

San Diego's Mile of Barbecue

Comic Con Museum ■ Samuel Barber redeemed ■ *The hipster timeline*

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 48 | NO. 11 | MARCH 14, 2019

# Reader

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is  
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March 14, 2019



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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## NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

**Democracy in action at the Magic Kingdom**

The House of Mouse welcomes the household of Fletcher-Gonzalez

It's almost spring, time once again for desert flowers to bloom and the annual appearance of Assembly Democrat Lorena Gonzalez and family members at the gates of Disneyland. Gonzalez — who recently declared she will run for California Secretary of State in 2022 — has long been an unofficial cheerleader for Anaheim's magic kingdom, and this year was no break from tradition. "With all my boys at @Disneyland today!" she wrote in a March 2 tweet featuring a closeup of the legislator wearing pink mouse ears alongside husband Nathan Fletcher and accompanied by shots of the couple's children. "Not stopped by a little rain!"

Added a comment

from an admirer on Facebook: "You both are amazing parents! It must be quite challenging balancing careers in public service with family time! So happy to see you both enjoying your family!"

No official word yet on how Gonzalez managed to pay for this year's family outing to the pricey park, but past financial disclosures show she and Fletcher, elected to the county board of supervisors last fall after his wife flooded the race with campaign cash, have been assisted in their parenting by free passes from the Walt Disney Company. "For complete transparency, I have included gifts to my spouse, who is also an elected official," the legislator declared on her most recent disclosure filing with the California Secretary of State's office, dated February 28. On March 3, 2018, the document shows, Gonzalez got four free Disneyland tickets valued at \$470, "1/2 myself, 1/2 to my spouse." The year before, on April 15, 2017, she also picked up a \$470 admission freebie from the entertainment giant, and on May 3, 2014, Gonzalez reported getting two free park passes valued at \$274 from the Disneyland Resort Government Relations department.

The San Diego legislator is not alone in receiving free admission to what describes itself as the happiest place on earth. Per a tally last month by the *Sacramento Bee*, Disney has handed out more than \$33,000 worth of free tickets to its California theme parks since 2000. The

gratis admissions represent part of the cost of doing business for the company in politically contentious California, where Bernie Sanders, U.S. Senator from Vermont, waded in last summer to blast Disney for failing to pay employees "a living wage." After the company agreed to pay \$15 an hour by 2021, Sanders wrote in an August 27 tweet, "Congratulations to the courageous workers and their unions at Disney World for their historic victory. I applaud everyone who stood up to demand that workers at one of the wealthiest



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corporations in the world should have a decent standard of living."

Disney has been the target of repeated criticism regarding controversial findings last year that 11 percent of its 5000 workers surveyed had gone homeless at least once in the previous twelve months and that the parks failed to provide childcare. The February 2018 report, underwritten by the Coalition of Resort Labor Unions and conducted under the auspices of the Occidental College Urban & Environmental Policy Institute and the Economic Roundtable, found that "Disneyland employees report high instances of homelessness, food insecurity, ever-shifting work schedules, extra-long commutes, and low wages." In addition, researchers said, "three-quarters (76%) of Disneyland Resort employees with children under 18 are food insecure," and "more than half (59%) of Disneyland Resort employees who are parents of young children say that their schedules at the park make it difficult to care for their families and children."

Besides her free time at Disneyland, Gonzalez reported splitting other gifts with her husband last year, including half of \$169 worth of food and beverages in August provided by Social Compassion in Legislation, and a \$400 admission to an unspecified fundraiser from San Diego developer Dan Feder in October. Gonzalez also shared with Fletcher \$450 of "resort

continued on page 27

**How San Diego City Council wants to spend your money**

The city enjoyed \$46 million in "vacancy savings" last year

By Marty Graham

The devil is in the details and the details are in the documents — individual San Diego City Council offices' funding priorities for the 2020 city budget. The big issues, on which most or all agree, have been covered elsewhere, and this is by no means a comprehensive review of requests in the 99 PDF pages. Instead, it's a picture of what's on the minds of the individual councilmembers.

Councilmember Chris Ward, for example, takes a swipe at Mayor Kevin Faulconer's peculiar purchase of an old skydiving facility in July 2018. In Ward's 24-page detailed submittal, he urges the

city to sell the building "before investing additional money in costly tentant improvements."

**2300 open positions**

The document shows a



Andrea Tevlin



Chris Ward

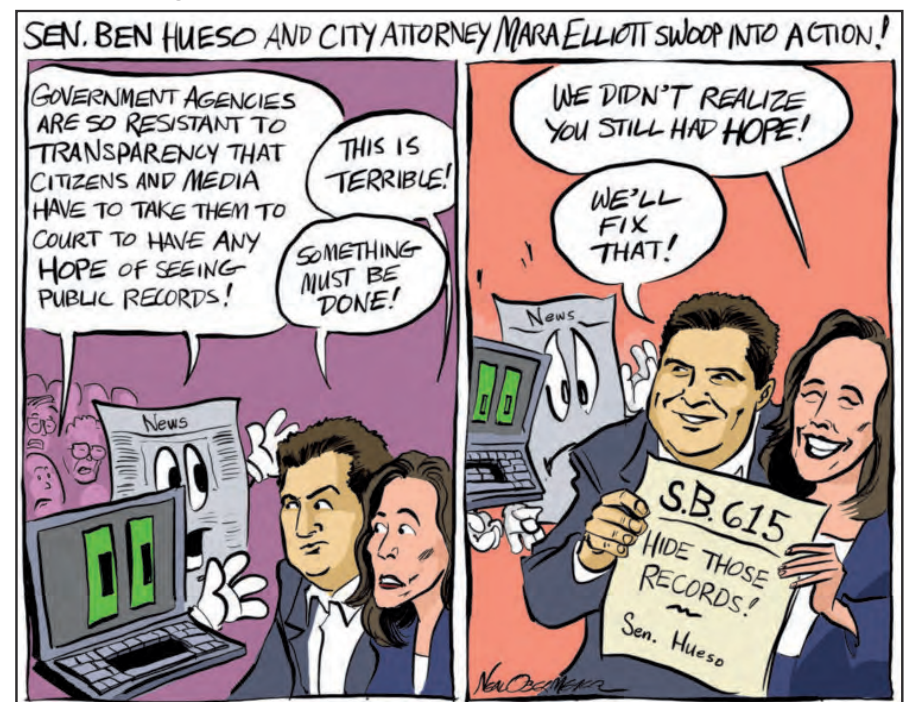
stark picture of how the city is staggering from the loss of city employees — 2300 open positions or 25 percent short on staff, leaving the city hiring outside consultants to do the work.

More surprisingly, city employees who quit now outnumber those lost to retirement, according to Ward's report.

But, where Ward and other councilmembers see the vacancies as a concern, independent budget analyst Andrea Tevlin sees them as way to keep millions in the budget. She proposes continuing to enjoy "vacancy savings" and making those millions part of the official purse.

Vacancy savings are basically a windfall that happens when employees don't show up or new hires are cheaper than expected. Employees who leave their jobs or take unpaid leaves of absence, or those new employees who come in for less pay, the report says, left money in the budget amounting to \$49.6 million two years ago, and \$46.1 million last year.

"The city could consider whether it would be prudent to increase budgeted vacancy savings for fiscal years 2020," Tevlin suggests.

**Neal Obermeyer**



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY BOND

All councilmembers want resources devoted to the homeless problem.

### Not in the job description

We've all heard about the city's struggles to hire and keep public safety workers, cops and firefighters, and most council members addressed raises and efforts to keep them. The budget document is full of funding requests from every district for modest improvements at nearly every library in the city.

But newly elected Councilmember Vivian Moreno is worried about librarians, who have unintentionally become front-line public safety providers. Her concerns are tied to the fact that libraries serve as warm, safe places for the homeless. That means library



Scott Sherman



Vivian Moreno



Barbara Bry

staff have tasks such as dealing with the mentally ill, cleaning up human waste, and calling ambulances or police — or defending themselves from attack.

"In 2018, there were about 1200 library department incident reports... of threats, drug use, urination, and other forms of misbehavior and illegal activity, an increase of 50 percent over 2017's 800," her

report says.

District 7 Councilmember Scott Sherman, in his final term, tied with District 9's freshman councilmember, Jennifer Campbell for the shortest list at five pages. Unlike the majority of his colleagues, Sherman didn't ask for funding for the arts, climate action, the Get-It-Done app, or filling vacant positions but weighed in for infrastructure and transportation improvements.

Sherman also indicated he wants the city to implement "zero-based budgeting" in which the annual budget starts at \$0 and builds up item by item to its limit, rather than starting at 'how much can we spend' and carving it up until it's gone. Its supporters believe the approach naturally sets priorities and increases the focus and thoughtfulness of spending.

Ward, who has taken the lead on homelessness, thinks the city should take some tasks from three separate agencies and consolidate them.

The San Diego Housing  
*continued on page 25*



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY BOND

Hiring more police officers and firefighters is a top priority.



Georgette Gomez



Jen Campbell



Mark Kersey

## UNDER THE RADAR

### Work and pleasure mixed

House Democrat **Susan Davis** has been stocking up on holdings of Facebook, the social media giant that critics say needs more federal regulation to reign in its privacy poking. During the five days ending January 15, according to a financial filing by Davis with the House clerk's office February 7, she acquired Facebook common stock valued between \$1000 and \$15,000. During the same period, the Kensingtonian also picked up between \$15,000 to \$50,000 worth of stock in Illumina, Inc., the San Diego-based gene sequencing outfit. According to the website *OpenSecrets.org* Illumina has lobbied regarding an array of bills before the House, including the Advancing Access to Precision Medicine Act.



Susan Davis is stocking up

Two years ago, Davis met with **Susan H. Tousi**, senior vice president of product development for Illumina, along with other local biotech figures regarding funding cuts by president **Donald Trump** proposed for the National Institutes of Health. "Such a cut would negatively impact the life-saving research being done in San Diego, as well as our local economy," she told reporters.

Meanwhile, California state Senate Democrat **Ben Hueso** has reported a gift of \$2285 in November from the Independent Voter Project to attend the outfit's controversial legislative "policy conference" in Maui financed by lobbyists. In addition, Hueso logged a \$1448 gift from the Latino Legislative Caucus Foundation covering a March 2 overnight stay in Anaheim last year. As did his

Assembly colleague **Lorena Gonzalez**, Hueso reported getting four free passes to Disneyland worth \$470 on March 3, 2018. For her part, Assembly Republican **Marie Waldron** overnights in San Francisco last June 21 thanks to a \$1074.89 gift from the California

Association of Health Plans. She also got \$831 for an overnight stay in Torrey Pines during which she gave a speech to the California Charter Schools Association December 9, her report says.

California GOP senator **Brian Jones** was cagier than his colleagues. He disclosed only that his December 6 overnight, paid for with \$906 from the California Independent Petroleum Association, took place somewhere inside the state's boundaries.

**Requiem for Hoy** When we last checked on *Hoy San Diego*, the Spanish-language paper put out by the *Union-Tribune*, its future was at best uncertain. The month was August 2017, advertising was falling off, and the *Chicago Tribune*, then owned by the oddly-named

tronc, as was the *U-T*, had just canceled *Hoy's* daily Windy City incarnation, cutting the paper's press run to once a week. "The company remains committed to *Hoy* in its print and digital forms," a spokeswoman insisted to media blogger **Robert Feder**.

San Diego's *Hoy*, which under previous ownership was called *Enlace*, assured readers that the publication remained afloat. Then last June, tronc unloaded the *U-T* to Los Angeles phar-

maceutical billionaire **Patrick Soon-Shiong** in a \$500 million-plus deal that also included the *L.A. Times*, and last month the ax finally fell. "This is the Last Edition of *Hoy San Diego*," wrote editor **Lilia O'Hara** in the February 23 pages of the shrinking section. "The title of this column sounds drastic, but in fact, it's good news," she hastened to add. "To support the quality of our information with even greater strength, *Hoy San Diego* changes its name and size."

Added *U-T* editor **Jeff Light**, per Google Translate: "Welcome to the first edition of *The San Diego Union-Tribune* in Spanish." He continued, "the decision to align more tightly with the *Union-Tribune* in English reflects our conviction that San Diego is a single

community." Most of the stories, acknowledged Light, "will be translated from those published in English in our main newspaper, but there will also be original and exclusive material reported and written in Spanish."

It was a far cry from February 2016 when the *U-T* promised that "*Hoy San Diego* will have zone pages for the North and South regions of San Diego County, as well as a Riverside edition and a Baja California edition named *Hoy Fin de Semana*." Three years before that, *Hoy's* predecessor *Enlace* "grabbed the Gold Award in the following above-30,000 circulation categories: outstanding multiple article

*continued on page 27*



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## LETTERS

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

### Skateworld heaven

While I'm not a resident of Linda Vista, I am a native San Diegan and regular patron of SkateWorld ("Linda Vista's Skate World, you're fine, now go away," Neighborhood News, March 1). As a resident of Coronado, I do not have a district representative on the San Diego City Council but hope that this venue may be a forum for me to express my concerns over the sale of this site. SkateWorld is more than a building or a piece of property, it's a safe place for families to have fun, socialize and exercise. It's a place I look forward to going every weekend along with my 13-year-old son and on occasion, other family members and friends. Every Friday night we throw our skates in the trunk and head to Linda Vista. We grab dinner at a neighborhood restaurant then head to SkateWorld and skate until it closes. I absolutely treasure these "skate dates" with my son. It's one of few things we can both enjoy together. He's made lots of friends from other schools and neighborhoods. He can skate all day/night long for \$10. (You can't do anything for ten bucks anymore!). I'm happy to take him roller skating as often as he wants because I know exactly where he is, he's getting lots of exercise, he's socializing and he's NOT parked on the family room couch staring and a phone/tv/computer screen.

Because it's one of the last rinks around, we've made many friends that live all over the county while skating at SkateWorld. Our friends come from as far away as Carlsbad, Santee and Poway to Linda Vista to skate. We've met many young, service men and women from local Navy and Marine bases who come to SkateWorld to meet people, and connect with their new "home" port of San Diego. SkateWorld isn't just a gathering place for the immediate neighborhood, it facilitates community far and wide across San Diego County. To the members of San Diego City Council, please do not allow the sale and ultimately closure of SkateWorld. It's one of very few places that people of all ages can afford to go to for entertainment, recreation, socialization and community. To lose this unique gathering place would be both heart-breaking and irreversible. There is no store that will routinely bring together so many different people from all parts of San Diego in the way that SkateWorld does.

Heather Neibert  
Coronado

### Matters of life and death

The Women's March and Walk for Life should no longer be a mile let alone a world apart ("Women's March and Walk for Life – a mile or a world apart?" City Lights, January 24). Recently, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris BOTH voted against saving babies born alive during botched late-term abortions. They voted to let these innocent, LIVING babies die all alone, in pain, with no medical care at all. Both senators constantly whine about the most vulnerable being separated from their illegal alien mothers or killed by guns or drugs. Well, isn't a newborn baby just as vulnerable? Don't they need protection? What about a baby that is born with a disability? Will they next on the kill list? Californians are not monsters. We do not believe in infanticide. Senator Feinstein and Senator Harris aren't representing us. They might not care about these children, but WE DO. They need to know their political lives are in our hands just as much as the lives of the unborn are in theirs, and they WILL be held accountable.

Patti J. Smith  
Vista

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

CARLSBAD

### Winslow's Senior/Student special offer

Alleged rapist/kidnapper chases tail, loses bail, heads to jail



Officials- "Imprudent use of the hands and feet. Loss of bail."

A judge ordered ex-NFL tight end Kellen Winslow Jr. to be held without bail after new accusations that he inappropriately approached two more women in Carlsbad while he was at liberty on \$2 million bail for multiple charges of rape and kidnapping.

Prosecutor Dan Owens described one of the new alleged incidents, in which 35-year-old Winslow Jr. approached a teenaged girl while she was walking in Carlsbad. "Mister Winslow, back in January of this year, had contacted an

"She did not get into his car, but she went into a friend's home who lived nearby."

18-year-old high school student (who) was walking home from school, and he commented that he had seen her in the area the last couple of days. He told her that he thought that she was cute, he asked her for her phone number, he asked her how old she was, he asked her where she lived, and she rebuffed his advances. She did not get into his car, but she went into a friend's home who lived nearby." The young woman reported what happened and her parents contacted law enforcement, according to prosecutor Owens, who spoke after a hearing on March 4.

The prosecutor said he filed no criminal charges related to that January incident, but Winslow Jr.'s conduct was disturbingly simi-

lar to the way he allegedly approached two women who did get into his car and were then raped, according to their testimony in hearings last July. Judge Blaine Bowman commented, "His other crimes involved getting victims in his car," when he denied defense's request for Winslow to be released into "home detention" with a GPS monitor.

The prosecutor also said Winslow is facing one new misdemeanor charge for lewd conduct directed at an elderly woman on February 13, 2019. On that day, Winslow Jr. allegedly approached a 77-year-old woman while she was exercising at a Crunch Fitness gym in Carlsbad. Winslow Jr. allegedly touched himself through his clothing, and he asked her if she saw that and if she liked

that, the prosecutor said today. One week later, on February 22, Winslow Jr. saw the same woman at that same gym; she was alone in a jacuzzi; Winslow Jr. joined her in the jacuzzi wearing only a towel wrapped around his waist; first he touched himself and then he touched the woman on her arm and she drew away; Winslow Jr. then touched the woman's feet with his own feet, the prosecutor alleged. The woman told her husband, who reported it to the gym. This resulted in the most recent arrest of Kellen Winslow Jr., the prosecutor said.

Before today's hearing, his prior alleged victims were said to be aged 86, 71, 59, and 55 years. Investigators have recovered the 35-year-old Winslow's DNA from the clothing of at least one of his rape-kidnap accusers, the prosecutor said.

Winslow Jr. was first arrested briefly on June 7, 2018; he posted \$50,000 bail and was released. He was booked again on June 14, facing more charges; eventually, he posted \$2 million bail and gained his liberty. During

the hearing today, defense attorneys successfully got one kidnap charge dismissed, after they argued that the alleged victim did not expressly state she was forced or fearful when she got into Winslow's vehicle. Prosecutor Owens unsuccessfully argued that Winslow Jr. fraudulently persuaded the woman to get into his car by promising to take her to a Denny's restaurant. Even without that one kidnap allegation, the prosecutor said, "He faces well over 100 years to life."

Trial is currently set to start at the end of April 2019, before Honorable judge Blaine Bowman in San Diego's North County Superior courthouse in Vista, California.

EVA KNOTT



City won't tell scooters to scoot, but it may rein them in a bit.

### ZIP-ZIP-ZIPPING AROUND June zoom gloom looms City considers curtailing the lawless dockless

It's not all carefree coasting as San Diego works out new rules for dockless rides. The city has to balance climate action goals with the needs of citizens who feel they've been pushed off the sidewalk by the growing fleet of bikes and scooters.

A class-action lawsuit filed against the city and scooter companies in January claims the sidewalk-jostle violates the rights of the disabled, and seeks to have the devices removed from sidewalks. At the same time, riders face a dearth of protected lanes to help them move safely into the streets.

On Feb 20, the San Diego Active Transportation & Infrastructure Committee voted unanimously to forward recommendations for regulating the dockless industry to the full city council. "Our goal with these regulations is to make companies and their riders more responsible, more safe, and more accountable," said mayoral representative Greg Block, who outlined the proposal to regulate an industry that began here with shared bikes in Feb 2018, and has since added electric bikes and scooters.

San Diego now has six dockless companies and what the city estimates are about 20,000 shared bikes, e-bikes and scooters. To qualify for a permit under the proposed policy, companies would have to accept a set of rules that focus on speed limits, device staging and parking, city indemnification, rider education, data sharing, and fees. For starters, companies must make their devices slow to 8 mph using remote control "geofencing" in designated zones on the boardwalks in Mis-

sion Beach, Pacific Beach and La Jolla, plus Spanish Landing and Petco, Balboa, Mission Bay, and NTC parks. In the Embarcadero and Martin Luther King Jr Promenade downtown, which are pedestrian-only, scooters will be slowed to 3 mph. The city considers it unsafe to bring them to a complete stop in those areas. (The boardwalk rules apply to motorized and non-motorized scooters and bikes; motorized vehicles are not allowed on sidewalks.)

The rules would limit the current staging of rows of eight or more devices to four in any one location, and add a 40-foot buffer between groups of staged devices. The number could



Backup plan.

Exceed four only in on-street dockless parking corrals, like the one just installed on 11th & J downtown. And parking within six feet of a bus or trolley stop would be out. "While we want them near transit, they should not impede access to buses and trolleys." Riders would be prevented from ending rides in busy areas on the boardwalks, around Petco Park, and the Embarcadero, to reduce the number of devices left there.

The companies would have to agree to hold the city harmless and keep liability insurance of two million dollars per occurrence, as well as a four-million-dollar umbrella policy. Each device would have to display messages that riding on sidewalks is prohibited and stating the age requirement for use of the device (motorized scooters require a driver's license).

Data sharing from the companies would help with climate action reporting and SANDAG's mobility planning. The permits would be issued twice a year, and the fee would be

continued on page 8





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announced at the next public hearing. Per the recommendations, each company would pay \$150 per device annually to operate in the city's right of way, an amount based on what other U.S. cities charge, which ranges from \$10-\$365 per device annually. Ours, Block said, would help manage fleet size and "act as a *de facto* cap."

What about all the complaints about improperly parked or dumped devices? "The city will encourage residents to use a Get it Done app" to report them, Block said. Companies will have three hours to remove the device, or the city may impound it. Records will be kept of violations, and the city can revoke permits. Ann Murphy, a member of the Cortez Hill Active Residents group, agreed that scooters don't belong on sidewalks. "Full implementation of the mobility plan will take care of some of these problems," she said.

The companies, meanwhile, touted their devices for reducing emissions from short car trips, and creating affordable transport. Among their recommended changes are tweaks to the fees, insurance requirements and city indemnification, and permission to stage more devices. Councilmember Cate also criticized the 4 x 40 device staging (groups of 4 devices 40 feet apart), calling it unenforceable. Additionally, there are currently no dedicated funds for enforcement. Lyft scooter manager Kyle Zuvella said their company delivers most scooters outside downtown, to put them where they're needed, saying they strive to help low-income riders with a \$5 monthly pass. Lyft recommends lowering the \$150 device fee to around \$100 — or giving incentives to companies that aid low-income areas. Tyrone Childs spoke in support of Lime, saying that for those stretched for gas dollars, the motorized scooter "is one of the best things we can use today." Maya Rosas, policy director for Circulate San Diego, suggested adding a line item to boost education. "The funds received from scooter companies are not going to be enough to make our streets safer. But the city's existing transportation budget can." In 2018, she noted, 34 pedestrians died on San Diego streets. "Scooters are not the cause of these fatalities."

SHEILA PELL

## DOWN BY THE SEA

### Vacation Innovation

**It's a van! It's a hotel room! No wait, it's both!**

On the Airbnb app/website, Craig is referred to as a "Superhost" for his \$70 per night unit that can sit five visitors. Craig accommodates his guests in his green 1998 Ford E350 van; he's based out of Clairemont. "[It's] great for camping and the back seat folds down into a bed for two," he states on his ad. According



"If this van ain't cruising, we're probably snoozing."

to the Airbnb app, which connects members with tourism experiences — primarily home-stays and/or lodging — "Superhosts are experienced, highly rated hosts who are committed to providing great stays for guests." Craig's van is "solar powered to run the fridge and a TV [and] it also has shore power hookup" for additional electronics. Since the van has a turbocharged diesel motor, it's cheaper on gas than the standard V-8 and has the torque to tow a trailer if needed.

"[Craig's] one smart dude," says Michael from North Park, who is searching for rentals for his buddies, who are flying into town for spring break. "To book a hotel in our city, you're looking at \$100 a night [on average] if you can find one available. And for beachfront properties — forget about it. To rent a van from U-Haul, you're looking at another \$20-per-day plus \$.69 a mile, which does not include insurance and the amenities that Craig's 'green machine' has. And it's now legal to crash out anywhere [inside a vehicle] in San Diego, so it makes more sense for tourists on a budget to rent a 2-in-1, and sleep by the beach." (Last month, the San Diego City Council unanimously voted to stand by their repeal of an almost 36-year ordinance that prohibited residents from living in vehicles on streets within city limits.)

Tanja is renting a vintage trailer outside of her Bay Park residence for \$55 a night on Airbnb. The stationary trailer has one bedroom with two beds and a bathroom with a shower. It also has free parking on premises, wifi, air conditioning, and a laptop-friendly workspace.

Tanja received over 150 reviews that were between 4-5 stars. On February, Cynthia left a comment on Tanja's account that read: "Great location, we had the opportunity to watch the sunset. The place far exceeded our expectations and host was quick to respond and made our check-in easy. Highly recommended staying here."

Last week, an Ocean Beach resident posted a collage of photos on Facebook titled: "Van-Bnb coming to a curb near you..." One of the photos was of a black van that was available for \$28 a night.

Michael's buddies didn't buy into his rent-a-van-and-sleep-inside suggestion for spring

break, but he still thinks it's a great idea. "The people renting the vans or RVs on Airbnb and this so-called 'VanBnb' are [likely] vetted, so they shouldn't be problematic." He does note that "they should be forewarned that they might be targets of mad-doggin' by anti-vandwellers who own property by the beaches."

MIKE MADRAGA

## CLAIREMONT

### Changing Cate's Litter Box Corridor cleanup continues, contra commercial complaint



Cate didn't drain Zapf's swamp so much as he filled it in.

For some time, Clairemont's Joel Pointon has been calling his city council office about a messy median on Balboa Avenue at Mt. Abernathy and Mt. Alifan. He and others started making calls before Lorie Zapf was in District 6 and have continued calling since councilmember Chris Cate took over Zapf's seat in 2014. When asking why this one median was left untouched, Pointon said he was told nearby merchants "had complained and got that section skipped on the remodel because it would affect their businesses."

Once dubbed "Zapf's Swampland" because the median used to fill with water when it rained, residents now call it "Cate's Litter Box" because gravel was added to the median after Pointon brought up mosquito-borne diseases brought on by standing water. "So now we

have no water, just the weeds and trash." A representative from Cate's office told constituents at a town council meeting in 2015 that the median was scheduled for repair in the following fiscal year. That didn't happen.

Rebecca Kelley from Cate's office said their representative, Dan Manley, told residents at a Clairemont council meeting in January 2019 that, per city staff, the median is "still on schedule to be completed this calendar year." Anthony Santacroce of the city's PR office confirmed that the median repair is part of the Balboa Corridor Improvement Project. He said the project is underway with a timeline of six months, mostly updating four signal intersections and bringing them into ADA compliance. Santacroce said the median will be landscaped (that wasn't in the cards in 2015, due to the drought). He then emailed the plans approved by the Clairemont community planning group in 2018, showing that the median will be planted with blue glow agave (slow-growing evergreen succulent), stalked bulbine (tall slender spikes with yellow flowers), and red yucca (tall spikes with deep rose-pink flowers).

Information in the city's capital improvement database (most recently updated on February 1) showed the project includes removal of a free right turn at the southwest corner at Kearny Villa Road and traffic sig-

nal modifications at Moraga Avenue and Viewridge Avenue. The timeline shows the project started in 2014, with preliminary engineering and design finished in 2018. The total project cost is \$2,981,887.

JULIE STALMER

## OCEANSIDE

### North County News nears nadir

**So many titles have been 86'd since the '80s**

Bartender Steve Menzel sees between 75 and 300 customers daily during his eight-hour shifts at Larry's Beach Club. He's been a bartender at the restaurant/bar on Oceanside Boulevard west of Coast Highway for

continued on page 28

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## Hipster:

*My daughter laughed at me when I said I didn't like to watch curling because everyone else seemed to be into it. Whenever it's on TV, the announcers always have to explain the rules and strategy to newcomers who don't actually know how curling works. My daughter said I was a hipster. I had never heard this term before, so that doesn't make me a hipster, right? P.S. she hangs out at Target, and I've heard this qualifies as well. What are the rules for when people just throw the term out arbitrarily?*

— M.



Hipsterlympic athlete in action

PHOTOGRAPH BY RAUFE ROLFSCHER



about American hipsters.

**2010:** First Olympics where hipsters take serious notice of curling. Hipsters declare allegiance to team Canada, often stretching the truth with claims of having been into curling “since the 90s.” First semi-official hipster curling leagues appear in midwestern hipster hubs (Madison, WI; Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN; etc.). Within six weeks, hipster curling leagues sprout up in snowless localities where inventive hipsters bend the rules

**2013:** Peak hipster curling fandom.

**2014:** Ironic hipster curling fandom spills over into genuine appreciation of the sport. Hipsters speak knowledgeably about curling during 2014 Winter Olympics. Impressed by savvy hipsters, mainstream everyone else starts piling on. Suburban moms post avidly on Facebook about favorite curlers. Too many dank curling memes to count.

**2018:** Hipsters mostly over it. Too many people annoyingly obsessed with serious-faced Korean curler Kim Eun-jung and her Pokemon socks.

As you can see, the hipster-curling relationship has come full circle in the past decade. Your current stance on curling is very hipster provided you used to be into it, but now you're not. If you're not feeling the curl on account of pure contrarianism, that might even be more hipster, but I'm honestly not sure.

Fortunately, arbitrary use of the term hipster is not punishable under either the California Unwritten Hipster Code or the federal Hipness in Trending Act — two laws you've probably never heard of before. If someone misuses the term, real hipsters take no offense because they know better, and non-hipsters don't know anything is wrong because they don't know better. In either case, nobody's harmed, and no harm, no foul.

—DJ Stevens

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Executive Director Adam Smith outside the *Cover Story* exhibit.

**A museum, but a wacky one: Comic-Con's coming attraction**

Comic-Con International's WonderCon will be throwing open its doors on March 29 up in Anaheim, but the pop-culture juggernaut has something else in the offing — much smaller, but also much closer to home. This Saturday, from 10 am to 4 pm, the still-embryonic Comic-Con Museum in Balboa park will hold its very first art exhibit: *Cover Story: the Art of Comic-Con 50*. It's a low-key, free-of-charge affair set up in the space that once housed the gift shop of the 68,000 square-foot building's previous tenant, the San Diego Sports Museum.

The museum's Executive Director, Adam Smith, says that the exhibit serves as both tribute and lead-up to the Con's 50th anniversary this summer, but also helps people “understand the creative work of comic artists as something besides art that gets thrown away, the way a comic book usually is.” The gallery-lit walls of the space feature sketches and final versions of various Comic-Con program covers, including a 40th anniversary drawing by longtime *Mad Magazine* artist Sergio Aragones that “shows Comic-Con's progression from the El Cortez hotel down to the Convention Center” via a massive crowd of peripatetic conventioners and costumed comic-book heroes. The piece normally hangs in the museum's offices, and Smith says he passed it every day. “But as soon as I saw it in that space,” under gallery lighting, “I looked at it in a different way. I started thinking about what



Remember these? Funko founder Mike Becker does.

Aragones was thinking when he made it. It transcended its status as just a work by a famous guy.” (And the exhibit does feature the work of some famous guys, at least from a comic fan's standpoint: Jim Lee, Bill Sienkiewicz, Frank Miller, etc.)

Almost more importantly, the exhibit works as a test case for the museum. “Comic-Con has always been a bottom-up organization,” says Smith. “It takes its energy from regular people and their passions — that's the energy of popular culture. The Con operates on the model of, ‘Every event is a giant focus group for the next event.’ People vote with their feet, and you do more of what your audience is telling you to do. We are trying to translate that into a museum environment. A traditional museum would have a curator who decides what's important and broadcasts that to the masses — and we'll have some of that. But there are a massive number of pop-culture fans who already have great collections. We want to say to the them, ‘What ideas do you have?’ We want to serve not so much as curators as facilitators, creating experiences.”

By way of example, he describes a recent collaboration with Mike Becker, founder of Funko collectibles. “There's a documentary about Funko on Netflix called *Making Fun* that I thought I should watch as part of my job. But I really connected with Becker's values and passion: the success of that company comes from being connected to the mentality of the fans.” Smith got in touch with Becker, who lives in Coronado, and wound up doing a pop-up display of his “huge collection of Ben Cooper Halloween masks — those cheap throwaway



Smith hopes for a 2021 opening.

masks you remember from when you were a kid. People got really nostalgic — ‘There's the one I wore!’ — and it was a total validation of the concept.”

The pop-up aspect of the mask display is in keeping with Smith's idea that “where a normal museum with seven spaces would do five or six as long-term or permanent and one or two as changing regularly, I think ours will be the reverse of that.” That tracks with his notion of the place as a kind of year-round Comic-Con, forever reading and responding to the will of the people. But both the gallery exhibit and the mask display are static, and Smith stresses that “the programming piece of what goes on here

**The space recently hosted a *Star Wars: Armada* table-top gaming tournament — “for hardcore players.”**

will be really strong. Comic-Con was never exclusively about comics. The first logo for Comic-Con had a film projector on it for a reason. We're looking at the designs of theaters as much as we're looking at designs of museums. Hall H at Comic-Con? It's a big old theater.”

A test case for *that* aspect: in mid-February, the museum hosted two Disney comics artists, Patrick and Shelley Block, for a live, interactive comic creation session. The pair sat in front of an audience and took suggestions throughout the creation of a five-page comic, their progress projected on a screen. The audience got to watch a pro at work, and further, as Smith puts it, “by the end, there [was] a sense of pride and

ownership, yielding an experience that we created together.”

There's that “e” word again. “We've got a strong opportunity here,” says Smith, “because people in Balboa Park are in the right frame of mind with the right expectations about ‘what they're going to do today.’” But beyond that, he says, “We're working toward two museums in one: a daytime museum for tourists and families, and a nighttime museum that's more of a community

entertainment venue rooted in the program of Comic-Con. A place to get food and drink, watch a movie, attend a panel, do a hands-on class.” The space recently hosted a *Star Wars: Armada* table-top gaming tournament — “for hardcore players,” says Smith. “But we also had some demo activities, and the thing for us was how many people walked in from Balboa Park, with no marketing, and picked up the dice and started rolling and having fun. I think that's a microcosm of what we're trying to do.”

And as the film projector logo implies, some of that shared experience will involve watching stuff, whether straight-up or with an immersive twist. “There will be a movie

theater; movies and film will be a big part of the vision. And not just film, but TV. If HBO would allow it, there would be massive number of people wanting to gather to watch *Game of Thrones*. Why are e-sports growing so rapidly, with people building 15,000-seat venues to watch video gaming together? Because it's a shared experience of popular culture.”



Founding principle #2(b): “To render altruistic service to Fandom.”

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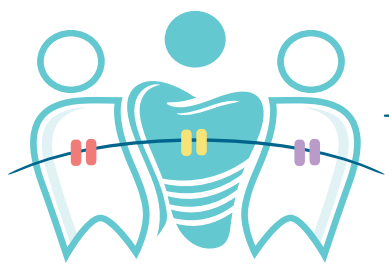
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—EVE KELLY

### Hooray for good St. Patrick

When the Kellys go green in springtime, it's not for the environment, or even for the season. It's for Saint Patrick's Day. Which is often more properly called Saint Patrick's Week, what with all the goings on.

