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JANUARY 17, 2019

Reader

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January 17, 2019



PHOTOGRAPH BY HOANG PHAM

She'll sell you a photo like this — page 14



Beautiful food and people — page 36



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Fan dance

Back into the Chargers' welcoming (and winning) arms



True-blue Teri (center) never bolted.

On January 6, after the Los Angeles Chargers beat the Baltimore Ravens 23-17, the former San Diego team's social media accounts jolted to life and recouped some of their old fans. In 26 hours, their Twitter account gained 800 followers; their Facebook gained 475; and their Instagram gained 3000. "I imagine some were recent jump-back-on-bandwagoners," said Teri from Allied



"Probably the funniest one is the trashcan one."

Gardens. "I watched the game at McGregors with my friend Audra, a fellow die-hard fan. She posted quite a few things on Facebook and got the crowd all riled up. I like to jump on the Chargers' Twitter to see what people are saying. I think it helps me feel connected to the team, especially when I see tweets from the players."

Teri's been a Chargers fan for more than 50 years and stays connected with the Chargers' social media because when she's on the road driving for Uber, she likes to see the highlights — and the "ridiculous" memes. "Probably the funniest one," she said, "is the trashcan one." She was referring to a photo of a person climbing into a large green dumpster, captioned: "Now where did I put that (Chargers lightning bolt insignia) jersey?"

"I'm sure there's tons of people coming out of the woodwork jumping back on the bandwagon," she said. Two years ago, when Spanos moved the team up to Los Angeles, I watched as the Chargers' Facebook page garnered 44,554 unlikes in 15 hours. "I wavered for the first year," Teri said. "I wanted to hate the Chargers, because I really was mad at Spanos for moving them the way they did. But I love Rivers and Gates and really the whole team, so while I was a little bitter the first year that they moved. I remained a fan. Some of my friends did unlike the Chargers, though."

Mike from Clairemont has been following and liking the Chargers since they played at Jack Murphy Stadium 35-plus years ago; he noticed an increase in the Chargers' social media numbers "after the wins in Pittsburgh and then KC. I usually check the Chargers' social media so that I can see what people are saying about what is happening," he said, "especially when big plays happen." That Sunday, the Chargers posted an Instagram video of when Melvin Gordon III ran a fourth-and-goal touchdown; the post garnered 88,980 views.

On January 7, Mike watched Chargers' head coach, Anthony Lynn, talk about their January 13 (AFC Divisional Round) game against the Patriots at Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, Massachusetts — on Facebook Live. "As long as the defense keeps doing what they do," Mike commented, "it's a game they can win."

(It wasn't.)

Mike Madriaga

Ron Roberts' Chinese buffet

Ex-supervisor keeps going back for more Before he left office this month to make way for newly elected Democrat Nathan Fletcher, termed-out Republican county supervisor Ron Roberts took one final trip to China, using up a sizable portion of the remaining \$51,000 in his once-overflowing 2014 reelection stash. Much of the rest went to a retirement party blow-out, leaving nothing in the bank when the fund finally closed out January 7.

High-dollar hotel stays for the venerable politico and a staffer who went along on the late October and November journey included the Marco Polo Hong Kong Hotel in Hong Kong (\$568), Grand Dynasty Culture Hotel

continued on page 24

Naughty nurse

A little drinking, a little fighting, a little stabbing

By Eva Knott

We are not required to wait for her to injure a patient at work," attorney Erin Sunseri told a judge. Representing the California nurses licensing board, Sunseri was trying to prevent Christena Potter doing any more work as a registered nurse, before the court system could convict her of felony assault for stabbing her boyfriend.

Christena Potter declared

house in Fallbrook on February 19, 2017. "I was afraid and left the house." But he was able to overcome his fear, and he met with Christena some days later, because he wanted to "work things out."

So they were together again, two weeks later, on March 5, 2017. Another Sunday. Rusty was again with Christena in her home, and they had been drinking and arguing. It got to be 4 am. "I didn't want to continue the



Attorney Herb Weston explained to the court that Christena Potter is a responsible person, except when drinking.

in court papers: "I am a respected Labor and Delivery Nurse at Tri City hospital, which all of my coworkers will vouch for" Christena had filed paperwork asking for a restraining order against her live-in boyfriend, whom we will call Rusty. This was after the butter-knife incident, which happened in March of 2017, more than a year before her nursing license was suspended.

Christena and Rusty had been together six years by early 2017. Over the years they developed a habit of drinking and quarreling on Saturdays into the early morning hours of Sundays.

Rusty said it was a Sunday in February when they were arguing, "And she went into the closet and retrieved a gun and pointed it at me and told me to leave the house." They were living in Christena's

argument, so I locked myself into the bedroom. Somehow Christena gained entrance to the bedroom."

Rusty's statements are in court files. He said Christena went into the closet and got the same pistol. "She pointed the gun at me and told me that she would shoot me unless I left." Rusty got out of bed and made it into the living room, but Christena's 20-year-old son was there and he "confronted me, getting up in my face." Rusty "pushed" the young man and then "Christena picked up a butter knife." He claimed the enraged 45-year-old woman stabbed him with the blunt instrument. "I suffered lacerations to my left eye, my shoulder, and two on my stomach." Forty-three-year-old Rusty escaped from the house. But he came back about five hours later.



Christena Potter, 47, and her boyfriend liked to get liquored up and argue all night.

It was daylight by then, about 9 am, when Rusty returned with his own two sons, 15 and 22. Rusty hoped to get some of his belongings. "Christena refused to let me into the house to get my clothes. She finally let me in, and I grabbed some items of clothes." But Christena had called 911 and Sheriff's deputies showed up. "They separated us and talked to both of us," Rusty reported later. "After assessing the situation they arrested Christena on charges of domestic violence."

The California Board of Registered Nursing found this incident during their research, and they declared Christena Potter's actions to be "unprofessional conduct." This was one of the justifications for suspending her license. Deputy Attorney General Erin Sunseri appeared in court and got a judge's approval on July 17, 2018.

After she was arrested for the butter-knife incident, Christena quickly bailed out of jail. The next day, a Monday, both Christena and Rusty filed paperwork, each asking for a restraining order against the other. These statements in court files are dated March 6, 2017.

On the forms, Christena described Rusty as 5 feet 10 inches tall and 250 pounds. He was 43 years old then. Rusty said Christena was 5 feet 4 inches tall and 240 pounds. She was 45 years old.

On the form, Rusty

said his relationship with Christena was: “used to live together and used to date.” He asked for protection for himself and his 15-year-old, “He is my son and a minor; he lives with me 50 percent of the time.” And he wanted a stay-away order to include his child’s school and his own 2017 Peterbilt 389 truck.

Rusty told the court: “I have knowledge that Christena Potter owns or has

I am selling my home

In her court paperwork, Christena claimed that Rusty created financial problems. She said he possessed a 40-foot dump trailer, and she was the one who had signed as “guarantor,” and the payments were delinquent. And “He sold a flat bed trailer financed by myself one month ago and did not pay the loan for the title. He owes Great Western Finance



Prosecutor Marnie Layon’s job was made more difficult by a victim who was reluctant to testify.

access to guns or firearms. She threatened me with a pistol on March 5, 2017 and was arrested.”

Vulgar names

Christena Potter did write on her form that “guns were taken by police.” But most of her statements differed from Rusty’s.

Christena wrote: “I am not a violent person. I have been in a dysfunctional, violent relationship and would like to be protected.” She described Rusty: “He is regularly drunk and acts violent.” She claimed he called her vulgar names and threatened to kill her. She told the court that she was the one who called 911, “and because I did not have any bruises and he did, I was taken to jail.”

Both Rusty and Christena got Temporary Restraining Orders against each other. But neither person showed up for a hearing three weeks later, on March 29, 2017, so the judge did not renew the TROs.

\$7000 — and does not have the money.”

Christena claimed that she filed a fraud charge against Rusty because on March 5, 2017 he had taken her bank card and took \$300 from her account.

Christena said she owned a home in Fallbrook, at 1336 Banyan Drive. “I am selling my home to pay for unauthorized credit card transactions of \$20,000 that he made.”

She declared, “The home is mine, purchased privately. I own the home and pay the

mortgage. The home is for sale, so I may pay debt he made.” Public records show that home sold on April 26, 2017, seven weeks after the butter-knife-stabbing incident, for \$582,000.

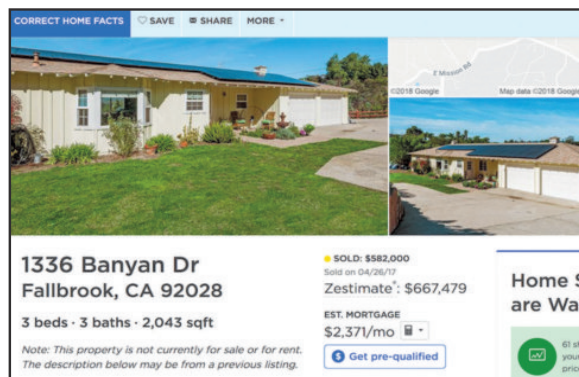
Steak knife

A year later, in the spring of 2018, there was another drunken fight that started on a Saturday night. In May of 2018, Christena Potter and Rusty were living together again, they were in an apartment on Flower Lane in Vista, at that time. The fighting went on past midnight, a few minutes into Sunday morning May 20, and this time it was Rusty who phoned 911.

The San Diego County Sheriff released a statement describing what deputies found. “Christena Potter stabbed her husband in the chest with a steak knife after an argument at their home.” There is bodycam footage from deputies. “The victim was awake and alert when deputies arrived.” The Sheriff stated: “He was transported to the hospital for a non-life threatening wound to his chest.” Apparently, deputies were not that impressed with the steak knife still protruding from Rusty, but a doctor later said the knife was three inches deep into his torso and just one inch from his heart.

Rusty, 44, wisely chose to leave the steak knife in place and wait for hospital personnel to remove it,

continued on page 22



Not all trash lives in trailers.

UNDER THE RADAR

Downward trend *The Los Angeles Times*, owned by billionaire physician **Patrick Soon-Shiong**, is accelerating its not-so-stealthy

creep into the editorial content of the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, also purchased by the pharmaceutical magnet last year as part of his \$500 million-plus *Times* acquisition deal. The top of the *U-T*’s January 5 sports page was graced with what was labeled a “guest column” by *Times* sports writer **Helene Elliott** in praise of the Chargers, who departed San Diego for L.A. and environs after locals refused to come up with a tax-subsidized stadium. “Their confidence and assurance built as they shrugged off losing two of their first three games and pulled off victories in hostile settings in Cleveland, Seattle, Pittsburgh, and Kansas City,” noted Elliott.

Then there was the page-one January 8 story about plans for a new roller coaster at SeaWorld, over which appeared the byline of L.A.’s **Brady McDonald**. A “senior producer for *latimes.com*, working on home page production, special projects, and website design,” per the *Times* website, McDonald also “writes the Funland theme park blog for The *Times*’ Travel section, covering the latest trends and newest rides at major parks around the world.” The byline of longtime *U-T* local tourism reporter **Lori Weisberg** was tucked under McDonald’s.

Meanwhile, a memo from *Times* deputy managing editor **Sewell Chan** has revealed that online traffic to the paper’s website generated by Google, Facebook, and similar sites, has been rapidly evaporating. “We are working on several fronts to try to reverse this trend. We’re auditing our technology and reviewing our use of live blogs. (More on this soon.)” says the January 7 missive, posted by L.A. *Observed*.

Pithiness, not depth, is the key, advises Chan. “Search engines and social shares only display 60 characters before cutting off. Aim for a head-

line count no longer than 85 characters. With few exceptions, headlines need to get shorter.

We have too many two-sentence headlines; they should be the exception, not the standard.”

More self-referencing web links are also desired. “This is critical: No story should go to the copy desk without at least two or three inline links to relevant *Los Angeles Times* content,” writes Chan. “We are taking urgent steps to rebuild our audience and acquire digital subscriptions to support our investments in journalism. We’re grateful for your help and cooperation.”

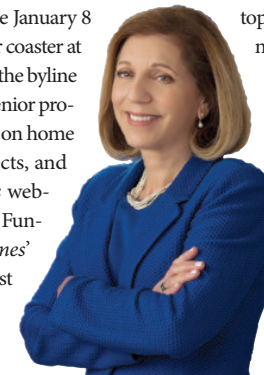
No word on whether the *U-T* will follow similar practices. The *Times* website has fallen into 61st place among the world’s newspapers, as ranked by *SimilarWeb.com*. The *U-T* is also down, coming in at 350. By comparison, the *New York Times* is fifth, with the *Washington Post* places ninth. The top online paper in the world is Britain’s mid-market *Daily Mail*.

Political money or bust

Add another liberal Democrat to the growing list of city council hopefuls setting up fundraising committees more than a year out from the March 2020 primary. Latest to join the money-seeking scrum is attorney **Will Moore**, who filed a January 7 declaration of candidacy for District 1. The coveted La Jolla seat is being vacated by Democrat **Barbara Bry**, who’s declared her intent to run for mayor that year to term-out Republican incumbent



Sign of the times: an LA Times reporter wrote this *U-T* story about a San Diego institution.



Barbara Bry: “Really? You want my council seat? Please!”



Irwin Jacobs is smiling because, for some reason, he seems to be in charge of Balboa Park now.

Kevin Faulconer. Filings show Moore’s campaign treasurer is **Stephanie D Sanchez**. She also oversees the electoral funds of two other Democratic council candidates, Scripps Ranch High School alumna **Marni von Wilpert**, seeking the Fifth District seat of term-out Republican **Mark Kersey**, and gun control supporter

Wendy Wheatcroft, running for the Seventh District seat currently held by **Scott Sherman**... Port

continued on page 22

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LETTERS

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

Homelessly mental

Hey John Kitchin ("Not laziness, not mental illness, not alcoholism, and not mental illness," Letters, December 12), I have been living in San Diego, CA at least 10 yrs now. I have to write this comment to let you know that myself and many others in America (I am sure) are grateful for editorial people like you. Your finding on mental illness, alcohol and homelessness is very refreshing to see because you are shedding lights for San Diegans, as well as Americans to read and aware and support this cause. As Americans we need to fix, support the Americans with mental, alcohol homelessness first, this issue I believe should always be discussed, and talked until there is a change. We need to care about this problem because I think the problems at home (as in the country) should be constantly worked on first, regardless of what is going on in the outside world of America. Someone has to give light to this mentally homeless issue, and you did just that. I have to say you did a superb job on writing about this mentally homeless letter and it is to the point, and long enough for everyone to read in a few minutes and be informed. Great job.

Chinh
Mira Mesa

Risky crossing

We have a crisis of denial in San Diego when it comes to admitting that most of us drive like crazy ("Torrey Pines Road - 'so damn dangerous,'" Neighborhood News, December 14). I just turned 65 and feel like I'm 20 attributing my youth to not owning a car most of my

life. I will admit however that I splurged on leasing a Smart Car for two since the rebates were well over \$6000.00 For the better part of my life, I have participated in triathlon often training on San Diego roads having to tolerate mostly fat and hostile men driving oversized trucks in their twenties hurling every sort of epithet imaginable. So having returned from my second home in France a few weeks ago where riots occur almost daily over working conditions, I'm reminded that unlike the barbaric drivers in San Diego, I have never heard quite frankly of road rage and the routine killing of cyclists and pedestrians in Normandy. Ladies and gentlemen, we are sick. Yes, my fellow San Diegans, I repeat, we are sick! Before you comment consider that I remain one of few humans on the planet as a million mile club member having walked, run, swam and cycled one million miles in my lifetime and yes, I follow all traffic rules yet on a daily basis most of you try to kill me.

Daniel Joseph
Smiechowski
Bay Ho

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

"Why do we keep building in Mission Valley?"

Cover Stories

January 9

That flooded section of parking lot and the adjacent dip crossing where the river flows across the road heading west has been doing that for decades without much problem: when it gets too wet they put up some "road closed" signs, open the fence on the downstream side of the road, and it's good to go. No one's house is flooded, the shopping mall itself stays dry, but every time it rains too much, the TV news operations have to send someone down to Fashion Valley to report on this - it helps if they send a cub reporter who doesn't know it's no big deal.

—Bob_Hudson

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

ESCONDIDO

Wobbly Diablo gets schooled Brass knucklehead tags teacher instead of learning lesson

On January 7, Escondido police officer Steve



PHOTO BY EVA KNOTT

Listen up, kids—detective says he tried to get Ramirez to stop hanging with gangs “when he was younger.”

Higgins testified in San Diego Superior Court that he was called to Orange Glen High School in the early afternoon of Tuesday, December 18. The officer said he spoke to one teacher, a man in his mid-50s, who reported that two non-students had come onto their campus that day as classes were ending. This teacher said he went to get campus security to assist him in escorting the two strangers off campus. But, the teacher said, a fight developed and one of the strangers used brass knuckles to strike him on the side of his face. Later, Officer Higgins spoke to a student witness on the phone, who told him that he heard the strangers say, “Where are you from?” and one yelled out “Diablo gang!” before the teacher was struck.

Escondido police officer Aaron Reber also testified, and said that he interviewed a campus security officer, who told him that he heard “He’s got a weapon!” which caused him to get between one intruder and the teacher. Another security officer arrived on scene and both security personnel were on the ground struggling with one of the intruders when the first security officer got kicked in the head. Security personnel were able to keep one suspect on the ground until police arrived, at which time the second security officer told police that he heard gang statements, including “Diablos!” and “That’s why we beat up your homies, this is Diablos!”

Escondido police officer Huy Quyach testified that he arrived on scene about 3 pm. He said he found a set of brass knuckles a few feet from where assault suspect Leonel Ramirez was being detained. “They are made out of a hard material, and used as a striking instrument.” Quyach said this particular brass knuckle set included a knife, although the blade was not exposed when Quyach first saw it. Officer Quyach reviewed surveillance video and was able to identify the second intruder as Jesus R., a juvenile. Quyach said he saw a third suspect come out of a black car which had pulled up at the school; a person got out of the back seat of that car and ran through the main gate of the school toward the melee. This “long-haired” person kicked the head of one security guard who was on the ground.

Leonel Ramirez, 18, was arrested by Escondido police. Ramirez had just turned 18 years old, five months prior to the incident. He is described in jail records as 5 feet 4 inches tall and 180 pounds. He remains in custody in lieu of \$160,000 bail. Ramirez pleads not-guilty to four felonies, including assaults with a deadly weapon with gang allegations. This is a “strike” case. Ramirez is accused of possessing metal knuckles as one of the felony charges. This crime is described as a “wobbler,” meaning it can be a felony or misdemeanor; the penalty ranges from one year in County jail as a misdemeanor, or three years in State prison as a felony. Metal knuckles are found under the heading of “deadly weapons” in the penal code.

Escondido police officer Nicholas Rodello, a gang detective for 7 years, testified as a gang expert. He told a judge that he is familiar with the Diablos. He said a gangster will yell out “Diablos” to give recognition to the gang, to intimidate witnesses, and to show that he is “putting out work; you are going out on a mission to commit a crime.” Officer Rodello said he was familiar with defendant Leonel Ramirez: “Yes, he is a member of the street gang Diablos. I have personally contacted him



Escondido Police Headquarters.

several times, and tried when he was younger to get him to stop hanging out with the gangs.” Rodello said that juvenile suspect Jesus R. is



No fixing this bicycle chain.

also a member of the Diablos street gang.

Judge Carlos Armour ordered Ramirez to answer all charges and come back to court on February 24 to confirm a date for trial.

EVA KNOTT

ON TWO WHEELS

Performance Bicycle fails to perform

And Edison owner has some bright ideas about why

The retail apocalypse has caught up with the bike business. All of the Performance Bicycle shops in the United States are in the midst of store-closing sales. The San Diego region had six stores between Chula Vista

debt that the company owed Advanced Sports International at the time. “If Performance had failed then, [we] would have failed. So, we would have been in this same position but two years ago,” Cunnane said.

Luis Ibarra, the owner of Edison Cycle Co., operates local brick-and-mortar bike shops in Pacific Beach, Poway, and Del Sur. Even though Performance had six shops in the region, he doesn’t feel that was too large of an imprint for the area. “Spreading out is doable, if you do it right,” Ibarra said. “We have a few shops and it works for us. Ours are spread out a little further than theirs were, though. Bicycle Warehouse has six or seven locations in San Diego and, according to my

“Believe it or not, there’s a lot of demand for bike mechanics, because it’s a trade skill.”

and Oceanside; some have already shuttered.

Two years ago, Chapel Hill-based Performance Bicycle was purchased by the Philadelphia company Advanced Sports International. The acquisition seemed to make sense, as the Philly company owned Fuji and other brands that Performance stocked

at the time. The move also allowed them to sell Performance’s house-branded accessories in overseas markets. It then formed a new company, Advanced Sports Enterprises, to handle the Performance Shops. While the new company’s online bike sales remained steady, their retail acquisitions lost money. According to an article in the bicycle trade publication *Bicycle Retailer*, CEO Patrick Cunnane claimed that the company was set to run out of money in January. He also revealed that the purchase of Performance was driven by heavy

vendors, they’re pretty successful. They have a strong marketing presence and they don’t focus on price; they focus on service. They do well. I don’t think it had to do with that. It was the products that they offered and the customer service that were the major issues.”

Ibarra likes to visit his competitor’s stores to get a better grasp of their operations. He said that Performance seemed to suffer from a “price first, service second” model. He felt that the stores weren’t very presentable and that they suffered from long wait times in their service department. “If someone comes in for a tune-up, we strive for a 24-hour turnaround from when they drop it off. [Performance] might quote a week or ten days, and God forbid it’s a special-order part — it might take a few weeks. We place orders daily, so if we have a special-order part, there’s a good chance we’ll have it tomorrow. If we don’t need parts, we’ll just get working on the bikes right away — even if it means we have to keep someone overtime or come in early to get it done,” Ibarra said.

continued on page 8

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As for the general health of the retail bike business, Ibarra feels that it is chugging along just fine. While certain categories are struggling, sales of mountain bikes and electric bikes “have more than made up for those segments,” he said. He is moving forward with plans to open more local shops, but admits that times are tougher for other retailers. “There are some shops that are struggling, but they’re either shops like Performance, or the old-school mentality mom and pop shops that aren’t embracing technology through their point of sale systems. They’re not using social media as their primary marketing platform. They’re not sending out email communications. They’re not doing multi-channel sales. Our stores sell online on our website, as well as through third-parties such as Amazon. We do about 40% of our revenue through Amazon.com,” Ibarra said.

One bright spot, says Ibarra, is that the guys in the Performance service departments shouldn’t have too much trouble landing new gigs. “Believe it or not, there’s a lot of demand for bike mechanics, because it’s a trade skill and there just aren’t enough people training in jobs like that. So, it’s tough to hire mechanics. If someone even hints to me that they might be leaving to go work somewhere else, or I hear it through the grapevine that they might be looking, I do whatever I can in advance to try and save them. It’s a hard job to fill.”

DRYW KELTZ

ESCONDIDO

Batterer busted by bureaucracy Spanish-speaking sex offender misses appointment, catches additional charge

During a January 7 court hearing, Juan Vincente Dolorier, 33, pleaded not-guilty to one felony charge of failing to register as a sex offender. Dolorier has a conviction for Penal Code 243.4, which is sexual battery, described as touching intimate parts of another person



The dolorous Dolorier dithered to his detriment.

while that person is unlawfully restrained. He also has a prior case for failure to register as a sex offender, but that previous case is a misdemeanor.

Speaking on Dolorier’s behalf, public defender Dan Segura claimed that Dolorier did try to register as a sex offender, but there was confusion about what to do and when to do it. He said Dolorier made several attempts to register — by walking in the front doors of the Escondido police department — between November 13 and 19 of 2018. But Escondido police insist on an appointment, so Dolorier was given a slip of paper with a phone number on it and told to call and make an appointment. Segura also noted that offenders are forced to register at the convenience of the police department.

Escondido Police officer Teresa Ruiz testified that Dolorier failed to appear for one appointment on November 19 and again for a second appointment on November 26. A sex offender has five working days to register after being released from custody, and Dolorier was last released from custody on November 13, a prosecutor said. Defense attorney Segura told a judge, “We don’t know if he got a Spanish language advisal.”

Judge Carlos Armour ordered Dolorier back in court on February 4 to confirm a date for trial.

EVA KNOTT

OCEANSIDE

Police to policy, once again Keim just the latest to go from cop to councilman

Being tied to Oceanside Police can be a blessing if you want to become an Oceanside city councilman. It worked just fine for Jim Wood, who was elected to the city council in 2002 after three decades on the force. He became mayor two years later and was reelected mayor by huge margins in three subsequent elections. It also seemed to help former Oceanside cop Ryan Keim, who was unanimously selected by the four sitting councilmembers at the January 9 city council meeting to fill a two-year vacancy in the fifth seat.

Some 29 citizens applied for the appointment, but Keim was the only applicant to appear on all four councilmembers’ list of their top five choices. Jerry Kern, who recently stepped down after 12 years on the council to run (unsuccessfully) for a county supervisor seat, appeared on three councilmember lists. But the move to appoint Keim by councilwoman Sanchez was seconded and passed unanimously with little discussion and no dissent.

Keim was a lifeguard and then a uniformed Oceanside cop who worked in neighborhoods throughout the city. He is best known by city staff for his work with children in the Crown Heights and other challenged neighborhoods. “We helped with homework, played with them, and tried to keep them out of gangs,” says Keim.



Councilman Keim was on everybody’s wish list. But whither Witowich?

Keim obtained a disability retirement due to an injury in the field. He was later rehired by the police department as its public information officer. He left in 2016 to work as media relations director for the San Diego Sheriff’s department. He left that position in December 2017 to address the same injury.

Keim ran unsuccessfully for Oceanside city council in 2004. He lives in southeastern Oceanside with his wife and one child. Insiders note that the appointment of Keim would give him the incumbent’s edge should he run for the South Oceanside District 3 council seat in 2020. It would be the first time that voters in the newly created Districts 3 and 4 would vote for their own councilmember. District elections were phased in with District 1 and 2 elections last November. Since councilman Jack Feller voted for Keim, speculation is he will be running for mayor in 2020 and not

Mike Blessing as likely appointees. And the speedy process the council used to select its fifth member baffled some, who pointed out that the only vetting was done through one-on-one meetings between each councilmember and each candidate. Councilmembers admitted they did not get to speak to all candidates; in fact, Councilmember Rodriguez said at the meeting that scheduling conflicts prevented him from meeting with Keim.

At the same January 9 meeting, the council opted to select a new clerk through a public workshop wherein the candidates would be asked questions in an upcoming public forum setting. “The clerk gets more attention than the councilmember does,” remarked one unhappy would-be appointee.

KEN LEIGHTON

JULIAN

Privacy protocol preserves pride Anonymous give and take at the Blessing Box

In the corner of the parking lot at Wynola Pizza and Bistro in Julian stands one reason local residents in that mountain community of 4,000 will never have to go hungry: a Blessing Box. Resident Heather Rowell learned of the Blessing Box idea after it started up



“Take what you need; give what you can.”

for councilman in his own District 3. Keim says he has not decided if he will run in 2020.

The appointment of Keim surprised many in attendance at the January 9 meeting. When former Oceanside Chamber of Commerce President Kevin Witowich pulled out, handicappers mentioned the names of Kern, economic development commissioner Ward O’Doherty, or former deputy city manager

in Fayetteville, Arkansas two years ago. Neighbors could help neighbors with a community food pantry, anonymously. The idea works on the honor system; folks put food staples in, those in need take food out. She decided to act.

Harry and Sabina Horner, owners of the pizza place, offered their parking lot on High-

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BestBuys

— EVE KELLY

A commitment to exercise

New year, new me. I say that every year. In general, I've got the healthy eating down, but the older I get, the more I realize that changes to one's figure — the positive kind, anyway — require a commitment to exercise. I decided to try a Classpass so I could sample all kinds of different exercise classes around San Diego.

Classpass is a monthly fitness membership that allows you access to many different classes, studios, and gyms. It's a national program, but the price of a membership depends on the plan and the city. Members can book classes ranging from yoga to barre to cycling to martial arts. You manage your account either online or via an app on your phone; with it, you can search by map, list, zip code, or activity. And if you don't see the studio you're looking for, you can submit a partnership request. Classpass will reach out and see if they want to join the program.

My friend Gina told me about Classpass. "I love it because I can go to classes near my work or in my neighborhood. Since I work far away from where I live, I have a great variety of options. Being able to take different classes keeps my exercise routine fresh and it keeps me from getting lazy."

To use Classpass, you buy a plan, and that gives you a certain number of credits. Those credits allow you to take a certain number of classes; some classes will cost more credits than others, depending on the content and the studio. You can buy more credits if your routine demands it, or roll up to 10 unused credits to the next month's account cycle if you have trouble getting to the gym for a couple of weeks.

Classpass is operational in 50 cities already, so if you're traveling, you can use your credits to take exercise classes on the go. Here is an example of some of the pricing at home in San Diego: the \$39 per month plan will give you 21 credits, which allows you to book 3 to 4 classes; a \$59 per month plan will give you 33 credits, which allows you to book 4-6 classes; and the \$99 per month plan will give you 60 credits, which allows for 8 to 13 classes. (Classpass offers a free 30-day trial which includes 33 credits.) And of course, it wouldn't be an app without a social media aspect: Classpass allows you to check friends' schedules and plan classes together. And if you can't make it to a particular



1



2

"Being able to take different classes... keeps me from getting lazy."

class, there are still the 100 partner videos you can stream for an at-home workout.

I decided to use the occasion of my new digital exercise aid to find some different and funky exercise classes. I did some poking around, and Floating Yogis in Carlsbad piqued my interest. These yoga classes take place on stand-up paddle boards at Agua Hedionda Lagoon in Carlsbad. Each class caters to all levels of expertise/proficiency, even if you have never paddle boarded before.

Glide Training in Little Italy specializes in running form-coaching, and in sports-specific training for individual athletes. In other words, they can design courses around your specific needs. But they also offer more general classes for all levels, such as FAST as F**, a high-intensity class designed to burn calories; or TRX, a suspension training class that uses your body weight as the resistance.

Boxfit in North Park is a 60-minute guided non-contact boxing class that incorporates boxing techniques, shadowboxing, and heavy bag work, as well as one-on-one mitt work. (Even slug hubby Patrick sounded interested that one.)

At Sparkcycle in Liberty Station or La Jolla, you can get a full-body high-energy workout in 45 minutes by taking their instructor-led classes.

Pilates Fusion in Del Cerro limits its class size to only eight people and specializes in Pilates reformer/tower classes. These classes use a reformer machine that provide extra resistance and challenges as you go through the Pilates moves (as if they weren't challenging enough on their own).

And Studio Barre in Mission Hills offers classes in a musically driven dance studio environment. Barre workouts are an effective way to tone the tush and strengthen arms and legs, as well as improving your posture.

