing dinner from off the table. His time in the star's circle will soon come. Your time would be better spent downloading *Putney Swope*. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Tag — Just awful story of arrested development mistaken for preserved youth. Clips of the real-life game of grownup tag

between friends that served as inspiration here are shown at the end, and have the no-doubt unintended effect of revealing what is missing in director Jeff Tomsic's take: joy, friendship, humanity, and a sense of play. Maybe the parade of exxtreme hijinks would be better enjoyed under the influence of something that would numb the horror, or at least keep you from hopping off the bus driven by this band of Unmerry Pranksters for a little longer. (Next stop, waterboarding?) The cast — dry Jon Hamm, frantic Ed Helms, bemused Hannibal Burress, chill Jake Johnson, and psycho-intense Jeremy Renner, plus Isla Fisher in full female force — is talented and game. But the game itself is grotesque, largely because of the characters they're forced to play. 2018. — M.L. ● (AMC MISSION VALLEY; REGAL CARLSBAD 12; REGAL RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Uncle Drew — Leave *Jurassic World* to the kiddies and spend a few hours in the dark with these irresistible dinosaurs. A schnook promoter (Lil Rel Howery) who barely knows which end of a basketball to hold, convinces a group of over-the-hill streetballers — all played by court legends buried beneath layers of wrinkle-inducing latex — to exchange dribbling in their soup for one last bounce at a championship tip-off. This warm, all-inclusive buddy comedy wisely plays shared experience over the race card; there's no place for the 'n' word in Jay Longino's affectionate screenplay. (I'm guessing a few curse words and a shot of Shaquille O'Neal's exposed *tuchas* is what earned the film its PG-13 rating.) Everyone rises to the occasion, but none more than WNBA player Lisa Leslie, who brings a home court advantage to every frame she commands. The laughs are steady, capped by a hilarious Frederick Douglass throwaway line that pushed a bubbling gulp of Coca-Cola through my nose. Directed by Charles Stone III. 2018. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Won't You Be My Neighbor? — After answering his calling as an educational television host, Fred Rogers quickly set about establishing a personal philosophy concerning his medium: "The space between the television screen and the person viewing it was considered holy ground." If this sounds more like something Jean-Luc Godard might say, that's because in his own way, Mr. Rogers uncorked a new wave of children's television programming. Gone were the exaggerated clown costumes and slap shoes most on-screen talent in his profession hid behind when trying to relate to their target audience. Instead, a simple sweater, a vulnerable soul, and sound words spoken from the heart were all Rogers needed to win over children and parents alike. Morgan Neville's farsighted documentary earns its PG-13 rating; parents looking to impart to their children the same feelings of warmth and relatability Fred Rogers instilled in them would be better off downloading one of the many available volumes of his work. 2018. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Yellow Submarine — The Beatles cartoon. It wants to be, but it is not, the Sixties equivalent of Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear. Clever enough and colorful enough to be diverting for half an hour or so, though it goes on a lot longer than that. Directed by George Dunning. 1968. — D.S. ★ (LANDMARK KEN)

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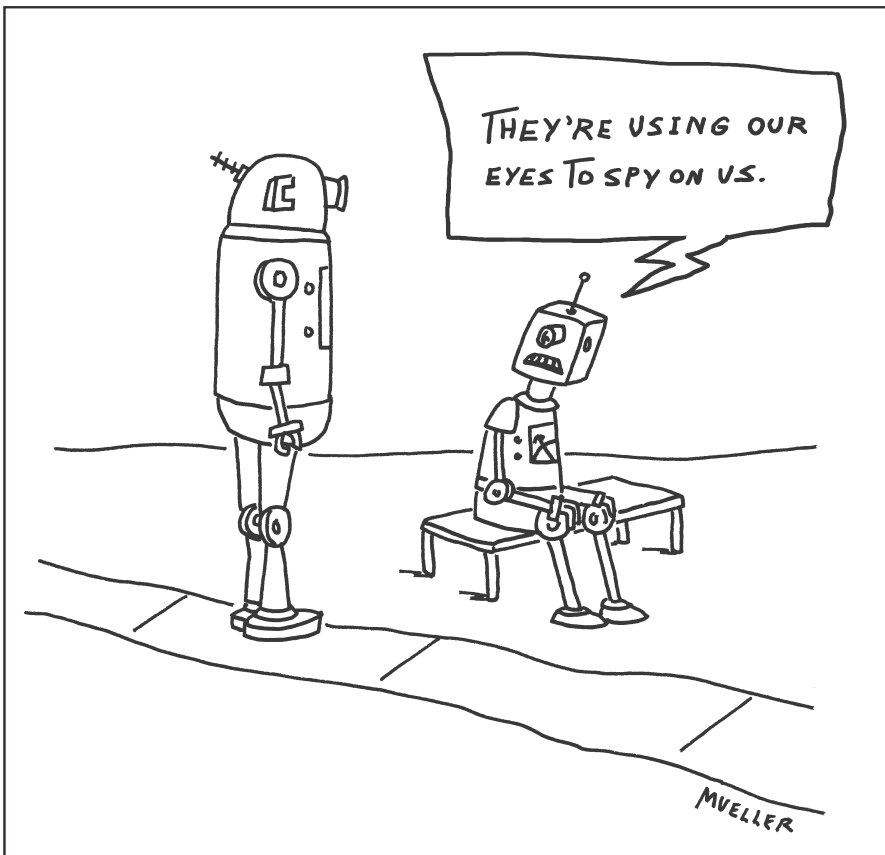
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South Park • Stockton

