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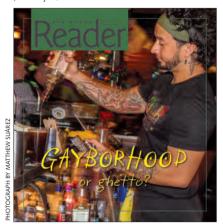




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January 3, 2019



Uptown funk — page 14



Perfection on panini— page 34



Mmmm, look at that creamy head — page 41

ADVERTISING

Display	Ads
---------	-----

Automotive	60
Health and Beauty	19
Help Wanted	56
Legal Solutions	11
Massage	57
Music	45
Rentals	56
D	10

NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights

Taxes for Del Mar, hassles for Solana Beach; and News Ticker2
Under the Radar: planning groups are a total sh*t show
Letters4
Neighborhood News6
Best Buys
Bring it, 2019!
Ask a Hipster
What our dear friends in Corporate America know
Golden Dreams
Brige in Balboa Park; Christmas with intoxicated Bob
Gayborhood or ghetto
Grindr, (and other forces) have changed Hillcrest 14
Crossword
Sudoku58
CALENDAR

CALENDAI

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance,
Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures,
Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness25

Roam-o-rama

	The screw pine of Encinitas	26
Po	etry	
	Where art thou gone, light-ankled Youth?	28
Re	ligion	
	Protestant pastor loves Catholic author G.K. Chesterton	30
Wa	ter Front	
	Body varials	31
Re	staurants	

San Diego Beer News

Award-winning homebrewed lichtenhainer41	
Music	

Feast! Oh, that roast beef sandwich.....

Blurt: They always blame the basses

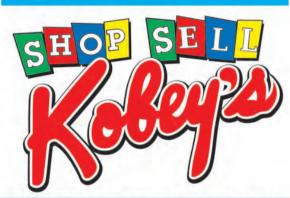
Just announced:Had Frank Sinatra been born in 19714	8
Movies5	3
Movies@Home: Documentary doubling as suspense thriller 5	4

Theater

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Spreading the blame for spread of Hep A

Delays drove doo-doo disease damage

A report by state auditor Elaine Howle released December 20 blames both city and county for the severity of last year's deadly Hepatitis A breakout in downtown San Diego, with lack of accountability by local officials responsible for the mounting death toll. "Despite discussions in June and August 2017, the county and city did not fully implement the measures related to hand-washing stations, restroom access, and street sanitizing until September 2017 — after the county's local health officer issued a directive telling the city it had to take action on the sanitation measures," says the audit. "The county health officer did not issue a directive sooner because she wanted to collaborate with the city instead of mandating its compliance. However, by exercising her legal authority before August 31, 2017, the county health officer likely would have prompted the city to implement the important sanitation measures sooner. Additionally, the county did not share location data to inform the city about the concentration of the cases within its jurisdiction until November 2017. If the city had had more information, it might have more quickly understood the need for the sanitation measures."

During the early stages of the epidemic, chaos reigned as city officials pointed the finger of blame at the county. "We expected the city to have taken some additional steps to understand the actions needed related to sanitation to protect the public health of the at-risk populations, such as requesting updates from the county regarding the response and coordinating any of its own sanitation efforts with the county. However, according to the assistant chief operating officer, the city expected the county to manage the outbreak and provide the city direction on what was required or necessary. Based on discussions it had with the county, the city believed that it was adequately responding to the county's requests; thus, it did not see a need at the time to take additional action."

The state audit notes that a postcrisis internal analysis by San Diego city officials omitted relevant details of the bureaucratic runup to the meltdown. "The report stated that its purpose was to analyze the city's response to an incident and that it identified 12 issues or areas for improvement. However, because the report covered only the time during which

the local health emergency was in effect — September 2017 to January 2018 — it did not identify any areas for improvement related to the implementation of sanitation measures before the declaration. By not also assessing its actions before the local health emergency declaration, the city missed an opportunity to identify issues that may have contributed to delays in the implementation of sanitation measures and to develop steps to address these issues in the future."

The audit additionally questions the county's delayed response, criticizing its failure to boost vaccination rates during the crisis. "We believe the county did not accelerate its vaccination efforts to address the hepatitis A outbreak because it lacked a strong sense of urgency. Its failure to hire additional temporary nurses in a timely manner is symptomatic of this lack of urgency. Even though internal county meeting agendas from April 2017 through June 2017 indicate that the county discussed acquiring extra nurses to administer vaccinations, it did not initiate the procurement process to hire additional nurses until July 2017. Instead, the county responded to the early months of the outbreak by relying on its own nursing staff, soliciting vaccination assistance from certain community clinics and health care providers, and using its existing contract for temporary staff. As a result, the county did not accelerate vaccination efforts until September and October 2017. Had the county hastened its vaccination efforts, it may have more quickly reduced the risk of the disease's spread, which grew to include 584 reported hepatitis A cases, 398 hospitalizations and 20 deaths by the end of January 2018."

The audit recommends improved documentation of the responsibilities of city and county officials during public health emergencies, "To ensure that it takes appropriate action to protect the public health of the residents of the city, the county should enter into an agreement such as a memorandum of understanding — with the city or should negotiate revisions in its contract with the city by March 31, 2019, to clarify each entity's roles and responsibilities over public health matters, and to include city leadership in coordinating response efforts when public health matters, such as disease outbreaks, affect the city's residents."

In their respective responses, the city and county said they would adopt the audit's recommended remedies by the deadline.

Matt Potter



This rendering shows a planned public trail which will cut through the resort to the bluff top.

Del Mar's project, Solana **Beach's headache**

Hotel taxes for one city. hassles for the other

By Julie Stalmer

el Mar's seaside Crown Jewel may turn into Solana Beach's high-end headache. If built, the controversial luxury resort would be the biggest project ever built in Del Mar. Some are wondering why a project atop Del Mar's last open coastal bluff is even being considered. Others worry it will set a dangerous precedent thereby making it easier for

future developers to push the envelope even further.

The developer proposes 251 guestrooms, 76 residential villas, event space, restaurants, shops, and a spa. Low-cost visitor accommodations are required by California's coastal commission and affordable housing by the city.

"Del Mar's project, Solana's headache," is what one person wrote on a petition opposing the project that has garnered over 2000 signatures. The perception being that Solana Beach will get the down-

Neal Obermeyer



Official Del Mar city maps show the North Bluff, on which developers want to place a 251-room, 76-residence resort, marked with a 1 for "Very Low Density."

side while Del Mar rakes in the spoils — millions in hotel tax dollars. One Solana Beach resident said that Del Mar would never allow this if things were reversed. Another pointed out that the only access to the resort will be on Border Avenue in Solana Beach.

The 16.5-acre project area sits perched on what city maps call North Bluff, above Del Mar's dog beach and bordering Solana Beach. It's near the busy intersection of Via De La Valle and Highway 101 within sight of the racetrack. The southern portion of the bluff will remain a 4.5-acre nature preserve.

Zephyr (luxury developer) and Robert Green Company (specializes in upscale hotels) are currently revamping their design based on concerns heard over the past couple years. Primary grumbles are the same as for any other big development: traffic/parking, density, and height/views.

A string of recent bluff collapses in Del Mar (most recently in December) have many concerned about such a large resort being concontinued on page 24



Poles and ribboned strings show this Solana Beach resident how the planned resort will affect his view.



Stratford Inn, once a hotspot for Hollywood stars, then a hangout for vagrants, was demolished in the 1969 and replaced with the L'Auberge in 1989.

UNDER THE RADAR

DC undocked San Diego, widely known for its hands-off policing of e-scooters, is equally notorious among medics and insurance companies for rising shattered bone and head injury

rates among the daring who partake in the high-speed sidewalk sport. Mayor Kevin Faulconer, whose charity fund One San Diego recently received a \$12,299 contribution from Neutron Holdings, the San Mateobased parent of LimeBike, has been particularly slow among big-city mayors to address the controversy, unforthcoming with inside information and content



E-scooters make Mayor Faulconer smile.

to wait for the city council to further address the problem in the new year. Meanwhile, other urban areas have been getting aggressive, opening their public records to scooter skeptics, and launching studies to determine just how bad the problem really is. Washington, D.C. is already out with audit results providing a decidedly mixed picture of the latest transportation fad. "Our demonstration period sought to answer a number of questions," writes D.C. mayor Muriel Bowser in her introduction to the December 18 report. "Could people be trusted to use these new devices safely? How would the competition for customers impact Capital Bikeshare and other established modes of transportation? Would dockless companies increase mobility options for lowincome residents and the unbanked?" The findings of the year-long assessment, which lasted from September 2017 through August of 2018 and included rancorous public input, were not

reassuring. Though the District "required information on all safety incidents and crashes," there was chronic trouble with "getting complete data from all companies." Added the report, "Data compliance issues made it difficult to gauge the performance of the program at times and have highlighted that full and complete data is crucial."

Bad e-fleet maintenance was also revealed to be a problem. "Only 68 percent of bikes had

appropriately inflated tires" which would "force users to exert more energy during trips," the study noted. Seven of the 181 vehicles audited "were found to have deficient brakes." Eight percent were missing rear light/reflectors, "a key safety feature."

Planning in the dark San Diego community planning groups, which frequently become bitter battlefields between real estate developers and homeowners opposed to boosting rental density, have been hit with an audit charging they regularly violate state and city transparency laws, among a bevy of other legal and policy transgressions. "We could not verify that members

> had not exceeded their term limits due to incomplete rosters and ambiguous guidance on retaining election results," says the December 13 report by interim city auditor Kyle Elser. "We were also unable to determine whether renters, which we found make up approximately half of the community populations we reviewed, were represented."

As a result, "there is a risk

that renters may not be adequately represented" on the panels. "These issues are exacerbated by the lack of adequate oversight, guidance, and training on the part of the City."

Regarding details of who is currently on the planning group boards, auditors say information was hard to find. "The City had 40 of 42 rosters. We found that 30 of the 40 rosters did not include the minimum information (start year of service, term end, eligibility category): 24 were missing the start date of service, 15 did not show seat or eligibility category, and 10 did not show the term expiration." None of the groups "could provide enough past rosters for us to verify that current members had not exceeded their term limits," per the report. "Furthermore, no groups provided evidence of a two-thirds vote for members elected past their term limits, and no groups provided election results to verify that vacancies existed." Worse yet, auditors say, "we found that many



Interim City Auditor Kyle Elser has found that community planning groups' record keeping is a total shit show.

meeting minutes did not consistently record the votes taken on each action item with the group members who voted for, against, or abstained on the item." Part of the problem is lack

of public money, per the report. "Unlike other cities we looked at, the City of San Diego's Community Planning Groups are operated by volunteers with a minimal amount of City funding or guidance." Los Angeles, auditors found, "provides each group

\$37,000 per year and has a department dedicated to group oversight and management budgeted at \$2.8 million per year."

> — 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/.







LETTERS

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

Off the rails

I once lived in San Diego as a Navy man. I so enjoyed the city and all it had to offer. Being a native of California then moving to Alabama I do miss San Diego. One things I have been following is the rebuilding of the Impossible Railroad ("MTS responds to Baja Rail charges", News Ticker, February 3, 2017). It seems to me this line could be a fantastic attribute to the people of San Diego, Tijuana, California and Mexico. So why hasn't it been rebuilt? There must be some very powerful "people" who wish it not to come to fruition. I am an engineer (not train) and given a few hours and some large timbers my son and I could rerail that car at Dabbers Spur. That's just what tools I have in my garage. So why with Billions of \$\$\$ at stake isn't this line up and running? It seems the Mexicans have a vested interest in seeing it running so is the holdup on the Americans side? I really would love to understand the who what where and why here... Seems like so many people would benefit from this rail line. Not to mention the International Camaraderie that could develop! And... what a passenger trip.

> Steven John Trinity, Alabama

Comments from SDReader.com — not edited for punctuation,

spelling, or grammar. "Aquaman"

Movie Reviews

It is ridiculous that someone with reviews like yours is considered a "top critic" in rotten tomatoes. Your review about this movie is dumb, you only mention partial aspects about it and to give your conclusion about the film you need to constantly compare it with other films, I'm impressed that you know something about H.P. Lovecraft, I really hope that people do not get influenced by your bad opinion

—danxrv

If you would have said you didn't like the movie and gave it two and a half stars I guess I could understand that. The fact that you gave it one star meant that you went into it expecting to hate it, or you went into it expecting to write that you hated it, or you didn't even see the movie at all and just gave it one star so you can move on and not do any real work. Giving a movie of this quality one star just shows that your opinion cannot be trusted.

—Vince Brotherton

"San Diego – Democrat stronghold?" Under the Radar December 26

What is the definition of "gun violence"? Is hunting or target shooting gun violence? Is shooting in the air, stupid and dangerous, on new years gun violence? Is the use of a gun in self defense or in the defense of others gun violence? Just what gun violence does Wendy Wheatcroft want to eliminate?

—AlexClarke

"An unwanted December phone call" Neighborhood News December 24

It often doesn't matter if you have Caller ID and Google the phone number. Most scammers either block their number, or better yet, use Spoofing apps (like Spoof-Card) to project a legitimate phone number on your ID display. You can make it appear as if you are calling from any number including a government number. Not being scammed these days requires sufficient critical thinking skills.

—Ponzi

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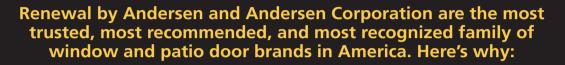
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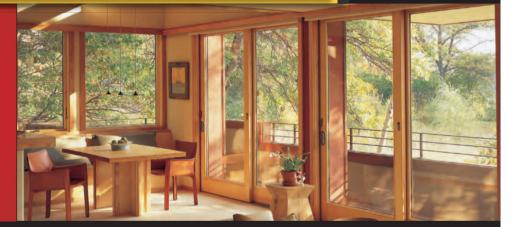
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BAJA

Cars crawl and careen at **Expo Xtreme**

It wasn't the drifters who got dirty

On December 16, Felipe M. photographed a Jeep and a VW Bug plowing through a mud track next to Rosarito Beach. The track was between 50-100 meters long, and by the middle, the vehicles appeared to be halfway submerged in mud. "I think the one that won



Having fun watching a Bug crawl through mud.

was the black 4x4 Jeep," said Felipe. "It was a best two-out-of-three race." Felipe was documenting the Expo Off Road Xtreme 2018 for his Baja Sports magazine. The event was held at the Plaza San Fernando, which is in between the waterfront and Federal Highway 1 — across the street from the go-kart tracks.

"[Regarding the rock crawler competition], there were various categories, and the ones with the best times won," he said. Rock crawling is a variation of off-road driving where modified four-wheel-drive vehicles are used to cross over extremely harsh terrains, mostly in the countryside - ascending-and-descending mountain trails with piles of boulders and rocks. The crawling course here was different: it ran alongside walls with graffiti-art murals, and the vehicles crawled over tractor tires, a crushed car, dirt mounds, and cement road barriers. They also descended into mud-filled potholes. Some of the spectators were splashed with mud as the high-revving vehicles passed by. "There were even pieces of mud up on the boulevard outside," said one spectator.

On the other side of the venue, by the entrance, the smell of burnt rubber exuded from Japanese cars that drifted atop the asphalt and through the orange looper cones laid out in a figure-eight formation. Drifting



is a driving skill wherein the driver oversteers

on purpose when entering a curve. The tires

break loose, but the driver still maintains con-

trol, driving the vehicle through the entirety

of a curve as it slides. "That white Nissan

was driven by a good

event, live music was

event started at 9 am,

2018 Kuervitoz Kids

MIKE MADRIAGA

off-road champion junior racers. Later on,

the adults received their trophies. Entrance

was free for kids 12 and under and 80 pesos

(about \$4 USD) for everybody else.

Former powerhouse sparks inquiry

Every few years, someone on an Encinitas

Facebook page will ask what's up with the

abandoned-looking home sitting outside of

Cardiff Elementary School's northwest corner.

The two-story brick house has been there

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

NC phone home

Throughout the

The crawling course here was different.

since the 1940s. "Its one of Cardiff's greatest mysteries," posted Danny Joslin recently, and the current round of speculation has received over 50 comments. When Adam Pachacki was in grade school, he thought it was a haunted house to keep the kids close during recess. Sara Garcia believed it was the old, original Cardiff schoolhouse. Debbie Montes posted, "Every that amplified every phone's handset and powered the phone's ring. And yes, it was designed as house-looking structure to avoid a possible air attack by the Japanese, which would have knocked out communications.

In the 1990s, Bob Sinclair, owner of Pannikin Coffee and Tea and a man noted for repurposing old buildings for his growing coffee shop chain, bought the Cardiff Bell Telephone house, which had been gutted and had its windows sealed over with bricks. But the building was deemed non-earthquake proof, and would have required massive retrofits to house a coffee house. On top of that, it probably wouldn't have had enough off-street parking. At the time, community leaders felt Sinclair bought the building to keep it from being demolished, as he had done with the original Encinitas train station, which he moved to Leucadia and refurbished into another Pannikin. In 2001, the school district purchased the property from Sinclair, and it is now used for storage of the school's carnival supplies and equipment. The land surrounding the building is a student-farmed garden.

Two more Bell Telephone houses were built, identical to the Cardiff house in size and

architecture. One is in the San Onofre State

Beach campground; it's visible when driving

southbound I-5, just west of the California

Highway Patrol weigh station. The other is

located at the west end of Ortega Highway

74, in San Juan Capistrano. The San Onofre

house is still in use. "We see AT&T trucks in

there all the time," said Shelly, a state park

volunteer for the Orange Coast district. AT&T

reaches the house through the campground. Steve Stuart's dad, a longtime San Onofre

"You'd have to follow the railroad tracks to find them. ...we didn't have freeways and the roads we have now."

time we drove past there, we would ask my

dad, 'What's in there?" Tired of the constant

Only a few posted the house's real story most of it, anyway. Built by Bell Telephone during World War II, the building served as a telephone relay station, connecting services throughout Southern California. More importantly, it held the large low-voltage batteries

questioning, her dad starting taking other roads around town to avoid the mysterious building. Christopher Parker thought it might be the old Cardiff jailhouse. Christine Peter thought it was a Cardiff power station from the 1970s. Numerous posts suggested it was built as some kind of secret look-out or radar facility to guard against a West Coast attack by the Japanese in World War II. (Spotter bunkers and huts were established up and down the coastline after Pearl Harbor, but none so audacious as a two-story building.)

lifeguard, used to work for the phone company. He's probably the best resource on the history of the Bell Telephone houses. He says the housing of the batteries was probably the most important purpose of the houses, and that there may still be more Bell Telephone houses throughout Southern California. "You'd have to follow the railroad tracks to find them. Remember, we didn't have freeways and all the roads we have now. They

would have been built next to the tracks,"

Historical Footnote: phones provided by cable companies, or any portable phone powered by electricity, even cell phones, will not work in a power blackout, as evidenced by the big San Diego-to-western-Arizona blackout of 2011. Only AT&T installed landlines, powered by the same network that used the old Bell batteries, will continue to operate without household power.



Nothing to see here, Mr. Japanese bomber...

KEN HARRISON continued on page 8

BestBuys

-EVE KELLY

Bring it, 2019! I'm ready for you. The year is going to be all about refreshing the mind, body and soul. I'm resolving to take in more free art, listen to more free live music, hike more of our climate areas. Our gorgeous city has so many opportunities, I intend to make full use of them.

"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." - Picasso

Balboa Park, much of it built for the Panama-California Exposition in 1915, offers 1200 acres of beauty. Every Tuesday, certain museums are free. The Timken Museum, which opened in 1965, is free every day and offers works by European and American artists, along with Russian Icons. Come January 26, an exhibit called

century through present-day American art. "I plan to take in lots of museums in February during Museum Month," assured Serena. "They won't be free, but there will be halfprice admission to over 40 museums in the area, and you pick up the discount passes at

The Romantic Impulse In the American Landscape Tradition will offer early 19th-

local libraries."

"ArtWalk festival in Little Italy is always a fun weekend for our family," replied Nancy. "All kinds of art to inspire the inner artist, and the street chalk drawings are fabulous. There is also live music, and food." Running April 27 and 28, the free event is the largest fine arts festival in Southern California.

During the weekend of August 10 and 11th, Liberty Station will be hosting the ArtWalk festival, and over September 21 and 22, it will land in Carlsbad.

"Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, overcivilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity." — John Muir

The great California naturalist had it right. I took some screen-addled city kids for a Christmas hike near Cuyamaca State Park, and I was shocked at the transformation they underwent. Five minutes in the cool mountain air, and their moods and attitudes were transformed. And it's free. "I love free," said Mariana. "I love hiking Torrey Pines with my beach gear on, and after working up a sweat, I set up shop at the beach. I also really like

"Five minutes in the cool mountain air, and their moods were transformed."

Mission Trails Park — plenty to hike there. Or if you are up for a drive, Stonewall Peak close to Lake Cuyamaca is awesome. Great place to work up a sweat and then to go for pie after. Or for a day trip hike in Borrego Springs, go to the Palm Canyon Oasis."

"My favorite free place for a nice beach walk is Coronado," answered Kathleen, "Parking is free and usually easy to find, the

> sand has lovely gold sparkles, and the beach is quite long, providing a good stretch of the legs. While rather pricey, it's nice to sit beachside for a drink at the Hotel del Coronado afterwards. Always an enjoyable day."

"Not quite free, but still reasonable, is Cabrillo National Monument. It's a \$15 entrance fee, but one may return for the following week. A fun hike along San Diego's rocky shores, lovely views, and some fun tide pools."

"If I had my life to live over again, I would have made a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least once every week." — Charles Darwin

"I love going to the free Spreckels Organ Concerts," added Mariana. "Sundays at 2 pm or Mondays during summer at 7:30 pm. Or Sun-

day concerts in Coronado at the park. I also like to sit at the steps of the

> Convention Center and listen to the Symphony summer concerts at Embarcadero South. I always attend at least one concert, but I can't afford them all, so for the others, I pack dinner, enjoy the view, and listen from the Convention Center." "The San Diego Central

Library offers free concerts," suggested Samantha. "On Sundays at 2:30 in their Neil Morgan Auditorium, the library offers a concert series. I'm looking forward to their January 27 Trio Celeste concert, the February 17 harp concert with Duo Gliss, and their April 28 Sacra/Profana a cappela singing concert."

"I will be bringing my kids to watch local students compete the Poetry Out Loud Regional Finals," offered Therese. This free event is on February 5, 6:30 pm at the San Diego Central Library.

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King tide vs. seaside

Swell steals sand, causes Christmas tree calamity

lost most of its decorations. But someone had shored it up by nightfall.

The highest tides over the last week have hit in the morning hours. Similar daytime warnings were expected through January 2, the day the earth is the closest to the sun — that's the cause of this round of increased global movement of ocean water. However,



Aftermath of the yuletide king tide.

Christmas Day was not kind to the beaches of San Diego County. The strong wind and rainy day saw ravaging king tides, which washed away sand and flooded parking lots and low-lying areas. The National Weather Service issued a December 25 alert for area beaches, which lasted through Christmas night: "A LARGE FRESH WEST-NORTH-WEST SWELL WILL GENERATE ELE-VATED SURF TODAY. HIGHEST SURF WILL OCCUR ALONG THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY COAST. THERE COULD BE MINOR COASTAL FLOODING THIS MORNING DUE TO THE COMBINA-TION OF THE HIGH TIDE AND SURF." The warning added, "WAVES AND SURF...5 TO 7 FEET WITH SETS TO 8 FEET. * TIM-ING...THROUGH THIS EVENING. * HIGH TIDE...6.2 FEET AT 10:16 AM PST AT LA IOLLA. * IMPACTS...INCREASED RISK OF DROWNING DUE TO ELEVATED SURF AND STRONG RIP CURRENTS. MINOR FLOODING OF LOW-LYING BEACH AREAS POSSIBLE DUE TO TIDAL OVERFLOW."

Seaside Beach in Cardiff-by-the-Sea suffered sand and rock damage over one half of the low-lying parking lot. Just south of the Chart House restaurant, massive amounts of recently replaced sand from dredging the San Elijo Lagoon was washed away, losing five to eight feet in depth. Sand and debris were pushed up onto a parking lot at Cardiff State Beach. The town's annual Christmas Tree by the Sea, a decorated tree placed on the beach, was knocked over due to the high tide, and

king tides on the Pacific Coast usually happen in late spring or mid-summer. And with higher-than-normal tides expected to continue, it may be weeks before state park maintenance crews attempt to clean off the Cardiff parking lots.

KEN HARRISON

DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE

Bored to death Sticky traps show arrival of blightbearing beetle

Native to Southeast Asia, the shot hole borer beetle is making its way along the southern Californian coast, including the San Diego River Valley. Though it makes a minuscule hole, the beetle is a major menace. Females bore into trees, then farm a fungus inside to feed their young. The fungus disrupts water transport, causes branch dieback, and can kill the tree. The destructive power of this tiny (1.5-2.5 mm) insect is already evident in the Tijuana River Valley, where thousands of trees became beetle hosts in 2016. "Unfortunately for us, they're amazingly good at what they do," said Lauren Marino Perez, citizen science manager at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Discovered in October by citizen science volunteers working with the U.S. Forest Service, the San Diego River Park Foundation, and the Nat, the presence of the beetle in the San

Diego River watershed means probable habitat loss for endangered animal species. The Bell's vireo and the willow flycatcher nest in riparian habitats (next to a water source), where Perez said healthy "soggy root" trees are vulnerable. Andrea Hefty of the Forest Service said most riparian hardwood species are at risk. Some species, like the willows in the Tijuana River Valley, might be able to re-sprout. Mature California sycamores will not.

In late August, after a day of training, a group of 22 volunteers fanned out along the San Diego River watershed from Lakeside to the Famosa

Slough near Mission Bay. The volunteers set up 25 sticky baited traps on metal poles, close, but not too close, to native trees like sycamore and willow — potential hosts for the beetles. Private landowners along the river gave permission to conduct the study



Insect trap in brush near the San Diego River.

in folks' backyards," Perez said. Many tree species present different signs and symptoms of beetle presence. Members of the public can visit the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources website for help identifying shot hole borer beetle damage.