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Want to Get Away?

— Many citizens of the world are weary of the war and strife that seem to be consuming the news, and about 200,000 of them have already signed up to put it all in the rear-view mirror by becoming citizens of Asgardia. This coming-soon colony on the moon is led by Igor Ashurbeyli, a Russian engineer, computer scientist and businessman who was inaugurated as its leader on June 25 in Vienna. Asgardia's parliament plans to set up "space arks" with artificial gravity in the next 10 to 15 years, where

its projected 150 million citizens can live permanently, Reuters reports, and Ashurbeyli hopes settlement on the moon will be complete within 25 years. Asgardia is named after Asgard, a "world in the sky" in Norse mythology. Its leaders hope to attract a population from among the "most creative" in humanity, perhaps using "IQ tests," according to Ashurbeyli. Best of all: For the time being, becoming a citizen online is free.

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Twenty-eight silent but titanic struggles.

Young chessmen

It's a little after 7 pm on January 2nd, and the San Diego Chess Club is holding the club championship qualifying round in its mid-century Balboa Park digs along Sixth Avenue just north of Ivy. "May the force be with you and guide you in your game," says a dreadlocked middle-aged man to his younger opponent. Both began playing chess in the Navy. Besides them, there are three other blacks here, and three Asians, and two women. Twenty of the nearly 60 heads are gray or bald.



Andrew Wang

The first match to conclude — just a half-hour or so after starting — is between Andrew Wang (1983 rating) and James Harris (1351). "You only get mismatches like that in this tournament," says Chess Club Vice President Chuck Ensey. "But there's always an upset somewhere." Not here. "He blundered early

in the opening, and I started attacking," says Wang. "He pinned his bishop to his F7 pawn; he couldn't move it or else it would have been checkmate. I just pushed my E pawn and won the piece. After that, he let me attack too violently and had to give up his queen to defend. He was completely losing, so he resigned." The end was clear to both — Wang says he will think four to five moves ahead in average

"I meet with each of them once a week, and probably spend two hours a day on chess."

situations, and "calculate deeper" when he's figuring out if a particular sacrifice is worth it. Wang is 10; he started playing chess when he was in first grade. "There was a chess program in my local library in Carmel Mountain Ridge, and when I played my first game, I really liked it. I liked how the pieces moved."

While Andrew talks, fellow player Ming Lu enters the room. Ming Lu is listed at a 2184 rating on the tournament sheet, but online he's



"May the force be with you."

at 2217; he recently gained the title of National Master. He is 13, and currently rated #32 in the country in the under-14 bracket. He's bored, wants to go home, asks Andrew what he's going to do while they wait.

Lu and Wang share a pair of coaches. "My favorite coach is a Chinese International Master (2400 rating)," says Wang. "He's like me; we both really like attacking. Our games are really fun for tactics. My other coach plays solid and waits for the opponent to blunder. I meet with each of them once a week, and probably spend two hours a day on chess." The solid coach, the one Wang says Lu plays like, "lets me choose some games to review. My Chinese coach gives me puzzles, tactical exercises where you try to find if there's a combination of moves you can use. You try to solve them, and also to find out how you can use them in your own games."

Ming Lu asks, "Andrew, you do puzzles for him?"

"Yeah, don't you get them too?"

"I don't get them any more; I stopped like a

month ago. He says I'm too good for them now. Now he just makes me practice, and he's like, 'You have no homework,' and I'm like, 'Yay.'"

"Oh," says Wang.

The gosh-darned Götterdämmerung

Like more than a few members of my generation, I had Orson Welles' cinematic masterpiece *Citizen Kane* "spoiled" for me by Charles Schulz's *Peanuts* comic strip. (A sign that I'm getting old: I feel the need to give some detail surrounding *Peanuts*, in case some youngster happens upon this text and hasn't heard of Good ol' Charlie Brown & Co. You know, because *A Charlie Brown Christmas* notwithstanding, *Peanuts* made its cultural mark via newspapers, and who knows what they are any more? And if I need to give detail on *Peanuts*, then I definitely need to give some on *Kane*, which isn't even on Netflix.) Lucy happens upon Linus as he watches *Kane* on TV, and lets him know that "Rosebud was his sled." Linus howls in anguish, and the rest of us howl right along with him — even if it isn't until years later, when we

finally see the film in question.

That's just one of many instances when comedy has led me to culture through the back door, so that I know the funny reference before the serious referent. David Frye's *Richard Nixon*:



Crows in the Crown of Bones.

A *Fantasy* comedy album introduced me to Truman Capote and his interest in criminal life long before I'd ever heard of Capote's non-fiction novel *In Cold Blood*. (Upon arriving in prison, Nixon meets Capote, who cheerfully informs the ex-President, "I'm not in for anything; I volunteered!") And I only recently discovered the humor in novelist Evelyn Waugh's use of "Change and decay in all around I see" as the darkly gleeful declaration of a ruined *paterfamilias* in *Boot*. I read that twenty years before learning that it's part of a hymn: *Change and decay in all around I see/ O Thou who changest not, abide with me*.

I think about that grumpy old man more and more often these days, glaring and grinning as his world crumbles around him. There are lots of ways to tell that you're getting older — having to explain your cultural references is actually one of the less humiliating ones — but fewer that indicate that you've gotten *old*. Not just old as opposed to young, but old as opposed to new. When every change seems like a destruction instead of a development. When the impending end of your own personal world looks like the end of the world at large.

There's a tall pine tree visible from my office window, its graceful green conical-conifer outline topped with a weird flare of dead and dying branches. I call it the Crown of Bones. Of late, crows have been gathering in the Crown. I know it's only ravens — known collectively as an unkindness — that are considered birds of ill-omen, but it's hard to look upon that murder of crows and not think mortal thoughts.

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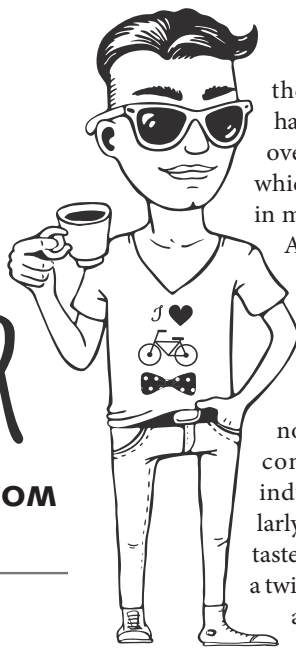
Dear Hipster:

I was visiting people in Chicago over the holiday season. As you may well know, Chicago has a rich tradition of eating hot dogs, and I saw “no ketchup” signs at each and every one of the several hot dog stands I visited with family and friends. I’ve since learned that Chicago famously hates ketchup on hot dogs. This hatred isn’t limited to urban midwesterners. In fact, it seems like everyone who bothers to have an opinion on the combination of ketchup and hot dogs comes down strongly on the side of hating ketchup. I have also noticed how these catsup crusaders all fit what you might call a distinctly hipster mold. I hate to be mean about it, but ninety-nine percent of the time, when I hear from somebody, either in the first person or through some remote means, about the evils

of ketchup, I think to myself, “now there’s a person who owns a Chemex coffee maker and has an ironic Harambe tattoo on his or her ankle.” I can reach only one conclusion: hipsters hate America’s favorite condiment. Tell me, why is it not cool to put ketchup on hot dogs?

— Derek

‘Tis true. The average hipster looks at ketchup on a hot dog the way your car mechanic looks at you when you say it’s been “only” 13,000 miles since you checked your oil. It isn’t just the ketchup/hot dog combo that draws the ire of various hipster bloggers, servers, and know-it-alls; ketchup takes heat left and right from the hipster set.



Many hipsters pin their ketchup (catsup?) hatred on the condiment’s overpowering sweetness, which buries subtle flavors in much the same way GG Allin buried his adoring fans in a warm admixture of blood and urine. A delicately spiced hot dog, some hipsters claim, is no match for the super concentrated flavor of industrial ketchup. Similarly, how can one hope to taste the delicate interior of a twice-fried potato beneath a thick layer of tangy, sugary ketchup?

For hipsters, this critique runs far beyond mere taste. Indeed, it cuts to the soul. As a metaphor, the overpowering nature of ketchup as a condiment serves to paint whatever it touches in a gooey coat of mainstream-colored food paint.

Hot dog? Tastes like ketchup now.

Grilled cheese sandwich? You can make that taste like ketchup too!

Slice of pizza? Nope. Sorry. Only ketchup.

Malcolm Gladwell famously wrote about how ketchup spans “the sensory spectrum” by effectively tasting like a little bit of everything human’s enjoy. It is a food calculated to titillate every taste bud, to scratch every itch, and to keep you com-

ing back for more. This is its strength, but, for hipsters, who prize individuality over just about everything, it is also its weakness. In some sense, pouring ketchup onto food tells the world the overzealous ketchup pourer is the kind of person who wears grey sweatpants every day by choice; the kind of person who prizes his print of Dogs Playing Poker as the height of artistic cleverness; the kind of person who listens to elevator music, and maybe a little Kenny G. when he’s feeling frisky.

Ketchup’s greatest sin is the sin of being boring, which in the hipster world is death.

— DJ Stevens



Hot dog? Tastes like ketchup now.

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My nerdy business model

Nikki, a Lemon Grove resident, makes money in not-so-orthodox methods. “I’ve had a few people come to me that have giant fetishes,” she says, “which is basically the idea of a giant woman stepping on, eating, or messing with very tiny people. Think [the movie] *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids*. Folks have contacted me to make photos like that, just in normal not revealing clothes. I have to say that I’ve done it, because it’s easy money even if it is a bit weird, and people inform me that they pleasure themselves to just my normal photos on the regular, so with something like that where I make some extra money and I’m still able to keep covered and not do anything sexual — I’m probably going to take them up on the offer.”

I get it sort of. Back in the 1990s, Baby Boomers and my fellow gen-xers doubted and mocked my “nerdy” business model, which ran on a 28,800 speed modem. To sustain myself while attending Mesa college in the mid-to-late 1990s, I bought and sold comics, toys, and Magic: the Gathering cards at the San Diego Comic Con and online. I embraced the world wide web, as we called the internet then, and began selling on the America Online (AOL) forums in 1996. I opened my first eBay account in 1997.

I did OK during those times until a few years later, when social network platforms like Friendster, Myspace, and hi5 became viral distractions for our online customers.

In 2006, I saw a major drop in my online sales and it

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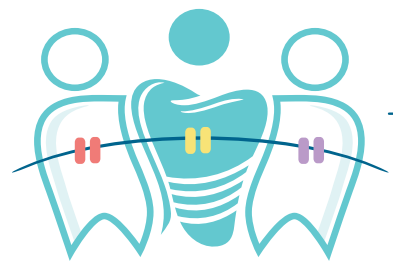
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worsened as the recession neared. Then in 2009, my online business picked up, but for other online-sellers that were hip to using their Twitter, YouTube, and Facebook accounts to draw customers back to their point of sale pages — their businesses “made bank.” Many of the new sellers-turned-brand owners who made oodles of money because of their social media savviness — are millennials, including: Khloe Kardashian, 34; Michelle Phan 31; and Amber Venz, 31. Then there’s post-millennial Kylie Jenner, who was born around the same time that I opened my first eBay account. Jenner, 21 is reportedly close to being a billionaire, due to the success of her Kylie Cosmetics line and brand endorsements.

According to the Pew Research Center, a nonpartisan fact tank that informs the public about the issues, attitudes, and trends shaping the world, “anyone born between 1981 and 1996 (ages 23 to 38 in 2019) will be considered a ‘Millennial,’ (Generation Y) and anyone born from 1997 onward will be part of a new generation (Generation Z).”

Since August, I’ve spoken to a few Generation Y-and-Z San Diegans who are utilizing online platforms and apps to market themselves and generate income in unorthodox manners.... as I did 20 years ago.

Twitter doesn’t suck

Nikki, 28, is a motion graphics artist-and-animator by trade; she’s also a professional cosplayer.

Cosplay — a combination of the words “costume” and “play” — is an

artistic activity in which the participants, called cosplayers, dress in (often self-made) costumes and accessories to mimic a specific character.

On Nikki’s Instagram photo gallery, where she goes by the Piggy Nukka moniker, she cosplays as a sexy version of Freddy Krueger from the *Nightmare of Elm Street* franchise, and as Chun Li from the *Street Fighter* video game series. She’s gained over 12,000 followers on Instagram, but prefers Twitter, where she has over 13,000 followers.

“Social media presence matters a lot, since it is basically free advertising,” she says. “Small creators like myself can’t afford to run ads. I’m very lucky that I was able to create a bit of a presence before a lot of the big name websites started cutting the reach of profiles.”

On December 18, 2018, she tweeted: “I hope Twitter never starts to suck like Facebook” — on which she has over 20,000 followers — “and Instagram, or I will perish.”

She says that on Twitter, her “reach isn’t drowned by algorithms” (unlike other platforms) — and she can direct potential clients to her personal email for paid commissions, or to her Patreon account to support her content.

Patreon is a point-of-sale/social-media website where fans can pledge monthly — via an attached credit card or online payment system like Paypal — to creators or artists, in exchange for rewards.

On Patreon, I found another female cosplayer from San Diego who offered a \$1000-per-month pledge package, which included in part:



Heather has 37 posts on Instagram. Most are photos of her in bikinis. The remainder are of her walking or posing on runways.

various prints and a large poster of herself (kissed and signed), access to a private Snapchat with her, a social media follow.... and a Google Hangout once a month. Hangout is a social and communication platform that “brings conversations to life with photos, emojis, and even group video calls for free.” She had nine patrons on her Patreon account, and when I emailed her with interview questions, she didn’t respond.

Nikki, on the other hand, returned my email after a couple of days.

As of December, Nikki makes \$547 per month on Patreon and has 139 patrons. She has a \$3-per-month package on the site, which includes: a full HD photoshoot pictorial sent via zip file, an animated cosplay GIF of herself, and access to exclusive and previous videos, commentaries, podcasts, and photoshoots.

Also for December, she offered \$10 and \$18 polaroids to her patrons which sold out immediately as indicated by the product counter within the ad.

ately as indicated by the product counter within the ad.

“Right now, I utilize my Patreon as a free blog for the majority of my content,” she says.

Nikki will usually post 8 to 12 photos from a photoshoot on her social media as teasers, while her subscribers get to see her full shoots, which will consist of 50-60 photos.

“This is a great way for people who are fans of my work to see everything at once and not have to wait or never get it,” she says. “I also throw in other goodies in the \$3 tier, like a chat server where people can converse with me regularly.”

Nikki states on her Patreon account that she refuses to do nude photos and NSFW content.

“NSFW stands for Not Safe for Work,” she says. “The definition of that can vary from person to person, but usually it means lewd or nude content that you might get in trouble for looking at during work hours.”

(On her Novem-

ber 29 shoot, which she called “Sweater Piggy,” she’s wearing a sweater and white stockings in the preview shot. Had I pledged the \$3 per month, I could have seen if she was wearing anything else. I wussed out. One female-looking Patreon member commented: “Gorgeous.” Nikki responded: “Totally was cozy. It worked out since I was able to balance my body heat by not wearing pants.)

“I still will be doing costumes that people may personally find sexy or show cleavage and leg, or even do a fashion shoot in something a little more revealing than the raggedy clothes I usually wear.

“With the rise of NSFW cosplayers, it’s becoming an assumption that every cosplayer does soft core or nude work as a secondary income. I get requests for revealing or fetish based photos multiple times on my accounts daily, most of which I ignore.”

Risky business

I found Fryda, a nude model from Rolando — on the Model Mayhem website.

Model Mayhem is said by many to be “the top” portfolio website for professional/amateur models, photographers, hair-and-makeup artists, and wardrobe specialists.

Fryda and I met in August at Stepping Stone of California, which used to be the Lestat’s coffee shop by the Normal Heights sign on Adams Avenue.

“Mike, I went to your profile and I saw that you joined Model Mayhem some years ago (2015),” she said. “You didn’t sound like you were trying to get something out of me when you

approached me.”

“But I did — I want your story,” I responded.

“It sounded like if you didn’t get it from me, you were totally fine,” she explained. “Then I went to go look at your work [online] and said to myself: ‘This is legit and he’s not bullshitting,’ and we are meeting in a public place [here at Lestat’s].”

Fryda doesn’t meet just anyone who reaches out to her — especially at night. “Initially, I don’t give them (photographers) my personal email or phone number right away,” she said. “I ask them: ‘What style are you looking to shoot; How many hours [will we shoot for] and what are you going to do with the photos?’ Then after they respond, if I want to pursue it: I’ll give them my email and maybe my phone number. This is a risky business and I prefer to talk on the phone before we meet up for the shoot, because it keeps me more comfortable. Then I’ll show up wherever I have to go: it could be at a hotel or a beach or wherever.”

Usually, Fryda charges \$100 per hour to model in full nude, implied nude, or with clothing. She requires a two-hour minimum.

“Modeling began as a job,” Fryda said. “Now, it’s like a passion, and I have a lot of fun with it. I’m literally on top of everything, like all my bills and now I can share everything with my family as well, because I’m able to show them a lot of things I wasn’t able to before. It feels really good as a woman, and I’m more confident than I’ve ever been in my entire life.” On the Model Mayhem website, her details are listed: age,

26; height, 5’2”; ethnicity, Hispanic; compensation: paid assignments only; shoots nudes, yes.

“There’s photographers that do want the erotic implied adult nudes and there’s other photographers that like the fine art nudes that are more tasteful.”

On Fryda’s online model portfolio, her ‘About Me’ section reads in part: “I do not work for free, but I enjoy any opportunity to create. For all work, I strongly suggest emailing me and including a link to your *Model Mayhem* page.... Traveling for me has become immensely substantial! I’m always going to prioritize paid travel, so let me know where you want to see me go!”

On the Model Mayhem site, various photographers commented on Fryda’s portfolio, stating that they wanted to work with her; she has also received nine verified credits since she opened the account in September 2017.

“[Verified credits] do impact my business,” Fryda said. “People can be straight up and comment: ‘She bailed on me like three times.’ That’s like a bad review — kind of like Yelp. People won’t want to book you if they see that. It takes a lot for you to get a bad review.”

Verified credits allow you and the person that you’ve worked with to leave a comment about how the collaboration transpired. All nine of Fryda’s credits contained positive assessments; one read in part: “Lovely, natural and enthusiastic model. Easy to pose, she has some great ideas and is comfortable in her own skin. No BS or prima donna attitudes at all.”

Fryda admits that some models abuse the

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photographer's hospitality and some don't even show up to their scheduled photoshoots. "[Many professional photographers] cater to us because they want you to feel comfortable, they offer you something to drink and eat the more comfortable we are, the better the photos will be."

Clothes sell faster on a model

As a photographer for a vintage clothing business and for alternative lifestyle magazines, I can understand how positive energy translates into photos — and then to potential sales. Sometimes, prior to shooting a vintage clothing collection, I post a casting call on the Model Mayhem website, detailing the dates and times I will be available, location, style

of photoshoot (catalog or editorial), and compensation (usually \$12.5-\$15 an hour). In my 20-plus years of selling online, I've noticed that clothing and accessories sell faster on a model, as opposed to when they are propped on a mannequin or hanger.

On November 5, I met with Carina, a 20-year-old San Diego State University student, to photograph some 1990s ugly sweaters and blouses created by the late Koos van den Akker, and miscellaneous accessories. I needed to post the items on the eBay and Etsy platforms in time for the Cyber Monday rush. We photographed at the same cafe where I met Fryda two months earlier, because of the natural light that enters during the daytime. Also, the variety of wall colors and



PHOTOGRAPH BY DONALD JONES

Fryda charges \$100 per hour to model in full nude, implied nude, or with clothing. She requires a two-hour minimum.

furniture upholstery textures would help frame the shots.

One article that Carina modeled was a cardigan sweater with a funky pattern reminiscent of the rayon shirts worn by Screech in the

Saved by the Bell sitcom; the other was a navy blue multimedia looking blouse with paisley patterns throughout. Both items sold on November 11 for \$100 and were shipped to United Kingdom.

"This project's fun," Carina said, "[and] different is always nice."

Unlike Nikki the cosplayer, neither Fryda nor Carina place too much emphasis on their Instagram accounts. Fryda has only five posts

and Carina has 21.

Carina said she likes to remain "low key" and that "showing off or getting too personal" on social media is not seen as likeable in her network of friends.

"I don't really care about the fame," Fryda said. "I care more about the experience."

Fryda knows that if she posted her semi-nude or implied-nude photos on Instagram "on the regular," she could build a serious following, maybe like San Diego model Julianne, who has 4.9 million followers on Instagram and was featured in the Reader in February 2018. Fryda's IG is on private mode, which means she has to approve your account before you can follow and see her posts.

She began model-

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ing around the summer of 2017 — shortly after she lost her San Diego job at a beauty supply shop, split up with her boyfriend of five years, and then flew out to Utah to stay with her relatives.

“In August (2017), I was looking for jobs in Salt Lake City, like at call centers,” she said. “Then I found these side jobs on Craigslist for quick money — like to model racy lingerie Halloween costumes.”

“It’s kind of weird right?” she laughed. “You figure I would’ve started modeling here in San Diego first.”

“Then I met [Bob] in Salt Lake City. We did a test photoshoot, and after that, he left back to Michigan, where he resides.”

Bob (his name has been changed for the

article) and Fryda kept in touch, and the two agreed that he’d manage her modeling gigs for a “ten percent cut.”

“I flew out to Michigan, and from there we were driving everywhere for model gigs,” Fryda said. “It was like a cross country road trip, and we would split the gas, hotel, and food. At first it was just me and him, then we met up with these two other girls. He would book my shoots, about three to four a week.”

Fryda said she was doing well on the road, but then things started to turn south when she noticed the other model and Bob giggling about “racist memes that they wouldn’t show me.”

“And then, I wasn’t able to see these emails between Bob and the photographers,” she

explained. “It was really shady to me, and it didn’t seem professional.”

Soon Bob started to act possessive and controlling toward Fryda. “I ended up leaving,” she says. “He was acting like a complete fucking asshole.” Fryda flew back to Salt Lake City, then eventually came back to San Diego.

“It kinda discouraged me, so I didn’t model for like a month,” she said. “Then I realized, ‘This [modeling] is a money-maker, and there’s no way I’m going to let this go. I made like \$20-\$30 thousand in the past five months. It’s still my first year, and I feel like I can do a lot better managing my money. I’m going to see a financial manager to help me with that.’”

Tricky runways

Certain models don’t mind if their responses are staged by others. Heather, a 19-year-old college student who messaged me on Model Mayhem in August, is one such. “Since most of it is contracted on what to post, when to post it, and what to say,” she said regarding her Instagram account, “it becomes extremely professional.”

Heather said she attends a California State University, but “I actually don’t name the [specific] school I attend for protection purposes. Due to having a high profile, I’ve had occurrences in the past that can interfere with my private life, so I don’t give that information out.”

Heather has 37 posts on Instagram. Most are photos of her in bikinis. The remainder are of

her walking or posing on runways.

“They (the companies that she represents) like to see that something even so personal to you can be controlled. It helps boost their sales and gives off the real-life touch of representation.”

A couple of months ago, she posted a photo of herself wearing an aqua floppy hat with a matching bikini top, and a tie-dye looking bikini bottom, and captioned it: “Freckles and a colorful coral kini, what more could a girl want (flower emoji).”

“Posting an ad with me in it is one thing,” she said, “but having me actually say: ‘HEY I LOVE THIS BRAND’ genuinely is another.”

“I am currently represented by Agent Inc., a small agency. [Through

an] app on my phone, I can update my portfolio, change my stats, apply to jobs sent to me by my agent, and work for bigger and better [projects].”

“How important,” I ask, “is it for you to maintain gigs, living in San Diego?”

“Without maintaining my gigs I would lose most of my stability,” she responded, “as this is a huge source of my income for bills, college, and my basic necessities such as food.... I charge \$35 per hour and have a \$250 day rate.... I am well-rounded now as a model, and although the gigs I’m doing are still building my portfolio, I no longer need to collaborate or do ‘time for photo’ gigs to learn what I’m doing.”

‘Time for photo’ or ‘TFP’ is a popular

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term or acronym in the modeling business which means the photographer will provide his or her service for free if the model is willing to work for free. Many in the industry do TFPs to build their portfolios; some TFP collaborations will consist of a whole team, including a wardrobe specialist, a hair-and-make-up artist, a videographer, a post-production editor, multiple models, photographers, and venue managers.

"I gained that experience over the course of a few years of not charging," Heather said. "[Now,] for all print and commercial modeling, I have the same rate."

Runway modeling, however, "can be a bit tricky," she explains. "It really depends on



Primee (left) with hip hop artist Mozzz

what fashion week I'm walking for, along with designers. I'm actually flown to places a lot, and depending on what they can cover — such as hotel, flight, transportation, and food expenses — my actual compensation rate can change. So I may only

make \$70 from actually walking on the runway; however, I've had \$2000 of expenses paid for, and I've walked in one of the top fashion shows. So it evens out."

On Heather's Instagram, she and three others (and their behind-the-scenes crew) were

tagged to be on the cover of the January 2019 issue of *Confidence Magazine*. On her Twitter feed, she pinned photos of herself walking on the runways of the 2018 New York Fashion Week in September.

"My social media presence is extremely important, and I take pride in that," she said. "It really is a huge source of my income, because that's the number one thing clients look at nowadays besides your body. In the short run, it's almost everything I do to make money; in the long run, my degree will be what maintains me."

I had to ask if she'd pose in our "ugly sweaters," because besides Carina, models who I reached out to on Model Mayhem site never responded.

"HAHA, I would absolutely love to shoot in ugly sweaters," Heather said. "That fits my fun personality in a great way. I would charge you guys \$50-\$100 for that [photoshoot], just because of the drive time and the actual shoot."

Pepper spray

Freelance modeling can be dangerous: in 2013, a Fox News report headlined "Women's group hires detective to probe case of missing Colorado models" posted photos of two of the missing teens and captioned it: "Raven Furlong (l.) and Kara Nichols (r.) are both aspiring models with profiles on *ModelMayhem.com* and may have been abducted by a predator using the site."

Internet Brands (which owns and oper-

ates *ModelMayhem.com*) spokesman Joe Ewaskiw was reported to have said in part in a written statement to Fox News: "While our policy is to fully cooperate with authorities if approached for assistance in an investigation, Model Mayhem has not been contacted by police authorities regarding either of the three recent disappearances in Colorado."

"Model Mayhem strongly believes that safety should be top of mind when doing anything online. The site offers detailed safety advice to help members understand what to look for when they are contacted by others."

"This is risky business," said Fryda. "I've got somebody always on call, I have my location on (on the cellphone),

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*Other criteria will apply.

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and I always tell somebody where I'm going to be at. I tell them: 'This shoot's gonna be two hours or four hours, and if you don't hear from me by [say] 10:30, it's too long.' And I always have pepper spray on me."

"It is an extremely rough business," Heather said, "although the pictures and experiences are amazing, and I find them well worth it. It's not a job for just anyone."

Heather plans on walking at the "RAW San Diego presents: Reflect" event held at the House of Blues on January 19. "RAW showcases indie talent in visual art, film, fashion & accessories design, music, performance art, beauty, and photography," says the website.

"It takes a lot of strength and individual-

ity to know who you are," she said. "To any other [prospective] models out there: research, learn, know modeling and the industry like the back of your hand, and make sure your confidence is high before going into any castings."

What about male millennials?

I reached out to a few San Diego-based males from the millennial and post-millennial sects, but most did not respond.

One automotive-based brand owner said: "I hate talking on the phone" and declined to be in the article; another brand owner "clowned on me" and said: "IDFWU bloggers." (IDFWU is an acronym for "I don't fuck with you.")

I did connect with Primee, now 27. He's

promoted San Diego hip-hop events since he was 17 — with rappers Drake, 2 Chainz, Waka Flocka Flame, YG and Mozzy — at AD Nightclub, On Broadway, The Observatory and Jolt'n Joes.

Primee's got a silent partner who helps finance the events while Primee handles the promotions with his multiple Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter accounts, and also some of the backend stuff.

"We look into what artists are coming to town, or we see what venues are interested in what artists, and we reach out to them — my partner's been doing it for way longer than me," he said. I spoke with Primee on the phone in September; two months earlier, he had promoted

the Suga Free rap concert at Diamond Jim's in Chula Vista.

At the Suga Free event, a VIP booth and bottle was priced at \$250.00; a table and champagne at \$75; and general admission was \$20.

"We find out if the venue has any nights available, and if we wanna do it our-

selves — we do it ourselves," he said. "Or if they are looking for the talent, we reach out to the talent."

According to a 2014 *Complex* article titled: "How Much Does It Cost to Book Your Favorite Rapper?" 2 Chainz cost \$85,000 and Drake cost \$350,000-\$600,000 to book. Primee, his partner, and others collabed

and brought both to San Diego.

"We negotiate. Some artists don't have the pull they do in other cities compared to San Diego because San Diego's way different. They catch on too late. Like you can't ask 'What you are getting in the east coast or down south' over here in San Diego."

— Mike Madriaga

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Naughty nurse

continued from page 3

because he feared that he would bleed to death if the knife was removed.

Officers did not find the alleged stabber, “Christena Potter left the scene before deputies arrived.” The following day, Christena showed up with her private defense attorney at the Sheriff’s station in Vista. She was booked into jail on suspicion of attempted murder, and held without bail until her first court appearance on May 23, 2018.

Christena, 46, was charged with three felonies: attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, and

corporal injury to spouse. At her arraignment a judge set bail at \$125,000. She paid a fee of \$12,500 to All Aces Bail Bonds and she was at liberty the next day.

Although there is plenty of evidence, prosecutor Marnie Layon was hampered, because the victim declined to cooperate. The prosecutor said victim Rusty is not willing to testify, he refused to okay release of his medical records from Palomar Hospital, and declared that he will invoke his Fifth Amendment rights if he is subpoenaed to testify.

Two months after the steak knife was removed, in July 2018, Rusty spoke to a judge. He requested that the stay-away order protecting

him from Christena be modified to “no negative contact.” But the prosecutor expressed “grave fear” for his safety and she opposed that request; the judge kept the protective order as a “stay-away.”

Marnie Layon remarked on the record, that the DA’s office did not file charges after the earlier, butter-knife incident, in March 2017.

Criminal things

Five months after she was arrested for attempted murder, on November 6, 2018, Christena Potter took a plea deal that was offered to her: she would admit to felony corporal injury to a co-habitant and personally using a deadly weapon. The plea deal paperwork stated that

she could get as many as five years in prison. However, on the day of her sentencing, December 11, 2018, the judge “suspended” any prison time. Judge K. Michael Kirkman ordered Christena Potter into three years formal probation. He also ordered that she should never possess any alcohol, and to participate in a 52-week “batterer’s program,” as part of her probation conditions.

