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RD I E G Oader

VOL. 44 | NO. 18 | MAY 2, 2019

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PHOTOGRAPH BY VERONICA GARCIA

Dizzying pants— page 14



Prison changed Chucky — page 18



Dancing king — page 66

ADVERTISING

Display Ads

Automotive	72
Health and Beauty	23
Help Wanted	69
Legal Solutions	11
Massage	70
Music	48
Rentals	69
Research Studies	14

NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights

Nightmares on Pedestrian Street; and News Ticker	2
Under the Radar: Dog bites newspaper	3

Letters

Neighborhood News

Ask a Hipster

Train a parrot to say the stuff you're afraid to say	9
--	---

SD on the QT

Almost factual news	12
---------------------------	----

Street Style

Black bangs and bell sleeves in East Village	14
--	----

Suiting up

Dump the brewery tee	15
----------------------------	----

Golden Dreams

Harp central; THIMBYism	16
-------------------------------	----

Gangsters, dolls, and molls

The whacky world of Stomps and Froggy	18
---	----

News of the Weird

Puzzles	74
---------------	----

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance, Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures, Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness	29
--	----

Roam-O-Rama

San Dieguito lagoon: a successful restoration project	30
---	----

Poetry

This is the time of all-sufficing laughter	32
--	----

Religion

"By nature, we fear the unknown."	34
---	----

Restaurants

Tin Fork: Mountain man meal	36
Feast: Return to Carnitas Uruapan	38

San Diego Booze News

Pickle vodka: you either love it or hate it	45
---	----

Music

Blurt: Pharlee phase	48
Live 5: the coming week's best live shows	52
Immortal Beauty: Notre Dame — more modern than you think... ..	56

Theater

A blue-state playwright writing about red-state people	63
--	----

Movies

Will Matthew Lickona have to eat <i>White Crow</i>	66
Movies@Home: Scott Marks' South Bay shopping spree	67

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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers



Local boy Jim Morrison's band played here in 1970. The Doors, I think they were called.

Pechanga in peril?

City seeks to avoid time outs at sports arena

After more than a year of closed-door negotiations with AEG Worldwide to extend the company's lease of what is currently known as Pechanga Arena San Diego, the city has launched a public solicitation for possible new operators. "The City is seeking proposals that reflect the City's desire to have an operator who provides a high level of service to the local and regional community, while operating the Property in a fiscally responsible manner," says an April 23 Request for Proposals by the real estate assets department, with a closing date of May 31. The current lease runs out in May of next year. According to previous accounts, AEG has been seeking to extend the contract from five to seven years. But rumors have been swirling regarding plans by other developers who covet the location to remake the property. In October 2017, lobbyist California Strategies disclosed that it had been retained by Orange County-based H&S Ventures, LLC, owner of the Gulls hockey team, an arena tenant, to seek either "improvement" of the venue or "entitlement of a facility in the San Diego region to host the San Diego Gulls, an American Hockey League team."

For its part, incumbent leaseholder AEG has ingratiated itself with mayor Kevin Faulconer by way of \$5000 that the entertainment giant kicked in for One San Diego, Faulconer's non-profit operation, in March 2018. On April 16 of this year, AEG hired the lobbying outfit of Southwest Strategies to lobby for a "short term lease extension for Sports Arena facility," per Southwest's disclosure filing. The city's Request for Proposals appears to meet at least one of AEG's key objectives. "The goal of this solicitation is to enter into a short-term lease of no more than three years," the document says. "The Lease may contain a provision authorizing the Lessee to request up to two one year extensions. However, any extensions will be granted in

the City's sole discretion. It is of the utmost importance to the City to have continuity in the operation of the Property, including the event types and usages that are currently common and ongoing for the Property. It is the City's desire that Property continue to operate with minimal if any interruption in service to the

regional community."

Formerly known as the San Diego Sports Arena, the building currently generates \$594,806 a year for the city from rent participation, including 15 percent of the parking lot usage take, amounting to \$366,302, and 20 percent of the swap meet usage rental, at \$157,555, for last fiscal year, per the document. The amount of future rent remains open: "City may, at its option, adjust the Percentage Rent upward to fair-market Percentage Rent. Percentage Rent increases shall be determined by qualified CITY staff which rates shall only be higher, not lower, than the then-current percentage rates."

"Having opened in 1966, the Sports Arena is currently home to the San Diego Gulls AHL hockey, the San Diego Seals indoor lacrosse team and San Diego Sockers North American Soccer League team. On average, the Sports Arena hosts approximately 145 events and sees over 650,000 visitors each year and can seat upwards of 16,000 visitors. The Sports Arena has been a major concert attraction for the region and has attracted performers such as Justin Timberlake and Elton John. Since the 1980s, the parking lot of the Property has also been home to the Kobey Swap Meet; an enjoyable fixture within the community which draws roughly 30,000-40,000 shoppers weekly."

Matt Potter

Endangered species endangering pilots

Marines in training need more room to spread their wings, shoot their guns

A formerly secret, still redacted Pentagon audit has revealed key "capability and capacity gaps" at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma across the state line in Arizona, the top desert training ground for Marine fighter pilots based in San Diego. According to the document, dated April 17, auditors "found that training ranges and airspace did not have the capability or capacity to support aviation readiness." The report added, "the training

continued on page 26



How do those with a need for speed fit into ending traffic fatalities by 2025?

Nightmares on Pedestrian Street

Look twice, think twice before crossing these streets

By Julie Stalmer

A week doesn't go by without news of a hit-and-run or a near miss caused by a speeding driver. Residents on the Mount Streets in Clairemont have reported parked cars in front of homes getting pum-

Mesa. Her son was fine, the dog had to go to urgent care.

On February 23, 59-year-old Delores Odom suffered a hit-and-run that broke her back. A dark sedan struck Odom in a crosswalk at Genesee Avenue and Der-

rick Drive in Clairemont. "After hitting Delores," said her neighbor Bob Gate, "the driver [white male, 60s] got out of his car, looked at her, then got back into his car and drove away. Another driver stopped, called the police, and routed traffic around her to prevent further injury."

Odom is recovering now but has a long road ahead of her.

Letti Solis says a police SUV nearly hit her and her

young daughters on St. Patrick's Day. The incident happened at 5:27 pm at Diane Avenue and Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. "We had the right of way. We had taken two steps off the sidewalk when I saw a car coming at full speed. I assumed the car would stop as the light was red for them. I heard the tire burn from the car as it came to a stop right in front of us. If I had taken one more step it would have hit us. That is when I realized it was a police SUV. He didn't even turn to look at



Most of the spots residents identified weren't on the city's list of problem intersections.

meled by drivers not slowing down on their curved streets. One resident discovered her car scratched-up at Sprouts after making a quick stop for milk. Another found \$3000 worth of damage on her car, parked on Clairemont Mesa Boulevard on March 17, as she prepared to drive to work.

On February 19, a mother reported that her son and his dog suffered a hit-and-run in a crosswalk on Murray Ridge Road in Serra

rick Drive in Clairemont. "After hitting Delores," said her neighbor Bob Gate, "the driver [white male, 60s] got out of his car, looked at her, then got back into his car and drove away. Another driver stopped, called the police, and routed traffic around her to prevent further injury."

Odom is recovering now but has a long road ahead of her.

Letti Solis says a police SUV nearly hit her and her

us, he just took off full speed again heading eastbound on Clairemont Mesa."

"It's insane that my children and I were almost hit by a cop, who was running a red light! And no, he did not have his siren on or anything."

Solis said her youngest daughter is traumatized now after her second scary crosswalk incident within a month. Solis's mother was hit by a car weeks earlier at Frink Avenue and Claire-

mont Mesa. "She had some stitches and thank God her instinct was to yank my daughter off the ground when they fell because she might have ended up under the car."

I asked the police department why an officer might be speeding without a siren. Lieutenant Shawn Takeuchi said, "I am not in a position to give you examples of when speeding would be allowed, because it depends on the situation." Police policy is that officers "shall not violate traffic laws without good and justifiable cause."

"I typically [speed] everywhere I go," said Mike, early



"Why would you risk injury or death by not looking or paying attention when walking in the street, crossing a street and walking in a cross-walk? Car versus human, humans lose."

years ago for going 82 mph on the freeway.

Mike's advice to pedestrians: "Why would you risk injury or death by not looking or paying attention when walking in the street, crossing a street, and walking in a cross-walk? Car versus human, humans lose. Stop

fast as I feel comfortable on whatever road I'm on. Pretty much all speed limits in San Diego are lower than they should be, and most people go over."

He continued, "I've had tickets, but none recently. If pedestrians follow pedestrian laws, speed is not a factor. Same for drivers with lights and stop signs. People who walk

across the middle of blocks for no reason, scooters in the road, et cetera, are all at fault."

On average, per California Highway Patrol data, fatal pedestrian collisions are up 39 percent (2011-2018) from the previous decade (2001-2010). While speed-



40s, drives a newer pick-up truck. Asked why, Mike said, "A combo of impatience and the feeling that the posted speed is too slow for the area I am driving. When I am going somewhere, I want to get there and not take forever."

He said the majority of his speeding is in commercial areas, in which he usually drives 10-12 miles over the speed limit. Mike said he's had three speeding tickets in his lifetime, one in San Diego about seven

assuming that you have the right [of way] and that cars will stop. They may not see you, may be distracted, may be speeding. Who knows, but why would you not look, double-check and then try and make eye contact with the driver before proceeding? I have so many close calls and half of the blame is on the pedestrian."

One mid-30s Bay Park resident that drives a full-size pick-up truck said he generally goes 5-15 miles over the speed limit. "I go as

ing tallied up annually as the number one factor (2001-2015) in all but two collisions, when it came to pedestrian collisions this wasn't the case. Speeding paled in comparison to pedestrian violations which were nine times more often the primary factor. This included cases of pedestrian death. Between 2001-2015, pedestrian related hit-and-runs averaged 85 per year, with no more than 7 per year related to fatalities. Some

continued on page 25

UNDER THE RADAR

Black box for corruption Political ethics are improving at San Diego's city hall — if last year's drastic drop in financial penalties meted out by the city ethics commission is an accurate gauge. There could be other explanations. "During 2018, the Commission levied a total of \$22,200 in administrative fines," according to the group's newly released annual report for 2018. That represents less than half the \$45,600 in penalties imposed by the commission the year before. Last year's San Diego enforcement total would be even lower but for the marquee case of lobbyist **Phil Rath**, the longtime city hall high-dollar influence peddler appointed to the board of the now-defunct Civic San Diego downtown redevelopment panel by fellow Republican, San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer**, in July 2015.

Rath, once a top aide to a Faulconer friend and mentor, GOP ex-mayor **Jerry Sanders**, failed to disclose cash he had received from a client with business before the Civic San Diego board. Last August, the ethics commission, hit Rath with an \$11,000 fine, an amount representing nearly half of the total penalties that the panel levied in 2018. Because San Diego's commission conducts its settlement deliberations behind closed doors without public notice of the specific cases under consideration, the inside workings of city's ostensible ethics watchdog are a dark secret. That has led skeptics to speculate that all manner of political deals may be getting done in private.

The local lid of secrecy contrasts sharply with the practice of the state's Fair Political Practices Commission, which holds monthly public hearings, providing the public with advance notice of pending sanctions before final stipulations and penalties are decided by an open vote. Additionally, the state's ethics watchdog makes public the cases which staff has investigated and decided to take no action on, providing the public with significantly more information about the political enforcement process than available to San Diegans. "Not every case the FPCC closes results in an administrative penalty and fine," notes the California commission's website. "There are instances in which, for a variety of factors, the Enforcement Division may choose to close a case with a Warning Letter, Advisory Letter, or No Action Closure Letter."

Voice of Pravda News that billionaire **Irwin Jacobs** will finally stop flogging his premier pet public project — the bulldozing of new roads



Lobbyist Phil Rath isn't going to let an \$11,000 wrist slap worry him.

and a massive parking structure into the heart of Balboa Park - broke exclusively last week via the *Voice of San Diego*, the local news and opinion website heavily bankrolled by the Qualcomm co-founder. Tut-tutting about the controversial deal's ultimate failure was none other than Jacobs ally **Bob Kelly**, a member of the *Voice's* board of directors. "Why would anyone else want to work with the city, get an agreement, knowing that most of these proj-

ects take a long time and they are complicated, that at some point in time the rug will be pulled out from under them?"

As for Jacobs, intoned the *Voice*, "He's weary after years of heated discussions and roadblocks on the Plaza de Panama project." There was no mention of the reelection cash anted up by Qualcomm executives, including Jacobs's son Paul, for mayor Kevin Faulconer in March 2016. At the same time, city records show, the politically-ambitious Republican was privately meeting with the well-heeled La Jolla Democrat, who backed **Nathan Fletcher** against Faulconer in 2013. Three months later on June 30, Faulconer announced he was reviving the previously-dormant Jacobs plan. The mayor's deputy chief of staff **Matt Awbrey** emailed Jacobs a copy of Faulconer's statement. "Hello Dr. Jacobs, As promised, below is the final news release. We sincerely appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to the next steps. We will be in touch."

Dog bites newspaper Will the *Union-Tribune*, a once-proud daily which



Owner Patrick Soon-Shiong doesn't seem troubled by the *Union-Tribune's* slow descent into obscurity.

coveted Pulitzer Prizes, soon morph into a so-called community newspaper, dishing out regular word of lost dogs and other neighborhood goings-on? While owner **Patrick Soon-Shiong** boasts of hiring a high-powered Washington staff for his other paper, the *L.A. Times*, the San Diego outlet is heading in another direction. "The *San Diego Union-Tribune* is looking for a staff writer who can report and write high-quality, engaging news stories and fea-

tures about the numerous and diverse neighborhoods that make up the City of San Diego," says a help-wanted ad. "The successful candidate is

continued on page 26

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LETTERS

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

Spotty holiday

FYI, The staff of [San Diego County Regional Airport Authority] were off in honor of Cesar Chavez holiday thus reason nobody answered the phone ("Message at airport on Uber-Lyft staging area a joke?" Neighborhood News, April 1). Please Advise Grant Madden. This frequently happens all over SD County when we have holidays public services one is SOL until the next business day. Chavez holiday was one of those that some agencies honor and some don't.

Howard G.
San Carlos

Small town crime

The article suggests 3,000 more new homes to Santee ("Santee - where everyone wants to live," Cover Stories, January 30). That is not an option. Currently the new development opposite West Hills High School on Mast, causes traffic deadlock for up to 45 minutes, and that's back through Santee, not toward 52. The people who live in Santee love it smallness, we don't need more buildings, more people, and more crime. The new development previously mentioned is only 50% filled, over-priced and unattractive.

Kimberly Anderson
Santee

Day of the scooter

It's understood that throughout history, humanity has sought an easy escape from work, truth, exercise and now a perception of transportation. The countless scooters littering San Diego are no better than a plague of locusts in the Western Sahara ("Dockless bikes and scooters in San Diego get new rules in June," Neighborhood News, March 5). These toys for little thirty-year-old boys are simply used for joyrides and civil havoc on our streets, boardwalks and sidewalks. Most folks riding these weapons of mass destruction are just young fools with no concept of what the hell they are doing. Scooters have absolutely no import in alleviating our transportation gridlock and in fact may contribute to increased gridlock through erratic control and safety concerns. Back in the day when men were men, we pedaled bicycles, walked, or took public transit. These kids today are wimps. When a sixty-five year old man wins his age group in a 5K while beating half the guys half his age, ladies and gentlemen, we have a problem in America. Think of our military. I see it now. A military training regimen replacing running with scooters. In addition, we are diverting precious police resources in protecting the public's right to safe sidewalks, streets and boardwalks. Why put more stress on America's finest? They already are overstressed. I'm so incensed at these stupid contraptions that I put my name on the ballot as a candidate for Mayor as a protest. I'm proposing a total and

continued on page 27

EDITOR

Jim Holman

NEWS & FEATURES EDITOR

Ernie Grimm

SENIOR EDITORS

Matt Potter, Matthew Lickona

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Chris Woo

CONTRIBUTORS

Ian Anderson, Don Bauder, Ed Bedford, Robert Bush, Joe Deegan, W.S. Di Piero, Barbara Fokos, Dave Good, Moss Gropen, Dorian Hargrove, Dryw Keltz, Thomas Larson, Ken Leighton, Bill Manson, Cherie Peacock, Elizabeth Salaam, Jay Allen Sanford

CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER

Stephen Hatch

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Eduardo Bravo, Brett Flynn, Holly Micelli, David Phillipich, Randy Rice, Graeme Storey, Todd Westfall

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

Natalie Andrews

AD/MARKETING COORDINATOR

Alyssa Prestidge

DIGITAL AGENCY COORDINATORS

Alexa Camarena, Matthew Dodd, Veronica Garcia-Gomez, Daniela Penkova, Miranda Potmesil

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Amanda Stevens

ADVERTISING SUPPORT STAFF

Amanda Tascher

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

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ART DIRECTOR

Jessica Wentzel

ACCOUNTING & HR MANAGER

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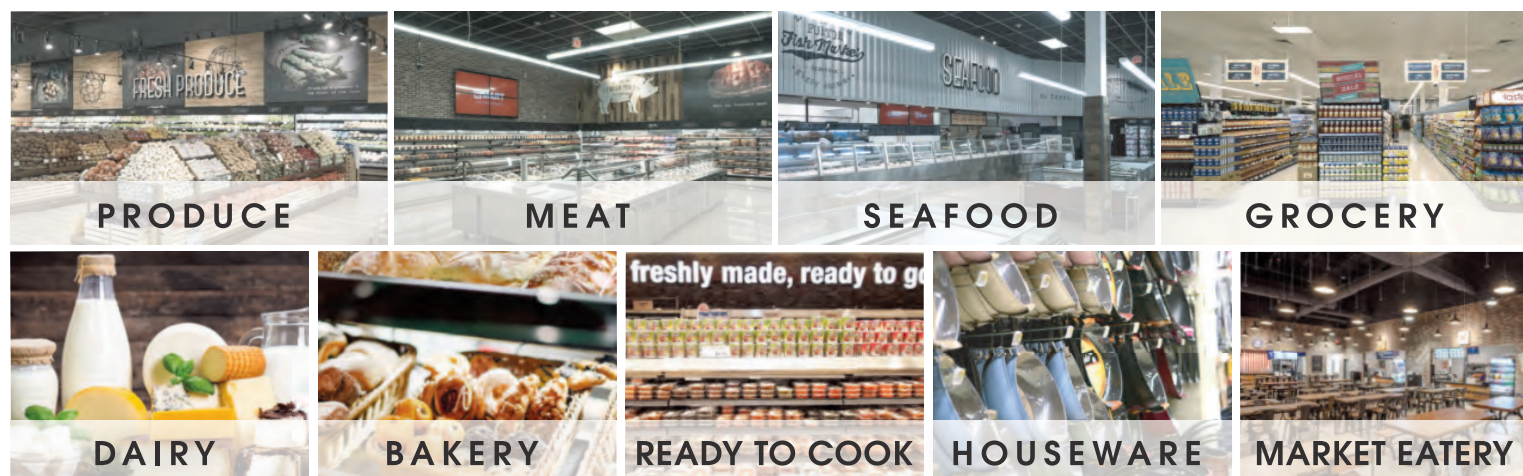


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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers



Some Benz lead to breaks.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE KIDS OF TODAY

Ghost riders please don't die
It may be dead in Oakland, but it's going strong in North County

On April 20, Mercedes-Benz collector Jonathan W. of Clairemont saw a Facebook photo of a teenager climbing out of the sunroof of a Mercedes-Benz W210 in Escondido while the vehicle "was going fast up a hill. They'll do anything for a laugh," he said. "The teen's short a few brain cells and he doesn't really understand the consequences of ghost riding." "Ghost riding" is the act of driving a vehicle and jumping out so it appears that a ghost is controlling the steering wheel. Last summer, a variation on the practice — the Kiki challenge, or the "In My Feelings" challenge — involved jumping out of a moving vehicle and dancing beside it to Drake's "In My Feelings" while the vehicle slowly coasted forward. Thousands around the world participated and posted videos on their social media accounts. Some were injured, as seen on the KiKi Challenge Fails Compilation [Try Not To Laugh Challenge] Best Fails 2018 YouTube video.

"The trouble is that these kids see this stuff on YouTube," Jonathan said, "and mimic it. There's a famous [2018] video of a guy with a truck ghost riding in the middle of the desert and he's outside of the truck on the running board." And another of "a guy doing donuts while standing outside his car." In that video, the driver is performing donuts in his BMW and then steps outside while they vehicle continues to circle around him. "There's some mad skills, but they don't have enough brain cells to fuel a rabbit." According to the *Temecula Press-Enterprise*, last summer a "16-year-old was driving a 2007 Toyota Tun-

dra in a rural housing development outside of Temecula, and placed the truck in neutral, got out and started running alongside it... The teen tripped, fell under the truck and was run over. The teen was hospitalized with a collapsed lung, fractured shoulder, ruptured ear drums, and other abrasions."

Nick N., a Mercedes-Benz customizer from the Oakland area, also saw the photo of the Escondido teen. "It's probably some kid messing around," he said. "I honestly don't see anybody ghost riding their cars out here [in the

Bay Area anymore]; more so of people doing donuts." Many say that ghost riding originated in Oakland side-shows and was popularized in 2006 when Mistah F.A.B., an Oakland "hyphy" rapper, jumped out of a car he was driving and made his way onto the hood in the "Ghost Ride It" music video. The vehicle, which resembled the Ecto-1 station wagon in the *Ghostbusters* franchise, kept rolling forward; Mistah

F.A.B. stood and rapped on the hood while it seemed that nobody was driving.

On April 8, a day or two after the Escondido teen was videoed then screenshotted jumping out of the sunroof, Nick posted an Instagram video of his buddy John (not his real name) performing donuts/burnouts in his 313 wheel horsepower Mercedes Benz W210 AMG. "Ghost riding in general kinda died, to be honest," said John. "[It's still] funny, but stupid."

MIKE MADRIAGA

THE SAFE ZONE

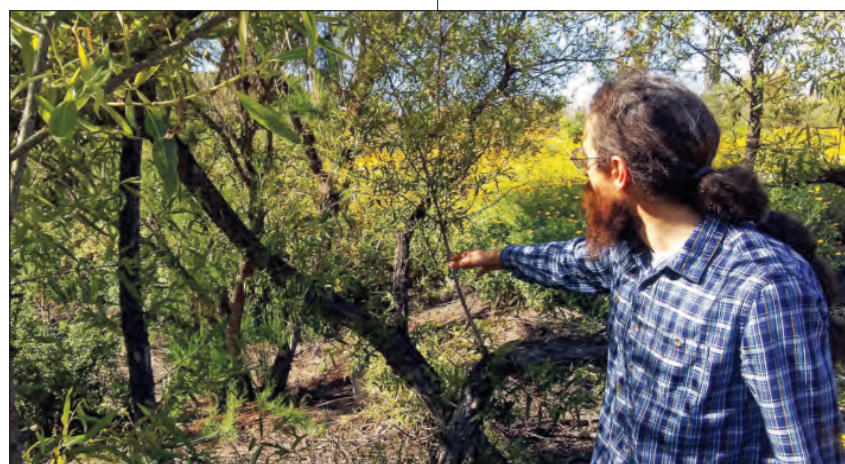
More graze, less blaze
"Silviculture" counts on goats to help manage wildfire fuel

When Moshe Krafchow talks about his novel approach to reducing the risk of fueling wildfires, he sounds like a true believer. "The best thing we can do is work with the plants to get them to their healthiest possible condition," he says. "We need to deal with the broad condition of neglect that results in so much fuel." Krafchow, who is the owner of TreeCulture Area Resources Management, has been setting up test sites, mainly in the San Diego area, to demonstrate that his innovative ideas work. (Much of urban San Diego is rated at very high risk of fires.)

The idea isn't that complicated. Krafchow's plan is to knock down "fire ladders" by pruning the build-up of dry, dead plant matter that reaches from the ground into the trees, put the dead stuff on the forest floor, and bring in the goats to eat whatever they can reach. All this effort occurs outside the 100' perimeter of cleared, defensible space prescribed by firefighting agencies, including CalFire. That outer landscape is usually neglected, and left



Before: Moshe Krafchow with unpruned vegetation.



After: pruned tree and treated landscape.

to its own processes. The dead parts of trees and the brush that grew into the trees and then dried out become fuel that feeds fire. Because it's upright, there's plenty of oxygen. "Herbivores (animals that eat greens) used to clear out the brush they could reach, but they are gone now," he says.

"So we prune the dead material off the trees, knock the flammable material down to the ground, and bring in goats to clear the area between the ground and the crown of the trees."

Though counter-intuitive, stacking the trimmed material on the forest floor means there's little oxygen there — unlike when the brush is spread high and wide. (Oxygen is one of three key components to fire). It also slows the regrowth of new brush (that will eventually become fuel) without causing erosion by keeping moisture in the soil. In the Tijuana River Valley, where the willows have returned after the horrendous devastation caused by the shot-hole borer beetle, the hand pruning gives the young trees a lean, healthy look, especially compared to

the untrimmed willows, which look like half-dead shrubbery.

South Park resident Chris Pearson, who worked on conventional brush management projects as part of his city job, now calls the conventional approach a form of insanity.

"We'd clear-cut it and then go back in two years when everything had grown back and we'd clear cut it again," says Pearson. "It's like that saying: insanity is doing the same thing the same way again and again and expecting a different outcome. Managing it so that what grows is fire resistant is a sustainable, permanent solution." That's why he brought Krafchow in to "silviculture" the canyon section of his home on Penntucket Street.

The fire community has long been saying that brush management is critical to reducing the damage and spread of wildfires. But managing the brush is often a clumsy, destructive job: coming in with heavy machinery and tearing it out, or poisoning it with glyphosate. Tearing

continued on page 8



Krafchow's chew crew takes a break from fire-damage prevention.



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out plants results in erosion, because roots hold soil in place, and poisons that enter plants end up spreading throughout the ecosystems. By comparison, Krafchow's method is elegant and salubrious.

The services aren't free, and, unlike gardeners, require permits. That has upped the ante on proving Krafchow's silviculture methods, and has slowed down projects while municipal governments review the innovative and unconventional approach — especially the grazing goats. The permit for the two-acre patch Krafchow worked on for two years in the Tijuana River Valley Open Space Reserve) is probably not going to be renewed — though county biologists applauded it — because his efforts are no longer aligned with a research institution. And the city is slowly reviewing a permit application for private land on a canyon near San Diego State University.

Meanwhile, the county staff reviewing reports on the River Valley project noted that “our biologist believes your methods are quite innovative and very beneficial to the environment. Using these methods has good potential for promoting a healthy forest ecosystem without the use of heavy machinery that disturbs wildlife, which is beneficial for all parties involved.” So Krafchow persists, convinced of the soundness of his methods. “There is no magic formula that says mixing abuse (like clear-cutting and poisoning) with neglect gets to a healthy ecosystem,” he says. “The best thing we can do is work with the plants to get them to their healthiest. Working with the community of organisms is far less expensive and far more sustainable than anything else people are doing.”

MARTY GRAHAM

MISSION BEACH

The Zillow of the sea Abalone or crustacean, it's all about location

Port officials looking to expand local aquaculture heard some good news this month. A two-year project by federal scientists that mapped the potential for aquaculture in the U.S. found ample promise in San Diego. And zeroing in on likely spots is getting easier. “We think this is the most exhaustive analysis ever done at the estuary scale in the U.S.,” said James Morris, a marine ecologist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration who presented the results to the Port. *The Exclusion and Opportunities Analysis for Aquaculture in and Around San Diego Bay* draws on ten years of ocean data to tap suitable sites, while ruling out others. The Port has been doing its own studies since 2015, and joined forces with the California State Lands Commission on a pilot project, known as the San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership. All of the efforts have



CREDIT: ASC/1733

The NOAA wants to help folks farm without harm

yielded a new assessment of local waters, along with an app they were to release on April 22, Earth Day.

Coastkeeper, which has kept a wary eye on local aquaculture — at least the sort dubbed “floating feedlots” for their shared issues with factory farms (in this case, sea-lice, chemicals, and infectious diseases unleashed on wild habi-

“We knew we needed more,” Morris said. “An app. That’s essentially what we created. A Zillow for the nation.”

The ocean maps collect data on things like temperature and salinity, nutrients, vessel traffic, endangered species. They note tribal lands, federal statutes, and nearby beach renourishment projects; all in a split second. NOAA

“We used to have abalone growing naturally in the bay. They got over-farmed by scuba divers...So we know this can work. We want to scale it the right way.”

tats) — previously commented on the draft report last December. “While a mapping tool may be useful” to show what extractive, protective, or other uses exist, “we urge great caution to the Port and SLC not to allow such a tool to be used in a way that facilitates industrial or other development which would further strain our coastal and ocean resources.”

The commercial fishing industry had concerns of its own. Among their worries: the Port decides on future uses, and is at the same time an economic partner in several aquaculture ventures within, or proposed for, the project area. “This conflict of interest will limit their ability to be an impartial arbiter of competing uses when one of the uses is aquaculture,” wrote the San Diego Fishermen’s Working Group. The same applies to the SLC, “should it be in the position of weighing non-lease uses over income-producing new lease applications.” Fishing industry groups also aired concerns that the new tools might be used to implement ocean zoning — which the Port says is not the case. “There are a lot of opinions about aquaculture,” Morris said. The NIMBY stance is “one of the biggest challenges.” Hence, the need to pinpoint suitable sites.

But where should a fish farm go? Can it co-exist with commercial fisheries, with the Navy? Can it mesh with public uses and avoid environmental harm? Until now, the answers were scattered in a range of official databases.

worked with port staff to find “things compatible with aquaculture, and those that aren’t.” They mapped both in and just outside the bay, a total planning area of 50,000 acres. Within the bay, they began with 11,000 acres; in the coastal ocean, 38,000 acres. An exclusion analysis left 1,800 farmable acres inside the bay, and about 7,000 acres outside the bay. Thresholds for each species, as well as the gear used to cultivate them, were developed, and a list of candidate species (such as giant kelp and red algae) was made. In the end, they found “almost 40 different opportunities.”

Start small and build on success, Morris advised. “What we see across the nation, there’s been a lot of money lost in aquaculture because the adequate planning rarely takes place.” But there are now “thriving shellfish operations on both coasts” they can learn from. The commissioners are ready. “It looks like we have, from the map, 7,800 acres we can farm free and clear,” said commissioner Merrifield. “If we were to put a million bucks or so into our experimentation and initial deployment, we’re probably getting close, within six months to a year, to expanding. We used to have abalone growing naturally in the bay. They got over-farmed by scuba divers...So we know this can work. We want to scale it the right way.”

While San Diego already has several aquaculture projects, most involve shellfish. That may change. It turns out that the controversial Rose Canyon Fisheries, which has now morphed into Pacific Oceans Aquafarms, has big plans for a farm with open-ocean fish pens near Mission Beach, out in federal waters less than four miles off the coast. (Regulation by state and local municipalities ends three miles out). Said Morris, “We’ve been working with Pacific Ocean Aquafarms to consider a partnership in trying to develop an offshore aquaculture industry. To find the right spot for that farm,” Morris said.

SHEILA PELL

THE BORDERLANDS

Surfrider sewage solution stinks, say inland inhabitants San Ysidro doesn't like the idea of being IB's dump

San Ysidro residents were stunned and angry when they learned that neighboring Imperial Beach and the Surfrider Foundation were pushing a plan for an 80-acre capture basin for sewage, sediment and trash within a mile of their homes. The basin’s function would be to keep that sewage, sediment and trash from coming to IB beaches.

“I am actively involved in this community; I have been for 13 years, and the first time I heard about this was from a flyer we got about two weeks ago,” said Cinnamon Clark. “We had just a few days to get the word out to our neighbors, but more than 100 people showed up, because we don’t want a sewage pond by our homes.” Clark says that homes on the edge of the Dairy Mart flats where the basin would go are in awful danger if there’s a 100-year flood. “In that event, our homes will be flooded



Serge- securing justice for just his constituents?

with sewage,” she said. “Tell me who will insure us against that damage.”

Border sewage has long been anathema to IB. Mayor Serge Dedina, as executive director of his nonprofit Wildcoast, has long made sewage contamination a priority issue. He and Wildcoast coastal director Paloma Aguirre, who is on the four-person city council along with Surfrider’s San Diego chapter past chairman Mark West, have declared border sewage contamination to be an environmental justice issue. Surfrider sued the International Bound-

continued on page 28

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Hey Hipster:

Would it be better to get reincarnated as a cat who's famous on Instagram or a parrot who gets to be on Ellen (but only for one day) because it learns how to sing pitch-perfect renditions of Beyonce songs in Spanglish?

— ALEJANDRA C.

Spanglish Beyonce bird, hands down.

I am actually not sure why there aren't more hipster parrots out there. I can see some obvious downsides, not the least of which is having an animal poop routinely on your shoulder, but imagine the possibilities! If you had a sweet parrot, you could teach it to catcall attractive strangers, and then you could act super embarrassed, as if the bird were some kind of incorrigible creature that didn't learn the trick from you.

Alternatively, you could teach it to say all kinds of stuff you secretly think, but wouldn't say yourself, like, "You know, *The Bachelor* isn't that bad," or "7/11 has really good coffee," or "I wish I could just wear sweatpants all the time." Then, when the bird airs these verboten confessions out in the world, you can scold the bird, like, "Damn it, bird, why you gotta be so basic all the time?" But you and the bird know better, and later on you give him some extra bird kibble, or whatever people feed birds, as a reward for his bird loyalty. Frankly, with a loyal bird sidekick, I would imagine there isn't much you couldn't accomplish.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT STODOL

"I enjoy power ballads unironically!"