"There is potential for these beetles to go after healthy ornamental trees in folks' backyards."

on their land. "We had to stake traps every mile," said Perez. "We wouldn't have been able to carry out a study of this scale with the limited staff of our three organizations. We were blown away by the willingness of people to help with this survey." Two months later, the volunteers — aged 14-74 — gathered the traps and brought them back to the lab at the Nat in Balboa Park. They peeled off hundreds of bugs and put them under the microscope. Fifteen traps were positive.

The San Diego River Park Foundation is applying for Forest Service funds to continue further study. "There is potential for these beetles to go after healthy ornamental trees

beeties to go after flearthy of flamelinar trees

Females bore into trees, then farm a fungus inside to feed their young.

Thus far, the only mitigation technique on forest lands is to cut down affected trees and set the dead limbs or woodchips aside to bake in the sun. Moving them can spread the fungus and the beetles. Growers have used chemicals in commercial avocado groves affected throughout Southern California, but this method is not appropriate for wild spaces.

LEORAH GAVIDOR

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Daunting downtown detourConstruction causes beachtown blues

Cardiff-by-the-Sea residents may be getting a little fed up with all the construction and orange fencing around town: the widening of I-5 to eight lanes at Manchester Avenue, the I-5 interchange expansion at Santa Fe Drive, the double tracking of the train tracks from Solana Beach to Leucadia, the sand dune replenishment at Cardiff Beach, and the Coastal Rail Trail being built along San Elijo Avenue. Beginning on December 10, the town saw still more orange fencing erected at the Chesterfield Avenue crossover of the tracks — eliminating one westbound lane, from San Elijo Avenue over to Coast Highway 101. And on January 2, a three-week hard closure of Chesterfield Drive's train track crossover eliminated the town's only exit to Highway 101. The closure is necessary for the construction of the new rail crossing, plus a Class One bike and pedestrian path (separated from the vehicular roadway). During the closure, pedestrians and bicyclists will still be able to cross the tracks to get to Highway 101 and the beach.

continued on page 22

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Dear Hipster:

Going into 2019, I'm contemplating a change of perspective. Throughout my life, I have tended to take a "close enough for rock and roll" attitude towards a lot of stuff because life is too short to spend it sweating the small stuff. For example, I don't bother getting down on my hands and knees to clean the dust out from under the fridge when an ordinary sweep for the floor is 90% as good. If somebody serves me a cold meal at a restaurant, I eat it instead of sending it back because I don't want to spend another twenty minutes waiting for a dinner that will only bring me marginally increased satisfaction. Lately, I've been thinking I should raise my

standards to better myself, but is it better to tolerate small imperfections or strive for excellence at all times?

— HENRY P., KENSINGTON

I struggle to announce a first principle here, because the answer surely differs by degree between, say, your thoracic surgeon

(who ought always to exercise the utmost care); your barber (who might be forgiven the occasional lapse in concentration); and your gardener (who can daydream all he wants so long as the price doesn't go up and the work doesn't suffer in the end).

Most craft beers exhibit serious

Imperfection has become something of a commodity in the modern world. Industrial society continues to advance in sophistication by leaps and bounds with every passing year, so slickness and uniformity have become the norm. Variations in quality and appearance have been engineered out of everything from fruit to iPhones, and one could spend every day of one's life insulated from any unexpected

surprise or unwelcome variation.

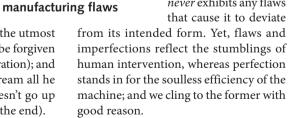
For many people, that familiarity and predictability has become a treasured source of daily comfort. Our dear friends in

Corporate America know this, which is why every Starbucks allegedly utilizes an expensive—and fantastically wastefulwater filtration system to guarantee uniformity. It remains an open question whether these firms are (a) capitalizing on a pre-existing demand for uniformity and non-variation; or (b) creating a culture of

Droog-ish conformity by removing variation from the market in a long-term war of attrition against competition.

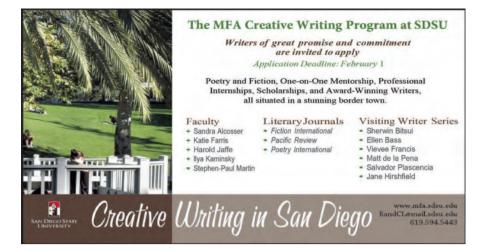
Whatever the answer, familiarity breeds contempt in a hipster minority, hence the push towards "small-batch this," "handmade that," and "craft everything." Imperfections define hipster commodities. Look at beers. Few hipsters will admit it, and I'm risking the Jon Snow treatment from my fellow hipsters for saying as much, but most craft beers exhibit serious manufacturing flaws (oxidation, TCA, etc.) that would never pass QC at

> an industrial brewery. Whatever there is to say about Coors Light, and there's a lot of bad stuff I could say about Coors Light, every Silver Bullet is *perfect*. Sure, one can credibly argue the underlying product is terrible as a matter of taste; but the product never exhibits any flaws



I don't know if this solves all your problems, because I don't intend to advocate, say, doing the bare minimum, but when you're faced with imperfections, as, yourself if they're the kinds of things that couldn't be avoided. If they are, maybe they're worth suffering for the collateral benefit of keeping in touch with your humanity.

—DJ Stevens







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Bridge is booming in Balboa Park

"I didn't know people still played bridge." "I guess you could say it's extremely vulgar. I like it a lot."

— Exchange from Whit Stillman's excellent movie Metropolitan, which came out in 1990, 17 years before the bridge-centric third season of Noah Hawley's excellent TV series Fargo.

"The City of San Diego has three buildings dedicated to bridge," says David Walters. "There's a building right on the cove in La Jolla, and the Soledad Club across the street from Kate Sessions Park." And there's Balboa Park's Redwood Bridge Club on Sixth, where Walters serves as manager, in addition to running The San Diego Bridge Academy. The Redwood Club has been running since 1948, but when Walters arrived in 2006, "they were kind of in decay. They had five games a week, and no night games except on Thursdays." Now they're running at least three times that, with over 100 people per game paying \$10 for



Sign of the times.

three hours and change of intense, pair-based competition. "They're playing duplicate bridge, which is how you get better. You shuffle the deck, deal the cards, and play the hand. You score it up, and then the hand stays intact and gets played at each table. You're ranked according to how well you and your partner played that hand." You also get to study how the competition played it, and maybe hash out with your partner what you could have done differently. ("It's like a marriage," says Walters.) "Every two or three years, we add another game, because I keep teaching new people. It's on the upswing."

What happened to, um, bridge the gap between 1990 and 2017? "In the '50s, you couldn't really go to college without knowing how to play bridge. Then in the '60s, when everybody revolted against the previous generation, it fell out of favor. In the '70s and '80s, it became regarded as an old ladies'

game" — though that didn't stop Walters from discovering it as his true vocation and delight while working as a backpacking ranger at Philmont Scout Ranch during his college years. And now that those revolting rebels are reaching retirement age, and now that "you have all kinds of studies coming out about how it helps prevent memory decay, Baby Boomers are my new customer base."

But Walters isn't selling a memory aide. "Bridge is the best card game," he says with perfect ease. Pinochle, with its bids, trumps, and points, is a sort of primitive precursor, but "if you had to compare it to other games, I'd say tennis and golf, where you can always get better, but you can never master it. It will always humble you. I became an expert by playing 40 hours a week for fifteen years. But it takes about five years to develop basic competence, and that's why you need a good teacher." And even then, "very few people make it out of the intermediate game room into the open game room."



David Walters

The San Diego Bridge Academy is offering its next six-week round of introductory classes starting January 14 (morning sessions) and 15 (evening sessions). Visit *sandiegobridgeacademy.com* for details.

Christmas with Intoxicated Bob

I missed the first half of Mass on Christmas Eve because I'm an usher down at Our Lady of the Rosary. That means I wind up dealing with the busyness at the back of the church, and that means I got to talk to Ryan and hear his story of being a vet with cancer and three kids and an infant grandkid needing help to get through the two days before their morning meeting at St. Vincent de Paul on the 27th. He talked about living on lettuce sandwiches; he offered to stay through Mass; he offered to show proof of his cancer. His eyes and cheeks were so sunken he looked like a skull with



Seventy years!

papier-mâché stretched over it. I told him he didn't have to show me proof — it was Christmas Eve, fer chrissakes — and found a working ATM at the Bolt Brewery bar on India and Grape.

I got back to Mass in time to see Mr. and Mrs. Elegant leave their pew immediately behind Intoxicated Bob and move to an open spot further back. On the one hand, it was hard to blame Mr. and Mrs. Elegant. They

obviously compromised, and every now and then, he did something unexpected — say, raising his arms to heaven as we recited the *Pater Noster.* It may have been reverent, but it isn't done. Not here.

On the other hand, there was the scene depicted in that gorgeous crèche: the author of all creation laid in an animal's feeding trough. Father's homily was all about the lessons in humility contained in Luke's account of Jesus'

"Bridge is the best card game. You can always get better, but you can never master it."

had come here for transcendence, Christmas Mass in the old style: Latin and incense, a gorgeous Italian crèche crowding the front corner, medieval polyphony and 17th-century carols floating down from the choir loft. Bob was the opposite of transcendence; he was an earthy, earthly distraction. His whole body trembled, and the motion threatened to shake his wide and frightened eyes from watery to weeping. He did not smell — not that I could tell, any-

birth. At one point, he mentioned that when the God of love came into the world, the smell of dung was most likely in the air. This was the God we were there to honor, who put on corruption so that we might become incorrupt.

Mr. and Mrs. Elegant left early; Bob stayed. After the people processed forward for Communion, I asked him if he was okay, and would he like to step outside so I could brush off his coat. He said yes to both. After I cleaned him



God bless us, every one.

way — but the skin of his face had been both darkened and toughened by an uneasy life, and a smear of dirt and leaves clung to one side of his coat. He was not disruptive, but he was

up, he said, "I'm hanging in there," and we embraced. All my natural sympathies were with Mr. and Mrs. Elegant. But of course, that wasn't the point.

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San Diego Reader January 3, 2019

problems: scarce parking, and a homeless crisis that seems "worse than

some, Hillcrest is little more than 40 acres of overpriced, rambling urbanity to be avoided. Such Hillcrest-averse see two

"Currently the biggest misconception about Hillcrest is that there's no parking," counters Lukas Volk, a community advocate in his personal life and marketing and communications director at Mo's Universe, the parent company of Urban Mo's, Baja Betty's, Gossip Grill, Inside Out, and Hillcrest Brewing Company — all of which are in Hillcrest.

"There's plenty of free parking in Hillcrest," Volk, seated in one of Mo's big red booths during a recent daytime interview, says with a sly grin. "It's hiding at the DMV!"

Free parking from 6:30 pm to 3 am at the Department of Motor Vehicles parking lot at 3960 Normal Street is real. But the Hillcrest Parking District's official website notes that the lot, a couple of blocks north of Hillcrest's University Avenue business district, is closed on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Even so, it would probably take more than free parking or even an end to homelessness to change the minds of those not already invested in a



Urban Mo's

community whose heart is at Fifth Avenue and Robinson Street, but whose soul is somewhere between eccentric and, well, queer.

More wholesome than West Hollywood, you say?

Hillcrest is a magnet to young lesbian, gay, bi, transgender, queer and questioning people from the local region and from all corners of the America. They arrive in San Diego's "gayborhood" hoping to have their rainbow layer cake and eat it too. Many come to Hillcrest believing they've outsmarted their admonishing kin back in Peoria, Okaloosa, or even Poway.

Some have been warned they risk getting mired in the decadence of sordid places such as Hollywood or San Francisco, where ultimately they'll die alone as a result of their "lifestyle choice."

So, they come to Hillcrest.

"I still love Jesus, and I'm still a conservative," Texana R., 17, tells me. "I just am — I don't care what my mama or my aunt or my step sister or no one else says. I might be transgender, but I am also a family-values person. I don't want to live

in West Hollywood or San Francisco."

Texana is a name the relatively new Hillcrest resident has taken since arriving here. Texana admits to being "technically homeless." Yet the young Hillcrest transplant claims not to have had to actually sleep outdoors more than a few nights

during the nearly five months since arriving here from a southern state Texana asked we not mention because... "I'm technically — I guess you'd say — a runaway. I will be 18 in 2019. On my birthday, my present to myself and to my mother is going to be that I'm going to call her and tell

her where I am."

However devoutly evangelical — and allegedly brutally homophobic and transphobic — Texana says "Mama" is, she did not make her child leave home. "I left because Mama couldn't ask me to leave," the young Southerner explains. "I was afraid she was going to take me and she would leave him — my step daddy. He was making her cry day every day. He and me would vell and fight all the time. He calls me 'thing' or 'that thing.' It was killing my mother. She can't afford to leave him. We was homeless before they got married. He keeps her on the straight-and-narrow."

Laughter explodes from Texana's cherubic face. It's the only time during our 45-minute chat at The Hub when he laughs.

("The Hub" shop-





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ping district on University between Vermont and 10th Avenues, anchored by a Ralphs grocery, teems with activity at any time of day or night. It's a melting pot of shops, eateries, bars, local gentry, homeless society, and championship-level parking competition.)

"Straight-and-narrow!" Texana repeats. "That's ironic. Mama wants me to be straight and narrow-minded like her. But I want her to stay with that narrow-minded asshole husband, because he keeps her off them opioids and that meth. Oh yeah, they've got religion back home. But they got some other stuff too."

"But why come to Hillcrest, specifically?" I ask again.

"I like the people. I like the military. I'm going to join the Marines. Soon as I'm 18, next year. I'm a born Marine, just like my brother. The day I turn 18, I'm going down there to that recruiting station. I've practiced taking the trolley. I talked to the guys."

Texana believes that Hillcrest is somehow more wholesome, at least superficially, than some other LGBTQ-identified communities along the West Coast. Texana's not the only one. There's an old adage in the community: "West Hollywood is where you go to hook up. Hillcrest is where you go to settle down."

To be or entropy?

Locked in a decadesold battle between entrenched, no-growth zealots and land-lusting developers, San Diego's gayborhood has evolved, in concrete terms, via



San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez was named Hillcrest's "honorary mayor for life."

slow, incremental renewal that's been interrupted by spastic jolts of newbuilding flurry. Benjamin Nichols, executive director of the Hillcrest Business Association, leads an increasingly assertive and unapologetically pro-developer phalanx of local business leaders determined to end what they see as needless decay in Hillcrest.

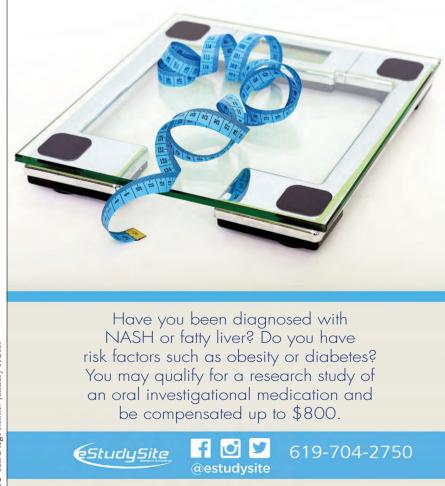
"There are many examples that show that being aggressive concerning development in Hillcrest has been successful," Nichols says. "Projects like 111 Robinson, Mr. Robinson at Robinson and Park, and the Eitol Towers are all examples where creating a positive environment for developers leads to positive projects."

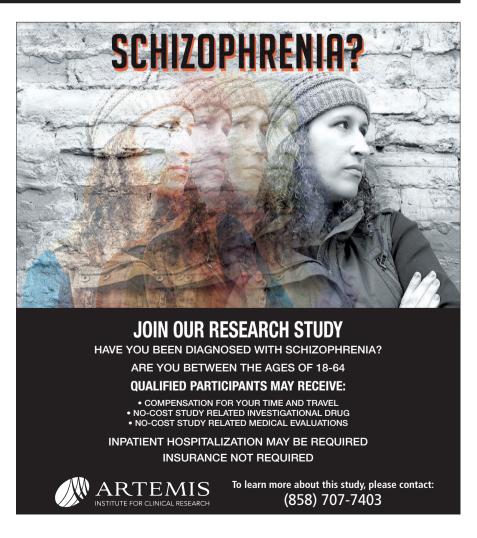
Love it or hate it, Eitol Towers is inarguably the most striking new building project to hit Hillcrest in a generation. Thirteen mixed-use minimalist-cubist towers jut vertically out of the sidewalk and streets below, reaching defiantly from a tight urban lot bounded by University Avenue, Harvey Milk, and Centre Streets.

Optically, the 13 towers appear even more massive than they are, because of the way 12 of the edifices are finished. They are wrapped all the way around in gleaming, fire engine-red cladding. The 12 red towers are cast against a 13th silvery, aluminum veneer. All 13 buildings pop in brilliant contrast (on a clear day) against blue San Diego skies. As a piece of architecture, Eitol — which is "Lot 13" backwards if you think of the "E" as a "3" — is designed to prompt your eyes to look skyward.

"Most people are calling it 'The Red Building,' of course," says Matthew

RESEARCH STUDIES





Ramon. Ramon is the main owner (among a partnership of owners) of Inside Out, a hyper-stylized lounge in residence at Eitol Towers' street-level, storefront space.

Open less than a year, Inside Out is already famous citywide for its rakish décor, craft cocktails, and epicurean plates, but maybe most of all for its street-facing, windowed restrooms, with urinals that are essentially visible from the sidewalk, and yet provide just enough modesty paneling to keep things G-rated on the outside and indoors, too.

"It's the newest building in Hillcrest that's a real architectural statement," Ramon says. "The idea from the architect, Mike Burnett, was to have one tower, the 13th, stand out in silver



Chris Shaw

against the other 12 red towers. That represents the LGBTQ community standing out, as we tend to do. Meanwhile the red buildings themselves are meant to represent Hill-crest itself standing out as a neighborhood among the nearby communities."

Hillcrest Business Association's Benjamin Nichols says Eitol was made possible despite developers having been "scared away from Hillcrest" for fear of having to



Joshua Kessler

factor the costs of "frivolous lawsuits and [California Environmental Quality Act] abuses" into their projects' budgets.

"This 'Hillcrest tax' drives developers to other neighborhoods," he explains. "By aggressively supporting creative developers and letting them know that there are many in Hillcrest who support 'Little Italy-style' development, we have created an environment where creative developers



Lukas Volk

are comfortable taking a risk on Hillcrest."

Nichols says more major changes are coming soon to Hillcrest.

"Normal Street, Park Boulevard, and University Avenue itself will transform many of Hillcrest's blighted blocks into beautiful places for people to live and play," he says.

But in 2016, Nichols was widely criticized for issuing pro-developer planning recommendations to the city of San



Matthew Ramon

Diego, thus "sidestepping" the Uptown Planners group, which traditionally makes influential recommendations to the City. Uptown Planners' recommendations cover proposed development in the Hillcrest-Uptown neighborhoods, as well as Mission Hills, Bankers Hill, and University Heights.

Rather than shrink from the accusations, Nichols owned the characterization that he was "sidestepping" Uptown Planners.

Emboldened by support from a group of influential, local business owners and developers and from his own board, Nichols believes he's fighting entropy that for decades he says has been forced onto Hillcrest by a group of residents who he says want no growth in density or building heights in the neighborhood whatsoever.

Why, other than enabling his developer friends to build more stuff and make more money, does Nichols think more density is a good thing for Hillcrest?

"This will reduce our need for parking, and the development will revitalize our older infrastructure," Nichols says. "This is exactly what has occurred over

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the last 20 years in Little Italy. Thousands of people support the business association's vision for the future of Hillcrest."

Hillcrest slow-growth activist, frequent Nichols critic, and Uptown Planners board member Matt Wahlstrom has often said that the Hillcrest Business Association and allies such as the Hillcrest Gateway Association want to force fundamentally out-of-character changes onto his beloved neighborhood.

"What these people want is the farm and the sky and everything in between," he said in an interview with Ken Williams, formerly editor at *Gay San Diego*.

Hillcrest's human capital used to yield an amalgam of hopes, dreams, and ideals that materialized as local art, as a neighborly state of mind, and in social and political expressions that once shaped San Diego's culture far beyond Fifth and University Avenues. Now, say some locals, that same energy is turning into a fight between Hillcrest's haves and the have-nots.

"I have lived in San Diego for more than five decades," says San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez. "Hillcrest was once a very artistic, welcoming, proud neighborhood."

Ramirez says economic violence is killing Hillcrest. "Rent has skyrocketed," he says. "It's too much for working people and small business owners, gay or straight. People are moving out. The homeless problem is out of control. There are empty stores all



Inside Out has street-facing, windowed restrooms with urinals that are essentially visible from the sidewalk, and yet provide just enough modesty paneling to keep things G-rated on the outside and indoors too.

over the place."

It's a harsh and direct indictment about the current quality of life in a neighborhood of which Ramirez was named "honorary mayor for life" by former interim San Diego mayor, now Assemblyman Todd Gloria.

"We need to make rent control and homelessness this city's number-one priority," Ramirez says. "Indeed, rent control needs to be California's top priority."

According to Ramirez, Hillcrest is turning into a "little ghetto where wealthy people look down from the big windows of their expensive glass condos at empty stores and vacant commercial buildings while desperate, hungry homeless people circle below, pushing all of their belongings around in grocery carts."

Anti-gay confrontations

Hillcrest is a far cry from the 40 acres of pastoral land which William Wesley Whitson purchased — and later subdivided — from a large estate in University Heights in 1907.

In his 1999 article, Michael E. Dillinger describes the late 1960s and early 1970s as a period of transition when Hillcrest transformed from a near-wasteland of dying, postwar shopping centers and increasingly dilapidated single-family homes, to a safe haven for gay and lesbian San Diegans escaping hostility in

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Empty storefronts on University Avenue

other neighborhoods.

"Hillcrest from the early 1960s through the early 1970s allowed for affordable rent-space, a social scene otherwise impossible in a more up-scale community... The investment of the gay community in itself has brought Hillcrest from isolated obscurity to its status as one of the premiere commercial and social scenes in San Diego," Dillinger wrote.

According to Dillinger, there's a surprisingly simple reason why gay and lesbian people first colonized Hillcrest.

"One of the main reasons for the scarcity of pedestrian and street traffic in Hillcrest as compared to downtown was the fact that such a high percentage of the population of Hillcrest was so elderly. This reduced street activity meant less opportunity for anti-gay confrontations. Avoiding physical clashes with those outside of the gay community was important to the fledgling gay movement."

Should we call it Shawcrest?

Few people alive today are as closely associated with success in Hillcrest as Chris Shaw.

"We moved to San Diego from Maine when I was nine," says Shaw, president of Mo's Universe. "Mom and Dad got into a fight and San Diego was as far from Maine as she could drive."

Coming to San Diego with his mom and two siblings was a fortuitous turn of events for Shaw. The mark he's made on Hillcrest and the San Diego business and philanthropic communities is indelible. Just about anyone who's every tried to get anything worth pursuing done in Hillcrest has probably gotten a helping hand from Shaw and

company at some point. But it's hard to get Shaw to acknowledge his own beneficence. That doesn't

stop others.

"It can sound kind of like we're repeating it again and again, but we see it as our business to give to the community because we are the community," says Volk, Shaw's director of marketing and communications. "It would never occur to us to not do that. Chris is very clear that the community is our responsibility."

But Shaw is the first to admit that his love affair with Hillcrest started out as fun. "I came out as gay when I was 18," he recalls. "There were already gay bars here in Hillcrest. There was the Brass Rail, which was the main staple. But there were also 18-andover clubs. That's where I went before I turned 21. There was Basin Street, which was 18-and-over. It's where the credit union is now on Fifth and University - well right behind there, where they have parking now. It was a place where you could go where there was dancing and music. It was a lot of fun."

Mo's recently launched its own 18-andover night. But, says Volk, it'll probably never be what his boss remembers the party being at Basin Street when he was an 18-year-old Hillcrest kid.

"With smartphones, Grindr and Scruff, other dating apps, and the internet, kids don't really need to go out in Hillcrest to meet each other," Volk says. "But we do host an 18-and-up night on the last Friday of the month now. It's just starting to build traction."

Like so many things, technology has disrupted what was once a unifying need among gender and sexual minorities to meet and find communion in physical neighborhoods like Hillcrest. "It's changed our environment, even inside the bar," say Shaw.

"It's a much earlier crowd now," he says. "That means you see foot traffic to the bars on Friday and Saturday afternoons and evenings much earlier in Hillcrest than you used to. Daytime is so much busier than it used to be. They come out earlier and they go home earlier."

Adds Shaw, "The goal has always been to to build a safe place where everyone can feel comfortable, regardless of sexual orientation, where they can express who they are and feel safe about it. Once you have those core values in hand, the rest of it is easy. We want you to know this is Hillcrest and you can be as gay or straight as you want and not feel anything but safe about it."

Shaw says there were times when the gayborhood faced existential crises. But he sees Hillcrest mostly basking in sunshine nowadays. "I think Hillcrest has gotten a lot cleaner," he says. "I think it's gotten a lot better. We've had some good executive directors at some of the business associations who have taken good care of the town. There's been times when you had to fight to keep Hillcrest gay. There have been times when certain boards didn't want that label. They didn't want to be stereotyped as gay, or GLBT, or whatever."

Hillcrest and HIV have changed

Part of the fear of stigma that once scared business owners in Hillcrest who didn't want to be stereotyped as part of a gay neighborhood had a lot to do with AIDS.

Every morning, Joshua Kessler, 32, checks in at his office inside AIDS Healthcare Foundation's Fourth Avenue headquarters between Washington and University Avenue, in a space that was occupied for years by the grassroots HIV/AIDS-services organization Being Alive. "I moved from the West Hollywood gayborhood to the Hillcrest gayborhood a year ago, and I love it here," Kessler says.

"I was only in West Hollywood for four years

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and I came from the East Coast by way of Las Vegas," he says. "To me, Hillcrest is just normal. At least people sleep here. Hillcrest is what West Hollywood was maybe 10 years ago. You can still see people vou know. People are friendly. Hillcrest is really a community."

