

SAN DIEGO

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DECEMBER 20, 2018

Reader

Above it all

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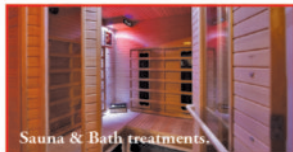
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December 20, 2018



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Mayoral machinations monetized

Political handler Pintar says Peters

pondering primary
With sharp-elbowed maneuvering to succeed termed-out San Diego Republican mayor Kevin Faulconer growing ever more intense back-stage at city hall, a congressional staffer has put in

a word for her boss. "We are looking at it," MaryAnne Pintar, the San Diego-based chief of staff and campaign time political handler for House Democrat Scott Peters of La Jolla told *The Hill* in a December 11 interview. "Given that the primary is in March 2020, a lot of people will be looking to make an announcement early next year, which means we will need to make a decision in the next couple of months." Notes *The Hill*: "Other Democrats eyeing a potential bid for the mayor's office include City Councilwoman Barbara Bry and state Assemblyman Todd Gloria, who previously served on the city council and is a protégé of Rep. Susan Davis (D-Calif.)."

Pintar's non-denial further cranks up speculation over a potential clash between Peters and fellow La Jollan Bry. The Democrats began their sparring in the form of attacks this fall against Faulconer regarding plans to convert the historic North Chapel at Liberty Station into a tony restaurant and event venue. Peters showed his hand during this year's city council race between GOP incumbent Lorie Zapf and Democrat Jen Campbell, transferring \$10,000 on October 10 from his House campaign fund to the Progressive Labor Alliance PAC. In addition, during the recent election cycle, the congressman's campaign fund came up with \$48,000 for the county Democratic Party, which backed an array of other possible backers, including one-time Republican Nathan Fletcher, who as a Democrat beat GOP ex-District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis for a spot on the board of supervisors.

On the receipt side of the campaign committee's ledger, the wealthy Peters personally came up \$51,394, and his wife Lynne Gorguze chipped in \$5000. Employ-

ees of General Atomics gave a total of \$9600. Raising potential questions for a Peters mayoral bid, executives of Cox Enterprises, a cable TV and Internet powerhouse based in Atlanta, Georgia, gave his cause a total of \$19,000. Peters links to the company include his former deputy district director Hugo Carmona, now a lobbyist for Cox's drive to kill so-called Net Neutrality initiatives taking shape at city hall.

Matt Potter



Peters- pole position for the Democratic derby?

Trump steamed at General Atomics

President echoes Insane Clown Posse's profound query, "F#\$@ing magnets, how do they work?"

One of San Diego county's most lucrative businesses is also one of its quietest, churning out politically-incorrect products that draw sparse local media coverage while playing a key role in the world munitions market and making a bundle for the firm's La Jolla owners. General Atomics, privately held by brothers Linden and Neal Blue and maker of killer drones that cruise over battle zones across the globe, has just opened a sales office in New Delhi, India.

"We are very pleased to open our first office in India, and to have Pratesh Gandhi join the General Atomics team," says Linden P. Blue in a November 27 company news release. Before he went to work for

General Atomics, Ghandi was a joint director of the Indian defense ministry. "His expertise working with the Indian Navy provides General Atomics with an invaluable local resource to further develop and strengthen strategic and long-term relationships with the Government of India. We are looking forward to fostering new opportunities for collaboration to advance critical systems and technologies for Indian defense applications."

Among products General Atomics is hawking to the Indian government are its "MQ-9B SeaGuardian Unmanned Aerial System, and electromagnetic aircraft launch and recovery systems for Indian aircraft carriers," per the release. According to Flight Global, the Indian Navy currently operates one aircraft carrier, bought from Russia in 2004, and is building another. "Establishing an office in New Delhi positions us to better collaborate with our Indian customers

continued on page 24



The Blue brothers- tweaking Trump?

Seaside skullduggery

Political scheming in Mission Beach

By Joe Deegan

Matt Gardner, whose shop Cheap Rentals on Mission Boulevard ¼ of a mile north of the roller coaster rents bikes, surfboards, and other beach equipment, will be the new president of the Mission Beach Town Council starting on January 1. On November 14, he was elected to replace Gary Wonacott, who terms out on December 31. So anxious was Gardner to assume his duties as president of the Mission Beach Town Council, that on the organization

website list of executive board members, he named himself president the day after he was elected. Off to the right, Wonacott's picture was included on the website, but bearing the moniker "past president."

Even before his election, Gardner, whose email

subscript is "You can't buy happiness, so come to Mission Beach and rent it," demanded that Wonacott stop advancing his personal views on behalf of the town council. In editorials he penned for *Voice*



Matt Gardner: Come to Mission Beach and rent happiness.



Gary Wonacott: neighborhoods are for neighbors.

of San Diego and the *San Diego Union-Tribune* during last spring and summer respectively, Wonacott criticized the plan adopted by Mayor Faulconer to "carve out" Mission Beach from restrictions on short term vacancy rentals in the rest of San Diego. And using

his platform as the Town Council president, Wonacott helped shape the argument that "neighborhoods are for neighbors, not vacation rentals."

In July 2018, the city council approved restrictions on short term rentals for all of San Diego, and the neighborhood advocates gained confidence. But the decision only fired up rental business management companies to more effectively

make their own case. On October 22, facing a possible city-wide referendum, the city council voted to rescind the restrictions, although it will be able to enact new ones in a year as long as it doesn't simply reenact the first ones.

In recent emails, Wonacott outlined for me a strategy he thought Mission Beach business owners had chosen to "change the narrative." "In September," he wrote, "an employee of The Control Group, with an address downtown, submitted 18 applications for business memberships at

Neal Obermeyer



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Mission Beach may look idyllic, but it's the battleground in a war between those who make money on short term rentals, and residents who want a less transient neighborhood.

our website. The businesses were different LLCs, some with names associated with addresses in MB, and some not.... There were, however, no names associated with the LLCs, so our membership officer requested The Control Group employee to provide names for each of the LLCs. She did this. I searched The Control Group website and found that all of the names provided are employees of The Control Group.

"I then did a search of one of the LLCs, and found a Bizpedia website that associated it to an address in Pacific Beach. In fact, the website stated that there were 31 companies at the address in PB, many of which are the LLCs identified in the applications. Many of the LLCs were associated with properties in Mission Beach, but the connection is not clear. The Control Group does do web advertising, and it could be that the company was a client putting up online advertisements for short term rentals, but no evidence of that.

"There are a couple of examples of properties with the same ownership that are now represented by different LLCs. That is cumulative voting. In addition, the LLCs may be proxies...." That

would be the case if the LLC documents, which can be seen on the California Secretary of State's website, do not include the names provided to the Town Council. One of the owners is mentioned three times, so as a property owner, this owner could only vote once. Otherwise it would be cumulative voting.

"Only seven names are mentioned on all of these documents. And of the seven, only two are mentioned on the list of LLCs sent by The Control Group's representative. This would suggest that only two of the 18 properties listed would have" the voting rights that members enjoy, for instance, in the election of executive board members.

According to the Mission Beach Town Council's bylaws, Wonacott explains, cumulative and proxy voting are not permitted.

When Wonacott contacted The Control Group representative, who is associated with one of the LLCs, and suggested that cumulative or proxy members would not have voting rights, she threatened legal action. The Town Council did accept the \$30 for each business membership she applied for. "It may be that this is all legal, but does not look that way," wrote Wona-

cott. "And even if the LLCs violate our bylaws, I don't know the legal implications for a town council organization. We still have more questions than answers." So Wonacott asked his board to stand a committee to review the Town Council's bylaws. "This is likely to take quite a while," he said.

On November 8, soon to be president-elect Matt Gardner gave his take. Wonacott's contacting The Control Group about the memberships applied for, he wrote to board members in an email, "is a clear abuse of trusted information.... Somebody that is joining membership or wanting to volunteer to be on the board should not have to be scared to join because their views are different than Gary's or anyone's. This is not just ethically wrong but potentially illegal as this is clearly harassment. This could jeopardize the entire MBTC with legal trouble. But plain and simple it is wrong. These people never troubled Gary in any way and this is totally motivated by differences of opinion on short term rentals during an election time of our Mission Beach Town Council."

Board member Sarah Mattinson added, "This is not what the town council
continued on page 24

UNDER THE RADAR

Chapel of the lobbyists As an irate citizenry mustered to save the historic Naval Training Center's house of worship from conversion to a bar and eatery, San Francisco developer **Scott Seligman**, who controls the property, retained the services of Byrne Communications Consulting, run by longtime influence peddler **Kristen Byrne**. Most famous for her 2012 work at MJE Marketing Services aiding the efforts of Qualcomm founder **Irwin Jacobs** to bulldoze approval of his Balboa Park road and parking garage plans through the city, Byrne has been deployed by Seligman to obtain approval of his putative "rehabilitation" project for North Chapel, per a December 7 disclosure.

Following sallies by city councilwoman **Barbara Bry** and fellow Democrat, House member **Scott Peters** on behalf of the chapel's sanctity, Republican mayor **Kevin Faulconer** finally dispatched a letter to Seligman. "I oppose any plan that affects the historic nature of the North Chapel and would encourage the City's Historical Resources Board to do the same," proclaimed the mayor. But Faulconer, who kept mum about the city-owned property's then-pending lease transfer to Seligman last month, has been prone to accept blandishments of campaign cash from those with special interests. Byrne is a prolific political giver, kicking in a total of \$7030 for city campaigns since 2008, including \$1600 for Faulconer, who is said to aspire to higher office after he is termed out in 2020.

Fishy post SeaWorld, which has lately experienced an attendance bounce after years of negative publicity over keeping captive killer whales, has been using Facebook to spruce up its image. According to an advertisement on the heavily-trafficked social media site, over 33,000 animals have been rescued by the aquatic amusement park chain. "Your visit supports SeaWorld rescue and conservation efforts," adds the message. "Thank you for helping us protect our ocean. #ParktoPlanet."

Per Facebook's political disclosure page, SeaWorld spent between \$5000 and \$10,000 on the paid post, which drew between 500,000 to a million impressions. But then Facebook discovered something fishy. "This ad ran without a 'Paid

for by' label. After the ad started running, we determined that the ad was related to politics and issues of national importance and required the label. The ad was taken down."



Kristen Byrne — she's the lobbyist to call when you really need to mangle a historical landmark.

A charity of interest While sidewalk battles rage on, Mayor Kevin Faulconer has not been above taking advantage of ongoing city hall tussles over ubiquitous e-scooters. Still promising to come up with regulations for the burgeoning if risky business, the mayor garnered a \$12,299 contribution on November 8th for his One San Diego non-profit from San Mateo's Neutron Holdings, more commonly known as LimeBike. The company has employed two local lobbying outfits with ties to

Faulconer and the Republican Party, Rath-Miller and Presidio Public Affairs, started by the mayor's top political and campaign advisor **Jason Roe**. In the third quarter of this year, per a disclosure filing dated October 31, Presidio picked up \$10,000 from LimeBike, with lobbying contacts including mayoral aides **Greg Block** and **Lee Friedman**.

Faulconer uses One San Diego, most recently by handing out free backpacks to groups of poor elementary school children on TV. Other donors to the mayor's non-profit included Cox Communications — which has been fighting efforts to set up a competing non-profit cable operation in the city — with \$7500 on September 8.

One San Diego's latest available Internal Revenue Service disclosure report, covering 2016, shows that the non-profit took in a total of \$370,973 worth of contributions and grants. The charity's president is **Lani Lutar**, herself a longtime lobbyist and Faulconer chum whose main client is Sempra Services Corp. The public utility giant is seeking to influence the city's "climate action plan implementation and greenhouse gas reduction strategies," according to an October 31 filing by Lutar's firm, Responsible Solutions, LLC. During the third quarter of this year, Sempra paid the company \$18,000, the disclosure shows... Meanwhile, another locally registered lobbyist has been retained by Bird, the e-scooter outfit that some say is the bane of local sidewalks. **Clarissa Falcon** of Falcon Strategies has been hired to bring
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SeaWorld's use of Facebook corresponds with a bump in attendance at its amusement park.

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LETTERS

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

Sexta and violence

The article ("Tijuana desensitized to violence", Neighborhood News, December 4) stated there were more than 2176 murders in Tijuana. From when to when? I assume from the start of the year until the present.

Joel Fentin
Valley Center

Matthew Suárez responds:

Your assumption is almost correct. The death toll was from the start of the year to mid-November. The death toll has surpassed 2,300 already. 2018 has become Tijuana's deadliest year and it doesn't seem to stop or slow down. Adding 1,647 from last year, there have been almost 4,000 homicides under the current mayor, Juan Manuel "el Patas" Gastelum, who still has one more year in office.

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

"Torrey Pines Road - 'so damn dangerous'" Neighborhood News December 14

I've observed the problem with this particular new pedestrian crossing both cycling and driving by. The other ones in La Jolla, including the one closer to Prospect on TP Rd, seems to be far more effective. I've wondered why. I know I've only noticed the flashing light too late and have driven through it, and then watched all of the cars behind me do the same. Something about it is not sufficiently obvious for the speed/location.

—Serge Issakov

I've almost been run over crossing with my bike at one on Turquoise St in PB. They work fine in other cities but here, many drivers don't care. Maybe some enforcement would help spur compliance?
—Kathleen Wheatley

The yellow crossing light does give pedestrians a false sense of security. There is one near my house and I see "near misses" daily. The light was erected after complaints by pedestrians but they were more cautious when the crossing was unmarked. Its the same thing with the "walk/don't walk" apparatus at intersections. When the green hand appears pedestrians step off the curb without looking for vehicles turning right.

—AlexClarke

"Lincoln High School was designed to fail"

Cover Stories December 12

Breaks my heart to read articles like this. The people who stood by and did nothing need to be held accountable and removed from their positions period! You know they wouldn't stand for this if it was their children being affected. Prayers for the families who suffered and continue to suffer.

—Diana Dell

The oldest Harris-Daniels student is a former student of mine. He's a great kid. Lincoln lost all credibility when they disregarded the staff's and community's recommendation for hiring administrators and went the nepotism route instead. The school has tremendous potential and should be the shining star of the district. Sadly, neighborhood politics always get in the way.

—ByeByeSDUSD

"A Simple Favor" Movie Reviews December 16

About 75% of the movie was great. Really creepy at points. But then it spiraled into a mess and Matthew is right on: "Director Paul Feig doesn't seem able to decide whether he's making

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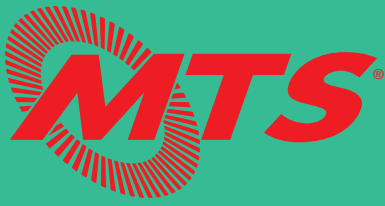
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEANSIDE

God clogs rain drain, foments fecal flood

Businesses besmirched as city government proves unable to thwart divine will

A video of 19-year-old hot dogger Lukas Soelberg surfing on a flooded South Oceanside block December 8 went viral. NBC-7's local news story on the video reported 40,000 hits for the street surfer getting towed by a rope,



Tainted waves gave new meaning to "shitstorm" in Oceanside.

and its live feed showed cars speeding through the inundated 1900 block of South Coast Highway, pushing waves of water into adjoining businesses. The anchor asked the reporter in the field why the city had not closed down the street. The reporter had no answer. But that turned out to be a very good question.

"The city council knows of no damage [from the rains]," mayor Peter Weiss said by phone the afternoon after the rain. The mayor

"In our 38 years here, this was the second to worst. The worst was 37 years ago."

had apparently not spoken with Mostafa Ouraie, owner of a retail/mail order spice store called Zaran Saffron, who said this is not the first time water from the flooded street flowed into his storefront. "The city is responsible for this," says Ouraie, who claims that flood waters breached the curb and flooded his business just two years ago. He pointed to new bubbles in his wood floor and in the wood trim around his front windows — caused by water damage from the latest flood. "The city is responsible

for keeping the sewer clean. The city knew the rain was coming. They should have cleared out the drain. The worst thing is the police didn't close down the street, and everyone sped past, pushing water into the businesses."

Dave Rassel, co-owner of the Pour House, says he called at 2 pm alerting the city to the flooding in front of his restaurant/music venue, but was told the city was overwhelmed with calls. He and other South Oceanside business owners say the street was not actually closed down until shortly after 5 pm, which means the businesses were pelted by traffic-driven water waves for three hours. Rassel's Pour House lost a night's business and his front wall was soaked. Although he had to rent dehumidifiers and fans and pay five employees to get the backwash out of the Pour House, he admits he got off easy compared to other neighbors.

"We had to tear up carpet in all seven rooms" says Ivor Clayton of Dry Express Restoration, who was called in to deal with the damage at Excellence Leighton Real Estate.

"We are going to have to tear out the bottom two feet of drywall of each room. There was feces and bacteria. We have to disinfect the whole place." Owner Doris Leighton says the flood has disrupted her year-and-a-half old business, which employs an office manager and seven agents. Leighton says it will take at least a month to bring back the building. She says she spent Friday trying to retrieve hard drives that were on the floor. "I was in a busi-

ness suit with water up to my knees, taking out buckets of water. I got a stomach virus and was vomiting the next day. I was out for the weekend. It was disgusting." Even worse, says Leighton: "This is what I do for a living. I would know if we needed to have flood insurance. We are not in a flood plain. There was no reason to get flood insurance." Still, she says she does not hold any ill will toward the drivers who sped through the street pond and made the damaging wakes. "I know they didn't



Who steals my purse steals trash, but he that filches from me my dog's doo-doo...

do it maliciously. They were just having fun."

Why did it take the Oceanside Police so long to close down the street? OPD spokesman Tom Bussey said that question would have to be answered by Lieutenant Dan Sullivan, who was the watch commander at the time. Sullivan did not respond to a request for comment. Oceanside Public Works Director Kyle Kroger said the event was "An act of God. We got two inches of rain in two hours and there was not much we could do about it. The city does in fact maintain our storm drains. We clean them out prior to the winter season." But numerous business owners say the flooding was due to one blocked storm water drain immediately in front of Johnson Interiors furniture store, and that once that drain was cleared, the foot-high water immediately drained to the sea. Johnson Interiors owner Meridee Johnson says that drain has caused many floods over the years. "In our 38 years here, this was the second to worst. The worst was 37 years ago."

KEN LEIGHTON

IMPERIAL BEACH

Poop package pilfered in prank

Tricked thieves take turds on tape

On December 10, Marisol Castillo's Christmas gift package was swiped from the porch of her Imperial Beach home. "We've had this situation happen way too many times," she said in a December 13 interview, "I can't even count them. My husband Waylon runs an Amazon business, so we always have packages come and go. First we got a camera and we thought that would fix it. It didn't."

On December 11, Castillo decided to fill an empty Amazon envelope with their dogs' feces and leave it on the porch for the next thief; her husband Waylon filmed. "We decided to do a little prank on the people who are stealing," she

said on the video. "We are going to fill it with dog poop and we are going to put a little present there that says "Fuck You!" and "Happy Holidays" and "You piece of shit." Shortly after, Castillo posted the four-minute video on Facebook; it went semi-viral and most of the commenters commended the couple. "I thought the poop prank package was funny," said Julian, a correctional officer who lives less than a mile away from Castillo. "We, the hard-working people of our community, want to let the thieves who victimize us know how we feel about their actions. That is a humorous/non-violent way of doing so, in my opinion. Package thefts in the Imperial Beach area are really bad, especially around the holidays."

On December 12, a guy and a girl wearing black outfits stole the Amazon envelope filled with poop; the couple caught the thieves on video and posted their photos on Facebook. "I don't know who said revenge was a sweet thing," Castillo said. "It's not sweet — it's nasty. It stinks."

MIKE MADRIAGA

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Humane Society helps humans

Pooches poop in public playground; parents protest



"A hundred-dollar fine? That stinks like the stuff my dog leaves in the grass."

University Heights residents are divided on the highest, best use for the joint-use park that is the playground for Alice Birney Elementary School. Neighborhood dog lovers have been letting as many as 30 of their beasts play off-

continued on page 8

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leash and the school principal and students' parents are just plain grossed out. "School staff told us that before the school day begins, they have been going out to pick up waste that owners left behind," says Humane Society Officer Steve MacKinnon. "We've received complaints from parents, too."

Caroline McKeown, a Birney school parent and a dog lover, says you can smell dog urine and feces when you come inside the gated field. "The city has put up signs and the people disregard them. The Birney children have made dog bag dispensers and they've been torn down. Parents have tried to inform the mis-users and they've been aggressively confronted by angry defensive dog owners," she said. "The obvious feces and urine problems occur and the PE coach cleans it up every morning, but many dogs dig holes and some children have fallen in them during PE and twisted their ankles."

Parents sought help from the Humane Society — which took over the city's animal services in July — and they got it. For the last month and a half, Humane Society officers have been monitoring Birney and about a dozen other parks where the conflicting uses are a problem. (Enforcement officers have been to the 9,500-square-yard field 19 times since mid-October, a spokesman said.) "We've been doing education at all the targeted parks," MacKinnon says. "For example, officers carry maps of where dog parks are, and they give them to people whose dogs are off-leash." But the education period is over. Now, MacKinnon says, dog owners whose dogs are off-leash will receive citations that start with a \$100 fine — a number that increases with each subsequent bust.

Despite the Humane Society telling people they would begin to enforce, a week after the December 5 meeting, dog owners continued to run their dogs after dark, when the kids were gone. Tuesday evening, one of them said she'd met the Humane Society enforcer who was taking names — of both the people and the dogs. We'll call her Maggie. She gets up before dawn and works long days and comes home late. Since she lives nearby and knows many of the dog park regulars, she continues to come to the park. "It's people who don't pick up after their dogs that have caused the problems," Maggie said. "I get that nobody wants to see their child coming in contact with dog poop."

Councilmember Chris Ward's office is working on a solution, according to staffer A. J. Estrada. In the meantime, they're support-

ing enforcement efforts. Some dog owners, on hearing this, shrug. After all, \$100 to be able to take your dog out to play within walking distance from home is a pretty good deal.

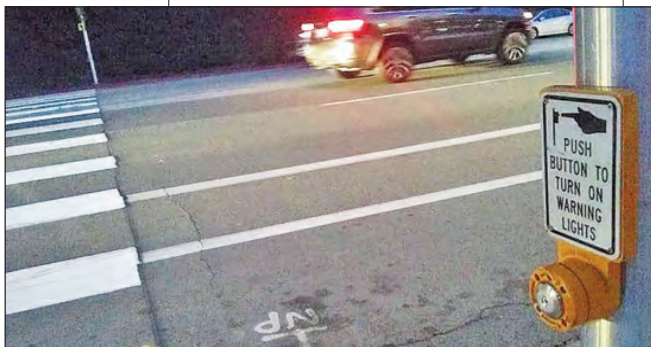
MARTY GRAHAM

LA JOLLA

Life on the line on Torrey Pines

Flashing yellow light no match for speeding sociopaths

Visitors to the La Jolla Nursing and Rehabilitation Center on Torrey Pines Road a couple blocks northeast of La Jolla Parkway put their lives in danger when they park across the street, say a nursing home employee and a resident of the neighborhood. Ted Cosby, who lives nearby, uses street parking across from the nursing home. He says the city installed a crosswalk with flashing yellow lights to help pedestrians cross the busy four-lane street. But he says it actually places people in more danger by giving them false confidence. "If you push the button and walk out when the lights start flashing, without looking, you will be killed," says Cosby. "It's so damn dangerous. Drivers here don't give a damn about anyone. Some drive down this street at 80 miles per hour." He says the city should replace the yellow lights with red lights and add center lights to the ones already on the sides of the street. "Unless they're red, people don't give a damn." He also says that passing drivers flip him off and swear at him as he tries to cross, that the manhole covers along



What they don't tell you is that the warning is for the pedestrians.

the curb are sometimes tilted or missing, and that the side of that road is used as a dumping ground for garbage.

An employee of the nursing home agrees there are problems with the crosswalk. She says sometimes cars stop for her and sometimes they don't. Sometimes, she has to wait until the street is clear of cars before she can cross. She would like to see flashing lights added to the ground along the crosswalk.

I tested the crosswalk just after dark. The first time I pressed the walk button, the first two cars kept driving but the rest stopped and I was able to cross. The second time, a series of cars in the middle lane, moving at moderate speed, all stopped. But in the lane next to the curb, a car fully a block away was moving at such a high rate of speed that he reached



End of a retail era at San Elijo.

the crosswalk by the time I would have been crossing in front of him. And despite the flashing yellow lights and the presence of a pedestrian about to cross, he didn't slow down at all. My third test produced results similar to the second.

ERIC BARTL

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Concessionaire unextraordinaire

Will California Parks Co. ruin another California park?

For the last twelve years, the Manganelli family has operated San Elijo State Beach's camp store and little restaurant. But on December 13, their Cardiff-by-the-Sea operation began to wind down. That's when the state's recent request for proposals to run the concession for the next ten years closed the acceptance of bids. The day before, leaseholder Laurel Manganelli announced her decision not to put in a bid for a new lease. "They [the state] want too much construction," she told me, referencing the mid-1960s building.

Instead, she said, "I'm going after Carlsbad." Her brother, Joe Manganelli, ran that state beach's camp store until his recent retirement. (Manganelli's mom ran Encinitas's Moonlight Beach concession from 1978-1988, which at the time was also a state beach.) "I'm told the RFP (request for proposal) will be posted on their website any day now. I'm checking it every day," said Laurel.

Based on questions being asked of state officials through their concessionaire website, which publically identifies who's asking the question, San Elijo's operation most likely is being bid on by a large private concessionaire, California Parks Company. In 2015, the company won the concession contract for the Lake Hemet campground, boat rental, and the store. To the chagrin of mountain locals in Garner Valley near Idyllwild and long-time SoCal campers, the company turned the quaint little country market into a 7-Eleven-type convenience store. For the last two years, the Senior Anglers of Escondido

have not planned their longtime fall camp out at Lake Hemet because of a noticeable decline in service and a lack of fish stocking in the California Parks Company-run campground and lake.

Manganelli received what she believes is accurate information from an insider: that State Parks is seeking a mom-and-pop operator. The increased share of profit to the state that would come from a large corporation running the camp store will appeal to state bean counters, but Manganelli is hopeful State Parks learned its lesson from a recent-ish local debacle. San Diegan Diane Powers spent 30+ years turning once-dusty 1960s tourist trap Old Town State Park into the most visited state park in California through her Bazaar del Mundo, only to be replaced in 2005 by corporate Delaware North. Four years later, with a 66 percent decline in revenue to the state, Delaware North left town.

KEN HARRISON

OCEANSIDE

Battery bandit Kemp IV goes for four

Because three current court cases weren't enough



Meth is a hell of a drug. Then again, so is heroin.

"As soon as I saw the knife, I disengaged from the suspect," a Target store employee testified on December 10 about his confrontation with a suspected shoplifter three weeks ago. The loss prevention officer said it was defendant William Larkin Kemp IV who threatened him

continued on page 14

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Hey D.J.

Check out this picture I found of “Catster.” I guess that’s like a “Hip-Cat!” So, if this were in the Reader, I guess it would be like asking the question, “If there are Hipsters, are there Hipster Cats otherwise known as “Catsters?”

— AL STANKO, ALPINE

Wow. Thank you for this. I can’t even.

I honestly don’t know if *Catster* magazine (formerly known as *Cat Fancy*) means to dress cats as little hipsters, or if they accidentally put a hipster cat on the cover of their magazine. I almost don’t care if it’s happy serendipity or purposeful availment of hipster stereotypes. It’s a freaking *catster* on the cover of *Catster*... a meta-*catster*! I bet that cat sits around the house all

day not chasing balls of yarn because too mainstream. He probably vapes organic catnip. He totally used to wake up in the middle of the night and run maniacally around the house till the dog started doing it too, now he’s over it. He sleeps 23 hours a day; but somehow does it ironically. He only chases free-range, grass-fed mice; and he’s thinking about going vegetarian anyways because of the environmental impact of factory mouse farming. He can meow all the words to the theme song from *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*, and he will almost always do so at a party for no good reason whatsoever.

Ok. I’ll stop. Enough about the hipster cat for now.



Catster cover model



Hipster:

Isn’t the craft beer fad a bit over? Paying \$8-\$10 for a beer is ridiculous!

— BUDWISER

If by “a bit over” you mean “totally peaking,” then, yeah. The life cycle of a hipster fad (or any fad, really) is a lot longer than most people think. Maybe a few naysayers, yourself included, have started to pooh-pooh and say “nay,” but that’s little more than the first sign of a glacially slow process of cultural erosion.

It’s been more than a decade since proto-naysayers were deeply committed to “Oh, this posh hipster beer thing will never catch on.” Spoiler alert: they were wrong.

Today, you’ve got a craft brewery on damn near every street corner in damn

near every fashionable neighborhood. The scene is strong, and some people have started to echo your sentiments of, “Well, surely this bubble will burst any day now.” I remember when people said the same thing about Starbucks. Spoiler alert: they were wrong. I think you’re looking at a Starbucks model, here, and not a MySpace model. In, like, fifteen years or so, you’re not going to hear, “Remember

when we thought we would all be drinking hipster beer?” Nope. Instead, Triple IPAs will be the Pumpkin Spice Latte of the 2020s: Basic A.F., and totally unavoidable.

Dear Hipster:

What is the difference between hipsters and briefs?

— NATALIE

You can go out for a bowl of ramen without having to worry about fighting a bunch of unwashed briefs for a table. Hey-oooh!

For what it’s worth, I think you may be ever so slightly mistaken about the kinds of hipsters we’re dealing with here.

—DJ Stevens

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—EVE KELLY

You're going to need a Wrapmaster

Holiday madness is upon me. My biggest challenge is gift wrapping. By the time all the shopping is done, wrapping can feel like a cruel joke.

Veteran wrappers offered me advice. "Buy a Wrapmaster!" commanded Bern. "Stop using scissors to cut your paper!" A Wrapmaster is basically a handheld cutter, but its clever design allows you to cut in one continuous motion. Plus the tool has measurements on it. "Basically what you do is measure the package, then add the height and width dimensions together. You double that to get a measurement of the paper necessary to cover the gift, then

add just a little more to create overlap. Then you roll out the paper with the tool next to the roll, resting on the piece you will use. To cut the paper, just press and pull. You will get straight edges and gift wrap that is exactly the right size for the item you're wrapping. No more ragged edges, tears in the paper, or overlapping bulges. Plus you're not wasting wrapping paper. I also use a hands-free tape dispenser that just hooks onto my wrist." The Wrapmaster (\$15.95) and hands-free tape dispenser (\$5.95) are available from simplygoodstuff.com.

Said Faith, "My creative splurge this year will be wrapping each member of the family's Christmas presents with paper that has their picture on it. Zazzle.com has lots of options. My favorite is the personalized photo gift wrap that has a tile pattern of the photos. You can get it in glossy, matte, or linen (\$14.95-\$102.95 per roll depending on paper style and size). You can also add text to the paper saying 'Merry Christmas.' I also plan to buy rolls of the personalized Santa Christmas wrapping paper (\$15.80- 87.60 per roll depending on size), which will say 'Merry Christmas' on it and also feature a particular kid's name."

"I get my Christmas wrapping paper at Papyrus (two locations: Fashion Valley and University Town Center)," said Kathleen. "It's my Christmas splurge for myself. This year, I will be buying the Wreaths and Lattice holiday gift wrap, and also the Glitter Pine Cones holiday wrap, which has glitter highlights throughout. (\$9.95, 30" by 9").

"Reindeer bunny wrap... is great for both kids and adults."

For my best friend's gift, I am going to use the Lipstick Lights wrap sheet." The wrap sheets are 22"x34" — good for wrapping one gift. Most are archival Italian paper (\$5.95).

Finally, I contacted Seaside Papery in Coronado, just in case I burned out on Christmas cheer and decided to have someone else to do the wrapping.

"We offer complimentary gift wrapping for items bought in our store," said Jori Fentimen. "But we also offer gift wrapping services for items that people bring to us. We have customers, especially this time year, who drop off their gifts with us and let us just get creative, and then there are others who are

very specific how they would like their gifts wrapped. We charge for the cost of the materials, wrapping paper, ribbon, and the boxes, plus a \$3 fee. A shop favorite is the line by Cavallini & Co. for their vintage prints, which are both nostalgic and timeless. Or anything from Rifle Paper Co, which has whimsical designs that are very fun to pair with brightly colored ribbon. Reindeer bunny wrap is also a paper that is great for both kids and adults."

Continued Fentimen, "We sell great gift wrap by the sheet for \$5, or by the yard for \$4. The ribbon is priced by the yard, and ranges from \$.15 to \$.50 per yard. Boxes range from \$.25 to \$.5, depending on the size. The gift wrap sheets are unique and made by different designers and

artists from all over the country and world. Some of them are handmade, some of them are silkscreened. We offer a great assortment of ribbon, from hand-dyed silk to Italian cotton. To jazz up gift presentation, we like to tie unbreakable tree ornaments into the bows. This year, we have felt mice that have been very popular. We are also using a thin, wired ribbon a lot this season. We love it because it's not bulky, which makes it good for small packages, but it stands out on large ones, too."

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1: Seaside Papery wrapping paper

2: Lipstick Lights paper from Papyrus

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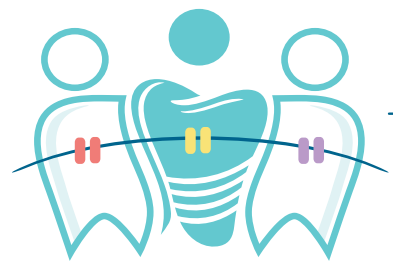
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at about 8:30 pm on November 20. Thirty-two-year-old Kemp pleaded not guilty to felony robbery. He has 13 different criminal cases in San Diego County, going back to 2009 when he was 23 years old.

The employee said he has worked at the Target store on El Camino Real in Oceanside for more than three years. He said on that night, he observed a man putting batteries into the pockets of his baggy clothing. He waited outside the front doors of the store for the alleged thief. "I was wearing my security uniform," he said. "I told him I was Target security. He just walked right into me." The suspect's shoulder struck the employee on his chest, he said. That was when he took hold of the man's left wrist. "He said to let him go, and that he had a knife." The suspect used his right hand to show a knife to the employee, who said the blade was pointed at him. At that moment a senior loss prevention officer appeared on scene, and "I was informed by Mr. Williams to let him go, since he had a weapon," the first employee testified. Williams, the second security employee, also testified: "And the guy said he would effing stab you!" Williams said when the suspect was released, he backed away and "he continued to shout back, 'Touch me like that again and I'll fucking stab you! Yeah, look! You're scared now!'" Both witnesses identified defendant Kemp as the man with the knife.

Kemp was arrested by Oceanside police that same night. His defense attorney asked for a reduction of the \$115,000 bail amount, but a prosecutor told the judge that Kemp has ten prior FTAs (failures to appear) on previous court cases. Judge Carlos Armour declined to lower bail. Kemp has three other, current court cases which are all misdemeanors involving meth or heroin. Judge Armour ordered Kemp to answer one felony robbery charge, and set a date in January for trial.

EVA KNOTT

LEUCADIA

In search of lost time (capsule)

Digging up the past with CalTrans

Dave Naylor lives in Klamath Falls, Oregon, but he grew up in Leucadia, and he clearly recalls attending a dedication in 1966 with his father for the Interstate 5 rest area at the La Costa exit. What's more, he recalls that as part of the ceremony, a time capsule was buried near the drinking fountain. But during visits to his hometown, he was unable to find any kind of marker indicating the time capsule's

existence, so he asked me for help.

I contacted Caltrans' local media representative, Ed Royce, and told him Naylor's story. Royce said there were probably some Caltrans old timers or retirees who might remember the time capsule. Within a few days, he called back: someone in the department knew of the capsule. It had been removed from the site to the Aliso Creek Rest Area on I-5, about eight miles north of Oceanside, on USMC Camp Pendleton. But no one seemed to remember why it had been dug up. Speculation was that it might have been removed during the La Costa location's shut-down period, after it became obsolete due to regional development but before it re-opened in the 1990s as a Park and Ride lot. (In the 1970s, Encinitas sheriff's deputies would make the Leucadia rest area one of their first stops on their morning patrols, to kick out squatting hippies and camping homeless.)

A few days later, I visited both the northbound and southbound Aliso Creek rest areas, but couldn't find any distinctive marker. Then, on December 9, Royce told me that Caltrans staff had found the time capsule in a storage shed in the southbound Aliso Creek rest area. It had never been reburied. Although Royce has yet to see the capsule personally, he says Caltrans knows exactly where it is and has a plan for relocating it. Sometime next year, at the agency's District 11 headquarters on Taylor Street in Old Town,



Ancient ruins of public drinking fountain near capsule's burial site.

a transportation museum will open. The capsule will become part of the museum's collection and will be ceremoniously opened. Naylor hopes to attend.

KEN HARRISON

DEL MAR

Sharp SLAPPback silences Gun Show shysters

ACLU aids opponents in threatening SLAPP suit

A month after gun show opponents Ira and Rose Ann Sharp and their advocacy group helped convince the Del Mar Fairgrounds board that public land was no place for a gun show, Ms. Sharp received a letter from a Los Angeles law firm. The letter, written in legalese, detailed why she should stop saying things about the gun show operators



MAG CLASOM / IFLORIS

The Big One bites the big one.

and demanded that she remove a number of entries and documents on the group's NeverAgainCA website. If the Sharps did not comply, according to the last paragraph of the three-page letter, "we will not hesitate to pursue formal legal remedies."

"It was scary at first; it chilled our activities for three days," Ms. Sharp said. "And then we contacted the ACLU and they said they

him that she wants kids everywhere to be able to believe they're safe – that she is trying to keep him safe. With a child's certainty, he responded, "I don't think you can." But she could at least keep gun shows off of public land, she decided. As she saw it, the state shouldn't be endorsing and profiting from gun shows where one dealer has AR-15s and another one sells the kits to make them into

"It was scary at first; it chilled our activities... then we contacted the ACLU and they said they would help us."

would help us." The ACLU's legal director David Loy wrote a six-page response to the letter that outlined how the Sharps would be able to defeat "formal legal remedies" using a combination of First Amendment free speech rights and laws about publicly available official documents like the court cases quoted by the Sharps. Loy explained that a lawsuit over Crossroads Gun Show of the West's list of grievances could be easily defeated. Then he pointed out the defense's best strategy rested under California's Strategic Litigation Against Public Participation (SLAPP) law – which would allow the Sharps to make Crossroads pay their legal fees. Crossroads and the law firm have not responded to Loy's letter. The Utah-based company did not respond to requests for comment. And the Sharps and NeverAgainCA continue to pursue getting gun shows out of public venues. They didn't take down or change anything on their website.

Ms. Sharp says she was inspired by the raw courage of the kids who survived the February 14 massacre at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Her group's first protest was to support the kids who walked out of Torrey Pines High School during the national student walkout on March 14 organized by the Parkland survivors. Ms. Sharp's grandson asked her why she was involved in the protests and she told

rapid-fire weapons.

