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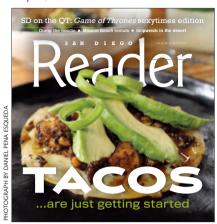


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### NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

### Toni Atkins: happy to pay for a good word (or two)

But while a speechwriter can elevate a Senator's voice, a pro tem assistant elevates influence

Toni Atkins, President Pro Tempore of the California Senate, is looking to hire a speechwriter. "The Office of Communications for Senator Atkins has the responsibility to lead all strategic communications efforts for the Senator," says a help-wanted notice posted online by the San Diego Democrat. "An essential element of that effort includes elevating the voice of the Senator," says the announcement, adding that the new hire will "serve as principal writer of the Senator's written work, which includes speeches, opinion pieces, blogs, video scripts, talking points, announcements, and presentations."

"Salary range starts at \$6,712 per month," per the job solicitation, meaning the new hire would make at



Help this woman say what she wants to say!

least \$80,544 a year to start, putting the staffer fourth behind Atkins chief of staff Pamela Ison, who has an annual salary of \$114,000, press secretary David Rolland at \$96,000, and legislative director Deanna Spehn with \$90,000, per an Octo-

ber 31, 2018 online roster of Senate employee wages. The total yearly payroll cost of the Atkins senate office totals \$784,180, according to calculations based on the Senate's monthly salary summary.

Total state Senate spending for press secretary salaries combined, per the online data set, is \$1.1 million, out of annual payroll expenses of \$64 million. At the top of the body's salary cost list are principal consultants, who make a vearly combined total of \$5.7 million, district representatives, at \$5.2 million, and chiefs of staff, costing taxpayers \$5 million.

Over in the office of Senate Pro Tem, which Atkins also heads, payroll expenses total \$2.54 million, including \$229,000 for Christopher Woods, chief assistant to the pro tem, followed by executive staff director Kernan Lipper with \$204,000. Next comes pro tem chief assistant Nicholas Hardeman, making \$194,000, special assistant to the pro tem Kimberly Rodriguez, the office's highest-paid woman with \$185,000, and principal consultant Charles Wright at \$170,000.

Besides a handsome salary, Woods has also benefited from lobbyist gifts, including a complimentary field club ticket to a San Francisco Giants versus Oakland Athletics game last July 14 worth \$165 from cellphone and online giant AT&T. "He's an example of an expert behindg் the-scenes Capitol player unknown to the public, but g who has far-reaching influence on how tax dollars are spent," Capitol Weekly once said about the aide's financial influence over the legislature. "Woods makes sure that the spending priorities of the Senate and its leader are given consideration. It's a job that requires more than a green eyeshade."

Matt Potter

# **Short term rentals, long term frustration**

Over 40 percent of Mission Beach houses are rentals

By Joe Deegan

t her dining room table in South Mission Beach, Stevie Wheeler is wondering aloud about how reducing the number of already existing short term rentals in Mission Beach could possibly work. "How would you choose those to be eliminated?" she asks, jabbing her index finger in the air to her left, then to her right, as though pointing to the unlucky ones.

Two years ago, Wheeler and her friend Mary Swenson served on a Mission Beach Town Council committee (a second committee is now at work) devoted to achieving consensus in the community on what to do about the growing short term rental crisis. An hour after leaving Wheeler's home, I am enjoying the sun with Swenson in her narrow front vard on one of the oceanside courts in North Mission Beach. Swenson is proposing a different solution to too many short term rentals. "It could happen by allowing attrition," she says, "whether by owners selling their places or the city removing them for violating the rental regulations. But it would probably take an awful long time."

The growing percentage of all residential dwellings in Mission Beach that are short term rentals has been worrying the community. That percentage now stands, according to most estimates, somewhat north of 40 percent. Swenson believes it should come down to 25 percent, "otherwise, given the trending, it might rise to 50 percent and higher," she says.

Dueling websites in Mis-



Town council president Matt Gardner says the new state law governing short term rentals is an unwanted interference in local decision making.

sion Beach are proposing even more divergent viewpoints on the community's future. SAVE MISSION BEACH, while acknowledging the need for change, defends the right of investors to continue earning income from short term rentals. SAVE MB from STRs, a newer website, announces that its main purpose is to counter those arguments. The website's creators want to see short term rentals dramatically reduced and argues that the only way to do it is by lowering the number of days per year that units can be rented out.

Focusing on the number of days coincides with the approach of a new bill now working its way through the state legislature. Assembly Bill 1731 would allow hosting platforms, such as Airbnb and HomeAway, to offer short term rentals of residential properties in the San Diego County urban coastal zone throughout an entire year only if its "primary resident" also lives on the property during the same calendar year (defined as 270 days).

Seventy-sixth district

Assemblywoman Tasha Boerner Horvath, formerly an Encinitas councilmember, introduced the bill into the state legislative process on February 22 of this year. It passed through the Assembly Judiciary Committee with a few amendments on April 9. The bill's more consequential feature reads in the Assembly's description as follows: "If the primary resident of the residential property does not live onsite of the residential property full-time, the hosting platform may make the residential property available as a short-term rental for up to 30 days per year."

Further down: "Only those who hold property primarily for investment purposes or as rarely-used second homes would be subject to AB 1731's restrictions. The 30-day restriction applies to each hosting platform separately. There is nothing to stop a property owner from listing their residential property for 30 days on Airbnb, 30 days on HomeAway, 30 days on VRBO, and so on.

"The rationale for AB 1731 is the depletion in housing stock caused by properties being taken off of the housing market for short-term rental purposes."

"I don't see how the bill could relieve the housing shortage," Stevie Wheeler tells me. "The properties in the beach areas are way too expensive, especially for low income people."

Wheeler says originally she thought "Mayor Faulconer's plan, the 'carve out' of Mission Beach, was the fairest. But when the city council said you can't carve out one community and have a different set of rules

for it, then the mayor's plan was voted down. So my question with this Assembly bill 1731 is how can they carve out San Diego County and allow all these other communities in California to opt out. It would seem to me that if there are legal ramifications present in Faulconer's plan, AB 1731 would have similar issues."

Besides her residence, Wheeler owns two dwellings on her property, one she rents on a permanent basis and a tiny apartment (250 square feet) that is already booked two to three weeks at a time through this coming October. AB 1731 would have no effect on either of these situations.

But Wheeler knows a number of people who stand to lose large amounts of income if the bill should pass. "One lady owns 12 short term rentals," she tells me. "She can only live in one of those places at a time. She is going to lose the income from the others. The smaller short term rental management companies that have been in Mission Beach for years, long before Airbnb came and ratcheted up the problem, they will be forced out of business. There will be a lot of money lost in Mission Beach."

On the other hand, says Mary Swenson, "a lot of people have made a lot of money here on short term rentals. It's a business, of course, but the residential community should have something, too."

An amendment to AB 1731 proposed by the bill's author, Assemblywoman Horvath, seems to address the potential loss of many owners' income by limiting the bill's application



"A lot of people have made a lot of money here on short term rentals," says Mission Beach resident Mary Swenson. "But the residental community should have something too."

to five years. "The sunset date [January 1, 2025] ...," it states, "will allow the Legislature to see if the housing crisis eases...." But it adds that the limitation might render "further restrictions on short-term rentals less necessary, or if [the crisis] worsens, perhaps arguing for a broader expansion of the bill's restrictions."

Continuing, the author "posits that California's staggering shortage of long-term housing is worsened by investors who purchase residential properties for short-term rental rather than for long-term rental or residence. It may be that this bill decreases the value of such investments, which were made under the assumption that unlimited listing on hosting platforms would be an available option. This bill may also reduce tourism. But it remains a policy decision for the Legislature as a whole as to whether this tradeoff ... is worthwhile." The sunset period "will give the Legislature an opportunity to determine what the real-world impacts of [the restrictions on short term rentals] are, and to judge their costs and benefits, before attempting broader application."

Blaine Smith, coowner of 710 Beach Rentals and founder of the website SAVE MISSION BEACH, writes me by email: "We strongly oppose AB 1731." In a reference to the bill's author Horvath first being an Encinitas city council member, he argues that "if Encinitas wants to implement restrictions similar to AB 1731, it should be done locally. Our lawmakers should not apply a bill desired by one area of San Diego to all coastal communities. One

size does not fit all on this sensitive issue."

In the Olive Bakery on Santa Clara Place in Mission Beach, Town Council president Matt Gardner



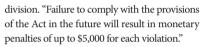
Stevie Wheeler rents out two units on her MB property.

tells me that AB 1731 is an unwanted interference in a local decision-making process. "The new committee we have for finding consensus, with representations from both sides, is working well," he tells me. He points to photos on the continued on page 21

### **UNDER THE RADAR**

**Tired ethics network** Republican **Bill Baber**, a member of the San Diego's city ethics commission has drawn a warning from the state's

Fair Political Practices Commission for his work on behalf of a political committee calling itself Citizens for a Better East County. The lawyer, a member of the La Mesa city council and long-time campaign legal consultant and treasurer, "failed to timely file a 24-hour contribution report in connection with the November 6, 2018, General Election...," says a February 6 letter to Baber from **Galena West**, chief of the California commission's enforcement



A January 23, 2019 campaign disclosure filing shows that the Better East County committee, whose treasurer is Baber, raked in \$30,000 during the period from October 21 through the end of last year, the biggest contribution, \$20,000 coming October 27 from the Infrastructure PAC of the Associated General Contractors. On October 25, the group picked up \$4000 from the Building Industry Association of San Diego PAC. Socalled independent expenditures were made on behalf of a host of East County politicos, including Santee city council incumbents Ronn Hall, Laura Kovall, and Rob McNelis. The committee's largest expenditure, "non-monetary contributions" totally \$34,964 during 2018, went to benefit the GOP's Jonathan "John" Olsen, who lost

his bid for governing board of the Grossmont-Cuyamaca community college district despite a high-profile endorsement by ex-San Diego city councilman, now radio talk show host, **Carl DeMaio**.

Baber also served as treasurer for the county supervisorial campaign of Republican **Jim Desmond**, who won his race in November. Baber got more than \$10,000 for that gig, per his annual personal annual

disclosure report for 2018. In what appears to be coincidental timing, members of the state commission are set to travel to San Diego on May 16 to hold their monthly meeting, with the second item on the agenda being "San Diego Ethics Commission Presentation."

Lack of transparency by the local group, including closed-door deliberations on fines and penalties and failure to release warning letters, has drawn growing criticism. Baber's term expires at

the end of next month "(or until a successor is duly appointed and confirmed)," according to the commission's website.



City ethics commissioner Bill Baber was slapped for election rule-breaking.

No thanks for the memories With readership and advertising shrinking, the San Diego Union-Tribune — owned along with the Los Angeles Times by L.A. billionaire physician Patrick Soon-Shiong — has embarked on what could be a final effort to hold onto its readers to the end of life. "CaregiverSD is looking for a reporter to write about resources and support available for fam-

ily caregivers," says a job ad for the *U-T* section, which hawks nursing homes and "memory care" options, along with estate planning lawyers, to the paper's predominantly elderly subscriber base and their aging children. "Posting stories online, promoting the content of the section, community outreach and helping to produce annual events will also be part of the job requirement," the advert adds. *Glassdoor.com* estimates a salary for the gig of between \$32,000 and \$54,000.

The U-T also seeks an online analytics specialist "to enable digital revenue generation through the creation of compelling pre-sale research such as Google Keyword analysis, Facebook avails and SEM Rush." The work location, says the job notice, "can be either in Los Angeles or San Diego."

### Lame duck mayor Kevin Faulconer,

departing office at the end of next year, is look-

ing to hire yet another public relations hand to highlight his final laps as head of the city. "The Press Secretary position performs communications-related work on behalf of the Mayor's Office, including writing speeches, press materials, and social media posts; communicating with and responding to questions from media; and performing other communication-related duties as assigned," says a help-wanted notice posted on



Union-Tribune owner Patrick Soon-Shiong isn't smiling anymore.

the city's website. "Starting salary will be based on relevant work experience and educational background." At the moment, the mayor's packed PR staff includes ex-*U-T* reporter **Craig Gustafson**, senior director of communications; ex-San Diego State PR man **Greg Block**, senior press secretary; **Christina Chadwick**, senior press secretary; and **Ashley Bailey**, press secretary, per the city's website.

continued on page 21

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### Fashionable junk

I must say that I'm disappointed with the recent developments with the Reader paper. I always picked it up every week to find out about music events. restaurant and movie reviews, etc. But I always thought the "hipster" column was completely stupid, especially in light of today's issues that really matter. What constitutes a "hipster"? Who cares! I don't. But now you've started having fashion articles, and the latest reader had a "fashionable" girl on the cover! You have got to be kidding ("Monica's black bangs and bell sleeves ensemble from Forever 21, Aldo, Topshop and Target," Cover Stories, May 1). As if there aren't enough fashion magazines out there already! I am hoping you will get rid of all this junk and get back to the reasons I like the *Reader* -- music, food, movies, neighborhoods, etc.

Donna MacKersie Imperial Beach

# Slow down or see the judge

I'm reading about this dude named Mike ("Why so many pedestrian accidents in San Diego?" City Lights, May 1). "I typically speed everywhere I go," said Mike, early 40s. Anyway, this is California. He's probably not a California native. I am. Third generation. The pedestrians have the right of way in California state, even poor little San Diego County. The pedestrians have the right of way within every 58 counties of this entire state of California. The pedestrian always has the right of way, always has, does now, and always will. Look it up on the California State Constitution. The right of way goes to the pedestrian. Decades ago or decades from today, the pedestrian has the right of way. The vehicle does not have the right of way and this Mike guy really needs to be put in jail. Tell Mike slow down or have the judge revoke his license. Because in California state, driving continued on page 22

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEANSIDE

# Hustler hustling city officials?

Larry Flynt Productions seeks to dodge regulations, classifies sex toys as general merchandise

Q: What do you do if you want to open an adult business where it's not permitted? A: If you're Larry Flynt's attorney, you simply proclaim you are not an adult business and hope no one notices.

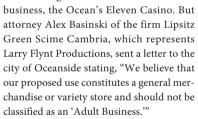
"They are saying they aren't an adult store? That's great! I can see it now: come and get your sex toys for the entire family," jokes Drew Andrioff, a local businessman who comments frequently on Oceanside social media. He's referring to the May 1 meeting between representatives from Larry Flynt Productions and Oceanside officials about opening a Hollywood Hustler outlet in Oceanside. City planning staff did not comment on what happened at the meeting, but Andrioff has some reason to kid.

There is already a Hollywood Hustler in the Gaslamp at 929 Sixth Avenue; now, the Los Angeles-based company is hoping to open its second store in the county at the intersection of I-5 and Mission Avenue. 1401 Mission is a circular building that is visible from the highway. For many years it was home to a coffee shop. Most recently, it housed the China Star Buffet, but it has been vacant for over four years. A big problem for many local business owners, people concerned with Oceanside's image, is that the store would be located in such a prominent location, which would not help Oceanside shed its once-gritty image. "We just got rid

of the Main Attraction, and now we don't want to replace it with something worse," says Linda Pina, co-owner of Eat Like a Local, which hosts walking food tours promoting Oceanside cafes. "We're trying to clean that area up." (After more than 30 years on Coast Highway, the only topless bar in North County, known as The Main Attraction, is set be demolished to make way for a new residential/commercial development. There are no announced plans to reopen the Main Attraction anywhere else in Oceanside.)

The Hollywood Hustler in San Diego sells sex toys, lingerie, and lubricants, as well as

X-rated DVDs and magazines. Zoning laws in Oceanside (and most cities) would classify such an establishment as an adult-oriented business, which would mean it would be a treated as a regulated business, one requiring special review and approvals. For example: opening a Hollywood Hustler in that location might seem to be prohibited, because of its proximity to both Oceanside High and another regulated



Employees at the San Diego Hollywood Hustler store referred all questions about current and future store operations to regional manager Jennifer Bonwell, who declined comment and said that all questions would need to be answered by the Flynt corporate

office in Los Angeles. A call to



facade. "That store is completely off the radar. I have heard of no issues...I believe we can peacefully co-exist."

Speaking only for himself, Wright says

those offices directed me to a Linda Goen

Councilman since 2000. He says he has no

concerns about a Hollywood Hustler arriving

at that location, since he sees no way they can

avoid being deemed an adult business. He

says that since it was learned Main Attrac-

tion was leaving, "I thought we were heading

down a different path. I was on the council

when we paid \$750,000 to get [the all-naked

strip club] Playgirl to leave downtown." But

he admits that Romantix, a business similar

to Hollywood Hustler located in downtown

Oceanside, is not a

public nuisance. "I

have not heard of

any problems there."

the executive direc-

tor of the business

support group

MainStreet Oceans-

ide, which runs the

family-oriented

Sunset Market every

Thursday evening in

the streets of down-

town Oceanside. The

market has booths

directly in front of

Romantix. He says

he appreciates that

Romantix goes out

of its way to main-

tain an understated

Rick Wright is

Jack Feller has been an Oceanside City

who did not return phone calls.

he doubts Flynt's Hollywood Hustler will arrive at the China Star location. "But they do have high-powered attorneys," he says. Wright recalls that in the mid-'80s, the now defunct F Street Bookstore adult chain opened an Escondido storefront, resulting in locals picketing in

front of the store and city officials complaining about how bad F Street was for the community. "They fought to stay open and they won."

A Romantix employee named Tony admits business has slowed down since the nearby Firewater Saloon was shuttered in September by California's Alcohol Beverage

Control, but he says it is still profitable. He says the business, formerly known as The Fun House and Midnight Adult Books, started flying under the radar when it changed its name to Romantix and ripped out the back-room video booths that played porn segments at 25

cents a pop. "The city made us take them out," he says. Video rentals and sales are now "just ten per cent of our sales, if that," he says. Once the Main Attraction goes away, and if Hustler Hollywood does not open, Romantix will be Oceanside's only adult-oriented storefront. If the Hustler store *did* open, "it would probably be the brunt of a lot of jokes," says Shay Cooper, co-owner of the newly opened Steel Mill Coffee in downtown Oceanside. "But at the end of the day, I can't say if I would be for or against it."

KEN LEIGHTON

DOWNTOWN

# Hot wheels at the bike bazaar

### 17th Street economy thrives on theft

Last week, fashion photographer Ron Morales and I rolled downtown to see if we could locate a stolen \$1900 Raleigh iE e-bike. I drove down 17th Street and pulled over before it turns into Imperial Avenue. "Hey big dawg, have you seen this bike right here?" Morales asked a man and woman posted up by a yellow sports bike on the sidewalk.

"That's a foldable isn't it?" the woman asked as she looked at Morales's phone.

"Naw, it's electric though," I responded.
"I'm pretty sure you'll find it if it's out here," the man said, "Look down there."
We drove around the block and saw about 15 bikes. Five were dismantled, but none matched the photo of the bike we were looking for; Morales snapped photos with his phone.

The day before, "John" had sent me a photo of him and his missing Raleigh bike. It was stolen in Hillcrest, together with his Civia Parkway, a \$3000 e-bike, on March 29.



"The homeless are sitting around and dismantling the bikes."

John requested anonymity for the story, so I changed his name and covered his face in the photo with the missing bike. John said the thief used power tools to break the Abus 6100 locks on both of his bikes. "The police recovered the Civia Parkway within 24 hours," he

continued on page 8



"Look, the place already looks like a nipple..."