He says it's fitting to do modern HIV treatment and prevention from the same offices where early in the battle against AIDS harsh drugs such as AZT, which was barely better than HIV itself, were dispensed along with human-touch treatments as basic as love, hugs, and laundry services. "I went from running clubs and seeing the gay community from one side, to turning people on to life-saving treatments and getting them into HIV-prevention services they didn't even know existed," Kessler says. "It's been mindblowing to go from club promoter to linking people to health care, especially youngsters in Hillcrest. My name is well known in night life, so linking people into care has been easier in some

ways, because young gay people are more open to what I have to say about HIV prevention and care than they might be with some button-up type of guy."

Being Alive still thrives. In fact, the group occupies offices just upstairs from AIDS Healthcare Foundation. "The people in this neighborhood who came before us had less to work with in the fight against HIV, but they gave people dignity and a reason to live," Kessler savs.

Kessler savs he's noticed another difference between Hillcrest and West Hollywood since moving here a year ago: "These guys all have boyfriends and husbands," he says. "And they're serious about their relationships. I don't see that as much in Los Angeles. Maybe it's just me, but I notice more commitment here."

Kessler's boss, Adam Zweig M.D., is medical director for AIDS Healthcare Foundation's San Diego Office and AHF's Western Region. He chose to run the behemoth AIDS-services organization's Western Region — which includes offices as far away as Dallas and Houston — from Hillcrest, rather than the group's corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, for reasons of perspective.

"From here, we can see things a little more out-of-the-box," Dr. Zweig says. "We opened this office in Hillcrest because we knew this is the central area where we would find our core group of patients. But we also knew there were people who wanted to navigate a full-service clinic and HIV pharmacy that was smaller, more personal and easier to deal with than a large UCSD Owens Clinic-type facility or San Diego Family Health Centers."

Zweig, who prior to opening AIDS Healthcare Foundation's Hillcrest offices worked at Scripps Mercy, says Hillcrest residents are unique because of the neighborhood's character. "I've lived in Hillcrest for 15 years," he says. "Hillcrest is an interesting place. I really enjoy it. I have big expectations for this neighborhood. We have



Eitol Towers is inarguably the most striking new building project to hit Hillcrest in a generation.

a very diverse community with nice houses and apartments, but I think it could be more vibrant. I feel disappointed when I walk by all of the empty storefronts. I feel sad when I think what this neighborhood could be. The homeless problem is a product of our lack of diversification. We're falling behind North Park and Little Italy, because we're not experimental and open enough."

Zweig and Kessler and many others in their profession, including Dr. Susan Little at UCSD's "Good to Go" program, and at the San Diego LGBT Center — all with headquarters in Hillcrest, are part of a partly cooperative, partly competitive effort to get the neighborhood's (and all of San Diego's) sexually active residents to consider taking a pill called PrEP, which they say they can help them attain at no cost. PrEP literally prevents HIV— even without the use of a condom. Another treatment called PEP can stop infection if taken within 72 hours after the deed is done.

"I'm lucky to be able to be doing work that is saving lives in a neighborhood like Hillcrest," Kessler says. "I feel lucky."

"I see change in the neighborhood," Longtime Hillcrest resident Joe Concannon says. "But diversity works both ways. As gays, we can't resist diversity. I see more straight people moving in; more straight families are comfortable being around LGBTQ people. I welcome them and everyone who loves this neighborhood."

—Thom Senzee

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

The northbound crossover detour will be two miles away at E Street in Encinitas, meaning four miles to get back to the other side of the tracks. Southbound, the detour will be back out Manchester Avenue on to I-5, exiting at Lomas Santa Fe in Solana Beach, then west to Coast Highway, a detour of about eight miles. A check of town businesses found that a mostly negative effect is expected in the five-block village. Masa at the Patagonia Surf Shop (inside the historic 1910-built Cardiff Mercantile Building on the northwest corner of the construction site) said, "It will slow things down a bit. I just didn't know it was going to start so soon."

"It stinks," said Hannah, working behind the counter at Bump Coffee on Aberdeen Drive. "I'm just bummed I won't be able to get to the surf."

"It's going to be a pain in my ass," said Mallory, the lead server at Bestawan Pizza. "There's your story," she added, referring to the inconvenience shared by Hannah in getting to the beach.

Laura, the manager at Trattoria Restaurant on San Elijo Avenue, says it shouldn't be a problem for them. "Most of our customers come off the freeway," she said. "And I can give good directions on the phone."

SANDAG has tried to help the situation through its public online announcement of the closure by providing a graphic and link to the Cardiff 101 Main Street website, encouraging folks to support Cardiff's local business, which will be open during the construction.

AT THE PUMP

Fill your ride in Oceanside Cheap gas up north, also down south

Southern Californians are driving more this holiday season, as evidenced by an unusual post-Christmas Day traffic jam on December 26 through Camp Pendleton south to Del Mar on I-5. It was bumper-to-bumper most of the day. Lowered gas prices could be a factor: since October 10, when the average price of gas in San Diego County was the highest since June 2015 – \$3.85 for regular grade, cash price – San Diegans have enjoyed a 50-cent-per-gallon drop. The noticeable decreases started the Monday after

Thanksgiving weekend.

On December 27, nine stations, all independent or big box retailers, were selling regular gas under \$3 a gallon, according to *gasbuddy.com*. Always one of the low-price leaders, the Noil station on Cactus Road at Otay Mesa Road was the lowest at \$2.88 a gallon, followed by several Costcos around the county at \$2.89 to \$2.95. Two Mohsen stations in Oceanside have been in an

old-fashioned price war with four Oceanside G&M stations. Their recent history shows G&M will match or beat Mohsen's price of \$2.97 by the following day.

It also appears that Shell has re-positioned itself as the highest-priced branded gas in the county, taking the top honors away from Chevron. Selling for much more than the county average, three Shell stations were tops; India Street at Vine Street in downtown at \$4.29, Pacific Highway at Laurel Street (always priced to take advantage of last minute fill-ups for rental car returns at the airport) at \$4.19, and the Sierra Mesa Shell on Health Center Drive at a reported \$4.19.

According to a December 26 Bloomberg News report, this round of falling prices is because "America is exporting a record amount of refined fuel, contributing to a global glut in gasoline."

KEN HARRISON

OCEAN BEACH

Improvements reprovedStalled Salt Pool site security stinks

On September 26, the City of San Diego began its "Orchard Avenue, Capri by the Sea and



Orchard repairs washed away.

Old Salt Pool Beach Access Improvements Projects" in Ocean Beach. But within weeks, planned improvements came to a halt, and now the area surrounding the historic Salt Pool is more dangerous than it was. The stag-



"City staff will continue to monitor the fencing."



Photo of work in progress on December 17 at Orchard Ave improvement project. Stabilizing the gutted sidewalk. Looks like they're forming for concrete.

ing area at the foot of Narragansett Avenue is closed, gated, and empty, blocking stairwell access to the salt pool below. But if you walk

> the cliffs and approach from the south, you can reach the stairwell. Once you make your way to the top, you're met with a gate. Initially, it was blocked off with caution tape, but now that's gone and the area is "very active at night with travelers," one resident told me.

> Another resident, Kevin Hastings, told me he had a few words with the crew during the first week of repairs as he approached from the south: "They asked how I got down there and said I couldn't come through. I said, 'Try and stop me.' I told them to post signs at the Santa Cruz cliff access, or else they're going to have to repeat that conversation with a lot of people coming from that way. At the time, they had

blocked the stairs leading to the main beach and up to the street. Now they have a pile of construction material down there with straw socks and plastic around it, probably for their required storm water protection. Some of it has washed away because of the large waves. About one year ago, I saw a city notice posted about the project that said to contact the OB Planning Board for details," Hastings added. "I was hoping that meant the city was going to submit this project to the planning board. But the chair was surprised when I asked him and said they don't receive anything on projects like this. Now I am serving on the board, and there is some sentiment that the city actively avoids us. Which is a shame, because we have local knowledge of these areas that would help

the project be successful."

Not long after, a gate was installed on the other side of the salt pool, blocking access from the north. The gate has been tagged, ripped, torn down and secured again — by who is anyone's guess. Sometime between Oct 11 and October 20, all work had stopped in the area. The steps to the salt pool have been ground off, there are several gaping holes, and the fence is so rusted it can't be used to

"Work on the Old Salt Pool beach access stairs has temporarily paused..."

secure the area. Warnings about entry are simply spray-painted on the shaved-off steps.

In early December, Orchard Ave. was fenced off to begin the improvement project there. Workers were seen with shovels, gutting the sidewalk along the cliffs. On December 19, big swells interrupted the improvement, leaving debris scattered everywhere. A city spokesperson said this in response to my query: "Work on the Old Salt Pool beach access stairs has temporarily paused so that the city can make changes to the plans due to unforeseen conditions in the stairs. Work at this location is anticipated to resume after January 1st. In the interim, City staff and the contractor will continue to monitor the fencing protecting the site."

DELINDA LOMBARDO

FALLBROOK

Medicare scare

Open enrollment means open season for scammers

A new telephone scam may be circulating around San Diego. On December 19,

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

68-year-old Vickie Harjo of Fallbrook received a phone call from the "Medicare office" stating that her Medicare coverage would expire on December 25. She told the man, described as having a Spanish or Indian accent, that he was a scammer, but

what threw her off-guard during the brief conversation before the man hung up was that he spelled out each letter of her name, including her middle name. He wanted a cknowledge-

ment that she understood her Medicare coverage would be ending. It scared her enough to call the actual Medicare office. She was assured her coverage was in force and not expiring.

Lt. Karen Stubkjaer, spokesperson for the San Diego County sheriff's department, said she had not heard of this activity but would be checking with other departments. Lt. Stubkjear said that Mrs. Harjo did the right

thing. "People should not give personal, identifying information over the phone. They should hang up and then call officials" — in this case, the Medicare office. Unlike other reported phone scams, the man on the phone never asked for money. It is speculated that amid the heightened awareness of the recent open enrollment period for subsidized medical insurance (Covered California and others) and the busyness

of the holidays, the scammer was trying to get Harjo to switch coverage, or to sign up for what would be a fly-by-night or non-existent Medicare plan.

For our younger readers- this is a telephone.

Medicare plan.

It's assumed she would have been asked for ared her payment at that time.

After Harjo contacted me, she received two more phone calls from the same company – a 619 and toll free 877 number. Numerous return calls to both numbers got a busy signal, indicating they are probably active lines, and not non-existent phone numbers used by robo-callers.

KEN HARRISON







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Del Mar jewel

continued from page 3

structed on a fragile coastal bluff. Many voicing concerns reside on that same bluff. A bluff that is fully developed for nearly two miles up Solana Beach's coastline.

When flagged poles showing the project's footprint appeared in August, it was a wakeup call for many. One Solana Beach resident viewing the poles from his upstairs bedroom window realized, not only that his ocean view was at risk, but he would have to go outside and crane his neck to even catch a glimpse of the sky.

Current plans for the resort include 17 structures with nine of them four-stories. Brad Termini, co-founder of Zephyr, touts his luxury projects such as the 14-story Bankers Hill condominium building "The Park" that won an award for poor design in October 2018. A

native of Buffalo, New York, Termini moved to the west coast in 2003 inspired by watching *Baywatch* and *Beverly Hills 90210* as a kid. Termini also owns an organic cannabis business. He said he plans to leave 70-percent of the bluff as open public space. Regarding concerns about parking and traffic, he said resorts typically have a lower impact than other land uses.

Of more than 700 proposed parking spaces, about 100 are for public parking, 450 for hotel parking (200 for employees), and 150 for the villas. For locals, plans for three stories of underground parking in the bluff is of more concern than number of spaces.

A Solana Beach resident on Marsolan Avenue, in an email to the city, said she is worried resort employees will park in her neighborhood. Ever since the Brigantine restaurant started charging for parking, their employees have parked on her street. Another resident is concerned about rideshare drivers.

Resort employees will be offered public transit passes but according to *Apartments. com*, the closest areas with rentals below \$1400 (Escondido and Clairemont) take 1½ hours or more and drop workers up to a mile from the resort.

Termini said one benefit of his project is "a possible revenue sharing agreement with the city" to replenish sand. Pumping sand onto the beach quells erosion from coastal bluffs, a primary source of beach sand.

With the "save our bluff" protests against the resort, it's only fair to turn the spotlight on the hundreds that currently reside along bluffs and shorelines. Managed retreat is one strategy the coastal commission favors to allow beaches to return to their natural state. This means abandoning erosion-threatened land by removing homes and

seawalls. No one is thrilled with the prospect of moving their seaside abodes inland, so in October, Del Mar's city council decided to leave managed retreat off the table for now, a move local environmentalists liken to the the proverbial ostrich burying its head in the sand.

The state requires coastal cities to develop strategies for adapting to rising sea levels, predicted by many to rise 5 inches by 2030, 12 inches by 2050 and more than 3 feet by 2100.

A pro-project website by "a group of Del Mar home-owners, residents, and business owners" call the resort a "once in a lifetime opportunity" that will "finally [give] access to one of the most beautiful views in our own backyard." The website offers a long list of benefit statements, including how the project will be the "first environmentally sustainable project of its kind."

This claim has been made before by other developers in the county with plans of purchasing carbon credits from foreign entities. An architect opposing the project objected to Zephyr's claims about "meeting or exceeding the highest levels of sustainable design" while at the same time promising to meet the lowest levels of sustainability ratings.

Of 14 original supporters listed on the website in early-November, about half were Facebook friends with Termini's wife and the majority lived more than a mile from the project site. A few supporters had businesses nearby, including the owner of Red Tracton's Steakhouse across from the racetrack. Only two supporters appeared to reside in Del Mar, including Jim Watkins, the developer of Del Mar's L'Auberge hotel that Termini holds up as shining example of what his resort could be.

L'Auberge opened in 1989 where once stood the Tudor-style Stratford Inn. Opened circa 1910, it was a playground for the rich and famous (renamed Hotel Del Mar in 1926). The first Bing Crosby Stakes in the mid-1940s turned it into a hotspot for Hollywood stars. By 1963, it was a hotspot for cobwebs and vagrants before being demolished in 1969, about the time Oklahoma-native Watkins moved to Del Mar.

Though Zephyr holds up the L'Auberge as a reason why his development should exist, there are important differences. L'Auberge is in a commercial area and has far fewer rooms (120) and timeshare units (12). L'Auberge was originally rejected by voters in 1987. Voters only got on board once the number of units were reduced. Putting Zephyr's project to a public vote is what many want, though Solana Beach would be left out of the count.

Watkins sold L'Auberge at a loss to Lowe Enterprises in 1994. This hits on a concern some have that an economic downturn could turn Zephyr's project into "a money pit that the developer may not finish" leaving "a half-built eyesore."

A few weeks ago, 60 new names were added to the project supporter's website. Of those, 75-percent reside in Rancho Santa Fe or take regular part in Rancho Santa Fe society, have private golf memberships in town, or do business there.

The majority of supporters listed on the website aren't in the geographical crosshairs of the project. Many supporters could be seen as benefitting from the proposed development — brokers and those that work on behalf of developers or hotels, and people wealthy enough to afford the planned villas. Four supporters own Solana Beach restaurants/bars. Others that could likely afford one of those villas include wealth management advisors, a golf industry chief executive, a retired SDG&E chief executive, and a plastic surgeon.

Of the 22 new names added in mid-December 2018, at least half have ties to Rancho Santa Fe, such as Jay Flatley who can be seen in a local paper in 2016 with then presidential candidate Donald Trump at an intimate multi-million dollar fundraiser organized by Doug Manchester, the hotelier and former San Diego *Union-Tribune* owner.

The creators of both the supporters' and developer's websites paid GoDaddy to keep their identities private.

Early renderings suggest the resort will be set significantly further back from the bluff's edge than adjacent residences. Mark Johnsson, a coastal commission geologist that authored a primer on coastal bluff erosion, explained "The goal is to assure that by the time the bluff retreats sufficiently to threaten the development, the structures themselves are obsolete.

Matt Bator, city planner, said perceived impacts will be addressed in the environmental impact report anticipated out in early 2019. It's being prepared by the city's consultant based on information provided by the developer's consultant.

Bator said anything on the bluff in excess of 14 feet isn't allowed to greatly impact the scenic view sheds and open space appearance. The developer wants to build to 46 feet, 20 feet higher than zoning allows.

Some locals have expressed concerns about hundreds of outsiders crowding dog beach if the resort is built. That won't play well against coastal commission dogma that says beaches belong to everyone, not just those that can afford to live near them.

Termini, a dog-lover, said dogs will definitely be allowed at the resort.

The project is anticipated to go before the design review board and planning commission in the spring and the city council and coastal commission in the summer. The developer hopes to break ground in 2020 and open the resort in 2022.



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Calendar

YOUR WELCOME TO IT EK

Thursday | 3

PLANE CRASH IN NORTH PARK, 1978



Lemon Grove Historical Society's lecture series continues as historian Alexander Bevil delivers a white-knuckle account of the horrific 1978 crash of PSA flight 182 in North Park that killed all 137 aboard and seven on the ground. Body parts, fires, the shattered plane, and wrecked homes were part of the nightmare. Says Bevil, "The memories never go away, yet, the crash triggered new safety rules for commercial air flights."

WHEN: Thursday, January 3, 7 pm to 8:30 pm.

WHERE: H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olive Street, Lemon Grove. *lghistorical.org* "Happy" single by Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox, Swedish multiinstrumentalist Gunhild Carling has become a hot commodity on the night-

club circuit, where she blows patrons away with her ability to make a set of bagpipes sound like a full woodwind orchestra channeled through a Moog synthesizer. Her two-night solo stand at Tio Leo's on January 3 and 6 will also showcase her abilities on trombone, flute, recorder, and

around a half dozen other instruments.

WHEN: Thursday, January 3, 8 pm and Sunday, January 6, 1 pm.
WHERE: Tio Leo's, 5302 Napa Street,

Bay Park. tioleos.com

Friday | 4

THE INTERTIDAL ZONE AT CABRILLO

Join Alex Warneke for a presentation about animals that call the rocky intertidal zone at Cabrillo National Monument home. In one of the most extreme ecosystems on earth, plants



GUNHILD CARLING

Since being featured playing three trumpets at the same time on the

GUNHILD CARLING AT TIO

LEO'S

and animals are tested by crashing waves and desiccating wind and sun when the water recedes. Lifeforms deal



with hazards brought on by predators utilizing claws and spines. Those who live in this area have developed adaptations for success, because passing the test means survival. Alex earned her Master's in chemical ecology from San Diego State University.

WHEN: Friday, January 4, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

WHERE: Joyce Beers Uptown Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street, Hillcrest. *sandiegosierraclub.org*

BOND ON THIRD

An original theatre event celebrating James Bond in all his guises. Features staged readings by eight actors of a "James Bond" TV serial — a different one each night — and a comedic solo show based on the Bond films.

WHEN: Friday, January 4, and Saturday, January 5, 8 pm;

Sunday, January 6,

5 pm.

WHERE: Onstage Playhouse, 291 Third Avenue, Chula Vista. onstageplayhouse.org

Wednesday | 9

FILM FORUM: CHAPPAQUIDDICK

Chappaquiddick (2018) is John Curran's searing account of political corruption in America. The film focuses on the 1969 incident when



TED KENNED

Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy careened off a bridge and left Mary Jo Kopechne to drown. Starring Jason Clarke as Ted Kennedy and Kate

Mara as Mary Jo Kopechne, with Ed Helms, Bruce Dern, Jim Gaffigan, Clancy Brown, and Olivia Thirlby in supporting roles. Disscussion to follow viewing of film.

WHEN: Wednesday, January 9, 6 pm to 8 pm.

WHERE: Chula Vista Civic Center Library, 365 F Street, Chula Vista. chulavistaca.gov

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

Discover new plants and say hello to some old ones.

Driving directions: (Encinitas) From I-5, exit at Encinitas Boulevard and go right (east) for 0.4 mile to Quail Gardens Drive. Turn left on Quail Gardens Drive and continue an additional 0.3 mile to the Garden entrance, on your left. Hiking length: Four miles of trails wind through the 37 acres of park. The main trail is a paved road roughly a half-mile in length, but there are numerous dirt trails branching off of it. Easy with 100 feet elevation gain/loss. Most trails are an easy stroll, often shaded by tall trees that can accommodate strollers and wheelchairs, though some have a few stairs to negotiate. Dogs and other pets are not allowed in the Garden, although an exception is made for service animals. NOTE: There is an entrance fee; check the Garden's website for information: SBDGarden.org.



The Screw Pine, or Pandan, is more closely related to a lily than a pine

San Diego Botanic Garden has a collection of over 4,000 unique plants, many found at exotic locations throughout the world. You can explore habitats from places you would like to visit without ever leaving San Diego. This is also a place to learn about California native plants, especially those of coastal maritime chaparral: a small fragment of

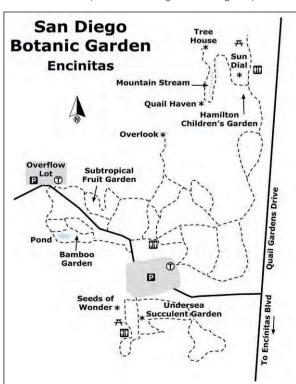
this endangered habitat is preserved within the Garden. The Garden also holds numerous special events and classes.

The Garden is open every day from 9 am to 5 pm. except December 25. It is a great place for walkers, birders, photographers, naturalists wanting to expand their knowledge of plants, and fami-

lies with children. In fact, there are special gardens for children as well as educational exhibits on Native Americans: how they lived and how they used native plants in their lives.

If you arrive on a busy day, you may have to park in the overflow lot on the western side of the Garden, but this is actually a good place to begin exploring. Start by wandering through the Bamboo Garden, the largest public collection of bamboo varieties in the country. You may be surprised to learn that bamboo is a woody grass, often a very large grass. Another oddity is that some types of bamboo remain vegetative for up to a hundred years or more. Then they flower, produce seeds, and die.

The path through the bamboo garden eventually leads you to a pond containing its own exotic plants, including an Amacontinued on page 28



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

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

ANIMAL **FRIENDS**

Winter Break Critter Camp For Kids What does winter mean for animals? Your kids can find out at Winter Critter Camp at Helen Woodward Animal Center! Campers will discover why chinchillas don't mind being chilly, how reptiles deal with falling temperatures, and how other critters cope with the changes caused by cold weather. Each day is full of hands-on animal encounters plus themed activities, crafts, and games! Preschool (must be at least 4 years old): 9am 1pm, \$58 per day K-6th: 9am -3pm, \$73 per day *Extended care hours, scholarships, and discounts are available. Thursday, January 3, 9am; Friday, January 4, 9am; \$58-\$73 Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

ART

Alexander Arshansky: Abducting Reality Opening Reception San Diego artist Alexander Arshansky's "Abducting Reality" will display intricately painted works that bring the conceptual into physical form, while questioning absoluteness and corporeality. Alexander Arshansky is a Russian-born artist whose style is a combination of Biomorphic Abstraction, Cubist-like compositions, with detailed and intricate designs. Arshansky is a prolific artist with over 850 paintings produced in the last 7 years. The layering and detailed imagery make his works deep and complex, reflecting his emotional state while he creates each piece. Opening wine sales to benefit SPORTS for Exceptional Athletes. Exhibition on view January 6 - March 24. Sunday, January 6, 6pm; free. Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Frida Frenzy We can't get enough of Frida, Frida Kahlo that is. The prolific Mexican artist who skillfully painted self portraits that shared her pains, triumphs surrounded by her favorite pets. Ms. Rubin pays homage to Frida in her whimsical style watercolors and mixed media pieces that span self portraits with huge hibiscus flowers and black cat to Frida herself transformed into a Mad Cat or skeleton in her party dress with a uni-brow. Friday, January 4, 5pm; free. June Rubin Studio/Gallery, 2690 Historic Decatur Road #214. (LIBERTY STATION)

Sara Makes Art This showcase will feature a collection of paintwell as mosaic art made by three of Sophie's artists including Deborah Gile, Reg Oberg and Victoria Pires. The gallery will be displayed from January 5-26, 2019, and a public reception will be held at Sophie's Kensington Gallery on January 5. Sara Millet is a devoted painter who discovered her talent and love for art at a young age. Playing with an Etch-A-Sketch and drawing at every opportunity, Sara developed her style at 12 years old, when she had her first art show. Although Sara started out as self-taught, she takes a variety of art classes to learn new techniques and skills. This will be Sara's second show at Sophie's Kensington Gallery. Sophie's Gallery has a strong mosaic department with many dedicated artists who specialize in this hands-on media. Three such artists and their mosaic plaques will be featured during our first show of the new year. Deborah Gile has won numerous awards at the San Diego County Fair for her mosaic pieces. Reg Oberg is greatly inspired by Elvis in his art, and his other interests include religious mysticism, Freemasonry and pop-iconography. Victoria Pires is a true romantic at heart. Her favorite imagery, including princes and princesses, is a reoccurring theme in her work. Saturday, January 5, 5pm; free. Sophie's Gallery Kensington, 4168 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

ings by local artist, Sara Millet, as

Visual Awakenings Artists Reception Join the Oceanside Public Library in welcoming local artists Eileen Sprague and Elizabeth Custer. Their work will be on display at the Civic Center Library from January 2 through January 31, with an opening reception on Saturday, January 5 at 4:00pm The Civic Center Library is located at 330 N. Coast Hwy, Contemporary sculptures by Eileen Sprague and waterbased painting by Elizabeth Custer. Saturday, January 5, 4pm; free. Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Argentine Tango Workshop This workshop will focus on Extremen Sequences for Tight Spaces and will be taught by Cristian Correa and Miriam Copello. Sunday, January 6, 7:30pm; \$20. Mary Murphy's Champion Ballroom Academy, 4255 Ruffin Road #200. (TIERRASANTA)

Beginning Cold Process Soapmaking Class Soapmaking 101 is a beginning-level soapmaking class designed to teach students to make soap by hand at home. The main focus of this class is the "cold process" soapmaking method although the class does briefly describe "melt and pour" soap crafting. After learning soapmaking safety, students are taught to formulate soap recipes and calculate lye quantities without using a "lye calculator.' The objective of this class is to have students understand saponification values and be comfortable creating their own soap recipes at home.