Christena Potter’s attorney, Herbert Weston, declared that she was a “responsible person” except when alcohol caused her “to do irresponsible and criminal things.”

Judge Kirkman commented that “She is fortunate the victim survived all of this.”

Christena Potter is now 47 years old, and continues to be at liberty. Her attorney said she intends to get her nursing license reinstated. ■

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Commission chairman **Rafael Castellanos**, whose bitter 2016 battle with attorney **Gil Cabrera** over who should be city attorney ended with losses for both men and the election of fellow Democrat **Mara Elliott**, is running for county supervisor to replace term-out Republican **Greg Cox** in 2020.

Jacobs rules Final bids for contractors hoping to grab a piece of the massive parking garage and road makeover of Balboa Park masterminded by La Jolla billionaire Democrat **Irwin Jacobs** are due January 18, per word from city hall. That’s nine days later than previously posted, with no explanation for the delay. Whether Jacobs and friends will ante up sufficient cash to cover the massive public layout to stage the controversial project has yet to be announced... An outfit calling

itself San Diego Voters’ Voice registered itself as political fundraising committee with the city clerk’s office on January 3, to sponsor a “New initiative for the City of San Diego: ‘San Diego Democracy Dollars.’” Per a November 17 announcement on the League of Women Voters website last year, the measure aims to create “a new form of public financing of elections, in which candidates must abide by reasonable spending limits and political campaigns enhance political equality for all citizens, ensure maximum participation by citizens in the political process, and enable candidates to compete equitably for public office. It also includes transparency and accountability.”

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

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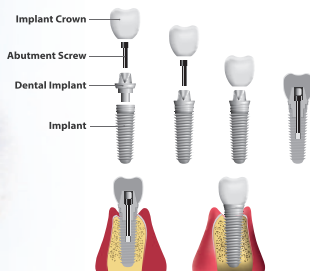
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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

in Xian (\$880), the White Swan in Guangdong Sheng (\$1500), the Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel in Tianjin (\$1000), and the Renaissance Beijing Capital Hotel (\$2000). In August, the campaign fund picked up a \$509 tab for a “lunch with Chinese Delegation (6),” along with gifts including a “picture book & medallions for delegation,” the disclosure says. San Diego’s East West Travel and Tours was paid \$6796 for “Inter-Asian Airfare.” Other committee expenditures included \$5000 paid the Cohn Restaurant Group and \$2500 to MSI Meeting Services for a “retirement celebration.”

“Roberts is a longtime San Diego sports aficionado who promoted neighborhood youth baseball parks, so the retirement event’s Padres theme — complete with the Padres Friar — was a fitting send-off,” wrote *Union-Tribune* columnist Diane Bell of the December party. “Instead of autographing programs or cocktail napkins, Roberts signed baseballs.”

“After more than three decades in public office, Ron Roberts never took a photo while holding a drink,”

Matt Awbrey, top media aide to fellow Republican Kevin Faulconer, was quoted by Bell as saying. “I’m honored I could be there the night the streak ended.”

During his sixth and final term as supervisor, Roberts has been quietly spending down the remnants of his reelection fund, mostly on China junkets with staff, previous disclosures have shown. In 2016 the campaign fund paid for \$10,327 worth of Japan Airlines tickets to Tokyo and China for “candidate and staff” to take a May and June “Legislative Trip for Expanding Business, Tourism, and Academic Trade Opportunities.” Also on that journey, \$400 was spent for “China Trip Visas for Candidate and staff,” along with \$195 for travel insurance.

During the first half of 2018, the campaign checkbook spent \$18,764 which included \$15,609 for an April junket to China and Vietnam with an aide, staying Hotel Nikko Saigon (\$1240) and the Novotel Danang Premier Han River (\$1080). Airfare on China Eastern Airlines was \$13,289.

Political cash hasn’t been the only source of funds for the wayfaring supervisor. In 2016, Roberts ventured

to the Middle Kingdom “at the invitation and sponsorship of the Shanghai Minhang District Government for meetings with Chinese government and industry leaders,” according to a gift report. The \$6702 freebie included “business class airfare of \$4602; hotel stays amounting to \$2100; [and] Meals provided.”

An earlier 2014 trip worth \$6700 “regarding opportunities for relations between the district and the San Diego County region, and presentations by San Diego area industry sectors including communications, transportation, health care, and life sciences,” was paid for by the governor of Shanghai, according to a personal financial disclosure report filed by Roberts.

Over the years, the Roberts campaign fund raised hundreds of thousands of dollars from an assortment of manufacturers, lobbyists, and real estate titans, providing the outgoing supervisor not only travel benefits, but \$1153 for an iPhone from the Apple Store in 2016, and \$2558 paid to Bertrand at Mister A’s to host a “Visiting China Delegation Dinner” that October.

Even before the current trade war launched by

president Donald Trump, Chinese ties have long proved controversial for Roberts, whose key campaign backers included David Du and other principals of Vista’s DDH Enterprise, Inc., which bills itself on its website as a “Turnkey Contract Manufacturer of Cable, Wire Harness & Mechanical Assemblies,” with a factory in China.

Most recently, Roberts has sung the praises of Shanghai pharmaceutical giant WuXi AppTec, making a play for more U.S. assets. “Having a leading global organization like WuXi significantly invest in San Diego highlights the value of international partnerships, the county’s place on the Pacific Rim and our region’s longstanding support of the life sciences community,” the supervisor said in a December 10 news release by the company announcing expansion of its San Diego drug division. “I especially applaud the company’s vision that ‘every drug can be made, and every disease can be treated.’”

Matt Potter

Unmuffled roar

Locals make noise about not being allowed to make noise
Some San Diegans are up



in arms about the California exhaust ticketing bill that was signed into law by Jerry Brown in June and went into effect on January 1. “Does that mean I have to pay \$1000 if I get pulled over for my exhaust system?” asked Jay, a Skyline resident and import-car racer. “Now I have to find a stock exhaust system and then reinstall it on my car, and that complete system with original pipes, mufflers and resonators is going to be hard to find.”

On January 8, I spoke to Officer Sanchez from the California Highway Patrol and asked about the alleged \$1000 exhaust ticket that Jay and dozens of San Diegans spoke about online. “All this law did was make a fine mandatory, as opposed to correctible,” Sanchez said. “So when these tickets were \$1000 before, people weren’t paying because they were fixing their car, [and]

now they are saying: “You got to fix your car and you have to pay a fine.”

Auto and motorcycle enthusiasts from San Diego County questioned the legal limits on noise from their exhaust systems; some posted questions, statements, memes and emojis (mostly middle fingers) — on Instagram, Reddit, and Facebook. A few San Diegans saw and responded to a January 2 California Highway Patrol (Antelope Valley) Facebook post. The post contained photos of motorcycles and automobiles with extremely large and multiple muffler setups and captioned the post: “If you feel your vehicle is grossly negligent in this area — removing resonators, deleting mufflers, etc. You know who you are. Don’t waste your hard-earned money on this violation.”

A few days later, the CHP post that had over 2800

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shares, 2000 reactions (many which were angry and crying faces) and 2300 comments. It was then deleted.

Tony from Jack's Muffler in North Park says the Antelope Valley CHPs accused too well. "Customers ask me to remove the mufflers and resonators," he said, "and ask me to install a muffler delete or a straight pipe," he said. He added that mufflers and resonators act as a sound deadeners in the exhaust system – think of "yelling through a pillow. That's a good thing. I hate those loud motorcycles late at night and early in the morning."

According to the AAA website: in California, "A noise limit of 92 decibels

(dBA) applies to any motorcycle manufactured before 1970. A noise limit of 88 decibels applies to motorcycles manufactured after 1969 and before 1973; 86 decibels applies to motorcycles manufactured after 1972 and before 1975; 83 decibels applies to motorcycles manufactured after 1974 and before 1986; 80 decibels applies to motorcycles manufactured after 1985. Motorcycles registered in the state that are manufactured on or after 2013 or have an aftermarket exhaust system manufactured on or after 2013 must have the federal EPA noise emission label affixed to it in order to be operated, used, or parked in the state."

According to the California vehicle code: "For the purposes of exhaust systems installed on motor vehicles with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating of less than 6000 pounds, other than motorcycles, a sound level of 95 dbA or less, when tested in accordance with Society of Automotive Engineers Standard J1169 May 1998, complies with this section. Motor vehicle exhaust systems or parts thereof include, but are not limited to, non-original exhaust equipment."

"So how are they going to measure the sound from our exhaust systems?" import racer Jay wondered.

"There's not an officer that carries a decibel moni-

tor," Sanchez said, "What officers in most cases do is they will articulate where they were [and] how far away they were. 'If I'm 50 feet away and my windows are closed and I can hear your vehicle...' Just based on those circumstances, that's probably going to be too loud. That's how an officer would testify, or [probably] why they cited that specific section."

I told Jay about the decibel noise meters that can be downloaded onto our smartphones for free. "But see if the judge will buy that [decibel reading] when you fight your ticket," he said. "How [expletive] loud is 95 [dBA], dude?"

According to the Califor-

nia Department of Transportation website, an activated food blender at about three feet emits about 95 dBA, which is the noise limit for vehicles weighing less than 6000 lbs.; a diesel truck that's 50 feet away driven at 50 mph emits about 80 dBA, which is the legal threshold for motorcycles manufactured after 1985. "If you disagree with the officer and don't believe you are in violation of the law," Sanchez said, "that's when you go to traffic court, and that's where it should be argued. If an officer issues a citation, it doesn't mean that that's the fine you have to pay. If you go to court it's up to a judge to make that determination

on whether the fine should be imposed or not. Nothing is concrete."

On January 10, Specialty Equipment Market Association posted information in regards to the exhaust bill which reads in part: "According to the Judicial Council of California's Uniform Bail and Penalty Schedules for 2019, the suggested base fine/fee for a first conviction is \$25, with a total fee of \$193. Consumers in receipt of a ticket still have the option of seeking a certificate of compliance from the California Bureau of Automotive Repair demonstrating that their exhaust emits no more than 95 decibels."

Mike Madriaga

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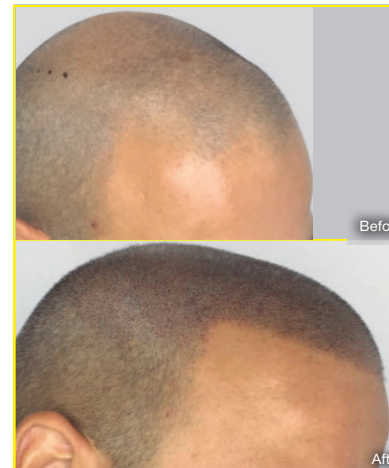
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

way 78 west of town as a location for the box. The Julian-Cuyamaca Fire Department's Battalion Chief Mike Van Bobber got his department to help assemble and install it. The department's firefighters hold food drives and fundraising dinners. Local high school students, who need service hours, show up occasionally to reorganize the box's

can 'steal' something that's free. If they take it, they need it." The only time the cupboard almost went bare was during a three-day power outage throughout town. "We were down to a few bags of beans. But its never been empty," she said.

There are some guidelines – no medicines, alcohol, knives, or clothes. The bottom shelf allows for sharing of books. There is also an unwritten protocol. If someone's already at the box, you shouldn't approach. That way, anonymity endures: you don't

"She doesn't have a kitchen, but the local gas station lets her heat up food in their microwave."

food shelves. Currently, there are no businesses giving funds to purchase food. When those who live in Julian go down the hill to Ramona or El Cajon for major grocery shopping, they'll buy a little extra for the box. "The community totally owns this," said Rowell. When the box blew over in a hard wind, or hinges broke, the news was posted on the box's Facebook page. "Someone will just fix it," she said.

know if the person is leaving or taking. Rowell says the food that goes over best is the pre-packaged, microwaveable sort. A woman she knows of lives in her truck with three kids. "She doesn't have a kitchen, but the local gas station lets her heat up food in their microwave."

"There were haters in the beginning," Rowell said. What if someone steals everything, some asked? "It's free food. Nobody

For the next fire department dinner fundraiser on January 20, attendees are asked bring food for the box. Meanwhile, Rowell is seeking a second Blessing Box in another part of town.

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 17

LEONARDO: EMERGENCE OF REALISM



How can we account for Leonardo da Vinci's genius in so many areas — engineering, mathematics, optics, geology, anatomy? Attentive parenting in a stimulating environment? Education (or lack thereof)? Genes? (Is it true his mother was a Middle Eastern slave?) Was he liberated by living on the margins of society, given the intellectual isolation created by a mind centuries ahead of its time and his homosexuality? This lecture series by art historian Linda Blair will attempt to place him within the context of the Renaissance, beginning with Giotto.

WHEN: Thursday, January 17, 7:30 pm
WHERE: Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall St, La Jolla. ljathenaeum.org

DR. MABUSE: THE GAMBLER

Screening of Fritz Lang's 1922 classic German silent film, *Dr. Mabuse: Der Spieler* (*Dr. Mabuse: The Gambler*). Dr. Mabuse is completing the theft of information that will allow huge profits on

the stock exchange. His next intended victim is millionaire Edgar Hull, upon whom he uses psychic manipulation to lure into a card game. When police commissioner Von Wenk begins his investigation into the mysterious crime spree, he has little to go on.

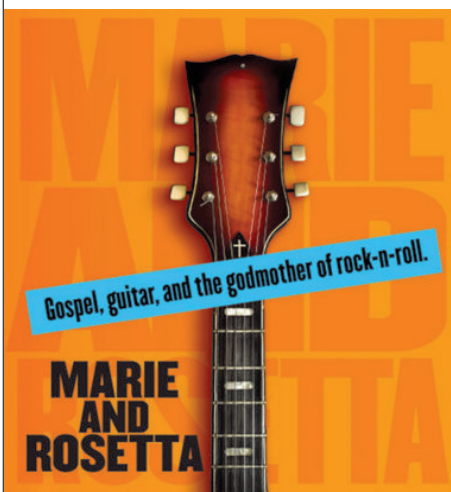
WHEN: Thursday, January 17, 6 pm to 8 pm
WHERE: Oceanside Library, 330 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. ci.oceanside.ca.us

Friday | 18

MARIE AND ROSETTA

On December 13, 2017, Sister Rosetta Tharpe became an inductee in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. The honor was overdue. Called “the original soul sister” and “the godmother of rock and roll,” Tharpe (1915-1973) sang gospel and played what today sounds like R&B guitar. She influenced Little Richard, Johnny Cash, Chuck Berry, and Elvis. *Marie and Rosetta* brings us to Tharpe's first rehearsal with young protégée Marie Knight.

WHEN: Fridays and Saturdays 8 pm, Sundays 7 pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 7:30 pm. Through February 16
WHERE: Cygnet Theatre, 4040 Twiggs Street, Old Town. cygnettheatre.com



THURSDAY, JANUARY 17: DR. MABUSE: THE GAMBLER

Sunday | 20

TU B'SHVAT FESTIVAL

Learn seven sacred species of trees, tour a “food forest”, and plant over



100 trees. *Tu B'Shvat* is Jewish holiday occurring on 15th day of Hebrew month of Shevat, called *Rosh HaShanah La'llanot* (literally “new year of the trees”). In Israel, it's celebrated as an ecological awareness day and trees are planted. Kids zone, live music, food vendors, yoga, and jewelry making included.

WHEN: Sunday, January 20, 10 am to 2 pm
WHERE: Coastal Roots Farm, 441 Saxony Road, Encinitas. coastalrootsfarm.org

Monday | 21

THE POSIES AT SODA BAR

They have four decades of sporadic gigging and recording to their credit,

but performances by Seattle alt-rock heroes The Posies have become scarce since the 2015 death of drummer Darius Minwalla and bassist Joe Skyward's death the following year. Around two years after the release of their last album, *Solid States*, founding duo Jon Auer and Ken Stringfellow

are back on the road, performing duo sets of Posies music.

WHEN: Monday, January 21, 8 pm
WHERE: Soda Bar, 615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights. sodabarmusic.com



San Diego Reader/January 17, 2019 27

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

PAMO VALLEY (SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK)

Explore this newly completed link on the Coast to Crest Trail.

Driving directions: (Ramona) From CA-67, go north on 7th Street for 0.2 mile. Turn right on Elm Street. Go 1.4 miles. Turn right on West Haverford Road. Go 0.1 mile. Turn left on Pamo Road and go 2.4 miles. Parking lot/staging area is on the left. **Hiking length:** 3.3 miles one-way. Allow 2 hours. **Difficulty:** Easy. Elevation gain/loss less than 100 feet. Hikers/walkers, mountain bikes, and equestrians allowed.



Walking along the newly developed trail. Inset: sign announces new trail segment

Pamo Valley is a beautiful, peaceful little valley that seems very isolated in spite of its closeness to nearby Ramona. Though you are within a few miles of town, you can no longer hear the sounds of the city, only an occasional car on Pamo Road.

The Pamo Valley section of the Coast to Crest Trail is slated to officially open on January 26, 2019. Contact the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority (www.SDRP.org) for details about this celebratory event. This organization was formed to conserve the natural habitat and to establish a trail in the San Dieguito River Valley that would extend

71 miles from Del Mar to Volcan Mountain. The multi-use trail is for hikers, bicyclists, and horseback riders. About 50 miles of the trail have been completed with this latest addition.

This has been a much-awaited section of the trail that will connect the currently existing Lower and Upper Santa Ysabel Truck Trails, for a total continuous trail section of about 12 miles. Up until the time that this Pamo Valley section opened, all trail users had to use Pamo Road for approximately 3 miles. The trail option described here is 3.3 miles, and starts at the north end of the Pamo

Valley section, where Upper Santa Ysabel Truck Trail and Pamo Road intersect. There is not extensive parking along the side of the road here, but parking and leaving a vehicle at the newly developed lot at the south end and carpooling minimizes the parking requirement at the north end. (Other option: you can do an out-and-back from the south end for 6.6 miles total.)

Starting at the north end then, walk up the Upper Santa Ysabel Truck Trail a short distance to the steel gate on the right side. From this gate, you can see the first of several bridges that have been constructed to make this trail easy to navigate. Note that there are several gates on this trail – please make sure the gates are closed behind you. As you proceed down the trail, you will be walking through grasslands that give a sense of openness. While the City of San Diego owns the majority of

continued on page 32

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

MLK Day camp for kids MLK Day Critter Camp gives kids the chance to meet a variety of amazing animals while learning why each critter deserves compassion. Through hands-on interactions, crafts, and activities, your child will discover how they can help to create a more humane world. Preschool (must be at least 4 years old): 9am-1pm, \$58.00 Kindergarten through 6th Grade: 9am-3pm, \$73.00 Feel free to call us at (858) 756-4117 x318 if you have any questions! Monday, January 21, 9am; \$58-\$73. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

BEER

Electric Waste Beer Red IPA Unwind with golf, beer, and live music by the Electric Waste Band. Sip on a limited release Electric Waste Beer Red IPA from Karl Strauss Brewing Company for \$7. Friday, January 18, 6pm; **free**. Loma Club, 2960 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Winter Glow Ball We're partnering with our friends at You & Yours Distilling Co. for a Glow Ball Tournament and Tasting. \$40 ticket includes a welcome cocktail, three canned cocktail tastings on course, glow gear, and more. Saturday, January 19, 5pm; **free**-\$40. 21 and up. Loma Club, 2960 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Black-on-White: A Personal Discovery The Lemon Grove Historical Society presents author Dolores Van Rensalier-Warren in a riveting account of her discovery of her African American forebears, including a black abolitionist, and her successful effort to preserve a key stop on the Underground Railroad in New Jersey. Book signing for her memoir, *Bridge Street to Freedom*. Saturday, January 19, 2pm; **free**. 18 and up. Lemon Grove Library, 3001 School Lane. (LEMON GROVE)

Community Divided/Humanity United Event The San Diego Center for Jewish Culture (CJC) is hosting David and Nic Sheff as part of the tour for their new book, *High: Everything You Want to Know About Drugs, Alcohol, and Addiction*. In their new book the father/son team provides education

on addiction geared towards all ages like how to navigate peer pressure, outlets for stress, and potential consequences for experimenting. Thursday, January 17, 7pm; **free**. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Douglas W. Mengers: San Diego Trolleys Starting with the first horse-drawn trolleys introduced by the San Diego Streetcar Company in 1886, San Diego's history includes the growth and decline of several transportation systems. Our speaker, Douglas W. Mengers, is a San Diego-based historian and archaeologist specializing in historical archaeology, the history of infrastructure and population growth of Southern California, and the history of the San Diego trolley suburbs. Saturday, January 19, 11am; **free**. Santee Historical Society & Museum, 9200 Magnolia Avenue. (SANTEE)

Karen Thompson Walker: The Dreamers Warwick's will host Karen Thompson Walker as she discusses and signs her new book, "The Dreamers." This event is free and open to the public. Reserved seating is available when the book is pre-ordered from Warwick's for the event. Only books purchased from Warwick's will be signed. Thursday, January 17, 7:30pm; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Mickey Brent: Broad Awakening This is an opportunity to meet local, multicultural author, Mickey Brent. This public literary event is hosted by L'HOOQ/Exrealism Bookstore in Carlsbad. Mickey Brent is a multicultural author and creative writing teacher. She spent nearly two decades living in Europe and writes quirky stories about Europeans, their diverse cultures, languages, and lifestyles. Saturday, January 19, 7pm; **free**. Lhoq/Exrealism, 755 1/2 Carlsbad Village Dr. (CARLSBAD)

Steven Pinker: Enlightenment Now Adventures By The Book is bringing Steven Pinker, New York Times bestselling author of *The Blank Slate* and *How the Mind Works*. Mr. Pinker will be presenting from his latest book, *Enlightenment Now* (A book Bill Gates describes as "My new favorite book of all time.") Thursday, January 17, 7pm; \$27. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

4 Week LGBTQ Salsa Series Join me for our next LGBTQ Community Dance Series where we'll be learning NY and Puerto Rican style Salsa and Cuban dances. This class is for members of the LGBTQ community with any level of dance background. Thursday, January 17, 7pm; \$40. Coriography, 1795 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

A Lunch with No Waste As a travelling Personal Chef I have seen crazy amounts of food waste. Join me for this first class with a wonder-

ful winter menu. We will be cooking together and then eating a healthy waste-free lunch. Sunday, January 20, 9:30am; \$75. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

Body-Heart-Mind Meditation Learn how to recognize your Heart's capacity to offer clarity and discernment to living your highest and brightest in the world today. Sunday, January 20, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Cannabis Navigator: An Interactive Help Desk This workshop is ideal for those who are just starting out or those experimenting, but needing to fine-tune the use for better results. Thursday, January 17, 5:30pm; \$15. 18 and up. One Minute Cannabis, 3041 Industry St., Suite B. (OCEANSIDE)

Comma Sense: A Fundamental Guide to Punctuation Are you confounded by commas, addled by apostrophes, and uneasy about quotation marks? Do you believe that a bracket is a just support for a wall shelf, a dash is something you make for the bathroom, and a colon and semicolon are large and small intestines? If so, Richard Lederer's presentation of the rules of punctuation is the class for you. Sunday, January 20, 10am; \$30-\$36. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Consciousness Expansion with Sound & Meditation Teresa's joyful presence is a blessing. Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss of meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound. Thursday, January 17, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Drop In & Write Drop-In Writing-From-Prompt Session - Bring your pen and a notebook to an hour of writerly fun. Includes prompt(s), time to write, and time to share. Prompts vary and might include visual media, short phrases, and more. Saturday, January 19, 12pm; **free**. 18 and up. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Gluten Free Bread Baking This class is custom designed specifically for a gluten free diet. You will learn baking techniques easy to master to bake delicious bread even without wheat and gluten. Saturday, January 19, 10am; \$65. Modern Maker Market, 140 South Juniper. (ESCONDIDO)

Harbor Seal Pupping Season Presentation Harbor seal pupping season program with video, slideshow, and lecture provided by a former Acting Executive Director of La Jolla Friends of the Seals and film award winner. Saturday, January 19, 1pm; **free**. Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Hawaiian Hula Workshops Join us for one or more of our sessions and celebrations. Truly a Hawaiian Renaissance man in his own right, he is known for being a bold catalyst of authentic hula training and the perpetuation of hula traditions in the mainland USA. Friday, January 18, 6pm; Saturday, January 19, 9am;

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE LIGA DE MUJERES

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

\$150 Entry Fee PerTeam/EntradaporEquipo

COED & 35+
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YOUTH LEAGUE LIGA DE NINOS

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Friday/Viemes	Friday/Viemes
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11v11
Sunday /Domingo

Entry Fee Per Team/Entrada por Equipo
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Tierra Santa Rec Center ...and more

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Sunday, January 20, 9am; free-\$50. San Marcos Community Center, 3 Civic Center Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

High Tech Fair The High Tech Fair is a FREE event for both families and students and allows those who are interested in a scientific career the opportunity to speak with representatives from local STEM businesses. These representatives come from a variety of scientific sectors, including: Aerospace/Defense, Biotech, Energy/Sustainability, Higher Education, Environmental Science, Technology Thursday, January 17, 5pm; free. Balboa Park Activity Center, 2145 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Hombrew Kombucha Hands On Workshop Why pay \$4 a pint for kombucha? Learn how to do it Yourself in this workshop! This class will cover how to make it safely at home, including secondary flavoring. Saturday, January 19, 10:30am; \$50. Homebrewer, 2911 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

Inner Engineering Total Inner Engineering is a method, a tool to engineer a deep and lasting personal transformation. It is a combination of methods and technologies derived from the ancient science of yoga. It is a comprehensive system addressing every aspect of human wellbeing – from body, mind and emotion to the fundamental life energy within us. Thursday, January 17, 6:30pm; Friday, January 18, 6:30pm; Saturday, January 19, 6:30pm; Sunday, January 20, 5:30pm; Institute of the Americas, UCSD, 10111 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Learn to Play the Gong Workshop This one-day introduction workshop will bring the gongs and their high vibrations into your world of experience. Saturday, January 19, 10am; \$250. Teri Wilder Healing Sanctuary, 2525 Camino del Rio South, Ste. 265. (MISSION VALLEY)

Love, Bliss, + Cannabis

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY THE TASTY HIGH WAY!

Try something new this year and spend your Valentine's Day in bliss.

Bring your sweetheart to Misfit Gallery in La Jolla for an infused evening of gourmet delights sure to take your relationship to a higher level.