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

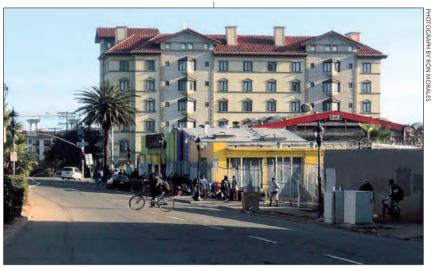
said. "It was still in great shape. The [Raleigh], I've seen being ridden by a presumably homeless guy. Police say the bikes are traded for small amounts of drugs for the most part."

Jay, who lives in one of the buildings by 17th Street and Imperial Avenue, understands what John is going though; his custom Diamondback was stripped recently. The thief couldn't cut the chain and round lock, and so left the frame behind. "They are stealing bikes left and right," Jay said. "It's a bike theft economy down there on 17th Street. I was walking down there at night and I was looking for my bike parts and I saw a whole hell of a lot of bike parts up and down there from

shit from anybody," he said, "even though I'm an old man."

Vee Nguyen rides her bike past Jay's house on her way to work at Memo's Barrio Bike Shop in Logan Heights. "If somebody is in a hard spot," she explained, "they are not going to ask questions. They are gonna be like: 'Oh it's a bike; it's cheap; I need it and I'll take it — thanks.' A lot of those folks (on 17th Street) have bikes because that's their main method of transportation. Some of the bikes may be stolen but the thing is, after a bike is stolen it's probably stolen [again] and passed over a couple of times. So it's really hard to tell [who's the actual perpetrator]."

"One night, a guy had a bike [on 17th and Imperial] and it was 100 percent carbon fiber," Jay said. "Do you have any idea what a bike like that costs? The chain was carbon, the



"One night, a guy had a bike on 17th and Imperial and it was 100 percent carbon fiber."

the corner of Imperial going [north] to K Street. They (the homeless) are sitting around and dismantling the bikes, and they got bike frames out there stacked six feet high." Jay, a former U.S. Marine, was able to recover the majority of his parts, but couldn't find his lights and Shimano gear-changer and chain — valued at about \$700. "I don't take



John and his missing Raleigh bike.

changer was carbon — it's a very expensive racing bike and he only wanted like \$1000 for it." Carbon fiber bikes can sell new for more than \$15,000. Jay said that he bikes to the San Diego Central Library on Park Avenue, which is about a half mile west of his home. There, he said, he sees guys riding on bikes with multiple wheels, tires, or bike frames hanging off their handlebars.

On May 1, I spoke to one of the library staff members. He said, "A patron comes in with their bike, parks it where the bike rack is, and when they come out and try to leave, [they say]: 'Where's my bike? It's gone.' There's a camera pointed where the bike rack is located and we've caught a few incidents of [thieves] cutting cables or removing parts."

Jay said that the bike-thieves' radius goes well past the library, however. "Right about now, at 8:30-9 pm, when I go home, that's when I see them, and they're all coming in from the trolley from other places with their bikes. Folks need to be aware of it. If you're up in Del Mar or La Jolla or on the beach someplace and your bike's missing — it could be here."

MIKE MADRIAGA

VALLEY CENTER

Gopher snake lover goes for reaction

recoils and strikes

On April 30, Jessica Y. found a snake by her Valley Center house, picked it up, then snapped a selfie. She posted the photo on Facebook and captioned it: "Instead of killing gopher snakes: pick them up; say hello; admire their beauty;

their way; (heart emoticon)."
Her "PSA" garnered over

send them on

Her "PSA" garnered over 200 reactions and responses, things like: "OMG"; "shivers"; "cute"; "brave girl"; and "yuck." Ramon from Chula Vista saw Jessica's selfie. "That's crazy," he said, "the flash or the ringtone might startle the snake and who knows WTF might happen after that?" An insurance agent saw a liability issue. "I don't think you should suggest people pick up snakes on their properties and

put them around their necks," she said. "I mean, just legally speaking .... this [post] should probably be removed before someone sues you for doing it and getting hurt."

In our May 4 interview, Jessica said she's been fascinated by animals and bugs since she was a kid and always turned over rocks to find critters. She's found five gopher snakes since the beginning of the year. "I don't recommend anyone picking up a snake unless you're 110 percent sure of what kind it is," she said. "And, don't pick it up unless you're OK with a possible bite."

"A snake bite, even non-venomous, can be painful," responded CL, a former herp keeper who saw Jessica's snake selfie. "Their mouths are full of many very sharp teeny pointy teeth and usually, the surprise of being bitten gets you. It can feel like a scratch or like a razor blade." Another resident, one who liked Jessica's

photo, has "so many gopher holes" on her property and is quite welcoming to gopher snakes. (A word of warning: they are said to feed on most vegetation in yards, and can destroy grass, vegetables, flowers, trees and shrubs in a small amount of time.)

"The gopher snake ranges from cream to tan, with stripes, diamond-like patterns and ridged scales," according to Debra King. "The Pacific gopher snake is not venomous at all. In fact, it is known to be a fairly harmless snake, and people often pick them up." King is an



cisco Bay Wildlife Society. Her article "I'm just a soul whose intentions are good...' The Misunderstood Gopher Snake" was published and posted on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website. "Gopher snakes are similar in appearance to rattlesnakes, and the two are often confused because gopher snakes mimic rattlesnakes by coiling up and vibrating their tails to warn off predators," King continued. "They flatten their heads to resemble those of



Jessica Y models a choker she hopes won't choke her.

rattlesnakes and emit a hissing sound. While this performance may protect gopher snakes from many of their foes, humans often kill harmless gopher snakes thinking they are venomous and a threat to their safety."

Jessica dislikes when her Valley Center neighbors kill animals. "Snakes are so important," she said, "I don't understand how people hate rodents but kill snakes; it's like an oxymoron. [Mike,] please stress to the public to never use poison to kill gophers, mice or continued on page 24

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### **Dear Hipster:**

So, I was reading the letter from the guy who apparently read a seventeen year old Reader article about buying cars in Mexico, went to TJ to get himself a 2019 Cavalier, and then took it back to Ohio. Or maybe he only wants to do it, but hasn't actually pulled the trigger on the new car. I couldn't tell exactly from his letter. Either way, is it as hipster as I think it is to drive around in a Mexican version of a garden-variety Chevy,

or is this just a huge hassle for zero streetcred whatsoever?

— DANNY

**HECHO EN MEXICO** 

Not just "made" — "bought," too!

I asked around, and I guess, especially for those of us hipsters here in California, it's virtually impossible to actually go to Mexico, buy a car not otherwise sold in the U.S., and slap a license plate on it. However, because of that impossibility, anyone who jumps through a trillion government hoops to

actually drive a Mexican car around in California without getting the thing swiftly impounded deserves some kind of hipster props for doing it the hard way. It would be sort of like the hipster who wants to drink a Mexican Coke, but the one they have at the taco stand around the corner won't do, so he drives to Tecate, gets a bottle of coke, and then waits in line for seventy minutes to get back across the border. Such exclusive authenticity can be measured in terms of disproportionate effort.

Even more ridiculous, I find it kind of hilarious that homeboy here wants to get

a 2019 Cavalier. Maybe 1 out of every 250,000 people he passes on the Ohio freeways will look over and think, "Hey, Mexican Cavalier with US plates. Neat!" The rest of us will probably think it's a

Chevy Cruze — probably because it is a Chevy Cruze.

Maybe this is the kind of cool, "in the know" hipster exclusivity equivalent of having a 1995 copy of Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness with the reprise version of "Tonight, Tonight." I can get behind that. But maybe this is the

equivalent of a hipster who wants a glass of Arrogant Bastard, but instead of going to the store and buying one, he infiltrates Stone Brewing to steal the formula, recreates an industrial scale brewery operation in miniature, and produces a batch of indistinguishable ale that he decants into an identical bottle except the label is trimmed in Pantone 185 instead of

> Pantone 179...or whatever. Then, he sits around drinking it in front of his friends and really hoping they'll notice. Seriously though, they still basically sell the El Camino in Mexico. You coulda had yourself an El Camino, or something very much like it, for all that trouble! Dang.

> Nope. This move wouldn't make much sense. But, hold on a second,

isn't doing things that don't make good sense the most hipster thing of all? Well, maybe so. But this ain't that. Why? Because I said so, that's why. But, wait, "You're not my Dad!" you might say. "You're just some kook in skinny jeans!" Fair enough. You don't have to do what I say because I say so; although, if you're reading this, it means you came here looking for answers, so maybe that makes me kind of like your Dad. If so, I'm gonna need you to pick up your fair share of the chores while I rest my eyes over here in this armchair.

- DJ Stevens

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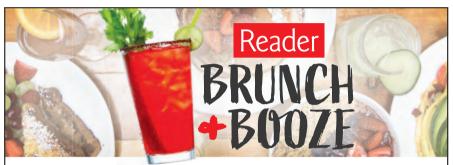
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# SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

# Hijinks Hijack Paddack Attack

# Excitable Padres pitcher injures self during beef with rival rookie

Some baseball experts are calling Padres rookie Chris Paddack the best pitcher in the Major Leagues right now. But "best pitcher" doesn't necessarily mean "best teammate," at least according to several anonymous San Diego players who spoke to SD on the QT. "Chris is a great kid, but he's awfully young," said one longtime Padre. "You've heard of 'rookie mistakes,' right? Well, one of them is forgetting where you are. The kind of intensity he's displaying may work in New York or Boston or even Chicago, but this is San Diego. We're not looking to make the post-season; we're looking to make early-October reservations in Hawaii. When you've got 40% attendance; you give 40%; it just makes sense. He's out there giving 110%. It makes the rest of us look bad, sure, and that's a problem. But really, I'm just embarrassed for him, jumping around out there like



Padres pitching phenom Chris Paddack grimaces in pain following his celebration of striking out NL Rookie of the Month Pete Alonso of the Mets for the second time on May 6. "Paddack's pitching mechanics are pretty much perfect," commented Padres Trainer Raul Goodform. "So I wasn't on the lookout for red flags warning he might be headed for Injured Reserve. Unfortunately, his amped-up arm pump tends to move across his body in awkward fashion, and it puts a strain on his rotator cuff. And when you have an April like he's had - 1.91 ERA and 35 strikeouts in 33 innings — you tend to do a lot of pumping. Now he's going to have to rest it a while. How long is hard to say: to be honest, I don't have much experience with enthusiasm-based repetitive stress injuries here in San Diego.'

this isn't a day job. We've tried talking to him, but he won't listen. Now the poor kid's hurt and inactive — and he probably doesn't even have the good sense to enjoy it. At this point, it's probably best if he gets traded by the All-Star break. I bet we can snag some slugger on the tail end who wouldn't mind easing his way into retirement, San-Diego style."



Cock-handler Rodrigo de Gallo (right) prepares to release favored fowl Feathered Glory at the 148th annual Kentucky Cockfighting Championship. The bird won the ensuing battle against opponent Coxcomb-over, but was disqualified after the match when judges ruled that he had used part of the hay bale ring to help elevate himself for a drop-down attack. It marked the first time that a victorious bird had ever been denied the title of King Cock in KCC history.

# **Larry West: Cockblocked**

Rancho Santa Fe rooster rouster vows challenge to controversial disqualification at Kentucky Cockfighting Championship Outraged owner: "My Feathered Glory will rise again!"

"Tradition is everything here at the Kentucky Cockfighting Championship," says Larry West, still shaking his head in disbelief over the unprecedented turn of events that cost him the honor of strutting into the Winner's Square last Sunday. "From the Paloma cocktails to the outrageous sombreros to the mariachi music. But there's no tradition of letting a bunch of pointy-head nitpickers deny a champion based on some ticky-tack rule that didn't even affect the final outcome. Feathered Glory won that cockfight, plain and simple. Everybody else in that arena knew it; that's why they put the Marigold Crown on my head before the ruling came

down. And then this. Well, I'm gonna fight it. This travesty has cost me thousands in brood-hen fees, not to mention unimaginable emotional distress. My bird won in the ring, and now I'm gonna win in the courts, where they know a little something about the spirit of the law prevailing

# GAME OF THRONES SEXYTIMES EDITION



John **Bradley** plays Samwell Tarly, a historian who makes shocking discoveries concerning long-ago couplings.



multiple women



Jacob **Anderson** plays Grey Worm, a warrioreunuch who makes love to of a Talmadge Missandei despite woman. the violence done





Daenerys



offender Juan **Carlos Cor**dero allegedly made videos of his victims before or during his crimes.



Former San Coster-Waldau plays Jaime Lannister. whose illicit desire age girls to for his sister led him to do terrible things to children.



Diego Junior Theater teacher Eric von Metzke gratify his illicit



Gwendoline Christie plays Brienne of Tarth, a fiery fighter who knew Jaime Lannister for a long time before bedding him



firefighter **Justin Curtis** Price is accused of bedding a 17-year-old girl he'd known since she was 9 or 10.



Joe Dempsie plays Gendry, the man who takes young Arya Stark's virginity before a battle to defend her country



Jolla Country Day teacher Jonathan Sammartino allegedly took a 17-year-old student's virginity.

# We are conducting the following studies:

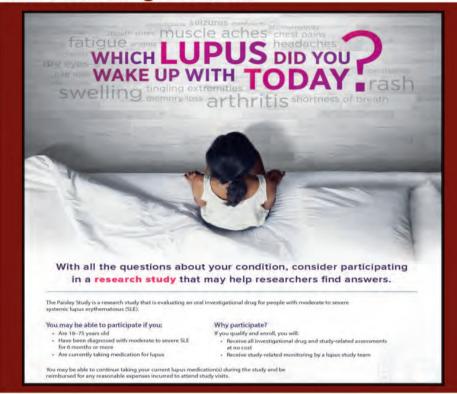
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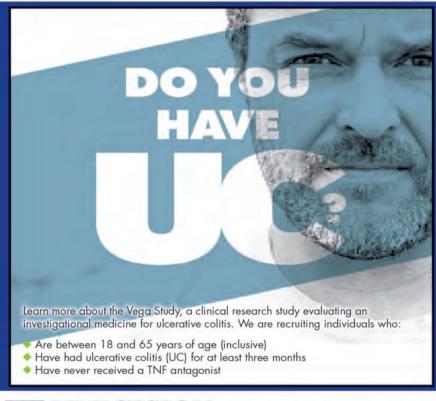
- · Are 40 to 75 years old
- · Have been diagnosed with OA in your knee
- Have had knee pain for at least 6 months and more than half of the days over the past month
- Meet other criteria, which the study staff will discuss with you

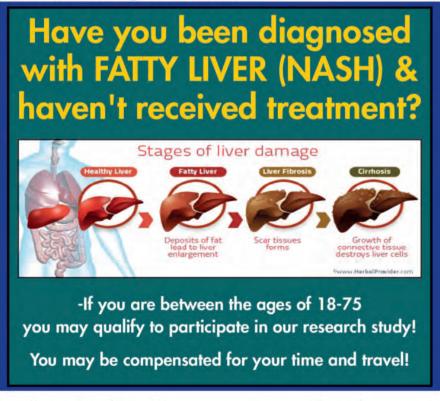




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Ved playing Adam, who is searching to be reunited with his daughter in Mexico City, here with other American refugees seeking a better life in Mexico

### **The Robin Hood** of Macedonia

The little boy was hanging in a pear tree, with a rope around his chest, crying. The rest of his family had ropes around their necks. They were dead. The rebel Gani Beg came down from the mountains when he heard of the massacre, scooped the little boy up, and galloped with him back to his hideout.

"That boy was my grandfather," says Ved Redic. "Gani Beg, the man who saved him, was the Robin Hood of Macedonia. He would steal from the rich and give land and cattle and money to the poor. A hundred years later, he's still a folk hero. I want to make a movie about him."

We're sitting in his father Arslan's gyro eatery in Mission Beach. Redic has the kind

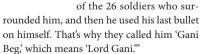
and spent his first five years there. The thing he remembers most? "A grenade exploding in the house next door. It killed three members of the family there. What I'll never forget is the flash and the noise. Mostly the flash."

Then his dad achieved the "miracle." "He got us to San Diego, the best city in the world! I owe him everything."

Redic went to school here, ended up with a law degree. But then he got hooked on acting. At first his dad was shocked. "He said 'You are throwing your life away," Redic says. "But when he saw I was serious, he said 'You can do anything. Create something beautiful."

In Parallel World, Redic plays Adam, a father looking for his daughter, who's in Mexico City, a refugee from an ailing United States. The movie completely reverses the present bor-

> This is where Gani Beg comes in. Redic is determined to celebrate his life in a full-blown movie. "This was in the 1920s. Gani Beg killed Bulgarian soldiers in revenge for their atrocities, and the rich landowners who made our people work for years for nothing. And then he gave the people land, and cattle, and food. And he became a legend. At the end, the Bulgarians cornered him. He had 13 bullets left. He killed 12



In July, Redic and his dad Arslan plan to travel to Tetovo, North Macedonia, where Lord Gani saved his grandfather, a century ago. "I want primary sources," he says.

"Then I write the movie script. I already have people interested."



**Ved with actor Jose Yenque** 

of face directors would choose to portray Jesus Christ. (A little ironic as his family is Muslim.)

Redic has become something of a celebrity in local film circles, ever since the short feature he starred in, In A Parallel World, won the Best Short Film and Spirit of San Diego prizes at the San Diego Film Festival, as well as prizes at the Trieste Film Festival, the Chicago, and the New York Latino Film Festival in 2017.

He was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia, in 1988

### Still dead?

It's an odd feeling, driving along State Route 76, to come across this ghost settlement, a few miles west of the Pala Mission.

"Be careful of snakes," my friend Kim shouts, "and people!"

I've persuaded him to stop near one of these abandoned houses so I can get a look-see.

part of the farm, to widen and straighten the 76. And a gift to developers: after years of controversy, the infamous Gregory Canyon landfill didn't happen. No threat of smelly living! It was the answer to developers' dreams.

But Pete always had the feeling that San Diego County had turned against dairy farmers anyway. He bought a farm in the "more friendly" Sac-

### "Be careful of snakes," my friend Kim shouts, "and people!"

Because it does feel a little eery. The silence, except for cars and trucks zipping past behind the trees, birds chirruping when things go quiet, a mysterious shuffle in the grasses — a snake? - a distant dog bark, and houses with brambles gradually wrapping themselves around them like giant Venus Flytraps. But this front building is surrounded by sycamore trees. "Pete Verboom No. 1," says the sign above where the front doors have been ripped out. I venture inside. Gouged plaster walls, concrete floors, broken glass, and bare

ramento area. Since 1966, over 100 other dairy farmers have also voted with their feet.

So why are these 100 acres and their houses still rotting slowly into the fertile ground, neither farm nor housing developments? Why, at least, no straightened Highway 76? For starters, this is part of a 100-year flood plain. Then there's the locals. They have fought to stop their bucolic settlement around the Pala Mission from becoming urbanized. So, this valley stays in a state of suspended animation, in some ways less developed than when Pete



One of fourteen abandoned houses on Pete Verboom's two dairy farms

dirty white walls, with graffiti.

"STILL DEAD?" says one.

"In memory of my brother Richard Ainsworth. I love you!" says another.

The owner, I discover, was Pete Verboom himself. Turns out this was one of his two dairy farms, 100 acres big. Verboom built the dairies and 14 buildings on the property, starting in 1966. He was a mover and shaker in the milkmaking world, a president of the San Diego County Milk Producers' Council.