Students make cold process soap during the class session and take home a bar. Attend in person. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours: $4\neg\Omega$ hours, includes one 15-minute break. Class fee: \$79. Materials fee: \$20. Sunday, January 6, 12pm; \$99. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Fitness Palooza: Let's Get Physical San Diego Oasis, a nonprofit organization supporting successful aging with an office location in Escondido, will host Fitness Palooza: Let's Get Physical. This event spotlights exercise demonstrations that support better balance, staying active, and preventing falls. Co-sponsored by Anthem BlueCross, AARP- United Healthcare, Palomar Health, and Sharp Grossmont Hospital, this event will include 20-minute sessions to highlight the vast selection of fitness classes offered throughout the year at San Diego Oasis. Friday, January 4, 11am; free. Creative Center for Spiritual Living, Park Ave Community Center, 210 E. Park Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Healing Meditation Class Every Saturday at 1:15 pm at the National City Library, holistic arts specialist Aurelia Valentin will guide vou through breathing exercises and meditative positions to help you find balance with your mind and body. Please bring a yoga mat. The library is located at 1401 National City Blvd., National City, CA 91950. For more information please call the library at (619) 470-5800 or email Merv Jensen at mervin. jensen@nationalcitylibrary.org Saturdays, 1:15pm; through Saturday, May 25, free. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

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)

Sea Horse Paint & Sip Join Erin Schroeder for step-by-step Instruction on how to recreate this Seahorse Silhouette. Enjoy expressing your creative side while sipping on your wine and enjoying food with friends or family. Free parking with purchase of food and beverage. No experience necessary to have fun and take home a painting you created yourself. Sunday, January 6, 1pm; \$25-\$45. 21 and up. Hilton Del Mar, 15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, (DEL MAR)

The Art of the One Person **Show** 3 hour intensive writing exercises with Brenda Adelman, putting material on its feet, acting your story- different levels welcome. Students will bring their ideas, write with the help of writing prompts and put work up for feedback. We'll work on bringing scenes to life through the exploration of creating dynamic characters, using strong objectives. Participants will leave with an understanding of the theme of their show and the next steps to take to get it to the next level. Sunday, January 6, 1pm; \$45-\$54. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic



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YOUTH LEAGUE

LIGA DE NINOS

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11v11

Sunday /Domingo

Entry Fee Per Team/Entrada por Equipo 6v6/8v8/llv ll \$150

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(U7) 2012	(U11) 2008	(U15) 2004
(U8) 2011	(U12) 2007	(U16) 2003
(U9) 2010	(U13) 2006	(U17) 2002

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COMEDY

16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

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

Dina Martina Dina Martina will once again descend upon San Diego with a show titled CRÉME DE LA DREGS, a mélange of occasionally delightful songs, bizarre-yettouching stories, and sidesplittingly hilarious video. Thursday, January 3, 8pm; \$25-\$30. 18 and up. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

Sam Morril Sam Morril, one of the fastest-rising stand-up comics in New York City, is also one of the best joke writers in the scene today. How do you know that's true? Because he is writing this bio, and he wouldn't lie about that to get extra work. In 2011, Sam won The Laughing Skull Comedy Festival in Atlanta and was named one of Comedy Central's "Comics to Watch." More recently, Sam has been seen on Comedy Central's Adam Devine's House Party, the Late Show with Stephen Colbert, and "Conan" on TBS for multiple appearances. Thursday, January 3, 8pm; Friday, January 4, 8pm; Saturday, January 5, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$9-\$18. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Zoltan Kaszas Join us as we welcome Zoltan Kaszas from Dry Bar Comedy. The night will also feature Andrew Tarr, Dave Wright, Jordan Coburn and host Aaron Frescas. Thursday, January 3, 8pm; \$15-\$20.

21 and up. Bear Roots Brewing Co., 1213 S. Santa Fe Avenue. (VISTA)

DANCE

Milonga Magnifica Featuring Argentine Tango performances by Cristian Correa and Miriam Copello as well as hosts and SoCal Tango Instructors Roberto Cavallo and Katia Diamond. Enjoy Tango dancing until 1:00AM with ArgentineTango DJ Riccardo Iacovoni. A variety of refreshments, appetizers (including Argentinian Empanadas) and desserts will be available for all guests. Sunday, January 6, 9pm; \$5-\$10. Mary Murphy's Champion Ballroom Academy, 4255 Ruffin Road #200. (TIFRRASANTA)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

LGBTQ Book Club Join other North County adults in reading books by or about people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual & trans*. January 3: "If I Was Your Girl" by Meredith Russo, February 7: "The Air You Breathe" by Frances De Pontes Peebles, March 7: "A Little Life" by Hanya Yanagihara Thursday, January 3, 6pm; Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Open House The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute will hold an Open House. For those over 50, the program offers daytime lectures, seminars, and tours by renowned faculty and community leaders. Saturday, January 5, 9:30am; 21 and up. UCSD Extension La Jolla, 9600 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

FOOD & DRINK

January Tequila Tasting Team partners with different tequila and mezcal brands will educate guests about how the chosen spirit is harvested and what foods it pairs best with. They'll be offering 21+ guests a free sample of Siete Misterios along with cocktail specials highlighting the spirit available

Rhyme & Verse

Three poems for the New Year by Walter Savage Landor

Mild Is the Parting Year

Mild is the parting year, and sweet The odour of the falling spray; Life passes on more rudely fleet, And balmless is its closing day.

I wait its close, I court its gloom, But mourn that never must there fall Or on my breast or on my tomb The tear that would have soothed it all.

To Youth

Where art thou gone, light-ankled Youth? With wing at either shoulder, And smile that never left thy mouth Until the Hours grew colder:

Then somewhat seem'd to whisper near That thou and I must part; I doubted it; I felt no fear, No weight upon the heart.

If aught befell it, Love was by And roll'd it off again; So, if there ever was a sigh, 'T was not a sigh of pain. I may not call thee back; but thou Returnest when the hand Of gentle Sleep waves o'er my brow His poppy-crested wand;

Then smiling eyes bend over mine, Then lips once press'd invite; But sleep hath given a silent sign, And both, alas! take flight.

The Appeal

Remain, ah not in youth alone,
Though youth, where you are, long will stay,
But when my summer days are gone,
And my autumnal haste away.
"Can I be always by your side?"
No; but the hours you can, you must,
Nor rise at Death's approaching stride,
Nor go when dust is gone to dust.



Walter Savage Landor (1775-1864) was an English poet who is best known for his poem "Rose Aylmer" and his collection of prose pieces *Imaginary Conversations*, which depicts discussions by historical contemporaries, mostly from ancient Greece and Rome. Both critically and publicly acclaimed for his poetry, Landor published verse in both English and Latin, lead-

ing Charles Swineburne to remark that "he could not write a note of three lines which did not bear the mark of his Roman hand in its matchless and inimitable command of a style at once the most powerful and the purest of his age."

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

for purchase. Siete Misterios was founded in 2010 with the intent of keeping traditional mezcal production at the forefront of the mezcal industry. Doba-Yei is the first expression from Siete Misterios that is made in a copper still, and produced outside the region of Sola de Vega. In typical Siete Misterios fashion, each batch is made by a different mezcalero, and depending on the batch, your bottle of Doba-Yej either came from Santiago Matatlan or San Luis del Rio Cocktail Special of the Month: Siete Misterios Doba Yej, lemon, Peychauds bitters, orange vanilla shrub, egg white. Friday, January 4, 5pm; free. Galaxy Taco, 2259 Avenida de La Playa. (LA JOLLA)

Prime Rib Thursdays Make Thursday night your favorite night of the week at Cafe la Rue and Prime Rib Thursday. Enjoy a \$19 prime rib and \$10 martinis while live music plays for your enjoyment. Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, January 3, La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

FOR KIDS

Dance Pants Party Recommended for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary-school age kids,

this simple dance program will feature the Hokey Pokey, the Chicken Dance, and more. Families, it's time to get your groove on. Thursday, January 3, 10:30am; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

FCG National Junior Golf Championship 12th Annual Future Champions Golf National Championship. Open to all competitive junior golfers ages 4-18 in a highly competitive event. Saturday, January 5, 7am; Sunday, January 6, 7am; \$149-\$299. Sycuan Resort, 3007 Dehesa Road. (EL CAJON)

Minefaire Minefaire: Official Minecraft Community Event holds a Guinness World Record for largest convention for a single video game. Plunge into the Minecraft Mixed Reality Experience, and

ROAM- -RAMA

continued from page 26

zon water lily named for the English Queen Victoria (Victoria rigea). In the tropics, its floating leaves can reach 6 feet in diameter, each with a 3- to 4-inch high rim. In cooler San Diego, it rarely comes close to half that size. Another rarity in sub-tropical North America is the pandan or screw pine (Pandanas amaryllifolius), also sometimes called screw palm; however, it is a monocot and closer to a lily than either a pine or a palm. Another name for this species of Pandanas is the fragrant pandan. Its leaves have a delightful fragrance which is used to flavor other foods in tropical southeast Asia. Pandan leaves are too fibrous to eat, but they impart a delightful flavor to many regional dishes, especially rice dishes.

The Subtropical Fruit Garden is just across the main path from the Bamboo Garden. Here you will find many plants familiar to you, such as avocado, papaya, and guava, but you will also find many you have never seen before, though all of these could be grown here in San Diego. Two that you may be interested in eating some day are the dragon fruit (Hylocereus undatus) and the wax jumbu (Syzygium samarangense). Hylocereus, though a native of Mexico, now is more often grown commercially in tropical Asia. It is a vining cactus, similar to the Christmas cactus commonly grown here as a houseplant. But it differs from our Christmas cac

tus by having huge flowers that produce delicious fruits that are said to taste like a cross between pineapple and strawberry. The wax jambu is the fruit of a fast growing tree, a native of Malaysia, and now grown throughout Asian tropics, where its fruit are readily available in markets. In the Seeds of Wonder Garden, pre-school age children will find a dinosaur's garden, a model railroad, and a playhouse. In this same area, check out the Undersea Succulent Garden. These are not aquatic plants, but plants whose colors suggest a bed of coral. One is a large pony tail palm (*Beaucarnea recurvata*) with grossly swollen base (it stores water) and brilliant red flowers when in bloom

In the Hamilton Children's Garden, older children can climb on a tree house, see live quail, play in a stream, watch a huge sundial, and make music. If you brought lunch for your family, there are picnic tables in both the Hamilton and the Seeds of Wonder Gardens.

This is a very brief introduction to the many things you can see and do here. It is a place to make your own adventure, have a bit of fun, and learn about the amazing world of plants.

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.







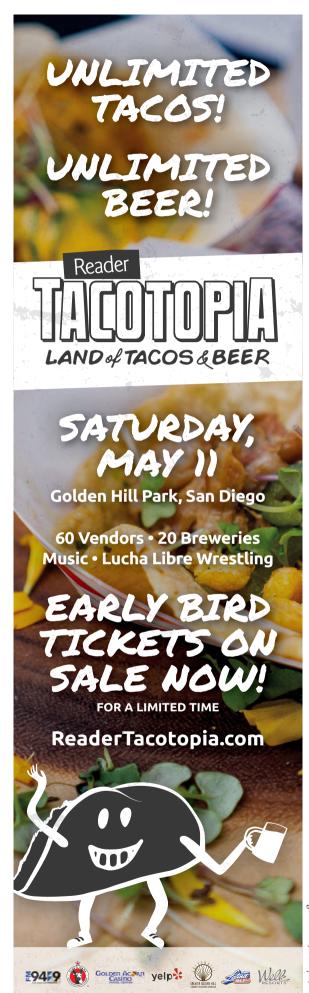
step inside our Minecraft Escape Room. Meet your favorite You-Tube creators, join parent-child build challenges, win a Minecraft costume contest, witness nonstop mega-stage shows, meet and learn from Minecraft Education Global Mentors, and discover the World's Largest Official Minecraft Merch Store Minefaire is an official Minecraft Community event. Tickets start at \$49.99 and are FREE for kids ages two and under. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to Minefaire.com. Saturday, January 5, 10am; Sunday, January 6, 10am; free-\$49. San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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 beginning Saturday, Nov. 17 and closing Sunday, Jan. 6. The outdoor rink will be open daily from 10am to 10pm, excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas. Net proceeds will benefit the Rady Children's Hospital's Peckham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders. Throughout the season, tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for children. Discounted tickets for members of the \$10 with LD Tickets for groups of 10 or more are available for \$10 each and school special group tickets are available for \$5 each with RSVP. Punch cards for five visits are available for \$50. Tickets can be purchased on-site and are good for reentry throughout the day. All tickets include skate rental and helmets. Saturdays, 10am; through Sunday, January 6, \$13-\$15. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

NATURE

A Splendid Winter's Day The sky is bright and the views splendid in January. Enjoy a Trail Guide led winter walk through the Chaparral or California Coastal Sage Scrub habitats of Mission Trails Regional Park. Meet inside the Visitor Center Saturday, January 5, 9:30am; Sunday, January 6, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail.

Grasslands Planting First Saturdays are regular restoration events in the vast and wild Rancho La Costa Preserve, but to kick off the new year, we're going to host a special native plant planting event! Join Preserve Calavera and CNLM to help plant a native coastal sage scrub demonstration garden. We will be digging, placing, planting, and watering plants and, if time allows, doing some arts 'n' crafts to make identification markers for our newest additions. Event is appropriate for all ages* and physical abilities. This is an opportunity to meet people, get outside, take a hike, and earn volunteer service hours. Please bring: Water. Wear protective clothes and sturdy, closed-toe shoes. Tools and other



SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Seacoast Community Church

Contact: 1050 Regal Rd, Encinitas 760-753-3003

www.seacoast-church.org Membership: 550 Pastor: Ryan Rosenbaum

Age: 42

Born: Fort Benning, GA

Formation: University of Washington, Seattle. WA; Talbot School of Theology-Biola University, La Mirada; Hebrew University, Jerusalem

Years Ordained: 18

San Diego Reader: What is your main concern as a member of the clergy?

Pastor Ryan Rosenbaum: I want people to find hope, and I believe hope is found in God. Along with finding that hope, we have to recognize we're in an increasingly divided

world. As we become more "enlightened" - as a culture we're supposedly progressing more - we become less gracious, forgiving, and accepting of one another. In a way, we're becoming more tribal - "as long as you believe what I believe." I am most concerned with seeing people transformed by Christ to become agents of hope, peace, light and love in the world. We're a world searching for hope and in need of real peace, real answers, and real hope; I don't think we're finding that in a lot of places.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PR: To help people discover life in Christ, whether for the first time, when someone is coming to Christ; or for those who already have experienced life in Christ, to help them see how that experience plays out throughout their lives. We want to be a home to those lost or wandering in their faith; a safe place for everyone to come and hear the truth and meet people who care for you. SDR: What work of literature has influenced your life as a pastor?

PR: G.K. Chesterton wrote a book called Orthodoxy. I guess it's now 111 years old, but it still feels relevant. I love Chesterton – he's my favorite author. I love his style of writing — he has a profound and almost prophetic way of seeing the world. What I appreciate about Chesterton is that he has a good balance of faith, intellect, and logic - not to mention he's also entertaining to read! In Orthodoxy, Chesterton does a good job thinking through the logic of faith—and that encourages me personally, and reminds me as a pastor to see the world as Chesterton sees the world with wonder. It's important for Chesterton to know the names of the trees and flowers you walk by every day, and to be fully present and experience the wonder of the world God has created. I think we can get so used to creation we forget to step back and see how amazing it really is. **SDR**: Where do you go when

you die?

PR: I don't believe heaven is



Rvan Rosenbaum loves G.K.

a boring place where we're floating on clouds looking for something to do. Rather, it's like the Garden of Eden restored, where there's no separation between God and man, and perfect harmony between men, and with God and creation. It's the grace of God that saves us, through the work of Jesus Christ, and so

if we reject Christ, we won't have eternity with the creator. There is mystery in salvation, and God holds us accountable for what we know and not for what we don't know. Hell is for those who know the story and reject God. There's this view of hell that it's a devil's playground, with burning and torture. But God designed hell for the fallen angels, the demons; it wasn't designed for mankind, according to Jesus. But anyone who rejects God and doesn't want him in their lives - God will give them what they want. Hell is a separation from God.

- Joseph O'Brien

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

supplies will be provided. Directions: Park at approximate address of 7506 Gibraltar Street. Restoration site is at end of cul-de-sac on opposite side of gate. Pedestrain access easy and obvious. Youth participants are welcome, but those under 18 need a liability waiver signed either on the day of the event with guardian present or (if no guardian is present the day of) printed, signed, and brought to the event. Saturday, January 5, 9am; free. 7506 Gibraltar Street

Wildlife Tracking Walk Join MTRP Tracking Team members for an adventure in wildlife tracking. Learn the art of discovering and identifying tracks and other signs left behind by the parks's seldom-seen wildlife. These easy walks are suitable for the whole family. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Saturday, January 5, 8:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

SPECIAL **EVENTS**

American Red Cross Blood Drive January is National Blood Donor Month, the perfect time to resolve to be a regular blood donor and help save lives. The Red Cross must collect more than 13,000 blood donations every day for patients in need. Come to give blood and receive a special long-sleeved Red Cross T-shirt in thanks for starting the new year with a blood donation. Please schedule your appointment online at www.redcrossblood.org using the sponsor code: ECLibrary Thursday, January 3, 11am; 18 and up. El Cajon Library, 201 E. Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

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Dock Totals Dec 21 - Dec 27: 1,576 anglers aboard 56 half day to full day trips out of San Diego landings this past week caught 9 yellowtail, 133 bonito, 77 calico bass, 120 sand bass, 7 halibut, 3,718 rockfish, 1,203 whitefish, 7 bocaccio, 8 lingcod, 132 sheephead, 5 sanddab. 4 triggerfish, and 63 spiny lobster (270 released).



A nice halibut caught from the surf in Baja.

Saltwater: No open party boats went out on Christmas Day, so the fish got a break as well as the sportfishing crews at least a bit of a break. I'm pretty sure anglers got out there on kayaks, in private boats, and from the piers, jetties, and shore. I did. I have been predominately fishing from shore lately, specifically targeting California corbina and halibut. The corbina have been biting sand crabs, while the halibut have been eating a chrome 1.5 ounce Krocodile spoon.

While I have seen some posts on social media of decent surf perch and corbina caught from southern California beaches. there are no surf perch to be found where I have been targeting; the northern Pacific coast of the southernmost California. specifically Bahia Asunción, Baia California Sur. Here in the still-warmish 67 degree water on the lee side of the point and Isla Asunción, California corbina and halibut are plentiful. The halibut tend to be small, with the average fish being about 15 inches long, while the corbina have been on the large side, generally from 17 to 22 inches. My best halibut from the surf so far was a fat 25-inch fish

continued on page 62

You step on land, get in the car, and reality hits

NAME: OCTAVIO GONZALEZ

AGE: 39

FROM: OCEAN BEACH **LOCATION: SUNSET CLIFFS**

Octavio Gonzalez was sitting on a bench watching the surfers on the water when I stopped to chat.

Gonzalez frequents Sunset Cliffs, "because it tends to be consistent even when the weather is not favorable. I also like the Point and Imperial Beach. I love the Cliffs and Big Rock. There really aren't any beaches that I avoid—if it's surfable, then I wanna try it."

Gonzalez has about 15 boards; his favorite for Sunset Cliffs is a 7'8" pintail. "The only way you can really figure out what board works for you is when you try it out in the water."

Gonzalez is a self-taught surfer and began as a kid. "I started with body boarding and then went into surfing. I taught myself and then made friends with people who pushed my skills to the next level. They encouraged me



Octavio Gonzalez: "The bills, the relationship problems, the mortgage... everything goes away."

to build myself up and get into bigger waves. If you are not comfortable in a certain kind of wave, just don't do it. It's one of the most important things out in the water to feel safe. Know your limit."

"The best part about surfing is the freedom that you get mentally. When you're in the water, you are just in the water and that's all you're really thinking about. The bills, the relationship problems, the mortgage, the dogs, everything goes away for that moment. You forget about everything out there. Then you step on land, get in the car, and reality hits. There's traffic, I need to get gas, I need to do this and that."

— Evelyn Grimm

Crew available for day sailing and racing

The following comes from: sailsandiego.com.

Name: Caitlin Ostomel Phone: (775) 338-2543

Email: caitlinostomel@gmail.com

Crew Type: Day Sailing Position(s): No preference Experience: Beginner

Just moved to San Diego after a brief (tenyear) stint on the East Coast. Know the basics of sailing from growing up and classes in college, but trying to get more experience/back to it. Looking for an opportunity to meet new people and have fun doing something I love. Can handle basic helm duties, navigation, trimming, etc. Currently interested in weekend/recreational sailing as I have a full-time job.

Name: Marilyn White Phone: (781) 504-3235

Email: marilyn.a.white@gmail.com

Crew Type: Racing



Marilyn White: "Experience on racing crew on a Cal 33 and Yamaha 34."

Position(s): crew

Experience: Intermediate

Looking for a boat that enjoys local regattas. Skillful, likes to win, and likes to have fun. Experience includes PHRF racing crew on a Cal 33 and Yamaha 34 (Jib or whatever else was needed) for five years. Enjoys recreational and fun racing, bare boating in Greece and the Florida Keys.

Name: Paulina Bui Phone: (408) 390-8809

Email: paulinapbui@gmail.com

Crew Type: Racing Position(s): Any

Experience: Intermediate

Previous member of the Oregon State sailing team, D1 athlete for women's rowing, and six years of competitive outrigger canoeing in northern California. Willing to crew for either racing, cruising, day sailing, or professional. Just looking to get on a boat to get more experience and more time on the water.

Come down and learn, but don't get in the

Mira Mesa resident Derek Young heads out to "The Wall" in La Jolla to skimboard

continued on page 62

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

WATER CONDITIONS

The surf will pick up a little by the weekend with a decent long-period 4 foot swell out of the WNW through Sunday. By early next week, easterly winds will blow offshore spurred by a weather system that should bring rain showers by next Tuesday. While the 6 foot tide swings will create some surge, dive conditions should be variable with moderate visibility during the high and low slacks until early next week. Lobster season is open now, so boaters should keep an eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves 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:

HARBOR POLICE REPORT

Lobster skiff in the surfline, scooter crash, and even more stingray strikes.

09:10 Boating: 911 Call of a 20 foot vessel with 2 persons on board near surf line at Garbage surf break. Lifeguard rescue vessel responds and confirms that it is a lobster skiff at work. All clear. 10:14 Medical: Lifeguard requests Paramedics for a 35 year-old male who suffered a knee injury from a scooter crash at 716 Ventura Place. Fire, Medics. and San Diego Police respond. Medics transport patient to an unknown hospital.

11:27 Medical: Ocean Beach lifeguards request Paramedics for a 38 year-old female with an unknown medical aid. Fire and Medics respond. Medics transport patient to UCSD hospital.

12:55 Medical: Fire reports an unknown age person suffering from a stingray wound at Tourmaline Surf Park. Lifeguard responds and transports patient to Pacific Beach Lifeguard station for treatment. 15:30 Medical: 911 call reporting a 38 year-old male suffering from a stingray wound on the north side of Scripps Pier. Patient is having difficulty breathing. Lifeguard and Medics transport patient to La Jolla Shores lifeguard station and provide treatment.

Kumeyaay sunrise

Eva knows what she wants? Eggs Benedict

ust came off the mountain. Been dreaming of sitting down, taking a load off, slurping the first gulp of cawfee. Got a mountainous appetite.

On the other hand, this morning has been totally exhilarating, climbing before dawn,

watching the bobbing of flashlights all the way up to the summit of Cowles Mountain.

"But where do we turn off?" says Eva as we were humping our way up. This is at the solstice. We've just passed a sign that says "Halfway," or "half mile." Hard to see in the dark.

Then I notice an elderly woman with white hair, a skinny climber's body, and a pro-looking mountaineer's stick. "I've been coming up here for thirty years," she says, "but I still confuse the spot which leads to the Kumeyaay Lookout."

Me, I'm heaving, bleeding from a stumble, and desperate for a cheap cuppa joe. So when I see this dad lead his family and dogs around a fence with a sign about "sensitive habitat," I give Eva a nudge, and we follow them through.

A hop, skip, and a jump among the sage bushes and we come over a ridge that yawns out over the El Cajon valley and up to the mountains on the other side. Sky there's pulsing with a peachy, pregnant glow.

I'm sticking close to this guy Kevin, the father of most of this tribe. "We've been coming up ever since Katelyn was three months old," says Kevin. "I'm 22 now," says Katelyn.

"This is the Kumeyaay Ledge," says Kevin. "Watch that little outcrop right of the peak. If we're lucky, the moment the sun appears, it will look like it's splitting in two. This is what the Kumeyaay have been coming here for, over thousands of years. It only happens at the winter solstice."

"It's coming!" whispers someone.

"Here we go," says Kevin.

And lo and behold the molten sun rises up, hits some snag, and splits. It sends two shafts of light boiling into the sky.

"See it? See it!?" We all kind of breathe.

"That," Eva says, "was something." So now, whew! We're sitting

at one of the few spare tables at Trails Eatery, this busy joint not far from the car park at the

> bottom of Cowles Mountain, Comfort food, nice and steaming hot from the plates that pass us by.

Waitress with like total jungle

scene tattoos on her arms comes up with menus. "They took 37

hours. Cost \$4K," she says. Maria. Talking about the tats. Me, I'm more interested in the food right now. First time I've eaten in San Carlos.

Turns out it's the neighborhood cafe alright.

Not super cheap, but, like, a two-egg breakfast (plus home fries, fruit or sliced tomatoes, and toast) goes for \$8.99. Bacon and eggs, \$11.39. The basic meat lovers' omelet goes for \$12.99, the San Diego omelet (bacon, avo, tomatoes, mushrooms and jack cheese, plus home fries, fruit or sliced tomatoes, plus toast), is \$12.29.

Then they have specials, like whoa: Candy cane pancakes. "White candy chips and crushed candy cane pancakes, topped with a drizzle of chocolate ganache, whipped cream and more crushed candy canes, \$8.99." You can add eggs and bacon or sausage for \$2.99 more.