On Thursday, March 14th, we will hit Hoolley's Irish Pub in Rancho San Diego for their Tullamore whiskey dinner. If you join us, expect a welcome drink, appetizer, entrée, and dessert, paired with a variety of Tullamore whiskeys. (Tickets \$35)

On Friday, March 15th, my husband Patrick and I plan to take the chauffeured distillery tour offered by San Diego Beer, Wine, and Spirits Tours. It starts at 11:30 am and includes pick-up from home (or hotel, if you're visiting). The

tour lasts about five hours, and visits three different local family-run distilleries. Naturally, there will be a flight of spirits to enjoy at each distillery, including tastings of brandy, whiskey, rum, vodka, and gin. But we'll also get a guided tour at each, which will explain the history behind these California craft pioneers. Lunch is included at one of the stops. (\$118 per person)

Then we'll spend some of Saturday, March 16th picnicking on the green of Tecolote Shores in Mission Bay, taking in the green kites flown by the San Diego Kite Club when they meet around noon. Then we'll attend another whiskey tasting, this time at gourmet grocery store Vom Fass in Hillcrest. They'll be holding a Teeling Irish Whiskey party, serving Irish whiskeys from the only active distillery in Dublin. Guests will try three different whiskeys, sample an Irish cheese plate, and conclude with a taste of Vom Fass's own Irish Whiskey Liqueur for dessert. Party runs from 6:30-8:30 pm. Tickets cost \$40

Once all those preliminaries are out of the way, we can start celebrating properly. I want to start St. Patrick's Day with the green cook-off in Carlsbad. Ahaana Sawen is presenting A Green Spring Fling, with folks competing for bragging rights in three categories: a green appetizer, a green beverage, or a green dessert. Bring your best green ingredients. Prizes will be awarded in each category. Cost to compete, \$10; cost to be just a participant, \$15. Day starts with registration and social hour at 11 am, networking time at noon, and competition and tasting at 1 pm. Visit

www.ahaana.org/a-green-spring-fling.html to register.

The \$45 ticket gets you your food, grog, and golf.

www.ahaana.org/a-green-spring-fling.html to register.

Patrick has other ideas. He'll start the day off at The Loma Club golf course, just off the green in Liberty Station. There, he'll join their annual St. Patrick's Day Shamrock Shamle tournament. Beer will be provided by

Carlsbad Beer and Second Chance Brewery. After an Irish breakfast, he'll swing into the nine-hole shamle format, with prizes for low score and best costume. The \$45 ticket gets you your food, grog, and golf. Festivities start at 8 am.

Later, we'll meet up and toddle off together to Groundswell Brewery and tasting room in Santee from 1-4

pm for a St. Patrick's Day beer and cupcake pairing event sponsored by Daniela's kitchen. \$17 gets you 4 beer tasters and 4 mini cupcakes that they swear will go well together. Perhaps a Chocolate Guinness Bailey's cupcake paired with Cream Ale, or a whiskey berry cupcake paired with Oathbreaker Russian Imperial stout.

A few of the more sober Kellys will be joining The San Diego Paddlers, who are sponsoring a St. Patrick's Day paddle, launching at 4 pm from Aqua Adventures Kayaks and Paddleboards. All paddle

crafts welcome, whether it be a kayak, stand up paddleboard, canoe, or rowboat.

Rentals will be available from Aqua Adventures (\$20-\$45). Wear something warm and green, and pack a headlamp.

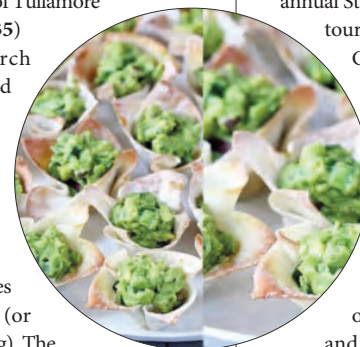
As for Patrick and me, we're trying to avoid the Gaslamp

at all costs this year, so for music, we're going back to Hoolleys Irish Pub. This time, we'll enjoy Hoolleyfest at their Grossmont Center location. They will have live music on Saturday, March 16, from 5 pm to midnight. Bands include 80s All Stars and Ass Pocket Whiskey Fellas (21+). Pre-sale tickets \$20; tickets at the door \$30. And on Sunday, March 17, Whiskey Ridge and Tony Cummings will be playing. All ages welcome, no cover.

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1: Green appetizers for Carlsbad cook-off.

2: It ain't always all beer and cupcakes, but sometimes it is.





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# The SOIL <sup>is</sup> alive

“My favorite thing about farming is putting my hands in the soil and feeling its life,” says Audrey James, proprietor of Odd Trees Biodynamic Farm. The phrase “Odd Trees” is a play on her first name and the twisted olive trees that line the driveway into the four acres she leases in Fallbrook. “People often think of the soil as just dirt. But the soil is alive!” says James, her voice rising in rhapsody. “As in animal and plant bodies, it has respiration, circulation, and digestion, all of which come from thousands of microorganisms interacting. Thousands and thousands of them. They are what endow the soil with life, many giving off beneficial antibiotics. Even in just touching the soil, you’re coming into contact with all these beneficial organisms that are helping good bacteria to flourish and the harmful ones to not. It is extremely healthy to touch the soil.”

Steiner recommended that farms should always raise animals alongside crops to have an ever-present source of fertilizer on hand. Given the recycling in this kind of arrangement, Steiner considered such a self-contained farm to be a living organism.

James, who is 38 and a gentle soul, wanted to be farmer from the time she was a child. On her website, she says that at age eight, she put cucumber seeds in a miniature greenhouse that was the toy in a Happy Meal her mother had bought her from McDonalds. She would later plant it in the backyard and finally harvest a cucumber. Her mother called it the tastiest she had ever eaten.

James grew up in Pensacola, Florida, and studied Horticulture at the University of Florida. The class that inspired her the most in the program was Horticultural Physi-

ology. “I found out that animals and plants are not as fundamentally different as I once thought,” she tells me.

Before starting to farm, James worked for Altman Plants in Vista. “A great company, but it was a desk job,” she says. “Then I saw an ad in a national publication asking for a farming partner. The farm was two miles from where I live. So I worked with a guy who has since moved on, and I inherited the farm. I’ve been doing it by myself for a year now. The right things seem like they turn up at the right time.”

It is an overcast day in Fallbrook. James and I are walking between rows of the numerous species of vegetables she has growing now. “Of course, we are in the cool season,” she says, “so you see broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, collards, lettuce,

turnips, different kales, beets, asparagus, bok choy, kohlrabi and, surprisingly, still some bell peppers coming. They’re normally harvested in the summer.”

We come to a compost pile that’s bulked up with asparagus plants, recently cut down. “The spears will start growing up through the compost,” James tells me. “In fact, here’s one right now.” She points out a thin shoot that is barely visible.

Reaching the end of one row, we walk in the opposite direction down another. “These are white Japanese turnips here,” says James. “They can be eaten raw and are good for juicing because they don’t have that bitter taste like turnips usually do. They’re sweet, mild, and very nutritious. Cabbage is, too. They are both ‘superfoods,’ a term used these days to mean highly



**Audrey James wanted to be a farmer from the time she was a child.**

nutrient dense. I make a lot of soups from cabbage.

“The covered areas you see, and that box, are intended to keep the rabbits away from seedlings I’ve brought out from the greenhouse to get them started in the ground. You can see what the rabbits do; they nibble this kohlrabi here down to the nub. The gophers and snails do pretty well, too.”

At the end of the row, we see the collards and kale. “They’re pretty old,” James tells me, “so they’re being fed to the goats, who come out on the field and graze. I have three, and they stay in their pen at night and go out in the field during the day, where I tether them. I use their bedding in the compost, and they eat weeds for me

and the older plants. As the cabbage and kale get older they’ll eat those and recycle them.”

We talk a little about beets, which are getting a lot of press nowadays as being good sources of extra energy, especially for athletes. “Beets are amazing,” says James. “The colors of a lot of plants are connected with what they’re good for, an example being that the red juice of the beets is very good for the blood.”

#### Beyond organic

Not long before Christmas, a routine happenstance in Sprouts Farmers Market on Park Boulevard piqued my interest in biodynamic farming, a term I confess I’d never heard before. As I passed the juice aisle, someone

juices from Germany to the U.S., starting in San Diego. Workman was acting as an occasional translator and American consultant for Voelkel.

Voelkel was dressed down in the most casual of clothes and wearing wooden clogs. He was examining the bottled juices on the shelf, especially Lakewood’s organic cranberry and beet juices. He had with him a slim bottle of his company’s own red beet and ginger juice, and he wanted to know whether I thought its labeling would attract American shoppers. The bottle was multicolored, and announced that Voelkel Beet Juice had no added sugar and was produced biodynamically. After I inquired what that meant, the two men and I went off to Lestat’s Coffee House up the street for a full discussion.

Before going into detail, Voelkel made this simple claim: biodynamics “is a step beyond organic farming.” Then he wanted me to know a little about the history of his family’s business. The Voelkel Juice Company was founded by Stefan’s grandparents Karl and Margret Voelkel in 1920. At that time they were living in Hanover, Germany, but, inspired by an escape-the-cities-to-the-country movement called Wandervogel, the Voelkels moved north to an area along the Elbe River known as Wendland, where they began farming. By 1936, in addition to the produce they grew, they started to sell juices, “at first bottling, only 50 to 100 bottles a day,” Voelkel tells me. “And they started saying to the surrounding farmers, ‘Bring me your fruits and vegetables.’”

Seeming to have a sense for the expectations

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

**Environmental Assessment for Encroachments Along U.S. Navy Miramar Pipeline (Clairemont Mesa Area)**



The U.S. Navy is proposing to relocate two segments of the Navy’s Miramar fuel pipeline in the Clairemont Mesa area from its current alignment to the City of San Diego right-of-way to allow the Navy enhanced access for regular inspection, routine maintenance, and emergency response. Relocation is needed because non-Navy development has encroached upon the Navy easements that allow access to the pipeline. The Navy is preparing an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of this Proposed Action and is encouraging public participation in the environmental review process.

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**Comments must be postmarked or received online by April 1, 2019, to be included in the official record.**

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of the U.S. market, he said that “from the beginning, the company refused to sell the juices in concentrate form and has never added sugar.” Apple juice is used to sweeten juices that might be too sour on their own.

Voelkel’s father took the company over when he came back from the World War II. “After his death, I took over,” said Voelkel. “Today, each of my four sons has chosen to work in the company, becoming the fourth generation of Voelkels to run the business.”

“Our company is located in the same area where Rudolf Steiner set up an experimental farm in the 1920s. In 1924, Steiner gave lectures on a new type of farming in response to German farmers who worried about the effects of com-

mercial fertilizers on their land. Steiner recommended that farms become self-contained ecosystems that keep external chemicals off the land. Instead, they should always raise animals alongside crops to have an ever present source of fertilizer on hand. Given the recycling in this kind of arrangement, Steiner considered such a self-contained farm to be a living organism.”

Steiner’s ideas became the basis of both biodynamic and organic farming, although the organic movement today rejects his more esoteric, occult or even “spiritual” claims. Along with animal waste, biodynamic agriculture promotes the use of composts for fertilizing. But it calls for the composts to be enlivened by burying a

cow’s horn packed with either manure or the silica from finely ground quartz crystal and other ingredients in with the decaying material. Biodynamics relies on the cycles of the moon, planets, and constellations of stars for deciding planting times. Voelkel tells me that in northern Germany during a recent year, a severe drought and heat wave from April to September devastated crops that were conventionally farmed. The organic and the biodynamic farms survived.

Besides the farms in its own neighborhood, with which Voelkel Juices collaborates, the company has relationships with farmers throughout Germany, the rest of Europe, and beyond. “For instance,” says Voelkel, “we are working with farms in Iran. They have



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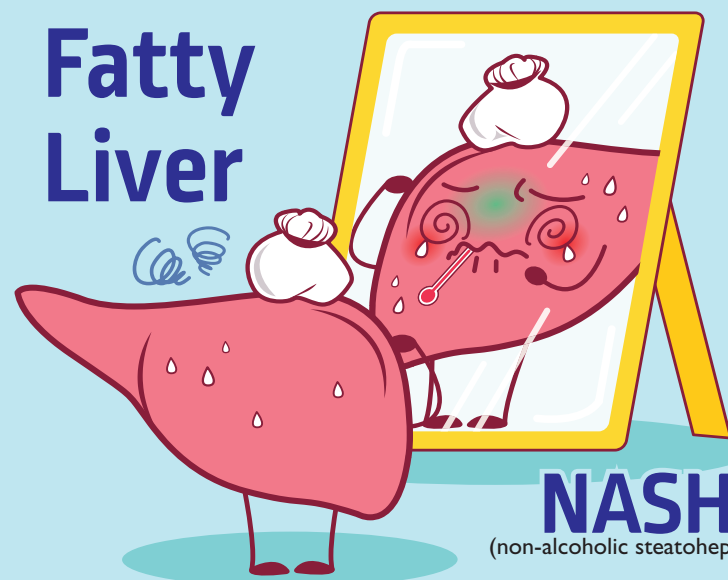
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*Women age 18-50 with heavy periods may qualify for the study.*



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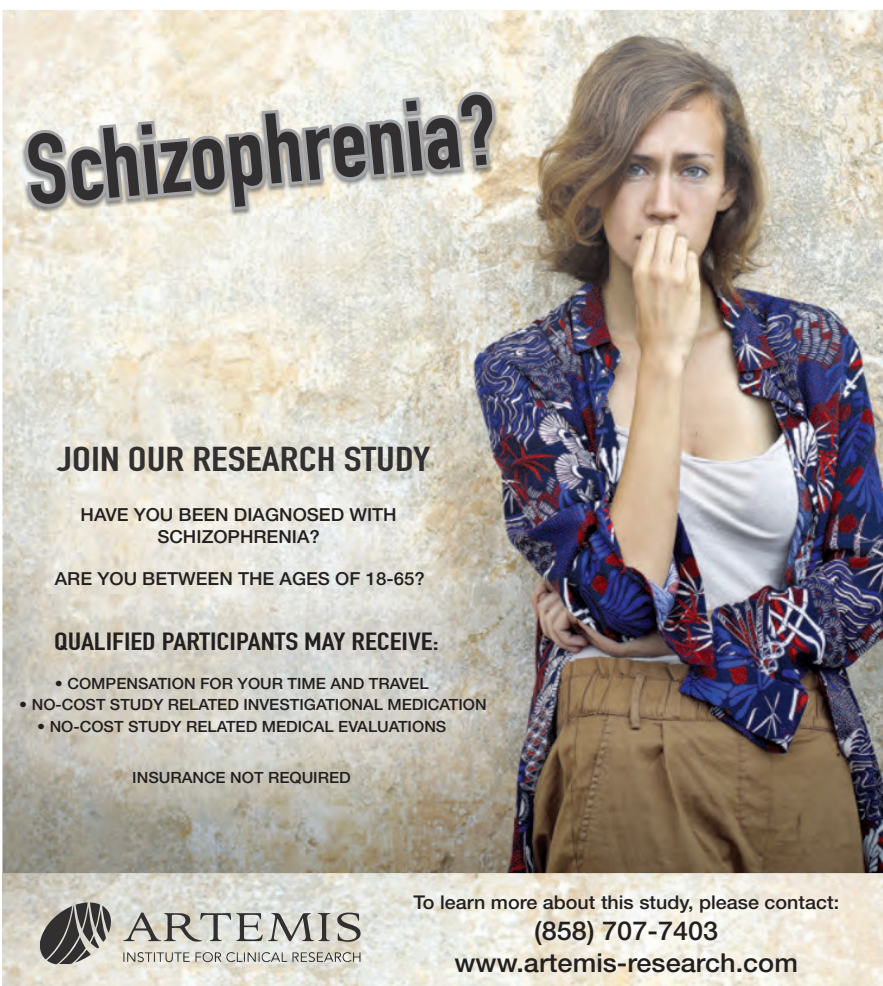
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to be trained in biodynamic methods — and then certified as genuinely biodynamic. And that can take up to three years, unless they can demonstrate that they have been practicing its principles for a long while already.

“We also have relationships with a few farms in Turkey, too, because they grow the pomegranates we need. Pomegranates can’t be grown in northern Germany. Working with them, even training them, does not mean that we can certify them. That has to be done by a non-profit independent organization called Demeter, named after the Greek goddess of the grain harvest, that each country with biodynamic farms has. In the U.S., the certifying organization is Demeter USA. There is also an international biodynamic organization in Switzerland - Demeter International. You might call it a university of biodynamics.”

Voelkel speaks idealistically of his company’s goals. Unlike a company that grows and grows to the point of making a killing on its sale, he has turned Voelkel Juices into a foundation. All profits are put back into the foundation. No individuals own shares of the company; everyone who works for Voelkel receives only a salary or wages.

“Every company should have a mission other than a simple economic one,” says Voelkel. “Ours is to enrich as much of the soil on the earth as we can by increasing the number of biodynamic farms wherever we can. In Germany right now, only 10 percent of farming is even organic. All of the juices we produce are at least organic, and 40 to 50 percent of them



**Stefan Voelkel (left) runs a biodynamically produced German juice company. John Workman is acting as an American consultant for Voelkel.**

are biodynamic.”

In addition to the question of whether the label on his juice bottles will attract the eyes of American consumers, Voelkel wonders if products coming from a foreign country will sell in San Diego.

I say there are many that do. “So Americans possibly like the exotic?” Voelkel asks. “Even German products, after the Volkswagen scandal? I hope so,” says a bemused Voelkel, who often sports a joking, playful demeanor.

Before the visitors from Germany left town, they held promising discussions with Jimbo’s ... Naturally Market. They spoke with Monika Lynn, who came to the U.S. from Germany 18 years ago, and is now the “front end manager” for the company’s Horton Plaza store. Lynn had a slight awareness of Voelkel Juices before the discussions. Having traveled back and forth to Germany to see her par-

ents in the Black Forest region a number of times, she had seen the juices in stores there. She tells me she has “received requests from German immigrants to San Diego for the Voelkel brand, which they hope Jimbo’s might someday carry.”

By now Stephan Voelkel and John Workman are back in Germany, while Jimbo’s awaits a shipment of samples to help them decide if want to put the juices on their shelves. Going forward, Lynn has promised to act as the liaison between the two companies.

#### **Burying a cow horn**

Voelkel and Workman tell me that they found distributors difficult to “break into,” so they are happy to have the chance to work directly with a particular San Diego store. In other respects, however, it looks as though they may have chosen an inhospitable environment for peddling anything biodynamic. For one thing, certified biodynamic

farms are hard to find in San Diego County. Over the phone, even Elizabeth Candelario, president of Demeter USA, tells me she is not aware of any biodynamic farm in San Diego County.

But Helene Beck, owner of Beck Grove / La Vigne Organics, a citrus farm in Fallbrook, tells me by phone that her farm was certified as biodynamic as far back as the 1980s. The *San Diego Union Tribune* profiled Beck in January 2016.

"The 33-acres... originally was an avocado grove," wrote Caron Golden, "but root rot was killing the trees." The Becks (Helene's husband has since died) "started over with young citrus, and eventually they discovered biodynamic principles of farming. Beck says now they are a wholly

sustainable grove producing 15 crops, also keeping two cows to produce the grove's fertilizer."

Panorama Farm is another that practices biodynamics in Fallbrook, but has been certified only organic for 18 years. Soleil and Jacqueline Develle grow blood oranges and avocados. "We do about half citrus and half avocados," Soleil tells me by phone, "and sell to Jimbo's and the People's Co-op in Ocean Beach."

But, along with Odd Tree, those are the only biodynamic farms I can find in the county. If there are others, I can't find them on Google, nor by asking around at the Hillcrest Farmers Market.

So, since biodynamic wineries have been increasing in recent years — in France, for example — I contacted

the San Diego County Vintners Association for information on any corresponding local developments. "I am not aware of any biodynamic vineyards in the county," replied Ed Embly, owner of Hungry Hawk Vineyards and Winery in Escondido. "The reading that I have done in trade magazines and other written sources of viticultural practices have a hard time of verifying any benefits of biodynamic farming. Most vineyards in the county practice what is called minimalistic farming, which means that whatever is done is only done if it is actually necessary to protect the plant, or the crop. Wholesale use of any pesticide, whether organic or not, rarely happens unless it is totally necessary."

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wine industry have been the source of a number of criticisms of biodynamics in recent years. In a 2010 blog called “Biodynamics is a Hoax,” Napa Valley vineyard owner and winemaker Stuart Smith may have stated them in the strongest terms: “Austrian philosopher Rudolf Steiner,” wrote Smith, “gave a series of lectures and discussions on agriculture in June 1924 to a group of several hundred of his anthroposophical followers in Koberwitz, Poland.” Notice the difference of this description of the Steiner lectures, highlighting the esoteric views of a widely criticized movement called anthroposophy, from Stefan Voelkel’s calling them a response to farmers “who worried about the effects of commercial fertilizers on their land.”

“Steiner had never been a farmer,” continued Smith, “yet he delivered these lectures... which became the foundation for biodynamics. In recent years biodynamics has been embraced by an ever widening group of vineyardists and wineries around the world. Some of the world’s most renowned wineries farm biodynamically and many consider biodynamics to be the ‘Rolls Royce’ of organic farming.”

“Yet, after reading Steiner, I conclude that Rudolf Steiner was a complete nutcase, a flimflam man with a tremendous imagination, a combination if you will, of an LSD-dropping Timothy Leary with the showmanship of a P.T. Barnum. His books, writings, and lectures should be catalogued under ‘science



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**Rudolf Steiner’s ideas became the basis of both biodynamic and organic farming, although the organic movement today rejects his more esoteric, occult, or even “spiritual” claims.**

fiction,’ because there is not a scintilla of truth in any of his writings. Reading Steiner is tough sledding, because it makes no sense in our real world, yet when viewed as ‘science fiction’ masquerad-

ing as some sort of Jim Jones new age cult, you are forced to admit that Steiner was extremely clever and creative in actually making this stuff up. Unfortunately, it is quite sad that someone—anyone—would actually believe in this hoax and profoundly disturbing that the biodynamic movement is gaining ground.”

In subsequent posts, Smith argued that a lack of commitment to scientific research in biodynamics is its major weakness. “Can someone show me,” he asks, “the rigorous peer reviewed research that demonstrates [the benefits of] burying a cow horn that transmits cosmic energy into the earth?”

The attack continued: “If it is a closed system, then why is it OK to truck

in compost from up to 250 miles away from the farm?... Why is it OK to use a nasty pesticide made from chrysanthemums [rather] than a more environmentally friendly one made from the petrochemical industry?”

According to Smith, claims by the biodynamic movement’s representatives that its wines are superior to conventionally grown vineyards in caring for their natural environment have no basis and, furthermore, they divide the wine making community, which Smith portrays as working “together to solve problems - as most farmers do.”

Smith did give a backhanded compliment to one biodynamic speaker he heard at a wine industry event. “To her credit, she mentioned what she called the Achil-

les Heel of Biodynamics, which are exotic pests.”

### Food fight

The intensity of Smith’s criticism suggests something beyond the issues of scientific truth, especially when he worries that he finds it “profoundly disturbing that the biodynamic movement is gaining ground.” He worries, too, about the movement’s claims of superiority dividing the wine making community, as though the wine industry is not competitive. Is this not one side of a marketing argument?

On the other side, in the face of such criticism as Smith’s and a number of others calling biodynamics “bullshit,” the aficionados hardly go quietly into the night. They defend its farming first and foremost, by appeal-

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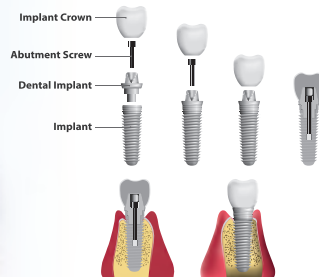


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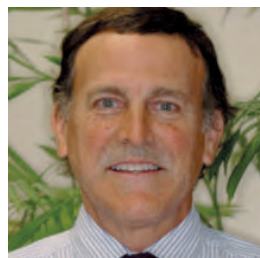
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ing to people's sensual perceptions, not only of its grapes and wine, but also of its fruits and vegetables. Stefan Voelkel wants his juices on San Diego store shelves "so that customers can see for themselves how good the juices taste." Other factors are the color, sizes and texture of the produce. In these times of heightened environmental sensitivity, the practitioners and promoters, however much they're attacked, promote biodynamics as a self-sustaining "spiritual-ethical-ecological approach to agriculture, and a healer of the earth."

The term "spiritual" as a designation for farming and the associations with astrology and other unconventional approaches grate on the scientifically-minded. Demeter USA's Elizabeth Candelaria has addressed the issue. She maintains "that the terms 'alchemy, astrology, and homeopathy' are not mentioned in the Demeter standard."

"We are certainly not in the business of certifying people's spirituality," she says. "The standard does not represent all of the ways farmers practice biodynamic agriculture, just like one type of yoga... does not describe the entirety of what yoga may mean to



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

**Panorama Farms sells citrus and avocados to Jimbo's and People's Coop in Ocean Beach.**

the yoga movement."

The other major bug-aboo for strict rationalists, of course, is the role cow horns play in creating the biodynamic preparations for fertilizing the soil and spraying crops. Here Candelaria pulled no punches in her description of the practice. "Cow manure is a dense, nutrient rich material," Candelaria continues. "When placed in a cow horn under the ground, where the temperature is constant throughout the winter, the manure ferments, much like a sourdough inoculate, or [how] a kombucha culture ferments. When it is exhumed, the material looks like chocolate and has a beautiful earthy

aroma. This inoculate is then added to water and broadcast on soil, where it directly impacts the microbial life of that soil."

She does acquiesce in a certain scientific procedure by Demeter, which she describes as "collecting topsoil samples from biodynamic farms. This will help the organization determine if the soil quality is improving year after year on certified biodynamic farms." According to Candelaria, Demeter is the only national farming organization implementing this practice.

Candelaria remarks optimistically that the topsoil samples "will provide a tool for farmers who continue to focus

on building healthy soil, and give a voice to the powerful about biodynamic agriculture's role in mitigating the impacts of climate change."

But she adds that beyond agronomic benefits, "You may also find some biodynamic farmers who ...

may describe their personal relationship with their farm that speaks to a deeper connection with the farm and its place in nature."

**Takes a whole community**  
At Fallbrook's Odd Tree Biodynamic Farm, Audrey James is aware of the controversies surrounding biodynamics. In regard to the influence of the moon, the planets and stars, she believes that biodynamics is oriented not to astrology but to astronomy, which also recognizes constellations of stars, although in a somewhat different way.

"And think about the influence of the moon on water in the tides" she says. "It also influences water in the ground."

"I do listen to people who are critical of biodynamics," James tells me. "And what they think doesn't bother me. The biodynamic process just

feels right to me, and I follow its principles and use its preparations, although I'm not certified. I'm happy with the results I get. It's amazing how much you can grow on a small piece of land."

So far, her farm only breaks even, but it seems to have the potential to make money. "But one person can't do everything," she says. James leads a meetup on biodynamics and brings people to her farm for hands-on experience. "It takes a whole community," she says.

If others work on the farm to help it make money, what will the financial agreement be? Payment in produce? Or a prearranged scheme for dividing up profits? "We'll see," she says. "I'm not sure. I think, as things develop, the best way to do that will come about."

— Joe Deegan

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## Spend your money

*continued from page 3*

Commission's services for homeless people, the Real Estate Assets Department's portfolio management, and Civic San Diego's Housing and Community Development section should be in one place — and “accountable,” the funding priorities memo says.

District 1 Councilmember Barbara Bry came in with six pages, identifying areas where the city spends lots of money without monitoring results or even having a plan for reaching goals. She calls for the city's spending on homelessness to include reviews for effectiveness and for results to be published so it's easier to see what works and what doesn't.

She also calls for a planned real estate strategy

that “will save millions in spending on vacant properties that don't suit the city's needs.”

Newly elected to District 4, Monica Montgomery came in with 12 pages of infrastructure requests and public safety issues, including hiring more cops and monitoring them better.

She advocates for creating an office of tenants protection with its own housing code enforcement officers to focus on “substandard housing in the following communities” Barrio Logan, Southeast San Diego, and Encanto.

All the councilmembers listed specific areas that need streetlights — Gomez identified an entire neighborhood — but no one paid more attention to the details than Chris Cate. He submitted a four-page list of locations of where the lights should be

installed, precisely measured to how many feet away from intersections. He asked for \$8.5 million worth of streetlights — more than eight times the \$1 million minimum Montgomery want dedicated to streetlights for the whole city.

Mark Kersey, councilmember for District 5, wants Purell hand sanitizers at all library and recreation facilities, citing the 342 influenza deaths in the county last flu season.

He is also concerned about city land in the San Pasqual Valley where agricultural leases appear to be ‘on hold,’ and about the poor condition of Ysabel Creek Road so crumbled by rain and erosion that it's partly a dirt road now.

Five of the councilmembers want to add a community paramedic to the fire department budget — and

introduce the city to community paramedicine. Paramedicine expands the role of paramedics and emergency medical technicians to allow them to perform basic services such as blood pressure checks, teaching CPR, checking up on people who were recently discharged from hospitals, and other basic community tasks. Pilot programs have shown that paramedicine substantially reduces trips to the emergency room.

### Money hunt

How would a councilmember suggest the city find money to pay for things? It's an especially important question in a year during which the city is facing a budget deficit of somewhere between \$46 million and \$74 million. The city's annual pension fund payment this year is expected to be around \$350 million.

Except for Georgette Gomez's proposal to raise water fees, the councilmembers looked at the budget and identified places to take money and use it for other city needs — moving it from one pocket to another, basically.

Ward, of course, says selling the skydiving facility and not duplicating services for homeless people that are already available nearby will recover \$15 million for the real estate and will save the city another \$1.5 million in operating costs.

Council President Georgette Gomez suggests railing the current storm drain fee of 95 cents per month, calculating that each dollar increase in fees equals \$6 million in new revenue.

“For instance, an increase to \$5 per parcel per month would generate an additional \$30 million per

year to address storm water needs,” her report says.

Gomez also has her eye on \$18 million that's set aside to pay the expected increase in the annual payment to the city's Infrastructure Fund. It takes a two-thirds vote by the city council to divert the money away, she notes. Taking that money doesn't affect what's already committed to infrastructure, but it does keep funding from increasing for a year.

Campbell was the only city councilmember to propose not making the \$4.2 million pension stability payment planned for the year (2020).

Moreno observed that the city spends \$240 million a year paying contractors for services. Cutting the contracting or its cost by 10 percent would return \$24 million to the general fund. ■

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## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

services” provided by the Governor’s Cup Foundation at a Pebble Beach golf tournament in July, where free “lodging, reception, and food” for the legislator totaled \$1344.63.

Two gift bags worth \$400 each were received by the couple from the Sycuan Tribal Council in November, the report says. But the bags “were returned to Sycuan upon notification of cost,” according to a footnote. On the occasion of its anniversary celebration last fall, Sycuan provided a total of \$538 worth of “food/beverage for spouse and myself. Both spoke @ event.” In addition, on November 21, the disclosure says, Gonzalez and her husband split four free passes from NBC Universal, worth a total of \$470.

Matt Potter

## Mystery surrounds The Treasure of the Mission Valley

“Blandishments? I don’t have to show you any stinking blandishments!”

As the California State University system pushes forward with its efforts to grab a major chunk of Mission Valley for “SDSU West” and a new stadium costing a currently estimated \$250 million, negotiations between the university and San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer continue to be veiled in secrecy.

As previously reported, CSU has retained the services of influence-peddling Sheppard Mullin to cut a closed-door deal for the former Qualcomm Stadium parcel with Faulconer, per a city-required lobbyist disclosure filing. But the university system continues to refuse requests made under the California Public Records Act to reveal how much it has agreed to pay the firm, leading to speculation that total lobbying costs may wind up in the millions of dollars.



Panem et circenses, circa 2019.

ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF SDSU

“The record which memorializes the retention agreement between the CSU and Sheppard Mullin is the retention agreement itself,” wrote university counsel Sasha K. Danna in a February 25 email. “Agreements entered between CSU and outside legal firms are protected by the attorney-client privilege and attorney work product doctrine and will not be disclosed. CSU’s retention of Sheppard Mullin was a recent occurrence, and, to date, CSU has not received or paid any invoices. With respect to any future invoices, please note that attorney billing statements are also protected from disclosure under the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine.”

Absent details of how much and for what purposes the pricey lobbying firm is billing, taxpayers may never know how much cash is being used by the lobbyists for commonly-deployed blandishments, including travel, sports tickets, and dinner tabs for the negotiators.

Over the past decade, records show Faulconer has raked in a total of \$22,450 in campaign funding from a host of Sheppard Mullin employees as he moved up from city council to the mayor’s office, making him by far the biggest beneficiary of

the firm’s San Diego political giving. In addition to making direct contributions, the firm’s Christopher Neils is listed on Sheppard Mullin lobbying disclosure reports as having been a fundraiser for the mayor. By comparison, Republican ex-councilman and former mayoral candidate Carl DeMaio, picked up a total of \$8313 during his political career, courtesy of the firm’s lawyers and administrators, and two-term GOP councilman Chris Cate, another building lobby ally, received \$8950.

Having a friendly negotiating partner in Faulconer is especially important to SDSU. The current closed-door bargaining sessions, authorized by voters when they passed last year’s Measure G regarding potential turnover of the 132-acre property to SDSU, are firmly under control of the mayor. That is evidenced by a January 7 memorandum of law by City Attorney Mara Elliott which bars members of the city council from sitting in on the bargaining. “A Councilmember’s legislative function under the Charter does not extend to negotiating contract terms directly with a third party at the outset. Moreover, we believe a Councilmember’s direct involvement in contract negotiations,

followed by that same Councilmember’s vote on the negotiated contract, would undermine the Charter’s system of checks and balances for city government.”

Elliott’s memorandum adds that the council thus has only a limited role to play, largely sidelining

it from decision making and keeping the talks in the dark until a final deal is cut. “The Council may ask the Mayor to provide informational updates regarding negotiations,” the opinion says. “The Mayor ‘shall inform the Council of any material facts or significant developments related to all matters under the jurisdiction of the Council.’ Also, the Council may provide limited direction on real property negotiations through Closed Session discussions.”

The minutes of the most recent council closed session, held February 5, show there was no discussion of the Mission Valley deal. The February 19 meeting was not held and the next session isn’t scheduled until later this month.

Matt Potter

## Under the radar

continued from page 3

series; outstanding design – newspaper, broadsheet format; and outstanding event” at the National Association of Hispanic Publications’ José Martí Publishing Awards. “We compete nationwide with the best of the best in Hispanic publications,” said Tom Jimenez, then U-T vice president of Spanish-language products, a position that no longer exists. “We’re very proud.”

Late last week, the U-T began advertising for a bilingual reporter for the Spanish section, to “cover news among the Latino and general population in San Diego.”

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

the last 35 of its 70 years, and keeping up on local news and gossip is part of his job. That's why he religiously read his hometown *Blade-Citizen* and its successor, the *North County Times*.