So, what happened to his empire here? Why the desolation?

Development, of course, just like what happened to Mission Valley, and east Chula Vista, which used to be dotted with dairy farms. Then, environmental consciousness brought more pressures: the farms' wastewater runoff started attracting attention; farmyard-loving cowbirds moved in and began replacing threatened least Bell's vireos' eggs with their own. Meanwhile, the nearby Pala casino opened for business, and brought extra traffic. To combat that, Caltrans took over land, including this



Mystery graffiti inside office of **Pete Verboom** 

Verboom lived here.

Pete died February 25. Obituaries showed how this survivor of the Nazi occupation of Holland had become a beloved citizen in the Pala community.

Later, I see that back in 2000, the Reader's Ernie Grimm interviewed Verboom for a piece about how unwelcoming San Diego was to dairy farmers. I look around. You'd think Verboom, this apparently jovial bear of a man, would merit a better memorial than such a shambles, these ruins of what he took a lifetime to create.

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BY MIRANDA POTMESIL

### Pajama suit in Bankers Hill

Cloudy days in San Diego aren't the most welcome, but they do give locals an opportunity to show a different side of their fashion sense. Colder weather means warmer clothes instead of the tank tops, short shorts, sundresses, and sandals that typically adorn San Diegans. This was apparent one cloudy morning when I found myself walking down the streets of Bankers Hill.

Clad in her black and white pajama suit, Natalie Ramirez, a content creator from Chicago (@



"GIVE ME STRIPED CHIC."

mipropriamujer), easily managed to stand out against the pale, gloomy sky. As we approached one another, I stopped her to compliment her outfit and the confidence she wore with it. When asked what inspired it, she responded, "Today I went for a pajama suit inspired by Celine when Pheobe Philo was the creative director. Give me monochramatic chic!"

Ramirez seemed to know her fashion, so I asked if she had any fashion icons. "I'd have to say Joan Jett," she replied. "She really

embraces her rebellious side through her music and wardrobe. She gave me a sense of confidence as a woman and taught me that I don't have to show skin to feel like a beautiful badass."

Natalie's pajama suit (Buffalo Exchange, \$25) was completed with comfortable Zara booties (Buffalo Exchange, \$15), a dainty Mejuri necklace she received as gift, and a vintage silver clutch thrifted by her mom and sent to her in a care package.

I asked her if she thrifted many of her clothes and learned that Ramirez grew up shopping in thrift stores, which taught her to put her own twist on her outfits with her finds. "Finding treasures where I least expect to and turning them into a representation of who I am makes my clothes all that more special," Ramirez told me warmly.

I told Ramirez of the days continued on page 22

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# Suit Up

# Ninety-nine percent of hoodies look awful

Pretty soon, San Diego will return to its baseline of warm-weather semi-nudity. Your potato-bodied author considers this bad news.

Layer while the weather permits. Layering, or wearing multiple pieces of clothing on your torso, makes you look more stylish. Up to a point. Wearing a cardigan with a vest, a button-down, and a bow tie looks stupid. Wearing a sweater



LESS IS MORE WHEN IT COMES TO SWEATERS

over a t-shirt doesn't.

Outside of a suit, nothing makes you look quite so grown up as a well-executed sweater. Stick with visually simple crewneck or v-neck pullovers that fit you perfectly.

Hoodies are ubiquitous, and 99 percent of them look awful. There's just something about the hood that can't be compensated for with nice fabric or tasteful design.

Stay away from graphic sweaters, athletic outerwear, zip-up fleeces, cardigans, and sweater vests. All of these *can* be worn stylishly, but will rarely look better than the standard pullover.

Fit is crucial. It should go no lower than the

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middle of your crotch. The sleeves shouldn't creep up onto your hands, and should also conform to your arm without much extra fabric. Same goes for the torso, which should hug your frame without crushing it.

Black, navy blue, and grays should be your first choices for color. Other neutrals are also acceptable. Solid colors are best, though you can get away with patterns if they're muted. Any material is fine if the other variables are in place, but skew away from cheap-feeling cotton when you can.

New sweaters are obscenely overpriced. They're easily found at thrift stores, which typically sell them for \$5-15. I routinely thrift sweaters from Brooks Brothers, J. Crew, Tommy Hilfiger, and similar brands.

Use them to layer, or wear them against your skin, like a shirt. This trick will let you wear them well into the warmer months.

Find more Suit Up at sandiegoreader.com/fashion



# A ship in the desert

This is the third in the Lost Ship of the Desert series written by Robert Marcos. His first article, "Stay Away From Pinto Canyon", focused on a unique petroglyph he found in a remote canyon near the Mexican border. Archaeologists who examined the petroglyph said it may be the first "graphic representation" of Spanish explorers arriving in America. His second article suggested that that vessel may be the lost ship of Juan de Iturbe — which was full of pearls when it ran aground in Ancient Lake Cahuilla in 1615.



Maps from the 1600s prove that mariners considered California to be an island, and it was believed that a ship could sail north through the Sea of Cortez, behind California through the "Strait of Anian"

It had been sixty years since the natives who lived along San Diego Bay had seen Spanish ships. It was unlikely that anyone who'd witnessed Juan Cabrillo's arrival in 1542 would've been around to see Sebastian Vizcaino's ships when they landed in 1602. But the stories about the strange white men with fine clothing and pointy beards had been passed down, and because of that, the meeting between Vizcaino's men and the natives passed without bloodshed.

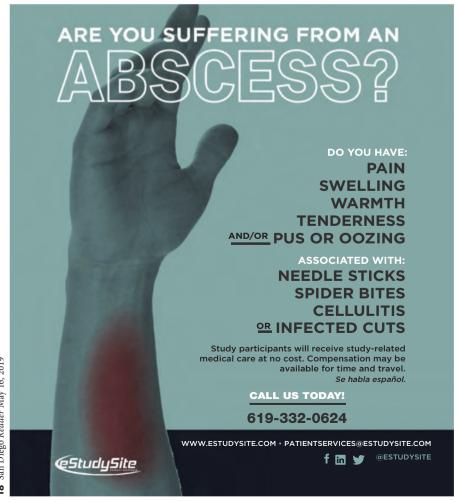
The Vizcaino expedition was anchored in San Diego Bay for ten full days. During that time, the sailors measured the bay's depth, cleaned the bottoms of their ships, gathered fresh food and water, and had

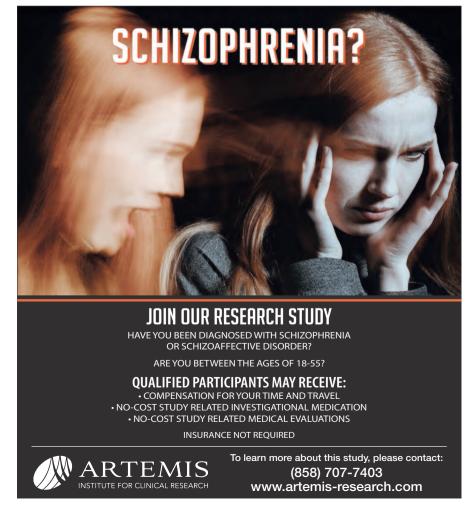
many constructive meetings with the natives.

The daily activities were recorded in Vizcaino's official log, and also in a journal kept by Fray Antonio de la

Ascensión - one of three friars who accompanied the expedition. And it was in this journal that an exchange was recorded which has perplexed historians for centuries.

Fray Antonio wrote that during a conversation





conducted with the use of sign language, natives told them that there were other white men, "with fine clothing and pointy beards, like yours," who were living on the shore to the east. This could have meant the shore of the Colorado River, the shore of the Sea of Cortez, or the shore of Laguna Salada — which the Colorado River had occasionally flowed through on its way south to the Sea of Cortez.

Through sign language and by example, the natives conveyed that they held these men in high esteem. They showed the Spaniards some heavy blue stones that the men had given them, which the natives ground into powder and then applied to their faces as a decorative blue pigment.

But when the enthu-





The Colorado River occasionally flowed through Laguna Salada on its way south to the Sea of Cortez.

The area is shown here during dry times on the left and wet times on the right.

siastic natives offered to take Vizcaino's party to meet these other white men, Vizcaino refused.

Fray Ascensión wrote that the other white men may have been English or Dutch — in other words, pirates — and Vizcaino had compelling reasons for avoiding them.

Fifteen years earlier, near Cabo San Lucas, the galleon which Vizcaino was aboard had been attacked by English pirates. The pirates were led by Thomas Cavendish. Cavendish was an English privateer who followed the example set by his famous predecessor, Sir Francis Drake, by sacking Spanish settlements up and down the Pacific coast.

While sailing north along the coast of Mexico, Cavendish learned that an enormous Spanish galleon was due back from Manila. Cavendish concealed his two ships just east of Cabo and waited. A short time later, his men saw the galleon approaching and they attacked the 600-ton ship, which was loaded to the gunwales with exotic cargo from Asia.

The galleon was named the Santa Ana, and its cannons had been removed to provide more space for cargo. With no means of defending his ship, the captain of the vessel was forced to surrender. Cavendish boarded the ship and ordered its passengers — including Vizcaino — to be ferried

to shore. Then he and his men transferred as much of the galleon's cargo as Cavendish's two small ships could carry.

When his ships were fully loaded, Cavendish set the galleon on fire and departed. He was rich beyond measure, and would be knighted by Queen Elizabeth upon his return to England.

Cavendish had left Cabo San Lucas with two ships, but only one, the Content, arrived safely back in England. His smaller ship, the *Desire*, vanished entirely and was never seen or heard of again.

Some speculated that the crew of the Desire had sailed north in order to return to England as quickly as possible. Maps from that period prove that mariners considered California to be an island. and it was believed that a ship could sail north through the Sea of Cortez, behind California through the "Strait of Anian" and then east to the North Atlantic via the Northwest Passage.

If the crew of the *Desire* had gone that way, they wouldn't have made it very far. Their small ship was heavily loaded and may have become stuck in the shallow bottom near the mouth of the Colorado, or somewhere

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in Laguna Salada.

But the men were well-provisioned. They were hearty and well-armed, and could have survived by trading the exotic merchandise they'd stolen from the galleon with the local natives. The exotic nature of that merchandise — copper, silk, china, fragrance, and colorful textiles — would've been a hit with Native Americans who had never seen anything like it.

Three hundred and sixty-six years passed. Then in 1968, *The Imperial Valley Press* ran a fullpage article about a local archaeologist who had made a startling discovery. Morlin Childers found evidence that a large vessel was sunk beneath the alkaline surface of Laguna Salada — a 37-mile long dry lake west of Mexicali in northern Baja California.

Two photographs accompanied the article.

The first showed Childers standing on the left side of a large bowsprit which protruded upward, out of the dry lake. Two men on Childers' right, Jim Atkins and Jim Bailey, were

sunken ship's location was lost forever when someone cut the bowsprit down and used it as firewood.

Except for the heavy metal rigging no other evidence was collected that

Natives told them that there were other white men, "with fine clothing and pointy beards, like yours," who were living on the shore to the east.

shown shoving a long pole down into the crusty surface — trying to determine how far down the remainder of the ship was.

The second photograph was taken later. It shows Mr. Childers holding a heavy piece of metal rigging that had been removed from the bowsprit. Besides that souvenir, Childers and his men left the sunken ship exactly as they'd found it. Less than a year later, the

would prove the ship had once belonged to Thomas Cavendish. But the possibility does exist — and if a metallurgist were able to personally examine the metal rigging it might help to determine the provenance of the sunken vessel.

After his death in 1987, Childers' collection was donated to the University of Las Vegas, where it sat in storage for over 20 years. At some point, the collection was transferred to the Bureau of Land Management.

Then in 2015, most of his collection was relocated to the Imperial Valley Desert Museum in Ocotillo, and since its return the collection has been the focus of almost continuous research.

Students from the San Diego State University Imperial Valley Campus, as well as visiting archaeologists and anthropologists, have come to the Imperial Valley Desert Museum to sort, study, and analyze a collection that fills over 130 storage boxes.

Although the heavy metal rigging from the sunken vessel has yet to be found, museum director Dr. David Breeckner says the collection represents a unique opportunity to better understand the early history of the region.

However, the curation process has been slowed by a lack of funding. Dr. Breeckner is asking for the public's help in order to make this unparalleled collection available for everyone to study, learn from, and experience.

The Imperial Valley
Desert Museum is open
Wednesday through Sunday and is located at 11
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www.ivdesertmuseum.org.

— Robert Marcos



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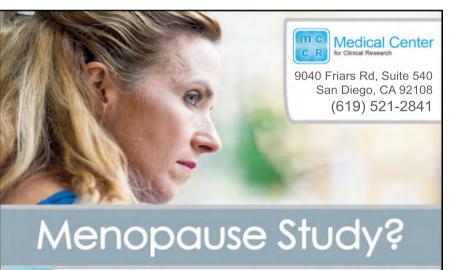
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- Experiencing bothersome hot flashes

### CITY LIGHTS

### CITY LIGHTS

### **Short term** rentals

continued from page 3

wall showing the tent cities that initiated vacation rentals in the early 1920s.

But the recent explosion of short term rentals after the entrance into the market by Airbnb, according to SAVE MB from STRs, is a far cry from the long tradition of summer vacation rentals.

"When Stevie and I served on the first Town Council committee," says Mary Swenson, "she thought that some people were trying to ban short term rentals entirely and that I was totally against them. I am not against them. That would be unrealistic. And, as far as I'm concerned, the 30-day restriction in AB 1731 would be excessive."

Swenson thinks the "nuisance" problems that accompany the rentals are the result of the city's lack of enforcement. "The city doesn't enforce anything," she says. "You can't expect the police to come out to a large party in the middle of the night. They won't come. Why should they? They've got plenty else to do."

"Investors from far-

away places, such as the Midwest, are another part of the problem," according to Swenson. "They don't understand what it's like at the beach. The regulations need to be impressed upon them so they don't just sign a bunch of renters up and turn them loose. Permit numbers and phone contacts need to be posted on rentals to help alert owners who aren't witnessing what's going on. Be stricter on rules, too.

"One thing that might be done is to require short term renters to enter into leases longer than three days. At least five days would help. Now, large groups of college kids, usually guys, get a place for three days, cram as many people into it as possible and everybody stays drunk. And their cars often take up two parking spaces, making it impossible for residents to find places. There are times, too, when you have 50 kids partying on a rooftop deck and carrying on until late into the night. A minimum stay of five days would help alleviate that."

Steevie Wheeler acknowledges that it's hard to get some visitors to follow rules. Take a simple condition. "For the tiny unit we

### **Under the** radar

continued from page 3

### Fox guarding stadium henhouse As

haggling with the California State cil resolution.

(@sdmattpotter)

tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or sandiegoreader. com/staff/matt-potter/contact/.

have on our property, I ask that only two adults occupy it at a time. A woman came with two children in tow. When I confronted her about my rule, she said, 'I thought two kids equal one adult." ■

University over the price the state university system will pay the city of San Diego for the former Qualcomm Stadium site continues, the city council has extended its naming rights deal with Fox Sports Net, Inc. and San Diego County Credit Union. The credit union will pay Fox, which manages the property for the presumably public servant-challenged city, \$720,000 during calendar year 2019, of which the city gets a cut totaling \$561,600. In 2020, Fox will collect \$792,000 and after taking its share hand over \$617,760 to the city, per a February 7 coun-

— Matt Potter

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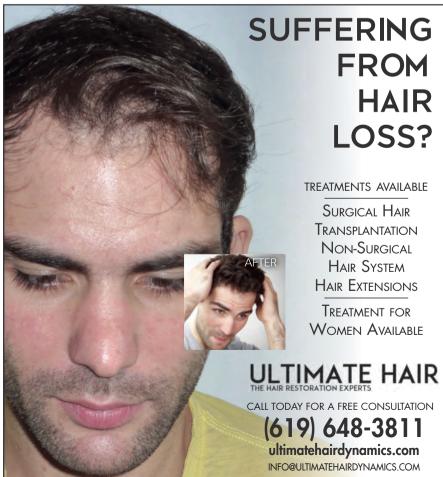
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### **LETTERS**

continued from page 4

is not a right. Driving is a privilege. The judge has the authority to remove and/ or to revoke the privilege. I think Mike's privilege needs to be revoked.

Anonymous

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

### "The 17th Street stolen bike economy" Neighborhood News May 7

Just drive all over town and you will find homeless people with stacks of bikes piled on their shopping carts. My wife and I always joke about it because there really isn't anything else to do since the police won't do anything. It is clear that it is stolen property but I guess the police consider it ok.

—Courage Musial

### "Georgette Gomez – errand girl for San Diego hotels" News Under the Radar May 8

It's not just politicians. Nonprofit publishers are owned and operated by their large donors. We have some in San Diego who do good work, but they just can't be trusted to bring us the dirt on our politicians, developers, movers and shakers. The *Reader* news and politics is often the best source.

—swe

# "Why so many pedestrian accidents in San Diego?" City Lights

May 1

If you are a pedestrian, you should assume your life is in danger when you cross any street. The "Walk" sign does nothing to stop a car that is ignoring speed limits or signal lights to stop. No amount of colored painted crosswalks or other measures will assure you of a safe walk across the street.

-Wabbits d

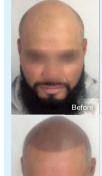
# Street Style Continued from page 16

my clothes all that more special," Ramirez told me warmly.

I told Ramirez of the days in high school I'd visit Goodwill with my friends to find men's Levi's to turn into shorts. The process made the piece of clothing more unique — and typically of greater quality.

She agreed, "Yes, quality over quantity! If there's one thing I've learned from all my years of thrifting, it's that quality is everything. Second-hand shopping doesn't necessarily mean you can't get good quality pieces."

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rats .... the snakes eat them and die as well, as any other animal who catch rodents."

"Gopher snakes are a valuable part of California's ecosystem," King agreed. "As predators, they help control populations of other species, and are vital to reducing the number of animals we consider pests, such as rats or gophers. Keeping rodent populations under control also help reduce the spread of germs and diseases."

King did warn that "[gopher snakes] should never be picked up or handled because, like any other animal, they can bite if they feel threatened." Shortly after my interview with Jessica, she sent me a video of her holding up a baby gopher snake and commenting: "It's so cute...you were sniffing around over here so I'm going to put you back...bye." Then the snake slithered away.

MIKE MADRIAGA

OCEAN BEACH

### **VRBO** units off-market following homicide Suspect son and victim mother

shared title

Homicide detectives and SWAT officers swooped into Ocean Beach Wednesday, May 1, after a woman's body was found inside the garage of a rental property and her son, 36-year-old Daniel Chase McKibben, was seen running from the scene. The incident began at 5045 Niagara Avenue around 1 am when San Diego Police received a check-the-welfare call. "The caller said a family member had received a message from his mother, which caused them to be concerned," SDPD Lt. Matt Dobbs said. "They attempted to call her back but could not reach her. The family believed

she (had been) checking on a property in the ...neighborhood." A short time later, police discovered the body of the woman, covered in a blanket, inside the garage behind the same complex from which Daniel McKibben's brother saw him running.

Authorities then shifted their attention to a second location where they believed Daniel McKibben might have been hiding, 4918 Del Mar Ave. After several hours of searching the area, McKibben had not been located. Authorities did not release information regarding the connection between the suspect and the two properties.