Love, Bliss + Cannabis tickets are on sale now at: www.tastyhighchef.com

Macrame Plant Hanger Come join us to learn how to make your very own Macrame Plant holder. These are a perfect addition to any home or patio. Admission includes step-by-step instructions, all the supplies and a 6" pot for your plant. Sunday, January 20, 1:30pm; \$35. Culture Brewing Company Solana Beach, 111 South Cedros Avenue Suite 200. (SOLANA BEACH)

Macrame Wall Hanging We will have all the supplies ready to make your personal macrame creation including hoops, rope, beads, feathers, and other embellishments. Ticket also includes a draft beer of your choice. Thursday, January 17, 6:30pm; \$40. Embarcadero Brewing, 340 West 26th Street Suite D. (NATIONAL CITY)

Master Composter Course 5-Week Class Minimize your carbon footprint by keeping food and yard waste out of the landfill, helping reduce harmful methane gas emissions. Use this "waste" to create a nutrient rich amendment for your garden. Course includes lectures, demonstrations, and a field trip. Master Composter certification requires attendance of all 5 classes, as well as 30 volunteer hours of related community service. Sunday, January 20, 10am; \$50. 18 and up. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Microscope Party: All Ages Bio Tech Workshop You are invited to an afternoon of microscopic fun at the library. Bring your own specimens from the backyard, beach, or anywhere else and we'll provide a variety of microscopes. All ages, no sign-up necessary. Saturday, January 19, 3pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Nature Self-Portraits: Big Science for Little People Make self-portraits using leaves, sticks, rocks, and other materials found in nature. Best for ages 3-5. Part of the monthly Big Science for Little People series. Friday, January 18, 10am; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Poetry Unmasked: Dare to Bare It On the Page Why write about sex? Why share your stories beyond the pages of your journal? We will use the anthology, Unmasked: Women Write About Sex and Intimacy After Fifty as a source of inspiration. This is a show-up, write, and share class; we will look at excerpts from the anthology and write together. Saturday, January 19, 10am; \$30-\$36. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Remodeling & New Build Seminar Lunch will be served. Popular with San Diego homeowners for many years, our seminar is designed for people considering a major project, such as a new home, whole home remodel, addition, kitchen, outdoor living space, or bathroom. Saturday, January 19, 10am; free. Jackson Design and Remodeling, 4797 Mercury Street. (KEARNY MESA)

What Every Consumer Needs to Know About CBD This workshop covers the basics of Cannabidiol (CBD) including what it is

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Michele Battiste

Ways in Which I Let the Coffee Grow Cold (Summer 2018)

I smell smoke
A mass graveyard of gnats beneath the cracked window
The neighbor's puppy nips with fierce, needled teeth
I contemplate modifiers
A sticky patch on the kitchen floor—ignored for two days—grows dark and liny
\$67 in credit on a thrifting app
The dream about the death of a neighbor child and my son stuck in his house
I fall asleep in the one comfortable chair when I'm not supposed to
The smoke from a distant wildfire
Dimmed and dirty orange sunlight (modifiers)
My social obligations have become untenable
Seriously, the watermelon has been sitting there, uncut, for two weeks
Once my mother asked me well what the hell do you do with your time
Worry how much it costs to replace windows
The smoke is thicker than it should be
Every single article about the 45th president of these United States, 30 of them burning
The West won't stop burning and much of the landscape suffers from exceptional
drought, a clear indication of the present and future catastrophic impacts of a changing climate
My child's chances in a post-apocalyptic wasteland three decades out
His child's chances of not being eaten
The laundry in the hamper will wrinkle if I do not fold it soon

Why Feel Guilty Reading Fantasy

Enough with all this re-inventing the world as if the sound of gravel beneath boots isn't enough, or an orange buoy at low tide, bulk containers of various gummies, a dry twig's snap in a dark and threatening forest, the space station, plasma, Legoland, salt. Wish

for elsewhere or anywhere but here, and history grows thinner and thinner beneath the heave and wrench of our wanting. You get what you get and you don't throw a fit is what many mothers besides mine have said. Mine will just shoot me a look that writes a bible of curses across my brow. It is the same

shade a god throws at the whole first world to shut up our whining. *Stop pinning for the field of poppies. You've got your alfalfa. Now figure out how to grow it sustainably, prevent a catastrophic water shortage, store some carbon, and ditch the guns.*



Michele Battiste is the author of three books of poems, including *Waiting for the Wreck to Burn*, which won the 2018 Louise Bogan Award from Trio House Press and will be published in early 2019. Michele lives

in Colorado, where she raises funds to save the planet. www.michelebattiste.net

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

and why it is helpful for so many conditions. Saturday, January 19, 11am; \$19. 18 and up. One Minute Cannabist, 3041 Industry St., Suite B. (OCEANSIDE)

COMEDY

Adam Hunter and Adam Jacobo The bill includes NYC-native Adam Hunter, a finalist on season 6 of Last Comic Standing who has appeared on Chelsea Lately, The Late Late Show and The Tonight Show; touring comedian Adam Jacobo; and Andy Kern, a featured comedian on various Comedy Central and VH1 TV shows. Thursday, January 17, 8pm; \$10-\$35. 21 and up. Club M, 5200 Grand Del Mar Way. (DEL MAR)

Atlas Wrestling Main Event: Donnie Suarez vs Mariachi Loco Singles Matches: Arik Cannon vs Rocket Boy Zicky Dice vs Levi Shapiro Koto Hiro vs Biagio Crescenzo Bryn Thorne vs Leslie Iris Boyce LeGrande w/Lucian D. Light vs Daniel Torch Robert Hall vs Matt Twizted Tag Team Match: Bad Boys w/Lucian D. light vs Skeleton Crew Saturday, January 19, 6pm; free. Heartland Masonic Lodge, 695 Ballantyne Street. (EL CAJON)

Comedy Heights Thursdays, 7:30pm; through Thursday, April 11, 21 and up. Midnight Jack Brew-

ing Company & Echo Room, 3801 Oceanic Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Pablo Francisco Pablo is one of the most popular touring comedians worldwide. He has earned a reputation for his unique talent to weave together his one of a kind arsenal of off the wall characters and spot-on impressions. Thursday, January 17, 8pm; Friday, January 18, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, January 19, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10-\$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tom Gun Live An Interactive Homage to Tom Cruise. Sunday, January 20, 7pm; \$27-\$52. 21 and up. Music Box, 1337 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

DANCE

Bellydance Showcase Our first live music belly dance showcase of the year will feature dancers Ami, Angelina, Janaia and Raine, with live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble. Thursday, January 17, 7:30pm; \$5. Greek Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Making Dance: The Future Starts Now The San Diego Symphony's annual January Festival returns in its fourth year entitled, Hearing the Future. Throughout the festival, which runs January 9 -

27, 2019, the organization explores and celebrates the power of music and art to give voice to the evolution and revolutions in the world at large. Saturday, January 19, 7pm; \$20-\$25. IDEA1, 899 Park Boulevard. (BANKERS HILL)

Roger Anderson Chorale: Dancing In The Dark Joined by dancers from the Get Down/Pick Up Dance Company, directed by Emily Miller and accompanied by the Grossmont String Quintet, the Chorale performs music with complex harmonies and rhythms from composers throughout the world. Saturday, January 19, 7pm; Sunday, January 20, 2pm; free. White Box Theater, 2590 Truxtun Rd., Studio 205, Building 176. (LIBERTY STATION)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Adult Evening Book Club 3rd Floor Rotunda Conference Room. No fee. See below for the scheduled meeting dates and books being read. New members are always welcome, and no reservation is required. Most book club selections are available in libraries or through online booksellers used or in paperback. Jan. 17: Memento Park by Mark Sarvas A personal memoir by an Hungarian Jewish artist centering on Art as a restorative for the soul. Thursday, January 17, 7pm;

free. 21 and up. Congregation Beth Israel, 9001 Towne Centre Drive. (LA JOLLA)

End-of-Life Helpers Hemlock Society of San Diego invites you to a presentation on End of Life Helpers: Death Doulas, Geriatric Care Managers, and Patient Advocates Providing services to patients and families at the end of life is a growing industry. Ample free parking and free program, although donations are cheerfully accepted. Sunday, January 20, 1:30pm; free. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

San Diego Travel & Adventure Show The San Diego Travel & Adventure Show will feature presentations by travel experts and celebrity travel personalities, offering guests a wealth of knowledge regarding tech travel hacks and much more. Saturday, January 19, 10am; Sunday, January 20, 11am; \$11-\$22. San Diego Convention Center, 111 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Women Marches Panel Discussion Join the Women's Museum for a panel discussion on the impact women organized protests have had on the history of the United States and how to turn one day into a movement that changes policy and society. Thursday, January 17, 5pm; \$15. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

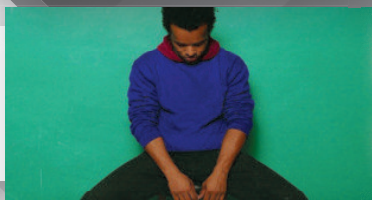
WIN A GIFT CARD



Win a \$100 gift card to Blanco Tacos & Tequila in Fashion Valley.

Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 21 at 1pm

WIN TICKETS



Win a pair of tickets to see Cautious Clay at House of Blues.

Deadline to Enter: Monday, January 21 at 1pm

WIN TICKETS



Win a pair of tickets to see KISS at Viejas Arena.

Deadline to Enter: Thursday, January 31 at 1pm

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Pomerado Christian Church

Contact: 12708 Stone Canyon Rd, Poway 858-487-7312 www.pomerado.com

Membership: 100 (Attendance: 150)

Pastor: J.P. Charfauros

Age: 34

Born: Santa Clara

Formation: Azusa Pacific University

Years Ordained: 1 (12 years pastoral experience)

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

Pastor J.P. Charfauros: The power of God to change lives. God can take the darkest moments or situations in our lives, bring a light to them, and in that way helps us to be a light to other people. For example, I was depressed and suicidal in junior high through

high school, and I would never wish that on anyone, but through it, God called me into a new life, and to share that story and help other students... In the same way that he took the darkness in my life to help me be a light to other people, he takes the darkest day of history, Good Friday, and makes it the brightest and most incredible moment of all history on Resurrection Sunday – Easter.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PC: We're here to help people far from God come near to God, to have eternal life with God. As John 17:3 talks about, its not just when we die, but knowing

God the Father through the Son whom he sent in Jesus. In our mission, we want others plugged into the people and purpose of the church. We recognize that we are not perfect people, but people changed by God to make a change in the world. We are also called to be witnesses to who God is, what He's done, and how He loves. Plugged in. Changed by. Called to. PCC. That's our initials, which helps us remember our mission.

SDR: Where's the strangest place you found God?

PC: I found God working in the Mother Teresa homes in Calcutta about 13 years ago. It's tough finding God when you're ministering to some-

one who doesn't speak the same language as you do and can't understand everything you're saying. Sometimes all you can do is provide care – such as massaging the arms of a man who was among the untouchables, the lowest caste of the Hindu system. That's what made Mother Teresa so amazing – she brought care and love to the poorest of the poor and lowest of the low. She provided a home for the dying and had that hands-and-feet-of-Jesus experience of caring for people in those moments when love is beyond words, the same love Jesus expressed to us by washing our feet after the Last Supper. By getting outside our comfort zone, we



J.P. Charfauros

too can become the hands and feet of Jesus.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PC: If we believe with our hearts and confess with our mouths that Jesus is Lord, then we have eternal fellowship and relationship with him in heaven. If we reject or push against that belief,

there is hell and punishment and unfortunately, as Paul says in Philippians 3, we should all recognize that hell is real but we should do so with tears. It breaks our hearts that people don't know Jesus. So faith is not a matter of fire and brimstone, but rather if you care enough about someone, you want to share the reality and truth with them. And so Jesus is the way – the only way – the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him. We're not a fire-and-brimstone church, though; we're a speaking-truth-in-love church.

– Joseph O'Brien

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

FOR KIDS

Children's Patio Garden Project

We're looking for outdoor enthusiasts to assist with a special project to revamp a section of the Children's Garden. Garden Volunteers are needed to help install new plantings and mulch. Experience with gardening is an asset, but not mandatory. Training and supplies will be provided by the library. Sunday, January 20, 12:30pm; **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Disney's Newsies Jr. 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 four-time 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." Saturday, January 19, 8pm; Sunday, January 20, 1pm and 4:30pm; \$17-\$25. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Dungeons & Dragons Session Join us as we complete one full D&D Adventure from the Fifth Edition at this session. Beginners welcome. Bring your own character or choose one that we've created. Saturday, January 19, 5pm; **free**. Barnes and Noble - Bookstar/Loma Theatre, 3150 Rosecrans Place. (POINT LOMA)

North Coast Symphony: Carnival of the Animals The North Coast Symphony Orchestra chamber music players will present Carnival of the Animals and Septet for

piano, trumpet and strings, both by Camille Saint-Saëns. Saturday, January 19, 2pm; **free**. Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

LECTURES

Chicano Park & Its Amazing Murals Marty Rosen, Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA), will discuss the history of Chicano Park and the restoration of about 20 of the park's murals by the original artists. Saturday, January 19, 1:30pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Gordon Carrier: The Stadium Site Plan The city and SDSU now have the task of negotiating terms for the transfer of the property,

so there will be months of planning and environmental review before the roadmap is adopted. Come participate in 2019's first public discussion of the year on this highly anticipated project. Come early for coffee. Admission is \$5, but students are free. No reservations needed. Entrance is on Park Avenue. Saturday, January 19, 9:30am; **free**-\$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Leonardo: Emergence of Realism, Giotto The Renaissance is not a gentle easing from one century to another, as history usually is, but a radical departure—humanism overtakes medieval piety, otherworldliness retreats before materialism, and spirituality bows to worldly concerns. Thursday, January 17, 7:30pm; Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Remodeling Trends for 2019 Whether you want to enlarge your home, add a granny flat, create an open floor plan, or just update your outdated kitchen or bath, join us as we explain the remodeling process, the benefits of utilizing an interior designer, how to ensure a return on your investment if you do sell and much more. Saturday, January 19, 10:30am; **free**. Marrokal Design & Remodeling, 9474 Kearny Villa Road. (MIRA MESA)

Trolley to The Beach Please join Ocean Beach Historical Society as we kick off our 25th year. Trolley to the Beach is the story of the old Point Loma Railroad and the San Diego Electric Railway. It is a fun story with many great visuals, but the underlying theme is that dependable electric streetcar service allowed people to live in the Beach Communities and other outlying neighborhoods of San Diego. Thursday, January

17, 7pm; **free**. Water's Edge Faith Community, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

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 19, 9:30am; Sunday, January 20, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Bird Walk Join MTRP birders Jeanne Raimond and Millie Basden for a guided bird walk in the Grasslands and Spring Canyon area of the park. Hungry hawks and Coastal Sage Scrub birds that frequent this part of the park may be spotted. Meet at the north end of the large dirt parking lot near the trail head. Saturday, January 19, 8am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park East Fortuna staging area, Mast Boulevard at SR-52. (SANTEE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Women's March San Diego

Thousands of San Diegans will join the third annual Women's March in San Diego to harness the political power of diverse women and their communities to create transformative social change. Saturday, January 19, 10am; Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

City Heights Health Fair

M.E.M.O. at UCSD is holding our annual Health Fair, a free event that is open to the public, and include representation from a wide variety of local health providers and mobile clinics. Saturday, January 19, 8:30am; **free**. Copley-Price Family YMCA, 4300 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Free Bootcamp & Balancing

Join us for a high energy morning of Bootcamp + a Balancing Yoga Flow to follow. We'll top off the morning with complimentary refreshments back as Sojourn. Grab your mat, water bottle and a friend and meet us in the park. Saturday, January 19, 10am; **free**. 18 and up. Sojourn Healing Collective, 2870 Fifth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Monster Jam

Monster Jam returns to tear through San Diego with a new level of high-flying, four-wheel excitement, featuring two larger-than-life Saturday events of high-octane racing and freestyle stunts. In addition, fans can come to the stadium early to enjoy the Monster Jam Pit Party pre-show experience which gives fans unparalleled access to view their favorite trucks up-close and meet the star drivers for autographs & photos. Saturday, January 19, 7pm; \$15-\$95. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Sharp HealthCare Blood Drive

Join Sharp HealthCare in fulfilling our pledge to collect 1,300 units of blood to support the San Diego community. All donors must show a photo ID. Individuals 16 years or older may donate; 16-year-olds require parental consent. Saturday, January 19, 8am; Sharp Corporate Office Auditorium, 8695 Spectrum Center Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

ROAM-○-RAMA

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land in Pamo Valley, it is being leased for grazing, so look out for cow pies on the trail! Numerous ground squirrel dens dot the area, which means you should be on the lookout for the many raptors that hunt in this type of landscape. Also, you may see signs of coyotes, rabbits, and snakes, among other wildlife.

Most of the plants in the grasslands are native and non-native grasses, with an occasional Coast Live oak providing shade. You will see clumps of California buckwheat, California fuchsia, and other natives alongside the trail.

After about 1.5 miles, the trail crosses to the west side of Pamo Road. Here you will get the first close-up views of the riparian zone along Temescal Creek, and if you are lucky, you may see some deer. Take your time to view the large old live oaks and sycamores, along with the numerous birds (scrub jays, acorn woodpeckers, and raptors, among many other smaller species) that make the riparian zone home. After a short distance, the trail comes back to Pamo Road at a creek crossing. The trail crosses a side creek on the road surface, so look out for

cars. Once across the creek, pick up the trail again on the left side of the road.

The southern end of the trail is a bit more hilly, although not particularly challenging, with several locations providing shade. There are numerous trail bridge crossings along this section. The habitats here are a mix of sage scrub, oak woodland, and grassland. Visit in the late winter and spring to get the best wildflower display. Also in this section, make sure to take in the view across the creek to the west. You will have a view of the Orasco Ridge, which is predominated by chaparral with a few monoliths pointing skyward.

Finally, the trail drops back down along another creek and comes back to Pamo Road. You will again use the road surface to cross Santa Ysabel Creek and come up on the right side of the road to arrive at the parking lot.

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

WATER FRONT

FIVE YEAR-OLD'S FIRST FISH: A TEN POUND HALIBUT

Dock Totals Jan 6 – Jan 12: 461 anglers aboard 29 half day to three day trips out of San Diego landings this past week caught 89 yellowtail, 3 white seabass, 1 bonito, 62 calico bass, 241 sand bass, 7 halibut, 884 rockfish, 48 whitefish, 4 lingcod, 392 sculpin, 15 blacksmith perch, 43 rubberlip seaperch, 2 triggerfish, 3 sargo, 1 blue shark (released), and 39 spiny lobster (243 released).



PHOTO CREDIT: DOLPHIN SPORTFISHING

"A nice winter white seabass caught on the Dolphin"

Saltwater: With the large surf pushed by inclement weather this past week, the angler count for the San Diego landings was predictably low. But those who got out on the water saw good fishing inshore and along the coast. Most of the boats that got out were half-day runs concentrating on bass, sculpin and rockfish, but the 1.5 day trips are now running and finding success along the Baja coast for yellowtail and rockfish. The New Lo-An returned on January 6 from their last 1.5 Baja Coastal trip with 67 yellowtail, 48 whitefish, and limits of 115 rockfish for the 23 anglers aboard.

Locally, sculpin, sand bass and calico bass have been biting well for anglers aboard half day runs, while halibut and a few white seabass have been coming over the rail. The Dolphin has recorded a few more halibut to add to their halibut derby running

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Boaters had a \$9.6 million surprise

When Ed Noonan returned to his Point Loma residence after Christmas vacation, he and his fellow boaters had a 9.6 million dollar surprise waiting at Shelter Island.

"We got to try out the new Shelter Island Boat Launch ramp on January 2," he said. "What a long wait — it was closed a lot longer than anticipated."

Noonan, owner of West Coast Yacht and Marine Services, said that after construction began in May of 2017, "All the marine related businesses in the area suffered as a result of the ramp being closed. I was using the Pepper Park ramp in National City for business and the Dana launch ramp in Mission Bay for my personal boat."

On December 21, the busiest ten-lane boat launch in California, with about 50,000 launches a year, reopened. "[It's] twice the capacity of the previous area," another boater said, "[with] a bigger ramp and three times the dock space."

Noonan agreed: "The biggest plus was the added dock space for boats to tie up to while retrieving the trailers, and there



"The biggest plus was the added dock space for boats to tie up."

is also more space to maneuver vessels in the basin."

According to the Port of San Diego, the ramp was in need of repairs "because of the corrosive and wearing actions of seawater and heavy use by boaters. Also... the boat launch has been experiencing congestion and delays when boats launch at the facility."

Noonan's been in business since 2001;

he doesn't think the boat launch needed that much work. "I personally liked the ramp the way it was and felt it didn't need anything done to it other than some new docks and restroom improvements," he said. "To me, it wasn't worth the lost time without the ramp. All that being said, I do believe they did a fine job. And in the long term, it will really benefit the community."

— Mike Madriaga

In those days, we didn't have a leash

NAME: INGE MORTON

AGE: 80

FROM: CORONADO

LOCATION: TOURMALINE SURF PARK

Inge Morton was walking to the showers carrying her board on her head when we stopped to chat. "I've been surfing here for 25 years, but I started in the '60s in Brazil. I'm from Rio."

Morton isn't looking to stop surfing, despite her age difference with other surfers. "I definitely think it's a great sport for people who are older. It makes me happy for the rest of the day."

"I try to time myself for only one hour, but of course, sometimes I stay longer, and then I feel it the rest of the day," Morton laughs. "And I don't go after every wave; I go when everyone else has gone. I'm not in a hurry; there's always the next wave."

Morton's biggest wipeout happened in



Inge Morton- "I've been surfing here for 25 years, but I started in the '60s in Brazil."

Brazil. "One time, when I was beginning in the '60s, my friend said, 'Today's not a good day to go out,' but I was young and reckless, and I said, 'Oh, of course it is,' and I went out. A huge set came. In those days

we didn't have a leash. I left the board and the waves came one after the other.

"I had a hard time coming up because of the amount of foam and I thought, 'Oh my

continued on page 59

WATER CONDITIONS

With the increased tide swing and head-high swell out of the west, there should be plenty of surge along the coast limiting visibility. It looks good Friday through Monday for the experienced surf crowd. Clean morning faces and the primary and secondary swells are predicted to be long-period. Dive conditions might clear up a bit by Tuesday. Lobster season is open now, so boaters should especially keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves and area appropriately.

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

SURFACE TEMPERATURE:

LOW **58**°F HIGH **60**°F

VISIBILITY **0'-10'**

HARBOR POLICE REPORT

Big surf means overturned PWC's, boats, and more surfers in distress

Dec 19

13:50 Boating: Report of an overturned vessel off the Sewage Treatment Plant. 20 ft. Parker with 3 persons on board and 20 gallons of fuel. 1Sam, 1 L, Rescue 5, Jet 1, Jet 2, and Federal Fire respond. Jet 1 makes initial rescue of victims. Rescue 5 tows vessel outside surf line and turns over to Tow Boat US for salvage. Rescue 5 transports victims to Dana Landing.

Dec 18

07:00 Swimmer: 911 call of surfer in distress at No Surf. 1Sam and crew make rescue at No Surf Beach. Rescue 5 makes second rescue on surfer in the area.

07:32 Boating: Casa requests rescue boat for a PWC in the surf doing step offs at Hospitals. Rescue 5 responds and issues citation.

11:03 Boating: Ocean Beach request rescue boat for 2 PWCs in the surf at Little Rock. Rescue 7, and Jet 1 respond. All persons on board accounted for. Operators issued citations at buoy line by R3.

14:04 Swimmer: 911 call of surfer in distress at Osprey Cove. Jet 1, Rescue West, and 1Sam respond.

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

Bruised by history

Sally Mann's vintage lenses make Antietam look still punished by the violence

The history of photography tracks the cultural history of childhood and the innocence we like to think abides there.

When the inventor of photography, Henry Fox Talbot, made images of his family in the 1840s, people hadn't yet developed the camera-ready selves that, in 21st-century Amer-

ica, even children develop very early. Between Fox Talbot's big, slow box camera and our own speed-freak smart Phones, photography has kept watch over, *pursued*, infancy and childhood. Fox Talbot's dressed-up children, dressed and posed as miniaturized adults, are stiff and a bit stuffy. In the 1890s, Julia Margaret Cameron depicted children as idealized emanations of time: softened, bemused, and aspirational. Images by Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) are proprietary, vaguely yearning, and treat children as nearly untouchable artifacts of time. Closer to our time came, in hopscotch order: Helen Levitt's hundreds of pictures of New York street kids inventing themselves and an ongoing theatricality; Ralph Meatyard's weirdly sinister rural pastorals of kids in oversized Halloween masks like shrunken, ominous adults; Robert Frank's shadowy views of children, especially his own,

as tender hostages to fortune; Diane Arbus's estranged and estranging presentations of young people as aloof as her adult subjects.

My hit-and-miss chronology leaves out practically every other serious photographer, including those nobody knows about, because they is just us. But my sampler of precedents streams behind the early work of Sally Mann, subject of a retrospective now at the Getty Center. Born in 1951 into a comfortable middle class Virginia family, Mann wanted to become a writer (and many years later, in 2015, published a canny, stylish memoir, *Hold Still*), but after acquiring basic skills in her high school and college years, she switched to photography. She's a Southern artist; the spectral presences in and around her work are Faulkner, Eudora Welty, Flannery O'Connor, Walker Percy. So, too, are the Civil War dead and slaves. She and her husband, the blacksmith and lawyer Larry Mann, have lived for years in a house they built in Lexington, Virginia, summering at a family cabin along the Maury River. She photographed their children as nature's creatures, more or less free, in woods, on rivers, or at home, often naked, as Sally herself was free to run naked in

ART

W.S. DI PIERO



Sally Mann, *Triptych*, 2004, Gelatin silver prints

Sally Mann: A Thousand Crossings

The J. Paul Getty Museum, 1200 Getty Center Drive, Los Angeles
Through Sunday, February 10. For additional information, call 310-440-7300.

her early years.

In her first important book, *Immediate Family* (1992), the "naked" bit incited conservative commentators to censure Mann's treatment of her children, accusing her, at best, of exploiting her kids for sensational ends and, at worst, of abusing them. Conservatives are quick to chastise artists for doing what artists do, which is to make a claim on truths of feeling, however disconcerting those truths are.

Mann's early photographs of her kids and their environments are an essay on childhood as a Rousseauian state of nature. The photos make it seem that she has just happened upon her children in their naked natures, semi-serious, gleeful, silly — though the surprise is only apparent, since virtually all the images were posed, with her children as collaborators. Sometimes, the pictures are literary conceits. Her son Emmett (named after Emmett Till, the black Chicago teenager who was kidnapped, mutilated and killed in Mississippi in 1955) lies in a ditch, folded back over his legs, water sluicing around him while others look on. It's a primal birth-chute and baptismal image. Childhood initiations and play overlap Mann's sense of menace and imminent harm. In her shockingly red and messy picture of Emmett having a nosebleed, the blood sops his mouth and streaks down his naked torso. It's only a nosebleed, but it stands in for a child's first recognition of being made of blood, of *containing* blood. We see Mann's daughter Jessie absorbed in play while in the deep background, on the riverbank, an alligator approaches. Even though we know the beast is made of plastic, it's insidious and portentous. In another image, just as the serpent in many depictions of Eden hangs from a tree above Adam and Eve, we see Jessie umbrella-d by poisonous overhanging trumpet vines.

For most of her career, Mann has used an 8x10 view camera and has trained herself to use the dicey wet collodion technique, which involves coating a glass plate with a gelatinous compound of ether and alcohol, dipping it in a light sensitive solution, then creating a negative on the wet plate. After the ambiguous idylls of the family photographs and their fraught romance of childhood, Mann in the 1990s began to make images vacuumed of people but saturated with a sense of the Southern past. She traveled to Mis-

issippi, Louisiana, and Alabama, looking for the viscous mournful air of Southern wilds: a scarred tree, mossy live-oaks, a rickety wooden bridge over the Tallahatchie from which Till's dead body (lashed with barbed wire to a cotton gin) was thrown, and imagery that recalls the mythic force of rivers in Twain, Whitman, and Faulkner. The eeriest object she found was a tubular concrete coffin lying on the ground. The water table is so high in many places that, as in New Orleans, the dead can't be interred. The coffin looks oddly planted, a little afloat, as if finding its balance. It's a civilized object that looks cruelly alien, its extraterrestrial look intensified by comet flares (the chancy desirable outcomes of the collodion method) raining down on the scene. In her reckoning, the riverbank where Till's body washed up looks like an open wound, a cursed, polluted place.

In her essays on the South, Mann wanted imagery that looked bruised by history and bore the accidental "autobiographical" marks of its own process. Her *Immediate Family* pictures gave evidence of a wilderness occupied, domesticated, lived into in the real present. In her later work, she left domesticity behind and looked for the still raw presence of the past, as in her series about the Great Dismal Swamp on the Carolina coast, where runaway slaves hid. She also photographed country churches, some being pulled down by vegetation, some barely emergent from shadows, all once or still vessels of praise and faith. Coded into her images of history's residues is the process that turns these spots of time into visionary moments. She experimented with antique and damaged lenses, and wet plate technology let her interact with but not completely control the process, which resulted in imagery that's destabilized, defaced, "worked." The pictures have wild, garish surface eruptions — boils, solar flashes, scorch marks, and mini-conflagrations.

In the 2000s, Mann pushed the collodion process until she found a wilder plasticity to accommodate her feelings about Civil War sites she visited, especially the bloody theaters of Antietam, Manassas, and the Wilderness. How bloody? At Antietam, twenty-two thousand casualties in a single day. A soldier present at Coal Harbor wrote that when he walked the field the following day "the dead lay thick enough

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Sally Mann, *The Ditch*, 1987, Gelatin silver print

in some places to have walked on.” The gunfights literally tore nature apart. That same soldier, Reuben Allen Pierson by name, said that “every twig was riddled and many trees not more than a foot in diameter had as many as forty balls in its trunk.” Mann was also in conversation with Civil War photographers like Mathew Brady, Timothy O’Sullivan, and Alexander Gardner. When she photographs a cornfield at Antietam that, because of the willful disorder and temperamentalism stirred up by her technique, seems to be under assault by a mysterious undulating sky-borne turbulence, she’s recovering and adding to the moral force of her predecessors’ imagery.

Mann didn’t just allow accident into her process, she invited and implemented it. The dust on the negative of her Cold Harbor image creates smears and bullets, and her vintage lenses make Antietam look still punished by the violence once let loose there. She makes these lands seem like consciences maintaining memories of the worst things. The photos look like charcoal sketches: blurry anthracite textures run from powdery to granular to pebbly, and their tone throughout is mournful and irresolute. It’s a re-imagining of a pristine landscape blasted, eroded, and chewed up by time and the harm it brings. In *Black Sun* (*Antietam*) pleats of ashen light fan out over the sun’s great black dome and its bizarre after-image. The heavens in these pictures are in a roiling Shakespearean disorder. The trees in *Battlefields*, *Fredericksburg*

(*Cedar Trees*) are thrashed by gusting clouds: the heavens look burlled with anger over the blood lost and boys massacred. These pictures remind us of the damage inflicted by the then-recently designed minié conical slug that broke bone and tore arteries more forcefully and efficiently than traditional ball rounds. Her darkroom manipulations suggest or articulate their legacy of harm: lines shoot through images like tracers; pips rive the landscape as minié balls once did; the earth and sky, with their scabby, scarred textures, look out of joint, as if the camera itself were grieving havoc.

In the mid to late 2000s, Mann brought back the body and its habitations, black bodies above all. One of the men she photographs poses curled up on a bench, as if still enduring the Middle Passage. When she returns to the domesticated body, there’s a change. She photographs the faces of her now grown children in extreme close-up, as if scrutinizing them for evidence of mortality; she studies her physically powerful (and handsome) husband Larry in physical decline as he copes with late onset muscular dystrophy; she becomes interested for the first time in her own body and (after a serious riding accident) its diminutions. She makes visible the actions of her consciousness pressing back at her materials, querying a scene or a body, the earth and its histories, with an antiquated technique plied by a super-modern sensibility, one, however, not compelled or inflected by irony or meta-



Sally Mann, *Bloody Nose*, 1991, Silver dye-bleach print

anything. Mann is haunted by things passed and passing, but she’s also the hunter, the seeker who wants the land to give up its secrets, or who mourns secrets that can’t be unearthed.

Sally Mann: A Thousand Crossings is on view at the Getty Center until February 10.

ART

Downtown at Sundown: The Great Learning For the first Downtown at Sundown of 2019, San Diego Symphony will present excerpts of Cornelius Cardew’s experimental masterpiece *The Great Learning: Paragraph 7* (with words by the Chinese philosopher Confucius). A chorus of singers led by UC San Diego vocal ensemble, kallisti — and audience members too — will walk through the galleries while singing Cardew’s semi-improvised score to create a uniquely immersive and interactive sound-scape. Thursday, January 17, 5pm; **free**. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Featured Artist: Sana Saadeh Please join us for Sana Saadeh’s Featured Artist reception at the San Diego Sculptors Guild. Saturday, January 19, 5pm; **free**. Spanish Village Art Center, 1770 Village Place. (BALBOA PARK)

Future Tense Opening Reception “Future Tense,” an art exhibition that boldly predicts the future is flooded with fun! Local painter, Dennis Palmer, has selected for the event a glorious collection of alter-world paintings afloat in color, chaos and harmony. Glass master, Michael Panetta, will be displaying an assemblage of gleaming glass baubles that compliment any setting. Friday, January 18, 5pm; **free**. La Playa Gallery, 2226 Avenida de la Playa. (LA JOLLA)

January-February Art Exhibitions In the Joseph Clays III Gallery we will be exhibiting “Beyond

Blue—Mavi—Ma Vie,” featuring the works of Beliz Iristay and Irène de Watteville. The two female ceramicists, one from Turkey and one from France, will collaborate in a provocative and surrealist installation. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; through Saturday, March 9, **free**. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Little Saigon Stories Join us for the first installment of Little Saigon Stories, a collection of stories through photography and film honoring Vietnamese refugees and descendants living and working in San Diego’s Little Saigon District on El Cajon Boulevard. Friday, January 18, 4pm; **free**. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

My Art is not Popular in California Program: 7:30 Markets Hanc introductory words 7:45 Classical Music by Duo Nuovo 8:00 Mr. Mitch of Didjetelus Friday, January 18, 7pm; **free**. Brokers Building Gallery, 402 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Opening Reception: Roy Kerckhoffs Roy’s work is a beautiful fusion of black and white photography and hand painting. Join us for a fun afternoon of Fine Art Photography, light bites and refreshments. The event is complimentary. All art sales directly support the local art community. Saturday, January 19, 4pm; **free**. MK Envision Galleries, 2710 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 17. (LIBERTY STATION)

Preview Day Take a look at how the old American Apparel space has transformed into a contemporary art gallery with artist studios. 12-7 PM with live music from A New High at 1 and 5. Saturday, January 19, 12pm; **free**. Studio Door, 3867 Fourth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

The Last Resort An exhibition of artwork made in and about the desert by 15 MFA students. January 9-18, 2019, 12-3pm Wed.-Fri. Main Gallery, 309 Visual Arts Facility, UC San Diego Thursday, January 17, 12pm; Friday, January 18, 12pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)



Reader

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The pleasure of food from fingers to mouth

"I drive ten miles every day, just to get this coffee."