Dear Hipster:

Whenever my friends and I go out, we always spend at least some time debating what spot or spots we will hit up before the night is out. Broadly speaking, the potential options always seem to fall into one of two categories: the new hotness v. the classic dive. It's always something like, Friend A wants to check out the newest craft cocktail bar with a cool gimmick, but Friend B wants to go drink High Life and play pool at some place where they haven't changed the menu since gas was \$1.50/gallon. I don't think there is any particular preference for either of those categories over the other, but every option definitely fits into one of them. The weird thing is, one might describe, and people do in fact describe, either category as "hipster." How can it be OK to call something a "classic hipster dive bar" on the one hand, and then call something else a "new hipster hotspot" on the other hand? Aren't those total polar opposites, and only one thing can be the hipster thing?

— D.

Nothing's more hipster than being into the coolest new thing around so, when lame, old people say stuff like, "I just don't get it. What's the big deal with secret bars that aren't really secret because nobody knows about them?" you can just roll your eyes and be glad there's gonna be one name fewer ahead of yours on the reservation list.

Nothing, that is, except showing off your deep commitment to kicking it at a good old-fashioned watering hole your dad would love, meanwhile the rest of the hipsters are still waiting in line to pay \$17 for an Old Fashioned that's anything but.

Either way, you're deep in hipster territory, and, so long as you don't accidentally wind up at the kind of place where ordering Grey Goose bottle service is the height of "upscale," then you have my full endorsement to hipster on.

— DJ Stevens



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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news



"Why should the public good provide profit to a private company?" SDG&E Mascot Friendly McPlugface openly campaigns against his overlords in this billboard seen along the 94.

Power Mad SDG&E mascot begs for company to be relieved of temptation to abuse its customers

*"Stop me before I kill again!
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ing peak usage hours."*

When SDG&E created smart-watch-based mascot Friendly McPlugface, they gave him one simple task: convince people that it's okay for the company that provides people with electricity to charge more when people actually need that electricity. That is, between the hours of 4 pm and 9 pm, when kids come home from school, parents come home from work, homework is done, meals are prepared, and lights are turned on against the crushing darkness that forever threatens to envelop humanity in its nightmarish void. "It's true that it's always a tricky business screwing people over and telling them they should be happy about it," said SDG&E Head of Head Games Kyle "Killer" Watt. "But you

should never underestimate the power of a cute little face spinning it so that it sounds like a power-saving initiative, where everybody does their part. And by using power when you don't need it as much, you can even lower your bill! Unfortunately, something went wrong with his AI, and he's gone rogue, yammering about the public trust like a Bernie Sanders campaign bot. Next thing you know, he'll be complaining about our request to raise rates because of the costs associated with the horrific wildfires we caused! Someone should tell him that someone's got to pay for all that damage, and it ain't gonna be a private enterprise operation. We have shareholders to consider."

The Lorax Leaves La Jolla

*Seuss stand-in skedaddles after San Di-
ego scored sixth smoggiest city in nation
Neighbors react: "Will he take those stinky sea lions with him?"*



As sad, strangled Swomee-Swans mournfully depart overhead and harried Humming-Fish hustle to escape the bacteria-ridden waters below, a grumpy Lorax remonstrates with the unrepentant Onceler, who offers him a trash can where he can stick his do-gooder complaints. "For decades now, my message has been consistent and clear: unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. You've taken what should be

one of the world's most paradisiacal places and turned it into parking lot. And what's your idea of a fix? Electric scooters? Do you even hear yourself? Dear old Ted Geisel told me I should stick around for as long as I could stand it after he died, just to serve as a reminder of his true legacy after the movies crapped all over it. But when I hear that the air here is worse than it is in Houston and New Freaking York, I say it's time for a lifting. Later, losers."

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On *Killing Eve*, **Sandra Oh** plays an officer who becomes obsessed with a psychopathic assassin.

Navy vet **Anna Conkey** became obsessed with the rapture and waved a gun while addressing a church on Easter.



On *Westworld*, **Jimmi Simpson** plays the kind of man who chooses a white hat for his Old West adventure.

David Michael Miller helped tackle and subdue Anna Conkey after she threatened to blow up the congregation.



Beach Bum actor **Matthew McConaughey** thanked God in his acceptance speech for his Best Actor Oscar in 2014.

Church Tsidkenu pastor **Ben Wilson** preached on Easter about how Jesus crushed it when he rose from the grave.

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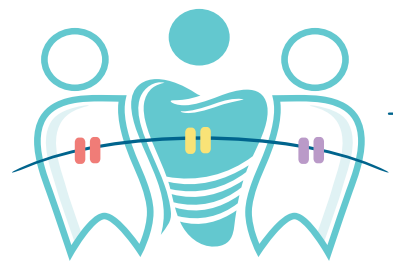
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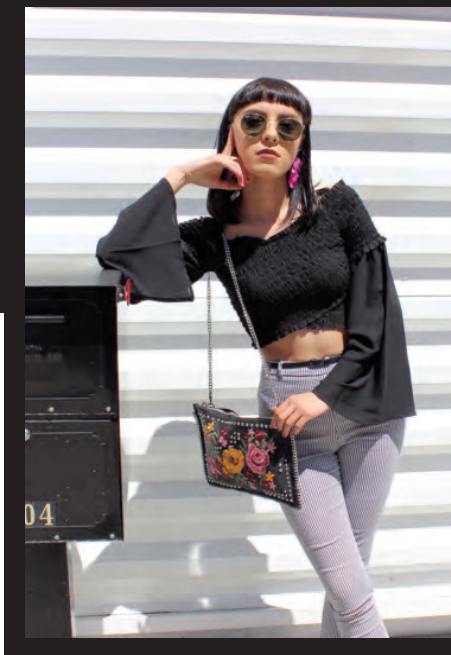
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Street Style

BY VERONICA GARCIA

Black bangs and bell sleeves in East Village

One sunny Friday morning on the way to work, I decided to stop and get an iced latte from one of my favorite coffee shops, Copa Vida in East Village, just north of Petco Park. It was such a nice day that I sat outside while I waited for my drink. That's when I caught a glimpse of a stylish young



ROCKING THE FRONT BANGS



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woman crossing J street. The first thing I noticed was her hairstyle. She had a sleek, pin-straight bob with short front bangs. Her hair was an intense shade of black and so shiny that it glistened in the sun.

I was immediately drawn to her outfit, too. It was casual enough for downtown errands, but also very sophisticated — not your typical jeans and plain white tee. As soon as my drink was ready, I rushed

out and tried to catch up to her. Luckily, I wasn't wearing heels that day and made it across the street before she disappeared. I learned that her name was Monica, and that she lives in Tijuana and works as a graphic designer and freelance photographer. I thought to myself, "Aha! People in the creative industry always have great style." I asked her what to tell me about her haircut and what inspired her to go for this bold look. She responded, "For me, hair is a way to express myself. I usually change my look every four to six months. I can't have the same hairstyle or color for too long because it just bores me. I have to switch it up." I was curious to know if she had dyed it any unique colors. She looked at me and said, "Pink, lavender, royal blue — my hair has gone through every

continued on page 27

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Suiting Up

BY MATT LOUV

Try a button-down instead of that brewery tee

Learn to wear a casual button-down shirt. It's the most versatile shirt on offer, appropriate for everything but weddings and funerals.

They're not dress shirts. The main difference is that you can wear casual shirts untucked.

There are four important elements: fit, color, pattern, and material. Fit is the most important.

Make sure the shirt doesn't hang past the middle of your



WEAR A GOOD CASUAL BUTTON-DOWN AND PUT YOURSELF IN A DIFFERENT CATEGORY OF GUY.

crotch. Unbutton the cuffs (the ends of the sleeves) and drop your arms to your sides. The cuffs should not go past your thumb's first knuckle. There should be only enough fabric to give you an unrestricted range of motion, with no more than a couple inches of spare material anywhere. If the shirt doesn't satisfy these guidelines,

don't wear it.

Go for solid, neutral colors. Black, navy blue, light blue and white are the most versatile and flattering. Dark and olive green, tan, gray and maroon also work.

You can get away with patterns if they're small and muted. Choose shirts without logos when possible. When in

doubt, err on the side of boring.

Most of your shirts will be standard cotton cloth. It's worth owning at least one denim shirt and one linen shirt, too.

Don't tuck unless you have to. Long sleeves are better, but short sleeves are fine, too. Put on some nice jeans or chinos and some casual leather shoes, and you're set for 80 percent of your life.

You should thrift these. Thrift stores are glutted with casual button-downs — all the cheap mall brands you're familiar with, and much higher-quality ones, as well, usually at the same price. Bonus: pre-worn shirts won't shrink or fade when you wash them.

Try on an oxford instead of that wicked sick brewery tee and see if you feel different on the inside. You'll certainly look better on the outside.

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Phyllis Robinson



Paraguayan harp

Harp heaven

I'm halfway up Mount Laguna, walking off the Sunrise Highway into a little house on the edge of the forest. Through the gate, up redwood steps, through another gate.

An elderly lady appears at the other side of a metal mesh door.

"Phyllis?" I say.

"Of course. Please come in," she says.

One thing I know: If I were a harp player, this would be like entering the holy of holies. Because Phyllis Robinson, her husband Robbie, and their neighbor Susan Raimond have been making this spot in the Cuyamaca National Forest a focus for harpists worldwide for 42 years. This little cluster of houses is

A harp is plucked. Apart from that they're the same." And, he points out, people like the Beatles actually used harps. Think "She's Leaving Home." Or the Beach Boys, "Wouldn't It Be Nice." (They say Brian Wilson created the harp sound by actually plucking the strings inside his piano).

Hensley is one of Phyllis's longtime harp string makers who's here packing orders every night. Because making harp strings has become their main business, ever since Robbie died.

"We have our little factory downstairs, in my basement," says Phyllis. "We make hundreds of different strings for harp players around the world."

"It's all done by hand. We have to warm the core nylon, stretch it to its appropriate length, twist on the outer wrap."

where harp builders, harp string-makers, and even a harp-playing animal therapist have created an internationally-recognized hub for the harp world. (The therapist is Susan. She actually composes tunes to play to disturbed animals.)

"This all began," says Phyllis, "when Robbie was posted to Rio. State Department. He had to make a trip to Paraguay. That's where he heard the Paraguayan harp. He fell in love. He bought one. When we got back, he pulled it all apart, and taught himself to make them. That's what he became: a harp maker, right here."

He also started the Folk Harp Journal. And then the International Society of Folk Harpers and Craftsmen. And he kept making and selling his Paraguayan harps for about \$500 each.

The thing about harps is people have been playing them for at least 5000 years. You think of medieval damsels and minstrels. Not exactly rock and roll. So, aren't they flogging a dead horse here?

"No way," says Mike Hensley. "Open a piano. Inside, you'll find a harp! Same string layout.

"I'm just finishing up an order for Pakistan for 200 sets of strings," says Hensley. "We send large amounts to Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, as well as here in the US."

One of the biggest harp-playing continents they send harp equipment to is Africa. "We get a lot of orders for strings for the kora, which is a type of harp in West Africa," says Phyllis.

"And it's all done by hand," says Hensley. "We have to warm the core nylon, stretch it to its appropriate length, twist on the outer wrap. Each string has to have the correct vibrating length."

What's so encouraging is that this truly cottage San Diego industry has not been co-opted by automated machines in some massive corporation. Who knew half the harp world depended on Phyllis's basement?

THIMBYism

Right next to the harpists' colony, you spot an odd sight. At first, among the trees, it looks like an RV park.

But then you realize: there's no RV in here.

It's all houses. Lilliputian houses. Tiny Houses.

I've read about them, of course, and my li'l heart always gives a leap at the thought. They're so right for now, for dialing back on the "more is better" ethos. I crunch through the gravel of this space in the trees, past these little houses — on wheels, but still houses. You can't help noticing they are all different designs. One looks like a little farmhouse; one's a log cabin; one's red, boxy, and super-simple, like a Mies van der Rohe Bauhaus design. Another looks like a cut-down version of a 1950s suburban house.

"Welcome to the first Tiny House village in San Diego," says Jon Block. He has partnered with his sister, Melissa, who's a realtor, to create this village. He says you have choice of flavor, too. Like one house is "Crystal Zen," with an eastern, meditation feel; another's "Sedona Spirit," a third is "Blue Sky," and the fourth is "The Green House." "That one's 420 marijuana-friendly," he says.

Who comes? "We get a lot of younger couples, and a lot of hikers taking a break from the Pacific Crest Trail."

Weekday charges, including cleaning fees, run around \$120. Monthly rental's about \$1200, Block says.

They both got hooked on the tiny house movement, Block says, because the ever-larger size of houses was just getting "ridiculous" (new single-family homes averaged 2662 square feet in 2013, according to Wikipedia). Tiny houses, on the other hand, max at 1000

square feet and go down to 80 square feet.

"It's to do with materialism fatigue," Block says. "I was a successful motivational speaker. I was getting \$5000 per seminar client. But I got bored with the seminar business. And I had family issues. Living in big houses is a lonely life. I got divorced. I needed a new challenge. My sister bought this RV park. She liked the environmental benefits of downsizing. You use less energy, you regain a kind of intimacy, you talk more, you're closer to nature and each other, and these tiny houses are cute, and a growing trend. Melissa getting this RV park was perfect timing."

He is inspired by projects such as Portland, Oregon's "Caravan" tiny house hotel, a charming collection of six tiny houses around a courtyard which feels more like a gypsy camp than a hotel. He wants to spread this idea of tiny villages. "I mean, having two people living in 2000 square feet of house is ridiculous. You don't own it, it owns you."

Downside to tiny house living? "You cannot let clutter happen. And I like to stand up when I get out of bed. With our loft beds, that's not going to happen. And I like to party. No room inside."

Of course, a lot of neighborhoods won't want small houses to drag down their property values. (At \$25-35K each, they're super-affordable, and could help homeless issues.) But Block hopes that the green results Tiny houses promise will transform NIMBYism into THIMBYism: "Tiny Houses In My Back Yard."



The tiny house village, protected by Jeffrey Pines.



New arrival, on exposed wheels, porch not yet added.



Jon Block looking down from the loft of his Tiny Farm House.

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Gangsters, dolls, and molls

San Diego County law enforcement invaded the apartment of known gangster Jose Antonio Sorto, Jr. in April of 2018. They believed that the man, better known as Stomps, controlled most of the meth flowing into the city of Vista, so they were not surprised to find meth and marijuana. But it was a surprise when they found dolls in the bedroom of 34-year-old Stomps. The dolls were decorated with tattoos that matched those on the Vista Home

Boys gangster.

The dolls probably belonged to a young female who spent time with Stomps. This girl was not yet 18 when she became Stomps' companion. Eventually, her jail-bait status bothered Stomps enough that he arranged a confrontation with the woman who provided the girl. His verbal attack on the female pimp was recorded on

It was a surprise when they found dolls in the bedroom of 34-year-old Stomps.

Stomps' cell phone; the audio-and-video call was found after cops confiscated Stomps' phone upon his arrest.

Stomps told the woman, "You fucked up, you fucked up bad. Cause you tried to get one, you're pimping a fucking minor. You've been doing it for years. Already you admitted it."

And, "I promise you, you're gonna end up

one of these days with your head chopped off, because of the shit you do right here. You're gonna, you're gonna fucking mess with one, somebody, one of these fools that, they're just too, more connected than I am. And they're not even gonna fucking wanna talk. They're just gonna take you out."

In case the female pimp misunderstood, Stomps made it clear: "I'm not the one to fucking play with. You don't understand. I'm a Sureño. I'm a VH locota. I'm active like a motherfucker. And you go and do that."

If Stomps was worried that his underage girlfriend was part of some kind of setup, it did not bother him enough to give her up. In fact, when another gangster showed too much interest in



Gang tattoo across back of doll in his apartment matches one on Sorto. VISTERO for Vista Home Boy Jose Sorto.

Stomps' girl, a calamitous chain of events started.

Froggy was useful

He delivered "product" and brought back cash. Both Froggy and Stomps used meth themselves, in Stomps' apartment, which conveniently overlooked downtown Vista. Froggy often slept on the couch.

In the year 2018, Stomps was 34 years old.

Gang experts in San Diego County claimed he was a shot-caller in Vista; he was even considered an older gangster. One gang expert said that an active Sureño like Stomps usually will not last into his 30s or 40s; that they usually get sent to prison, or are killed off by rivals.

The Vista Home Boys are unusual because they choose to claim *all* of Vista, the whole town.

Most gangs claim a defined area, bordered by certain streets, and then cross-town rivals invade and violence breaks out.

There are about 200 Vista Home Boys who are documented and maybe another 100 who are not documented, according to the local experts who keep detailed files.

Gangster resume

Stomps was born in 1984.

When he was young and brash, he bragged to deputies that he was "jumped in" to the local gang when he was 12. Gang experts now say that homies will not admit to being a member of a gang any more to cops, even in front of other homies. This might be due to their awareness that confirmed gang status means additional years in prison, if found guilty at trial.

In 2001, when he was 17 years old, Stomps was in a car with other Vista Home Boys when they were stopped by deputies. Sorto was accused of participating in a robbery or "grand theft against another person." Because of his age, Sorto went through the juvenile court system. The robbery accusation was declared "true," which is the juvenile equivalent

EVIDENCE PHOTOS

RESEARCH STUDIES



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of declaring the suspect “guilty.”

In 2002, a deputy contacted Stomps for a probation violation. The young gangster had VHB tattooed across his chest.

In 2003, Stomper pleaded guilty to armed robbery, a serious felony and a strike. Stomps went to prison. In California, the Mexican Mafia is considered a prison gang, and Stomps would have been exposed to “La Eme” while he was in State prison. Experts say that crimes committed by gangsters on the street benefit the Mexican Mafia because profits are filtered back up the chain to those in prison. One way this can be done is through females who put “money on the books” of inmates. And the money from criminal enterprise can be made avail-

able to families of those in prison.

Stomps was released on parole in 2007. That year, he was listed in a “gang injunction” created against the Vista Home Boys and other gangsters in San Diego County. In 2007, a deputy found Stomper in a vehicle with an underage female. It was noted that Sorto had meth and a glass pipe and brass knuckles and a blue bandana. Blue bandanas are considered a flag for gangsters and the Mexican Mafia in California, and the gang injunction expressly forbids named persons being found with a blue bandana. So 23-year-old Stomper was sent back to prison for parole violation. Police noted at that time that there was a new tattoo across the top of Stomps’ head: VISTA in

the huge letters.

In 2009, Stomper got out of prison and was back home in Vista. Gang specialists noticed that he had a new tattoo across his upper back: VISTERO.

In 2012, deputies in Vista arrested a gangster moll named Jessica. In her cell phone, they found photos of Stomps and other Vista Home Boys. These photos were date stamped 2011.

After his stint in prison, Stomps found employment at Nemo’s Bakery. But soon he declared that he injured his back working there. He reportedly suffered a herniated disc and underwent back surgery. A claim was filed on his behalf in 2012. The legal action was against Horizon Food Group. In April 2014, Stomps received a worker’s com-



EVIDENCE PHOTOS

Evidence photos of the tattoos on Sorto’s chest and belly, Vista Home Boy, San Diego County

pensation settlement of \$70,421. His bad back reportedly caused him to live on a regimen of ten different medications, to which he added meth.

A homie who already worked at Jiffy Lube said he was able to get Stomps hired there, and he worked there as late as 2017. He liked the steady paychecks, and his homie

co-worker said customers liked Stomps very much.

Law enforcement reviewed a Facebook page in July 2017 and saw a photo featuring Stomps in the center of a group of 20 men. Most were throwing the VHB hand sign. Their sign is a V, but fingers are displayed sideways so it does not appear as a victory or peace sign.

In the photo, Stomps is wearing all black and has his arm around another homie. The occasion for the photo was paying respect to a homie who was shot by police in 2017.

In the spring of 2018, deputies arrested Stomps and accused him of multiple felonies. The crimes were alleged to benefit the Vista Home Boys gang.

Froggy gets checked

Before he was arrested, early in 2018, Stomps decided he needed to “check” his sometime roommate Froggy. There was need for enforcement. Froggy was breaking rules.

The morning of March 21, 2018, Stomps and his girlfriend and Froggy all used meth there in the apartment. Then Froggy was sent out as a runner. He was gone

RESEARCH STUDIES

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for some hours, maybe a little too long. This gave Stomps time to think. He had been suspicious for awhile. Was Froggy skimming? Was Froggy stealing meth? Or money? Or both? It did seem like Froggy was coming up short with money.

That afternoon Froggy returned to the apartment and Stomps confronted him. There in the living room, he accused Froggy of stealing. Froggy denied it. Stomps was not calm about it. He was angry, and he chose that moment to confront Froggy about another suspicion he had: that Froggy was putting moves on his girl.

Stomps' girl had told him that Froggy had put his hands on her and made unwanted advances. Froggy strongly denied it all.



VISTA tattoo across doll's head in his apartment matches the same tattoo on Sorto

While Stomps was in this ferocious mood, he told Froggy, "We are going to the car now." Froggy saw Stomps put a knife into his pocket before they left the apartment. And then, when they were in Stomps' car, he told Froggy that he fucked up. Stomps announced, "I could stab you, or you can steal a surveillance system."

Froggy chose to steal

a surveillance system.

However, Stomps did tell Froggy that they would all sit down together later, and there would be a meeting. It would be him and his girl and Froggy. They would get together and discuss what really happened in that car that day. So Froggy was aware that after he successfully collected a new surveillance system, Stomps had more



EVIDENCE PHOTOS

in mind. Later.

Steal or die

Stomps drove his car to the nearest Fry's store. He parked at a far edge of the parking lot. Froggy went into the store, but he came back empty-handed. He told Stomps there were too many people around and he just couldn't do it.

Stomps next drove to a Best Buy store. He

parked next door, at a Jack In The Box. While he went inside the restaurant, Froggy went into the Best Buy. There are surveillance photos of Stomps at the counter, and then eating at a red plastic table while he kept lookout towards the store. It took a while, but again Froggy returned. Again with no redemption in hand.

Stomps severely

warned Froggy, he had one last chance. The curved knife was brought out from the center console of his car, and set on top of the console for emphasis. Then Stomps drove to a Walmart store. He parked in a far corner of the parking lot. Stomps told Froggy to leave his cell phone in the car before he got out. And Stomps warned one last time, "You better get that shit, or I'll stab you." It was about 9 pm by this time.

Store employees later told investigators that fearful Froggy almost looked as if he was crying. They found him trying to hide in a dark corner of the electronics section. Froggy kept looking around and said that he was taking too long and that someone would come into the store after

RESEARCH STUDIES

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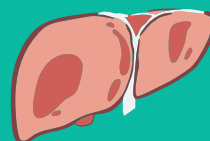


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him. Eventually Froggy told a manager, “I have to steal something here or the guy outside is going to kill me.”

Employees called 911. Deputies took Froggy away in handcuffs. But Stomps did not wait around long enough to see that. The older gangster had already left.

Benedict “Froggy” Arnold

Stomps was able to scroll through Froggy’s phone and look at his contacts. He used Froggy’s phone, pretending to be Froggy, to reach out to certain persons. And Stomps was able to get on Froggy’s social media.

Stomps put out on Froggy’s snapchat: “Whoever knows Froggy and knows where hes at turn him in,” and “If your hiding him there will be a

consequence to pay,” and “were already very close to finding your location Froggy and you know how we find information all of you have had the warning.”

And Stomps got onto his Facebook page. He put an illustration up with the caption, “The life of the traitor Benedict Arnold.”

San Diego County gang specialists could see this social media activity.

One night at Sonic Drive-in

It was on a Wednesday, March 21, 2018, when Stomps drove Froggy around to three different stores, failing to get a new surveillance system. Froggy never returned to Stomps’ apartment. He went missing that night.

It was two days later, on Friday March 23,

when Stomps arranged a meeting. Stomps used Froggy’s phone to setup a rendezvous with a female he found in the phone. This woman believed she was meeting Froggy.

Stomps had a nice apartment on a main street running through downtown Vista. He had a good view from his balcony, overlooking South Santa Fe Drive. The view included a Sonic drive-in restaurant just down the street. That Wednesday, it was easy for Stomps to arrange for the parking lot of the Sonic to be overrun with pee wees — these are the youngest of gangster wannabes, anxious to prove themselves to an OG. The teenaged toughs congregated in the parking lot while Stomps made final arrangements through Snapchat with the unsuspecting female.

When the woman drove into the parking lot at Sonic, she believed she was meeting Froggy and together they would go to the beach. That is not what happened.

She did think it was odd when Froggy directed her to parking in a certain numbered parking spot. It got stranger after the woman parked in the designated spot. Then she got a snapchat message from Froggy telling her that a different person was going to contact her there. At that moment a blue car pulled up and parked directly behind her. A large man with a shaved head got out of his car and walked to her driver’s side window. It was Stomps.

He demanded to know where Froggy was. The woman truthfully said she did not know

where Froggy was, and she asked the stranger to please move his car. Stomps ignored her and continued to demand Froggy’s whereabouts. And he bad-mouthed Froggy. The woman tried to keep calm while she asked the large man to move his car. This went on for about ten minutes.

Finally Stomps warned the woman against trying to hide Froggy, then he got into his own car and drove away. The fearful woman was allowed to leave.

Stomps in cuffs

Twelve days after the encounter at the Sonic drive-in, on April 4, 2018, deputies arrested Stomps and served a search warrant on his apartment.

When deputies arrested Stomps, they

were able to take the key to apartment 406 out of his pocket. And two cell phones.

Inside the one-bedroom apartment, deputies saw posters on the walls. Some of the posters memorialized Vista Home Boy gang members who had died.

Deputies searched Stomps’ pale blue Honda CRV.

They found a knife in the center console.

Phone calls from jail

Jose Antonio Sorto Jr. — Stomps — was 34 years old at the time of his arrest. Jail records described him as 5 feet 7 inches tall and 240 pounds. He was held in lieu of \$1,045,000 bail.

While awaiting trial, Stomps made phone calls from jail. He was anxious to find Froggy, he wanted

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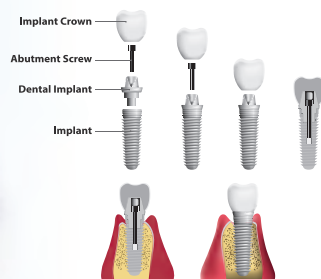
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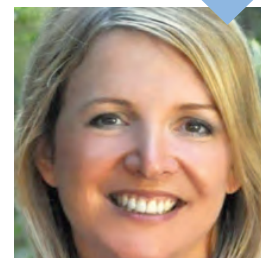
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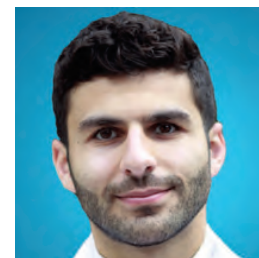
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to get messages to him. At his trial a year later, some of Stomps' recorded calls were played for a jury.

In a call dated April 10, inmate Stomps had to explain his directions to one man: "She's the one who's best friends with Froggy, fool... if you can get in contact with her, if she can get in contact with that fool, tell him to drop the fucking charges." Stomps mistakenly seemed to believe that Froggy had the ability to make the charges against him disappear.

Stomps was able to exert some influence, apparently, even while in jail. He did put out directions, and was able to receive information too.

In May, four weeks after Stomps was arrested, one female was able to make contact with Froggy, she was able to pass along a message. They communicated through Snapchat.

The woman sent: "What happen u went mia..." Missing in action. And "Text me when u get a chance."

Froggy responded, he denied that he said anything: "Honestly I haven't

spoken to anyone..."

During their back-and-forth, the woman warned Froggy: "Just be safe man and dont fuck with no body everybody is grimmy..."

A year later, a prosecutor claimed that Stomps was able to cause persons to move around in the jail system, this so he could get a loyal homie into a cell next to somebody who needed a message. On one of the recorded phone calls, Stomps says, "Tell that mother fucker to take no fucking deals... that he needs to quit with what, with what, uh, he was thinking, and saying aloud, you know what I mean?"

In other calls, Stomps sent out messages to "clean it up" and "knock it off." The prosecutor told the jury that this actually means "stop talking to investigators."

In one phone conversation, a female said to Stomps, "Hey did I tell you that [Froggy] called me?"

Stomps replied, "Oh yeah? What'd he say?"

Female, "He's like, 'Hey, let Stomps know that I'm in, um, right

there in Chula Vista."

But Stomps was already aware of this, because he replied in a bored tone, "Yeah, he's in South Bay 4."

This conversation was alarming to law enforcement, who listened to jail calls. It meant that Stomps the shot-caller was already able to arrange a homie into a jail cell directly next to a person who needed quieting. Law enforcement immediately directed jailers to move that inmate to another location. It was also remarkable that Stomps was aware of exactly who was in what cell, down to the exact module number.

In another phone call, Stomps was heard giving instructions to a certain homie that he should demand "kosher" food, because that would cause him to be transferred from one jail facility to the Vista detention facility.

Gangland: Vista

During the jury trial, gang experts testified. These witnesses spoke about old and new trends in San Diego County gangs.

One expert claimed

that drive-by shootings are not ordered anymore. He said that drive-by shootings have somehow lost "respect" and that a homie is now expected to execute his target on foot.

A Sureño was defined as a soldier for the Mexican Mafia prison

pert. "We actually built a separate office there, our gang enforcement office, right there to combat all the gang crime on that street."

The expert bemoaned, "I got kids at Rancho Buena Vista high school that are leaving that school."

"I have to steal something here or the guy outside is going to kill me."

gang. The word Sureño translates from Spanish to Southerner. In gangland, it means a gangster from south of Bakersfield, California.

One attorney asked a gang expert, "Does anybody age out of the gang?" The expert replied that current laws in California direct law enforcement to delete information after five years, if there is no new information collected on that person. He said that means proven gangsters are purged out of the law enforcement database, and those individuals are not followed in police files anymore. By law. The witness added, "That does not mean they are no longer actual gang members."

One expert who specialized in Vista Home Boys said they are connected with the numbers 22 8 2. This set of numbers is seen in graffiti and tattoos. The reason is the letter V is the 22nd letter of the alphabet, and the letter H is the 8th, and the letter B is the 2nd.

Gang behavior in the city of Vista is not slowing down at all. "Murder, stabbings, and armed robbery have skyrocketed in the last two years," one expert said. Townsite Drive and the two parks in that area are particularly overrun with gangsters, according to the ex-

The gangsters are attacking unaffiliated high school students now, he said. "They attack skate boarders, not the typical gang violence victim. They attack the kid walking to school with a backpack with his friend and his skateboard." Each gangster is seeking power and influence. "The more fear he strikes into someone the more powerful the whole gang becomes. The level of fear allows them to operate as a gang, they can victimize people without consequence."

The expert said, "It is an everyday struggle. We see people who are shot in the head. They do not want to report crimes, they don't want to say who did it." If this expert sees VHB graffiti spray-painted on a house, he will approach the homeowner, but "They will not tell me anything. They will not give me their video surveillance. It is a constant, daily struggle for me."

"The gang knows that witnesses will not show up to court. This allows them to continue on with their behavior. You will see five or six pee wees waiting around at the bus station for persons to get off the bus; they know there is no consequence for their behavior."

Innocent family members will not call 911 when a fight or stabbing

happens. "The stabbed person or shot person is dropped off at hospital and the person who brought them there does not stay. They don't want to get involved at all," the expert said.

Verdict

During trial, Stomps' father testified on his son's behalf. This was the only time that the stone-faced Stomps showed any emotion. He went red in the face and wiped his face with a tissue. Then he composed himself and his grim visage returned.

Stomp's father once said he did not know how his son paid his rent or phone bills or for groceries, according to a witness. Prosecutor Laurie Hauf asserted that her investigators could not find any evidence that Stomps had ever paid any rent or any utilities or any of his bills at all. The prosecutor told the jury, "There is something fishy going on."

The jury deliberated carefully, almost three days, before declaring Stomps guilty of six felonies. These included: making a criminal threat against Froggy, attempted extortion against Froggy and threatening with knife, false imprisonment of the female at Sonic, possession of meth for sale, and attempt to dissuade witness Froggy. The jury did declare the gang allegations to be true, which is expected to add prison time.

Jose Antonio Sorto Jr. — Stomps — is now 35 years old. He is next expected in court on June 10 at 1:30 in the afternoon, to be sentenced by the Judge William Wood, who heard trial, in San Diego's North County Superior Courthouse in Vista.

— Eva Knott

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Pedestrian street

continued from page 3

of these hit-and-runs took place when the pedestrian was deemed at fault.

The good news is that total collisions and fatalities were down about 25-percent (2011-2018) from the previous decade (2001-2010). For context, so far in 2019, Los Angeles has seven times more total collisions than San Diego. There have been more than four times the pedestrian collisions and five times the pedestrian deaths than in San Diego.

A reformed speeder and Bay Ho resident reminisced about when the 55 mph speed limit went into effect in the 1970s. "We celebrated the law by being the first people to break it. We got on the freeway a few minutes before midnight, drove the legal 65 mph limit, then

waited for the day to change."

What finally cured him of speeding was his second speeding ticket. "After my second ticket within the year, I got a little scared. I heard they could suspend your license after three moving violations. So I decided to fight the new ticket. Before going to court, I removed the speedometer from my 1968 Rambler and tightened the spring that pulls the speed indicator needle back to zero. I reassembled the dashboard and brought the car to a shop that could check the speedometer accuracy. They gave me a document showing that the speedometer said 55 when the car was going 65."