The victim's body was found in the garage belonging to 5045 Niagara Ave #4. There are two top floor units: #3 and #4. Public records name Heidi McKibben, the suspect's mother, as the property owner, as well as her son Daniel Chase McKibben. Records also indicate that Ms. McKibben purchased the Niagara properties at different times; unit 3

in 2007 for \$510,000, and unit 4 on June 27, 2018 for \$686,000. In December of 2018, Heidi McKibben added her son Daniel Chase McKibben to the deed of those rental properties on Niagara. The property on Del Mar Avenue, where police initially believed the suspect to be hiding, was purchased in March 2018 for \$857,000, granted to Heidi McKibben Green.

Both of the 2-bedroom, 2-bath units have been listed on the home-

sharing platforms Vacation Rental By Owner and Home Away, naming Dan McKibben as the host/owner. The last review on VRBO was



tastic stay at Dan and Heidi's place. From our first communication to check in to check out,

> they were very responsive. The condo is just 2 houses and steps away from the beach and pier. It was very convenient to walk to the nearby restaurants, bars and even a yoga studio. The condo itself was immaculate...Wonderful place that we would definitely stay at again!' The last response from Dan was on March 4, 2019: "We are so glad that your stay at our property exceeded your expectations. We look forward to you returning for another

visit very soon! Dan."

**Daniel Chase McKibben** 

Kristina Thomas, who vacationed at McGibben's rental in December, was shocked tion with [Daniel McKibben] was via texting through the Home Away app. He was responsive and very pleasant. He offered suggestions of places to see/eat, etc. I told him I was from OB and that I used to live just a few blocks up on Niagara, behind Ranchos/across from Rite Aid. That was about it...Although, I do have to say, my boyfriend and I now fear if we were perhaps being spied on via hidden camera or something. If this guy is capable of what it's alleged he may have done, I fear the worst as far as our privacy was concerned."

The listings have since become "inactive" on the website; the latest activity occurred on April 3 and 7, 2019. On May 2, Daniel McKibben was taken into custody after trespassing in a La Mesa. He had refused to leave a home, brandished a knife, and was shot at three times by SDPD. Two shots struck McKibben, one on his hand and one on his shoulder. He is expected to survive.

DELINDA LOMBARDO

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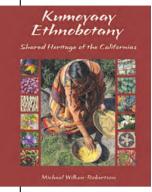
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# Calendar

# YOUR WELCOME TO IT EK

### Thursday | 16



### NATIVE PEOPLE, NATIVE PLANTS

A presentation by Michael Wilken-Robertson, author of Kumeyaay

Ethnobotany. Wilken-Robertson's research has explored the indigenous peoples of northern Baja California. He will discuss the interdependence between the native peoples and native plants of the Californias.

A book signing and sale of traditional arts will take place before the lecture.

WHEN: Thursday, May 16, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm WHERE: Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center, One Father Junípero Serra Trail, San Carlos. mtrp.org

# THE IMPOSSIBLE RAILROAD: 100 YEARS OF THE SD&A

A talk on the history of the San Diego & Arizona Railway. The SD&A rail line was called "the impossible railroad" by engineers of its day, due to many logistical challenges: extreme terrain requiring 2.5 miles of bridges and trestles, 21 tunnels (including eleven miles through the treacherous Carrizo Gorge, an area where cliffs dropped more than 1,000 feet to the bottom), floods, landslides, fires, hot weather, deaths from the flu, sabotage by revolutionaries, and delays caused by World War I.

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 16, 6 pm to 7 pm **WHERE:** Alpine Library, 1752 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine. *sdcl.org* 

### Friday | 17

### **VENUS IN FUR**

Thomas, a beleaguered playwright and 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.

**WHEN:** Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays 8 pm, Sundays 2 pm. Through June 15.



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



### Saturday | 18

### **TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The National Women's Senior Hard Court Tennis Championships features players ages 50 to 90+ competing for gold balls, which are awarded to the national champions. Singles and doubles will be played in respective age divisions. Tennis enthusiasts can view the tournament for free. Snack bar and Club Dining restaurant will be open.

**WHEN:** Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19, 9 am to 7 pm.

**WHERE:** La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla. *ljbtc.com* 

### Tuesday | 21

# ALICIA WITT AT HOUSE OF BLUES

Alicia Witt is best known for playing Cybill Shepherd's redhead daughter on Cybill, as well as for her turns in John Waters' Cecil B. Demented and The Walking Dead TV show. But she

also moonlights as a pop singer. Her newest full-length, 15000 Days, was produced by Grammy winner Jacquire King (Norah Jones, Modest Mouse), and her previous album was produced by Ben Folds, for whom she has opened on tour.



Tuesday, May 21, 8 pm

**WHERE:** House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown. *houseofblues.com/ sandiego* 





56



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### OTAY MOUNTAIN - PIO PICO APPROACH

Enjoy rarely seen expansive views on this hike

**Driving directions:** From Fastlake/Chula Vista, take Otay Lakes Road towards, Jamul, past Lower Otay Lake, to Pio Pico RV Resort and Campground. Turn right into the campground for a small parking area (8-10 cars) and public facilities. From CA-94 east, drive past Jamul and turn right on Otay Lakes Road. Follow this road until you see the Thousand Trails Campground on the left. Also on the left will be the Pio Pico County Store. Park in the campground. (If using GPS, plug in Pio Pico Campground). Hiking length: 12.4 mile out-and-back unless you drive part of the way, but 4WD is needed on this road. Difficulty: Strenuous, Elevation change 2.893 ft. Allow 10-12 hours. No facilities, NOTE: Hiking Otay Mountain alone or past sunset is not recommended. The trail is heavily monitored by the Border Patrol as this is a popular route for illegal US/Mexico border crossing. Despite this, it is still a popular recreation route.



Laurel sumac is a typical plant found on the mountain

his trail features impressive summit views of surrounding mountains, the US/Mexico border, and unique plant life. It is used by hikers/walkers, trail runners, mountain bikers, and off-roading vehicles. It should be noted that this is listed as a "truck trail," so there is a fair amount of vehicle traffic on this narrow road. The trail is steep, long, and rocky. Quite a bit of hiking needs to be done before. reaching any shade. Much of the trail is winding

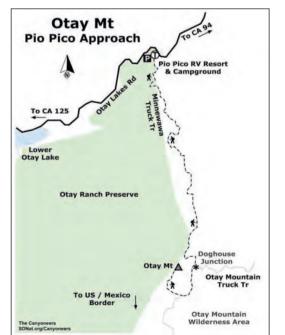
and just wide enough for an SUV to pass. Hikers and bikers should navigate with caution. For these reasons, hiking to the summit with young children is not recommended.

This section of Otay Mountain (Pio Pico approach) is flanked, for much of the trail, by protected private land and Otay Ranch Preserve land. Indeed, much of the land directly bordering the trail is a protected sensitive habitat. So individuals using the trail must use

the trail only. The sensitive habitat border is marked by signs in most areas and prohibits the following activities: off-road vehicles, biking, hiking, horseback riding, shooting, hunting, plant collecting, camping/ campfires.

The route is a beautiful and challenging trail offering incredible views and rare plant species, but it can be dangerous to both hikers and vehicles. Hiking Otay Mountain alone or past sunset is not recommended. Additionally, the trail conditions vary greatly by season. During the rainy season or on a rainy day, the trail can be quite slick and rocky. Large chunks of the road can be missing. An off-road vehicle was once viewed flipped upside-down at the bottom of the mountain-a morbid symbol of caution for current and future travelers.

continued on page 32



The hike begins from the parking area at Pio Pico Campground. Begin the hike by looking for two roads with gates just past the Pio Pico Country Store. Take the steeper

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

**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.

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### ANIMAL **FRIENDS**

Wild in the Country Enjoy rescued animals, live music, dinner, dancing and family friendly activities in an idyllic country setting, for an event benefitting the animals. Silent and live auction items include once-in-a-lifetime experiences and packages, including Super Bowl tickets. Saturday, May 18, 2pm; \$45-\$325. Lions Tigers & Bears Big Cat Rescue, 24402 Martin Way. (ALPINE)

### ART

90s Vs 80s Movies Fan Art Showcase Midnight Cult Art presents 90s Movies Vs 80s Movies Fan Art Showcase, a two-night pop-up group exhibit that brings together over 50 of the region's best artists to celebrate the culturally influential films of these two incredible decades. Friday, May 17. 6pm: Saturday, May 18. 6pm: free. Tenth Avenue Arts Center, 930 Tenth Avenue, (FAST VILLAGE)

Art in the Garden Guests can shop from hundreds of vendors for unique hand-crafted gifts, imports and local art. Enjoy international cuisine and local entertainment, as well as fun rides, games, entertainment, food, art, and shopping for everyone. Sunday, May 19, 9am; free. Escondido Heritage Garden, 121 North Juniper. (ESCONDIDO)

Free First Sunday Embrace creativity and visit OMA. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 1, free. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Weirdo Art Show 2 person show featuring the artwork of San Diego local artists, Kelly Hutchison (aka DarkVomit) and Andrew Robbins. Featuring original Lowbrow and Pop Surrealist oil paintings and tattoo flash. Saturday, May 18, 6pm; free. Dia Del Cafe, 2873 Adams Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

### **BEER**

**Beerfest** The Old Mission Beach Athletic Club (OMBAC) is kicking off the summer Over-the-Line (OTL) Tournament at OTL Beerfest in conjunction with the first rounds of Over the Line. Saturday, May 18, 12pm; \$35. Mariner's Point, Mariners Way. (MISSION BEACH)

Buckets & Brews Buckets & Brews on the driving range: \$12 for a bucket of balls and two beers, with a bar on the driving range. The grill will be serving burgers, bbg and brats ranging from \$6-10. Thursdays, 4pm; through Thursday, October 31, \$12. Crossings at Carlsbad, 5800 The Crossings Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Saint Archer's Sixth Anniversary The family-friendly event will feature live music from headliner King Tuff, locals the Schizophonics and The Anodynes. Guests can also enjoy food trucks, a kid's area and brewery tours. Making its debut at the party, the 6th anniversary specialty beer is a Hazy Rye with Galaxy Hops IPA. Saturday, May 18, 2pm; free. Saint Archer Brewing Co., 9550 Distribution Avenue. (MIRAMAR)

Super Kaleidoscope Hazy Triple IPA is a New England-style, hazy Triple IPA brewed with the good people at Modern Times Beer! Saturday, May 18, 12pm; Sunday, May 19, 12pm; free. Thorn Brewing Co., 1745 National Avenue. (BARRIO LOGAN)

Taste of Julian is a self-guided culinary tour of participating oneof-a-kind restaurants, wineries, and breweries. It provides an opportunity for visitors to sample the culinary delights that Julian offers, while also providing the wonderful environment of this special mountain town in San Diego. Saturday, May 18, 1pm; \$25-\$35. Julian Town Hall, 2129 Main Street. (JULIAN)

### BOOK SIGNINGS

Ann Patchett & Robin Preiss Glasser: Lambslide discuss and sign their new picture book, "Lambslide." Thursday, May 16, 5:30pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Bloody Food Rackets: 1930s New York City featuring James Beard Award winner Andrew Coe. Coe will delve into why notorious gangsters such as Joseph "Socks" Lanza, fought bloody battles over... artichokes, and milk, eggs, flour, kosher chickens and even chocolate syrup. Saturday, May 18, 10:30am; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**David Putnam: The Reckless** Meet David Putnam and go home with a signed copy of The Reckless, his latest installment of the Bruno Johnson Thriller Series. Saturday, May 18, 10am; free. Barnes and Noble - Bookstar/Loma Theatre, 3150 Rosecrans Place, (POINT LOMA)

Dr. Stuart Jamieson: Close to the Sun Join us for a conversation with Dr. Stuart Jamieson featuring his riveting memoir, Close to the Sun: The Journey of a Pioneer Heart Surgeon, an adventurous, compelling account based on the experience of over 40,000 heart surgeries, where everything was on the line every moment in the O.R. Thursday, May 16, 5:30pm; free. UC San Diego Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive, (LA JOLLA)

Flow Belinsky: Motherhood **Book Reading & Sharing Circle** Join Author and Facilitator Flow Belinsky as she shares readings from her raw and real memoir.

Then, connect with other women in a guided authenticity circle to share your own truths about postpartum and motherhood in a loving environment of deep listening and compassion. Sunday, May 19, 2pm; \$10-\$25. 18 and up. Tree of Life Birth Center, 617 Saxony Place. (ENCINITAS)

Sarah Blake: The Guest Book Warwick's will host Sarah Blake as she discusses and signs her new book, "The Guest Book." Only books purchased from Warwick's will be signed. Thursday, May 16, 7:30pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

The War Criminal's Son: A Flight to Exile the life and struggles of William A. Winder, the son of Confederate General John H Winder of Andersonville Prison infamy served as commandant at Fortress Alcatraz at the same time his entire family were in Richmond and Andersonville. Copies of the book will be available for sale and signing. Sunday, May 19, 2pm; free. First San Diego Courthouse Museum, 2733 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

### **CLASSES &** WORKSHOPS

Anthropomorphism/Personification Each writer will create a

poem using personification, and then we'll turn our attention towards creating fully formed characters with human emotions, intentions, and traits. With Jenn Woolf Sunday, May 19, 1pm; \$30-\$36. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Beekeeping Get some hands-on experience with our resident bees and beekeeper. We'll discuss honeybee society, types of hives, hive parts, hive tools used, and beehive etiquette. Saturday, May 18, 10am; \$50-\$100. 18 and up. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

**Body-Heart-Mind Meditation** Enlighten the Body-Mind through Heart practices rooted in meditation, mindfulness, and martial arts. Sunday, May 19, 11am; free. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue, (OCEAN BEACH)

Craft & Sip: Paper Flowers You are invited to enjoy a relaxed evening of crafty DIY creativity and fun at California Pizza Kitchen located at Westfield North County. Space is limited. Tickets required. Thursday, May 16, 6pm; free-\$40. 21 and up. Westfield North County Shopping Center, 272 E. Via Rancho Parkway.

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. First and third Saturdays from noon to 1pm Saturday, May 18, 12pm; free, 18 and up, La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Exploring the Spiritual Path** This class meets regularly on Saturday mornings and consists of seated



meditation and a Dharma talk that speaks to integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century daily lives. Saturdays, 11am; through Saturday, May 25, **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Full Moon CBD Sound Bath (CBD Optional) Relax and enter a state of deep peace and healing, while allowing your intuition and psychic abilities to become stronger and more accurate than usual during this full moon phase. Saturday, May 18, 7pm; \$20-\$25. One Minute Cannabist, 3041 Industry St., Suite B. (OCEANSIDE)

Hand Lettered Sign Learn how to hand letter your favorite quote or phrase on a chalkboard surface in a simple, attractive way. Students will design and create a hand lettered chalkboard to take home. Please register in advance. Sunday, May 19, 2pm; \$62-\$71. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street.

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

Indigo Workshop Immerse yourself in the magical secrets of indigo dye, one of the oldest dyeing techniques in the world, while mastering the basic techniques of shibori in this outdoor workshop. \$133 includes supplies and lesson. Saturday, May 18, 3pm; Sleep Bedder at Sommeil, 2867 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

Intro to Natural Dye Workshop: Samples & Scarves An Eco-Centered Craft, Natural Dyes offer the best of so many worlds. Each student will receive an instruction booklet, fabric samples from the dye pots, and 2 scarves to dye. Space is limited so reserve your spot now! Saturday, May 18, 12:30pm; \$75-\$80. Fort Cross Old Timey Adventures, 4425 Highway 78. (SANTA YSABEL)

Intro to Singing Workshop Class will cover common misconceptions about singing, how to avoid common pitfalls and what you "need" to be able to sing. You'll also discover your voice type and get to singing in no time, without any pressure, just for fun. Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm; \$25-\$35. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (IA JOLLA)

Kids Felted Soap Workshop
During this "hands on" class, we
will demonstrate with easy steps,
how to wrap and felt a bar of soap
using colorful wool. This workshop
is geared for children 10-16 years
old. Friday, May 17, 3pm; \$35.
Modern Maker Market, 140 South
Juniper. (ESCONDIDO)

La Jolla Sunset Painting Class
Admission includes the use of supplies, step-by-step instructions from a professional artist, and a gallery-wrapped canvas to turn into your masterpiece. Free Parking. Sunday, May 19, 1pm; \$35. Bal-

### **Rhyme & Verse**

Three poems by Alauna Ricketson

She Is Fire

she is fire not the containable kind clinging to a broken wick strategically centered presented by a glass jar's aesthetics flame onset only by human hands

no

she is fire wild, self-starting dancing over grasslands answering to no one burning unapologetically

& when you try to forget her before you sleep every night your eyelashes will singe ash to your cheekbones cold stretching endless in your sheets

everywhere you go her inferno footprints already there

- your footprints

### If I Dig

if I dig far enough into myself

hollow out the grottos my skin smothers

turn self-hate into cemeteries use my bones as headstones

the flowers I set on my internal graves will grow roots into my flesh

sprout stargazer lilies from every single freckle to wrap around souls who don't stay

I will be so much a temple for myself

I wil

- never know homesick again

### There Were Days

There were days whose hours I wanted to tie to my heaviest thoughts watch them sink, really sink until even the ocean floor tried to spit them up whose minutes I wanted to crumble into sand watch them fall from the top of the moon to the bottom until she opened up let the ocean eat them whose seconds I wanted to inflate with my breath watch them float until even the stars became mobile

there were days I broke mirrors polluted my sky with pen ink suffocated clocks with my pillow cases — or tried to these days now my brother, my sister these days became my hands and my feet knew them like my eyes knew lined paper. but the mornings, the sun always returned so did I

— so will you



Alauna Ricketson's poetry and non-fiction has appeared in literary magazines at San Diego, Miramar, and Mesa colleges (Mesa is where she took her favorite poetry class: Climate Change Poetry, led by professor Scott Starbuck.) She lives in San Diego with her basset hound and everyone in her life calls her "Rocket." She carries that fire with her, believing everyone has a story that

deserves to be heard – including Earth.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

last Point Miramar, 9045 Carroll Way. (MIRAMAR)

**Lucy Libido** This event will showcase how to use oils in the bedroom to increase your libido, how to support your man's performance and which products support hormones for him and her. Saturday, May 18, 12pm; \$30-\$85. 18 and up. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalà Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Macrame Dream Catcher Craft Workshop We will have all the supplies ready to make your personal macrame creation including hoops, rope, feathers, and other embellishments. Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm; Rip Current Brewing, 1325 Grand Avenue #100. (SAN MARCOS)

Modern Calligraphy for Beginners Learn how to create beautiful art with brush lettering. This expressive style resembles cursive writing, yet allows for individual style and flair. Please register in advance. Sunday, May 19, 10am; \$60-\$69.

Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Paint Night Step by step instructed painting. Help raise funds for Olivewood Gardens & Learning Center while creating your own masterpiece. Thursday, May 16, 6pm; \$45. 18 and up. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Poetry of Time & Belief Our workshop will focus on writing after a brief study of model poems that show how poets have considered TIME and BELIEF in diverse ways. Sunday, May 19, 1:30pm; \$45-\$54. Ink Spot, 2730 Historic Decatur Rd., Barracks 16 #202. (LIBERTY STATION)

Your Immune System: A BioEASI Workshop Learn about how immune system protects us and how it can learn from past invaders to become even better at preventing future infection. All ages are welcome. Limit 20. Saturday, May 18, 3pm; free. La Jolla Riford Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

### COMEDY

Alt. Comoedia Alt. Comoedia is an alternative variety comedy show which features a showcase of stand-up, sketch, characters, and whatever other odd bits they come up with. Friday, May 17, 9pm; \$14-\$17. Old Town Improv Co., 2415 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Comedy & Coffee with Bob Stromberg Enjoy coffee, dessert, and a performance by renowned comedian Bob Stromberg, coauthor and star of the theatrical hit, Triple Espresso. sSaturday, May 18, 7pm; \$7-\$10. Faith Community Church Carlsbad, 2700 Rancho Pancho. (CARLSBAD)

Michelle Wolf Michelle Wolf recently served as the executive producer, writer, and host of the critically-acclaimed variety sketch series "The Break with Michelle Wolf" on Netflix. Thursday, May

16, 8pm; Friday, May 17, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, May 18, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$35-\$45. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Paige Turner the drag darling of NYC and star of SHADE: QUEENS OF NYC in Drag me to the Top. Thursday, May 16, 8pm; \$25. 18 and up. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLOREST)

**Sebastian Maniscalco** Thursday, May 16, 8pm; Friday, May 17, 7pm; Humphreys by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

The Comedy Hypnotist Hypnotist Michel Briar invites volunteers from the audience to be hypnotized and become the superstars of the night. Saturday, May 18, 7pm; \$24-\$34. 18 and up. Ocean Beach Playhouse, 4944 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

### DANCE

An Appetite for Distraction BYHB is bring you a night of delicious snacks. Get hungry as we explore your fridge while taking it all off. Bring your appetite, we will surly distract you. Saturday, May 18, 8pm; \$10-\$125. 21 and up. Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

Pre-Teen Hip-Hop Class Get your child dancing in our first pre-teen hip hop class. Saturdays, 3:30pm; through Friday, May 31, \$25-\$75. Trilogy Ballroom Dance Studio, 16769 Bernardo Center Dr., Ste 26. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Red Room Burlesque & Music Show Red Room combines jazz music, dance, classic and neo burlesque. Sunday, May 19, 6pm; \$5-\$10. 21 and up. Bancroft, 9143 Campo Road. (SPRING VALLEY)

San Diego Contra Dance Come join us for modern American folk dancing to live music. No partner necessary, no experience necessary. Friday, May 17, 7:30pm; \$10. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

# DISCUSSION GROUPS

Establishing the Garden The Master Gardener Association of San Diego County is hosting their Beginning Vegetable Gardening Workshops. Join community members in creating sustainable urban agriculture. Saturday, May 18, 2pm; free. Ocean Beach Library, 4801 Santa Monica Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Sail Final Pitch Event Mission Edge announces their top four Social Enterprise Accelerator and Impact Lab finalists to pitch their social enterprises in a shark-tank style pitch event at The Honor Foundation HQ on Thursday, May 16th from 6:00-8:00PM. Thursday, May 16, 6pm; free. Honor Foundation, 11055 Roselle Street. (SOR-RENTO VALLEY)

San Diego River Days Celebration Come celebrate San Diego River Days with pony rides, a petting zoo, and crafts. Saturday, May 18, 10:30am; Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

### **FOR KIDS**

6th Annual America on Main Street Join Us for this annual event in Downtown El Cajon. Three live stages, free amusement rides and attractions, contest and scavenger hunts, interactive zones, food and refreshments. Saturday, May 18, 2pm; free. El Cajon Centennial Plaza, 200 Civic Center Way.

BMX Pros Party Enjoy a night of rad moves from the BMX Pros Trick Team, food trucks, live DJ, free beer and sodas served by your CB Angels and \$1 raffles. Thursday, May 16,



# SATURDAYS IN MAY • 6PM – 11PM GRAND PRIZE DRAWING MAY 25 AT 9PM

Each Saturday, multiple hourly winners will win their share of over \$14,000 in Free Play prizes. PLUS, on May 25 at 9PM, the Grand Prize Winner will drive away in a new 2019 Jeep Wrangler.

Earn entries with every 100 points from May 1 - 25.

Actual vehicle may differ from shown.

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

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6pm; Harley-Davidson Coronado Beach, 3201 Hoover Avenue.

Kids Day Join us in a fun filled family event. 4H petting Zoo Arts and Crafts with local Daisy Scouts, Bake Sale, Games, DJ Music, Tortilla making with Lola. Sunday, May 19, 10am; free-\$5. San Dieguito Heritage Museum, 450 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Preschool Story Time & Craft Preschoolers are invited to a story time, then a fun craft right afterwards. Thursday, May 16, 10:30am; Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

ScholarShare 529 Toddler Time: Sights, Sounds & Textures The toddler program values the whole child and supports healthy bodies and minds, with music, movement and social play for young children. Free with admission. Friday, May 17, 10am; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Viva Musica Community Opus Project This free event will feature numerous performances by our Opus musicians, orchestras and bands, a variety of local youth musical performances, chalk art, face painting plus local food and other vendors. Saturday, May 18, 1pm; free. Memorial Park Bowl, 373 Park Way. (CHULA VISTA)

### **FUNDRAISERS**

Bowling for Rhinos All funds go directly to in situ conservation projects, conserving 4 species of rhinos, their habitats, and hundreds of other endangered plants and animals AND cheetah conservation in Kenya. Saturday, May 18, 6pm; \$25-\$60. Kearny Mesa Bowl, 7585 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard.

Charity Series of Poker's Chips for Heroes Golf & Poker Tournament The Charity Series of Poker is proud to present the Chips for Heroes Golf and Poker Tournament on May 19 at the Park Hyatt Aviara Resort in Carlsbad. For more information, please call 844-204-2856 or email info@flod-edflagfoundation.org Sunday, May 19, 9am; Park Hyatt Aviara Resort, 7100 Aviara Resort Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Community Yard Sale Join us for a giant community yard sale in Clairemont. Do you have items you'd like sell? We are offering free seller spaces. To sign up for a free space send us an e-mail at holycrossword@gmail.com or call us at 858-272-2886. Saturday, May 18, 8am; free. Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 3450 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

**Great Strides for Cystic Fibrosis Foundation** 5k walk on the beach to END Cystic Fibrosis. No registration fee but donations are encouraged. Sunday, May 19, 9am; Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

### **LECTURES**

Dispatches from the U.S.-Mexico Border Join New York Times reporter Azam Ahmed for a conversation about the impact of President Trump's immigration policy on migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border. Mr. Ahmed is the Times' bureau chief for Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean He'll be joined by National correspondent Jose A. Del Real. Mr. Ahmed and photographers spent several weeks along the border. The event will feature an exhibition of their photographs. Attendees will also be able to ask questions. The event is free but attendees need to register for tickets. Friday, May 17, 6pm; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body For centuries we've known that the health of the brain and body are connected. But now, science is able to provide insights into how to make lifestyle choices that may help you keep your brain and body healthy as you age. Thursday, May 16, 12:15pm; free. Palomar Estates West Mobile Home Park, 1930 West San Marcos Boulevard. (SAN MARCOS)

Jacquelyne Silver: The Great Composers Each of Jacquelyn Silver's series of lectures covers two contemporaneous composers. These are composers who forever altered the course of musical history and changed our lives profoundly. Silver will examine musical styles and

the way each one heard the magical messages that made them unique. Thursday, May 16, 7:30pm; \$17-\$22. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (IA JOLLA)

Panel Discussion on Women in Architecture In honor of the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage on June 4th, FSDA wanted to focus on the progress women architects have made in 100 years. The 21st century has opened up many opportunities for women in diverse fields of architecture and allowed them more flexibility to use their talents in the world as we live today. Saturday, May 18, 9:30am; free-\$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Slow Reformation in Martin Luther's Backyard Dr Mike Seidel will discuss why a Lutheran parish church in a small German town displays a number of altar pieces and shrines originally found in other houses of worship before the Reformation of the Christian Church began in 1517. Saturday, May 18, 1:30pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (IA IOLIA)

The History of the San Diego Public Library Special Collections Librarian, Rick Crawford will trace the history of the library through the Horton Days, the first official library in 1882, the Carnegie Library, growth of the Branches, and the development of the New Central Library. Friday, May 17, 2pm; free. San Carlos Library, 7265 Jackson Drive, ISAN CARLOS)

### NATURE

Clean Canyons for a Clean Coast Cleanup Did vou know that 80% of coastal debris stems from inland sources? Explore and protect San Diego's canyons and waterways at I Love A Clean San Diego's Clean Canyons for a Clean Coast cleanup at Adobe Falls! Meet at the gate on 5767 Adobe Falls Rd, San Diego, CA 92120. We will have cleanup supplies, snacks, and water. We encourage volunteers to bring their own reusable items such as water bottles, work gloves, and buckets. 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 18, 9am; free. Adobe Falls, 5767 Adobe Falls Rd., Mission Valley

Endangered Species Day This is a free family event with activities for children of all ages: nature journals, seed "mudders", lagoon dip, a scavenger hunt, to name a few. Learn about the Endangered Species Act, local threats, and recovering species as well as view local birds and reptiles. Saturday, May 18, 10am; free. Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center, 2202 S. Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

Flowers Farms & Families Exhibit Opening Flowers, Farms and Families in San Dieguito 1920-2020. Complimentary wine and cheese reception. Saturday, May

18, 4pm; **free**. San Dieguito Heritage Museum, 450 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Geranuims: From Sea to Shining Sea San Diego Geranium Society Annual Show and Sale. Enjoy displays of rare and unique plants from around the world! We will also have a large selection of plants for purchase. Room 101. Saturday, May 18, 9am; Sunday, May 19, 9am; free. Casa del Prado, 1650 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Guided Bird Walk: Visitor Center Loop Trail Discover some of the many resident and migratory birds of this area. Bring binoculars and/or field guide if you have them Meet in front of the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center. Saturday, May 18, 8am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

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 18, 9:30am; Sunday, May 19, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

**San Diego River Days** Come join the Santee Historical Society for San Diego River Days, a celebration of our river and its incredible biodiversity. Help plant a monarch butterfly garden. Information on gardening, composting,





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# **Eastlake Spring Craft Fair**

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

Over 90 crafty vendors from all over California will be selling their beautiful creations. We will also have food vendors, live DJ spinning some enjoyable music, face painting and a nice spring setting for photos so bring your cameras.

For more information visit us on facebook at @eastlakecraftfair or email us at hoa@eastlake1.com.

When: Saturday, May 18, 2019, 10:00am to 3:00pm Where: The Beach Club at EastLake, 2050 Lakeshore Drive, Chula Vista

### Improv for the People Sunday, May 19th 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. Burundi Friends International P.O. Box 927356 3911 Kansas Street San Diego, CA 92192-7356 North Park, San Diego Tel: 619-800-2340 • www.bufri.org For tickets and more info go to:

https://give.classy.org/

comedy\_for\_burundi

BFI is a San Diego registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization since 2008. Tax ID #: 26-2545273.

Matthew Moore is a standup comedian, filmmaker, and is the founder/director of Improv for the People.

**Shelley Pack** is a company member, and has performed with The Groundlings, Second City Alumni, Drew Carey & the cast of "Whose Line is it Anyway?".

**Andrew Wulc** studies & performs with Improv for the People in addition to regularly performing improv at various Los Angeles theaters, and writing/filming sketches with his indie improv troupe

Ben Roth is a main company member, is on faculty at IFTP, and has shot sketch work for "America's Got Talent" (NBC)

Josue Vazquez



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### **Little Italy**



SAN DIEGO

**Wednesday Market** on the Piazza 9 am to 1:30 pm every Wednesday **West Date Street** from India Street to **State Street** Year-round, Rain or Shine

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### **SHEEP and GOATS**

### Zhu Xi

[Someone] asked: "Isn't *Tai-ji* the general name for a diffuse being that existed before there was a heaven and earth and that was the *Li* of heaven, earth, and the myriad creatures?" [Zhu Xi] said: "*Tai-ji* is just the *Li* of heaven, earth, and the myriad creatures. Speaking with regard to heaven and earth, then within them there is [naturally] the *Tai-ji*. Speaking with regard to the myriad creatures, then within them there is the *Tai-ji* in each of them. In the final analysis, before there was either heaven or earth there was first this *Li*. In moving it produces *Yang* and yet is just a *Li*. In being still

it produces *Yin* and yet is just a *Li*." [Someone] asked: "In the explanation of the *Tai-ji* [Diagram], why does it mention movement (action) before stillness (inaction)? First function and then basis for function? First reaction and then silence (i.e., the silence in the heart from which all reactions come)?" [Zhu Xi] said: "Speaking in terms of *Yin* and *Yang*, the function lies with *Yang* and the basis for function lies with *Yin*. However, (alternations between) movement and stillness are without end, and *Yin* and *Yang* (alternations) are without a beginning. [So] it is impossible to differentiate between former and latter."

- from Classified Conversations with Master Zhu

Zhu Xi (1130-1200) was a Chinese philosopher and Confucian who examined the process by which the mind investigates natural phenomena as a way to synthesize the fundamental principles of Confucian thought. His work helped form the basis of Chinese bureaucracy and government for more than 700 years. Zhu Xi is considered the second most influential Chinese thinker after Confucius. He held that the all things in the universe were brought into being by the union of two elements of reality: Qi — "vital force" — and Li — "rational principle" (the source and sum of which is the Taj-ji). Qi and Li operate together in mutual dependence and are manifested as waxing energy (yang) and waning energy (yin).



Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship

(PARADISE HILLS)

and sustainable living. Saturday, May 18, 10am; **free**. Santee Historical Society & Museum, 9200 Magnolia Avenue. (SANTEE)

Walk With Nature an easy, slow-paced interpretive nature walk along Dixon Lake's Chaparral Nature Trail. This walk will be general in nature, and will cover a variety of topics, ranging from history of local Native Americans, native plant life, mammals, birds, and more. This walk will last approximately an hour-anda-half to two hours and will cover a little less than two miles of easy, mostly flat terrain. Sunday, May 19, 12:30pm; free. Dixon Lake, 1700 North La Honda Drive.

Wildflower Walk on Old Stagecoach Road See wildflowers and walk the old Stagecoach Road itself and learn about the Native American village sites of the area. Meet at the trailhead gate off Sabre Springs Parkway South, near the junction with Spring Water Pt. and Creekview Dr. Saturday, May 18, 9am; free. Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, 12020 Black Mountain Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

# SPECIAL EVENTS

25 Years of Photos & OB Exposed In celebration of our 25th Anniversary as an Organization, Ocean Beach Historical Society presents a 25 year retrospective of our annual Photo Show, OB Exposed. It will be a multi-media extravaganza, which will include raffle prizes, music, food and refreshments, and a 50/50 Opportunity Drawing. Thursday, May 16, 7pm; free. Water's Edge Faith Community, 1984 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

Art Supply Garage Sale Pick up some new or gently used art supplies at Bravo School of Art's Art Supply Garage Sale. Saturday, May 18, 10am; free. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street (SOUTH PARK)

Encinitas Cruise Nights The third Thursday of each summer month, from May through September, hot rods, foreign automobiles, classic cars and Woodies will line S. Coast Highway 101 from D

Street to K Street. You will hear live music in various spots along South Coast Hwy 101. Thursday, May 16, 5:30pm; free. Downtown Encinias Mainstreet Association, 818 S. Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

Hands Across the Sand to Oppose Oil Drilling On May 18th, people across the nation will be joining hands for the ninth time since Deepwater Horizon to declare that we value our beautiful environment more than drill rigs and oil company profits. Saturday, May 18, 10am; free. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

Let Your Light Shine Talent Show Come display your talent at our once a month Let Your Light Shine talent show. Please keep it PG as we are a family friendly venue. Snacks provided. Free, with suggested donation of \$7 to help support Open The Gates. Saturday, May 18, 7pm; free-\$7. Open the Gates, 12759 Poway Road #103. (POWAY)

Pop-Up Swap & Hip-Hop Day Party a fun, environmentally-conscious fashion and music experience. A place to learn how simple lifestyle and wardrobe styling tips can make a positive impact. Enjoy live music, refreshments, and a bar. Learn more at www.swapandsustain.com. Saturday, May 18, 11am; free-\$15. Sleep Bedder at Sommeil, 2867 El Cajon Boulevard.

Sandcastle & Sunset Beach Party Join San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy for a free-spirited beach party featuring the unveiling of a new name ... as the nonprofit land trust moves into the future. Participants of all ages can enjoy beach games, sunset, and the uplifting vibes of a community drum circle. Family and dog-friendly event Friday, May 17, 6pm; free. Cardiff State Beach (Seaside), 2504 S. Coast Highway 101. (SOLANA BEACH)

**The House of Norway Annual Lawn Program** The House of Norway is having their annual

Lawn program. There will be knitting, hardanger, rosemaling, lefse making, and wood carving on display. There will be children's activities, The Norwegian Store has authentic goods for sale, The Norwegian Elk Hounds will be there to be pet, plus a great line up of entertainment. Saturday, May 18, 11am; free. Balboa Park Hall of Nations, 2191 W. Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

### **SPOKEN WORD**

Poetry Reading Truer Than Life: Stories from the San Diego Underground. Saturdays, 12:30pm; Sundays, 12:30pm; through Sunday, June 2, free-\$25. 18 and up. Panama 66, 1450 Plaza de Panama. (BALBOA PARK)

# SPORTS & FITNESS

Meditation for Relaxation Reduce stress and cultivate calm. Fridays, 10am; through Friday, May 31, free. Paradise Hills Public Library, 5922 Rancho Hills Drive.

### WORSHIP

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

# ROAM- -RAMA

continued from page 26

uphill one with a bigger (open) gate. This is the Minnewawa Truck Road that slopes uphill just west of the neighborhood store. Minnewawa is paved for about 100 yards before turning into roughly graded dirt. Follow this road, avoiding any smaller spur roads. Near the summit is Doghouse Junction. From there, a major road does go left, but the summit is obvious to the right. In a short distance is the final quarter-mile paved spur road up to the summit. The gate may or may not be locked on this portion of the trail

Hikers and nature enthusiasts alike are rewarded during this challenging hike to the summit of Otay Mountain, the highest summit of the San Ysidro Mountains. On a clear day, they can expect to see hundreds of miles along the San Ysidro Mountain Range, neighboring peaks, surrounding neighborhoods, San Diego's city skyline, and Tijuana. And Otay Mountain, a remnant of an ancient chain of volancoes, supports a variety of habitats including chaparral and coastal sagebrush. White sage and chamise cover the mountainside from the start. Beautiful wildflowers fill the area in springtime. In early March, there are bursts of Indian paintbrush, California lilac, and shooting stars. Elevation gain brings about manzanita, oaks, and a unique site — Tecate cypress.

Tecate cypress, found only in southern California and Mexico, survives in a wondrous grove just past the Doghouse Junction area of the hike. This

rare tree relies on fire to reproduce; however, the frequency and intensity of southern California's present-day fires paired with habitat loss have threatened this species, making its conservation status endangered. The Quino checkerspot butterfly, a sensitive wildlife species, relies on the Tecate cypress. It lays its eggs on the flaky bark, which provides sustenance for larvae once they hatch. Other wildlife species calling Otay Mountain home include mule deer, California gnatcatchers, orange-throated whiptails, coast horned lizards, and arrovo toads.