So what is the difference between Ethiopian and Somali food?

Last week, when my friend Annie and I were in Addis, a newish Ethiopian eatery on El Cajon Boulevard, two ladies came to eat at the next "tent."

"You should try Somali food," said one of them, Ayan. "We're Somali. We live next door to Ethiopia, but we are different."

Turned out her auntie, Farida, has a Somali restaurant on Euclid.

Could I resist?

Uh, no.

It's five on a Friday night, and I've just gotten off the 955 bus where 54th splits off from Euclid. And here, next to Awa African Hair Braiding, it sits: Farida's, with tiled floors and green and brown paisley walls, and already busy.

"A bit more ginger, please! Love ginger in my coffee," guy in the black leather jacket is saying to the Somali girl behind the counter. He turns to me. "This coffee's as near as you can get to the coffee in my country."

"Which is that?" I say.

"The world's newest nation," he says with pride. "South Sudan."

His name's Peter Wani. "I drive ten miles every day, just to get this coffee. And they only charge a dollar. Compare that to Starbucks!"

Ayan is here, helping her cousins.

"You'll see," she says. "It's like a community center. We even have a place where people can pray, out back."

Now I look around, you do get the flavor of Africa. There are pictures of mothers braiding their daughters' hair, ancient Somali towers, elephants leading their babies, tail to trunk. They have

pictures of men in white, dancing what Ayan says is called *Dhaanto*, a Somali dance which came

from the dervish tradition. And on the TV, a couple is dancing side by side, singing to each other. "Somalis are known for their poetry and love songs," says Ayan.

So I sit down and start checking out their menu. The one obvious thing that says Somali and not Ethiopian is bananas. Somalis love to mix in bananas with their main meals, whether it's rice or pasta, with beef or chicken or goat or veggies. You actually mush them in with your right thumb and fingers so they add their sweetness to the savory tastes.

And that's the other Somali thing: pasta. "Ethiopia is landlocked. Somalia has a huge coastline," says Ayan. "So Somalia has fish, and we had

invaders, like the Italians. They left pasta, which we made our own. But we also share so much food with Ethiopia, like *anjero*, which they call *injera*."

Not that these two are exactly the same. *Injera* is made from an ancient, gluten-free grain called *teff* which is allowed to ferment for a couple of days, whereas Somali *anjero* is usually other grains, and only allowed to ferment overnight, so it's much less sour.

All this is making me curious, and hungry as heck. Specially as I see feasts of meat, fish, veggies, potatoes, salad, yellow and red lentils passing by on great round trays.

"You should start with tea or coffee," says Ayan. "I have to have tea, especially in the morning, with my *anjero* and beef or chicken *suucqar*."

I see on the menu: "Somalian tea, with ginger, cinnamon, and cardamom, served black or with milk, \$1."

**TIN
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Anjero, Somali-style



Potatoes, pasta, basmati rice, and salad surround the goat, beef and chicken *suucqar*



Farida's daughter stands beside my Somali meal

Great. A buck. Like the coffee. I get one. Truly delicious. Ginger sets up your appetite nicely. Of course, if you want to keep on drinking, they have mixed mango and mixed watermelon (\$1 each).

"*Suucqar*?" I ask Ayan. Because I'm seeing it all over the menu.

"It means chopped up, cubed meat," she says.

So what to eat? Basically, we're talking chicken, beef, goat, or veggies with salad, and, say a "federation" (combo) of basmati rice and pasta (spaghetti, but Somalis never use the word "spaghetti"), and a potato and veggie mix-up.

Every plate goes for \$11, but I go over the top. Get the 2-person "Sports Plate." I get rice, and pasta, chicken, beef, and goat *suucqar*, salad, potato and veggie mix-up, and the tea included. I could have had fish, chicken legs, or a vegetarian option. Paid a dollar extra for the goat.

They specially make *anjero* for me (Somalis, unlike the Ethiopians, usually have *anjero* only at breakfast time, and it's always cooked at the moment). It costs \$1. Then Ayan also brings another special thick *anjero* called *sabaayad* (aka *kimis*, \$2). This is eaten only in Somalia and Djibouti. It's like an Indian *paratha*. Flour, water,



Peter Wani, coffee fan

salt, rolled out as a thicker pancake, briefly fried in a pan. Slightly crunchy, slightly delicious. But the stars? The three *suucqar* meats. Specially the goat. Boney but rich, tender, and no, not gamey.

And let's not forget the banana. Here's the thing. It somehow defines Somali tastes. "Hundreds of types of banana grow in

Somalia," Ayan says. "But even here, where there are only one or two, the taste's important for us."

What's the same as in Ethiopia: Somalis prefer fingers to forks. So, people wash their hands before every meal, to feel the pleasure of food from fingers to mouth with no clacking cutlery to interrupt the sensual exchange of touch and flavor. It grows on you. Plus, with Somali food, you squish and fold your banana into the rice, meat, pasta, before you start.

And, new lesson in banana peeling tonight! When Ayan sees me struggling to peel my banana without a sharp knife, she takes it, goes to the bottom of the banana, and rips it open easily. Who knew?

Next really cheap treat: Hot *anjero* with butter, brown sugar, and tea for breakfast. Three bucks-eroos! Beat that, Starbucks.

The Place: Farida's East Africa Cuisine, 1754 Euclid Avenue, Chollas Creek

Hours: 10am - 9pm, daily (till 8pm, Sunday, Monday)

Prices: Traditional breakfast (bean stew, eggs, pita or *anjero*, coffee or tea, \$8; Farida's breakfast (eggs, beef or chicken *suucqar*, pita or *anjero*), \$10; beef *suucqar* stew, \$8; fish curry, \$8; sambusas (chicken, beef, potato, spinach, lentil) \$1 each; Farida's marinated goat meat, rice or pasta, salad, veggies, \$12; Kenyan Ugali (cornmeal, chicken, beef or fish), \$11; chicken *suucqar* salad, \$8

Buses: 916, 917, 955

Nearest Bus Stops: Euclid Av. and 54th Street (955, southbound); Euclid and Federal Blvd (916 eastbound, 955 northbound); Federal Blvd and Pentecost Way (917, westbound)



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Mmmmmm, Cheese

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

Grilled cheese science

Grater Grilled Cheese, 5618 Mission Center Road #1002, Mission Valley. To our credit or to our chagrin, San Diego has been the breeding ground for at least a couple of successful fast food chains: most notably Jack in the Box and Rubio's Coastal Grill. Not by coincidence, it's one of these two chains I tend to visit when

I find myself in suburban shopping center country with little time to spare. What started out as a food truck has become the small but growing Grater Grilled Cheese chain, pledging to offer a "chef-inspired twist" on the "great American grilled cheese sandwich." Grater has five locations and counting, including two that have crossed the border into Orange County.

FEAST!

Locally, an Eastlake shop is incoming, and the La Jolla spot is temporarily closed for remodeling. But my visits to storefronts in Del Mar (3545 Del Mar Heights Road) and Mission



Grater's five-cheese grilled cheese with pale ale chipotle aioli.

the fast food itch arises: i.e., when I'm desperate and there's no In-N-Out in sight.

But lately, another has caught my eye when

makes it clear that the people behind Grater have boiled the art of the grilled cheese down to a science. Uniform slices of half-inch thick

Valley (5618 Mission Center Road) have followed the first rule of operating a fast food chain: consistency.

The menu starts with the Basic 5 grilled cheese, made on sourdough bread with a "secret" blend of cheeses that, I'm told, combine provolone, Swiss, muenster, Colby, and Monterey Jack.

Watching staff at these shops making these sandwiches



A Philly-style grilled cheese melt, with sliced beef and red peppers.

sourdough sit on a flat top, cooking on the same heat for the same amount of time, yielding consistently golden-brown crusts with consistently warm and gooey cheese centers.

They get close to perfect, every time. I say *close* because the best grilled cheeses, in my opinion, are cooked with butter, olive oil, or a combination of the two. Grater goes with margarine, which I'm sure helps with the consistent cooking, and results in toast that's crisp without being greasy. Really, the only tradeoff is flavor.

Despite the earthiness of Swiss, the otherwise mild cheese blend emphasizes an ideal melt. Perhaps to make up for this, perhaps to justify the \$6.90 price tag, each sandwich may be grilled with a complimentary spread,

whether pesto or roasted garlic aioli, or deli mustard.

I opted for pale ale chipotle aioli on my basic, and I did relish the residual hoppy notes and light spice. Grilled cheese purists can order a sandwich sans spread, but for better or worse the extra flavor makes it more memorable.

But Grater's not trying to fashion a fast food empire on the back of a basic grilled cheese. The bulk of the menu takes it up a significant notch, building on the five-cheese blend to craft a series of cheese melts ranging from Philly cheese steak to lobster. It might be better to build your own sandwich to personal taste, choosing from a list of buck-or-two add-ons that include the obvious (avocado, bacon, and smoked turkey), less obvious (fried chicken

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This grilled peanut butter and jelly would be better on whole wheat, not sourdough.

tenders, mac'n'cheese), and additional cheeses (goat and gorgonzola).

You may opt for whole wheat bread instead of sourdough. I wish I'd done so with a grilled peanut butter and jelly. Turns out, sourdough and peanut butter clash.

Time will tell whether this becomes San Diego's next successful restaurant chain, but for fast food it's pretty good. And it's got to be better for kids than a Happy Meal.

by Ian Anderson

Finally, something great out of D.C.

ChiKo, 101 N Coast Hwy 101, Encinitas.

As of November, Encinitas has introduced new portmanteau to make us hungry: ChiKo.

The name reflects Chinese

plus Korean, referring to the culinary traditions its founding chefs brought together when they launched ChiKo in Washington, D.C., in 2017. The concept of melding traditional flavors with modern cooking techniques made it an overnight success, quickly establishing the brand as a darling of foodie media.

Count San Diego lucky, as one of the partners, Andrew Kim, lives out here, and so Encinitas becomes the first town to get a ChiKo outside of D.C.

I don't expect things to go any differently here. Taking over the former site of Bull Taco, a couple blocks north of downtown proper, the fast casual eatery doesn't have a large or enviable location. Its chefs hustle over sauce and sauté pans in a compact open kitchen squeezed behind a narrow countertop banked on either side by a narrow strip of dining room. But the Korean- and Chinese-inspired dishes they churn out are craveable.

Take the first item I ordered off the starters menu: wok-charred Chinese broccoli with crispy garlic,



Buy 1, get 1 free cupcake!


Purchase a cupcake and receive a free cupcake. One per visit. Can not be used with any other discounts/promotions.



2315 Reo Drive
Paradise Hills, 92139

HUNGRY?


Traditional diner favorites,
home-style classics,
a true American Diner



OPEN LATE! 24/7!

\$2 OFF

Any one menu entrée of \$10 or more. Limit 4 persons per coupon. Must present coupon at time of order. Not valid on weekends or holidays. Dine-in only through 1/31/19.



Open 24/7 • 2900 El Cajon Blvd.
619-282-8423 • Rudfords.com



Buy 1 Large Mason Jar Lemonade, Get 1 Free

When life gives you lemons, drink lemonade! Limit 1 per customer. Cannot be combined with any other offer.



4150 Mission Blvd #145, San Diego, CA 92109
(858) 886-7733
www.pbpokehouse.com



Buy 1 Tostada Get 1 Free

Limit 1 per person



3139 University Ave



Free Taco!

Free taco with any purchase! Must present ad. Valid for Carne, Pollo, or Al Pastor tacos only. Limit 1 per customer.



115 W Washington Ave, El Cajon, CA 92020
619-440-TACO
www.funkyfreshmexican.com



Buy 1, get 1 free coffee!

Purchase a coffee and receive a free coffee. One per visit. Can not be used with any other discounts/promotions.



874 Seacoast Drive
Imperial Beach, 91932



FREE Fried Ice Cream

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



Rockin' Baja Lobster

Valid at all RBL Locations
www.rockinbaja.com



Buy a Taco Get a Free Quesadilla!

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove
Limit 1 per person.



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



D.C. smoked brisket in a bibimbap-like rice dish with furikake butter.

thinly sliced oyster mushrooms, and toasted sesame oil. A food writer probably shouldn't rave about a stir fry of stalky greens and little else, but that's what I'm here to do. The stalks remained refreshingly al dente, the leaves absorbed the garlic

and sesame goodness. The \$8 portion was meant to be shared, but I wanted all of it.

Then I tried the smoked brisket dish. Reminiscent of a Korean *bibimbap*, the soy-glazed chopped brisket entree (\$18) is served in a bowl with rice, pickled jalapeños, shred-

ded seaweed, a six minute egg, and "furikake butter," seasoned with the Japanese spice blend. Cubes of an almost translucent brisket peppered with sesame seeds anchor the dish, firm yet with just enough fat to marry with the custardy egg yolk and



Banchan- turmeric pickled daikon radish, Napa cabbage kimchi, and sichuan cucumber.

umami butter. It was good enough to distract me from the Chinese broccoli.

Along with a candied mandarin "orangish chicken" and six-hour, cumin-braised lamb noodle, this dish originated in the Capitol Hill restaurant. The smoked brisket in ques-

tion gets shipped out here from Wagshal's, a D.C. area deli. If you're looking for a comparable local beef dish, try the tri-tip skewers, made using the regionally famous burgundy and pepper marinated "Cardiff Crack" from Seaside Market.

Whatever you do, order to share, and eat as much as you can. In addition to starters and entrees, Banchan-like side dishes go for \$3 apiece, including turmeric pickled daikon, sichuan spiced cucumbers, and Napa cabbage kimchi.



50% off entrée

Get 50% off your second entrée with a purchase of one entrée at regular price. Not valid with other promos, offers, discounts, or specials.



Carmel Valley:
11375 El Camino Real #170
Carlsbad:
2519 Palomar Airport Rd. #101



Get 1/2 Off Any Appetizer

up to \$10
One coupon per table. Valid Mon - Fri



Tony's Sports Bar and Grill
274 Harbor Dr, Oceanside
(760) 433-8466



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



1/2 Off Select Starters

Offered 7 days a week.



5480 Grand Pacific Drive
Carlsbad, 92008



Buy One Bowl Get One Free

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



575 S Coast Hwy. 101
Encinitas, California 92024
760-230-2560 • www.eveencinitas.com



\$3.00 Off Any Medium Pizza



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



Buy One Flatbread Get One 1/2 Off

Offer valid during happy hour in front or back room between 3-5pm Monday-Friday.



575 S Coast Hwy. 101
Encinitas, California 92024
760-230-2560 • www.eveencinitas.com



2-for-1 Small Plates

A classic Main Street eatery in the heart of Encinitas. Live music every night!

Enjoy 2 for 1 small plates valued up to \$12. One per table. Not redeemable for cash and not valid with any other offers.



517 North Coast Hwy 101 • Encinitas
(760) 230-2899 • www.roxyencinitas.com



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)



**\$4.00 Off
Any
Large Pizza**



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



Free Pizza

Enjoy a free pizza with a purchase of a pizza equal or greater value and 2 drinks.

Limit of 1 per person. Coupon must be presented in order to receive discount. This coupon is not valid for cash back, can only be used once, does not cover tax or gratuities, and cannot be combined with other offers.



221 E Grand Ave • Escondido
(760) 291-1225



Free Panini or Salad!

Buy a panini or salad and get the second panini or salad (of equal or greater value) for free.



155 S. Orange St.
Escondido, CA (downtown)



**Free
Lemonade**

Buy any sandwich and receive a free lemonade.



155 S. Orange St.
Escondido, CA (downtown)



**Buy 1 Sandwich,
Get 1 Free!**

Get a free sandwich with a purchase of another sandwich and two refreshments. Equal or lesser value only. Valid during happy hour only (5-8pm, 7 days).



13173 Black Mountain Rd, Suite 5
San Diego, CA 92129
858-484-9117 • www.TheDeliStop.com



**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.



2271 1st Ave
San Diego, 92101

(619) 239-8176



**Buy One, Get One
Complimentary
Breakfast Item**

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



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



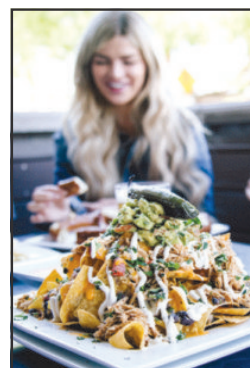
**Buy one,
get one free**

Buy any sandwich or burrito, get one free.



Café by the Bay

3510 Ingraham St.
San Diego, 92109



**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 Entrée,
Get One Free!**

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



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



**1/2 OFF Tots &
Sloppy Joes
Every Tuesday!**



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



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



**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



The Surf Rider side salad.

Better yet, watch for ChiKo to launch its interactive Kitchen Counter tasting menu: for \$50 per person, reserve a spot at the counter and let the chef guide you through a taste of just about everything at this overachieving new restaurant.
by Ian Anderson

A pizza my heart

Surf Rider Pizza Cafe, 8381 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. I'm in a mixed marriage — my wife is a vegetarian and I eat meat.

Usually, we are able to deal with our differences, but the

one time when it does come up is when we get pizza. My wife doesn't eat pepperoni or sausage, and I love meat on my pies.

The end result usually means we order two pies — which is too much food sometimes — or get a half-



The Signature Surf Rider Pizza combines roast garlic, gorgonzola, tomatoes and basil.

veggie pizza, which can be unsatisfying if I'm still hungry after eating my half of the pie.

So for us, the holy grail of pizza would be a vegetarian pizza that I'd crave without feeling like I'm missing something.

We found the grail at Surf Rider Pizza, a local chain with locations in Mission Beach, Ocean Beach, Crown Point and, now, on the revitalized restaurant row that is La Mesa Boulevard in La Mesa Village.

Surf Rider sells a variety

of pizzas, but its signature "Surf Rider Pizza" (\$23) is a vegetarian masterpiece that includes roast garlic, gorgonzola cheese, Roma tomatoes, and basil.

It's tangy, thanks to the cheese, and I didn't miss the meat in any of my bites.



Buy 2 Entree's and Get a FREE Appetizer

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



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



3 Rolled Taco Plate for \$6

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



Famoso Mexican Street Food
815 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101



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

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



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



Half-off apps, beers, & bowling

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



930 Market Street, San Diego, 92101



Buy one, get one free

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



Café by the Bay
3510 Ingraham St.
San Diego, 92109



Order Any Food Item Get A Free Drink

One coupon per customer per order. Cannot combine coupons.

Stop by for authentic Vietnamese Banh Mi sandwiches, spring rolls, egg rolls, and noodle salads.



220 Euclid Ave., Suite 180
San Diego, CA 92114 • (619) 450-6177



1/2 Off Any Pasta Entrée

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



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-743-2371

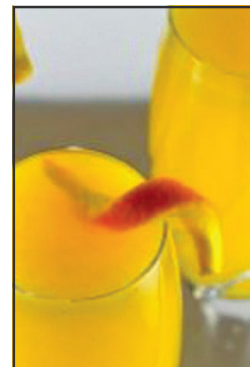


Buy one meal, get one free

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



2 for 1 Mimosa at Brunch

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



One Door North
3422 30th Street • San Diego



**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 2 Sandwiches,
Get 1 Free**

One coupon per customer per order. Cannot combine coupons.

Bring a couple friends for delicious Vietnamese Banh Mi sandwiches and get yours free! Also serving wings, spring rolls, egg rolls and noodle salad. Open 10am-9pm daily.



220 Euclid Ave., Suite 180
San Diego, CA 92114 • (619) 450-6177



**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



**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



**Buy One Sandwich,
Get One 1/2 Off**

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



**Classic Rock
Sandwich Shoppe**

3042 North Park Way, San Diego, 92104
sandwichessandiego.com



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



3130 University Ave
(619) 333-9097



**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. Offer expires 3/31/19.



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



**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.

refill

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.



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



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 a Taco
Get a Free Quesadilla!**

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove
Limit 1 per person.



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



**Dinner for 4
only \$19.99**

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

**Fletcher Hills
Bottle Shop**

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



**Free
Gyro Salad**

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

Gus's Subs & Pizza

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

The garlic was properly proportioned, but we've had no vampires at the house after dining, so take that for what it's worth.

It's been a few weeks since I've had that pizza, but I can remember each bite as if it were yesterday. We're planning visits to the La Mesa location, which is airy and open (but probably more fun in summer than what we call winter here in town).

The signature pie is worth a visit on its own, but we decided to try the Veggie Stromboli (\$18), a sort-of calzone stuffed with spinach, Roma tomatoes, artichoke hearts, and cheese with tomato sauce on the side.

It was OK at the restaurant, but a little soggy on the bottom thanks to the water in the veggies. It tasted good, but here's the funny thing: I took leftovers from both the Surf Rider Pizza and the Veggie Stromboli home and ate



The Veggie Stromboli is stuffed with spinach, Roma tomatoes, artichoke hearts and cheese with tomato sauce on the side.

them for lunch the next day.

The strong flavor of the gorgonzola on the pizza was a little overpowering the next day, while the stromboli tasted perfect.

We had a few other items: the Surf Side Salad (\$4.95) had fresh ingredients, but it is stuffed so much into its plastic container that it's hard to get the food out and on

the plate with the one or two plastic forks supplied.

On another visit, I split a cheesesteak (\$11.50) with a friend and was impressed with how the cheese was blended with the steak rather than just dumped on top like a condiment.

by Patrick Henderson

FOOD & DRINK

4x4 Wine & Cheese Tasting

At this fun and casual 4x4 tasting event, enjoy four favorite wines that we'll pair with four fabulous cheeses. Our resident cheese expert will tell you all about the cheese making process while their resident wine expert will share the secrets of wine making. All this while sampling our favorite pairings. Sunday, January 20, 5pm; \$40. 21 and up. Mission Cellars Winery, 14053 Midland Road. (POWAY)

Cheese Feast Happy Hour

Join us for this all-you-can-eat happy hour extravaganza on the third Thursday of every month. Partake in all the featured seasonal cheeses and charcuterie you can eat, PLUS

one glass of wine instead. Sorry, no sharing or take-away. What a spectacular way to enjoy a Thursday afternoon at the cheesiest happy hour in town. Thursday, January 17, 3pm; \$30. Venissimo Cheese Del Mar, 2650 Via de la Valle, #C140. (DEL MAR)

Gospel Brunch Grammy-Award winning star Kirk Franklin is joining forces with House of Blues as part of its' year-long 20th Anniversary Celebration to produce a dazzling transformation of Gospel Brunch, the club's legendary dining and live music show. With Kirk Franklin's hand-picked performers showcasing explosive energy, contemporary music and new cuisine, it's an unforgettable spectacle of great tunes and tastes. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the IHOFB, providing arts and music support to underserved youth. Sunday, January 20, 11am; House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Multicultural Martin Luther King Jr Day Celeration

Join us for the 30th annual multicultural Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration featuring Tebe Zalango, outdoor cultural arts and craft vendors marketplace, vegetarian food, and

more. Monday, January 21, 1pm; free. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Restaurant Week

Executive Chef Fabrice Hardel has specially crafted exquisite lunch and dinner menus for gourmets to enjoy a fine culinary experience during this special week. Lunch will be served from 11 AM – 2:30 PM and dinner from 5 PM – 9 PM in the Westgate Room. Sunday, January 20, 11am; Monday, January 21, 11am; Tuesday, January 22, 11am; Wednesday, January 23, 11am; \$20-\$50. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tea By the Sea

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center (SMSC) will host this year's Tea by the Sea. This annual event will feature a complimentary signature cocktail, hors d'oeuvre, a silent auction and a visit from Chef Bernard. Proceeds from this event will go toward the unique programs and activities that SMSC offers to over 400 adults with developmental disabilities. Saturday, January 19, 11am; \$135-\$1350. Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive. (LA JOLLA)



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



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



Buy One Entree, Get One Free!

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



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



Buy a Taco Get a Free Quesadilla!

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove

Limit 1 per person.



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



Buy 1 Entrée Get 1 Free!

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



4076 Bonita Rd
Bonita, CA



3 x 1 Pepperoni Pizzetas!

Every Thursday get three pepperoni pizzas for the price of one!



Mexica Cerveceria
Calle Cuarta almost corner with Avenida Revolución
@mexica.cerveceria



Taco Tuesday 2 x 1

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



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



GET YOUR 2PACK

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



Bld. Sánchez Taboada 10650
(Inside Food Garden)



Second Otaku Ramen Free!

Buy a ramen bowl and two beverages at Otaku Anime Cafe and enjoy your second ramen free (of equal or lesser value).



(must show ad, January only)
Find us in Downtown, Tijuana.
@OtakuAnimeCafe

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

CHULA VISTA

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

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

Analog: *Thursday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$5 drafts, wells, house red & white wine, \$2-\$9 appetizers including \$2 burger sliders, \$7 calamari, and \$9 jalapeño mac & cheese.

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

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 oysters.

Dublin Square: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2 off all drafts, bottled beer, house wine, wells, Irish whiskey. Half off all appetizers. *Sunday*, 11am-8pm: half off all beer, wine, and select craft cocktails, \$4 wells, half off all appetizers.

BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

A whiff of disappointment

Modern Times Beer has arguably become San Diego beer's most compelling success story. At the time it opened, in 2013, with design-savvy beer cans, a bartop made from paperback books, and a gigantic Michael Jackson post-it note collage, it was a phenomenon. Nearly six years later, it's a juggernaut, one that's graduated from San Diego brewery to a west coast beer brand.

Last year, it opened a vegan brewpub in Portland, Oregon, decked out with comic book wallpaper, a bar veneer made from floppy disks, and massive string art installation. That came on the heels of another in downtown Los Angeles, featuring walls covered in comic book art and album artwork, a bar veneer of Beta videotape cases, and a Lite Brite-inspired

art installation. A Santa Barbara tasting room is on the way, with another in San Francisco, and some time in the year ahead it expects to open a mixed fermentation brewery, coffee roastery, and entertainment complex in Anaheim so outlandishly ambitious it includes a swimming pool with its own movie screen.

Then there's Encinitas. That's where Modern Times spent the better part of two years plotting the vegan restaurant and tasting room it calls the **Far West Lounge** (470 S Coast Hwy 101, Encinitas). For a coastal tasting room, it's a marvelous, design-savvy space. But compared to the aforementioned properties, it's turned out pretty tame.

The wallpaper wasn't made from manga artwork, or Alf collectible cards. It's merely wallpaper, tasteful wallpaper like you might find in an airport VIP lounge. The bar veneer, though inlaid with dominoes, is mostly patterned from wood remnants. The artwork is interesting, but hardly massive; instead the walls are peppered with cleverly kitschy references: plastic TV dinner trays, antique desk fans, cactus macramé art woven into the strings of vintage tennis racquets, and a Mondrian painting recreated within a fireplace screen.

The room's most notable feature is a set of risers that creates a unique section of bleacher seating a few feet from the bar. Large, blocky steps illuminated with LED trim create a stacked

seating option, where drinkers can sit on three levels, sipping beverages while facing the same direction, as though they were spectators in the Roman Senate.

Does this predictably impeccable space represent a maturing Modern Times? Did the com-



A flight of mostly Los Angeles-brewed beers.

pany dial back its retro-soaked irony in deference to a more affluent north county coastal community? It hardly seems to matter. Like most of its venues, this Modern Times location spends the bulk of its prime hours at full capacity. Visiting on a Saturday, I couldn't even snag a couple of bleacher seats without hovering for 20 minutes, waiting for another party to depart.

Fortunately, a pair of bar stools became available first, and I was able to order a flight of beer,

served within a Gran Habano cigar box.

As the above descriptions suggest, I could write an entire article about Modern Times without really discussing beer. But the 30-plus taps in Far West Lounge pour beers provided by all of Modern Times' breweries, and the most compelling part of my Encinitas visit was supplied by Los Angeles. The "Dankness Dojo" brewpub there has been designated the brand's experimental or R&D brewery, so it's the one providing this bar with newer styles, such as a brut IPA, a mango milkshake IPA, and a less trendy Belgian style, grisetite.

While none were as good as the best Modern Times beers I've tasted over the years, they were better than the first beer on the menu. Named Totally Open in Encinitas, my pour of the San Diego-produced hazy double IPA yielded dubious butterscotch flavor, making it my all time least pleasant Modern Times IPA.

Parties seated on either side of me at the bar had likewise come to Encinitas specifically to visit the Far West Lounge, and I was probably the only person in the room to leave with even a whiff of disappointment. I'd walked in hoping to enjoy a favorite San Diego beer brand, and walked out of a place that now belongs to an entire time zone.

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

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, \$10 off selected starters.

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

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: *Monday-Friday*, 3-8pm: Half-off all drinks, drafts, bottled beers. \$3 chicharones, chips & salsa, \$4 zucchini sticks, mozzarella sticks, fries, tater tots, \$5 buffalo wings (5), truffle fries, hummus & pita, onion rings. *Saturday-Sunday*, 3-8pm: Half-off all drinks, drafts, bottled beers.

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.

The Whiskey House: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$4 house wines, \$4 Staropra-

men 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.



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HAPPY HOUR

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

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

EL CAJON

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

HILLCREST

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

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

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

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

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

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

KEARNY MESA

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

LA MESA

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

MISSION BEACH

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

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

Sandbar Sports Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$4 14oz drafts, \$6 22oz drafts, \$6 Sandbargaritas and hai tai'd. \$4 tacos. Sunday, 10am-2pm: \$25 bottomless mimosas (includes food item).

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

NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

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

Triple Crown Pub: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off select pints and bottles. Saturday-Sunday, Noon-5pm: \$1 off select pints and bottles.

NORTH PARK

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

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

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

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

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 Guinness. \$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 cocktails.

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.

PACIFIC BEACH

Ambrogio15: Daily, 4:30-6pm: \$4 local craft beer or house wine, \$15 biodynamic (organic) wine flight. Appetizers \$4 to \$10.

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.

Cabo Cantina: Monday-Friday, Noon-8pm: Two-for-one drinks. Saturday-Sunday, 4-8pm: Two-for-one drinks.

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

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

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

Tidal: Daily, 4-6pm: \$6 draft craft beers, \$8 glass of wine, cocktails.

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

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.