Lunch items are about the same. Cobb sandwich is \$12.99, hippie sandwich (veggie patty, avo, mash potato) costs \$11.99, and a Brie chicken sandwich (grilled chicken breast, "melty" Brie, cranberry sauce and arugula on a brioche bun, served with fries, fruit, or salad, is \$10.99. Or a carne hash (chorizo, potatoes, bell pepper, onion, tomato, green onion hash "topped with carne asada and cilantro crema") goes for \$14.99. Or go bonkers and add two eggs for \$1.99; plus half an avocado, \$2.99.

Eva knows what she wants: Eggs Benedict (\$10.29). Then I see what I should seen from the start: a breakfast sandwich with eggs, cheese,



Kevin (3rd left), family, friends, dogs cheer moment of sun's return from depths

bacon or ham for \$5.99. Or a breakfast burrito (bacon, potatoes, eggs, cheese, avo) for \$7.99.

'Course I think I'm getting a cheap deal with the Brie omelet with mushrooms (\$10.79), except then have to order a side of bacon (\$3.59

more). But it's the filling machine we needed, helped down by our \$2.75 coffees. Flavorwise, we agree, not always a volcano of taste, but quantity wise, home run. The really good news for gluten sufferers is they have a whole page of

This is when I meet Stacey Poon-Kinney. She looks far too young, but turns out she's the owner, along with her dad. Everybody seems to know her. She tours through the room like a celeb. And turns it she kind of is. "I've been working in restaurants all my life. I was peeling shrimp at age two. When I took over here I was





Eva's Benedict



Maria brings candy cane



If you're gonna sin, sin big

in my early twenties. But at one point in 2010, with the hangover from the financial crisis, we got almost to the point I was going to have to give up," she says. This is when her connections to the stage made the difference. "I had been dancing on television and other locations since high school."

She took a risk and entered her joint in the Restaurant Impossible TV series, which rescues restaurants in trouble. "That show was our big turning point," she says. "We've never looked back." She has since appeared in pilots for shows on the Food Network and hints at other shows

So heck, what with Stacey, and having climbed the mountain and all, we celebrate with that crazy plate of candy. And pancakes, and they are sweet and funky as they should be.

"Yeah, I'd do this again," says Eva. "But next time, maybe ditch the mountain part?"

The Place: Trails Eatery, 7389 Jackson Drive, San Carlos, 619-667-2233

Prices: two-egg breakfast (plus home fries, fruit or sliced tomatoes, and toast), \$8.99. bacon and eggs, \$11.39; meat lovers' omelet, \$12.99; San Diego omelet (bacon, avo, tomatoes, mushrooms and jack cheese) \$12.29; candy cane pancakes, \$8.99; Cobb sandwich, \$12.99; hippie sandwich (veggie patty, avo, mash potato), \$11.99; eggs Benedict, \$10.29; breakfast sandwich (eggs, cheese, bacon or ham), \$5.99; breakfast burrito (bacon, potatoes, eggs, cheese, avo), \$7.99; Brie omelet with mushrooms, \$10.79

Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily

Bus: 115

Nearest bus stops: Jackson Drive and Hyde Park Drive (westbound); Jackson Drive and Navajo Road (eastbound)





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That roast beef sandwich

Enoteca Buona Forchetta, 3011 Beech Street, South Park. When word broke last year that the hip Italian restaurant in my neighborhood was

opening a bodega on the same block, it primed me for a 2018 anticipating all the authentic,

imported delights it would bring. In all my musings about how great it would be to have Roman pizza and take-home pasta sauces a Not that I'm complaining.

Enoteca Buona Forchetta sits just two doors down from the original Buona Forchetta, the South Park restaurant so popular, even my dog expects to find a thick crowd of diners waiting outside when we pass by on our evening walks.

The word *enoteca* roughly translates to 'wine bar,' so there was never any doubt the place

would offer a selection of Italian wines. It makes sense Buona Forchetta would open such a bar

close by. An evening table at the restaurant usually requires an hour or longer wait, so diners habitually cross the street for drinks

while they wait: beers at South Park Brewing Co. or cocktails at vegan restaurant Bar Kindred. Now, the hostess can steer them to the Enoteca for wines and Italian appetizers.

The news out of last year was that the new sister shop would offer Roman-style pizza, baked in long rectangles and cut into slices with scissors. That rumor has not materi-

alized. Enoteca has a small dining room and even smaller kitchen, and they tell me the Roman pizza will instead be made and served



Bite Cerignola olives gently. The pits are huge.

short walk from home, it never once occurred to me that my first big takeaway would be a roast beef sandwich.



House-made roast beef on Buona Forchetta flatbread, with splashes of balsamic vinegar.

at the Buona Forchetta bakery slated to open elsewhere in South Park, at the site of the old Rebecca's Coffee House.

Buona Forchetta pizza dough and take-home sauces would purportedly be on the menu, but while that may eventually be the case, they aren't yet. You can buy plenty of packaged Italian pastas in a bevy of shapes, and jarred marinara and cans of imported tomatoes. Such items will get you started making authentically Italian dishes in your own kitchen, along with other market items out of the bar's glass counter: Italian deli meats and cheeses, plus pickled garnishes including olives, artichokes, and the classic spicy vegetable mix, giardiniera. There's even a large variety of olives, including cerignolas (\$8/lb.), which are buttery and crisp.

Bite gently, because the pit is huge.

The meats and cheeses compose most of the food menu. You may order tasting boards of selecting three meats and cheeses each (\$12.99) or five each (\$15.99). Meats include imported prosciutto, porchetta, and bresaola; cheeses include smoked mozzarella, pecorino, and brie. Any of the above may be ordered in sandwiches.

The place is open for breakfast from Wednesday to Sunday, making use of an espresso machine and house baked pastries, and I enjoyed a simple yet delicious chocolate croissant. But my favorite so far has been that roast beef sandwich. Though not what I expected, it starts as all Enoteca's paninis do, with oven-charred flatbread cut from







Buona Forchetta's new wine bar sits two doors down from the original.

Buona Forchetta pizza dough, which is always satisfying for teeth to tear into. Unlike the imported deli meats, this beef is roasted in-house. It's got deep yet mellow umami, a nice pink center, and comes thinly sliced on that bread along with avocado, arugula, provolone, cheese, and splashes of balsamic vinegar.

My dog will probably get used to me walking past the crowd to grab this \$7.99 sandwich.

by Ian Anderson

A rancher's chicken

Cowboy Chicken, 10562 Craftsman Way Suite 192, 4S Ranch. Hopefully, I'm not alone in confusing San Diego's collection of ranch communities. We have Bressi Ranch, Scripps Ranch, and Carmel Mountain Ranch, plus lesser knowns Black Mountain Ranch and Fairbanks Ranch. Most are suburban enclaves clustered within the broad expanse between the 5 and

15 freeways in North County,

making them easy for outsid-

ers to confuse, even without

the slew of adjacent Ranchos: Bernardo, Peñasquitos, and Santa Fe.

As of this weekend, though, I do have a more lasting impression of 4S Ranch. A good meal will do that.

The unincorporated area sits roughly between Rancho Bernardo and Rancho Santa Fe, to the south of Lake Hodges. Histories of the place note it was part of a massive allotment of grazing lands granted Englishborn Joseph Snook in the mid-19th century. The most interesting thing about him







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With minimum purchase of \$10. 1 per person. Dine-in only. Not valid with any other discounts or coupons. Offer expires 4/01/2019.



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50% off entrée

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11375 El Camino Real #170

Carlsbad: 2519 Palomar Airport Rd. #101



\$4.00 Off Any Large Pizza



285 N El Camino Real #106. Encinitas (760) 436-1501



A rotisserie chicken joint in 4S Ranch.

is that San Diego was part of Mexico back then, so he became a Mexican citizen, and renamed himself José Francisco Snook.

He called his 17 thousand acres Rancho Bernardo, but after his death the whole thing was divided up, and 4S Ranch remained undeveloped agricultural land until the 1980s. And like most 80s developments, 4S Ranch has lots of stucco tract homes and shopping centers built around large parking lots.

It's within one of those that I found Cowboy Chicken. It's part of the 4S Commons Town Center, along with a Panera Bread and something called a Mathnaseum, though it's most recognizable landmark would be the Karl Strauss Brewpub.

I've since learned Cowboy Chicken is part of a Texas chain of restaurants that's been slowly inching its way towards California, "Proudly serving all-natural, hormone free chicken since 1981."

I did like the sound of that, and especially the sight and smell of it. Stepping inside the restaurant, the first thing I noticed was a large brick rotisserie oven, with a window built into it where I could see two dozen whole chickens turning on rotating spits, in front of a wood-

fueled fire. If the aroma of roasting chicken and burning oak doesn't make you hungry, then you and I have little in common.

The place serves chicken sandwiches and enchiladas, but for \$9.49 I opted for a combo of half chicken and two sides. Sides include baked sweet potatoes, ranchero beans, and corn fritters, which might have enticed me if there wasn't mac and cheese or creamed spinach.

These sides honestly disappointed me a bit; the mac could have used a little more flavor, the creamed spinach less. But the main attraction didn't fail me one bit. Rubbed

Buy 1 Taco

Get 1 Free

Limit 1 Per Person

La Catrina

3139 University Ave



The taco menu includes clockwise from top, the carne asada with New York steak, the pork belly negro and the *camarones a la diabla*.

with a light blend of salt, pepper, and cayenne pepper, the wood-fired chicken boasts crispy skin, and rich smoky flavor permeating into sumptuous light and dark meats.

Though a counter restaurant with a self-serve soda fountain, Cowboy Chicken operates a step above most fast casual joints, from a service standpoint. Employees continuously checked in to make sure I had any necessary silverware, barbecue sauce, and beverage at my table, and bussed my table when I was done.

It makes sense a business called Cowboy Chicken would choose a Ranch community to post one of its first California locations. I just find it ironic it took a Texas

restaurant chain to help me find 4S Ranch on the map.

by Ian Anderson

Old Town Tacos

Tahona, 2414 San Diego Avenue, Old Town. Tahona Bar in Old Town is one of those places that is going to get a lot of jokes, just because of its location: next to the Old Town cemetery.

"Tahona? I'm dying to go there!" "You won't be the first!"

To be honest: The cemetery is a favorite spot of mine. My wife and I walked around there on our first Valentine's Day.

Knowing there is a place that serves flavorful tacos and tangy mezcal and tequila next door adds to the appeal. Come for the tacos and cocktails! Stay for the cemetery!

We went on a rainy night, which added to the atmosphere.

"I think I'll get a piña colada since I was just caught in the rain," I said, referring the line in Rupert Holmes' "Piña Colada" song. My fellow diner laughed, but the waitress didn't get it. That made my fellow diner laugh harder.

That piña colada was blended smooth so the ice chunks didn't clog up the straw and so just the bare smokiness of mezcal mixed with the pineapple and coconut.

My first starter, aquachile shrimp (\$14) with chipotle and citrus juice, had a bit of heat.

I wasn't as happy with the guacamole (\$9), served with pork rinds, *chapulines* (fried crickets — yum!), and red onion and tomato. The guac was tasty, but it was unclear if I was supposed to mix the tomato and onion and fried crickets with the avocado.

For tacos, I ordered the \$16 three mix-and-match.

The pork belly with mole negro was flavorful, the



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2-for-1 Salsa Flight

BOGO salsa flight for Happy Hour M–F 2–6 pm patio dining & drinks including \$2 off appetizers, quesadillas & wine, \$5 Casa Margs & well drinks too. Dog friendly Bar & Patio.



Barrio Eat Mexican 530 Grand Ave • Carlsbad, 92008 (corner of State)



FREE Doughnuggets!

With any purchase! Dine-in only. Not valid with any other offers and only at the Encinitas location.



Rosati's Pizza & Sports Bar

337 N. El Camino Real • Encinitas 760-452-2007



\$3.00 Off Any Medium Pizza



285 N El Camino Real #106, Encinitas (760) 436-1501



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Purchase one of our delicious, hearty, soul satisfying bowls and get one free! Offer does not include add ons. Offer Valid before 10am.



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Buy one, get one free

Buy any smoothie or bowl, get one of equal value free.



Café by the Bay

3510 Ingraham St. San Diego, 92109



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 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 1/31/19.



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Buy One, Get One Complimentary Breakfast Item

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Beer not included with free appetizer Dine in Only Cannot be combined with any other offer One per person & table expires 2/1/19



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



1/2 Off Appetizers

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



699 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA makesandiego.com



Buy 1 Get One Free!

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



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



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 2/1/19



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2 for 1 appetizers

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

Dan Diego's Euro Café & Pub

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



Half the shop in brick, half in reclaimed wood. Friendly to social media photography.

slightly sweet pork working with the heat from the habanero pickled onions.

I enjoyed the spicy Camarones a la Diabla: They were tangy, but the Oaxaca cheese added a cooling element.

The carne asada was made from a New York steak and

had a bit of char on some parts and while being moist on others. If it didn't blow me away like the others it's because carne asada is ubiquitous in San Diego.

by Patrick Henderson

Coffee and lot to talk about

Coffee 'N' Talk, 1143 Sixth Ave, Downtown San Diego. It's a coffee roaster right across the street from a Starbucks. Too many apostrophes and a forgettable name will forever doom it to misspelled branding (including on at least one of its own signs). Furthermore, a lack of focused identity makes its business difficult to characterize. Despite these challenges, a newly opened downtown shop called Coffee 'N' Talk shows promise.

For one thing, that lack of focus has its benefits. I showed up for breakfast and coffee, but

before ordering anything I found myself eating ice cream. Specifically, tasting through sample spoonsful of Lappert's Ice Cream, a Hawaiian-born local ice cream producer that

A coffee and croissant, with a wall of roses for background.

will be familiar to residents of Poway. Coffee 'N' Talk serves a dozen tubs of the stuff, including interesting and (I can vouch) delicious flavor blends such as horchata and cajeta, mango ice cream plus mango sorbet, and ube macapuno (ube the purple tuber, and



Half-off appetizers

Enjoy half-off select appetizers during Happy Hour, Monday through Friday from 3–7pm, 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

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3 Rolled Taco Plate for \$6

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



Famoso Mexican Street Food

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1 coupon per visit. Not valid with any other coupon. Not valid on holidays. Expires 1/31/19.



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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 2/1/19.



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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



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.



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2 for 1 Mimosa at Brunch

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



One Door North
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Early Bird Special, Buy One Entree, Get the Second Entree for 50% off

Offer Valid Sun-Thurs between 4pm and 7pm only. Discount applied to Entree of equal or lesser value. One discount per table. May not be combined with other discounts or promotions. Present this coupon to your server Offer expires Jan 31, 2019



1333 Hotel Cir S • San Diego, CA 92108 (619) 981-7968



Buy one entrée and two drinks, get one entrée free!

Of Equal or Lesser Value, must bring in ad.
Valid at North Park location only.



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



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



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



3042 North Park Way, San Diego, 92104 sandwichessandiego.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



1/2 off a 1 topping pizza

Buy any regular priced pizza and receive a second 1 topping pizza for half-off. Expires 2/1/19.



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 2/1/19.



3752 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103



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



Buy One Entree, Get One Free!

Any entree \$8 & up. Not valid for deliveries.



795 Arnele Ave. El Cajon, CA 92020 619-334-0234



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

Not valid events or holidays. Dine-in only



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



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



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619-938-2211 www.tortillantacofactory.com



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

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Gus's Subs & Pizza

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Toast, with avocado, tomato, cheese, arugula, and balsamic vinegar.

macapuno the soft, gelatinous coconut; both popular in the Philippines).

Point is, Coffee 'N' Talk serves awesome ice cream, and I will definitely be driving to Poway to try more from the source. But as the roasting equipment positioned in the back of the shop affirms, the coffee here is cooked inhouse, and this being the a.m., I traded my tasting spoon for a cup.

I opted for a \$4 pour-over, my usual order at roaster shops. It's a decent cup of coffee, and should easily satisfy those crossing the street from that Starbucks. But there's some way to go before it can match the high-quality beans and refined roasting practices exhibited by my favorite local coffee producers. This one fell just smidge below my snobby standards.

Fortunately, I wasn't done ordering. In addition to omelets, sandwiches, and bagels, the place makes its own pastries, including an assortment of delicate looking croissants. A chocolate croissant called out to me, as they often do, but after that ice cream to start the day, I went for healthy spinach instead. Few may believe I made the right call in choosing greens over chocolate, but I stand by the decision. The moist, flaky pastry hit the mark.

Taking my food to the small patio space fronting the shop, it occurred to me the entire place is loaded with a hodge-podge of photo-friendly backdrops. One half of the dining room simply offers complementary shades of red brick. The other a motley patchwork of painted wood, mostly blues and pastels. Likewise, half the patio features hundreds of artificial roses dotting a wall of greenery with white, yel-

low, burgundy, and pink. On the other, small plants placed within wall-mounted crates offers a checkerboard of contrasting colors.

In other words, there's endless encouragement to snap instagram photos here. Your followers might even think you ate breakfast at four different locations.

With so much photogenia on display, I did what came natural, and ordered toast. Not boring toast, served with butter and jam. The hipster variety, dressed with avocado and other toppings, in this case tomato slices, arugula, little balls of mozzarella, and balsamic vinegar (\$8.99). Not bad, even if the cheese balls tended to roll off the top of my toast.

Social media might help market this place, but if this coffee-plus shop survives its competitive location at Sixth and B, I would credit the food. And not just the ice cream.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK

Drink Wine & Learn to Make Cheese Cheesemonger and craftsman Paul Savage will stretch fresh curd and teach you all about making fresh mozzarella and ricotta. Then you get to join him and stretch some curd of your own. Learn tips and tricks to make fresh fromage yourself, plus the many ways to use these classics. You'll be sampling yummy treats, enjoying a complimentary glass of wine and taking some home with you. Wednesday, January 9, 6pm; \$50. Venissimo Cheese Liberty Station, 2820 Historic Decatur Road. (LIB-

Getting to Know Cheese Dive into the wonderful world of cheese at this in-depth cheese and wine tasting adventure. You'll learn a little history, how it's made, what to pair, ways to serve, how to store & much more! Taste generous samples of all styles of cheese, sip complementary wine & ask questions in an intimate fromagerie setting. Tuesday, January 8, 6pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo Cheese Del Mar, 2650 Via de la Valle, #C140. (DEL MAR)



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IB STREET TACOS

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



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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.



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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.



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1250 Madero Avenue (next to Mous Tache) Open 7pm-2am Wednesdays to Saturdays. Facebook.com/NomadaTijuana



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(must show ad)
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Madero Street #1250 (between 6th and 7th, one block from Revolución)



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/ElLocalTi



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.



Blvd. Sánchez Taboada 10650

HAPPY HOUR

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

BALBOA PARK

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

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm, 10-11pm: \$5 draft, house wine, house margaritas, well drinks. Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 draft, house wine, house margaritas, well drinks. \$3 off appetizers (except grilled corn). Sunday, 10-11pm: \$5 draft, house wine, house margaritas, well drinks.

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CORONADO

Brigantine Coronado: Daily, 3-6pm: \$1 off all draft beer, well drinks, and featured wine by the glass, \$4 sparkling wine glass, \$5.75 house margarita, \$6 house red or white wine by the glass, \$9 Brigantine margarita. \$3.25 Brig fish taco, \$9 oyster on the half shell or pulled-pork sliders.

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

Stake Chophouse & Bar: Daily, 4-6:30pm: \$5 select craft beers, \$6 wines by the glass and premium well drinks, \$8 cocktails and martinis, \$15 glass of Veuve. Half off appetizers.

DEL MAR

Cucina Enoteca: *Monday*, 5-6pm: \$4.50 draft beers, \$6 seasonal sangria, \$7 wine and cocktails. \$5-\$10 appetizers. *Tuesday-Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$4.50 draft beers, \$6 seasonal sangria, \$7 wine and cocktails. \$5-\$10 appetizers.

Pacifica Del Mar: *Monday, Sunday,* 4pm-close: \$2 off beers, wine by the glass, featured cocktails, Ocean Bar

BEER NEWS BY IAN ANDERSON

What the heck is a lichtenhainer?

There's nothing easier to find in North Park than a good IPA. But a good lichtenhainer? Only one place that I know about.

So, what's a lichtenhainer?
I wondered too. The unsur-

I wondered too. The unsurprising answer would be that it's a style of beer attributed to Lichtenhain in the

to Lichtenhain, in the heartland of Germany. More to the point: it's a smoked sour beer.

There's a great reason most people have never heard of lichtenhainers: they're not really made anymore. The style started falling out of favor a century ago, and commercial production ceased by the mid-80s. There's no category dedicated to lichtenhainers among the hundred styles judged at the Great American Beer Festival.

Nevertheless, North Park's

Home Brewing Co. (2903 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park) won a medal in this year's competition with a lichtenhainer, aptly dubbed Zungen Brecher (the German idiom for tongue-twister). It placed in the Historical Beer category, behind similarly obscure styles: a Norwegian "raw ale" and a Polish smoked beer called a gratzer.

I stumbled upon Zungen Brecher sipping through a flight at the Home Brewing Co. tasting room, while visiting to check out its new cosmetic upgrades and sidewalk drinking patio. The lichtenhainer instantly stood out for its unique mix of lemon tartness and subtle smoke.

Since Home Brewing Co. brews out of homebrew supply shop The Homebrewer, the two-



Homebrewer Scott Rauvola (left) and at Home Brewing Co. head brewer Jacob Bauch.

headed business is loaded with people who could explain to me how this virtually extinct German beer came to be brewed and served in North Park.

The story starts with San Diego dentist Scott Rauvola, who began home brewing in 2015. A member of the homebrew club QUAFF, Rauvola has won several homebrewing gold medals with rauchbiers, a.k.a. smoked beers, including in national competition. When planning to enter a homebrew contest in summer of 2017, he found a description of the smoked sour in a book of guidelines published by Beer Judge Certification Program.

"It's always really warm

that time of year, and I wanted something refreshing," Rauvola

recalls, "When I read the [lichtenhainer] description I said, 'Damn that sounds good!" But how could he brew a beer style most people have never tasted? Rauvola pieced it together through research, including historic descriptions and the recipes other hobbyists shared online, constantly asking himself, "How they would have brewed in 1870?"

"Brewers tend to keep detailed notes," explains Jacob Bauch, head brewer at Home Brewing Co. "Old beer advertisements were also very descriptive and

would often cite the premium ingredients and pro-

cesses used that put their beverage above the rest."
Rauvola's prize for winning Bomberos was to brew his beer commercially with Bauch at Home

WACHT.

This award-winning homebrewed lichtenhainer pours with a frothy head.

Brew Co. Working on a small scale, Rauvola had the luxury to treat his water to mimic historic German mineral levels, brew using an old-fashioned decoction method, and monitor the sour's acidity over ten days of lactobacillus fermentation.

In Home Brew Co's sevenbarrel brewhouse, a few timesaving adjustments had to be made, but the bulk of the recipe remained intact, including its blend of oak smoked wheat and pilsner malt. Aside from the smoke, Rauvola likens it another tart German beer, a gose.

Bauch admits skepticism at

first, figuring they'd make it once and move on. "But then one sip of it and I knew we would brew it on the big scale and enter it in whatever [contest] we could."

First, they tried the Los Angeles International Beer Competition, but failed to place. However, the judges' notes revealed it hadn't been scored, due to lack of familiarity with the style. "We knew we had to get it into the hands of some very professional judges for it to get it's due," Bauch says. "We were headed to GABF."

So Bauch and Rauvola brewed it again. Only this time the judges were up to the task, and Zungen Brecher came home with a bronze medal.

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

Bites, half off small plates. *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-6:30pm: \$2 off beers, wine by the glass, featured 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

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

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

Blue Point: Monday-Friday, 5-6:30pm: \$10 specialty cocktails, \$4-5 wine. \$1 oysters. Saturday-Sunday, 5-6:30pm: \$5 drafts, wine by the glass, \$10 specialty cocktails. \$1 oysters, \$2 jumbo shrimp, \$10 select bluepoint appetizers.

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.

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

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

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*, 3-6 pm: \$3 off glass of wine, cocktails,

half off wine bottles, \$5 draft beer, \$1

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

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 all beers, flights, house wine. \$5 Duck Fat Pretzel Bites, Golden Beet Bruschetta, Boneless Buffalo Wings, Chili Lime Fries, Double Truffle Fries, Crispy Organic Tofu.

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.

Maryjane's: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: \$6 wells drinks, beer, and wine, \$3 fish taco, \$4 shrimp cocktail, \$5 chorizo sliders.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant: Daily, 3-7pm: \$5 - \$12 wines by the glass, \$6 premium spirits and local craft beer, \$8 specialty



1/2 off bottles of wine

Wednesday only. Wine bottles \$80 and below.



12955 El Camino Real Del Mar, CA 92130



HAPPY HOUR

cocktails. \$3 spiced nuts, \$7 Baja fish tacos, \$9 ahi poke bowl.

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

Mint Downtown Thai: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 sake, \$3 beers, \$5 featured wine or small beer & small sake, \$7 large beer & small sake, half off selected starters.

Pinzimini: Daily, 5-7pm and 9-11 pm: \$6 house wine, well drinks, \$1 off draft beer, \$6-\$9 appetizers, \$10 buildyour-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.

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

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Gaslamp: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$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.

Searsucker Gaslamp: Monday-Saturday, 2:30-6pm: \$6 local craft beer and sangria, \$7 glass of wine and wells, \$9 specialty cocktails. Appetiz-

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

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

Whiskey Girl: Monday, 3-7pm: \$4 well drinks, drafts, house wine. \$5 select appetizers. Tuesday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 well drinks, drafts, house wine. \$5 select appetizers. Sunday, 10am-2pm: \$4 local beers, \$5 mimosas, \$6 Tito's American Mule, \$9.99 bottomless mimosa, \$10-\$15 brunch

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.

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.

Savoie Eatery: Monday, 4-7:30: \$4 beers, \$5 wines by the glass, \$5 well drinks. \$2 off pizza, \$7 appetizers. Tuesday, Thursday-Sunday, 4-7:30: \$4 beers, \$5 wines by the glass, \$7 specialty cocktails and well drinks.

martinis, \$7 specialty cocktails and

\$7 appetizers. Wednesday, 4-7:30: \$4 beers, \$5 wines by the glass, half off select wine bottles, \$7 specialty cocktails and well drinks. \$7 appetizers.