A few days later, he went to court. The judge eyeballed him for a long time before suspending the ticket on the condition that he didn't get any more speeding tickets for two years.

"For the next two years, I was careful to not speed. After two years was up, I was out of the habit. I haven't gotten a speeding ticket since."

In February, the city finished upgrading the most crash-prone intersections dubbed "the fatal 15." Twelve of them were in city councilmember Chris Ward's district, nine of those downtown.

How many fatalities at each of the fatal 15? Tracy Morales from city communications said, "There were two fatalities in 10 years, one at Coronado and Thermal [in South San Diego] and one at El Cajon and 36th [in North Park]."

The cost to update these 15 hotspots was roughly \$255,000 (\$17,000 per intersection). "Some intersections already had one or more of the following features, so this estimate is likely high: about \$10,000 for crosswalks,

\$1100 for countdown timers, and \$5900 for audible pedestrian signals."

Per Morales, there will be more improvements in all city council districts. "Sixty-six locations will receive some or all of the following as needed: electronic no-turn signs (when walk sign is on); high-visibility crosswalks.... Additionally, 215 locations will receive pedestrian countdown timers. The city expects to start these improvements this year and finish them before 2023."

I surveyed planning groups, town councils, city council offices, and residents about their concerns when it came to speeding and pedestrian safety. Most of the top intersections of concern for residents weren't listed on the city's list, including the crosswalk in front of Longfellow Elementary school in Bay Park where a parent got hit and died in 2017.

When it comes to enforcement of speed laws, a common concern was that it wasn't a top priority. One Pacific Beach resident said there seemed to be more ticketing of scooter users than of speeders on residential streets. This same resident has been asking for a pedestrian crosswalk at Riviera Drive and Graham Street in Crown Point for years, but the only improvement he has seen is a 25 mph sign — one that the majority of drivers disregard.

He doesn't hold out much hope that speeding will cease until driverless cars are more common. Michelle Abella-Shon, chair of the Scripps Ranch Civic Organization said, "The highest pedestrian risk is Mira Mesa Boulevard and the north-bound 15 on-ramp and off-ramp. "Caltrans have not done their part in ensuring pedestrian

safety on similar intersections all throughout San Diego. I've reached out to them to re-assess how they design and construct with pedestrian safety in mind."

Ed Cartagena with Caltrans told me how they approach pedestrian on-ramp safety. He said they get notice from several sources, including calls from the public, studies and reports of areas where driving behavior or incidents are occurring at a higher rate.

"Once alerted, we study the area, considering traffic volumes, weather, and changes to traffic patterns to name a few. Our engineers develop options to address these situations which may include a combination of engineering tools like additional signs, and flashing beacons and physical cues like barriers and rumble strips can also be employed." ■

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

land, airspace, impact areas, and electronic warfare systems were more limited than what was required for training with ordnance and the aircrafts' capabilities. As a result, the aviation units... could not train as they would fight, which the National Defense Strategy states is essential for lethality and success in accomplishing theater campaign and operation plan objectives."

A big part of the problem, auditors found, was the unavailability of vast expanses of airspace needed for the tricky maneuvers of flight training in the supersonic F-35 stealth fighter jet. "The Marine Corps' premier range for aviation training was the Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona," notes the Pentagon report of its months-long review. Training ranges observed at



Marine F-35 pilots complain that a lack of airspace around MCAS Yuma hampers their ability to train.

the base "included land and airspace across Arizona and California, but the airspace of various ranges were not connected," limiting operations of the supersonic aircraft. "An F-35 pilot at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma stated that, as a result of the airspace restrictions, he could not shoot stand-off weapons during normal exercises, could not fly in his fighting formation, and was limited to where he could train with live ordnance," the report says. In total,

"the F-35 pilot stated that he could not achieve five of nine mission-essential tasks at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma due to a lack of airspace."

The situation was made more critical by the absence of so-called high-end electronic warfare systems. "An F-35 pilot stated that, as of April 2018, electronic warfare systems in the Yuma Range Complex did not have the capability of an advanced near-peer adversary." Says the audit, "an example of an



"AV-88 pilots could not use their main weapon on the range because of a lack of moving targets."

advanced near-peer threat is Russia's Pantsir long-range air defense system, which includes truck-mounted surface-to-air missiles."

Unmanned aircraft fared no better. "A UAS operator stated that UAS operators were unable to obtain the airspace they needed to conduct advanced training because Yuma did not have UAS-dedicated airspace and the UAS had to share with manned aircraft."

Adding to the base's critical deficiencies were severe shortages of so-called Joint Direct Attack Munitions, auditors discovered. "The Joint Direct Attack Munition is a guidance tail kit that converts existing unguided free-fall bombs into accurate, adverse weather 'smart munitions,'" says a description posted online by the Air Force. "An AV-88 Harrier (fixed-wing) pilot stated that there was not enough ordnance for the pilots to use during training exercises," the Yuma auditors reported. "He stated that the last time the

[Marine Aircraft Group 13] pilots had JDAMs for training was 2 years ago during the weapons and tactics instructor course because JDAMs were in high demand in overseas war zones. He stated that as a result,

there was a good chance that Marines would arrive in a combat environment never having trained with the JDAM. He stated that the simulators cannot replicate the missile well enough to provide effective or realistic training."

The problem of finding something to shoot at also hindered training, the report found. "Another AV-88 pilot stated that the main weapon used on the Harrier is a laser-guided rocket, which is an advanced precision kill weapon system used against moving targets. He stated that the AV-88 pilots could not use their main weapon on the range because of a lack of moving targets."

The root of the problems, the audit says, was that the country's "land, airspace, and impact areas on training ranges were designed to meet mission needs of World War II and the Cold War," and that "funds available for modernizing range capabilities, such as electronic warfare systems, were prioritized for opera-

tions in Southwest Asia, and limited by continuing resolutions." The document targets "protection of endangered species" and "safety considerations related to the use of weapons" as training inhibitors. Other findings were redacted from the public release of the audit. Recommendations "including addressing the airspace and impact area needs of advanced aircraft and weapons, such as the F-35; and the need to join neighboring airspace on a continuing basis," were concurred on by Pentagon brass, the report says. "We will close the recommendation when we verify that the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment developed and implemented a plan to field and sustain DoD-wide solutions to address training gaps," the document says.

Matt Potter

Under the radar

continued from page 3

a self-starter who will be able to generate compelling ideas and use social media to improve coverage and contribute innovative storytelling ideas and efforts."

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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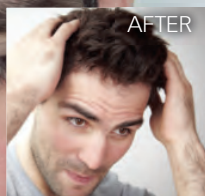
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LETTERS

continued from page 4

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Daniel J Smiechowski
Bay Ho

Borderline car-crazed

Why are you crazy to buy a car in Tijuana? ("You're Crazy to Buy a Car in Tijuana," City Lights, June 13, 2002) – that is what I had in mind, purchasing a 2019 Chevy Cavalier and bringing the car back to the U.S.A. – now, will the Chevy dealers and independent car shops be able to service the 2019 Chevy Cavalier in Ohio? Can I purchase the new Cavalier in Tijuana, Mexico and drive it to San Diego just like that, over the US-Mexico border? – this vehicle is not available here in the U.S.A. – which is why I would buy this car in Tijuana, Mexico.

John Shutrump, Jr.
Youngstown, Ohio

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

"Dumbo: The IMAX 2D Experience" Movie Reviews April 29

I watched this movie with my boyfriend the day before yesterday and did not regret it. Although the film was announced as a family one, I enjoyed watching it very much, as I plunged into my childhood and thought: "I'd see such a film in second grade with my dad and mom. A good fairy tale for children, without claiming more. I can't say that my boyfriend enjoyed the film, rather from its individual elements – DeVito, Niko, Dumbo himself, a circus. He considers himself a great connoisseur of cinema, and he said the same opinion after the film. *Dumbo* is an excellent movie for viewers of the youngest age whose upper threshold is

ending at 13-14 years. I watched the whole show and thought: "Why did Dumbo entrust Burton? Disney, who loves literal film versions much more (*Cinderella*, *The Beauty and the Beast*,) judging by the commercials, this includes *Aladdin* and *The Lion King*) What is the improvisation on the subject of old fairy tales ("Maleficent"), why did you take Tim in Dumbo? No, seriously, this director is known primarily for his deliberate grotesqueness and gloominess, and this elephant is alien to flying elephant. If he was entrusted with the second "Maleficent," no questions there and the gloom is required, and you can play, but here?

—Anyatori44

"SD Symphony musicians slower than conductor Jahja Ling"
Classical Music
April 17
Weber is really a wonderful composer. *Der Freischütz* –

the music is good enough and reflects the story of the development of young love and agreement with the devil. But the overall impression of what I heard was different. My big discovery in Chopin's *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra* was the performance of Jan Lisiecki. His piano playing inspired me so much that I completely forgot about the bad mood from the previous performance. Jan Lisiecki played her amazingly. It even exceeded all my expectations. About Brahms *Symphony number 4*, I just keep silence.

—Anyatori44

Street Style

Continued from page 14

color and length you could possibly think of. Although I think that out of all of the colors and cuts I've had, this is by far my favorite. I think it defines my personality best." I asked her to describe her overall fashion sense, and she replied, "The best way to describe my style would have to be 'a clash between alterna-

tive and '60s.'"

I asked her about her outfit. Her black bell-sleeve blouse (\$8) that rustled with the breeze and form-fitting checkered pants (\$10) were Forever 21 purchases. For accessories, she wore patent black booties from Aldo (\$60), an embroidered floral bag from Topshop (\$40), and fun fuschia earrings from Target (\$13). She completed the look with some round Ray-Ban sunglasses (\$150). ■

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ary and Water Commission in July 2018, days after the city of Imperial Beach filed a similar suit that also included the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The state attorney general's office filed its own suit not long after. The lawsuits seek to force the federal agencies to contain and clean the trash, storm water, and sewage that flow into the U.S. from Tijuana, where the city has outgrown its infrastructure.

Since then, IB officials, Wildcoast, and Surfrider have met with state and federal officials in the U.S. and Mexico, trying to obtain funding for solutions in both the U.S. and Mexico. They've included the city of Coronado and Coronado residents in meetings on the sewage crisis. But they failed to include San Ysidro as a stakeholder in a Surfrider plan — though it closely resembles the plan drawn up several years ago by the state Regional Water Quality Control Board for its Tijuana River Recovery Project — which has been under discussion for months. (The Surfrider website shows that the group held a meeting in mid-March, where the plan was revealed to stakeholders.) Aguirre attended the San Ysidro meeting and later reported to the IB city council that she learned "there are opportunities for collaboration" with the San Ysidro residents. A spokesperson from Surfrider said that the organization is "inclusive" and will involve San Ysidro in future discussions.

Leon Benham, an Imperial Beach resident and restoration expert, brought forth an alternative plan. He proposed that, rather than pooling the noxious liquids until the border sewage treatment plan can process it, local officials purchase and install four pumps near the single river diverter in Mexico, which is chronically overwhelmed during storms and heavy flows. The four pumps have eight times the capacity of the diverter in Mexico, and would pump the flows directly into the international treatment plant and the city of San Diego's South Bay treatment plant, which Benham says is underutilized. Water that isn't contaminated by sewage, mainly stormwater, could be sent through the existing but improved north and south river channels to the beach, according to the alternative plan. This would also bring fresh sand to IB's shrinking beach, restoring a natural cycle that would protect the city's shoreline against sea level rise. By contrast, the Surfrider plan leaves the basin operators with sediment that has to be removed and disposed of at a cost estimated to be at least \$7 million each year.

MARTY GRAHAM

OCEANSIDE

Priority: pools or police? Surplus situation pits new station against recreation

Oceanside is on a spending binge. Thanks to an extra \$11 million coming in this year from the Measure X sales tax increase approved in November, the city council voted to rebuild its downtown fire station and to remodel beach bathrooms which had become embarrassingly run down. But the biggest windfall comes this fall: the bond on its 30-year-old city hall complex will be entirely paid off, allowing Oceanside to redirect that bond (as if it were a line-of-credit loan) into another major investment.

"Our headquarters are inadequate," Oceanside Chief of Police Frank McCoy said at the annual budget workshop April 17, held in front of the city council. "We are [headquartered] in what used to be a grocery store and a Miller's Outpost." Police spokesman Tom Bussey says he and other cops who were on the force didn't mind when they moved into their current digs 20 years ago. "But we were told that it would be for only ten years...Our evidence room is on the other side of town in East Oceanside, and we don't even have a training center." The plan was that Oceanside, like Carlsbad, would one day get its own complex, one that would house fire and police operations in a single civic safety center. Donna McGinty has lived in Oceanside since she was a baby, and she's been speaking about public safety at city council meetings for about half of her 77 years. "They have outgrown it," says McGinty of the Oceanside police headquarters. "Plus, it's in a bad location. Because of the way the



Former councilwoman Mackin - "You can judge the quality of a city by its parks and recreation."

city has grown, [the police headquarters] are not in the center of the city any more. If they moved it to El Corazon, that would put it in the center of Oceanside."

But Oceanside has other plans for El Corazon, the mostly undeveloped 465 acres the city acquired for civic use in 2003. El Corazon is described in promo material as "...in the heart of our city, between Mesa Drive and Oceanside Boulevard and El Camino Real and Rancho Del Oro Drive." Council members won't say they are anti-cop; it's just they have other priorities when it comes to major infrastructure needs. Instead of emulating Carlsbad's safety center,



Brooks Street pool. "We could have swim lessons all year long. It's like concert tickets. The last time we opened up sales for them they sold out in 12 minutes."

Oceanside is now on track to build an Olympic-sized pool at El Corazon, something like Carlsbad's Alga Norte. "It's something we've been pushing for the last five or six years as a community," says Scott Wagner, El Camino High's swim coach. "The two pools we have right now are old and insufficient. They can't support swim meets or water polo meets. Carlsbad is further away" — some six miles from the El Corazon site — "and it's heavily used. We're a community of 180,000 and we have the land for it. It's now just a matter of getting bids."

Why is the city infatuated with building its third swimming pool, an Olympic-sized \$23-million beauty, at El Corazon complex, instead of dealing with police needs? "Personally, I would love to have a new police station," says city councilman Christopher Rodriguez. "A police station with its own jail cell is a need. But our community wants an aquatic complex." Besides, he says, the cost of building a new safety center would far exceed \$100 million. "It would be four or five times the cost of the aquatic center. I think it would be more realistic to find additional space [for the police]."

If built, The El Corazon aquatics center would become home for the Oceanside and El Camino high school water polo and swim team practices and CIF meets, freeing up the other two pools for community swims and youth swim classes. (As it is, Brooks Street aquatics technician Phillip Polen says there are not enough opportunities for all the local kids who want to learn to swim. "We could have swim lessons all year long. It's like concert tickets. The last time we opened up sales for them, they sold out in 12 minutes.") That is, if the pools remain. Rodriguez caused a stir last month when he suggested on social media that the city may have to close the Marshall Street pool in South Oceanside. Like the

Brooks Street pool, it was built in the 50s. "It costs \$650,000 a year to maintain those two pools. And it will cost another \$500,000 a year to maintain the new aquatic center at El Corazon." While the council recently voted to keep Marshall Street open through this summer, Rodriguez says some big decisions may have to be made eventually about Oceanside's two 60-year-old pools. "The Brooks Street pool is actually sinking into the ground. It was built on a garbage dump. If Brooks Street becomes unsafe, we'll just have to shut it down." Rodriguez says the estimates to repair the sinking Brooks Street pool are over \$500,000.

Former city councilwoman Shari Mackin defies Rodriguez to close Marshall Street pool. "If he thinks he's closing it down, he's got another think coming. You can judge the quality of a city by its parks and recreation. They improve life for kids and families." Mackin says this is not the first time her neighborhood pool has been threatened. "They tried to shut Marshall Street down before. They also tried to privatize it."

Funny you should mention that: Rodriguez says he wants to privatize the pools once the El Corazon Aquatic Center arrives. "I'd really like to hire a private firm to manage our pools and run them like a business. We're not doing a good job as a city running our pools. It's hard to find staff. It doesn't pay very well. If we privatized them, they would be maintained and marketed better to the public." But what about the staff who teach Oceanside kids to swim each summer? "I would like to see them rehired by the new company," says Rodriguez.

At its April 24th meeting, the city council agreed to hire RNT Architects of San Diego to help oversee the bidding and construction of the El Corazon Aquatics Center and authorized the city engineer to put out bids for its construction. The city allowed RNT to charge up to \$522,746 for its services.

KEN LEIGHTON

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



PRESIDIO PARK

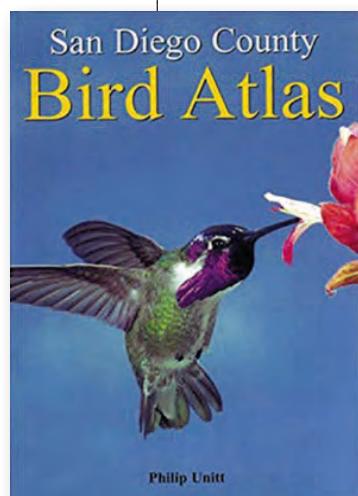
Thursday | 2

GARDEN OF THE DEAD REBORN

Local "History Alive" series continues with historian Alexander Bevil on the importance of the "Garden of the Dead," known as "The Franciscan Garden," located at the foot of Presidio Park. San Diego leader George Marston donated the park land in 1929, knowing how many important people were buried there. He urged civic attention, to no avail. Now Bevil is trying to finish what Marston started.

WHEN: Thursday, May 2, 7 pm to 8:30 pm

WHERE: H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olive Street, Lemon Grove. lghistorical.org



Philip Unitt

SAN DIEGO BIRDS, REVEALED

The *San Diego County Bird Atlas* puts each species into its proper context. In his presentation, author Philip Unitt will address surprises the atlas reveals and how it has been used in studies of rare species in need of conservation. Unitt is Curator of birds and mammals at the San Diego

Natural History Museum.

WHEN: Friday, May 3, 6 pm to 8 pm

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

Coyote Stage, mariachis, and a ballet folklórico competition in the historic state park.

WHEN: Friday, May 3, 4 pm to 9 pm; Saturday, May 4, 10 am to 10 pm; Sunday, May 5, 10 am to 5 pm

WHERE: Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street, Old Town. cincodemayoldtowntown.com



FRIDAY, MAY 3: OLD TOWN CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA



identity as an illegal immigrant kept secret, and so he agrees to become Short Man's friend. But Tall Man is about to find out what a high price he has paid for the secrecy.

WHEN: Fridays and Saturdays 8 pm, Sundays 2 pm. Through May 26. Spanish-language performances May 5, May 10, May 17 and May 25.

WHERE: Patio Playhouse Theatre, 116 S. Kalmia Street, Escondido. patioplayhouse.com

Tuesday | 7

THE CHURCH AT BELLY UP

Australian dream pop band the Church, will celebrate the 30th anniversary of their biggest album release, *Starfish* which spawned the hit single "Under the Milky Way." That track has been heard everywhere from the *Donnie Darko* soundtrack to car commercials, and it's been covered by the Killers, Sia, and others.

WHEN: Tuesday, May 7, 8 pm

WHERE: Belly Up Tavern, 143 S. Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach. bellyup.com



Friday | 3

OLD TOWN CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA

Cinco de Mayo celebrates the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. A relatively minor holiday in Mexico, in the United States Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage. The Old Town fiesta will have a mercado, lucha libre wrestling, Latin bands and groups on the Café

Saturday | 4

ANIMALES NOCTURNOS, NOCTURNAL

Blackmail. It's such a dirty word. All Short Man wants is a friend. Someone to go for a drink with, someone who's always there to listen. All Tall Man wants is his

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

SAN DIEGUITO LAGOON (SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK)

Enjoy native plants and shorebirds while exploring the lagoon.

Driving directions: From I-5, head west on Via De La Valle toward the fairgrounds/race track. Turn left onto Jimmy Durante Drive and continue to the roundabout. Take the 3rd exit onto San Dieguito Drive. Park in the lot on the left side of the street. Note that this is paid parking and it is the only parking in the area. Once parked, walk across the bridge over the San Dieguito River. Look northwest behind the buildings and see the river continue to Dog Beach, the terminus of the river. On the left bank is the River Path that will take you to Dog Beach. **Hiking length:** 2 miles out-and-back. The trail continues for another 1.5 miles if a longer 5-mile out-and-back hike is desired. **Difficulty:** Easy, paved path. Another option is to turn left/south out of the parking lot and drive down about ¾ mile to find a well-marked easy trail for kids on the left. Dogs on leashes and mountain bikes allowed.



Enjoy the view from the bridge

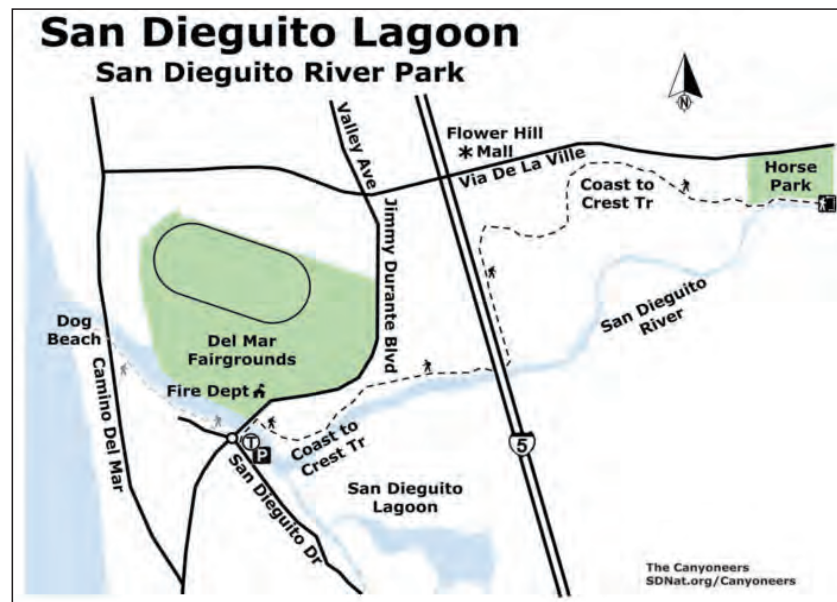
San Dieguito Lagoon is the largest of San Diego County's six lagoons and is part of the 92,000-acre San Dieguito River Park. The park contains the Coast to Crest Trail, which will eventually run from Volcan Mountain near Julian all the way to the coast at Del Mar. The final trail will be over 70 miles in length, but presently only 45 miles have been completed.

This area at the mouth of the San Dieguito River in Del Mar is a terrific example of a successful restoration project. The San Diego River Valley Conservancy teamed up with the folks from the San

Dieguito River Park to get this project completed at one of the end points for the Coast to Crest Trail. (At the other end, Volcan Mountain holds the headwaters for the San Dieguito River, San Diego River, San Luis Rey River, and San Felipe Creek.)

The project involved dredging a large dirt parking lot on the south side of the fairground that bordered the San Dieguito Lagoon. This opened up the tidal flow in 2011, and today the lagoon is full of plant and bird life.

Note that the trail meanders for 2.5 miles east
continued on page 34



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

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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Del Mar National Horse Show

The show features three separate weeks of equestrian competition. Hunter/Jumper week is April 30th through May 5th. **free**-\$21. Del Mar Arena, Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Family Farm Day There is no better way to connect as a family than to be out in nature and doing engaging activities that ignite creativity and nurture relationships with each other and nature. Ages kindergarten and up, but best for k-5th. Sunday, May 5, 10am; \$10-\$55. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

Walk for Animals: San Diego

Join us on Saturday, May 4, 2019, for San Diego's largest dog walk: the Walk for Animals - San Diego, a 2-mile walk at NTC Park at Liberty Station. Saturday, May 4, 7am; \$10-\$40. Liberty Station NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

ART

Chula Vista Quilters Guild Show

Over 150 traditional and contemporary quilts, wall hangings, wearables and crafts. Hoffman Challenge exhibit "SHINE-ON." Friday, May 3, 10am; \$5. Community Congregational Church, 276 F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Craig Wedren: My '90s Craig Wedren of Shudder to Think will be on hand for a photo exhibit and live performance. DJs include Captain Blackie and Ian Utero. Saturday, May 4, 6pm; Vinyl Junkies Record Shack, 2235 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Diamonds in the Veins Opening Artist June Rubin, inspired by her dream about "diamonds in the veins," has created a whimsical series of mixed media artworks. Runs for the month of May. Friday, May 3, 5pm; **free**. June Rubin Studio/Gallery, 2690 Historic Decatur Road #214. (LIBERTY STATION)

First Friday Art Walk OMA including National Watercolor Society: Southern California Inspirations, Past and Present, VALYA: SHE, San Diego Surreal, and Matthew Barnes: Painter of the Night. Friday, May 3, 5pm; **free**. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Free First Sunday Embrace creativity and visit OMA. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December

1, **free**. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Portrait of a Woman Veteran female veterans were paired with local artists to meet and have a conversation about their military experience. The artists then created portraits inspired by the conversation to honor the veteran. At the reception, the artists and the women veterans who inspired their work will present their collaboration to the public. Friday, May 3, 6pm; **free**. Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Tashi Norbu Live Painting

Tashi Norbu, a world renowned Tibetan contemporary artist, will share his Tibetan rituals and recite powerful mantras while performing a live painting bringing wellness, happiness and prosperity to the world. Thursday, May 2, 6pm; **free**. Earth's Elements, 559 South Coast Hwy 101. (ENCINITAS)

Welcome Home Welcome Home is the culminating exhibition of a year long participatory photography project called Being at Home. This exhibition highlights the work of 20 + City Heights based youth and artists through photography, poetry, and community art. Friday, May 3, 5pm; **free**. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Yasmine Kasem: Jihad of Bitter Petals are works questioning what it is to be caught between the struggle and submission and the merger of Queer and Islamic Identities in a single body. Performance Space, 306 Visual Arts Facility, UC San Diego Friday, May 3, 12pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

BEER

Cinco de Mayo Fiesta Cantina Pub Crawl

Cinco De Mayo Pub Crawl San Diego Edition Time to put those Sombreros on and head out for the Ultimate Fiesta. Deals last for at least three hours at each location. Saturday, May 4, 3pm; \$10. 21 and up. Taste & Thirst on Fourth, 715 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Rhythm & Brews Music and Craft Beer Festival You'll have the opportunity to sample 100+ beers from more than 50 award-winning breweries, all while grooving to live musical performances and enjoying delicious eats from local eateries. Saturday, May 4, 1pm; Vista Village, Vista Village Drive at Highway 78. (VISTA)

Star Wars Day Beer Release

Longship Brewery is launching a sinister Imperial Stout on 5/4/19 - better known as May the Fourth Be With You, or, #StarWarsDay This small batch beer will be accompanied by a special T-Shirt release on May 4th. Saturday, May 4, 12pm; Longship Brewery, 10320 Camino Santa Fe. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Tacos and Tequila Fabulous music, delicious tacos, spine tickling tequila, enjoy it all Cinco de Mayo weekend. Saturday, May 4, 3pm; \$30-\$40. 21 and up. Centre, 1205 Auto Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Author of the Month: Janet White

Janet White is the May Author of the Month. She will speak about her new book, Beethoven's String Quartet Opus 74 'The Harp. Saturday, May 4, 12:30pm; **free**. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Book Release Party Book release party honoring Marshaun Olanian, author of *Twenty Ways to Create an Awesome Love Story*. Guests will enjoy light hor d'oeuvres, music, wine, photos, and a free copy of the book. Q & A session to be moderated by Sequieta. Saturday, May 4, 6pm; **free**-\$15. 21 and up. Sisterlocks, 2043 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Ian McEwan: Machines Like Me

Warwick's and the University of San Diego will host Ian McEwan, in conversation with Dr. Brian Clack, to discuss McEwan's new book, "Machines Like Me." Friday, May 3, 7pm; \$29-\$39. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Marcie Colleen: Penguinaut

Local childrens book author of staff favorite Penguinaut!, Marcie Colleen will present a storytime and book signing. Saturday, May 4, 11am; **free**. Book Catapult, 3010-B Juniper Street. (SOUTH PARK)

San Diego Poetry Annual Reading

Come to the spacious Escondido Municipal Gallery for a celebration of, and to hear poets read their work from, the brand new anthology. Sunday, May 5, 1pm; **free**. Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 E. Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Brazilian Rhythms Workshop

Fun, interactive performance involving audience participation, body percussion and singing in Portuguese as she presents Brazilian folklore and traditional rhythms. Thursday, May 2, 10:30am; **free**. Point Loma Library, 3701 Voltaire Street. (POINT LOMA)

DIY History: Oral History Workshop

This introductory workshop will discuss the importance of oral history and help you get started conducting your own oral histories. Saturday, May 4, 9:30am; \$20-\$30. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, Suite 3. (BALBOA PARK)

Drop In & Write

Bring your pen and a notebook to an hour of writerly fun. Includes prompt(s), time to write, and time to share. Open to all levels of writers, ages 18 and up. Saturday, May 4, 12pm; **free**. 18 and up. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Embrace Your Creativity

Learning something new, like felting, is good for your brain. Join us to discover this ancient technique while

Mother's Day Buffet

Sunday, May 12

Breakfast • Brunch • Lunch

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

**Breakfast Favorites • Carving Station • Salad Bar
Mexican Cuisine • Fresh Tortillas • Chef's Dessert Table
Full Bar • \$3 Mimosas • \$5 Bloody Mary's**

\$22.95 Adults • \$12.95 Children 10yrs & under
Reservations suggested. Large parties welcome.

For Reservations Call: (619) 297-2231

Beverages & gratuity not included.

Coupons and Discounts are not accepted for Holiday Brunches.

The Waffle Spot will be Open from 7 AM —2 PM!



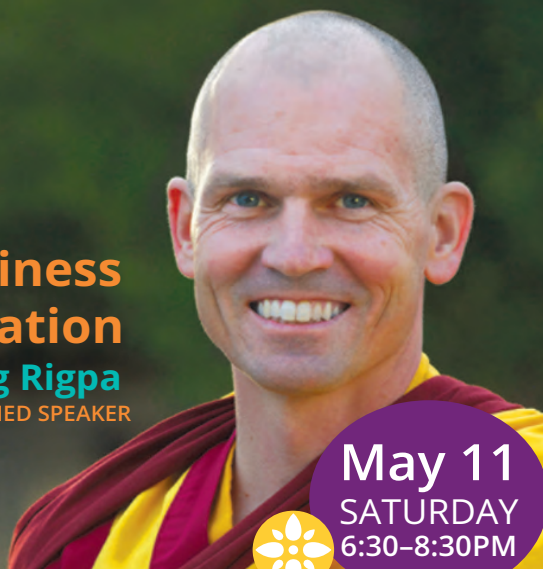
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through Meditation
with Gen Kelsang Rigpa**

INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED SPEAKER



**May 11
SATURDAY
6:30-8:30PM**

Free entrance to the
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starting at 5:30 pm.

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ADVANCE - EVERYONE WELCOME**
Register at: MeditateInSanDiego.org

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PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS IN BALBOA PARK**



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**SATURDAY
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**FIVE STAGES | LIVE ART | CRAFT BEER
KIDS BLOCK | SPIRIT GARDEN | FOOD
FUN IN THE HEART OF NORTH PARK**

relaxing and letting creativity take over. Saturday, May 4, 1pm; \$55. Iyengar Yoga Center of North County, 2210 Encinitas Boulevard suite U. (ENCINITAS)

Goat's Milk Soap Making Class Learn how to make natural hand-made soap using farm fresh herbs and goat's milk. You will receive a bar of organic herbal soap made of premium oils and goat milk from our farm, a mold, and directions to take home with you. Sunday, May 5, 1pm; \$25-\$30. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

Hand Painted Silk Scarf Hand paint on silk using heat set non-toxic dyes as you learn a simple and fast technique. Please register in advance. Saturday, May 4, 10am; \$40-\$44. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Happy Hour Hands On Kimchi Workshop Kimchi is an ancient Korean pickle and there are hundreds of ways to make it. Roll up your sleeves and make your very own batch of spicy kimchi to take home and ferment. Friday, May 3, 6pm; \$50. Future Generations Center for Healthy Families, 3355 4th Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Indigo Dye & Shibori Explore the many possibilities of magical Indigo dyeing with bold and beautiful Shibori, the ancient Japanese art of dyeing natural fabrics and using resist techniques like folding, clamping, stitching, twisting and compressing. Bring your clean 100% natural fabric to dye. Please register in advance. Sunday, May 5, 2pm; \$76-\$88. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Introduction to Circuits Using Makey Makey Students will learn how to create fun circuits using Makey-Makey circuit boards accentuated with everyday items like gummy bears, tin foil, a bouncy ball and a banana. Saturday, May 4, 2pm; Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Macrame Floating Shelf Craft Workshop These are a perfect accent to any home. Saturday, May 4, 4pm; \$55. Spiritivity, 102 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Mindfulness Workshop & Meditation Invitation to Happiness "Getting Rid of Negative Influences" Evil spirits are just souls of

people with a negative mind who have passed on but can't find their way back to heaven. Understand what they are and how they work to protect yourself from being influenced by them. Saturday, May 4, 11am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Natural Wellness Class consists of 6 sessions and will teach you how to create a healthier lifestyle through detoxifying the body and the mind as well as showing you how to create a daily wellness plan. For more information please email Merv Jensen @ mervin.jensen@nationalcity-library.org or call (619) 470-5830. Sunday, May 5, 2pm; **free**. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

Serum Making Class In Serum Making Class, learn about the different vitamins and active ingredients used to improve skin texture, minimize wrinkle lines, improve elasticity, treat acne, and even skin tone. Attend in person or online. Sunday, May 5, 12pm; \$99. Soap-making Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Strategies for Managing Stress Stress is an everyday reality, but how you deal with it can affect your overall health. Attend this free workshop to learn strategies for staying calm, cool and collected even in stressful situations. Thursday, May 2, 10:30am; **free**. López Ridge Park, 7245 Calle Cristobal. (MIRA MESA)

You Can be a Veterinarian Camp (Internal) You Can Be a Veterinarian Camp offers a rare opportunity for kids (ages 9-16 years old) in San Diego to practice veterinary skills, interact with animals, and gain experience with equipment they might use in the future! Sunday, May 5, 9am; \$72. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

You Can be a Veterinarian Camp (Surgical) You Can Be a Veterinarian Camp offers a rare opportunity for kids (ages 9-16 years old) in San Diego to practice veterinary skills, interact with animals, and gain experience with equipment they might use in the future! Saturday, May 4, 9am; \$72. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Rhyme & Verse

Three Sonnets for May by Stephen Vincent Benet

May Morning

I lie stretched out upon the window-seat
And doze, and read a page or two, and doze,
And feel the air like water on me close,
Great waves of sunny air that lip and beat
With a small noise, monotonous and sweet,
Against the window — and the scent of cool,
Frail flowers by some brown and dew-drenched pool
Possesses me from drowsy head to feet.