SANTEE

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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



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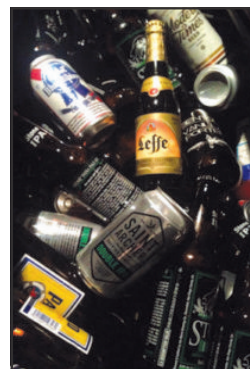


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**2 Liter Growler
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blurt the inside track

Full-body synesthesia

The Multisensory Aesthetic Experience hasn't toured in years. But they remember the sweet spots in the lower 48, and how to celebrate them. "San Diego is a uniquely special place for the band," explains MAE's Jacob Marshall. "Because we are from the east coast, San Diego has come to represent the halfway point in our tour. Several years ago we started a tradition where after our SD shows we would invite all of the opening bands on the tour and friends and fans to come party with us at the La Jolla cliffs. This would usually involve bonfires, fireworks, and watching the moon sink into the ocean. It is a time when the tour goes

from being bands on the road together, to one large family." The band, which also



Multisensory Aesthetic Experience — that triggering of one sense by another.

includes Dave Elkins and Zach Gehring, pulls into the Irenic on Saturday the 19th, so it's reasonable to assume the fireworks and bonfires

are on the agenda. Adds Marshall: "We are good friends with the Switchfoot guys and several other incredible SD locals, so we usually follow their lead."

The band's back from several years off. Elkins built a studio in Nashville. Gehring earned a Master's Degree and became a professor.

Marshall moved to Brooklyn and helped found the Global Citizen Festival, based in Central Park. Immersive art, neuroscience, and

their connection to tech, all fascinated him, and the new album reflects all the above.

But the overwhelming new theme is synesthesia: That triggering of one sense by another sense, so someone associates letters with certain colors, or sounds with certain tastes. This can occur through psychedelics, but some folks are just wired that way.

Marshall experienced what he calls "full-body synesthesia," at age 17. His college studies in Aesthetic Theory, and his work with the band, go towards defining and manifesting that feeling, a musical experience involving not only the ears, but the whole body.

Asked about the hardest aspects of the new album, Marshall invokes "Everything from finances, to living in different cities, to trying to create an album experience that is so different from what's been

done before. I personally suffered a complete mental exhaustion breakdown during the album.... The only thing that got us through was the love and kindness and support of our families and our label and our friends. And of course, for each other."

— Andrew Hamlin

Trumpet festival

"I'd heard about the Festival of New Trumpet Music (an annual multi-day New York City event co-curated by UCSD professor Stephanie Richards and founder Dave Douglas) around a dozen years ago, and I thought it was such a cool idea," remembers Daniel Atkinson, artistic director of UCSD Urban (the university's new center in the East Village.) "When Stephanie came to town, we started talking about doing it out here."



Cuong Vu opens the New FONT West trumpet festival on January 20 at the Atheneum.

So what exactly is FONT West?

"It's a week-long run of trumpet-focused concerts and films that begins on Sunday, January 20 and concludes on Sunday, January 27, with something different every night. There are three free concerts, and we are working with lots of partners," says trumpeter Richards.

Is there a mission

(continued on page 50)

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CAPS TAN
JANUARY 30

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JANUARY 31

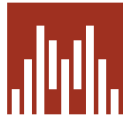
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MUSIC BOX



WEDNESDAY

SAGE THE GEMINI
DEREK KING
RAYMOND MCMAHON
LXMB

JAN 16



THURSDAY

LOST KINGS
SO WHAT TOUR
KREAM

JAN 17



FRIDAY

ROB GARZA (DJ SET)
OF THIEVERY CORPORATION
ERIC MEDINA
ANDREW WILKINSON



JAN 18



SATURDAY

ZOSO
THE ULTIMATE LED ZEPPELIN EXPERIENCE
BAND OF GRINGOS
CASUAL YAK

JAN 19



SUNDAY

TOM GUN LIVE!
AN INTERACTIVE HOMAGE
TO TOM CRUISE



JAN 20



TUESDAY

EMILY KING
JENNAH BELL

JAN 22



THURSDAY

KELLY MCGARRY PRESENTS
NO KINGS
AVIATOR STASH, MDRN HSTRY
CORAL BELLS, GOLDEN HOWL

JAN 24



FRIDAY

OZOMATLI asisuena productions
FT. CUT CHEMIST + CHALI 2NA
THE DELIRIANS, DJ RICHIE
OZOKIDS SHOW SAT 2/26 • 2PM

JAN 25



SATURDAY

JOHNNY CLARKE
VIVIAN JONES
MEETS ROOTS COVENANT



JAN 26

JUST ADDED

The Como La Flor (early show) 2/23
Kaleena Zanders & Friendz (late show) 2/23

COMING SOON

1/21 Parquet Courts w/ Snail Mail - Sold Out!	2/27 Darlingside w/ special guest River Whyless (seated show)	3/28 SWMRS - 91X Inspired by Music Series w/The Regrettes and Beach Goons
1/30 ListenSD Presents Death Valley Girls and Frankie & The Witch Fingers	3/1 Stepping Feet (Dave Matthews tribute)	3/29 Novo Amor
2/1 Poncho Sanchez	3/5 Moe & The New Kingston	3/30 Rubblebucket
2/2 MadeinTYO	3/7 Eli-Mac and New Kingston	4/3 Missio
2/7 Passafire	3/8 Redwoods Revue w/ Jake Najor and the Moment of Truth, The Midnight Pine, Birdy Bardot & Dani Bell and the Tarantist	4/4 The Havana Cuba All-Stars
2/8 Natchafire	3/9 You Me At Six w/ special guest DREAMERS	4/5 Strangelove (Depeche Mode tribute)
2/9 The Pettybreakers and Desperado	3/14 Yung Gravy	4/7 Mt. Joy
2/14 Somebody to Love - A Queen Musical with a Ballet Twist ft. Brian Justin Crum (seated show)	3/17 Shing02 & The Chee-Hoos: A Tribute To Nujabes	4/11 Space Jesus
2/15 The Soul Rebels w/ The Routine	3/21 Bailo	4/12 Las Cafeteras
2/16 Red Not Chili Peppers	3/24 Matt Nathanson	4/19 Metalachi
2/17 Kongos		4/27 Com Truise
2/20 Justin Nozuka (seated show)		4/28 Perturbator
2/22 Brasstracks w/ special guest Pell		5/3 SoMo
		5/9 White Lies

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WEDNESDAY 1/16



THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS
MIDNIGHT NORTH

THURSDAY 1/17



DSB
(JOURNEY TRIBUTE)
FOO FIGHTERS
(FOO FIGHTERS TRIBUTE)

FRIDAY 1/18



TOMMY CASTRO & THE PAINKILLERS
THE RHUMBOOGIES

SATURDAY 1/19



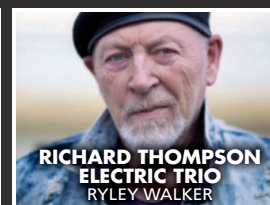
THE ENGLISH BEAT

FRIDAY 1/25 & SATURDAY 1/26



ANA POPOVIC
CHRISTONE
"KINGFISH" INGRAM

SUNDAY 1/27



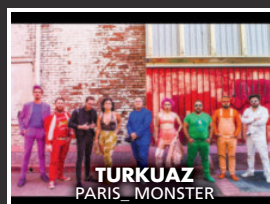
RICHARD THOMPSON
ELECTRIC TRIO
RYLEY WALKER

MONDAY 1/28



AN EVENING WITH
SERGIO MENDES

TUESDAY 1/29



TURKUAZ
PARIS_MONSTER

THURSDAY 1/31



JACOB BANKS
JAMIE N COMMONS

FRIDAY 2/1



VAUGHAN AND THE VILLAINS
TROUBLE IN THE WIND

SATURDAY 2/2



BLACKBERRY SMOKE
CHRIS SHIFLETT

MONDAY 2/4 & TUESDAY 2/5



AN EVENING WITH
NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS

WEDNESDAY 2/6



Banding Together's Greatest Hits ft. The Shift w/ Jungle Poppins - matinee 2/23
G. Love & Special Sauce 3/6 • Billy Idol & Steve Stevens 3/13 - pre-sale 1/17
Ryan Bingham 3/23 • Ella Vos 3/26
The Highwayman Show: The Music of Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings
and Kris Kristofferson 4/12 • Common Sense w/ The Bonedaddys 4/13

Upcoming Shows:

1/21-23 Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue - Sold Out!	2/23 Steve Poltz 10th Annual 50th Birthday ft. The Rugburns	3/20 Green Leaf Rustlers ft. Chris Robinson, Barry Sless, Pete Sears, John Molo, Greg Loiacono
1/24 Big Head Todd & The Monsters - Sold Out!	2/24 Albert Hammond Jr.	3/21 Ladysmith Black Mambazo (seated show)
1/30 Tower of Power 50th Anniversary - Sold Out!	2/26 Joy Williams (of the Civil Wars) - seated show	3/22 The Spazmatics
2/7 Joan Osborne sings the songs of Bob Dylan	2/27 Coco Montoya & Tinsley Ellis	3/28 Galactic ft. Erica Falls
2/8 Groundation	2/28 & 3/1 The Wood Brothers	3/29 Beatles vs. Stones
2/9 Tainted Love	3/1 Lettuce @ Observatory	3/30 Donna Missal @ Casbah
2/10 Joshua Radin	3/1 Junior Brown @ Casbah	3/31 Black Moth Super Rainbow
2/12 Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra (seated show)	3/2 Pine Mountain Logs	4/3 Al Stewart Greatest Hits Show (seated show)
2/13 Tom Curren Band & the Uncut Footage pres. by Luau & Legends of Surfing	3/3 The Marshall Tucker Band - Sold Out!	4/5 Dead Feather Moon
2/14 Casey Hensley's Lovin Valentine's Day	3/5 Twiddle w/ special guest Iya Terra	4/7 Buddy Guy - Sold Out!
2/15 Dead Man's Party Valentine's Weekend Show	3/7 Sister Sparrow & The Dirty Birds	4/7 Ten Fé @ Casbah
2/16 ALO	3/8 Betamaxx	4/9 Jimmie Vaughan
2/17 Los Lonely Boys	3/10 Makana & Shawn and Lehua (seated show)	4/19 Los Lobos
2/19 Mark Hummel's Golden State & Lone Star Blues Revue ft. Anson Funderburgh (seated show)	3/11 Pete Yorn	4/20 Michael McDonald - Sold Out!
	3/12 Black Uhuru w/ special guest Onesty	4/28 White Denim
	3/14 Stephen Marley Acoustic - Sold Out!	5/4 Wayward Sons
	3/15 & 16 Super Diamond	5/10 & 11 Jefferson Starship
	3/19 Cold Cave	5/21 Idles
		6/1 Snarky Puppy @ House of Blues

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statement?

"We're presenting new music, but it's not genre specific. We're looking for people who are trying to create something new with their horns. That direction is being represented by Cuong Vu, Peter Evans and Dan Rosenboom. The festival is also about diversity and the tradition which will be represented by Gilbert Castellanos, Curtis Taylor, and Josh Evans."

What about your own concert?

"I'm very excited about that. I'll be debuting the music for a new record coming out called *Take the Neon Lights*, which is about my journey from New York City to San Diego. It's going to feature Mark Dresser, Joshua White, Brian Walsh, and Andrew Munsey."

The eight-day festival begins with the Cuong Vu Trio at the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library in La Jolla on Sunday, January 20 at 7:30 pm and wraps up with a free three-fer concert at 2 pm featuring the Euphoria Brass Band, Gilbert Castellanos, and the Daniel Rosenboom Octet at the Quartyard in East Village. Check fontmusic.org for the rest of the schedule.

— Robert Bush

Punk Big Bang While the Casbah's 30th is a milestone, the Penetrators reunion show packs a bigger numerical punch. Their first reunion show in five years on Friday marks the 40th anniversary for the trailblazing band that dominated San Diego's punk and new wave scene in the late 70s and early 80s.

It might be their last show ever.

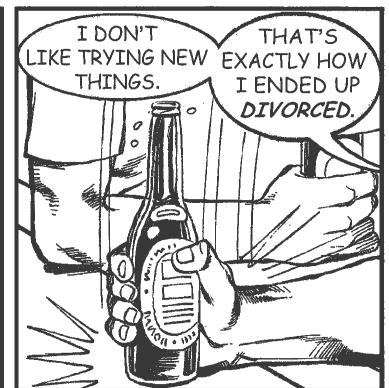
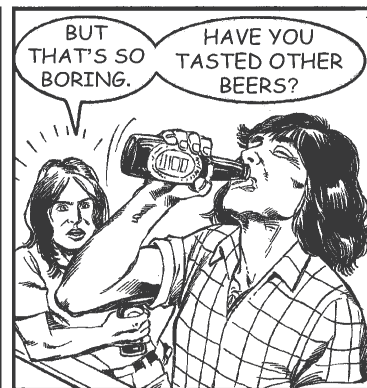
"I'm not saying it's our last, but that's what I'm hearing from Gary," says Jim Call, the Penetrators keyboard player about lead singer Gary Heffern who is flying in from Finland for the reunion. "His performance was always a ball of fire. It always took a lot out of him. Maybe his age is catching up with him. But you never know. Look how many times Bowie came back."

San Diego's original punk Big Bang came with The Zeroes, The Dils, and The Hitmakers who played to a devoted but small scene in '76-'77. But it was "The Pens" who proved during their 1978-83 reign that this wild new rock music could pack venues.

"Of course most of them are long gone like the Adams Avenue Theater, Abbey Road [on El Cajon Boulevard], the Skelton Club [in a pre-Gaslamp downtown], the North Park Lions Club, and those teen clubs like Journey and Headquarters which I think were both in Pacific Beach," explains Call. "We played a lot at the Spirit Club [now Brick

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by Brick]. It still amazes when I run into somebody who knew us from 40 years ago."

Call remembers when The Penetrators first started playing in 1978. "There were maybe 150 people in the entire scene. At any given show you could

Mar Fairgrounds."

Other shows include opening for David Johansen at the now defunct Back Door SDSU concert venue. "We also opened for Jody Foster's Army, The Dead Kennedys, and Killer Pussy."



The Penetrators are looking like the Pensionators.

count on maybe 50 of them to show up. After about nine months in we knew we were on to something. We would play for like 8000 people at the Bing Crosby Hall at the Del

He says there were at least ten other local original new wave bands like DFX2, Gary Wilson and the Blind Dates, and Claude Coma and the IV's who were getting attention.

"Anything that didn't sound like Journey or REO Speedwagon was a good thing... The Battalion of Saints and Gary Wilson are still doing it"

Call says the Pens "soldiered on" until 1984 when Heffern left town. He says in '83 drummer Dan McLain "... started doing different things creatively. He discovered the Spring Valley Inn where he launched the Snuggle Bunnies. Out of that grew the Beat Farmers," the cow-punk band that played the local scene from the mid-80s until McLain (Country Dick Montana) died on stage in November 1995.

"Actually Joel Kmak was the first Penetrators drummer before Dan," explains Call. "He's been playing at all the Penetrators reunions since the first one in 2005 that commemorated the ten year anniversary of Dan's death."

Call, Heffern, and Kmak

will be joined by other original Penetrators including guitarist Chris Davies, co-owner of Cow Records, and bassist Chris Sullivan who now plays in the Beat Farmers offshoot called The Farmers.

Penetrators shows were known for Heffern's frenetic dervish character while Call maintained a melodramatic seriousness on stage. "I was a noise musician going back to 1975 when I got into Metal Machine Music by Lou Reed. I brought home a piano and started pounding my fist on it."

The Penetrators appear in celebration of the Casbah's 30th anniversary, Friday, January 18 with The Dinettes and The Schizophonic.

— Ken Leighton

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN. 16 HOWLIN' RAIN MONARCH GARCIA PEOPLES</p>	<p>COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • casbahmusic.com</p>	<p>SATURDAY • FEB. 2 DRAMA</p>
<p>THURSDAY • JAN. 17 THE DONKEYS THE BLANK TAPES BITCHIN' SUMMER</p>		<p>MONDAY • FEB. 4 THE TOASTERS SAN DIEGO CITY SOUL CLUB DJs</p>
<p>SATURDAY • JAN. 19 ADOLESCENTS DEATH EYES ALVINO AND THE DWELLS SPACE FORCE</p>	<p>SATURDAY • JAN. 26 BUCK-O-NINE THE DOWNS FAMILY UNSTEADY</p>	<p>TUESDAY • FEB. 5 GANG OF FOUR</p>
<p>SUNDAY • JAN. 20 MUSTARD PLUG THE PHENOMENAUTS LEXINGTON FIELD</p>	<p>MONDAY • JAN. 28 GARY HEFFERN'S LAST WALTZ THE DILS MANUAL SCAN EXECUTIVES</p>	<p>THURSDAY • FEB 7 ALEX CAMERON AND ROY MOLLOY</p>
<p>MONDAY • JAN. 21 THE DISTRICTS DEEPER</p>	<p>TUESDAY • JAN. 29 EMO NITE</p>	<p>FRIDAY • FEB. 8 STEVE GUNN MEG BAIRD AND MARY LATTIMORE</p>
<p>TUESDAY • JAN. 22 VIA SATELLITE GOODBYE BLUE MONDAY DEWEY DEFEATS TRUMAN</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • JAN. 30 THE SILENT COMEDY MRS. HENRY JULIA SAGE AND THE BAD HOMBRES</p>	<p>SATURDAY • FEB. 9 THE WOGGLES THE SCHIZOPHONICS THE TWO TENS</p>
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		<p>THURSDAY • FEB. 14 ELIZABETH COOK KENDELL MARVEL</p>

<p>FRI. JAN. 18 JUDAS PRIESTESS Cowgirls From Hell, 2 Hot 2 Handle</p>		<p>WED. JAN. 30 MICHAEL ANGELO BATIO Fused</p>
<p>SAT. JAN. 19 SUMAC Divide And Dissolve, Tashi Dorji</p>		<p>THU. JAN. 31 TANTRIC DiVad, Reyah, Silent Vice</p>
<p>SUN. JAN. 20 REAGAN YOUTH Midnight Track, D.V.T., VFMS</p>	<p>FRI. JAN. 25 PRIMITIVE MAN 16, Cave Bastard, Sixes</p>	<p>SAT. FEB. 2 DEFY THE TYRANTS Finding THETIS, Pyrotechnica, Legions</p>
<p>WED. JAN. 23 MARTY FRIEDMAN Immortal Guardian, Nightshadow</p>	<p>SAT. JAN. 26 CORROSION OF CONFORMITY Crowbar, Weedeater, Mothership</p>	<p>FRI. FEB. 15 POWERMAN 5000 "Tonight The Stars Revolt!" 20th Anniversary</p>
<p>THU. JAN. 24 RUBY THE HATCHET Demon Lung, Loom</p>	<p>SUN. JAN. 27 TONY MACALPINE Monte Pittman, Lonero, RDG, Taz Taylor Band</p>	<p>SAT. FEB. 16 THE THREE TREMORS With special guests</p>
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JUST ANNOUNCED

If you just read the lyrics of songs by George Watsky with no aural context, you might think he was a country-western artist, only one who must sing really fast or write terribly long songs, so large are the text blocks. There's a lot of honky-tonk swagger and bitter



WATSKY AT HOUSE OF BLUES ON MARCH 17

laments about the women who done him wrong, drinking that he either looks forward to or regrets, and places he'll always miss, plans to go to, or never wants to see again. The rapper clearly fancies himself a bit of a poet, an aspiration only encouraged by landing his rambling essay collection, *How to Ruin Everything*, on the New York Times Bestseller chart. He just dropped his fifth full-length, the accurately titled *Complaint* (it's full of 'em, there's little he can't find to gripe about), with a support tour due to hit House of Blues on March 17. Now going by just his last name, **Watsky** came up through the San Francisco poetry scene, winning the 2006 Brave New Voices National Poetry Slam. His musical ventures have taken a little while to catch on, but he seemed to come into his own in 2016 with *X Infinity*, which debuted at number four on Billboard's Rap Albums Chart. Representative of his chatty, snarky humor are videos currently streaming online for "Welcome to the Family" and "Mean Ass Drunk."

Former Black Crowe Chris Robinson may be looking more and more like he posed for the Shroud of Turin, but his voice has only gotten stronger through the years, as heard over the course of several solo projects. His newest, **Green Leaf Rustlers**, pairs him with frequent

Jefferson Starship collaborator Pete Sears, Barry Sless (Moonalice), John Molo (Bruce Hornsby & the Range), and Greg Loiacono (the Mother Hips). The group will pay tribute to classic country and roots music on a short ten-date tour that includes their first performance in Alaska, as well as a March 20 appearance at the

Belly Up. They made their live debut in summer 2017 and embarked on their first tour last year. Being somewhat of a jam band that welcomes tapers, there are plenty of YouTube clips that demonstrate a tight, well-rehearsed ensemble, although be advised not to expect any Crowe-ing or anything by the Chris Robinson Brotherhood. Instead, you'll be presented with faithfully arranged, if sonically over-amped, versions of evergreen tunes such as "Ride Me High" (J.J. Cale), "Big Mouth Blues" (Gram Parsons), "Standin'" (Townes Van Zandt), and "Honky Tonk Song" (Mel Tillis). Looking over setlists from just this month, they've also been covering Parsons' "Still Feeling Blue" and Cale's "Ride Me High."

One recent performance closed with an encore of "Bertha" by the Grateful Dead, a number known well by guitarist Barry Sless and drummer John Molo from their stints with Dead Family acts like Kingfish, Phil Lesh, and the Other Ones.



GREEN LEAF RUSTLERS AT BELLY UP ON MARCH 20



TEDESCHI TRUCKS BAND AT CIVIC THEATRE ON MAY 12

As far as locals go, ours is a very bluegrass friendly city, as evidenced by the worldwide fame of homegrown acts such as Nickel Creek and its successful spinoff projects involving Chris Thile and Sara Watkins. And yet, for some reason, many if not most touring headliners tend to be MIA in San Diego, with few venues committing to more than the occasional themed event night. Acoustic bluegrass rockers the **Lil Smokies** first made the rounds at the Belly Up and Observatory North Park, but their ap-

pearance last March at the Casbah was so well attended and reviewed that the venue has invited the band back for an April 17 reprise. The Montana group's history dates back to around 2009, but most people first heard of them when they won the 2015 Telluride Bluegrass Band competition and a 2016 IBMA award for Momentum Band of the Year. Luckily for them and other acoustic auteurs, there's a thriving festival scene where they've become fan favorites at outdoor shindigs like Floyd Fest, Del Fest, String Summit, High Sierra, and FreshGrass. Their newest album, *Changing Shades*, features the same current lineup expected to man this tour, including Scott Parker (bass), Jake Simpson (fiddle), Matt Rieger (guitar),

Matt Cornette (banjo), and Dunnigan (dobro). A rustic wood-filled video was just released online for the track "California."

Signs, the upcoming album from the **Tedeschi Trucks Band**, is marinated in personal tragedy. During the period that the Grammy-winning 12-piece group, fronted by husband and wife country rockers Derek Trucks and Susan Tedeschi, worked on the album, multiple friends and family members passed away. Those losses, including two Allman Brothers (founder Gregg Allman and Derek's uncle Butch Trucks) and mentor Col. Bruce Hampton, were compounded by the unexpected deaths of countrified contemporaries such as Tom Petty and Leon Russell, and dealing with so much pain all at once was a big part of the album's inspiration. "This is the first record we've made where, when I listen to it, it puts me in a specific place," says Derek Trucks in one press release. "It puts me in a zone and hits some raw

nerves." The album was recorded live to two-inch analog tape, using an original Neve console combined with a 1970s Studer tape recorder. The 11-song release, due February 15 via Fantasy Records/Concord, is so far previewed by a bluesy guitar heavy single called "Hard Case" currently streaming on NPR Music. Featuring guests such as Allman Brothers vet Warren Haynes, as well as Doyle Bramhall II, Oliver Wood, and Marc Quinones, a support tour kicks off this month that eventually rolls into San Diego's Civic Theatre on May 12.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find JUST ANNOUNCED online at SDReader.com/music

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Cuong Vu Trio.

Aztec Brewing Company:

Saturday, 5pm — Lost Monarchs and Jerod & Malissa Dulaney. Free.

Backdrop:

Saturday, 7pm — MC Flow. \$10-\$15.

Beaumont's:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Mark Fisher.

Friday, 9pm — It's Never 2L8.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — The Infamous Stringdusters. \$20-\$22.

Friday, 8pm — DSB.

Saturday, 8pm — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers. \$23-\$41.

Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 8pm — Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue. \$45-\$79.

Brick by Brick:

Saturday, 8pm — Sumac and Tashi Dorji.

Wednesday, 8pm — Marty Friedman.

Callaway Vineyard & Winery:

Saturday, 1pm — King Taylor Project. Free.

Capri Blu:

Friday, 7pm — Tim Yancey.

Free.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — The Donkeys. \$15-\$18.

Friday, 8pm — The Penetrators. \$25.

Saturday, 8pm — Adolescents. \$20.

Sunday, 8pm — Mustard Plug and the Phenomenauts. \$12-\$14.

Monday, 8pm — The Districts and Deeper. \$15.

Tuesday, 8pm — Dewey Defeats Truman and Via Satellite.

Wednesday, 8pm — Pinback and Swollen Brains. \$26.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 9pm — FX5. Free.

Coriography:

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

Dirk's Niteclub:

Friday, 8pm — Nemesis.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Saturday, 7pm — Daniel Jackson Music Week. \$15-\$20.

El Camino II:

Saturday, 3pm — Progress feat. Brian Cid. \$15-\$20.

F6ix Niteclub:

Sunday, 9pm — Cham. \$40.

Greek Palace:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Bellydance Showcase. \$5.

Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad:

Friday, 6:30pm — Gone Blonde. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

! OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

They're not a spot-on imitation of their namesake band, but was that ever the idea? Judas Priestess is plain heavy-metal fun — five gifted women metal-heads who deliver a shot of club-sized Judas Priest. Priestess as a band has been around for close to a decade. And yes, Priest front man Rob Halford knows about them. There's a press photo of him with the members of Priestess on their web site. Word is that they all met after a taping of VH1's "That Metal Show," and that the elder rocker gave them his blessing.

From New York, Priestess bills themselves as "The world's only all-girl tribute to the metal gods." But Priestess is by far not the only all-woman metal tribute band. Consider Lez

Zeppelin, Missticala, the Iron Maidens, AC/DShe, and Vag Halen, to name a few. Half of the gig is coming up with a cool fem-name. But make no mistake: the other half of the woman-tribute-rock equation is demonstrating that, beyond any shadow of a doubt, hard rock and heavy metal are no longer exclusively man clubs.

Priestess is: guitarists Rena Sands and Josette, bassist Gyda Gash (from the all-girl Bowie tribute Ziggy Starlet,) with drummer Hillary Blaze. Collectively, they rip through Priest's catalog. "Halford" is played by MilitiA, who came to rock and roll via roles in musicals such as *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Prior to that, she was a Boston Conservatory of Music-trained pianist. "I wanted to play rock and roll," she told a reporter. "That shit was boring."

MilitiA answered a Craigslist ad. Priestess needed a singer. The rest is history. She calls Rob Halford her heavy metal father. Halford once told me that he resides near Banker's Hill



JUDAS PRIESTESS

for part of the year. It's only fair to wonder if he might be in the audience when Priestess next plays San Diego.

JUDAS PRIESTESS: Friday, January 18, Brick By Brick, 619-276-3990, 8 pm, \$15 (Cowgirls from Hell and 2 Hot 2 Handle also perform).

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

Friday, 5:30pm — Wolf, Thorsen & Sellers. Free.

Hard Rock Hotel:

Sunday, 8pm — What So Not and Party Pupils.

Henry's Pub:

Wednesday, 9pm — Jonny Tarr.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Friday, 9pm — Camino Paz.

Saturday, 9pm — Black Market III.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Friday, 9pm — Tony Cummins.

Saturday, 9pm — Ron's Garage.

House of Blues:

Friday, 7pm — Long and Winding Road. \$20-\$25.

Friday, 7pm — Noche de Rock en Espanol. \$15-\$30.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Omar Chaparro.

Sunday, 11am — Gospel Brunch.

Tuesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

Wednesday, 7pm — Jacquess.

\$25-\$50.

Irenic:

Saturday, 6:30pm — Mae. \$22-\$89.

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:

Friday, 7pm — Blake Miller & The Old Fashioned Aces. \$20.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, 7:30pm — Robin Henkel Trio.

La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.

Friday, 6pm — Rick Ross.

Saturday, 6pm — Los Reyes.

Monday, 6pm — Javid & Naoko.

Tuesday, 6pm — Elliott Lawrence.

Wednesday, 6pm — Danny Green.

Loma Club:

Friday, 6pm — Electric Waste Beer Red IPA. Free.

Lyceum Theatre:

Monday, 12pm — The Curtis Taylor Trio. Free.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:

Friday, 8pm — West of 5. Free.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

Friday, 9:30pm — Heavy Petting Zoo and Cherry Road.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:

Thursday, 8pm — Brian Justin Crum. \$40-\$50.

Wednesday, 8pm — Esera Tualo. \$25.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Fuzz-Huzzi. Free.

Saturday, 9pm — Steelehorse. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Saturday, 8pm — Lindsay Ell.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 8:30pm — Steelehorse Country.

Friday, 8:30pm — Bonneville 7. Free.

Museum of Making Music:

Friday, 7pm — Alison Brown.

Music Box:

Thursday, 8pm — Lost Kings and Kream. \$20-\$25.

Friday, 9pm — Rob Garza (DJ Set). \$20.

Saturday, 8pm — Zoso and Band of Gringos. \$20-\$22.

Monday, 7pm — Parquet Courts and Snail Mail. \$27.

Tuesday, 8pm — Emily King. \$20-\$22.

Navajo Live:

Friday, 9pm — Chosen Arrow.

Saturday, 8pm — Blackout.

Sunday, 8pm — Soundvault.

Wednesday, 8pm — Car Radio.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, 8pm — KRS-One.

Saturday, 8pm — Nao and Xavier Omar.

Wednesday, 8pm — Celso Pina.

Omnia San Diego:

Friday, 9pm — Nightmre.

Saturday, 8pm — Habstrakt.

Sunday, 8pm — Rev Run & DJ Ruckus.

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Friday January 18: **Andrew Broschart** 5pm
Cody Carter & Rand Anderson 8:30pm

Saturday January 19: **Gabe Crosby** 12pm
Michael Dwyer 6pm
Sturdy Souls 8:30pm

Sunday January 20: **Boon & Kiel** 12pm
Brunch 10am-3pm
Tim Fullerton Trio 7pm

Monday January 21: **Kevin Childs** 7pm
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Panama 66:

Friday, 7pm — Dave Gleason Trio.

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

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

Friday, 7pm — Southern Reign and Artimus Pyle Band.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Oceanside:

Tuesday, 5:30pm — Joe Cardillo.
Wednesday, 5:30pm — Dom & Nico.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town:

Friday, 5pm — Santana Pa Ti.
Saturday, 5pm — Joe Cardillo.

Salty Frog:

Saturday, 9pm — Little Evil, Effe Emme, the Anomaly. Free.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Anthony Green. \$22-\$25.
Friday, 8pm — Dent May. \$10-\$12.
Saturday, 8pm — Winter Disco and Post Tropic. \$5-\$10.
Sunday, 8pm — 88 Fingers Louie and Decent Criminal. \$15-\$17.
Monday, 8pm — The Posies (Jon & Ken Duo Show). \$16-\$18.
Wednesday, 8pm — Mozes & the Firstborn and the Parrots. \$10-\$12.