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Spring Valley • Warner Springs

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Serra Mesa • Sorrento Valley • Tierrasanta • UTC

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Annual Reader Burgers & Beer at Golden Hill Park on Saturday, September 8, 2018. Try unlimited gourmet burgers from more than 20 of the best restaurants as they compete to win the "Best Burger" award. No burger is complete without some great beer! Enjoy unlimited beer tastings from 40+ local breweries. Curated exclusively by our food writers, this event brings together the very best burger and beer vendors. Ai and you decide who will ultimately win.

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Weird Power

— In Didcot, England, known as the country's "most normal town," one resident creatively tried to change people's perceptions with additions to road signs along local highway A4130. The prankster added destinations such as Narnia, Gotham City, Middle Earth, Emerald City and Neverland to roundabout signs, telling the BBC (on condition of anonymity): "To me there's nowhere that is normal, there's no such thing." He said he's been making "creative interventions" all over the country for about 20 years. The Oxfordshire County Council responded that while the additions were "amusing," they'll be removed as soon as the county's potholes are fixed.

Overachiever

— It was lucky 13 for Hot Springs, Arkansas, resident Patricia Ann Clanton, 55, as she was charged with her 13th felony DWI on March 26. Garland County Sheriff's Deputy Richard Garrett stopped to check on a Chevrolet Monte Carlo parked in the lot of Buddy Bean Lumber Co. around 1 a.m. on March 26, reported the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*. An assisting officer noticed a strong smell of intoxicants and asked Clanton and her passenger to get out of the car. Clanton refused a field sobriety test but agreed to a Breathalyzer, which registered her blood alcohol level at more than twice the legal limit. Nevertheless, she entered an innocent plea in Garland County District Court. Since 1994, Clanton has been convicted of driving drunk in various Arkansas jurisdictions and served jail time.

Mistaken Identity

— Around 4:30 a.m. on March 22, High Point, North Carolina, 911 dispatchers received a surprising call from a man informing them he had broken into a business. "Yes, this is Jesus Christ, and I just broke into the Pizza Hut," claimed 46-year-old Richard Lee Quintero of Greensboro, according to WFMY TV. "Jesus is here, he's back to Earth. I just broke in and had a pizza. I'm Jesus," Quintero told dispatchers. "Because I'm Jesus, I can do whatever I want." He also complained that "everybody's been treating me mean." High Point police officers arrested Quintero and charged him with breaking and entering and larceny.

Extreme Measures

— Shannon Dean Egeland, 43, of Kuna, Oregon, was found guilty Feb. 28 in an elaborate scheme to delay a prison sentence and collect insurance. The *Idaho Statesman* reported that shortly before Egeland was to begin a 10-year jail term in 2014 for his role in a \$20 million housing scandal, he took out a disability insurance policy and talked his then-17-year-old son into shooting him in the legs with a 20-gauge shotgun, which would delay his prison term -- not to mention let him collect on the new insurance policy. After the teenager shot him, Egeland called police and said he'd been assaulted, but police became suspicious when they found Egeland's wallet and BMW were still at the scene. U.S. District Judge Anna J. Brown tacked three years and 10 months of additional time onto Egeland's original sentence.

Egeland, who eventually lost his left leg, stood before the judge on his prosthetic leg and said he'd had a lot of time to reflect on his crimes and realized he needs mental health counseling. Assistant U.S. Attorney Scott Bradford called him a "menace to society."