As the Sharps started researching Crossroads, they found court cases and newspaper articles that stunned them. Crossroads' Robert Templeton, his son Jeff, and Jeff's wife Collett all had gun-related federal criminal convictions. In the early 1980s, Robert Templeton was convicted of running guns to Mormons in South Africa during the apartheid trade embargo. He stepped down from an appointment to Utah's task force exploring gun control measures in 1994 when the conviction became public knowledge. In a federal forfeiture action against Jeff Templeton filed in 2002, the Utah U.S. Attorney noted that Jeff Templeton had admitted he was addicted to a controlled substance and could not lawfully possess the guns. At some point, his father tried to get his 58 guns back but did not. The civil suit ended in 2004, and the government won.

Their research, in court filings and news articles, were enough to raise serious questions about the people running the gun show, and NeverAgainCA was able to persuade the Del Mar Fairground board to take a closer look. In September, the fair board voted to suspend its contract with Crossroads for 2019. NBC reported that the fairgrounds received about \$60,000 from the shows. Crossroad's last gun show at Del Mar – for now – was Dec. 8-9.

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

a slightly outré crime comedy, a blithely twisted relationship thriller, a brightly lit horror melodrama, or maybe an arch meta-take on all three.”

The director should have stuck with quirky and creepy. The last 1/2 hour was a waste.

—joedowd

“Not laziness, not mental illness, not alcoholism, and not mental illness”

Letters

December 12

Although I agree somewhat with Dr. Tichens assessment of our homeless crisis and the cause, I take issue with some of his comments. As I was the person interviewed for this article, I want to clarify that our issue in Fox Canyon is homeless encampments on private, not public property. Totally different circumstance. As a homeowner, we have been told we are responsible, not the City, for getting the police out to remove the people (they are technically trespassing) and bearing the cost of what has been left behind. On public property, the cost is born by the City. We feel that is unfair in that the people living in our canyons have moved there as a result of being removed from downtown. I would also like to know where Dr. Kitchin gets his statistic about most fires being set by people trying to “burn the homeless out”. With the extreme fire hazard in our canyons, someone would have to be crazy to deliberately set a fire. Of the 3 fires that I personally know of in Fox Canyon, they were all accidentally set by the people in the encampments. Sorry, dude, that just is not the happening here. I have heard that some homeless have threatened to burn down the canyon if they are forced to move. I don't know if that has actually happened.

As well, most people I have spoken to in our com-

continued on page 26



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View from the 27th floor of the Harbor Club



An aerial photograph of San Diego's waterfront, showing a tram line running parallel to the coast. Tall apartment buildings and hotels line the shore, with the ocean in the background. The sky is clear and blue.

Above it all

**I'm distracted by the
desire to get high**

When I buy my ticket to *True Romance* at Rooftop Cinema Club, I have visions of vertigo from the thrill of the rise to the top of the Manchester Grand Hyatt. I am not yet aware that while the films do screen on a roof of the 497-foot-high building (the tallest waterfront building on the west coast) it happens on the roof of the 4th floor, not the 40th. Still, stepping out onto the rooftop, past the basketball and tennis courts, and onto the outdoor theater's green turf carpet, I get the appeal. Those who spend their summers traipsing around to free outdoor move screenings all over San Diego County may not want to shell out the \$17 for a ticket (\$20 for bottomless popcorn), but for anyone like me who is exhausted by the thought of packing a cooler and dragging beach chairs to a park, it's a convenient way to get your outdoor movie fix. My money has bought me a seat in a canvas sling chair, the use of a set of wireless headphones to drown out the crunch of my neighbor's popcorn, and a blan-

ket to stay warm. And then there are the hot foodstuffs, beer, wine, and cocktails available for purchase.

From my sling chair, while waiting for the movie to start, I'm distracted by the desire to get high. Higher than the fourth floor. I gaze up at the gleam of the setting sun reflected off the curved and mirrored façade of the 361-foot south tower of the Marriott Marina to my right. Directly ahead, beyond the screen, the 455-foot postmodern Pinnacle Marina Tower beckons. And to the back and to the left of the theater space loom the two modernist towers of the Manchester Grand Hyatt, one at 446 feet, and the other at 497.

As darkness sets in, the lights of all those surrounding high rises transform the atmo-

sphere into something more wondrous than it was in the light. Later, during an Internet search of the four other Rooftop Cinema Club locations around the country, I discover that they're all on the fifth floor or lower. I erroneously attribute this to height regulations and through a series of emails learn from the company's founder and chief executive Gary Cottle, Jr. that height restrictions are not an issue — it's all about the views. "Being surrounded by the buildings and their twinkling lights as the sun goes down is what make it's so special."

Still, it's not quite enough.

Dreadfully afraid of heights

Frank Busic's office on the 34th floor of the Symphony Towers

looks out over killer views of Balboa Park, North Island, Mr. A's, City College, and all the way to the Cuyamaca mountains. But the 54-year-old University Club manager has his desk chair arranged so that he doesn't see any of it.

"I'm just dreadfully afraid of heights," he says. "My employees and department heads, when they come in for a meeting, they get the view. I look the other way. I'm very purposeful about that."

The expansive views out the floor-to-ceiling windows are a key component of the club's appeal to its 2000 members, and as manager, Busic spends a significant amount of time giving tours and pointing out the views to guests and prospective clients. To manage his fear of heights, he does



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Symphony Towers

two things: stands back from the windows and avoids looking down.

On the afternoon of my visit, we stand in the 1896 Boardroom, a

private event space furnished with a dark, polished wood table, and a recessed wine rack made of tropical hardwood. The windows look out over the type of view I'd envisioned when I bought my ticket to *True Romance*.

Reaching 499 feet above sea level, Symphony Towers is the second highest building in San Diego, behind One America Plaza, which hits 500 feet, the maximum allowed in San Diego, thanks to Federal Aviation Administration restrictions due to downtown's proximity to the airport. From where we stand now, on the building's top floor, we can see over the top of the Imperial Bank building and for eight blocks down 8th Avenue to Petco Park and to the Coronado Bridge beyond. Slightly west from there,

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the white sails of the Convention Center and the two 424-foot towers of the Harbor Club condominiums draw the eye toward Coronado Island and the ocean beyond. Thirty-four floors below us, the #923 bus silently rambles west on Broadway on its way toward Ocean Beach, and the red trolley glides north on Park Boulevard before turning west on C Street.

“Height has its advantages. You’re simply above everyone else,” Busic says.

He’s standing beside me, slightly back from the window with his arms folded and his feet planted wide apart. “The nightscape is romantic, too. Regardless of the time of day, even when the fog rolls in, it has that mystery to it.”

Down below, in the block bounded by 7th,



Frank Busic

8th, Broadway, and C, a white crane rises up out of the empty space between the 24-story Imperial Bank Tower and the 27-story Union Bank Building. The 617-unit apartment building under construction in that space

could rival Symphony Towers for the title of second highest building in San Diego. At its proposed 490-foot height, The Block Tower will be taller but maybe not higher than Symphony Towers. The former

will rise 41 floors above ground, while the latter, which gets an additional 79 feet of height from its location on Cortez Hill, stands only 34 floors above ground. Regardless of whether or not the developers at Bosa decide

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

to max out the apartment building’s height at 500 feet, its completion will change this particular view forever.

Despite his fear of heights, “Being up here and watching things happen,” is, for Busic, a big part of what he likes about his job. His fear is what he calls “manageable,” particularly in comparison to the intense phobia others experience. He tells the story of a chef he was scheduled to interview for a position at the University Club but never showed up. When Busic gave up waiting for him and went back to his office, he found an email that read, “I made it up the elevator, but as soon as I walked out, my fear of heights overwhelmed me. I got back in the elevator and went back

down. Sorry. Thanks for the opportunity.”

From a few steps back from the window, Busic says, “It’s fun to watch the planes land. Between 5 and 6, British Airways lands what used to be a 747. Now, it’s still a big jet, but it’s not a 747,” he says. “To have that big lumbering thing just kind of float down. It’s majestic.”

Busic’s half correct. British Airways flight 273, a non-stop from London to San Diego scheduled to land at 5 pm daily, is technically not a 747 but the larger 747-400 variant.

He points now to a speck of helicopter hovering over the bay, and explains that “they’re chucking Marines out” into the water for training.

Before I head back into the elevator for an ear-popping ride down to street level, Busic

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informs me that for a \$1000 fee and between \$159 and \$259 per month, depending on the level of membership, I too can plug in my computer here, bring friends to dine, and take in the magic of this exclusive view between the hours of 7 am and 10 pm.

I make some mental calculations and conclude that I can enjoy the expansive view from a table at the club's Ebb + Flow Lounge and order the Wild Mushroom Bruschetta along with a glass of Pinot Grigio for a total \$1181.00, plus tax and tip.

Or I can head back to the highest waterfront building on the West Coast, grab a stool at the bar on the top floor, and order a Fig & Pig flatbread and a Stone IPA for \$1158.50 less.

The flatbread wins.

High (and loud) above the waterfront

The promises made by the opulent lobby of the Manchester Grand Hyatt don't quite hold up in the bar on the 40th floor. From the abstract design on the brown and blue carpet to the bland furnishings, washed out lighting, and cafeteria noise level, the Top of the Hyatt feels more unimaginative than I'd expected.

For those who get lucky and manage to snag a seat directly in front of a window, it's probably easy enough to forget about the corporate atmosphere and get lost in the views of the San Diego Bay, Coronado, and the Pacific Ocean. But at 5:30 pm, an hour or so before sunset, all the window seats are taken, and the only ones



Top of the Hyatt

left are at the bar, facing away from the windows.

A minute after I place my order, I find myself in conversation with three New Belgium employees who occupy the bar stools beside me. Kelly Poplaski and Gaitlin Fisher have

come up with their manager, Brian Skiles, for a drink after a day at the 81st Annual Convention of the National Beer Wholesalers Association held here in the hotel. Poplaski, 33, is San Diego born and raised, and she

had no idea the bar was here until Skiles recommended it.

"I like landmarks," Skiles says. "And this is the highest bar on the west coast."

Well, almost. There are other bars that are

actually higher. Spire 73 in downtown LA is on the 73rd floor and purports to be the highest open-air bar in the Western Hemisphere, but if we're talking highest waterfront bar, then yes. Still, it's up high, and technically, you can see the view even from the barstools if you swivel around and lean your back on the bar. Poplaski, Skiles, and Fisher do just that, pointing at helicopters and the Coronado Bridge.

"I'm a little mesmerized by the view," Poplaski says, "I can't wait for sunset."

(Later, an Instagram search for photos tagged with #topofthehyatt yields an abundance of sunsets and snapshots of the quotations printed on the windows — quotations from an eclectic mix of people including

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20 San Diego Reader December 20, 2018

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Jimi Hendrix, JK Rowling, and Thomas Edison. This triggers my inner curmudgeon, the one who occasionally goes off on silent tirades about the instagrammification of the universe. And what's with quotations printed on windows anyway? Isn't the glorious view inspiration enough?)

Now, I turn my attentions to Angel Cortez, the 53-year-old bartender who buffs a wine glass with a black cloth napkin and expresses similar disappointment in the atmosphere, particularly when compared to the way it looked before the renovation three years ago.

"It happens with all the new bars that are opening: too much glass, too much metal, too much plastic, and the noise just bounces off," he says. He describes the



Ryan Gutz

bar's previous incarnation as more mysterious and elegant. "Before, it was kind of like a Victorian style bar, with a lot of dark areas." Columns that stood in the middle of the space, he explains, were eliminated in order

to make sure the view could be seen from every seat in the house.

But Cortez, who stands facing the panoramic view for hours at a time, confesses that he's usually too busy to pay much attention to it. But

early in his shift, on days when he opens the bar, he does get the chance to enjoy it.

"We're here about an hour and a half before we open, prepping everything," he says. "And on Saturday and Sunday, I

love to look out and see all the sailboats."

He excuses himself to take an order and make a couple of drinks. Then he returns a few minutes later to continue buffing glasses.

"The best selling point of this place is the view," he says. "I just hope they do something about the noise."

Bird's eye

In 1982, when the *Reader* ran a story similar to this one, there were exactly no residential high rises, and only one of today's top 20 highest buildings in San Diego existed at all. The Union Bank building at 530 B Street was completed in 1969, and while it currently occupies position #18 on San Diego's highest 20 (388 feet), by 2020, it will be bumped from the list

by the second Pinnacle Tower at 15th and Island, and by Savina at Kettner and Ash. At the time of this writing, there are ten buildings either proposed or under construction that will stand 400 feet or taller.

On a sunny Wednesday afternoon in late September, I get to view it all from above in the passenger seat of an R44 Raven II helicopter. My pilot, Ryan Gutz of Rotor Zen Helicopter Tours, starts out north from Signature Flight Support (on the back side of Lindbergh Field). As we fly over Mission Bay, Mount Soledad, and La Jolla Shores, he points out fancy estates on the cliffs, a high school marching band practicing formations on a football field, kayak tour groups in La Jolla

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

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cove, and backed-up traffic heading south on the 5. But my own personal thrill starts as we head back down south, over the airport runway and the boats in the harbor, toward the buildings downtown.

Gutz says that when he first began flying 17 years ago, he loved it for the technical challenge of learning to operate the helicopter and understand weather patterns and navigation. But now that all that “nerdy stuff” is second nature to him, so he just focuses on the joy of flying.

“I love to get up above to see the view and take people up in the air,” he says, explaining that many of his clients are celebrating birthdays or anniversaries, and because they’re usually excited about the thrill

of a brand new experience, it’s fun for him, too. He does, however, feel a little awkward at times, particularly when it comes to the marriage proposals that take place in the small cockpit when he has to strike a delicate balance between invisibility and participation.

“I know what’s going on. He knows what’s going on, but she doesn’t know what’s going on,” he says. “I usually try to turn on the pilot isolate to give them some privacy, so I don’t really hear it. Then, afterward, I usually say something like, ‘Oh my gosh,’ or ‘Cheers.’”

As we approach downtown from over top of the county administration building on Pacific Highway and pass the two 420-foot towers of The Grande, Gutz interrupts himself to point out

the toolbox buildings of the San Diego skyline: the Phillips-head (One America Plaza), the socket wrenches (Emerald Plaza), and the flat-heads (Manchester Grand Hyatt). We keep going south past the Harbor Club towers, Petco Park, the Convention Center, and the 32nd Street Navy yard.

Gutz turns the bird around over National City and we approach the city from a new angle. As we pass over the dense urban core once again, Gutz points out the abundance of cranes scattered throughout downtown, the East Village, and the Marina District, all promising a new skyline in the near future.

I understand why people become obsessed with models and miniatures and upper deck

views. The higher you get, the more beautiful and organized the world appears. Up here, hovering above and looking down on the city, I feel like maybe I can reach down to move some things around. Or I can just watch.

We’re back on the ground too soon.

Slim pickings

The next logical thing for a person who wants killer upper-floor city views all the time is to start looking around for a place to live on the highest floor possible. Renters in San Diego have or will soon have an abundance of options from which to choose. According to a July 2018 downtown development status report by Civic San Diego, there are currently 4155 apartments under construction or near completion.

But those interested in buying won’t have quite as many options. Besides the 410-storey Pacific Gate, which was completed this year and contains 215 two- and three-bed condos, the only other condo building under construction is Savina, which will rise 415 feet above Kettner and Ash, has 285 two- and three-bedroom units. It’s due for completion in 2019.

When I text Pacific Sotheby’s real estate agent



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

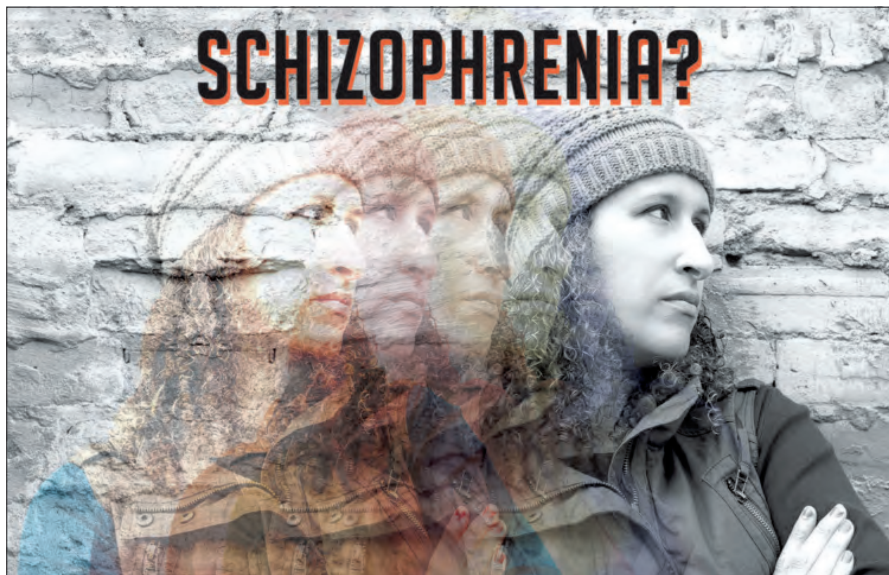
Harbor Club

Denny Oh randomly on a Friday in mid-October to ask how many active condo listings there are downtown, he estimates 360. And above the 25th floor, the pickings are slim. Even though he knows I’m not actually looking to purchase a million-dollar-plus condo today, Oh offers me a glimpse at the life I could have if I were.

We meet in the lobby of the Harbor Club and ride the elevator up to the 27th floor. The two-bed, two-bath, 1474-square-foot condo

is what’s called the “bubble unit.” If you look at the two Harbor Club towers from the Harbor Drive side, you can see the bubble units occupying the rounded glass “bubbles” near the top of the buildings. We step through the front door and into a entry hall with a view straight ahead to the Marina, the convention center, and the San Diego Bay. Immediately to the left a narrow hallway leads past a bathroom and into to a spacious master bedroom boasting floor-to-ceiling

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views of the Coronado Bridge, the Harbor Club East tower, and over the Gaslamp toward and beyond the Pendry Hotel and the towers of Pinnacle on Park. Stepping deeper into the front of the apartment, the views from the bubble stretch from the east tower, down Harbor Drive past the Marriott and the Hyatt all the way to the airport, and then curve around to view layers of high- and low-rise buildings all the way to One America Plaza and beyond.

Oh explains that even with all the changes taking place in the skyline, this particular mixed panoramic view will remain protected, due to restrictions on and across Harbor Drive. The only real major changes in the forecast for this



Harbor Club “bubble unit”

particular vantage point are the 480-foot observation tower proposed at Seaport Village and the three 29-story towers proposed at Manchester Pacific Gateway, three quarters of a mile to the northwest.

“When you go on the

waterfront over there,” he says, pointing north, “they’re building high-rises in every direction. And all of the land that’s around you here is already built out. The only parcel in the Marina District that’s left is this parking lot back here

(owned by Bosa). So the view that you see is more or less going to stay.”

Currently on the market for \$1,449,000, this unit, which was built in 1992, sold for \$698,000 in 1998, then for \$1,425,000 in 2006, and then again for



Denny Oh

\$1,410,000 in 2007.

According to Oh, 50 percent of the units in the Harbor Club buildings are second homes, often belonging to people who come to San Diego from Palm Desert, Scottsdale, or Phoenix, looking to escape sweltering summers. Others are empty nesters and downsizers from North County. When I ask about lease restrictions, Oh reminds in a very polite and round-

about way that, yes, there are lease minimums but people who buy second homes for \$1.5 million don’t usually care to bother with the hassles of vacation rentals.

We step out onto the balcony to watch a cargo ship pass by slowly. I’m reluctant to leave before I’ve planned my first annual 4th of July party up here. With a last gaze around at the view I’m about to give up forever, I catch a glimpse of the rooftop tennis courts far down across Harbor Drive on the fourth floor rooftop of the Hyatt where I watched *True Romance* in a sling chair. I point it out to Oh, and scoff at the idea of calling it a rooftop.

“It’s a rooftop,” he says.

I beg to differ.

— Elizabeth Salaam

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Seaside scheming

continued from page 3

should do or can do with its membership list. The emails, phone calls, trips to Control Group's office, snail mail is harassing and completely wrong."

Meanwhile, town council board members piled additional charges onto Wonacutt. "I just hung up the phone with Rob Brown," wrote Kimberly Wise, "who called me from downtown where he is being asked to prove that he was not renting his property (and failing to pay transient occupancy taxes prior to March 2018) on his property.... He said that Gary ... informed the city that a violation was occurring after he submitted his application to the Mission Beach Town Council. He had to take the morning off work to deal with this. Is this true?"

(Brown would later be elected secretary and Wise an area representative in the election of the new executive board.)

"I also talked with Rob," wrote Gardner, "and he confirmed that Gary did turn him in to code compliance even though he has done nothing wrong. Now he has

to commit time, money and resources to rectifying this issue. Gary might have tried to turn in other people as well. We must denounce this behavior and stop it immediately by any reasonable means necessary."

So, Wonacutt checked with the city's code compliance department. "While the name of a person who files a complaint is confidential," he emailed in response, "the fact that a complaint is filed or not is public information. So, I would ask someone, preferably a more neutral party, to call and ask if there is actually a complaint."

Wonacutt tells me that past board president Scott Morrison suggested that the city might have only been doing an audit and that Rob Brown was randomly chosen.

Reflecting on where the board stands as he prepares to let the presidency go on January 1, Wonacott says the neighborhoods group is still in the majority, but "the pro rental business group is very vocal.

I emailed several members of the Town Council's present and previous leadership, including Matt Gardner and Scott Morrison. I wanted to ask not only about the code compliance con-

troversy but the issues of cumulative and proxy voting as well. Did any of the new LLCs submitted by The Control Group, for instance, get a vote in the November 14 election.

Gary Wonacutt alerted the board members that they'd be hearing from me. Although I had seen Gardner's address and used that, my email bounced back. The only person to reply was Scott Morrison. "I'm not interested," he wrote. ■

Under the radar

continued from page 3

her influence to bear regarding "reasonable regulation of dockless scooters," according to a November 28 disclosure.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

to deliver capabilities that address emerging security challenges in the region," adds Blue's statement.

The company's carrier catapult being touted to

the Indians is the same one that has been persistently questioned by president Donald Trump, who last month continued his long-running criticism of the Blue-developed system by asking the commander of the USS Ronald Reagan whether he supported switching to the new technology. "Steam is very reliable, and the electromagnetic — I mean, unfortunately, you have to be Albert Einstein to really work it properly," Trump said to Capt. Pat Hannifin, who responded, "You sort of have to be Albert Einstein to run the nuclear power plants that we have here as well, but we're doing that very well." When Trump first voiced his skepticism of the e-catapult program back in May of last year, insiders noted that Linden Blue had backed the wrong horse in 2016's presidential primaries, kicking in \$2900 for Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, but nothing for Trump. Linden's brother Neal gave \$6000 to Rubio's Senate reelection fund. This September, Linden contributed \$2000 to another Trump target, Senate Democrat Joe Manchin of West Virginia

Both siblings were substantial contributors to the

General Atomics Political Action Committee, which spent a record \$893,432 during the 2018 election cycle, per the website Open Secrets. House Democrat Marcy Kaptur of Ohio topped the list of recipients, with \$11,000. Local Democratic congressmembers Susan Davis and Scott Peters each picked up \$10,000, as did embattled Republican Duncan Hunter.

Matt Potter

105.7 Maxed out

Air may be free, but

airwaves are not

On December 14, listeners to 80s-based oldies The Max discovered that the San Diego DJs known on-air as "Cha Cha," "J.J." and Frank Anthony were no longer announcing the hits by Billy Idol, U2, or Michael Jackson. There were no commercials. No station IDs. No mention at all that you were listening to the station formerly known as the Max.

The station is operated by Broadcast Company of Americas. Its studios in Mira Mesa feed the programming to three different Mexican stations with transmitters in greater Tijuana, including 105.7 XHPRS-FM and two all-sports stations, Mighty 1090 XEPRS-AM and XEPE

1700 AM. One insider with knowledge of the affairs of the stations say the group has been delinquent in paying its annual transmitter fee to two different Mexican owners. The owner of XEPRS/1090-AM is Andreas Bichara. The connected insider says Bichara is not happy with his relationship with the operator and has shown interest in finding a new operator that would pay the asking price of \$100,000 a month in rent/transmitter fees for Mighty 1090, or who would buy the 50,000-watt sports station outright for \$11 million.

Broadcast Company of America's other two stations, 105.7-FM and 1700-AM, are owned by Tijuana-born businessman and politician Jaime Bonilla Valdez, who was known to have homes in Chula Vista as well as Baja. Bonilla sold San Diego based KURS 1040-AM in 2016. Attempts to reach Bonilla were not successful, but radio insiders say he was simply no longer interested in continuing to allow Broadcast Company to use his FM station without paying rent. The tipping point came late on December 12, when

continued on page 26

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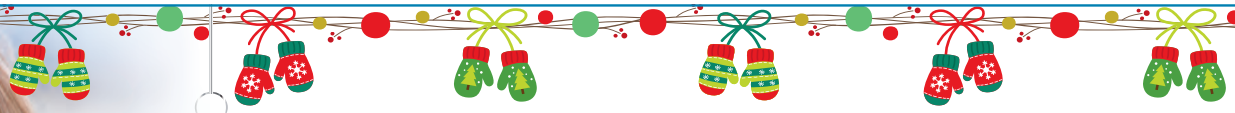
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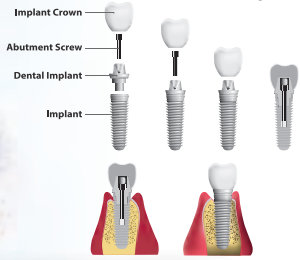
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CITY LIGHTS

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 24

Bonilla pulled the plug just hours before the operator's Christmas party at Solare in Liberty Station. It is not known how much the rent for 105.7 to Bonilla is, but the insider says he was told it was more than Mighty 1090's \$100,000 per month and that 105.7's may be as much as \$135,000 monthly. Going forward, it is not clear that Mexican owners can continue to expect the rental fees they have enjoyed over the years, due to decreased overall ad spending on American terrestrial radio.

It is assumed that Bonilla will put the Max feed back on his transmit-

CITY LIGHTS

ter if the operator gets current. Bonilla opted to replace the Max feed with his own collection of similar sounding 80s oldies usually heard on the Max. The first full day of broadcasting without the Max apparently involved someone in Bonilla's Tijuana studios playing hit after hit. Listeners were surprised to hear some unusual songs by Erasure and Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark that were not big radio hits. Nielsen ratings for the Max showed it was in 20th place among all listeners, not as good as oldies-based Sunny (KXSN 98.1 FM) which was in third place but better than 100.7 KFMB-FM.

Ken Leighton

LETTERS

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munity are sympathetic to the plight of the homeless. We are not an uncaring community. Our issue is the extreme fire hazard to our neighborhood and the environmental hazard the waste and debris cause as it leeches down the storm drains into our oceans. I know as a fact the the SDSP Homeless Outreach Team have approached the people in our canyons to offer them a bed and services to better their situation. Some go but most do not. This has become home to them (in answer to the other comment, why don't they just move?). To be fair, it may be a matter of too little too late, but the City is attempting

to address the multi-faceted issue of the homeless and affordable housing. They created the HOT team to help those who are willing to utilise services. They have lowered costs to build and relaxed regulations. They have identified public property to build housing on. I would hope they would give priority to non-profit housing organizations like the CDC and CHW. I think that should be a mandate, in my opinion and I have expressed so to the new City Council President, Georgette Gómez. It will take political will and community acceptance to solve what has become a crisis.

—Teri Siciliani

If the State of California, City and County of San Diego Gov, along with the various incorporated cities in the county, really applied solutions to problems, there would be affordable housing. The problem is there is no profit for the real estate developers, nor landlords, in helping the crisis of

homelessness. It's much more attractive for the local politicians to say they want to expand the convention center (\$\$\$), they want to build a super sports complex, or boot Anthony's out of the long-time building in the S.D. Port District's jurisdiction, because some big developer and large chain restaurant owners wanna put something more pretty there, which greatly increases revenue/profit streams, for decades to come, which a portion goes back to the bureaucracies of the SD Port District, SD City and others. The "pretty" part is you would not want the old unsightly Anthony's too close to Little Italy with all the folks paying \$3,000/month for a cute studio apartment.

—Darren

It would be helpful if the millions of organizations who help the homeless had a service to hire them to clean out the encampments, similar to Urban Corps, which would provide the liability

insurance, framework for hiring and other assistance so that private property owners could at least hire somebody who can legally and safely do the clean-up work.

—Nostalgic

"Imperial Beach couple stops porch thieves"
Neighborhood News

December 14

The headline doesn't come close to a description of what happened here. Did this "stop" anything? It doesn't say. They played a well-deserved prank (or something more serious) on thieves. Did the thieves come back and say that they were now reformed? No mention of that in the story.

I think these long-suffering victims of repeated theft really want the thefts to stop. And having the thieves caught is less important. They just want to be left alone. Will a stunt like this stop the thefts? Very unlikely.

—Visduh

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as featured on:

Calendar

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



WHEN: Thursday, December 20, 6 pm to 10 pm
WHERE: Kilowatt Brewing OB, 1875 Cable Street, Ocean Beach. kilowatt.beer

Thursday | 20

CAN YOU SPOT A GRAY?

Gray whales, known for migrating the longest distance of any mammal on earth, travel winter to spring, from feeding grounds in Alaskan waters to calving lagoons in Baja California and back. Sail by yacht to open ocean in search of whales, dolphins, and sea birds. Narration by captain, crew, and a naturalist from the San Diego Natural History Museum.

WHEN: Thursday, December 20, 9:30 am to 5 pm Through April 21.
WHERE: Hornblower Cruises, 970 N. Harbor Drive, Downtown. hornblower.com

SPACEMAN OF OCEAN BEACH ART SHOW

Exhibit of the cosmic blacklight paintings of Clint Cary, who was known as The Spaceman of Ocean Beach. It's a 30-year retrospective of blacklight cosmic art, featuring images from the planet Rillispore. The Spaceman claimed to have been contacted by beings called Rillisporeans and taken to their planet in 1957 and again in 1958.

Friday | 21

ICE SLIDES AND GIANT GINGERBREAD HOUSE



This ice park features a two-story, 100-foot ice tubing slide, ice bumper cars, an outdoor ice rink, nightly snow flurries, and a 30-foot tall Christmas tree light show. Craft holiday cocktails, fire-side lounges, gingerbread decorating, and stocking trimming included. Guests are greeted by life-size ginger-



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20: SPACEMAN OF OCEAN BEACH ART SHOW

bread house, built by master pastry chef Rudi Weiner. It took three months to bake, decorate and assemble, and cost \$10,000.

WHEN: Friday, December 21, 5 pm to 11 pm
WHERE: Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard, Downtown. newsroom.hilton.com

Saturday | 22

ALWAYS... PATSY CLINE

Louise Seger was a big fan of Patsy Cline. She harassed a local DJ to play Cline's music in the late 50s. In 1961, Seger and friends were 90 minutes early



for Cline's concert in a barn-sized restaurant/auditorium. In walked Cline, and Seger had the gumption to introduce herself. They became soulmates. *Always* is based on Cline's music and their life-long friendship.

WHEN: Saturday, December 22, 2 pm to 5 pm

WHERE: North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach. northcoastrep.org

Sunday | 23



EL VEZ

EL VEZ: MERRY MEXMAS

San Diego's own El Vez, the Mexican Elvis, presents his annual Merry Mexmas show featuring comedic Hispanic takes of Christmas

classics like "Brown Christmas," "Poncho Claus," "Sno-Way Jose," "En El Barrio (At Xmas Time)," and "Santa Claus is Sometimes Brown." The bill includes a rare live set from comedy-punk duo Pony Death Ride, who'll no doubt pull out their singles "It's a Tom Waits Christmas" and "Nothing Beats Old People at Christmas," as well as the Exbats.

WHEN: Sunday, December 23, 7:30 pm
WHERE: The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy. casbahmusic.com

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

DONOHUE MOUNTAIN

Climb a mini peak in rural East County

Driving directions: (Dulzura/Engineer Springs) From CA-94 in Engineer Springs, turn south onto Marron Valley Road (labeled Cottonwood Creek Road on some maps). Follow this road past residences about 0.7 mile to the junction with the unmarked, gated Donohoe Spur Road on the right. Park on the shoulder, being careful not to block the gate or any nearby driveways. There is parking available for 3-4 vehicles.

No facilities. Trailhead GPS: N32.62325, W116.77120. **Hiking length:** 2 miles round trip. Allow 2 hours hiking time. **Difficulty:** Moderate, with a section of off-trail/bushwhacking. Elevation gain/loss up to 650 feet. Donohoe Mountain can be visited year-round; however, high temperatures during the summer months may necessitate early morning or late afternoon/evening hikes.



Erosion has exposed a rocky summit. Inset: A western fence lizard keeps watch on his territory

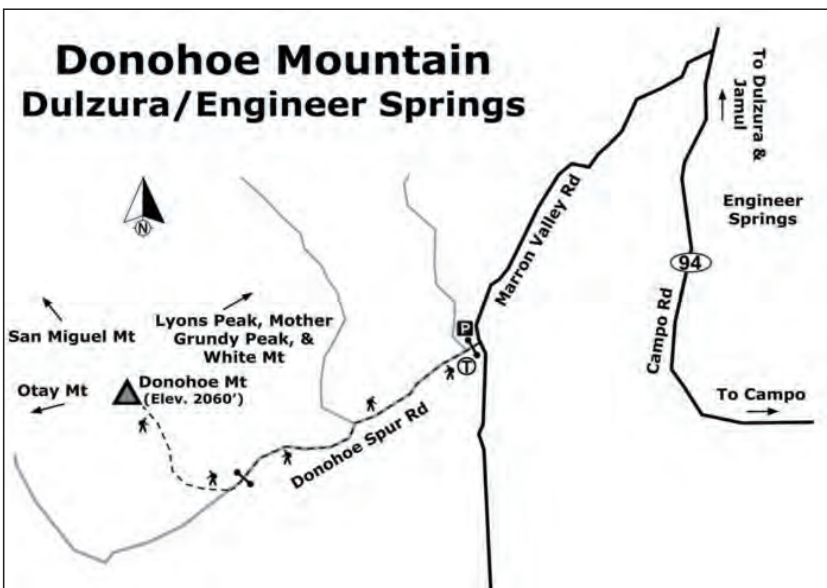
Tucked into the foothills of Otay Mountain, this unassuming peaklet provides a quick getaway if you have just a couple of hours but want to escape the crowds and enjoy views of mountains near and far. As part of the Bureau of Land Management's Sycamore Canyon recreation area, Donohoe Mountain is surrounded by a multitude of trails, providing the hiker with options for extending the trip described below if a longer walk is desired.

From the parking area, walk around the gate and pause a moment to read the sign describing the rules and regulations, as well as information about the endangered Quino checkerspot butterfly

that lives in this habitat. Follow the dirt road west and then southwest, and in about 0.3 mile pass another road on the right. Continue straight, noting the prominent hill in the foreground to the right of the road. This is Donohoe Mountain, and your route to the top will be via the southeast ridge. Pass through a second gate and in 0.5 mile when at the base of the peak, leave the road and start climbing in a northwesterly direction up the slope.

A few wildlife trails traverse the hill, which can be followed for short distances but ultimately fade out, so just pick the best way up through the brush. Along

continued on page 34



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

HOW TO SEND US YOUR LISTING:

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

ART

San Diego Border Dreamers Posada San Diego Border Dreamers is hosting its first annual POSADA. We will be having food, drinks, music, raffles, piñatas, art auctions & more. Live performances by Aztec Dancers & Folclórico. First 40 kids get a free candy bag. Funds that are raised by sale of merchandise will be used to finance members of SDBD going to Washington D.C to meet with congressional members to advocate for a Clean Dream Act. Friday, December 21, 6pm; **free**. Bread & Salt, 1955 Julian Avenue. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

SoCal Inspirations, Past and Present Opening reception for a special exhibition of selected paintings from current National Watercolor Society's Southern California artists. Exhibit on display through April 21, 2019. Saturday, December 22, 11am; **free**. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Spaceman of Ocean Beach Art Reception Enjoy an exhibit of the cosmic blacklight paintings of the Spaceman of Ocean Beach. Clint Cary, aka The Spaceman of Ocean Beach, returns for a 30 year retrospective of his blacklight cosmic art featuring images from the Planet Rillispore. The Spaceman, as he was known by the locals, claimed to have been contacted by beings called Rillisporeans and taken to their planet in 1957 and again in 1958. The experience changed his life and his art. The Spaceman dedicated the rest of his life to painting fluorescent images of the planet and retelling his stories of traveling to another world. Thursday, December 20, 6pm; **free**. Kilowatt Brewing OB, 1875 Cable Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

BEER

Booze, Bands, Brats, Beers & Brisket Join in for Booze, Bands, Brats, Beers and Brisket, with food and drink specials and live entertainment on the West Patio / Connex Bar. A la carte menu items including brisket, burgers or bratwurst: \$12 Thursdays, 5pm; through Sunday, December 30, Fireside by the Patio, 2855 Perry Rd., Building 8. (LIBERTY STATION)

Kegs & Eggs All day brunch specials in addition to regular menu. Brunch Specials will be rotational every weekend, follow @duckfooteastvillage on Instagram to stay updated on rotating specials. Saturdays, 12pm; Sundays, 12pm; through Sunday, December 23,

free. 21 and up. Duck Foot East Village Taproom & Kitchen, 550 Park Bl., Ste 2104. (EAST VILLAGE)

Paints & Pints: Holiday Edition Create your very own holiday cheer on a 12x16 canvas. Local SD artist Maira Maiz will provide you with an easel, canvas, brushes, paint, an apron and will guide you step by step to create your own masterpiece. Ages 11 and up. Walk-in seating is limited. Reserve your seat at artehastalamuerte@yahoo.com. Saturday, December 22, 12:30pm and 3pm; **free**-\$25. Ebullition Brew Works, 2449 Cades Way, Suite D. (VISTA)

Resilience IPA Beer Release Resilience Butte County Proud IPA is a fundraiser beer for Camp Fire relief. We were happy to help and committed to donating 100% of the sales to the Sierra Nevada Camp Fire Relief Fund, aimed at long-term community rebuilding support. Come on down and share a pint of this special IPA with friends and all sales will go towards the Camp Fire Relief Fund. Thursday, December 20, 2pm; Thorn Brewing Co., 1745 National Avenue. (BARRIO LOGAN)

Scottish Sunday Brunch With Drink Specials Featuring 'Brek-kie': 2 Eggs any style, Irish Back Bacon, Banger (Pork Sausage), White Pudding (Irish Sausage), Grilled Tomato, Marble Potatoes, House Made Spent Grain Toast. Drink specials: Mimosas for \$4, Tullamore Dew Irish Whisky for \$5, Guinness for \$6, and a Bloody Mary for \$8. Sundays, 9am; through Sunday, February 24, \$20-\$50. Fourpenny House, 8323 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Thirsty Thursdays Thirsty Thursday with bartender's choice, keep the Stein fills. Your first pint is included with Stein purchase, and all bartender's choice stein fills for the rest of the day are just \$5. Thursdays, 12pm; through Thursday, December 27, **free**. 21 and up. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR) & Duck Foot East Village Taproom & Kitchen, 550 Park Bl., Ste 2104. (EAST VILLAGE)

Thorn Ugly Sweater Party Get into the holiday spirit on Friday, December 21st, by wearing your ugliest holiday sweater to either Thorn North Park or Thorn Barrio Logan and getting \$5 pints the whole night. Thursday, December 20, 2pm; **free**. Thorn Street Brewery, 3176 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Traditional Scottish Sunday Roast On Sundays, we present hand selected meats of the highest quality, skillfully prepared and accompanied with traditional Scottish sides. Sundays, 1:30pm; through Sunday, February 24, \$26. Fourpenny House, 8323 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Ugly Sweater Party Don your ugliest of holiday gear for our Ugly Sweater Party. New holiday beer on tap all day: SPECULOOS STOUT Irish Stout spiced with ginger, maple, cinnamon, and cocoa nibs. On tap only. Holiday Cookie Pairings available at both locations, starting at 5PM. Holiday

flicks on the telly, movies tbd but full of cheer. And likely one flaming yuletide log. Friday, December 21, 5pm; **free**. 21 and up. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR) & Duck Foot East Village Taproom & Kitchen, 550 Park Bl., Ste 2104. (EAST VILLAGE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Buddhism, Enlightenment & Meditation Class includes both meditation and mindfulness instruction for all levels. Each week we discuss Buddhist concepts and techniques with real world applications so you can gain control of your time, life and mind. Saturday, December 22, 10:15am; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Consciousness Expansion 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. Thursday, December 20, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Full Moon Winter Solstice Retreat This year's Winter Solstice comes on the eve of the full moon, so our darkest night will be lit by the silvery light of December's Cold Moon. All writers are welcome no matter what your experience or genre. Just bring your notebook and pen or your laptops and allow the spirit of the Winter Solstice and the Muse take over. Friday, December 21, 6:30pm; \$45-\$54. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Healing Meditation Class Every Saturday, Aurelia Valentin will guide you through breathing exercises and meditative positions to help you find balance with your mind and body. Please bring a yoga mat. Saturdays, 1:15pm; through Saturday, May 25, **free**. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

Introduction to Meditation The class will focus on instruction and practice of silent meditation and mantra recitation, and provide a brief introduction to the view and methods of Tantric Buddhism. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 30, **free**. Tsogyelgar Dharma Center, 1857 Tustin Street. (POINT LOMA)

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. This low-impact exercise will build strength, tone the muscles and help create a long, lean body frame. Yoga mat or floor covering required. Saturdays, 2:30pm; through Sunday, December 30, **free**. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

Meditation for Relaxation Reduce stress and cultivate calm. "Quiet the mind and the soul will speak." Fridays, 10am; through Fri-

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DECEMBER 31ST, 2018

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Greatest Hits

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CHAMPAGNE, PRIME RIB BUFFET, PARTY FAVORS, GUARANTEED SEATING



NEW YEAR'S EVE PREVIEW NIGHT SAT 12/29

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TABLE RESERVATIONS ARE \$25/GUEST, WALK-INS \$20/GUEST
DOORS AT 6PM, SHOW STARTS AT 6:30PM

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MONDAY DECEMBER 31ST, 2018

NEW YEAR'S EVE

2019

DJ 9PM-CLOSE

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\$45/GUEST

1ST COURSE
AMUSE BOUCHE

2ND COURSE
ROASTED BUTTERNUT SQUASH BRÛLÉE SOUP OR
BABY ICEBERG WEDGE

3RD COURSE
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PAN SEARED SCALLOPS WITH SWEET PEA EMULSION
AND GARDEN VEGETABLES.