Soma:

Saturday, 6:30pm — As It Is. \$15.

Space:

Saturday, 9pm — Super Unison and Slow Mass. \$10-\$12.
Sunday, 8pm — Haunt and Idle Hands. \$10-\$12.

Spacebar Cafe:

Saturday, 6:30pm — Baird & Silva.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Encinitas:

Friday, 8pm — The Hutchins Consort: Hawaiiana. \$15-\$35.

St. Mark's United Methodist Church:**IMMORTAL BEAUTY**

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Echoes of the future

The new year is upon us, and the San Diego Symphony is beginning its annual midseason festival. This year's theme is "Hearing the Future." Curating the festival is American composer Matthew Aucoin. Born in 1990, Aucoin already has an impressive resume of compositions of instrumental and vocal music. In my opinion, his opera *Crossing* is one of the most promising compositions I've heard. It is based on Walt Whitman's experiences during the Civil War.

Two pillars of the San Diego classical music scene are conducting back-to-back during the festival. Incoming San Diego Symphony music director Rafael Payare conducts on January 10, 11, 12, and 13. Michael Francis, music director of the San

Diego Mainly Mozart Festival, conducts on January 18, 19, and 20.

These two concerts are pretty straightforward, and feature the "new music" of the past. Maestro Payare is conducting Richard Strauss's *Don Juan*, Benjamin Britten's *Symphony for Cello and Orchestra*, and then the colossal Shostakovich *Symphony No. 10*.

Maestro Francis is conducting a concert entitled "The Young Romantics." The repertoire is Mendelssohn's *The Hebrides*, Liszt's *Piano Concerto No. 1*, and then the psychedelic *Symphonie Fantastique* by Berlioz.

In my opinion, the two most interesting concerts feature young Matthew Aucoin. The first is January 13 at The Auditorium at The Scripps Research Institute.

The title of the event is "A Brief History of New Music with Matt Aucoin." What makes it interesting is a chance to hear Arnold Schoenberg's *Transfigured Night* in a 300-seat house. Also on the program is a Haydn string quartet, John Adams's *Shaker Loops* (septet version), and Matthew Aucoin's *Violin Sonata: Its Own Accord*.

The final concert of the festival bears the title "Matt's Playlist: Echoes of the Future." Aucoin is conducting the concert of no less than 12 pieces of music. Some pieces are segments of larger works, such as the first movement of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 1* and the fourth movement from Sibelius's *Symphony No. 4*.

There are some ultra-



Born in 1990, Matthew Aucoin wrote the opera *Crossing* based on Walt Whitman's writings.

modern composers in play, such as Steve Reich and Thomas Adès. However, the late baroque master Jean-Philippe Rameau is on the playlist too.

To my mind, the addition of baritone Rodney Gilfry makes this concert fascinating. Gilfry will be singing from Mahler's *Rückert Lieder* and from

Aucoin's aforementioned opera *Crossing*.

This is third January Festival the San Diego Symphony has presented and it is, by far, the most compelling of the three. I've only mentioned the main events of the festival. A complete listing can be found on the symphony website.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Sunday, 4:30pm — Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir. Free.

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park:

Friday, 7:30pm — The Wardens. \$15-\$18.

Teri Wilder Healing Sanctuary:

Saturday, 10am — Learn to Play the Gong Workshop. \$250.

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8pm — Mercedes Moore Band. \$5.
Saturday, 7pm — Benji Davis Benefit.

Tower Bar:

Friday, 9pm — Slum Summer and Santa Ana Knights.
Saturday, 8pm — Brendan Kelly and Ricky Schmidt & the Stupid.

Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:
Saturday, 9pm — Marauak & Band. \$15.

UCSD Price Center:

Wednesday, 8pm — ArtPower: Bill Frisell. \$30-\$35.

United Church of Christ of La Mesa:

Sunday, 2pm — Tasha Smith Godinez. Free.

Waterbar:

Tuesday, 7pm — Irusalem.

Winstons Beach Club:

Saturday, 6pm — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. Free.
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.

Witch Creek Winery Carlsbad:

Friday, 7pm — Cowboy Jack. Free.

WorldBeat Cultural Center:

Monday, 1pm — Multicultural Martin Luther King Jr Day Celebration. Free.

UPCOMING SHOWS**AMSDFconcerts Bonita:**

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ryanhood. \$20-\$30.

Air Conditioned Lounge:

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Bachata Sundays. Free.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Sheila Jordan. \$23-\$28.

Baily's Old Town:

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Debora Galan. Free.

Bang Bang:

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Eli & Fur.

Beaumont's:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Daniel Cervantes.
Friday, Jan. 25 — The

Nineteen90s.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Sofa King Buenos.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Big Head Todd & the Monsters.
Friday, Jan. 25 — The English Beat. \$25-\$44.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — The English Beat. \$25-\$44.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Ana Popovic. \$18-\$32.
Monday, Jan. 28 — Richard Thompson Electric Trio. \$35-\$62.
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Sergio Mendes.

Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Tower of Power 50th Anniversary.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Turkuaz and Paris Monster. \$18-\$32.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps:

Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Toddler Time. Free.

Bonita Museum and Cultural Center:

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Katie Ward & Jeremy Field. \$10.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Primitive Man and Cave Bastard. \$14-\$18.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Corrosion of Conformity and Crowbar. \$28-\$32.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Tony MacAlpine and Taz Taylor.

Casbah:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — Pinback and Montalban Quintet. \$26.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Buck-O-Nine and the Downs Family. \$15.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — No Knife and Buckfast Superbee. \$20.
Monday, Jan. 28 — Gary Heffern's Last Waltz. \$12-\$15.
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Emo Nite. \$15.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Three Mile Pilot and the Dropsience. \$22-\$25.

Central Library:

Sunday, Jan. 27 — Trio Celeste. Free.
Sunday, Feb. 17 — Duo Gliss. Free.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Josie Day Band. Free.

Coriography:

Tuesday, Jan. 29 — 4 week Cuban Dance Series. \$40.

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Sunday, Jan. 27 — She Says So. Free.

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 70:

Monday, Jan. 28 — Acoustic Blues Jam. Free.

Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Gone Blonde. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Danny Green & Tripp Sprague. Free.

Henry's Pub:

Wednesday, Jan. 30 — The Heart Band.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Private Domain. Free.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Flophouse Playboys.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Jimmy Lewis.

Hotel Republic San Diego:

Friday, Jan. 25 — Durell Anthony & Ian Patrick Cler. Free.

House of Blues:

Thursday, Jan. 24 — And That's Why We Drink. \$27.
Friday, Jan. 25 — And That's Why We Drink. \$27.

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Fri 1/25 Band Overboard (Yacht Rock)
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Sat, Jan. 19
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Sun, Jan. 19, Free!
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Wed, Jan. 23
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FRI, 1/18
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The Fictitious Dishes
Santa Ana Knights

SAT, 1/19
BRENDAN KELLY
Ricky Schmidt & The Stupid Daikini

SUN, 1/20, 6PM
SMUT
Strangers • Crime Desire
Razor Nights • New Crimes
DJ Disorder

TUE, 1/22
LE SABOTEUR
John Underwood • Chris Fox
Spike McGuire • W.P. Hawk

Friday, Jan. 25 — Like A Storm.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Cautious Clay. \$15.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Steel Panther. \$22-\$55.
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Robin Henkel.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Silverstein and Hawthorne Heights.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Robby Krieger. \$35-\$65.

Irenic:
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Current Joys and Gap Girls. \$13-\$15.

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Generation Next: Hearing the Future of Jazz.

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Luay Yousif. \$20.

Ki's Restaurant:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Kraken:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Bonneville 7. Free.

La Jolla United Methodist Church:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — The Pacific Sound Quintet. Free.

La Valencia Hotel:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Keni Yarbro.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Rick Ross.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Roman Palacios.
Monday, Jan. 28 — Oscar Aragon.
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Lisa Campbell.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Danny Green.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Keni Yarbro.

Library:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Amy & the Unknown.
Loft:
Tuesday, Feb. 5 — ArtPower: Leyla McCalla. \$18-\$35.
Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — John Lloyd Young. \$40-\$50.
Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Three Chord Justice.
Friday, Jan. 25 — The Jackstones.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Celeste Barbier.

Saturday, Jan. 26 — Cadillac Fringe.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — The Ghost Riders.

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

Music Box:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Coral Bells and Golden Howl. \$10.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Ozomatli, Cut Chemist, Chali 2na. \$35.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ozokidz Featuring Ozomatli. \$15.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Johnny Clarke, Vivian Jones, Roots Covenant. \$27-\$32.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Death Valley Girls and Frankie & the Witch Fingers. \$11-\$15.

Nate's Garden Grill:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Robin Henkel.

Navajo Live:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Straitjacket.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Xanadoodz.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Major Interval.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — The Tale.

Observatory North Park:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Peter Murphy & David J. \$40-\$45.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Whitey Morgan. \$25.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Bananarama.
Monday, Jan. 28 — Bas.

Old California Coffee House & Eatery:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Rolf Olsen Quartet. Free.

Omnia San Diego:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Cash Cash.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Crankdat. Free.

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Elton John. \$49-\$224.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — ASAP Rocky.

Point Loma Assembly Hall:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — George Svoboda & Fred Beneditti. \$20-\$25.

Pour House:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — 131ers and Inspired & the Sleep.
Friday, Jan. 25 — Los Shadovs and Aviator Stash.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay.

Quartyard:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Festival of New Trumpet Music West/Brass Band Blast-Off.

Ramada Inn:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Tomcat Courtney's 90th Birthday Celebration. \$30-\$50.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Oceanside:
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Joe Cardillo.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Keni Yarbro.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Jim Allen.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Nitro Express.

Saddle Bar:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Salty Frog:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Braggers, Doc Hammer, 9 Volt Murder. Free.

San Dieguito Heritage Museum:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — No NAMM Jam.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Janus: Dancing the Future. \$15-\$40.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, Jan. 24 — Gutter and OhCult. \$6.
Monday, Jan. 28 — Duster. \$20.
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Russian Tremors and Dum Cumpsters. \$6.
Wednesday, Jan. 30 — Wild Child. \$20.
Thursday, Jan. 31 — Hablot Brown. \$15.

St. Michael's by-the-Sea:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Sangam. \$15-\$35.

Tio Leo's:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers.

Twin Oaks Valley Vintners:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Ginger Cowgirl Duo. Free.

Veterans Museum and Memorial Center:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Downbeat Big Band Dance & Swing Class. \$10.
Sunday, Feb. 24 — Downbeat Big Band Dance & Swing Class. \$10.

Viejas Arena:
Thursday, Feb. 7 — Kiss.
Thursday, Feb. 21 — Bob Seger & the Silver Bullet Band.

Waterbar:
Tuesday, Jan. 29 — Irusalem.
Tuesday, Feb. 5 — Irusalem.
Tuesday, Feb. 12 — Irusalem.
Tuesday, Feb. 19 — Irusalem.

Westfield University Towne Centre:
Sunday, Jan. 27 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

White Box Theater:
Friday, Jan. 25 — Stephanie Richards. \$10-\$20.

WildWood Restaurant & Bar:
Saturday, Jan. 26 — Flipside Burners with Taryn Donath. Free.

Winstons Beach Club:
Monday, Jan. 28 — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Saturday, Feb. 2 — Dead Winter Carpenters. \$12.
Monday, Feb. 4 — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Monday, Feb. 11 — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Monday, Feb. 18 — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Sunday, Feb. 24 — Band of Gringos and Bayou Brothers. \$10.

Wong's Dragon Room:
Saturday, Feb. 23 — 8 East Band. Free.

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THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

A Jewel in the Crown City
Lamb's Players Theatre presents a musical celebration of the theater's 25 years in Coronado. Sixteen performers take the audience on a musical journey through the popular theater's greatest hits, both musicals and scenes from plays.
LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Abelia
The La Jolla Theatre Ensemble performs a staged reading of Kim Cromwell's one woman show about a woman from the back hills of Kentucky who grew up believing in miracles and refuses to stop believing when faced with a life-threatening illness.
LA JOLLA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6811 LA JOLLA BL., LA JOLLA. 858-459-0831. 7PM SATURDAY, 9PM MONDAY, JAN. 21.

And Then There Were None
Lamp-lighters Community Theatre stages Agatha Christie's classic whodunit. A cryptic invitation lures 10 people to a deserted island. They don't know each other, but have one thing in common. Each got away with murder. They won't tonight. Keith Anderson directs.
LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-

5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

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. BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Disney'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 four-time 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 THEATRE, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 858-362-1348. 8PM SATURDAY, 1PM & 4:30PM SUNDAY.

Guys and Dolls
The Coronado Playhouse stages the Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows, and Jo Swerling musical based on "The Idyll of Sarah Brown" and characters by Damon Runyon. Can Sky Masterson persuade Save-A-Soul Missionary Sister Sarah Brown to accompany him on a trip to Cuba? Justin Allen Slagle directs.
CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

He Pūtōrino Mākutu (a magic flute)

He Pūtōrino Mākutu (Eine Zauberflöte/A Magic Flute) is a chamber opera that combines two musical traditions from antipodes of the globe: Viennese classicism and taonga pūoro - the instrumental musical heritage of the Maori peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand. Musical borrowings from Mozart, Schubert and Beethoven are reimagined and responded to with original music and a bilingual libretto in Te Reo Māori and German. A trans-Pacific cast of vocalists from Aotearoa and the United States joins forces with San Diego musicians onstage with shadow puppets by the San Diego Guild of Puppetry.
SANDBOX, 325 15TH ST., EAST VILLAGE. 619-246-1122. 8PM THURSDAY.

Hello, Dolly
Broadway/San Diego hosts a touring production of Jerry Herman's popular musical about Dolly Gallagher, matchmaker extraordinaire who decides to keep rich Yonkers merchant, Horace Vandergelder, for herself. Betty Buckley stars as Dolly. Jerry Zaks directed.
SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 1PM & 6:30PM SUNDAY.

Mamma Mia!
The musical celebrating the songs of ABBA is vibrantly being performed at the recently re-opened Welk Resort Theatre. This light-hearted, 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

ANTI-REVIEW ANNE WENTWORTH

Why I love community theater

THE THEATER IS IN A STRIP MALL, up an ugly staircase. On the landing stands a sad, dusty, fake ficus. The door is unmarked and doesn't look inviting, but it's the only door, so I try it. It opens into a comfy room filled with mismatched furniture. A vintagey bar lined with candy bars and soda holds honor-jars that say "\$1 per item." I ask a volunteer about bottled water, and she bustles off to the fridge to bring out a tray of tiny ones, remonstrating with herself the while: "I don't know why I always forget the water!"

I choose an old love seat that looks comfortable. It isn't. I ask for the restroom. It's a large room doing double-duty. There are bookcases holding old books and a beautiful tea set, areas hidden by room dividers that no doubt hold old props, locked doors, and, thankfully, the required facilities. I am tempted to stay and snoop, but knowing that potty time is in high demand

before curtain, I reluctantly hurry out.

It is opening night, and the lobby is full of nervous and excited faces, including those

There's no lack of takers.

We go in to take our seats. The theater is tiny, smaller even than the lobby, only six rows. It is filled with parents, grandparents, siblings, friends, and opening-night congratulatory bouquets. I eavesdrop on it all while pretending to look at my phone.

In front of me sits a large multi-generational family, one of whom is a juror. They use her seat to pile coats, scarves, purses, and a large bouquet of yellow roses. The juror's teen brother is autistic. His reactions to the jokes are pure delight, and make me wistful for innocence. A few times, the stimulation gets too much for him, but no one shushes, and his mama soothes him with kisses and hugs.

There are bottles of bubbly in the lobby afterward. I love community theater. *People v. Beanstalk* runs PowPAC ("Poway's community theater") through February 10.

of the director and the playwright, who mingle easily with the crowd, on a first-name basis with nearly everyone. A corner of the lobby brags a nearly life-sized cow, a beanstalk, a gavel, golden eggs, and big, fluffy clouds. An older couple clammers behind the cow to get their photo taken, and onlookers are treated to "More cowbell!" as Bessie totters. I overhear a patron praising a volunteer for her work building the beanstalk, and she glows.

Other volunteers recruit audience members for the jury.



Community theaters are a boon to local playwrights.

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.

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. 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

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., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

People 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. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Peter and the Starcatcher
San Diego Junior Theatre offers a

musical adaptation that "upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan boy becomes the legendary Peter Pan and goes on a romp through the Neverland you never knew." Based on the best-selling novels.

SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO #208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. 7PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

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. 25 THROUGH JAN. 26.

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.



Award-winning play, D.O.A., is back for one night only!

MCHS Drama Department has the huge honor of taking first-place in all of San Diego County, as the California Educational Theater Association C.E.T.A. Area 4 winner. The MCHS Drama Department is requested to take the show on the road to the C.E.T.A. High School Festival Friday, January 18. To raise funds for the trip, we are remounting the show for one night only.

Thursday, January 17, 7 pm
A pay-what-you-can night to help pay for the trip.

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Sense and Sensibility

Based on Jane Austen's classic. The restrained Elinor and her sister, the tumultuous Marianne, women in 1800s England, cannot inherit their father's manor after his sudden death.

Jan. 17, 18, 19, 7 pm

San Dieguito Academy

Liggett Theater
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Coronado High School

Cosa Theater
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LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. JAN. 24 THROUGH FEB. 17.

The Big Fake Wedding San Diego

The Big Fake Wedding is a bridal show alternative in the form of a big, fake wedding. “Wedding guests” are brides- and grooms-to-be who enjoy an emotional vow renewal ceremony, a tasty cocktail-style dinner, and a dance-party reception while truly experiencing the wedding vendors in action. Tickets include light bites, a signature drink, and a swag bag. BRICK, 2863 HISTORIC DECATUR RD., LIBERTY STATION. 619-399-7822. JAN. 24.

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.

Disney'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 teen-aged “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 four-time 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 THEATRE, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 858-362-1348. JAN. 26 THROUGH JAN. 27.

The Fabulous Forties

Write Out Loud, the popular company that reads literature “out loud,” reads short stories and poems harkening back to the nostalgic and tumultuous 1940s. Mike Buckley leads the cast.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. FEB. 4.

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.

Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune

Frankie, a waitress, swears she's done with love. Been there, done that, burned the t-shirt. So what's she doing in bed with Johnny, non-

stop talker and hopeless romantic? Terrance McNally's serio-comedy about relationships explores 101 reasons why people should never fall in love. Jennifer Peters directs the OnStage Playhouse production. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. FEB. 1 THROUGH FEB. 23.

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.

Silver Screen Serenade

For its next Musical Monday series of cabaret style entertainment, Cygnet Theatre presents “an evening of songs from the silver screen.”

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. JAN. 28.

To Begin With

Lamb's Players present a staged reading of a new play. In 1843 a financially destitute and emotionally frustrated Charles Dickens has achieved success – but barely. Sales are down, his publishers have lost faith, and his marriage is buckling under the strain. A sudden spark ignites his imagination to spin a story that will – literally – change the world.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. JAN. 28.

WATERFRONT

continued from page 33

gosh, all I need to do is die here, in Ipanema, where I was born and raised.’ But then I was able to get up... That episode made me respect the ocean. When it's big, I don't go in the water. You have to know your limit.”

— Evelyn Grimm

2018: a trashy year

Between San Diego Coastkeeper and the San Diego chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, there will be some 40 regional cleanup events this year. Add other organizations such as the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, and Creek to Bay, plus events like California Cleanup Day, and there are plenty of opportunities for those who wish to assist in the effort.

For 2018, the tally shows that the majority of litter gathered by volunteers is plastic. Bags, straws, cups, styrofoam, food wrappers and containers represent 52.8% of the trash collected. Cigarette butts represent 26.1%.

The most litter by weight (2767 pounds) was removed from Fiesta

Island. Second and third place were Mission Beach and Oceanside. By count, there were 46,850 more items collected in 2018 than during 2017, partially due to an increase in vol-

So much of this was collected that the category was renamed “usual unusual” litter. Glow sticks went from unusual to common, with 934 collected in 2018.



The not-so-classy side of San Diego

unteers, and in spite of the plastic bag ban beginning in 2016. And that's just for the San Diego Coastkeeper sponsored events.

Along with the usual discarded items above, Coastkeeper volunteers are asked to keep a list of unusual items collected.

Taking a bag to fill at the beach is not a hard thing to do. And if you want to get involved, Saturday, January 19, from 9 am to 11 am, The Surfrider Foundation will be hosting a cleanup at Moonlight Beach in Encinitas.

— Daniel Powell

FISH REPORT

continued from page 33

every Wednesday through February 27, including a 10.1 pounder caught by five year-old angler Anthony. The fish, currently in second place in the derby, was the youngster's first ever fish caught. Other than that, and the usual half day array of rockfish, sculpin, and bass, the Dolphin also reported a chunky white seabass in the 50 pound range, caught during their afternooon run on January 8.

There has been no new news of the bluefin tuna that were spotted north of Oceanside last week, though as seas settle that might change. Over the past few winters, bluefin have been caught

sporadically offshore in the chilly US waters – as they can thrive in cool water given their unique ability to handle large temperature changes, I expect we'll hear some news on the highly-prized gamefish soon enough.

For this angler, I have made (and been sticking to) my New Year's resolution, and am two weeks in without fail. No, it's not a dietary adjustment, benevolent cause, or challenge to better my physical state by restricting a bad habit: I challenged myself to try and wet a line while actively seeking to catch a fish at least once every day for the entire year. I know this will be tough – I have to travel a few times

this year and do some work on a promised project, but I am steadfast in my resolve. Other than travel and work, obstacles to my self-imposed task might include weather, health or some unpredictable misfortune, but so far, so good concerning my goal of #365daysoffishing. Catching a fish every day is not a given, and I have had two shutouts to this point, but so far, the ongoing count is 4 yellowtail, 9 bonito, 7 halibut 1 shortfin corvina, and 3 California corbina. Wish me luck, it's a tough promise to keep, but somebody's gotta do it.

Fish Plants: None scheduled this week.

“An engrossing, fiercely funny comedy-drama that probes with subtlety and smarts.”

The New York Times

FAMILIAR



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Directed by Edward Torres

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MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

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 fan-service 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 sorrow-packed 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



Glass: Which of the many M. Night Shyamalans will show up to direct this one?

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)

Bohemian Rhapsody — Substantive biopic, or little silhouette of a docudrama sporting performances by a Queen tribute band? As frontman Freddie Mercury, Rami Malek's ability to outdistance the *Nutty Professor* bucks and *Planet of the Apes* shag is a testament to his charisma. Alas, almost from the start the project seemed ill-omened. It's not every day when a director, in this case *X-Men* mimeographer Bryan Singer, is let go part way through production due to chronic tardiness. (He was replaced by HBO veteran Dexter Fletcher, who shot for 16 days, oversaw post-production, and failed to receive a co-directing credit.) Then there's screenwriter Anthony McCarten, working overtime to run the more sordid aspects of the Mercury's life through a PG-13 denaturizer. (Kindly check the camera at the door once Mercury has followed the burly trucker into the gas station lavatory.) And I don't care if Mike Myers was half of *Wayne's World*: bang the "Gong!"

for yet another latexed takeoff on a British showbiz sycophant. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bumblebee — It's *Herbie* meets *Transformers* meets *Monster Trucks* when an interspecies friendship is struck between a California teenager and an otherworldly VW Bug. From Hasbro it came, but take heart: the talented Hailee Steinfeld stars and Travis Knight (*Kubo and the Two Strings*!!!) is in the director's chair. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Capernaum (Capharnaüm) — Director and co-writer Nadine Labaki gives the world a Middle Eastern *The Cider House Rules* — that is, a film that explicitly argues against bringing children into the world under difficult circumstances while relying for its narrative hook and dramatic effect on the heroism and resilience of a child brought into the world under difficult circumstances. Twelve-year-old Zain (a slight and moppetish Zain Al Rafeea) certainly has cause for heartbreak and rage when his parents give his 11-year-old sister away in marriage to the guy who's letting their large family live rent-free in a few rotten rooms. (It's never quite clear why Mom and Dad are in the awful situation they're in; here as elsewhere, the point is that circumstances are difficult and kids suffer for it, so maybe don't ask so many questions.) So it's understandable that he decides to run away and look for some less painful life. He even finds it — for a while. But sorrow weighs upon Zain like the mournful-string score weighs upon our ears, to the point where even he is driven to try abandoning an infant on a crowded sidewalk while the grownup world looks on in utter indifference. (Subtle, this ain't.) It's no spoiler to announce that he eventually trades the role of child for adult mouthpiece and sues his parents for giving birth to him, because that's pretty much how the film opens. It's also pretty much how it closes, except for a final pair of scenes that take tremendous gall — as opposed to courage — to offer up, given all that's been said and done before. 2018. — M.L. ★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Destroyer — After what appears to have been two decades spent sleeping face down on a power sander, martyred Detective Erin Bell (Nicole Kidman) awakens to the harsh light of day and decides to take control of her rebellious daughter while also making amends for an undercover job gone bad. In *The Invitation*, Karyn Kusama's thinking-person's variation on *The Purge*, the director tightened the screws by bringing a clinical, seat-squirring edge to her examination of the inner-workings of a suicidal cult. This time, instead of a slow burning, hyper-neurotic variation on any number of cop dramas, Kusama would have benefitted from a pre-production viewing of Abel Ferrara's *Bad Lieutenant*. If nothing else it might have helped to lighten the otherwise oppressive tone of Bell's sanctimonious odyssey. And if the film is about a haggard cop on a mission to do right, why is the parting shot that of an anonymous skater dude executing a slo-mo kickflip? 2018. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LANDMARK HILLCREST)

A Dog's Way Home — Separated from her owner, Bella, a mixed-breed mistakenly labeled a pitbull by the mean old Denver dog catcher, travels 400 miles for the inevitable tearful reunion. Bryce Dallas Howard gives voice to Bella's thoughts in a manner that's bound to endear both young and old. Her director, Charles Martin Smith (*Air Bud*), is no stranger to this type of material. Honestly, I teared-up more during the trailer than I did during the finished product. Smith could have had another *Benji* on his paws if only he had axed the decision to computer generate some of the furry friends (a baby cougar) and enemies (a pack of wolves) Bella runs with on the road back home. This isn't *A-X-L*. Every time these pretend creatures appeared on screen was like a vacuum to the brain, sucking the life out of the moment while leaving my tear ducts dryer than the Mojave. At least until the finale. With Jonah Hauer-King as her master's voice. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Favourite — At the outset of director Yorgos Lanthimos' gorgeous, witty, bawdy, bruising, depressing, and disheartening romp amid the English royals, Emma Stone — playing Abigail, a clever girl from a fallen family — faces an unpleasant choice: either tolerate the wretched sexual attentions of a man or be cast out into the muck. She opts for the latter, and so arrives at the palace of Queen Anne (played with ruined majesty by Olivia Colman) to beg employment from her cousin Lady Sarah (a fearsome Rachel Weisz) stinking without but with her dignity intact. Once inside, her great goal is to scrub from herself every putrid particle of her impoverished past, and she isn't particularly particular about how she manages it, even if it means biting the well manicured hand that fed her. Abigail is a woman, you see, doomed by the unfeeling dictates of a man's world to either peddle her ass in the street (a crude expression, but one put considerably more crudely in the film, which delights in highborn vulgarity almost as much as it delights in the bulgy warp of 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. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Free Solo: The IMAX 2D Experience — Is it strange when the whole-hearted 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. ★★ (AMC MISSION VALLEY; EDWARDS MIRA MESA; REGAL ESCONDIDO)

Glass — James McAvoy, 24 times nuttier, in this third installment, from M. Night Shyamalan, of the trilogy that began with 2000's *Unbreakable* and continued with 2016's *Split*. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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

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-Jason Zinoman, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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as a shared experience. Is it a feel-good charmer poised to rake in greenbacks and Oscar gold? You bet! But don't let that keep you away from this overall well balanced (and timed) look forward from the safe distance of America's motley past. 2018. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Holmes & Watson — Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly as Holmes and Watson, respectively. Directed by Etan “What a Difference an ‘H’ Makes” Cohen (*Get Hard*). Elemental, my dear moviegoers. 2018. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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 Jenkins 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. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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 Queen of France, current Queen of Scotland, and hopeful Queen of England), the beleaguered Catholic asks her Protestant cousin Elizabeth (Margot Robbie), “How did it come to this?” We know the “this” from the opening scene, wherein she is taken from her knees before an altar and placed on her knees before a chopping block. The rest of the film is concerned with the “how,” and while there is much to admire — particularly the period aesthetic and Saoirse Ronan's quicksilver lead performance — there is also much to lament: wonky political fast-talking over character interaction, a too-oft indulged tendency toward melodrama,



This week, I'm playing catch-up with a string of recent and new releases that didn't make deadline.

— Scott Marks

THE BALLAD OF BUSTER SCRUGGS (2018)

It's any portmanteau in a storm when Joel and Ethan Coen avail their services to Netflix for this six-part Western anthology. It's okay to open by plagiarizing John Ford's location of choice, Monument Valley, but even Pappy couldn't convincingly insert a studio cutaway and make 'em mesh. The brothers were wise to first get the worst out of the way: the opening segment, from which the film takes its title, finds Tim Blake Nelson pitching his good-natured cowboy sociopath as a cross between shaky-gun Don Knotts and Tom Berenger's rhapsodic rustler. Why saddle their lead character with a name that wouldn't be coined for at least a decade? (“Twas Keaton who gave rise to the name.) With his ten-gallon pulled low so that the tips of his ears bow, Scruggs is one of the most annoying characters to come down the Pike since Roger Rabbit. The rest of the bits vary in quality, save for one standout: Tom Waits' precise prospec-

tor could have sprung from the mind of Rod Serling.

THE HATE U GIVE (2018)

An African-American student from a working class neighborhood attends a predominantly all-white high school on the other side of the tracks. Starr (Amandla Stenberg) skillfully walks the tightrope between black and white culture until the day a routine traffic stop forces



The Hate U Give: Algee Smith and Amandla Stenberg just before the moment that changed their lives.

her to make a life-altering decision. Routine, that is, if you're a white cop looking for some black kids to hassle. It ends with her best friend dead on the pavement, the victim of a trigger-happy officer's bullet. Not the filmed lesson plan that I feared going in. Yes, it's a good ten minutes too long and the climax (a loose gun falls in the hands of a toddler) follows in the footsteps of too many movies and television shows by insisting that the life of a child is more important than that of an adult. Still: if the

film manages to transcend most of the clichés, we have Stenberg's finely etched lead performance to thank. George Tillman Jr. directs.