This is the time of all-sufficing laughter
At idiotic things some one has done,
And there is neither past nor vague hereafter.
And all your body stretches in the sun
And drinks the light in like a liquid thing;
Filled with the divine languor of late spring.

Talk

Tobacco smoke drifts up to the dim ceiling
From half a dozen pipes and cigarettes,
Curling in endless shapes, in blue rings wheeling,
As formless as our talk. Phil, drawling, bets
Cornell will win the relay in a walk,
While Bob and Mac discuss the Giants' chances;
Deep in a morris-chair, Bill scowls at 'Falk',
John gives large views about the last few dances.

And so it goes — an idle speech and aimless,
A few chance phrases; yet I see behind
The empty words the gleam of a beauty tameless,
Friendship and peace and fire to strike men blind,
Till the whole world seems small and bright to hold —
Of all our youth this hour is pure gold.

Nos Immortales

Perhaps we go with wind and cloud and sun,
Into the free companionship of air;
Perhaps with sunsets when the day is done,
All's one to me — I do not greatly care;
So long as there are brown hills — and a tree
Like a mad prophet in a land of death —
And I can lie and hear eternally
The vast monotonous breathing of the earth.

I have known hours, slow and golden-glowing,
Lovely with laughter and suffused with light,
O Lord, in such a time appoint my going,
When the hands clench, and the cold face grows white,
And the spark dies within the feeble brain,
Spilling its star-dust back to dust again.



Stephen Vincent Benet (1898-1943) was an American poet and fiction writer best known for his long poem about the American Civil War *John Brown's Body*, published in 1928. Benet's short stories "The Devil and Daniel Webster" (1936) and "By the Waters of Babylon" have passed into the literary canon as exemplars of the short fiction form. His adaptation of the Roman account of the rape of the Sabine Women, the short story "The Sobbin' Women" was the basis for the Academy Award-winning 1954 musical film *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

COMEDY

Capitol Steps The Capitol Steps were born in December, 1981 when some staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party. Song parodies & skits which conveyed a special brand of satirical humor that was as popular in Peoria as it was on Pennsylvania Avenue. Friday, May 3, 8pm; Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

Frankie Quinones Frankie Quinones is a stand-up comedian best known for his character work. Additionally, he has made appear-

ances on Comedy Central, HBO, TBS, and Nickelodeon. Saturday, May 4, 7pm; \$25-\$35. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

May The Fourth Be With You Burlesque dancer, Lola Demure, celebrates *Star Wars* with a May The Fourth Be With You Variety Show featuring circus performers, comedians, and dancers, disguised as your favorite characters from the movies Saturday, May 4, 7:30pm and 10pm; House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Seth Meyers Seth Meyers is an Emmy Award-winning writer and current host of "Late Night with Seth Meyers." Friday, May 3, 7pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Cinco de Mayo Dance Party Oceanside Country Club Senior Center proudly presents actress, model, vocalist, dancer and performer Diana Ferrer and her band, for your dancing pleasure. Sunday, May 5, 3pm; \$10. 21 and up. Country Club Senior Center, 455 Country Club Lane. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Contra Dance Come join us for modern American folk dancing to live music. No partner necessary, no experience necessary. Friday, May 3, 7:30pm; \$10. Trinity

United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Social Dance Dance the night away with dance styles and music such as swing, salsa, rumba, hustle, waltz, and foxtrot. This is an event open to the general public so bring any friends, family, or partners to join you on the dance floor. Saturday, May 4, 7pm; \$10. 18 and up. Trilogy Ballroom Dance Studio, 16769 Bernardo Center Dr., Ste 26. (OCEANSIDE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

City Heights Law Day The annual ABA Law Day event promotes scholarship and justice in City Heights, one of the most culturally diverse neighborhoods in the United States. Saturday, May 4, 9am; **free**. City Heights Weingart Library, 3795 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Community Conversation: Policing Ourselves The purpose of this event is to generate dialogue among community members collectively and creatively while answering the questions "What are the rules we live by, and why?" Saturday, May 4, 1pm; **free**. Skyline Hills Branch Library, 7900 Paradise Valley Road. (SKYLINE)

Rally For Science Join us for the 2019 Rally For Science and you can help form the world's largest

DNA strand. We will take an aerial picture to send to policy-makers along with specific demands to keep science in the DNA of public policy. Saturday, May 4, 10am; **free**. Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

FOR KIDS

Battle of the Bands Recreational Music Center (RMC), a non-profit community music school, debuts their second-annual Battle of the Bands featuring eight young rock bands comprised of music students ages 9-18. Friday, May 3, 5pm; **free**. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Dance Pants Party Recommended for toddlers, preschoolers, and elementary-school age kids, this simple dance program will feature the Hokey Pokey, the Chicken Dance, and more. Families, it's time to get your groove on. Thursday, May 2, 10:30am; **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Free Comic Book Day Storytime Join us for a special storytime and activities with a focus on comic book themes. Then pick up a free comic for kids and adults. Saturday, May 4, 11am; Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

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- Disc herniation, arthritis, spinal stenosis, spinal disc decompression, scoliosis, failed back or neck surgery,
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SHEEP and GOATS

Billy Graham

"I don't think I would be afraid to die if I knew what to expect after death," said a young man with an incurable disease. Evidently, he had not heard of what God "has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Corinthians 2:9). This young man had within him the fear of death. By nature, we fear the unknown. But the Bible says that the grave is not the end for anyone but rather the beginning of eternity.... The child of God has no need to fear death. Why? God has not left us with the spirit of hopelessness, for He is "the God of hope" (Romans 15:13). Death, for the Christian, is overcome

by the reality of hope—Heaven. This term born again has fascinated people for centuries. It simply means "born from above"—born into the family of God. We are all God's creation, but we are not all God's children. Those who are born only once (physical birth) will experience physical and spiritual death, what the Bible calls the second death. But those who are born twice (physically and spiritually) will die only a physical death because they will be resurrected to life eternal.

— from *Where I Am* by Billy Graham.

Billy Graham (1918–2018) was an American preacher, Christian evangelist and one of the

most prominent religious figures of the 20th and early 21st century. Internationally known and revered, Graham was an ordained Southern Baptist famous for his expansive indoor and outdoor "Crusades," which, among Christian events, only papal audiences, especially those of John Paul II, seemed to rival in attendance. One of the original TV evangelists, he was an early proponent of racial integration and invited Martin Luther King, Jr., to preach jointly at his 1957 revival in New York City. Graham was also known as a spiritual advisor to U.S. Presidents, from Harry S. Truman to Barack Obama, and was particularly close to Dwight Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, and Richard Nixon.



Find more excerpts online at
SDReader.com/worship

Girls on the Run Spring 5k Join in a 5K at Crown Point Park! Proceeds benefit Girls on the Run, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping girls reach their potential. Sunday, May 5, 7:30am; \$15-\$35. Crown Point, 3700 Crown Point Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

ScholarShare 529 Toddler Time: Finger Painting Our Museum hosts facilitated toddler programming every Friday morning beginning at 10am. Free with admission. Friday, May 3, 10am; **free**-\$14. New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

FUNDRAISERS

ASCERS Run For Sight Join us for the Seventh Annual ASCERS Foundation Run for Sight 5K Run & 1 Mile Walk sponsored by Johnson & Johnson Vision. Online Registration is \$35 and includes a race shirt. Onsite registration will be available for \$40. Sunday, May 5, 6:30am; \$35. Fifth Avenue Landing, 600 Convention Way. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Cinco De Mayo Trail Run The Cinco De Mayo Trail Run brings

together athletes, runners, families and friends to support Valley Elementary's disadvantaged students. e Blue Sky Ecological Reserve. Saturday, May 4, 6:30am; \$10-\$40. Lake Poway Recreation Area, 14644 Lake Poway Road. (POWAY)

Miracle Babies 11th Annual Superhero 5K The 11th annual Miracle Babies Superhero 5K includes a timed 5K run at 8:00am, followed by a family-friendly 5K walk at 9:00am, perfect for all levels. Attendees are encouraged to show their spirit by dressing up as their favorite superhero! Sunday, May 5, 8am; \$10-\$45. Liberty Station NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

We Walk for HOPE 5k The We Walk for HOPE 5k was created by the Webber family, in an attempt to turn their pain into purpose. On June 2, 2017 the Webber's lost their son Garrett to an opioid overdose. Sadly, there are many people who do not have the financial means to get treatment. All the proceeds from the walk go to the Garrett Webber Memorial Scholarship Fund at Genesis Recovery, and will assist an individual in getting life changing/life saving treatment. Saturday, May 4, 9am; \$35. Genesis

Recovery, 24352 Featherstone Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

LECTURES

Art of the Indigenous Americas Receive a visually rich background of the era and the art created and learn about the socio, politic, and economic influences upon artists and see how the world in which artists worked is reflected in their work. Thursday, May 2, 9:30am; \$12-\$15. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Asylum at the Border Amnesty Int'l North County Group 471, AI Clubs at Rancho Buena Vista HS & Mira Costa College invite the community to a movie screening followed by a panel of expert speakers sharing their work, perspective, and answering questions from the audience. Saturday, May 4, 5:30pm; \$3-\$20. Rancho Buena Vista High School, 1601 Longhorn Drive. (VISTA)

Garden of the Dead Reborn The Lemon Grove Historical Society continues its "History Alive" series with historian Alexander

Bevil on the importance of the "Garden of the Dead," AKA "The Franciscan Garden" at the foot of Presidio Park. Thursday, May 2, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. H. Lee House Cultural Center, 3205 Olive Street. (LEMON GROVE)

NATURE

Clairemont Garden Tour Tour a curated selection of amazing properties that will inspire and educate. Shop for garden art and meet local artists and Master Gardeners. Self-guided tour. Saturday, May 4, 10am; \$15-\$25. Field Elementary School, 4375 Bannock Avenue. (CLAIREMONT)

Nature Education Series: Animal Track & Sign Volcan Mountain Foundation: Join Eric Jones as you learn the basics of animal tracking, sign identification, and tracking in the field. You will also practice how to read the landscape

to understand animal movement. This is a moderate four-mile hike at VMF's Volcan Mountain Nature Center. Sunday, May 5, 9am; Volcan Mountain Nature Center, 22850 Volcan Road. (JULIAN)

Pollinators Are Happy The rains have made the flowers grow and the pollinators are happy. Join a MTRP Trail Guide for a hike and see the pollinators happily flitting from blossom to blossom. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Saturday, May 4, 9:30am; Sunday, May 5, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

San Diego Rose Society Annual Rose Show The San Diego Rose Society 92nd annual Rose Show showcases hundreds of varieties of roses, including Old Garden Roses, hybrid teas, grandifloras, miniatures, floribundas and polyanthas. Saturday, May 4, 1pm; Sunday, May 5, 10am; \$5. Ronald

Reagan Community Center, 195 E. Douglas. (EL CAJON)

Watershed Warriors: Flinn Springs Community Cleanup Join ILACSD, the County of San Diego, and Flinn Springs County Park for a litter cleanup in Flinn Springs. ILACSD will bring all the cleanup supplies and explain the impact of this cleanup on our watershed. All volunteers are required to fill out a waiver form to participate and anyone under the age of 18 needs a waiver signed by their parent or guardian. Saturday, May 4, 8am; **free**. 14787 Old Highway 80, El Cajon

Wildlife Tracking Walk Learn the art of discovering and identifying tracks and other signs left behind by the park's seldom-seen wildlife. These easy walks are suitable for the whole family. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Saturday, May 4, 8:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 30

on the north side of the lagoon and under I-5, then turns north towards Flower Hill Mall before heading east towards the Fairbanks Ranch area. However, after crossing under I-5 and turning north, the area is environmentally stressed, with withered plants and none of the benefits of the richness of ocean and fresh water. Thus, the first mile is the best for walking and enjoyment and is the hike described here.

The payoff on this walk is the abundance of migratory and local birds in the lagoon. One day, a long-billed curlew was wading and dining on crustaceans under the watchful eye of a solitary green heron. There were great blue herons and egrets, with terns and bufflehead ducks all sharing a corner of the marsh. In the middle of all of this, a marsh harrier came rumbling through. We even saw an endangered California gnatcatcher flitting about in the coastal sagebrush.

Because this is a restoration project, native plants are abundant, making this a great outdoor classroom for learning native plants. California brittlebush sunflowers were in full bloom, dominating the coastal sage scrub vegetation, as well as pickleweed along the trail's edge. In this one-mile stretch from the western end of the lagoon to just past I-5, we positively identified over 25 native plants.

The presence of coastal salt marsh plants such as pickleweed (*Salicornia pacifica*) and saltgrass

(*Distichlis spicata*) indicates that the waters of the lagoon are a mix of fresh and saltwater. Other plants include coastal goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*), cholla cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*), and California buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*). Native Americans used the buckwheat as a food source as well as a medicinal plant for the treatment of wounds, headaches, and diarrhea.

Along the trail, you will encounter several tall platforms with messy looking piles of twigs. These are osprey nesting boxes. The osprey is unusual among our raptors for its diet of live fish, which it captures by spectacularly diving into the water with its sharp talons extended. Once endangered by the widespread use of DDT, their numbers are rebounding since the pesticide was banned in the United States.

Over 180 different species of birds follow the Pacific Flyway every winter, which makes the lagoon an excellent location for birding. Some other birds that you will see here include the great egret and the long-billed curlew. Several man-made islands have been developed in the lagoon and serve as protected nesting sites for the endangered snowy plover, California least tern, and the Ridgeway's rail.

Canyoners 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.

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SPECIAL EVENTS

1st Annual Apple Blossom Festival

Apple Lane Orchard in Julian hosts a Kentucky Derby Watching Party and "Ken-Taco" Derby Day celebration with competitions, games, and fun for all ages. Admission is free. A taco bar will be available, along with an assortment of sweet and hard ciders. Saturday, May 4, 12pm; **free**. Apple Lane Orchard, 2641 Apple Lane. (JULIAN)

Day Trip from San Diego to Huntington Beach

Enjoy a stress free ride up to Huntington Beach in a 50 passenger Charter Bus. Once you arrive you are free to do anything and go anywhere you want. This is a pick up, drop off and return service. There are no tour guides. ***USE DISCOUNT CODE "READER15" to receive 15% off the list price and pay ONLY \$50 total round trip*** Saturday, May 4, 9am; \$50-\$59. Old Town Transit Center, 4005 Taylor Street. (OLD TOWN)

Grand Opening Spring Market

We'll have over 80 makers, open studios and factory tours, food and drink from local businesses and SDM swag. Saturday, May 4, 11am; \$5. San Diego Made Factory, 2031 Commercial Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

Iris Society Spring Show & Potted Iris Sale

The public is invited to view a judged show of iris grown in gardens in the San Diego area. There will also be a

large selection of potted irises for sale in a variety of types and colors. Saturday, May 4, 12pm; Sunday, May 5, 10am; **free**. Casa del Prado, 1650 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Secret Society of Adultologists: Garden Party

21+ after-hours event with live music, make and take activities, honey tastings, and lots of weird plant science. Friday, May 3, 7pm; San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

South Park Clean Up & Recycling Fair

Join South Park business owners and residents for the biannual neighborhood clean-up effort. The event hub is the Target Express parking lot at 30th and Grape streets. Volunteers still needed. To register or for more information, contact Tanya McAnear at tanyamcaneat@gmail.com or call 619-203-4944. Saturday, May 4, 8:30am; Target Express, 3030 Grape Street. (SOUTH PARK)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Boardroom International Surfboard Show

Celebrating its 12th year the Boardroom highlights the surfboard manufacturing industry. A gathering of like minded enthusiasts who are drawn by an authentic love for riding waves and the crafts that move us along those waves. Saturday, May 4, 10am; Sunday, May 5, 10am; **free**-\$20. Del Mar

Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Spring into Health

Spring Into Health for a day of free family fun hosted by the Rancho Bernardo Community Council. There will be plenty of exhibits, activities, a community blood drive and more! Saturday, May 4, 11am; **free**. Sharp Rees-Stealy Rancho Bernardo, 16899 West Bernardo. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

WORSHIP

Buddha's Birthday Celebration

Annual Buddha's Birthday Celebration with bathing of Buddha prayer service, vegetarian food fair and Chinese cultural performances. Sunday, May 5, 10:30am; **free**. San Diego Buddhist Association, 4536 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Devotional Meditation of Shakyamuni Buddha

Remembrance is a guided musical meditation designed to draw us into our own nature of innate wisdom bliss. Saturday, May 4, 7:30pm; **free**. Coriography, 1795 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

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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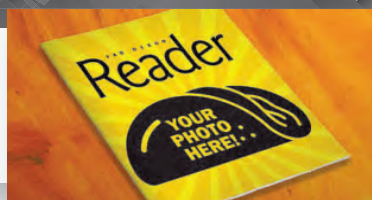
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Mountain man meal

When the food comes, we're like winter-starved wolves

'Bobcat!" says Mag. This hairy-tailed thing pads across the Sunrise Highway and up into the trees. Bobcat? Fox? Raccoon? Or just someone's big hairy pet kitty? Mag and I stare across the gravel lot outside this old log cabin ranch house.

"What was that?" asks Mag. She doesn't undo her safety belt. "They say that above 6000 feet, Bigfoot..."

Actually, we're at 6271 feet. Okay, it had big feet. But Bigfoot? For sure, big's the word up here: big old forest, big sky, big lungful of air you feel you need to get your fill of oxygen. Above all, big hunger and need for comfort food. Here. Now.

"Open," says the wooden sign dangling from the main notice that reads "Pine House Cafe & Tavern." We're among stands of lofty Jeffrey Pine Trees sweeping across this mountain valley, a San Diego I have never seen before. Only regret: would love to have seen it a few weeks back when they had a foot or two of snow.

No chance of that today. It feels like 75 Fahrenheit. Still, the bluejays are chattering, red-tailed hawks cruise overhead, and the wind is sifting through trees that sprout skyward like square-riggers' masts.

"I'm worried," says Mag. "Not sure we have enough gas to get back down to civilization."

Great. One more thing to worry about. But first things first. We walk into this, like, giant log cabin. And first thing you smell is not food, but timber. Rich. Pine. Varnished knotty boards cover the walls and the ceiling, with tree trunk pillars holding it all up. Even the tables are pine plank. One mighty trunk seems to grow right up through the ceiling.

"Knotty, but nice," says Mag. "Ooh, look. Tree people!"

And hey, on one trunk a face emerges, like a garrulous wood spirit.

"I've never noticed that," says Sierra, the gal who's taking us to the table.

Huh. Sierra. Perfect name for up here. "Maybe he's just appeared," says Mag. We sit down beside a ginormous stone

fireplace. I notice cards by the salt and pepper cellars on each table, "PCT."

"Tables reserved for Pacific Crest Trail walkers," says Nate, who's sitting drinking a beer. "It's what I'm doing. Mexico to Canada. Takes about six months."

Six months? "How long have you been walking?"

"Two days."

Man. A ways to go. Sierra puts a menu in front of us. "This is our regular cut-down menu, for the hikers. About 8 am, we always get a long line outside."

Menu starts off with \$3 fries, but its main thing is burgers. The Pine House 1/3lb burger goes for \$10. Veggie patty's 95 cents more. The Blackened Burger ("covered in blackening seasonings, seared on cast iron") is \$12, and the Garlic Parmesan Burger also goes for \$12. Then "Pasta of Weekend or Mac & Cheese" (in "thick creamy" cheddar cheese béchamel sauce), \$10.50 for a half, \$14 for a full plate. A chicken sandwich in BBQ sauce on a toasted bun's \$10, and salad's \$5.50 and \$7.50. That's pretty much it.

Mag straightway goes for the Blackened Burger and fries. But I flip the page, and right at the top, I spot a "beef and bean" or "3-bean vegetarian" bowl of chili (\$7.25, or \$5.50 for a cup), and also a soup of the day, same prices. It's a little, uh, chilly in here out of the sun, so chili and soup sound like good warmer-uppers. Mag agrees to share the veggie and bean soup. I order the bowl of chili.

But this fireplace! You can smell the ashes. Which is fine. Huge logs half-burned in its maws. It looks straight out of medieval days. Sierra says this used to be a ranger station, back in the day.

When the food comes, we're both like winter-starved wolves. All fangs. Mag attacks the burger and fries. I steal a bite just to see what the blackened thing is all about. It gives a dark tang to



My chili



Mike the cook - chili secret's in the cocoa

the meat.

But I am definitely a happy camper. To look at, it's hard to tell the soup from the chili. They're both full of beans. The soup is like loaded veggie. But for me, the chili is the really interesting discovery. It has a rich, peppery, slightly sweet flavor to it. I load it up with flaked cheese and chopped onion, toss on a bit of Sriracha, palliate it all with the delish toast, and we have ourselves a luscious, filling, mountain man meal.

"What's in that chili?" I ask Michael, one of the two cooks in the kitchen. "You got some secret ingredient?"

"Well Jonathan, the chef, just puts in red chili. And cocoa."

Cocoa! So that's it. That, yeah, dark chocolatey taste. Maybe everybody does it, but this is the first I've heard, and I'm already addicted.

By now a singer has come in. Robert Warren, the "King of Pain." He's singing "Pacing the Cage," by Bruce Cockburn, Canadian. Painfully good song. Place is filling with cowpokes and trail walkers and a gentleman biker heading back to Poway



Sierra and tree friend

the mountain way. They all have a beer in their hand and a dreamy look in their eye. I can see that none of us wants to leave.

But Mag is nervous about the gasoline situation. She asks Sierra. "Nearest gas is Pine Valley," Sierra says. "Good news is all you have to do is coast your way down the mountain."

Me, I'm thinking of Nate, who left a while back, facing months on the trail. He said he liked walking at night, because there's less chance of stepping on a rattler. I didn't even want to ask him about black bears or bobcats. Or mountain lions.

Or, now I think about it, Bigfoot.

The Place: Pine House Cafe & Tavern, 9849 Sunrise Highway, 619-473-8857

Prices: French fries, \$3 small, \$5 large; chili cheese fries, \$8; Pine House Burger (1/3lb patty), \$10; Veggie patty, add 95 cents; Blackened Burger, \$12; Garlic Parmesan Burger, \$12; "Pasta of Weekend" or Mac & Cheese (in cheddar cheese béchamel sauce), \$10.50 (half), \$14 (full plate); BBQ chicken sandwich, \$10; salad, \$5.50 and \$7.50; beef and bean chili, or 3-bean vegetarian bowl of chili, \$7.25, \$5.50 cup; soup of the day, \$7.25 bowl, \$5.50 cup
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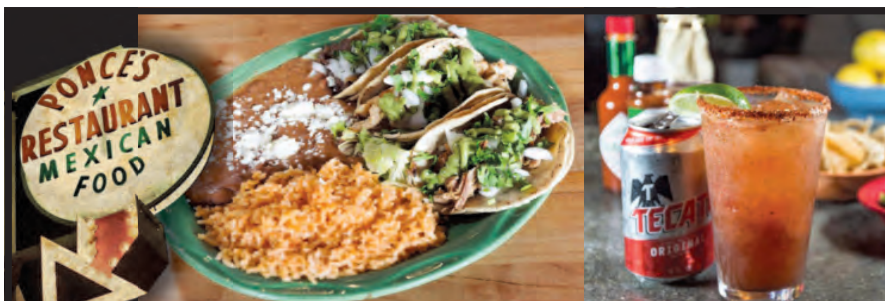
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Curryosity unsatisfied

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

The indelible seasons of Curryosity

Curryosity, 3023 Juniper St, South Park. Given a healthy appreciation for good puns, South Asian cuisine, and proximity, I was more than curious when Indian restaurant Curryosity opened close to home in South Park last fall. It gave a good look to an intermittently vacant restaurant space that needed it. The dark storefront received a bright white paint job, with saturated splashes of pink and gold and a sign that declared Curryosity would be, “spicing up the neighborhood.”

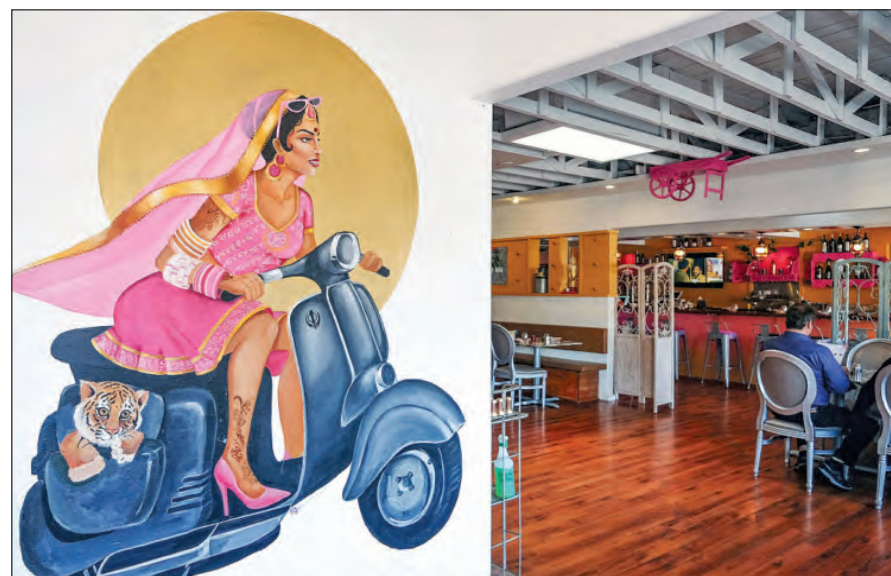
FEAST!

dine-in experience the entire east side of Balboa Park has been craving. A large, open window counter and patio dining open the bar area to the sidewalk along Juniper Street, effectively settling the matter: it looks every bit a boon to the community.

All that was left was to start ordering food. I didn't expect it to be groundbreaking. I actually had a few ideas how it might go. But those ideas were dashed early on. With each first bite of a traditional Indian dish I'd eaten a couple dozen times elsewhere, I found myself thinking, “Well, this is different.”

I have to applaud the distinction. Truth is, I've encountered too much homogeny among dishes at Indian restaurants in San Diego and elsewhere, that suggest prevalent use of common spice blends or curry pastes. Many different places and times, I've had the same *tikka masala*, the same *tandoori* rub, the same chickpea batter seasoning in a litany of fried vegetable *pakoras*. However, despite the sameness, these ubiquitous spice profiles happen to be pretty darn satisfying. In a warm, viscous sauce, their densely packed flavors hit every corner of your palate, and consume your senses in a way few global cuisines can match.

The unfortunate side effect is that, when I do encounter original, house-made spice blends, as I've found at Curryosity, the first impulse is to judge them against that common denominator. It's tough and maybe a unfair to make a judgment about quality when you're pitting new against the comfort of the familiar. Give bratwurst to kid who's only ever eaten ballpark hot dogs, and that kid's probably



Playful touches in a mostly elegant casual space.

going to insist the hot dog tastes better. Never mind that a bratwurst is objectively better than a frankfurter, QED.

So I adjusted my expectations and started looking at Curryosity as a different sort of place. One willing to push boundaries, buck tradition, and broaden our

understanding of a cuisine. There's a playfulness to it, evidenced by curried macaroni and cheese, and latkes topped with tamarind chutney. However, I keep coming back to the traditional entrees and finding reasons to like them less, not more, than off-the-shelf alternatives. A bitter bite to the \$13 stewed spinach *saag paneer*. An unshakable acidity bringing down a slightly over-baked clay oven *tandoori* chicken (\$15). While the coconut-based Nirvana curry (\$13 with tofu) was near perfectly executed, it's perhaps more telling that the masala in my skimpy \$7 curry mac was out-seasoned by the black pepper, sea salt, and whole cumin seeds in the *papadom* crackers served alongside it.

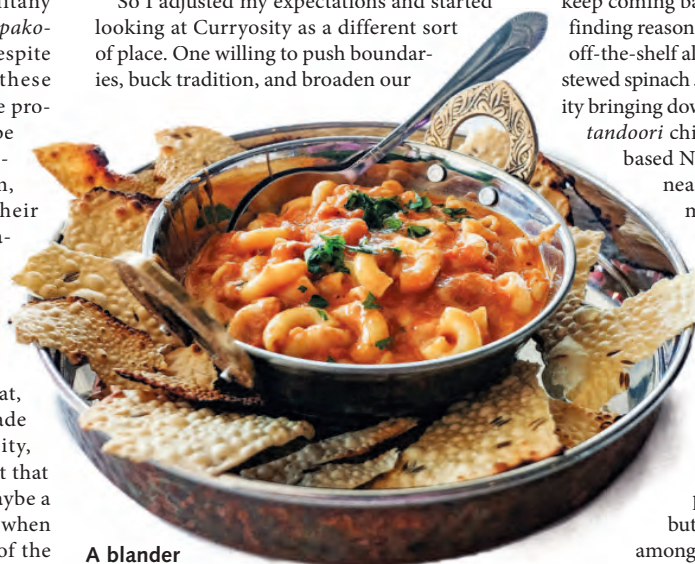
Six months on, I'm starting to wonder whether I've given Curryosity too much credit for drawing me out of the Indian spice bubble. I might still cruise past and appreciate its vibrancy, but owing to routine inconsistencies among its entrees, only my curiosity has been satisfied.

by Ian Anderson



Distinctive but somewhat acrid clay oven tandoori chicken.

Visions of Indian takeout danced through my head, of fresh *naan* and lots of aromatic leftovers rotating through my refrigerator. Then I saw the vibrant interior, elegantly furnished, with colorful artwork and stained glass pendant lamps, and realized the space offered a sort of



A blander than expected curry mac and cheese.

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Carnitas Uruapan's Ranchero Burrito- it doesn't have to look pretty to taste fantastic.

Returned to Carnitas Uruapan and ordered the burrito again

Carnitas Uruapan, 4233 Spring Street, La Mesa. Every so often, a meal comes along that is so memorable, it plants a flag in your appetite and becomes a

landmark to look back upon and fondly remember for the rest of your life. Usually, it's a big fancy meal involving multiple courses and the option for coordinated wine pairings. Other times, it's a burrito.

La Mesa's Carnitas Uruapan isn't new to me. I've driven past it dozens of

times in the past decade, and on multiple occasions rolled up to its de facto drive thru (really just a window facing its cramped parking lot). However, my order has always been some version of the same: carnitas tacos, carnitas burrito, or carnitas plate.



This small Mexican restaurant creates some of the best food in East County.

That's not exactly something to regret. The word *carnitas* is in the name after all, and Uruapan refers to the city in the Michoacán state of Mexico where the slow-cooked pork dish is said to

have originated. The location of this family-owned restaurant may have moved around over the past few decades, but its carnitas have been consistently (and rightly) declared among the best in the city, combining pulled pork tenderness with flavorful, crispy edges.

Early on, it's a place I mentally noted for a good carnitas fix, and I never stopped by frequently enough to look beyond the specialty of the house. Until last week. While waiting inside its small dining room to order, I read

more closely through the burrito options on the menu and realized it departs a bit from the San Diego usual meat, onions, cilantro, and salsa in a flour tortilla. For example, the surf and turf burrito features carne asada, shrimp, rice, beans, French fries, cheese, and sour cream. One called El picoso fixes up the carne with chorizo, beans, cheese, and red pepper.

But the burrito that really caught my attention was the Ranchero: carne asada stuffed inside a chile relleno, wrapped in a tortilla

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1/2 lb Angus Burger or Grilled or
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**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
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Expires 4 weeks from date of printing.



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

with rice, beans, and ran-
chero salsa.

Its greatness starts with the carne, a truly steak grilled sirloin. The long California chileuse in the *relleno* conveys only mild heat, but its peppery flavor makes an ideal complement for the steak and melted cheese. Well-seasoned pinto beans, fluffy Spanish rice, and an almost gravy-like rancho add more savor to the mix. In other words, every component of this burrito contributes taste and texture to a cohesive finished product. This ain't a bunch of ingredients slopped together inside the same flour tortilla, it's a self-contained entrée, built from the ground up.

Without equivocation, it's one of the finest burritos I've ever encountered in what has proven a thoroughly burrito-packed life. I went to sleep thinking about it that night. And when dinnertime came around the next evening, I

returned to Carnitas Uruapan and ordered it again. Everything exactly the same, and just as satisfying.