With so many amazing things to see and appreciate, Otay Mountain is certainly worth the trek. Because it is accessible by vehicle, it is possible to shorten the walk a bit. Many hikers who wish to experience the view without a 12-mile strenuous hike may choose to drive a few miles up and park at a pull off (there aren't many of these.) If you do choose this option, be mindful that a 4x4 is accepted.

Springtime, while temperatures remain cool and wildflowers are sprinkled along the hillsides, is best for an Otay Mountain hike. Be sure to pack plenty of water and bring a camera to capture the spectacular views.

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



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MARY BETH ABATE

### **NO ONE KNOWS THE TRUE ORIGINS OF THE TACO**

One noted taco historian dates it back to the 19th century based on references to "taco de minero," or miner's tacos, alluding to the mining practice of wrapping pieces of paper around gunpowder and slipping it into holes carved into the rock wall. Others point to historical evidence in the writings of conquistador Bernal Díaz del Castillo that people living in the lake region of the Valley of Mexico ate tacos filled with small fish.

Whatever origin story you believe, the fact remains that tacos, in the long evolutionary timeline of Mexican cuisine, are in their culinary infancy. They don't have a millenia-old history — which may be a good thing, because nothing stifles creativity like the false weight of "traditional" and "authentic" labels.

We all have our favorite birrias, our favorite barbacoas, and our favorite Baja fish, our al pastors, asadas, dorados, and sudados. But we also have innovative chefs creating instant classics using ingredients and techniques from other cultures and cuisines. It's a great time to be eating tacos in San Diego, and we're just getting started.

### **Tuétano Taqueria**

143 W San Ysidro Boulevard

SAN YSIDRO

Chef/owner Priscilla Curiel's new spot on the

main drag in San Ysidro just opened last September, but she's already garnering loads of local and national attention. Once you dig into her scrumptious tacos, you'll understand why. Start with the quesabirria, milky mozzarella melted on a tortilla (made with masa from National City's Tortilleria La

Estrellita) and topped by warmly spiced, long-braised birria. For just \$3 more, do get the tuétano, a thick cut of beef shank bone that's roasted until the marrow is meltingly soft, then dipped in birria broth and seared on the grill. Try spoonfuls of marrow on the birria or by itself on a hot tortilla, maybe with a bit of salsa macha. Pair it alongside the cochinita pibil "dirty style" taco, a Yucatan specialty — pork shoulder marinated and slowly roasted in citrus juice and achiote, then pulled and piled onto a tortilla, shavings of pickled onion and cilantro leaves providing a piquant balance.

Tortilla and Tacos, in the long **Taco Factory** evolutionary timeline of EL CAJON Mexican cuisine, are in

their culinary infancy

130 South Mollison Avenue

Affectionately known as, TNT, this location of the City Tacos empire serves as a centralized location for producing fresh tortillas for all the

City Tacos venues, as well as serving up its own signature tacos. High on my list of must-haves is borrego en su jugo, luscious leg of lamb, wild mushrooms, guajillo chiles and herbs lovingly braised in its juices, shredded and generously piled onto



a corn tortilla. They do a fine al pastor, too, big hunks of pork marinated in pineapple, chiles, and spices skewered onto a trompo and vertically spit roasted to glistening goodness before being thinly sliced and showered with cilantro, onion, and a dollop of guac. Camarón lovers shouldn't pass on the TNT Shrimp, adoborubbed and wrapped in asadero cheese with a tangy/spicy habanero/ mango/pineapple salsa. At \$2.00 - \$3.75 each, you can feast well without breaking the bank.

#### Corazón de Torta Guisados y Grill

2490 Commercial Street

LOGAN HEIGHTS

Antonio "Tony Tee" Ley's taco truck is based in Logan Heights, but can regularly be found at breweries and tasting rooms throughout



OUR COVER PHOTO CONTEST WINNER:

#### DANIEL PEÑA ESQUEDA @BAJAYUMMY

Chicano taco from
Tras / Horizonte
by Kokopelli, in Tijuana:
charcoal grilled octopus
marinated with chiles
adobados and nopales

the county. Long, slow cooking steeps rich chile flavor into the short rib *guajillo* taco, along with crunchy end bits scattered here and there to

provide a delicious surprise. "The Dirty" puts carne asada under melty cheese and chipotle meat sauce for layers of savory flavor. There's always a couple of vegetarian and vegan options, including the popular vegan cauliflower mole, so everyone leaves happy and full. Catch up with their weekly schedule via the usual social media outlets.

#### **Tacos El Cabrón**

532 4th Avenue

GASLAMP

With nearly a dozen different tacos, from camarón to cactus. Tacos El Cabrón satisfies almost any taco craving. I'm partial to the Camarón Enchilado, spicy pink curlicues nestled into a housemade flour tortilla and smothered in crema and chipotle sauces, but I can always be persuaded to nosh on the namesake El Cabrón, the slices of tender steak, creamy whole pinto beans and guacamole are a rib-sticking pleasure. Vegetarians have a couple of solid choices and any taco can be made a quesataco for just \$.75 more. Night owls will appreciate their late night hours — Fridays and Saturdays they stay open till 3 am.

#### **Coal Bros**

1310 Morena Boulevard

LINDA VISTA

Coal Bros hefty tacos get a wood-fired mesquite finish on a Santa Maria-style grill that delivers subtle sweet smokiness and a crispy finish to its outstanding fillings. It's the perfect treatment for their popular ribeye, featuring juicy cuts of steak under a big mound of guacamole and slivered pink pickled onions. Smoked fish enthusiasts will love the Taco Mamon, a mouthwatering smoked tuna guisado, wrapped in a cheese topping and a drizzle of their signature sauce.

#### **Tacos Mimi**

4508 Cass Street

PACIFIC BEACH

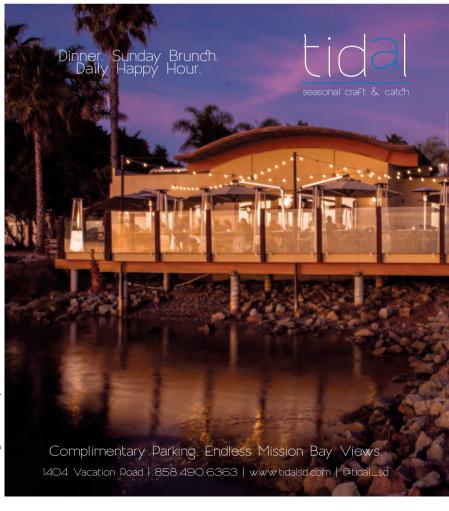
When I can't decide what kind of taco I want, I head over to Tacos Mimi. They have all the classics, carne asada, birria, al pastor and pollo asado street tacos, three kinds of shrimp tacos (spicy, grilled, or battered) and three vegetarian options, seasoned champiñones, crunchy fried papas or avocado with greens, plus the requisite Bajastyle batter-fried fish, all folded into fresh, handmade corn tortillas. At a miniscule \$2.50-\$3.75 per, it's a delicious way to try several different fillings without emptying your wallet.

#### Fernandez Restaurant

2265 Flower Avenue

NESTOR

There's a reason that Fernandez Restaurant





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almost always has a line of people waiting outside — Brothers Miguel Angel and Jorge Fernandez serve some of the best Tijuana-style birria around. Slow, overnight stewing results in a deeply comforting, soul-satisfying mélange of beef, chiles, and spices that can be ordered by the bowl for self-assembly using the accompanying fresh corn tortillas, radishes, cilantro, onion, limes, and chile de árbol salsa, or already tacoized in a birria oil-fried tortilla, ready for dunking in a cup of fragrant broth. Order it con nervio (topped with succulent tendon) or go for the burn with a *chupacabra*, gently fried tortillas, onions, serrano chiles, and melted queso under a bed of birria. Fans of lengua (tongue) should make the trek on Fri-



Corazon de Torta's braised beef in guajillo (left) and The Dirty (right)

days, the only day it's on the menu. Pro tip: The small parking lot is often full, but the restaurant provides shuttle service from nearby Southwest High School at 1685 Hollister Street during busy hours.

IAN ANDERSON

#### I DEFY YOU TO IGNORE THE SPECIALTY TACOS

#### **Aqui es Texcoco**

520 Broadway #5&6
CHULA VISTA
The popularity of this

this Chula mainstay's lamb barbacoa finally caught up to it: this spring the beloved restaurant shut its doors... and moved to a new location a mile and a half north. Still on Broadway, its new location can hold twice as many custom-

ers, which becomes crucial on weekends, when devoted regulars rush in to gorge on three-dollar soft or grilled tacos featuring a choice of tender lamb, lamb rib, or lamb cabeza (a.k.a. head meat). Because Texcoco cooks the entire lamb, truly adventurous eaters may indulge in tacos of pancita (tripe and giblets) or sesos: tender and seasoned lamb brain. It's okay to shy away from those, and a new taco offering: blood sausage. But another new taco proves a winner: pressed pork belly chicharrones.

#### Valerie's Taco Stand

2213 El Camino Real Suite D

OCEANSIDE

Valerie's so-called stand is really a small counter restaurant tucked within an Oceanside shopping center. But even at twice its size, it would have

to be considered an overachiever. Valerie's offers no fewer than 15 plumply loaded tacos to choose from, served on fantastically thick and chewy, freshly made corn tortillas, adorned with a thin layer of grilled crisp cheese and a sprinkling of cotija. At 3 to 4 bucks apiece, you'll dine happily with sumptuous orders of carnitas, carne asada, or al pastor, but I defy you to ignore the litany of specialty tacos on the menu. The El Jefe taco dresses the combo of carne and bacon with chipotle sauce; the Diablo deep fries buttered shrimp and douses them with a spicy house salsa; and the easy to love Cali Taco adds French fries, chipotle, and queso fresco to carne asada to all but outdo its namesake burrito.











We are open every day from 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM 520 Broadway Ste 5-6, Chula Vista Ca. 91910

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#### **Mariscos Nine Seas**

3030 Grape Street SOUTH PARK

There's no taco in San Diego I've revisited more often than the fried Baja style fish taco of my friendly neighborhood Mariscos truck. Others I encounter in the ever-present line swear by the selection of \$4.75 grilled shrimp tacos: the saucy, spicy diablo or the cheesy gobernadora, each topped with peppery celery and red bell peppers. And it's tough to argue the allure of the \$6 patron, also known as the "boss taco," a surf and turf champ combining top sirloin, shrimp, and marlin. But none manage to pry my appetite from Nine Seas' basic grilled or crispy fried sea bass tacos. At less than 2 bucks a pop, I'll get three or four in combination when I'm feeling

inclined to eat healthy. But make no mistake: that perfectly seasoned Baja fried batter taco is the one to bury me with.

#### Panchita's **Kitchen & Bakery**

3803 32nd Street

NORTH PARK

The pan dulces of Panchita's bakeries are well known to fans of conchas, bolillos, and sweet Mexican pastries, always available at locations in Golden Hill and Barrio Logan. But the brand's lesser known North Park location is the only one to offer tacos, including mesquite-fired carne asada and pollo asado; house-stewed birria; and beer battered local fish sourced from noted fishmonger Catalina Offshore Products. All of these range between \$3.75 and \$4.50 a pair, while the fish and a vegetarian friendly nopal (cactus) taco go a little higher at \$\$3.75 each. But the winner in my mind is the \$4 Oaxaca taco. The trick to this one has more to do with its tortillas than filling: two birria-dipped corn tortillas go on the grill to melt stretchy Oaxacan cheese between them before filling the quasiquesadilla with your choice of chicken or al pastor pork.

#### Mike's Taco Club

5060 Newport Avenue

OCEAN BEACH

Open til 2:30 am on Friday and Saturday nights, this quintessential latenight taco shop has made an institution of itself soaking up the after -lastcall cravings of Newport Avenue nightlife. Which means, for many of us, that Mike's offers mostly vague recollections of surf and turf California burritos eaten outside.



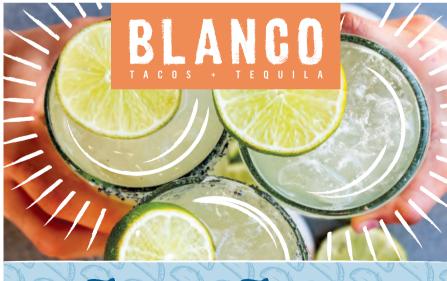
California taco, carne asada taco, and fried mahi taco from Valerie's Taco Stand in Vista

amid O.B.'s salty mix of sea air, boozy breath, and weed. However, by light of day — well, the atmosphere is much the same, with a few European tourists tossed in. But it becomes clear seafood tacos are the way to go. There's the grilled fish of the day, probably a couple to choose from, such as salmon or yellowtail. There's also grilled shrimp, and even better, grilled scallops. But to really make the experience memorable this time, opt for the Trifecta, which combines all three.

#### La Catrina Tapas & Cantina

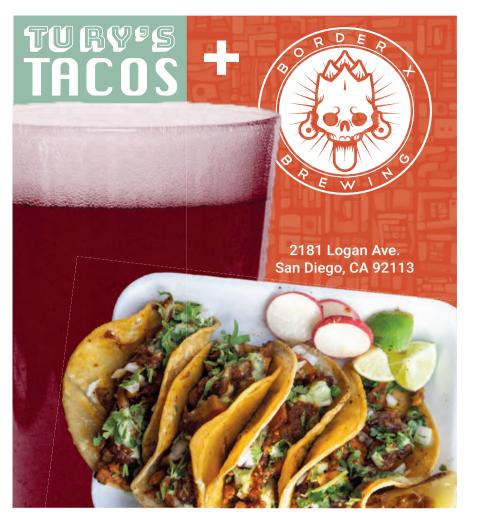
3139 University Avenue NORTH PARK Though among the

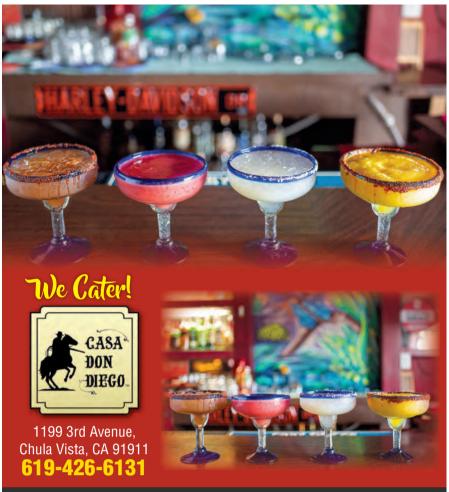
priciest tacos I tried in















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the past year, the prime grade ribeye tacos offered by this elegantly casual Baja-influenced restaurant did earn every dollar, and even without the smear of bone marrow puree that goes with them, a pair of these for \$12 was entirely worth it. There's a surf and turf version with grilled shrimp and refried beans for \$11, and prime New York steak combined with French fries on the cleverly named New York Tacos. But the surprise winner for me was the taco de flor de Jamaica. At \$10 for the pair, they combine hibiscus flower with eggplant, mushrooms, and garlic butter to produce a unique, interesting, and most importantly great tasting vegetarian taco that holds its own next to prime beef.



Tury's crisp Vampiro taco with chorizo and carne asada

#### **Carnitas Uruapan**

4233 Spring Street

LA MESA

After I wrote about a great burrito from this little shop, readers commented they'd followed Carnitas Uruapan for half a century as it bounced from Tijuana to different locations in East County, so I reached out to its family ownership for some history. Indeed, the original location opened in Tijuana, by the old El Toreo de Tijuana bullring that was torn down in 2007. Before that one

closed, its owner's cousins, Margaret and Rogelio Rodriguez, opened a location on this side of the border, in Spring Valley, around the early 90s. When Highway 125 construction hit that area, it moved to to nearby Lemon Grove.

on, and that location closed, but they left the name and concept to longtime cook, Marco Rodriguez (not related). For decades, this Rodriguez cooked the restaurant's carnitas the way he learned in his native Michoacán: three hours slow cooking in its own lard, with orange peels and little seasoning. Rodriguez and family have kept the tradition going (his son Marco is responsible for my new fave burrito), and that simple carnitas recipe is still what you'll find in Uruapan's excellent carnitas tacos.

The owners passed

ED BEDFORD

### IDEAL MEET

#### **Not Not Tacos**

550 West Date Street

LITTLE ITALY

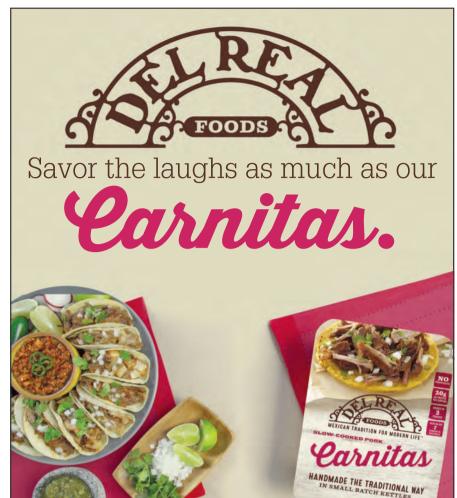
The brilliant thing Sam,

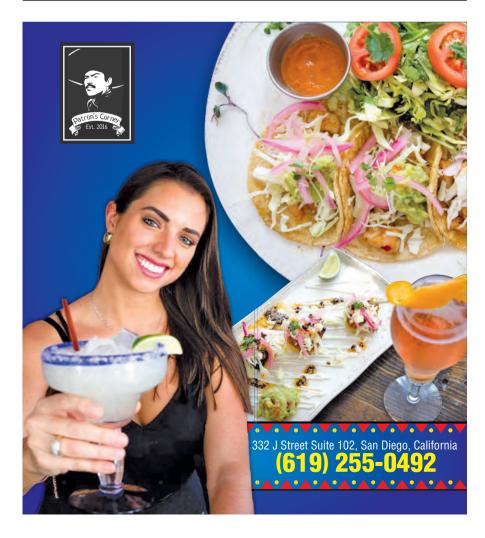
The Cooking Guy, the brains behind Not Not Tacos, did was tap our inner child, the one that loves mashed potatoes and cheeseburgers and cashew chicken, and stuck those favorites into tacos. Think blatantly gringo tacos. His store in Little Italy's new Piazza Della Famiglia food hall always seems to have a line of customers. The most requested item is the Korean short rib taco (\$6.75), with a ginger garlic soy sauce, gochujang and sour cream. But my favorite is the mashed potato taco, the cheapest at \$3.75 (but add bacon for 50 more cents). Sour cream, Cholula, and green onion sex it up. The second go-to: Kelly's Shrimp. It has a tangy combo of chipotle cream, cilantro, green onion, red cabbage. Coming in a close













third, that gochujang kick of the short rib taco.

#### **Taqueria** Revolucion

362 East San Ysidro Boulevard

SAN YSIDRO

The search for the genuine TI taco could end a quarter mile north of the border. It's a family operation. The owner's mom, Hilda Vallejo, helped with the recipes, often greets you, and the tacos are down to earth and generous. My favorite among the meat-based tacos is the birria. Shredded beef slow-cooked till it's tender and still juicy, and so rico. But my favorite has to be the taco de nopal. Cactus made flavorful! The sabor is helped by salsas (choose from three intensities) and tons of guac. Must-have drink to accompany these: Sangria Señorial, the winey Mexican non-alcoholic

beverage (\$2.75). Hilda's son Emilio has been busy: after only four years, he has three Revoluciones in south bay, and is planning a fourth in Hollywood.