Questionable Judgments

— A dairy truck driver lost his job in early March after being caught on a surveillance camera urinating near dairy cows in a barn at Tremblay Farm in Highgate, Vermont. While no charges were filed, Monica Massey of the Dairy Farmers of America said the driver's behavior was unacceptable. "We saw the videos. What we saw was deplorable," Massey said told WCAX TV. Darleen Tremblay said she was "shattered" by what she saw on the video. "I couldn't move. I froze and I shook," she added.

Bright Ideas

— Ruan Rocha da Silva, 18, was caught in late March trying to steal five cans of deodorant from a supermarket in Sao Paulo, Brazil. His prominent tattoo might have given him away: A year ago, after Silva tried to steal a bike from Maycon Wesley Carvalho, 27, and Ronildo Moreira de Araujo, 29, the two men forcibly tattooed Silva's forehead with the words "I am a thief and an idiot." *The Daily Mail* reported that Carvalho and Araujo were caught after filming themselves inking Silva's forehead and sending the video to friends; both were sentenced to jail time. Silva is out on bail, awaiting trial for shoplifting.

Bright Idea

— A traditional March wedding at Peckforton Castle in Tarporley, Cheshire, England, was briefly interrupted when an owl trained to deliver the rings to a waiting best man changed its mind about where to land. The betrothed Jeni Arrowsmith and Mark Wood of Wrexham watched as the barn owl flew down the aisle toward the best man, but a seated groomsman then pointed at the bird, which it took as a signal to fly to his hand. "The owl just dived in and hit the guy -- who is terrified of birds!" said wedding photographer Stacey Oliver. "He fell off his chair." "Everyone was absolutely hysterical," the bride later told the BBC. "It made the wedding because we were talking about it all night."

Least Competent Criminals

— When an intoxicated man arrived at the Delaware State Police Troop 1 station in Wilmington on March 20, looking for a ride home, officers thought he seemed familiar. Turns out he was Christopher McDowell, 34, a suspect in a Feb. 22 shoplifting incident at a local Kohl's store, according to the *News Journal*. McDowell was charged with shoplifting and arraigned, then released on \$1,000 bail. After he made a phone call to a friend for a ride home, his Kohl's accomplice, April Wright, 48, showed up -- and she too was arrested and charged.

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

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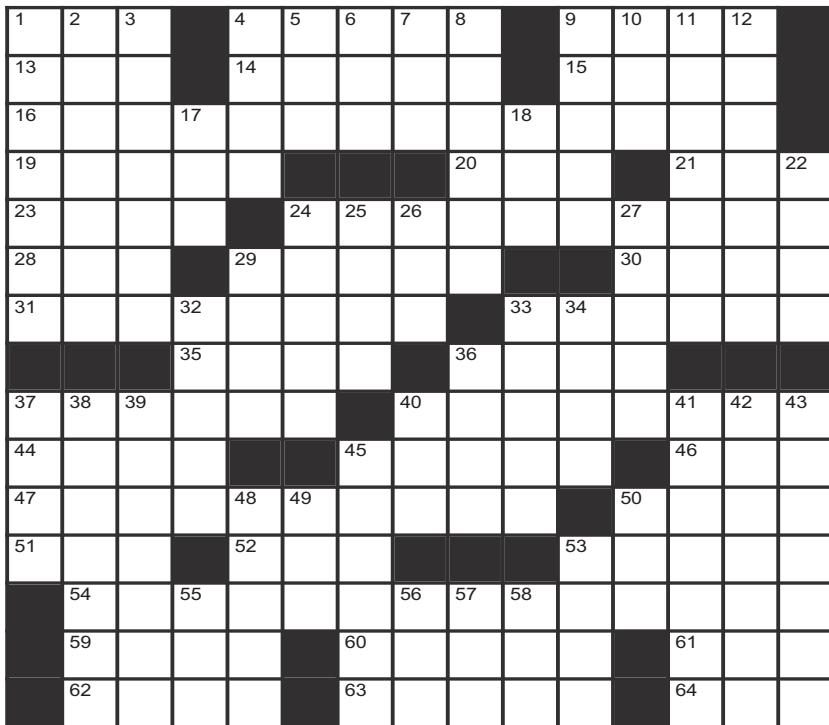
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CROSSWORD