EL CAJON

El Cajon Grand: Monday, Noonclose: With military ID, \$3 domestic beer, well drinks, \$1 off craft/import beer and call drinks. Tuesday, Thursday, 3-6pm: \$3 domestic beer, well drinks, \$1 off craft/import beer and call drinks. Wednesday, Noon-close: \$3 domestic beer, well drinks, \$1 off craft/ import beer and call drinks. Friday, 9am-1pm:\$4 shots/drinks Jack Fire or Fireball.

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

D Street Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 beer of the month, wells, \$6 house wines

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

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 Escondido: 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

GOLDEN HILL

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

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

HARBOR ISLAND

The Boathouse: Daily, 2:30-5pm: \$4 house margarita, \$5 Ćuervo 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

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

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

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

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

The Project Bar & Grill: Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 beer, wine, wells, half off wings. Wednesday, 3-6pm: \$5 beer, wine, wells, half off wings. 6pm-close: \$5 keep-the-pint-glass while supplies last.

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-yourown Bloody Mary bar, 10% military

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.

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.

The Haven Pizzeria: Monday, 4-6pm: \$2 off beer, wine, pizza. Daily deal: Half off large beer pitchers. Tuesday, All night: \$2 off beer and wine. Wednesday, 4-6pm: \$2 off beer, wine, pizza. \$10 pizza and salad served all day. Thursday, 4-6pm: \$2 off beer, wine, pizza. \$5 off select bottles of wine. Friday, 4-6pm: \$\$2 off beer, wine, pizza.

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.



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



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LA JOLLA

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

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.

Eddie V's: Daily, 4-7pm: \$8 select red & white wines and specialty cocktails (cosmopolitans, martinis, margaritas). \$8 appetizers including fish filet sandwiches, fish tacos, and salt & pepper shrimp.

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.

Leña Craft Mexican: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 classic beers, \$5 house wine, \$6 margaritas. Tuesday, 3-6pm: \$4 classic beers, \$5 house wine, \$6 margaritas. \$3 taco of

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.

Wheat & Water: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4-\$5 drafts, \$5 bottled, \$7 wine by the glass and cocktails. \$4 fries, \$7 brussels sprouts and potatoes, \$8 meatball plate, \$9-\$10 pizza.

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

LA MESA

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.

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

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

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.



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



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HAPPY HOUR

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

MISSION BEACH

Cannonball: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: discounted drinks, sushi, and

Coaster Saloon: Monday-Friday. 3pm-6pm: \$4 Bud draft, Bud Light draft, and well drinks.

Saska's & Saska Sushi: Monday-Friday, 3pm-5pm: \$4 all draught beer, \$5 house wine, \$6 signature cocktails.

MISSION HILLS

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: All draught pints (excluding cask, \$6 Anytime, and Black Velvet) and bottled beer \$1 off. well liquor \$4.50, \$5 house wine, appetizers \$5.95-\$7.95.

NORTH PARK

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

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

Berkeley Pizza North Park: Daily, Noon to 8pm: Discounted craft beer.

HOPE 46: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: \$2 off drafts, wine by the glass, \$4 wells cocktails (restaurant service only).

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

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

Polite Provisions: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$5 bourbon draft shot, \$6 cocktails, sparkling wine.

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

True North Tavern: Monday-Friday, 12-7pm: \$1 off all beer, wine, liquor.

U-31: Monday, \$2 wells, \$5 Jameson and Kettle One

Waypoint Public: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$7 select wines by the glass.

OCEAN BEACH

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

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

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

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

Casa Guadalajara: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off draft beer and La Terre wines, \$3.95 house margaritas and well drinks.

Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town: Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$1 off all drafts, \$5 well drinks. \$3 chingaderas, nachos, rolled chicken tacos (3), quesadilla, cheesy fries.

Home & Away: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off glass of wine, draft and bottled beer, well drinks, \$3 to \$6 off specialty cocktails, \$2.75 tacos.

Old Town Mexican Café: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half off well drinks and selected appetizers.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town: 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.

Sushi Tadokoro: Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 5-6:30pm: \$2.50-\$3 draft beers, \$5 wine. Thursday, 5-6:30pm: \$2.50-\$3 draft beers, \$5 wine..

PACIFIC BEACH

Bare Back Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$6 craft beer, house sangria, mules, \$6 munchies including chicken tenders and shrimp skewers.

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

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

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

JRDN: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$6 Sapporo drafts, single liquor wells, select wine, hot or cold sake.

Latitude 32: Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm: \$3 glass of wine.

Moray's Lounge: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$5.50 wells, \$6 wine. \$10 appetizers.

The Promiscuous Fork: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off beers on tap and select wines by the glass. \$5 Caesar

salad, mini-beef sliders, grilled chicken tacos, smoked pork belly street tacos.

SD Taproom: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, cocktails, wines. \$2 off appetizers.

Tavern at the Beach: Monday-Friday, 3-8pm: Half off all drinks. \$6-\$13 appetizers. Saturday, 11am-2pm: \$7 Skyy bloody marys and specialty drinks, \$15 champagne bottle with mimosa bar \$9-\$15.50 brunch menu. Sunday, 11am-6pm: \$7 specialty drinks.

Waterbar: Monday-Friday, 8-10pm: \$5 house wine and sangria, Modelo, and Pacifico drafts, \$7 craft cocktails. \$2 oysters.

POINT LOMA

The Ambassador Lounge: Monday-Saturday, 8pm to midnight: \$4 well cocktails and Fireball shots \$5 wines, Sangria, Corona bottles, \$6 Long Islands, Jack Fire shots, \$7 well doubles, agave margaritas

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

POWAY

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off wells, beers, and wine by the glass. \$6 cocktails, \$7.00 shaker margaritas. \$7 appetizers, \$10 baby back sampler.

RANCHO BERNARDO

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

SAN MARCOS

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

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

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

SOUTH PARK

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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



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Inside Plaza Fiesta, Zona Río - Tiiuana

the inside track

Record roundup Singerguitarist Corina Rose's fulllength Our Love is Freedom drops January 4. "The cover art was shot at Crown Point Shores Park, and it represents my sexy bohemian style," she says of the eight-song album, produced by Fernando Gomez (who guests on guitar and percussion).

Iazz bassist Sean Hicke debuts as a bandleader January 6 at Dizzy's, at the release party for his first album, Sunflower Sutra. Guest players Louis Valenzuela, Matt DiBiase, Julien Cantelm, and Camellia Aftahi will perform.

Seventrain will premiere a new single and video for "Now You Know" on January 9. It's taken from their upcoming album Back on Track, due February via SoCal Records/Alliance Ent.

Fantasy Records will

release the 11th full-length from Grammy-winning locals Switchfoot, Native Tongue, on January 18. Co-written and produced with their



Switchfoot's 11th full length album, Native Tongue, will be released January 18.

friends in One Republic, most of the 14-song album was recorded at local Melody League Studios.

Chloe Lou & the Liddells are premiering a five-song EP in mid-January, as well as a

son and Gabe Serbian (the Locust, Head Wound City, Holy Molar, etc). The label also just reissued Qui's CD Snuh, with a limited edition silk screened cover.

full album in February. The

Killers' co-founding guitar-

ist Dave Keuning has a new

for "Boat Accident," from his

single and animated video

upcoming full-length Pris-

Local label Three One

tion cassette rerelease of the

by Retox, featuring frequent

2011 Ugly Animals album

mism, due January 25.

G is doing a limited edi-

Lindsay White's new single

and video for "The Hound" was inspired by a Game of Thrones-themed songwriting challenge and based on the character Sandor Clegane. Nine years after their last recording, Demasiado has reunited to release a twosong cassette, Dark Summer, featuring rerecorded versions of two vintage tracks, "Soul Coat" and "Blood Filled Fly."

Mrs. Henry's recent allstar Last Waltz performance was recorded and will be released as a three-LP vinyl album, sporting artwork by Roy G Biy and liner notes written by Noac C. Lekas. Wayne Riker is booking sessions at Studio West to record his 12th CD, R&B Thunder, featuring a half dozen local soul vocalists singing individual featured tracks.

Donna Larsen & the Messengers are at Track Star Recording, prepping what she describes as "a full length album, 12 songs of pop rock. We were hoping for New Year's Eve [release], but it will take a two or three more weeks. I'm still looking for the right artist to put my vision



Math rockers, such as Chinchilla, can play upside down.

for the cover into reality. I'll be working full time on all this until we're completed." — Jay Allen Sanford

Math rock quartet Chinchilla formed in 1994. They started as a trio of female musicians hailing from local acts Drip Tank, Liquid Sunshine, and Crash Worship on the hunt for a bassist. They found their low-end

via Krista Kansas who, true to her name, relocated from Kansas to play in the band. Chinchilla's first gig sold-out, and they continued to draw numbers around town from then on

"That time frame was golden for local rock show attendance in general, and we definitely benefited from that - but we also had a

(continued on page 46)



Thu 1/17 is Lance Lazwell &The Vibe Tribe, Stone Mecca (RZA),

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unique following of people that I'd never really see at other shows. Our music is pretty odd, and would never be widely popular, but people who like it seem to really like it a lot. Additionally, the percentage of female musicians in that scene was small enough that, as much as I hate to say it, for some folks the 'all-girl band' aspect was a draw," guitarist Julie D said.

The band was aided by a live show that often gave the audience more to absorb than just the music. Drummer Morgan Doctor recalls being part of a mid-90s music scene in San Diego that was "pushing music styles and composition" courtesy of acts such as Creedle.

"It was definitely a movement," she said. "Chinchilla, I think, really took this to the next level with being very performative in our live shows. Shows included shadow scenes with actors behind us, an acted-out sex change operation on stage, male dancers and numerous costume configurations. We were always trying to push the boundaries of live music."

The band toured up the west coast and as far east as Kansas. They shared bills

with notables of the era such as Jawbreaker, Boys Against Girls, and The Wrens. The road wasn't free from hazards though. One night, while caravanning behind Fluf, the band witnessed to a near catastrophe.

"Morgan was at the wheel and kept repeating 'Oh my god...' we all woke up and watched Fluf's van swerve, skid and spin upside down. Luckily the band members crawled out unscathed and the photo of the van made for a great 7-inch cover," vocalist Sioban Dixon said.

After releasing some singles and EPs, the band's debut LP, 101 Italian Hits, came out in September of 1996. The band was history by the end of that year. Julie D claims that their final tour was the nail in the coffin. She was living in Seattle by January 1997. Krista Kansas was the sole member of Chinchilla to stick around town. When she looks back at the mid-90s local music scene, she notices one major difference—increased support for aspiring female musicians.

"Morgan, Julie, and I volunteer for the Rock n' Roll Camp for Girls organization, each in our own home towns. Growing up in Kansas, girls weren't included in the junior high or high school bands, so I didn't start playing bass until college. It's great to know that girls, even starting as young as eight years old, have support



to pick up a bass, guitar, drumsticks or a mic and be taken seriously. I would love to see the next generation Chinchilla! And believe me, whenever given the chance, I always encourage young girls play music," Kansas said.

Chinchilla performs as part of Casbah 30 at the Casbah on January 15.

— Dryw Keltz

Bass & Word Bassist Bertram Turetzky retired with the title professor emeritus from U.C. San Diego 15 years ago, but he's not planning on slowing down anytime soon. Even though he'll celebrate his 86th birthday in February, Turetzky managed to release three CD's this year.

He'd still be playing concerts around the world if it didn't require traveling with a huge contrabass in a post-9/11 world.

"I'm a man who is con-

cerned about sound," says Turetzky. "So I have to have my own instrument, but the airlines and the TSA make that very difficult. A lot of players are getting the basses with detachable necks that fold up – but I wouldn't do that to my basses. Because I don't travel anymore, I need to keep the work going so I put out three albums instead."

In the classical world, more than 300 composers have written music specifically for Turetzky to perform, and one of the new discs is a personally curated collection from that world called "From The Archives," which features a piece from Arnold Franchetti, a mentor to Turetzky.

"No one knew him when he was alive," says Turetzky. "Why does a composer have to die to become famous?"

Also released this year is Bass & Word, a collaboration with poet, musician, and club owner Chuck Perrin.

Completing the trifecta is "Trio Music," an improvised date with trumpeter Steph Richards and woodwind artist Vinny Golia. "That one involved serious listening.



Bertram Turetzky: They always blame the basses.

Improvisers have to be great listeners or it turns into the Tower of Babel!

As if that weren't enough, he's also writing his third book, a performance memoir called The Basses Are Too Loud, a reference to "clueless conductors who blame the bass section when they get lost or something goes wrong."

Turetzky has experienced this situation first hand. "I was playing in the symphony when a conductor said that. The only problem is that we were observing a 25-measure rest! I put down my instrument and walked away."

He's almost done with the book, which took a minute.

"I'm really old-school, I write it all out long-hand on legal pads and I'm always adding things which makes it a nightmare for the typist," he said.

"If you're not moving forward, you're dying, and I don't want to die. There are still so many things I need to do. I want to make another record with my wife Nancy, and I want to learn new things on the bass."

Robert Bush

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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



SUNDAY • JAN 6 T.S.O.L. • FOREST GROVE BLOOD PONIES

MONDAY • JAN 7

MAN MAN • JON DALY

TUESDAY • JAN 8
BOWIE BIRTHDAY BASH ZIGGY SHUFFLEDUST AND
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TAMARYN • COLD SHOWERS
DJ JON BLAJ

VEDNESDAY • JAN 16 HOWLIN' RAIN THURSDAY • JAN 17
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THE BLANK TAPES ADOLESCENTS DEATH EYES
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THE DISTRICTS VIA SATELLITE GOODBYE BLUE MONDAY DEWEY DEFEATS TRUMAN

WEDNESDAY • JAN 23 THURSDAY • JAN 24 **PINBACK**

BUCK-O-NINE
THE DOWNS FAMILY
UNSTEADY

MONDAY • JAN 28
GARY HEFFERN'S LAST
WALTZ • THE DILS
MANUAL SCAN
EXECUTIVES

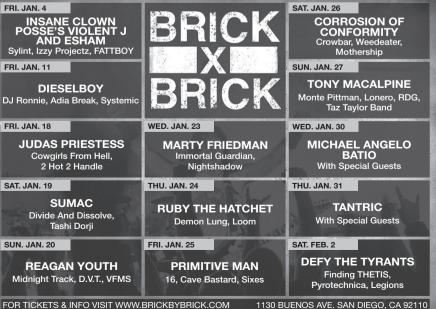
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JAN 16



THURSDAY LOST KINGS SO WHAT TOUR KREAM

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ListenSD Zine Release: Death Valley Girls 1/30

COMING SOON

1/19	Zoso: The Ultimate Led	2/9	The PettyBreakers and Desperado	3/17	Shing02 & The Chee-Hoos:
	Zeppelin Experience	2/14	Somebody to Love - A Queen		A Tribute To Nujabes
1/20	Tom Gun Live! (seated show)		Musical with a Ballet Twist ft.	3/21	Bailo
1/21	Parquet Courts w/ Snail Mail		Brian Justin Crum (seated show)	3/24	Matt Nathanson
1/22	Emily King	2/15	The Soul Rebels w/ The Routine	1	
1/24	No Kings, Aviator Stash, MDRN	2/16	Red Not Chili Peppers	3/29	She Wants Revenge
i .	HSTRY, Coral Bells, Golden Howl	2/17	Kongos	3/30	Rubblebucket
1/25	Ozomatli ft. Cut Chemist + Chali 2na	2/20	Justin Nozuka (seated show)	4/4	The Havana Cuba All-Stars
1/26	Ozokidz ft. Ozomatli (matinee)	2/22	Brasstracks w/ special guest Pell	4/7	Mt. Joy
1/26	Johnny Clarke & Vivian Jones	2/27	Darlingside w/ special guest	4/11	Space Jesus
	meets Roots Covenant - Hits Pon		River Whyless (seated show)	4/12	Las Cafeteras
	Hits Presents	3/5	Novo Amor	4/19	Metalachi
2/1	Poncho Sanchez	3/7	Eli-Mac and New Kingston	1 ' '	
2/2	MadeinTYO	3/9	You Me At Six w/	4/27	Com Truise
2/7	Passafire		special guest DREAMERS	4/28	Perturbator
2/8	Katchafire	3/14	Yung Gravy	5/3	SoMo

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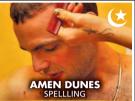








FRIDAY 1/11



SATURDAY 1/12



ERIC BURDON & THE ANIMALS WEDNESDAY 1/9 & THURSDAY 1/10

MONDAY 1/14



TUESDAY 1/15



WEDNESDAY 1/16





FRIDAY 1/18



SATURDAY 1/19





Dead Feather Moon 4/5

ocom	ling Snows:	
1/4	UltraSound Happy Hour	
1/4	Queen Nation and Erotic City (Prince tribute) - Sold Out!	
1/6	Leo Kottke - Sold Out!	
	er or the thought as a con-	

- 1/25 & 26 The English Beat 1/27 Ana Popovic
 - 1/28 Richard Thompson Electric Trio
 - 1/29 Sergio Mendes
 - 1/30 Tower of Power 50th Anniversary Sold Out!
 - 1/31 Turkuaz 2/1 Jacob Banks
- 2/2 Vaud and the Villains
- 2/4 & 5 Blackberry Smoke
- 2/6 North Mississippi Allstars
- 2/7 Joan Osborne sings the songs
- of Bob Dylan
- 2/8 Groundation
- 2/9 Tainted Love
- 2/10 Joshua Radin

- 2/12 Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra (seated show) 2/13 Tom Curren Band & the Uncut Footage - pres. by Luau & Legends of Surfing
- 2/14 Casey Hensley's Lovin Valentine's Day 2/15 Dead Man's Party Valentine's Weekend Show
- 2/16 ALO
- 2/17 Los Lonely Boys
- 2/19 Mark Hummel's Golden State & Lone Star Blues Revue ft. Anson Funderburgh (seated show)
- 2/22 The Mother Hips
- 2/24 Albert Hammond Jr.
- 2/27 Coco Montoya & Tinsley Ellis
- 2/28 & 3/1 The Wood Brothers

 - 3/1 Lettuce @ Observatory
 - 3/1 Junior Brown @ Casbah

 - 3/2 Pine Mountain Logs
 - 3/3 The Marshall Tucker Band Sold Out!
 - 3/5 Twiddle w/ special guest Iya Terra

 - 3/10 Makana & Shawn and Lehua (seated show)
- 5/4 Wayward Sons
 - 5/10 & 11 Jefferson Starship
 - 5/21 Idles
 - 6/1 Snarky Puppy @ House of Blues

3/12 Black Uhuru w/ special guest Onesty

3/14 Stephen Marley Acoustic - Sold Out!

3/21 Ladysmith Black Mambazo

(seated show)

3/28 Galactic ft. Erica Falls

3/30 Donna Missal @ Casbah

4/7 Buddy Guy - Sold Out!

4/7 Ten Fé @ Casbah

4/9 Jimmie Vaughan

4/28 White Denim

3/31 Black Moth Super Rainbow

3/29 Beatles vs. Stones

3/22 The Spazmatics

3/15 & 16 Super Diamond

3/19 Cold Cave

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Had Frank Sinatra had been born in Chicago circa 1971 and grown up on Naked Raygun and the Ramones, he probably would have founded the **Smoking Popes**. Their pop-punk-lounge act has retained the novelty punch first delivered by the three Caterer brothers in

by a demon she then torments in the afterlife for eternity."

Just ask Bob Dylan and Travis Barker how nearly dying in a transportation mishap can boost one's career profile. Dylan took the opportunity to vanish for

a while to fix his motorcycle and cook up a new sound with an old Band. Barker went out to find a tattoo repairman and got all paranoid about flying (who can blame him for either). But 20 year-old Chicano pop already selling

Chicano pop star **Cuco**, who was already sellin, out SoCal venues before his first official single dropped, bounced back from injuries sustained on tour in an October car

dropped, bounced back from injuries sustained on tour in an October car accident by filming a comedic video for "CR-V," named for the dependable but drab little Honda he receives as a graduation present in the promo filmed at a south L.A. school, near where he grew up. "I look like a mom in my CR-V, flexin' on your friends in my CR-V, got like five seats in my CR-V." It's basically Cuco's barrio reply to Randy Newman's iconic and sprawling "I Love L.A." video. His all-ages show at Observatory North Park on February 13 is one of the first two dates of a "comeback" tour, intended to pick up where he left off in October when all his remaining shows had to be cancelled while he recovered from the crash (which was serious



SMOKING POPES AT SODA BAR ON FEBRUARY 20

the early '90s, carrying them through the breakthrough success of landing a song on the Clueless soundtrack ("Need You Around," their only charting single), through the failed stint at Capitol Records that left them nearly bankrupt, and past a late '90s breakup while brother Josh pursued a career in Christian rock. A 2006 reunion tour was well received enough that the trio has occasionally reconvened for follow-up road trips. Their newest, Into the Agony, is the first studio full-length to feature the original lineup in around two decades, though they did test the waters a couple of years ago with a quick EP, Simmer Down, which they claimed was only released so fans could have some new music to sing along with for their reunion set at Riot Fest. Last year, they played a few festival dates in support of Side One Dummy's re-release of their 1997 Destination Failure album, which may have disappointed Capitol back in 1997 but contains some of the most concert-friendly selections of cacophonous crooning ever assembled. Their February 20 appearance at Soda Bar includes

tions of cacophonous crooning ever assembled. Their February 20 appearance at Soda Bar includes Milwaukee punk band Direct Hit, touring behind their third album, Crown of Nothing, which frontman Nick Woods says "describes the relationship between a vengeful angel, put to death

enough to merit a mention in the news scrolls at both Fox News and CNN). From the left coast, he's heading off to London's All Points East festival and Barcelona's Primavera Sound fest, before finishing up a full-length debut being prepped for release later this year.

Don't tell Jesse Welles that rock and roll is dead; he'll either punch you in the face or write a song about you that makes your own mother want to buy you to a one-way ticket to Siberia. The Arkansas songsmith has been steadily on the rise, thanks to availing himself of today's standard stepladder to success. In his case, that meant hooking up with an A-list studio magician (Sturgill Simpson producer Dave Cobb) around the same time he reached legal drinking age, landing opening slots for likeminded acts whose audience he covets (Greta Van Fleet and Royal Blood), and then



Remember back in 2013 when people were posting video snippets on Vine that briefly made them famous? Vine

may no longer be a thing, but at least one hero of Vine went on to become an actual pop star. Canadian folk-pop singer-songwriter Shawn Mendes used his online exposure to land a major label record deal that soon resulted in "Stitches," a top ten hit in the U.S., England, and Canada that



WELLES AT SPACE ON MARCH 9

making the scene with memorable stage takedowns at highly visible star-making stopovers like Austin City Limits and the Bonnaroo festival. He's actually been going by Welles for only

been going by Welles for only around two years now. You may have heard previous releases under names such as Jeh Sea Wells, Dead Indian, and Cosmic American, but the same sort of passive-aggressive, slice-of-wandering-life songwriting can be found on Welles singles like "Are You Feeling Like Me" b/w "Into

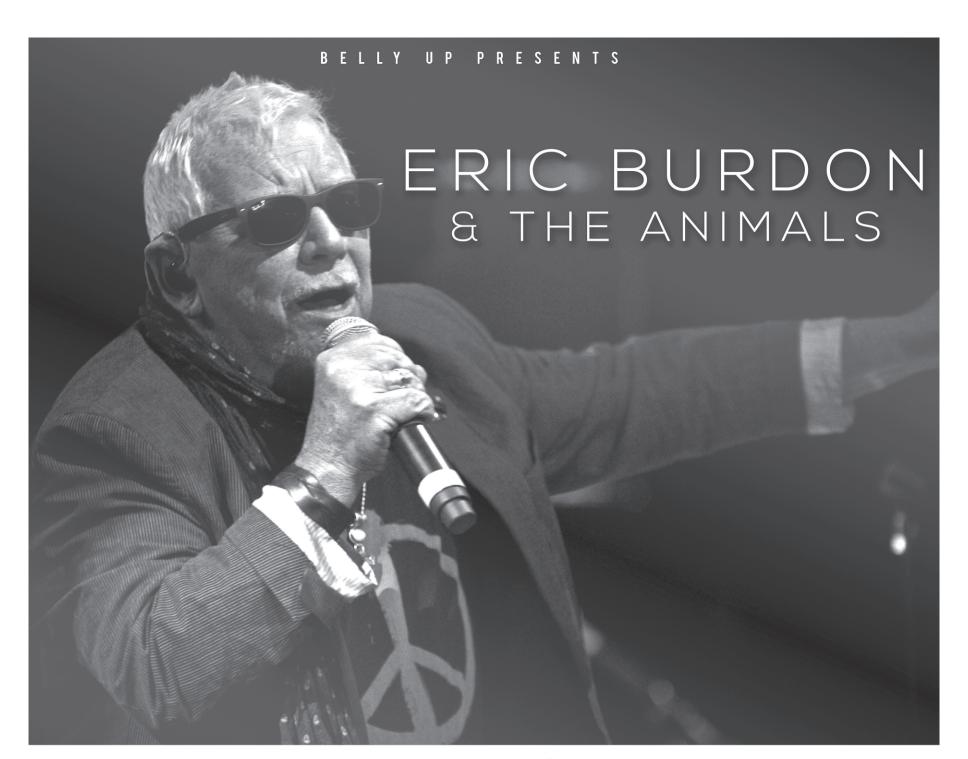
Feeling Like Me" b/w "Into Ashes." Last year's Nirvana-ish Codeine EP spawned a minor hit song and video for the track

"Life Like Mine." His March 9 performance at Space is ostensibly to promote his debut full-length from last year, *Red Trees and White Trashes*, but he's also reportedly working on a new release that may be previewed from the stage as well.

was only the first of many chart visits. The 20 year-old's self-titled third album from last year found him working with top shelf talents like Ed Sheeran, John Mayer, and Khalid. It predictably topped the charts in Canada, but surprised many by becoming his third number one album in America as well. That makes him the third youngest artist to hit number one with three albums, alongside far more famous acts like Miley Cyrus and Justin Bieber. As such, you'd best get your tickets ASAP for his July 8 date at the Sports Arena, I mean Valley View Casino Center. Wait, it's Pechanga Arena now? Are you sure? Okay, that big round place on Sports Arena Boulevard. They haven't changed the street name yet, have they?