SHOPLIFTERS (2018)

A hard-working family of five looks to shoplifting as a means of supplementing their paltry income. Upon returning home from a hard day's pilfering, father and son “lift” the little girl they find rummaging through the trash outside their door. The idea was to feed her and send her packing to her parents. That all changes when granny discovers bruises and burn marks on the child's body, whereupon she basically becomes part of the family. What will happen when the cops find out? Will they nail the negligent parents

for their child's disappearance? Or will the dynastic looters — these are, after all, well-intentioned petty thieves, not kidnappers — be held responsible? Hirokazu Kore-eda positions his resilient family in their cramped surroundings in a manner reminiscent of the moments of intimacy Vincente Minnelli afforded each member of the Smith family in *Meet Me In St. Louis*. *Shoplifters* was just this week given a stay of streaming execution at the Digital Gym. After that, it's VOD.

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and a largely failed attempt to parallel the struggles of two powerful women navigating the corridors of power. Mary has the better of it — in terms of both story and character — right up until her fateful confrontation with Elizabeth, which strives for momentousness but instead comes off befuddling. (How did it come to this?) After that, Robbie rises up and shows why she took the role, and the film manages a strong finish despite everything that's come before. If it's not quite a success, at least it's an ambitious failure. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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 yet. We follow Earl on a dozen runs and the flow of conflicting yet never-snagging 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)

On The Basis Of Sex — On the basis of direction, we paraphrase RBG — the subject of this no BFD biographical distraction — and shout, “Mimi Leder (*The Peacemaker*, *Pay It Forward*), take your foot off the necks of American filmgoers!” This Little Golden Book of a show, expressively indistinguishable from any number of recent celebrity biopics, abandons all but the feeblest of throughlines on 2018's road to Ruth-dundancy. Didn't we just have this dance? With the CNN documentary still glistening in the minds of moviegoers, apart from granting Oscar-underdog Felicity Jones (*The Theory of Everything*) and Golden Globes also-ran Armie Hammer (*Call Me by Your Name*) another shot at decorating their mantles, was there really an urgent need for a fictional account of life with the Ginsburgs? As significant a figure of the 20th Century as Ruth Bader Ginsburg is, that's how inconsis-

quential this essentially made-for-cable biopic is. Skip it. 2018. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Ralph Breaks the Internet — A welcome improvement over the original *Wreck-It Ralph's* tale of a good guy (voiced to sweetly earnest perfection by John C. Reilly) who can't seem to shake his onscreen character's nasty rep when he's off duty with his fellow video-game actors. (What part of show business don't they understand?) In that story, he sets off on a hero's quest to prove his goodness, and ends up with the prize he desired all along: a friend (Sarah Silverman as the glitchy Princess Vanellope). In this one, he sets off — after an unusually slow, clunky opening — on another, this time to save Vanellope's race-car video game from the scrap heap. But the journey takes the two of them out of the arcade's old-school confines and into the dizzying variety and scope of online life, and it isn't long before lil' V finds the dream world she didn't even know she was dreaming of in the online video game *Slaughter Race*. That's when things get both personal and interesting, as directors Rich Moore and Phil Johnston artfully explore the promise, the horror, and the heartbreak of the internet's infinite possibility. (There's only so far a family movie can go in showing a world where everyone can be just as awful as they want to be without consequence, which makes their achievement here all the more impressive: what it does to Ralph is deeply unsettling but not quite terrifying.) Best of all, they don't shy away from the ending their story demands. Second-best of all, they go goofily meta in a scene where Vanellope meets her fellow Disney princesses, but have the good sense to know when it's time to get back to the straight story. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Roma — If a film were to be judged solely on its opening shot, *Roma* 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 Cuarón's camera. Round and round the interior scenes it goes, where the oscillating lens stops, nobody knows. The black-and-white “Scope images have the makings of a fine coffee table book, but at 24 fps, very little about these characters and their soap opera 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) goes 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

Calendar

MOVIES

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)

Shoplifters (Manbiki kazoku) — The latest from Hirokazu Koreeda (*After Life, Our Little Sister*) chronicles a family of small-time crooks that take in a child they find outside in the cold. 2018. (AMC FASHION VALLEY; DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

A Star is Born — Actor Bradley Cooper puts on the hats of writer, director, and soulful, drunken country rocker for the latest version of this oft-told tale of lovers whose stars are crossing (hers ascending, his crashing to earth). In this case, the "her" is known pop-star quantity Lady Gaga, a singer whose work has often displayed the kind of knowing theatricality that shows up here. She oozes swoon-worthy confidence onscreen, even when she's playing unconfident and shy, and the appeal of it will surely be enough to carry some folks through the, um, generous runtime. But if 2011's *The Artist* was an homage, this is more of a burlesque, a hot mess of a movie that takes its dramatic cues from the camp excesses of the drag queens among whom our hammered hero finds the lucky Lady. (She performs "La Vie en Rose" while extracting actual roses from her dress, and from this, he guesses she's a songwriter, one with something to say and a way to say it.) The movie is about the bitch goddess fame — YouTube views, record deals, TV appearances, industry awards. But Cooper seems to be chasing something more exalted: a personal drama broadcast via pop songs. As a result, there's a lot of talk



Stan & Ollie: "This is another fine mess you've gotten me into..."

about artistic integrity — but there's not nearly enough genuine drama or artistry on display to justify all the *sturm und drang*. 2018. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Sweet Smell of Success — Walter Winchell probably did more than anybody to invent the gossip culture that helps define modern celebrity. But while gossip may stick around, gossip-mongers, not so much. So you'll surely be forgiven for not recognizing Burt Lancaster's bullying, drunk-with-power columnist J.J. Hunsecker as a Winchell stand-in. Heck, 60 years on, you may not even recognize Lancaster. But it's still a helluva movie. 1957. (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ)

Stan & Ollie — Anxious to keep their flagging brand afloat, a pair of broken-down legends embark on a demanding tour through ramshackle England that turns out to be their last hurrah. If Hollywood makeup wizards can transform Christian Bale into Dick Cheney, an

L&H makeover for Steve Coogan and John C. Reilly should be a snap. It is, and their finespun performances prove them to be superb casting choices. But while I'm all for a Laurel and Hardy biopic, why delve into this mournful period of their careers? Jeff Pope's screenplay is a fine mess of expository dialogue that too frequently blurs the line between the artists and their art. And director Jon S. Baird is too in awe of his subjects to really pick at any scabs, most notably the duo's alcoholism. More could have been gleaned by watching their rival wives, Mrs. Laurel (Nina Arianda) and Mrs. Hardy (Shirley Henderson), go at it than the flood of sentimental outpouring between the boys. 2018. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LANDMARK HILLCREST)

They Shall Not Grow Old 3D — Is it ironic or fitting that director Peter Jackson's brilliant use of technology should help make such an arresting treatment of a war in which technology

— tanks, machine guns, mustard gas, etc. — wrought heretofore undreamt-of horror upon humanity? Either way, it's astonishing that a film which must resort to illustrations to depict its actual battle sequences should prove to be such an immediate, immersive, and affecting account of soldierly life during the Great War, thanks to Jackson's addition of color and depth to archival footage and photos of what went on before and after the carnage. (Think home movies if your home was a rat-infested trench with shells bursting overhead and mines exploding underfoot.) Thanks also to the careful and continual use of bits from old interviews with old veterans to narrate the proceedings, from hearing the call to arms and rushing to sign up to getting outfitted, trained, fed, shipped, sent to the front, sent over the top, and sent home. We don't learn a single name or follow any one soldier, but the film still manages an intense intimacy between the viewer and viewed. An achievement, an experience, and a remarkable tribute. See it on the big screen, and in 3D if at all possible. 2018. — M.L. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Upside — Director Neil Burger's remake of the French hit *The Intouchables* tells the story of Phillip, an unhappy (but fabulously wealthy) quadriplegic (Bryan Cranston) who decides to tempt fate by hiring the least competent life auxiliary he can find: Dell, a broke ex-con (Kevin Hart) who thought he was applying to be a janitor in Phillip's building. Maybe *this* guy will honor his demand that no extraordinary measures be taken to revive him if he stops breathing, unlike his strangely devoted executive Yvonne (Nicole Kidman). The resulting drama is a strange sort of failure: the pair prove adept at underplaying off each other — minimal mugging from Hart, minimal intensity from Cranston — and they get any number of quiet moments just right. But the loud moments — there are several, and they are important, especially in a yarn as generally subdued as this one — they get weirdly wrong. Pasts are confronted, fortunes are raged against, and lives are changed; but it's somehow hard to care. Something crucial is missing every time, and after a while, it's hard not to wonder what got left on the cutting room floor. As part of its story, *The Upside* strives to make the case that opera is hard loving; it might have done well to borrow from the pathos and passion that help make it so. 2019. — M.L. ★ (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-and-see-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: McKay 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 monstrosity of its clenched-jawed subject. As such, it's appallingly appropriate. 2018. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Vox Lux — Haven't fans of movie musicals suffered enough in one year what with the dreaded likes of *A Star is Born* and *Bohemian Rhapsody*? It's easy to see why Natalie Portman chose to star as the adult victim of a high school shooting who channels her personal tragedy into a successful career as a rock icon. It's a reel or so before she appears, but once onscreen, everything evolves from her character. Everything save for silly stuff like plot motivation, character development, entertainment value, etc. That's where writer-director Brady Corbet's disappoints. It's rare that Natalie Portman lets you down, but when she does, it's painful. Ever wonder what it would be like watching Portman channel Frankenstein's bride — the Shinola temple gave her away — Katy Perry, and TV's Fran Drescher? If the answer is yes, you had better hurry, because this probably won't last the week. It's narrator Willem Dafoe, delivering much needed exposition and added layers of social commentary, who is assigned most of the grunt work. 2019. — S.M. ● (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The Wife — Joan (Glenn Close) accompanies her husband Joe (Jonathan Pryce) on a trip to Sweden to pick up his Nobel Prize for Literature. If foreshadowing isn't your strong suit, which is clearly the case for Swedish director Björn Runge, why bother to introduce an element of mystery? It's obvious where this is going when, at the five-minute mark, Pryce insists upon Close listening in on the extension when the call from Stockholm arrives. A why-the-dunit outdoes a whodunit at every turn. It might not have been so bad had the road to the big reveal been paved with insight and originality, but other than the performances, there is nothing here audiences haven't seen more times than they have their own feet. Helping to turn an already miserable trip into an even bigger downer are Christian Slater as a bothersome biographer looking to stir the shit between husband and wife and Max Irons rounding out the bottom half of a second-rate father-son rivalry. 2018. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

FILM FESTIVALS

Fight Club (1999)

My first time "Clubbing" was opening night, on a hundred-foot canvas, and with but a scant thirty of the auditorium's thousand seats occupied by my fellow geniuses. Cauliflower eyes began to sprout at the sight of Meatloaf's manboobs. Quite simply, it was one of the great moviegoing times of my life. I was at Tower Records the day the two-disc DVD box hit the shelf, and a grander, more ambitious physical media set has yet to be pressed. The commentary tracks and bonus features cry out for a spot in everyone's bluray collection. Consider this an A.P.B. for the unfortunate among us who have yet to experience David Fincher's punch-drunk black comedy on a big screen (and with what's bound to be appreciative crowd).
READING TOWN SQUARE:
Wednesday, January 16 at 7 pm.

Gabriel Over the White House (1933)

With the presidency secured, Judson Hammond (Walter Huston) counted on weathering his four-year term by playing the part of a glad-handing finger-pointer. Fate had other plans, including a horrible car wreck with Hammond at the wheel. (It's pre-code, thus no mention made of the fates of his



Gabriel Over the White House: Forever immortalized in a cartoon! It doesn't get much better.

three fellow passengers.) There came a point in the evolution of special effects when all that was needed to signal a spiritual presence entering a room — in this case, the unseen titular Archangel — was a rustle-inducing fan aimed at the drapery. Hammond's transformation from partisan hack to proto-fascist demagogue manifests itself in three manners: a terminally mussed-up comb-over, satchels penciled under the eyes, and an overriding desire to revoke the Constitution while charting a road to dictatorship. The comparisons between Hammond and Orange 45 are chilling, but tough though it may be, resist the temptation of reading too much into a film released years before

"Individual 1" was even born. Directed by staunch Depression-era chronicler Gregory LaCava (*My Man Godfrey*). Kudos to Film Forum's Ralph DeLauro for unearthing this timely gem.

CHULA VISTA CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY: Wednesday, January 23 at 6 pm.

Who Killed Lt. Van Dorn? (2018)

Ten-hut! G.I. Film Festival San Diego is still months in the offing, but it's not too soon to mention the group's January 29th presentation of *Who Killed Lt. Van Dorn?* A helicopter crash claimed the life of a 29-year-old serviceman. With little more than a grieving heart acting as her guide, Lt. Van Dorn's wife Nicole launched an investigation of her own, only to learn that the make of chopper that transported Van Dorn to his destiny was the deadliest aircraft in the US military. The website describes Zachary Stauffer's documentary as, "a revelatory inquiry into the murky inner-workings of the American defense establishment." Admission is free, but an RSVP is required. To register, visit <http://gifilmfestivalsd.org>.
SAN DIEGO CENTRAL LIBRARY:
Tuesday, January 29 at 7 pm.

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MASSAGE

SEASIDE SPA

BODY MASSAGE

\$10 Off 1-Hour
With ad

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High-Grade Body Detox - \$40/hr (Reg. \$80)

Facial Scraping, Head Massage,
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(Extra \$10 off Mon-Fri before 1pm)
Buy 5 hrs just \$180, use anytime in 3 months
Free hot oil

*Offers valid with this coupon or copy of coupon (not photo).
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San Diego, CA 92104
619-280-0088
Gift Cards Available!
watercubespasd.com

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AND
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\$15

1 - Hour Foot Massage

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1 - Hour Full Body Massage

With Ad • New Customers Only • Expires Jan. 26, 2019



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60 min. Asian Full Body Massage
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\$15⁹⁹/hr**

Monday - Friday
Before 1 PM

**Gift Card
Buy 5 time
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(Only December)

**Full Body
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\$35/hr**

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Blue Sky Spa

**Full Body Massage
\$35/hr**

Before 1pm

**Foot Massage
\$15⁹⁹/hr**

(Monday - Friday)
Before 1pm

Unique Foot Spa

**\$10 OFF
Full Body &
Combo Massage**
Only December

**Full Body Massage
\$40/hr (Reg. \$50)**

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\$60/hr (Reg. \$70)**

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619-888-3999



6610 El Cajon Blvd.
San Diego 92115, (College Area)



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Hot shower, Deluxe Pro table. Credit accepted. I have A/C! By appointment Misskim/760-688-2017 Kerry/858-371-2883 for more info: killermassagebymisskim.com

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MUSIC

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PRODUCER/COMPOSER SEEKS musicians for acoustic, Americana group. To play originals/covers. Seeks experienced video editor, a pianist who reads well. String/horn players. 619-528-0907

VIDEO COMPANY SEEKS homeless poet. Will be compensated \$. For more info call (619)528-0907. This project will end with a film and a book.

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REHEARSAL STUDIO.
Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24-hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, 858-522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

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California College San Diego

NOTICES

CANNABIS PATIENTS ACT
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COUNCIL NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRESS INC.
Nonprofit seeks Native and non-native councils, businesses, organizations, to end homelessness/hopelessness. Synergy Art Foundation assists artists. Donate/Support them! 1-619-528-0907

CUBENSIS PATIENT ACT.
Association Cubensis Therapeutics. Seeks doctors psychotherapists researchers, persons interested. Forming discussion groups/ effectiveness of cubensis therapy for depression and PTSD? 619-528-0907

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Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/ LECTURE CLINIC
Free Readings for new visitors. 7:30pm last Wednesdays: 1/30/2019, 2/27/2019, 3/27/2019, 4/24/2019 by Vessa's Clairvoyant

Intuitive Program graduates. 4455 Morena Blvd, Suite 108. 858-509-7582

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Is food a problem? Binge or purge? No dues or fees. Contact Overeaters Anonymous: 619-521-2538. www.OASandiego.org.

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MEN & COED SOFTBALL LEAGUES.
Starting after March 1. Accepting teams now. All teams go to playoffs. E-mail: johng@softballsd.com. Web: www.softballsd.com.

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HP PHOTOSMART PRINTER
In Excellent condition. Asking \$50.00 If interested pls. call 619-302-0090

WANTED/TRADE

WANTED
Homeless guy needs running van. It's cold at night and I can sure use and appreciate it. Happy New Year! Alex (619)451-4881

WANTED:
Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call 1(619)-303-8031; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

WANTED:

Indian arrowheads / artifacts wanted for my private collection. Must be authentic and legally collected. No interest in modern reproductions. Call Steve at 619-985-8562.

STEREO GEAR/ LP RECORDS.
Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables, McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

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Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & Misc. by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. 619-972-3488.

WANTED/TRADE

WANTED
Homeless guy needs running van. It's cold at night and I can sure use and appreciate it. Happy New Year! Alex (619)451-4881

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Rock & Roll I buy 1950's-1980's Concert Posters, Flyers, Handbills, Used-Unused Tickets, Programs. Pls Call (619)522-0283 Private Party.



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Smog Check \$36⁷⁵

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Oil Change Special \$18⁹⁵

Most 4-cyl. cars. Includes new oil filter, EPA, up to 5 qts. oil. 6-cyl. & 8-cyl. extra, some oil filters extra.

A/C Service \$25

Includes performance test on compressor, visual inspection for leaks and damaged components and recharge (freon EXTRA.)

Check Engine light and Smog Failure Diagnostics \$60.00*

(FREE if repairs are performed on site).

Fuel Injection Service

3-Step - \$109⁹⁵

60K/90K/120K Services

4-cyl. from \$149⁹⁵

6-cyl. and 8-cyl. extra. Platinum plugs extra. Call for details.

Chris's

Auto Smog & Repair Center

2920 Damon Ave. #C & D
(Behind In-N-Out Burger)
Pacific Beach 92109
858-270.1888

Oil Change Service from \$15⁹⁵

*Recommended every 3 months/ 3000 - 7500 miles. Service includes up to 5 quarts multi grade 10w30 motor oil, new oil filter, and maintenance inspection.

*Vehicles requiring 5w20 or 5w30 are \$20.95

*canister filters and synthetic oil @ additional cost.

Check Engine Light Diagnostic Service \$25 Off

*Perform scan test and retrieve codes

*Provide the cause of a system(s) failure and a corrective action plan.

*Repairs, monitor drive cycles and additional test at additional cost.

STAR Certified

Smog Check \$10 Off

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per axle.

*Life time Brakes Available

*We do not advertise brake coupon prices because every vehicles requirements are vehicle specific.

10% Off

Any repair over \$200
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*includes toe adjustment of the front axle *4 wheel alignment \$20.00 additional cost, includes toe adjustment of front and rear axles.

*camber, caster adjustment at additional cost. See consultant for details.

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24/24 WARRANTY

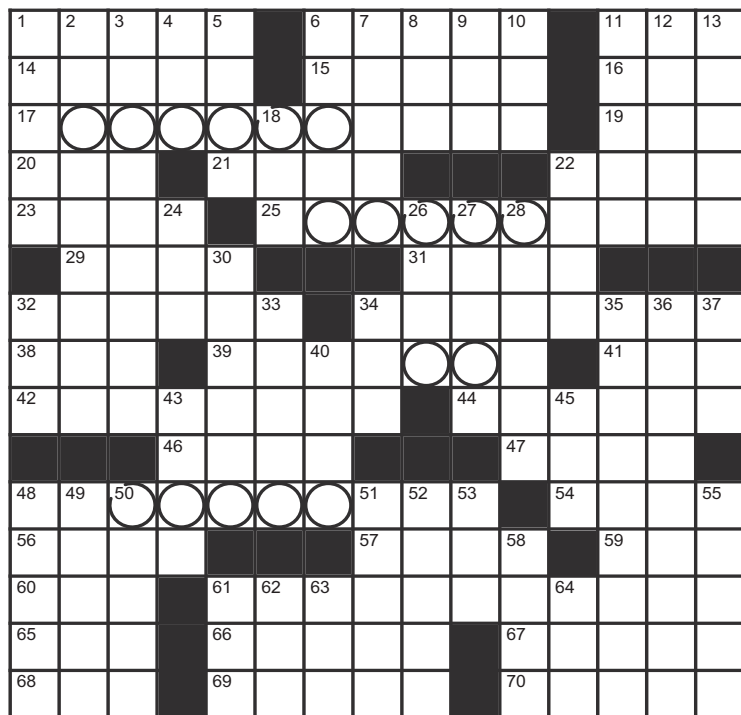
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CROSSWORD

"Sight"



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RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
- 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.

And now for the really small print:

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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

B	L	Y		S	P	L	I	T		A	S	H	E
L	O	O	M	U	T	I	L	E		R	E	A	L
A	G	U	A	R	A	M	I	N		C	A	R	L
H	E	A	D	U	P	B	E	S	O	L	E	E	
	N	E	G	R	I		D	E	U	C	E		
A	D	D	H	I	H	O	A	T	O	D	D	S	
B	O	W	L	S	O	L	T	A	I	W	A	N	
F	G	H	I	E	P	S	O	M	F	I	F	I	
A	M	O	E	B	A	O	J	O	S	T	O	P	
B	A	S	S	E	T	N	A	S	A	H	E	E	
	E	L	A	T	E	I	P	A	N	A			
A	T	A	K	A	M	A	H	A	C	K	E	D	
H	A	R	P	C	A	N	W	E	A	I	D	A	
A	C	M	E	K	I	T	E	R	A	S	I	N	
B	O	Y	Z	S	L	I	D	E		S	E	A	

Across

1. Stirred up, as memories
6. Jeweler's unit
11. Ruler divs.
14. Ogre with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame
15. "The Goldbergs" daughter
16. Bread for a Reuben sandwich
17. "Slumdog Millionaire" studio
19. "Come as you _____"
20. "Prince Valiant" son
21. River to the Seine
22. Nickname of the singer of 2007's "Umbrella"
23. _____ Millions (multistate lottery)
25. Charles Lindbergh's feat across the Atlantic
29. _____ Ewbank, 1969 Super Bowl-winning coach
31. One of the friends on "Friends"
32. Muzzle-loading tool
34. Costs of fighting?
38. Network showing "Suits" and "Mr. Robot"
39. Expresses boredom with
41. "Of course!"
42. Small version of a popular cookie
44. "And when we got to the village they _____ us ashore"; "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn"
46. Actor Sharif
47. "_____ bing!"
48. Year "Rosemary's Baby" came

out, in short

54. "American Gigolo" star
56. Sarah McLachlan hit that begins "_____, I do believe I failed you"
57. Jacket
59. Knee injury initials
60. Triumph
61. On the horizon, maybe ... or a description of this puzzle's circled letters
65. Get dolled (up)
66. Alternatives to Nikes
67. Kind of diet replicating that of early humans
68. Mantra chants
69. Marriott alternative
70. Sirius XM radio star

Down

1. Indian state known for its tea
2. Words after a digression
3. Carmelo Anthony, when he played college ball at Syracuse
4. Prefix with plunk or plop
5. Big name in kitchenware
6. Kutcher's character on "That '70s Show"
7. "The Little Mermaid" mermaid
8. Word after big or oil
9. German's "Oh my!"
10. Tit for _____
11. Bond portrayer after Brosnan
12. Gift in a Nativity scene

13. "Try to _____ my way ..."
18. That dude's
22. Climb
24. _____ Lingus
26. "_____ I like to call it ..."
27. Initial venture
28. Small item dropped at Woodstock
30. Buxom
32. Ingredient in a Dark 'n' Stormy
33. Another name for the Furies
34. "_____ knew?"
35. Great Seal image
36. Sagittarius
37. Crestfallen
40. Spice Girl Halliwell
43. Scintilla
45. What dogs' tails do
48. Deal with
49. "Piece of cake" or "easy as pie"
50. Places for pedestrians to be alert, informally
51. Onetime alternative to Facebook Messenger
52. Give a lift
53. Get some sun
55. John who sang "Bennie and the Jets"
58. Sugar and spice amts.
61. "Do _____ Diddy Diddy" (1964 #1 hit)
62. Poison _____
63. One in la familia
64. "Am _____ risk?"

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

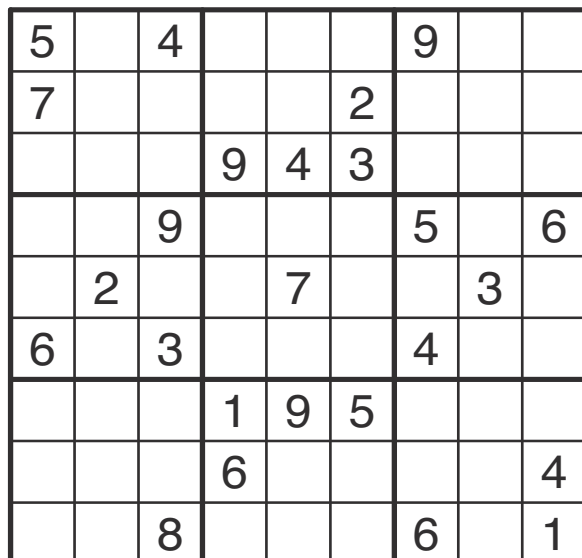
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 2.

Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

EVIL:



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Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EVIL:

1	5	4	3	6	2	7	8	9
9	3	2	5	8	7	6	4	1
7	6	8	9	1	4	3	2	5
5	4	7	6	2	9	8	1	3
8	2	3	7	5	1	9	6	4
6	9	1	8	4	3	5	7	2
4	7	5	2	3	8	1	9	6
2	8	6	1	9	5	4	3	7
3	1	9	4	7	6	2	5	8

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

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Philip Faker, Jamul, 2.

OIL CHANGE \$14.95
Additional \$5 cartridge fee.
Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover most cars
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4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl.

SMOG CHECK \$11.75
Sedan only, NON STAR Smog +18¢ cert
inspection for 2000 & up +11¢ DMV
only. SUV and Trucks extra. transfer fee

BRAKES \$49
Front or rear
*Plus Labor. Prices may vary
depending on make and model. most cars

30K 60K 90K \$65
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on make and model. most cars

RADIATOR \$45
or Transmission Services
*Prices may vary depending
on make and model. most cars
4 cyl.

TIMING BELT \$75
Parts & Labor
*Prices may vary depending
on make and model. most cars
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STARTERS, RADIATORS, \$95
OR ALTERNATORS
Plus labor. most cars. 4 cyl.

FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT
96 and up.

We'll beat any written estimate!

Dents, dings, scratches? Now offering bodywork.

B.T. Auto Wrench
Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary!
8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C
1-858-565-4634

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SMOG CHECK \$11.75
Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up. + \$8.25 Cert.

BRAKES from \$50 FREE Shuttle Service w/ repair
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OIL CHANGE & FILTER \$13.95
Up to 5 qts., new filter, 10 point checkout. +\$1.00 Waste Fee.

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Most vehicles & light trucks.
Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...

AXLE SPECIAL \$99
Includes Parts & Labor

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+ Labor

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*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition
*Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing

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San Diego, CA 92121-2559
858-452-9999

APPLIANCES

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR
Good condition, like new. 20.5 cu ft., Bisque on Bisque, Top Freezer, for sale for \$100. I just purchased a new one. Contact samanarat@san.rr.com.

FURNITURE

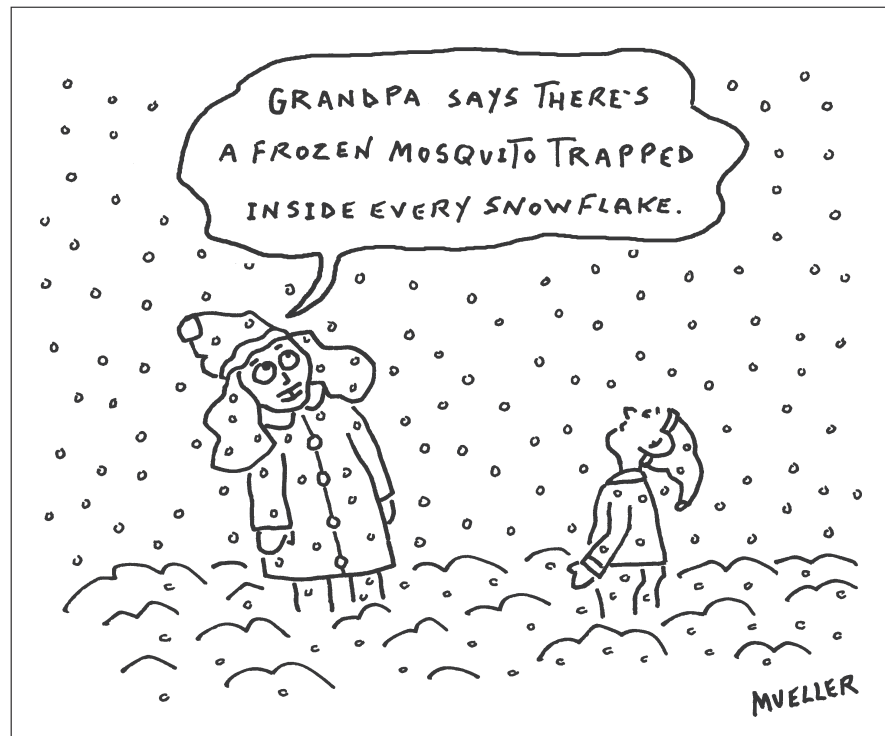
FOR SALE
1960 Cherry Wood Twin Beds and Nightstand comes with box springs and mattress. \$1200 Call or text 619-200-1254

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR SALE
2002 Lexus LS 430. High Mileage: 308,000. Oil Changed every 4-5K, can verify. Great car. 858.829.4213

Event Listings

READER TACOTPIA 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 LA as they compete to win the "Best Taco" award. Curated exclusively by our food writers, this event brings together the very best taco vendors and you decide who will ultimately win. | ReaderTacotopia.com



PETS

FREE PET ADS:
Selling a pet for under \$200? Email your wording & photo to pets@SDReader.com.

DEADLINE: Monday 3pm.

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & KITTENS
Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.

PET SERVICES & SUPPLIES

DOGWALKER/DOGSITTER
(aka: The Dog Woman) Love all breeds, professional, responsible, caring, experienced farm girl. Contact: (619-380-4861)

ALL OTHER ADS:
Call 619-235-8200.

Window Tint \$98
Tint removal from \$29. **COMPUTER CUT** Any shade, up to 5 rear windows.

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Pads & Labor From \$78

FREE SHOCKS & STRUTS
BUY 2, GET 2 FREE
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Power windows, door locks, automotive control modules: BCM, ECM, PCM, TCM.

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Starting at \$15

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(1G VAPES)

\$15
Any patient, limit 3.

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BRASS CARTRIDGES \$10

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Choose from 25 different strains!

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KINGS GARDEN
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THC DESIGN
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