4TH COURSE
GARAGE BAR OR
BULLEIT BOURBON CRÈME BRÛLÉE

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GARAGE

Kitchen + Bar

day, December 21, free. 18 and up. Paradise Hills Public Library, 5922 Rancho Hills Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

Paint Nite Create a one-of-a-kind painting along with the memory of a unique nite out. Saturdays, 6:30pm; through Wednesday, October 30, \$28-\$45. 21 and up. Stella Italianfare, 8008 Girard Avenue #220. (LA JOLLA)

Sewing for a Cause In this series of beginning classes adult and teen sewers will learn the basics of operating a sewing machine and how to create quilts. Materials and sewing machines will be provided and quilts will be donated. Drop ins are welcome. For adults and teens in 6th grade and up. Thursday, December 20, 6:30pm; Georgina Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Yoga Basics: A Gentle Approach Come explore the fundamentals of yogic postures & breathing techniques in this mindful movement class designed to gently tone & strengthen the body, improve balance & flexibility, & enhance mind-body awareness. Thursdays, 10:15am; through Tuesday, January 1, \$10-\$16. PB Yoga & Healing Arts, 961 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

COMEDY

Bobby Lee Thursday, December 20, 8pm; Friday, December 21, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 22, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$22. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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

Dinner Detective Interactive Murder Mystery Solve a hilarious crime while you feast on a fantastic dinner. Just beware! The culprit is hiding in plain sight somewhere in the room, and you may find yourself as a Prime Suspect before you know it! Saturday, December 22, 6pm; \$64-\$69. Courtyard San Diego Downtown, 530 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Most Wonderful Crime of the Year 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. Thursday, December 20, 6pm; \$60-\$79. Old Spaghetti Factory, 275 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

City Ballet of San Diego: The Nutcracker Voted San Diego's Best Nutcracker production by the "Tommy Awards", this elaborate and elegant production, with exquisite costumes and scenery. Friday, December 21, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 22, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 23, 2pm; \$34-\$89. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Contra Dance Come join us for modern American folk dancing to live music. No partner necessary, no experience necessary. Saturday, December 22, 7pm; \$10. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Dancing the Blues Blue Note celebrates the blues as Black American heritage and explores the dances that came up with the music. Pricing varies on live music nights. Saturday,

Rhyme & Verse

A Christmas poem by Eugene Field

Christmas Treasures

I count my treasures o'er with care.—
The little toy my darling knew,
A little sock of faded hue,
A little lock of golden hair.

Long years ago this holy time,
My little one—my all to me—
Sat robed in white upon my knee
And heard the merry Christmas chime.

"Tell me, my little golden-head,
If Santa Claus should come to-night,
What shall he bring my baby bright,—
What treasure for my boy?" I said.

And then he named this little toy,
While in his round and mournful eyes
There came a look of sweet surprise,
That spake his quiet, trustful joy.

And as he lisped his evening prayer
He asked the boon with childish grace;
Then, toddling to the chimney-place,
He hung this little stocking there.

That night, while lengthening shadows crept,
I saw the white-winged angels come
With singing to our lowly home
And kiss my darling as he slept.

They must have heard his little prayer,
For in the morn, with rapturous face,
He toddled to the chimney-place,
And found this little treasure there.

They came again one Christmas-tide,—
That angel host, so fair and white!
And singing all that glorious night,
They lured my darling from my side.

A little sock, a little toy,
A little lock of golden hair,
The Christmas music on the air,
A watching for my baby boy!

But if again that angel train
And golden-head come back for me,
To bear me to Eternity,
My watching will not be in vain!



Eugene Field (1850-1895) was an American poet known as the "poet of childhood" because of his output of verse for children. Born in St. Louis, MO, Field began his career as a journalist in St. Joseph, MO, in 1875, before moving to Chicago eight years later where he established his name, writing a humorous column, "Shorts and Flats," for the *Chicago Daily News*. His poetry first came to prominence in 1879 with the publication of "Christmas Treasures," followed by a dozen volumes of verse—and his most famous poem, "Wynken, Blynken, and Nod"—published in the remaining years of his life. He died of a heart attack at the age of 45.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

December 22, 8pm; \$5-\$13. Party Fitness Studio, 4659 Mission Gorge PL, Suite B. (GRANTVILLE)

The Nutcracker in Balboa Park After over 70 years of ballet in Balboa Park, experiencing SDCYB is not only a chance to celebrate the holidays and a love for dance, but also an opportunity to be a part of the San Diego legacy and support arts education. Friday, December 21, 7pm; Saturday, December 22, 2pm and 7pm; Sunday, December 23, 2pm; \$12-\$18. Casa del Prado Theatre, 1650 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Adult Evening Book Club 3rd Floor Rotunda Conference Room. No fee. Putting God Second - How

to save Religion from Itself by Rabbi Donniel Hartman. Hartman maintains that there is a fundamental conflict in monotheism between God the Creator and God the Compassionate that leads to two "auto-immune" diseases God Infatuation and God Manipulation. He explains these diseases and suggests a way to overcome them. Thursday, December 20, 7pm; free. 21 and up. Congregation Beth Israel, 9001 Towne Centre Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Shabbat & Havdalah at Home When most people think of holidays, they think of annual celebrations, but in Judaism there is one holiday that occurs every week - the Sabbath. In this workshop, led by Rabbi/Cantor Arlene Bernstein, we will highlight the blessings, rituals, food, music and creative ideas for a joyous Shabbat and Havdalah

in your home. Thursday, December 20, 6:30pm; free. Congregation Beth Israel, 9001 Towne Centre Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Winter Solstice Full Moon Celebration We celebrate the return of the light and a full moon at this Winter Solstice. Join us for community, ritual, drumming, dance, a gift exchange, and celebration. Saturday, December 22, 7pm; free-\$20. Ginseng Yoga, 2985 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

FILM

Drive-In Holiday Movie Nights Be our guest and cozy up for a "drive-in" movie night under the stars on the Aria Lawn from the comfort of a golf cart, chair or BYOBlanket. Refreshments available for purchase. Thursday,

December 20: White Christmas - Thursday, December 27: Frozen. Parking: \$20 per car, cash only. All seating is limited and subject to availability upon arrival. Please dress accordingly for the weather. Thursday, December 20, 6pm; free. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Thursday Night Movies Every Thursday night just after sundown we play a series of similar genre films, collections by a specific director, actor, etc, or just one individual movie. Thursdays, 7pm; through Friday, December 28, \$5-\$10. Lhoq/Exrealism, 755 1/2 Carlsbad Village Dr. (CARLSBAD)

FOOD & DRINK

Afternoon Tea Dammann Freres is the largest and oldest tea company in France and the exclusive tea for THE MED's afternoon tea. These flavorful teas are complimented with the perfect petite sandwiches and sweets. Reservations at 2pm, 3pm and 4pm. Saturday, December 22, 2pm; Sunday, December 23, 2pm; La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Breakfast with Santa Enjoy a morning of entertainment for children, including a visit with Santa, a delicious hot breakfast, special up-close encounters with Wild Wonders animal friends, face-painting, cookie and ornament making and more. Mom and dad, sit back and enjoy mimosas while the kiddos enjoy all of the entertainment and

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4773 Marlborough Dr. San Diego

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 10:30 am-12:00 pm

Community Church of Poway

13501 Community Rd. Poway

619-485-0939

ttccasd@gmail.com

www.taoisttaichi.org

Celebrate Winter Solstice

Sat, Dec. 22, 7-10pm

Ceremony, drumming, dance, gift exchange.

\$20 Adults,
\$10 Teens,
Kids Free

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League Seasons
Season #1: Jan-July Season #2: July-Dec

Coaches Meeting
January 14, 2019 at 6:30pm

Awards: Trophies, Uniforms, Medals, Sports Bags, Cash

MEN'S LEAGUE LIGA DE HOMBRES

6v6 11v11
Wednesday/Miercoles Tuesday/Martes
Thursday/Jueves Sunday/Domingo
Friday/Viernes

\$180 Entry Fee Per Team/Entrada por Equipo

YOUTH LEAGUE LIGA DE NIÑOS

6v6 11v11
Thursday/Jueves Thursday/Jueves
Friday/Viernes Friday/Viernes
Sunday/Domingo Sunday/Domingo

11v11
Sunday/Domingo

Entry Fee Per Team/Entrada por Equipo
6v6/8v8/11v11 \$150

Age Divisions/Divisiones:

(U6) 2013	(U10) 2009	(U14) 2005
(U7) 2012	(U11) 2008	(U15) 2004
(U8) 2011	(U12) 2007	(U16) 2003
(U9) 2010	(U13) 2006	(U17) 2002

WOMEN'S LEAGUE LIGA DE MUJERES

6v6 8v8 or 11v11
Thursday/Jueves Saturday/Sabado
Friday/Viernes Sunday/Domingo

\$150 Entry Fee Per Team/Entrada por Equipo

COED & 35+ Friday/Viernes

For more information:

OFFICE: (619) 741-0715, (619) 741-0716
5475 Heidi St. La Mesa, CA 91942

LEAGUE DIRECTOR: (619) 247-4910
ricky@californiasoccerleague.com

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f GETAKICKOUTOFLIFE

FIELD LOCATIONS:

Clairemont High School
El Toyon Park/National City
Gompers Preparatory Academy
Junior Seau Sport Complex
Kearny Mesa Recreation Center
Lincoln High School
Morley Field
Morse High School
Mount Miguel High School
Rosa Parks/City Heights
Spring Valley Sports Complex
Tierra Santa Rec Center
...and more

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Come and kick off 2019 at the Amigo Spot

DJ starts at 8:00pm
Champagne Toast at Midnight
Party favors given throughout the night
And Chef's Dinner Celebration

Prime Rib \$21.95

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del Barria Market

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10AM - 4PM

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Santa himself. Thursday, December 20, 9:30am; Friday, December 21, 9:30am; Saturday, December 22, 9:30am; \$12-\$44. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Brunch With Santa Kids of all ages can visit with Santa at Decoy during brunch. \$49 for adults with champagne and \$19 for kids under 12. Reservations Strongly Recommended Sunday, December 23, 9am; \$19-\$49. Decoy Dockside Dining, 1035 La Bonita Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Caesar's Restaurant & Downtown Tijuana Tour Join Wild Foodie Tours and treat yourself to a special evening with a 4-course dinner at the legendary Caesar's Restaurant, birthplace of the Caesar salad. Trip length of 3-4 hours with a walking distance of about 1 mile. \$89. Fridays and Sundays at 5:00 pm. Everything included: 4-course dinner of choice with drinks, a narrated history of Tijuana, sightseeing, shopping, all transportation in Tijuana, and a tour guide. Fridays, 5pm; Sundays, 5pm; through Sunday, December 30, \$89. San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

Cheese Feast This all-you-can-eat happy hour extravaganza on the third Thursday of every month allows you to partake in all the featured selected cheeses and charcuterie you can eat, plus one glass of wine instead. Sorry, no sharing or take-away. Thursday, December 20, 6pm; \$30. Venissimo Cheese Del Mar, 2650 Via de la Valle, #C140. (DEL MAR)

Family Friendly Christmas Nights The Westin Carlsbad Resort & Spa and Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa are bringing the holiday cheer this year! Letters to Santa, S'mores Roasting, Face Painting Elves, Cookie Decorating, Holly Trolley Rides, Spiked Hot Chocolate Flights for Mom and Dad, Food & Family Activities for All Ages! Thursday, December 20, 5pm; Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Half Pound Cheeseburger Meal Every Saturday our Veterans serve up half pound Cheeseburger Meals with homemade sides. Saturdays, 11am; through Sunday, December 30, \$7. VFW Post 5867, 12650 Lindo Lane. (LAKESIDE)

Holiday Nights Enjoy a romantic carriage ride around the vineyards, sip hot mulled wine, carolers and music nightly in our village. A Holiday Shopping village of local artisans and crafters will be open nightly in the lower front parking lot, as well as the nightly food trucks. The Tasting Room, Thursday, December 20, 4pm; Friday, December 21, 4pm; Saturday, December 22, 4pm; free. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Holiday Tea Spend an afternoon amidst the timeless glamour, sipping loose leaf teas, toasting with a welcome glass of champagne, and savoring Chef's selection of sweet and savory treats. Saturday, December 22, 12pm; \$35-\$59. U.S. Grant

Hotel, 326 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Lane Field Park Markets Exciting new food market set in a beautiful park with 20+ artisanal food vendors, boutique coffee, live music, art and outdoor games. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 30, free. Lane Field Park, 1009 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Let it Flow Yoga, Beer, & Good Cheer Don your most festive holiday attire and let's flow together and then enjoy some beers. Ticket includes an hour of Vinyasa Yoga and a complimentary pint of beer. Bring your own yoga mat and water. Friday, December 21, 7pm; \$15. 21 and up. Citizen Brewers, 5837 Mission Gorge Road. (GRANTVILLE)

Mexican Seafood Tour Join Wild Foodie Tours to enjoy our Ultimate Mexican Seafood Tour where we'll take you to 2 or 3 of our favorite eateries/restaurants for seafood in Tijuana! Trip length of 3-4 hours with a walking distance of 1-2 miles. Only \$79! Everything included: appetizers, main course, drinks, shopping at the seafood market, transportation, and a tour guide! Guests meet at the McDonald's at the San Ysidro Trolley Station. Reservations required. For info and/or to book, visit www.wildfoodietours.com Sundays, 12:30pm; through Sunday, December 30, \$79. San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

Street Food Tour for Foodies Join Wild Foodie Tours for an all-inclusive, fun, gritty, and insightful street food tour in Tijuana! You'll enjoy tastings at 5 food stops, 1 non-alcoholic beverage stop, and 1 dessert stop to taste the best flavors of Tijuana. Only \$69! Everything included: food, all transportation in Tijuana, shopping, sightseeing, and a tour guide! Group meets at the McDonald's at the San Ysidro Trolley Station. Reservations required. For info and/or to book, visit www.wildfoodietours.com Saturdays, 12pm; through Saturday, December 29, San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

Ugly Sweater Holiday Cocktail Cruise Come aboard the only floating holiday happy hour in San Diego! The cruise includes a boarding holiday cocktail, passed and displayed appetizers, and a cash bar with plenty of drink specials on beer, wine, and Hornblower cocktails. Let's get ugly together. Saturday, December 22, 6pm; \$40-\$70. Hornblower Cruises, 970 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Wine Tasting & Hayride Tours Join us for a wine tasting and a hayride tour through the vineyards and groves of our historic California ranch. Located three miles East of the Safari Park in San Pasqual Valley. We are kid and dog-friendly. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, December 30, free-\$15. Rancho Guejito Vineyard, 17224 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

FOR KIDS

10th Annual Nutcracker Holiday Tea Bring your little sugarplums for an unforgettable abridged performance of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," performed by the Scripps Performing Arts Academy. Sunday, December 23 Seating: 10:45 am, Tea: 11:00 am, Performance: 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm Seating: 1:45 pm, Tea: 2:00 pm, Performance: 3:00 pm - 3:45 pm Monday, December 24 Seating: 10:45 am, Tea: 11:00 am, Performance: 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm Sunday, December 23, 1:45am and 10:45am; \$38-\$65. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Baby/Toddler Storytime Join us for a fun and interactive storytime that focuses on a new developmental skill every month. Through books, songs, and activity, children will learn about communication, focus and self control, making connections, perspective taking, and taking on challenges. Saturdays, 10:30am; through Saturday, December 29, free. Paradise Hills Public Library, 5922 Rancho Hills Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

Big Science for Little People: Sound Science Investigate sound and how it travels through different substances. We'll explore waves, vibrations, and make an imaginative musical instrument. Friday, December 21, 10am; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas Under the Stars There will be family activities including free family portraits, coffee, hot cocoa, cookie decorating, and the Grinch himself. Stay for a special candlelight and Christmas carol service at 6pm. Sunday, December 23, 5pm; free. Allied Gardens Park, 5155 Greenbrier Avenue. (ALLIED GARDENS)

Downtown Cortez Hill Holiday Fair Come meet, greet, and take a photo with Santa at the Downtown Cortez Hill Holiday Fair with food, music, vendors, and activities for the whole family. Why be a Grinch stuck in rush hour traffic when you can enjoy the spirit of the holidays. Friday, December 21, 5pm; free. Marriott Vacation Club Pulse, 701 A Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Nightly Snowfall with Music & Lights The FREE annual snowfall event transforms the beautiful shopping center's courtyard near the Koi Pond into a snowy wonderland. Children receive free "magic" glasses to watch the snow falling in rainbow colors. Thursdays, 6pm; Fridays, 6pm; Saturdays, 6pm; Sundays, 6pm; through Monday, December 24, free. Village Walk at EastLake, EastLake Parkway at Miller Drive. (EASTLAKE)

Pre-School Storytime & Craft Preschoolers are invited to a story time, then a fun craft right afterwards. Thursdays, 10:30am; through Thursday, December 27, free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

\$160,000
SANTA'S



SUPER SLEIGH GIVEAWAY

SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER • 6PM - 11PM

GRAND PRIZE DRAWINGS DECEMBER 31 AT 9PM & 11:30PM

Each Saturday, 3 winners every hour will win their share of over \$20,000 Free Play prizes.

On New Year's Eve, at 9PM 2 winners will take home \$2,500 Free Play and 1 other gets \$5,000 Free Play. At 11:30PM, 2 more winners receive \$2,019 PLUS the Grand Prize Winner will drive away in a new 2019 SS Camaro.

Earn entry tickets December 1 - 31 with every 100 points.

Management reserves the right to change or alter promotions at any time without prior notice.

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This promotion is only valid when booked through our website. No walk-ins or call in bookings allowed. Offer Valid from 12/01/18-12/31/18 only. Credit may be used any time within 2 years of purchase. This promotion is not valid with any other offers. All jumpers must be 18 years of age or older and weigh no more than 230lbs or 104 kilos. Limited quantities available each day, valid any day of the month of December. We are closed on Tuesday-Thursday.

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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

La Mesa Church of Christ

Contact: 5150 Jackson Dr., La Mesa (619) 465-5150
www.lamesachurch.com

Membership: 100

Pastor: Graham Clifford

Age: 43

Born: Salinas

Formation: Dallas Christian College, Dallas, TX;
Center for Christian Education, Irving, TX

Years Ordained: 12

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

Pastor Graham Clifford: I love the gospels. I love being able to preach all the way through the gospels and seeing what exactly Jesus taught, how passionate he was about loving people, and how loving people is a reflection

of how you love God.

SDR: *What's the mission of your church?*

PC: It is to love God and love people. That's the short of it. We do that through our primary focus, our ministry to families with children at home. When this church was built in the late 1950s, the leaders wanted to dedicate this facility to honoring and glorifying God, and at the same time to serve the community. One way we do this today is through Parents Night Out. On the first Friday of every month, we invite families in the community to bring their kids 12 and under to join us here. We watch the kids, feed them dinner, have some skits we

put on and watch a family-friendly movie while the parents get to have a night off. We started this as a way to reach out to kids, but we realized it was just as much a ministry to the parents. We started with six kids showing up, and now two years later we have about 70 kids on our mailing list now. We're excited about being able to get involved with these families' lives.

SDR: *Where is the strangest place you found God?*

PC: The least likely place I find God is in movies, and not even explicitly Christian movies. There are great illustrations that pop up in movies all the time that communicate deep spiritual

truths. One of the first ones I noticed was a favorite movie of mine from my younger years, *Planes, Trains, and Automobiles*. There's that scene when Steve Martin is asleep and John Candy is driving the car, and he decides he's too hot and wants to take his jacket off while he's driving. He gets his coat caught in the seat levers and in typical movie fashion, things go crazy at that point. That moment communicates so deeply the mess we get ourselves into with sin. We get ourselves into some sinful situation that at the time really isn't that big of a deal. Had John Candy at that moment pulled the car over on the



Graham Clifford

side of the road and fixed it, he wouldn't have ended up in the situation he did. But we don't do that. We try to cover it up, or fix it on our own, and we wind up totally out of control and our life is hanging in the balance in a nasty situation as we head into two semi-trucks with

Satan just laughing at us.

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

PC: I believe that when we die, there is paradise waiting for us. I don't think it's what you see in paintings with streets of gold and pearly gates; I think it's just getting to be in the presence of God with all the other Christians who have gone before us. There's perfect peace and love when we're in the presence of God. The opposite of that is hell, the absence of God, where all those things don't exist because God's presence is not there.

— Joseph O'Brien

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

Puzzling Drive Scavenger Hunt

This self-guided driving adventure guides you to some fascinating and beautiful locations around the city. A Puzzling Drive is best described a cross between a scavenger hunt, an informative self-guided driving tour, and a road rally. Complete the adventure as quickly or slowly as you like as only your question answering is timed. This activity is self-guided using any mobile device with web access so you can play any time on any day at your convenience. Enter the READER-DRIVE to receive \$10 of one team entry. Thursdays, 7am; Fridays, 7am; Saturdays, 7am; Sundays, 7am; through Tuesday, December 31, \$39-\$49. Balboa Park Activity Center, 2145 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Rady Children's Ice Rink

Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary and Liberty Station welcome San Diegans to kick off the holiday season with outdoor ice skating at the Rady Children's Ice Rink at Liberty Station. Saturdays, 10am; through Sunday, January 6, \$13-\$15. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Salute the Season with Santa & Friends

Friends and family are invited to celebrate the holidays and take pictures with Santa. Saturdays, 5pm; through Saturday, December 22, Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

ScholarShare Toddler Time:

Sights, Sounds & Textures Our toddler program values the whole

child and supports healthy bodies and minds, with music, movement and social play for young children. Our Friday morning toddler time is free with admission. Friday, December 21, 10am; free-\$14. New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Videogame Tournament:

Super Smash Bros. Ultimate

In support of the Media Arts Center San Diego's Digital Gym Cinema, we will be hosting our first video game tournament/fundraiser. \$5 suggested donation per entry. Sign-ups will begin at 8:30PM on the day. All players will compete with the Nintendo Switch Pro Controllers provided. Friday, December 21, 9pm; Media Arts Center, 2921 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

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)

NATURE

Family Discovery Walk Bring the family out for a guided nature walk at Mission Trails Regional Park. Experience winter in the late afternoon as evening begins to descend below the five peaks of this San Diego landscape. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Sunday, December 23, 3pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Holiday Volunteer Clean-Up Join us for a holiday season cleanup event in Crest Canyon. San Diego Canyonlands hosts regular cleanup events every fourth Saturday of the month. This is a great way to gain service hours, meet your neighbors, get some exercise, and improve your environment and community. Bring: Water, protective clothing and close-toed shoes. Meet at 2707 Racetrack View Drive. Saturday, December 22, 9am; free. Crest Canyon Open Space, Trailhead lies 7 miles down Racetrack View Drive. (DEL MAR)

Our Winter is Coming Enjoy a Trail Guide led walk at Mission Trails Regional Park and see how the native flora and fauna settles down into our winter. Observe the plants in dormancy, awaiting,

and hoping for some much anticipated rain in our rainy season. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Saturday, December 22, 9:30am; Sunday, December 23, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Signs of Our Winter Coming A

morning stroll around Kumeyaay Lake and the campground will indicate how our winter is closing in on the natural habitat of Mission Trails Regional Park. Meet at the Kumeyaay Lake Campground flagpoles at the campground entry station. Saturday, December 22, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTÉE)

Solstice Labyrinth Walk with

Crystal Bowls Desert Labyrinth Walk. Saturday, December 22, 9am; \$10-\$20. Blue Sky Ranch, 13743 Blue Sky Ranch Road. (LAKESIDE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Historical True Crime Tour You will walk through several eras in time as you explore interesting stories of true crime. You will also learn some of the darker history of the Gaslamp Quarter and the area formerly known as the Stingaree. Fridays, 10:30pm; Saturdays, 10:30pm; Sundays, 7:30pm; through Monday, December 31, \$15. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Holiday Lights Tour

Five Star Tours takes you to three neighborhoods for you to walk and discover holiday delight. Our tour takes you to the neighborhoods of Chula Vista, Christmas Card Lane and the famous Christmas House. Thursdays, 5:30pm; Fridays, 5:30pm; Saturdays, 5:30pm;

Sundays, 5:30pm; through Sunday, December 23, \$18-\$29. Santa Fe Depot, 1050 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

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)

WORSHIP

Candlelight Service

All are welcome to the 28th Annual Candlelight Service. Bring your family, friends and some cookies to share. Special appearance by Santa Claus. Music by Peggy Lebo, Rebecca Jade, and Michael Paul Smith. Discover who will be this year's Drummer Boy and Partridge. Sunday, December 23, 7pm; free. Seaside Center for Spiritual Living, 1613 Lake Drive. (ENCINITAS)

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

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the way you'll encounter several familiar chaparral plants common to lower elevations, including laurel sumac, a large shrub with long, folded leaves and adorned with cream-colored flowers resembling miniature trees. Another abundant plant is flat-top buckwheat, a rounded shrub with dense clusters of white flowers that turn a distinctive rust color by fall and remain on the plant much of the year. The flowers are prized by honeybees and other insects, and the seeds were historically used by Native Americans and ground into flour. Today, the seeds are a popular food source for animals. Chamise is scattered about the slope, a hardy shrub of the rose family that is the most abundant plant of the chaparral and can be identified by small clusters of dark green needle-like leaves and creamy white flowers in late spring.

As you near the summit plateau, the slope eases up a bit and soon you'll notice outcroppings of rocks that mark the high point of Donohoe Mountain. You have now come just under a mile from the trailhead. Take a break and enjoy the panoramic views – Otay Mountain looms large to

the west/southwest, the rocky summits of Lyons Peak, Mother Grundy Peak, and White Mountain dominate the north/northeast skyline, San Miguel Mountain is the large peak topped with towers to the northwest, and the small town of Engineer Springs sits nestled in the valley below to the east, with the grey ribbon of highway 94 winding its way toward Campo and beyond.

From the top of the peak, you can see various trails below, and for a longer hike, one could descend via the far end of the mountain and pick up one of the paths to make a loop back to the trailhead. Otherwise, retrace your steps across the summit and once again drop down the slope in a southeasterly direction, exercising caution as the footing is slippery in some places. Meet the road at 1.4 miles, turn left (northeast), pass through the gate, and reach the trailhead, gate, sign, and your vehicle at just under 2 miles.

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.

WATER FRONT

CHANGES FOR LINGCOD, SCULPIN AND ROCKFISH COMING MARCH 2019.

Dock Totals Dec 9 – Dec 15: 936 anglers aboard 63 half day to three day trips out of San Diego landings this past week caught 3 bluefin tuna, 1 yellowfin tuna, 21 skipjack tuna, 75 yellowtail, 14 bonito, 1 mako shark, 155 calico bass, 87 sand bass, 3,633 rockfish, 9 lingcod, 556 whitefish, 110 sheephead, 5 halibut, 112 sanddab, 21 bocaccio, 1 rubberlip seaperch, 1 smoothhound shark, 8 red rock crab and 97 spiny lobster (284 released).



CREDIT JASON COZ, DOLPHIN SPORTFISHING

Satisfied Dolphin customer with a 21.3 lb sheephead caught while fishing aboard the Dolphin

Saltwater: With the angler count rising for the fleet, seas settling after the last couple fronts, and a few tuna still hanging around, it's hard to believe we're in the middle of December. The yellowtail bite outside of the Coronado islands picked up from the week previous, and the "fork-tail" jacks are (yellowtail are "juel" in Spanish, and "hamachi" on the menu at your favorite sushi restaurant) biting better the further south one travels down the Baja coast. By the time you get to Bahia Asunción just past the Baja California and Baja California Sur state line, you'll find plenty of them in the 15- to 25-pound range, biting on the inshore grounds from San Pablo, to the north of San Roque, to Chorro's Camp just south of town.

Closer to home, bonito are an occasional catch on the surface while much of the fleet is focused on the

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A world-class wave at Sunset Cliffs

NAME: SAM

AGE: 36

FROM: OCEAN BEACH

LOCATION: OCEAN BEACH

I met up to chat with Sam at the Newport Avenue parking lot in Ocean Beach. OB is Sam's local spot, despite occasional crowds and "trolls." "I started surfing 18 years ago. I'm originally from Ventura County, so I started up there." Sam laughs, "I mostly learned by having people yell at me about what to do."

Today, Sam is surfing with a 6'8" board by Mini Mod Boardworks. "It's designed in San Diego but it is machine made. I didn't support local shapers on this one. I only have two boards because I'm not big on the quiver. I philosophize that you should have just two boards, one for shitty swell and one for good surf."

In addition to San Diego swell, Sam has surfed Costa Rica, Mexico, and Hawaii.



Sam- "If I don't surf for a few days, I'm cranky and irritable."

"I'd call those local, and out of all the places around the world, those are pretty docile. My favorite spot, though, is Sunset Cliffs. It's just a world-class wave, and it's so close."

"Surfing is my life. If I don't surf for a few days, I'm cranky and irritable. I don't even have to surf, just being in the ocean at

least once every few days. It's not a hobby—it's my life. I tell beginners that nothing compares to time in the water. You're gonna get a couple hits, but just spend as much time in the ocean as possible, every day, if you can."

— Evelyn Grimm

Struggling for trout while ponds dry to puddles

San Diego Trout is a consortium of outdoor enthusiasts, scientists, conservationists, and consultants who share the common goal of improving and maintaining San Diego's wild trout fisheries in as many as possible of the 58 historic trout or steelhead streams in San Diego County. On June 24, 1999, the organization performed several plants of trout in small waterways throughout the region, hoping to reintroduce lost populations and bolster other dwindling numbers in remote locations where trout were once plentiful.

The plants centered on Kitchen Creek, the San Luis Rey River, Pine Valley Creek, and Boulder Creek — the latter being the most difficult, as it entailed a half-mile hike with five-gallon buckets, modified with taped-on aerators while watching out for rattlesnakes. Approximately 450 rainbow trout were planted in Boulder Creek, just above and below a small pool — named the Mine Pool for its proximity to a 19th-



Rainbow trout numbers dwindling in remote locations where they were once plentiful.

century gold mine. Within fifteen minutes, the three-to-eight inch "sub-catchables" were feeding on insects, obviously taking to their new home.

In 2012, the San Diego River Park Foundation was contacted by a local group of fly fishing conservationists, San Diego

Fly Fishers, about a small population of rainbow trout barely hanging on in Boulder Creek near Descanso. There, in the upper San Diego River watershed, the small population of trout was threatened by drought, fire (and subsequent erosion), and a call for

continued on page 73

WATER CONDITIONS

Thursday-Saturday should be great for carvers, with a chest to overhead long-period swell out of the W/NW and semi-glassy conditions until about noon. By late Saturday, the seas will drop substantially through the rest of the weekend into Monday AM. Winds should remain light and variable through the week in the mornings with the breeze picking up to a moderate ten knots in the afternoons. Lobster season is open now, so boaters should especially keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark your area appropriately.

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

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **62**°F HIGH **64**°F

VISIBILITY **5'-20'**

HARBOR POLICE REPORT

Surfer with head injuries, overturned PWCs, and swimmers swimming out-of-bounds.

Oct 16

15:30 Medical: 911 call of surfer bleeding from head at the foot of Bird Rock Av. Lifeguards and Medics respond. 22 year-old male transported to Scripps La Jolla.

16:40 Boating: VHF call of overturned PWCs at Dana Landing, 3 victims in the water with PFDs, 2 PWCs overturned. Lifeguard rescue vessel and Dana Landing chase boat respond and helps victims back to dock.

Oct 15

12:51 Medical: Tower 19 Lifeguard reports a 44 year-old male with difficulty breathing at the foot of Santa Clara Place and Ocean Front Walk. Lifeguards, Fire, and Medics respond. Medics transport patient to Scripps La Jolla.

14:20 Medical: Medical distress call report of 78 year-old male, fall with back trauma at 3865 Ocean Front Walk. Lifeguards, Fire, and Medics respond. **14:30 Swimmer:** Report of two swimmers not in distress but swimming between Ski Beach and Fiesta Island. Lifeguards contact people in question and escort them to the beach.

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

Necks and Chicks

“That’s 144,000 chickens a year! All in this little place.”

Hey hey! Holiday season’s here and da geese are getting fat, but I’m here for chicken necks, my yuletide snack.

So good to be in TJ again. I know. Not the best timing. But it’s been so long, TJ’s still a breath of fresh air.

I’m climbing up the slope of Constitution Avenue. Entering the Red Zone. The bars are starting. The small hotels are starting. The women standing on corners are starting. Me, I’m looking for one place: KFB. Kentucky Fried Buches.

Buches? Chicken crop. The crop is the lower section of the neck. It holds food for digestion. But these *buches* ain’t that. We’re talking strictly necks here. “People like KFC just threw chicken

\$10 pesos.”

That’s it. Full order, at, say, 20 pesos to the dollar, is going to be \$3.50, half order \$2.50, sodas 75 cents, extra salsa, 50 cents.

Guy sitting at one of the tile-topped tables gnaws away at a neck.

“Rico?” I ask.

He nods, gives a thumb up, and chews his way around his *buche* like it’s a corn-on-the-cob. I ask Elizabeth for a “medio orden” and a Coke. Sixty-five pesos, \$3.25.

Elizabeth portions out six necks, still smokin’ and dripping from the deep-fry lard. She adds a great lake of the house salsa, and uncaps a bottle of Mexican Coke.

I chomp in. Yes, worried as to the “necky”



Johnny flips one of the 400 chickens they’ll cook today



Where you wanna be: at the counter

and toasty, even though it’s outside, because of the open fat baths frying chicken.

There’s just something about it. Full of life, smells, and noise. “Chiapas?” this woman is saying. “Chiapas is called Chiapas because Chia shrubs grow there.”

I sit down on the only spare stool. “Menu?” I say to Alfredo. “It’s all the same, my friend,” he says. “A chunk of whatever chicken part, 42 pesos, with or without beans and salad. And 15 for a Coke (\$2.10 plus 75 cents).”

So I ask for just a chunk of chicken. No fixin’s. He sends over a plate. Yum yum. Totally wicked. Steaming hot. Crunch, chew, guzzle, chew fat. Meantime Johnny’s never stopping. “Alfredo! Who had the thighs! *Frijoles!*”

“We do 400 chickens every day,” he says later.

“Wow,” I say. “That means, uh, 12,000 chickens a month, 144,000 chickens a year! All in this little place.”

He says it has been open 24/7 for 50 years. “Fifty years! How many chickens is that?”

D’agh. Quick calc. “Uh, five million, more. Folks sitting around here have gone through five million chickens since you opened.”

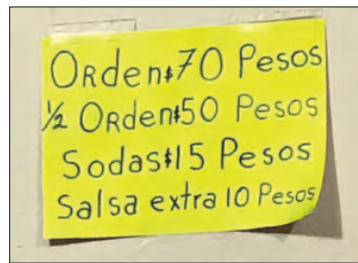
“A lot of chickens,” says Alfredo.

Up in Plaza Cecilia a little man with a big voice and big speakers launches into Jose Feliciano’s “Feliz Navidad.”

Guess the season ’tis upon us. Take it away, Jose!



Elizabeth



Menu’s simple: an order, or a half order



The serious part of these necks is the skin. Don’t try to chew too deep

necks away,” the owner told me last time, “until we came along.”

So looking, looking. Ladies of the night put a hand on your arm, until you ask them, “Kentucky Fried Buches?”

“Three doors up,” says this gal.

Aha. The herby deep-fried chicken smell comes first, then on the left, yes! A sign outside. “Desde 1963,” it says. “La tradición continua.”

It’s a relief, because someone was saying these guys had closed. But no, here it is, bright neon lighting, red and white vertical striped walls, bile green skirting, and one gal in a gray “Guess 92” hoodie, Elizabeth, manning the cash register.