But Menzel will tell anyone who asks what he thinks about the October 2012 "merger," when *Union-Tribune* owner Doug Manchester snuffed out the *North County Times* and transferred its subscribers to the *Union-Tribune*. "I haven't read a newspaper since they closed down the *North County Times*. They tried to bring in a newspaper from San Diego here to North County, but I have no interest in what is happening in San Diego. They say they have a local section about North County, but as far as I'm concerned, the local newspaper left me. I took [the *Union-Tribune*] for maybe a week but then I cancelled it. What they were trying to sell me was terrible. To be honest, I haven't read a newspaper since it went away. It's sad."

North County was once awash in newsprint. Until 1989, Vista residents, for example, had newsstand and daily delivery access to

ning *Tribune*, and the San Diego Edition of *L.A. Times*. Keep in mind this was softball, not baseball. Even if you looked at the L.A. market, I don't think there was as much coverage for local prep sports anywhere as there was in North County during that time."

The sports reporter maintains that it was a kind of golden era for local press. "Back then, there was competition. You cared if you got scooped by another local paper. Sure, the *San Diego Union* and the *Evening Tribune* were the big gorillas, but you could scoop them on a big story. People cared about beating the other guy, but it was fun. Now you go to a sports event and no one competes against anybody. Often, no one in the media shows up to cover games."

But while the modern-day lack of local prep sports coverage may be a quaint regret, the decrease in local coverage of city governments could have more serious impacts,



Unfortunately, nobody read *Preserving Print Media for Dummies*.

"three dot" columnists like Brian Cook, Tom Morrow, and Jeff Frank to cover community events and local trivia. The *Blade-Citizen* (and later the *North County Times*) even had its own political cartoonist, Mark Thornhill. And until the mid-90s, the dailies that covered North County usually had one reporter per city. Reporter Phil Diehl's beat used to be the city of Oceanside, back when he worked for the *Blade-Citizen*. Now his beat for the *U-T* includes Solana Beach, Del Mar, Carlsbad and Oceanside.

While the *North County Times* ceased to exist, the *Union-Tribune* did continue to employ the well-respected editor-turned-columnist Logan Jenkins. His thrice-weekly column covered North County for some 20 of the 22 years he wrote it. But Jenkins's last column ran in January. Insiders at the *U-T* say there will not be a North County-centric columnist replacing Jenkins going forward.

Missett was brought to Oceanside to run

the city's *Blade-Tribune* in 1967. He stayed with the paper for almost 30 years as it morphed into the *Blade-Citizen* (covering Oceanside to Del Mar) and then into the *North County Times* (covering all of North County). He says he knows plenty of other people who feel the same way as bartender Menzel.

Missett, who once employed reporter Diehl, says he respects Diehl's talent and professionalism, but by stretching out newsroom resources, the *U-T* is dumbing down its product. "They are trying to save themselves into prosperity. But what is happening is they are not giving people the news they need.

The *Blade-Tribune* and *Blade-Citizen* built success on local news, sports, crime reporting, and local events. When you have one person doing the work of four, you end up turning out an inferior product."

In 1997, when the *North County Times* was created, Missett says the *Times-Advocate* had about 60,000 subscribers and the *Blade-Citizen* had 50,000. "We figured out that if you take out the *Union-Tribune*'s rack and bulk sales at hospitals, their circulation for the whole county now is actually under 100,000. That means the two North County papers, when combined, had more subscribers than the *U-T* does now for the whole county."

*Union-Tribune* publisher Jeff Light did not respond to emailed questions about his paper's circulation or its commitment to North County. It was reported that at the end of 2017 yjsy the *U-T* had an average daily circulation of 121,321.

KEN LEIGHTON

"It seems like the main purpose of the *U-T* now is to scam people who way overpay for obituaries,"

seven different newspapers. One local sports-writer, who was around in the '80s but did not want to be identified, recalled: "When I was working for the [Escondido] *Times-Advocate*, I would go to a Vista High softball game and you would also see reporters from the *Vista Press*, the [Oceanside] *Blade-Citizen*, the [San Diego] *Union*, the [San Diego] *Eve-*

says former *Blade-Citizen* publisher Tom Missett. "It seems like the main purpose of the *U-T* now is to scam people who way overpay for obituaries," says Missett. "It's unconscionable."

The inland *Times Advocate* and coastal *Blade-Citizen* merged in 1995 to form the *North County Times*. Those papers employed

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# Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

## Friday | 15

### BONO AND THE EDGE WAITING FOR GODOMINO'S

Addicted to celebrity culture, two self-imposed elitists have holed up in a castle, wanting to simplify their lives and



achieve pure art. They have long since lost touch with reality. They ache for it, and for contact with the Common Man. So they order Godomino's pizza, in hopes of forgiveness and enlightenment, and wait.

**WHEN:** Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16, 8 pm

**WHERE:** Tenth Avenue Arts Center, 930 Tenth Avenue, Downtown. [tenthavenuearts.com](http://tenthavenuearts.com)

## Saturday | 16

### EIGHT BREWERIES IN 1980, OVER 6000 TODAY

Culinary historians present "Craft Beer & Spirits: American Origin & Evolution," featuring Yuseff Cherney.



YUSEFF CHERNEY

Cherney will examine the argument that the discoveries of beer and bread are responsible for humanity's ability to advance technology and develop civilizations. He will also survey the origins of the American craft beer industry and its growth from eight breweries in 1980

to over 6,000 today. And he will detail the evolution of craft distilling, and how both have grown into multi-billion dollar industries. Cherney is former head brewer of Ballast Point Brewing and Spirits and a UCSD graduate.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 16, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm

**WHERE:** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard, East Village. [sandiego.gov/public-library](http://sandiego.gov/public-library)

### HOLI FESTIVAL: INDIAN FOOD AND BODY POWDER

The festival of colors, called *Holi* in India, is a Hindu celebration signifying the victory of good over evil, the arrival of spring, and thanksgiving for a good harvest. It is a time to repair broken relationships. Apply colorful body powder on each other while DJs mix live Bollywood, hip-hop and dance tunes. Games, such as "pichkaari" (aka water guns), will be played. There will also be a children's dance show and Indian food available.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 16, 11 am to 3 pm

**WHERE:** Hourglass Field Community Park, 10440 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa. [america.cry.org](http://america.cry.org)

### MISSION HILLS IN THE ROARING '20S

Single-family hous-



SATURDAY, MARCH 16: HOLI FESTIVAL

ing boomed across America in 1920s, and Mission Hills was teeming with development. As fortunes grew, homes ranged from humble cottages to lavish estates. New styles came: Tudor and Storybook, French and English Eclectic, and Italian Renaissance.

Dominating the later '20s was Spanish Eclectic. Architectural historians Ron May and Diane Kane will discuss the events that led to the housing styles of Roaring Twenties. Laura Wile and Don Fay will recount (with photos) their ground-up rehabilitation of the historic "Swan House" on Alameda Drive.

**WHEN:** Saturday, March 16, 1 pm to 4 pm

**WHERE:** Francis Parker Lower School, 4201 Randolph Street, Mission Hills. [francisparker.org](http://francisparker.org)

## Monday | 18

### IL DIVO AT CIVIC THEATRE

Simon Cowell's idea to cross boy bands with classical tenors seemed like a longshot 15 years ago, or at least until



IL DIVO

Il Divo became the first classical crossover artist to debut at number one in the Billboard Top 200 chart. They've sold over 30 million albums, and now they're touring in support of their ninth studio album, *Timeless*.

**WHEN:** Monday, March 18, 8 pm

**WHERE:** San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue, Downtown. [sandiegotheatres.org](http://sandiegotheatres.org)

# ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

## BUENA VISTA LAGOON & AUDUBON NATURE CENTER (CARLSBAD)

This freshwater lagoon is a great place to observe a variety of birds.

**Driving directions:** From I-5 north, take the Las Flores exit in Carlsbad. Turn left on Las Flores, cross back over I-5, then go left on Jefferson Street. From I-5 south, take the Las Flores exit in Carlsbad and turn right, then go left on Jefferson Street. Continue south for 0.4 mile to Laguna Drive. Turn right on Laguna and continue 0.3 mile to Maxon Brown Park, on your right. Park on the street and begin your walk. **Hiking length:** 1.2 miles, out-and-back. Allow 1.5 hours. **Difficulty:** Easy with negligible elevation gain/loss.



The trail cuts through the cattails and tules

In 1969, the Buena Vista Lagoon was set aside as California's first ecological reserve. It continues to be a refuge for birds and other wildlife and can be a great place to observe migrating waterfowl, as it is a significant stop on the Pacific Flyway. Of all the lagoons along San Diego's coast, it is the only freshwater lagoon, although this may change in the near future.

Walkers of all abilities will have no difficulty with

the paved sidewalk along State Street and Carlsbad Boulevard that crosses the lagoon, but some may run into difficulties on the muddy trails within the lagoon. Leashed dogs and bicycles also are allowed on the paved Coastal Rail Trail that runs along both sides of Carlsbad Boulevard, but dogs and bicyclists are not allowed within the Nature Center or on the lagoon trails.

The hike to the Nature Center and the trails leading into the lagoon are open year around but could be closed due to flooding after heavy rains. Birding is best from the observation platforms within the lagoon that can be accessed via trails originating at the Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center. The Nature Center is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm, and Sunday, 1 pm to 4 pm, but the lagoon trails are open for birders and walkers daily from sunrise to sunset.

Before beginning the walk, take time to view the lagoon from the perspective of the small hill within the Maxon Brown Park. In addition to the beauty of the view, a closer observation will reveal that open water is rather limited. The shoreline is dominated by dense thickets of tule (several species of *Schoenoplectus*) and southern cattail (*Typha domingensis*).

Start walking on the sidewalk along Laguna Drive to its

continued on page 34

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

## ANIMAL FRIENDS

**Open Farm Days** Come Cuddle with Camels in the Country. The Oasis Camel Dairy opens the barn doors for our monthly Open Farm Day. Camel Rides, Animal & Bird Show, Games, Kid's Activities, Mini Sheep Town Petting Zoo plus amazing camel milk products available like pure, natural soaps, lotions and chocolate. Saturday, March 16, 1pm; Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$7-\$12. Oasis Camel Dairy, 26757 Old Julian Highway. (RAMONA)

**The Amazing Acro-cats** This one-of-a-kind, two hour long purrformance features talented domesticated house cats roll on balls, ride skateboards, jump through hoops, and more. The finale is the only all-cat band in the entire world - Tuna and the Rock Cats. Thursdays, 7pm; Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 3pm; Sundays, 1pm; through Sunday, March 17, \$25-\$40. Moxie Theatre, 6663 El Cajon Bl., Suite N. (ROLANDO)

## ART

**Art Show Awards & Reception** Art Show Awards and Reception: Lenten Art Show Awards. Juror Thia Nevius. Special music by organist Craig McIlwain. Reception to follow. Saturday, March 16, 3pm; free. St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 3502 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

**Art Streiber & Michele Romero: Behind the Scenes** Michele Romero has been with Entertainment Weekly since the first issue launched in 1990 and has contributed to more than 1500 issues to date. Art Streiber shot his first assignment for the magazine in 1996 and has since photographed over 30 covers for the magazine. Thursday, March 14, 6pm; \$15-\$25. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Guillermo Del Toro Fan Art Exhibit** Free and open to the public group art exhibit that celebrates the dark world of Guillermo Del Toro. Opening reception. Saturday, March 16, 6pm; free. Subterranean Coffee Boutique, 412 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

**Lantern Street Festival** Come join us in celebrating lanterns and light as we listen to incredible music and enjoy great food. Each adult ticket is \$35 and comes with a free lantern and LED light. Bring materials and get busy creating an illuminated masterpiece. You even get to take your work of art home at the end of the night. Live music and

food trucks. Saturday, March 16, 5pm; free-\$35. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

**No Piece Is Too Small** MEL CLARKSTON. Mel lovingly created her litter Mosaics, from pieces of discarded trash left on our San Diego beaches! Fridays, 5pm; through Sunday, March 31, free. Arts District Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

**Off The Pedestal Art Exhibit Reception** Seven award winning artist organized a cohesive art show that represents both nature and a woman's path in life. It is themed around the large figurative art work "Daphne" from Greek mythology. Thursday, March 14, 6:30pm; free. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

**Ryan Tannascoli: Remembering the Promenade** recapture the importance of the shopping mall in its heady heyday, a time before online shopping and the disintermediation of the promenade, a time when glass, mannequins and the glamour of the past delineated culture. Friday, March 15, 5pm; free. La Playa Gallery, 2226 Avenida de la Playa. (LA JOLLA)

**Sabor Latino: Food, Beer & Wine Festival** Celebrate Latino flavors and culture with unlimited dish tastings inspired by the area's most celebrated Latin chefs, as well as unlimited pours of craft beer and wine tastings. Live music and art all day. Saturday, March 16, 1pm; \$20-\$50. Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

## BEER

**2019 Irish 4 A Day** Live music, DJ, leprechauns, Green Beer, J-Mo, Irish Car Bombs, body painting of Downtown Dolls by CJ Martinez and more sexy shenanigans. Friday, March 15, 6pm; \$20-\$60. 21 and up. McFadden's, 731 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**5th Anniversary Celebration** Join us as we celebrate our 5th Anniversary. Thursday, March 14, 12pm; Quantum Brewing Company, 5375 Kearny Villa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

**Celebrate St. Patrick's Day** We'll hop aboard the trolley and visit four local breweries in the heart of downtown San Diego. Sample a flight of craft beer at every stop and fuel up with a light brewery lunch, all included. Sunday, March 17, 11:30am; \$88. 21 and up. La Jolla Wine Tours, 7514 Girard Ave., Suite 1110. (LA JOLLA)

**Dark Market** Heathens, punks, and lovers of all things weird are totally invited to come and peruse a bounty of bizarre wares with a tasty coffee or adult beverage in hand. This coven of off-beat creators will gather at the Fortress of Ratitude from 12PM-4PM, so if you need to stock up on any essentials before the next full moon, this is your golden opportunity. Saturday, March 16, 12pm; free. Modern Times Beer, 3612 Kurtz Street. (POINT LOMA)

**Luck O' Loma St. Paddy's Block Party** This family & dog-friendly, neighborhood event will feature live entertainment, booths serving up beer & liquor, delicious food by Surf Side Deli, dog park area, themed games, green stuff and more. Saturday, March 16, 12pm; free-\$10. Goodbar, 1872 Rosecrans Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

**Old Bro Tap Takeover** Skateboarding was born here in SoCal, and we're friends with a group of guys who were in at the ground level of the golden era of skateboarding—they call themselves the Old Bros. These guys inspired us to create a crushable, post-sesh beer, but we couldn't decide on just one of their iconic photos to feature.... so we went with 25. Every can tells a different story, and every 4-pack features a unique mix of designs. Friday, March 15, 6pm; free. 21 and up. Blind Lady Ale House, 3416 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

**St. Paddy** We will be serving Irish dishes. We will be having promo girls coming through with freebies for customers on Saturday and Sunday. Come in your best Irish gear. Traditional Irish seisuin band at 12 noon. Drink specials. Pots of Gold shots. Leprechaun shots. Car bombs. Guinness on TAP. Sunday, March 17, 11am; \$5-\$50. Knotty Barrel, 844 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Paddy's San Diego Pub Crawl** With multiple Pub Crawls over St. Patrick's Day Weekend, there's no excuse to not unleashing your inner Irish roots, The St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl offers two events. Choose your date; then show up at Taste & Thirst at the designated time. Saturday, March 16, 2pm; Sunday, March 17, 2pm; \$10-\$35. 21 and up. Taste & Thirst on Fourth, 715 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Patty's Day Shamrock Shamble** Don't miss our annual St. Patrick's Day Tournament with Carlsberg Beer and Second Chance Brewery. Sunday, March 17, 7am; free-\$45. Loma Club, 2960 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

## BOOK SIGNINGS

**Julia Plevin: Healing Magic of Forest Bathing** Warwick's will host Julia Plevin as she discusses and signs her new book, "The Healing Magic of Forest Bathing: Finding Calm, Creativity, and Connection in the Natural World." Thursday, March 14, 7:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Michelle Gable: The Summer I Met Jack** New York Times best-selling author of A Paris Apartment, I'll See You in Paris, and The Book of Summer, Michelle Gable. Her most recent novel, The Summer I Met Jack, imagines the affair between John F. Kennedy and Alicia Corning Clark and the child they may have had. Saturday, March 16, 3pm; free. Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)



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



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## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

### 2 Hours at the Pottery Wheel

We'll cover the basics of centering, opening, and lifting the wall. If you end up with something you want to keep at the end, we will fire one untrimmed piece for you to glaze and pick up later. Friday, March 15, 6pm; \$60. 18 and up. Mud Lily, 7881 University Avenue. (LA MESA)

### Caregiver Yoga Workshop

A yoga workshop for first responders, counselors, nurses, doctors, and other professionals coming into regular contact with the suffering of others. Learn the underpinnings of trauma stewardship, nervous system regulation, and uncover your own inner resources and boundaries in a supportive, trauma-informed environment. Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$20-\$30. 18 and up. Gather Encinitas, 414 N. Coast Highway 101. (LEUCADIA)

### Cooking with California-Grown Whole Grains

Calling all Grainiacs: You're invited to a day surrounded by all things California-grown whole grain. We'll talk about a multitude of varieties, cooking processes and methods, and of course we'll get to taste all of our delicious creations. Sunday, March 17, 2pm; \$25. Specialty Produce Warehouse, 1929 Hancock Street. (MISSION HILLS)

### DIY Miso Making Workshop

We will talk about the history of miso, its many different forms, and then make a large batch using various legumes. -You'll get to taste various misos to understand the fermentation process. You'll get to pack a mason jar full of miso to take home. Then we'll enjoy one of the most popular miso dishes—homemade miso soup. Saturday, March 16, 2:30pm; \$50. City Farmers Nursery, 3110 Euclid Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

### Expressive Arts Workshop

Do you have a love for plays and drama or an interest in writing, acting, or other means of expressive communication? Thursday, March 14, 10am; free. 18 and up. Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street. (VALENCIA PARK)

### Got Green? Grow, Eat, Live Better

Designed to help you and your family to lead a more green lifestyle with plant-based cooking demos, organic gardening tips, vegan food trucks, live entertainment and more. Saturday, March 16, 10am; San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

### Kokedama Workshop

Every second and fourth Friday of the month. Ginseng Ficus & Ginseng Ficus care; feng sui March 22. \$30-\$60. Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

### Meditation & Buddhism

This class meets regularly on Saturday mornings and consists of seated meditation and a Dharma talk that speaks to integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century daily lives. Saturday, March

16, 11am; free. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

### Mediterranean Cooking Class

You will: Harvest produce from the garden Prepare delicious, healthy recipes highlighting the Mediterranean diet Enjoy a delectable meal Take home some bounty from the garden. Saturday, March 16, 11am; \$50. 18 and up. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

### OLP Women's Symposium

brings together top women leaders to share their insights and pathways to success with our students and community. Through dialogue and modeling, these female leaders empower young women to stand up for themselves and fearlessly chase their dreams. The funds raised from this event will support the OLP Alumnae Scholarship Fund for students who embody the charisma of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Friday, March 15, 8am; \$15-\$50. Academy of Our Lady of Peace, 4860 Oregon Street. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

### Paint & Pints

Local artist Maira Meza will provide you with an easel, canvas, brushes, paint, an apron and will guide you step by step to making your own masterpiece. Reserve your seat at artehas-talamuerte@yahoo.com Sunday, March 17, 12:30pm; free. Ebullition Brew Works, 2449 Cades Way, Suite D. (VISTA)

### Painting & Vino

Come out Saturday afternoon and join Master Artist Erin for an Easy and Fun Step by Step instructed Painting Class while drinking your favorite adult beverage and eating delicious food at the Beautiful Hilton Del Mar. Saturday, March 16, 1pm; \$25-\$45. Hilton Del Mar, 15575 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

### Painting Class: Firefly Sunset

We'll provide the supplies and guide you step by step to create the featured painting. Save \$5 with promo code ReaderSD at checkout. Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$35. 18 and up. Gordon Biersch Brewery, 5010 Mission Center Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

### Paper Making Workshop

In this workshop you will learn through demos and hands-on practice. All materials and screens provided. Please register in advance, and bring your own cover-up/apron. Sunday, March 17, 10am; \$45-\$55. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

### Spiritual Psychology Workshop

is about bringing our minds, emotions, and behaviors into alignment. Sunday, March 17, 2pm; free-\$20. 18 and up. Liquid Eden Holistic Center, 3190 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

### Stroke Prevention Seminar

Learn about stroke symptoms, diagnosis and treatment options at a free workshop at the Logan Heights Library. A stroke program nurse manager will explain risk factors and lifestyle changes that can help prevent a stroke. Friday, March 15, 2pm; free. Logan Heights Library, 567 South 28th Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

## Rhyme & Verse

Three poems by James Merrill

### The Puzzle Is No Puzzle

A card table in the library stands ready  
To receive the puzzle which keeps never coming.  
Daylight shines in or lamplight down  
Upon the tense oasis of green felt.  
Full of unfulfillment, life goes on,  
Mirage arisen from time's trickling sands  
Or fallen piecemeal into place:  
German lesson, picnic, see-saw, walk  
With the collie who 'did everything but talk' —  
Sour windfalls of the orchard back of us.  
A summer without parents is the puzzle,  
Or should be. But the boy, day after day,  
Writes in his Line-a-Day No puzzle.

When the puzzle finally arrives, after days of waiting, it is described in detail:

Out of the blue, as promised, of a New York  
Puzzle-rental shop the puzzle comes —  
A superior one, containing a thousand hand-sawn,  
Sandal-scented pieces. Many take  
shapes known already — the craftsman's repertoire  
nice in its limitation — from other puzzles:  
Witch on broomstick, ostrich, hourglass,  
Even (not surely just in retrospect)  
An inchling, innocently-branching palm.

### Log

Then when the flame forked like a sudden path  
I gasped and stumbled, and was less.  
Density pulsing upward, gauze of ash,  
Dear light along the way to nothingness,  
What could be made of you but light, and this?

### The Everyday Guide to California Wines

What makes California unique among other wine-making regions of the world? How does a French Chardonnay compare with its California counterpart? What's the best way to read a California wine label? Find out the answers and more in this lecture that prepares you for the rest of your journey through the world of California wines. Thu, Mar 14: Part I - California's Super Stars. Thursday, March 14, 3:30pm; free. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

### The Mind Fit Series for Brain Health

Take proactive steps to manage brain health! The main focus of the class is cognitive stimulation through exercises that target various domains of cognition. Thursday, March 14, 1pm; free. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

### The Poetry of March's National Women's Herstory Month

The Poetry of March's National Women's Herstory Month with Jim Moreno: Poem-Making with Jim Moreno. This year Moreno continues to honor

the past, including growing up in a house full of women: his mother and two sisters. Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$45-\$54. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

### Tree of Luck Paint & Drink

Come out St. Patrick's Day afternoon and join Artist Erin Schroeder for an Easy and Fun Step by Step instructed Painting Class and paint this EASY Beach style Tree of Luck and Life. Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$25-\$45. 21 and up. At Ease at Barrel Harbor, 8990 Miramar Road #150. (MIRAMAR)

### Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia

Join us to learn about the relationship between Alzheimer's disease and dementia. Thursday, March 14, 4pm; free. Casa Aldea Senior Living, 14740 Via Fiesta. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

### Voice-Over Class

In this introductory class, you will learn about a unique, outside the box way to break into this creative, fulfilling, and potentially lucrative industry. Thursday, March 14, 6:30pm; \$45. 18 and up. Southwestern College, 900 Otay Lakes Road. (CHULA VISTA)

### Manos Karastefanes

Death took my father.  
The same year (I was twelve)  
Thanási's mother taught me  
Heaven and hell.

None of my army buddies  
Called me by name—  
Just 'Styles' or 'Fashion Plate'.  
One friend I had, my body,

And, evenings at the gym  
Contending with another,  
Used it to isolate  
Myself from him.

The doctor saved my knee.  
You came to the clinic  
Bringing War and Peace,  
Better than any movie.

Why are you smiling?  
I fought fair, I fought well,  
Not hurting my opponent,  
To win this black belt.

Why are you silent?  
I've brought you a white cheese  
From my island, and the sea's  
Voice in a shell.



James Merrill (1926-1995) was an American poet known for his distinctive formal style. He was the recipient of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1977, and completed his three-volume apocalyptic epic <em>The Changing Light at Sandover</em> in 1980. Born in New York City, Merrill is the son of Charles E. Merrill (1885-1956), one of the

founding partners of the Merrill Lynch investment firm. Coincidentally, the poet was born in the building that would become the site of the infamous 1970 Greenwich Village townhouse explosion, caused when a bomb, targeted for military men and their dates at a ball scheduled at Fort Dix, NJ, prematurely exploded as it was being constructed by members of the domestic terrorist group Weather Underground. Merrill memorialized the event in his poem "18 West 11th Street."

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

## COMEDY

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

**Harland Williams** Comedian and Actor Harland Williams is known the world over for his hilarious movie roles and outlandish stand up and sketch comedy routines. Thursday, March 14, 8pm; Friday, March 15, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, March 16, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10-\$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

### Jump-Start-A-Life Fundraiser

**Telethon** This March, join us for a live telethon in support of one such San Diegan in his fight against stage 4 kidney cancer. Saturday, March 16th, from noon to midnight. Visit [jumpstartalife.org](http://jumpstartalife.org) for details, and how to view our all-afternoon acts including comedy, music, skits, and more. You can also join our live studio audience for free. For more information, free tickets, or

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Bridal Expo & Wedding Festival



## Eastlake Spring Craft Fair

Come join us for a fun family shopping experience happening around our beautiful Lake on Saturday, May 18th, 2019, 10:00am to 3:00pm at The Beach Club located at 2050 Lakeshore Drive, Chula Vista, CA 91913.

Over 70 crafty vendors from all over California will be selling their beautiful creations.

We will also have food vendors, live DJ spinning some enjoyable music and a nice spring setting for photos so bring your cameras.

Interested in becoming a vendor? \$40 per 10x10 space  
email [hoa@eastlake1.com](mailto:hoa@eastlake1.com).

When: Saturday, May 18, 2019, 10:00am to 3:00pm

Where: The Beach Club at EastLake, 2050 Lakeshore Drive, Chula Vista



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# SHEEP AND GOATS

## I ANSWERED THE CALL

### First Spiritualist Church of San Diego

**Contact:** 3777 Forty Second St., San Diego 619-284-4646 [www.1st-spiritualistchurch.org](http://www.1st-spiritualistchurch.org)

**Membership:** 87

**Pastor:** Lorina Pyle

**Age:** 52

**Born:** Price, UT

**Formation:** "After an intense search of self-healing and self-understanding...I turned my focus inward on meditation."

**Years Ordained:** 9

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

**Pastor Lorina Pyle:** I start every Sunday off with a thought for contemplation, something powerful, wonderful, a self-enhancing tool to think about throughout the week. I used to spend a week or two working on a sermon, but now

I find that if I meditate and open myself up, I can connect with the universe, God, and the angels, and bring through any information that needs to come through that day. I found my sermons are much more powerful and heartfelt when I trust in God instead of formulating something I put down on paper myself.

**SDR:** What is the mission of your church?

**PP:** The mission of First Spiritualist is to provide teachings. I call this church a schoolroom. We've had some amazing ministers ordained and out in the world from here. Our mission is to help, heal, empower and love.

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

**PP:** [The author of *Damaged: A Survivor's Story of the Damage Done by Sexual and Physical Abuse*.] Pastor Pyle testified at the 2014 trial of Donald J. Davis in Telluride, CO. Davis was suspected of multiple cases of rape, including that of Pastor Pyle when she was 14 years old, and charged with five of those cases (not including Pyle's). After entering an Alford Plea – asserting innocence but acknowledging that the evidence would likely lead to conviction – Davis pled guilty to two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, one count of assault of a child, and one count of contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Fifty-three years old at the time, he

received a sentence of 35 years without parole, which given his age, likely amounts to a life sentence.] The Telluride courthouse was a big building, double-story, with big windows at the top. The windows that day were open slightly, and when the judge walked in [to deliver her verdict] and said, "Donald Davis, you are guilty of all counts, and you're going to be in prison for the rest of your life," I swear to you, God filled that room. It was a calm day, and the wind must have blown 35 miles per hour. Every window in that courthouse blew open that day as the wind blew through, as if God was saying, "This is your sense of justice, and we're with you, and the angels are



Lorina Pyle

watching over you." It was so powerful. Everyone in the courthouse noticed that this was not normal. When the gavel came down, and this wind came through – that was the strangest but most powerful time in my whole life to see God.

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

**PP:** I believe in re-incarnation, even if all spiritualists do not, and I believe it's an opportunity for our souls to evolve, that is, expand. This world is a classroom that teaches us through experience and contrasts, and in that way we learn what we want and what brings us joy. Through that, I feel we learn and grow, and our souls evolve. Through that evolution, we don't always go back to where we started from when we leave heaven, but we may go to a more elevated state of knowingness with other like-minded souls.

– Joseph O'Brien

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

## ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 30

intersection with State Street. Continue right on State Street, then around the traffic circle, remaining on the sidewalk on the east side of Carlsbad Boulevard. As you look east, what you will see is a wall of cattails and tules, brown in winter but green the rest of the year, rising from a point a few feet from the sidewalk to a height of nearly eight feet. A variety of native and non-native species compete for light and water in the space between the cattail and tule curtain and the paved path. One of the most common of the native plants in this limited space is San Diego goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*). It puts on an attractive show of bright yellow flowers in late summer and fall. In a wet winter, Bermuda buttercup (*Oxalis pes-caprae*), a persistent non-native pest with attractive yellow flowers, may make an appearance amongst the abundant iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*). Another native California plant found here, but clearly out of its comfort zone, is the Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*). These trees, planted here some years ago, are surviving but are not happy.

You will reach the Audubon Nature Center after walking 0.4 mile from Maxon Brown Park. Turn right and follow the signed nature trail east, past picnic tables and benches, a kiosk with information about the lagoon, and labeled coastal sage scrub plants. Continue following this path beyond the parking lot on your left and out into the lagoon. A path has been cleared of cattails and tules, making for easy walking, though in spots it can be muddy. Continuing down the path will bring you to a patch of open water and the first of two viewing platforms. From here you will see another similar viewing platform on the other side of the open water. The water here is quite shallow with a mud bottom, an ideal environment for dabbling ducks such as Gadwalls, American Wigeons, Northern Shovelers, Mallards, and Ruddy Ducks. All of these are common winter visitors to the Buena Vista Lagoon that you might see from these viewing platforms. Other occasional visitors to these waters include Eared and Western Grebes, American White Pelicans, Great Blue

Hérons, Cormorants, and Great and Snowy Egrets.

Unfortunately, the shallow waters and muddy bottom that make the Buena Vista Lagoon a great place for dabbling ducks also signify that its life as a lagoon will soon be over unless steps are taken to reverse its rapid eutrophication. This is caused by the continued accumulation of sand and silt brought into in the lagoon by Buena Vista Creek, the small stream that is its main source of water, as well as the accumulation of dead and decaying vegetation.

In 2001, the California Department of Fish and Game (as it was then called) began restoration of this lagoon with an emphasis on removing the cattail-tule vegetation choking the shore, but the project soon ran into a number of problems. Ten years later, the agency turned lagoon restoration over to SANDAG (San Diego Association of Governments). After numerous studies, they came up with four restoration plans. The major reason the lagoon is silting up is that a private dam (called a weir) was erected near where the lagoon flows into the sea. Its purpose was to keep the water level in the lagoon slightly above the average high tide. This converted the lagoon into a "fresh water" lake, but it also stopped the flow of sand from Buena Vista Creek into the ocean and onto San Diego's beaches. The sand and silt just accumulates in the lagoon.

All the proposals call for cattail-tule removal, but from biological and economic perspectives, only two of the four proposals go on to outline a doable course of action that makes sense. Either get rid of the weir and open the lagoon up to the tidal flushing or do nothing and let it become a meadow. SANDAG held a meeting in November 2018 to decide which of these plans to put into action. However, no decision was made. Instead, they decided to delay a decision for another six months. So, after nearly 20 years of talks, the decision was to talk some more.

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

to donate your support, please visit [jumpstartlife.org](http://jumpstartlife.org). Saturday, March 16, 12pm; **free**-\$10. Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

**Nadya Ginsburg** the woman of a thousand voices, comes to town with her newest solo show, ANXIOUS AND DANGEROUS, a mix of queer-centric, female, midlife crisis inspired, pop culture skewering standup comedy and song. Thursday, March 14, 8pm; \$25. 18 and up. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

**Randy Rainbow** Comedian, singer, and actor Randy Rainbow will bring his hit national theater tour to Balboa Theatre. Saturday, March 16, 7pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

## DANCE

**Hot Rhythm Lounge** Saturday, March 16, 8pm; \$5-\$12. Crown Dance Studio, 6904 Miramar Road. (MIRAMAR)

**San Diego Contra Dance** Come join us for modern American folk dancing to live music. No partner necessary, no experience necessary. Friday, March 15, 7:30pm; \$10. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

**Cannabis Compliance Mixer** Join us for an evening of education & networking as we present the ins-and-outs of legally buying, selling, transporting and tracking commercial cannabis in California.