— Jay Allen Sanford

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JANUARY 9/10 2019



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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

1st Street Bar:

Thursday, 9pm — Bonneville 7. **Free**.

AMSDconcerts Bonita:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Dave Stamey.

Bang Bang:

Friday, 8pm — Kim Ann Foxman.

Beaumont's:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Sam Bybee. *Friday*, 9pm — Slower.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Aviator Stash and Imagery Machine. \$8-\$14. Friday, 8pm — Queen Nation. Saturday, 8pm — Beat Farmers Hootenanny. \$22-\$39. Sunday, 8pm — Leo Kottke. Tuesday, 8pm — Bill Champlin & WunderGround. \$20-\$35. Wednesday, 8pm — Eric Burdon & the Animals. \$70-\$123.

Blind Burro:

Friday, 9pm — BandaBordel.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — High Tide Society.

Friday, 8pm — Hot Snakes. \$30. Saturday, 8pm — Chinchilla and Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver. \$15. Sunday, 8pm — T.S.O.L. \$20. Monday, 8pm — Man Man and Jon Daly.

Tuesday, 8pm — Ziggy Shuffledust & the Spiders From Mars. **Free**.

Wednesday, 8pm — Melvins and Dale Crover Band. \$25.

Coriography:

Tuesday, 7:45pm — 4 week Cuban Dance Series. \$40.

Cuvier Club

Sunday, 4pm — Ira Liss Big Band Iazz Machine, \$25.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Sunday, 7pm — Sean Hicke CD Release. \$10-\$15.

Full Circle Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Bonneville 7. **Free**.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, 5:30pm — Leighton, Patton & Kornhauser, Free.

Harp:

Friday, 9pm — Full Moon Fever. Free.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Thursday, 8pm — Highland Way. Friday, 9pm — Tony Cummins.

Saturday, 9pm — Heart Band. Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill

Rancho San Diego: Friday, 8pm — The Emergency Exit. Free. Saturday, 8pm — King Taylor Project. Free.

Horton Grand Theatre:

Sunday, 2pm — Fascinatin Gershwin. \$35.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Vincente

Fernandez. \$15-\$30. *Friday*, 7pm — The Dan Band. \$20-\$55.

Saturday, 7pm — Calpurnia. \$25-\$40. Tuesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage:

Tuesday, 8pm — Breakthrough Revue 2019. \$20.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Saturday, 9pm — United Country. **Free**.

Music Box:

Friday, 7pm — Electric Mud. \$7-\$10. Saturday, 7pm — The

Winehouse Experience. \$22-\$47.

Nick & G's: Thursday, 5:30pm — Tim Yancey. Free.

Omnia San Diego:

Saturday, 9pm — BRKLYN.

Panama 66: Sunday, 5pm — Uptown Rhythm

Pechanga Arena San Diego: *Wednesday*, 7:30pm — Disturbed and Three Days Grace.

Prohibition:

Saturday, 9pm — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

Saturday, 7pm — Rough Riot, Rattz, Symbolic.

Soda Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Elektric Voodoo and Rally Club. \$8. Sunday, 8pm — Quali, Praying, Runs Deep. \$7.

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8pm, Sunday, 1pm — Gunhild Carling.

Turf Supper Club:

Sunday, 8pm — Leonard Patton & Ed Kornhauser

University City United Church:

Saturday, 3pm — La Jolla Renaissance Singers: Night Song.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Saturday, 12pm — King Taylor Project. **Free**.

Winstons Beach Club:

Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.

Witch Creek Winery Carlsbad:

Sunday, 3pm — Cowboy Jack. **Free**

Zel's Del Mar:

Thursday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Sunday, Jan. 20 — Cuong Vu Trio. Thursday, Jan. 24 — Sheila Jordan. \$23-\$28.

Bang Bang:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Lee K.

Belly Up Tavern:

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 Magpie

Upcoming Shows

1/3 and 1/17

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episodes Fridays

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-

Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue. \$45-

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.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: *Wednesday, Jan. 16* — Toddler Time. **Free**.

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters: Saturday, Jan. 12 — Robin Henkel

Brick by Brick:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Sumac and Tashi Dorji.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Primitive Man and Cave Bastard. \$14-\$18.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Sunday, Jan. 13 — A.J. Croce.

Callaway Vineyard & Winery:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — King Taylor Project. Free.

Capri Blu:

Friday, Jan. 18 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Casbah:

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1st & 3rd Thursday of Every Month

Thursday, Jan. 10 — Melvins and Dale Crover Band. \$25.
Friday, Jan. 11 — The Dragons and Drip Tank. \$16-\$18.

BALCONY

- 3

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

Mednesday, Jan. 23 — Pinback and Swollen Brains. \$26. Thursday, Jan. 24 — Pinback and Montalban Quintet. \$26.

Coriography:

Tuesday, Jan. 15 — 4 week Cuban Dance Series. \$40. Tuesday, Jan. 22 — 4 week Cuban Dance Series. \$40.

First United Methodist Church of San Diego:

Sunday, Jan. 13 — The Occidental College Glee Club. Free.

Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen: Sunday, Ian. 13 — Bonneville

Sunday, Jan. 13 — Bonneville 7. **Free**.

Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad: *Friday, Jan. 18* — Gone Blonde. **Free**.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Lori Bell. Free. Friday, Jan. 18 — Wolf, Thorsen & Sellers. Free. Friday, Jan. 25 — Danny Green & Tripp Sprague. Free.

Hard Rock Hotel:

Sunday, Jan. 20 — What So Not and Party Pupils.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Friday, Jan. 11 — REO Speedwagon. \$39-\$95.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

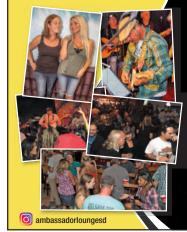
Friday, Jan. 11 — Disappointing Joseph.
Saturday, Jan. 12 — Jimmy

Lewis.
Friday, Jan. 18 — Camino Paz.
Saturday, Jan. 19 — Black
Market III.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Whiskey Ridge. Saturday, Jan. 12 — Kevin Begin. Friday, Jan. 18 — Tony Cummins. Saturday, Jan. 19 — Ron's





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AVAILABLE JAN. 11!

Sunday, Jan. 13 — Young Dolph. \$35-\$60.

Monday, Jan. 14 - Dorothv ⊠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.

Irenic:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Mae. \$22-

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:

Friday, Ian. 18 — Blake Miller & The Old Fashioned Aces. \$20.

La Jolla Community Center: Friday, Jan. 18 — Robin Henkel

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:

Thursday, Jan. 10 — Durell Anthony & Nik Mathews. Free.

Lestat's Coffee House:

Sunday, Jan. 13 — Robin Henkel

Loews Coronado Bay Resort:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Durell Anthony & Joe Bigham. Free.

Loft:

Thursday, Ian. 10 - ArtPower: Somi. \$18-\$35.

Mainstream Bar and Grill: Friday, Jan. 18 — West of 5. Free.

Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage:

Wednesday, Jan. 16 - Brian Justin Crum. \$40-\$50. Thursday, Jan. 17 — Brian Justin

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IMMORTAL BEAUTY

The Duke is simply The Duke

In just a few weeks. Verdi's Rigoletto will be opening at The San Diego Opera. Let's talk about how it fits in with the current milieu of hypersensitivity. The fact of the matter is that it doesn't fit in. Rigoletto would never have made it to the stage if had been written in 2018. That's somewhat ironic. because it almost didn't make it to the stage in 1851 due to Austrian censorship.

The opera is based on a play by Victor Hugo entitled Le Roi s'amuse, which translates, "The King is having fun." What is the king having fun doing? Raping every woman he possibly can and getting away with it, because he's the king. That

should explain why I don't think Rigoletto could make it to the stage if it were written today.

The Austrian censors had no problem with the rape. They had a problem with a king being portrayed as lecherous and a libertine. Once Verdi reduced the king's rank to a duke of an extinct family line (The Duke of Mantua), he was clear to go forward with all the rape material.

The story is that Rigoletto, the duke's jester, sets the women up and The Duke knocks 'em down. Rigoletto is ruthless in his choice of women. He even chooses the wives and daughters of the gentlemen of the court and

The Duke has raped their lady-folk. All goes well for Rigoletto until the aristocracy get revenge by kidnapping Rigoletto's daughter Gilda and handing her over to The Duke.

BY GARRETT HARRIS

The story quickly becomes ues to go about his business of womanizing as the show comes to an end. The Duke has no idea and cares not about the destruction his lechery has wrought upon

then mocks the men after

a tragedy for Rigoletto. Not so for The Duke, who contin-Rigoletto and Gilda.

Herein lies the meaning of the story. Rigoletto and Gilda are devastated by The Duke simply being The Duke. He is oblivious to the oblit-

Rigoletto at San Diego Opera in 2009. Yours truly, first courtier on the left.

eration. This is a story about the ingrained corruption of the ruling class and their rapacious practices.

In our current situation, we might be tempted to rewrite the end of Rigoletto and see The Duke stripped of his title and land. We might be tempted to see The Duke exiled or imprisoned.

That The Duke continues without pause is what makes Rigoletto such a powerful

story. It compels us toward action instead of us simply experiencing a vengeance fantasy. If The Duke is brought to justice, then what do we need to do? Nothing. It has all ended as it should. There is no need to scrutinize our culture and society because justice has been served.

By starving justice, Rigoletto becomes a story which has the power to ignite change. #Rigolettotoo.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Crum. \$40-\$50. Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Esera Tuaolo. \$25.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — John Lloyd Young. \$40-\$50.

Mission Trails Church:

Sunday, Jan. 13 — Gregory Page.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Bryan Adams and Steal Dawn. Free. Friday, Jan. 18 — Fuzz-Huzzi.

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Steelehorse. Free.

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Chango Rey

THU, 1/17_

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Moonshine Flats:

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Museum of Making Music: Thursday, Jan. 24 — Tori Roze & Johnny Alexander.

Music Box:

Thursday, Jan. 10 — Mimi Zulu, Kiyoshi, The Anodynes. \$12-\$14.

Moonshine Beach:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Lindsay Ell.

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Lindsay Ell.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Friday, Jan. 11 — Dirtwire. \$15-

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Tommy

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PANTS KARAOKE

Sun, Jan. 13, Free!

PANTS KARAOKE

Thu. Jan. 17

DEEPER SHAPE

OF SOUL

Sat, Jan. 19

DOPEST MATRIX

Sun, Jan. 20, Free!

PANTS KARAOKE

Sat. Jan. 24

MOTIVE

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, Ian. 21 — Parquet Courts and Snail Mail, \$27. Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Emily King. \$20-\$22.

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Coral Bells and Golden Howl. \$10.

Nate's Garden Grill:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Robin Henkel. Thursday, Jan. 24 — Robin

Henkel. Nick & G's:

Friday, Jan. 11 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, Ian. 18 — KRS-One. Saturday, Jan. 19 — Nao and Xavier Omar. Wednesday, Jan. 23 - Celso

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Peter Murphy & David J. \$40-\$45.

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-Saturday, Jan. 12 — Hollywood

U2. \$22-\$35

Omnia San Diego:

Friday, Jan. 18 — Nghtmre. Saturday, Jan. 19 — Habstrakt. Sunday, Jan. 20 - Rev Run & DJ Ruckus.

Friday, Jan. 11 — West of 5. Free. Saturday, Jan. 12 — West of 5. Free.

Prohibition:

Friday, Jan. 18 — Frankie T. & the Triple B.

Red Brontosaurus Records: Thursday, Jan. 10 - Fucked & Bound.

Rosie O'Grady's: *Friday, Jan. 11* — Bonneville 7.

Free.

Saddle Bar:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College: Friday, Jan. 25 — Janus: Dancing

the Future. \$15-\$40.

Searsucker Gaslamp:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — Old Skool Hip-Hop Brunch. Free.

Soda Bar: Friday, Jan. 11 — The

Undercover Dream Lovers and Boyo. \$10-\$12. Sunday, Jan. 13 — Death Eyes and Quits. \$6. Monday, Jan. 14 — Mother Mother, \$15. Wednesday, Jan. 16 — Anthony Green. \$22-\$25.

Friday, Jan. 18 — Dent May. \$10-\$12.

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Winter Disco and Post Tropic. \$5-\$10. Sunday, Jan. 20 — 88 Fingers Louie and Decent Criminal. \$15-\$17

Monday, Ian. 21 — The Posies (Jon & Ken Duo Show). \$16-\$18. Wednesday, Jan. 23 — Mozes & the Firstborn and the Parrots.

Soma:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — As It Is. \$15.

Space:

Thursday, Jan. 10 - DJ JFX 50th Bday Bash. \$5.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas:

Friday, Jan. 18 — The Hutchins Consort: Hawai iana. \$15-\$35.

St. Mark's United Methodist

Sunday, Jan. 20 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir. Free.

Tio Leo's:

Saturday, Jan. 12 — The Tourmaliners. Tuesday, Jan. 15 — Judy Taylor & Her Wild Oats feat Sue Palmer. Thursday, Ian. 17 - Mercedes Moore Band, \$5.

Tower Bar:

Saturday, Jan. 19 — Brendan Kelly and Ricky Schmidt & the

Stupid.

UCSD Price Center: Wednesday, Jan. 23 — ArtPower: Bill Frisell, \$30-\$35.

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito: Sunday, Jan. 13 — Seachange

Brass. \$15-\$40.

United Church of Christ of La Mesa:

Sunday, Jan. 20 — Tasha Smith Godinez. Free.

Waterbar:

Tuesday, Jan. 22 — Irusalem.

Westfield University Towne Centre: Wednesday, Jan. 16 — King

Taylor Project. Free.

WildWood Restaurant & Friday, Jan. 11 — Casey Hensley.

Winstons Beach Club:

Monday, Jan. 14 — Electric Waste Band. \$5. Saturday, Jan. 19 — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. Free. Monday, Jan. 21 — Electric Waste Band, \$5.

Witch Creek Winery Carlsbad:

Friday, Jan. 18 — Cowboy Jack.

2019 January 3, Diego Reader San

Wed 1/9

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.

Aquaman — Last year's King Arthur movie may have flopped, but director James Wan — whose horror beginnings (Saw, Insidious, The Conjuring) show up in ways both annoying (frequent use of explosion-as-jump-scare) and delightful (there's a reason H.P. Lovecraft's novel The Dunwich Horror makes a foreground appearance early on) - seems to have chalked it up to the film's straight-ahead story and setting. Better, perhaps certainly more bankable - to follow Logan (Western) and Black Panther (Bond movie) and stick its hero in the superverse. And also dunk him underwater sort of. Sometimes, Aquaman (Jason Momoa, competent) moves through liquid the way Superman moves through air. Other times, he and his fellow denizens of the deep seem to swim a bit. It's complicated. Along the way, there are family and political squabbles, cultural explorations, a treasure hunt, a totally superfluous fanservice sub-villain, a stultifying love story laden with leaden banter - the dialogue and acting throughout are distractingly bad - and lots and lots of action sequences. It's overstuffed. But oh, those action sequences: this is what the Tron sequel should have looked and sounded like. A fascinating physics-lite atmosphere of limitless scope (water subbing in for cyberspace), alternately mesmerizing and urgent synths on the soundtrack, ships and critters that seem half-made of light, and hyperkinetic camera motion that should be dizzying but isn't. If only everything else were that good. With Willem Dafoe, Nicole Kidman, Patrick Wilson, and Amber Heard. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ben Is Back — It's a case of "different message, same actor" as Lucas Hedges trades in one important theme for another and goes from a boy erased to a beautiful boy addict. Mom (Julia Roberts) returns from church on Christmas Eve to find Ben (Hedges), her semi-rehabbed son, anxiously vaping on the front porch. Seeing the lad drug testing in a Christmas Dixie Cup while his fearful mom waits at the door brought forth a much needed smile to lighten the otherwise sorrowpacked load. Not that the test's results do much to ease our minds: we keep waiting for Ben to fall off the rails, and when it happens, the picture goes with him. After a vengeful drug lord kidnaps the family pooch, Ben is left with no choice but to take mommy on a holiday tour of ghosts of drug deals past. Better to spend Christmas fighting with your own family than watching these two over-hyped Oscar-hopefuls lend their formidable talents to a Lifetime movie. Peter Hedges (Lucas' father) directs. 2018. - S.M. (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 ways 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



Mojin: the Worm Valley: I spy with my little eye...

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. ★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

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 fisheye 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. **\psi\$ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Free Solo — Is it strange when the wholehearted pursuit of a singular and spectacular achievement inspires pity and fear more than awe? Jimmy Chin and 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. **
(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. $\bigstar \star \star \star \star$ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Gremlins - Nobody is taken very much aback on meeting a pointy-eared furry little beast who speaks and sings in English. in a voice like Disney's Chip 'n' Dale. But after all, in this "typical" American small town (so beloved of executive producer Steven Spielberg), school is still in session on Christmas Eve Day and a subtitled Cocteau film is broadcast on local TV that night, and the grasp on character and psychology is more or less the exact equal of Dr. Seuss (e.g., the Widow Scrooge who vows to capture a troublesome mutt and put him in her spin-dryer). But it's rather as if Dr. Seuss had decided to supplement his reputable pediatric practice and peddle mind-altering, brain-damaging substances to the older kids on the school playground: the animated stuffed animal, when gotten wet, spawns egg-sized fur balls that grow up to be sharp-toothed batlike hellions who like to smoke, drink, break-dance, throw open the classic trenchcoat and expose themselves to females, and much, much worse. To find, or to imagine, the ideal customer for this concoction is a chore. The problem, in part, would be to find someone young enough not to be bothered by the cuteness

FILM FESTIVALS

The Square (2017)

Two films for the price of one, beginning with a crackerjack team effort to heist a wallet that would have made a welcome opener to any crime film. And the former museum curator in me had to laugh at all the pretense that went into defining the meaning of art — does an ice bucket challenge qualify as art? — as high-profile curator Christian (Claes Bang) pieces together his latest exhibition. At an unwieldy 151 minutes, there's not enough material to support one short feature, let alone two, as writer/director Ruben Östlund's satire soon becomes what it mocks. Outside of a museum screening, a library is the perfect venue for a film such as this. Just remember to follow the "Silence is Golden" rule by keeping the polemicizing to a low roar.

SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY: Monday, January 7 at 6:30 pm.

The Thing (1982)

A remake of Howard Hawks' production of the Christian Nyby-directed (allegedly)

The Thing? The mind boggles! Homage away, but if one artist admires another as much as John Carpenter does Howard Hawks, aren't there better ways of expressing said affection than by tracing one of his films? And if the goal of a remake is to improve on the original, why on earth would anyone want a second pop at such a flawless sci-fi gem? The original version withheld the monster's identity until the last few minutes in the picture. In this version, it's at around the 75-minute mark — the point at which Richard Dysart loses his hands - that Carpenter allows effects guru Rob Bottin's tap-dancing calipers-with-a-head and other assorted gladdening reminders of Ed "Big Daddy" Roth start steering the bus. Laughs soon replace gasps. The supporting cast may look good, but don't confuse these macho dweebs with the resourceful unit originally formed by Hawks

LANDMARK KEN: Saturday, January 12 at midnight or Sunday, January 13 at 11 am.



The Man in the White Suit: Alec Guinness gives a spotless, spot-on performance.

Take me to your Reader

The San Diego Vintage Sci-Fi web page asks, "Are you a fan of vintage SF (film and TV) of the '30's through late '60's?" Each month, an

intimate gathering of film enthusiasts— the room seats 22 — prone to fantasizing about the future assemble in Studio 106 of the Reader building to screen and discuss their passion. According to mission leader Gerry Williams, "Mars Movie Night has been happening since November 2001, and I've amassed the world's (Earth's) largest collection of Mars movies," and a visit to sdvsf.org reveals an impressive resume of past presentations. Williams has yet to firm up the 2019 Mars Movie Night opener on January 18th. (Frankly, I was a little disappointed to see him leaning in the direction of the "vintage" 2018 release 2036 Origin Unknown; the second half of the doublefeature is yet to be determined.) The San Diego Vintage Sci-Fi movie night on January 19th opens with the smashing Alec Guinness fantasy The Man in the White Suit, followed by another mystery title. Admission is free. Visit sdvsf.org for updates, and meetup. com to RSVP.

2323 BROADWAY, SUITE 106: Saturday, January 19, check sdvsf.org for time. and not to notice the total insincerity. (The horror element, much diluted by the two aforementioned qualities, would not be part of the problem for the indicated age group, though a number of presumably grown-up critics professed, or pretended, to be bothered by it.) Such restrictions, of course, would not leave anyone around who could appreciate the cinematic in-jokes, but those are inappreciable anyway. With Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton, and Frances Lee McCain; directed by Joe Dante. 1984. — D.S. • (LANDMARK KEN)

If Beale Street Could Talk — A young pregnant woman (KiKi Layne) fights to prove her beau (Stephan James) innocent of a crime he did not commit. If Beale Street could talk, it would no doubt inform Barry Ienkins that film is a director's medium and suggest that he move his camera back ten feet so that audiences might enjoy the pleasure of watching his characters relate to each other in their environment, not sit and stare at cumulus-sized closeups of actor's faces. When last I checked, people use their entire bodies to make love, not just their visages, but you couldn't prove it by the way Jenkins films an intimate encounter. To paraphrase Groucho, if the camera was any closer it would be in back of them. The story (based on a novel by James Baldwin), Nicholas Britell's score, and the ensemble cast are all strictly top shelf, which makes the overall dependence on one lens even all the more regrettable. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Mary Poppins Returns — The love and honor that director Rob Marshall and all concerned bear for Walt Disney's beloved original is palpable throughout this supremely well-meaning sequel, which finds the numinous nanny (played here with smirking sternness by Emily Blunt) returning to her post just as one of her charges - now grown-up, widowed, and working at, you guessed it, Fidelity Fiduciary — is about to lose his family home to the very bank that employs him. This is no mere nostalgia-mining cash grab operation; this is an homage, a tribute, a...slog. Marshall, regrettably, directs scenes, not actors, with the result that some inspired sequences fail for personal reasons. Some of the songs are more impressive than enjoyable (and some aren't even that). And the Mary ex machina that finishes the ginned-up drama makes mock of all her previous efforts to get the kiddies in her care to make their own magic. But those are mere quibbles: the real problem is the film's failure to do its own magic and give life to what's on screen. 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 Oueen 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 50 much to lament: wonky political fast-talking over character interaction quicksilver lead performance — there is also 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

 $\stackrel{\textstyle \circ}{\bowtie}$ but instead comes off befuddling. (How did

and shows why she took the role, and the

thing that's come before. If it's not quite a

it come to this?) After that, Robbie rises up

film manages a strong finish despite every-



This week's selections share two commonalities: all were lounging on my hard drive and none were ever reviewed in these pages.

- Scott Marks

OFFSIDE (2006)

After the establishment

of the Islamic Republic in Iran, women were not allowed to enter a stadium where men watched sporting events. Without a center-field knothole to spy through, a few brave young girls resorted to disguising themselves as boys in order to sneak in. The majority of the action in this Iranian comedy/drama takes place in two locations: a makeshift military holding center situated in the upper corner of a bustling soccer arena, and inside a van carrying several of the female detainees to the police station. The cast is populated with unfamiliar faces, none of whom are ever called by name. Filmed at the Azadi Stadium in the middle of a World Cup match between Iran and Bahrain, we never spend more than five minutes inside of the arena. And unlike most pictures centered on sports, this one does not conclude in competition. Writer and director Jafar Panahi never tells us what to think or how to react. He trusts and respects his audience that way.

BUG (2006)

Waitress Agnes White (Ashley Judd, in her boldest and most emotionally demanding role) suffers alone in a shabby Oklahoma motel room.

Meanwhile, in addition to his unhealthy preoccupation with insects, Peter Evans (Michael Shannon, at his paranoiac pinnacle) lives a life in mortal fear of technology, chemicals, and disseminating information. The film was based on playwright Stacy Letts' psycho-



Crazy Love: Linda and Burt Pugach in unhappier times.

logical horror drama, and not since Roman Polanski adapted Death and the Maiden had a one-set affair been afforded such an intelligent cinematic mounting. Entomophobes take heart: director William Friedkin wisely refrains from pouring on the vermin. If memory serves, there's not one menacing shot of a creepy-crawly in the entire piece. With the exception of one scene involving a selfinflicted tooth extraction. the graphic shocks are all in your head. By the time he made this, Friedkin had spent a good portion of his career trying to repeat the success

of *The Exorcist. Bug* may not have left much of a mark at the box office, but when it comes to lean, frightfully good storytelling, this is one roach motel worth checking into.

CRAZY LOVE (2007)

At a time when the average American was making \$4000 a year, ambulance chaser/ nightclub owner Burt Pugach (pronounced "Poo-gosh") was pulling down eighty grand.

Linda Riss, who wanted nothing more out of life than to marry well, fell in love with Pugach in spite of one glaring inconsistency that involved a bottle of acid and the permanent disfigurement of his bride-to-be's face. It is not a pretty picture: close-up interviews, newspaper clippings, and fuzzy TV newscasts

are director Dan Klores' main modes of visual expression. Normally repugnant, these "techniques" are cinematic beauty marks compared to the pair of toxic good-fornothings whose gripping romance the film recounts. It's rare when a fact-based documentary doubles as a taut suspense thriller, and much of the credit for this goes to Klores' wise decision to leave the passing of judgment to his audience. SPOILER ALERT: After what's revealed about their relationship, the sight of Linda and Burt Pugach together in the same frame still stands as one of the great shocks of my moviegoing life.