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Across

1. ____-relief
 53. Cara who sang "Flashdance ... What a Feeling"
 54. Ecstatic cry (which one might aptly yell upon solving 16-, 24-, 31-, 40- and 47-Across?)
 59. Nose of a ship
 60. Frame job
 61. From ____ Z
 62. Spanish "this"
 63. One really aiming to please
 64. Relay race part
- ### Down
1. "So what?!"
 2. On the verge of
 3. Recyclable item
 4. Bible supporters, often
 5. Operated
 6. Places for hosp. scrubs
 7. Texter's enthusiastic initialism
 8. 1862 battle site
 9. Big name in health plans
 10. Nail polish brand whose colors include Polly Want a Lacquer and Teal Me More, Teal Me More
 11. Feline named for an island
 12. Most avant-garde
 17. Pigs out (on), for short
 18. Nonverbal "yes"
 22. More than annoys
 24. Actress who said "I

("Stand by Me" lyric)

13. Nigerian native
14. Google ____
15. Apple Store purchase
16. Fight to the bitter end
19. Groups of two
20. Chaney of horror movies
21. 12, on a grandfather clock
23. Series conclusions: Abbr.
24. One might perform behind bars
28. ____ crossroads
29. Alice's husband in '50s TV
30. Effortlessness
31. A million to one, say
33. "Grand" hotels
35. Down Under hoppers
36. Old Testament book: Abbr.
37. Pass along, as a past present
40. #1 pick in the 2007 NBA draft
44. Frozen drink brand
45. Art center since 1819
46. Covert maritime org.
47. Salsa percussion instruments
50. Visiting the nation's capital, for short
51. Mucky mess
52. " ____ won't be afraid"

represent the Wonder Woman of the new world"

25. Early automaker Ransom E. ____
26. Dashboard-mounted gadget, for short
27. Old-fashioned "Awesome!"
29. Landing spot for Santa
32. "Peer Gynt" composer
33. Considers carefully, as advice
34. "Worst car of the millennium," per "Car Talk"
36. Apothecary weight
37. Barbecue serving
38. Environmental subgroup
39. Millennials, informally
40. The "me" of "Despicable Me"
41. Northernmost county of Ireland
42. Bit of appended text
43. "It's okay, Fido, I won't hurt you ..."
45. Mass leader
48. When a football may be hiked
49. Cry from Homer
50. Good name for a banker
53. Game often played on car rides
55. Barfly
56. ____ Speedwagon
57. When to expect someone, for short
58. Birth control option, briefly

RULES OF THE GAME

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 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

T	A	T	A	A	C	C	R	A	C	H	I	P		
A	L	A	N	T	H	E	E	U	L	E	N	A		
J	I	N	G	L	E	A	L	L	T	H	E	W	A	Y
				A	I	R		O	O	P		E	W	R
B	R	O	K	E	N	G	L	A	S	S	D	E	E	
M	A	M	A		I	I	N		A	T	O	N		
W	E	N	T	B	A	N	G		G	O	S	O	F	T
				H	A	N	G	A	L	E	F	T		
G	E	M	I	N	I	N	I	N	T	E	N	D	O	
R	A	R	E		I	D	A		A	R	I	D		
I	S	M		P	A	S	S	I	N	G	L	A	N	E
M	Y	A		A	M	O	S	E	A					
A	N	G	E	L	I	N	D	I	S	G	U	I	S	E
C	O	O	L		S	T	E	N	T		Z	A	H	N
E	W	O	K		S	O	N	G	S		I	N	H	D

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Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

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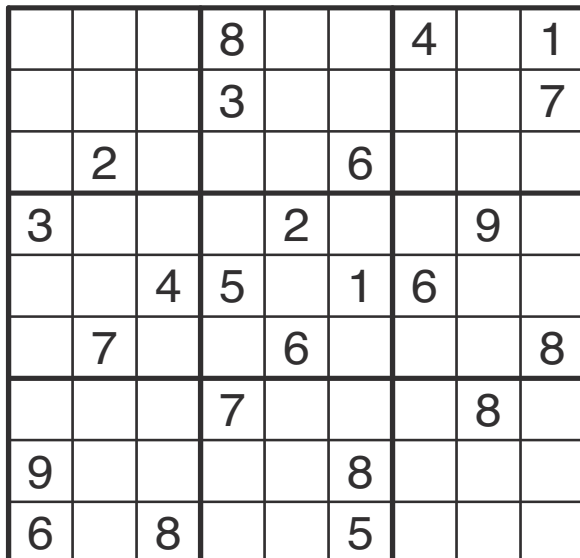
- ☛ **Jon Christianson, El Cajon, 20.**
- ☛ **Johanna Barry, Pine Valley, 7.**
- ☛ **Kelly Cunningham, Del Mar, 5.**
- ☛ **Andrew Williams, San Diego, 5.**
- ☛ **Kara Skinner, San Diego, 2.**

Name: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

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EVIL:



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Name: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EVIL:

1	3	7	9	5	4	8	6	2
4	5	6	8	7	2	9	3	1
9	2	8	1	3	6	4	5	7
7	8	1	3	6	9	5	2	4
5	9	2	4	1	7	3	8	6
3	6	4	2	8	5	1	7	9
8	4	5	6	2	1	7	9	3
2	1	3	7	9	8	6	4	5
6	7	9	5	4	3	2	1	8

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.