“Orden \$70 Pesos, 1/2 orden, \$50 pesos,” says a hand-written sign. That’s pretty much the menu. It’s just a piece of bright green paper Scotch-taped to the wall. “Sodas, \$15 pesos; extra salsa,

taste. But the spices it has been peppered with for hours, Elizabeth says, do the job. Oh boy. Deep-fry lard, and beautifully crispy skin. It’s got umami. When you learn to kinda nibble off the skin and not go much deeper, you’ve found what you’ve come for. Plus, the salsa is all fresh-cut veggies. Herbal taste makes a difference.

Time I came before, the guy told me how much more of each animal Mexican chefs include in their repertoire. “Just using *cabeza*, *lengua* in tacos, and here making necks a delicacy. We couldn’t afford not to eat everything our animals had to offer. Chicken necks are very cheap. And prices we paid, we could sell real cheap.”

Elizabeth says all their necks are now from Mexican chickens.

I chomp in and watch the passing parade. A flower girl labors uphill with her bundle of flower

bouquets. A shoeshine man heads downhill with his box. The two ladies of the night stand like praetorian guards on either side of the entrance, shifting from one heel to the other. An old guy who obviously can’t afford their rates comes up and asks for a hug.

Even a half-plate of these *buches* is filling. And with beans, I could fill right out. Except I’m also thinking of another delicious joint, just up the road, at 1st Street, Calle Primera. I head over from Constitution. Ah. Almost next to a bar where mariachis store their instruments, I find the place I’m looking for, where the guys serve up everything chicken *but* chicken necks — for a song. “Miracle Chick.” *Pollo Milagroso*. The

place is open 24/7, and when I come past, its little on-street counter is packed.

I mean, you can hear these guys before you can smell their chicken frying. Alfredo and Johnny. Johnny’s the cook. Been here 15 years. “Two chicken breasts, salad!” he shouts. “Who ordered this?” He holds the plate over the splash screen to show the front counter customers.

By now it’s maybe six. Dark. Chilly. Night clubs and bars are cranking up. *Pollo Milagroso* is nice

The Place: Kentucky Fried Buches, 670 Avenida Constitución, Tijuana, 011.52.664.118-5766

Hours: 12pm – 12am, daily (till 1am Saturday); Wednesdays closed

Prices: Full order of chicken necks, 70 pesos (say, \$3.50); 1/2 order, 50 pesos (\$2.50)

The Place: Pollo Milagroso, 8150 Calle Primera (1st Street), Tijuana, 011.52.664.557-0372

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Cinnamon and sugar

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An almost everything-free bakery

Starry Lane Bakery, 3925 Fourth Ave, Hillcrest. A sign near the door of this bakery promises all goods are free of gluten, soy, dairy, eggs, tree nuts, and peanuts. *What's left?* I'm forced to wonder.

Starry Lane Bakery originally opened out in Santee, developing a reputation for gluten free plus pastries, cookies, and breads, par-

It's still not very big. I barely noticed its blue and white striped awning, a couple storefronts north of University. But the added kitchen space allows the place to bake more items daily, including pies, cakes, and holiday candy. There were dozens of sweets on display within its glass counters, and while browsing I could only marvel that the gorgeous torts, cookies, and cupcakes within contained neither butter nor wheat.

In fact, Starry Lane is a strict allergen-free zone. In addition to the aforementioned, the bakery and its ingredients are 100-percent free and clear of all the country's top ten food allergens. While it typically

FEAST!

goes without saying that baked goods remain free of fish or shellfish, these also remain free of recent additions to the allergen ranks, mustard and sesame. So dedicated are the owners to the sanctity of their space, they prohibit all outside food and drink, lest there be unintended crumbs, spills, or misunderstandings.

Zeroing in on a tray of cinnamon rolls (\$5.50), I discovered at least two ingredients the bakery is not afraid to use: cinnamon and sugar. A thick, surgery



A stack of gluten-, egg-, nut-, and dairy-free cinnamon rolls.

ticularly pretzel rolls. A couple years back it responded to rising demand by moving to this larger operation in Hillcrest.

cinnamon rolls (\$5.50), I discovered at least two ingredients the bakery is not afraid to use: cinnamon and sugar. A thick, surgery



These allergen-free cupcakes taste great despite ingredient limitations.

glaze atop the rolls make them powerfully sweet. While I missed the earthy, nutty taste of wheat to balance it out, I was pleased to discover that the best part of a cinnamon roll, its moist center ring, proved every bit as gooey and doughy as I'd hoped.

Even better was a large, chocolate chunk cookie (\$2.50). It had a touch more chew than crumble, and tasted of oats, but otherwise I would not consider it much different from the products of a conventional bakery. Starry Lane's web site notes it (currently) uses processed sugar, which some vegans apparently disavow because it's filtered with animal bone char. I'd say that fact alone keeps these from being the best vegan cookies I've ever eaten.

Also not bad: the cupcakes (\$4.50). Again, the icing proved very sweet (I recommend eating all of the above with coffee or whatever milk/milk substitute you might keep at home). However, the cake was moist, with a decent bit of crumble. I opted for a s'mores cupcake, topped by a marshmallow, itself quite an allergen free accomplishment.

I've certainly had better cake in my life, but then I'm luckily not averse to gluten, eggs, or dairy. Were I determined for any reason to avoid such things, I'm not sure I could do much better than Starry Lane.

by Ian Anderson

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Calendar RESTAURANT

Solace for breakfast

Urban Solace, 3823 30th Street, North Park. Credit Urban Solace as a building block to the lifestyle destination North Park has become. The neighborhood didn't yet have that national press cachet when Solace rode a rising comfort food trend into what's now considered a restaurant row along 30th Street. Its Bourbon Street façade, meat-loaf, and Sunday bluegrass brunch have been staples of North Park culture. However, a dozen years later, a flood of craft beer, noodles, pizza, and scooters have changed the landscape, and Urban Solace is apparently changing right back.

Don't worry, the brunch isn't going anywhere. In fact, the first change came about last month as the eatery took



Pork belly, spinach, and poached egg, drenched in ancho chili hollandaise, over a cheddar and chive biscuit.

up weekday breakfast service. Actually, it's a combined breakfast and lunch service, the same all encompassing menu running 8 am til 2 pm. That means you can order a pecan sicky bun at noon, or Solace's vaunted burger at 9 am.

Personally, I am rather impressed how comprehensive the morning cocktail list turned out. In addition to mimosa and bloody standbys, the "leaded libations," menu includes a cold brew black Russian with vanilla and sea salt, and a fernet-based

sarsaparilla fizz.

Looking back at the past ten years, I realize I've long viewed Urban Solace as a breakfast spot, having brunch here far more often than I've taken dinner. Even that's fallen off, as weekend brunch dining has



Skillet cooked pecan sticky bun topped with whipped cream cheese.

become the crowded domain of people who say stuff like, "Sunday Funday." I can make fun of that, because I'm not a 9 to 5er, so may to go out to a breakfast spot on Monday and get the same food without the 40-minute wait.

Thanks to the gig economy, there are far more people like me out there, and we're among those who benefit most from this change in hours. Are there enough of us who want shrimp and grits (\$14.50) on a Wednesday morning, or orange mas-



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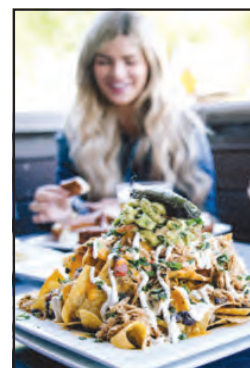


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Calendar RESTAURANT

carpene French toast (\$13.50)?

There's definitely some creative breakfast work on the new menu, such as gluten free buckwheat-zucchini-banana pancakes. But plenty of tried and true Solace brunch items remain, with or without embellishment. The kitchen sink biscuits and gravy (\$15.50), still delivers eggs, brown sugar bacon, and Nimman sausage, over cheddar chive biscuits. Instead of beef cheek hash, a rotating seasonal hash switches up proteins (and price). It could be chicken and mushroom hash, or who knows?

Most of the benedicts have been replaced with scrambles, but the one holdover suited me just fine: the Pork Belly Benny (\$15.50), served on biscuits with spinach and ancho chili hollandaise. Since I'm not a fan of sugary bacon, this ten-

der slab of fatty pork gets my breakfast attention here, and doesn't disappoint.

The real question about weekday breakfast is whether a generation of weekday morning brunchers will be as willing to spend so readily as the Sunday crowd. Breakfast, coffee, and tip took me into the \$20-plus range, and a taste for that \$5.50 pecan sticky bun took it higher. It's tough to see adding a ten- or twelve-dollar cocktail, on like a Tuesday, being in the stars.

But prices like this aren't going anywhere. That's something else that's changed in North Park over the years: economic reality. Urban Solace has to respond to that as well, as do all its restaurant row neighbors. Owner and chef Matt Gordon promises a new dinner menu in the new year, so if you'd like to wax nostalgic about the Urban Solace of old, get in for dinner in December.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK

Breakfast with Santa Every Morning during the week of Holiday Nights, meet with Santa in a relaxing covered outdoor venue at the winery. Enjoy a morning of entertainment for children, including a visit with Santa, a delicious hot breakfast, special up-close encounters with Wild Wonders animal friends, face-painting, cookie and ornament making and more. Mom and dad, sit back and enjoy mimosas while the kiddos enjoy all of the entertainment and Santa himself. Limited seating, must purchase tickets online in advance. Thursday, December 20, 9:30am; Friday, December 21, 9:30am; Saturday, December 22, 9:30am; \$12-\$44. Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo del Verano Norte. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Brunch With Santa Kids of all ages can visit with Santa at Decoy during brunch. \$49 for adults with champagne and \$19 for kids under 12. Reservations Strongly Recommended Sunday, December 23, 9am; \$19-\$49. Decoy Dockside Dining, 1035 La Bonita Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Christmas Brunch Celebrate Christmas Day at the Bahia's holiday brunch buffet. Enjoy views of Mission Bay from the Bahia's ballroom while feasting on holiday flavors, including carving stations, main courses, sides, salads and desserts. Additional features include a children's buffet, a visit from Santa and his sleigh and live piano entertainment throughout the afternoon. * No sternwheeler cruises due to low tides. Tuesday, December 25, 11am; \$25-\$54. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Christmas Buffet This Christmas, Marina Kitchen invites you to forgo the stress of preparing a holiday feast at home and to celebrate at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina. Executive Chef Aron Schwartz creates a contemporary buffet menu inspired by American holiday favorites with a modern twist on classic Christmas staples. Celebrated as one of the largest buyers of locally sourced ingredients, Executive Chef Aron Schwartz has crafted a Christmas menu featuring organic and sustainable produce and meats. Highlights include a selection of appetizers prepared with items found at local farmer's markets. Monday, December 24,

1:30pm; \$14-\$42. San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina, 333 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Champagne Brunch Indulge in festive fare on Christmas Day with the Catamaran Resort Hotel and Spa's holiday buffet. Take in breathtaking views of Mission Bay from the second-floor ballroom while enjoying holiday flavors, including scrumptious carving stations, main courses, sides, salads and desserts. A children's buffet ensures little ones have plenty to feast on, and live entertainment will be provided throughout the afternoon by the jolly Dickens-style Christmas Carolers. * No sternwheeler cruises due to low tides. Tuesday, December 25, 11am; \$25-\$60. Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Christmas Day 3-Course Dinner Visit us on Tuesday, December 25 for a festive 3-course dinner for \$62/person at George's California Modern. Enjoy a variety of starters, entrees and desserts including crispy sweetbreads, black garlic garganelli pasta, local yellowtail, red wine braised beef cheeks and more. As always, vegetarian and vegan options happily prepared

upon request. Level2 and Ocean Terrace will also be open for Christmas serving regular menus. Tuesday, December 25, 3pm; George's California Modern, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Christmas Day 3-Course Prix Fixe Menu This Christmas Day, gather your family and friends to indulge in Sevilla's special holiday menus, live entertainment and festive decor. Join us on Christmas Day for a special 3-Course Prix Fixe Christmas Menu (dinner menu is also available). We will also be featuring live Gypsy King Style music by Joef from 7-10pm on Christmas Day. Tuesday, December 25, 11am; \$10-\$50. Cafe Sevilla Tapas Bar, 353 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Day Brunch The Abbey is Hornblower's on-land venue; it offers a rare, refined uptown option for Christmas. Originally constructed as an Episcopal church, this elegant 1910 landmark is San Diego's only remaining Classic Revival structure. Experience a spectacular holiday buffet complete with all the holiday trimmings at the Abbey. Enjoy an elaborate seasonal brunch buffet, decadent desserts, holiday carolers and background holiday music. Best



Buy One Entree Get One Half-Off

With the purchase of two drinks. M-F 4-9pm. 1 coupon per visit. Not valid with any other coupon. Not valid on holidays. Expires 12/31/18.



2271 1st Ave
San Diego, 92101
(619) 239-8176



2 for 1 Dinner Entree

With the purchase of 2 drinks
Dine in Only
Must be of equal or lesser value (\$16 maximum)
Cannot be combined with any other offer
One per person & table
Expires 1/1/19



623 Pearl Street, La Jolla, CA 92037
858-454-7597
lajollachinachefs.com



Buy One, Get One Complimentary Breakfast Item

w/purchase of two drinks.
Monday-Saturday before 3pm.
Downtown only.



Not to be combined with any other offer or promotion. Some exclusions may apply. Not valid on Holidays or Special Events.



3 Rolled Taco Plate for \$6

3 Rolled Chicken Tacos Plate with side of rice & beans. Must mention ad.



Famoso Mexican
Street Food

815 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101



Half-off apps, beers, & bowling

Enjoy half-off select appetizers, select draft beers, and walk-in bowling every Wednesday at Tavern+Bowl.



930 Market Street, San Diego, 92101



Buy one, get one free

Buy any sandwich or burrito, get one free.



Café by the Bay

3510 Ingraham St.
San Diego, 92109



Buy One Entrée, Get One Free!

Enjoy a free entrée with the purchase of an entrée of equal or greater value and 2 beverages, when you present this coupon.



3900 5th Ave • Hillcrest
(619) 220-8828



Free Fro-Yo!

Buy One Frozen Yogurt,
Get One of Equal or Lesser Value Free.
Must Bring In Ad - Limit 1 Per Person.
Not valid with any other offer.
No stamp card privileges. Max. \$5 value.



619-220-4999 • 3026 University Ave
San Diego, CA 92104

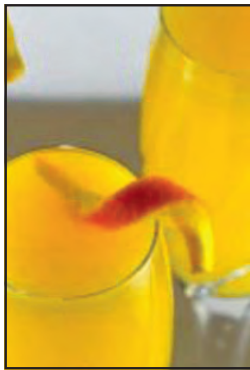


1/2 Off Any Pasta Entrée

Buy any pasta entrée at regular menu price and receive 1/2 off the second entrée of equal or lesser value. (Excludes pizzas and not valid with any other discounts) Expires 1/1/19.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-743-2371



2 for 1 Mimosa at Brunch

2 for 1 mimosa with entrée order and promo code: reader



One Door North
3422 30th Street • San Diego



Buy One Sandwich, Get One 1/2 Off

Over 70 sandwiches to choose from! One discount per person, per ticket. Must mention ad.
Tues-Sat, 11:30-4:30, thru 1/30/19 only!



Classic Rock Sandwich Shoppe
3042 North Park Way, San Diego, 92104
sandwichessandiego.com



Free Pasta!

Enjoy a free dish of pasta and your choice of sauce when you purchase any entrée at regular price.

1 coupon per person. Must be presented in order to receive discount. This coupon is not valid for cash back, can only be used once, does not cover tax or gratuities. Cannot be combined with other offers. Dine in only. Expires 12/31/18.



6011 El Cajon Blvd A
San Diego, CA 92115
619.265.2700 • pestoitalianrestaurantsandiego.com



Buy 1 Burrito, Get the 2nd for \$2 Limit 1 per person



3130 University Ave
(619) 333-9097

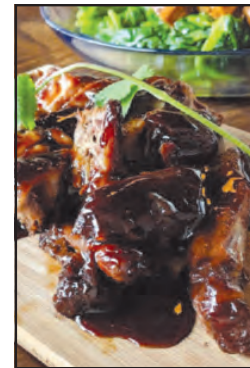


Buy one meal, get one free

Buy one main meal, get one FREE. Choose from Quality Hot Dishes, Authentic Noodle Soup/Ramen, or Traditional Malatang Hot Pots. Please provide this coupon to receive your discount.



Mada-Sao Hot Pots
4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



Free shareable appetizer!

Get 1 FREE appetizer with purchase of any 2 meals. Appetizers include: Mada-Sao BBQ Duck, Shanghai Smoked Fish, Sweet & Sour Spare BBQ Ribs, Marinated Bran Dough, or BBQ Cuttlefish.



Mada-Sao Hot Pots
4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



1/2 off a 1 topping pizza

Buy any regular priced pizza and receive a second 1 topping pizza for half-off. Expires 1/1/19.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-743-2371



Free Crepe

Buy one crepe, get one crepe free of equal or lesser value. Valid after 3pm only. Expires 1/1/19.

refill

3752 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92103



Buy 1 BBQ Entree Get 1/2 Off

When you have an insatiable hankering for rich, sizzling barbecue meats and all the homestyle sides that go along with it, look no further than Corbin's Q to satisfy your craving. Ask about catering!



6548 El Cajon Blvd. San Diego, CA 92115
(619) 913-3287 • www.corbinsq.com



Buy one entrée and a drink, get one entrée free!

Of Equal or Lesser Value, must bring in ad. Valid at North Park location only. Offer expires 12/31/18.



2888 University Ave • San Diego, CA
619-298-2400



Free Fro-Yo!

Buy One Frozen Yogurt Get One of Equal or Lesser Value Free. Must Bring In Ad - Limit 1 Per Person Not valid with any other offer. No stamp card privileges. Max. \$5 value



619-450-5847 • 10450 Friars Rd.
San Diego, CA 92190



Buy 1 Chicken Pie, Gravy & a roll, get the 1 Chicken Pie Half Off

Buy 1 Chicken Pie combo (includes gravy & roll) for \$5.99, get a 2nd chicken pie half 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



Miso Soup - Buy One, Get One Free!

Dine-in only. Not valid with events or holidays.



8350 La Mesa Blvd. La Mesa, CA 91942
619-466-6446
konnichiwa-sushi.com



Buy a Taco Get a Free Quesadilla!

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove
Limit 1 per person.



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



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

2447 Fletcher Pkwy.
El Cajon, 92020 • 619-469-8410
Delivery Uber & GrubHub

Calendar RESTAURANT

of all, we will do all the cooking and cleaning so you can relax with your family and friends. Tuesday, December 25, 11:30am; \$59. Abbey, 2825 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Christmas Day Dining The Westgate Hotel has two dining options to appease everybody's appetite this Christmas Day. Gather with friends and family to enjoy a four-course prix fixe menu prepared by The Westgate Hotel's Executive Chef Fabrice Hardel on December 25 from 11am to 9pm in the elegant Westgate Room. The pricing is \$69 per person plus tax and gratuity. Children's menus will be available. Indulge in the Westgate's award-winning buffet in the beautiful Le Fontainebleau Room from 11am to 6pm The price is \$89 for adults, \$40 for children ages 4-12, and complimentary for children 3 and under, tax and gratuity not included. Guests may purchase bottomless house wine and champagne for an additional \$20. Tuesday, December 25, 11am; \$40-\$89. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Day Dinner Let JRDN do the cooking this Christmas with a festive holiday meal! Celebrate with friends and family on Christmas Day with a three-course festive dinner prepared by Eat Drink Sleep Executive Chef David Warner. Reservations are recommended but not required. Tuesday, December 25, 12pm; \$25-\$60. JRDN, 723 Felspar Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Christmas Dining The holidays come but once a year — in three and seven courses, à la carte, or a bountiful buffet. Savor every moment this Christmas Eve and Day with exquisite seasonal cuisine at our award-winning restaurants: Five-Star/Five Diamond Addison, refined Amaya or relaxed The Clubhouse Grill. Monday, December 24, 4pm; Tuesday, December 25, 12pm; \$68-\$500. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Christmas Dinner Christmas Eve, December 24: Three course menu Includes complimentary movie ticket. Adults \$40, kids \$15. Christmas Day, December 25: Brunch Buffet from 9 AM to 4 PM Adults \$35, kids \$15 Three course menu. December 24 from 2:00 - 10 PM Includes complimentary movie

ticket. Adults \$40, kids \$15. Monday, December 24, 2pm; \$15-\$40. LOT: Liberty Station, 2620 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Christmas Dinner This Christmas, Marina Kitchen invites you to forgo the stress of preparing a holiday feast at home and to celebrate at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina. Executive Chef Aron Schwartz creates a three course menu inspired by American holiday favorites with a modern twist on classic Christmas staples. Celebrated as one of the largest buyers of locally sourced ingredients, Executive Chef Aron Schwartz has crafted a Christmas menu featuring organic and sustainable produce and meats. Highlights include a selection of appetizers prepared with items found at local farmer's markets, a main course of prime rib, Maine lobster, or local vegetables, and mouthwatering desserts. Monday, December 24, 5pm; \$14-\$40. San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina, 333 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Dinner Whether you're headed to area festivities, family events, or your ocean-view room for a quiet evening in, holi-

day dining at Chandler's makes everyone's holiday more merry and bright. Tuesday, December 25, 1pm; \$24-\$76. Chandler's, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

Christmas Dinner Christmas Eve, December 24: Three course menu Includes complimentary movie ticket. Adults \$40, kids \$15. Christmas Day, December 25: Brunch Buffet from 9 AM to 4 PM Adults \$35, kids \$15 Three course menu. December 24 from 2:00 - 10 PM Includes complimentary movie ticket. Adults \$40, kids \$15. Tuesday, December 25, 9am; \$15-\$40. LOT: Liberty Station, 2620 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Christmas Eve 3-Course Prix Fixe Menu This Christmas Eve, gather your family and friends to indulge in Sevilla's special holiday menus, live entertainment and festive decor. Join us on Christmas Eve for a special 3-Course Prix Fixe Christmas Menu (dinner menu is also available). We will also be featuring live flamenco guitar music by Oscar Aragon's Trio from 7-10pm. Monday, December 24, 11am; \$10-\$50. Cafe Sevilla Tapas Bar, 353 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Eve Dining Gather with friends and family to enjoy a four-course prix fixe menu prepared by The Westgate Hotel's Executive Chef Fabrice Hardel in the elegant Westgate Room. The price is \$69 per person plus tax and gratuity. Children's menus will be available. Monday, December 24, 5pm; \$69. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Christmas Eve Dinner Celebrate with friends and family on Christmas Eve with all of your JRDN favorites plus the addition of a special prime rib dinner. Reservations are recommended but not required. Monday, December 24, 5pm; \$28-\$36. JRDN, 723 Felspar Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Christmas Eve Dinner Whether you're headed to area festivities, family events, or your ocean-view room for a quiet evening in, holiday dining at Chandler's makes everyone's holiday more merry and bright. Monday, December 24, 4pm; \$24-\$76. Chandler's, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

Christmas Eve Dinner Traditional Christmas Dinner (turkey or brisket) complete with all the fixins. No-Cover entertainment

from 7-10pm. Cost depends upon menu. Monday, December 24, 4pm; **free**. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

Holiday Tea Spend an afternoon amidst the timeless glamour, sipping loose leaf teas, toasting with a welcome glass of champagne, and savoring Chef's selection of sweet and savory treats. Saturday, December 22, 12pm; \$35-\$59. U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Share Christmas Day All are invited to share a community Christmas Dinner potluck at 1:00pm after an interactive sing-along Christmas ceremony from 12:00pm - 12:45 PM. The community is invited including families, couples, youth, singles, and seniors. Please bring a little extra food so that those who cannot bring a dish can enjoy a Christmas feast. If you cannot bring a dish, please bring yourself. Volunteers are needed for the feast. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Melissa at mspiegler@gmail.com. Tuesday, December 25, 12pm; **free**. Seaside Center for Spiritual Living, 1613 Lake Drive. (ENCINITAS)



Free Gyro Salad

With purchase of 14" one topping pizza. We serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner!

Gus's Subs & Pizza

5620 Baltimore Drive
La Mesa, 91942
619-462-4877



1/4 lb. Specialty Hot Dog, Buy One, Get One FREE

Not valid events or holidays. Dine-in only

Centifonti's
Bar & Restaurant

8365 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 91942
619-461-4434 • centifontis.com



Appetizers 1/2 off

1/2 Off An Appetizer between 4 pm and 7 pm when two or more beers are purchased. Dine-in only, one coupon per table, per visit, not valid with any other offer, no cash value. Expires 2/28/19.



248 3rd Ave. • Chula Vista, 91910
619-623-3553



1/2 off lunch buffet

Buy one lunch buffet and get the second lunch buffet at 1/2 price! Buffet is Tue. Wed. & Thurs. from 11 am to 2 pm. Not valid with any other offer, dine-in only, no cash value. Expires 2/28/19.



248 3rd Ave. • Chula Vista, 91910
616-623-3553



Buy a Taco Get a Free Quesadilla!

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove
Limit 1 per person.



IB STREET TACOS
805 Seacoast Dr • Imperial Beach, CA 91932
(619) 621-5814
www.imperialbeachstreettacos.com



Buy 1 Entrée Get 1 Free!

Breakfast, Lunch, or Dinner. Limit 1 Per Customer. We have NFL Sunday Ticket!



4076 Bonita Rd
Bonita, CA



2 x 1 Pepperoni Pizza

Show this ad and get two pizzas for the price of one.



tj.cinetonala.mx
Valid only in December



Tuesday 2 x 1 Fries

Buy any type of fries, receive another free! Every Tuesday at El Local!



Find us inside Plaza Fiesta
Facebook.com/ElLocalTJ



GET YOUR 2PACK

All of December (M-F) enjoy vegan burgers, salads, tacos, or pitas 2 x 1 (\$8) only at Veggie Smalls in Tijuana.



Bldv. Sánchez Taboada 10650
(Inside Food Garden)

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

ALLIED GARDENS

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

ALPINE

Viejas Casino: Monday-Friday, 10am-1pm: \$3 mimosa, \$4 screwdriver, \$5 bloody mary. 4-7pm: \$3 domestic draft, \$4 house wine and house cocktail.

BALBOA PARK

The Prado Restaurant: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5.50 local draft beer, Prado wells, house margarita, lounge chardonnay, cabernet, strawberry margarita, sauvignon blanc, Spanish blend wine, Prado mule. \$4-\$8 appetizers, \$9.95 desserts.

BANKERS HILL

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

Bankers Hill Bar + Restaurant: Daily, 4:30-6pm: \$6 select draft beer, house sparkling wine, sangria of the day, \$7 wine by the glass, cocktail of the day. Appetizers \$4 (taco of the day) to \$6.50 (truffled French fried and truffle aioli).

Bertrand at Mister A's: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 2:30-6pm: \$5 draft beers, \$5.50 craft beers, \$6 sangrias. Served at bar or patio only.

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.

BAY PARK

Bay Park Fish Company: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beer, 20% off all appetizers and basic sushi rolls.

CARLSBAD

Argyle Steakhouse/Golf Club-house: Daily, 3-6pm: \$6 drafts; \$8 house wine, well drinks. \$2 off bar bites.

Barrio Eat Mexican: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$5 draft beer, house margaritas, wells, \$2 off house wine. \$2 off appetizers.

The Land and Water Company: Daily, 3-5:30: \$2.00 off all drinks, \$5.00 craft cocktails.

CARMEL VALLEY

Arterra: Daily, 3-7pm: \$6 house wines, wells, Pivo pilsners, \$7 margarita, \$8 vodka. Appetizers \$6-\$9, \$2 off all sushi rolls after 5pm.

Davanti Enoteca: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 draft beers and wines, \$6 well cocktails and Davanti Spritz, \$7 sangria and martinis. Appetizers \$5-\$8.

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.

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Beer's still cheap in La Jolla

I hit Rock Bottom on a Wednesday night — the one that's been succeeding at the brewpub thing on La Jolla Village Drive for 20 years this year. The official name is **Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery** (8980 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla), part of a 30-restaurant chain that's owned by the same restaurant group as another familiar beermaking chain, **Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant**.

It's probably just happenstance that the word "restaurant" comes first at Rock Bottom, but as I approach the bar, it seems to more accurately describe the scene. Though the menu features illustrations depicting each step the brewing process, and several fermenting tanks are

visible through windows at the back of the bar, the crowd filling its adjacent dining rooms don't strike me as serious beer drinkers, the kind who keep up with the comings and goings of brewers and special beer releases.

These are UC students and staff, Sorrento Valley tech workers, sports fans, and a large crew here for trivia night. They're as likely to order cocktails as house beer. While I'm examining the beer list, a couple of guys approach the bar to order for their incoming friends. "Four pilsners," requests one.

My eyes scan the menu again: there's no pilsner. But the bartender doesn't blink, and fills four pints of the house blonde, called San Diego Sunset. Next come a couple of young women. "I like stouts," says one, and the bartender offers a splash of Ghost on the Boardwalk, the dry Irish stout on the board, served on nitro. "Mmm, great," she says, and they walk away with pints.

Fifteen years ago, my first beers at this spot were ordered in much the same way, and I don't recall them so much as I do the blur that followed the fourth round.

But whether or not the crowd is generally important questions about these brews, and fear

they won't be answered. No problem, though, my bartender kindly pauses in the middle of a busy shift to share what she knows and pour me a flight. Six four-ounce pours for \$6.50.

There's the benefit of a brewpub. This isn't



Six tasters for \$6.50, but at these prices, might as well order seven or eight.

a small industrial park brewery struggling to survive on slim margins; it's a busy restaurant with exceptional beer prices.

The flight includes the first five beers on the board: a wheat beer, red ale, and Mosaic IPA, in addition to the blonde and stout. It's a smart board for a restaurant. It can satisfy just about every casual beer drinker's taste.

But whether or not the crowd is generally curious about beer doesn't matter to the brewer,

who has peppered the menu with interesting options for beer nerds. For one, there's a hazy IPA — enough said. There's also a Chinook SMASH IPA, meaning Chinook is the only hop used, so drinking it lets you delve deep into the classic varietal known for its piney flavor.

My favorite: that blonde is being served on cask, Sterling dry-hopped. Rock Bottom offers two cask ales, which is two more than most breweries do on a weekday. Cask beer is unfiltered and unpasteurized, and their only carbonation comes from live yeast that continue to ferment within the cask. As a result, they are a little flatter and warmer than standard draught beer, but fresh and flavorful, even compared to the same beer served conventionally. Here, the hop oil's enriching the blonde's slightly sweet malts with added fruit and spice.

You don't need to be a beer enthusiast to dig what they're brewing at Rock Bottom, but if you ask the right questions, you may still drink like one.

For more breaking craft beer news, follow San Diego Beer

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CORONADO

Bistro d'Asia: Daily, 3-6pm: \$3.75 domestic bottled beer, \$3.95 Kirin Ichiban draft, \$4.95 well drinks, \$5.50 Gekkeikan sake, La Terre chardonnay and cabernet. \$5.50 California roll, \$6.50 spicy tuna roll, \$6.95 crispy calamari, \$7.50 crab and cheese won tons.

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

Saiko Sushi: Daily, 4:30-6pm: \$4 draft beer, \$5 sake, cocktails, wines, \$7 specialty cocktails, \$12 Sapporo pitcher. Appetizers \$2.50 to \$8.50.

DEL MAR

Jake's Del Mar Waterfront Grill: Monday, 3pm-close: \$2 off starters, sea drinks, drafts, local favorites. \$6 wines by the glass. Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off starters, sea drinks, drafts, local favorites. \$6 wines by the glass.

Ocean View Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6pm: \$4 Bud Light, Budweiser, Coors Light, \$5 draft Stella Artois, \$6 house wine and wells, \$7 specialty cocktails.

Poseidon: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$5 draft beer and mixed well drink, \$6 glass of house wine. \$9 appetizers and half-pound Pojo burger.

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.

Analogue: 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, \$1 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.

Gaslamp Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$4 wells and select drafts. \$2 off wine and specialty cocktails.

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.

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

garita, select 23 oz. draft beers, \$4-\$6 appetizers

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

Lou and Mickey's: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4.50 select 16 oz. beer, \$7.50 select wines, \$8.50 select cocktails, appetizers \$2-\$9.

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.

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.

Puesto at The Headquarters: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$9 margaritas. \$4 tacos. Tuesday,

3-5pm: Modelo Especial cans \$3.50, \$9 margaritas. \$3 tacos.

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

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

Salvatore's Cucina Italiana: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$6 select beer, wine, and cocktail singles (\$10 cocktail doubles). Appetizers \$7 to \$13.

The Shout House: Monday, \$5 Shock Top drafts, Jameson, Fireball. Tuesday, \$4 Karl Strauss bottles, \$5 Smirnoff drinks, \$6 Captain Morgan. Wednesday, \$3 domestic bottled beer, \$6 wings. Thursday, \$3 Coors Light, \$5 Red Bull bomb shots, \$14 Miller High Life buckets (5 beers per bucket). Friday-Saturday, \$15 Hurricanes with

\$12 refills (you keep the glass), \$8 Big Ass beer with \$6 refills (you keep the cup). Sunday, \$4 Pacifico, shot special, \$5 well drinks.

Tin Roof San Diego: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: Half off all drinks and select appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-2pm: Bottomless mimosas and \$5 bloody mary.

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.

The Whiskey House: Daily, 4-7pm: \$4 house wines, \$4 Staropramen or 16 oz PBR beer, \$5 Moscow mule or whiskey sour, add a shot of house whiskey to any beer for \$1. Appetizers 50 cents to \$6.

San Diego's Premier Blues Club & The Best Southern Restaurant

PROUD MARY'S SOUTHERN BAR & GRILL Jazz 883

Blues Jam Every Wednesday

Tomcat Courtney every Thurs 7pm

Friday, Dec 21st - Bayou Brothers

Saturday, Dec 22nd - Sue Palmer

Friday, Dec 28th - Chris Fast Band

Saturday, Dec 29th - Michele Lundeen

HAPPY HOUR DAILY 4-6pm
Drink Specials Sun-Tue all night

Come for the Chicken, Stay for the Blues

5550 Kearny Mesa Rd 163 & Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
Historical Ramada (858) 278-0800 -Proudmaryssd.com

HAPPY HOUR

EAST VILLAGE

Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half-off all well spirits, signature cocktails, house wine, drafts, and small bites.

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

East Village Tavern and Bowl: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$4 domestic pints, wells, \$5 premium pints, margaritas, house wines, half off ballpark pretzel and select appetizers. Sunday, 10pm-close: \$4 domestic pints, wells, \$5 premium pints, margaritas, house wines, 1/2 off select appetizers.

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

Half Door Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 house beer, well wine, well cocktails, \$7 specialty cocktails. \$5 fried goat cheese, truffle fries, mac & cheese, \$6 pretzel bites, \$7 ahi tuna taco, \$9 sausage flatbread.

Lotus Thai: Monday, 11am-close: \$3 drafts, \$5 select appetizers. Tuesday-Friday, 11am-3pm; 5pm-7pm: \$3 drafts, \$5 select appetizers. Saturday, 5-7pm: \$3 drafts, \$5 select appetizers. Sunday, 3pm-7pm: \$5 select appetizers.

Monkey Paw: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off wine, \$2 off Monkey Paw drafts and appetizers.

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.

EASTLAKE

The Cheesecake Factory Eastlake: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3.25 select 16 ounce beers, \$5.95 select signature cocktails, well drinks, and wines by the glass. \$5.95 appetizers.

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, 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.

ENCINITAS

Bier Garden Encinitas: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 off craft beer, libations, house wine. \$2 off select smalls. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-2pm: \$2 off Bloody Marys until noon, \$15 champagne bottles. \$10 to \$18 brunch menu.

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: Tuesday-Thursday, 5-6pm: 40% off beer, sake (hot and cold) excluding Kubota Hekiju, Kabota Hekiju, and XL bottles, \$2 off glasses of wine, \$5 off bottles of wine. 40% off appetizers and sushi rolls.

Encinitas Ale House: Monday, 4-6pm: \$2 off premium drafts and select wine, half price all appetizers. Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off premium drafts and select wine, half price all appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 11am-3pm: \$15 endless mimosa with brunch purchase.

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

Roxy Encinitas: Monday, All day: \$4.50 drafts, \$5 wells, \$7 house wine, \$2 off small plates and craft cocktails. Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4.50 drafts, \$5 wells, \$7 house wine, \$2 off small plates and craft cocktails.

ESCONDIDO

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

Vintana Wine + Dine: Daily, 4-6pm: \$8 martinis and appetizers.

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

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.

HARBOR ISLAND

The Boathouse: Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$4 house margarita, \$5 Cuervo Gold margarita, Karl Strauss beer, sangria, \$6 Cuban mojito, watermelon vodka lemonade. \$4 chips and salsa, \$6 nachos, shrimp cocktails, jalapeno poppers, quesadilla, \$7 spicy wings, chicken strips with fries, ceviche, pulled pork sliders, \$9 carnitas, fish tacos.

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

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

HILLCREST

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.

FruitCraft Fermentery & Distillery: Daily, Members (\$29 monthly): All day \$5 glass of wine, glass select fermented drinks, \$8 cocktails. 10 percent off menu items.

Hachi Ramen: Daily, 3-6pm: \$3 Sapporo, \$4 hot sake, \$5 wine or daily cocktail special. Deals on bites like teriyaki pork buns and chicken & shiitake, as well as \$3 edamame, \$4 dumplings.

Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage: Monday, 4-close: \$5 beer, \$6 wine, \$8 cocktails, \$10 8-oz martini. Appetizers \$6-\$13. Tuesday-Sunday, 4-7pm: \$5 beer, \$6 wine, \$8 cocktails, \$10 8-oz martini. Appetizers \$6-\$13.

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

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

Trust: Monday-Thursday, 5-7pm: \$6 wines and beers, \$7 cocktails. \$2 off bar bites. Friday, 4-7pm: \$6 wines and beers, \$7 cocktails. \$2 off bar bites.

IMPERIAL BEACH

SEA180 Coastal Tavern: Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$6 beers, sangria, margaritas, cosmos, mai tai, and wines by the glass. Appetizers \$6-\$10.

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

94th Aero Squadron: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.75 house wine by the glass, draft beer, \$3.25 domestic

beer bottles, \$3.50 margaritas, \$9 draft pitchers.

Crab Hut Kearny Mesa: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$4 draft beers (\$15 pitchers), \$7 house wine, house cocktail, and sangria. 75 cent wines (6 minimum), \$1.50 oysters (5 minimum), \$4 crab poppers.

Ichiro's Happy Japanese Restaurant: Daily, 5-6:30pm: \$3.50 drinks and appetizers.

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.

KENSINGTON

Bleu Bohème: Daily, 5-6pm: Half off wines, Champagne cocktails, martinis, beers, well drinks. \$11.95 moules frites and petit plats.

Kensington Café: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$1 off house wine, \$2 off all beer and wine. \$2 off small plates.