My return engagement earned a few chuckles from the friendly folks working the small shop, which I now realize has so much more than carnitas to offer. "See you tomorrow!" someone shouted with a laugh as I returned to my car. You know what? They just might.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

\$10 Pasta Sundays Choose from a selection of \$10 gourmet pastas while enjoying a glass of Italian wine. Sunday, May 5, 4pm; Capri Blu, 10436 Craftsman Way. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

90s & 00s Boy Band Brunch Join us for another music-filled Saturday, featuring your favorite boy band hits of the 90s through early 00s, bottomless mimosas, specialty heart-throb themed

cocktails, and our full menu of brunch eats! This is NOT a ticketed event, but our music brunches fill up fast, so be sure to reserve a table. Walk-in seating may be available, but expect a wait. Saturday, May 4, 10am; Searsucker Gaslamp, 611 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Afternoon Tea Dammann Freres is the largest and oldest tea company in France and the exclusive tea for THE MED's afternoon tea. these flavorful teas are complimented with the perfect petite sandwiches and sweets. Saturday, May 4, 12pm; La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Carlsbad Village Faire North County's premier street fair is returning to Carlsbad this spring. The Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce will hold the Carlsbad Village Faire on Sunday, May 5, 2019, from 8:00am to 5:00pm in downtown Carlsbad. The Faire will stretch east to west from Carlsbad Boulevard to Jefferson Street and north to south from Beech Avenue to Carlsbad Village Dr., with all streets closed for pedestrian use only. Since 1974, the Carlsbad Village Faire features more than 750 vendors selling a

variety of unique goods including art, antiques, clothing, items from around the world and much more! The Faire will also feature rides for kids, an international food center, live music and an old-fashioned pancake breakfast. This exciting event draws in visitors from all over Southern California and even other states. During the event, the Kiwanis Club of Carlsbad will continue its more than 25-year tradition by hosting a pancake breakfast at the Carlsbad railroad depot. The meal, which includes pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice, will be served between 7:00am and noon. To make parking more convenient, complimentary shuttles will run to and from the Faire. Shuttles will pick up and drop off visitors at the Poinsettia Coaster Station and at the west corner of Sears at The Shoppes at Carlsbad. Additional handicapped parking is available at the Carlsbad Visitor Center (the old train depot) located at 400 Carlsbad Village Dr, as well as at the Village Faire Shopping Center located at 300 Carlsbad Village Dr. Handicapped spaces are limited. For more information about the Carlsbad Village

Faire, please contact the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce by visiting www.carlsbad.org or calling (760) 931-8400. Sunday, May 5, 8am; free. Carlsbad Boulevard to Jefferson Street and Beech Avenue to Carlsbad Village Drive

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 Butterscotch 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)

Cinco De Mayo Fiesta Cinco de Mayo Fiesta: Baile Floklorico and Tacos. Sunday, May

5, 11:15am; \$10-\$15. Rashelico Winery and Art Garden, 17948 Highway 67. (RAMONA)

Cinco de Mayo Come celebrate Cinco de Mayo with raffle giveaways and tastings from Mezcal El Silencio, 123 Organic Tequila, Cerveceria de Colima, and Topo Chico USA. Plus, food pairing samples from Sam the Cooking Guy. Drink specials from the Little Italy Food Hall Bar served all day. Sunday, May 5, 12pm; free. Little Italy Food Hall, 550 West Date St., Suite B. (LITTLE ITALY)

Cinco de Mayo Celebration The annual free event is expanding to bring even more Mexican-themed music and dance performances, arts and crafts, and family-friendly activities. Set within both the historic Plaza de Panama and Spreckels Organ Pavilion, this year's celebration once again features colorful horseback riders, traditional dance groups, a fashion show, strolling mariachis, hands-on activity booths for kids, authentic arts and crafts demonstrations by artisans from Mexico, food trucks, and a free concert event at 5pm featuring Jarabe Mexicano. The day's food offer-



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



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Must mention ad.



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Tues-Sat, 11:30-4:30, thru 6/5/19 only!



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



3130 University Ave
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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
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1/2 off a 1 topping pizza

Buy 1 regular any topping pizza and receive a second regular 1 topping for 1/2 OFF! Expires 4 weeks from the date of printing.



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Free Crepe

Buy one crepe, get one crepe free of equal or lesser value.
Valid after 3pm only.
Expires 4 weeks from date of printing.

refill

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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 6/30/19



2888 University Ave • San Diego, CA
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Must Bring In Ad - Limit 1 Per Person
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Buy 1 Chicken Pie, Gravy & a roll, get the 1 Chicken Pie Half Off

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This offer cannot be combined with any current promotion.
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Calendar RESTAURANT

ings include a variety of cuisines from some of San Diego's best gourmet food trucks parked along the El Prado walkway. The Cinco de Mayo Celebration in Balboa Park is presented by the Balboa Park Conservancy in partnership with the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department. Saturday, May 4, 11am; **free**. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Cinco de Mayo Pool Party SIP & SWIM: Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with grooves by the Latin fusion band, Kimba Light Official from 1-4PM, with fun activations by Urbn Leaf and Truly Hard Seltzer going down til 5PM. Sunday, May 5, 12pm; \$30. Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Cinco de Mayo Wine Tasting & Mariachi Enjoy a fun-filled Sunday with an amazing live performance by Mariachi Divinas. We will have all of the usual fun around the ranch, including free

hayride tours and yard games to add to the entertainment while enjoying our all-natural, estate grown wine. Sunday, May 5, 11am; **free**. Rancho Guejito Vineyard, 17224 San Pasqual Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Eat. Drink. Read. Foodies rejoice and read! For the tenth year, the San Diego Council on Literacy (SDCOL) is challenging San Diego's finest chefs to prepare gourmet dishes inspired by their favorite book or literary character for its annual "Eat. Drink. Read. A Culinary Event for Literacy." To be held at the San Diego Air & Space Museum in Balboa Park, Thursday, May 2 from 6pm to 8:30pm, the event raises important awareness and funding for SDCOL's network of affiliated literacy programs. This year's participants include: ,Àc Galaxy Taco, making an Autism Puzzle Piece Tostada based on the book "The Three Brothertees," ,Àc Top of the Market, making a Scallop Crudo based on the book "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea," ,Àc Waypoint Public, making applewood smoked pork belly based on the book, "The Giving Tree", ,Àc and many more! Tickets are \$75 per person. To purchase

tickets or for more information, visit <http://www.literacysandiego.org/eatdrinkread/>. Thursday, May 2, 6pm; 21 and up. San Diego Air and Space Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo Grab your amigos and head over to historic Old Town to spice up your weekend at the free annual Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo. Celebrating 36 years of fiery fun, this weekend celebration attracts over 100,000 people over the course of three days with its bustling mercado, non-stop music and live entertainment, lucha libre wrestling, and a huge display of lowriders and other incredible autos. Get ready to shake your maracas! Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo will feature live entertainment, with over 40 Latin bands and groups on the Café Coyote Stage, Mariachis and the Ballet Folklórico competition in the historic state park. Stroll through the iconic Lowrider Lane and be wowed by the unique paint jobs and car modifications that have become a Fiesta favorite. Don't forget to grab your máscaras (masks) and head to the Lucha Libre Cantina Ring for Fiesta's rowdiest entertainment.

Friday, May 3, 4pm; Saturday, May 4, 10am; Sunday, May 5, 10am; **free**. Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street. (OLD TOWN)

Five Buck Fridays All drinks \$5 from 5-8pm. Fridays, 5pm; through Friday, May 31, 710 Beach Club, 710 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Migos & Margaritas Day Party Music by Mister Hek and Cutlos Supreme. Sunday, May 5, 2pm; \$10-\$20. 21 and up. Hive, 4428 Convoy Street. (KEARNY MESA)

National Day of Prayer Luncheon Lunch, community-building, and prayer on behalf of our city and nation. Led by local leaders including Jason Austell, of KUSI's Good Morning San Diego, Miles McPherson Pastor of Rock Church, Councilman Chris Ward, District Attorney Summer Stephan and others. Thursday, May 2, 11am; \$30. 18 and up. Balboa Park Club & Ballroom, 2144 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Serving Seniors Experience of a Lifetime Gala Serving Seniors will host its sixth annual Experience of a Lifetime Gala. The orga-

nization aims to raise \$475,000 through this benefit event for its programs and services, including 600,000 nutritious meals, affordable housing, healthcare, and more for nearly 5,000 low-income and homeless seniors in San Diego County. The theme of this year's Experience of a Lifetime fundraiser is "Stories for the Ages," and the event will feature a cocktail reception, gourmet dinner, live and silent auctions, and the popular "wine grab." For the evening's dining, the Del Mar Country Club's Executive Chef Jonathan Sudar will create an exclusive menu with fine wine pairings inspired by local California cuisine. Individual tickets to "Experience of a Lifetime: Stories for the Ages" are \$350. Tables of ten are \$2,500. Premium tables are \$3,500. Thursday, May 2, 5:30pm; \$350-\$3500. Del Mar Country Club, 6001 Clubhouse Drive. (DEL MAR)

Sipping with Veuve Clicquot Join us as we sip our way through four of our favorite Veuve Clicquot champagnes and deepen our knowledge with the help of a Veuve Clicquot Expert. Guests will enjoy 3oz tastings of the Veuve Clicquot Yellow Label

Brut Champagne (the signature champagne since 1772), Veuve Clicquot Rosé (the first-ever blended rosé), Veuve Clicquot Rich (champagne over ice), and a Veuve Clicquot Vintage Brut (a timeless pour). Every guest will take home tasting cards of each vintage along with a little treat from Veuve Clicquot. Saturday, May 4, 2pm; \$38. 21 and up. Her-ringbone, 7837 Herschel Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Spring Gala: Moroccan Magic Immerse yourself in a magical Moroccan experience with live music, belly dancing, henna tattoos, Moroccan palm reading, and special performances throughout the evening. The gala will include a silent and live auction, raise the paddle, and wine pull to support the Museum's growing impact in San Diego County and beyond. Proceeds from the Spring Gala support our Access for All Initiative, to provide educational opportunities for those who need them most. Saturday, May 4, 5pm; \$150-\$1200. 21 and up. San Diego Children's Discovery Museum, 320 N. Broadway. (ESCONDIDO)



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You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at 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.

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

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

Garage Kitchen + Bar: *Monday, 4-7pm:* \$5 mules, \$12 burger and beer, 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Tuesday, 4-7pm:* \$5 margaritas, \$15 buckets of Corona (5 beers), \$2 carnitas taco, 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Wednesday, 4-7pm:* \$2 pub beer, \$8 angels envy, \$5 wings. 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Thursday, 4-7pm:* \$4 bottles of beer, \$6 coffee and donuts dessert, 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Friday, 4-7pm:* \$5 Fireball, Rumble Minze, Firestone 805 cans, 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Saturday, 4-7pm:* 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). *Sunday, 4-7pm:* 51% off all appetizers and select drinks (excludes wine bottles & premium liquor). All day: \$4 Refuge cans, \$5 Fireball, \$10 bottles of champagne.

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

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

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.

Hornblower Sights & Sips Cocktail Cruise: *Friday-Saturday, Ship boards at 5:30. Cruise 6-8pm.* \$42 per person. Apps include: crackers & flatbreads, caprese salad, garden fresh crudité, jalapeño & ciantran hummus, coconut prawns, spicy seared ahi, teriyaki beef

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Pickle vodka

If you walk into **619 Spirits** without knowing better, it's easy to mistake the place for any other North Park bar and restaurant. A kitchen turns out dishes including wings, loaded fries, burgers, and wraps. There's a central bar serving mixed drinks, a couple TVs likely tuned into sports, a mix of high- and low-top tables where people chat and mingle, and a patio looking out across 30th Street.

It's when you order a cocktail that you'll notice the difference. There's no Stoli, no Grey Goose, no Maker's Mark. The drinks here are made exclusively with San Diego-produced craft spirits: Old Fashioneds with **Henebery Celebrated Whiskey** from Vista, French 75s with the winter gin of **You & Yours Distilling** in

East Village. And foremost, the martinis, mules, and Bloody Marys feature assorted flavors of **619 Vodka**, made in-house. Not just another bar, 619 Spirits is North Park's first urban distillery. "A lot of people don't know we're a distillery," says 619 founder Nick Apostolopoulos, "so they sit down and try to order a Jack and coke or something." But the bartenders are ready for this, as it presents an opportunity to educate customers about San Diego's budding craft spirits industry, which has been busy the past few years producing alternatives to brands such as Jack Daniels. "We tell people that we have local stuff, ask them what they like, and try to steer them in the right direction."

Cocktails take the lead here: the menu features dozens of classics, plus a growing list of bartender creations, developed around the strengths of respective San Diego spirits. However, to better acquaint yourself with local product, for about 9 to 10 bucks apiece, you may order shot-size servings of no fewer than 15 different homegrown booze brands, including assorted whiskies, gins, rums, and vodkas.

And to get an idea of what Apostolopoulos has been making on site, for \$15 there's a 619 Vodka flight, featuring half-ounce tasters of all five of the brand's vodka infusions. Due to a California law restricting craft spirit service to 1.5 ounces per person per day, this flight would

not be possible in most craft booze tasting rooms. However, that's where the restaurant component comes in. Because food is served, the restriction is lifted, making this one of the few places in the county where customers may sit down



A vodka flight: scorpion pepper, pickle, rose petal, cucumber, and coffee infused vodkas.

to compare and contrast a range of local spirit offerings in a single session.

Five small shots of pure vodka would not be enticing: the point of vodka is to have a neutral flavor. However, 619's infusions echo those offered by large brands such as Absolut and Stoli, as ideal mixers for specialty cocktails. The key difference is that 619 infusions feature actual fruit, vegetables, and botanicals, rather than extracts.

So the brand's cucumber and scorpion pep-

per vodkas, though clear in appearance, are loaded with natural flavors. What I learned from drinking them straight is that I should have saved the refreshing cucumber vodka to drink after trying the very spicy scorpion pepper! The dark brown coffee vodka was smooth enough to be my favorite, but it was close. The blush-colored rose petal vodka brought impressive floral flavor that the bartenders have thought to mix with fernet branca or champagne. Meanwhile, the hazy-looking pickle vodka apparently inspires either love or hate among customers — I belong to the half that enjoys the salty, pickle juiced infusion, which Apostolopoulos spent two years developing.

Opening an urban distillery and restaurant has slowed Apostolopoulos's plans for future infusions, but they'll turn up in time. Meanwhile, it's given him a de facto focus group, to see just how drinkers do respond to flavors such as pickle vodka and to hear directly from customers what sort of infusions they'd like to try. Currently, they're asking for something fruity. So most likely the next infusion up for 619 Spirits will be, drum roll please, watermelon vodka.

brochettes, goat cheese mousse with toasted almonds and pimento. Dessert: chocolate dipped strawberries & handmade truffles. Menu subject to change. \$8 Honey blackberry lemonade, \$8 mimosa sunset, \$7 camu camu rosé, \$7 Murphy Goode pinot noir, \$6 Alesmith "San Diego" pale ale.

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

The Smoking Gun: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm:* \$5 drafts, house wines, wells, \$10 specialty drinks. \$5 cheeseburger sliders, baked mac 'n' cheese, fried Brussels. *Saturday, 4-7pm:* \$5 drafts, house wines, wells, \$10 specialty drinks. \$5 cheeseburger sliders, baked mac 'n' cheese, fried Brussels. Brunch served until 2pm. *Sunday, Brunch served until 2pm.*

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

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

to any lunch order for \$3.

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: *Daily, Open-3pm:* \$4 mimosas, \$5 Bloody Marys, \$7 double Bloody Marys, \$15 Champagne bottles. *3-8pm:* Half-off all drinks and taps, \$3 appetizers.

Time Out Sports Tavern: *Monday, 2-7pm:* \$20 select pitchers. *Tuesday, 2-7pm:* Taco Tuesday: \$4 Mexican beer, \$6 margaritas. \$2.75 TJ tacos, \$11.95 two Tacos and shot of Hornitos. *Wednesday, 2-7pm:* Wing Wednesday: \$15.95 beer/shot + 7 wings. *Thursday, 2-7pm:* Burger Thursday: Two burgers for \$15.95. *Friday, 2-7pm:* \$5 beers. *Saturday, 2-7pm:* Shots Saturday: \$8 2x Fireball, \$10 2x Kamikaze, \$10 Cactus Cooler, \$12 2x Jameson. *Sunday, 2-7pm:* \$6 breakfast shot, mimosas, \$19.95 orange juice carafe with one bottle of Champagne.

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

EAST VILLAGE

BeShock Ramen & Sake Bar: *Monday, 3-6pm:* \$3 Sapporo draft, \$4 well drinks, \$5 sake, \$6 cocktails,

\$7 glass house wine. \$3 edamame, \$3 Beshock buns, \$4 garlic edamame, \$5 salmon skin roll, pork taco, \$6 fried calamari, \$7 roasted mussels. *Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$3 Sapporo draft, \$4 well drinks, \$4 and \$5 sake, \$6 cocktails, \$7 house wine, \$3 edamame, \$3 Beshock buns, \$4 garlic edamame, \$5 salmon skin roll, \$6 roasted brussels sprouts, \$7 fried calamari, roasted mussels.

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

East Village Tavern and Bowl: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm:* \$4 domestic pints, wells, \$5 premium pints, margaritas, house wines, half off select appetizers and flatbread pizzas.

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

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

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

GOLDEN HILL

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

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: *Monday-Tuesday, Sunday, 4-6pm:* \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium wells, weekly craft cocktail specials. Texas style BBQ prepared fresh daily with other Southern delights.

Drink specials all night. *Wednesday-Saturday, 4-6pm:* \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium wells, weekly craft cocktail specials. Texas style BBQ prepared fresh daily with other Southern delights.

LA MESA

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

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

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

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

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

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HAPPY HOUR

drafts, \$8 house martinis. 30% off appetizers, \$2.50 bread and chimichurri. Bar only.

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

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Devine Pastabilities: Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: Reduced price beer of the day. \$1 off all appetizers, free breadholes with purchase of beer or wine. Tuesday, 4-close: \$4 any beer. 4-6pm: \$1 off all appetizers, free breadholes with purchase of beer or wine.

Georgia's Greek Cuisine: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$5 California wine. \$5 appetizers: dolmades, falafel, feta and olives, tzatziki, spicy feta, gigantes.

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, Wednesday-Friday, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything. Tuesday, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything, Miller High Life bottles \$3. 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: Monday, 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-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 off select wine by the glass, \$4 wells and draft beers.

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

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

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

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

True North Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$4 well drinks, domestic drafts, El Jimador margaritas, \$5 house wines.

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

OCEAN BEACH

The Arizona Cafe: Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3 20oz domestic beers, 16oz micro draft, wells, house wine, half price pitchers, \$3 appetizer samplers.

Mother's Saloon: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off craft cocktails, \$2 drafts, \$2.50 beer of the month, \$3 wells. Half off appetizers.

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

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 taps 20% off. Wednesday, 3-9pm: All taps 20% off.

Cabo Cantina: Daily, 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. Wave.

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.

Pizza Nova: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, house wines, and well drinks,

\$4 beer of the month. \$2 off all appetizers.

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

Slater's 50/50: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 cocktails and house wine glass, half off wine bottles. \$4-\$8 appetizers.

SANTEE

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

The Lancers Cocktails: Daily, 10am-2am: \$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: \$4 PBR or Tecate, \$6 margarita, oldie, mules, uh escape, all wines, \$7 dealer's choice.

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



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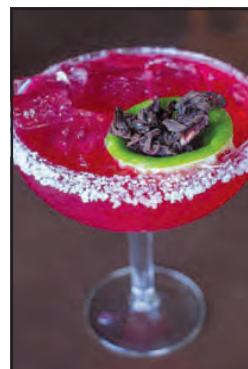
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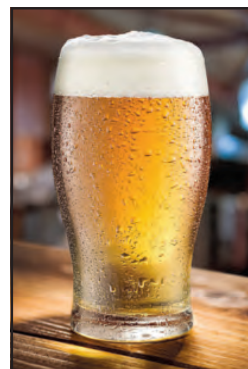


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the inside track

insistent metaphysics. That's Pharlee, San Diego's newest heavy rock supergroup.

This conglomerate, celebrating their self-titled debut record May 15 at the Pour House Oceanside with LOOM and DJ Lexicon



Pharlee's just another femaler-fronted Deep Purple-Black Sabbath-Motorhead-Judas Priest mashup.

Pharlee phase You summon that heavy-metal-but-high-ballin' sound of Deep Purple circa *Machine Head*, cover it with sweet thick-

fug misterioso, swell up the organ, and top off with a commanding female wailing through astral planes and supreme beings and

Devil, calls itself "psychedelic speed rock," and with props to Purple, they also count Motörhead, Judas Priest, and even Betty Davis

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as influences.

"Damn, that sounds pretty good," chuckles singer Macarena Rivera, "that's actually how I met Figgy. I was like, maybe 17 or 18? We were playing Death Match at SXSW and so was Harsh Toke. We reconnected a few years later and he told me he wanted to start a band.

"I guess our sound has a really good blend of the fast metal sound we love, but gets some of our bluesy psychedelic background intertwined."

Pharlee consists of guitarist Justin "Figgy" Figueroa (Harsh Toke, Arctic), bassist Dylan Donavan (Sacri Monti), Zach Oakley (Joy, Volcano) a habitual guitarist covering drums here, Garrett Lekas (Operation Mindblow) on the keys — and Rivera on lead vocals

and astral tropes.

"I'm also in another band called The Budrows," recounts Rivera, "that's actually how I met Figgy. I was like, maybe 17 or 18? We were playing Death Match at SXSW and so was Harsh Toke. We reconnected a few years later and he told me he wanted to start a band.

"He had this guy moving down from Portland, Jooce (who now plays in Petyl and Warish) to drum and Dylan (from Sacri Monti) to play bass, and I'd sing. We always wanted a key player, so later on Garrett joined us and Zack started drumming with us as well."

Early tracks such as

"Ethereal Woman" and "Creeping Hour" find the band in full-on chemical-storm mode, Rivera keeping a lid on things, just barely, as the instrumental quartet fulminates, concusses, and belches thick but fast solos. The intro "Warning," however, finds a few acoustic axes out of their cases, for a cooler take which melds Zeppelin's "The Battle of Evermore" with Sabbath's "Planet Caravan."

Regarding the distinctive moniker with its distinct spelling. "Originally we called ourselves The Writ," Rivera explains. "But, that was dumb. I think it was our

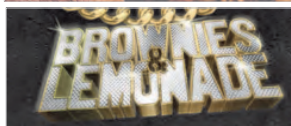
(continued on page 50)



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friend Rowan who brought up Pharlee. Everyone was in a heavy Chris Farley movie phase. Kinda started as a joke, and then it stuck.”

— Andrew Hamlin

Dancing bears Rancho Peñasquitos punk metal-heads Neurotic Mirage will premier *Psycho Carnival* at Navajo Live on May 5. “Were going to be performing the new album in its entirety,” says singer-guitarist Nathan Mansi. “Most of the songs have never been played live before.” The circus-themed

record (“almost everyone is living in a Neurotic Mirage with tickets to the Psycho Carnival”) was recorded at local Double time Studios with Jeff Forrest.

Singer-songwriter nominee Missy Alcazar, one of the dueling pianists at the Shout House, debuts a new single May 7, “Goodbye.” The accompanying video was shot in the Philippines and features actress Gabrielle Maiden of the Netflix sci-fi series *Stranger Things*.

Bass ‘n’ drum duo *Secret Fun Club*’s 101 album will be released digitally on May 17, with a smoke colored vinyl edition available via Three One G. Featuring guest players Justin Pearson

(Dead Cross, Planet B), Sam Lopez, and Esteban Flores, the digital version includes bonus tracks “Sabre Drama,” “Upright Brigade,” and “Billy Joel Osteen.”

When Tori Roze & the Hot Mess plays Rosie O’Grady’s on May 18, they’ll be offering attendees a new cassette-shaped USB drive that includes all three of the band’s albums.

Blues singer-guitarist Robin Henkel, who has logged more gigs on the *Reader*’s event calendar than any other local (over 1000 in 10 years), will be backed by a full band when he debuts a new album May 24 at Dizzy’s. “Might have to hire some dancing bears or some-



The prolific Robin Henkel hosts his 14th album release at Dizzy’s on May 24.

thing for the occasion. Yep, it’s my 14th record release since 1979, but the first for the horn band, of which I’m very proud. Writing these tunes and horn arrangements is truly a life’s work.”

The High Gallery, featuring members of the Jones Revival, drops their High Gallery III album on May 24. A new punk band called Bathwater Babies just released the first single off their upcoming debut album,

“Doesn’t Matter,” though you won’t be able to see them play it live until they join over a dozen likeminded locals at the Casbah on July 13 for a Jim Rao Fan-club marathon.

Mrs. Magician guitarist Jacob Turnbloom started writing new songs last June, began recording in October, and reports “Today I’m a hundred percent done tracking this solo album. Ten original songs and one

cover, all recorded in three different studios with my talented engineer and bff Tommy Garcia, then tracked a bunch of stuff at home in my bedroom while I watched movies that would inspire me: *Mandy*, *The Void*, *Halloween*.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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THE COLOUR MONDAY**

THURSDAY • MAY 2
**EVAN DIAMOND
ALMOST MONDAY
TIGROS**

FRIDAY • MAY 3
**EL VEZ
SOUL CINCO DE MAYO
THE EXBATS
SCARY PIERRE**

SATURDAY • MAY 4
**LAUREN RUTH WARD
LAURA JEAN ANDERSON**

SUNDAY • MAY 5
**CINCO DE MAYO
CUMBIA MACHIN
LA DIABLA • MARIA Y JOSE
SONIDERO TRAVESURA
AIR NANDEZ • LAS SUCIAS**

MONDAY • MAY 6
PART TIME

WEDNESDAY • MAY 8
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**XENO & OAKLANDER
SRSQ • CHASMS
BODY OF LIGHT
THE VICTORIANA**

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DADDY ISSUES**

MONDAY • MAY 13
**EL VEZ PRESENTS
THE UNHAPPY HOUR
EL STEPHEN REY**

TUESDAY • MAY 14
CARSIE BLANTON

WEDNESDAY • MAY 15
**DEAD MEADOW
DRUG HUNT**

THURSDAY • MAY 16
SHY GIRLS

FRIDAY • MAY 17
EMO NITE

SATURDAY • MAY 18
**TROUBLE IN THE WIND
JONNY WAGON AND
THE TENNESSEE SONS**

MONDAY • MAY 20
**HEXA • JOHN ERROL
EST • DJ JON BLAJ**

TUESDAY • MAY 21
GEOGRAPHER

WEDNESDAY • MAY 22
**DEAD BOYS
FOREST GROVE
MODERN LOVE**

THURSDAY • MAY 23
OCEAN ALLEY

FRIDAY • MAY 24
**TEENAGE BOTTLEOCKET
NERF HERDER**

SUNDAY • MAY 26
BOOTY BASSMENT

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<p>WED., MAY 1</p> <p>CATTLE DECAPITATION Unidad Trauma, Cave Bastard, Temblad</p>	<p>BRICK X BRICK</p>	<p>FRI., MAY 17</p> <p>DARK FUNERAL Incantation, Hate, Vale of Pnath, Nightmarer</p>
<p>THU., MAY 2</p> <p>THE 69 EYES MXMS, The Nocturnal Affair, New Skeletal Faces</p>		<p>SAT., MAY 18</p> <p>DEATH BY STEREO Toxic Energy, Bossfight, A Hero Within</p>
<p>SAT., MAY 4</p> <p>REACTION PHASE Alizarin, Sha Nova, In Apparition Form</p>	<p>SUN., MAY 11</p> <p>OZZMANIA Up the Irons, Cowgirls From Hell</p>	<p>SUN., MAY 19</p> <p>SPIRIT ADRIFT Haunt + Special Guests</p>
<p>TUE., MAY 6</p> <p>JAKE “THE SNAKE” ROBERTS Dirty Details Tour</p>	<p>MON., MAY 13</p> <p>ARCHSPIRE Inferi, Virvum, Wormhole</p>	<p>TUE., MAY 21</p> <p>KELETONWITCH Soft Kill, Wiedgodd, Portrayal Of Guilt</p>
<p>FRI., MAY 10</p> <p>PHIL X AND THE DRILLS Taz Taylor Band + special guests</p>	<p>TUE., MAY 14</p> <p>DAWN OF ASHES Die Sektor, Midnight Nightmare</p>	<p>SAT., MAY 25</p> <p>THE DAMNED THINGS Crobot, He Is Legend, Weight Of The Sun</p>

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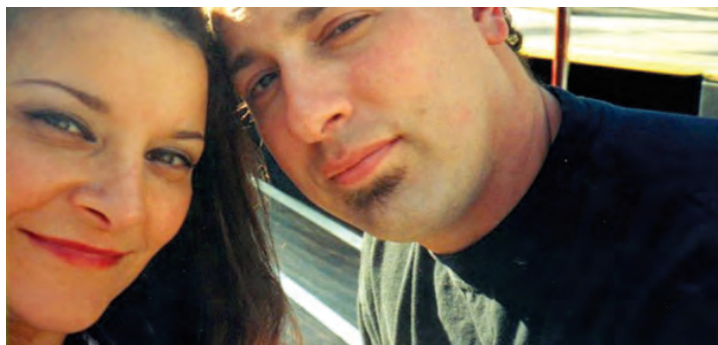
Photo Credit for Emily Butler Photography

**KING TAYLOR PROJECT** at Eureka! Gourmet Burgers

MAY 2

"King Taylor Project is soul, funk, blues, and jazz," says singer-percussionist Sandi King. "We improvise and have a blast playing off of each other and like to incorporate everyone's musical style into the band and feature every member in our shows." King spent time in northern California as a lead chef at San Francisco's Greens Restaurant before settling in San Diego, while band-and-life partner Joshua Taylor (a Naval Academy grad who served on active duty for five years) grew up in Oklahoma City and first picked up the guitar at the age of 13. Taylor released his debut album *About Time* in 2015 and

toured nationally with King, opening for her former project 22 Kings. King appeared on Taylor's album, and together they founded King Taylor Project the following year, getting married in October 2017. They spent last summer on a national tour that took them through 23 states, with over 40 gigs in 12 weeks. Aside from their Thursday appearance at Gourmet Burgers, you also have two opportunities to catch the busy band on Saturday, May 4, when they play a noon set at Westfield University Towne Centre and an evening performance at Hooley's in Rancho San Diego.

**BLACK MARKET III** at Proud Mary's

MAY 3

Formed as a working side project by Scottie "Mad Dog" Blinn while in-between recording and touring with the Mississippi Mudsharks, Black Market III (which includes his partner, bassist Roxy Coverdale) just got back from a two month western U.S. tour to support their newest full-length, *Dashboard Jesus*. The album debuted at number 25 on the Roots Music Report's Top 50 Contemporary Blues Chart, with the singles "When the Sun Goes Down" reaching number 32 and "Daddy Rollin' Stone" hitting number 4, as reported to *Living Blues Magazine*. Its success enabled them to book a festival and club tour throughout

Europe late last year, headlining Germany's prestigious Blues Festival Lehrte, as well as Stadtfest Alfeld and Stadtfest Celle in Germany. They also played their first prison show in Belgium. Along with the King Taylor Project and Robin Henkel, they're among the most oft-booked acts in town, appearing just about every week. There's a fairly recent single and video streaming online for "Regresare," covering a tune by Tito & Tarantula, that should provide a fair preview of what to expect when they play Proud Mary's (inside the Kearny Mesa Ramada), and you can also see them on Saturday at Hacienda Casa Blanca in El Cajon.

**PETE SEEGER** at 100 at Encinitas Library

MAY 4

Celebrate Pete Seeger's life and work on what would have been his 100th birthday. Folk singer, songwriter, labor and environmental activist Seeger was one of the most influential Americans of the 20th century. Local musicians with an affinity for his brand of social storytelling will perform Seeger's music throughout the day, including a tribute concert featuring local folk icons Peter Bolland ("I'm like a less-pissed-off Steve Earle"), Peggy Watson (who supports many community, national, and international

efforts through her concerts), Jim Hinton (who teaches and performs traditional Irish music), and others. Enjoy a musical story time and sing-along, eco-empowerment stations, talks and presentations, community art projects, and giveaways, as well as live music all day. The family-friendly event is presented by the Encinitas Branch of the San Diego County Library and offered in partnership with I Love a Clean San Diego, Surfrider Foundation, and several other collaborating agencies.

**NEUROTIC MIRAGE** and **ABNER** at Navajo Live

MAY 5

Based in Rancho Penasquitos, Neurotic Mirage combines southern California punk influences with a metal undertone. They released their debut four-song demo in late 2015, recorded at a studio in Cardiff, followed in 2016 by a nine-song EP called *Haywire Culture*, recorded at DoubleTime Studios in Santee with Jeff Forrest. The same producer helmed their new album *Psycho Carnival*, which debuts when they share a bill in San Carlos with Imperial Beach's Abner. After performing their first show in February 2016 at Lestat's, Abner entered Kings Ransom Studios

in Lakeside to record their debut three-song EP with local producer/engineer Jeff Sers. The band features guitarist Adam Baez, who was still a teen writing songs under the name "Abner" when recruited for the band Fuzz-Huzzi. After that group folded in late 2012, Baez at first joined with several other ex-members to form Freak the Mighty. While studying Recording Arts at Mira Costa College in Oceanside, he used his resources there to record demos of the songs he had written as Abner, a band officially launched in spring 2015. The bill includes Bitter Kiddos.