- ☛ **Randy Paddock, San Diego, 23.**
- ☛ **Tom Burgenson, San Diego, 6.**
- ☛ **Angela Juarez, San Diego, 4.**
- ☛ **Tim Lindsay, El Cajon, 4.**
- ☛ **Joe Tupta, San Diego, 4.**

BRAINSTORMS

BY DON RUBIN

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Minced words

Each of the numbered words represents a familiar expression or idiom. How many can you identify? Some should take just a split second.

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1) _____ | 6) _____ | 11) _____ | 16) _____ |
| 2) _____ | 7) _____ | 12) _____ | 17) _____ |
| 3) _____ | 8) _____ | 13) _____ | |
| 4) _____ | 9) _____ | 14) _____ | |
| 5) _____ | 10) _____ | 15) _____ | |

1. **CARTILAGE**

2. **DRY SMOKE**

4. **PERSONALITY**

6. **WIT** 7. **LANGUAGE**

8. **QUESTION**

10. **DECK** 11. **GAME**

12. **MINUTE** 13. **NERVES**

14. **EYEBALL** 15. **UP**

16. **SCHOOL** 17. **LOGIC**

Last Week's Solution

Dates

- Solutions:
- 2 1 7 2 June 21, 2002 (YDDD), 172nd day of 2002
 - 2 1 6 2 June 21, 2012 (DDMY), 21st day of 6th month of 2012
 - 2 2 6 2 June 22, 2012 (DDMY), 22nd day of 6th month of 2012
 - 2 2 1 2 July 30, 2012 (YDDD), 212th day of a leap year
 - 2 1 6 2 June 10, 2012 (Y/DDD), 162nd day of a leap year
 - 2 2 1 2 July 31, 2002 (Y/DDD), 212th day of year
 - 2 0 2 2 July 21, 2002 (DDDY), 202nd day of 2002
 - 2 0 2 2 July 20, 2012 (DDDY), 202nd day of a leap year
 - 2 1 7 2 July 21, 2012 (DDMY), 21st day of 7th month
 - 2 2 6 2 Aug. 14, 2002 (DDD/Y), 226th day of 2002



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- Bruce Mengler, Solana Beach, 4.
- Maurice Ratnadurai, Oceanside, 3.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

lage), a low income housing development off Carmel Mountain Road that's slated to be demolished for a new 600-unit development. The move was approved by a 8-1 City



MOSQUITOES VILLAGE RESIDENT
GEORGE ALMANON

ANGER, FRUSTRATION OVER PO VILLAGE RELOCATIONS

Who would want to stay in "Mosquitoes Village"?

Council vote on March 5, and the tenants were ordered to vacate by July 15, the 120th day after the notice was issued. On July 13, 63-year-old Almanon and his wife, were some of the last residents still living in the complex.

The couple is originally from Olongapo City in the Philippines, which is the former home of U.S. Naval Base Subic Bay. They miss the friends who once lived in the 300-plus

apartment complex development; many, like them, emigrated from the Philippines. "Nanay Feli is 93 years old, she lived right here," Almanon said, "the Santiagos lived here for 26 years, and Nanay Cora and Pauline lived over there. [I think] that more than 50 percent of the residents here were Filipinos. My friend who recently passed away — I found out he's my *kababayan* (from the same province in the Philippines)."

His search for a new home has been frustrating. Almanon received a \$500 check from the property management, which he used partially for his last month's rent. They also gave him "a list of properties that have openings. The thing is, most of these places are far away and our doctor is right here." Nothing in the area is affordable. "I'm on disability; it's not much but it's something," he said. "My wife works and she's hobbling too because she's got a leg problem."

When we spoke, he was packing up the last of his remains in Balikbayan boxes, which are usually used to send pasalubongs (gifts and treats from the U.S.) back to the relatives and

friends in the Philippines. "When I can afford it again," he said, "I will send home the four boxes I have saved." Almanon said that he and his wife found a temporary place in Mira Mesa. "It's a living room, and it's cheaper than here," he said. "I have all of my stuff in front of the house waiting to move in on July 14."