Find more Movies@Home reviews at SDReader.com/movies-at-home

success, at least it's an ambitious failure. 2018. — M.L. \bigstar (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Mule — Ten lean years following a Gold Medal win for his green thumb, and 87-year-old horticulturist Earl (Clint Eastwood) was no longer capable of popping for a round of drinks on the house. If the amount of emotional damage he'd already inflicted on two generations of women were any indication, Earl was always one to put work before family. In need of cash, he finds steady work as a drug mule for a Mexican cartel. Thank God that Clint Eastwood's not done vet. We follow Earl on a dozen runs and the flow of conflicting yet neversnagging parallel storylines finds storyteller Eastwood at the top of his game. Warner Bros, didn't get behind the film, probably due to Eastwood's personal politics. Did the studio 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? Eastwood owes the American filmgoing 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. 2018. — S.M. **** (IN WIDE RELEASE)TORY MUSEUM)ENCE CENTER)

Roma — If a film were to be judged solely on its opening shot, *Roma* would handily deserve all of this year's best picture honors. Alfonso Cuarón's curtain-raising quest to eke 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 Cuaron'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 existence is compelling to watch. And the one-two punch of coincidence that caps the film's big set piece contains the type of plotting one expects from a Telenovela, not a film garnering this much critical attention. 2018. — S.M. ** (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Second Act — An unplanned pregnancy in her youth, along with the decision to give the baby up for adoption, continues to haunt Maya (Jennifer Lopez). For this we go to a romcom? What happened to

the cute setup? Comic-relief Joan (Leah Remini) gooses Maya's resume and social media profile so that her BFF can make the leap from a "street smarts" job managing a big box store to a "book smarts" career at a high profile consumer goods company. Once installed in her Madison Avenue digs, everything that could have gone wrong should have, and with each passing debacle, Maya would have escaped triumphant. Have the kids curse to wring a few more cheap laughs. Add another impromptu musical number where the gals lip sync more of Salt-N-Pepa's "Push It". Anything but adoption as a wormy plot device to bring characters together. Remini's the show. If director Peter Segal really had his sights set on romantic comedy, the final fade would have been of Lopez and Remini falling into each other's arms. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Vice — Where does skit-assembler Adam McKay (SNL, Anchorman) get off receiving name-above-the-title status? The Big Short wasn't enough to warrant such an elevation, never mind the Oscar noms (and McKay's win for adapted screenplay), and this throw-everything-against-the-screen-andsee-what-sticks attempt to mimic Oliver Stone is a giant, self-conscious plunge in the wrong direction. Freeze frames, characters addressing the audience, text emblazoned across the screen, and vaulting camerawork conspire to confirm the obvious: McKav relies on one crutch too many to prop up his narrative, and Dick Cheney is an asshole. Aren't we tired of actors imitating famous people? Any awards Christian Bale receives should be shared with his makeup effects sculptor, Brian Wade. Only Amy Adams' Lynne Cheney comes off as more performance than impersonation. Then there's the film's narrator (Jesse Plemons), the function and identity of whom will leave you guessing right up until the final fade. The repugnance of the revelation is the one aspect of the film that comes close to mirroring the monstrousness of its clench-jawed subject. As such, it's appallingly appropriate. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Welcome to Marwen — Adult Toy Story. Adult as in, the person playing with the toys is an adult: Mark Hogancamp (Steve Carell), an artist who has lost both his memory and his ability to draw following a brutal beating that stems from his drunken barroom admission that he likes to wear women's shoes. But the artistic impulse remains, and so he spends his time photographing dolls (action figures?) in scenes from Marwen, a backyard scale-model Belgium town mired in World War II. Marwen is named for two of the women who helped save him — a kindly bartender and a tough physical therapist - and those women, among others he knows and admires. also show up as the town's residents. He's there, too, in the person of a brave soldier who also enjoys wearing ladies' shoes - because they connect him to the essence of dames. But of course, there are brutish Nazis about, not to mention a mysterious town witch who wants him all for herself. Also adult as in adult themes and situations. Hogancamp is not a charming man-child happily living in his imagination. He's a deeply damaged man-man who wishes like hell he could get out of his imagination and into the arms of a real woman. There's a compelling story somewhere in this material: maybe it already got told by the 2010 documentary Marwencol? At any rate, what Robert Zemeckis serves up here sure ain't it. Goopy-minded short shrift is given to nearly everything it touches on: mental illness, medication, addiction, artmaking, recovery from trauma... but the animated doll sequences are intriguing, which may give some indication of the director's real interest here. 2018. - M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, hut 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.

Bond on Third

For three performances only, OnStage Playhouse presents Tom Steward's solo show, "doing three acts of everything James Bond." ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHIII A VISTA 619.422.7787 8PM FRIDAY, JAN. 4 & SATURDAY, JAN. 5, 5PM SUNDAY, JAN. 6.

King Lear Open Reading

San Diego Shakespeare Society's open reading series begins the new year with The Big One. Near the end of his reign, King Lear divides his land among his three daughters. Big mistake, big enough for him to probe the depths of madness. "This is an open, out loud reading of the play. We recast after every scene so all have a chance to read." VETERANS MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL CENTER, 2115 PARK BL., BALBOA PARK, 619-239-2300 6:45PM TUESDAY IAN 8

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.

New Village Arts: Final Draft New Play Festival

New Village Arts presents its second annual "Final Draft" new play festival, featuring works by local authors Dea Hurston, Aleta Barthell, Karen Riehl, Roy Sekigahama, and a full-length musical by Blake McCarty and Trevor Bachman. Selections came from an open pool of over 80 new plays.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, JAN. 4, SATUR-DAY, JAN. 5, & SUNDAY, JAN. 6.

UPCOMING SHOWS

34th Plays by Young Writers **Festival**

Playwrights Project presents the 34th Plays by Young Writers Festival featuring plays by California students chosen through the 2018 California Young Playwrights Contest. "Out of over 400 submissions, six students won the opportunity for their plays to be performed at the Old Globe. Three young writers receive full productions; three younger writers will have their scripts presented as staged readings.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. JAN. 12 THROUGH JAN. 26.

An Act of God

Carlsbad Playreaders open their 2019 season with a staged reading of David Javerbaum's comedy about "the One with the first and last word on everything has finally arrived to set the record straight...in just 90 minutes." Gerilyn Braut directs. CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY, 1775 DOVE LANE, CARLSBAD. 760-602-2049. JAN. 14.

Aubergine

The San Diego Repertory Theatre opens the new year with Julia Cho's "meditation on the beauty of life where hope is no mere ingredient - it's the main course." A Korean family struggles to relate across emotional and cultural divides. Todd Salovey directs.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA. DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO, 619-544-1000. JAN, 24 THROUGH FEB, 17.

Becoming Dr. Ruth

Broadway Theater stages Mark St. Germain's theatrical biography of Dr. Ruth Westheimer. Before she became a pioneering radio sex and relationship therapist, she fled the Nazis, was a sniper for the Haganah in Jerusalem, and much more. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 E. BROAD-WAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. JAN. 17 THROUGH FEB. 3.

Crazy for You

San Diego Musical Theatre opens its new season with the classic Gershwin musical comedy about Bobby Child. New York banker, sent to Deadrock, Nevada, to foreclose a rundown theater. He falls for Polly Baker, but must use "cunning" and "razzmatazz" to win her over. Kirsten Chandler directs, Jill Gorrie choreographs, and Don LeMaster is musical director.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO, 619-234-9583, FEB. 2 THROUGH MAR. 3.

Diana

The La Jolla Playhouse presents the world premiere of Joe DiPietro and David Bryan's (creators of the Tony Award-winner Memphis) musical about Princess Diana "as she grows into a global phenomenon." Christopher Ashley directs.

LA IOLLA PLAYHOLISE 2910 LA IOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD, 858-550-1010. FEB. 19 THROUGH APR. 7.

Disnev's Newsies Jr.

JCompany Youth Theatre is thrilled to partner with Disney Theatrical Licensing on a special pilot production of Disney's Newsies Jr. Set in New York City at the turn of the century, Newsies is the rousing tale of Jack Kelly, a charismatic newsboy and leader of a ragged band of teenaged "newsies," who dreams only of a better life far from the hardship of the streets Based on the 1992 motion picture, with a score by eight-time Academy Award winner Alan Menken (Beauty and the Beast, Aladdin) and Jack Feldman and a book by fourtime Tony Award winner Harvey Fierstein (La Cage aux Folles, Kinky Boots). Including beloved songs from the film, "Seize the Day," "King of New York" and "Santa Fe." DAVID AND DOROTHEA GARFIELD THE-ATRE, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 858-362-1348, JAN, 12 THROUGH

Familiar

The Old Globe Theatre offers Danai Guira's comedy about "tradition, marriage, and what it means to be an American family." Donald and his wife Marvelous have been living the American Dream since emigrating from Zimbabwe. Now one of their daughters insists on a traditional African wedding ceremony. Edward Torres directs.

SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE. 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623, JAN, 31 THROUGH MAR. 3.

Hello, Gorgeous!

For one evening only, Martinis Above Fourth presents actress and style icon Candis Cayne in the San Diego premiere of her acclaimed one-woman cabaret show. "Old school meets high glamour in this hair-flipping, high-kicking parade of fabulous'

MARTINIS ABOVE FOURTH | TABLE + STAGE, 3940 FOURTH AVENUE #200. HILLCREST, 619-400-4500, JAN, 31,

Jack v. Beanstalk

PowPAC, Poway's Community Theatre, offers Neil Pisk's new play. Jack is on trial for murdering the Giant by cutting down the magic beanstalk. A jury — selected nightly from members of the audience must decide Jack's fate. "Did he do it to cover up a robbery? Or was it something no one saw coming?' Brent Stringfield directs. POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. JAN. 11 THROUGH FEB. 10.

Marie and Rosetta

Cygnet Theatre stages George Brant's tribute to Sister Rosetta Tharpe ("the godmother of rock-n-roll") and her protege, Marie Knight, as they make history by "bringing fierce guitar playing and swing to gospel music." Rob Lutfy directs.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. JAN. 19

Moon Over Buffalo

The North Coast Repertory Theatre stages Ken Ludwig's whacko farce. In this "love letter to live theater." everyone's in the wrong costumes reading the wrong lines. Matthew Wiener directs.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE. 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SO-LANA REACH 858-481-1055 IAN 12 THROUGH FEB. 10.

Weighing In: A One-Woman

Lampligters Community Theatre presents Ilene Kruger's one-woman show about "love, loss, and what I was eating." The piece is intended for adults from "21 to 103." LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. JAN. 13.

ANTI-REVIEW MICHA BARNES

Celebrity BFF?

IN THE PLAY ALWAYS... PATSY CLINE, a country music star befriends one of her biggest fans, forming a close relationship with someone who has no connection to the entertainment industry. It's based on a true story, told mostly

by the character of the fan during the short intervals between cast-performed covers of Cline's top tunes.

On the surface, a regular person becoming friends with their favorite celebrity sounds fairytale like. Certainly, sharing common bond with someone famous equates roughly to a mortal finding favor among the gods. The narrative suggests that

all of us, even everyday folk, have something special to offer our most celebrated heroes.

But do celebrities really have that much to offer us? Let's not forget the first step on the road to stardom is usually an obsessive devotion to craft. Most successful musicians spend the bulk of their early lives practicing their instruments. The more successful a musician, the more hours he or she has likely put in honing their talents. That means there were fewer hours spent practicing the art of conversation, or garnering enough unique life experience to hold up their end of one.

That's not to say superstars are boring or don't deserve friends. But how interesting can they be,



Katie Karel and Cathy Barnett perform in the North Coast Rep production of Always... Patsy Cline.

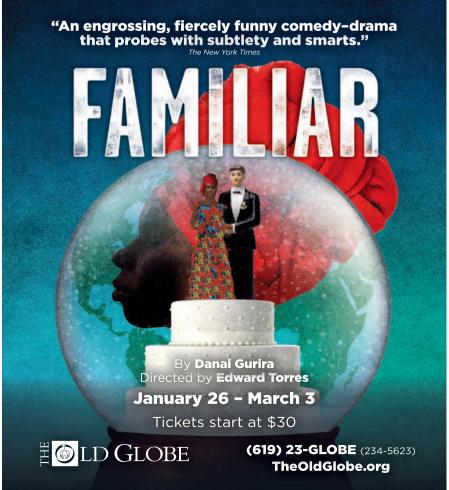
really? There are only so many good stories that can come from long weeks going to work at a recording studio, or sitting on a bus for hours each day between tour stops.

Yes, we're talking about real people, with real problems. But who wants to hear about all that? What's the point of becoming friends with a celebrity if it's only to hear them whine about how they don't see their children often enough? It might be entertaining as a fan to hear about the wild parties, to be privy to lurid details and vices. But to a friend, such stories are merely a red flag signaling the inevitable rock bottom you'll be expected to help cope with someday. It's always

> going to be about them. And it's not as though we want to turn around and share the intimate details of our lives, either. How do vou complain about the person at work who keeps using your salad dressing to someone who's dating People magazine's "sexiest so and so alive," and has the

power to start a Twitter feud with elected federal officials?

Worst of all, when a fan befriends a celebrity, that person effectively forfeits the discretion to stop being a fan. Especially when the career tanks, that star pal of yours will need to hear about how underappreciated they've become by the new generation. Patsy Cline seems to have been especially nice, but most of us deserve better than a celebrity BFF.



San Diego Reader January 3, 2019

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ONLINE: sandiegoreaderstore.com **DEADLINE:** 3:30pm Monday for all ads.

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RENTALS

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.

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PACIFIC BEACH \$1525.

1BD+1BA top (3rd) floor large unit; updated kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave: coin laundry: sparking pool; elevator; no pets; available 1/25/19; 1433 Oliver Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www delsolpm.com. 858-270-20712

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.

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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.

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, \$2775.

3BD+2BA HOUSE in the Crown Point neighborhood near bay; large 2-car garage with electric 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.

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. alloninteralestate com allpointsrealestate.com

DOWNTOWN, \$1400.

STUDIO+1BA upstairs unit. 1/2 off 1st month with one-year lease! Newly renovated kitchen. Great Newly reinovated Ritchiel. 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.

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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.

A MESA, \$1699-2090. 3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos Cocina nueva. Electrodomestic 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

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\$10 OFF **Full Body & Combo Massage Only December**

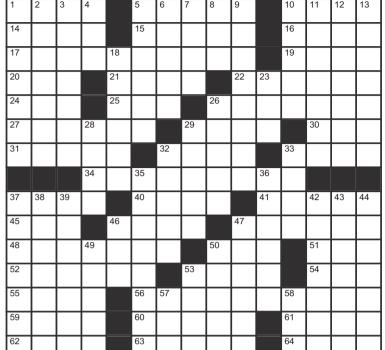
Full Body Massage \$40/hr (Reg. \$50)

Combo Massage (90 Minutes) \$60/hr (Reg. \$70)

6610 El Cajon Blvd. San Diego 92115, (College Area)



CROSSWORD "Rocky"



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. Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 Benties 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
- And now for the really small print:
- All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 Late entries will not be considered.
- We will draw 1 name from weekly puzzle winners.
- 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not



Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

Across

- 1. Easter staples
- 5. Unbroken mount
- 10. Roe source
- **14.** Rescue mission, briefly
- **15.** Sound
- **16.** Health plan prefix
- 17. Sushi menu item named after Hamlet's friend?
- **19.** ____ mater
- **20.** Roman 1,002
- 21. Get wind of
- 22. Sweet 'un
- **24.** They go from town to town:
- 25. Magic, on a sports ticker
- **26.** "Hey, spin for me!"?
- **27.** "____ Rides Again" (1939 western)
- **29.** Takes evening courses?
- **30.** Shape of a plunging neckline
- **31.** Singles network logo with a partly outlined Star of David
- **32.** Ascend
- **33.** What "Talk to the hand!" is an example of
- **34.** Something thrown by Sean Lennon's mom?
- **37.** "____ on Fire" (2012 Alicia Keys hit)
- **40.** "Time the essence"
- **41.** Copacetic

- **45.** "Right you ____!"
- **46.** Actress Lena of "Chocolat"
- 47. "Hmm, guess so"
- **48.** Coffee brand named after a 40's-50's New York Yankee?
- **50.** "Rhythm ____ Dancer" (1992 hit by Snap!)
- **51.** Word with black or photo
- **52.** Befuddled
- 53. Seriously uptight
- **54.** Luau accessory
- 55. Sacagawea dollar, e.g.
- **56.** Bad beginning ... or this puzzle's theme
- **59.** Of little ____ use
- **60.** Aconcagua's range
- 61. "Absolutely, amigo!"
- **62.** Home in the forest
- **63.** Certain econ class
- **64.** Sources of vitamin C.

- 1. 1993 hit with the lyric "Keep playin' that song all night"
- **2.** Like pariahs
- **3.** ____ Mayer, Yahoo! CEO beginning in 2012
- **4.** Subj. for Bill Nye
- **5.** Establishment that makes a lot of dough?

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

- **6.** Like most of Maine
- **7.** Dumpster emanation
- 8. It's nothing, really

- **9.** First sketch of an episode of "Saturday Night Live," typically
- **10.** Intelligent
- **11.** Extremely, informally
- 12. Thinks highly of
- 13. Feinstein and Wiest
- 18. Dance: Prefix
- 23. Vienna's land: Abbr.
- **26.** ____ Islam, singer formerly known as Cat Stevens
- 28. "Gotta run," in a text
- **29.** Nurse
- **32.** Former TV partner of Barbara, Joy and Elisabeth
- **33.** Word with coffee or aift
- **35.** About 2.2 pounds
- **36.** Cellist Pablo
- 37. Judy Garland, e.g.
- **38.** Hematite, e.g.
- **39.** Puts back on, as weight
- **42.** It's pitched by a pitcher
- **43.** Bad-mouth
- 44. "Indeed so"
- **46.** Spanish body part whose name in English is also a palindrome
- **47.** Parent's emphatic words after "Because"
- **49.** "Otherwise ..."
- **50.** Tattoo artist
- 53. "High Voltage" band
- **57.** ____ hunch
- 58. PreCheck org.
- Martin Taubman, San Diego, 21.

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.

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday

Name: City: State: _ Zip Code:

SUDOKU

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

EVIL:

	6		1					5
1				5 8	3			
	9			8				
	1	9						7
		5	6		1	4		
7						8	5	
				1			8	
			3	2				4
2					7		1	

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
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SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S **SUDOKU PUZZLES:**

EVIL: 8 2 4 7 6 3 5 1 9 1 7 5 8 9 4 2 3 6 6 9 3 2 1 5 8 7 4 3 5 9 6 4 2 1 8 7 4 6 2 1 7 8 3 9 5 7 8 1 3 5 9 4 6 2 2 4 6 9 8 1 7 5 3 1 7 4 3 6 9 2 8

9 3 8 5 2 7 6 4 1

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.

Michael Russe, Vista, 29.

Name:	
City:	State: Zip Code:



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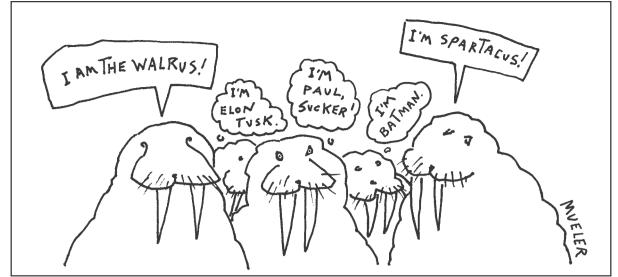
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NOTICES

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1616 Precision Park Lane San Diego, 92173 • (619) 430-4369 Just off the 905 freeway • Se habla español Must present ad prior to service. Expires 2-4-19

READER TACOTOPIA 2019
Join the San Diego Reader in our continued search to find the best taco at the 5th Annual Reader Tacotopia in Golden Hill Park on Saturday, May 11th, 2019. Try signature tacos from more than 60 of the best restaurants in San Diego, TJ and I A as they compete to and LA as they compete to win the "Best Taco" award. Curated exclusively by our food writers, this event brings together the very best taco vendors, Âi and you decide who will ultimately win. I ReaderTacotopia.com

PETS

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. FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & **KITTENS**

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news of the WeiRD

Andrews McMeel Syndication

Be Kind to Animals

-Donna Byrne, 53, of Polk County, Florida, was charged with driving under the influence on Nov. 2, but it was her mode of transportation that earned her an animal neglect charge. Byrne was riding her horse, Boduke, down a busy road in Lakeland in the middle of the afternoon. When officers reached Byrne, she was staggering and had red, watery eyes — explained by her breath alcohol level, which was more than twice the legal limit, Polk County sheriff's office spokesman Brian Bruchev told the Orlando Sentinel. Boduke got a ride to the sheriff's Animal Control livestock facility, but Bruchey said he'd most likely be returned to Byrne, whose rap sheet includes cruelty to animals and drug pos-

- In Darmstadt, Germany, police detained a 19-year-old man on Nov. 7 after they noticed "a significant bulge in his trousers" and discovered he was carrying a baby python in his pants. The unnamed man was carrying on a loud, drunken argument with another man when police were called, reported The Guardian. Officers took the man and the snake to the police station, where the snake was put in a box, and authorities considered whether the "non-species-appropriate transport" could be a violation of animal protection laws.

Sendyourweird news items to Weird News Tips@ amuniversal com



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San Diego Reader January 3, 2019



FISH REPORT cont.

caught on Christmas Eve, and was a nice alternative to the normal ham, turkey and stuffing usually enjoyed on the holiday.

Fishing from the beach has its advantages in Mexico, one of them being there is no license requirement for shore anglers. Surf fishing is usually an inexpensive endeavor, and though hiring a panga isn't too pricey until you get to the more touristy places, it can still set you back a couple hundred dollars per trip. If one fishes most days, that can add up. Also, there is a temporary hold on Mexican fishing licenses for more than one day as the new administration takes over after the presidential election.

The day permits are \$11 and the normal annual license is just over \$50, so during the changeover of administrations an angler can spend more than the normal annual rate in five days. Annual Mexican licenses are valid for one year from the date of purchase, as opposed to the California requirement to renew at the first of the year regardless of the purchase date. So, if you bought your annual Mexican license in 2018 after January you'll probably be fine.

Fish Plants: 12/31, Lake Jennings, trout (1,500)



during the colder months.

"The Wall,' also known as Wipeout Beach, has a great sider that pushes in

the winter," Young explains. "Here, I love doing wraps into the barrel, which is when you start in one direction heading out into the water, turn on the wave, and ride back to shore in the opposite direction. If the wave cooperates, your return to the shore can provide some brief barrel time."

Young, a high school history teacher, has been skimboarding for about 16 years. "Many beginners start riding at flat beaches that don't have shorebreak, but I would suggest going to a beach that has shorebreak and starting there — just make sure it's a small day."

Carlsbad resident Garrett Gwin is a bartender by trade; he has been skimboarding for eight years. "A nice, smooth barrel on the sand is probably the best thing ever," he said, "[and if you are a beginner,] spots like Pacific Beach and La Jolla Shores are great for learning how to skimboard."

Gwin's local skimboard network



"Wipeout Beach has a great sider that pushes in the winter."

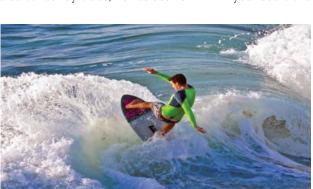
has about 35 skimmers from all skillsets; Young has about 100. "Don't be afraid to come down and learn," Gwin said. "Just don't get in the way too much."

When the swells are good, Young performs body varials, "which are when you're riding a wave, then you jump off your board and your body does a 180 and

> you land switch-stance but your board stays in the same position."

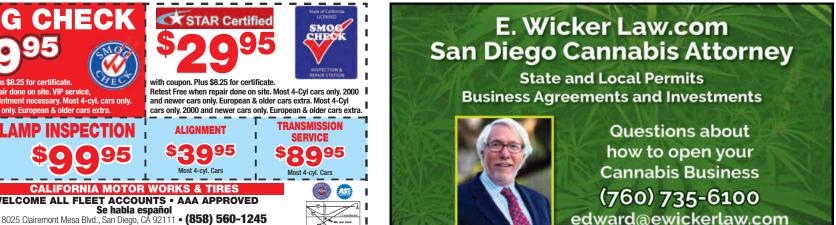
"We used to throw little local 'skimmer' competitions here in San Diego called 'Skim Fiesta,'" Young said, "but it's been a few years since we've done so. Who knows, maybe we will revive the tradition."

— Mike Madriaga



When the swells are good, Young performs body varials.

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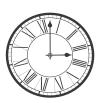
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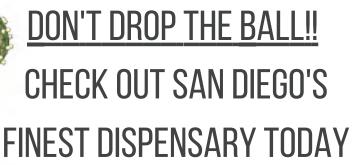
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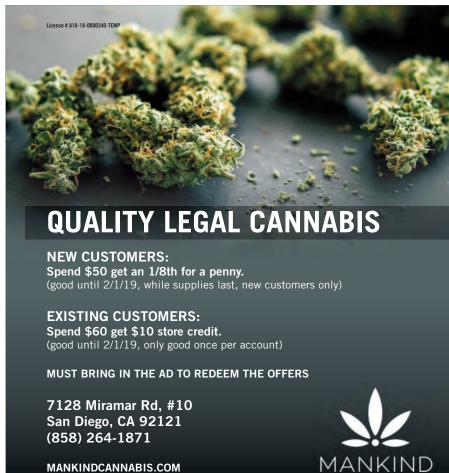




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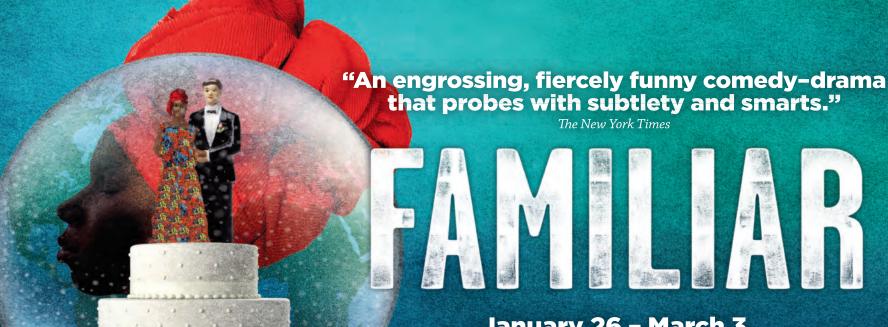
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