Ponce's Mexican Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4 beers, \$5 house margaritas. Saturday, 10am-4pm: \$5 bloody Mary or Maria.

Village Vino: Tuesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: \$1 off all beers, \$2 off all wine by the glass, small bites, and tapas.

LA JOLLA

Bella Vista Social Club and Caffè: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 house wine, \$6 craft beer drafts.

Café Japengo: Monday-Friday, 4:30-7:00pm: \$4 large hot sake, draft beer, \$5 wells, \$7 wine by the glass, \$8 specialty cocktails. Saturday, All night: \$4 large hot sake, draft beer, \$5 wells, \$7 wine by the glass, \$8 specialty cocktails.

Café La Rue: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 house red, white, and sparkling wines,

draft beers, well drinks. Discounted select appetizers start at \$5.

Catania: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5-\$9 cocktails, beer, wine, small plates.

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

Farmer & the Seahorse: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$6 Angeline chardonnay, Kaiken cabernet, Vacationer rose, Iron Fist Renegade blonde, \$8 Love on the Rocks well drink, \$12.50 to \$13.50 cocktails and mules.

George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$4 draft beers, \$7 wine by the glass, \$8 cocktails.

The LOT: Monday-Saturday, 2-6pm: \$6 wine and sparkling champagne, craft beers, \$10 specialty cocktails, appetizers \$4-\$10.

La Jolla Cove Hotel & Suites: Wednesday-Friday, 4:30-8pm: Rooftop lounge specials include 25 percent off beer, wine, and snacks.

La Jolla Shores Hotel: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: Eight for \$8 menu with 8 drink and 8 food specials including bay scallop ceviche, sea salt pretzel bites, and beef short rib sliders.

Rock Bottom Brewery: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 20oz. house beers, \$2 off select beer, cider, craft cocktails, and wine by the glass, plus \$5 to \$7 food items

The Shack Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-7pm: \$1 off well drinks, wine, champagne, draft beer, cocktails. Appetizers \$2.50 (salty pretzel) through \$9.95 (cheeseburger with fries or tots).

The Spot: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 draft beers and house wines, \$3 off appetizers. 6-11pm: 50% off any bottle of wine (excluding owner's list) with entrée purchase.

We Olive & Wine Bar: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2 off bottled beer, \$3 off wine by the glass.

Whisknadle: Daily, 3-6pm: \$6 cocktails, red and white wine, beer, glass of sangria.



2 Draft Beers for \$6 Valid Monday to Friday

One coupon per person
Cannot be combined with any other
offer or discount

(ST)
SAINT TROPEZ
Bistro and Beyond

Offer expires 1/10/19 • Valid at all our locations
www.sttbistro.com



1/2 off bottles of wine

Wednesday only.
Wine bottles \$80 and below.

Davanti
Enoteca

12955 El Camino Real
Del Mar, CA 92130



50% off wine tasting

Sundays from 11am-2pm, enjoy \$5
wine tastings (4x1 oz. tastings) and
a complimentary hayride tour of a
historic California ranch.

RANCHO GUEJITO
VINAYARD

Rancho Guejito Vineyard

17224 San Pasqual Valley Rd.
Escondido, CA 92027
Must present ad.



1/2 Off Drink Menu Cocktails

Power Hour 9-10pm

Sunshine City
Saloon

5028 Newport Ave.
Ocean Beach, CA 92107



\$4 Mimosa

6 flavors to choose from, with
purchase of breakfast empanadas.
Cannot combine with other offers.
Limit 1 per person. Cannot be
applied to any other item.

**CARIBBEAN
ESCAPE**

Caribbean Escape

3231 Mission Blvd, Mission Beach
858-999-0419



\$5 Pints

Weekdays before 6pm.

**BORDER X
BREWING**

Border X Brewing

2181 Logan Ave
San Diego, 92113

LA MESA

BO-beau Kitchen + Garden: Tuesday-Friday, 4:30-5:30pm: \$4 beers, \$5 wines, \$6 select cocktails, appetizers priced \$5-\$9 half off.

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

Centifonti's Bar & Restaurant: Monday, Wednesday-Thursday, Saturday, 3-7pm: \$3 wells and beer, \$2 mimosas with entree purchase. Tuesday, Friday, 3-7pm: \$2 Mexican bottled beers, \$3 wells and beer, \$2 mimosas with entree purchase.

Charcoal House: Tuesday-Saturday, 4-7pm: 25% off drinks & appetizers.

Farmer's Table: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$5 beer on tap, \$6 house red or white wines by the glass, \$8 cocktails. Appetizers \$6-\$14.

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.

LEMON GROVE

Dirk's Niteclub: Daily, Noon-4pm: \$2 shot of select liquor with your first drink.

LEUCADIA

Fish 101: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4 Dos Equis on tap, \$5 wines on tap, brown bag beers. \$2.75 fish tacos, \$1 oysters.

LIBERTY STATION

The Loma Club: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts, \$4 house wines, \$4 well drinks.

Solare Ristorante Lounge: Tuesday-Saturday, 3-6:30pm: \$2 off cocktails, beer, \$5 select wine, \$5 small plates. Sunday, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 off cocktails, beer, \$5 select wine, \$5 small plates.

LITTLE ITALY

Bar Bodega: Monday, All day: Half price drinks and appetizers. Tuesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: Half price drinks and appetizers.

Davanti Enoteca: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 draft beers and wines, \$6 well cock-

tails and Davanti Spritz, \$7 sangria and martinis. Appetizers \$5-\$8.

M Winehouse: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$6 house wines, sangria, \$1 off all beers.

Monello: Daily, 4-7pm: Complimentary bites, different every night, served with your cocktail or wine.

Prepkitchen Little Italy: Daily, 3-6pm: \$5.55 Craft cocktails, red and white wines, draft beers, glasses of sangria, Mediterranean-inspired tapas.

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.

Queenstown Public House: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$9 beer, wine, and sangria flights. \$4 sliders, including Meso Tasty (grilled chicken, pineapple), Kiwilango (beef jalapeño mini burger), Bare Lil Lamb (blue cheese, mint), and Cluck 'N' Squeal (grilled chicken, bacon, avocado).



1/2 Price Pitchers

Join us for Happy Hour & 1/2 Price Pitchers! 5-6pm daily.



5028 Newport Ave.
Ocean Beach, CA 92107



Half-Off all tequilas

\$5 all drafts & bottled beers, wells, house wines, house margaritas, Guavaritas, and Moscow Mules. 20% off all appetizers. Mon-Fri, 3-6pm.



Guava Beach Bar & Grill
3714 Mission Blvd,
Mission Beach, 92108



\$1 Well Cocktails and Select Beer 5-6pm on Tuesdays!

\$2 6-7pm, \$3 7-8pm



835 Fifth Ave., Lower Level
San Diego, CA 92101
Open Tue - Sat 5pm-2am
619-236-1550 • trailerparkafterdark.com



50% Off Wine

Select Wines are 50% Off.
45% OFF Well Drinks
30% OFF Stella Artois Draft
30% Off All Appetizers
Served at the bar area only
Mon-Sat 4:30 - 7:30 pm & all day Sunday



2060 India St, San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 234-4900



\$3 Draft

\$3 Select draft with purchase of cubano and fries or tostones. Cannot be combined with other offer. Limit 1 per person. Cannot be applied to other items.



Caribbean Escape
3231 Mission Blvd, Mission Beach
858-999-0419



\$3 Beers!

Pizza + Beer, we are only missing you on this equation! \$3 beer of the day or our \$12 pitcher (select beer of the day) during our Happy Hour between 3-6pm!



699 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA
makesandiego.com

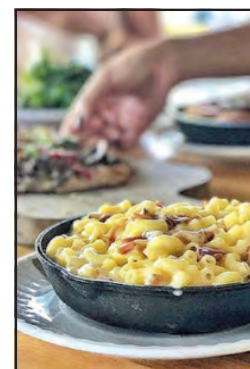


Buy One Drink, Get One On Us!

Daily from 4pm-8pm
Plus \$5 appetizers



Tropical Savor Bar & Grill
729 Fourth Ave • Gaslamp District
(619) 228-9385
TropicalSavorBarandGrill.com



\$3 beers for Happy Hour

Happy Hour Monday-Friday 4-6, food and drink specials. \$1.50 oysters, \$3 beers and other great deals.



One Door North
3422 30th Street • San Diego



\$5 Cider

Cider Happy Hour!
7-8:30pm Thursdays and Fridays,
enjoy a \$5 cider at
Guthrie CiderWorks in Miramar.



Guthrie CiderWorks
6496 Marindustry Dr, Suite D
San Diego, CA 92121



50% off Mimosas

And \$3 domestic drafts during all NFL football games



CARRIAGE HOUSE
4690 Convoy Street, Suite 113
Follow us on



Happy Hour 3-6pm \$4 Pints / \$6 Drafts

Wash down our mouth watering BBQ with a cold beer!



6548 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92115
corbinsandiego.com

drafts, wells. *Sunday*. All day: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells.

Inland Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off house wine.

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.

Pizza Nova: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, house wines, and well drinks, \$4 beer of the month. \$2 off all appetizers.

Sammy's Woodfired Pizza San Marcos: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$2 off beer and wine by the glass.

Slater's 50/50: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: Half off local beers, wine, and cocktails.

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.

SOLANA BEACH

Caruth Cellars: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$3 off \$5 glasses, \$5 off bottles of wine.

Chief's Burgers and Brew: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off drinks and select food.

Pamplemousse Grille: *Monday-Friday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$5 well drinks, 40% off all wines by the glass, specialty cocktails.

Pillbox Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, wines, specialty drinks. \$5 select appetizers & plates. *Saturday-Sunday*, 10am-4pm: \$9-\$14 brunch menu.

SOUTH PARK

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.

SPRING VALLEY

Cali Comfort BBQ: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$1 off well drinks, house wines and tall drafts. Appetizers \$4.50 to \$6.50.

De Oro Mine Co: *Daily*, Noon-7pm: \$3.50 domestic beers and well cocktails, beer of the month \$3.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: *Daily*, 3-6pm: All bottled beer \$3.75 or \$4.25, \$5-\$5.50 select wines by the glass. \$3.50-\$11 appetizers.

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

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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

Cueva Bar: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$5 tapas and select beer and wines.

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

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

Small Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, well cocktails. *Saturday-Sunday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, well cocktails. 10am-2pm: \$15 to \$18 brunch menu.



1/2 off beer flights

Every Thursday.

fourpenny
-HOUSE-

8323 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 91942



**Happy Hour 3-6pm
Tuesday & Thursday
\$1 Off All Wells,
Domestic Bottles &
ALL Drafts**

Birthday Karaoke: Super sized drinks for Birthday Boy / Girl
\$10 Off tabs for groups under 10 people
\$20 Off tabs for groups of over 20 people



351 W Main St, El Cajon, CA 92020
(619) 444-0949



**50% Off 64oz
Mini-Boot Beer**

Not valid during events or holidays.

Centifonti's
Bar & Restaurant

8365 La Mesa Blvd.
La Mesa, CA 91942
619-461-4434 • centifontis.com



**\$2 Domestic All Day
6am-9pm Monday & Friday**

Everybody's welcome at Dock's! Open 7 days a week 6am-2am at night. Casual & Cozy, with big screens showing sports, one pool table, dartboard, computer jukebox, and bar games. Karaoke on weekends.



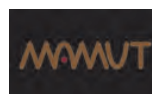
(619) 422-1566
317 Third Ave, Chula Vista, CA 91910



**Craft Beer
\$2.50 Daily!**

Enjoy Mamut beer for only \$2.50, every day before 6 pm!

Tap Tuesday all day craft beer only \$2.25!



Mamut Brewery Co.
Calle Tercera and Calle Sexta,
Tijuana



**Free Fireball
Shot!**

Mention or show this ad and get a free Fireball shot with any purchase! (one per customer)



Calle Primera 8158
Next to the "Tijuana Arch"



Taco Tuesday 2 x 1

Try our new tacos like this delicious marinated pork topped with chicharron.



Must show ad (1 per customer).
22015 Tijuana • Baja California
664-622-5062



**Happy Hour -
Dollar Beers!**

\$1 (12 oz.) pints of Tecate and Indio Tuesday to Friday from 1:00-7:00 pm. Tap Tuesday, Craft beers 75¢ off.



Find us inside Plaza Fiesta -
Erasmio Castellanos Q. 9440, Tijuana



**Wednesday
2 x 1 Pizzas!**

Brew Pub Plaza offers all pizzas two for one on Wednesdays!



Brew Pub Plaza
Erasmio Castellanos, 94440, Tijuana



**Fridays
2 x 1 Liter Drinks!**

Enjoy two mixed liter drinks like Tigre Valiente and Marihuana Liquid every Friday until 9 pm!



Inside Plaza Fiesta,
Zona Río - Tijuana



**Paloma
(tequila) 2 x 1!**

The famed classic Tijuana cantina invites you to enjoy our daily promos.

Try two Palomas (tequila, squirt, and lime) for **only \$3!**



Find us on Calle Sexta between
Revolución and Madero.



**Live Jazz and
2 x 1 Tequila Shots**

Join us for every Thursday night for live jazz and enjoy Tequila Espolón Reposado 2 x 1



tj.cinetonalá.mx
(valid only December)

blurt the inside track

To un-flute the flute

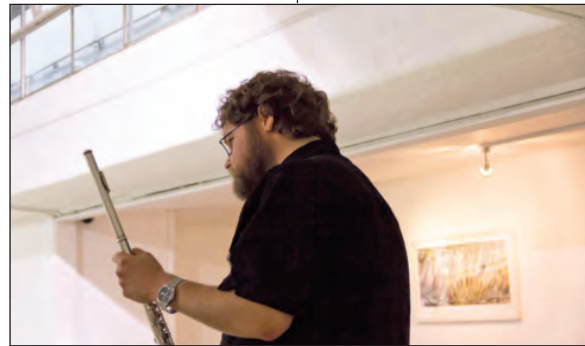
"My attitude has changed over time," explains flutist Wilfrido Terrazas, UCSD's latest addition to its notable music faculty. "Years ago, I was trying to 'un-flute the flute' by exploring with an expanded sound pallet and experimenting with amplification and other 'extended-techniques' and resources."

He's grown more relaxed and confident in his relationship with the instrument.

"I'm no longer so preoccupied with rebelling against the flute tradition — I feel comfortable with what I do and my approach to the instrument. The flute is what it is and I'm not trying to change it."

Nonetheless, Terrazas isn't likely to be confused with more conventional players. "I use circular breathing [inhal-

ing through the nose while exhaling into the flute] as my basic technique. That allows me to create longer phrases and what I call 'blocks-of-



UCSD's Wilfrido Terrazas no longer rebels against his instrument. "The flute is what it is, and I'm not going trying change it."

sound,' which can last a long time. I keep trying to challenge myself in this aspect."

He's been playing the instrument from the age of 15 as a middle school student growing up in Ensenada,

but he didn't exactly have a masterplan in mind in terms of a career in music. "I was so deep into music, I didn't want to do anything else. I knew by the time I was 17, but it wasn't a conscious decision."

Music became a vocation out of necessity, rather than ambition.

"I became a professional out of self-defense, really. After I went to the conserva-

After 14 years in Mexico City, Terrazas was hired by UC San Diego. I asked him if he's experienced any culture shock.

"Well I grew up pretty close to the border, and I always thought I knew both San Diego and American culture itself really well, but I've never lived outside of Mexico, so everything is sinking in slowly. I'm not even an official immigrant yet — I'm just a temporary worker. Hopefully that will all happen at some point. Every day when I arrive at my office I can't believe I'm working here. Everyone has been so supportive and they respect my work, which is kind of a shock but in a good way. I'm still getting used to all of the things that are possible with this position."

— Robert Bush

"David Bowie embraced being different and made it sexy," says the frequently masked front-woman of Dani Bell & the



Dani Bell aspires to a Bowie-ish theatrical affectation on stage.

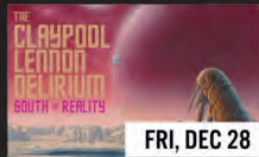
Tarantist, who arrived in San Diego in 2005 but didn't don a superhero cape and start performing around town for several more years. After spending time with Boychick, she launched her new project under the tutelage of local multi-bandleader Alfred Howard, who signed her to his Redwoods Music band-label collective. Early gigs featured the duo performing to prerecorded tracks, though they later incorporated live players from other Redwoods bands such as Birdy Bardot. Their paisley funk-n-soul sound

was honed on a debut 2015 full-length, for which they filmed a series of spacey fever-dream videos featuring her and Howard wearing fanciful masks, a Bowie-ish theatrical affectation she maintains onstage.

The sophomore album from Dani Bell & the Tarantist, *Wide Eyed*, drops January 18, preceded by a single for "Mystery" that got them named Band of the Day on Maximum Volume Music a few weeks ago. Asked to describe its sound, she says "The guitars kind

(continued on page 52)

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| 2/6 — MO W/ MYKKI BLANCO | 2/23 — BEER AND BALLET |
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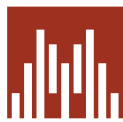
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DEC 22



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ZACK FOX



DEC 23



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DEC 27



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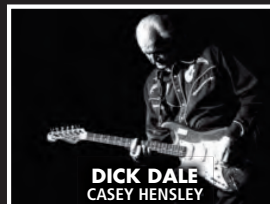
JUST ADDED

Charlie Rae 1/13 • New Kingston & For Peace Band 3/7
Shing02 & The Chee-Hoos 3/17 • She Wants Revenge 3/29 • Rubblebucket 3/30
Perturbator 4/28

COMING SOON

12/30 Steely Damned 2 Holiday Show (seated show)	1/21 Parquet Courts w/ Snail Mail	2/16 Red Not Chili Peppers
12/31 BoomBox NYE Show	1/22 Emily King	2/17 Kongos
1/4 Electric Mud	1/24 No Kings, Aviator Stash, MDRN HSTRY, Coral Bells, Golden Howl	2/20 Justin Nozuka (seated show)
1/5 The Winehouse Experience	1/25 Ozomatli	2/22 Brasstracks
1/10 Mimi Zulu	1/26 Ozokidz ft. Ozomatli (matinee)	2/27 Darlingside w/ special guest River Whyless (seated show)
1/11 Dirtwire	1/26 Johnny Clarke & Vivian Jones backed by Roots Covenant	3/9 You Me At Six w/ special guest DREAMERS
1/12 Tommy Emmanuel ft. John Knowles (seated show)	2/1 Poncho Sanchez	3/14 Yung Gravy
1/12 Kaleena Zanders and FriendZ (late show)	2/2 MadeinTYO	3/21 Baio
1/16 Sage the Gemini	2/7 Passafire	3/24 Matt Nathanson
1/17 Lost Kings	2/8 Katchafire	4/4 The Havana Cuba All-Stars
1/18 Rob Garza of Thievery Corporation (DJ Set)	2/9 The PettyBreakers and Desperado	4/7 Mt. Joy
1/19 Zoso: The Ultimate Led Zeppelin Experience	2/14 Somebody to Love - A Queen Musical with a Ballet Twist ft. Brian Justin Crum (seated show)	4/11 Space Jesus
1/20 Tom Gun Live! (seated show)	2/15 The Soul Rebels w/ The Routine	4/12 Las Cafeteras
		4/19 Metalachi
		4/27 Com Truise

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MIKE WATT OF THE MINUTEMEN
JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS
SATURDAY 1/5



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AN EVENING WITH
LEO KOTIKE
SUNDAY 1/6



SEATED SHOW!
AN EVENING WITH
BILL CHAMPLAIN AND
WUNDERGROUND
TUESDAY 1/8



AN EVENING WITH
ERIC BURDON & THE ANIMALS
WEDNESDAY 1/9 & THURSDAY 1/10



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(THE DOORS TRIBUTE)
STEFAN HILLESHEIM &
THE POWER OF LOVE
(JIMI HENDRIX TRIBUTE)
FRIDAY 1/11

JUST ADDED!

Junior Brown @ Casbah 3/1
Pete Yorn *You & Me Solo Acoustic Tour* 3/11 - pre-sale 12/20
Black Uhuru special guest Onesty 3/12
Stephen Marley Acoustic 3/14 - pre-sale 12/19
Cold Cave 3/19 - Beatles vs. Stones 3/29

Upcoming Shows:

12/19 The Venice Christmas Show - Sold Out!	1/28 Richard Thompson Electric Trio	2/24 Albert Hammond Jr.
12/21 Atomic Groove Happy Hour	1/29 Sergio Mendes	2/27 Coco Montoya & Tinsley Ellis
12/21 Eric Rachmany - Sold Out!	1/30 Tower of Power 50th Anniversary	2/28 & 3/1 The Wood Brothers
12/22 Beatles vs. Stones - Sold Out!	1/31 Turkuaz	3/1 Lettuce @ Observatory
12/30-1/1 Michael Franti & Spearhead - Sold Out!	2/1 Jacob Banks	3/2 Pine Mountain Logs
1/4 Queen Nation and Erotic City (Prince tribute) - Sold Out!	2/2 Vaud and the Villains	3/3 The Marshall Tucker Band - Sold Out!
1/12 Amen Dunes	2/4 & 5 Blackberry Smoke	3/5 Twiddle w/ special guest Iya Terra
1/14 Paul Thorn	2/6 North Mississippi Allstars	3/10 Makana & Shawn and Lehua
1/15 The Magpie Salute w/ special guest The Stone Foxes	2/7 Joan Osborne sings the songs of Bob Dylan	3/15 & 16 Super Diamond
1/16 Daring Greatly	1/14 Paul Thorn	3/21 Ladysmith Black Mambazo (seated show)
1/17 The Infamous Stringdusters	2/8 Groundation	3/22 The Spazmatics
1/18 DSB (Journey tribute)	2/9 Tainted Love	3/28 Galactic ft. Erica Falls
1/19 Tommy Castro & The Painkillers	2/10 Joshua Radin	3/30 Donna Missal @ Casbah
1/21 & 22 Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue - Sold Out!	2/12 Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra (seated show)	3/31 Black Moth Super Rainbow
1/24 Big Head Todd & The Monsters	2/15 Dead Man's Party Valentine's Weekend Show	4/3 Al Stewart <i>Greatest Hits Show</i> (seated show)
1/25 & 26 The English Beat	2/16 ALO	4/7 Buddy Guy
1/27 Ana Popovic	2/17 Los Lonely Boys	4/7 Ten Fé @ Casbah
	2/19 Mark Hummel's Golden State & Lone Star Blues Revue ft. Anson Funderburgh (seated show)	4/9 Jimmie Vaughan
	2/22 The Mother Hips	4/28 White Denim
	2/23 Steve Poltz 10th Annual 50th Birthday	5/4 Wayward Sons
		5/10 & 11 Jefferson Starship
		5/21 Idles
		6/1 Snarky Puppy @ House of Blues

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of sound like 'buh nuh nuh nuh whah whoo' and the drums are kind of like 'bam bam tss,' and the keyboards kind of have like a 'diddy dee' sound, and together they sound quite nice, I think." With cover artwork was designed by John Gourley, of the band Portugal. The Man, it's a long way from her dues-paying days "cleaning bathrooms in a music studio. That wasn't my only job there, but I'm sure you can imagine how shitty it must've been."

Wide Eyed continues her penchant for matching baroque pop with shimmering soulful vocals. As on her debut and this year's *Golden Gloom* EP, many tracks play like two songs bridged with a left-field "middle eight," ala the more adventurous works of Lennon and McCartney. "A Day in the Life" by the Beatles used to pretty much be a narration on how my day went, until I quit smoking," she says. "Now, I don't get that cool psychedelic dream part."

Bell was backed by a full band for an appearance earlier this year at Napa's Bottle Rock Festival, including guitarist Austin Burns, keyboardist-guitarist Ian Owen, bassist Aaron Hook, and drummer Dylan Joans. None

are nicknamed the Tarantist (the word refers to someone suffering from a form of hysteria brought on by a spider bite, known to cause people to dance uncontrollably).

Dani Bell & the Tarantist will play the New Year's Eve Soiree on the Bay at Loews in Coronado, along with Birdy Bardot, the Midnight Pine, Jake Najor, and Cardinal Moon.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Trapped in Mexico "I've done lots of gigs in Mexico, and until now I've never had a problem," says San Diego bassist Jacob Miranda, who was caught up in the border-closure fiasco on November 24.

Miranda's weekend began with a highlight performance. "We were backing up a young pop sensation named Emiliano, who is from Tijuana at that huge soccer stadium (Estadio Caliente) last Saturday, opening for some other Mexican pop stars. We did a 20-minute set and there were 8000 people in the audience."

It was the biggest gig thus-far in Miranda's career. "It was awesome because everywhere you looked there were people

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: CIVIC THEATRE

JAY ALLEN SANFORD



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The gig went really well despite the fact that we didn't get much of a soundcheck. We decided to stay the night

the next day, so we decided to grab a cab at 11 am on Sunday to get a good start, because I had heard the news

issue. "We tried checking out the San Ysidro border but we couldn't get anywhere near it. It was already closed and

standing in a single file line. Our phones were dying, we only had our passports, no cash, no food or water. After almost six hours we got to the head of the line, only to see that there were only two border agents checking the IDs."

Before his phone died, Miranda was able to find someone to act as a last-minute substitute for both of his Sunday gigs. He is understandably cautious about future performances in Mexico. "It's gonna take more money to get us to come back, and we need to negotiate compensation to cover lost time if the border closes again."

— Robert Bush



After being stuck in Tijuana during a border closure, Jacob Miranda says, "It's gonna take more money to get us to come back."

in Tijuana so we went back to the hotel after the show. I had two really important gigs back in the United States

about the migrant caravan, and I knew there might be an issue." He was right, there was an

issue. "We tried checking out the San Ysidro border but we couldn't get anywhere near it. It was already closed and

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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

<p>WEDNESDAY • DEC 19 AVIATOR STASH ARIEL LEVINE THE FRETS • HEADPHONE</p> <p>THURSDAY • DEC 20 ZIGGY SHUFFLEDUST AND THE SPIDERS FROM MARS ELECTRIC WARRIOR DJ CAMILLA ROBINA</p> <p>FRIDAY • DEC 21 BLACK FRIDAY DJ'S VAUGHN AVAKIAN ROB MORAN MARIO ORDUNO POST TROPIC • MANNEQUIN</p> <p>SATURDAY • DEC 22 DIRTY SWEET BAND OF GRINGOS ALVINO AND THE DWELLS</p> <p>SUNDAY • DEC 23 EL VEZ MERRY MEXMAS THE EXBATS PONY DEATH RIDE</p> <p>MONDAY • DEC 24 EXILE ON KETTNER BLVD.</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • DEC 26 DJ ARTISTIC'S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT</p> <p>THURSDAY • DEC 27 HAIL HAIL • RAZOR NIGHTS CON-TACT</p>	<p>THE Casbah</p> <p>COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • casbahmusic.com</p> <p>FRIDAY • DEC 28 THE PALADINS BIG SANDY & HIS FLYRITE BOYS THE TIGHTEN UPS</p> <p>SATURDAY • DEC 29 GET BACK LORETTA THE HEAVY GUILT SHANE HALL NENA ANDERSON</p> <p>SUNDAY • DEC 30 LOUDSPEAKER 30 PRESENTS THE GREAT ELECTRIC QUEST THE BASSICS THE PETTY SAINTS THE OXEN</p> <p>MONDAY • DEC 31 THE SCHIZOPHONICS THE CREEPY CREEPS THE WIDOWS SCARY PIERRE</p>	<p>THURSDAY • JAN 3 CASBAH YACHT ROCK HIGH TIDE SOCIETY DJ CLAIRE</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 5 CHINCHILLA UNCLE JOE'S BIG OL' DRIVER MOSTLY SUNNY</p> <p>SUNDAY • JAN 6 T.S.O.L. FOREST GROVE BLOOD PONIES</p> <p>MONDAY • JAN 7 MAN MAN</p> <p>TUESDAY • JAN 8 BOWIE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ARIEL LEVINE AND FRIENDS PLAY STATION TO STATION FUNKY THIGH COLLECTORS</p> <p>WEDNESDAY • JAN 9 THURSDAY • JAN 10 MELVINS</p> <p>SATURDAY • JAN 11 THE DRAGONS DEADBOLT • MADLY</p>
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<p>FRI. DEC. 21 ADELITAS WAY Approaching Fiction, Thread The Lariat</p>	<p>BRICK X BRICK</p>	<p>SAT. JAN. 26 CORROSION OF CONFORMITY Crowbar, Weedeater, Mothership</p>
<p>FRI. JAN. 4 INSANE CLOWN POSSE'S VIOLENT J AND ESHAM Syllint, Izzy Projectz, FATTBOY</p>		<p>SUN. JAN. 27 TONY MACALPINE Monte Pittman, Lonero, RDG, Taz Taylor Band</p>
<p>FRI. JAN. 18 JUDAS PRIESTESS Cowgirls From Hell, 2 Hot 2 Handle</p>	<p>WED. JAN. 23 MARTY FRIEDMAN Immortal Guardian, Nightshadow</p>	<p>WED. JAN. 30 MICHAEL ANGELO BATIO With Special Guests</p>
<p>SAT. JAN. 19 SUMAC Divide And Dissolve, Tashi Dorji</p>	<p>THU. JAN. 24 RUBY THE HATCHET Demon Lung, Loom</p>	<p>THU. JAN. 31 TANTRIC With Special Guests</p>
<p>SUN. JAN. 20 REAGAN YOUTH Midnight Track, D.V.T., VFMS</p>	<p>FRI. JAN. 25 PRIMITIVE MAN 16, Cave Bastard, Sixes</p>	<p>SAT. FEB. 16 THE THREE TREMORS With Special Guests</p>
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JUST ANNOUNCED

Listening to bilingual dream pop band the **Marias** is like being presented with a soundtrack to the weirdest second hand store you ever went home and told your friends about. Everything is vintage and stacked next to, under, on top of, and all around more dusty treasures — just

an overflowing jumble of the old but not forgotten. The L.A. group, which only includes one Maria (their Puerto Rican-born, Atlanta-raised, one-named front-woman) has only been around a couple of years, but both of their EPs, *Superclean* volumes one and two, sound like a seasoned band of middle aged fogeys with at least a half dozen other releases already turning up in thrift store crates. Their recent single for “Clueless” unfolds a retro groove like something you’d find on a moldy old K-Tel funk compilation. Any ten second passage would be perfect for sampling in a campy late night TV ad aimed at stoners in between rolling joints and raiding the fridge. For an idea of what to expect when they take the Irenic stage on February 15, there’s not a lot of live footage online, although I did spot a few clips from concerts in Chicago and L.A. that indicate Maria is as hypnotic onstage as she sounds on tape. An hour-long Indonesia concert on YouTube showcases her languid, liquid stage presence, akin to likeminded cinematic pop purveyors such as Lana Del Rey. The band,



BAND OF HORSES AT OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK ON MARCH 6

however, looks as if they all bought their anachronistic stage outfits at one of those aforementioned thrift stores.

Seattle rockers **Band of Horses** are still trying to recapture the brass merry-go-round ring they managed to grab in 2010 with *Infinite Arms*, which remains

their most BFD release as far as sales and popularity. Fifteen years into their career, however, an argument could be made that many of their best tracks both preceded and followed that Grammy-nominated benchmark. Founding singer-guitarist Ben Bridwell has long been backed by, and still tours with, that album’s keyboardist-guitarist Ryan Monroe and drummer Creighton Barrett. It’s been over two years since their last full-length, and just as long since they’ve played San Diego, but they’re reportedly working on new tracks that may well debut on the short spring tour that includes a March 6 date at Observatory North Park. Online videos from the last tour indicate you may also be treated to one or more of the offbeat covers heard on Bridwell’s collaborative

covers album with Iron and Wine’s Sam Beam, *Sing Into My Mouth*, such as Ronnie Lane’s “Done This One Before” and John Cale’s “You Know More Than I Know.”

Rarely does a year go by without one or two releases from prolific Detroit hard rockers **Electric**

Six, who arrived on the scene running in 2003 with comedic hit singles for “Gay Bar” (whose video was a softcore Abraham Lincoln fantasy) and “Danger! High Voltage.” The video for the latter includes singer Dick Valentine wearing electric underwear during a three-way sexual encounter with a stuffed moose... I did say comedic, right? If you take a lot of stock in who a band cites as influences, then be advised (or warned, as the case may be) that Valentine lists his favored forebearers as “Rock Me Amadeus” star Falco, Devo mastermind Mark Mothersbaugh, and occasional Frank Zappa co-conspirator Captain



IAN ANDERSON AT CIVIC THEATRE ON JULY 9

violin, the wheelchair opening of SDSU’s Twenty Years of Jethro Tull show. Hell, I saw them do *Songs From the Wood* twice, in two cities, on two consecutive nights, and I still love and play the latter-day stuff too, including *Crest of a Knave* (1987), *Catfish Rising* (1991), and *Roots to Branches* (1995). I kept attending every single tour, even after Anderson’s singing voice became, at best, unpredictable, and at worst, husky enough to pull a dogsled. I’ll still buy virtually any recording that Tull’s lead Pharisee puts his name to, including his symphonic dalliances and the recent Jethro Tull rock

opera, telling the story of the band’s historical namesake via a series of reworked tracks from the vintage Tull catalog. That said, I stopped going to see Anderson in concert after he split from long-time guitarist Martin Barre, essentially



ELECTRIC SIX AT CASBAH ON MARCH 28

Beefheart. The fourteenth Electric Six studio album dropped in October, *Bride of the Devil*, which they’ll be featuring heavily when they play the Casbah on March 28. They’re also said to be doing unplugged versions of several tracks, previewing an upcoming Kickstarter-funded acoustic release called *Chill Out*, as well as performing a selection of covers heard on their Kickstarter-funded double album *You’re Welcome!*, which came out last year.

Before I tell you about **Ian Anderson** celebrating Jethro Tull’s 50th Anniversary at the Civic Theatre on July 9, let me just say that I spent over 20 years as a dedicated, full-fledged, Tull-o-holic. I saw the giant Tull-o-Vision screen of *Too Old To Rock and Roll*, the pirate ship of *Stormwatch*, the electronic A tour with Eddie Jobson’s see-thru electric

ending Jethro Tull as a band entity. The more Anderson’s failing vocal abilities plagued his performances, the more vital players like Barre became in keeping audiences from being notably distracted by Anderson’s almost complete inability to hold a note, any note, let alone the notes he once had such mastery over. It’s been nearly a decade since I’ve seen Anderson in concert — and the last time was so disappointing that I knew it was indeed my last — so including the 50th Anniversary concert in this column probably reads more warning than recommendation. I guess that makes me a recovering a Tull-o-holic.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Saturday, 6pm — Flipside Burners Ugly Sweater Contest. Free.

Balboa Theatre:

Friday, 8pm — A Peter White Christmas. \$38-\$75.

Beaumont's:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Dave Gleason.
Friday, 9pm — Pollinators.
Saturday, 9pm — Part Time Model.

Belly Up Tavern:

Friday, 8pm — Eric Rachmany. \$25-\$44.
Saturday, 8pm — Beatles vs Stones. \$20-\$35.
Sunday, 8pm — Cash'd Out.
Wednesday, 8pm — Easy Wind. \$14-\$25.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — Ziggy Shuffledust and Electric Warrior. \$12.
Friday, 8pm — Black Friday. \$8-\$10.
Saturday, 8pm — Dirty Sweet and Band of Gringos. \$15.
Sunday, 7:30pm — El Vez: Merry Mexmas. \$25.

Monday, 8pm — Exile on Kettner Blvd. Free.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 9pm — New Dogs Old Tricks. Free.

Club M:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dueling Pianos Festive Sing-along. \$10.

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Sunday, 1pm — Flipside Burners. Free.

De Oro Mine Co:

Friday, 9pm — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

Deft Brewing:

Friday, 6:30pm — Charissa Roberts. Free.

Dirk's Niteclub:

Friday, 8pm — FX5.
Saturday, 8pm — Side Hustle and Strange Crew.

EVE Encinitas:

Saturday, 8pm — Amae Love, Krista Richards, Shantaya Boneja. \$15.

Ebullition Brew Works:

Saturday, 4pm — Chris Fast Band. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950

Lounge:

Friday, 5:30pm — Sherry Williams, Bob Boss & Rob Thorsen. Free.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La

Mesa:

Friday, 8pm — Humdingers.
Saturday, 8pm — Steven Langdon.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill

Rancho San Diego:

Friday, 9pm — Tony Cummins.
Saturday, 8pm — Heart Band.

! OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Stephen Bruner, from Watts, California, grew up in a musical home. Both his father and his brother are heavy hitters who earned their reputations performing as sidemen with frontline jazz artists. But Bruner's childhood is not offered up in explanation of his emergence as a prodigy on the electric bass. He did that on his own time and within his own reach. His music bears little resemblance to other electric bassists, and his musical path swings away from his family's.

Maybe that's the reason behind Stephen Bruner's curious alter ego. On stage and on record, he calls himself Thundercat. It's a name that sounds more like a cartoon super hero than it does a bass phenomenon. The

34-year-old Thundercat is also a singer, songwriter, producer, and a session musician. As a wage earner, his scope is vast, having backed R&B artists such as Erykah Badu and the rapper Snoop Dogg. Thundercat was even a member of Suicidal Tendencies, a thrash punk band. But Bruner has developed bass enough skills to be included on the short list of bassists who not only work the instrument as a rhythm tool, playing the roots of chords and governing the culture of a song, but also simultaneously elevate bass to a solo chair instrument. Think Victor Wooten or Stanley Clark or Billy Sheehan, Les Claypool, Tal Wilkenfeld.

Thundercat wrestles sounds from his instrument that aren't normally associated with it, curious blips and scratches along the order of a Tibetan coffee shop trio or a West African sing-along. He fits them into a deep melodic music that identifies with a near-extinct American art form called Acid Jazz. Acid was the child



THUNDERCAT

of fusion and smooth jazz. Here, it promises hypnotic phrases, intense instrumentals, and Bruner's own sweet-as-a-lozenge voice layered over the top. For the listener, that means an inventive, audience-friendly modern spin on straight-ahead jazz music.

THUNDERCAT: Sunday, December 23, Music Box, 619-795-1337, 7 p.m., \$32/\$74. (Zack Fox also performs)

Find more of *Note* columns online at SDReader.com/note

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Robert Allen Shepard Band. Free.
Friday, 7pm — Strangeglove and Temptation. \$19-\$40.
Saturday, 7pm — The Cured and Still Ill. \$19-\$40.
Sunday, 7pm — Chad & Rosie. Free.
Wednesday, 7pm — Robert Allen Shepard. Free.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Friday, 5pm — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak.

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:

Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 2pm & 8pm — San Diego Symphony: Noel Noel.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.
Friday, 6pm — Rick Ross.
Saturday, 6pm — Whitney Shay.
Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:

Thursday, 8pm — David Burnham. \$35.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:

Friday & Sunday, 8pm — The Stilettoes.

Merrow:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Imiuswi Aborigine. \$12-\$15.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Still Around. Free.

Moose Lodge Oceanside:

Friday, 6pm — Winter SOULstice.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Steelehorse

Country:

Friday, 8:30pm — Bonneville 7. Free.