Kirin is a Filipina-American from South Bay. She was a community volunteer with Allies for PQ Village. "Some of the residents who left, especially the elderly ones," Kirin said, "just decided to go back to the Philippines. That really broke my heart."

According to a March 6 *Reader* article: "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."

MIKE MADRIAGA



Davis: passionate about private possessions on public property.

property would be confiscated. At that point, Davis said "You can't do that, this is public property!" and "This is America, you have no right!" Mendoza said that Davis eventually "ran full blast" toward him, then "turned and ran full blast at the truck, jumped in the air, and kicked it."

The truck, a 2018 Chevy Colorado owned by the city, was parked nearby. The truck allegedly suffered a dent on the rear passenger-side panel, passenger side, and Escondido police officer Lee Stewart reported that \$1,270.61 was paid to Del Real's Auto Body Paint to fix it.

Davis plead not guilty one felony vandalism charge and one misdemeanor charge of obstructing an officer. He is held in lieu of \$20,000 bail, and is due in court on August 9 to set a date for trial.

EVA KNOTT

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

Doomed to obsolescence Ask a Hipster June 30

As a Boomer LGBTQ cis-male (a whole new vocabulary for me) who lived through the AIDS epidemic, I propose Gaybar as the word you are searching for. I file this thought under the heading of "Be careful what you wish for." As a recent KPBS explore program illustrated, Gay Bars are disappearing with the acceptance of the Millennial Generation of gender fluidity and the ubiquity of internet websites such as Grindr. As you stated in your June 28th column closing paragraph, I feel that this word would resonate with practically everyone.

—Frederick Simson

San Diego's no-helmet scooter documents under wraps

News Ticker
July 20

What's perhaps more surprising is not that the city isn't releasing these docs, or claiming an obviously inapplicable exemption from California law—it's that they admit they even exist. Usually they play everything off by claiming there are no responsive documents. Are Kev-boy's

handlers getting as sloppy as their ward? In any event, this is just more proof (if any needed) that the safety and welfare of San Diegans are always up for sale by our politicians if the price is right.

—Cassander

Scooters are the way of the future. No emissions. Easy to access. Quite. Safe. What's the big deal. Seems like everyone's hair is on fire about the regulating scooters. It's seems like this would be a low priority in a

city with all the major issues it has not dealt with. Don't be a party pooper.

—DavidFurnishedSanDiego

The problem is THEY AREN'T SAFE....I don't really care about the scooter-riders themselves. In fact, I pretty much agree with sdvoyager regarding the helmet. The issue is the obvious danger they pose to pedestrians when ridden on the sidewalks. If you don't understand the potential harm to a pedestrian by a 10-year-old riding an elec-

tric scooter 20-25 mph on a sidewalk then you are truly an idiot...and don't tell me it isn't happening regularly...I see it on the Mission Beach Boardwalk multiple times daily!

—Herkimer

Del Mar Mesa Preserve Neighborhood News June 28

I would argue that fragile and beautiful habitat of Del Mar Mesa — with the constant encroachment of development over the past

three decades, and the endless new trail making by the mountain biking community (every fence put up by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has been broken through or pushed down by mountain bikers) — is in serious danger of being destroyed. What's worse, many of the plants here are rarer and larger than those at our beloved Torrey Pines State Reserve. In a different era, perhaps there would have been the money and will to

change Del Mar Mesa into a state park. It's certainly deserving of some protected status, if only to admire the 30+ foot tall scrub oaks and summer holly plants + the awesome vernal pool flowers in spring! If the United States survives in its current state for another century, given the challenges of both climate change and new immigration, I honestly wonder if any unspoiled native habit will be left.

—chendri887

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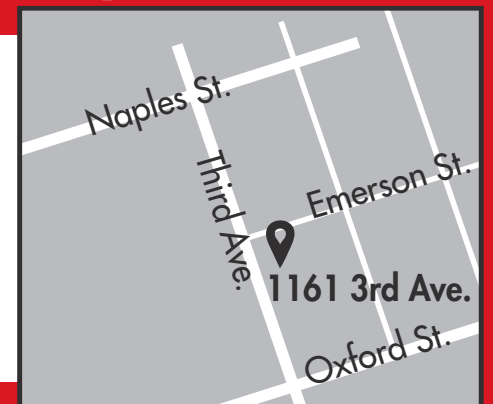
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