#### **Tury's Tacos**

2181 Logan Avenue

BARRIO LOGAN

This place is in back of Border X, the pub that makes its own Mexicanstyle beers. Tury himself is here to make his tacos, as he has for the last 24 years, starting in Mexicali. His chicharron (pork skin) is great, so are his chorizo and asada tacos. And on Taco Tuesdays you get four at \$1.50 each. (Other days, they're \$2.50.) But, my go-to is the Vampiros tostada (\$3.50) with pastor-style pork. It's like a little round boat loaded with flavor. Tury's also has unlimited salsas and add-ons like guac



Fusion taco? This one from Carnitas Snack Shack has smoked pulled pork and mac'n cheese

and eatable peppers that don't burn your mouth out. Weekends, he makes a pretty mean ceviche tostada for \$8.99. Now add atmosphere: a game garden out back and live music like Cuban jazz in front (Thursdays).

#### Beach + **Taco Shack**

On the beach in front of Hotel

Del Coronado

CORONADO

Is this place outrageously expensive? Oh yes. It has only one thing going for it: ain't nowhere else I know on the island of Coronado where you can actually buy tacos on the beach, cerveza too, and then sit on that beach and feed and guzzle. Also, have to admit, they do great tuna and shrimp tacos.

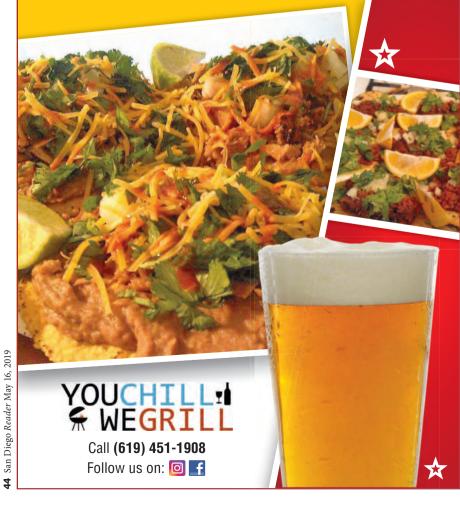
Yes, you pay \$7.50 per taco, but the yellowtail is fresh and tender. The shrimp are huge, and you get a chipotle cream sauce and lime crema. So, let's say you're paying \$15 for one each of these and \$22 for two beers? Take a deep breath, find a table in the warm sand for the two of you, nuzzle your feet into it, and chomp. As they say, location, location, location.

#### Selecta International **Food Market**

1415 Third Avenue

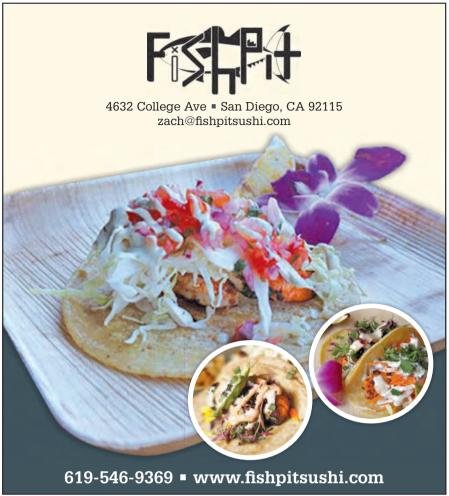
CHULA VISTA

Tacos here are \$1.69 each. This traditional Mexican-style market, with money order counters, jewelry vendors, and nail painters, also has a food section where they make tacos for you, at the back. You order, pay at the check-













out, and pick up their tacos at a hole in the wall outside. The tacos have most of the standard fillings, including chicken, pork al pastor, asada and cabeza - head. But it's the tortillas that are the stars here. Customers swear by their flavor because they use just corn and water. No whiteners, softeners, preservatives, no "instant" corn flour. People come from all over. Passing bus drivers stop outside to collect their tacos. Good time to come: weekends when they feature birria de chivo - goat stew in tacos.

#### Carnitas Snack Shack

1004 North Harbor drive

EMBARCADERO

More than anything else, this feels like a taco party bar. It's situated almost on the piers, so sunset is a great time. But actually, anytime feels good here. They just got their Feng shui right. Then there's the tacos. Carnitas is the namesake choice, though blackened mahi mahi is one smoky fish dish, with the combo of avo cream, guac and pico de gallo. But the champ has to be the smoky pork and spicy mac taco. Pulled pork and mac and cheese work so well together, with help from sriracha and sour cream. The mac and cheese tame the wilder flavors in there. Bottom line: this will be an ideal meet n' eat place for summer. But come for that smoky pork and spicy mac.

#### **Lolo's Restaurant**

Calle Lázaro Cárdenas #20 Ext. 1
TECATE

Honestly, Lolo's tacos are fine but standard. But they are the real



Spicy camarones a la diabla at Tahona

Mexican thing. They probably just taste better in Tecate's beautiful central plaza, where Lolo's patio reaches out under the trees. *Carne asada* tacos go for 75 pesos, say \$3.75. "Tacos dorados," crisp *tostadas* of chicken or beef run the

same price. Or take the tacos in combination, with a chicken tostada taco, a chile relleno and a beef enchilada. It's one big plate-load for about \$5.50. Or that amount would buy you two big tacos with fixins. Actually you can get tacos

way cheaper around the square, but Lolo's has the atmosphere and that prime position. Of course, you'll meet Lolo himself, Heliodoro, a generous host who can tell you about the history of the taco itself. PATRICK HENDERSON

## IMPROVISATIONS ON A TACO THEME

#### **Corner Drafthouse**

495 Laurel Street

BANKER'S HILL

The Corner Drafthouse has a great fish taco on the regular menu: your choice of battered grilled pieces of whatever's fresh, along with cabbage, a spicy avocado crema and chipotle aioli. Goes great with the watermelon jalapeño margarita. Don't miss the house carne asada and carnitas that are served on Taco Tuesday, along with more innovative variations such as the Cuban-inspired ropa vieja taco served with bone marrow.

#### **Tahona**

2414 San Diego Avenue
OLD TOWN
Located next to the Old









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Town cemetery, Tahona specializes in gourmet tacos and tequilas. The menu changes seasonally, but the Pork Belly Negro is a flavorful classic thanks to the way the slightly sweet pork works with the heat from the habanero-pickled onions. The spicy camarones a la diabla are a great choice for people who want something slightly spicier than the typical taco. As far as cocktails go, the piña colada with tequila is very refreshing but you may start singing that old Rupert Holmes classic if you have too many of them.

#### Lola 55

1290 F Street

EAST VILLAGE

Open less than a year, Lola 55 has already earned a reputation as a top taco destination among discerning locals. Case in point: the filet



It takes six hipsters to make this intriguing battered cauliflower taco at TacoNveggie in Tijuana

mignon taco is meaty, juicy, with a nice char on some edges and a great mouth feel; but it's the crispy leeks push this to the stratosphere. About a third of the tacos are vegetarian, and the masterpiece in that category

is the squash blossom relleno, which is vegan sausage stuffed inside a squash blossom and deep-fried. Even meat eaters will like this puppy. Skip the rice and beans for the house caesar salad, which is served

as long strips of romaine topped with an anchovyforward dressing and big bread chunks.

#### Ponce's

4050 Adams Avenue
KENSINGTON
Celebrating its 50th

anniversary, Ponce's is one of the last Mexican restaurants that is still serving a delicious-but-Americanized version of the cuisine: ground beef tacos in hard shells. It's not exactly authentic, but it's comfort food at its finest, especially if you get a combo with a cheese enchilada, rice and beans. The sauce soaks into the hard shells - wonderful! Although there are plenty of quality margaritas to gulp, I stick with the soda on tap — it's delicious Mexican-style Coke!

#### **City Tacos**

8235 La Mesa Boulevard

LA MESA

Located smack dab in the middle of La Mesa Village, City Tacos has become a favorite spot for locals, as the long lines attest. The Mexicali, which includes angus steak and mashed potatoes among other ingredients, hits the umami mark, while the vegetarian fried avocado taco (topped with a blue cheese sauce) is a tangy complement. The Pescadilla, made with smoked tuna *machaca*, is surprisingly complex in its flavors, while the *chorizo asado* deftly combines spicy sausage and sweet pineapple

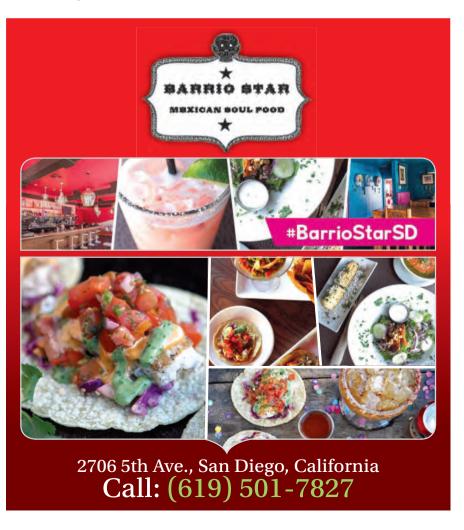
#### Puesto At The Headquarters

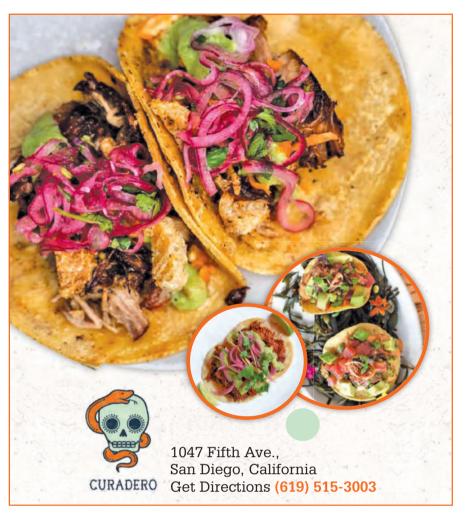
789 West Harbor Drive

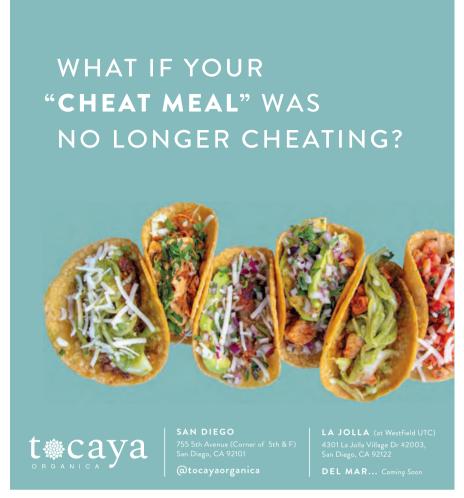
MARINA

Located near Seaport Village, Puesto At The Headquarters is one of the area's most innovative taco meccas. The filet mignon taco with fried cheese ranks in my all-time taco top 10, while the duck confit taco with black beans and cilantro chimichurri almost made the list. The













taco of the month special is always worth trying. I still fondly remember their octopus taco from a few years back. Vegetarians should check out the Sweet Pea taco made with melted cheese, green peas, snap peas and roasted carrot salsa.

#### **Pacifica Del Mar**

1555 Camino Del Mar

DEL MAR

Pacifica Del Mar has been a popular seafood destination for nearly 30 years. These days, every local seafood spot has to have a fish taco, and Pacifica spices things up Cajun-style with a blackened version that is crispy on the outside, moist inside. It's available all the time but real taco lovers go on Tuesday when chef Chris Idso improvises on the taco theme, making everything from Buffalo cauliflower tacos to peppered ahi takoshimi served in a wonton shell. But the real star of Tuesdays may be the Korean lobster taco, which combines Maine lobster meat sautéed with *kimchi*, Napa cabbage slaw, kimchi aioli, and cilantro sprouts, all on a corn tortilla

MATTHEW SUÁREZ

## TASTE THAT LINGERS FOR HOURS

#### **Brasa Taquería**

1265 Avenida Revolución

DOWNTOWN, TIJUANA

"I trust you; get me what you get," said my friend as we got to Brasa, between 6th and 7th. Since they opened in December 2018, I have made a habit of going to Colectivo 9 weekly. I ignore all other choices at the food court and get two tacos de arrachera (flank steak for \$1.75

each) with handmade tortillas. Add a huge piece of tuétano (bone marrow) for \$1 extra for each taco. Chase them down with a craft beer from Barrica 9 (ample selection for cheap). The concentrated juicy steak taste of the bone marrow lingers for hours afterwards.

#### **TacoNveggie**

Corner of Colombia and

Colima Street

COLONIA MADERO,

TIJUANA

How many hipsters does it take to run a veggie taco stand? Apparently, six of them. One grabs a plate and a tortilla, passes it down to a guy who scoops rice and beans, then to another bearded fellow who adds the guisado. The unique guisados vary daily for \$1.50 and include torta de huauzontle (hairy amaranth patty), bat-



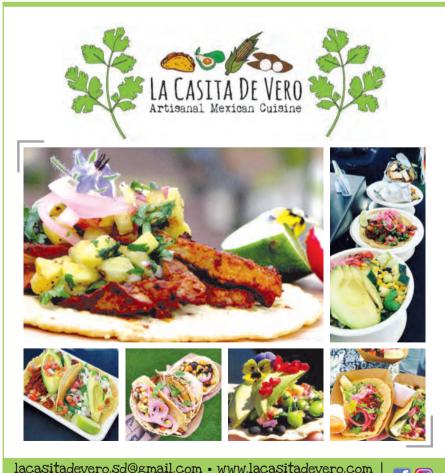
The concentrated juicy steak taste of the bone marrow lingers for hours after a meal at Brasa Taquería in Colectivo 9

tered cauliflower, mushroom birria, eggplant entomatada, and more. The tacos are more of an intriguing experience than they are tasty. As for the other three hipsters, one is in charge of the money, one serves *aguas frescas*, and the last one is on the phone.

#### Kokopelli

271 Larroque
COLONIA FEDERAL,
TIJUANA
Kokopelli has gone
through many changes

since its humble beginning as a taco truck. It grew to a couple of restaurants, had a brief stint as an upscale fine dining place in Chicago, came back to Tijuana as Tras/Horizonte, and circled back

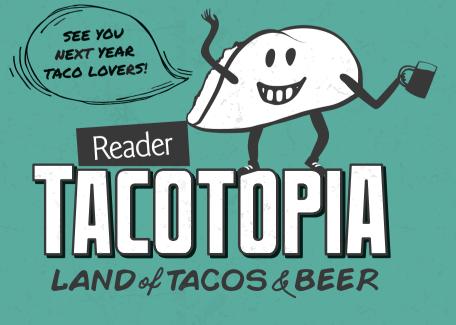
















to the original truck. It recently reopened steps away from the PedWest border in the modern Airbnb and business collective called Estación Federal. Their classics are back for around \$3 each: grilled portobello with pesto and spinach, octopus a la Gallega with nopales, panela cheese with crickets and beans, and the smoked sweet salmon. Down the tacos with a cocktail at Cereus Bar or coffee from Nativo.

#### Satabu

8924 Boulevard Aguacaliente
TELÉFONICA GASTRO

TELÉFONICA GASTRO PARK, TIJUANA

You can find Satabu tacos and "burrotes" in two of Tijuana's trendiest locations: República Malta (beer garden) and Teléfonica Gastro Park. They have 10 different tacos from \$2.75-3.50: asada, chicken-bacon, rabbit, lamb barbacoa, panko shrimp, chipotle octopus, seared tuna, mixed mushrooms. chile relleno, and roasted beets. My favorite here is their take on the Yucatecan traditional plate cochinita pibil, replacing the pork with conejo (rabbit) accompanied by chile achiote and pickled red onions. It results in the same tangy pibil taste but with leaner and healthier meat.

#### San Francisco/ Los Chilos taco truck

This taco truck has been outside an Autozone on 3rd Street in downtown Tijuana for six years, but on the perimeter for over 30 years. The paint on the side of the truck reads "Mariscos San Francisco," but the back says "Los Chilos." The name doesn't matter;



Even meat eaters will like Lola 55's squash blossom relleno

they serve killer seafood tacos. A friend swears by the marlin *quesadilla*, my ex loved the *combinación de mariscos*, a soupy mixture of all their seafood. I go for the classic fish (\$1) and shrimp tacos (\$1.50). The fish rotates to whatever is best at the market, but the batter is always golden crisp and delicious.

#### **Cine Tonalá**

1303 Avenida Revolución

DOWNTOWN TIJUANA

More than just a movie theater, Cine Tonalá provides a spacious rooftop dining experience in downtown Tijuana. Their menu has five choices of tacos for \$5-6 a pair all prepared with small handmade tortillas: pork jowl, umami mushroom, octopus, marlin, and braised beef rib. The last one is my favorite. It features a mound of shredded beef ribs on top of refried beans with pickled radishes, cucumbers, and red onions. Chase it down with a choice from the ample cocktail

and beer selection. My recommendation, the Santo Tlali: a mezcalbased drink with *maracuyá* (passion fruit), pineapple juice, and habanero bitters.

#### Border Psycho Cantina

821 Avenida Revolución

DOWNTOWN TIJUANA Opened December 2017 near Tijuana's arch in downtown, Border Psycho is the closest craft brew from the border. The menu, besides offering burgers and fries, has two kinds of tacos and other Mexican appetizers like sopes, nachos, flautas, and huaraches. My favorite here is the shrimp huarache al pastor, which is very similar to a taco. Huarache, meaning sandal in the pre-Columbian language Purépecha, is a flattened, yet thick corn masa in the shape of a sandal, with cheese and grilled shrimp imitating the Mexican pork al pastor flavors, plus pieces of pineapple, cilantro, and

red onion. ■

San Diego Reader May 16, 2019

# Journey to the center of the girth

### The forefront of a gastro-battlefield

he debate starts when I come across Henry on the parking lot patio. He's eating away at a pile of corn tortillas.

He peels one off, folds it neatly, eats it. Peels another off.

"You okay?" I ask.

"Yeah dude. These are blue corn. Good for you. The real thing."

Huh? Tortillas. Good for you? We're at this market that has a little of everything: fresh produce, meats, baked goods, candy, Brazilian pop soda, piñatas —plus jewelry repair and a little stall from which to send money. And the thing is, they have a kitchen too, and you can get tacos and other Mexican fare.

Fact is, both my old buddy Hank and I have developed paunches. I keep swearing I'll hit a fast. But then the next meal comes along. "You know

why we're getting fat?" says Henry. "Because we're eating the bad stuff. Not the good stuff. That's why I'm eating these. They're the good stuff."

"Tortillas? Yeah, right."

"These tortillas?" says this elderly guy, Espiridion. "They are Number One in San Diego! The real thing."

Espiridion says he's been coming here for years. I'm impressed by his passion.

"Espiridion is right," says this other gent, Jose. He is a manager. "We make our corn tortillas right here. We make fresh masa, the traditional way. No preservatives, no whiteners, no softeners. Our corn is not GMO modified."

But, he says, it takes time. "We only use water and lime. We half cook the corn, then let it rest overnight, say six hours. Then we grind it into masa. Fresh masa. And roll it out into tortillas.

That's it! But it's an eight-hour process. Most people can't be bothered. When you buy Maseca

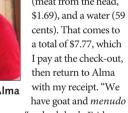
> corn flour you just have to add water. It's much quicker to make your tortillas."

And he says Maseca corn flour manufacturers often cut the corn with wheat, so it loses a lot of its corn flavor. "Also, it loses a lot of its nutritional value."