Saturday, 4pm — The Boatrockers.

Saturday, 8:30pm — The Jamacha Project.

Music Box:

Thursday, 8pm — A Berkley Hart Christmas. \$30-\$35.
Friday, 8pm — Betamaxx. \$16-\$18.
Saturday, 8pm — Nicky Genesis. \$13-\$15.
Sunday, 8pm — Thundercat and Zack Fox. \$32-\$34.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 8pm — Divad and Fused.
Saturday, 9pm — Clapton Hook.
Sunday, 7pm — Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Free.
Wednesday, 9pm — Jon Campos & the Incurables.

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Hippie Sabotage.
Friday, 7pm — Bane's World. \$20.

Ocean Beach People's

Organic Food Market & Deli:
Sunday, 11am — Tinkersmith. Free.

Pounders:

Friday & Saturday, 9pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Red Door Restaurant & Wine Bar:

Thursday, 5pm — Gina Sobel.
Friday, 6:30pm — Jinnah Williams. Free.
Saturday, 6:30pm — Salvador Padilla. Free.

San Diego Repertory Theatre:

Friday, 7:30pm — Yale Strom's Broken Consort: Winter Shminter.

Seaside Center for Spiritual Living:

Thursday, 7pm — Winter Solstice Drumming Celebration. Free.
Friday, 7pm — Drumming in the Light: Winter Solstice. \$20-\$25.

Soda Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — Pulley and Versus the World. \$15-\$20.
Sunday, 8pm — New Speak and Suburban Park. \$6.
Wednesday, 8pm — The Havnauts and Giveaway. \$6.

Space:

Thursday, 9pm — Lumerians and JUUUUU. \$12-\$15.

Springhill Springs Marriott:

Saturday, 1pm — Peppermint Candy Holiday Party & Ciroc Tasting. \$25-\$300.

Tower Bar:

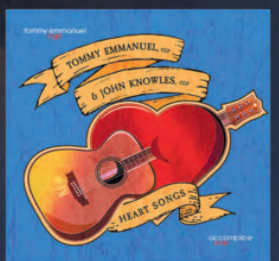
Friday, 8pm — This Ain't

TOMMY EMMANUEL, CGP
&
JOHN KNOWLES, CGP
The Heart Songs Tour



SAT//JAN//12
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TommyEmmanuel.com JohnKnowles.com CGPsounds.com



THE NEW ALBUM
HEART SONGS
AVAILABLE JAN. 11!

Bethlehem.
Tuesday, 9pm — The Idiot
Bombs and Worth.

Winstons Beach Club:
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste
Band. \$5.

UPCOMING SHOWS

1st Street Bar:
Thursday, Jan. 3 — Bonneville
7. Free.

AMSDconcerts Bonita:
Saturday, Jan. 5 — Dave Stamey.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ryanhood.
\$20-\$30.

**Atheneum Music and Arts
Library:**
Sunday, Jan. 20 — Cuong Vu
Trio.
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Sheila
Jordan. \$23-\$28.

BNS Brewing & Distilling:
Friday, Dec. 28 — West of 5.
Free.

Bar Pink:
Saturday, Dec. 29 — The
Rosalyns and the Night Times.

Beaumont's:
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Joanna
Gerolaga.
Friday, Dec. 28 — Gleason Trio.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Karl
Denson's Tiny Universe.
Friday, Dec. 28 — Donavon
Frankenreiter. \$30-\$32.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Donavon
Frankenreiter. \$30-\$32.
Sunday, Dec. 30 — Michael
Franti and Spearhead. \$61-\$106.
Monday, Dec. 31 — Michael
Franti and Spearhead. \$61-\$106.
Tuesday, Jan. 1 — Michael Franti
and Spearhead. \$61-\$106.
Thursday, Jan. 3 — Aviator Stash
and Imagery Machine. \$8-\$14.
Friday, Jan. 4 — Queen Nation.
Saturday, Jan. 5 — Beat Farmers
Hootenanny. \$22-\$39.
Sunday, Jan. 6 — Leo Kottke.
Tuesday, Jan. 8 — Bill Champlin
& WunderGround. \$20-\$35.
Wednesday, Jan. 9 — Eric
Burdon & the Animals. \$70-\$123.
Thursday, Jan. 10 — Eric Burdon
& the Animals. \$70-\$123.
Friday, Jan. 11 — Wild Child.
Saturday, Jan. 12 — Amen
Dunes.

Monday, Jan. 14 — Paul Thorn
and Alice Drinks the Kool Aid.
\$20-\$35.
Tuesday, Jan. 15 — The Maggie
Salute and the Stone Foxes. \$28-
\$49.
Wednesday, Jan. 16 — Daring
Greatly and Miss Violette. \$16-
\$18.
Thursday, Jan. 17 — The
Infamous Stringdusters. \$20-\$22.
Friday, Jan. 18 — DSB.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Tommy
Castro & the Painkillers. \$23-\$41.
Monday, Jan. 21 — Trombone
Shorty & Orleans Avenue. \$45-
\$79.
Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Trombone
Shorty & Orleans Avenue. \$45-
\$79.
Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Trombone
Shorty & Orleans Avenue. \$45-
\$79.
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Big Head
Todd & the Monsters.
Friday, Jan. 25 — The English
Beat. \$25-\$44.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — The English
Beat. \$25-\$44.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Individual rights are a product of Christmas Spirit

All is Calm is growing into a holiday tradition in San Diego. This is the third year in a row the show about the 1914 Christmas Eve Truce has been produced in San Diego. The previous two iterations have been partially staged affairs at the Veterans Museum in Balboa Park. This year, *All is Calm* was produced by the San Diego Opera in a fully staged version with three performances (December 8, 9, and 10) at The Balboa Theatre.

The show tells the story of the peace that fell over the trenches of World War I on Christmas Eve 1914 in Belgium near Flanders. The all-male cast sings a *cappella* arrangements of songs and carols which are interspersed with excerpts from letters and poems written by the men involved in the truce.

The poignant story invokes both hope and despair. We

experience something of what used to be a true belief in the Christmas Spirit and just how powerful that can be in the worst of situations. We should explore what the Christmas Spirit is. It is a term which we often use but rarely understand.

The Christmas Spirit is an acknowledgment of the divinity of "the other". We might be on different sides of a war, but the creator of the universe took on human form in order for us to live in peace and harmony. In the eyes of the creator, we are both equal and equally loved. Jesus came for me, and Jesus came for you, and the covenant which was born on that night was for each *individual*.

I'm not attempting to create converts to Christianity here, but these are the facts of the tradition as it has played out over the centuries. Before Jesus, the

religious relationship was between the deity and the nation. The deity blessed the nation when it did right and punished when it did wrong. A priesthood interceded between the nation and the deity.

Jesus, as his story is expressed through the Hellenic Traditions of the First Century, makes a covenant with each and every individual. What are the consequences of a covenant with the individual? We have a Bill of Rights because of the Christian tradition. The Bill of Rights is a covenant between the state and the individual.

We might look at other countries and condemn their human rights record. The truth of the matter is that there is no such thing as human rights in a country or tradition which doesn't make a covenant with the individual. Everything we



Artist's rendition of the truce from the *Illustrated London News*, January 9, 1915.

hold to be true about human dignity and individual rights is a product of the Christmas Spirit.

This is the Christmas Spirit which enabled men who were trying to kill each other to lay down their weapons and sing Christmas Carols together. Christmas Eve reminded them that the nation is secondary to the individual because of Jesus. "The other" is more valuable in the eyes of the creator than is the nation.

Despair reenters *All is Calm* as orders from

the nations arrive which suppress and destroy the goodwill of the individuals. The truce came about five months into a war which lasted 51 months. The Christmas Spirit was almost strong enough to stop the war to end all wars before it really began.

We might take a moment to criticize all the wrongs which have been committed in the name of Christianity. However, we throw away the concepts contained in the Christmas Spirit at our peril. Salvation resides within.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Ana Popovic.
\$18-\$32.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps:
Wednesday, Jan. 16 — Toddler
Time. Free.

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters:
Saturday, Jan. 12 — Robin
Henkel.

Blind Burro:
Monday, Dec. 31 — New Year's
Eve. Free.
Tuesday, Jan. 1 — New Year's
Day Brunch. Free.
Friday, Jan. 4 — BandaBordel.

**Bonita Museum and Cultural
Center:**
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Katie Ward
& Jeremy Field. \$10.

Brick by Brick:
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Sumac and
Tashi Dorji.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Corrosion
of Conformity and Crowbar.
\$28-\$32.

**California Center for the
Arts, Escondido:**
Sunday, Jan. 13 — A.J. Croce.

**Callaway Vineyard &
Winery:**
Saturday, Jan. 19 — King Taylor
Project. Free.

Carvers Steak & Chops:
Friday, Dec. 28 — Miss
Demeanor. Free.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Miss
Demeanor. Free.
Monday, Dec. 31 — Miss
Demeanor. Free.

Casbah:
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Hail Hail
and Razor Nights. \$6.
Friday, Dec. 28 — The Paladins
and Big Sandy & His Flyrite
Boys. \$20.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Get Back
Loretta and the Heavy Guilt. \$12.
Friday, Jan. 4 — Hot Snakes. \$30.
Saturday, Jan. 5 — Chinchilla
and Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver.
\$15.

Sunday, Jan. 6 — T.S.O.L. \$20.
Wednesday, Jan. 9 — Melvins
and Dale Crover Band. \$25.
Thursday, Jan. 10 — Melvins and
Dale Crover Band. \$25.
Friday, Jan. 11 — The Dragons
and Drip Tank. \$16-\$18.
Saturday, Jan. 12 — The Dragons
and Deadbolt. \$18.
Monday, Jan. 14 — Beehive &
The Barracudas and Low Volts.
Free.

Wednesday, Jan. 16 — Howlin
Rain and Monarch. \$15.
Thursday, Jan. 17 — The
Donkeys. \$15-\$18.
Friday, Jan. 18 — The
Penetrators. \$25.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Adolescents.
\$20.

Sunday, Jan. 20 — Mustard Plug
and the Phenomenauts. \$12-\$14.
Monday, Jan. 21 — The Districts
and Deeper. \$15.
Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Pinback
and Swollen Brains. \$26.
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Pinback and
Montalban Quintet. \$26.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Buck-O-
Nine and the Downs Family. \$15.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — No Knife and
Buckfast Superbee. \$20.

Cheers Bar & Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Full Circle.

Club M:
Monday, Dec. 31 — New Year's
Eve Party. \$67.

Coriography:
Friday, Jan. 8 — 4 week Cuban
Dance Series. \$40.
Tuesday, Jan. 15 — 4 week

Cuban Dance Series. \$40.
Tuesday, Jan. 22 — 4 week
Cuban Dance Series. \$40.

Cuvier Club:
Sunday, Jan. 6 — Ira Liss Big
Band Jazz Machine. \$25.

Dirk's Niteclub:
Friday, Dec. 28 — Farm Truck.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Barbwire.
Monday, Dec. 31 — Get
Groovin'.

**Dizzy's/Musicians Union
Hall:**
Friday, Dec. 28 — Boogie Woogie
Duets. \$25.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Boogie
Woogie Duets. \$25.
Sunday, Jan. 6 — Sean Hicke CD
Release. \$10-\$15.

Doubletree Hotel San Diego:
Monday, Dec. 31 — Opulence
NYE. \$45-\$55.

Draft:
Monday, Dec. 31 — NYE
Beachfront Bash. \$20-\$165.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:
Monday, Dec. 31 — Debora
Galan. Free.

Famous Mexican Village:
Monday, Dec. 31 — It's Never
2L8.

**First United Methodist
Church of San Diego:**
Sunday, Jan. 13 — The
Occidental College Glee Club.
Free.

Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen:
Sunday, Jan. 13 — Bonneville
7. Free.

Full Circle Saloon:
Friday, Jan. 4 — Bonneville 7.
Free.

Garage Kitchen + Bar:
Monday, Dec. 31 — New Year's
Eve. Free.

Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad:
Friday, Jan. 18 — Gone Blonde.
Free.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Gone Blonde.
Free.

**Handlery Hotel's 950
Lounge:**
Friday, Dec. 28 — Edward
Gabrielyan, Rob Thorsen &
Duncan Moore. Free.
Friday, Jan. 4 — Leighton, Patton
& Kornhauser. Free.
Friday, Jan. 11 — Lori Bell. Free.
Friday, Jan. 18 — Wolf, Thorsen
& Sellers. Free.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Danny Green
& Tripp Sprague. Free.

Hard Rock Hotel:
Monday, Dec. 31 — NYE 2019.
\$20-\$80.

Harp:
Friday, Jan. 4 — Full Moon
Fever. Free.

**Harrah's Resort Southern
California:**
Friday, Jan. 11 — REO
Speedwagon. \$39-\$95.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La
Mesa:**
Friday, Dec. 28 — Black Market
III.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Ron's
Garage.
Monday, Dec. 31 — Safety
Orange.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill
Rancho San Diego:**
Friday, Dec. 28 — Rane/Butler.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — The
Jamacha Project. Free.
Monday, Dec. 31 — The Farmers.

Saturday, Jan. 5 — King Taylor
Project. Free.

House of Blues:
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Who's Bad.
\$19-\$40.

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Michael
Head & the Moneybags. Free.
Friday, Dec. 28 — Jerry "Hot
Rod" DeMink. Free.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Sublime
With Rome and Katastro. \$35-
\$75.
Sunday, Dec. 30 — Sublime With
Rome and Pacific Dub. \$35-\$75.
Sunday, Dec. 30 — Chad & Rosie.
Free.

Monday, Dec. 31 — Miles
Medina & Friends. \$30-\$50.
Thursday, Jan. 3 — Vicente
Fernandez. \$15-\$30.
Friday, Jan. 4 — The Dan Band.
\$20-\$55.
Saturday, Jan. 5 — Calpurnia.
\$20-\$40.

Tuesday, Jan. 8 — Robin Henkel.
Friday, Jan. 11 — Emo Night.
\$15-\$20.
Saturday, Jan. 12 — Randy
Rogers. \$25-\$50.
Sunday, Jan. 13 — Young Dolph.
\$35-\$60.
Monday, Jan. 14 — Dorothy
and Spirit Animal. \$20-\$25.
Tuesday, Jan. 15 — Robin
Henkel.
Friday, Jan. 18 — Noche de Rock
en Espanol. \$15-\$30.
Friday, Jan. 18 — Long and
Winding Road. \$20-\$25.
Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Robin
Henkel.
Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Jacquees.
\$25-\$50.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — And That's
Why We Drink. \$27.
Friday, Jan. 25 — And That's
Why We Drink. \$27.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Like A Storm.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Cautious Clay. \$15.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Steel Panther. \$22-\$55.

Irenic:

Monday, Dec. 31 — Magic Giant. \$39.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Mae. \$22-\$89.

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Generation Next: Hearing the Future of Jazz.

Kearny Mesa Moose Lodge:
Monday, Dec. 31 — Brown Sugar. \$25-\$50.

Ki's Restaurant:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Kraken:

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Bonneville 7. Free.

L'Auberge Del Mar:

Monday, Dec. 31 — A Vintage New Year's Eve. \$129-\$229.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, Jan. 18 — Robin Henkel Trio.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Keni Yarbro.

Friday, Dec. 28 — Rick Ross.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Whitney Shay.

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:

Monday, Dec. 31 — NYE Celebration: Euphoric Haze. \$65-\$80.

Lestat's Coffee House:

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Sahara Grim.
Sunday, Jan. 13 — Robin Henkel Band.

Library:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Amy & the Unknown.

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

Monday, Dec. 31 — Redwoods Revue. \$50.

Loft:

Thursday, Jan. 10 — ArtPower: Somi. \$18-\$35.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:

Friday, Jan. 18 — West of 5. Free.

Martinis Above Fourth I

Table + Stage:
Tuesday, Jan. 8 — Breakthrough Revue 2019. \$20.
Thursday, Jan. 17 — Brian Justin Crum. \$40-\$50.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Merrow:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Roger!

Moonshine Beach:

Monday, Dec. 31 — Jerry Jacobs. Free.
Monday, Dec. 31 — New Years Eve with Jerry Jacobs. \$20-\$25.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Lindsay Ell.

Moonshine Flats:

Monday, Dec. 31 — New Years Eve with Yankton. \$25-\$40.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Lindsay Ell.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Three Chord Justice.
Thursday, Dec. 27 — Custard Pie.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Celeste Barbier.
Saturday, Dec. 29 — Grey Illusion.
Friday, Jan. 18 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Music Box:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Poolside. \$20.

Friday, Dec. 28 — An-Ten-Nae. \$17-\$20.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Grupo Corrupta and Estevan Plazola. \$27-\$42.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Bar1ne & Friends. \$10.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — The Steely Damned 2 Holiday Show. \$24-\$72.

Monday, Dec. 31 — BoomBox. \$45.

Friday, Jan. 4 — Electric Mud. \$7-\$10.

Saturday, Jan. 5 — The Winehouse Experience. \$22-\$47.

Thursday, Jan. 10 — Mimi Zulu, Kiyoshi, The Anodynes. \$12-\$14.

Friday, Jan. 11 — Dirtwire. \$15-\$17.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Tommy Emmanuel & John Knowles. \$67.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Kaleena Zanders & FriendZ. \$20.

Sunday, Jan. 13 — Charlie Rae. \$12-\$14.

Wednesday, Jan. 16 — Sage the Gemini.

Thursday, Jan. 17 — Lost Kings and Kream. \$20-\$25.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Rob Garza (DJ Set). \$20.

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Zoso and Band of Gringos. \$20-\$22.

Monday, Jan. 21 — Parquet Courts and Snail Mail. \$27.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Emily King. \$20-\$22.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Coral Bells and Golden Howl. \$10.

Friday, Jan. 25 — Ozomatli. \$35.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ozokidz Featuring Ozomatli. \$15.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Johnny Clarke, Tabby Diamond & Ken Bob. \$27-\$32.

Nate's Garden Grill:

Sunday, Dec. 30 — Tinkersmith. Free.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Robin Henkel.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Robin Henkel.

Navajo Live:

Friday, Dec. 28 — The New Normal.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Anonsoul and Riston Diggs.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — Evan Diamond.

Nick & G's:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, Dec. 28 — The Claypool Lennon Delirium and L.A. Witch.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — X and Los Lobos. \$35.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — X and Los Lobos. \$35.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Peter Murphy & David J. \$40-\$45.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Whitey Morgan and the 78's.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Whitey Morgan. \$25.

Ocean Beach Playhouse:

Thursday, Jan. 10 — Springboard West Music Festival.

Friday, Jan. 11 — Springboard West Music Festival.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Springboard West Music Festival.

Old Town Temecula Community Theater:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Infinite Floyd: A Pink Floyd Experience. \$22-\$35.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Hollywood U2. \$22-\$35.

Pechanga Arena San Diego:

Saturday, Dec. 29 — OMFG! NYE. \$100-\$110.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — OMFG! NYE. \$100-\$110.

Monday, Dec. 31 — OMFG! NYE. \$100-\$110.

Wednesday, Jan. 9 — Disturbed and Three Days Grace.

Pounders:

Friday, Jan. 11 — West of 5. Free.

Saturday, Jan. 12 — West of 5. Free.

Prohibition:

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

Saturday, Jan. 5 — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

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

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

Saturday, Jan. 5 — Rough Riot, Rattz, Symbolic.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Southern Reign and Artimus Pyle Band.

Red Door Restaurant & Wine Bar:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Gina Sobel.

Friday, Dec. 28 — Jinnah Williams. Free.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — Gina Sobel.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Rosie O'Grady's:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.

Searsucker Gaslamp:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Old Skool Hip-Hop Brunch. Free.

Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa:

Monday, Dec. 31 — Family Friendly New Year's Eve Speakeasy Bash. \$50-\$130.

Shout House:

Monday, Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve. \$50-\$160.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, Dec. 27 — Sol Orchid and the Values. \$6.

Friday, Dec. 28 — Hideout and Heavy Hawaii. \$10.

Saturday, Dec. 29 — Keepers and Sixes. \$5.

Sunday, Dec. 30 — La Beat Cantina. \$7.

Monday, Dec. 31 — Weatherbox and Pistolita. \$15-\$20.

Friday, Jan. 4 — Elektric Voodoo and Rally Club. \$8.

Sunday, Jan. 6 — Quali, Praying, Runs Deep. \$7.

Friday, Jan. 11 — The Undercover Dream Lovers and Boyo. \$10-\$12.

Monday, Jan. 14 — Mother Mother. \$15.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Dent May. \$10-\$12.

Sunday, Jan. 20 — 88 Fingers Louie and Decent Criminal. \$15-\$17.

MONDAY DECEMBER 31ST, 2018

NEW YEAR'S EVE

2019

DJ 9DM-CLOSE

NO COVER

4 COURSE DRIX FIXE MENU

\$45/GUEST

1ST COURSE
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Get behind The Mule

Forty-seven years in the director's chair with almost forty films to show for it, and thank God that Clint Eastwood's not done yet. Some pictures aren't as good as others, to be sure, but there's hardly a stinker in Eastwood's rose garden. (The "hardly" stands for *Invictus*.) To those who've dedicated their lives to

crunching numbers, Eastwood prides himself on bringing 'em in on time and under budget. So why is Warner Bros. doing its best to put the cart before *The Mule*?

Once upon a time, Clint Eastwood opened his pictures with rippleless overhead shots, observed from a distance to establish time and place. Seeing how Eastwood's latest finds him playing a horticulturist, it only seems fitting that the 88-year-old's eye-level positioning of his camera plants us in a flower bed approximately six feet above ground. If the amount of emotional damage he'd already inflicted on two generations of women were any indication, Earl Stone (Eastwood) was always one to put work before family. Ex-wife Mary (Dianne Wiest) and daughter Iris (Alison Eastwood) are working overtime to avoid a hat-trick by keeping Earl as far as possible from granddaughter Ginny (Taissa Farmiga).

By his own admission, Earl was never a "plan B kinda' guy." As a businessman, he had the makings of a great agriculturist. Ten lean years following a Gold Medal win for his green thumb, and Earl was no longer capable of popping for a round of drinks on the house. This all changed at Ginny's wedding, when a public shaming by Mary led to an encounter with a stranger bearing news of part-time employment.

We follow Earl on a dozen runs, a tire shop in El Paso fronting as a home base for the drug operation with a job opening. What began as a heedful exchange of introductory glances between a dirty windshield and an equally grimy garage door portal blossoms into a chummy relationship between co-workers. Like Ben Shockley before him — *The Gauntlet* will forever have a soft spot in my heart — Earl gets the job done and does what he's told. Even though he's pushing ninety, it's hard to believe that Earl initially had no clue as to what's inside the duffel bags placed in the bed of his pickup. Surely a guy like

Earl watches network TV.

Earl's work ethic and spotless driving record don't go unnoticed. Cartel kingpin Laton (Andy Garcia) is looking to make him his number one driver. But Laton's not the only one with an eye cast in Earl's direction. A pair of Chicago DEA agents

(Bradley Cooper and Richard Pena) are on the lookout for a myste-

rious mule responsible for smuggling a monthly average of 10 kilos of cocaine across Illinois state lines. The flow of conflicting yet never-snagging parallel storylines finds storyteller Eastwood at the top of his game.

Eastwood and Earl have lived long enough for both to have lost their filters. (In Earl's case, Mary claims that he never had a filter to lose.) No longer behind the wheel of a Gran Torino, a lot of cranky Walt Kowalski finds its way into Eastwood's Earl, particularly his simple-minded view of race relations. Stopping to help a couple fix a flat, red-stater Earl still relies on "Negro folks" as a convivial way of addressing African-Americans. Would Eastwood risk alienating Trump supporters by casting one of their own in as ignorantly truthful a light as this?

In the past, Eastwood's Malpaso Productions has generally meant healthy grosses for Warner Bros. The reluctance on the part of the studio to promote this picture is tantamount to building a wall around Clint Eastwood. For starters, this is the only Eastwood picture in memory not to be screened ahead of time for the press. Why the flop-sweat? Did the studio fear that Earl talking to an empty passenger's seat would remind audiences of Eastwood's similarly one-sided chat with a chair? Would all this talk of smuggling drugs across borders and Mexican cartels come across as pro-Trump, thus cutting box office dollars in half? Did Warner Bros. really think that Eastwood, a director known for his objectivity and cool, would be dumb enough to sabotage one of his pictures by following in the spoor of Trump supporters?

If Eastwood's greatest sin is voting Republican, I suggest we cut him some slack by separating the art from the artist. If anything, the road to greatness begins with our President manning up and following in Earl's footsteps. For those sincerely looking to turn things around, we suggest strapping Trump

MOVIES



The Mule: Clint Eastwood, flower child.

to a chair and giving him the *Clockwork Orange* with *The Mule*. Good luck making it happen.

Eastwood owes the American film-going public one thing. His job was to make a great movie again. To that extent, he has not only lived up to his part of the bargain, he's surpassed it.

— Scott Marks

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

Anna and the Apocalypse — If you see just one Christmas zombie rom-com musical this year, this will probably be it. Directed by John McPhail. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Aquaman — Aquaman, Aquaman, does whatever a salmon can! Seriously, it's Christmas. Isn't stuff like this usually released during the summer months? Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bohemian Rhapsody — Substantive biopic, or little silhouette of a docudrama sporting performances by a Queen tribute band? As frontman Freddie Mercury, Rami Malek's ability to outdistance the *Nutty Professor* bucks and *Planet of the Apes* shag is a testament to his charisma. Alas, almost from the start the project seemed ill-omened. It's not every day when a director, in this case *X-Men* mimeographer Bryan Singer, is let go part way through production due to chronic tardiness. (He was replaced by HBO veteran Dexter Fletcher, who shot for 16 days, oversaw post-production, and failed to receive a co-directing credit). Then there's screenwriter Anthony McCarten, working overtime to run the more sordid aspects of the Mercury's life through a PG-13 denaturizer. (Kindly check the camera at

the door once Mercury has followed the burly trucker into the gas station lavatory.) And I don't care if Mike Myers was half of *Wayne's World*: bang the "Gong!" for yet another latexed takeoff on a British showbiz sycophant. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bolshoi Ballet: The Nutcracker — It's Christmas. Take your little ballerina-in-training to see how the big people do it. 2015. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bumblebee — It's *Herbie* meets *Transformers* meets *Monster Trucks* when an interspecies friendship is struck between a California teenager and an otherworldly VW Bug. From Hasbro it came, but take heart: the talented Hailee Steinfeld stars and Travis Knight (*Kubo and the Two Strings*!!!) is in the director's chair. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Can You Ever Forgive Me? — Melissa McCarthy's bid for dramatic cred is just nasty enough to be enjoyable, thanks hugely to Richard E. Grant's gleeful turn as a dimwitted but high-spirited end-of-the-line party boy who befriends our heroine just as she touches bottom. (Financially speaking, anyway; she's still got a way to go morally.) McCarthy plays Lee Israel, a failed biographer who insists on writing about Fanny Brice even though nobody cares about Fanny Brice. Well, that's not quite true. Someone cares enough to pay for a personal (though typewritten) letter from the once-famous comedienne, because it turns out that celebrity knick-knacks are the modern saints' relics. Some of the glamour may linger, and the faithful are only too willing to believe and buy — especially after Israel juices the missive with a snappy PS. She quickly turns suckering the literati into a cottage industry, marshalling Grant and an army of vintage typewriters to her cause. Oh, how the film would have benefitted from some illustration of how she found all those typewriters, one for each impersonated author. Instead, it spends too much time trying to humanize Israel via her relationships with a sweet bookseller, a former lover, and her cat. (How else will we know that McCarthy is a serious actress?) As it is, it benefits from cinematographer Brandon Trost's grey-brown depiction of New York City,

and director Marielle Heller's (*Diary of a Teenage Girl*) matter-of-fact tone. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (LA PALOMA)

Creed II — A pleasant crowd-pleaser. Ryan Coogler, having gone on to bigger and bigger things with *Black Panther*, steps aside and lets relative newcomer Steven Caple, Jr. do the job of mixing the beats of *Rocky III* — losing your edge and finding it again — and *Rocky IV* — facing the deadly Russian menace — into a smooth groove for the son of Apollo Creed (Michael B. Jordan). (His mom may call him a grown man now and again, but this is very much a story about growing up: facing fears, taking responsibility, quitting the grandiose narcissism of youth, etc.) The result is better than might be expected, still heavy on the Instagram aphorisms (right down to a marriage proposal that includes the line "You're the only person that I want to share my moments with") and lacking something of the original's innovative in-fight camerawork, but still managing to keep its pace and stick its moments. The Eye of the Tiger gets replaced by the Voice of the Tigress (sound, the dropping away of it, is a big theme here) as champ Creed gets drawn into a blood feud with the son of the guy who killed his dad. That guy is of course Dolph Lundgren, making the absolute most of his turn as a weather-beaten warrior who never recovered from his Big Loss. With Tessa Thompson and Sylvester Stallone. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Die Hard — Twelve superbly drilled, highly financed, and heavily armed international terrorists find themselves overmatched against a vacationing New York cop in bare feet. The action, set almost entirely inside an L.A. skyscraper, is a pyrotechnical marvel. But the overriding marvel is how action so marvelous has come to seem, in the Eighties, so routine. Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman, Bonnie Bedelia; directed by John McTiernan. 1988. — D.S. ● (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA)

Elf — Will Ferrell as a human raised by elves, leaving the womb of Santa's Workshop in full adulthood to track down his biological father, a bottom-line publisher of Kiddie Lit ("He's on the naughty list"). Directed by Jon Favreau, the film wants

to play both sides of the street — to be a True-Spirit-of-Christmas sermon and at the same time be hip, cool, sardonic, and smarty-pants — and it ends up outstaying its welcome. We do, however, get some nicely worked-out detail, a better than average bumpkin-in-Manhattan montage, and a couple of well-played secondary characters: a harried and unwhimsical toy-department manager at Gimbel's (the hefty Faizon Love) and a self-important top-selling author of children's books (the pint-sized Peter Dinklage, of *The Station Agent*). With James Caan, Zooey Deschanel, Mary Steenburgen, Bob Newhart, Edward Asner. 2003. — D.S. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald — J.K. Rowling goes full Dickens (or at least Dickensian) in an absolute dreary slog of a story full of mysterious bloodlines, secret and/or forbidden and/or frustrated love affairs, unfeeling social mores, class struggle, wretched bureaucracy, fractured families, and awkward allegories. Oh, and a big, weird speech from Johnny Depp as the titular criminal about how wizards have to rule the world in order to save humanity from themselves, as if being magical necessarily had anything to do with being good. Along the way, there are some nifty bits of CGI — black silken sheets rippling through the Parisian cityscape were very nice, and Eddie Redmayne's fantastic animal-lover gets a fun sequence where he uses flashback magic to play fellow social misfit Sherlock Holmes. But dash it all, even the devoted will likely struggle with the reams of expository talk and gobs of unearned feeling and scads of largely pointless beasties, plus some just plain lazy visuals (looking at you, magic cats). Director David Yates does what he can to provide motion and mood, but gets bogged down in the narrative and dramatic muddle. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Favourite — At the outset of director Yorgos Lanthimos' gorgeous, witty, bawdy, bruising, depressing, and disheartening romp amid the English royals, Emma Stone — playing Abigail, a clever girl from a fallen family — faces an unpleasant choice: either tolerate the wretched sexual attentions of a man or be cast out into the muck. She opts for the latter, and so arrives at the palace of Queen Anne (played with ruined majesty by Olivia Colman) to beg employment from her cousin Lady Sarah (a fearsome Rachel Weisz) stinking without but with her dignity intact. Once inside, her great goal is to scrub from herself every putrid particle of her impoverished past, and she isn't particularly particular about how she manages it, even if it means biting the well manicured hand that fed her. Abigail is a woman, you see, doomed by the unfeeling dictates of a man's world to either peddle her ass in the street (a crude expression, but one put considerably more crudely in the film, which delights in highborn vulgarity almost as much as it delights in the bulgy warp of fishy lenses) or manipulate it into an advantageous marital match. There are no heroes in *The Favourite*; there are only sad creatures driven by their various needs. There is, however, a morbid morality to the proceedings, one in which decadence is its own punishment, and the surest sign of keeping your dignity intact is to get as far away from the levers of power as possible. It turns out there are worse things than smelling like the sewer. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Free Solo — Is it strange when the wholehearted pursuit of a singular and spectacular achievement inspires pity more than awe? Jimmy Chin and



Aquaman: "So basically, we're like Underwater Thor and Underwater Loki, right?" "Right."

Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi's documentary about rock climber Alex Honnold makes the case that you don't have to be crazy to climb the 3000-foot sheer granite face of El Capitan without a rope, but it helps to have a certain...detachment from the ordinary human fear of death, and even perhaps the ordinary human love of life. And maybe other people as well. Honnold doesn't come off as any sort of monster in the face of his devoted girlfriend's distress at the prospect of his needless demise; the poor man just seems constitutionally unable to share her concern. The real moral struggle is reserved for the people manning the cameras: who wants to wind up putting a friend's death on film? But man the cameras they do, to breathtaking (breath-holding?) effect. Even if you know the outcome, the film remains a fine character study, painted on an enormous canvas. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA)

Green Book — To pick up some side money, a raffish Copacabana bouncer agrees to chauffeur and an African-American jazz musician on a concert tour through the deep South. Viggo Mortensen and Mahershala Ali's deeply engaging performances are the best Christmas present moviegoers will open this year. It's when the two finally find themselves on even footing that the picture goes beyond a standard lecture on the evils of racism. Directed by one half of the Farrelly Brothers, *Green Book* isn't content to simply smell like a *Driving Miss Daisy*. Surprisingly, the messages are not imparted with a wagging finger, but smuggled in as a shared experience. Is it a feel-good charmer poised to rake in greenbacks and Oscar gold? You bet! But don't let that keep you away from this overall well balanced (and timed) look forward from the safe distance of America's motley past. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Grinch — Or: *How the Grinch Sucked the Life out of the Multiplex, and also Sucked the Dollars out of a Bunch of Grown-Ups Wallets*. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Home Alone — Underimagined fairy tale about the runt of the household who gets accidentally left behind when the family takes off for France, fends for himself, fends off burglars (à la Dustin Hoffman in *Straw Dogs*), grows, in short, into a little man. It might just have worked

if the filmmakers had spent as much thought on what a kid could actually get into and get out of as they did on what would get kids into a movie theater (e.g., "Don't you know how to knock, phlegm-wad!?!"). Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern, Catherine O'Hara; directed by Chris Columbus. 1990. — D.S. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Mary Poppins Returns — Musical-mangler, Rob Marshall (*Chicago, Nine*) tries his hand at trouncing a Disney classic. Review forthcoming at *sandiegoreader.com*. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Mary Queen of Scots — Near the end of Josie Rourke's pox-and-all rendition of Mary Stuart's misadventures in monarchy (at the outset, she is former Queen of France, current Queen of Scotland,

and hopeful Queen of England), the beleaguered Catholic asks her Protestant cousin Elizabeth (Margot Robbie), "How did it come to this?" We know the "this" from the opening scene, wherein she is taken from her knees before an altar and placed on her knees before a chopping block. The rest of the film is concerned with the "how," and while there is much to admire — particularly the period aesthetic and Saoirse Ronan's quicksilver lead performance — there is also much to lament: wonky political fast-talking over character interaction, a too-oft indulged tendency toward melodrama, and a largely failed attempt to parallel the struggles of two powerful women navigating the corridors of power. Mary has the better of it — in terms of both story and character — right up until her fateful confrontation with Elizabeth, which

strives for momentousness but instead comes off befuddling. (How *did* it come to this?) After that, Robbie rises up and shows why she took the role, and the film manages a strong finish despite everything that's come before. If it's not quite a success, at least it's an ambitious failure. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Mortal Engines — A mysterious young woman pairs with a dangerous outlaw and together they lead a rebellion against a giant predator city on wheels. What will they think of next? 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Mule — Clint Eastwood's latest is the first of his films that wasn't screened in advance for the press. Sure, Clint's a Republican in a liberal's world, but can't Hollywood separate the art from the artist? Reviewed this issue. 2018. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Nutcracker and the Four Realms — How do you know it's a Disney picture even if you've missed the magic castle logo? The protagonist's mother is dead before the opening credits roll and a mouse shall lead them. Make that King Mouse, a creature made whole only when hundreds of Miceys stand on each other's shoulders to form a lean, mean, vermin machine. Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren bring little more than marquee value to justify their paychecks, and it would have been hard to find someone less emotive and more void of humor than star Mackenzie Foy. And yet, maybe see it anyway, for the effects work and production design, both of which are nothing short of spectacular. Lasse Hallstrom (*My Life as a Dog, What's Eating Gilbert Grape*), Disney's first choice for director, was unavailable when it came time to return for the additional CGI work needed to complete the film. So visual effects doyen Joe Johnston (*Honey, I Shrank the Kids, Captain America: The First Avenger*) was contracted for 32 days of reshoots. My biggest regret is not having seen it in 3D. With equal tributes to Leopold Stokowski and Dave Edmunds. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

FILM FESTIVALS

Salt of the Earth (1954)

Mexican-American workers strike against a zinc plant, demanding pay commensurate with their white male counterparts, while the Union president can't find it in his heart to embrace the concept of women as his peers. A near-perfect marriage of documentary realism and narrative storytelling, this is one of the greatest movies you've probably never heard of. Released at the height of the red scare, this pro-Communist collaboration between director Herbert J. Biberman, screenwriter Michael Wilson, producer Paul Jarrico, and composer Sol Kaplan, was — not unlike its four crew members — placed on the Hollywood blacklist, and it remains the only film ever afforded that dubious distinction. Light years ahead of its time, and with the type of strong female lead that's sorely lacking in *Roma* — a film that *Salt* clearly influenced — if you can't spend the day after Christmas listening to Ralph DeLauro's insights when he screens the picture, you are strongly urged to track down a copy. CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY: Wednesday, December 26 at 6 pm.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)

Clark Griswold (Chevy Chase) is determined to have a "fun, old-fashioned family Christmas" even if it involves a citywide



National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation: A Hallmark moment for Clark Griswold.

power outage and calling out the SWAT team. Adapted by John Hughes from a short story he wrote for *National Lampoon*, this is easily the best of *Vacation* sequels — though that's not saying a lot — and the only one in the series to warrant a spin-off of its own. (Made-for-TV and minus Chase, does *Christmas Vacation 2* really qualify?) Randy

Quaid's trailer-trash uncle is always good for a few cheap laughs, but *Vacation 3* is best remembered, at least by this critic, as Juliette Lewis' calling card and the last picture to feature the incomparable Mae Questel, aka the voice of Betty Boop. The film's biggest drawback? How is it that a *Vacation* sequel doesn't include even a brief refrain from Lindsey Buckingham's "Holiday Road"? PEARL HOTEL DIVE-IN THEATER: Wednesday, December 19 at 8 pm.