**APOCALYPTICA** at Balboa Theatre

MAY 7

Finnish rockers Apocalyptica rarely include San Diego in their tour itinerary, having played here only four times over the past decade, most recently in 2017 at Copley Symphony Hall, former home of the Fox Theater. This time, they'll take the stage at downtown's only other surviving vintage movie palace, the Balboa, to perform their entire 1996 debut album, the epically ambitious *Plays Metallica By Four Cellos*. The instrumental cello-driven rock opus, covering Metallica songs such as "Enter Sandman" and "The Unforgiven," was essentially record-

ed on a dare from a record company employee who'd been blown away after seeing a live performance of the 7-minute sonic suite "Master of Puppets." There's a remastered version of the record out now that includes three bonus tracks – "Battery," "Seek & Destroy," and "Nothing Else Matters" - in addition to a live album and a DVD of their appearance at Olavinlinna Castle in Finland. The band, which performed with Metallica at a 30th anniversary concert, will also play Metallica tracks they've covered on other albums.

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THE STRUMBELLAS
THE MOTH & THE FLAME
MAY 14

MICKEY AVALON AND DIRT NASTY
MAY 17

YACHT ROCK REVUE
MAY 18

JOHNNY MARR
MAY 20

ALICIA WITT
MAY 21

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MAY 23

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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.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

AMSDconcerts Bonita:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Tyler Grant & Kellen Asebroek. \$20-\$25.

Amici Park:
Sunday, 8pm — Arrival From Sweden: The Music of ABBA. \$55-\$125.

Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade:
Friday, 5pm — Battle of the Bands. **Free.**

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Susan Narucki. \$5-\$25.

Balboa Theatre:
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Apocalyptica Plays Metallica By Four Cellos. \$31-\$45.

Belly Up Tavern:
Thursday, 8pm — Steel Pulse.
Friday, 8pm — The Expanders and Ginger Roots. \$15-\$27.
Saturday, 8pm — Wayward Sons and Rockgarden. \$18-\$32.
Sunday, 8pm — Cocoa Tea.
Tuesday, 8pm — The Church. \$28-\$49.
Wednesday, 8pm — Gone West featuring Colbie Caillat. \$35-\$62.

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

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 8pm — MXMS.

Carvers Steak & Chops:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Miss Demeanor. **Free.**

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — Evan Diamond and Almost Monday. \$7.
Friday, 8pm — El Vez and the Exbats. \$25.
Saturday, 8pm — Lauren Ruth Ward.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Cumbia Machin and La Diabla. \$10.
Monday, 8pm — Part Time. \$12-\$14.
Tuesday, 8pm — Phantom Planet. \$12.
Wednesday, 8pm — Liz Cooper & the Stampede.

Central Library:
Monday, 6:30pm — Swing Dance under the Dome. **Free.**

Centre:
Saturday, 3pm — Tacos and Tequila. \$30-\$40.

Cheers Bar & Grill:
Saturday, 9pm — FX5. **Free.**

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:
Saturday, 8pm — Storm Large & Le Bonheur. \$35-\$85.

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Sunday, 5pm — Miss Demeanor. **Free.**

Cuyamaca College:
Saturday, 12pm — Coyote Music Festival.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:
Sunday, 7pm — Bass Summit.

Drift:
Friday, 6pm — The Cobby Brzeski Quartet. **Free.**

Encinitas Library:
Saturday, 7pm — Nathan & Jessie. **Free.**
Saturday, 10:30am — Pete Seeger at 100. **Free.**

Eureka! Gourmet Burgers and Craft Beer
Thursday, 7pm — King Taylor Project. **Free.**

Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town:
Friday, 6pm — Tim Yancey. **Free.**

Friendly Shoes:
Friday, 6pm — Keahi & Ka uka. \$16-\$20.

Full Circle Saloon:
Friday, 9pm — Sonic Tonic and Equinox.

Hacienda Casa Blanca:
Saturday, 8pm — Black Market III.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:
Sunday, 4:30pm — Ian Tordella Quartet. **Free.**

Helix Brewing Co.:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Manganista and Landis. **Free.**

Heritage Park:
Saturday, 12pm — Cowboy Jack. **Free.**

Hive:
Sunday, 2pm — Migos & Margaritas Day Party. \$10-\$20.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:
Saturday, 8pm — King Taylor Project. **Free.**

Hotel Indigo Del Mar:
Tuesday, 6:30pm — Kathleen Murray. **Free.**

Hornblower Champagne Jazz Brunch Cruise:
Saturdays & Sundays, Ship boards at 10:30am, Cruise 11am-1pm — Dave Scott Duo.

House of Blues:
Thursday, 7pm — Kid Trunks and Craig Xen. \$18-\$45.
Friday, 7pm — Bumpin' Uglies. \$12-\$15.
Saturday, 8pm — Yngwie Malmsteen.
Sunday, 7pm — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink. **Free.**
Wednesday, 7pm — Alec Benjamin. \$15-\$17.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Saturday, 4pm — Y3K Happy Hour. **Free.**

Humphreys by the Bay:
Friday, 7:30pm — Colin Hay. \$46-\$213.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Violent Femmes and X.

Irenic:
Thursday, 7pm — AJ Mitchell and Marteen.
Saturday, 7pm — Omar Apollo and Ambar Lucid. \$18-\$60.
Sunday, 7pm — Peter Bjorn and Jonathan Something. \$22-\$25.

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:
Saturday, 7pm — Jie Ma: Chinese Pipa Music. \$20.

La Jolla United Methodist Church:
Sunday, 4pm — Songs of Celebration. **Free.**

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:
Sunday, 12pm — Cinco de Mayo Pool Party. \$30.

Lakehouse Hotel & Resort:
Saturday, 3:30pm — Live at the Lake: Totally 80s and Ryan Hiller. \$35.

Lucy's Tavern:
Saturday, 9pm — Sonic Tonic.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
Tuesday, 8pm — Melinda Doolittle. \$35.

MiraCosta College:
Saturday, 10am — Instrumental Jazz Festival.
Saturday, 7:30pm — May the 4th Be With You Jazz Concert. \$15-\$20.
Monday & Tuesday, 7:30pm — Beat the Drum.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:
Saturday, 9pm — Steelehorse. **Free.**

Music Box:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Brownies & Lemonade.
Friday, 8pm — SoMo. \$22-\$24.
Saturday, 6pm — Canelo vs. Jacobs and Los Crecidos. \$20-\$40.
Sunday, 9pm — DJ Esco.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Rising Appalachia.

Navajo Live:
Sunday, 8pm — Neurotic Mirage and Abner.

North Coast Repertory Theatre:
Monday & Tuesday, 7:30pm — Jim Curry: John Denver Tribute.

Observatory North Park:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Chromatics

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Thursday, May 2: **Swinging Johnsons** 7pm

Friday, May 3: **Andrew Lewis** 5pm
Gabe Cosby 8:30pm

Saturday, May 4: **Miss Valerie Lopez** 12pm
Brunch 10am-3pm **Lou Shook** 6pm
Tandem Unicycle 8:30pm

Sunday, May 5: **Bob Bucclarelli** 12pm
Brunch 10am-3pm **Serena Geroe** 7pm

Monday, May 6: **Big Boss Bubeluh** 7pm
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Tuesday, May 7: **Steve Orr** 7pm

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Sunday, 6:30pm — The Faint and Choir Boy. \$20-\$25.

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Wednesday, 8pm — Rhythm & Boogie.

Palomar College:

Thursday, 1pm — The Cobby Brzeski Quartet. Free.

Panama 66:

Sunday, 5pm — Uptown Rhythm Makers. Free.

Pounders:

Friday & Saturday, 9pm — West of 5. Free.

Pour House:

Friday, 9pm — Zamman featuring Bachata Surf & Sugar Shimmy.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:

Friday, 7:30pm — Black Market III.

Quartyard:

Thursday, 6pm — Nu Moods Live Jazz Jam. Free.

Rancho Guejito Vineyard:

Sunday, 11am — Cinco de Mayo Wine Tasting & Mariachi. Free.

Rashelico Winery and Art Garden:

Sunday, 11:15am — Cinco De Mayo Fiesta. \$10-\$15.

Rosie O'Grady's:

Friday, 8pm — Blind Mountain Holler and Sim Williams & Damon Robinson.

San Diego Civic Theatre:

Tuesday, 7pm — Celtic Woman: Ancient Land. \$42-\$65.

Searsucker Gaslamp:

Saturday, 10am — 90s & 00s Boy Band Brunch.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Flaural. \$8.
Friday, 8pm — Auz Fontaine and Shindigs. \$8.
Saturday, 8pm — The Bassics. \$10.

Sunday, 8pm — Sekta Core.

\$15-\$20.
Monday, 8pm — Mint Hole and Beverage. \$6.

Tuesday, 8pm — Wargirl and Retra. \$5.

Wednesday, 8pm — MorMor. \$18-\$20.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Notre Dame — more modern than you think

The fire which consumed the roof of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris has been out for a few weeks now. What many of us may not have realized is that Notre Dame is the birthplace of Western polyphony.

First off. Polyphony sounds quite fancy, but it just means any singing that isn't unison. Polyphony is two or more voices singing different notes at the same time. The oldest extant examples of polyphony come to us from the Notre Dame School and date to about 1160 to 1250. The two names which still exist are Léonin and Pérotin.

Little is known about Léonin. The best source of information comes to us from an author who is referred to as Anonymous IV. Léonin's

music is reliably attributed and represents the first examples of a specific composer being associated with specific pieces of music.

A specific composer being associated with a specific piece of music is a significant event — not just in the development of Western Culture but in the development of Western Individualism. Individualism played a part in serfdom's disappearing by the 1400s, the establishment of the Bill of Rights in the United States Constitution, and the abolishment of slavery by Western countries.

Was Notre Dame the birthplace of Western Individualism? No. Was Léonin a revolutionary? Maybe, if his music was truly the first establishment of polyphony.

Odds are he didn't invent polyphony. However, he is who we have.

We know a little more about Pérotin from the same Anonymous IV author, who calls Pérotin "The Great." He took Léonin's work further away from its roots in chant and helped it develop into what is called the *ars antiqua* style. *Ars antiqua* is something of a transition between plainchant and the intricate polyphony of *Ars nova*, which developed in the late medieval period and led to the Renaissance.

The music of these two composers is documented in the *Magnus Liber Organi*, the oldest version of which is from 1456, and is housed in the library of Piero de Medici of Florence. This book



Notre Dame

shows an innovation in the architecture of music which is akin to the innovation in architecture which made Notre Dame possible.

In the music of Léonin and Pérotin, we have the first example of music which is measurable. The duration of

the notes is indicated for the first time.

Notre Dame cathedral is a stunning building, but with it comes an entire context of innovation and avant garde thinking. It was, at the time, thoroughly modern.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Bach Collegium San Diego

HENRY PURCELL: King Arthur — Historically informed San Diego premiere. Friday, May 3, 7:30pm; All Souls' Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Boulevard.

Bach Collegium San Diego

HENRY PURCELL: King Arthur — Historically informed San Diego premiere. Saturday, May 4, 7:30pm; Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 3459 Manchester Avenue.

Encore! Scholarship

Fundraiser Encore! is the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory's premier event to raise scholarship funds for students in need of financial assistance to follow their musical dreams. It is an inspiring evening of music, cuisine and friendship in the Casa del Prado in Balboa

Park. The event celebrates the achievements of our community's talented and dedicated musical youth and recognizes SDYS' dedication to help make music education truly affordable and accessible for all students. Enjoy an array of performances by our talented young musicians, sit by their side as they rehearse, share their delight in making music together. Through this special evening, more than a third of our 1,000 students receive tuition assistance or free after-school music instruction. Encore! gives you a chance to show your support for making music education available to all students. Saturday, May 4, 5pm; Casa del Prado, 1650 El Prado.

Garrick Ohlsson The program features works by Bach. Friday, May 3, 8pm; \$35-\$85. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Hopkinson Smith The San Diego Early Music Society concludes its 2018/2019 season with

a classic: solo music in its purest form performed by a master. A legend of the lute, Hopkinson Smith will play Elizabethan music by the great John Dowland (1563-1626) and two composers from the preceding generation, John Johnson (d. 1594) and Anthony Holborne (d. 1602). This program travels among many moods, portrayed in rhapsodic pavans, spirited galliards, elaborate variations, and charming "character" pieces with titles or themes of the moment, which to us sound beautiful, complex, and anything but mad. Samuel M. Ciccati Theatre. Sunday, May 5, 3pm; \$10-\$40. Cuyamaca College, 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway.

Jacobs Masterworks: Saint-Saens' Organ Symphony Jahja Ling, conductor Chelsea Chen, organ BERLIOZ: Overture to Benvenuto Cellini POULENC: Concerto for Organ, Timpani and Strings SAINT-SAËNS: Symphony No. 3: Organ

Soma:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Freddie Gibbs. \$20-\$75.

Friday, 6:30pm — The Grinns and the Shakes. \$10.

Space:

Saturday, 8pm — DJs Sasha Marie and Sahar Habibi.

Wednesday, 8pm — Leggy. \$10.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:

Saturday, 11am — Cinco de Mayo Celebration. Free.

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park:

Friday, 7:30pm — Pete Seeger's 100th Birthday. \$15-\$18.

Tower Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — Vicky & The Vengents and the Carvels NYC.

Trinity United Methodist Church:

Friday, 7:30pm — San Diego Contra Dance. \$10.

Vinyl Junkies Record Shack:

Saturday, 6pm — Craig Wedren: My '90s.

Westfield University Towne Centre:

Saturday, 12pm — King Taylor Project. Free.

Whistle Stop Bar:

Saturday, 5pm — Grampadrew Flim Flam Review.

Wednesday, 8pm — Versing.

Winstons Beach Club:

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



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Fri, May 3rd - Black Market III

Sat, May 4th - The Hastings Band

Fri, May 10th - 145th Street Band

Sat, April 11th - Danny Brooks

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Symphony Friday, May 3, 7pm; Saturday, May 4, 7pm; Sunday, May 5, 2pm; Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street.

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus: Looking to the Future

Looking to the Future May 4 @ 7:30pm – May 5 @ 2:00pm, 2019 Steven Schick, conductor Julie Wolfe Fuel (with film by Bill Morrison) Camille Saint-Saëns Piano Concerto No. 2 Jean Sibelius Symphony No. 5 Soloist: Anne Liu, piano, 2017 Young Artists Winner (pictured) Steven Schick leads a sharply varied program. Pulitzer Prize-winner Julia Wolfe has taken particular pleasure in writing music with film, and we hear her Fuel, with a film by Bill Morrison. Young Artist Winner Anne Liu performs Saint-Saens' witty Second Piano Concerto, which has been described as "beginning with Bach and ending with Offenbach." The concert concludes with Sibelius' mighty Fifth Symphony, which drives to its triumphant conclusion on six shattering chords for full orchestra. Saturday, May 4, 7:30pm; Sunday, May 5, 2pm; \$15-\$35. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive.

Susan Narucki Soprano Susan Narucki will be performing for this San Diego New Music concert, which is entitled "In the Land of Forgotten Dreams." Grammy-award winning Narucki is one of the leading interpreters of contemporary music of her generation, recognized for her luminous tone, superb musicianship and distinctive artistry. The program will feature works by

Alba Potes, Toshio Hosokawa, Anna Thorvaldsdottir, and Kaija Saariaho, as well as additional performers soprano Kirsten Wiest, flutist Michael Matsuno, and guitarist Pablo Gómez Cano. Thursday, May 2, 7:30pm; \$5-\$25. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street.

UPCOMING SHOWS

710 Beach Club:

Thursday, May 9 — Lost Monarchs.
Wednesday, May 15 — Carvin Jones Band.

AMSDDconcerts Bonita:

Friday, May 10 — Ellis Paul.
\$25-\$35.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Friday, May 17 — Hugh Gaskins, Jim Earp, Travis Oliver. \$12-\$17.
Friday, May 24 — Sue Palmer, Rob Deeze, Angelo Pizarro. \$12-\$17.

BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Friday, May 10 — West of 5.
Free.

Balboa Theatre:

Wednesday, May 15 — Stephen Powell & Stephen Costello. \$35-\$160.

Bang Bang:

Friday, May 10 — Todd Terry. \$10-\$25.
Saturday, May 18 — Mihalisa Safras and Blagwell. \$10-\$25.

Bar Pink:

Monday, May 13 — Julia Sage & the Bad Hombres.

Bay Bridge Brewing:

Saturday, May 11 — Sonic Tonic.

Bayside Park:

Sunday, May 19 — HAMFAMJAM. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, May 9 — Montalban Quintet. \$25-\$44.
Friday, May 10 — Jefferson Starship. \$35-\$62.
Saturday, May 11 — Jefferson Starship. \$35-\$62.
Sunday, May 12 — Mad Dogs & the Englishman.
Wednesday, May 15 — Wild Belle. \$16-\$28.
Wednesday, May 15 — Dead Meadow. \$13-\$15.
Thursday, May 16 — Tusk.
Friday, May 17 — Pato Banton. \$20-\$35.
Saturday, May 18 — Z-Trip. \$20-\$35.
Sunday, May 19 — Brogue Wave. \$10-\$18.
Monday, May 20 — Willie K.
Tuesday, May 21 — Idles and Fontaines D.C. \$16-\$28.
Wednesday, May 22 — Inspired & the Sleep and WYO & CAPYAC.
Friday, May 24 — The White Buffalo. \$25-\$44.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, May 10 — Phil X and Taz Taylor Band.
Monday, May 13 — Archspire and Virvum.
Friday, May 17 — Dark Funeral and Hate. \$28.
Tuesday, May 21 — Skeletonwitch and Portrayal of Guilt.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Saturday, May 11 — Lila Downs.
Wednesday, May 15 — Deva Premal & Miten with Manose. \$35-\$108.

Carvers Steak & Chops:

Friday, May 10 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Casbah:

Thursday, May 9 — Bayonne.

Friday, May 10 — Black Marble and Second Still. \$20.

Saturday, May 11 — Xeno & Oaklander and SRSQ. \$20.

Sunday, May 12 — Foxing and Now Now. \$18-\$20.

Monday, May 13 — Unhappy Hour and Stephen El Rey. \$10.

Tuesday, May 14 — Carsie Blanton. \$12-\$14.

Thursday, May 16 — Shy Girls. \$13-\$15.

Friday, May 17 — Emo Nite. \$12.

Saturday, May 18 — Trouble in the Wind and Jonny Wagon. \$12.

Monday, May 20 — Hexa and John Errol. \$8.

Tuesday, May 21 — Geographer and Manatee Commune. \$13-\$15.

Wednesday, May 22 — Dead Boys. \$15-\$18.

Friday, May 24 — Teenage Bottlerocket and Nerf Herder. \$18.

Saturday, May 25 — The Lemonheads and Tommy Stinson.

Sunday, May 26 — Booty Bassment. \$10.

Central Library:

Monday, May 20 — Swing Dance under the Dome. Free.

Cheers:

Saturday, May 18 — 8 East Band. Free.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, May 11 — Sound Vault. Free.
Saturday, May 18 — Good Company. Free.

Ché Café:

Thursday, May 9 — Camp Cope. \$15.
Thursday, May 23 — Downtown Boys. \$12.
Friday, May 24 — Negative Gemini. \$12-\$15.

Clairemont Lutheran Church:

Saturday, May 18 — San Diego County Recorder Society. Free.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Thursday, May 9 — Benoit

Charest: The Triplets of Belleville. \$28-\$68.

Saturday, May 25 — Heart of a Child Benefit Concert. \$30-\$100.

Crown Dance Studio:

Saturday, May 18 — Hot Rhythm Lounge. \$5-\$12.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:

Saturday, May 11 — Sibarg Ensemble and Mark Dresser & Hafez Modirzadeh.

Friday, May 24 — Robin Henkel Band.

Ebullition Brew Works:

Friday, May 10 — You and I Duo. Free.

Saturday, May 25 — The Stilettoes. Free.

Fast Times:

Wednesday, May 15 — Sneaky Tiki Ukulele Jam & Social Club.

Fleet Science Center:

Saturday, May 11 — The Magic of Wine. \$325-\$5000.

Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town:

Saturday, May 11 — Tim Apple.
Saturday, May 18 — Tim Yancey. Free.
Saturday, May 25 — Tim Yancey. Free.
Sunday, May 26 — Tim Apple.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Sunday, May 12 — Victor Baker Jazz Quartet. Free.
Sunday, May 19 — Richard Thompson Quintet. Free.
Sunday, May 26 — Ali Ryerson with Frank Potenza & Luther Hughes. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Wednesday, May 22 — Gary Clark Jr.

Harrison Serenity Ranch:

Friday, May 24 — Rock 'N' Soul Summit Festival.
Saturday, May 25 — Rock 'N' Soul Summit Festival.
Sunday, May 26 — Rock 'N' Soul Summit Festival.

Monday, May 27 — Rock 'N' Soul Summit Festival.

Herringbone:

Saturday, May 18 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Hotel Indigo Del Mar:

Tuesday, May 21 — Kathleen Murray.

House of Blues:

Thursday, May 9 — Cub Sport and Minor Poet.
Thursday, May 9 — DJ Slushii.
Friday, May 10 — Hot Mulligan and Future Teens. \$15-\$17.
Friday, May 10 — Electric Feels. \$10-\$30.
Saturday, May 11 — Lolo Zouai and Jean Deaux. \$13-\$15.
Sunday, May 12 — Gospel Brunch. \$22-\$44.
Sunday, May 12 — Gospel Brunch. \$22-\$44.
Sunday, May 12 — Chad & Rosie. Free.
Tuesday, May 14 — The Japanese House.
Wednesday, May 15 — Santigold. \$39-\$65.
Wednesday, May 15 — The Moneymen Band. Free.
Thursday, May 16 — Fish & the Seaweeds. Free.
Friday, May 17 — Graham Gillot Band.
Friday, May 17 — Mickey Avalon.
Saturday, May 18 — Yacht Rock Revue. \$15-\$20.
Saturday, May 18 — The Stilettoes. Free.
Monday, May 20 — The Moneymen Band. Free.
Monday, May 20 — Johnny Marr. \$30-\$65.
Tuesday, May 21 — Nav.
Tuesday, May 21 — Alicia Witt.
Wednesday, May 22 — Patrick "BlueFrog" Ellis. Free.
Thursday, May 23 — The Exploited and D.I. \$20-\$45.
Thursday, May 23 — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink. Free.
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Saturday, May 25 — DSB: An American Journey. \$15-\$30.
Sunday, May 26 — Gospel



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	Distressor
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Fri 5/10	The Mice
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- May 25 Little Bit of Soul / Latin, Oldies
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Gillot Band. **Free.**
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Tuesday, May 28 — Arizona.
\$21-\$41.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Friday, May 10 — Mercedes
Moore Band. **Free.**

Humphreys by the Bay:
Wednesday, May 15 — Willie
Nelson & Family.
Thursday, May 23 — El Gran
Festival de Musica Cubana.
Friday, May 24 — Little Feat.
\$35-\$300.

IDEA1:
Saturday, May 11 — The Edge
Pop-Up Art Show. \$15-\$35.

Irenic:
Saturday, May 25 — I Am
Through Being Cool Fest.

Iron Fist Brewing:
Saturday, May 18 — Lost
Monarchs. **Free.**

JAI at the Conrad:
Thursday, May 16 — Anat Cohen
Quartet. \$25-\$39.
Thursday, May 16 — Anat Cohen
Quartet. \$25-\$39.

**Jacobs Music Center/Copley
Symphony Hall:**
Friday, May 10 — 4U: The Music
of Prince with Symphony.
Saturday, May 11 — San Diego
Children’s Choir. \$10-\$30.

**Kalabash School of Music
and the Arts:**
Saturday, May 18 — Skillet
Licorice. \$20.

La Jolla Community Center:
Saturday, May 18 — Enrique
Toral & Friends Broadway
Cabaret. \$25.

La Mesa Wine Works:
Sunday, May 19 — Rolf Olsen
Quartet. **Free.**

**Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club
and Bungalows:**
Sunday, May 26 — Memorial
Day Pool Party. \$30.

Larry’s Beach Club:
Saturday, May 18 — Gone
Blonde. **Free.**

Lincoln High School:
Saturday, May 18 — San Diego
Women’s Chorus: Quiet No
More.
Sunday, May 19 — San Diego
Women’s Chorus: Quiet No
More.

Lyceum Theatre:
Friday, May 24 — Charles
McPherson’s Song of Songs.
\$35-\$50.
Saturday, May 25 — Charles
McPherson’s Song of Songs.
\$35-\$50.
Sunday, May 26 — Charles
McPherson’s Song of Songs.
\$35-\$50.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:
Friday, May 10 — Sonic Tonic.

**Martinis Above Fourth I
Table + Stage:**
Thursday, May 9 — Jeffrey Scott
Parsons. \$30.

MiraCosta College:
Thursday, May 9 — Frequency
Spring Concert. \$8-\$10.
Friday, May 10 — Frequency
Spring Concert. \$8-\$10.

**Molly Malone’s Waypoint
Saloon:**
Friday, May 10 — Cheap Date.
Free.
Saturday, May 11 — War Path.
Free.
Friday, May 17 — A Perfect Tool
& Systematic Chaos. **Free.**
Saturday, May 18 — United
Country. **Free.**
Friday, May 24 — Still Around.
Free.

**Moonlight Amphitheatre in
Brenkle Terrace Park:**
Saturday, May 11 — Roger Clyne
& The Peacemakers.

Moonshine Beach:
Thursday, May 16 — Brodie
Stewart Band.

Music Box:
Thursday, May 9 — White Lies.
\$25.

Friday, May 10 — The
Spazmatics and Geezer. \$17-\$19.
Saturday, May 11 — Buck O
Nine and Sprung Monkey. \$20-
\$22.
Sunday, May 12 — Diary of
Dreams and Glaare.
Tuesday, May 14 — Matt
Maeson. \$15.
Wednesday, May 15 —
Swingrowers and AtomSmith.
\$22-\$25.
Thursday, May 16 — Boogie and
KB Devaughn. \$16-\$18.
Friday, May 17 — Desert
Dwellers and SAAND. \$18-\$20.
Saturday, May 18 — One More
Time. \$17-\$19.
Sunday, May 19 — Dread Mar I.
\$40-\$59.
Thursday, May 23 — Digital Bath
and Anesthesia. \$10.
Friday, May 24 — Minnesota.
\$18-\$20.
Saturday, May 25 — Matisyahu.
\$40-\$42.
Sunday, May 26 — The Steely
Damned 2. \$24-\$72.

Nate’s Garden Grill:
Thursday, May 12 — Tinkersmith.
Free.

Nick & G’s:
Friday, May 10 — Tim Yancey.
Free.
Friday, May 24 — Tim Yancey.
Free.

Observatory North Park:
Saturday, May 11 — Eels.
Friday, May 17 — The Dandy
Warhols. \$25.
Saturday, May 18 — Cowboy
Junkies. \$48-\$50.
Sunday, May 26 — Sleep.

**Old California Coffee House
& Eatery:**
Friday, May 17 — Rolf Olsen
Quartet. **Free.**

Omnia San Diego:
Saturday, May 18 — Niiko x
SWAE. \$30-\$50.

**Pacific Islander Beer
Company:**
Saturday, May 25 — Miss
Demeanor. **Free.**

Pala Mesa Resort:
Friday, May 24 — West of 5.
Free.

Pounders:
Friday, May 17 — Miss
Demeanor. **Free.**
Saturday, May 18 — Miss
Demeanor. **Free.**

**Poway Center for the
Performing Arts:**
Saturday, May 18 — Keb’ Mo’.
\$30-\$80.

Rabbit Hole:
Friday, May 17 — The Dinettes.

**Ramona Mainstage
Nightclub:**
Sunday, May 12 — T.S.O.L. and
Authentic Sellout.

Rancho Bernardo Library:
Saturday, May 11 — Around the
World. **Free.**

**Riviera Supper Club &
Turquoise Room:**
Saturday, May 25 — Tori Roze &
the Hot Mess.

Rosie O’Grady’s:
Saturday, May 18 — Tori Roze &
the Hot Mess.

Saint Archer Brewing Co.:
Saturday, May 18 — Sixth
Anniversary. **Free.**

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Sunday, May 12 — Tedeschi
Trucks Band.

**San Diego Marriott Marquis
& Marina:**
Saturday, May 18 — USO San
Diego Stars & Stripes Gala. **Free.**

Seven Grand:
Friday, May 10 — Crew d’Etat
Brass Band.

Ship in the Woods:
Saturday, May 18 — Music
Residency Benefit. \$12-\$20.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, May 9 — Lady Lamb.
\$16-\$18.
Saturday, May 11 — Ignite and
Implants. \$15-\$20.
Tuesday, May 14 — Malison. \$7.
Wednesday, May 15 — The

Moondoggies. \$10-\$12.
Thursday, May 16 — Shy Boys
and Pavo Pavo. \$10-\$12.
Friday, May 17 — Birdy Bardot.
\$10-\$12.
Saturday, May 18 — The Dickies.
\$18.
Monday, May 20 — Brushed and
Daytrip. \$6.
Tuesday, May 21 — Black Taffy
and Matthewdavid. \$10.
Wednesday, May 22 — Conflict
and the Linecutters. \$20-\$23.
Thursday, May 23 — The Bright
Light Social Hour and Swimm.
\$12.
Friday, May 24 — Mad Sin and
Stellar Corpses. \$20-\$25.
Sunday, May 26 — Supersuckers
and Speedealer. \$15.
Monday, May 27 — Briana
Marela and Giveaway. \$10.

**Solana Beach Presbyterian
Church:**
Sunday, May 19 — Trio Ellas.
\$30-\$60.

Soma:
Tuesday, May 28 — Sylar and
Cane Hill.

Space:
Thursday, May 23 — Crime In
Stereo and Elder Brother. \$17-
\$20.

Spacebar Cafe:
Saturday, May 25 — HappyRon
& Friends. **Free.**

Spanish Landing Park:
Thursday, May 9 — Gator by the
Bay. \$30-\$45.
Friday, May 10 — Gator by the
Bay. \$30-\$45.
Saturday, May 11 — Gator by the
Bay. \$30-\$45.
Sunday, May 12 — Gator by the
Bay. \$30-\$45.

Spin Nightclub:
Thursday, May 9 — Sam
Gellaityr.

**St. James by-the-Sea
Episcopal Church:**
Sunday, May 19 — Chanticleer.
\$30.
Friday, May 24 — Triadic
Memories. \$20-\$40.

Saturday, May 25 — Triadic
Memories. \$20-\$40.
Saturday, May 25 — Triadic
Memories. \$20-\$40.

St. Michael’s by-the-Sea:
Sunday, May 19 — Eclectic Lawn
Concert. **Free.**

Tipsy Crow:
Wednesday, May 15 — Wes
Maharas. **Free.**

**Trinity United Methodist
Church:**
Saturday, May 11 — San Diego
Contra Dance. \$10.
Friday, May 17 — San Diego
Contra Dance. \$10.
Saturday, May 25 — San Diego
Contra Dance. \$12.

UCSD Price Center:
Thursday, May 9 — ArtPower:
Dahlak Brathwaite. \$25.

USS Midway Museum:
Friday, May 24 — Daughtry.

**Veterans Museum and
Memorial Center:**
Sunday, May 26 — Downbeat Big
Band Dance & Swing Class. \$10.

Viejas Arena:
Thursday, May 23 — New Kids
On The Block.
Friday, May 24 — Wisin &
Yandel.

**Vista Chamber of
Commerce:**
Sunday, May 26 — Vista
Strawberry Festival.

Whistle Stop Bar:
Sunday, May 12 — Tav Falco’s
Panther Burns and Low Volts.
\$10.
Sunday, May 19 — Will Fox and
Ryan Polлие.

White Box Theater:
Saturday, May 11 — Fresh
Sound: Bent Duo. \$10-\$20.

Winstons Beach Club:
Monday, May 13 — Electric
Waste Band. \$5.
Thursday, May 16 — After Funk.
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A lot of speechifying

The script calls for all the characters to be far too angry for far too long.

This should have been a good story. Writer Lynn Nottage went to Reading, Pennsylvania — one of the poorest cities in the country — to talk to people about the effects of de-industrialization on the Rust Belt. Tellingly, when she interviewed middle-aged white men, she thought they sounded a lot like young black men: “They felt disenfranchised, disaffected.” She wanted to tell their story.

THEATER

CHARLOTTE COLLINS

It’s a great idea: give a voice to the people, (mostly white men from fly-over territory) who have plummeted from solidly middle-class, home-owning skilled workers with stable jobs to being broke, broken, welfare-receiving, unemployable “deplorables” in one generation.

I wish Nottage had told that story.

But this story is about three women (one black, one white, one drunk) who are besties — until one of them (black) gets promoted to management and the other (white) becomes bitter and obsesses over feeling that she was more qualified but was passed over because she’s white. The play is now about race rather than de-industrialization.

What follows is a lot of speechifying by characters who are competing for the “greatest victim prize” by reciting their grievances. Which, allow me to point out, is not what fly-over deplorables

do. It’s what college-educated “woke” people do. So this play imposes the values of woke on genuine victims, thereby depriving them of any voice whatsoever.

Though the script calls for all the characters to be far too angry for far too long to be watchable, the POC characters still come off pretty well. The deplorables are, on the other hand, completely deplorable. This isn’t a story about de-industrialization. It’s a story where everything’s about race.