Friday, March 15, 2pm; **free**-\$50. 21 and up. SDGE Energy Innovation Center, 4760 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

**Festival of Health** This festival is a community based event in the City Heights area. We will have free health information, free health screenings, free games for kids, a free exercise class, free food, and free music. Saturday, March 16, 9am; **free**. Central Elementary School City Heights, 4063 Polk Avenue. (CITY COLLEGE)

## FOR KIDS

**Community Purim Carnival** Join San Diego's Jewish community in celebrating Purim, also known as the Feast of Lots. The celebratory event features a festive Kosher meal, charitable giving and a chance to dress up in costumes. The family-friendly event will also have jump houses, bumper cars, a game truck, silent auction, entertainment, arts & crafts, face painting, camp fair and more. Sunday, March 17, 11am; **free**-\$20. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**St. Patrick's Lucky Adventure** It's your lucky day. There's plenty of fun to be had at Fort Cross as we celebrate and learn some history about St. Patrick himself! Together, we'll kick up our heels for an Irish jig with jug band music. See the snakes that he drove away from Ireland! Target some four leaf clovers! Visit our special animal friends. And venture into a land of leprechaun magic as you seek to find special treasures. Sunday, March 17, 2pm; Fort Cross Old Timey Adventures, 4425 Highway 78. (SANTA YSABEL)

**St. Patrick's Family Festival** There are plenty of shenanigans for

the entire family to enjoy including a professional flying circus trapeze, an infinite obstacle course, carnival rides, and other incredible games. Experience roaming circus acts by Circus Mafia throughout the festival. Test your skills and try to escape the leprechaun in a wipeout challenge. Guests can also get in the St. Patty's spirit with Irish-themed food, green beer, and access to a full bar. Saturday, March 16, 1pm; Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$10-\$15. Welk Resort Theatre, 8860 Lawrence Welk Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

**Storybook Princess Sing-a-Long** Saturday, March 16, 10:30am; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

## LECTURES

**Beyond Biology: Determinants of Health** Dr Leslie Lewis will explain the ways our lives, health and well-being are influenced by our social and physical environment, a system of inequality, and cultural values. Saturday, March 16, 1:30pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**California's Green Grow Rush** Cannabis is changing the culture of California as we speak. Interested in learning more about this intriguing topic? Then join us for a five-part lecture series happening each Saturday in March. Saturdays, 3pm; through Saturday, March 30, **free**. 18 and up. Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street. (VALENCIA PARK)

**Climate Change & Insects** Please join us for this very informative talk by entomologist Dr. Michael Wall from the San Diego Natural History Museum. His talk will cover some of the Museum's regional climate change research and then

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delve into current research finding from around the globe regarding climate change and insects. Thursday, March 14, 5:30pm; free. Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Avenue. (VISTA)

**Craft Beer & Spirits: American Origin & Evolution** featuring Yuseff Cherney. Yuseff Cherney has been brewing beer for more than 24 years. He will survey the origins of the American craft beer industry, its growth from 8 breweries in 1980 to over 6,000 today; the evolution of craft distilling; and how these have grown into multi-billion dollar industries. Saturday, March 16, 10:30am; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**Dr. Craig Stephenson P.T.S.D. Lecture** The San Diego Friends of Jung will present Dr. Craig Stephenson Ph.D., speaking on A Jungian Interpretation of Grimm's "Bearskin": A Soldier's Story of Trauma and Transcendence. Friday, March 15, 7:30pm; \$17-\$20. 18 and up. Winston School, 215 9th Street. (DEL MAR)

**FSDA Lecture on Manchester Pacific Gateway** The \$1.6 billion Manchester Pacific Gateway project, under construction on the downtown waterfront, will be discussed at the Friends of San Diego Architecture's monthly lecture. The public is invited to attend; the cost is \$5 but free for students. No reservations necessary. Saturday, March 16, 9:30am; free-\$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

## NATURE

**Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike** Join naturalist Les Braund for a hike leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a nice switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Saturday, March 16, 8am; free. Camino Ruiz trailhead, 11489 Camino Ruiz. (MIRA MESA)

**Carmel Mountain Tadpole & Fairy Shrimp Hike** Join Anthropologist Dr. Will Bowen for a hike to look for and learn about fairy shrimp, tree frog tadpoles, and spadefoot toad tadpoles — the short term inhabitants of the ephemeral rain pools and road puddles that form during the "wetting" phase of the vernal pool cycle. Sunday, March 17, 4pm; free. Carmel Mountain trailhead, 4730 Fairport Way. (CARMEL VALLEY)

**Guided Bird Walk** Join expert MTRP birders for an adventure in Bird Watching. Discover some of the many resident and migratory birds. Bring binoculars and/or a field guide if you have them. Meet at the ball fields by entering from Murray Park Drive and Belle Glade Avenue. Saturday, March 16, 8am; free. Lake Murray Community Park, 7001 Murray Park Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

**Shades of Green** Survey the landscape and notice the many different

shades of green at Mission Trails Regional Park. Observe this and more as you are led along the trail by a trained MTRP Trail Guide. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Saturday, March 16, 9:30am; Sunday, March 17, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

**Walk With Nature** Join outdoor educator and Chaparral Naturalist, Al Bates, on an easy, slow-paced interpretive nature walk along Dixon Lake's Chaparral Nature Trail. This walk will be general in nature, and will cover a variety of topics, ranging from history of local Native Americans, native plant life, mammals, birds, and more. This walk will last approximately an hour-and-a-half to two hours and will cover a little less than two miles of easy, mostly flat terrain. MEET IN THE DALEY RANCH LA HONDA PARKING LOT BY THE WATER FOUNTAIN. Rain cancels. Sunday, March 17, 12:30pm; free. Dixon Lake, 1700 North La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

**Watershed Warriors Ramona Community Cleanup** Join ILACSD, the County of San Diego, and the Ramona Parks and Recreation Association for a litter cleanup at Ramona Community Park. We will pick up trash around the creek to divert waste from the San Dieguito River watershed and restore Ramona's natural beauty for the community. ILACSD will bring all the cleanup supplies and explain the impact of this cleanup on our watershed. We also provide com-

munity service hours and Letters of Appreciation for volunteers. We encourage volunteers to bring your own reusable items such as water bottles, work gloves, and buckets to promote zero-waste practices and help us in our mission to have a zero waste, litter free and environmentally engaged San Diego region. Saturday, March 16, 10am; free. Ramona Rodeo and Fairgrounds, 434 Aqua Lane. (RAMONA)

**Wintering & Resident Birds** Naturalist Sally Sanderson will lead an easy-paced bird walk of about 3 miles, lasting two to three hours at Lake Wohlford. We will follow the eastern shoreline from the parking lot on Oakvale Road. We hope to see a Bald Eagle perching on its favorite tree or hunting over the lake. The Common Mergansers as well as a number of other duck species should be back from their northern breeding grounds. We often find American White Pelicans on the lake at this time of the year. Bring binoculars, hat, water and wear layered clothing. Heavy rain cancels. To get to Lake Wohlford Trailhead—From Interstate 15, take the Valley Parkway exit in Escondido and go northeast about 5.5 miles. Turn right on Lake Wohlford Road and go about a mile to Oakvale Road. Turn slightly right onto Oakvale and go about one mile. Turn left into the fenced parking lot. Sunday, March 17, 8:30am; free. Lake Wohlford, 25453 Lake Wohlford Road. (ESCONDIDO)

## SPOKEN WORD

**Rob Bell** Rob Bell is the author of ten books, including the *New York Times* Bestsellers *What We Talk About When We Talk About God*, *The Zimzum of Love*, *Love Wins* and *What Is the Bible?* His podcast, called *the RobCast*, was named by iTunes Best of 2015. Friday, March 15, 6:30pm; \$33-\$78. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**St. Patrick's Day Open Reading** Fortieth and Final St. Patrick's Day Opening Reading of Irish Poetry and Prose: Members of the public are invited to read their favorite passages of James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett, Oscar Fingal O'Flaherty Wills Wilde, Edmund Burke et al. Messrs. Guinness and Harp will officiate the proceedings. For this 40th and Final year, and as it occurs on a Sunday, we will begin this event at 4PM so that folks can get out of here earlier. Sunday, March 17, 4pm; free. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Storytelling Festival** Join Storytellers of San Diego in an all-day festival of storytelling; myths, legend, epics. Performances, workshops and more for family, kids, and adults. Saturday, March 16, 10am; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

## SPORTS & FITNESS

**Box Lacrosse Pick-Up Games** Play Box Lacrosse Pick-Up Games Every Sunday. Everyone 18+ welcome, or high school Varsity players. Come join us for fun, fast box lacrosse, and get a great workout. Sundays, 4pm; through Monday, December 30, \$10. 18 and up. Sportsplex USA, 12349 McIvers Court. (POWAY)

**Caregiver Yoga Workshop** A yoga workshop for first responders, counselors, nurses, doctors, or other professionals coming in contact with the suffering of others. Learn the signs of trauma-exposure response and return to your body and the "why" of your work in a supportive and nourishing environment. This is an active moving yoga workshop. Bring a yoga mat. Sunday, March 17, 1pm; \$20-\$25. 18 and up. Gather Yoga Studio, 412 N. Coast Hwy. (ENCINITAS)

## WORSHIP

**Liturgical Service** All are welcome at the Lord's table! Inspiring music in a beautiful setting. Fellowship and treats after services. Sundays, 8am and 10:30am; through Sunday, May 19, free. King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2993 Macdonald Street. (OCEANSIDE)

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# Mile of chars

*“I’m bowlegged, and not because of no horse.”*

**C**ome on out!” Kenneth’s sitting with Marco under the canopy. It’s been raining, but things are drying out. I’ve just ordered my ribs at the main counter. If you keep on walking, you can come straight through to this patio out the back. Mix of long tables and canopies and parked cars. These two guys are greeting me like an old friend.

What I ordered was baby back ribs. Because up here at Market and 42nd Street, what else would you order? Cruising west around the green acres of Mount Hope cemetery, it seems like every second food joint is BBQ. Including here, right next to the Mount Hope Community Garden. Yellow stucco place featuring a big hunky smoker with a red funnel.

“Bowlegged Bar.B.Que,” says the sign.

A minute later I’m inside this cozy li’l stand-alone. It’s like a small museum dedicated to R&B.

Art on the walls: scenes, painted in the Twenties, looks like, of bands in maxo blast, with stand-up double basses flying around, balloon-cheeked trumpeters blowing, ancient photos of girls in choir robes, album covers of artists such as Anita Baker, Bobby Brown, Whitney Houston, Isley Brothers, Natalie Cole, Luther Vandross, BB King, the Jackson 5, a couple of mounted Fenders, and a sculpture of a beautiful woman that looks like it might be African.

All of this surrounds half a dozen black wrought iron tables and chairs. It’s the dining room. They’ve put a lot of effort into this. And it all looks new.

I head on through to the counter.

There are people ahead of me, thank goodness, because the wall menu is almost as long

as the room. It starts with a brisket dinner, \$14 with one side dish, such as candied yams or potato salad, \$16 with two. Brisket sandwich runs \$12, including one side. Baby back ribs can go to \$32. That’s for a full rack (10-12 ribs), which costs \$22 on its own, \$27 with one large side, \$32 with two large sides.



But no way a single guy can eat all that. So I’m looking at the half rack here, 5 to 6 bones. They’re \$12 on their own, \$14 with one side, \$16 with two. You can also

get a quarter rack, 3-4 ribs, for \$10. Spare ribs are about two bucks cheaper. Rib tips split the difference. Chicken’s by far the cheapest. A quarter chicken, with leg and thigh, goes for \$5 (\$7 with one side, \$9 with two).

Sides-wise, they have what you’d expect: green beans, potato salad, baked beans, collard greens, cole slaw, and candied yams. For \$1 extra, you can get mac and cheese or corn bread. In the sandwich department, a beef or chicken hot link costs \$4.

But hey, it has to be ribs, right? Baby backs.

They say they have more meat on the bone than the other cuts. And, what the heck, collard greens. And can’t not have the candied yams. Plus a can of lemonade (\$1.50). So we’re talking \$17.50. I realize right after I pay that a quarter rack would’ve been plenty enough (\$8 for spare ribs).

Whatever, I take my half rack out back, because outside looks so fresh and inviting, in the post-rain sun. And these two guys at the long table under the canvas canopy are so welcoming. It’s like we’re old buddies from the get-go. Kenneth and Marco. They’re childhood friends. Kenneth, turns out, had the idea for Bowlegged BBQ.

Why “Bowlegged?”

“Look,” he says. He stands up. “This is me.

I’m bowlegged, and not because of no horse. It’s just how it is.”

He’s one of this family of brothers and sisters, originally from East Texas, but who have lived most of their lives right here. “We’ve had this property for a long time,” he says. “And for a long time, this was a pretty rough community. But it’s coming right, now. We just started up Bowlegged four months ago, and business is great. How could it not be? This road gets, must be 25,000 cars going up and down every day.”

So now I’m chomping into the first of my half dozen ribs. The taste? Lightly smoky, with a gentle sweetness from the barbecue sauce. I know the East Texas thing is slow cooking, and a sweet, tomato-based BBQ sauce. “We’re more about the actual pork flavor,” says Kenneth. “Also, we cook outside, in the open air. It’s just better. You can smoke the meat, control the heat, and we cook with wood. See that pile?”

He points to a rack of chopped up tree trunks. “White oak and mesquite. That’s what we use. Ribs will take a couple of hours. Brisket maybe 10-12 hours.”

How did they learn to do this? “Our grandmother, Bennie Mae. She taught our mom all the old recipes. Grandma was from Longview, Texas.”

My ribs are tender. The smoke flavor is really delicate too. Not ramming the flavor down your throat. But with the collard greens and way-sweet yams, I run out of steam at three ribs.

Kenneth’s sister Maria and brother Carlos



Carlos in the dining room/R&B museum



Candied yams, collard greens, and cornbread

come out. “I’m the [meat] smoker,” says Kenneth. “Maria’s the cook, and Carlos is the sous-chef and do-anything-guy.”

I like the whole family feeling here. I find myself hanging around, hanging out, chewing the fat long after I’ve chewed the meat. I’ll be back, partly to see if I’d fill my belly with a baby back quarter rack, or even a \$5 quarter chicken. Maybe even tomorrow.

As they say, Mount Hope springs eternal.

**The Place:** Bowlegged Bar B Que, 4255 Market Street (at Toyne Street), Chollas View, 619-301-7105

**Hours:** 11 am – 8:00 pm, Wednesday – Sunday (till 7 pm Sundays)

**Prices:** Beef or chicken hot link, \$4; chicken (quarter, with leg and thigh), \$5 (\$7 with one side, \$9 with two); spare ribs quarter rack, \$8; half rack, \$10; rib tips, \$9, sides \$2 extra; brisket sandwich, \$12, including one side; brisket dinner, \$14 with one side; baby back ribs quarter rack (3-4 ribs), \$10; half rack (5-6 ribs), \$12, (sides \$2); full rack (10-12 bones), \$22, with one large side, \$27, with two large sides, \$32; mac and cheese, \$1; corn bread, \$1

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# Pozole for a rainy day

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

## Rain or shine, Pozoleria Acapulco

Pozoleria Acapulco, 130 S 30th St, Logan Heights. It didn't have to be a cold and wet winter for me to seek out a *pozoleria*, but it didn't hurt to have the added motivation. In this case, I first found myself driving through an evening rain

house specialty, and in fact there are two versions of the hominy soup: *rojo* and *verde*. By default, the *rojo* is prepared with pork, the *verde* with chicken, but they will switch it up if you ask.

Regardless, your \$8.95 bowl will be swimming with toothsome hominy kernels, topped with shredded cabbage, and served alongside a plateful of other add-ins including avocado, cilantro, onions, jalapeños, radish slices, lime wedges, a crispy corn tortilla, and fried pork

## FEAST!

rinds, a.k.a. *chicharrones*. As if all that weren't enough, there's a potato rolled taco, great for dipping.

The big surprise for me was that neither red nor green *pozole* relies on chicken or any other animal stock as a base. Instead, the father-daughter team behind the new eatery ply recipes from his native Acapulco. The *rojo* broth shows a rich terra cotta hue, swirling with deeper red chili oils courtesy of a trio of red peppers, led by *guajillo*.

The *verde* broth starts with a green mole,



A bowl of warm *pozole verde de pollo* — a rainy day treat.

made with ground pumpkin seeds and green chilies, and though its shade resembles *salsa verde*, there's no tomatillo in it. But there is spinach and nopal cactus.

Without animal fats to enrich the broths, they wind up lighter both in flavor and body than most meaty soups. The nice thing is they're neither over salted nor over spiced, so it's up to customers to load their soup bowls with toppings to taste. A squeeze or two of lime brightened the earthy spices, and when the *chicharrones* softened in the hot liquid, they added a welcome, chewy dimension to the dish.

Each version presented a warming and healthful ward against the damp chill outside.

I'd give the edge to the *rojo* over the *verde*, but it's close. Either way, my preference would be for the succulent and flavorful pork neck, an excellent part of the pig to find in soup.

Good sit-down restaurants are too rare a find in Logan Heights, and it's great to see that, even when the weather warms up, Pozoleria Acapulco will stay relevant. Its signature soups are only two items on a larger menu that includes terrific *flautas* (potato or chicken), burritos, tortas, breakfast dishes, and a shellfish-laden, \$20, two-person serving of *paella Valenciana*.

by Ian Anderson



The father-daughter operation opened recently in Logan Heights.

to find soup in Logan Heights, and its month-old restaurant Pozoleria Acapulco.

The name *pozoleria* suggests *pozole* is the

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From the same owner that brought you:







Chicks Natural occupies a shop in a corporate food court.

### Chicks Natural celebrates a milestone

Chicks Natural, 9430 Scranton Road, Sorrento Valley. There's a little strip mall in Sorrento Valley that's mostly filled by 10 or 12 little counter restaurants; a food court serving all the corporate campuses in the area. It sits about a block south of the local outpost of Karl Strauss Brewing Company. San Diego's oldest brewery turned 30 last month and threw a big party to celebrate, as it does every year.

In the strip mall, Chicks Natural likewise opened in 1989. It celebrated its 30th anniversary last month by hanging a banner.

I guess there's not as much glory in rotisserie chicken as there is craft beer, but staying in business for 30 years


is quite a feat for any type of restaurant. I had been heading for a different restaurant

in the food court, but when I spotted the banner, I decided to celebrate by going inside and ordering its most popular entrée: a half chicken with two sides for \$13.92. For \$1.86 you can add bread to the order. I chose the baked in-house jalapeño corn muffin over flour tortillas or wheat roll.

Note that it's Chicks Natural, not Chick's Natural. There's not a person named

Chick, the name refers to the shop's practice of serving natural chicken, i.e. farmed without hormones or preservatives. Chicks marinates small chickens for two days in a citrus and spice blend, then fires them in its rotisserie oven.

The results include crispy seasoned skin and flavorful meat, served almost immediately once you order it. That would make it fast food, but a



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healthy approach to fast food, especially by 1989 standards. To wit, there are no French fries among the litany of sides to go with your chicken. Instead the starches include rice, roasted sweet potato, potato salad, and mashed

potatoes with gravy. You can choose corn on the cob, salad, coleslaw, fresh fruit, or steamed vegetables: carrots and broccoli.

There's not a ton of wow factor, but there's a decent meal served with a winning

combination of speed, health consciousness, and affordability. Good enough for 30 years and counting. If I worked in the area, I might make a regular thing of this chicken too, but I might bring in my own hot sauce to liven

up those steamed veggies.

Ironically, this 30-year-old restaurant that trademarks itself as "the original fire roasted chicken," may not even be the original Chicks Natural. That seems to be Chicks Natural Encinitas, which claims to have opened in 1985. The two shops offer identical menus, but apparently operate independently



**A busy weekend in the yard at Grand Ole BBQ Flinn Springs.**

of one another these days, with separate websites and social media channels. They each operate their own distinct catering services.

So, in 1989, the Berlin Wall came down, the first GPS satellite went into orbit, and the first Simpsons episode aired. Meanwhile, in Sorrento Valley, a Chicks Natural opened for business.

*by Ian Anderson*

**Grand Ole BBQ is worth the geography lesson**

*Grand Ole BBQ Flinn Springs, 15505 Olde Hwy 80, None.*

When I heard a popular North Park restaurant was opening a location in East County, I imagined something in the La Mesa vicinity. Maybe El Cajon or Santee. Even when told Grand Ole BBQ would be expanding to an area called Flinn Springs, I heard it described as near

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A BBQ joint at the base of a butte.



Smokers stretched like limousines.

into unincorporated territory that the modern interstate highway system thought fit to bypass. *Grand Ole BBQ is great, I thought, but who wants to drive all the way out here for it?*

On a Saturday afternoon, apparently, the answer was *hundreds of people*, myself gladly included.

It's on a ranch-style property sitting at the base of a boulder-covered butte. Several dozen may find seating in the dining room or bar, which offers televised sports amid rustic décor including cowhides and mounted deer trophies. But under blue skies, the best choice is clearly the enormous, partially covered patio out back.

On one side you'll find a

view of the impressive ranks of oak filled smokers fueling the restaurant's Texas style BBQ ribs, turkey, and signature brisket. They look like the stretch limos of drum smokers, long and sleek with four doors running the length of them for high volume BBQ.

And high volume it was. The place was bustling, at least as much as the Phil's BBQ in Point Loma. People of every age and lifestyle seemed to constantly be moving through the yard, only stopping long enough to sip a beer, take a shot, or gorge on food. Families, small groups, and couples filled up the outdoor bar and a grid of picnic tables stretching across the venue. In the back of the yard, there's a small stage, the

site of weekly live music.

I bellied up to the outdoor bar and started ordering meat by the quarter-pound (the minimum order on per pound pricing). Spare ribs were \$19 a pound; smoked turkey and brisket were each \$23 per. Here at mid-afternoon, the place had already sold out of hot links, which probably saved my pants from splitting.

If we're talkin about Texas BBQ, served here Wednesday through Sunday, the brisket at Grand Ole BBQ has to be the best in the city — or in this case, 25 miles outside the city. Its blackened crust and rendered fats make it flat-out scrumptious. You can get it in North Park too, but not til sometime in the spring, as it's

currently closed for renovations. So is Phil's in Point Loma, come to think of it.

And that's all the excuse any of us needs to make the drive to Flinn Springs, soon and often.

by Ian Anderson

### Mac & cheese with black truffles stirs up memories

*Bertrand at Mister A's, 2550 Fifth Avenue, 12th floor, Bankers Hill.* Bertrand at Mister A's isn't exactly a place for children, and their macaroni and cheese is probably too fancy schmancy for a child, but for me, it brought back fond memories of my childhood.

My friend Cheryl and I chose a rain-free Wednes-

El Cajon.

Well, it's as near to El Cajon as North Park is to La Mesa. Flinn Springs is actually much closer to Alpine than anywhere else. To get there, I had to drive a few miles on

Old Highway 80, once known as the Dixie Overland Highway, which started in Savannah, Georgia and finished here in San Diego.

Point is, it was a longer drive than I thought, veering



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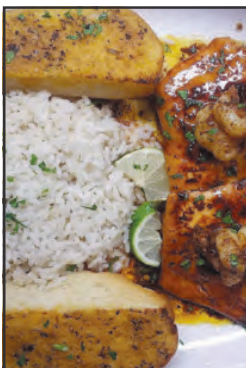


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day afternoon in February to venture from East County to this legendary 12th-floor dining room with 360-degree views from the outdoor patio to partake in a dress-up, early afternoon (2:30 to 6 pm) happy hour, or ‘Cocktail Hour,’ as it’s called up in the clouds.

The day was clear and from our seats at the bar, we looked down on the planes lining the runway at San Diego International Airport, plus Point

Loma and Tijuana, Mexico. The view was a reminder of an afternoon 50 years earlier when we put on our fanciest dresses and ate lunch at the Starlight Room in the El Cortez Hotel on Ash Street. Cheryl’s mother dropped us off and we thought we were quite special dining on Monte Cristo sandwiches in the highest building in San Diego.

Bertrand at Mister A’s isn’t the tallest building in San



Cheryl at Mister A’s.

Diego, but the cocktail hour menu is perfect if you want to ogle the views without dropping a few hundred dollars.

Cheryl and I perused the bar menu of Mediterranean Black Mussels Provençale (\$11) and the House Made Main Lobster ‘Corn Dog.’ (\$17.50) but decided to keep it simple: Mr. A’s Mac & cheese with black truffles and pancetta (\$12.50) and Truffle Fries (\$7.50), because you can never get enough truffles at home.

We both ordered the Grayson Chardonnay (\$8) and dished up some of the pasta and French fries.

The truffle fries had just a hint of truffle flavor—the underground fungus, not the chocolate kind—and a

generous amount of pepper. They were crunchy on the outside and hot and soft on the inside.

Mr. A’s mac & cheese is a grown-up version made with heavy cream, crispy pancetta and Comté, a slightly nutty cow’s milk cheese made in eastern France, and a drizzle of truffle oil with smatterings of baby spinach throughout the pasta. This dish combined so many ingredients that I wasn’t sure it could still be called mac & cheese.

by Candice Reed

afternoon tea. these flavorful teas are complimented with the perfect petite sandwiches and sweets. Saturday, March 16, 12pm; La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

**Belle Gloss Wine Dinner**

Enjoy a Belle Gloss wine dinner with pairings hand-selected by storied Winemaker Joseph Wagner. Start with Maine Lobster Dim Sum + Elouan Rose, followed by Ahi Tataki + Böen Pinot Noir, Georges Bank Sea Scallops + Belle Gloss Pinor Noir, USDA Prime New York Strip Steak + Napa Valley Quilt Cabernet Sauvignon, and finally a chocolate peanut butter mousse ends the meal. Through five inventive courses, guests are invited to enjoy a rich, sophisticated menu expertly paired to highlight the intricacies of each dish and unique characteristics of each wine. Tuesday, March 19, 6:30pm; Wednesday, March 20, 6:30pm; \$89. Roy Yamagu-

chi’s Pacific Rim Cuisine, 8670 Genesee Avenue. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

**Chef Teri’s Sunday Brunch**

While breakfast may be the most important meal of the day, there’s no denying the appeal of a nice sleep-in once the weekend hits. Well now, with our help, those two points will no longer be at odds. Pick up your fork and dive into Chef Teri’s new brunch specialties. Get ready for old favorites spun with a new and tasty twist. Take your pick from items like the lighter Coastal Cobb, the more indulgent Butter-scotch Belgian Waffles, and our seaside favorites like Ahi Quinoa Poke or the famous Lobster & Shrimp Benedict. Drinks are also available for order, such as the collection of Craft Bloody Marys, Bellinis, and signature cocktails. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, January 5, Chandler’s, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

**Cherry Blossom Week**

The Japanese Friendship Garden (JFG) is proud to announce that the 14th annual Cherry Blossom Festival is now a weeklong celebration! The festival will continue to combine both cultural education with family fun and will now offer various special evening programs. From kombucha tasting to cooking classes, there’s something for everyone to enjoy - tickets to the evening programs are online only and limited! During the day, visitors will be able to stroll the upper and lower areas of JFG filled with various features (koi ponds, bonsai, colorful florae) and enjoy the Japanese custom of hanami - appreciating the beauty of cherry blossom flowers. A children’s arts and crafts area will feature an inflatable jump house, adults will be able to enjoy a beer garden, a tea and



**Free crunchy roll**  
Free crunchy roll with \$35 dollar purchase.  
Poke, sushi, C jack noodles, chili prawn, golden coconut noodles.

**CHERRY WINE** | MODERN ASIAN CUISINE

8008 Girard Avenue, Suite 210  
La Jolla, CA 92037



**Buy One, Get One Complimentary Breakfast Item**  
w/purchase of two drinks.  
Monday-Saturday before 3pm.  
Downstairs only.

**FIREHOUSE**

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



**Free Sandwich**  
With purchase of another sandwich or sausage of equal or lesser value.

**RUST**  
GENERAL STORE

2720 Calhoun Street  
San Diego, 92110



**Buy 1 Get One Free!**  
Buy one frozen yogurt, get one free!  
\*Of equal or lesser value.

**Yogurt Rocks**

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



**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.  
Dine in only. Expires 4/25/19.

**Hob Nob Hill**

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



**2-for-1 Tacos!**  
Buy one taco, get one free!  
(of equal or lesser value)  
Good through March 28, 2019.  
Limit one per customer.

**tocaya**  
ORGANICA

755 Fifth Ave, San Diego, 92101  
(619) 343-2898



**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 4/1/19



**China Chef**

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



**2-for-1 Diner Burgers**

Mondays all night.



4204 Voltaire St. Point Loma



**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



**Free Crepe**

Buy one crepe, get one crepe free of equal or lesser value. Valid after 3pm only. Expires 4/1/19.

**refill**

3752 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103



**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



**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



**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



**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 4/25/19.



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



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



3130 University Ave  
(619) 333-9097



**Sunday Supper only \$24**

Fried Chicken with all the fixings 4-8pm



9920 Pacific Heights Blvd  
(858) 283-8206



**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 4/10/19 only!



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



**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



**Free shareable appetizer!**

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



**Mada-Sao Hot Pots**

4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



**1/2 Off Any Pasta Entree**

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 4/1/19.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-743-2371

# Calendar RESTAURANT

dessert garden will feature brews and blends from Café Moto, and to top the week off, there will be live performances during the weekend with over 40 different food and merchant vendors local to San Diego and visiting from out of town. Monday, March 18, 10am; Tuesday, March 19, 10am; Wednesday, March 20, 10am; **free-\$30**. Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

**Diana Cast Meet & Greet Brunch** Meet select cast members from the world-premiere musical about Princess Diana's story. **À la carte** Cast members will perform several numbers from the musical. **À la carte** Savor an intimate brunch by Executive Chef Jeff Jackson, including brunch libations. Sunday, March 17, 10am; \$110. 21 and up. Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

**Drink Wine & Make Cheese** Cheesemonger and craftsman Paul Savage will stretch fresh

curd and teach you all about making fresh mozzarella and ricotta. Then you get to join him and stretch some curd of your own. Learn tips and tricks to make fresh fromage yourself, plus the many ways to use these classics. You'll be sampling yummy treats, enjoying a complimentary glass of wine and taking some home with you. Also enjoy a 10% discount off any in-store purchase the night of the class. Wednesday, March 20, 6pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo Cheese Liberty Station, 2820 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

**Flight Attendant Mondays** We'll be showing the Bachelor in our private lounge area, along with a private bartender just for you. So grab the crew and enjoy half off wine bottles, \$5 cocktails, and food specials. Yoga pants or sweats are strongly encouraged. Bring a blanket or onesie. It's your turn to get 1st class service. Also, every tab will receive a raffle ticket for your chance to win VIP seating (for 4) in front of the projector along with a gift basket of goodies and two bottles of Rose, for the season finale. Mondays, 8pm; through Monday, December 30, **free**. Bell

Marker, 602 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Jazz Brunch** Enjoy live performances from the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts jazz students, along with Madison's tasty brunch menu in their beautiful architecturally stunning al fresco dining space. Featuring the restaurant's fun and lighthearted twists on the classic brunch fare, along with unique Cali-Med inspired dishes, guests can indulge in brunch under the restaurant's 25-foot vaulted and arched cedar-lined ceilings, while supporting the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts as they perform live. Madison will donate 10% of proceeds from the jazz brunch series to the jazz department. To join the fun, reservations can be made through OpenTable. Saturday, March 16, 10am; Madison, 4622 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Lantern Street Festival** At this festival we celebrate lanterns and light as we listen to incredible music and enjoy great food. Each adult ticket comes with a free lantern and LED light. Children under 12 are free and can

buy lanterns separately. Lanterns will be shipped to your home 15 to 20 days before the event. Now, you can come to the event with your best decorated lantern. If you want, you can decorate your lantern at the event! Bring materials and get busy creating an illuminated masterpiece. Bands include Gothic Tropic, Bellsaint, and Pretty Polly. We hope you come with an empty stomach and are ready to dance! We will have a stage with live music and the best food trucks. Saturday, March 16, 5:30pm; Liberty Station NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

**Lobster Lovers Week** You won't have to roll the dice on market availability at The Oceanaire during Lobster Lovers week. This hard-to-come-by American heritage dish will be flown in daily for a three course feature on The Oceanaire's exclusive week-long menu offering. Guests have the option for a further elevated experience with the opportunity to add a bottle of Cakebread Chardonnay to their delectable, dipped-in-butter meal. Saturday, March 16, 11am; Sunday, March 17, 11am; Monday, March 18, 11am; Tuesday, March 19, 11am;

Wednesday, March 20, 11am; \$69. Oceanaire Seafood Room, 400 J Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Neighborhood Wine Night** Wine flights and light bites for \$20. Sunday, March 17, 4pm; **free-\$20**. Amici's Ristobar, 5980 Village Way. (DEL MAR)

**San Diego Cake Show** San Diego Cake Show is back to educate and inspire the public with cake demonstrations and activities, including a competition similar to Netflix's 'Nailed It!' competition, while raising funds for San Diego's Ronald McDonald House. Saturday, March 16, 10am; Sunday, March 17, 10am; \$10-\$20. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

**Uncork & Unwind** Uncork & Unwind is a monthly, 80-minute yoga class with integrated wine tasting. During the yoga sequence, the chakras of taste and smell become heightened, laying the foundation for an exceptional tasting experience of 3 red wines, 2 white wines and finished off with a sparkling wine. Class is tailored for experienced yogis & newcomers alike, ensuring a fun, fit and informative class

for all. Uncork & Unwind is presented in partnership with Joyworks Network, with \$5 of each ticket sold benefiting a different philanthropic cause each month. Sunday, March 17, 3pm; \$40. 21 and up. Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

**Venge & Croix Winemaker Dinner** Reserve your seat at our intimate table as Executive Chef David Warner and the JRDN culinary team collaborate with winemakers Venge and Croix to create a splendid five-course menu of unique and delicious cuisine complimented by their excellent wine. The Sonoma and Napa winemakers will walk you through each thoughtfully paired course as you enjoy an unforgettable evening while basking in the company of old and new friends. Pricing includes tax and gratuity. Wednesday, March 20, 6pm; \$125. JRDN, 723 Felspar Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Veuve Clicquot Champagne Dinner** Reception, 5:30 pm; Dinner, 6:00 pm. Embark on a culinary journey to France with Veuve Clicquot Ambassador for an intimate evening of the fin-



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One coupon per customer per order.  
Cannot combine coupons.

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



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## 1/2 off a 1 topping pizza

Buy any regular priced pizza  
and receive a second 1 topping  
pizza for half-off. Expires 4/1/19.



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## Buy one meal, get one free

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



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



## Free 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



## 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  
konichiwa-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



## 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



## Dinner for 4 only \$19.99

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

**Fletcher Hills  
Bottle Shop**

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



## 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



est Champagne paired with four irresistible courses, including Citrus-Cured Sea Bass, Jerusalem Artichoke Soup, Pan-Roasted Duck Breast and Strawberry Cream, in the private dining room. Includes four-course tasting menu with Champagne pairings. Friday, March 15, 5:30pm; \$125. 21 and up. Amaya, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (DEL MAR)

**Wine Dinner Series: Miner Family Wines** Miner Family Winery is a dynamic, family-owned winery tucked along the eastern hills of the Oakville appellation in the heart of Napa

Valley. THE MED at La Valencia is proud to partner with a winery so focused on capturing the essence of their vineyards through a 5-course tasting menu. Thursday, March 14, 6pm; La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

**Wine If You Want To Wednesday** Every Wednesday, select wines are half off. See our selection of California treasures and Chef's favorites. It's the best way to taste the region. Every pour served with an ocean view. Let us take you on a tour, right from your table. Wednesdays,

11am; through Monday, December 30, 21 and up. Chandler's, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

**shamROCK** Celebrating 25 years of revelry, San Diego shamROCK is back and better than ever to paint the Gaslamp Quarter green with San Diego's largest Saint Patrick's Day block party. Drawing more than 20,000 attendees from across the U.S., this annual celebration is known for taking this legendary holiday and turning it into an outrageous experience for the green at heart to enjoy. We even added two extra hours so every leprechaun

can come party like the Irish with us on Saturday, March 16th from 2PM to Midnight! Frolic through a clover field with your green Bud Light beer or Tullamore Dew whiskey libation as 6 blocks of the Gaslamp Quarter get covered with over 50,000 square feet of luscious emerald green astroturf! Bust out your best jig with performances by traditional Irish steppers, or shake your clovers across 3 stages of non-stop live music including nationally recognized Irish rock and Celtic bands, top DJs and more! Feeling lucky? Make way

to the ALL NEW shamROCK Shenanigans Street for a variety of Saint Patrick's Day-themed games! Grab your friends, don your green attire, and head to the Gaslamp Quarter to experience firsthand the Saint Patrick's Day block party of a lifetime! Tickets to this event start at just \$35 for General Admission and \$70 for Lucky Leprechaun VIP. Add on to your ticket and join the Clover Crew with a range of custom packages including 2 complimentary 16oz beers, a commemorative stein and credential, fast pass entry and more for \$7 to

\$30. San Diego shamROCK is produced by and benefits the Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation, which focuses on the development and preservation of Downtown San Diego. For additional information or to purchase tickets, please visit sandiegoshamrock.com. Saturday, March 16, 2pm; \$35-\$70. 21 and up. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Step 1:  
Take a pic**

**Step 2:  
Show your server**

**Step 3:  
Save money  
& enjoy**

**Reader**

**Buy One Entree,  
Get One Free!**

Any entree \$8 & up.  
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lamesabistrosd.com

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#StreetFoodMadeWithLove  
Limit 1 per person.