Elf (2004) and White Christmas (1954)

We talked about *Elf* and *White Christmas* in last week's edition. In case you missed them — or have any desire to watch either film outdoors and from the the comfort of a golf cart — the Fairmont Grand Del Mar will be giving both pictures the "drive-in" treatment on the hotel's Aria Lawn. Guests have the option of viewing the films from the comfort of a golf cart, chair, or blanket. Admission is \$20 per carload, so be sure and sneak an extra couple of bodies in the trunk. The best part of the evening will no doubt be calling a friend back east to remind them that it's late December and that you and the family are currently seated outdoors and watching a movie. Bwahahaha! FAIRMONT GRAND DEL MAR **Elf**: Tuesday, December 18 at 6 pm **(Elf)** and **Thursday, December 27 at 6 pm (White Christmas)**.

Calendar

MOVIES

Once Upon A Deadpool — A PG-13 *Deadpool* feature geared for children. As if the other ones weren't? 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Overlord — A WWII zombie film. Really? Aren't Nazis frightening enough that you don't need to add more monsters? 2018. (AMC MISSION VALLEY; REGAL OCEANSIDE)

The Possession of Hannah Grace — A young girl is possessed by the devil... stop me if you're heard this one. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Quake (Skjelvet) — It's been over a hundred years since a major earthquake hit Oslo, but it only took Fantefilm three years to crank out a seismic sequel to their tsunami hit *The Wave*. Kristoffer Joner returns as the jinxed geologist fond of "alternative theories" who, in this case, is the only egghead in all of Norway to know the precise moment when the next big temblor will hit. A perfectly good disaster film is almost done in by a middling Irwin Allen-esque family-in-crisis subplot. (Daddy misses out on his little girl's opening night performance at the opera because he's out trying to alert Sweden to the unceasing horror and whatnot that lies ahead.) The quake doesn't hit until around the 70 minute mark, but when it does, the devastation doesn't stop until the filmmakers have imaginatively expended their comparatively runty (by American standards) \$60 million budget. This marks cinematographer John Andreas Andersen's first solo flight behind the camera as director. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Ralph Breaks the Internet — A welcome improvement over the original *Wreck-It Ralph's* tale of a good guy (voiced to sweetly earnest perfection by John C. Reilly) who can't seem to shake his onscreen character's nasty rep when he's off duty with his fellow video-game actors. (What part of show business don't they understand?) In that story, he sets off on a hero's quest to prove his goodness, and ends up with the prize he desired all along: a friend (Sarah Silverman as the glitchy Princess Vanellope). In this one, he sets off — after an unusually slow, clunky opening — on another, this time to save Vanellope's race-car video game from the scrap heap. But the journey takes the two of them out of the arcade's old-school confines and into the dizzying variety and scope of online life, and it isn't long before lil' V finds the dream world she didn't even know she was dreaming of in the online video game *Slaughter Race*. That's when things get both personal and interesting, as directors Rich Moore and Phil Johnston artfully explore the promise, the horror, and the heartbreak of the internet's infinite possibility. (There's only so far a family movie can go in showing a world where everyone can be just as awful as they want to be without consequence, which makes their achievement here all the more impressive: what it does to Ralph is deeply unsettling but not quite terrifying.) Best of all, they don't shy away from the ending their story demands. Second-best of all, they go goofily meta in a scene where Vanellope meets her fellow Disney princesses, but have the good sense to know when it's time to get back to the straight story. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Roma — If a film were to be judged solely on its opening shot, *Roma*



For those too cheap to buy a ticket, but eager to learn about an umbrella-powered nanny, radioactive spider bites, and how to make money by illegally transporting drugs across state lines, we offer these three stay-at-home remedies.

— Scott Marks

MARY POPPINS (1964)

Before the term "comic book movie" became a boulder in the shoe of film critics everywhere, the three most dreaded words in the cinematic lexicon were "live action Disney." (Cough hard enough and you can still relish the saccharine remains of *Darby O'Gill, The Apple Dumpling Gang, and Blackbeard's Ghost*.) Thanks in large part to the magic of humans artfully coexisting with their singing and dancing cartoon counterparts, *Mary Poppins* at times transcends the categorization. But once the rain washes away the chalk drawings, half the picture goes down the drain with it. How as children we all managed to survive the one-two punch of the dewey-eyed *Feed the Birds* number followed by the equally lumbering Fiduciary Fidelity sequence — one cockeyed Cockney-spouting Dick Van Dyke creation is enough — is a question I refuse to answer on the grounds that it will exasperate me. Fortunately,

would handily deserve all of this year's best picture honors. Alfonso Cuarón's curtain-raising quest to kee poetry out of life's most mundane corners consumes but three minutes of a 135-minute running time. It's a brilliant setup for what's to come, but the two hours that lie ahead find moments of schematized repetition that border on gimmickry and cause the mind to disengage and begin drifting almost as much as Cuarón's camera. Round and round the interior scenes it goes, where the oscillating lens stops, nobody knows. The black-and-white 'Scope images have the makings of a fine coffee table book, but at 24 fps, very little about these characters and their soap opera

a chorus of flue-cleaning acrobats are the spoonful of sugar needed to sweep away the stagnation.

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (1977)

A doctor in mid-consultation suddenly and without explanation exits the examination room. Before he can finish his closing argument, a barber unbars the door and bolts. A gasmask covers the face of the grandmotherly choir singer calmly exiting



Mary Poppins: Lambs to the laughter.

a bank, a smoking gun in one hand and a suitcase filled with cash in the other. These three ordinary citizens, along with seven more — all placed under the spell of a crazed extortionist (Thayer David) interfering with their thought patterns — are turned into bank robbing kamikaze zombies in this, Spider-Man's big-screen debut. (Originally intended as a network pilot for the short-lived TV series, it received a wide release abroad and a limited run Stateside.) Flat TV lighting is far more conducive to bringing comic book panels to life, and the pre-CGI wall-

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walking effects are indeed special. One year before Dino De Laurentiis's *Superman* showed moviegoers that a man could fly, fans of this series were equally as convinced that Peter Parker (Nicholas Hammond) could scale the heights of a Gotham skyscraper. With David White (Larry Tate on TV's *Bewitched*), perfectly cast as J.J. Jameson. Watch it on YouTube.

MARIA FULL OF GRACE (2004)

Maria (Catalina Sandino Moreno) is young, she's pregnant, and she's desperate for work — so desperate that she'll line her guts with grape-sized pellets of cocaine and smuggle the drugs across the Colombian border to make cash.

Moreno earned a well-deserved Oscar nod for her unvarnished depiction of a woman dependent on (but not addicted to) drugs to provide for her family. Even though it predates Clint Eastwood's latest by over a decade, this isn't the first film about a drug mule. I'm guessing that honor belongs to *Midnight Express*. (Or does it only count when the drugs in your colorectal system aren't for personal use?) My predecessor in these parts, Duncan Shepard, dubbed it *Maria Full of Shit*. Don't you hate it when someone beats you to the punchline?

WIDE RELEASE)

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse — Don't let the title fool you. It's just another Spider-Man cartoon. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

They Shall Not Grow Old 3D — Is it ironic or fitting that director Peter Jackson's brilliant use of technology should help make such an arresting treatment of a war in which technology — tanks, machine guns, mustard gas, etc. — wrought heretofore undreamt-of horror upon humanity? Either way, it's astonishing that a film which must resort to illustrations to depict its actual battle sequences should prove to be such an immediate, immersive, and affecting

account of soldierly life during the Great War, thanks to Jackson's addition of color and depth to archival footage and photos of what went on before and after the carnage. (Think home movies if your home was a rat-infested trench with shells bursting overhead and mines exploding underfoot.) Thanks also to the careful and continual use of bits from old interviews with old veterans to narrate the proceedings, from hearing the call to arms and rushing to sign up to getting outfitted, trained, fed, shipped, sent to the front, sent over the top, and sent home. We don't learn a single name or follow any one soldier, but the film still manages an intense intimacy between the viewer and viewed. An achievement, an experience, and a remarkable tribute. See it on the big screen, and in 3D if at all possible. 2018. — M.L. ★★★★★ (AMC MISSION VALLEY; AMC OTAY RANCH; AMC PALM PROMENADE)

Vox Lux — Haven't fans of movie musicals suffered enough in one year what with the dreadful likes of *A Star Is Born* and *Bohemian Rhapsody*? It's easy to see why Natalie Portman chose to star as the adult victim of a high school shooting who channels her personal tragedy into a successful career as a rock icon. It's a reel or so before she appears, but once onscreen, everything evolves from her character. Everything save for silly stuff like plot motivation, character development, entertainment value, etc. That's where writer-director Brady Corbet's disappoints. It's rare that Natalie Portman lets you down, but when she does, it's painful. Ever wonder what it would be like watching Portman channel Frankenstein's bride — the Shinola'd temple gave her away — Katy Perry, and TV's Fran Drescher? If the answer is yes, you had better hurry, because this probably won't last the week. It's narrator Willem Dafoe, delivering much needed exposition and added layers of social commentary, who is assigned most of the grunt work. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Welcome to Marwen — You saw the documentary (or maybe you didn't), now see the heartwarming and inspirational Robert Zemeckis drama based on the documentary! After cross-dressing Mark Hogencamp gets severely beaten by a gang of thugs, he spends nine days in a coma and loses most of his memories. In a form of home-remedy therapy, he constructs a miniature Belgian village, circa World War II. And of course, that means Nazis. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Widows — A group of gangster widows, led with tigerish confidence by Viola Davis, find their husbands' blueprint for a heist and decide to try their hands at robbery. *Widows* peaks when focusing on the crime at hand. Basing his story on a pair of six-part Thames Television mini-series from the 80's, director Steve McQueen has a tough job of holding together all of the plot strings without overlapping into coincidence. (Fortunately for Elizabeth Debicki, the trio's first meeting is being held on the same night that she decides to test the waters as a high-price call girl. That way, if she bails, it's just a short cab ride across town and out of the plot contrivance.) The worse the bad guy, the better the picture. We could have used more of Daniel Kaluuya's flagrant nastiness — his "rapping dumpster" shootings help to compensate for Robert Duvall's moth-eaten performance as a racist politician. It could be the most thinly-sketched character ever presented

A hard sit

You can escape Nazis, but you can't escape family

Sometimes novelists tell a story backward, from finish to start. In theater, “reverse chronology” is rare. Harold Pinter’s *Betrayal*, one of the few successes, begins after the end of an affair and backpedals seven years to the first stirrings. The Stephen Sondheim/George Furth musical *Merrily We Roll Along* follows the 20-year moral decline of a composer turned movie producer, backwards. The original received negative reviews. A 1985 revision by Des McAnuff and the La Jolla Playhouse fared better but had troubles as well.

Part of the problem: a novel can run in reverse because the reader can go back and fact-check, but theater audiences don’t have instant replay and, in Lindsey Ferrentino’s *The Year to Come*, may struggle to determine what’s important as scenes retreat further and further from today.

The play’s set in a family’s screened-in patio — swimming pool included — somewhere in Florida. It’s New Year’s Eve, 2018. The family is a Noah’s Ark of diversity: Estelle’s father Pop-pop was a Jewish immigrant who remembers Berlin in the 1930’s. She married Frank, a Cuban-American fireman, now retired. Frank calls their son Jim, “special,” because Jim is gay. Jim’s husband, Sinan, is a Muslim law partner. Now retired, Joe’s an African-American who wanted to be a comedian

but quit to pay wife Pam’s health bills. Pam, who had ovarian cancer, is Frank’s Cuban sister. Jim and Sinan adopt Asian twin infants.

Betrayal follows three characters (four, counting the waiter) for seven years, and is easy to follow. Keeping tabs on eight characters for 18 years in reverse, along with tracking an abundance of themes, makes for a hard sit, especially in the long first act.

Pam begins the play, December 2018, on oxygen. She has lung cancer, she announces, while taking a drag off a cigarette. Changes can be sudden or almost imperceptible, she says: forget how “we got here... only look ahead.” The play prefers how they got here.

By 2018, the family’s battle lines have long since been drawn. If you believe him, Frank is America’s Number One First Responder Hero Extraordinaire. During 9/11, he charged through frantic crowds and saved countless lives. His wife Estelle is a mess. A life-wrecking experience shriveled her. When she says she may start the Atkins diet as a New Year’s resolution, one only half believes her. Of course, given the way he boasts, one may only half believe Frank as well.

The family has a rule — “no politics on a holiday” — that they break on entering the house, which becomes the site of a culture war. Along with the obvious dividers of political and sexual

THEATER

JEFF SMITH



PHOTOGRAPH BY JIM CARMODY

The Year to Come: “It’s rare to have a play telling us about ourselves right now.”

The Year to Come, by Lindsey Ferrentino.

Mandell Weiss Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive.

Directed by Anne Kauffman, cast: Marcia DeBonis, Jonathan Nichols, Jane Kaczmarek, Adam Chanler-Brat, Pomme Koch, Ray Anthony Thomas, Peter Van Wagner, Jeanna Dioguardi; scenic design, Christopher Acebo, costumes, Dede Ayite, lighting, Lap Chi Chui, sound, Brandon Wolcott, videos, Anna Robinson, wig and makeup, J. Jared Janas.

Playing through December 30: Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

preference, the play picks up on a current divide: facts versus “a fact that is factually untrue.” Jim and Sinan argue for adherence to truth. Frank, Pam, and her husband Joe say that kind of thinking is

hoity-toity BS. Joe says “the truth is too hard to understand.” Pam claims she’s not stupid, she’s “just not interested in being smart.” They say “you’re gonna believe what you’re gonna believe.”

CRITIC'S CHOICE
— San Diego Union-Tribune

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

the YEAR TO COME
BY LINDSEY FERRENTINO DIRECTED BY ANNE KAUFFMAN

Jane Kaczmarek and Marcia DeBonis with Adam Chanler-Berat and Pomme Koch (front) in *The Year to Come*; photo by Jim Carmody

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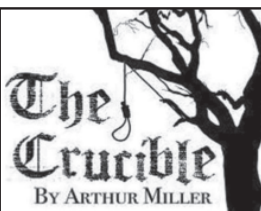
Liana Hunt, Kaylin Hedges, and Aaron C. Finley. Photo by Ken Howard.

How this fact/anti-fact divide evolved is one of the play's more interesting aspects. Especially when depressed Estelle says "sadness will be just a fact we carry."

As the years recede, there's a marriage, an infidelity, illness, and resolutions made and broken. Some people grow, some stagnate, and yet they keep coming back to the screen room, in spite of differences, to ring in the New Year.

The playwright works with a huge canvas and deserves kudos for the attempt. Also it's rare to have a play telling us about ourselves right now. But *The Year to Come* tries to cover so much ground that some scenes and characters are sketchy. In the beginning, Pam says change is often imperceptible ("like a frog simmering on a boiler"). But since the play will probably go from 2018 back to 9/11, must it cover every year along the way? It's never wise to show how long something will take on stage. When it's, say, 2009, you have at least eight more scenes to wade through.

Overall, the play beams on and off. And the outcome's fairly predictable. Individual scenes and performances, however, are memorable. Jonathan



By Arthur Miller.

"It is rare for people to be asked the question which puts them squarely in front of themselves."

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ANTI-REVIEW MICHA BARNES

Those were the days

WITH 2019 ONLY WEEKS AWAY, I watched world premiere play *The Year to Come* open at the La Jolla Playhouse. Every scene in the play takes place at a family New Year's Eve party, and we see the family change as the years go by — moving backwards.

During intermission, it strikes me I'm more excited to attend a play these days than I am to go to the movies. I wonder why that is?

In November 2018, I was searching for my favorite reusable grocery bag when I found an old Netflix DVD return sleeve at the bottom of a drawer. The self-adhesive red envelopes used to be all over my house, with DVD rentals coming in or going out several times per week. DVD by mail once felt very modern, but now this slip of paper feels like a relic. I can't remember the last time I viewed a DVD, or even owned a video disc player of any kind.

In 2011, I got a Blu Ray player that doubled as a streaming device for my TV, so I could connect it directly to Netflix and watch movies and TV shows online, rather than wait for them to arrive by mail. That same year, Netflix announced it would split

into two companies: Netflix would stream entertainment, while a new brand, Qwikster, would deliver DVDs by mail. So many parts of this decision were terrible that Qwikster got buried faster than New Coke,



The cast of La Jolla Playhouse's world-premiere production of *The Year to Come*, by Lindsey Ferrentino, directed by Anne Kauffman, running Dec 4 – 30

and Netflix continued to both stream and rent DVDs by mail. But not really.

It's a full ten years now, since 2008, that Netflix has been streaming video. Home internet connections didn't all feature broadband speeds at the time, so I remember looking at it as a novelty. Of course, in 2008 I would still frequently find movie ticket stubs in my pockets while doing laundry.

Twelve years ago, in 2006, the iPhone didn't exist yet, and Facebook first opened membership of its social platform to people outside colleges and corporations. I

raised my Netflix subscription to three DVDs at a time, though I recall going to the theater to see the climate change documentary *An Inconvenient Truth*. Eco-friendly was a marketable term, but as a society we still could not reach a consensus whether paper or plastic grocery bags were better for the environment.

The number of movie tickets sold in North America topped 1.5 billion for the first time in 2002. That number has trended downward ever since.

It was 1998, a full 20 years ago, that Netflix first launched its web-based DVD by mail business. The same year, television networks began broadcasting in high definition, bringing near-film-quality images to American living rooms.

Back in the 1996, a passage of near-future sci-fi novel *Infinite Jest* predicted daily home delivery of DVDs. I clearly remember shaking my head while reading it. No way that would ever work, I thought. Despite numbering over one thousand pages, *Infinite Jest* outsold another book published that year, one titled *Game of Thrones*.

Nichols' bigoted Frank is a narcissist. He tries to tear others down. He craves attention. A compulsive liar, he makes up reality. Whatever he says becomes true because he said it. When it comes to "alternative facts," he may have only one rival.

For most of the play, Jane Kaczmarek just mopes as Frank's wife Estelle. What's this gifted actor doing in such a nothing role? Turn her loose! Year does, and she and Peter Van Wagner take over.

Van Wagner's Pop-Pop, the nearly comatose grandfather, slumps in a wheelchair until 2010. Just when the show needs stealing, he comes to life as if resurrected. He delivers a searing monologue and opens act two (2008) with a version of "Viva Las Vegas" that threatens to splinter the house. In his monologue he talks about being a Jewish refugee, and how today reminds him of Germany in the 1930s. He escaped from Germany, he says. Then sums up the play: "But you can't escape family."

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.

10th Annual Nutcracker Holiday Tea

Bring your little sugarplums for an unforgettable abridged performance of Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," performed by the Scripps Performing Arts Academy. Pair every plié with a bite of scrumptious tea sandwiches and delicate French pastries. \$65 per adult | \$38 per child (ages 4 – 12) Pricing is exclusive of tax, gratuity and 20% service charge. \$10 of every ticket sold will benefit Isabella's Giraffe Club — a non-profit organization committed to providing emotional and educational support for parents with infants in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Reservations: 858.314.1996 Sunday, December 23 Seating: 10:45 am, Tea: 11:00 am, Performance: 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm Seating: 1:45 pm, Tea: 2:00 pm, Performance: 3:00 pm – 3:45 pm Monday, December 24 Seating: 10:45

am, Tea: 11:00 am, Performance: 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm FAIRMONT GRAND DEL MAR, 5300 GRAND DEL MAR COURT, CARMEL VALLEY. 858-314-2000. 1:45AM & 10:45AM SUNDAY, 10:45AM MONDAY, DEC. 24.

A Christmas Carol

Cygnit Theatre stages its popular rendition, by artistic director Sean Murray, of Dickens' holiday tale of extreme transformation. The piece includes puppets, a new musical sequence, and Tom Stephenson as one of San Diego's finest Scrooges ever. Murray directs. CYGNIT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

A Christmas Carol, A Radio Play

Oceanside Theatre Company celebrates the holiday season with a radio version of the Dickens classic about Scrooge, cocoon'd curmudgeon turned yuletide butterfly. Ted Lieb directs the piece, which takes place in the studios of WOTC radio. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Always...Patsy Kline

The North Coast Repertory Theatre presents Ted Swindley's tribute to the great Patsy Kline, based on her correspondence with Louise Seger, a loyal fan and friend. Songs include: "Walking After Moon-

light," "I Fall to Pieces," and "Crazy." Allegra Lionati directs. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS.

Always...Patsy Kline

The North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Ted Swindley's "musical play" about the legendary country singer, based on her friendship with Louise Seger, a fan from Houston. Songs include: "I Fall to Pieces," "Walking After Midnight," and the immortal, "Crazy." Allegra Lionati directs. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

City Ballet of San Diego: The Nutcracker

Voted San Diego's Best Nutcracker production by the "Tommy Awards," this elaborate and elegant production, with exquisite costumes and scenery, will take you on Clara's magical journey from her fun filled family Christmas party where toy soldiers and mice become life sized, to the enchanted Snow Forest and on to the Land of Sweets where she is welcomed by the Sugar Plum Fairy, her Cavalier and magical performances from dancers throughout the world. Accompanied by the City Ballet Orchestra and Chorus, this heartwarming production is the perfect way for families to immerse themselves in the holiday spirit, year after year. Following each matinee performances, members of the cast will be in the lobby to greet audience members and pose for photos. SPRECKELS THEATRE, 121 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-235-9500. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas

The Old Globe Theatre presents its traditional holiday show, in which the Green Meanie once again tries to ruin Christmas for Whoville. He has yet to succeed. Will he this time? James Vasquez directs. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 2PM SUNDAYS.

La Pastorela de la Familia

Teatro Mascara Magica presenta one of San Diego's most popular holiday shows. This year's text, written by the inventive Max Branscomb, "celebrates the family, a journey we all take and we have to choose sides, since Evil lurks in every corner and is masked with many faces." William Virchis directs. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas

Lamb's Players presents their 41st Year of "the San Diego Holiday Tradition that's Different Each December!" An original play each year, written by Kerry Meads, filled with music of the season "the entire family will enjoy." LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 6PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

Mamma Mia!

The musical celebrating the songs of ABBA is vibrantly being performed at the recently re-opened Welk Resort Theatre. This lighthearted, romantic romp through over 25 songs of the 70's musical team has a slight story line with some heartfelt moments. Directed with verve by Larry Raben and inventively choreographed by Karl Warden, it's a lively, entertaining show. Unfortunately, too much emphasis on props to animate the songs makes some numbers fall flat, such as "Chiquita" and "Dancing Queen." There are also minor cases of miscasting in the male ensemble. Jennifer Edwards lighting does much to create the mood and feel of a Greek island. Impressive performances by Misty Cotton, Barbara Schoenhofer, and Olivia Hodson. *Worth a try.* Review by Larry Steckling.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS.

Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play

San Diego Musical Theatre stages Lance Arthur Smith's musical adaptation of the popular movie as performed on the 1947 Lux Radio Hour show. When a department store Santa claims he's the real Kris Kringle, his case goes all the way to the Supreme Court. "Staged with live Foley effects and a score of favorite holiday tunes." HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS.

Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberley

New Village Arts presents the San Diego premiere of Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon's holiday sequel to Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. Two years after the novel ends, Mary is bored with her status as the forgotten middle sister. An unexpected guest at the family gathering may catch her eye. Kristianne Kurner directs. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

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 check-in points 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.

The Year to Come

La Jolla Playhouse stages the world premiere of Lindsey Ferrentino's "portrait of contemporary America through the lens of one diverse family." At a New Year's Eve gathering, "relationships grow and fracture." Anne Kaufman directs the piece, which unfolds backward in time. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

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CERTIFIED CAREGIVER WANTED IHSS County certified caregiver wanted in Escondido: Flexible hours. \$11.50ph, paid by County. Reliable transportation needed. Must be responsible. Stacy 760-294-0822

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Come work for the best! Home Care Assistance is San Diego's leading home care agency. We offer 12 hour shifts and competitive wages. For more information please call 858-842-1346 or stop by our office at 7521 Fay Avenue in La Jolla 10am-4pm Monday - Friday or call our North County office at 760-635-3646. Get started by applying online at <http://www.HCAmatch.com>

INSTRUCTORS

for Lakeside program for adults with developmental disabilities. Full time, excellent benefits including medical, dental, vision and life insurance. \$12.25/hour. Call Unyeway: 619-562-6330.

JOB COACH / GROUP.

Supervise adults with developmental disabilities in an outdoor ranch setting in Ramona. 35 hours per week. \$12.25 per hour. Excellent benefits. Call Kimberly, 619-562-8393.

Miscellaneous

Have a Spare Bedroom?

Earn a competitive stipend caring for an adult with a developmental disability in your home. Minimum requirements: Spare bedroom, proficiency in English, driver's license and high school diploma/ GED. Call today! www.MentorsWanted.com. 858-694-0120.

VOLUNTEERS 50+ WANTED:

Experience Corps is currently recruiting volunteers ages 50+ to tutor during the after school expanded learning programs in Normal Heights, City Heights, Central San Diego, Lemon Grove and the College area. Children who don't read proficiently by the end of 3rd grade are 4x more likely to drop out of school than proficient readers. You can help change this statistic! By volunteering as an AARP Foundation Experience Corps literacy mentor, you will help change the course of students' lives. Experience Corps is a proven reading program made up of tutors who work with

struggling readers in Kindergarten through 3rd grade to help them with their literacy skills. To learn more and attend an upcoming information session please contact Sigrid Struben or Kristin Shea at sstruben@theci.org or call 858-581-8880.

Salons

HAIR SALON - BOOTH RENTAL

East Mission Valley. Hairstylist and Manicurist Booths available. Room available for Massage, Facial, Waxing or Tanning. Please call or text Michelle 619-944-9966.

Computer/Technical

ENGINEERING

ServiceNow, Inc. has the following position available in San Diego, CA: Sr. Staff Database Administrator (6415): Responsible for all general database administration functions associated Oracle/MySQL systems including security, back-up, logging, reporting and recovery procedures. Work on Infrastructure activities including upgrading, restoring, syncing, and replicating data for migration. Participate in 24/7 on-call rotation for production support. Submit resume to: ServiceNow, Inc., Attn.: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Ln., Santa Clara, CA 95054. Must reference job title and job code: 6415.

ENGINEERING

ServiceNow, Inc. has the following position available in San Diego, CA: Business Systems Analyst (6463): Responsible for working with leads across the finance organization (ServiceNow Finance, Procurement, Legal, and internal IT) to understand business requirements and create Business Requirements, Functional Design, and database solutions that increase financial systems performance. Analyze, design, evaluate, test, and implement finance database systems enhancements. Submit resume to: ServiceNow, Inc., Attn.: Global Mobility, 2225 Lawson Ln., Santa Clara, CA 95054. Must reference job title and job code: 6463.

MANUFACTURING ENGINEER

ViaCyte of San Diego seeks a FT Manufacturing Eng to develop & implement mfg processes to build retrievable cell encapsulation devices that enable implanted pancreatic progenitor cells to survive & differentiate into functioning insulin producing cells; develop & implement assays to analyze & evaluate mechanical and material properties of prototype cell encapsulation devices & their raw components;& perform prospective validation processes to test & qualify related equipment. MS in Biomedical Engg/Bioengg & 6 mos exp as R&D/Manufacturing Eng inc exp analyzing properties of polymers & with design & development of encapsulation devices req. Fax resumes to 866-849-7714.

HOUSEKEEPING SERVICES

Housekeeper available for hire-Individual seeking housecleaning job,(not affiliated with agency) I'm experienced, trustworthy, dependable, reasonable rates. Contact: 619-380-4861.

CAREER TRAINING

FREE* JOB TRAINING.

Learn valuable skills to get you back on the job! Grossmont College offers a Free* one-semester full-time training program for office professional positions. Specializations in: Accounting, Banking, Insurance, and Office Support. Job placement assistance provided! Next term starts January 7, 2019, first Intake Meeting December 4. 619-644-7247. <http://www.grossmont.edu/academics/programs-departments/business-office-technology/office-professional-training-opt.aspx> *Subject to qualification.

REAL ESTATE

Miscellaneous

HOTEL OWNER WILL BUY

property anywhere. Small houses, big houses, condos, apartments, commercial, vacant land and notes. Call 619-204-0610, bkr.

ROOMMATES

Beaches

BAY PARK, \$695

In tri-level 24x18 back room, furnished, separate entrance, utilities and wifi included. For one

professional person. No smoking, quiet cul de sac. (858) 272-1594

POINT LOMA, \$975

Share my condo on edge of dusty rose park. Great backyard with double furnished decks. Shade tree. Utilities included. Direct TV with library. No pets. Call Glenda 619-222-0255.

East County

SPRING VALLEY \$475

Separate bedroom. Share utilities. Female preferred. Kitchen privileges. Laundry. No smoking. \$200 deposit. 619-829-1504.

South Bay

NATIONAL CITY, \$550.

1BD+shared bath including utilities. \$275 deposit, no smoking indoors, drugs or pets. No visitors after 9:30pm. Single occupancy only. Call Quiten 619-993-1671.

RENTALS

Commercial Rentals



DOWNTOWN, \$250-495.

Artist work spaces: Office or work spaces and retail available. 636 C Street, 92101. Inquire inside (C Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www.jspropertymanagement.com.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED TO RENT

Old lady European/American, somewhat disabled. S.S.I., in-home care. Needs nice room in kind surroundings. Seeking to rent an affordable room nearby shopping and bus. Call Natalie 619-415-5540.

Beaches

PACIFIC BEACH \$1525.

1BD+1BA top (3rd) floor large unit; updated kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry;

HELP WANTED

Immediate Openings Available For Caring And Compassionate CAREGIVERS/CNAS/HHAS

REQUIREMENTS:

Must be a Registered Home Care Aide (HCA) with the State of California, Driver's License/CA ID, Auto insurance, SSN, TB test or chest X-ray.

BENEFITS:

Competitive pay plus opportunities for applicable OT, Health and Dental Insurance, 401K with Employer Match, Free HCA training, Paid sick days, Flexible schedules.



Apply in Person:

2333 1st Ave, Ste 205, San Diego, CA 92101
or Call us @ **(619) 231-0555** or
(760) 434-4393 to schedule an appointment



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family
like yours

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Learn valuable skills to get you back on the job!

Grossmont College offers a FREE* one-semester full-time training program for office professional positions. Specializations in:

**Accounting • Insurance
Office Support**

Job placement assistance provided!

Next term starts January 7, 2019, first Intake Meeting December 4.



**GROSSMONT
COLLEGE**

(619) 644-7247

*Subject to qualification.

<http://www.grossmont.edu/academics/programs-departments/business-office-technology/office-professional-training-opt.aspx>

sparkling pool; elevator; no pets; available 1/25/19; 1433 Oliver Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-20712

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1525.

1BD+1BA; upstairs unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; coin laundry; parking; gated entry; available 1/15/19; 1448 Thomas Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1800.

2BD+1BA. 1 mile to the beach! One parking space. Laundry on site. No pets, no smoking. Grand Ave. Bkr #00767054. 619-274-9960.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1995.

2BD+1BA downstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, new plank flooring, parking, laundry room, balcony. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #8. Add Realty, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2150.

2BD+2BA; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; large upstairs unit in North PB; large private balcony; garage space; coin laundry; no pets; near Tourmaline Surf Park; available now; 830 Sapphire St. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2600.

2BD+1BA remodeled cottage in North PB; updated with newer cabinetry; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; washer/dryer in unit; private front yard area and small backyard; 2-1/2 blocks to ocean; available now; 912 Missouri Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$3000.

3BD+2BA HOUSE in the Crown Point neighborhood near bay; large 2-car garage with electric opener plus driveway parking; fireplace; stove, refrigerator; laundry hookups; WOOD FLOORS; private patio; no pets; water paid; available now; 3970 Honeycutt Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

Downtown

BANKERS HILL, \$1195.

STUDIO+1BA. Downstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, laundry room. No pets. Near Balboa Park. 2254 5th Avenue #4. Add Realty, 619-232-6811.

DOWNTOWN, \$1350.

Studio+1BA. Wood flooring. Water, trash, gas and electric



included! On-site laundry. Street parking. No pets. Near Balboa Park / Hillcrest. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

DOWNTOWN, \$1400.

STUDIO+1BA upstairs unit. 1/2 off 1st month with one-year lease! Newly renovated kitchen. Great floor plan. Coin operated laundry on site. Street parking. Cat OK with additional deposit. 1747 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

DOWNTOWN, \$525-880.

Under new management! Renovated, furnished Gaslamp rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Horton Plaza, restaurants, shops and laundry. Cable and utilities included. 720 4th Ave. 619-233-7594 or 619-727-0151.

DOWNTOWN, \$573-825.

Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic

building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

East County

LA MESA, \$1699-2090.

3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1699-2090.

3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

Central San Diego

BAY PARK, \$1695.

2BD+1BA large upstairs apartment near bay. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room. Water and trash paid. No pets. 4344 Ingulf Street #4. Add Realty, 619-232-6811.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1600.

2BD+2BA upstairs apartment. 1/2 off first month with 1-year lease! Fireplace. Central heat/ air. Microwave, dishwasher. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. 4828 Art Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

NEED A APARTMENT SHORT TERM

Make your reservations now and Get \$200 OFF every month, starting 9/15/18. Studio+1BA available. Call for Monthly, Weekly and daily specials, up to 15% OFF. Includes: weekly cleaning service, daily continental breakfast, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858)799-0219. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

Old Town & Uptown

CITY HEIGHTS, \$875.

Unfurnished studio alcove apartment. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5111 Towle Court #13. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off-street parking. \$300 deposit. Call 619-281-9451.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1375.

1BD+1BA upgraded upstairs apartment. Small, gated complex. Parking. No pets. 4377 39th St. #6. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1425-2200.

1 and 2 bedroom apartments in Pacific Beach, starting at \$1425- \$2200. 2275 Grand Ave. Pool, laundry and off-street Parking. Contact to view: 619-279-0031, rentit@mpmsandiego.com.

Vacation Rentals

TIERRASANTA, \$2,800

2 bed, 2 bath furnished condo available to rent 30 days or 6 months. Near golf course. Pool and parking. No pets. No smoking. Deposit required. 619-366-4493 or stanley68@yahoo.com.

RENTALS REGION MAP

BEACHES

La Jolla • Mission Beach • Ocean Beach
Pacific Beach • Point Loma

DOWNTOWN

Balboa Park • Banker's Hill • Downtown
East Village • Golden Hill • Little Italy
Logan Heights • Sherman Heights
South Park • Stockton

EAST COUNTY

Alpine • Borrego Springs • Boulevard
Campo • El Cajon • Imperial Valley • Jamul
Julian • La Mesa • Lakeside • Lemon Grove
Mount Laguna • Potrero • Ramona
Rancho San Diego • Santee
Spring Valley • Warner Springs

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Allied Gardens • Bay Park • Clairemont
College Area • Del Cerro • Grantville
Kearny Mesa • Linda Vista • Mira Mesa
Miramar • Mission Valley • San Carlos
Serra Mesa • Sorrento Valley • Tierrasanta • UTC

NC COASTAL

Cardiff • Carlsbad • Carmel Valley • Del Mar
Encinitas • Leucadia • Oceanside • Solana Beach

OLD TOWN & UPTOWN

City Heights • Hillcrest • Kensington-Talmadge
Mission Hills • Normal Heights • North Park
Old Town • University Heights

NC INLAND

Bonsall • Carmel Mountain • Escondido
Fallbrook • Poway • Rancho Bernardo
Rancho Peñasquitos • Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos • Scripps Ranch • Temecula
Valley Center • Vista



SOUTH BAY

Bonita • Chula Vista • Coronado
Imperial Beach • National City • Otay Mesa
Paradise Hills • San Ysidro

SOUTHEAST SD

Alta Vista • Bay Terraces • Chollas View • Encanto
Emerald Hills • Jamacha-Lomita • Lincoln Park • Mount Hope
Mountain View • Shelltown • Southcrest • Valencia Park

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(858) 799-0219





GRAND Opening

FULL BODY MASSAGE
10% OFF
 Table Shower &
 Hot Stone Available
 Offer Expires 1/1/2019



Unicorn Spa
 325 Robinson Ave., #100
 Open 10am-10pm
619-559-8161

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 7739 Othello Ave.
 Open 9:30am-10:30pm
619-288-2968

Asiana Beauty Spa
 4488 Convoy St. Suite B • Open 10am-11pm • **858-277-2585**

Lic. B2016009958





FREE TABLE SHOWER With Full Body Massage

Leisure Spa
 7878 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. • San Diego, CA 92111
 Free Validated Parking
(858) 505-8626
 Lic. B2018006449

Queen Spa
 7408 University Ave. • La Mesa, CA 91942
(619) 319-4739

5 Star Body & Foot Massage
 2615 Sweetwater Springs Blvd. • Spring Valley, CA 91978
(619) 724-6628



Special Offer!

**1 HOUR
BODY MASSAGE**
\$35

**90 MINUTES
MASSAGE**
\$50

(Just mention this ad. Not to be combined with other offers)

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3555 Rosecrans St., #106
 San Diego 92110
619-222-9888
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5208 Jackson Dr., # 112
 La Mesa, CA 91941
619-929-5258
 imassagesd.com

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HAPPY FOOT SPA

\$10 OFF 1-Hour Combo Massage
 (Reg. \$35)

**Foot
Massage**
\$15⁹⁹/hr
 Monday - Friday
 Before 1 PM

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 Buy 5 time
 get 1 Free
 (Only December)

**Full Body
Massage**
\$35/hr

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Blue Sky Spa

Full Body Massage
\$35/hr
 Before 1pm

Foot Massage
\$15⁹⁹/hr
 (Monday - Friday)
 Before 1pm

6506 El Cajon Blvd. #A
 San Diego 92115, (College Area)
 619-888-3999

Unique Foot Spa

**\$10 OFF
Full Body &
Combo Massage**
 Only December

Full Body Massage
\$40/hr (Reg. \$50)

Combo Massage (90 Minutes)
\$60/hr (Reg. \$70)

6610 El Cajon Blvd.
 San Diego 92115, (College Area)

1 Hour **\$60** • 1/2 Hour **\$40**

Asian Massage

3045 Rosecrans St #305
San Diego 92110
858-568-2810

7677 Ronson Rd #110
San Diego 92111
858-231-0523

10054 Mesa Ridge Court #102
San Diego 92121
858-250-9066



Downtown • Hillcrest • Mission Valley • North Park

Relax, Recharge, Reflect

\$30 60 min. Asian Full Body Massage with Oil and Hot Stones <i>With this ad. Expires 01/03/2019</i>	\$35 60 min. Swedish or Deep Tissue Massage <i>With this ad. Expires 01/03/2019</i>
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

\$55 60 min. Couples Asian Massage
With this ad. Expires 01/03/2019

LUCKY FOOT MASSAGE

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www.sdluckyfootspa.com • 619.299.5555



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Alexa Spa Studio

Best Massage in
Clairemont &
Kearny Mesa!

\$20 OFF
Christmas Special
Offer Expires
12/26/18

Full Body Massage

\$20 1/2 Hour (Reg \$40)
\$40 1 Hour (Reg \$60)

SWEDISH,
SPORT, ASIAN,
LAVENDER ESSENTIAL

7297 RONSON ROAD SUITE #J • (858) 943-6329



\$10 OFF

1-Hour Massage

With Ad - Expires December 27, 2018

Deep Tissue • Swedish
Hot Stone

Sunny Spa (858) 616-7656

4865 Convoy St., San Diego (block south of Clmt. Mesa Bl.)
Lic. # B2017018823



SERVICES DIRECTORY

HOME

Tree Service

Trimming, Pruning, Removal, Palm Tree Maintenance, Stump Grinding, Residential & Commercial, Senior Discount. Mention ad for 10% Off Written Estimate. ISA Certified Arborist, License #C27 & C61-627801. Arbor West Tree Surgeons (619) 304-1129.