The main mystery — and the action on which the whole production hinges — is why the white woman’s son and the black woman’s son end up in prison for eight years. The resolution of this mystery is inexplicably delayed from the first scene to the very end of the play — so long that the audience has stopped remembering or caring.

Throughout the play, there is a political news ticker above the stage. Its presence serves only to puzzle. Is the news relevant? Couldn’t tell.

More perplexing: the repeated broadcast of the local temperature. What does it matter if the temperature outside is 38 or 98?

If the temperature had started out low and then heated up as the action of the play heated up, I would get that: Things are heating up. It would be



PHOTOGRAPH BY JIM CARMODY

Sweat: “The deplorables are completely deplorable.”

Sweat by Lynn Nottage

Lyceum Theater, 79 Horton Plaza, San Diego

Directed by Sam Woodhouse; Cast: Antonio T.J. Johnson, Steve Froehlich, Cortez Johnson, Jason Heil, Markuz Rodriguez, Judy Bauerlein, Monique Gaffney, Hannah Logan, Matt Orduna
Set design by John Iacovelli, costume design by Elisa Benzoni, lighting design by Ann E. McMills, sound design by Matthew Lescault-Wood, projection design by Samantha Rojas. Fight Director: James Newcomb;
Stage Manager: Heather M. Brose
Plays through May 12.

cheesy, but it would at least make sense. But that isn’t what happened. Each new scene was accompanied by a weather report about the outdoor temperature. I couldn’t fathom the significance.

A few efforts shone through the general gloom. Antonio Johnson gave a compelling, believable performance as parole officer Evan. I wanted to see more of Evan and get more of his

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CHARLOTTE COLLINS, SAN DIEGO READER

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Matthew Boston, Morgan Hallett, and Mary Beth Fisher. Photo by Jim Cox.

Calendar THEATER

backstory. *That's* embodying a role.

Jason Heil as Stan did a lot to unflatten his flat role. Matt Orduna as Brucie gives some subtlety and depth to a rather one-dimensional character. Designer John Iacovelli provided a simple and effective set. ■

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.

All My Sons

Mira Costa College Theatre stages Arthur Miller's drama, which "examines the relationships between fathers and sons and the price of living the American Dream. An explosive secret threatens to tear the family apart." Eric Bishop directs. MIRACOSTA COLLEGE THEATRE, ONE BARNARD DR., MIRACOSTA COLLEGE. 760-795-6815. 7:30PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAY 5.

All in the Timing

Six one-act comedies that examine attempts at relationships. In one act, a man and a woman meet for the first time in a cafe, where they continually say the wrong thing, until, finally, they romantically connect. In another, three chimpanzees, named after famous authors and expected to write *Hamlet*, waste time engaging in pointless banter

ANTI-REVIEW GARRETT HARRIS

"They took our jobs!"

SWEAT IS A GREAT EXAMPLE of a play written for people who go to the theater but *about* people who would never go to the theater. In other words, this is a "blue-state" playwright writing about "red-state" characters for a "blue-state" audience. That's not completely fair, but it's one-hundred-percent true.

The setting is a factory town in Pennsylvania — yet again. We know this scenario well. Factory jobs are being moved to Mexico, and the whites aren't happy about it. Then a black woman gets a promotion instead of a white woman. Bring on the victim narrative.

During the performance I kept thinking about an ancient *South Park* episode which featured the rallying cry, "They took our jobs!" That episode does, essentially, what this play does. It demonstrates the willingness of blue-collar Americans to play the victim, to their own demise.

The play covers familiar ground, but it's ground which needs to be constantly rediscovered. What is that familiar ground? There are no successful victims. Everybody should know this by now, but it feels as though the social tide is running contrary to that.

Personal rights and the victimization of said rights are becoming the foundation of our social discourse. How many discussions start off with, "As a [fill in the blank] I feel like I've been mistreated"? (Read: victimized).

Here's what you won't hear very often: "As a person who bases his or her life on personal responsibility, I refuse to be victimized." That's the end of the discussion. There is no issue to be discussed if there is no victim.

Sweat addresses racial relations and I, as a white male of ultimate privilege, felt that the script was flipped in a most appropriate way. The black community and some elements of black leadership have been criticized for



PHOTOGRAPH BY PEGGY RAN

Can you spot the victim in this picture?

fostering a victim narrative. *Sweat* argues that a victim narrative can be found within the white community as well. Some might say we have a president who won an election

off of a victim narrative which appealed to white America.

Sweat plays at San Diego Repertory Theatre through May 12.

while occasionally inspired to make grandiose literary allusions. Directed by David Ellenstein.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS.

Animales Nocturnos, Nocturnal

Blackmail. It's such a dirty word. All Short Man wants is a friend. Someone to go for a drink with, someone who's always there to listen. All Tall Man wants is his identity as an illegal immigrant kept secret, and so he agrees to become Short Man's friend. But Tall Man is about to find out just what a high price he has paid to buy his blackmailer's silence. Chantaje. Es una palabra tan sucia. Todo lo que Hombre bajo quiere es un amigo. Alguien con quien tomar una copa, alguien que siempre está ahí para escuchar. Todo lo que quiere el Hombre alto es su identidad como un inmigrante ilegal que se mantiene en secreto, por lo que acepta ser amigo de Hombre bajo. Pero Hombre alto está a punto de descubrir cuánto ha pagado por comprar el silencio de su chantajista

Spanish-language performances will take place on May 5, May 10, May 17 and May 25
PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE, 116 S. KALMIA ST., NONE. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Disney's The Little Mermaid

A kindhearted Arabian street urchin and a power-hungry Grand Vizier vie for a magic lamp that has the power to make the deepest wishes come true. Performed by El Cajon Valley High School.

EL CAJON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL, 1035 E. MADISON AVE., EL CAJON. 619-401-4700. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, & SATURDAY.

Dog Sees God: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead

Charlie Brown is in mourning over the passing of his beloved dog. His best friend is too burnt out to provide any moral support, his little sister has gone from born-again to goth, his girlfriend has been locked up behind padded walls, and his other friends are too preoccupied with partying to care. Things start to look up when Peanuts meets a bullied artistic soul who provides the

friendship he needs to navigate these tumultuous teen years. But can he? OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. 8PM THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS.

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. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)

This comedy and gender-bendy romp retells Shakespeare's Othello and Romeo and Juliet through a feminist lens. By Ann-Marie MacDonald.

HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE AT PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 W. MISSION RD., PALOMAR COLLEGE. 760-744-1150. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

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. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

I Didn't Get No Wake-Up Call

A story about the Harris family and their struggles with Wendall's alcoholism. Why didn't I see or hear it? COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH ST., OAK PARK. 619-581-2634. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY, MAY 5.

James and the Giant Peach
Adapted from Roald Dahl's novel,

this musical is about a boy, his insect friends, and their journey across the ocean on a giant piece of fruit. Stephen Brotebeck directs.
DON POWELL THEATRE AT SDSU, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., SDSU. 7:30PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY.

Man Of La Mancha

Story of the "mad" knight as a play within a play, performed by Cervantes and his fellow prisoners as he awaits a hearing with the Spanish Inquisition. Inspired by Miguel de Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, this musical celebrates the perseverance of a dying old man who refuses to relinquish his ideals or his passion. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 7:30PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Menopause: The Musical

The Welk Resort Theatre stages the popular musical "celebration of women and the Change." Four women at a lingeree 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.

Nine

A comedy of autobiographical filmmaking, this musical follows the life of world famous film director, Guido Contini, as he prepares his latest picture and balances the numerous women in his life. LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

The Servant of Two Masters

A new version of the Italian comedy by Carlo Goldoni. When the trickster Truffaldino signs on to serve two masters in the hope of double wages and double dinners, chaos ensues. Directed by AJ Knox. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Seussical

The Cat in the Hat and Horton the Elephant guide you on a journey

from the Jungle of Nool, to the Circus McGurkus, to the World of the Whos. A little boy proves that a person is a person, no matter how small. Based on the works of Dr. Seuss. Directed by Susan Jordan DeLeon. SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO #208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. 7PM FRIDAY, 2PM SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 5.

Sister Act

When disco diva, Deloris Van Cartier, witnesses a murder, she is put in protective custody in the one place the cops are sure she won't be a found: a convent. Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with the rigid lifestyle and uptight Mother Superior. Using her unique disco moves and singing talent, Deloris breathes new life into the church and community. HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

Sweat

A group of close friends share everything: drinks, secrets and laughs. When rumors of layoffs shake up the factory where they work, the fragile bonds of their community begin to splinter and a crime sends shockwaves across two generations. The neighborhood bar turns into a battleground where race, class, family and friendship clash. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

They Promised Her the Moon

World premiere of Laurel Ollstein's drama about thirteen women who trained, in 1960, to become the first American astronauts. Jerrie Cobb out-performed her male counterparts, but never got the chance. Giovanna Sardelli directs. SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Wagner New Play Festival 2019

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Shame Spiral: The Bachelor franchise is everything we are ashamed of loving: false eyelashes, artificial conflicts, and promises of true love. Contestants come to a shocking revelation about fan favorite Lauren S. Meanwhile, viewers, and even a certain playwright, sit back and watch another's public shaming. *The Gradient*: In a not-so-distant future, men accused of sexual misconduct are sent to "The Gradient" to reckon with their mistakes and get rehabilitated. New employee Tess is eager to hold men accountable and enact change, but it might not be as simple as it seems. Play festival includes these plays as well as *Monster*, *The Jefferson Middle School Monthly*, *Duchess! Duchess! Duchess!*, and a reading of *Incendiary*. VISUAL ARTS FACILITY PERFORMANCE SPACE, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2860. 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

What are you?

The complicated game of growing up hapa, multiple, or mixed-race today. Episodes in the interactive game show of modern America through skits, video, music, and celebrity impersonations of debatable quality.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAY 5.

The Wizard of OZ

Fly over the rainbow with Dorothy as she rides a twister into the merry and troubled land of Oz. No matter how far our journeys take us, there's no place like home. Directed by David Schulz.

STAR THEATRE, 402 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-721-9983. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, MAY 5.

UPCOMING SHOWS

1776 Presented by JCompany Youth Theatre

The JCompany Youth Theatre krepresents the popular musical. It's the summer of 1776. The nation is about to declare independence. Now the leaders must "convince the members of the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence from the shackles of the British monarchy by signing the Declaration of Independence." Joey Landwehr directs an all-female cast. LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. MAY 11 THROUGH MAY 19.

1776 The Musical

The story of the people and events leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Follow John Adams of Massachusetts, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, and Thomas Jefferson of Virginia as they attempt to convince the members of the Second Continental Congress to vote for independence from the British monarchy. All-female cast. Directed by Joey Landwehr. LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. MAY 10 THROUGH MAY 19.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Roald Dahl's classic with songs from original film, including "Pure Imagination," "The Candy Man," and "I've

Got a Golden Ticket," alongside new score from songwriters of *Hairspray*. Willy Wonka is opening his marvelous and mysterious chocolate factory, to a lucky few. That includes Charlie Bucket, whose bland life is about to burst with color and confection beyond his wildest dreams. He and four other golden ticket winners will embark on a mesmerizing joyride through a world of pure imagination.

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. MAY 14 THROUGH MAY 19.

Crazy Enough

A musical based on the memoir by Storm Large. Yes, Storm Large is her real name, though she's been called many things. As a performer, the majority of descriptions have led with "Amazon," "powerhouse," "a six-foot Vargas pinup come to life." Playboy called her a "punk goddess." You'd never know she used to be called "Little S"—the mini-me to her beautiful and troubled mother, Suzi.

CONRAD PREBYS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 7600 FAY AVE., LA JOLLA. MAY 11 THROUGH MAY 12.

Failure: A Love Story

Grossmont College stages Phillip Dawkins' "magic fable" about the three Fall sisters in 1928. Mortimer Mortimer falls madly in love with all three. He carries a blunt object. Can the power of love win out over a more lethal alternative? Brian Rickel directs.

GROSSMONT COLLEGE, 8800 GROSSMONT COLLEGE DR., EL CAJON. 619-644-7000. MAY 9 THROUGH MAY 18.

Failure: A Love Story

The year is 1928, and the jazz era is in full swing while life in Chicago is roaring. By the end of the year, the three Fall sisters will meet their demise: Nelly Fail, Jenny June Fail and Gertie Fail will die of a blunt object to the head, a disappearance and consumption, respectively. Living out their daily lives above the family clock shop on the Chicago River, they meet Mortimer Mortimer, who falls madly in love with all three sisters.

STAGEHOUSE THEATRE, 8800 GROSSMONT COLLEGE DR., EL CAJON, CA 92020. MAY 9 THROUGH MAY 18.

The Fantasticks

Musical set on two ranches in the Southwest. A bandit, El Gallo, tells about the kind of September "when love was an ember about to billow." Two young people, Matt and Luisa, live next door to each other and fall in love. However, their fathers are feuding and order them not to speak to each other. Luisa fantasizes about the experiences she wants to have in her life, "Much More." POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. MAY 17 THROUGH JUNE 2.

Fiddler on the Roof

Story of fathers and daughters, husbands and wives, and traditions that define faith and family. Featuring the Broadway classics "Tradition," "If I Were a Rich Man," "Sunrise, Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker" and "To Life." Movement and dance from Israeli choreographer Hofesh Shechter, based on original staging by Jerome Robbins. SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. MAY 28 THROUGH JUNE 2.

Gods of Comedy

Daphne and Ralph are young clas-

sics professors who have just made a discovery that's sure to turn them into academic superstars. But when something goes disastrously wrong, Daphne cries out in a panic, "Save me, gods of ancient Greece!" ...and the gods appear. College will never be the same as deities encounter college coeds, campus capers, and conspicuous consumption.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. MAY 16 THROUGH JUNE 16.

Modus Operandi: The Play

Two sisters have an innate behavior to kill their beloveds. Marla and Carla Adams reconnect after years of separation to rekindle what they've lost. While confiding in each other, they befriend two male accomplices, Blythe and Spinard. The sheriff in towns finds out and wants to put an end to "The Adams Family" cult. COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH ST., OAK PARK. 619-581-2634. MAY 10 THROUGH MAY 12.

The Old Man and the Old Moon

The Coronado Playhouse stages Pig-Pen Theatre's "story of time and tides and quests." The Old Man has kept his post as the sole caretaker of the moon for as long as he (or his wife, the Old Woman) can remember. Each night, Old Man must fill up the moon with liquid light. When his wife is drawn away by a mysterious melody, the Old Man must decide between duty and love).

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. MAY 17 THROUGH JUNE 16.

Pagliacci

Canio and Nedda are married, and the leads in an acting troupe, however Nedda is secretly having an affair with Silvio. Fearing Canio's anger, Nedda continues to hide the affair, and even goes as far to attempt to break it off with Silvio. The jealous man is ultimately driven to murder his wife and her lover.

STAR REPERTORY THEATRE, 329 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. MAY 18

THROUGH MAY 19.

Pride and Prejudice

The outspoken Elizabeth Bennet faces mounting pressure from her status-conscious mother to secure a suitable marriage. But is marriage suitable for a woman of Elizabeth's intelligence and independence? Especially when the irritating, aloof, tall, vaguely handsome, and impossibly aristocratic Mr. Darcy keeps popping up at every turn. Directed by Rob Lutfy.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. MAY 15 THROUGH JUNE 16.

Pride and Prejudice

The outspoken Elizabeth Bennet faces mounting pressure from her status-conscious mother to secure a suitable marriage. But is marriage suitable for a woman of Elizabeth's intelligence and independence? Especially when the irritating, aloof, self-involved... tall, vaguely handsome, mildly amusing, and impossibly aristocratic Mr. Darcy keeps popping up at every turn. Literature's greatest tale of latent love has never felt so theatrical, or so full of life as it does in this effervescent new adaptation.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. MAY 15 THROUGH JUNE 16.

Professor Brian Cox

Physicist Professor Brian Cox presents an immersive live experience, UNIVERSAL: Adventures In Space And Time, using ultra-high resolution LED screens to present state of the art graphics and imagery from ground-based telescopes and space probes. This immersive experience will take audiences to the edge of our current understanding about the origin and evolution of our Solar System and the Universe, offering a fascinating insight into the workings of nature at the most fundamental level. Professor Cox will explore the latest missions to the planets, the nature of space and time from the Big Bang to black holes and the origin and fate of life and intelligence

in the Universe. He will also address questions about the value of science, how we acquire scientific knowledge, and why we should trust it. BALBOA THEATRE, 868 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. MAY 23.

Seussical

The Cat in the Hat and Horton the Elephant guide you on a journey from the Jungle of Nool, to the Circus McGurkus, to the World of the Whos. A little boy proves that a person is a person, no matter how small. Based on the works of Dr. Seuss. Directed by Susan Jordan DeLeon. SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE, 1650 EL PRADO #208, BALBOA PARK. 619-239-8355. MAY 10 THROUGH MAY 12.

She Kills Monsters

High schooler Agnes Evans deals with the death of her younger sister, Tilly. When Agnes stumbles upon Tilly's Dungeons & Dragons notebook, she finds herself catapulted into a journey of discovery and action-packed adventure in the imaginary world that was her sister's refuge. This dramatic comedy is laden with homicidal fairies, nasty ogres, and 90s pop culture. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SO-LANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. MAY 16 THROUGH MAY 19.

Significant Other

As Jordan Berman pounds the New York City pavement searching for Mr. Right, he wards off lonely nights with his trio of close-knit girlfriends. As singles' nights turn into bachelorette parties, Jordan must face his own capacity to love and be loved. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. MAY 23 THROUGH JUNE 23.

Spring Awakening

Set in late 19th-century Germany, this musical tells the story of teenagers discovering the inner and outer tumult of teenage sexuality and the journey from adolescence to adulthood. Alternative rock is employed as part of the folk-infused rock score.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. MAY 11 THROUGH MAY 19.

Venus in Fur

Thomas, a beleaguered playwright/director, is desperate to find an actress to play Vanda, the female lead in his adaptation of the classic Victorian tale *Venus in Fur*. Into his empty audition room walks a desperate actress named Vanda. Though utterly wrong for the sophisticated part, Vanda exhibits a strange command of the material, piquing Thomas' interest with her seductive talents and secretive manner. As the two work through the script, they blur the line between play and reality, entering into an increasingly serious game of power. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. MAY 17 THROUGH JUNE 15.

What You Are

Feeling adrift in a changing America he no longer recognizes, Don scrapes together a living and struggles to support his family through hard work and good intentions. But everything around him, from his younger co-workers, to the technology in his office job, to even his own opinionated daughter, seems alien to the certainties and stabilities he once knew. When a simple misunderstanding at work escalates into an all-out confrontation, Don hatches a plan to set right all the things he feels have gone wrong. Can the people who love him manage to hold him together?

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. MAY 30 THROUGH JUNE 30.

The Wizard of OZ

Fly over the rainbow with Dorothy as she rides a twister into the merry and troubled land of Oz. No matter how far our journeys take us, there's no place like home. Directed by David Schulz. STAR THEATRE, 402 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-721-9983. MAY 10 THROUGH MAY 12.




The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui

By Bertolt Brecht

May 3-12.
Fri and Sat, 8 pm,
Sun, 7 pm

Mesa College Theater

7250 Mesa College Dr.
San Diego 92111.



The dark, heady, and tumultuous life of Berlin's natives and expatriates as Germany slowly yields to the emerging Third Reich. This SDSCPA revival of Kander and Ebb's work includes the musical numbers, "Willkommen," "Cabaret," "Don't Tell Mama" and "Two Ladies."

San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts

2425 Dusk Dr.,
San Diego 92139

May 10-11, 17-18, 7 pm



It is 1928 and the jazz era is in full swing while life in Chicago is roaring. By the end of the year, all three Fail sisters will meet their demise.

Grossmont College

Stagehouse Theatre
8800 Grossmont College Dr.
El Cajon, 92020

May 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18,
7:30 pm, May 11 and 18,
2 pm.



All My Sons


By Arthur Miller.

Winner of the first Tony Award and the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best New Play.

Apr 26-27, May 2-4, 7:30 pm;
Apr 27-28, May 4-5, 2 pm

Mira Costa College

Mira Costa Theater
1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside



The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui

By Bertolt Brecht

May 3-12.
Fri and Sat, 8 pm,
Sun, 7 pm

Mesa College Theater

7250 Mesa College Dr.
San Diego 92111.

The White Crow: Art is a wart

For his third outing as a director, Ralph Fiennes gives the title, star billing, and great majority of screen time to Oleg Ivenko in his turn as famed Russian ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev, who also famously defected from the Soviet Union in 1963. But he keeps the keys to the film and its meaning for himself,

and turns them, quietly but deliberately, in his role as Pushkin, Nureyev's teacher. The aforementioned defection provides the film with what should be its dramatic climax, except it can't be, because we already know it's happened from the very first scene: an interview between an abashed Pushkin and a Party agent in which the balding, paunchy, soft-spoken Fiennes attributes the dancer's decision to "an explosion of character." So we know what happens. What remains is to assess the why, to determine the accuracy of Pushkin's account.

What follows is not exactly a warts-and-all artist biopic. It's more an account of the way that the artistic spirit is a wart, a strange affliction that besets certain people even as it fascinates others. It's hard to say if it's what sets them apart or if being set apart makes them susceptible — or rather, teasing out the degrees of each is part of the film's complicated work.

—Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unrereviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

After — Girl meets boy. Boy harbors dark secret from his past. Girl doesn't care. Boy's hot! 2019. (REGAL OCEANSIDE; REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA; REGAL SAN MARCOS)

The Aftermath — Keira Knightley, Jason Clarke, and Alexander Skarsgård star in a romantic drama set in post WWII Germany. James Kent (*Testament of Youth*) directs. 2019. (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Amazing Grace — Aretha Franklin recorded what turned out to be the biggest selling gospel album in history over a two-night period at the New Bethel Baptist Church in January 1972. The goal was admittedly to sell records, not tickets, but Warner Bros. still decided to send Sydney Pollack and four 16mm cameras to record the historic event.

Ms. Franklin later sued to prevent the release of the film. One look and you'll know why. The only attempt to explain the reason this took longer to release than *The Other Side of the Wind* can be found in the opening crawl: "The film, because of technical problems, was never finished." The biggest technical problem involved a director — with six pictures (!) to his credit — whose failure to slate the shots made it impossible to sync sound and picture. Wary of the camera, Franklin

has no interplay with the congregation. But when she opened her mouth to sing, Pollack could have filmed through the opposite end of a telescope and it would still be worth a listen. Alan Elliott received a co-directing credit. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Ask Dr. Ruth — Before Dr. Phil, Dr. Drew, and Dr. Laura began their careers as radio and TV advice dispensers, Ruth Westheimer was the pioneering therapist with whom Americans were on a strictly first-name basis. Who better to broach the subject of sex in graphic yet straightforward and wholly non-threatening terms than someone resembling your grandmother? Therein lies the key to Dr. Ruth's success. Orphaned by the Holocaust as age 10, the 90-year-old, thrice-wed, inexhaustibly upbeat media sensation put her celebrity to good use, first by advising her audience on how to overcome personal feelings of sexual inadequacy, and later by dispelling myths about the AIDS virus. She laughs off being labeled a feminist, but when pressed by her granddaughters, the only objection to the characterization she could come up with was an aversion to the arcane habit of bra-burning. But as much as I desire to laud the subject, there is one major flaw in director Ryan White's portrait of her: relying on animated passages to take us through the Nazi occupation was one big, sentimentalizing mistake. 2019. — S.M. ★★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Avengers: Endgame — A triumph of sorts. Not of acting: with some notable exceptions — a beer-bellied, tragicomic Chris Hemsworth as Thor among them — a feeling of exhaustion has crept in with a number of the principals over the 10 or so years since *Iron Man* set this gargantuan, quippy super-opera in motion. Nor of dialogue: not even Don Cheadle can deliver a line like "We are all about that superhero life," and the little speeches tend to fall flat, to the point where the film gets self-conscious about them. Nor of direction: for the first hour or so, the Russo brothers rely heavily on your good will toward the superfolk who remain in the wake of "blue meanie" Thanos' halving of the universe's population, and the relentless stream of fan service in the two hours that follow may leave even the truest believer feeling milked. But a triumph of feeling: of itches scratched, of sorrows and angers eased, even of longings fulfilled. A triumph of theme: the team's [SPOILER ALERT!] time-travel gambit hammers home the Why We Fight virtues of home and hearth, of Mom and Dad and the kids. And above all, a triumph of plotting: thread after narrative thread tied off in neat and sometimes unexpected (and unexpectedly satisfying) fashion. The MCU will



The White Crow: Art transcends borders. Artists, on the other hand, may have some difficulties.

go on and on, but this chapter — and the American pragmatism vs. American ideals bromance that drove it — have well and truly come to their "Excelsior! Nuff said!" moment. 2019.. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Babe — Quaint animal tale, freshly, ripely illustrated by prior documentarian Chris Noonan, about an orphaned porker who, taken in tow by a sheepdog, revolutionizes the business of herding when he introduces reason and politeness into it. Sometimes the cuteness gets overaggressive, but the absence of any obligatory child actor minimizes the effect. (The dour farmer and his blithering broad-beamed wife are rather queer ducks themselves.) And the slight distortions and exaggerations of barnyard noises — not the dialogues in proper English, but the cleverly orchestrated bleats and squawks and squeaks — are often very funny. With James Cromwell, Magda Szubanski, and the voices of Christine Cavanaugh, Hugo Weaving, Miriam Margolyes. 1995. — D.S. ★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ)

Breakthrough — After he drowns in a lake, Chrissy Metz prays that her son will come back from the dead. By golly, he does! 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Captain Marvel — Maybe Marvel's latest is meant 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 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)

The Chaperone — Why doesn't this story of lively little Louise Brooks' escape from Wichita for the cosmopolitan pleasures of New York City and modern dance (before she heads off to become one of cinema's early It Girls) work? It ain't the fault of Haley Lu Richardson, who plays Brooks like the sassy teenage bundle of damage, rebellion, and sad sophistication she most likely was, given what we learn about her. And it's mostly not the fault of co-star Elizabeth McGovern, even though she doesn't manage to secure the spotlight for her starring role as the unhappy wife who accompanies Brooks as a pretense for figuring out her own identity. No, pin this one on director Michael Engler and screenwriter Julian Fellowes — working here between the end of *Downton Abbey* the TV show and *Downton Abbey* the movie — who can't seem to help lending this very American story an air of English reserve and politesse. Between the speakeasies, the orphanages, the sexual energy, and the general air of corset-loosening, the movie should throb and thrum. It doesn't. 2018. — M.L. ★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST; VINTAGE VILLAGE THEATRE)

The Curse of La Llorona — The legend of *La Llorona* — the "weeping woman" who, upon learning of her husband's infidelity, revenge-killed their two small children — is said to have been the foremost generator of nightmares among impressionable Hispanic toddlers. But when the two children of CPS employee Anna (Linda Cardellini) show up for school with his-and-her matching Indian burns, it's tough not to look to their single mom as the real-life-nightmare suspect. In fact, the only satisfactory way for this "old dark house" variant to resolve would have been on a note of filicidal unrestraint. A dim bulb in *The Conjuring* constellation, similar to last year's *The Nun* with respect to a comparatively small budget that afforded its lead spook but a single, sour expression with which to give face to all the accelerated lunging. Viewers are left with the feeling that they've

spent 90 minutes being chased through a haunted house by a stunt person wielding an oil painting. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Dreamgirls — Broadway backstage musical — not, that is to say, backstage on Broadway but backstage in Motown — charting the breakthrough of R into the pop mainstream in the Sixties, more specifically the rise of a girl group called the Dreams (rhymes with Supremes), and attendant heartbreaks, breakups, downfalls, and assorted other banalities. True, a musical can get away with a banal storyline if the music is good, but these Broadway-ized soul tunes are as insipid as they are incessant. It seems it's not easy to write another "Where Did Our Love Go?," another "Come See about Me," another "My World Is Empty without You," another "You Can't Hurry Love." And the one familiar number, the one unforgettable number, the big abandonment solo of former *American Idol* contestant Jennifer Hudson (big voice, big figure), screams out for earplugs if not a muzzle. Neither is it easy, evidently, to be another Aretha Franklin. Beyoncé Knowles looks glamorous enough as the Diana Ross diva who metamorphoses into disco queen Donna Summer (under the Svengalian guidance of the Berry Gordy stand-in, Jamie Foxx); and the period clothes and hairdos — something near a beehive on Eddie Murphy when we first meet him, higher and higher than Jackie Wilson — are enjoyable as expected. Writer and director Bill Condon, who adapted the screenplay for *Chicago* but whose own directing credits run to *Gods and Monsters* and *Kinsey*, shows it's not easy to be Stanley Donen. 2006. — D.S. ● (READING CINEMAS GROSSMONT WITH TITAN XC)

Dumbo — The artistry and emotion inherent in Walt Disney's original is lost on goth babysitter Tim Burton's pixelated pachyderm. Half the time, Dumbo stands around looking like a pair of soaked fireplace hand-bellows parked in a corner and left to dry. Burton's decision to mute the animals and instead focus on a cast of overpriced actors was an elephantine blunder. Ain't nobody got time for a widowed one-armed cowboy (Colin Farrell) and his soporific little ones (Nico Parker and Finley Hobbins) when there's a flying baby elephant in the room. At almost twice the length of its glorious predecessor, Burton once again proves that the dirtiest words in his personal lexicography of cinema are pacing and structure. Scene after scene drags on long after its purpose has played out. Sadly, the PC police had their way here, so no drunken

calfs. Crows on a wire are also verboten, but it's okay for Ringmaster Danny DeVito to browbeat his marble-mouthed African-American strongman (Deobia Oparei). And with Mrs. Jumbo silenced, who better than the circus fat lady to sing "Baby Mine"? Disney's flew. Burton's blew. A more unnecessary (and awful) remake has yet to be made. Avoid this as one would a shit-dipped leper. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

El Chicano — Twin brothers (Raúl Castillo in a dual role) grow up on opposite sides of the law. Stop me if you've heard this one. At any moment, it could have taken a generic turn towards boogeyman frights or comic book adventure before settling into a regulation cops vs. hooded avenger thriller. (It was, after all, co-written by Joe Carnahan, author of the carcinogenic *Death Wish* reboot.) To those quick to characterize it as the first superhero movie with an all-Latino cast I ask, musn't a protagonist somehow acquire superpowers in order to qualify for the #1 slot? Rather than being jabbed by a radioactive spider or possessing other-worldly powers, our hero simply mounts his chopper and takes to the streets of East L.A. in search of bad guys with identical forearm tattoos. IMDB lists the theatrical running time as 107 minutes, but my butt is still blistering after making it through the toilsome 142 minute "festival" cut. Ben Hernandez Bray co-wrote and directed. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Five Feet Apart — Winning performances by Haley Lu Richardson and Cole Sprouse coupled with a thoughtful exploration of the daily rigors encountered by patients with cystic fibrosis are the main thrust behind this doomed-romance that's worthy of the Lifetime Channel. (Even the score resembles a Cosentyx commercial.) No one told screenwriters Mikki Daughtry and Tobias Iaconis that force-feeding an audience sweets will result in a tummy ache. It ends by borrowing a page from George Bailey's *It's A Wonderful Life House Organ*: there's nothing that a brief bout of hypothermia can't cure! It's his first feature, so instead of the aesthetic police issuing a warrant for director Justin Baldoni's arrest on the grounds of anamorphic abuse, he'll be let go with a slap on the wrist. Given Baldoni's propensity for teeter-totter compositions — position two characters at opposite ends of the Panavision frame — and adjusting for the size of the screen one watches it on, they could just as well have called this *26 Feet Apart*. 2019. — S.M. ★ (REGAL ESCONDIDO; REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA)

The Goonies — A Richard Donner Film, but "a Steven Spielberg Presentation." The second fellow wrote the original story and was one-third of the team of executive producers, and the finished product is chock-full of Spielbergian ingredients: skeletons, bugs, bats, boulders. There is even (in the duplicitous spirit of E.T.'s resurrection) a moment of sentimental self-sacrifice so that there can later be a moment of joyful reunion when the self-sacrificer is spared anyway. There are also lots of jokes — of the sort, for example, wherein the penis will be broken off Mom's miniature reproduction of Michelangelo's David, and will be glued back on upside-down. The story tells of a gang of seven kids (these are The Goonies, modern counterpart of The Little Rascals) in search of the legendary buried treasure of One-Eyed Willie, who has protected his riches with an elaborate complex of booby traps that would put the Egyptian pyramid-builders to shame. All of the kids take turns getting hysterical, and the movie is consequently



Things your ever-diligent physical media hound sleuthed out while making the rounds of the South Bay region.

— Scott Marks

DARK BLUE (2002)
We Lend More Inc. had a copy with my name on it. In the days before the reading of the Rodney King verdict, a police commander with a badge the color of tarnish (Brendan Gleeson) instructs two ex-cons — qualified crud he keeps on call for just such occasions — to relieve a corner store of a safe containing \$150,000 that's walled in the apartment above. What should have been a simple smash-and-grab leaves four dead and our superior officer calling in two of his dirtiest (Kurt Russell and Scott Speedman) to handpick a pair of fall guys who best match the fabricated evidence. This is the only picture that the reliable Ron Shelton directed but did not write. Any artist capable of guiding this sportsophobe through a series of ball-boosting films (*Best of Times*, *Bull Durham*, *White Men Can't Jump*, *Cobb*) only to have me come back begging for more is, in my estimation, a genius. If things appear notably darker here than in the sports pics, there's good reason: crepuscular word-smith James Ellroy provided the story, which he and David

Ayer turned into a screenplay. There's no evidence of the film opening in San Diego. Had I seen it before my interview with Kurt Russell, a good chunk of the time allotted would surely have been spent in praise of his unparalleled performance.