**IB STREET  
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(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!

**ALL-STAR  
SPORTS BAR**

4076 Bonita Rd  
Bonita, CA

**1/2 off  
lunch buffet**

Buy one lunch buffet and get the second lunch buffet at 1/2 price!  
Buffet is Tue. Wed. & Thurs. from 11 am to 2 pm. Not valid with any other offer, dine-in only, no cash value.  
Expires 3/21/19.

**MANGIA ITALIANO**  
*On Third*

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

**Appetizers  
1/2 off**

1/2 Off An Appetizer between 4 pm and 7 pm when two or more beers are purchased. Dine-in only, one coupon per table, per visit, not valid with any other offer, no cash value.  
Expires 3/21/19.

**MANGIA ITALIANO**  
*On Third*

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

**2 x 1  
Portobello Tacos!**

The original Kokopelli Taco Truck is back, and only steps away from the PedWest border!  
Try our exquisite grilled portobello tacos two for the price of one (Only valid Tuesdays and Thursdays).

**KOKOPELLI**

Find us in Estación Central.

**Taco Tuesday 2 x 1**

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

**TRAS  
HORIZONTE**  
RESTAURANTE BAR

Must show ad (1 per customer).  
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664-622-5062

# HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at [SDReader.com/drinks](http://SDReader.com/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: \$6 select draft beers, house wine, wells. \$4 fries, \$5 waffle cut sweet potato fries, \$8 truffle fries, \$10 brussel sprouts, crispy wings, jalapeño mac & cheese.

**Asti Ristorante:** Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 beers, \$7 house wine and cocktails, bites from \$5.

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

**Las Hadas Bar & Grill:** Daily, 11-7pm: \$1 tequila poppers, \$3 Tecate or Bud Light draft, Dos XX lager, \$4 imported and draft beers (not local), \$5 sangria, house wines, \$5 select specialty drinks, premium liquor, \$6 top shelf wells and margaritas \$12 select top shelf cocktails, \$7.99 appetizers.

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

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

**House of Blues:** Tuesday-Sunday,

## BEER NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

### Iron Fist nixes bottles in favor of cans

At the end of February, **Iron Fist Brewing Company** (1305 Hot Spring Way, Vista) announced a new list of beers for 2019, highlighting a roster of limited seasonal releases to be introduced in its tasting rooms every month. This might sound like routine first-quarter business for most beer companies these days, but in the case Iron Fist, it indicates a larger strategic shift in its business plan, more than eight years after it opened. A lot of which has to do with aluminum cans.

The Vista brewery bought its first canning equipment in the fall, and has been in the process of converting its core lineup of packaged beers from bottles to 12-ounce cans. In the past three years, many breweries have made such a shift, as bottles have been tossed aside

by beer consumers, distributors, and retail store buyers in favor of cheaper and easier to transport aluminum.

But the move is all the more significant for Iron Fist, which originally modeled itself after traditional Belgian breweries by bottle conditioning its beers. That means a small amount of yeast and sugar get packaged with the finished beer, naturally carbonating it inside the bottle before it's sold. It's the same way traditional champagne gets its sparkle, and generally produces a more luxurious mouthfeel.

It sounds nice, right? And it made sense when Iron Fist opened in 2010: the 22-ounce bomber reigned, and craft beer aficionados still associated aluminum cans with mass production beers such as **Coors** and **Budweiser**. But market forces have shifted dramatically since then, so breweries have had to change along with them.

"I'd say most people's business plan from seven, eight years ago is no longer accurate," says Iron Fist brewmaster Tom Garcia.

As a 17-year San Diego brewing vet, Garcia has experience filling massive production orders with **Stone Brewing**, and operating a tasting room-only business with his own **Offbeat Brewing Company**. Both experiences factor in to Iron Fist's paradigm shift.

For example, Iron Fist's core beers — including a lager, pale ale, and blood orange Nelson IPA — ship to grocery stores throughout the southwest, and Garcia says the shift from bottle conditioning to cans both shortens production

times and ensures freshness in the final product. Rather than taking a month just to produce a supermarket order, he says, "We can get our beer actually on the shelf in under 30 days."



Iron Fist nixed bottle conditioning in favor of cans

However, Iron Fist's new beer release calendar has less to do with distribution, and more with bolstering its tasting room culture. Beer consumers have become notorious for chasing new and rare releases offered at the source, so a robust core beer lineup isn't enough to generate excitement in Iron Fist's Vista and Barrio Logan taprooms.

"The customer wants something that's going to satisfy their need for a new experience," Garcia explains, likening it to music fans thirsty to hear new tunes from a favorite band. "These five beers are selling, and now we need to go back and be relevant," he adds, "We need to say, 'This isn't

the only tune we play."

The trick in doing so, for bands and brewers is to stay current without abandoning your own creative voice to chase trends. To wit, Iron Fist's monthly "Small Batch Experiments" will include only one hazy IPA, Garcia's first concession to the craze, though he admits, it's turned out well enough that a second batch is already being added to the schedule.

For the most part, each experimental beer will stick around for three months. Another pending release is a dry brown ale, subtly flavored with real cherries, while the inaugural February release yielded an India Pale Lager, adding an IPA hop profile to the taste of pilsner malts. Details on future releases are limited, but this year's tracklist will conclude with a dessert stout. When I respond to the new music comparison, Garcia adds to it. "We're trying to get folks to listen to our records," he says, "because we're producing some amazing shit."

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

4-6pm: \$4 well cocktails, Fireball or Sauza Blue tequila shots, select beers, \$5 call cocktails, sangria, house wine, \$6 Moscow mule, house margarita, select 23 oz. draft beers, \$4-\$6 appetizers

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

**Knotty Barrel:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off craft beer, house wine,

and well drinks. Appetizer specials.

**The Lion's Share:** Daily, 4-6pm: \$6 select cocktails. \$4 bruschetta, house popcorn, house-cut fries with parmesan and mustard aioli, \$6 deviled eggs, rabbit sausage, black-eyed pea soup, \$8 wild boar poutine, arugula salad, \$12 antelope sliders, \$10 burger and draft beer.

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

**Maryjane's:** Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: \$6 wells drinks, beer,

and wine, \$3 fish taco, \$4 shrimp cocktail, \$5 chorizo sliders.

**McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant:** Daily, 3-7pm: \$5 - \$12 wines by the glass, \$6 premium spirits and local craft beer, \$8 specialty cocktails. \$3 spiced nuts, \$7 Baja fish tacos, \$9 ahi poke bowl.

**The Melting Pot Gaslamp:** Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$7 select cocktails and martinis, \$6 featured cocktails and martinis, \$6 select nuts, \$7 Baja fish tacos, \$9 ahi poke bowl, \$8 featured martini flights, half-price cheese and chocolate

selections. **Saturday-Sunday, 11:30am-2pm, 4:30-6:30pm:** \$7 select cocktails and martinis, \$6 featured cocktails and martinis, \$6 select wines, \$8 featured martini flights, half-price cheese and chocolate selections.

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

**Mint Downtown Thai:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 sake, \$3 beers, \$5 featured wine or small beer &

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

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

**Puesto at The Headquarters:** Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$9 margaritas. \$4 tacos. Tuesday, 3-5pm: Modelo Especial cans \$3.50, \$9 margaritas. \$3 tacos.

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



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

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

**Searsucker Gaslamp:** *Monday-Saturday, 2:30-6pm: \$6 local craft beer and sangria, \$7 glass of wine and wells, \$9 specialty cocktails. Appetizers \$4-\$12.*

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

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

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

**Whiskey Girl:** *Monday, 3-7pm: \$4 Stella and \$6 Don Julio Tequila. Tuesday, 3-7pm: \$4 Dox XX and \$6 El Jimador tequila. Wednesday, 3-7pm: \$4 Firestone Walker 805 and \$6 Sailor Jerry. Thursday, 3-7pm: \$4 New Belgium Voodoo Ranger, \$6 Crown Royal, Rye, Apple.*

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

**EAST VILLAGE**

**Bub's at the Ballpark:** *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 select local drafts, \$5 wells, half off wings and red baskets, seasoned fries, onion rings, regular or sweet potato tots, and chips with salsa and guacamole. Specials not valid on Wednesdays, home game days or during special events.*

**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.*

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

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

*appetizers. Sunday, 3pm-7pm: \$5 select appetizers.*

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

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

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

**GOLDEN HILL**

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

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

**HILLCREST**

**Akinori Sushi:** *Daily, 5:30-7pm: \$9.99 small hot sake, \$2.50 draft beer, \$7.50 sake combo (beer and sake), \$12.50 draft beer pitcher. Appetizers \$6.95 to \$12.95.*

**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, 4-6pm: \$4 house wines by the glass. \$2 off 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.*

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

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

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

**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.*

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

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

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

**LITTLE ITALY**

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

**MIDWAY DISTRICT**

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

**NORMAL HEIGHTS**

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

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

**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.*

**Cantina Mayahuel:** *Monday, Sunday, All day: \$5 margaritas. Street taco trio plate (sirloin, chicken, or carnitas) \$7.50. Tuesday-Friday, 12-6pm: \$5 margaritas. Street*

*taco trio plate (sirloin, chicken, or carnitas) \$7.50.*

**Dunedin New Zealand Eats:** *Daily, 3-6pm: \$5 on select wines and beers. \$5 pretzel bites & jalapeno cheese, chicken skewers (fried or grilled), pita and hummus, lamb sliders, calamari & peppers.*

**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.*

**Space:** *Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$4 wells, \$5 drafts, mules, and micheladas, \$6 beer and a shot, \$1 off any drink when you check in with social media. Saturday-Sunday, Noon-8pm: \$4 wells, \$5 drafts, mules, and micheladas, \$6 beer and a shot, \$1 off any drink when you check in with social media.*

**Splash:** *Daily, 4pm-6:30pm: \$4 select bottled beer, \$6 white and red wines, bubbles, 40% off all bottles to go. \$4 splackers, \$5 spinach salad, bread and olive oil, \$6 caprese, veggie plate, cheesy bread, white crunchy crostini, spinach and artichoke dip, flatbread \$6 half or \$10 whole, \$10 cheese plate (4 cheeses, bread, fruit).*

**Tajima North Park:** *Monday, 3-7pm: \$2 Sapporo. Tuesday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$2 Sapporo. Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 Sapporo. 10pm-midnight: \$1 small house hot sake. Saturday, 10pm-midnight: \$1 small house hot sake.*

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

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

**Urban Solace:** *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Saturday, 3-6pm: \$5-\$6 beer (bottles and drafts), cocktails, and wine at the bar. Wednesday, 3-6pm: \$5-\$6 beer (bottles and drafts), cocktails, and wine at the*

*bar. \$5 rosé glasses all day and night.*

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

**West Coast Tavern:** *Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, drafts, house wine, \$7 specialty cocktails, \$7 appetizers. 11pm-close: \$4 wells, drafts, house wine, \$7 specialty cocktails. \$7 appetizers. Friday-Saturday, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, drafts, house wine, \$7 specialty cocktails, \$7 appetizers.*

**OCEAN BEACH**

**The Arizona Cafe:** *Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3 for 20oz domestic beers, wells, house wine, half price pitchers, \$3 appetizer samplers.*

**Bar 1502:** *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half off most whiskeys, beers, and hot sake, \$4 well drinks, \$5 bottle of Sho Chiku Bai Nigori, \$8 carafe of house infused sake. \$1 beers from 2-5pm with food purchase.*

**Gianni Buonomo Vintners Winery and Tasting Room:** *Friday, 5-7pm: \$5 glasses of Sangria, Viognier, Symphony, and all white wines, \$7 select glasses of red wines. \$10-\$14 rotating selection of apps.*

**The Joint:** *Monday, 4-10pm: \$4 local drafts. Appetizers \$3 to \$5, five jumbo wings for \$6, three tacos for \$10. Tuesday, All day: \$3 IPA. Appetizers \$3 to \$5, five jumbo wings for \$6, three tacos for \$10. Wednesday, Friday, Appetizers \$3 to*

*\$5, five jumbo wings for \$6, three tacos for \$10. Thursday, Noon-10pm: \$4 local drafts. Appetizers \$3 to \$5, five jumbo wings for \$6, three tacos for \$10.*

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

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

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

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

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

**PACIFIC BEACH**

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

**Backyard Kitchen & Tap:** *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 Bud drafts, \$4 Modelo drafts, \$5 select local drafts, house wine, well drinks, \$7 featured craft cocktail. Appetizers \$5 to \$11.*

**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*

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**Fri, March 22nd - Fish & The Seaweeds**

**Sat, March 23rd - Billy Watson**

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# HAPPY HOUR

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.

**The Dog:** *Monday*, 6-9pm: \$2 pint night. *Tuesday*, 6-9pm: Two-for-one 12-oz. bottles. *Wednesday*, 6-9pm: \$1 mug. *Thursday*, 6-9pm: Two cans \$3. *Friday*, 6-9pm: Half-off bottles. *Saturday*, 6-9pm: Bloody Mary deals. *Sunday*, 6-9pm: Free pool.

**Duck Dive:** *Monday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off all drafts, \$5 cocktails and house wines. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 cocktails and house wines, \$5 cocktails and house wines. Half price appetizers. *Saturday*, \$4 Tecate draft all day. *Sunday*, \$4 Tecate drafts all day.

**Fat Fish Cantinagrill:** *Monday*, 3-11pm: \$4 house margaritas. \$9.50 lobster tail. *Tuesday*, 3-11pm: \$4 house margaritas. \$1.25 street tacos, \$2 shrimp tacos. *Wednesday*, 3-11pm: \$4 house margaritas. Half price appetizers. *Thursday*, 3-11pm: \$4 house margaritas. \$2.50 fish tacos. *Friday*, 3-11pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Saturday*, 11:30am-3pm: \$9 carafe of red sangria 3-11pm, \$12 bottle of champagne. *Sunday*, 10am-3pm: \$12 bottle of champagne.

**Hoboken Pizza & Beer Joint:** *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday*, Noon-8pm: \$7.75 two slices & soda, \$9.50-\$12.50 two slices & beer (price depends on beer). *Tuesday*,

Noon-8pm: \$7.75 two slices & soda, \$9.50-\$12.50 two slices & beer (price depends on beer), \$5 pizza tacos.

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

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

**The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:** *Tuesday-Sunday*, 6-7pm: \$4 draft wines, \$5 draft beers, well drinks, \$8 specialty cocktails. \$3 patatas, \$5 huevos de toro and fish tacos, \$6 fritti misto.

**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.

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

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

## SANTEE

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

## SOLANA BEACH

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

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

# Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



**SHANNON PIERCE**  
The Farmer's Bottega  
860 West Washington St., San Diego  
619-458-9929  
farmersbottega.com

When the Farmer's Bottega bartender Shannon Pierce created The Rosie Elephant, she looked to local farmlands and African savannas for inspiration.

"It really originated out of nowhere!" she says. "I had tasted all of the ingredients separately - the gin, the lemonade, the jalapenos. I thought, wow, these would all go great together!"

Pierce accessed the typical farm-to-table ingredients in the Bottega's larder to accentuate the Elephant Gin's subtle infusion of apple and buchu, an African herb, with hints of mint, rosemary, and blackcurrant.

"I thought of using apple slices, but apples are not a common bar fruit," she said. "Instead, I realized, rosemary was staring me in the face and we had some chopped jalapenos at hand too."

But the first go-around with the jalapenos left too

little to the imagination, Pierce says.

"At first, I was muddling the jalapenos, but found that was a big no-no," she says. "I love spice, but the average person doesn't love it as much as I do. So a quick little shake of the jalapeno slices is all it needed for that right bit of spice."

The Elephant Gin, Pierce discovered, stays clear of the deep juniper forests of other gins and even keeps its own featured herbal underbrush at bay.

"Some gins can be piney, like you're out in the woods, in pine country," she says. "But Elephant Gin has a natural sweetness with the apple, and the African herbal buchu has a nice way of working with its apple hints."

Not only will the Rosie Elephant inspire one's inner Rainbow Warrior (the German makers of Elephant Gin donate a percentage of profits to the African elephant's preservation), but its graceful parade of flavors never lets the palate forget the parts for the whole.

"The great thing about the Rosie Elephant is that it has so many layers of flavor," Pierce says. "What hits you initially is the citrus and light sweetness - and a little tart and a hint of spice, but it's not overpowering. Then the gin's botanicals and, lastly, the rosemary."

## THE FARMER'S BOTTEGA'S ROSIE ELEPHANT



- 2 oz. Elephant Dry Gin
- ¾ oz. Lemon Juice
- ½ oz. Rosemary Infused Simple Syrup
- 2-3 Slices of Jalapeno

Pour ingredients into cocktail shaker with ice, shake, and pour into Mason jar with ice, and garnish with rosemary sprig.

drinks and select food.

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

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

## SOUTH PARK

**Del Sur:** *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3 beers, \$5 sangria (\$25 pitcher), \$6 margaritas (\$30 pitcher), \$7 cocktails. \$7 apps. *Wednesday*, 4-close: \$3 beers, \$5 sangria (\$25 pitcher), \$6 margaritas (\$30 pitcher), \$7 cocktails. \$7 apps (until 6pm).

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

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

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

**The Rose:** *Monday-Wednesday*, 4:30-6pm: \$2 off glass of wine, draft beer, and cider, \$5 corkage on retail bottles. Select flatbreads \$2 off. *Thursday-Friday*, 11:30-6pm: \$2 off glass of wine, draft beer, and cider, \$5 corkage on retail bottles. Select flatbreads \$2 off.

## SPRING VALLEY

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

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

## TALMADGE

**Romeo and Julieta's Wine Cafe:** *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$5.50 select drafts and bottles, \$6 house wine. \$9.50 appetizers. *Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$5.50 select drafts and bottles, \$6 house wine. \$9.50 appetizers.

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

**The Lancers Cocktails:** *Daily*, 10am-2am: \$4.50 well drinks and domestic beers.

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

**Park & Rec:** *Monday-Thursday*, 4-6pm, 10pm-2am: \$5 PBR or Tecate with tequila or bourbon shot, \$6 house wines, P&R old fashioned, margarita, P&R Pimm's cup, daiquiri, Moscow mule, cucumber gimlet, bubbly champagne.

**Small Bar:** *Monday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, well cocktails. *Saturday-Sunday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts, well cocktails.



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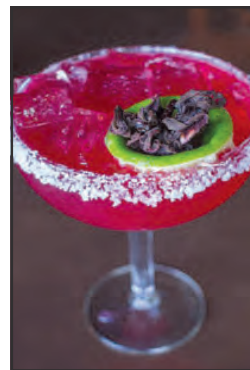


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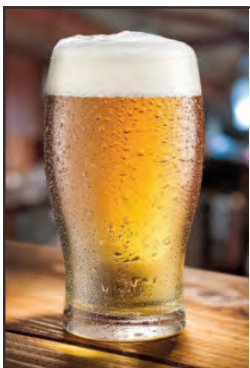
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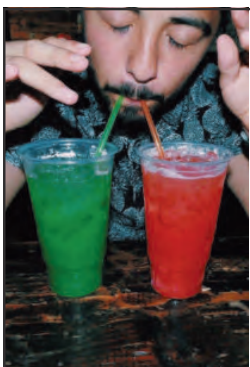


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# blurt

the inside track



Antonio Sanchez and his band play the Atheneum March 16.

**Repulsed** The cover photo of drummer Antonio Sanchez's new CD *Lines In The Sand*, which dropped in January, should be familiar to

most San Diegans. It depicts the U.S. border wall at Imperial Beach as it slowly settles into the Pacific Ocean.

That picture and the

## OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: LITTLE ITALY SANFORD/PARADISE/FERGUSON



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album title are emblematic, according to Athenaeum jazz program coordinator Daniel Atkinson, who is bringing Sanchez and his band Migration to The Scripps Research Institute on March 16.

"Antonio came to the U.S. to study music in 1993. After obtaining several degrees, he stayed on, primarily because he was hired by Pat Metheny to be his drummer. Eventually he applied for and obtained U.S. citizenship but he had to deal with some pretty demeaning

circumstances along the way," says Atkinson.

Atkinson discovered some of Sanchez's backstory during a trip to the Big Apple.

"I saw Antonio doing a panel discussion in NYC about his experiences as a Mexican immigrant navigating these times, and I find it both inspiring and very relevant to our community in San Diego — especially with the current hysteria from the White House about the 'caravans,' so when the opportunity to bring the Migration

project to San Diego came up, I jumped at it."

Sanchez became a naturalized citizen in 2016, and in addition to his long tenure with jazz guitar icon Pat Metheny, you might recognize his name from the 2014 movie *Birdman*, for which Sanchez penned the soundtrack, which earned him a Grammy Award.

"A lot of people know him now because of the *Birdman* soundtrack who might not have been aware otherwise," says Atkinson. "That and his

career with Pat Metheny have raised his profile considerably. He was actually on TV last week, on the *Late Show with Stephen Colbert*, backing up James Taylor. He's really developed a significant career, which is why we keep asking him back."

"I feel so blessed and so thankful for what I've achieved in the United States," says Sanchez on his website. "But at the same time, I feel completely repulsed by what the United States is doing

(continued on page 54)

## MUSIC BOX



THURSDAY

**YUNG GRAVY**

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JOEY TRAP

MAR  
14



FRIDAY

**KARL DENSON'S TINY UNIVERSE**

GNOMES AND BADGERS RECORD RELEASE  
TROPICA MAGICA

MAR  
15



SATURDAY

THE TRAVELERS CLUB PRESENTS

**MADLIB**

MIKE WALLACE, DRUMETRICS  
JOHN GIVEZ, DAUCHE, GABONANO

MAR  
16



SUNDAY

**SHING 02 & THE CHEE-HOOS**

A TRIBUTE TO NUIABES  
DJ NORM ROCWELL

MAR  
17



WEDNESDAY

**RAYLAND BAXTER**

T. HARDY MORRIS  
CARDINAL MOON

MAR  
20

### JUST ADDED

Daybreaker: The Future is Feminine (9am) 3/23 • AJ Froman 4/10

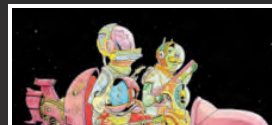
One More Time: A Tribute to Daft Punk (DJ SET) 5/18 • Dread Mar I 5/19 • Betamaxx 5/31

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SUNDAY 3/17



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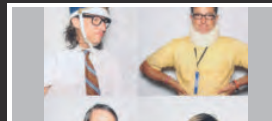
WEDNESDAY 3/20



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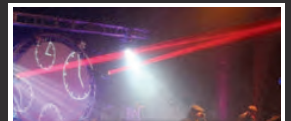
THURSDAY 3/21



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FRIDAY 3/22



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**DAVE CHAPPELLE**  
Sunday, April 7



**LITTLE JOE Y LA FAMILIA**  
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to immigrants — especially to people coming from the South. So whenever and wherever I'm performing, I'm speaking out, trying to make sense of what's going on... small immigrant children being scarred for life by these inhumane policies keep reminding me of the millions of people that aren't as fortunate as I have been and whose journey to come to this country sometimes becomes a matter of sheer life or death.

—Robert Bush

**Levi Dean**, born in Virginia, late of the Rocky Mountains, late of Nashville, lately seen around University Heights, Normal Heights, and North Park, has had good and bad shows all over the country.

"One of our worst shows," he recalls, "was a show on tour at a seedy bar in the backwaters outside of Tampa Florida. The audience expressed unhappiness with our original tunes by yelling 'Quit playing that Earl Scruggs shit and play us some Haggard!' When we wouldn't comply we were kicked off stage and asked to leave with no pay.

"Years ago we played at an alligator festival while

touring through Colorado. That's right, alligators in Colorado! The park is able to raise and care for alligators from local hot springs water. Anyhow, the festival was a blast. While we were playing, there was an active alligator wrestling match happening in the background."

Dean doesn't experience nearly so much chaos and mania on his new(er) home turf, and fine by him. "Sycamore Den is warm and welcoming," he opines when asked to name his favorite San Diego venues. "Black Cat is raw and homegrown, and The Merrow has the best sound in town."

His favorite San Diego acts? "Nina Francis and Mike



Levi Dean & The Americats once played an alligator festival in Colorado.

Pope both come to mind — skillful songwriters and unapologetically themselves."

Dean's new band Levi Dean & The Americats, just dropped their second album *Free and Untethered*, playing amalgamated punk, blues, classical, and folk. "The harmonica player, Patrick Mackey, and I met jamming at a backyard gathering," relates Dean. "Patrick's roommate, KC Kruger, who used to play bass for the San Diego

punk band Ass to Mustache eventually joined the band.

"We then met our drummer, Lucho Cely, while playing at the SoNo Fest. Lucho grew up playing in rock n' roll bands in Ecuador. Lucho brought in his Ecuadorian acquaintance and electric guitar virtuoso Nicolas Pachano. Our most recent addition is Madeline Skillman, who we met at one of our shows. She plays the accordion and sings silky harmonies."

He credits the Rockies for his musical voice, and Nashville for teaching him hustle. He's never left behind the folk music from his Southern home. San Diego though, he allows, "feels more diverse, and tolerant of art forms that don't fit in a box."

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at [SDReader.com/blurt](http://SDReader.com/blurt)

#### CONTRIBUTORS

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

<b>SAT. MAR. 16</b> <b>HYPOCRISY AND FLESHGOD APOCALYPSE</b> Aenimus, Convent	<b>BRICK X BRICK</b>	<b>SUN. APR. 7</b> <b>ASHES OF ARES</b> Helsott, Warpath, Osmium
<b>MON. MAR. 18</b> <b>RIVERS OF NIHIL</b> Entheos, Conjuror, Wolf King, End Thy Species		<b>MON. APR. 8</b> <b>COMBICHRIST</b> Silver Snakes + Special Guests
<b>SAT. MAR. 23</b> <b>DAMAGE, INC.</b> Blackout, In The End, Soldiers Of Death	<b>SUN. MAR. 31</b> <b>ABORTED</b> Cryptopsy, Benighted, Hideous Divinity	<b>SUN. APR. 14</b> <b>JOHN 5</b> Nita Strauss, Jared James Nichols, Dead Girls Academy
<b>FRI. MAR. 29</b> <b>BLACK MOUNTAIN</b> Drug Hunt, Desert Suns	<b>THU. APR. 4</b> <b>ANVIL</b> Don Jamieson, Archer Nation, Shield Of Snakes	<b>THU. APR. 18</b> <b>INTEGRITY</b> Toxic Holocaust, All Out War, Funeral Chic, Extricate
<b>SAT. MAR. 30</b> <b>WACKEN METAL BATTLE</b> Beekeeper, Convent, Manic, Nightshadow, Killing Tyranny, Vulture	<b>FRI. APR. 5</b> <b>ANTHEM</b> A Perfect Tool, One Night In The City, Systematic Chaos	<b>FRI. APR. 19</b> <b>SOLD OUT</b> <b>YOB</b> Monolord, Nebula Drag

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## Observatory

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<p>WEDNESDAY • MAR 13 <b>HEADPHONE BODY SALT TWIN RITUAL</b></p> <p>THURSDAY • MAR 14 <b>THE SLASHES WARSAW VELVET STARLINGS</b></p> <p>FRIDAY • MAR 15 <b>EMO NITE</b></p> <p>SUNDAY • MAR 17 <b>MOON HOCH LAVENDER FIELDS</b></p> <p>MONDAY • MAR 18 <b>PLAINWRECKS ERIDIA WINE</b></p> <p>TUESDAY • MAR 19 <b>ALICE PHOEBE LOU LOVING</b></p> <p>THURSDAY • MAR 21 <b>PSYCHEDELIC PORN CRUMPETS FRANKIE AND THE WITCH FINGERS SAN DIEGO FREAK OUT DJS</b></p>	<p>COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID 2501 KETTNER BLVD. 619-232-HELL • <a href="http://casbahmusic.com">casbahmusic.com</a></p> <p>FRIDAY • MAR 22 <b>VERONICA MAY ARIEL LEVINE THE HAVNAUTS</b></p> <p>SUNDAY • MAR 24 <b>ARKELLS DEAR ROUGE</b></p> <p>MONDAY • MAR 25 <b>ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE</b></p> <p>TUESDAY • MAR 26 <b>TWRP PLANET BOOTY JP INC.</b></p> <p>THURSDAY • MAR 28 <b>ELECTRIC SIX</b></p> <p>FRIDAY • MAR 29 <b>THREE MILE PILOT SYSTEMS OFFICER PALL JENKINS MURDERBAIT</b></p>	<p>SATURDAY • MAR 30 <b>DONNA MISSAL</b></p> <p>SUNDAY • MAR 31 <b>DJ ARTISTIC'S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT</b></p> <p>MONDAY • APR 1 <b>RUBY BOOTS</b></p> <p>TUESDAY • APR 2 <b>DILLY DALLY CHASTITY</b></p> <p>WEDNESDAY • APR 3 <b>LOW CUT CONNIE</b></p> <p>THURSDAY • APR 4 <b>MURS</b></p> <p>FRIDAY • APR 5 <b>GIRLPOOL</b></p> <p>SATURDAY • APR 6 <b>TENDER</b></p> <p>SUNDAY • APR 7 <b>TEN FE CREATURE CANYON</b></p> <p>TUESDAY • APR 9 <b>LINCOLN DURHAM</b></p> <p>WEDNESDAY • APR 10 <b>J.S. ONDARA</b></p>
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# JUST ANNOUNCED

It sometimes seems as if British alt-rockers **Deaf Havana** are embarrassed by the top-five chart success of their biggest release, 2017's *All These Countless Nights*. Formed in 2005, their fifth album from last year, *Rituals*, was a sharp departure from their previous AC/DC-



DEAF HAVANA AT SODA BAR ON MAY 10

like devotion to recycled, recognizable riffs, offering up a surprisingly hook-laden pop collection that aspired to Aerosmithian rock balladry. It seems like an almost entirely different band from their more hard rock early efforts, *Meet Me Halfway At Least* (2009) and *Fools and Worthless Liars* (2011), though the quintet did seem to be embracing their inner anthems a bit with 2013's *Old Souls*. The lineup arriving at Soda Bar on May 10 still features songwriter-frontman James Veck-Gilodi and his guitarist brother Matthew, backed by co-founding bassist Lee Wilson, and co-founding drummer Tom Ogden, though they seem to have lost keyboardist Max Britton since recording *Rituals*. Reportedly, the album was a departure from previous LPs written by Veck-Gilodi on guitar, and instead evolved from mere titles for which songs were then composed on a computer. It'll be interesting to see how they arrange live renditions of the ambitious tracks from the new album that, on the record, feature the London Contemporary Voice Choir. Perhaps they'll do a Roger Waters and invite a local choir onstage to accompany them?

Chicago's **Jamila Woods** made her mark as a poet whose work appeared in anthologies such as *Courage: Daring Poems For Gutsy Girls* and *The Breakbeat Poets: New American Poetry in the Age of Hip-Hop*. She later began incorporating music into her projects because, as she told the *Chicago Reader* in 2015, "There's a transcendence that music has that



JAMILA WOODS AT CASBAH ON JUNE 18

poetry doesn't necessarily always have." As a singer, she cites musical influences from Imogen Heap and Erykah Badu to Kendrick Lamar and Kirk Franklin. Her early recordings are as a guest singer on projects by far more famous acts she impressed with her smooth,

soulful vocal chops. She adds notable groove to Donnie Trumpet & the Social Experiment's album *Surf*, as well as to a socially conscious record from Macklemore & Ryan Lewis, "White Privilege II." Chance the Rapper featured her on two high profile hits, "Sunday Candy" and "Blessings," and she also collaborated with Noname, Saba, and others. Her first real solo splash came with

the single "Blk Girl Soldier" and her 2016 full-length *Heavn*. A new album called *Legacy! Legacy!* is due May 10, five weeks before her June 18 appearance at the Casbah.

The reunion of onetime 'tween pop star sisters **Aly & AJ**, touring in support of their *Ten Years* (Deluxe) EP, would at first seem unlikely, given how many years it's been since they were all the rage with the Disney Channel and Nickelodeon crowd. Alyson Michalka (Aly) was originally the best known of the two, thanks to a co-starring role on Disney's early 2000s sci-fi comedy *Phil of the Future*, a sort of cross between *3rd Rock From the Sun* and *My Favorite Martian*. After



ALY & AJ AT OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK ON JUNE 25



SMASHING PUMPKINS AT NORTH ISLAND CREDIT UNION AMPHITHEATRE ON AUGUST 28

that show went off the air in 2006, her career seemed to go sideways, with thankless roles like a bitchy cheerleader in CW's series *Hellcats* and a bitchy lesbian in the final last-gasp episodes of *Two and a Half Men*, after the show lost one and a half of its men. Meanwhile, Amanda "AJ" Michalka started turning up as the World's Oldest High School Student in *The Goldbergs*, where the

North Park must have confidence that fans will turn out in big enough numbers on June 25 to support the \$150 to \$250 being asked for tickets to this stop on the Sanctuary Tour. A "Soundcheck/Listening Party Experience" includes a meet and greet with the duo, an onstage selfie, "specially designed lyric shoelaces," and a "custom Take Me popsocket" for mobile phones.

Less than a year after their last San Diego appearance, Billy Corgan is still squeezing every last pumpkin seed from the **Smashing Pumpkins** reunion with an upcoming date at North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre on August 28. It's pretty much a continuation of their first tour in over 20 years with Corgan, James Iha, and Jimmy Chamberlin, whose tenth studio record, *Shiny and Oh So Bright Volume 1*, was released last November.

Produced by hitmaker Rick Rubin and clocking in at just over a half hour, it earned mostly lukewarm reviews, with *Rolling Stone* surprisingly providing the most pithy and accurate appraisal: "Save the few fire-breathing dragon moments of Lollapalooza-era chum, it's the Smashing Pumpkins in name only, and that ice cream truck has long left the gas station." Co-headliners Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds haven't played San Diego since a 2015 set at Humphrey's, nor have they released a new album since late 2017's *Who Built the Moon*. However, according to the press release, the former Oasis mainman is reportedly working on new music that will likely be heard on this tour, which also features support from punk rock heroes AFI. Despite the lack of much new music since their reunion EP, *Observatory*

fact that she looked like she might have actually been a teen in the 1980s era when the show takes place sometimes made her romance with an emotionally and mentally stunted high school boy seem more alarming than funny. In 2017, the sisters reunited to record a new EP, with songs that were heard in Aly's newest TV series *iZombie* (AJ remains on TV, with her own recently launched *Goldbergs* spinoff).

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find JUST ANNOUNCED online at [SDReader.com/music](http://SDReader.com/music)

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Friday, March 15: **Boo Stubbs** 5pm  
**John Bennett** 8:30pm

Saturday, March 16: **Jaron Yancey** 12pm  
Brunch 10am-3pm  
**Shane Shipley** 6pm  
**Mud Flap** 8:30pm

Sunday, March 17: **Matt Martin** 12pm  
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Monday, March 18: **Oceans Over** 7pm  
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You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at [SDReader.com/music](http://SDReader.com/music).

### THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

#### 710 Beach Club:

Tuesday, 8pm — Lost Monarchs and the BeatJackers. \$5.

#### AMSDconcerts Bonita:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Incendio.

#### Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade:

Saturday, 5pm — Lantern Street Festival. Free.

#### Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Antonio Sanchez & Migration. \$32-\$37.

#### Aztec Brewing Company:

Friday, 6pm — FreeMartin. Free.

#### Backdrop:

Saturday, 7pm — MC Flow & Her Highness Court.

#### Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, 7pm — Randy Rainbow.  
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Dream Theater.

#### Bang Bang:

Friday, 8pm — Hotel Garuda.

#### Bar Pink:

Friday, 8pm — Timothy Eerie and Spooky Cigarette.

#### Beaumont's:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Dave Gleason.  
Friday, 9pm — The Nineteen 90s.

Saturday, 9pm — Dave Gleason Trio and Moonage Daydreamers.

#### Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Stephen Marley Acoustic.  
Friday & Saturday, 8pm — Super Diamond. \$22-\$39.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Cold Cave, ADULT., Sextile.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Green Leaf Rustlers. \$28-\$49.

#### Bernardo Winery:

Friday, 6pm — Kevin Begin. Free.

#### Bruce's Music:

Tuesday, 6:15pm — Bertrand's Ukulele Experience. Free.

#### Brick by Brick:

Saturday, 8pm — Hypocrisy and Fleshgod Apocalypse.

#### California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, 7:30pm — Masters of Hawaiian Music.  
Saturday, 10:30am — Storybook Princess Sing-a-Long.

#### Carvers Steak & Chops:

Friday, 8pm — Rolling Heartbreakers.  
Saturday, 8pm — Ramshackle.

#### Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — The Slashes and Warsaw. \$7.  
Friday, 9pm — Emo Nite. \$12.  
Sunday, 8pm — Moon Hooch. \$18.  
Monday, 8pm — Plainwrecks and Eridia. \$6.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Alice Phoebe Lou.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Boy Harsher and Boan. \$12-\$14.

#### Chula Vista Brewery:

Friday, 6:30pm — Jaycee One.  
Saturday, 6:30pm — Santana Pa Ti.

#### Crown Dance Studio:

Saturday, 8pm — Hot Rhythm Lounge. \$5-\$12.

#### Downtown Café:

Friday, 6pm — The Good Mojo Band.  
Saturday, 6:30pm — The Farmers. Free.

#### Ebullition Brew Works:

Saturday, 4pm — St. Patrick's Eve Party. Free.  
Sunday, 3pm — John Lowery. Free.

#### Fast Times:

Wednesday, 7pm — Sneaky Tiki Ukulele Jam & Social Club.

#### Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Sunday, 4:30pm — Rob Thorsen Trio.

#### Hard Rock Hotel:

Saturday, 8pm — St. Patrick's Day Party. \$20-\$25.

#### Hennessey's Tavern:

Friday, 9pm — Gino & the Lone Gunmen. Free.

#### Henry's Pub:

Sunday, 12:30pm — Dave Bradley & the Vagabonds.  
Sunday, 7pm — Mark Fisher.  
Sunday, 3:30pm — The Fooks.  
Wednesday, 9pm — The Heart Band.

#### Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Friday, 8pm — Steven Langdon.  
Saturday, 8pm — 80s All Stars & Ass Pocket Whiskey Fellows.

Sunday, 12:30pm — Tony Cummins and Whiskey Ridge.

#### Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Friday, 9pm — Tony Cummins.  
Saturday, 8pm — Journeyman.  
Sunday, 4pm — Too Rude for Sunday and Tony Cummins.

#### Hotel Indigo Del Mar:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Kathleen Murray.

#### Hourglass Field Community Park:

Saturday, 11am — CRY San Diego Color Festival. \$5-\$15.

#### House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Jerry "Hot Rod" DeMink.  
Friday, 9pm — Graham Gillot Band.  
Saturday, 8pm — Jamey Johnson. \$38-\$65.  
Sunday, 11am — Gospel Brunch. \$22-\$44.  
Sunday, 7pm — The Moneyman Band.  
Sunday, 7pm — Watsky and Grieves.  
Monday, 7pm — Ryan Beatty. \$20-\$25.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Catfish & the Bottlemen. \$29.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Mat Kerekes and Jetty Bones. \$13-\$15.

#### Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Saturday, 5pm — Y3K Happy Hour. Free.  
Wednesday, 7pm — Roni Lee. \$5.

#### Indian Joe Brewing:

Friday, 5pm — GHOS7 WAV3 and Naughty Pine. Free.  
Saturday, 6:30pm — Black Cherry Lightnin'. Free.

#### Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:

Thursday, 6:30pm — F.W. Murnau's Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans.

**Kraken:**  
Friday, 9pm — Bonneville 7. Free.

**La Jolla Community Center:**  
Friday, 7:30pm — Robin Henkel Trio. \$10.

#### La Jolla United Methodist Church:

Sunday, 4pm — Billy & the Swamp Critters. Free.

#### La Valencia Hotel:

Thursday, 6pm — Keni Yarbro.  
Friday, 6pm — Rick Ross.  
Saturday, 6pm — Roman Palacios.  
Monday, 6pm — Elliott Lawrence.  
Tuesday, 6pm — Lisa Campbell.

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Saturday, 5pm — Gone Blonde. Free.

**Liberty Station NTC Park:**

Saturday, 5:30pm — Lantern Street Festival.

**Lucy's Tavern:**

Friday, 9pm — Sonic Tonic.

**Lyceum Theatre:**

Monday, 12pm — Diego Rodriguez. Free.

**Madison:**

Saturday, 10am — Jazz Brunch.

**Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:**

Saturday, 7:30pm — Telly Leung.  
Wednesday, 8pm — It's National See-a-Show Day. \$25.

**McFadden's:**

Friday, 6pm — 2019 Irish 4 A Day. \$20-\$60.

**Merrow:**

Saturday, 8pm — Ready Set Survive and Mainsail.

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Saturday, 9pm — Steelehorse. Free.

**Moonshine Beach:**

Friday, 8pm — JD Shelburne. Free.  
Saturday, 8pm — Georgia Chrome. Free.

**Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:**

Saturday, 4pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.  
Saturday, 8:30pm — Sonic Tonic.

**Music Box:**

Thursday, 8pm — Yung Gravy, bbno\$, Tiiiiiiiiip. \$18-\$20.  
Friday, 8pm — Karl Denson's Tiny Universe. \$28-\$30.  
Saturday, 9pm — Madlib and

# IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

## Samuel Barber redeemed

Soprano Joëlle Harvey was my favorite part of the San Diego Symphony concert on Friday, March 1, at Symphony Hall. Over the years, I've been somewhat critical of and disappointed in the vocal experience at the symphony, but I've got to admit it's been getting better and better, and with Ms. Harvey, we received a performance that was truly special.

There is something beyond a fine voice or fine diction or fine intonation that goes into a special performance. To be sure, the aforementioned elements must be present but they are not, in and of themselves, that special. Plenty of singers have a fine voice, fine intonation, and fine diction. The added ingredient Harvey included was inflection, which conveyed an emotional connection to the text and the music.

We should probably discuss what it was she was singing.

The concert began with a suite from *A Village Romeo and Juliet* by Frederick Delius. The suite was compiled by Delius's champion of all champions, Sir Thomas Beecham. I enjoy Delius and I enjoyed this performance. It was, I'm ashamed to admit, the first time I'd heard Delius performed by a live orchestra.

Next was Samuel Barber's *Knoxville Summer of 1915*. I have been, in these very pages, a fanboy of James Agee's text of the same title and a solid "meh" on Barber's setting of that text. However, put me in the hall with a singer such as Joëlle Harvey and an orchestra such as the San Diego Symphony with Edo de Waart conducting, and my estimation of Barber is on the rise — kind of.

I do think that what worked most for me was Harvey's performance. For instance, on the vocal high point of the piece, Harvey let her voice relax into the top note and led the crescendo with her vibrato.

That last sentence may not make no sense to those who haven't studied voice (and to too many who have.) It means Harvey didn't force tone. Instead, she increased the amplitude of her vibrato. I must be clear that she increased the amplitude of the vibrato, not the length or width of her vibrato. The effect is to increase the height of the vibration, not the width — never, ever the width — which creates a shimmering tone which brings out a voice's ultimate beauty. That ability is, in my opinion, the preeminent quality of *bel canto* singing.



Chilhowee Park, Knoxville, circa 1915

Brava Joëlle Harvey!

The second half of the concert was Mahler's *Symphony No. 4*. I'll be brief. It is, by far, my least favorite Mahler symphony. I wish I could say I had a moment of grace such as I had with Barber's *Knoxville*, but I didn't. Any symphony which has four flutes, two piccolos, and no trombones is going to be difficult for me to digest. There were some

moments which worked for me, but I remained unmoved. Of course, Joëlle Harvey sang brilliantly in the final movement.

That final movement was somewhat cheeky, as Mahler accessed the *Das Knabern Wunderhorn* text explaining what all the saints are doing in heaven. I chuckled when Ms. Harvey sang the lines explaining that Martha is the cook in heaven.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at [SDReader.com/classical](http://SDReader.com/classical)

Mike Wallace. \$22-\$37.

Sunday, 7pm — Shing02 and the Chee-Hoos. \$20-\$22.  
Wednesday, 8pm — Rayland Baxter. \$18-\$20.

**Nate's Garden Grill:**

Sunday, 10am — Tinkersmith. Free.

**Observatory North Park:**

Thursday, 8pm — Blaqk Audio

and Silent Rival. \$20.

Saturday, 8pm — Noname. \$25.  
Sunday, 7:30pm — One OK Rock.

**Old Venice:**

Friday, 9pm — Dante Fire. Free.

**Omnia San Diego:**

Friday, 9pm — Slander.  
Saturday, 9pm — Matoma.

**Pacific Islander Beer**

**Company:**

Saturday, 6pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.

**Poway Center for the**

**Performing Arts:**

Saturday, 8pm — Arlo Guthrie. \$25-\$65.

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old**

**Town:**

Friday, 5pm — Gary Seiler.

Saturday, 5pm — Nitro Express.

**San Diego Civic Theatre:**

Monday, 8pm — IL DIVO.

**San Marcos Library:**

Thursday, 4pm — Lady of the Loch: Music of Celtic Lands. Free.

**San Pasqual Wine Bar and**

**Gallery:**

Saturday, 7pm — Andrew Parker Davis. Free.

**Seaside Center for Spiritual**

**Living:**

Saturday, 7am — Larisa Stow & Shakti Tribe. \$35-\$40.

**Soda Bar:**

Thursday, 8pm — MOSS. \$15.  
Friday, 8pm — Gene Evaro Jr. and Proxima Parada. \$13-\$15.  
Saturday, 7pm — Rhett Miller. \$20-\$22.  
Saturday, 10:30pm — Three

Bad Jacks and Hard Fall Hearts. \$12-\$15.

Sunday, 8pm — The Downs Family and Lexington Field. \$10.  
Monday, 8pm — Garth Algar. \$6.  
Monday, 8pm — Garth Algar.  
Tuesday, 8pm — Wand and Cat Scan. \$12.

**Spin Nightclub:**

Friday, 8pm — Will Clarke and Sian.

**Templar's Hall at Old Poway**

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Friday, 7:30am — Steve Gillette & Cindy Mangsen. \$15-\$18.

**Tony's Sports Bar and Grill:**

Saturday, 7pm — FreeMartin. Free.

**Trinity United Methodist**

**Church:**

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**Village Faire Shopping Center:**  
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**Winstons Beach Club:**  
Thursday, 8pm — Hip-Hop Social.  
Friday, 9pm — Boostive.  
Saturday, 8pm — Full Strength Funk Band.  
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.  
Tuesday, 6pm — Electronic Musicians Jam Session.  
Wednesday, 9pm — True Zion and DJ Carlos Culture.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

**Classics Philharmonic: Patterns in Music** Patterns in Music Join our musicians and the Hutchins Consort in a concert all about patterns. With music from a variety of genres students learn about patterns in beat, rhythm, and form and see how patterns play a role in many other subjects like mathematics, language arts, and science! We are also excited to have students from Crown Point Junior Music Academy and their music teacher Stephen Luchs performing alongside Classics Philharmonic Orchestra on a special selection. Women's History Month bonus: learn about historic American Carleen Hutchins, the string instrument maker who created the Hutchins Consort viols. Thursday, March 14, 10am and 11:45am; Friday, March 15, 10am and 11:45am; \$7. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue.

**Duo MusArt Barcelona** San Diego Civic Organist Raúl Prieto Ramirez and his wife, concert pianist, Maria Teresa Sierra, who comprise Duo MusArt Barcelona, will perform a classical concert of music for organ and piano, with works by Mozart, Franck, Widor and Bédart. An offering will be taken and a reception will follow the concert. Sunday, March 17, 7pm; free. First United Methodist Church of San Diego, 2111 Camino del Rio South.

**La Jolla Symphony & Chorus: Bernstein Centennial** Steven Schick, conductor - Ludwig van Beethoven Symphony No. 8 Leonard Bernstein Symphony No. 3 (Kaddish) After meeting Laurie San Martin, one this country's most important ebullient composers, we'll experience the lightness of a classical great—the seldom-heard 8th Symphony of Beethoven—and conclude with Leonard Bernstein's extraordinary and poignant Symphony No. 3 (Kaddish), with chorus, soprano soloist and narrator. The Bernstein piece, named for the Jewish prayer for the dead, was dedicated to the late President John F. Kennedy and premiered in the days after his assassination in 1963. It is a reflection simultaneously on the loss of a president and the loss of a generation of European Jews. It is powerful music, but also hopeful. Saturday, March 16, 7:30pm;

Sunday, March 17, 2pm; \$15-\$35. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive.

**Poway Symphony Orchestra: Rachmaninoff & more** The Poway Symphony Orchestra will be joined by internationally acclaimed pianist Frederick Moyer to perform the Piano Concerto No.2 by Rachmaninoff. Also on the program are the Hungarian March by Berlioz and the Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture by Tchaikovsky. The performances will be lead by John LoPiccolo, Music Director and Conductor. Sunday, March 17, 4pm; \$12-\$20. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road.

**San Diego County Recorder Society Meeting** Dr. Marianne Pfau will conduct in February. Cathie Sobke will conduct in March. Bring your own music stand. Saturday, March 16, 1pm; free-\$40. Clairemont Lutheran Church, 4271 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

**Spring Concert** Spring concert featuring over 100 performers. A celebration of music with combined forces of San Diego State University Choirs, San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts Choirs, and a battalion of brass, organ, and percussion. Music encompassing the music of the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Romantic. Saturday, March 16, 4pm; \$8-\$10. First Presbyterian Church of El Cajon, 500 Farragut Circle.

**Symphony Orchestra** You are invited to an evening of music from England, featuring the music of two of England's most revered Nationalist composers of the 20th century. The orchestra will be perform Ralph Vaughn Williams iconic Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis, The Wasps Overture, and his poignant and rousing English Folk Song Suite. The concert will

conclude with the mysterious Enigma Variations composed by Sir Edward Elgar. Please join us for a wonderful concert of music from the British Isles. Conducted by Branden Muresan. Saturday, March 16, 7:30pm; Sunday, March 17, 7:30pm; \$8-\$10. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

**A Reason to Survive (ARTS):**  
Friday, Mar. 22 — Ladies Rock San Diego.  
Saturday, Mar. 23 — Ladies Rock San Diego.  
Sunday, Mar. 24 — Ladies Rock San Diego.

**Alpine Library:**  
Thursday, Mar. 28 — The Django Shredders. Free.

**Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:**  
Monday, Mar. 25 — Allison Adams Tucker Trio. Free.

**Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:**  
Sunday, Mar. 24 — Veronica Swift & the Benny Green Trio. \$32-\$37.

**BNS Brewing & Distilling:**  
Friday, Mar. 22 — Flipside Burners. Free.

**Backdrop:**  
Thursday, Mar. 28 — Josh Rosenblum Band.

**Baily's Old Town:**  
Sunday, Mar. 24 — Debora Galan. Free.

**Balboa Theatre:**  
Sunday, Mar. 24 — Blues Brothers Revue. \$40-\$75.

**Bassmnt:**  
Friday, Mar. 22 — Rich the Kid.  
Saturday, Mar. 23 — Malaa.

**Beaumont's:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Dude Cervantes.  
Friday, Mar. 22 — dB Jukebox.

**Belly Up Tavern:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Ladysmith Black Mambazo. \$35-\$62.

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Dustbowl Revival and Hot Club of Cowtown.

**Casbah:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Psychedelic Porn Crumpets. \$12-\$40.

**Harrah's Resort Southern California:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.

**House of Blues:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Travis Greene and Mosaic MSC. \$30.

**La Valencia Hotel:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Keni Yarbro.

**Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Raja: Masque. \$25.

**Music Box:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Bailo. \$17-\$30.

**Omnia San Diego:**  
Friday, Mar. 22 — Klingande.

**Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:**  
Friday, Mar. 22 — Uli Jon Roth.

**Soda Bar:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Downers and Brushed. \$7.

**Tio Leo's:**  
Thursday, Mar. 21 — Gino & the Lone Gunmen. \$5.

**Winstons Beach Club:**  
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# Like speed reading a tabloid

## Diana kissed the wrong frog

Editor: This week marks Jeff Smith's last as the Reader's theater critic. Smith is the longest-standing writer at the paper, having started in 1980. Before joining us, he got his Ph.D. in literature and critical theory from UC Irvine where he wrote his doctoral dissertation on Shakespeare. We want to thank him for the dedication and steadiness he brought to our pages.

### THEATER

JEFF SMITH

An almost wordless scene in *Diana: A New Musical* tells the story in miniature. Diana and Prince Charles have been married a short while. The former assistant kindergarten teacher already feels invisible walls closing around her, walls pushed by tradition and the paparazzi, each with boundary issues. Since she's now Princess of Wales, Charles decides it's time she met her subjects. They go by train.

As they enter the station, spectators press together behind a railing. Charles moves briskly down the aisle, nodding regally. Diana stops at the first person in line, a black woman. They shake hands and start talking. Diana's lips stop moving. She tilts her head forward to hear better. She asks another question. Charles reaches the end and she's still talking to the first woman. His stone face

cracks, as if to say, "she's NOCD" ("not our class, dear"). It's not about them! Diana steps to the next person, tilts her head and listens. Huffy Charles finally intervenes.

With silent eloquence, the famous clash between Windsor royalty and Diana's urge to break from it appears for all to see. The rest of the musical's two-and-a-half hours are loud, often bombastic, and devoid of nuance.

What might one expect from a musical about the "English Rose," as beloved as Evita and as vilified? She was far from perfect (the musical mentions issues with depression, bulimia, and attempted suicide, in passing). And except for the famous scene where she takes off her gloves and shakes hands with a man with HIV-AIDS, *Diana* collapses her glowing deeds — walking through a minefield, for one — into a single sentence. Instead of a halo, or pop-psychobabble, this Diana is two-fisted tough and uncompromising. She's the opposite of vulnerable, and dares to speak truth full bore. Joe DiPietro (book and lyrics) and David Bryan (music and lyrics) are from New Jersey. In act two, their Lady Di's practically a Jersey Girl.

You could call Diana a cautionary tale: be careful what you wish for. Teenaged Diana reads only



Diana: A new musical: "Swift scenes snap and click."

**Diana: A New Musical**, book and lyrics by Joe DiPietro, music and lyrics by David Bryan.

La Jolla Playhouse, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive.

Directed by Christopher Ashley, scenic design, David Zinn costumes, William Ivey Long, lighting, Natasha Katz, sound, Gareth Owen, wig design, Paul Huntley.

Playing through April 14; Sunday at 7:00 pm. Tuesday and Wednesday at 7:30 pm. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 pm. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 pm.

the romance novels of Barbara Cartland (Diana's step-grandmother), filled with florid prose, chaste heroines and dashing princes, and loves that transcend time. When she's 19, Diana meets Prince Charles of Wales. After only 13 dates, they tie the knot in 1981 — she's barely 20, he's 33 — and divorce in 1996. In effect, she kissed the wrong frog.

Before they meet, Charles has a lover, Camilla Parker Bowles. Protocol won't allow them to wed: she's married to the Duke of Cornwall (a divorced woman's unthinkable), she's not aristocratic

enough, and, his parents insist, he must marry a virgin.

The tale of the royal couple attracts almost as much disinformation as JFK. The rumor mill has alleged for decades that neither wanted the marriage. She supposedly called it the "worst day of my life." In one scene, the Queen sings to Charles "Whatever Love Means Anyway": "Love evolves and bends/And men take other friends." Charles agrees to the marriage not knowing "whatever love means."

Diana suggests that the media was the real

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Music supervision, arrangements,  
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Osseo Senior High School  
Symphony Orchestra  
from Osseo Minnesota  
is traveling to San Diego  
while they are on their 2019  
Concert Tour! They will be  
performing works by Brian  
Balmages, Doug Spata, and  
various Disney selections.  
You don't want to miss  
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2700 E 4th Street  
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Sunday, March 24th at  
3:00pm.



impetus for the royal wedding. An early number, "Snap, Click," shows why. The paparazzi hound Diana more and more. As flashbulbs assault her, she flickers, like a silent movie. Then the black rear wall pocks her with a glaring strobe effect.

The musical has a similar effect. Swift scenes snap and click. It's a fill-in-the-blanks approach, like speed reading a tabloid, accompanied by a raft of hard-sell, imitation pop/rock 80s tunes. The book avoids the saintly and the salubrious. According to a note, it doesn't assign blame. Di, Charles, the Queen, and Camilla receive democratic treatment. This is noble: Charles has thwarted feelings; Camilla too (the paparazzi mobbed her after a scandal). But the even-handed approach flattens the polarizing story into an ensemble piece.

It also verges on cartooning. Broadway stalwart Judy Kaye's Barbara Cartland, ablaze in florid pinks, is an over-the-top gadfly. Instead of pursed-lips and rectitude, her Elizabeth II's a broad shouldered toughie given to infelicitous expressions. These and other cartoonings suggest self-parody.

The show has positives: the voices are rockets. Kaye, Roe Hartrampf (an icy Charles, intelligent but socially inept), Erin Davie (Camilla Parker Bowles, more irritant than human), and Jeanna de Waal (Diana, who grows from fragile innocence to rock superstar) have impressive ranges and belt every note above the ledger lines. No slouches in the supporting cast, either.

William Ivey Long's costumes are as stunning as David Zinn's set — the drab gate to Buckingham Palace — is mundane. In one scene, Di makes quicker and quicker changes. The finale defies the laws of physics.

In one of the best constructed numbers, Charles wants to give Di some culture. So he has her hear Russian cellist Mstislav Rostropovich. She'd much rather hear Duran Duran or Mark Knopfler and Dire Straits. Buoyed by Kelly Devine's kaleidoscopic choreography, the number gives both the classical and the contemporary. It's a highlight in a show determined to turn every scene into one. ■

## 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.*

### Angels in America: Part One: Millennium Approaches

Cygnat Theatre stages one of the finest plays of the last 50 years. Tony Kushner's two part "gay fantasia on national themes" begins in 1985. A mysterious plague sweeps through the country and affects a variety of stricken souls. *Millennium Approaches* will run in repertory with *Perestroika*. Sean Murray directs.

CYGNAT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 1PM & 7PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

### Annie Jr.

Center Stage Children's Theater presents the musical version of Little Orphan Annie. "Despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City, Annie is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan." MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 4070 JACKDAW ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-296-2169. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAR. 17.

### Beethoven

Hershey Felder has made a career of portraying some of the greatest composers in history. His latest is a reworking of a 2008 show about Beethoven, told from the perspective of a friend and admirer. We don't get a straight biography, but

rather fragments and stories about the composer's unhappy childhood, family squabbles, and his descent into cantankerousness and isolation. Felder also illuminates some of the composer's most famous works, including "Moonlight Sonata" (given the "Moonlight" moniker by a poetic sycophant), and Symphony #5 (its violent hammering — da-da-da-dum! — inspired by woodpeckers). Seated at a grand piano amid a graveyard scene featuring Beethoven's tombstone, Felder serves not only as a masterful storyteller but also an adept pianist, bringing immense delicacy and emotion to works like "Sonata Pathétique," "Fur Elise," "Ode to Joy," and others. **Critic's Pick.** Review by Jennifer Chung Klam.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

### Blurred at the Edges

A one-person play written and performed by Steven Oberman, pays tribute to a pioneer for the humane care of those with developmental disabilities. The play takes audiences to England of 1887, where Dr. John Langdon Down, the namesake for Down's Syndrome, prepares for another day at Normansfield, his residential hospital for the "feeble-minded." As Down chronicles his medical career specializing in the moral treatment of the mentally disabled, a surprise letter arrives with dire consequences for one of his patients. Although still affected by personal tragedies, Down must persevere in order to effectively fight for his patient's wellbeing.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 8PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

### Bono and The Edge Waiting for Godomino's

For two nights only, Tenth Avenue Theatre Arts Center presents a parody of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting*

for *Godot*, written and directed by Richard Lucas. Bono orders a pizza delivery to get back in touch with the Common Man. "We have asked for the pizza to come, and we have to believe it will come — because we have asked." Lucas directs.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY.

### Chaps!

During World War II, Tex Riley's Singing Cowboys are late for a live broadcast from London. What to do?? A BBC studio crew must act fast to fill in. That's what. Robert Smyth directs the Lamb's Players production, with musical direction by Jon Lorenz, and choreography by Deborah Gilmour Smyth.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

### Cinema Twain Screening & Q with Val Kilmer

Experience a new take on old America with a special screening of Val Kilmer's one-man play, *Cinema Twain*. The new luxury cinema, dining and entertainment complex will welcome actor, writer and director Kilmer to host a special screening of his play-turned-film, *Cinema Twain*, which is based on the life of Samuel Clemens and his writings as Mark Twain. The evening will begin with hosted beverages followed by the showing of the film, a Q-and-A with Kilmer and an opportunity for a meet-and-greet.

THEATRE BOX, 701 FIFTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-814-2225. 6PM THURSDAY.

### Diana

The La Jolla Playhouse presents the world premiere of Joe DiPietro and David Bryan's (creators of the Tony Award-winner *Memphis*) musical about Princess Diana "as she grows from an assistant kindergarten teacher into a global phenomenon." Christopher Ashley directs.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

### Diana Cast Meet & Greet Brunch

Meet select cast members from the world-premiere musical about Princess Diana's story. • Cast members will perform several numbers from the musical. • Savor an intimate brunch by Executive Chef Jeff Jackson, including brunch libations. LODGE AT TORREY PINES, 11480 N. TORREY PINES RD., LA JOLLA. 619-453-4420. 10AM SUNDAY, MAR. 17.

### Disney's Moana Jr.

San Diego Junior Theatre partners with Music Theatre International and Disney Theatrical Group on a pilot production of Moana, Jr. "An adventurous teenager sails on a daring mission to save her people. The once mighty demigod Maui guides her quest to become a master wayfinder." Directed and choreographed by Francine Maigue.

SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO #208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. 7PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

### Everybody Black

UCSD Department of Theatre & Dance presents Dave Harris's political satire about a "mad black historian" offered a great deal of money to "record the definitive version of the Black Experience in America." But he's never met another black person. Steve H. Broadnax III directs the department's annual Quinn Martin Production.

POTIKER THEATRE AT UCSD, 9500 GILMAN DR., LA JOLLA. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS.

### Gabriel

Playwright Maria Buffini's bipolar play shifts from gun-the-engine melodrama to high-toned aperçus, and back. It's 1943. The Germans have invaded Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands. Evicted from her home, and like a British Mother

Courage, fiery Jeanne (Jessica John, excellent) defends her family from the evil intruders. One of them, Major Von Pfunz (Richard Baird, also excellent) seems kind. He might even be the ultimate oxymoron, a nice Nazi. Not so. *Gabriel* meanders from genre to genre, but the North Coast Rep performances, and Christopher Williams' direction, all point due North. **Critic's Pick.** 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.

### Heathers The Musical (High School Edition)

Point Loma High presents the the musical, based on the 1989 film about three Heathers who rule Westerberg High. "A shoulder-padded, scrunchie-wearing junta, they are the hottest and cruelest girls in all of Ohio. But misfit Veronica Sawyer rejects them for dark and sexy J.D., who plans to put the Heathers in their place - six feet under." POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL, 2335 CHATSWORTH BL., POINT LOMA. 619-223-3121. 3PM FRIDAYS.

### Hookman

SDSU School of Theatre, Television, and Film stages Lauren Yee's "existential slasher comedy that re-envision a familiar urban legend through a contemporary lens." Lexi wants to find out what happened to her best friend on that car ride to the movies. She learns "what it means to grow-up — and it's not pretty." Jennifer Eve Thorn directs. SDSU'S EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., SDSU. 619-594-6884. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

### Jake's Women

PowPAC presents Neil Simon's comedy about a novelist more successful with fiction than with reality. A marital crisis "drives him to visions and hallucinations about the women in his life." Robyn Smith directs. POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY.



The story of Ren McCormack, a teenage boy from Chicago. He and his mother move to the small town of Bomont after his father abandons them. Upon arriving, Ren finds himself at odds with most of the town, including the Reverend Bomont. The Reverend has convinced the town to outlaw dancing, which Ren finds unbelievable.

### Valhalla High School

1725 Hillside Road  
El Cajon

Mar 23, 23, 28, 29, 30, 7 pm



### Heathers, the musical

Based on the classic 1989 film, Westerberg High is ruled by a shoulder-padded, scrunchie-wearing junta: Heather, Heather, and Heather, the hottest and cruelest girls in all of Ohio.

### Point Loma High School

2335 Chatsworth  
Point Loma

Fri-Sat,  
March 15-16, 3 & 7 pm



By Gilbert and Sullivan. Join this band of swashbuckling pirates, sentimental lovers, bumbling British policemen, lovely maidens, and a "model of a modern major general." Fredrick as a young child was mistakenly apprenticed to pirates until his 21st birthday.

Thur-Sat, 7:30 pm, Sat-Sun,  
2 pm, March 7-17

### Mira Costa College

Mira Costa Theater  
1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside



Winner of eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, told by Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater. Spring Awakening explores the journey from adolescence to adulthood.

### Grossmont College

Stagehouse Theatre  
8800 Grossmont College Dr.  
El Cajon, 92020

Thur-Sat, March 14-23, 7pm.  
Also Sats 2 pm



### Madagascar Jr.

Madagascar Jr. follows all of your favorite friends as they escape from their home in New York's Central Park Zoo and find themselves on an unexpected journey.

### San Diego Center for Jewish Culture

Garfield Theater,  
Jewish Community Center,  
4126 Executive Dr., La Jolla.

Sat., March 9  
through Sun. March 24.  
Sats 8 pm,  
Suns, 1 and 4:30 pm.

# Calendar THEATER

858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

## Les Misérables School Edition

Steele Canyon High School presents the world's longest running musical. The production includes over 130 students in the cast, crew and orchestra. Released from years of unjust imprisonment, Jean Valjean finds only mistrust and mistreatment while trying to start a new life. Nicole LaBella directs with musical direction by Heather Luck. STEELE CANYON HIGH SCHOOL THEATER 12440 CAMPO RD, SPRING VALLEY CA 91978. 7PM WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20.

## Lost in Yonkers

The Broadway Theater states Neil Simon's autobiographical comedy-drama about two boys deposited at their stern grandmother's doorstep. "The boys are left to contend with Grandma, and 35-year-old, mentally challenged Bella, in a strange new world called Yonkers." Kathy Brombacher directs. BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 E. BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

## Madagascar Jr.

The JCompany Youth Theatre stages the musical based on the popular Dream Works animated movie. "Alex the Lion, Marty the Zebra, Melman the Giraffe, Gloria the Hippo and, of course, those plotting penguins bound onto the stage in the musical adventure of a lifetime." LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 4:30PM SUNDAYS.

## Menopause: The Musical

The Welk Resort Theatre stages the popular musical "celebration of women and the Change." Four women at a lingere sale have nothing in common "but memory loss, night sweats, and not enough sex." The cast is an all-star team of local talent: Anise Ritchie, Bets Malone, Eileen Bowman, and Melinda Gilb. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS.

## Moon Over Buffalo

George and Charlotte Hay, fading stars of the 1950s, are playing *Private Lives* and *Cyrano De Bergerac* in Buffalo, New York. On the brink of a disastrous split-up, caused by George's dalliance with a young ingénue, they receive word that they might just have one last shot at stardom: Frank Capra is coming to town to see their matinee, and if he likes what he sees, he might cast them in his movie remake of *The Scarlet Pimpernel*. Unfortunately, everything that could go wrong, does go wrong. CABRILLO PLAYHOUSE, 202 AVENIDA CABRILLO, NONE. 949-492-0465. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

## Next to Normal

The Carlsbad Playreaders perform the Tony Award-winning musical about how a suburban household copes with crisis and mental illness "with humor, heartbreak, and love." Manny Fernandez directs with musical direction by Tony Houck. Dona-

tions suggested.

SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY, 1775 DOVE LANE, CARLSBAD. 760-602-2049. 7:30PM MONDAY, MAR. 18.

## Our Town

The Old Globe & University of San Diego graduate theater program stages Thornton Wilder's classic about life in small town Grover's Corners. The "contemporary" production will "embrace; the memories of the people, places, and objects that make us." UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, 5998 ALCALA PARK, USD. 619-260-4600. 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SUNDAY, MAR. 17, 7:30PM TUESDAY, MAR. 19 & WEDNESDAY, MAR. 20.

## Pirates of the Penzance

MiraCosta College stages Gilbert and Sullivan's masterpiece about "swashbuckling pirates, sentimental lovers, bumbling British policemen, lovely maidens, and a stuffy 'model of a modern major general.' Once a pirate, always a pirate?" Tracy Williams directs. MIRACOSTA COLLEGE, ONE BARNARD DR., OCEANSIDE. 760-757-2121. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS.

## Quibbling Siblings and A Boy and a Girl

Patio Playhouse stages two of Greg Evans' musicals in repertory. Both are about family with musical scores that range from pop to jazz to country. Evans is creator of the comic strip *Luann*. PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 E. GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. 8PM SATURDAYS.

## Smoke Joe's Cafe

New Village Arts offers Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller's (legendary composers of rock n roll) musical- that features nearly 40 of their greatest hits, among them, *Jailhouse Rock*, *Love Potion #9*, and *Stand by Me*. Tony Houck directs, with choreography by Michael Mizerany. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

## Spamalot

The California Center for the Arts Escondido hosts a touring production of the Monty Python's Tony Award winner, based on their movie, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table embark on a quest that includes flying cows, killer rabbits, and taunting Frenchmen. CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ESCONDIDO, 340 N. ESCONDIDO BL., ESCONDIDO. 760-839-4138. 7:30PM MONDAYS.

## Spring Awakening

Grossmont College stages the eight Tony Award-winner about repressed teens' troubled journey from adolescence to adulthood. Book and lyrics are by Stephen Sater, music by Duncan Sheik, based on the play by Frank Wedekind. Meg DeBoard directs. GROSSMONT COLLEGE, 8800 GROSSMONT COLLEGE DR., EL CAJON. 619-644-7000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS.

## XQ Super School Live

XQ and Pop-Up Magazine Productions present an "immersive night of high school drama full of stories, selfie confessionals, viral gratitude, and multimedia adventures that celebrate the everyday heroes transforming America's high schools."

Illustration, animation, photography, and an original score accompany the stories.