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Licensed painter with 24 years experience available for residential and commercial projects. Excellent work, great prices, no job too large or too small. Free quotes! License #909913. Todd Price, 619-920-9400.

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MUSIC

Musicians Available/Wanted

PRODUCER/COMPOSER SEEKS

musicians for acoustic, Americana group. To play originals/covers. Seeks experienced video editor, a pianist who reads well. String/horn players. 619-528-0907

VIDEO COMPANY SEEKS

homeless poet. Will be compensated \$. For more info call (619)528-0907. This project will end with a film and a book.

Services

AUDIO ENGINEERING

Available services: bands, solo artists, productions, mixing, record your podcast. Instagram @the_red_door_recording_studio

REHEARSAL STUDIO.

Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, 858-522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

Classes/Lessons

PLAY PIANO

the way you want to! Pop, classical, jazz, blues, improvise. FREE lesson/interview. Over

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MASSAGE: MISS KIM

Wonderfully relaxing Full body massage. Spotless studio in Carlsbad, Experienced CMT Hot shower, Deluxe Pro table. Credit accepted. I have A/C! By appointment Misskim/760-688-2017 Kerry/858-371-2883 for more info: killermassagebymisskim.com

Yu Spa

Come see what Yu Spa has to offer: Red clay sauna, Himalayan salt sauna, ice room, dry and steam saunas, hot and cold tubs, body scrub, massage, restaurant. 3927 Convoy Street, San Diego, 92111. 858-987-0476. YuSpaSD.com.

MASSAGE

Couples Massage -\$100 Off!
Now \$80

Full Body Massage (Reg. \$90)
\$45 (Extra \$10 off Mon-Fri before 1pm!)
Reflexology Massage (Reg. \$50)
\$25 (Extra \$10 off Mon-Fri before 1pm!)
Free Hot Oil!

*Offers valid with this coupon or copy of coupon (not photo).
Not valid with any other offer. Expires 1/31/19



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Nourish Your Soul

An Oasis of calm and spiritual well-being. Euphoric sensations. Be dazzled with private matters. Experience balance, nourishment in earth's element. Sublime delight! Blends of styles- Waves of melodies flow through you. Pleasures of warmth, alluring therapies, fingertips massage and holistic spa treatments. Seven days of unending bliss. In/ out calls. Hotel visits. (HHP-0075/ CMT-4327). 619-298-6661.

HEALTH & FITNESS

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES, Health and Tranquility. First class is free. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, 619-692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

NOTICES

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT

(Association Cannabis Therapeutics) Seeks part-time assistants. Free Grow Classes/ seeks. Two tents available. No Blunt, Dirty concentrates! Opioids Meth kill. Info (619)528-0907. Meth/Opioids Kill!

COUNCIL NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRESS INC.

Nonprofit seeks Native and non-native councils, businesses, organizations, to end

homelessness/hopelessness. Synergy Art Foundation assists artists. Donate/Support them! 1-619-528-0907

CUBENSIS PATIENT ACT.

Association Cubensis Therapeutics. Seeks doctors psychotherapists researchers, persons interested. Forming discussion groups/ effectiveness of cubensis therapy for depression and PTSD? 619-528-0907

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & KITTENS

Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.

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Free Readings for new visitors. 7:30pm last Wednesdays: 1/27/2019, 2/27/2019, 3/27/2019, 4/24/2019 by Vessa's Clairvoyant Intuitive Program graduates. 4455 Morena Blvd, Suite 108. 858-509-7582

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS.

Is food a problem? Binge or purge? No dues or fees. Contact Overeaters Anonymous: 619-521-2538. www.OASandiego.org.

WANTED/TRADE

WANTED:

Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid

always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call 1(619)-303-8031; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

WANTED:

Indian arrowheads / artifacts wanted for my private collection. Must be authentic and legally collected. No interest in modern reproductions. Call Steve at 619-985-8562.

WANTED:

CASH for Walt Disney autographs, items, paper, original animation art, old Disneyland items, any type comics all before 1970. No Prints or videos. 619-465-3090.

STEREO GEAR/ LP RECORDS.

Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

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Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & Misc. by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

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California King mattress and box springs- in excellent condition. Estate collection. Asking \$250. Price is negotiable. If interested please call 619-302-0090

MISCELLANEOUS

PILLOWS AND BLANKETS

for sale, good condition, clean, reasonable prices. 619-588-2467.

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FREE PET ADS:

Selling a pet for under \$200? Email your wording & photo to pets@SDReader.com.

ALL OTHER ADS: Call 619-235-8200.

DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES

7 week old darling pure bred puppies. Great family or ranch dogs. First shots completed. Mother on premises. Call 619-478-2703. Location: Potrero- can deliver to Rancho San Diego



BALTO

Balto is a 2 year old, 58 pound, male Shepherd mix. He was found in Bonita and turned into the shelter on 12/8/18. He is a little nervous, but is starting to warm up. He would probably do best in a home with older children or no children. He does not have any noted health concerns. He is currently available on a first come, first serve basis. Please come meet him to see if he would be a good addition to your family. Animal ID: A1854438 San Diego County Animal Shelter, 5821 Sweetwater Rd. Bonita, CA 91902 Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Adoption fee: \$69 (covers neuter, microchip, and all vaccinations). For more info please call 619-498-2311 or visit our website at www.sddac.com.

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & KITTENS

Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.



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Small WHITE Shih Tzu mom 10yr & Bichon mix daughter 6 yr. Good health, spayed! Good with kids. All necessities and supplies FREE as well. Call or Text 619-247-7628

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AUTOMOTIVE

<p>SMOG CHECK \$19⁹⁵</p> <p>With coupon only. Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Retest free when repair done on site. VIP service, 2 machines. No appointment necessary. Most 4-cyl. cars only. 2000 and newer cars only. European & older cars extra.</p>	<p>STAR Certified \$29⁹⁵</p> <p>with coupon. Plus \$8.25 for certificate. Retest Free when repair done on site. Most 4-Cyl cars only. 2000 and newer cars only. European & older cars extra. Most 4-Cyl cars only. 2000 and newer cars only. European & older cars extra.</p>	<p>State of California LICENSED SMOG CHECK INSPECTION & REPAIR STATION</p>
<p>BRAKE & LAMP INSPECTION \$99⁹⁵</p> <p>plus cert. \$3.50 each. Most 4-cyl. Cars</p>	<p>ALIGNMENT \$39⁹⁵</p> <p>Most 4-cyl. Cars</p>	<p>TRANSMISSION SERVICE \$89⁹⁵</p> <p>Most 4-cyl. Cars</p>
<p>CALIFORNIA MOTOR WORKS & TIRES WELCOME ALL FLEET ACCOUNTS • AAA APPROVED Se habla español 8025 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA 92111 • (858) 560-1245 M-F 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-3pm • All Coupons Expire 1/3/19</p>		

AUTO GLASS SPECIALIST
WE DO ALL TYPES OF AUTO GLASS INSTALLATION

\$149⁹⁵ WINDSHIELD REPLACEMENT
(Most cars, some restrictions apply. Mobile Service Available)

(619) 430-4922
5803 El Cajon Blvd., SD (Near SDSU)
wcautoglass.com

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<p>Oil Change Service from \$15⁹⁵</p> <p>*Recommended every 3 months/ 3000 - 7500 miles. Service includes up to 5 quarts multi grade 10w30 motor oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection. *Vehicles requiring 5w20 or 5w30 are \$20.95 *canister filters and synthetic oil @ additional cost.</p>	<p>STAR Certified Smog Check \$10 Off</p> <p>*Cars, light truck and Diesel. (Plus \$8.25 for certificate) *Motorhome & full size Van: See manager.</p>	<p>10% Off Any repair over \$200 Labor only. \$50 maximum limit.</p>
<p>Check Engine Light Diagnostic Service \$25 Off</p> <p>*Perform scan test and retrieve codes *Provide the cause of a system(s) failure and a corrective action plan. *Repairs, monitor drive cycles and additional test at additional cost.</p>	<p>Brake Service \$30 Off per axle. *Life time Brakes Available</p> <p>*We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicles requirements are vehicle specific.</p>	<p>2 Wheel Alignment \$69⁹⁵</p> <p>*includes toe adjustment of the front axle *4 wheel alignment \$20.00 additional cost, includes toe adjustment of front and rear axles. *camber, caster adjustment at additional cost. See consultant for details.</p>

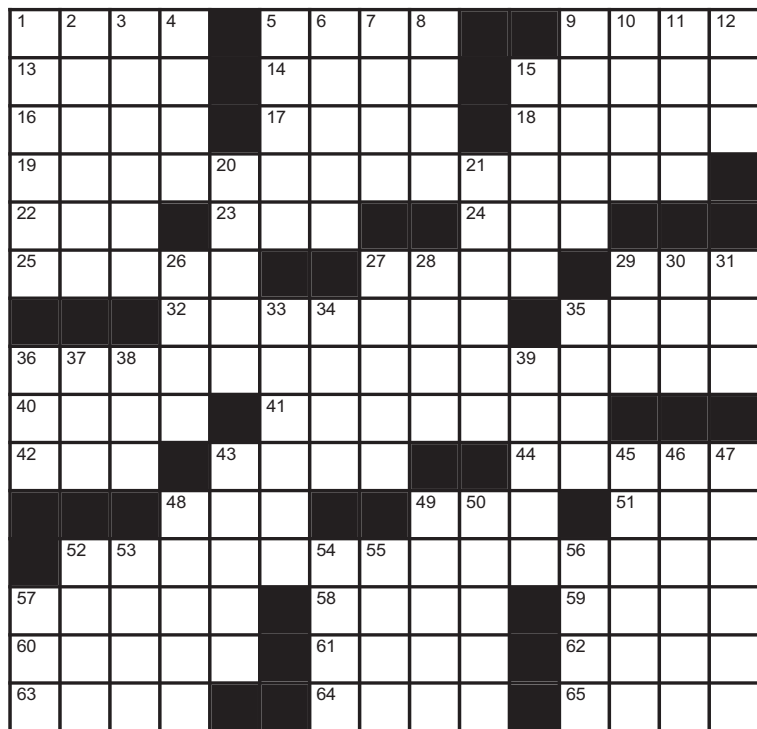
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Discounts off regular price, At participating location, Not valid with other offers. Other restrictions may apply, see manager for details. Coupons must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or discount or for prior service. All coupons expire 1/3/19.

CROSSWORD "Little Things"



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RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
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 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

M	E	M	O	B	O	H	R	S	G	U	A	M		
I	R	I	S	T	W	E	E	T	U	P	T	O		
D	A	S	H	I	E	L	L	H	A	M	M	E	T	
T	E	N	N	L	E	N	O	N	I	H				
S	A	L	A	D	T	O	M	C	L	A	N	C	Y	
P	R	E	Y	E	W	H	I	T						
A	L	T	I	R	E	B	S	N	E	A	L	E		
G	E	O	F	F	R	E	Y	C	H	A	U	C	E	R
O	N	E	I	L	N	E	R	O	P	A	P	I		
D	O	C	A	W	S	P	E	C						
J	K	R	O	W	L	I	N	G	C	A	P	R	A	
U	N	O	E	E	N	S	V	A	S	E				
L	I	T	E	R	A	R	Y	C	I	R	C	L	E	S
I	C	E	S	V	E	N	U	S	O	L	A	Y		
O	K	S	O	E	M	C	E	E	T	A	R	S		

Across

1. Intl. oil group
5. SpaceX founder Musk
9. Like a merciless movie review
13. ____ Grant (college financial aid)
14. It may be stored on the cloud
15. Company that buried 700,000+ unsold video games in 1983
16. Cruz with the 2010 #1 hit "Break Your Heart"
17. "Eat up every moment" sloganer
18. Instruments hit with mallets
19. Really fuming
22. Mo. when the Supreme Court reconvenes
23. ____ Beta Kappa
24. Food scrap
25. Shellac ingredient
27. Poet ____ St. Vincent Millay
29. One of four in a grand slam
32. Provoking sort
35. Tylenol target
36. Shakespeare play in which Beatrice says "I love you with so much of my heart that none is left to protest"
40. Apple debut of 2001
41. Litter make-up
42. It breaks in the morning
43. Lavish care (on)
44. Pueblo building material
48. State-issued driver ID

Down

1. Select
2. Actor Guy of "Memento"
3. George and T. S.
4. Attire
5. Archie's wife on "All in the Family"
6. Emmy winner Christine
7. "Looking at it a different way," in texts
8. Back of the neck
9. Bar selection
10. Pessimist's word
11. Frustrated exclamation
12. "That may be true, but ..."
15. Lead-in to phobia
20. Sleep clinic concern
21. "Happy Birthday, Mr. President" singer

26. Having a crisp picture, say
27. Overjoy
28. What many college students accrue
29. Supervised
30. Dust jacket part, usually
31. Latest fad
33. Three-term Big Apple mayor
34. "Stop procrastinating!"
35. Condition once called "shell shock," for short
36. Prefix with life or wife
37. ____ creek
38. Playfully shy
39. Not suitable
43. Chicago Bears coaching legend Mike
45. Mark who was the 1998 PGA Player of the Year
46. Swimwear option
47. Title locale in a 1987 Cheech Marin film
48. Exams with a max. score of 180
49. Broom- ____ of the comics
50. Complete reversal
52. Initials on a cross
53. Raising canines?
54. Airline that flies only six days a week
55. Certain downer, for short
56. Common symbol in heraldry
57. The Beatles' ____ Pepper

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

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.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

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.

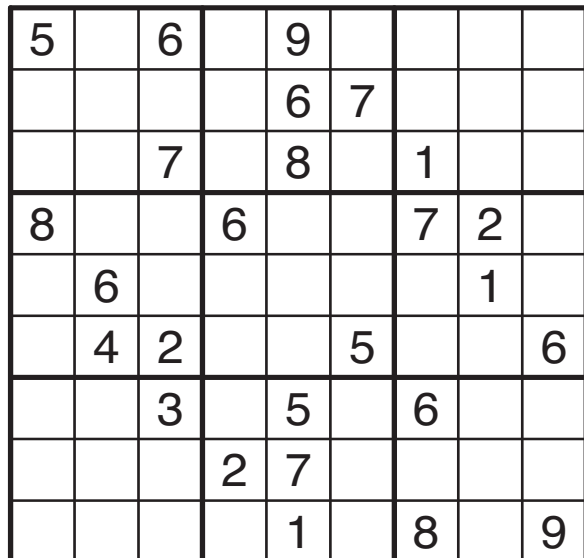
➔ Marilyn Gallegos, San Diego, 1.

Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

EVIL:



RULES OF THE GAME

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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.

Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EVIL:

9	1	7	5	2	3	6	8	4
8	2	6	9	4	1	5	3	7
3	4	5	7	6	8	1	2	9
6	8	9	3	5	2	7	4	1
1	7	2	4	8	6	9	5	3
5	3	4	1	7	9	2	6	8
4	9	8	6	1	5	3	7	2
2	5	1	8	3	7	4	9	6
7	6	3	2	9	4	8	1	5

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

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.

➔ Armand Nicholas, San Diego, 1.

action was answered by several donors, resulting in the purchase of a total of just over thirteen acres bordering the creek and Gold Mine Pond. By 2014, the pond had dried to a puddle and most of the fish had disappeared.

Still, the conservationists continued their struggle to return the creek to its natural state and save the native species that would normally thrive there. Their efforts include removing non-native and diseased plants and planting new ones, adding interpretive signs, creating a small plant nursery, and adding a real-time water monitoring station and new wildlife cameras. A recent survey of the area and project showed progress, but there is still a call for volunteers to help restore the habitat. As for



Their effort has earned the San Diego Fly Fishers a US Department of Agriculture Certificate of Appreciation.

the anglers that brought the declining situation of the area to light, their conservation effort has earned the San Diego Fly Fishers a United States Department of Agriculture Certificate of Appreciation for "outstanding volunteer performance and leadership

in support of fisheries and wilderness."

Monthly, on the first, fourth (and sometimes fifth) Saturdays, volunteers can help the San Diego River Park Foundation. This week, they are working to restore an oak woodland along Boulder Creek. Volunteers need to dress appropriately and bring at least 32 ounces of drinking water, but all other supplies will be provided. Community service hours may be verified. For full location information and to RSVP, please contact volunteers at sandiegoriver.org, or call (619) 297-7380.

—Daniel Powell



"They continued their struggle to return the creek to its natural state."

AUTOMOTIVE

Window Tint \$98

Tint removal from \$29. **COMPUTER CUT** Any shade, up to 5 rear windows.

<p>FREE BRAKE INSPECTION</p> <p>Pads & Labor From \$78</p>	<p>FREE SHOCKS & STRUTS</p> <p>BUY 2, GET 2 FREE</p> <p>Most Cars</p>	<p>ELECTRICAL REPAIR</p> <p>Power windows, door locks, automotive control modules: BCM, ECM, PCM, TCM.</p>	<p>10% OFF GIFT CARDS!</p> <p>Valid after 12/26/18</p>
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QwikAutoCenter.com 858-256-7977
2707 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach 92109

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm *Must present ad prior to purchase. Installation required. Pictures are for illustration only. Some cars require extra parts and labor at additional cost. Must present coupon at participating locations. Most cars. Prices subject to change without notice.

FISH REPORT cont.

bottom-dwelling rockfish, lingcod and whitefish. Speaking of lingcod, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will reduce the limit from two fish to one fish per angler per day this coming year. The limit for lingcod was reduced from three fish to two fish in 2016. The size limit for lingcod remains at a minimum of 22 inches.

Other proposed changes coming for the Southern Management Area in March 1, 2019, include an increase of the allowable depth for the recreational groundfish fishery from 60 to 75 fathoms; increasing the recreational season length for California scorpionfish by removing the September 1 to December 31 closure; and increasing the recreational bag limit for canary rockfish from one to two fish.

As for other inshore species, sculpin (California scorpionfish) are still *verboden* for take until the first of the year, when they will again be allowed in the gunnysacks, though many are being caught and released by anglers aboard boats fishing inshore. The size limit once they are legal to take will remain at 10 inches overall length. Sheephead limit is 12 inches and are limited to 5 fish per angler, per day, while whitefish have no size limit and anglers may keep 10 fish.

Fish Plants: 12/24 - lake Jennings, trout (1,500)

BEST PRICE IN TOWN!

SMOG CHECK \$11⁷⁵
Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up. + \$8.25 Cert.

BRAKES from \$50
Front or rear. Most cars. + Labor. FREE Shuttle Service w/ repair

OIL CHANGE & FILTER \$13⁹⁵
Up to 5 qts., new filter, 10 point checkout. + \$1.00 Waste Fee.

TIMING BELT \$75
Starting price, Labor + Parts.

COMPUTER DIAGNOSIS \$30
Most vehicles & light trucks.
Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...

AXLE SPECIAL \$99
Includes Parts & Labor

MUFFLER \$29
From + Labor

PREMIUM SHOCKS \$70
From Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair

PREMIUM STRUTS \$130
From Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair

STARTERS OR ALTERNATOR \$95
From + Labor

*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition. **Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing.

Brandon Auto
6670 Miramar Rd. # C
San Diego, CA 92121-2559
858-452-9999

OIL CHANGE \$14⁹⁵
Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl. most cars

SMOG CHECK \$11⁷⁵
Sedan only, NON STAR Smog inspection for 2000 & up only. SUV and Trucks extra. + \$8.25 cert + \$1.00 DMV transfer fee

BRAKES \$49
Front or rear. *Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services \$65
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

RADIATOR or Transmission Services \$45
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

TIMING BELT \$75
Parts & Labor. *Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS \$95
Plus labor. most cars. 4 cyl. 96 and up.

FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

We'll beat any written estimate!

B.T. Auto Wrench
Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary!
8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C
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Smog Check \$36⁷⁵

+ \$8.25 Certificate of Compliance (most cars). Bring DMV Notice. Model years 1976-1995 \$10 extra for Evap Test. RV's: call for details

<p>Oil Change Special \$18⁹⁵ Most 4-cyl. cars. Includes new oil filter, EPA, up to 5 qts. oil. 6-cyl. & 8-cyl. extra, some oil filters extra.</p>	<p>A/C Service \$25 Includes performance test on compressor, visual inspection for leaks and damaged components and recharge (freon EXTRA.)</p>
<p>Check Engine light and Smog Failure Diagnostics \$60.00* (FREE if repairs are performed on site).</p>	<p>Fuel Injection Service 3-Step - \$109⁹⁵</p>

60K/90K/120K Services
4-cyl. from \$149⁹⁵
6-cyl. and 8-cyl. extra. Platinum plugs extra. Call for details.

Chris's
Auto Smog & Repair Center

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(Behind In-N-Out Burger)
Pacific Beach 92109
858-270.1888

WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL

\$21⁷⁵* + \$8.25 cert

Smog Test or **STAR Certified** All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through March 31, 2019.

STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41⁷⁵
+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.

<p>OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER \$24⁹⁵ from Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.</p>	<p>FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (both locations)</p> <p>FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (Cliff Brown location)</p>	<p>ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$69⁹⁵ Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.</p>	<p>30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL from \$179⁹⁵ 4-cyl. Most vehicles. Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension</p>
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NEW CV AXLE \$159⁹⁵
Parts & Labor

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price
Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

<p>STAR SAN DIEGO SMOG & AUTO REPAIR CENTER Only at San Diego Smog We Repair & Certify Gross Polluters 4664 Park Blvd. (at Adams Ave.) 619-543-4828 • Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-3:30 pm www.sdsmogandrepair.com</p>	<p>2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU</p> <p>CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE 4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe) 619-297-4204 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm www.cliffbrownautomotive.com</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.</p>
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Least Competent Criminal

— In Youngstown, Ohio, police responding to a call about multiple gunshots on June 10 spotted Dai'ryon Mitchell, 21, speeding away from the scene in an SUV. He refused to pull over but finally left the vehicle and ran into a home, where he climbed through a window and hung from the ledge. Mitchell tried to climb back in, *The Youngstown Vindicator* reported, but lost his grip and fell directly into the arms of officers below, who handcuffed him.

Anger Management

— In North Port, Florida, a witness watched on June 17 as 75-year-old Helena Molnar beat an unnamed man with a water jug after he watered her plants. When he emptied the rest of the water in the jug on her plants, she went inside her house and returned with a different weapon, which the witness didn't see but said "made a different sound" than the water jug. According to WWSB TV, North Port police arrived to find the victim soaking wet, with blood drops on his shirt. Molnar was charged with battery.

Undignified Death

— Samen Kondorura was joined by dozens of male relatives mourning his mother's death in North Toraja, South Sulawesi, Indonesia, on June 15, as they carried her coffin to a lakkean, a wooden stilt structure where dead bodies are stored during traditional funeral ceremonies. But as they hoisted the coffin up a bamboo ladder, *The*

Jakarta Post reported, the ladder broke and the coffin fell, striking people in the crowd, including Kondorura himself, who suffered a severe head injury and died on the way to the hospital.

Awesome!

— On June 23, firefighters of Engine 642 of the Henrietta, New York, Fire District went the extra mile after responding to an accident in which the injured driver was a pizza delivery man, according to Fox News. "Once the patient was cared for and loaded into the ambulance, the crew decided to finish the delivery so the pizza wouldn't go to waste," the fire department posted on its Facebook page. "If it's not delivery it's Di ... Fire dept?!"

Oops!

— A woman in Wenling, China, was so thrilled to be driving the Ferrari 458 she rented on June 21 that she recorded herself while waiting at a stoplight: "First time driving a Ferrari. This truly is the most amazing feeling." But within minutes, reported the *Daily Mail*, she swerved out of control, striking a metal traffic barrier and a BMW X3, destroying the front end of the \$660,000 Ferrari and deploying its airbags. Neither the driver nor her passenger was injured in the accident.

News That Sounds Like a Movie

— When Juan Ramon Alfonso Penayo, 20, of Santa Teresa, Paraguay, failed to return after leaving his home June 14, his family assumed the worst. The town lies on the border with Brazil, reported the BBC, and is a hotbed of illegal drug activity. Police found a charred body three days later and called Penayo's family, who, despite being unable to identify the remains, accepted that it must be him and proceeded with funeral arrangements. As they mourned over his casket during the wake, Penayo walked nonchalantly into the room. The body in the casket was returned to the morgue, and Penayo's family celebrated his return.

Suspicious Confirmed

— Visitors crowding into a Vancouver, Canada, street festival on June 17 were invited — at \$38 a pop — to try a new health craze: Hot Dog Water. The drink is marketed as a gluten-free, Keto diet-compatible, post-workout source of sodium and electrolytes, and every sleek bottle, which promises to help with weight loss, also contains a hot dog. It's also a prank. Hot Dog Water CEO Douglas Bevens told Global News the product was dreamed up as a response to the "snake oil salesmen" of health marketing. In small print at the bottom of the sales sheet is this disclaimer: "Hot Dog Water in its absurdity hopes to encourage critical thinking related to product marketing and the significant role it can play in our purchasing choices." Touche.

Oh, Fudge

— KCCI TV in Des Moines, Iowa, reported on June 27 the loss of a tractor-trailer load of chocolate when the truck caught fire near Dexter, Iowa. The trailer, full of chocolate from Hershey, Pennsylvania, was westbound when it experienced brake problems that caused it to ignite. The driver pulled off and was able to detach the trailer from the cab before it caught fire. No injuries were reported, except to the chocolate, which was a total loss.

Weird Science

— Montgomery, Alabama, resident Kayla Rahn, 30, had been trying for months to lose weight, but instead experienced dramatic weight gain and pain in her stomach. She became out of breath just taking a short walk. Finally, in May, Rahn's mother took her to the emergency room at Jackson Hospital, where doctors discovered a growth attached to her ovary and removed what turned out to be a 50-pound, benign cyst, reported WSFA 12 News. The cyst resembled a large watermelon in size. "This is one of the largest I have ever seen," Dr. Gregory Jones told reporters. "We are very excited things went well for her."

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

M12-18-0000083-TEMP

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MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

WIN TICKETS

Win a pair of tickets to see Sublime with Rome at House of Blues.
Deadline to Enter: Thursday, December 27 at 1pm

WIN PASSES

GLASS

Win a pair of movie screening passes to see *Glass*.
Deadline to Enter: Friday, January 11 at 1pm

WIN TICKETS

Win a pair of tickets to see KISS at Viejas Arena.
Deadline to Enter: Thursday, January 31 at 1pm

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

**Downtown - Hillcrest
Half Price Collective**

Top Shelf \$5 /Gram 4 Grams \$20 1/2 Oz. \$65	Executive Shelf \$8 /Gram 4 Grams \$30 1/2 Oz. \$85	Exotic Shelf \$10 /Gram 4 Grams \$35 1/2 Oz. \$100
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Questions about how to open your Cannabis Business
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edward@ewickerlaw.com

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BUY 3, GET 1 FREE ON ALL EDIBLES!

TOP-SHELF \$5/GRAM <small>Any patient, no limit!</small>	V.I.P. \$10/GRAM <small>Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!</small>	7 GRAMS \$50 <small>Choose from 25 different strains!</small>
2 OUNCES \$50 <small>1 oz Kief, 1 oz mixed nug and shake</small>	BRASS KNUCKLES \$40	DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES <small>Full Gram for \$25</small>
Guasha Punch \$15 <small>Any patient, limit 3.</small>	STARTER KIT \$70 <small>10 VAPE Limit 1 per customer.</small>	3 FOR \$100
MIDGREEN \$15/GRAM <small>Limited time only! Limit per patient.</small>	JOINTS <small>Starting at \$15</small>	PRE-ROLLS \$15 <small>Limited time only! Limit per patient.</small>
Starting at \$30	ELECTRIC CIGAR \$65	NON-ALCOHOL INFUSED BEER \$5 <small>Starting at 150mg-1000mg per can</small>
OZs: \$25/\$60 /\$75/\$90 /\$100	5 PRE-ROLLS \$10	GSTIKS \$10
SHATTER & CRUMBLE \$20 <small>Select strains.</small>	10 GRAMS OF SHATTER \$100	3 RICE KRISPIE TREATS \$10
		HUGE CBD SELECTION!

Over 200 medicated items! | **Vendors Welcome!**


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(good until 2/1/19, while supplies last, new customers only)

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Spend \$60 get \$10 store credit.
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MUST BRING IN THE AD TO REDEEM THE OFFERS

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San Diego Reader December 20, 2018 75

REDEFINING RECREATIONAL

AFTERGLOW FLOWER SPECIAL

3.5G FOR ONLY **\$25**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

MOON BARS EDIBLES

100MG FOR ONLY **\$10**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

SELECT VAPE COMBO

\$ **1G CARTRIDGE AND BATTERY** **\$60**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

CRU CANNABIS FLOWER SPECIAL

CRU **3.5G** FOR ONLY **\$40** | **1/2 OZ** FOR ONLY **\$150**
7G FOR ONLY **\$75** | **1 OZ** FOR ONLY **\$280**

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CALIFORNIA BUD CO./LFTD FLOWER SPECIAL

 **3.5G** FOR ONLY **\$20**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

HAPPY JACK DISPOSABLE VAPES

300MG FOR ONLY **\$20**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

HAPPY STICKS VAPE COMBO

 **1/2G CARTRIDGE** FOR ONLY **\$30**
(2) 1/2G CARTRIDGES AND BATTERY FOR ONLY **\$60**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/13/19.

WINBERRY FARMS VAPE COMBO

 **1G CARTRIDGE AND BATTERY** **\$55**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

HEAVENLY DELIGHTS 100MG EDIBLES

ONE FOR ONLY **\$12** | **TWO** FOR ONLY **\$20**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

KOROVA FLOWER SPECIAL

 **3.5G** FOR ONLY **\$50**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

FLAV VAPE COMBO

 **1G CARTRIDGE AND BATTERY** **\$50**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

ETERNAL VAPE COMBO

1G CARTRIDGE AND BATTERY **\$50**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

COSMO D'S EDIBLES

ONE FOR ONLY **\$12** | **TWO** FOR ONLY **\$20**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

KANEH CO. EDIBLES

BOGO FOR ONLY **\$1.00**

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

SELECT WEEKENDER SPECIAL

\$ **GET A WEEKENDER DISPOSABLE VAPE** FOR ONLY **\$5**
 WHEN YOU SPEND \$100 ON SELECT PRODUCTS

COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

ROVE VAPE COMBO

 **1G CARTRIDGE AND BATTERY** **\$55**


COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. EXPIRES 01/03/19.

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10% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE

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BEST PRODUCT AT THE BEST PRICES!



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**Awesome place!!
 Great selection!!**
 ★★★★★ 5.0
 Awesome experience! Marissa was so nice!!
 Very clean looking place and clean looking people!
 Wonderful flower selection

MarissaRdgz
Dank!
 ★★★★★ 5.0
 The Best Shop in San Diego PERIODDD. Great Deals and the largest
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**Top of the line
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 and the best deals
 in El Cajon!**

**Get helped by the
 10 BEST
 budtenders in
 San Diego!**

KushyPunch



**Cheeba
 Chews**

**Free FTP Gram with
 \$20 Donation**
 Any customer gets a free house gram added
 to their first purchase! Must mention ad.

STIIIZY VAPES
\$20 (0.5G)
\$40 (1G)

Connected 1g
\$30
 (\$10 off)

**FREE
 Pre roll and
 dab for
 FTP**

\$10 / G
EXOTIC SHELF

\$9 / G
HYDRO SHELF

\$7 / G
**EXCLUSIVE
 SHELF**

\$5 / G
TOP SHELF

\$10
**TWISTED MOONROCK
 PRE-ROLLS**

**TWISTED
 VAPES**
\$20 (1G)

**EXOTIC SHATTER
 & CRUMBLE**
**\$25
 /GRAM**
 (while supplies last)

HOUSE VAPES
\$12 (0.5G)
2 for \$20

**EXOTIC
 CARTRIDGES**
\$20
Special!

**BRASS
 KNUCKLES**
\$30
(1G VAPES)

HOUSE DISTILLATE
**\$20
 /GRAM**

**710
 KINGPEN**
\$30
(1G VAPES)

**SWEET GREEN
 EDIBLE**
FREE
 WITH \$50 DONATION

EXOTIC HOUSE WAX
~~\$35~~ **\$25**
 While supplies last!

**\$15
 /GRAM**
MOONROCK

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CBD
SELECTION!**

WIN A 420 CHRISTMAS BASKET IN OUR RAFFLE!

Come in between now and the end of the day on Christmas, and get a raffle ticket (with min. \$40 donation). We will pick a winner on 12/26 to win the 420 Christmas Basket.

FIRST-TIME PATIENT DEALS!

FREE GRAM! Any patient gets a free house gram added to their first purchase! Must mention ad.

FREE GOODIE BAG! with min. \$50 donation on your first visit.

FREE PRE-ROLL AND DAB!
for any patient that mentions this ad on their first visit.

FLOWER DEALS

\$10/G Exotic Shelf

\$9/G Private Shelf

\$7/G Exclusive Shelf

\$5/G Top Shelf

\$2/G House Shelf

SPECIALTY STRAINS - WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

\$5 (2G)
Super Kush

\$20 (3G)
Exotic Gorilla Glue #4

PRE-ROLLS & EDIBLES

\$20 Sugar Stoned Edibles (500mg. Reg. \$40)

10% OFF All Other Edibles!

\$15 or 2 for \$25 Golani Pre-Rolls 

\$10 Twisted Moonrock Pre-Rolls

VAPE DEALS

\$20 (0.5G)

\$40 (1G)

STIIIZY

\$20 (1G) Twisted

\$30 (1G) Connected
(\$10 Off! Reg. \$40)

\$30 (1G) 

\$35 (1G)
(Or 3 for \$90!) 

\$20 (1G)
Exotic Cartridges

\$12 (0.5G) House Vapes
(Or 2 for \$20!)

CONCENTRATES

\$15/G Moonrock

\$25/G Exotic House Wax

(\$10 Off! Reg. \$35)

\$25/G Exotic Crumble

\$20/G House Distillate

\$25/G OG Sauce

ALL GLASS BONGS/RIGS/BUBBLERS

30% OFF!

Cheeba
Chews
Kushy Punch

Seniors, vets, and disabled get a 10% discount

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WEEDMAPS
AND LEAVE
US A REVIEW!**



HUGE CBD SELECTION! **LAKE SIDE 420** **Open 24/7!**

FREE 1/8TH OF FLOWER + FREE 100MG EDIBLE!
For any first-time customer with minimum \$10 purchase! Must present ad.

TOP-SHELF \$5/GRAM Any patient, no limit!	PRIVATE RESERVE \$8/GRAM Any patient, no limit!	V.I.P. \$10/GRAM Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!
2 OUNCES \$50 1 oz Kief, 1 oz mixed nug and shake	DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES \$25 (1G VAPE)	
BRASS KNUCKLES \$40	7 GRAMS \$50 Choose from 25 different strains!	Crash Punch \$15 Any patient, limit 3.
BRASS CARTRIDGES \$10	\$20 (1G VAPES)	KNOCKOUT PRE-ROLLS \$15 Limited time only! Limit per patient.
MOONROCK \$15/Gram Limited time only! Limit per patient.	JOINTS Starting at \$15	Starting at \$30
ELECTRIC CIGAR \$65	FUTURE PRE-ROLLS \$15	
ROAR YELLOW SHATTER \$10/GRAM	1/4-POUND \$400 FIRE NUGS SPECIAL!	
5 PRE-ROLLS \$10	STIIIZY STARTER KIT + 1G VAPE \$70 Limit 1 per customer.	

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Setting The Goldn Standard

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Mon-Fri 4:30-5:20 PM

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(ONE PER PURCHASE)

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BUY ANY 2 SACRED MENDO OR TRU
CALI 1/8THS AND GET A 1/8TH OF
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20% OFF DELTA 9 CBD CARTS

10% OFF ALL CONCENTRATES

MOON BARS 2 FOR \$30

VALID THROUGH 12-26-2018

DONT HAVE TIME? TRY OUR
OUTSTANDING, FAST DELIVERY
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Best flower in the store!

TOP SHELF \$5 /GRAM OR **\$65** 1/8-OZ OR **\$120** OZ
Many different flavors!

SHATTER OR CRUMBLE: 1G \$20 2G \$35 3G \$55 6G \$100

5 Pre-Rolls w/ Kief, Wax, & Hash \$20 **UNREAL VAPES \$15** (.5G)

HOUSE SHATTER \$15 **MOONROCK \$10** (1G) 3 Twisted Moonrock Pre-Rolls \$25

\$65/\$80/\$100 OZ FULL NUGS! **FIRE SHAKE \$40** OZ

KNOCKOUT \$20 **TWISTED \$20** (1G) **WAX \$10**/GRAM
KNOCKOUT PRE-ROLLS TWISTED VAPES

UPLIFTED VAPES \$35 **PRE ROLLS \$10** **STIIZY VAPES \$30** (0.5G) OR **\$55** (1G)

BABYLON GARDENS PRE-PACKAGED 1/8TH \$40 **BABYLON GARDENS GUMMIES \$9** (150MG) • **\$18** (300MG) • **\$35** (1000MG)

Kushy Punch \$15 or 2 for \$25 **1G VAPES \$30** (Over 90% THC!) **\$35**

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(500MG VAPE CART OR 1000MG
VAPE CART, BATTERY, CHARGER)
(LIMIT 1)

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1/8TH OR DAB RIG
OR BUBBLER W/ \$50
DONATION

20% OFF
EDIBLES
(LIMIT 3)

10% OFF
CARTRIDGES
OR WAX
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HUGE CBD SELECTION!
FREE 7 GRAMS OF FLOWER + FREE DAB!
Any first-time customer with min. \$10 purchase gets 7 free grams & a free dab! Must present ad.

TOP-SHELF \$5/GRAM Any patient, no limit! **PRIVATE RESERVE \$8/GRAM** Any patient, no limit! **V.I.P. \$10/GRAM** Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!

JOINTS Starting at \$15 **Krush \$20** (1G VAPES) **Kushy Punch \$15** Any patient, limit 3.

KNOCKOUT PRE-ROLLS \$15 Limited time only! Limit per patient. **FUTURE PRE-ROLLS \$15**

MOONROCK \$15/Gram Limited time only! Limit per patient. **ELECTRIC CIGAR \$65** **BRASS KNUCKLES \$40**

Starting at \$30 **BRASS CARTRIDGES \$10** **2 OUNCES \$50** 1 oz Kief, 1 oz mixed nug and shake

DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES \$25 (1G VAPE) **7 GRAMS \$50** Choose from 25 different strains!

ROAR YELLOW SHATTER \$10/GRAM **1/4-POUND \$400** FIRE NUGS SPECIAL!

5 PRE-ROLLS \$10 **STIIZY STARTER KIT + 1G VAPE \$70** Limit 1 per customer.

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