SHINE A LIGHT (2008)
A trip to Roberto's Jewelry and Pawn brought closure; until last month, this was the only Scorsese film not



Dark Blue: Kurt Russell is never better than in this *Discovery of the Month*.

in my video vault. Collector that I am, there was clearly no hurry on my part to complete the set. The main title is ushered in with a swift stroke of Keith Richards' pool cue. This time, the color of money was much greener, with Scorsese playing groupie for hire. The director wanted an intimate concert film; the lead singer demanded bigger performance venues and an IMAX release. Mick Jagger's meddling didn't stop at format selection. He refused to hand over a playlist until moments before the band took to the stage. At one point, he questions the necessity of placing moving cameras on the stage

for band mates or roadies to stumble over. The look on Scorsese's face when neophyte Mick broaches the subject of screen direction earns the film's biggest laugh.

ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE WEST (1968)
The blu-ray disc caught my eye while scanning the shelf at Express Pawn. In the fourteen years it took to direct seven films, Sergio Leone invented his own, spectacularly unique cinematic language. Nobody manipulates reel time with more sensuality, certainty, and a fierce movie-lover's sensibility than Leone. With the Dollars Trilogy behind him and the Spaghetti Western a dying commodity, Leone set out for Monument Valley, Arizona and fashioned

a revisionist masterwork. Only a madman would dare crib John Ford's sacred location, and only a maverick genius could bring forth a masterpiece. Originally, Leone wanted to begin the film with Clint Eastwood, Eli Wallach and Lee Van Cleef awaiting Charles Bronson's arrival by rail. When the actors were told that they would be done away with — during the most spectacular credit sequence ever filmed — the good, the bad and the ugly decided to take a pass. With the exception of Mr. Eastwood, no one has even come close to making a great Western since Mr. Leone passed.

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unpleasantly shrill. It would be a blessing if some of the kids could be killed off, but it isn't that kind of movie. It would not want to alienate anybody. And indeed its closest kinship to childhood is probably its desperate desire to be popular, though it ultimately takes this desire beyond desperation and into depravity. Sean Astin, Josh Brolin, Jeff Cohen, Kerri Green, Martha Plimpton. 1985. — D.S. ● (LANDMARK KEN)

Hellboy — There's a real story here, a struggle of nature and nurture that has genuinely apocalyptic stakes, since the titular critter is prophesied to bring about the fiery, blood-soaked end of the world even as he's been raised to protect and defend that self-same world from the

forces of darkness. (Also, even if those he's defending carry more than a little of that darkness in their own hearts.) But damn if you can find it, buried as it is under a slag-heap of sub-adolescent hijinks: the super-gratuitious f-bombs and gore ("Hey, we got ourselves an R rating; let's make it count!"), the head-banging electric guitar work, the hacky comic-strip dialogue ("Well, well, well: King Arthur" —really?), and tone-deaf, vascillating direction from Neil Marshall. (Sometimes, he seems to care about a scene; other times, he seems to care about getting through it.) It's a pity, because there are good bits if you're willing to pick through the viscera, starting with David Harbour's grumpy performance in the lead and moving on through some

decent fight sequences, cleverly conceived characters, and compelling mythology. It could have been a good time at the movies; as it is, it just feels like a long time. 2019. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Her Smell — It is quite understandable when a performer signs on to star as the self-destructive, hot mess in a fictionalized biopic of an arrogant frontwoman for an out in front punk band. Think of all the center-of-attention scene-chewing it affords. To that extent, few have been pulled through the rock 'n' roll ringer, only to emerge with both their repugnance and panache intact with quite the same unpredictable intensity that Elisabeth Moss brings to downwardly-spiraling diva, Becky Something. What's

unfathomable is writer and director Alex Ross Perry's confidence that audiences will embrace the same enumeration of formula apparently essential to the genre — the ruined recording session, well-compensated charlatans posing as friends, the obligatory onstage meltdown, etc. Sobriety is a bitch, as the film proves a great deal more tolerable when Becky is using. When this 94 minutes of movie in a 145 minute running finally draws to an end it does so on a sobering (and sour) note of sentimental reparation 2018. — S.M. ★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The Intruder — A horror story staple: young couple (in this case Michael Ealy and Meagan Good) moves in new house only to be terrorized by former owner. Co-starring Dennis Quaid as Evil. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Little — Comedy about a stressed-out businesswoman's (Regina Hall) magical transformation into her teenage self (Marsai Martin). Prediction: a *Big* meets *Freaky Friday*(s) clone by any other name will still have the power to rake in the box office dough. Tina Gordon Chism (*Peebles*) directs. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Little Woods — For her no-nonsense maiden feature, writer-director Nia DaCosta tries her luck at the tested and proven "one last score before calling it quits" crime drama. The result is *Frozen River* minus the tension. Ollie (Tessa Thompson) has paid her debt to society for running prescription drugs across the Canadian border, ostensibly to help those unable to afford insurance. Now, weeks away from finishing her probation, she finds herself interviewing for a gig that would liberate her from the cracker-infested North Dakota oil town she calls home. One hitch: sister Deb (Lily James) — pregnant with a second baby and in need of money to pay for either its birth or a back-alley alternative — is the motivation needed to once again send Ollie packing to Canada. At one point, Ollie remarks, "Your choices are only as good as your options." DaCosta should have kept her characters' options open. As distinguished as the two leads are, neither is given much room in which to outplay the issues at hand. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Long Shot — Yet another variation on beauty and the beast, this one with Charlize Theron as a vivacious diplomat and Seth Rogen in the role of the dingy journalist. Jonathan Levine (*The Wackness*) directs. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Mildred Pierce — Joan Crawford took home an Oscar* for her performance as the widow who finds more success in life as a businesswoman than a mother. Michael Curtiz directs. 1945. (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ)

Missing Link — This adventure in stop motion animation details the discovery and subsequent exploits of the eponymous living remnant of Man's primitive ancestry. Chris Butler (*ParaNorman*) directs. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Mustang — Roman (Matthias Schoenaerts), a broodingly inarticulate, uncommonly barbaric convict, returns to the general population, where he reluctantly accepts a position in a rehab program that entails breaking wild horses slated for adoption. He first goes full-Mongo on his assigned steed by punching the daylight out of the beast. Cranky old horse wrangler Myles (Bruce Dern) has a soft spot for dumb animals and decides to give Roman another shot

Calendar MOVIES

at the stable. The pug presumes the only way to get the horse to approach him is by shouting obscenities through violently flailing arms. (It works!) And after nearly choking his cellmate to death, Roman is still allowed to participate in the auction. (Nothing short of setting fire to the warden's family is going to stop this miscreant.) Add to the mix a pregnant daughter who hates dad's guts and a fortune of cliches generally found in rodeo and/or prison pictures and you'll wish you had packed a few knotted bedsheets to make an early escape. Newcomer Laure de Clermont-Tonnerre directs. 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Penguins — Consider this the biggest ornithological misappropriation since Little Richard accused Walt Disney of using, "his Donald Duck singing my 'Tutti Frutti'... yet I never received a quarter." It's *March of the Penguins* with Ed Helms' anthropomorphic asides substituting for Morgan Freeman's "voice of God" narration. I'm all for Disney trying to cultivate an appreciation among young moviegoers of documentary filmmaking as an alternative to mainstream cinema. But tack on a laugh-track, and this could pass for a network sitcom. A post-show blooper reel that shows the crew interacting up close and personal with their stars proved to be a fourth wall-shattering experience. (Did they invite the adorable adielie to sleep in their tents during the more frigid nights of their brutal trek?) That said, while I waxed nostalgic for Chilly Willy, the four kids who accompanied me couldn't stop raving about it on the ride home. Directed by Alastair Fothergill and Jeff Wilson. 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Pet Sematary — All the elements are there for a genuinely horrifying (as opposed to simply startling) movie: heck, two or three horrifying movies. You've got your woman traumatized by her youth spent caring for a hideously crippled sister who hated her. You've got your little



girl struggling to understand why the cat she loved more than anything in the world has suddenly turned nasty — evil, even. You've got your old codger carrying a dark secret from his past. And you've got your bereaved parent, so twisted by his pain that he can no longer distinguish right from terribly, terribly wrong. But directors Kevin Kölsch and Dennis Widmyer spend waaaay too much time going for tension-building walks through creepy places and not nearly enough developing the stories that would have made this Stephen King adaption put the screws to the soul. Hint: when you have to have a character announce the central theme — "That place gets in your mind and feeds on your grief!" — instead of making the audience actually feel those things, you're doing it wrong. Happily, there aren't nearly so many jump scares as there might have been, and the opening shot is pretty great, and there's some good work in the sound and visuals department. But it's still a miss. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Red Joan — Fictionalized commie sympathizer Joan "Granny Spy" Stanley, the KGB's longest-serving British informer, is here given her own fact-based biopic. The film is strangely reminiscent of the recent role-reversal comedy *Little*, inasmuch as audiences flocking to see the latest from Judi Dench are bound to be disappointed upon learning that the majority of the picture unfolds in flashback, with Sophie Cookson doing most of the heavy lifting as Young Joan. I don't fault Dame Judi one bit for phoning in her role; if anyone's earned a paid vacation it's she. But someone should inform director/slumming Thea-tuh impresario Trevor Nunn that what works on the stage doesn't always work on the screen. Nunn's idea of layering his narrative is to every seven minutes or so insert a present day close-up or two of Dench to justify her star-billing. The romance is spark-free, the espionage anesthetizing, and the "mother was a red" subplot

El Chicano: "I'm...not Batman."

between Stanley and her disgraced son flat-out sleep-inducing. 2019. — S.M. ● (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Savage — The opening burst — a carload of cops trying to pass a truck on China's snow-covered Mt. Paektu is greeted by a culprit-crafted log avalanche — calls to mind an action-packed pre-credit sequence from a vintage 007 yarn. Pay close attention to a certain stray gold bar, a plot-motivator tossed into a frigid crater lake by a bad guy with a point to make. The first two-thirds takes place outdoors, with aerial drones shooting droning plows and miles of red snow. First time director Cui Siwei clumsily draws his cast to a hunting lodge where his characters spend the last act shooting at each other indoors, where it's warm. What is with Asian action films when it comes to writing well-rounded female characters? Violence is good clean fun, but lovemaking is dirty, as evidenced by the film's one big sex scene: two fully-clothed characters kissing in a shower. A few exciting action scenes highlight an otherwise humorless, gratuitously violent, and ultimately pointless exercise in killing people on screen. 2018. — S.M. ★ (AMC LA JOLLA)

Shazam! — Much will be made, no doubt, over the fact that DC has finally taken some pains to escape its reputation for dark 'n gritty superhero movies and put the "comic" back in "comic book movie" with this, the story of a teenage boy who, when he says the titular name, is transformed into a grown man with Solomon's wisdom, Hercules' strength, Atlas' stamina, Zeus' power, Achilles' courage, and Mercury's speed. (At least, that's what the wizard who gives him his power tells him it does. In truth, it just makes him a teenager with a Charles Atlas bod and a bunch of Superman's powers.) And to be sure, there is *Big-style* goofiness aplenty (star Zachary Levi's grin as he tells a convenience store clerk that he'd like to purchase some of her finest beer is absolutely winning). But director David F. Sandberg remains a horror guy at heart (*Lights Out*, *Annabelle: Creation*), and the ping-ponging between yuks and yikes leads to a pretty nasty case of aesthetic whiplash. There are other, equally awkward oppositions: if Shazam's whole purpose is to conquer the embodied

Seven Deadly Sins, maybe don't have him rob an ATM (greed) so he can give more cash to strippers (lust)? And if his teenage self has spent his whole life looking for his birth mother, maybe don't have his dramatic arc consist of realizing the importance of family? Oh, never mind, there's gags to deliver and punching to be done. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The White Crow — Reviewed this issue. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

UglyDolls — Character design doesn't get much fuglier. Celebrate the difference in all of us with this animated adventure. Review improbably forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Us — Writer/director/producer Jordan Peele is a smart, ambitious, skilled filmmaker. All three qualities are on display in his second effort — the story of a vacationing family whose members find themselves set upon by scissor-wielding doppelgängers — but that doesn't quite make it a successful film. The final reveal feels too clever by half, the sort of thing that makes things less compelling upon further consideration instead of more. There are perhaps two or three themes too many — divine punishment, the divided self, our divided nation, even scientific overreach — for a film that is this heavy on fights and chases. And while it's delightful to get clues as to what lies ahead from the opening shot — a commercial for Hands Across America to end hunger playing on a TV flanked by VHS tapes for *C.H.U.D.*, *Goonies*, and *A Nightmare on Elm Street* — the symbolism eventually starts to feel intrusive, even academic. The result is bloody but weirdly bloodless, a sort of thinky exercise in horror filmmaking. There's more juice in the laughs here than the scares, from the goofy way the "shadow people" parody their exemplars, to the groanworthy gag involving a botched Smart Home command. Still, there are exceptions: Lupita Nyong'o and Elisabeth Moss do fine, unnerving work in both their regular and irregular incarnations. Overall, it gives the impression of being a thoughtful crowd-pleaser, a combination which should be more than enough to grant Peele another shot at this sort of thing if he wants one. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Wild Nights with Emily — A series of skits that argue against Emily Dickinson's (Molly Shannon) having been a pompous old maid and in favor of her having carried on a tender love affair with her sister-in-law Susan (Susan Ziegler). Woody Allen goofs on writer and director Madeleine Olnek's exposition-burdened narration and the manner in which she directs characters to speak directly into the camera. Set in mid-1800's Amherst, the story spans three different time frames, each one indistinguishable from the next. The flat lighting and even flatter production design — damn those off white composite plantation shutters — conspire to give the various settings the look of late-2018 IKEA. Watch as Emily plays along when visiting with a doddering Judge whose favorite word by Emily Bronte is *Wuthering Jane*. I didn't think my knee would ever stop bleeding what with all the slapping it took. I'm all for irreverence, but not at the expense of style and logic. A rental, if that. 2018. — S.M. ● (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

FILM FESTIVALS



Batman Quadrilogy: Holy quadrangle! Four Batman movies on the big screen!

Batman Quadrilogy

This May sees a return to the big screen of a quadrilogy of Batman adventures, each playing for one day only. But wait! Two by Tim Burton and two by Joel Schumacher? No Christopher Nolan? Holy bat guano! The most impressive by-product to emerge from Burton's deadly duo are the Happy Meals toys they spawned. As for Schumacher's slides down the batpoles, they're okay, especially if you're in the mood to see Gotham City transformed into the Gay Ice Capades. But who am I kidding? I'm not really keen on the *Dark Knight* trilogy, either. Nolan couldn't write a third act to save his life. And what's with all these name actors dying to play the Joker? Cesar Romero was so fuck-

ing cool he refused to shave his mustache and still got the role! Let's see a pop-eyed, arm-flailing, hambone Jack Nicholson top that. Why not a one-night revival of *Batman: the Movie*, the 1966 big screen bump up of ABC-TV's socko series? In the meantime, *Batman* screens May 4, at 1pm and 4pm; *Batman Returns*: May 6, at 4pm and 7pm; *Batman Forever*, May 12, at 1pm and 4pm, and *Batman and Robin*: May 14, at 4pm and 7pm. IN WIDE RELEASE: Saturday, May 4; Monday, May 6; Saturday, May 12; Tuesday, May 14.

Charade (1963)

Perhaps it's the genre and the casting of Cary Grant as the romantic lead that continues to convince the easily swayed that this is the work of Alfred Hitchcock. (It's good, but not that good.) In truth, this sparkling romantic mystery was the work of another director of many genres, Stanley Donen. This wasn't the first time Donen had worked with Hepburn (*Funny Face*) or Grant (*Indiscreet*, *The Grass is Greener*), but it is the one and only pairing of cinema's two most captivating and improbably beautiful stars. Peter Stone's resourceful script and a rogue's gallery of supporting work from James Coburn, Walter Matthau, George Kennedy, Ned

Glass *et al* will keep you guessing at every turn. At the time of its release, the film was criticized by some for its gruesome violence. (Sticking a corpse with a hatpin as a means of verifying mortality is a nice touch.) Hopefully, today's viewers will prove willing to overlook the lack of blood and concentrate instead on storytelling. CINEMA UNDER THE STARS: Friday-Sunday, May 3-5 at 8 pm.

Julia Blue (2018)

The House of Ukraine San Diego presents a premiere screening of the film *Julia Blue*. A screener has yet to be made available, so all this critic knows about the film is what could be gleaned from the press release: "Julia, a photojournalism student living in war-torn Ukraine, finds her path towards independence and a brighter future challenged after meeting and falling for a young soldier fresh from the war zone." The screening isn't for a month or so, but I thought it wise to put it out there early, seeing how the tickets are free and will be made available to the public on Eventbrite beginning May 8. Add to that a Q&A with director Roxy Toporowych immediately following the film, and one can anticipate a full house. HOUSE OF UKRAINE SAN DIEGO: Saturday, June 8 at 1 pm.

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DOWNTOWN, \$525-880. Under new management! Renovated, furnished Gaslamp rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Horton Plaza, restaurants, shops and laundry. Cable and utilities included. 720 4th Ave. 619-233-7594 or 619-727-0151.

BANKER'S HILL, \$1425. STUDIO+1BA upstairs unit. 1/2 off 1st month with one-year lease! Newly renovated kitchen. Great floor plan. Coin operated laundry on site. Street parking. Cat OK with additional deposit. 1747 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

DOWNTOWN, \$573-825. Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private

bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

DOWNTOWN, \$1250. Studio+1BA. First floor. Wood flooring. Water, trash, gas and electric included! On-site laundry. Street parking. No pets. Near Balboa Park / Hillcrest. Move-in special: 1/2 off first month! 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

LEMON GROVE, \$1,500 Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath, available now! Beautifully remodeled apartment is quiet, spacious & has a balcony too. Walking distance to shops, dining & trolley. Sorry, no pets. Call for your private viewing (619) 916-9187.

LA MESA, \$1599-1990. 3BD+2BA (\$1990) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable. Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1599-1990. 3BD+2BA (\$1990) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages.

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COLLEGE AREA, \$1395. 2BD+1BA upstairs apartment. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room. No pets. 5275 Monroe Avenue #8. Agent, 619-232-5811.

FASHION VALLEY: \$1,895. 1BD; 1.5 BA; Spacious, Secure building; Garage Parking; Community Laundry; No Pets; No Smoking. 619-250-5813.

MISSION VALLEY 1bd apartment/condo for rent, clean, large area. 5950 Rancho Mission Villa apt 177 San Diego, CA 92108. Close to Friars rd and stadium. Please contact (858)216-5875

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OCEANSIDE Senior park rental, 2bd +1ba, California room, washer/dryer, community center, swimming pool. Rent \$1,560 + utilities. (760)603-8669

SOUTH PARK, \$1700. Lovely 1 bedroom apartment perfectly located near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. 1/2 off first month with 1-year lease! Easy 5-minute commute to work. 1st floor, secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking only. 2329 C Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$850. Studio+1BA near Adams Avenue. All utilities paid. No pets. 4671-A Felton Street. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

NORTH PARK, \$1400. 1BD+1BA unit in small, quiet complex. Laundry on site, 1 parking space. Resident pays electric only. No pets. 4169 Alabama Street.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, \$1595. 1BD+1BA upstairs apartment in small complex. Clean, all appliances, assigned parking for a car, on-site laundry. Pets with additional deposit on approval. 4460 Cleveland Ave. Agent, 619-298-7724.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, \$1825. 2BD+2BA upstairs apartment with new wood-like flooring in small complex. Clean, all appliances, dining room area, assigned parking, on-site laundry. Easy freeway access. Beautiful inside and out! Small dog with additional deposit on approval. 4460 Cleveland Ave. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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MISC FOR SALE Four Poster Wood Bed Frame, full size \$75. Acme Juicerator stainless steel \$55. Bair Paw personal heater, medical grade, complete, \$65. (760) 634-2497, please leave your phone number for callback.

DAYTON 10" DRILL PRESS New and assembled bench top drill press. model #16n196 sells for \$322.73 asking for \$225.00 call Larry (760)294-0485

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SILVER/TURQUOISE JEWELRY Turquoise pendant on silver chain and chain link bracelet, silver and turquoise. \$25 for both or \$15 each. Call 619-588-2467.

BABY CAR SEAT/BRITAX Convertible Safety / Dash Gray 2 each (twins) \$175 both call or text 619-743-6900

MISC. FOR SALE \$5-\$10 House of furniture; dinette set desk, book shelf, curio, etc. Call Margaret (619)602-7350, National City

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GARAGE SALE SOUTH BAY Electronics, collectibles, coffee table, freestanding lamps, clothing, shoes, House hold goods, Aegean Dr & Aegean Pl

COMMUNITY YARD SALE MAY 4 9th Annual community yard sale. Point Loma/OB 7am-12pm. Lot's of items for sale/many homes participating. www.bigpalsale.com

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE Mission Hills— Saturday, May 18th from 8:00-Noon. Some homes may stay open later. Look for bright yellow signs. Furniture, sporting equipment, baby items, toys, electronics, clothing, jewelry, tools, collectibles, more. Maps of all participating houses and lists of items for sale will be available at 7:30 a.m. on day of sale at the Compass office in Mission Hills at 1621 West Lewis Street, San Diego, 92103. Questions? 619-800-1103

MOVING SALE Samsung refrigerator 25 cu \$350; Washer and dryer \$250; sofa, love seat, and chair \$300. Other items, best offer. (858)334-8162

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Saturday May 4th 8am-Noon.
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MUSIC

BASS GUITAR, \$325 White
PEAVEY Foundation Bass,
with hard case, great condition
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BASS GUITAR, \$2,500 Custom
made BARTLETT bass, neck-
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green ESP HORIZON Bass, all
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980-6008, Craig

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GUITARIST WANTED Singer/
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Asher has been with us since
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massive size (approximately
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we are recommending Asher
does not go to a home with small
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to play and go for long walks, and
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would flourish in a home that is
willing to put in time to train and
play with him. He would be an
awesome hiking buddy and
devoted companion. Come down
to the San Diego County Animal
Shelter in Bonita to come meet
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Animal Shelter 5821 Sweetwater
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Low miles, fully loaded, second
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Well maintained. Please call
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Possible addition hours. Person
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Front or rear
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Come work for the best!
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CAREGIVERS.
Needed from all areas. 1 year experience. Hourly and live in. Must have reliable transportation. Assertive Care at Home, Inc., 8893 La Mesa Blvd., Suite B, La Mesa. **619-466-6890.**

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Earn a competitive stipend caring for an adult with a developmental disability in your home. Minimum requirements: Spare bedroom, proficiency in English, driver's license and high school diploma/ GED. Call today! www.MentorsWanted.com. **858-694-0120.**

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Compelling Explanation

— Colorado Springs resident Klete Keller engaged the services of a female dog-sitter through an app called Wag! for his pet, Jimbo. But Keller's tail was not wagging when he returned home early the morning of Aug. 27 to find two shirtless men sitting on his couch and "an open bottle of personal lubricant and a camcorder on the end table," Keller told Fox 21 News, "so it's pretty self-explanatory what was going on." When reached for comment, the unnamed dog-sitter said her keys were stuck in her car and she "didn't have WD-40 ... so I ended up grabbing what I had in my car, for things, that you know, I do on my personal time." But Keller also noticed what he suspected were "bodily fluids" on the couch and said Jimbo was locked in a bedroom, sitting in his own urine and acting terrified. "It was just, just a total mess and I can only imagine what poor Jimbo saw in there," Keller said. The sitter did admit that she shouldn't have invited guests over, and it's a good bet her former 4.96 out of 5 rating on Wag! is going to take a hit.

Least Competent Criminals

— Thieves in Roanoke County, Virginia, hit the same shoe store twice in July and August, according to the *Roanoke Times*, stealing shirts, hoodies, jackets -- and right shoes. Thirteen shoes meant for a right foot were taken from Clean Soles, where store operator Rob Wickham said he typically displays right shoes and keeps the mates behind the counter. They're

"not much good unless you have two right feet," said Wickham. A 17-year-old suspect has been charged with the July break-in.

Easy Marks

— Three men in Westborough, Massachusetts are out \$306,000 after falling victim to a scam, *MassLive.com* reported on Aug. 29. Joseph Boakye, 31, of Worcester is one of two suspects wanted by Westborough police for allegedly selling 15 kilograms of counterfeit gold dust. In July, the victims met Boakye and his accomplice at an Extended Stay America hotel and tested the gold dust for authenticity. Apparently satisfied, they paid \$26,000 in cash and transferred \$280,000 into a Bank of America account, after which they received a locked Sentry safe that supposedly held the gold dust. Boakye told them they would get the combination to the safe after the transfer cleared. But two days later, when they were unable to open the safe, the victims called a locksmith. Inside -- shocking! -- was counterfeit gold.

Questionable Judgment

— Toms River, New Jersey, police are hoping the public can lend them a hand in finding a lost item. Ronald Vanarsdale, 36, of Toms River was drag racing on his motorcycle just after midnight on Aug. 30 when he crashed, sending the bike more than 760 feet from the crash site and hurling Vanarsdale 300 feet through

the air, severing his right arm just below the bicep. *NJ.com* reported police Sgt. Ed Mooney applied a tourniquet to Vanarsdale's arm at the scene, and he later underwent surgery at Jersey Shore University Medical Center in Neptune. Toms River police, though, could not locate the severed limb and asked the public's help in locating it.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

— William Parrish Jr., 32, and McKenzie Dobbs, 20, of Ocala, Florida, were just trying to better accommodate their customers when they turned the kitchen window of their mobile home into a drive-thru for heroin addicts. They also installed helpful directional signs and even had a "Closed, Please Call Again" sign alerting buyers when they'd next be open. Ocala police officers who raided the trailer on Aug. 23 were tipped off by a number of overdoses happening nearby: "We were able to determine that the product was laced with fentanyl," police Capt. Steven Cuppy told WFTV. Parrish and Dobbs told Ocala police they thought a drive-thru would be less noticeable than people regularly going in and out of the home.

Government in Action

— This summer, a few of Ryk Edelstein's friends in Montreal, Canada, had their requests for vanity license plates turned down for being "offensive." "I found it mind-boggling that innocent-sounding family names or place names were being rejected," Edelstein told the *Montreal Gazette*. So he decided to order his own vanity plate, requesting the word SMEGMA, which he was certain the *Societe de l'assurance automobile du Quebec* (SAAQ), which issues the plates, would check, "and in a million years it would never be approved." But it took SAAQ less than 24 hours to approve the request and issue its congratulations to Edelstein, who now sports the plate on his car. He reports that his wife thought it was funny at first, but now she is "none too pleased about this plate."

Overreactions

— Monica Walley of Holden Heights, Florida, wrote a negative online review Aug. 20 about the Daybreak Diner in Orlando, accusing the restaurant of refusing service to her disabled mother. The negative review didn't sit well with the diner owner's son, Michael Johnson, or his housemates, Jesse Martin and Norman Auvil, reported WFTV. That evening, as the three sat drinking beer, Martin looked up Walley's address, then they drove to her home, where Auvil, 42, shot three rounds into the house. "I actually could feel the air from the bullet as it passed by me," said Ken Walley, Monica's father. "I didn't think anybody was crazy enough to do something like this over something so small," Monica Walley said. Auvil was arrested Aug. 30 and charged with shooting into a dwelling, according to the Orange County Sheriff's Office.

Send your weird news items to WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com.

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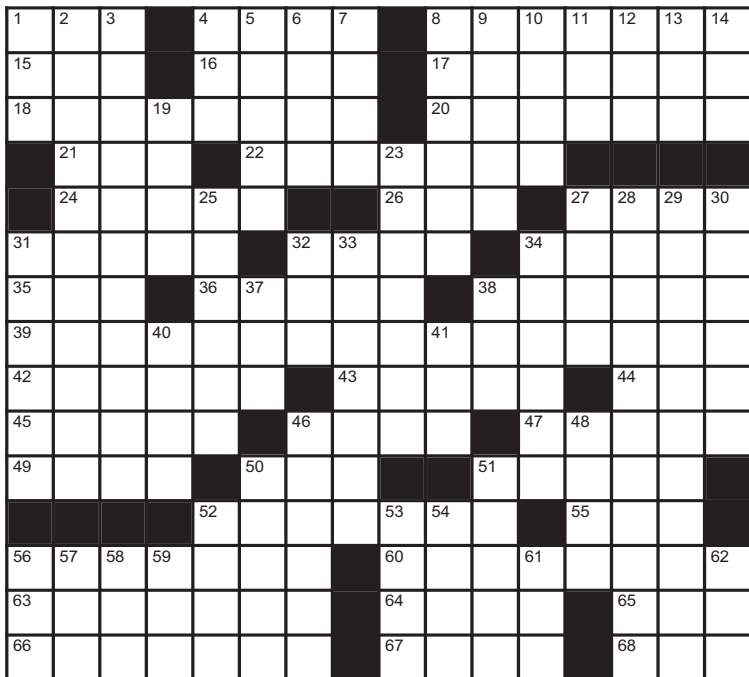
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Across

1. *Complement for a tango
4. *Kid
8. **For what matters most" sloganeer
15. "Kung Fu" actor Philip
16. Gal. or oz.
17. Dormitories and apartments
18. Open like a kid on Christmas morning
20. Go over
21. Feel awful about
22. *Fever caused by salmonella bacteria
24. Classic Jaguar model
26. ____ Dunham, mother of Barack Obama
27. "The only time ____ the bar low is for limbo": Michael Scott of "The Office"
31. Like some screws and translations
32. TV character with the catchphrase "Booyakasha!"
34. Cartoon style
35. Duchamp contemporary
36. Bob with the Silver Bullet Band
38. Jumper cable connection points
39. Social media-savvy celebrities often have a lot of these ... or what the answers to this puzzle's starred clues are in the dictionary
42. Excited pointer's comment
43. Hedren of Hitchcock's "The Birds"
44. Cry of shear terror?
45. Cries of pain

46. Oven for pottery
47. Christmas carols
49. Army in the field?
50. Get-____ (starts)
51. Custer's "last" thing
52. *Weather event that's Pacific-specific
55. Sleuth, in old crime fiction
56. Swiffer WetJet, e.g.
60. Popular strength-training program
63. Confused
64. 1957 Stravinsky ballet
65. "Keep ____ secret"
66. *Representative
67. *An aye for an eye, say?
68. *Mars : Roman :: ____ : Norse

Down

1. Skin pic?
2. 1960 hit for Dion and the Belmonts
3. Cruising
4. "You're oversharing!"
5. "Fiddler on the Roof" matchmaker
6. "Teenage Dream" singer Perry
7. Benefit program giving workers a chance to buy co. shares
8. Crowd
9. Dealer's query
10. Ilse ____ ("Casablanca" character)
11. Class for U.S. newcomers
12. "Boyz n the Hood" actress Long
13. Toronto's province: Abbr.
14. Part of XL: Abbr.
19. Curious George creators Margret and H.A.
23. Pomade
25. Basil-based sauces
27. "____ pronounce you ..."
28. Secondary advantage
29. Oz capital
30. "Creed" actress Thompson and others
31. Janet Jackson's sister
32. The "A" of USDA: Abbr.
33. Having liberal political tendencies
34. Bless, in a way
37. Apt rhyme of "squeak"
38. Tour de France high point
40. Triple-A jobs
41. Worker at a hosp.
46. Longtime "Nightline" host
48. Honey Bunches of ____
50. Dumplings at a Japanese restaurant
51. Busybody
52. Nickname for a seven-time NBA All-Star
53. One-____ (old ball game)
54. Anything-goes party
56. Morse "E"
57. Even a little
58. Plan, with "out"
59. ____ Beta Kappa
61. Commercial start for Balls or Caps
62. Gravel alternative

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

S	A	I	L		P	L	E	B	S		K	I	L	O
O	N	C	E		R	A	T	I	O		U	S	E	D
U	N	E	X		P	E	C	T	E		D	A	N	A
				I	L	E				U	N	D	E	R
G	A	W	K	I	N	G				Y	A	O		
A	N	I	O	N		E	S	C		T	W	I	N	E
P	T	L		T	I	N	E	A	R		C	O	N	
I	L	L		H	U	R	T	B	A	D	A	P	B	
N	E	D			D	E	A	L	E	R	N	A	E	
C	R	O	O	N		S	T	E		Y	A	S	I	R
				F	O	R				D	O	W	R	O
T	R	E	N	D	I	N	G			N	I	A		
G	A	T	O		Y	O	U	R	S	T	R	U	L	Y
I	F	A	T		A	R	N	I	E		A	S	E	A
F	A	T	E		L	I	N	D	T		T	A	N	K

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle submissions.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

Marion Mullins, Encinitas, 9.

Name: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

EVIL:

			8					
9		2	3			6		
3	6	7	2					
8						6		
	1			6		3		
	4							5
					8	3	1	2
		5			1	9		8
					9			

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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

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Helen Ross, La Jolla, 1.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

3	1	6	5	9	2	4	7	8
7	4	9	6	3	8	5	2	1
2	8	5	7	4	1	6	3	9
6	9	2	3	7	5	1	8	4
5	3	1	8	6	4	7	9	2
8	7	4	1	2	9	3	6	5
4	6	8	2	1	7	9	5	3
9	5	7	4	8	3	2	1	6
1	2	3	9	5	6	8	4	7

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