SPRECKELS THEATRE, 121 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-235-9500. 7:30PM THURSDAY.

## "How Do You Act Shakespeare?"

David Ellenstein, Patricia Elmore Costa, David Huber, Tami Curtice, and Connie Boyd will form a panel discussing how one acts the Bard's plays. The event is "for actors and drama students, and for those with a general interest in Shakespeare. No previous knowledge or skill necessary to attend and enjoy!" Admission is free. MISSION VALLEY LIBRARY, 2123 FENTON PARKWAY, MISSION VALLEY. 858-573-5007. 2PM SUNDAY, MAR. 17.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### "The Women of Lockerbie" at Salomon Theatre

Salomon Theatre at Point Loma Nazarene University presents Deborah Brevoort's drama, "loosely inspired by the true events that followed the devastating bombing of Pan Am Flight 103." Bill and Madeline Livingston, who lost their son in the terrorist attack, travel to Scotland to come to terms with their loss. POINT LOMA NAZARENE UNIVERSITY, 3900 LOMALAND DR., POINT LOMA. 619-849-2433. APR. 4 THROUGH APR. 13.

### Angels in America: Part Two: Perestroika

Cygnat Theatre is staging both parts of Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama. Prior, "a reluctant prophet spurred on by a testy angel, must begin the work of rebuilding a devastated world." *Perestroika* will run in repertory with *Millennium Approaches*. Sean Murray directs. CYGNAT THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. MAR. 24 THROUGH APR. 20.

### Annie Jr.

Center Stage Children's Theater presents the musical version of Little Orphan Annie. "Despite a next-to-nothing start in 1930s New York City, Annie is determined to find the parents who abandoned her years ago on the doorstep of an orphanage run by the cruel Miss Hannigan." MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 4070 JACKDAW ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-296-2169. MAR. 22.

### Bullshot Crummond

OnStage Playhouse presents "British heroism at its dumbest." Otto Von Bruno and his femme fatale sidekick, Lenya, attempt to steal the secret formula for synthetic diamonds. To the rescue comes Bullshot Crummond, causing plane crashes, exploding pastries, and sundry devastations. Paul Morgavo directs. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. MAR. 22 THROUGH APR. 20.

### Cabaret

"Right this way, your table's waiting." The Coronado Playhouse offers the immensely popular musical about life at the Kit Kat Club in Berlin in the 1930s. The Nazis are rising, but "you are invited to leave your troubles outside and be entertained." Julia Cuppy directs, with choreography by Jaese Lecuyer.

## ANTI-REVIEW ANNE WENTWORTH

# Nazis are a perfect foil

**OVER THE LAST SEVERAL WEEKS** I've read a novel, watched a film, and attended a play all set in WWII — specifically, the Nazi occupation of Guernsey and Normandy. Given that *Schindler's List* and *A Beautiful Life* put me into a sort of perpetual hangover with Nazi films, the experience has been unusual.

How did it come about? The novel was *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr, and it was for a book club. The film was *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society*, and it was recommended by a friend and had "literary" in the title, so I was in. The play was *Gabriel*.

I enjoyed and happily recommend all three, but I'm not giving up my avoidance of movies with Nazis. The thing is, Nazis are a perfect foil for absolutely every kind of evil ever perpetrated, world without end, amen. A foil so universal isn't that useful in terms of storytelling, and often leads to shortcuts.

A story about WWII has three kinds of people: the good people who are completely pure and never compromise; the bad people, who are pitch-black; and the weak people who com-

promise (but still deserve to die because everyone knows with 20/20 hindsight that it's better to die than cooperate with Nazis).

Both *Guernsey* and *Gabriel* struggle against this reduction-



Complexity and ambiguity: hallmarks of great art

ism, each somewhat successfully. The film has one good German who isn't "really" a Nazi. The play has a mysterious and perhaps mystical character who might be English, might be German, and might be an angel.

The novel is a masterpiece of complexity and ambiguity, and avoids reductionism by seeing through the eyes of two children trying to make sense of their worlds.

Complexity and ambiguity

are hallmarks of great art. The acknowledgement of the complexity and ambiguity in the world are necessary for civilization: for a balanced view of history, for bracing and civil political discourse, for justice, even for simple neighborliness.

A certain Princeton professor of jurisprudence is in the habit of asking his students if they would have opposed the Nazis. Unsurprisingly, 100 percent say they would have. Then he asks them, "When is the last time, if ever, that you uttered an opinion that sparked disapproval by your peers?" Many hands shoot up.

He then asks, has your stance cost you, socially (hands begin to go down); been barred from clubs? fired from a job? denied a job? sued in court? By this time, all hands are down. And he finally asks, imprisoned? starved? tortured?

We're not a hearty bunch, folks. If you really think fascism is threatening this country, shouldn't you be doing more than posting on social media?

*Gabriel* plays at North Coast Rep through March 24.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. MAR. 22 THROUGH APR. 28.

### Exit Laughing

When the biggest highlight in your life for the past 30 years has been your weekly bridge night out with "the girls," what do you do when one of your foursome inconveniently dies? If you're Connie, Leona, and Millie, three southern ladies from Birmingham, you do the most daring thing you've ever done. You "borrow" the ashes from the funeral home for one last card game and one wild night involving a police raid and a stripper.

CABRILLO PLAYHOUSE, 202 AVENIDA CABRILLO, NONE. 949-492-0465. APR. 26 THROUGH MAY 19.

### Geography Of A Horse Dreamer

The Tenth Avenue Arts Center and The Casual Company present Sam Shepard's *Geography* as part of its month long tribute to the late playwright. "Cody's dreams predict the outcome of horse races. Because of this ability, gangsters take him captive." Each night after the play, audience members can present a one to three minute piece of their favorite Shepard work to a cast member to read.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. APR. 4 THROUGH APR. 28.

### Godspell

Vanguard at Westminster Theatre presents John Michael Tebelak (lyr-

ics) and Stephen Schwartz's (music) popular show, based primarily on the *The Gospel According to St. Matthew*. The Apostles invite you to "Prepare ye, the way of the Lord." VANGUARD AT WESTMINSTER THEATRE. MAR. 29 THROUGH APR. 14.

### Hedwig and the Angry Inch

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the musical, Diversionary Theatre stages John Cameron Mitchell (text) and Stephen Trask's (music and lyrics) about Hedwig, a "freak who has been through a lot but is just too fabulous to even consider giving up." Matt M. Morrow directs. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. MAR. 30 THROUGH APR. 21.

### Les Misérables School Edition

Steele Canyon High School presents the world's longest running musical. The production includes over 130 students in the cast, crew and orchestra. Released from years of unjust imprisonment, Jean Valjean finds only mistrust and mistreatment while trying to start a new life. Nicole LaBella directs with musical direction by Heather Luck. STEELE CANYON HIGH SCHOOL THEATER 12440 CAMPO RD, SPRING VALLEY CA 91978. MAR. 21 THROUGH MAR. 24.

### Life After

The Old Globe Theatre presents the American premiere of Britta Johnson's musical about 16-year-old Alice's quest for the truth about her famous father's death. Just what

happened on the night that changed her family forever?

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. MAR. 29 THROUGH APR. 28.

### Messages From Beyond

Join Los Angeles Medium Fleur for an evening of Audience Readings. Fleur has wowed audiences across the United States and Europe. Fleur will deliver messages from the Other Side to members of the audience, bringing details about loved ones in the spirit world with profound accuracy and speed. Her mission is to provide peace, clarity, and closure. HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. APR. 6.

### Our Town

Patio Playhouse stages Thornton Wilder's classic, Pulitzer Prize-winning play about life, love, and loss in a small New Hampshire town at the beginning of the twentieth century. PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE, 116 S. KALMIA ST., NONE. MAR. 22 THROUGH APR. 7.

### The Pirates of Penzance Jr.

The OB Playhouse presents a "for kids" version of Gilbert and Sullivan's classic comedy. A group of pirates celebrate Fredric's 21st birthday. He wants to become an upstanding citizen, which may mean bringing his former mates to justice. Jennie Gray Connard directs. OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. MAR. 22 THROUGH APR. 7.

# The Wedding Guest: a gift of suspense

Standing on tiptoes, the devil on my shoulder took to jabbing a pitchfork in my ear. “Wanna have a little fun?” he chortled. “Try selling your readers — both of them — on *The Wedding Guest* being Katherine Heigl’s magnum opus?”

In less capable hands, one would have gladly

## MOVIES

played the old rom-com switcheroo gag. But why run the risk of steering audiences in the opposite direction of Michael Winterbottom’s suspense-packed film noir?

Through rain, fog, blistering sunlight, and dead of night, cinematographer Giles Nuttgens’ strong-willed, yet delicately lit lens doggedly pursued the inscrutable stranger as he journeyed from his British homeland through Pakistan and India. Funny, but Jay (Dev Patel) doesn’t exactly fit the type of “reveler *en route* to a wedding celebration.” Unless the bride and groom are collectors registered at a local gun boutique, it’s safe to assume the two firearms Jay stops to purchase along the way aren’t gifts.

The dialogue that opens the picture is negligible, yet there is much to observe and learn about the character in the twenty minutes or so it takes for Jay to arrive at his destination. To outsiders, Jay may look the part, but to the locals, the English-speaking British Muslim comes off as a bit of an anomaly. One particularly inquisitive soul summons the courage to ask, “Why didn’t your parents teach you Punjabi?” This is the first evidence I’ve seen of a darker side of Patel. (*About Cherry* never made it to San Diego.) Not only does the script call for the former “Slumdog” to puff away at a pack of butts, this time out the lad is cast as a kidnapper who doubles as a masked home invader turned stone cold killer! It’s about that time when the plot begins to unfold.

Samira (Radhika Apte) is plucked from her sleep, blindfolded, stashed in a trunk, and unable to determine whether the bullet from Jay’s gun took the life of her bodyguard. Relocated to the back seat and offered the choice of freedom to wed or staying with her captor, Samira replies, “I don’t want to be married.” Those words were enough to earn her a forged passport and a pair of flip-flops with which to begin

a journey through a tightly knit web of betrayal, looped and purled with double-crossed stitching.

Michael Winterbottom has worked in just about every conceivable genre. There’s a western (*The Claim*); a sci-fi thriller (*Code 46*); a sports picture (*Go Now*); a literary adaptation... of sorts (*Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story*); comedies (*The Trip* trilogy); romantic dramas (*Jude, With or Without You*); biopics (*24 Hour Party People*, *The Look of Love*), and the one-stone, two birds-killing pornographic musical, (*9 Songs*). I was a good 15 minutes into *In This World* before realizing it wasn’t a documentary. A higher compliment cannot be paid.

Having covered 80% of his work, only once did I exit a Winterbottom picture feeling battle fatigue. One hopes that even the director would be quick to assign authorship of *A Mighty Heart* to its producer/star/message-hurler, Angelina Jolie. It took months after the screening for feeling to finally return to my lower torso.

Though he has more than 30 novels to his credit, not one of Jim Thompson’s suspense yarns ever left the bindery with a hard cover. Too bad, because fans of hardboiled crime fiction could have used something to hold onto. There’s good reason for bringing palm to jaw when a character in a Thompson pulper takes a right to the chin: you feel it! Many of Thompson novels have been brought to the screen, but only one — Bertrand Tavernier’s *Coup de Torchon* was based on *Pop 1280* — nails down the author’s nerve-racking determination.

The reason for bringing Thompson to the dance is to remind viewers that this is not Winterbottom’s first crime thriller — that distinction goes to *I Want You*. He went on to tackle no less than Thompson’s unfilmable masterwork, *The Killer Inside Me*, with mixed results. (Casey Affleck made as convincing a Lou Ford as Daniel Craig did James Bond.) Somewhere in the stratosphere, Jim Thompson is looking down and smiling on his protege.

Imagine Apte playing Jane Greer opposite Patel’s John Garfield. Like any fatalistic noir worth its black salt, the devil is in the detailed itinerary.



*The Wedding Guest*: “I’ve got my invitation right here.”

The odyssey will climax light years from whence it began, along the way encountering more twists and turns than a whirling dervish in a pleated skirt. Spoiler alert: crime does pay. And so should you — at least for a bargain show — when this opens Friday at Landmark’s Hillcrest Cinema and Angelika Carmel Mountain

—Scott Marks

## MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at [SDReader.com/movies](http://SDReader.com/movies).

**Alita: Battle Angel** — Why did Robert Rodriguez bother giving Rosa Salazar the CG Margaret Keane treatment when Hollywood already had tumescency-eyed young actresses like Anya Taylor-Joy or Bel Powley eager to report for duty? It’s *Ex Machina* for teenagers when a futuristic sawbones (Christoph Waltz in cruise control) fuses together the upper-torso of a trashed replacement cyborg with the robotic bottom half of his dead daughter to form a lean, mean, metallic-sheened fighting machine. (According to contemporary comic book thinking, the only way a woman can become a man’s equal is if she learns to brawl like one.) The only thing flatter than the dialogue are the 3D effects, topped by a time-consuming riff on *Rollerball*. If you relish spending two hours trapped inside a video game without a controller, knock yourself out. From where I sat, it was an endurance test, an exercise in facing forward and staring at a screen. With: Jennifer Connelly, standing around and looking severe, and a ready-made performance from Mahershala Ali as the blue-eyed villain that’s just bad enough to invalidate this year’s Oscar chances. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Apollo 11** — Todd Douglas Miller’s documentary about America’s first moon landing. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Birds of Passage (Pájaros de verano)** — Director Ciro Guerra, whose mesmerizing *Embrace of the Serpent* similarly treated the havoc wrought when gringos take an interest in local produce (there, it was rubber; here, it’s marijuana), teams with his producer on that film, Cristina Gallegos, to bring you a proper tragedy, complete with narrative chorus (in this case, an ancient shepherd, bewailing both the end of his life and his profession as memory-keeper). There are numerous echoes of *The Godfather*, perhaps most notably the way market forces, exemplified by the drug trade, can work to destroy the old ways of doing things, and the old bonds that preserved the family. Also the unintended effect of letting outsiders into the clan. But in at least one significant way, the tragedy is even sharper, because here, there are still those who put the personal ahead of business, no matter what. 2018. — M.L. ★★★★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Blazing Saddles** — Leading off with fiery credits in the color of cheddar cheese and a whip-cracking parody of Frankie Laine’s *Rawhide* theme song, Mel Brooks bursts onto the Western plains; but the terrain gives way, unpredictably, and opens up to allow any whim: a street brawl that spills across the Warner Brothers studio lot, onto a Busby Berkeley-ish musical sound stage, and into the employees’ cafeteria; a lippy, lumpy Dietrich impersonator (Madeline Kahn), droning “I’m Tired”; and a camera-conscious villain (Harvey Korman) who tells his gang on the eve of his Waterloo, “You are risking your lives, while I am risking an almost certain Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor. Brooks, a modest fellow, never tries to push his nonsense into satire, although he freely kicks around a few steamy ideas about the bigotry in the American melting pot, the muscle-bound and cross-eyed blundering that goes by the name of Progress, and the clichés in Hollywood movies. He understands these ideas to be commonplace, basically, and settles for the comfortable satisfaction of doing the gags to a turn. And if in some stretches the comic inven-

tion seems to flag and to fall back rather desperately on bathroom humor and locker-room language, the excuse is the intention of always at least being uninhibited, which is somehow or other related to being funny. Cleavon Little, Gene Wilder. 1974. — D.S. ★★★★★ (CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS LA COSTA; CINÉPOLIS VISTA)

**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. ★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; REGAL OCEANSIDE)

**Captain Marvel** — Maybe Marvel’s latest is meant for specially for women — in particular, women who have been told all their lives that being a woman meant they weren’t good enough, weren’t strong enough, weren’t fast enough, etc. — and so its journey of self-discovery through self-recovery was not designed, executed, and polished to a high sheen for my particular benefit. Or even moviegoers’ general benefit. But I certainly wasn’t bored like this during the much weirder superheroine movie *Border*, which shares an awful lot of themes with this one. But then, that was a film that didn’t feel like an object lesson in empowerment through self-affirmation; it felt like the story of a person. Here, star Brie Larson seems a bit bored by her own tale: that of a Kree

# Calendar MOVIES

warrior who gets stranded on earth, only to discover that our “shithole” planet may be the key to her mysterious dreams. Humor comes from Samuel Jackson’s Nick Fury, heart from Lashana Lynch’s Maria Rambeau, and pathos from...well, I don’t want to spoil anything. But it ain’t Larson or her character; her wondrous-to-behold super-powered energy has to do all her expressing for her. The story is set in the ‘90s, because it’s an MCU prequel of sorts, and because of the jump back in time, Mr. Jackson has to act through a CGI mask of himself, which is less enjoyable than watching Ben Mendelsohn act through the groovy green mask of a shape-shifting Skrull. Also because of the jump back in time, there will be good-time oldies from Garbage and No Doubt on the soundtrack. Also, outdated tech played for yuks. What follows is deeply sloppy in the plotting department, with the film’s prequel status dictating the eventual resolution to a much greater degree than anything inherent in the story at hand. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Clean Hands** — Next time you poke your head out the window and think your neighborhood is a dump, consider the Lopez family, who have in their backyard Central America’s largest garbage lot. Javier and Blanca are the parents of seven children, all of whom scrounge the giant dumping ground in search of provisions. It’s an alternate universe of outrageous proportion: while most mothers warn children of the perils of choking on a fish bone, the wayward Blanca cautions her shoeless charge not to step on the fishes’ trashed remains. For the children, it’s a giant playland, where plastic bags double as turbans and liter bottles filled with marbles pass for rattles. Beneath it all, Javier bemoans a life lived like an animal on the streets. Documentarian Michael Dominic followed the family for seven years. Don’t look for any solutions. By his own admission, Dominic has none to

offer, and instead chooses to “leave it to the audience to form their own opinions.” 2019. — S.M. ★★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY)

**Climax** — No, no, Noé! When does the viewer realize that the latest shocker from French bad boy Gaspar Noé (*I Stand Alone*) is a not-so thinly veiled remake of *Suspiria*? How about in one of the opening, less tedious long takes, when a TV monitor — bounded on the west by film books and on the east by VHS tapes — displays a montage of audition reels? The only video box that’s spine out, face up, and aimed directly at the camera is the one housing the Dario Argento cult classic. (In this case it’s a spiked punch bowl, not a coven of witches, that eats away at our dancing darlings.) The rest is a ballet of well-choreographed disgust that more often than not yields gales of unintentional snickers. (The frequent cutaways to the tripping tyke locked in a supply closet were the film’s one redeeming facet.) The director may have been targeting *Suspiria*, but his bombs landed closer to *French Idol*, *Breakin’ 2: Electric Boogaloo*, or an episode of *Fame*. 2019. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

**Cold Pursuit** — It’s early in the year, so that means it’s time for another Liam Neeson outing in which a lucky co-star will be kidnapped and/or killed in order to set in motion the perennial revenge formula. This time it’s a son who barely survives the credits before his snowplow-driving dad (Neeson) begins lining the road to redemption with corpses. Snow blankets the scenery, but it’s a light dusting compared to the tightly-packed supporting characters first-time screenwriter Frank Baldwin culls from Kim Fupz Aakeson’s original. Director Hans Petter Moland was kind enough to remake his own *In Order of Disappearance* so as to spare Americans the indignity of having to hassle with subtitles. He gifts Neeson with a solidly built, uncharacteristically laugh-laden action/thriller, the best the star’s had to show for himself since the cycle began with *Taken*. Laura Dern’s grieving wife checks out early, leaving

bad guy Tom Bateman ample room to devour the scenery. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (REGAL RANCHO SAN DIEGO; REGAL RANCHO DEL REY; REGAL SAN MARCOS)

**Cold War (Zimna Wojna)** — Dustin Hoffman said it in *Stranger than Fiction*: if you’re in a tragedy, you die; if you’re in a comedy, you get married. Viewers will have to decide for themselves exactly what sort of story they are getting from director and co-writer Pawel Pawlikowski’s handsome, gorgeous, heartbreaking, heart-thumping romance. Handsome: pianist Wiktor (Tomasz Kot) looks like a cross between Clive Owen and Michael Fassbender, Pawlikowski’s precise framing tends to put the subject near the bottom of the screen and let the world open up (or bear down from) above, and the lighting and focus make the principals gleam like diamonds amid coal. Gorgeous: singer Zula (Joanna Kulig) looks like a cross between Jennifer Lawrence and Cate Blanchett, the music that both drives and infuses the story burns with felt life, and the black-and-white image makes the absolute most of Poland’s snowstruck light and Paris’s voluptuous shadows. Heartbreaking: our lovers are beset from within and without; there’s a cold war on, and while they are for each other, they are also still their own. (Zula especially — she is the star Wiktor must follow.) Heart-thumping: the passion on display is of all sorts, a steady flame against the cold. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Enigma** — Interrupted long takes serve as bookends to our story. What appears to be a police interrogation room is in actuality a television studio. It’s been ten years since Nancy’s (Roxana Campos) daughter’s passing, and as many desperate souls are conditioned to do, she turns to TV as a remedy to life’s problems. After being mistaken for another auditioner, the chain-smoking cosmetologist and mother of three steps in for a chance to have her eldest daughter’s brutal murder outside a gay club dramatically re-enacted for millions of viewers. The curtain shot finds

Nancy on set and ready for her close-up (with a little help from her observant sister). For his knockout debut feature, writer-director Ignacio Juricic unspools his family melodrama in long languorous takes, observed from a distance. Privacy is at a premium, and with so many characters living their lives in such small spaces, one is seldom seen alone, even in the bathroom. Without a close-up to be found, Juricic’s image formation ricochets with a kind of depth generally reserved for a beautician’s mirror. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY)

**Everybody Knows (Todos lo saben)** — A power outage during a wedding celebration lasts just long enough for one of the guests (Carla Campa) to be abducted (and later held for ransom) while Paco (Javier Bardem) fetches a generator. Given the paucity of visual information and/or character backstory that’s doled out during the 20 minutes that opens the picture, Iranian writer-director Asghar Farhadi (*A Separation*, *The Salesman*) could just as easily have dispensed with the drawn out nuptials, cut directly to the kidnapping, and the film wouldn’t have suffered a bit. And why make it a whodunit with everybody in the audience knowing precisely where this is going right up until the identity of the kidnappers is revealed, a move that nobody saw coming? Family secrets are revealed, but not enough to keep audiences from nodding off. Strip away the formidable cast (Penelope Cruz, Bardem, and Ricardo Darin aka Latin America’s golden triumvirate), and all that remains is complexly-plotted conventionality. 2018. — 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. ★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

**Five Feet Apart** — Two teens with cystic fibrosis meet in a hospital and fall in love. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

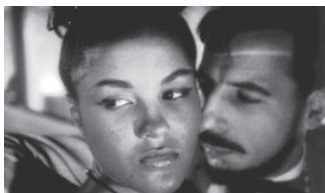
**Free Solo** — Is it strange when the wholehearted pursuit of a singular and spectacular achievement inspires pity and fear more than awe? Jimmy Chin and Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi’s documentary

about rock climber Alex Honnold makes the case that you don’t have to be crazy to climb the 3000-foot sheer granite face of El Capitan without a rope, but it helps to have a certain...detachment from the ordinary human fear of death, and even perhaps the ordinary human love of life. And maybe other people as well. Honnold doesn’t come off as any sort of monster in the face of his devoted girlfriend’s distress at the prospect of his needless demise; the poor man just seems constitutionally unable to share her concern. The real moral struggle is reserved for the people manning the cameras: who wants to wind up putting a friend’s death on film? But man the cameras they do, to breathtaking (breath-holding?) effect. Even if you know the outcome, the film remains a fine character study, painted on an enormous canvas. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LA PALOMA; VINTAGE VILLAGE THEATRE)

**Ghost** — Accurately but laconically named, this beyond-the-grave love story doodles around much too long on being a before-the-grave love story, making sure that the pertinent couple will be seen as nothing less than the Perfect Couple, admirable, enviable, unimprovable. (The thinking seems to be that one of them dying and then hanging around in spirit would be somehow less interesting, or maybe less plausible, if the couple were less than that.) It was not at all necessary, though, to have demonstrated beforehand that the dead man loved his girlfriend. What he does for her after his death — protecting her from his own murderer — would have demonstrated that, not just more economically and trustworthily, but as something of a plot revelation too. (It’s true that the man had had trouble in life saying those Three Magic Words, could only manage to say “Ditto” when the woman would say the words first, but that was just part of his cuteness, his boyishness, his vulnerability, in short his perfectness, and was nothing to have worried about.) This alternative procedure would also have opened the door to other revelations that might have added either to the woman’s grief (“He loved me more than I knew!”) or, more intriguingly, to her guilt (“He loved me more than I loved him!”), if, that is, the filmmakers had been inclined that way. But they are not inclined in very much of any way. They are straight-up and straight-ahead, and they steer clear of dark corners. Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore, Whoopi Goldberg; directed by Jerry Zucker. 1990. — D.S. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

**Giant Little Ones** — An honorable, emotionally attuned drama about a boy who refuses to allow others to determine his sexuality for him. After an evening spent celebrating his 17th birthday, Franky (Josh Wiggins) awakens in the arms of his lifelong friend Ballas (Darren Mann). It’s Ballas who starts the gossip mill churning by outing the encounter to his girlfriend (and thus the entire student body) and assigning blame to Franky. This isn’t your standard coming-of-age melodrama; for a change, the two protagonists are from the popular set, not misfits or nerds. Nor is it a commercial-interrupted Hallmark Movie with an agenda to push. There’s too much sound judgement in writer-director Keith Behrman’s handling of his superb cast for that. The film’s only sour note sounds in the form of unwelcome comic relief. A bad case of penis envy finds Franky’s pal Mouse (Niamh Wilson) proudly packing a strap-on in her shorts. Moments like this are why God created the deleted scenes section of the blu-ray. With Maria Bello and Kyle MacLachlan as the adults. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (AMC MISSION VALLEY, ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

## FILM FESTIVALS



**I Am Cuba: A rare closeup from Mikhail Kalatozov’s stunning tour de camera.**

San Diego Latino Film Festival  
**Soy Cuba (I Am Cuba) (1964)**  
Commie propaganda has never had a champion capable of rising to the cause in a manner as distinctly and visually sumptuous as Mikhail Kalatozov’s (*The Cranes are Flying*). Politically facile? You bet! Sexually on par with Hef’s *Playboy* philosophy? Damn straight! But with images such as this, who has time to contemplate brainwashing and politics, sexual or otherwise? (Set before the revolution, the film is narrated by none other than Cuba herself!) Your eyes may well feel like a pea dropped in a fervently twirled roulette wheel, dancing from one lustroously executed, screen-refracting long take to another, stopping only long enough to reposition the camera. (But one man’s eyeball-poetry is another man’s cataract: my predecessor in these parts, Duncan Shepherd, slammed the black-and-white

cinematography as “seasickness-inducing,” calling it the film’s “main repulsion.”) The Russian-Cuban co-production was made to celebrate the Cuban revolution. Fortunately, Kalatozov didn’t let Soviet agitprop get in the way of his singular artistic vision. A new 4K restoration will be screened. DIGITAL GYM: Saturday, March 16 at 1 pm, AMC FASHION VALLEY; Thursday, March 21 at 6:30 pm.

San Diego Latino Film Festival  
**La Camarista (The Chambermaid) (2018)**  
Anyone who has spent time in the cleaning service industry will find much to identify with in Lila Avilés’ feature film debut. Ditto those who answer life’s calling by combing film festivals for something of quality with which to connect. This contemplative *pellicula* devotes its entire running time to a peculiarly ambitious maid named Eve (Gabriela Cartol). Passive until pushed, Eve has her mind set on earning a promotion to work on the hotel’s stately 42nd floor, with its heavenly views of Mexico City. There’s also a coveted red dress, lost and found on Eve’s watch, that seems to be taking a lot more than the required 30 days to claim before she can call it her own. So much for plot in this overwhelmingly serene character study that, at its heart, covers many of the same issues found in *Roma*, albeit in a less

show-offish fashion. DIGITAL GYM: Sunday, March 17 at 7:20 pm, AMC FASHION VALLEY; Sunday, March 24 at 8:50 pm.

San Diego Latino Film Festival  
**Dos Veces Tú (Two Times You) (2018)**

A pair of devoted cousins (Melissa Barrera and Anahí Dávila), caught up in the excitement (and liquor) associated with a wedding, decide to play a joke on their respective husbands (Mariano Palacios and Daniel Adissi) by swapping wedding rings and driving home in separate cars. How far are they willing to take things? We’ll never know, due to a fatal crash that evokes the “death us do part” clause found in traditional wedding vows, leaving two opposite legs of the table standing. Director and writer Salomón Askenazi’s achronological structure is certain to raise questions, but isn’t that why the risk-takers among us opt for festival viewings over standard multiplex fare? Abandon logic and just go with it. Admittedly, this is one of those instances where you’ll wish there were blu-ray copies on sale in the lobby to instantly revisit to see how in hell Askenazi pulled it off. Better yet, be there when the film screens and ask him. AMC FASHION VALLEY: Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm, DIGITAL GYM: Sunday, March 24 at 2:50 pm.

**Glass** — Perhaps there really is such a thing as a fickle Muse; a spirit of genius that sometimes alights upon the artist like a butterfly upon a leaf, but then, suddenly and inexplicably, flies off again. How else to explain writer-director M. Night Shyamalan's decision to sully two fine films that stood on their own two feet — 2000's *Unbreakable* and 2016's *Split* — by yoking them together and driving them over the cliff that is this talky, balky, treachery mess of a concluding chapter? Both told complete stories about extraordinary characters: a criminal genius who is willing to slaughter innocents in his quest to give meaning to his suffering, and an abused man-child who has decided that not only does his suffering have meaning, it makes him superhuman. There was no need for a third chapter, and as it turns out, there wasn't much material for one, either. Or even much will — or so it seems from the sloppy storytelling and tired twists. There are a few thoughtfully placed cameras and thrilling moments — Bruce Willis vs. a door, for one — but they're not nearly enough to make this self-conscious live-action comic book worthwhile. With James MacEvoy, Samuel L. Jackson, and Sarah Paulson. 2018. — M.L. ● (AMC MISSION VALLEY; REGAL OCEANSIDE; REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA)

**Gone with the Wind** — The most beloved movie ever made from a book by Margaret Mitchell, covering the fate of the Old South from ante-bellum days to post-bellum days. *Birth of a Nation* it is not. Southern belles flirt with their beaus, a pregnant lady tumbles down a flight of stairs, Atlanta burns, a wounded war hero limps back to the plantation, etc. To borrow an apt remark from the ruby lips of Scarlett O'Hara: "Fiddle-dee-dee." With Vivien Leigh, Clark Gable, Leslie Howard, Olivia De Havilland, and Thomas Mitchell; directed by Victor Fleming. 1939. — D.S. ★★ (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 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)

**Greta** — A young waitress is stalked by a woman whose purse she finds on the subway. At the time of its release, Neil Jordan's *The Crying Game* was the only suspense film to come out in the wake of Alfred Hitchcock's passing that owed nothing to the Master. In the past decade, Jordan's theatrical output has been reduced to a pair of hundred-proof pictures, the mermaid romance *Ondine* and the fantasy horror film *Byzantium*. It's not his nadir — that dishonor goes to *The Brave One*, Jodie Foster's stab at a Charles Bronson revenge pic — but *Greta* comes close. "Where are the candles?" the clueless waitperson played by Chloë Grace Moretz asks her foreordained captor (Isabelle Huppert). Hmm... they wouldn't happen to be *in the drawer directly above a pile of incriminating evidence!*!! One



**Climax: Gasp! It's the latest provocation from Gaspar Noé!**

expects this type of haphazard plotting from Michael Bay, not Jordan. Be sure to wear a watch. It will give you something to look at. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World** — File under: if it ain't broke don't fix it. Or rather, if what's broke doesn't bother the audience, for heaven's sake, leave it alone. In installments one and two of the saga of scrawny/savvy Viking Hiccup and his beloved dragon Toothless, there was a requisite Enemy to serve as the occasion for a big ol' final battle wherein the titular dragons got to do their dragon stuff. But the real story was always cross-cultural relations: breaking down the Us/Them divide between species through understanding, communication, and cooperation. And in the process, restoring the breaches among our own kind. And learning a little something about love and life. (Who knew Vikings were such a sweet and sentimental bunch?) In the spirit of consistency, the same holds true here as well, as the Boy and His Fire-Breathing Dog discover that childhood inter-species friendships can get complicated when girls arrive on the scene. The problem — for those who aren't entirely caught up in the sweet, goofy antics of lovelorn people and dragons alike — is that this time, writer-director Dean DeBlois comes within a spiky hair's breadth of creating a really compelling villain, Grimmel the Dragon Hunter. (And in F. Murray Abraham, he has a thoroughly compelling voice for him.) Grimmel is an old-fashioned monster, happy to use the power of enslaved dragons in his efforts to track and kill the free variety. (He's terrific when he's doing it for the sheer thrill of the hunt; less so when he's nattering on about how human-dragon equality is dangerous to civilization as we know it.) DeBlois struggles mightily to connect the resolution of one storyline to the resolution of the other, and it proves to be an overwhelming task. Still, it's a painless watch, with plenty of visual oohs and emotional aahs, and will surely leave fans happy. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (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. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

**The LEGO Movie 2: The Second Part** — The sequel begins right where the first part left off: with Dad's casual bombshell that if his son can play in the basement LEGO paradise, then so can the son's younger sister. Cue the arrival of the adorable Duplo destructors, and hello, new central conflict! You might even say that *The Second Part* connects to the first as snugly as, oh I don't know, a LEGO brick! Ha ha? But the conflict here — play with your sister, son, lest all the LEGOs suffer Armomageddon and disappear into the Bin of Storage (pronounced store-AJ) — just isn't that compelling. There's a lot of talk about how growing up can interfere with the essential sweetness that makes such sibling cooperation possible — at one point, a character actually goes so far as to say that the action is just an expression of the death of the imagination in the subconscious of an adolescent — but the fact remains that the kid in question is still imaginative enough to play with LEGOs, so...what's the problem, exactly? Never mind, here's a half-baked song about Batman and romance to take the kids' mind off things! And for the adults in the room, we've got time travel as a major plot point, so let's throw in a *Back to the Future* reference! It won't matter if the kids don't get it, as long as we make explicit acknowledgment that the kids don't get it in the film itself! Because you can never get too meta! Oh, wait. Exhausting, and exhausted. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**More Than Blue** — "Something inside me is about to act up the cancer cells," K's (Jasper Liu) rather janky subtitles proclaim. (In case you missed it, a CG fog occasionally appears as a lumbering har-

binger of deteriorating health.) K's death sentence is determined at a kill-or-cure point early on in writer-director Gavin Lin's hugely romantic Taiwanese tearjerker. By then, we've spent 20 minutes bonding with K and Cream (Ivy Yi-Han Chen) his equally family-deprived — she orphaned, he abandoned — roommate, BFF, and terminally platonic high school sweetheart. K keeps his illness a secret, wanting to spare Cream as much grief as possible, even going so far as to arrange for a suitable replacement suitor. To the viewer's likely dumbfoundment, instead of plunging headlong into maudlinity, a potent touch of all-knowing third act ingenuity spins the relationship dynamics in an unexpectedly refreshing direction. There comes a time in what passes for melodrama nowadays when audiences must decide whether to surrender snickers or sniffles. At one point, I barely hit pause just long enough to fetch a cube of double-strength Puffs 2018. — S.M. ★★ (AMC LA JOLLA)

**Revolver Mind (Mente Revolver)** — The discovery of a handgun in a Hollywood Boulevard garbage can leads a semi-lucid homeless woman (Bella Merlin) to Tijuana, where she embarks on a semi-lucrative career as a drug mule. After a grocery store shootout brands a security cop (Hozé Meléndez) a hero, the mob hires him as an enforcer. Fresh off a stretch in the pokey, a sadistic drifter (Baltimore Beltran) chooses to set aside his pastime of torturing women just long enough to contemplate life as a political assassin. Three diverse characters circling the drain, gradually drawn together by forces of logic and narrative wizardry; a structural device that when, properly executed, can be an occasion for what Andrew Sarris called "the most discerning worship". This one comes damn close, until a brace of third act contrivances leaves *Revolver* broken-hammered. Written and directed by Alejandro Ramirez Corona. 2017. — S.M. ★★ (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 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)

**The Invisibles (Die Unsichtbaren - Wir wollen leben)** — Review forthcoming at [sandiegoreader.com](http://sandiegoreader.com). (LAND-MARK KEN)

**The Wedding Guest** — Reviewed this issue. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (ANGE-LIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

**Woman at War (Kona fer í stría)** — For filmmaker Benedikt Erlingsson, it was just as easy to put an entertaining spin on this radical yarn about a female eco-terrorist as it would have been to follow a more traditional, message-laden path. (The first word spoken here is "Woman," and it's the name of a dog.) Whether you're on the side of science or skepticism, everyone could do with a corking-good thriller now and then. For this, his second feature, Erlingsson poses the musical question, "Can a successful eco-terrorist/choral director looking to adopt a four-year-old who has been orphaned by war also sideline as a yoga instructor?" That's just one of many moral dilemmas posed in this regularly unpredictable Icelandic thriller. And I say musical because Halla's (Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir) crusade to win the war waged against the earth comes complete with a band of on-camera singers and musicians that only she can see. In case you haven't guessed, this is one of those rare films in which strangeness is a virtue, not a pretense. Anything more would come steeped in spoilers. Consider it a terrific excuse to visit the Ken. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (LAND-MARK KEN)

**Wonder Park** — We open on a potentially life-threatening children's amusement park overseen by a porcupine, a giant blue bear, and various forms of toothy rodentia. For ten minutes, I was along for the ride, right up until the moment little June converted the family home into a disastrous theme park ride. After that, the fantasy universe built by mother and daughter comes crashing to a halt when mom is carted off to the ICU. SPOILER ALERT: It ends with dad asking June to answer the door. On the other side stands the same mother who four reels ago was pretty much hung out to dry. WTF is dad doing inside the house? What kind of husband doesn't escort his suddenly cancer-free wife home from the hospital? That's just one of the questions your kids will bounce off your eardrums on the ride home. More observant voices in the back seat might remark, "Did the designer of Candy Crush Saga have a hand in this?" 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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## TUNE-UP & OIL CHANGE

- Drain and replace up to 4 quarts of oil
- New oil filter
- New spark plugs
- Visual inspection
- 4-cyl. Most cars

**\$54<sup>95</sup>**

+ \$5 hazardous materials fee  
Prices may vary depending on make & model.

## CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

Most cars

**\$34<sup>95</sup>**



## ALIGNMENT

4 wheel, toe adjustment only, most cars.

**\$39**

**New location**  
1616 Precision Park Lane San Diego, 92173

## AC SERVICE

**\$29**

Most cars, freon extra

12,000 mile, 1 year warranty

# GENERAL AUTO REPAIR

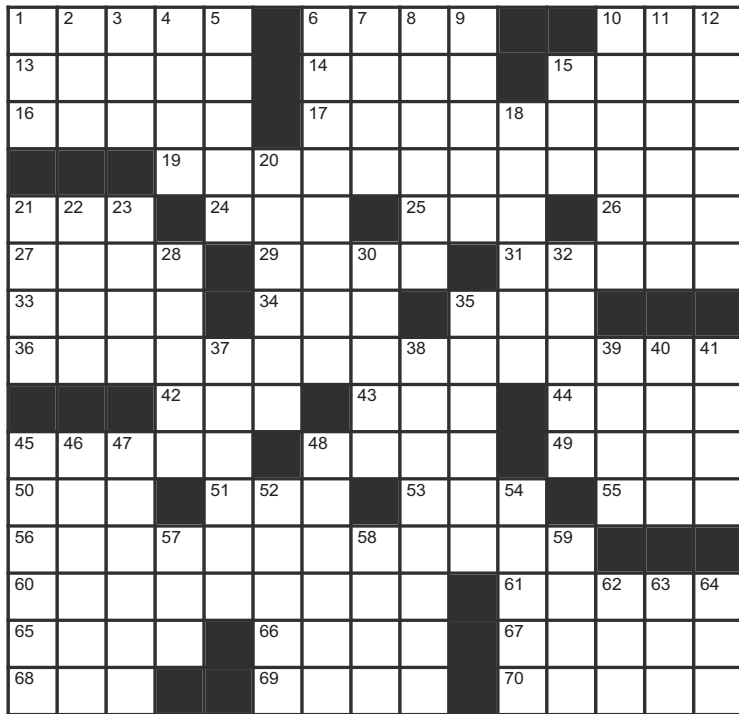
1616 Precision Park Lane San Diego, 92173 • (619) 430-4369

Just off the 905 freeway • Se habla español

Must present ad prior to service. Expires 4-15-19



# CROSSWORD



© 2018 DAVID LEVINSON WILK

## Across

1. Enliven
6. Hwy. crossings
10. Letters on a lotion bottle
13. Prized Italian instrument
14. "No way, José"
15. Lip-puckering
16. John Wayne or Johnny Carson, by birth
17. Hall & Oates' first Top 10 hit
19. \*2008 film derived from Dr. Seuss
21. \*Self-reflective question
24. "\_\_\_ Carter III" (Lil Wayne 3x platinum album)
25. Mao \_\_\_-tung
26. "Yikes!"
27. Lansing's home: Abbr.
29. \_\_\_ buco
31. \*Question while covering someone's eyes
33. Prime draft pick
34. Circus safety feature
35. Mo. when the NFL season starts
36. \*Opening line of a classic nursery rhyme before "I, said the Sparrow, with my bow and arrow"
42. A.L. West team, on scoreboards
43. Obsession of el rey Midas
44. Asking too many questions
45. \*"So?"
48. Mt. Rushmore's state: Abbr.
49. Grub
50. \_\_\_ Kosh B'Gosh

51. Name on Chinese restaurant menus
53. "Park it"
55. \*Preceder of Jefferson Airplane at Woodstock
56. Sentry's query ... or a hint to understanding why answers to the starred clues seem to go off the grid
60. Fruity dessert
61. They turn litmus paper red
65. Had too much, briefly
66. Basher \_\_\_ (Don Cheadle's "Ocean's Eleven" role)
67. Dogs with dark tongues
68. "Absolutely"
69. Wordsworth works
70. Query at the start of a poker game

## Down

1. Moo goo \_\_\_ pan
2. "Methinks," in texts
3. Opposite of "Yep!"
4. Senator Romney's state beginning in 2019
5. \_\_\_ grigio
6. "Hold your horses!"
7. Elaine \_\_\_, cabinet member for both Bush and Trump
8. Ask, as for assistance
9. Figures in Iranian history
10. Swank affair
11. They're checked for life
12. Loses it, with "out"

15. Little, in Lockerbie
18. Pete who co-wrote "If I Had a Hammer"
20. Title woman in a Beach Boys hit
21. One way to run
22. Bite-size, say
23. Reykjavik's land: Abbr.
28. Berry that's photographed a lot?
30. Wasn't overturned
32. Barely ahead, scorewise
35. Chicago suburb
37. Sheena who sang "U Got the Look" with Prince
38. "Wedding \_\_\_" (2005 comedy)
39. Gravy holder
40. Panama, e.g.: Abbr.
41. Home of "the bell," briefly
45. Troy Aikman, e.g.
46. Slightly
47. Some French wines
48. Brillo alternative
52. "From \_\_\_ shining ..." ("America the Beautiful" lyric)
54. "Dick \_\_\_"
57. Travel (about)
58. Firestone product
59. Canyon effect
62. Debt note
63. Result of a failed Breathalyzer test, for short
64. 123-45-6789, on a sample doc.

### RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results are posted online each week to [SDReader.com/puzzle](http://SDReader.com/puzzle). But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
- 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to [puzzles@sdreader.com](mailto:puzzles@sdreader.com). Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.

And now for the really small print:

- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
- 2) Late entries will not be considered.
- 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle winners.
- 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

C	O	C	K	T	R	A	S	H	D	O	I	T	
A	M	O	I	A	O	R	T	A	A	N	N	O	
T	A	P	D	A	N	C	I	N	G	B	L	A	S
C	R	Y	N	I	K	A	B	Y	S	S			
H	O	C	T	A	Y	L	O	R	D	A	Y	N	E
E	S	A	S	V	A	D	E	R	O	A	R		
R	A	T	E	D	G	S	I	N	E	U	P	S	
M	T	S	B	O	R	G	S	M	O	L	T	Z	
R	E	O	S	W	A	N	S	M	A	R	Y		
T	A	I	W	A	N	D	A	I	L	Y	S	O	P
I	T	H	O	T	N	E	E	C	T	R			
B	R	E	W	T	A	R	G	E	T	D	A	T	E
B	E	A	M	A	D	D	E	D	A	L	E	X	
S	E	R	E	T	S	A	R	S	T	A	D	A	

### SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: [www.SDReader.com/puzzle](http://www.SDReader.com/puzzle). The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

### THIS WEEK'S 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.

☛ **Andrew Williams, San Diego, 7.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

# SUDOKU

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

### EVIL:

6			8					
	7		1					6
	1	3					4	
	6		7					3
5		2					1	9
9					1			2
		8				9	5	
	5				4		1	
					7			2

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

### SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

### EVIL:

9	7	4	8	1	5	3	6	2
8	1	3	2	6	9	4	5	7
2	6	5	7	3	4	8	9	1
6	4	8	1	2	7	5	3	9
1	5	7	3	9	8	2	4	6
3	2	9	4	5	6	7	1	8
7	9	1	5	4	2	6	8	3
5	3	2	6	8	1	9	7	4
4	8	6	9	7	3	1	2	5

### THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

☛ **Alan Reid, San Diego, 2.**

iTunes, Amazon, Xlibris and Barnesandnoble.com!!

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS.** Is food a problem? Binge or purge? No dues or fees. Contact Overeaters Anonymous: 619-521-2538. www.OASandiego.org.

**PANORAMA SAN MARCOS** Have a cause? Need a Venue? Panorama is there to help you reach your goals! Visit the link https://www.panoramasanmarcos.com/

**PEN PALS WANTED** Older man, currently hospitalized, no internet desires pen pals. Write to Dave Dimino 3102 East Highland Ave #21 Patton, CA 92369

**PRP INJECTIONS** PRP injections for tendon/joint problems. \$500 each injection (Limit 2). (858) 678-0455 for more info. Licensed professional.

**PUBLIC VEHICLE AUCTION** Saturdays starting at 9am. Cars, Trucks, Vans, Motorcycle and more. www.OtayAutoAuctions.com

**READER TACOTOPIA 2019** Join the San Diego Reader in our continued search to find the best taco at the 5th Annual Reader Tacotopia in Golden Hill Park on Saturday, May 11th, 2019. Try signature tacos from more than 60 of the best restaurants in San Diego, TX 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. I ReaderTacotopia.com

**STAGED READING** For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enough. Lyceum Theatre March 19 and 20 7pm Tickets \$25-30

**TEMECULA BLUEGRASS FEST** Coming this April 12,13,14th Temecula Valley Bluegrass Festival is a nonprofit fundraising event see temeculabluegrass.com

## PERSONALS

**DO CELEBRATE THE RESURRECTION!** Happy Easter to my nephew Devon, love Aunt Jennifer.

**LOOKING FOR NEAL** Looking for artist, Neal. Lived in Pacific Beach, small house, alley between Thomas and Reed, 1977. Thank you. Ann 619-917-6975.

**LOOKING FOR RAYMOND LEE** Ray Lee Ehr I miss and love

you so much! Please call Diane (619)403-4054. You are the love of my life.

**GOLF PARTNER WANTED W/ CAR** Looking for someone to play Mission Bay golf course with. Weekdays, beginner OK 858-272-5992 Live nearby, Ride needed

## CLASSES/ LESSONS

**Small College, BIG DREAMS!**  
**(888) 805-6192**  
California College San Diego

**AFFORDABLE PRIVATE YOGA** Interested in starting or deepening your practice 1:1 or

a small group? I specialize in gentle Yoga and Yoga Therapy for all. aennelies@gmail.com

**ANXIETY, WORRY, FEARS?** Learn the Self-Help method that really Helps: Recovery International. www.recoveryinternational.org, 619.383.2084

**PERSONAL TRAINING** The Coach Ry Experience: Specializing in weight loss, strength/athletic performance, corrective exercise & mobility. No case too complex. Clientele ranging from adolescents to geriatrics. Call/text 619-363-1276 or visit TheCoachRy.com for more info

**PLAY PIANO** the way you want to! Pop, classical, jazz, blues, improvise. FREE lesson/ interview. Over 40 years' experience teaching and performing. E-mail: Lee@LeeGalloway.com or call: 619-281-8118. See www.LeeGalloway.com.

**TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES,** Health and Tranquility. First class is free. Taoist Sanctuary of San

Diego, 619-692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

**THEOLOGY AND BIBLE TUTOR** Tutoring available for those learning or desiring to learn about Theology and Bible. 858)204-2378. brummelm@live.com

## MUSIC

**BASS GUITAR FOR SALE** Signature brand with a pre-amplifier. \$1,100 Call Craig (619)980-6008

**DRUMMER NEEDED** for Alternative 80s cover band. Must be dedicated, no drugs or drama, no egos. Todd: 303-845-2587

**LADIES BARBERSHOP SINGERS** Come sing 4-part harmony with us. All ages. Meet Mondays 7-9pm in La Mesa. Fun performances throughout SD. (619)449-7107.

**O'HAGAN BASS GUITAR** 1980's black bass guitar. \$1,200 call Craig (619)980-6008

**SUPPORT LOCAL MUSIC** Kings Day Recording Artist,

**KENOSIZM** debut album American Apocalypse out now on iTunes and Spotify! Every stream, every download, is greatly appreciated.

**VIOLIST NEEDED** Unique string quartet seeks violist. Medieval to Classical arrangements. Currently non-paying. Rehearsals in Lakeside. ravenwoodhorse@gmail.com

**WANTED** Blues Rock Slide Guitarist. I am a singer/songwriter who has written 2,000 songs. memworldcalifornia@msn.com.

**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.

**BASS GUITAR, \$1200** 1980s black O'Hagan bass guitar, \$1200. Contact Craig, 619-980-6008.

## WANTED/TRADE

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES** Rock & Roll I buy 1950's-1980's Concert Posters, Flyers, Handbills, Used-Unused Tickets, Programs. Pls Call (619)522-0283 Private Party.

**FISHING TACKLE** Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & Misc. by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. Call or text pictures to: 619-972-3488/

**STEREO GEAR/ LP RECORDS.** Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Pre-recorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

**WANTED** Homeless guy needs running truck/van. It's cold at night and I can sure use and appreciate it. Thank you. Alex (619)451-4881

## AUTOMOTIVE

**WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL** **\$21<sup>75</sup>\***  
Includes 12oz R134 Freon, check system and test for leaks. + \$8.25 cert

Smog Test or STAR Certified All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through March 31, 2019.

**STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41<sup>75</sup>**  
+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice. Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.

<b>OIL CHANGE &amp; OIL FILTER</b> from <b>\$24<sup>95</sup></b> Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.	<b>FREE BRAKE INSPECTION &amp; ESTIMATE</b> (both locations)	<b>ENGINE STEAM CLEAN</b> <b>\$69<sup>95</sup></b> Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.	<b>30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL</b> from <b>\$179<sup>95</sup></b> 4-cyl. Most vehicles. Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension
<b>NEW CV AXLE</b> from <b>\$159<sup>95</sup></b> Parts & Labor		<b>TIMING BELT SPECIAL</b> <b>\$50 off quoted price</b> Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.	

**STAR SAN DIEGO SMOG & AUTO REPAIR CENTER** **2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU** **CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE**

4664 Park Blvd. (at Adams Ave.) 4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe)  
619-543-4828 • Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-3:30 pm 619-297-4204 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm  
www.sdsmogandrepair.com www.cliffbrownautomotive.com

Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.

**OIL CHANGE \$14<sup>95</sup>**  
Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl.

**SMOG CHECK \$11<sup>75</sup>**  
Sedan only. NON STAR Smog inspection for 2000 & up only. SUV and Trucks extra. + \$8.25 cert + \$15 DMV transfer fee

**BRAKES** from **\$49**  
Front or rear. Most cars. \*Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.

**30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services** **\$65**  
most cars. \*Prices may vary depending on make and model.

**RADIATOR or Transmission Services** **\$45**  
most cars. 4 cyl. \*Prices may vary depending on make and model.

**TIMING BELT Parts & Labor** **\$75**  
most cars. 4 cyl. \*Prices may vary depending on make and model.

**STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS** **\$95**  
Plus labor. most cars. 4 cyl. 96 and up.

**FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT**

*We'll beat any written estimate!*

**B.T. Auto Wrench**  
Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary!  
**8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C**  
**1-858-565-4634**

**BEST PRICE IN TOWN!**  
**SMOG CHECK \$11<sup>75</sup>**  
Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up. + \$8.25 Cert.

**BRAKES** from **\$50** (FREE Shuttle Service w/ repair)  
Front or rear. Most cars. + Labor

**OIL CHANGE & FILTER \$13<sup>95</sup>**  
Up to 5 qts, new filter, 10 point checkout. +\$1.00 Waste Fee.

**TIMING BELT \$75**  
Starting price, Labor + Parts.

**COMPUTER DIAGNOSIS** **\$30**  
Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...

**AXLE SPECIAL \$99**  
Includes Parts & Labor

**MUFFLER** from **\$29**  
+ Labor

**PREMIUM SHOCKS \$70**  
Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair

**PREMIUM STRUTS \$130**  
Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair

**STARTERS OR ALTERNATOR \$95**  
From + Labor

\*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition  
\*Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing

**Brandon Auto**  
6670 Miramar Rd. # C  
San Diego, CA 92121-2559  
**858-452-9999**

**Oil Change Service**  
from **\$17<sup>95</sup>**

\*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 \$22.95**  
\*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.

**Smog Check**  
**\$10 Off**

\*Cars, light truck and Diesel. (Plus \$8.25 for certificate)  
\*Motorhome & full size Van: See manager.

**Brake Service \$30 Off**  
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  
Labor only. \$50 maximum limit.

**2 Wheel Alignment**  
**\$69<sup>95</sup>**

\*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.

**Precision Tune Auto Care** **OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**  
For more specials visit: Precisiontune.com  
**Shuttle Service Available**

**El Cajon**   
**24/24 WARRANTY**  
12 MONTHS 12,000 MILES

**1191 East Main St.**  
**619-308-6164**  
Mon-Fri 8am-6pm  
Sat 8am-5pm • Sun 8am-4pm

Discounts off regular price. At participating location. Not valid with other offers. Other restrictions may apply. See manager for details. Coupons must be presented at time of service. Not valid with any other offer or discount or for prior service. All coupons expire 4/11/19.

San Diego Reader March 14, 2019 73

**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.

**WILL PAY CASH....** For Records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional Singing Lessons available. Musicians Wanted. Call Jeff Clark, 858-382-7396.

## GARAGE SALES

**COMMUNITY TAG SALE**  
Sunday April 7, 9am - 1pm.  
Trolley Barn Park - University Heights. Register for a space to sell your used stuff. <https://www.uhsd.org/tag-sale-2>  
Hundreds of shoppers in one place!

**GARAGE SALE** New & gently-used Merchandise; Small kitchen appliances, antiques,

art, pictures, books, clothing & accessories, holiday decor, housewares-dishes/pots/pans, jewelry, linens/bedding/blankets, toys, & more. 619 416 7567.

## FOR SALE

**27" TV, \$5** 27" color TV with remote. Older Model, works good. \$5. 619-448-1910

**5 QT SLOW COOKER \$30**  
Like New Bella slow cooker. 858-552-8281

**ANTIQUA FURNITURE SALE**  
**RD** Please go online to: <https://youtu.be/Vg8HdtfCCNw> for a slide show of most of the furniture available then call (619)630-5743

**BIKES FOR SALE** Gary Fischer Concept 27 speed MTN bike \$100.00; Giant Defy 24 Speed Road Bike \$100.00. Both Great Condition ready to ride. eddm@dcox.net

**COACHELLA WEEKEND TWO**  
Two wristbands and two shuttle passes \$1008. Text only please. 619-806-2097.

**CONTINENTAL FREEZER**  
Upright, 5 x 3. No key, 5 shelves, good working condition. \$100

**COUCH, DESK, SEASHELLS**  
Good condition oversized chair with couch, maroon and gold, very stylish, \$300; Desk, bamboo-like finish, \$40; Gobbs of beautiful seashells, negotiable. Tony 801-358-4545

**DINING SET, VINTAGE 7 PCS**  
Solid wood French Provincial dining set. 6 chairs, 2 drop in leaves, table pads. Seats 10 - 12, \$750. txt 858 229 9981

**DOUBLE BED \$100** Double bed stand with like-new mattress. 858-552-9281

**FAX MACHINE \$50** Panasonic Digital Fax machine. Works perfectly. 858-552-9281

**FENDER SUPERSONIC 22 AMP**  
Fender Super Sonic 22 guitar amp barley used. \$700 or best offer. Text (619)301-5160

**FORMAL DINING SET \$600**  
Glass and Chrome Dining set with 8 matching upholstered chairs. Like new. Beveled Glass Top 84x42 858-552-9281

**GLASS COFFEE TABLE \$150**  
Glass top with metal legs. top has no scratches. 858-552-9281

**HOBART H600 DOUGH MIXER** 3 phase, 1-1/2HP motor, 4 speeds, 60 quart mixer bowl, includes dough hook, flatbeater, wisk, excellent \$5,900. (760)746-7209

**HOME MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**  
**RD** Various equipment and accessories for sale, all must be sold, go online to <https://youtu.be/62lo3SkJMLE> then call (619)630-5743

**HONDA FIT HITCH BIKE RACK**  
For 07, 08, bolt-on under bumper 1 1/4" receiver hitch and bike rack, holds two bikes securely or trailer \$100 858-272-5992

**HOT PLATE, 1500W CUSIMAX**  
Stainless steel top/housing, induction burner, used once, exc. condition. Amazon price \$28, asking \$14. PB, Call 971-258-9491

**KASHMIRI SILK RUG \$150**  
Bought in Gov't store in New Delhi 11ft by 20 in. Slightly soiled 858-552-9281

**KITCHENWARE, CLOTHING**  
Corning kitchenware; Ladies dress pants and jeans, tagged, never worn, new, high-end brands, sizes 12-18. Call for colors & details. 619-282-5105.

**LARGE BEDROOM MIRROR**  
Beautiful oval dresser mirror with base or use attached hanger wire. 43" x 53" wide quality mirror. Excellent condition \$30 858-272-5992

**LOVE SEAT \$200** Beautiful small sofa, seats two.

Re-covered in 2017. Excellent condition 858-552-9281

**MEAT GRINDER \$30** Hamilton Beach meat grinder. Make ur own hamburger and sausage. works like new. 858-552-9281

**MINI PHALS (ORCHIDS)** Both healthy, in beautiful planters, 1 in bud. \$6 and \$12. 619-588-2467.

**MISCELLANEOUS SPORTS PRODUCTS** In storage. Have sunglasses, banners, plaques, and other items. Too much to mention. Nick (619)322-5476

**NEW COMPUTER DESK**  
with pull out shelf. On rollers. Never used. \$45.00 loveycats9317@gmail.com

**OLD SCHOOL 35MM CAMERA**  
Canon FTB body, FD 50mm lens, FD 35-70mm zoom lens, Sunlite Pro electronic flash, tripod, & filters. \$125. 619-201-3547

**PATIO SET \$500** Table with Umbrella and 6 arm and 2 swivel chairs. Chairs re-covered in 2018. 858-552-9281

**SLOW COOKER CUISINART**  
**\$25** 3 1/2 quart slow cooker in excellent condition. 858-552-9281

**SOLAR PANEL GROUND MOUNT** Universal mount holds 10 large panels, used when roofs aren't suitable for installing panels excellent \$2,600. (760)746-7209

**TEAK DINING SET \$300**  
Danish Teak table with 6 non-teak chairs. Top of table needs re-do chairs re-done in 2017. in excellent shape. 858-552-9281

**THREE SURFBOARDS** All 6'6". All shaped by Stu Kenyon. Starting at \$100. 619-800-7409

**TOTAL GYM EXERCISER** No rust, pulleys and wheels operate smoothly. No rips in seat. Call (760)634-2497 leave your phone number for a call back. \$75 OBO

**TRESTLE TABLE \$80** Wooden table light color with 3 drawers. Excellent condition 858-552-9281

## AUTOMOTIVE

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4WD, dual AC, 233k miles, runs good, smogged, regis., needs some work. \$1650 obo. See to appreciate. 619-596-8112

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Business Agreements and Investments



Questions about  
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[edward@ewickerlaw.com](mailto:edward@ewickerlaw.com)

License # A10-18-0000340-TEMP

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**NEW CUSTOMERS:**  
Spend \$50 get an 1/8th for a penny.  
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Spend \$60 get \$10 store credit.  
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**MUST BRING IN THE AD TO REDEEM THE OFFERS**

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San Diego, CA 92121  
(858) 264-1871

[MANKINDCANNABIS.COM](http://MANKINDCANNABIS.COM)



# \$100 prize to our favorite classified ads

This week's winning ad:

**OPTIMISM** Climate change is melting the ice caps, but maybe now we'll get to see if penguins have knees.

## Free classified ads in the Reader

**Business Ads \$5:** if you are charging for goods and services on a regular basis.

Text your ad to 619-272-2772, call 619-450-4293,  
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 Deal good 3/20 - till supplies last



**619-206-5274**  
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**25% OFF**  
 FIRST TIME PATIENTS

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 ALL DAY EVERYDAY

**\$29**  
 VAPE + BATTERY KIT

**\$17 3.5g**  
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# FIRST-TIME PATIENTS GET FREE GRAM!

With any donation. Must mention ad.

Top Organic \$5 g

Dank Shell \$7 g

Platinum Stash \$9 g

Secret Stash \$12 g

Exotic Wax \$25 g



3g for \$20

Select strains



STIIZY

0.5g \$20

1g \$40

EXOTIC CARTS

1g \$20

Exotic Crumble \$25 g



TWISTED XTRACTS CARTRIDGES

\$20

Plume Vapes

\$35 750mg

KINGPEN \$30 BRASS KNUCKLES

SUGAR STONED EDIBLES BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

SmartPods for Juul \$30

PUNCHIES \$10 150 mg

Agua de Flor

\$13 110mg



or 2 for \$25

Twisted Moonrock \$10

GREEN HORNET \$15

Call Plug \$15 0.5G

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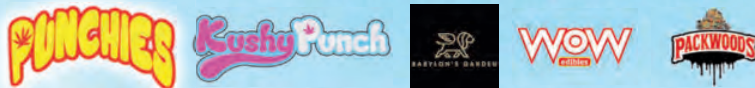
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Best weed in town and the  
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<b>\$9</b> HYDRO	<b>\$5</b> TOP SHELF	<b>\$10</b> EXOTIC
<b>\$30</b> BRASS KNUCKLES	<b>\$30</b> KINGPEN	<b>\$20</b> EXOTIC CARTS
<b>\$20</b> 3G FOR SELECTED STRAINS	<b>\$20</b> 0.5G <b>\$40</b> 1G STIIZY	<b>\$40</b> ALPINE (1G VAPES)
<b>\$30</b> CONNECTED	<b>\$25</b> Exotic Shatter <b>\$25</b> Exotic Crumble <b>SHATTER AND CRUMBLE</b>	<b>\$15</b> OR 2 FOR <b>\$25</b> GOLDEN STATE Topicals & Tinctures - Prices Vary
		<b>1 FREE</b> SUGAR STONED BUY 1 GET 1 FREE



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COUPON MUST BE PRESENT. CANNOT BE COMBINED. WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

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GET 3.5G OF ROSÉ  
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**GET 3 PAX PODS  
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<p><b>TOP SHELF</b> Many different flavors! <b>\$5</b>/GRAM - <b>\$65</b> 1/2-OZ - <b>\$120</b> OZ</p>	<p><b>PRIVATE RESERVE</b> Best flower in the store! <b>\$10</b>/GRAM - <b>\$120</b> 1/2-OZ - <b>\$230</b> OZ</p>	<p><b>SHATTER OR CRUMBLE:</b> 1G <b>\$20</b> 2G <b>\$35</b> 3G <b>\$55</b> 6G <b>\$100</b></p>
<p><b>\$65/\$80/\$100</b> OZ SPECIALS</p>	<p><b>SHATTER</b> <b>\$15</b>/GRAM</p>	<p><b>TWISTED MOONROCK</b> 3 FOR <b>\$25</b> PRE-ROLLS</p>
<p><b>20/20 FUTURE VAPES</b> <b>\$40</b></p>	<p><b>TWISTED VAPES</b> <b>\$20</b> (1G)</p>	<p><b>BABYLON GUMMIES &amp; ENJOYABLE BROWNIES</b> (1000MG) <b>\$35</b></p>
<p><b>UPLIFTED VAPES</b> <b>\$35</b></p>	<p><b>GOLANI PRE-ROLLS</b> <b>\$10</b></p>	<p>Select Strains 7G <b>\$20</b></p>
<p><b>\$15</b> or 2 for <b>\$25</b></p>	<p><b>HOUSE VAPES</b> <b>\$25</b> (1G, Over 90% THC!)</p>	<p><b>20/20 VAPES</b> <b>\$40</b></p>

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<b>TOP-SHELF</b> <b>\$5/GRAM</b> Any patient, no limit!	<b>V.I.P. \$10/GRAM</b> Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!	<b>7 GRAMS \$50</b> Choose from 25 different strains!
<b>WAX \$5/GRAM</b>	<b>ALPINE VAPES \$25</b> Limit 1 per patient.	<b>DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES \$25</b> Full Gram for
<b>\$10</b> Any patient, limit 3.	<b>STARTER KIT + 1G VAPE \$70</b> Limit 1 per customer.	<b>3 FOR \$100</b> <b>PRE-ROLLS \$15</b>
<b>\$15/GRAM</b> Limited time only! Limit per patient.	<b>JOINTS \$15</b> Starting at	<b>ALIEN CARTS \$25</b> <b>JEFF SESSIONS \$30</b> CARTS
<b>Starting at \$30</b>	<b>Starting at \$15</b> 150mg-100mg edible	<b>\$15</b>
<b>OZs: \$25/\$60 \$75/\$90/\$100</b>	<b>5 PRE-ROLLS \$10</b>	<b>\$15</b>
<b>GUMMIES \$15</b> (100mg)	<b>SHATTER &amp; CRUMBLE \$20</b> Select strains.	<b>10 GRAMS OF SHATTER \$100</b>
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While supplies last.

PRIVATE RESERVE **\$10/GRAM** OR **\$120 1/2-OZ** OR **\$230 OZ**

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Many different flavors! **\$5/GRAM** OR **\$65 1/2-OZ** OR **\$120 OZ**

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CRUMBLE: **\$15/g**

OZ  
SPECIALS  
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TWISTED  
MOONROCK  
PRE-ROLLS  
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TWISTED  
VAPES  
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GUMMIES  
**\$35 (1000mg)**

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VAPES  
**\$35**

GOLANI  
PRE-ROLLS  
**\$10**

SELECT  
STRAINS  
**7G \$20**

**\$15** or  
2 for **\$25**

SHATTER OR  
CRUMBLE  
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**\$30**

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**FREE 2 GRAMS OF FLOWER +  
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Valid for any first-time customer with min. \$10 purchase. Must present ad.

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TOP-SHELF **\$5/GRAM**  
Any patient, no limit!

PRIVATE RESERVE  
**\$8/GRAM**  
Any patient, no limit!

V.I.P. **\$10/GRAM**  
Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!

**JOINTS**  
Starting at **\$15**

JEFF SESSIONS CART **\$30**

**\$10** Any patient,  
limit 3.

**KNOCKOUT** PRE-ROLLS **\$15**  
Limited time only! Limit per patient.

10 GRAMS OF  
SHATTER **\$100**

BRASS  
KNUCKLES **\$25**

**MOONROCK** **\$15/Gram**  
Limited time only! Limit per patient.

BRASS CARTRIDGES **\$7**

ALIEN CARTS **\$25**

Starting at **\$30**

Starting at **\$15**

OZs Starting at **\$25**

DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES  
**\$25 (1G VAPE)**

ALPINE VAPES  
**\$25** Limit 1 per patient.

7 GRAMS **\$50**  
Choose from 25 different strains!

ROAR YELLOW SHATTER  
**\$10/GRAM**

**GUMMIES**  
**\$15 (100MG)**

**\$15**

HOUSE WAX **\$7/G**

**STIIZY** STARTER KIT + 1G VAPE **\$70**  
Limit 1 per customer.

**3 for \$100**  
**(1G VAPES)**

SHATTER &  
CRUMBLE **\$20**  
Select strains.

3 RICE KRISPIE  
TREATS **\$10**

1/4-POUND  
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FIRE NUGS SPECIAL!

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ROAR YELLOW SHATTER  
**\$10/GRAM**

1/4-POUND **\$400**  
FIRE NUGS SPECIAL!

ALPINE VAPES **\$25**  
Limit 1 per patient

DIAMOND STICK CARTRIDGES  
**\$25 (1G VAPE)**

WAX **\$5/GRAM**

**\$10** Any patient,  
limit 3.

7 GRAMS **\$50**  
Choose from 25 different strains!

BRASS  
KNUCKLES **\$25**

BRASS  
CARTRIDGES **\$7**

**KNOCKOUT** PRE-ROLLS **\$15**  
Limited time only! Limit per patient.

**\$20**  
**(1G VAPES)**

10 GRAMS OF  
SHATTER **\$100**

3 RICE KRISPIE  
TREATS **\$10**

SHATTER &  
CRUMBLE **\$20**  
Select strains.

ALIEN CARTS **\$25**

**MOONROCK** **\$15/Gram**  
Limited time only! Limit per patient.

**JOINTS**  
Starting at **\$15**

**GUMMIES**  
**\$15 (100MG)**

Starting at **\$30**

JEFF SESSIONS CARTS **\$30**

V.I.P. **\$10/GRAM**  
Min. 30% THC! Any patient, no limit!

PRIVATE RESERVE  
**\$8/GRAM** Any patient, no limit!

TOP-SHELF **\$5/GRAM**  
Any patient, no limit!

**5 PRE-ROLLS \$10**

**STIIZY** STARTER KIT + 1G VAPE **\$70**  
Limit 1 per customer.

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