Talking of nutrition, I have got to eat. "My turn to pay," I tell Hank. "What's it gonna be?"

Henry opts for two chicken tacos. He says to find the food counter inside the market behind the checkouts. "You have to pay at the checkout before they'll make your food," he says. So, I head in, squeeze my way through the stiles, and to a counter in the bread section at the back. That's where Alma's waiting. I ask for Hank's two chicken tacos.

> Can't believe the price: \$1.69 each. Then ask for a pork taco al pastor for me. It's even cheaper at \$1.49. Also, I get a taco de cabeza (meat from the head, cents). That comes to a total of \$7.77, which I pay at the check-out, then return to Alma with my receipt. "We



on weekends," Alma says, "and adobada Friday, Saturday, Sunday."

I head out the front door and back around to the parking lot and the delivery hatch where I'm supposed to pick it all up. Nice breezy, sunny day. They've set up a couple of tables under a canopy.

It's while I'm poking my head through the hatch that I notice whole splayed chickens roasting on hot plates in the kitchen. "Ooh," I say to Alejandro the cook. "How much?"

"It's \$6.99 for a half pollo," he says. "Like one?"

Heck yes. They smell delicious. He reaches for one. and with his cleaver chops it in half, and then into a halfdozen chunks.

I'm so impressed with what you get. Not just the tacos and chicken chunks. They hand out free pots of soup, and generous bowls of frijoles too. All that nosh for like fourteen bucks for two! This is old school, "Nutrition! That's what it's all about, brother," says Hank. "Real corn tortillas have tons of fiber, tons

of phosphorus. Good for your bones. Good for your blood. Copper, manganese. Good all 'round."

"Wow," I say. "You have been reading. Let's see if these real corn tortillas can deliver."

I attack my \$1.49 al pastor. And boy, the tortillas do have a much stronger corn whiff to them. And taste. Almost overpowering. And the flavor of my *al pastor* pork seems more vivid. I swear I can feel all that fiber, phosphorus, copper, and manganese flooding my cells. I move on to the cabeza taco, and it's not bad at all. Like a cross between lengua — tongue — and carne asada. And at \$1.69, who's complaining?

But I'm still wondering about these tortillas. I do a quick online check. Food writer named Rachel Laudan says "real" corn tortillas are basically maize — corn — heated with alkali, then wet-ground to a paste known as nixtamal, which you shape into tortillas. "Maseca" (it's the dominant brand) tortillas are nixtamal that's been

These four tacos for less than eight bucks

> dehydrated, with usually wheat flour added. Not the

real thing, but probably what you and I have been eating for years.

So why is the cut version so popular? Jose says it's because it's quicker for busy moms, abuelas. It's corn, industrialized. Because of NAFTA, subsi-

dized American corn has undercut the Mexican market. Result: two million Mexican farmers out of work. Side result: nutrition-poor corn tortillas, because Big Ag came up with this instant tortillas idea. Now tortilla eaters have to eat twice as much to get the same nutritional value they did from traditional tortillas. No wonder Mexico is getting a massive weight problem. You eat the normal amount, you starve.

So, wow. Who knew we were at the forefront of a gastro-battlefield?

Hank's a fast reader and a faster eater. He has already finished his chicken tacos by the time I look up. And that's not all. I check the box of roasted chicken chunks. Ulp! Only two left out

"You take so long," says Hank. "Had to do something while I was waiting."

The Place: La Selecta International Market, 1415 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-427-7701 Prices: Taco al pastor, \$1.40; chicken taco, \$1.69; taco de cabeza, \$1.69; tacos a vapor (steamed tacos), \$1.99; beef birria taco, \$1.89; goat birria taco (weekends), \$1.99; quesadilla, \$2.49; carne asada burrito, \$4.99; burrito al pastor, \$4.29; grilled chicken burrito, \$4.49; Burrito with beans, \$3.79; mulita, \$2.99 (chica), \$4.25 (grande); half grilled chicken, \$6.99 **Hours:** 12pm–7:00pm Monday to Thursday; 8am-8pm, Friday, Saturday; 8am-7pm, Sunday

Free with tacos:

healthy soup



Alejandro and Alma





## Somewhere between dessert and vegetables

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

#### **Roots Bowls and superfoods** overloads

Roots Bowls, 1225 University Ave., Hillcrest. Açaí bowl concepts appear to be multiplying, especially around Hillcrest. I stumbled upon one with the achingly San Diegoappropriate name, Roots Bowls; it serves açaí bowls, smooth-

ies, pressed juices, and sandwiches just a couple doors down from another shop that does much of the same.

But Roots Bowls takes the concept to its logical conclusion, putting

a near fanatical emphasis on the superfood bowl, which builds on a frozen purée of açaí

by topping it with a bundle of other

sweet and/or crunchy ingredients to — and I'm only paraphrasing from a decade's worth of idle pop nutrition reading here — detoxify your nutritional health by boosting antioxidants and eliminating free radicals. The active lifestyle is only implied.



The easygoing interior of Roots Bowls.

The bowls are put together behind an ice cream shop-like counter, where toppings are laid out in bins. All the greatest hits are here: goji berries, flax seeds, cacao nibs, and bee pollen. Any ingredient that's been even loosely associ-

ated with the word superfood in the past 20 years shows up in one açaí bowl or another.

And not exclusively açaí. The shop's top seller is its signature Roots Bowl, which starts with a layer of açaí, then adds frozen pitaya puree, and third frozen base made with activated charcoal and coconut. This combination gets topped by blueberries, strawberries, banana (I like to think of them as the OG superfoods), and a bit of granola (I went with the flow and opted for hemp seed granola). That would probably suffice from a flavor standpoint, but the nutritionally purposed bowl *also* factors in almond butter, chia seeds, pumpkin seeds, cacao nibs, and shreds of organic coconut. Like most bowls here, it's \$8 for a 12-ounce serving, with 16- and 24-ounce options ranging up to \$14.

Assembled with strawberry slices fanned out like flower petals, the bowl is pleasing to behold, if a bit jumbled. Because most of its ingredients have sweetness in common, it's pleasing to eat; the assorted nuts and nibs provide crunch

roots bowl encircles a pile of superfoods with strawberries.

> EVERY SHOW - NO COVER CHARGE oming Show THURSDAY, MAY 16 • 7PM Bi Jezbera and the **Bad Mother Folkers**

FRIDAY, MAY 17 • 8PM

Fishing for Chips CD Release Party

Alien Monster Avenue Army The Rough

The signature

SATURDAY, MAY 18 • 11PM

Fuzz Huzzi

Unknown Fate

THURSDAY, MAY 23 • 7PM

Nick Lenari

369 10th Avenue • San Diego, CA 92101



#### new location open and now serving breakfast!

4075 park blvd. san diego, ca 92103

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open daily 8am - 8pm

also open in Solana Beach 437 Hwy 101, Suite 107 solana beach, ca 92075

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Limit 1 per person



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Total Bill for Seniors

www.poncesrestaurant.com





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www.greatplazabuffet.com



Delicious, fresh street tacos made every day in Imperial Beach

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www.imperialbeachstreettacos.com





Red or green apples may be chosen for this matcha bowl.

within the mélange of pureed and actual fruit. It seems crazy and overloaded, but it works.

Considering you can easily create a custom bowl from scratch, I would bet a few crazier bowls have passed across this counter since the place

opened last year. Not trusting myself to rein it in, I stuck with another pre-conceived construction: the North Park bowl. This one's a bit of a departure, as the friendly staff considerately pointed out to me: "Just so we're clear, you



A locally owned shop in açaí-rich Hillcrest.

realize that bowl *doesn't* have açaí in it, right?"

It does not. Instead, the açaí-free bowl builds on a frozen base made with the green tea powder, matcha, and stacks it with chia pudding. In the spirit of covering all possible nutritional bases

I opted here for the charcoal activated chia pudding. I chose cacao granola to go with cacao nibs, flax seeds, sunflower seeds, more matcha powder, and organic honey. This all dressed up blueberries, bananas, and a flower of apple slices, with a little peanut butter drizzled over the top. Also good, but could have used more peanut butter.

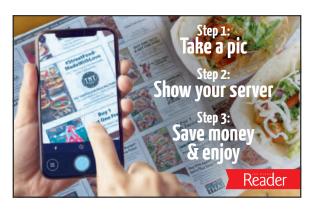
I'm not a hundred percent sure what to do with these bowls. They remind me of ice cream, but play too healthy to be relegated to dessert status. They remind me of yogurt parfaits, but seem too sweet to be an everyday breakfast. Roots Bowls is open all day long, so I suppose it's for whenever you feel less than super, and want to eat healthy without resorting to vegetables.

by Ian Anderson

## This morning's catch at Blue Water Ocean Beach

Blue Water Seafood Ocean Beach, 5083 Santa Monica Ave Ste 1B, Ocean Beach. Peering into a glass counter filled with seafood, I start talking like I might try the local swordfish. But the fishmonger has a better idea. "That halibut was caught this morning," he tells me, "right out there." He points outside, not to the horizon, but somewhere short of it. To a patch of Pacific Ocean, just a bit north of the Ocean Beach pier.

I'm standing in the new O.B.





#### Buy a Taco Get a Free Quesadilla!

#StreetFoodMadeWithLove Limit 1 per person.



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



## Buy 1, get 1 free coffee!

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



874 Seacoast Drive Imperial Beach, 91932



## Buy 1, get 1 free cupcake!

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



2315 Reo Drive Paradise Hills, 92139



#### \$3.00 Off Any Medium Pizza



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



## FREE Doughnuggets!

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



#### Rosati's Pizza & Sports Bar

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



#### 2-for-1 Small Plates

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

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



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



#### 2-for-1 Salsa Flight

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



#### **Barrio Eat Mexican**

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



#### Buy One Bowl Get One Free

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



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



#### Buy 1 Poke Bowl Get 1 Free!

Only Valid on Regular Size Bowls. Limit 1 per customer. Cannot be combined with any other offer.



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



#### Buy One Root Beer Float Get One Free

Good thru 6/30/19. Offer #292.
Customers pay all applicable sales tax.
Each coupon good for ONE order on same visit and coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase. Not good with any other offer. Good at participating San Diego locations only.





#### **Free Entree!**

Buy One Entree & get a Free Entree of equal or lesser value. Dine in only, 1 coupon per table.

What is Cuban Food?

Cuban food is beef with rich sauces, delicious chicken dishes and seafood entrees prepared with authentic Caribbean ingredients - all served with rice and our famous black beans.



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www.andresrestaurantsd.com



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Limit 1 per person



3130 University Ave (619) 333-9097



#### Buy 1 Taco Get 1 Free

Limit 1 Per Person



3139 University Ave



## Buy Any Beverage Get One Free!

Every purchase supports the City Heights Community.



4350 El Cajon Blvd. San Diego, CA 92105 619-957-2512 • thedojocafe.com



### Buy One Classic Chili Cheese Fries Get One Free

Good thru 6/30/19. Offer #696.

Regular sized Classic Chili Cheese Fries only.
Each coupon good for ONE order on same visit and coupon must be surrendered at time of purchase.
Not good with any other offer. Good at participating San Diego locations only.





#### Buy 1 Large Mason Jar Lemonade, Get 1 Free

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



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



Fresh and local seafood offered daily.

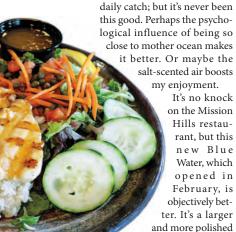
location of Blue Water Seafood, the fish counter restaurant made nationally famous by the Food Network, after becoming locally famous for making seafood sandwiches, salads, and tacos, from fresh fish customers may examine within its glass counters while waiting to order. Unlike the original Mission Hills location, which at best has views of the freeway and airport, this fish counter has a direct view of the blue ocean water it's named for. From where the fishmonger points, I can see the beach and lifeguard tower across the

street, and the Pacific behind it. He explains today's halibut was fished from a skiff a short distance from the very spot we stand, "Caught within view of the [Belmont Park] roller coaster, for sure."

Rare is the opportunity to eat fish this immediately local and fresh. For \$22.95, I order a plate of it: grilled with a bourbon butter glaze, served over iasmine rice with a green salad loaded with julienned carrots, diced tomatoes, and capers. All of blue Water's made-to-order fish

plates offer a choice of sauce and seasoning, and I've usually opted for blackened fish, garlic butter, or chipotle. But the bourbon butter nails this halibut, and I can't get enough of it.
The white fish sits somewhere

flaky



restaurant space, with stylish wood booths, community tables, and window seats. Even better on a sunny beach day

deserved attentions. Its fish has

always been fresh, including

is the large covered patio out front, which sits above Abbott Street, within view of pier and beach.

This used to be the location



#### Buy One Flatbread Get One 1/2 Off

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



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



#### \$4.00 Off Any Large Pizza



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



Bourbon butter glazed halibut caught the

same day, along the San Diego coast.

and steaky, and couldn't taste

cleaner if I'd grilled it right

I'm no stranger to the Blue

Water experience, nor its

there on the boat.

#### Buy One Burger or Chicken Sand, Get one Free



1/2 lb Angus Burger or Grilled or Breaded Chicken Sand, includes American or Swiss w/Chips. Grill your own Not valid on Band Night Sat.

> 9995 Carmel Mountain Rd, San Diego, CA 92129



#### Buy 1 Sandwich, Get 1 Free!

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



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



#### Free Pizza

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

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



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



#### Free Lemonade

Buy any sandwich and receive a free lemonade.



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



## Free Panini or Salad!

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



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



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

Beer not included with free appetizer
Dine in Only
Cannot be combined with any other offer
One per person & table
Expires 4 weeks from date of printing.



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



### **Buy One Entree Get One Half-Off**

With the purchase of two drinks. M-F 4-9pm. 1 coupon per visit. Not valid with any other coupon. Not valid on holidays. Dine in only. Expires 5/31/19.



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



#### Buy One Entrée, Get One Free!

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



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



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



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



#### 1/2 Off Appetizers

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



699 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA makesandiego.com



## Buy 1 Get One Free!

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



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



#### Buy One, Get One Complimentary Breakfast Item

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



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



#### 3 Rolled Taco Plate for \$6

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

Must mention ad



Famoso Mexican Street Food

815 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101



### Buy 2 Entree's and Get a FREE Appetizer

1 coupon per visit. Valid from 4:00pm-9:00pm. Not valid with any other coupon. Not valid on holidays. Dine in only. Expires 5/31/19.



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



#### 2-for-1 Tacos!

Buy one taco, get one free! (of equal or lesser value) Good through 6/6/19. Limit one per customer.



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



#### 2 for 1 Dinner Entree

With the purchase of 2 drinks Dine in Only Must be of equal or lesser value (\$16 maximum) Cannot be combined with any other offer One per person & table Expires 4 weeks from date of printing.



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



#### Buy 2 Sandwiches, Get 1 Free

One coupon per customer per order Cannot combine coupons.

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



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



#### Buy 1 BBQ Entree Get 1/2 Off

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



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



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



3130 University Ave (619) 333-9097



## Free shareable appetizer!

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



**Mada-Sao Hot Pots** 

4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



#### 1/2 Off Any Pasta Entrée

Buy any pasta entrée at regular menu price and receive 1/2 off the second entrée of equal or lesser value. (Excludes pizzas and not valid with any other discounts). Expires 4 weeks from date of printing.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-283-2333



#### Free Fro-Yo!

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



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



Blue Water replaces the old Tower Two Beach Café.

of the old Tower Two Beach Café. Obecians are notoriously sentimental about their regular haunts, and I'm sure there's a contingent of locals who bemoaned the closing and replacement of Tower Two. But I've complained for years that it short-changed the neighborhood by serving subpar ingredients and mediocre food, and only got away with it due to the beach-adjacent location. Introducing Blue Water to this spot changes everything. Don't look now, Ocean Beach, but in this case progress and change have made your beach community better.

by Ian Anderson

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

Afternoon Tea Dammann Freres is the largest and oldest tea company in France and the exclusive tea for THE MED's afternoon tea. these flavorful teas are complimented with the perfect petite sandwiches and sweets. Saturday, May 18, 12pm; La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street. (JA JOLLA)

BoochFest BoochFest is an event to promote health and wellness through food, drink, and fun. We are creating a space to bring the community together to celebrate everything kombucha through the craft and passion of the brands and maker's. Saturday, May 18, 11am; \$30-\$50. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Brooklyn Brewery Groove Brunch Pucker up, kids. Your weekend just got a little bit weird. Get ready for a heavy dose of the unexpected as Brooklyn Brewery is taking over Groove Brunch at the Pearl to launch their new Bel Air Sour. Featuring Brooklyn Brewery Bel Air Sour cocktails, summer beers, cheeky poolside revelry, and a heavy dose of whimsy. Space is

limited, reservations are required, and dress code is groovy, but not too groovy. Pool access is included. Saturday, May 18, 11am; free. Charles + Dinorah, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Chef Teri's Sunday Brunch 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)

Corks for a Cause: Bike To Work Day May 16th is Bike To Work Day and Carruth Cellars has partnered with the San Diego Bike Coalition for this May's Corks for a Cause. Head to their Solana Beach location after your commute and sip in honor of cycling. From 6-9pm, 20% of proceeds will be donated to promoting bicycling as a healthy, affordable, and envi-

ronmentally friendly form of transportation and recreation. Thursday, May 16, 6pm; free. 21 and up. Carruth Cellars, 118 S Cedros Avenue #C. (SOLANA BEACH)

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

Groove Brunch for Dinner with You & Yours On Friday, May 17th Charles + Dinorah at the Pearl Hotel is teaming up with You + Yours Distilling Co. to keep the brunch vibe going all night with their Brunch for Dinner event. Get ready to dive in to a night where not only can you indulge on Charles + Dinorah's crave worthy brunch like Chef Andrew Santana's nutella french toast or chilaquiles rojos, but also brunch classic cocktails crafted by bar master TJ Majeske and three specialty libations by You + Yours Distilling Co. For more information, and to snag your reservation, visit thepearlsd.com/ dining or call 619.226.6100. Reservations are required and going fast. Friday, May 17, 6pm; free. Charles + Dinorah, 1410 Rosecrans Street.

Ketel One Botanicals Dinner The four-course dinner will



## Buy one meal, get one free

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



**Mada-Sao Hot Pots** 

4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



#### Order Any Food Item Get A Free Drink

One coupon per customer per orde Cannot combine coupons.

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



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



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

Over 70 sandwiches to choose from! One discount per person, per ticket. Must mention ad. Tues-Sat, 11:30-4:30, thru 6/5/19 only!



Classic Rock Sandwich Shoppe North Park Way, San Diego, 92104

sandwichessandiego.com



#### 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 619-298-2400



#### 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.



3752 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103



#### 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.



3333 El Cajon Blvd. • 619-283-2333



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

Buy 1 Chicken Pie combo (includes gravy & roll) for \$5.99, get a 2nd chicken pie half 50% off Weekdays between 2pm - 8pm This offer cannot be combined with any current promotion. Please present coupon to the server.



2633 El Cajon Blvd, North Park www.chickenpieshops.com (619) 295-0156



#### Free Fro-Yo!

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



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



#### 15% off your order

Come by with this coupon and get 15% off your entire order!



8138 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91942 (619) 713-6578 have a set menu and each course is paired with Ketel One's original signature cocktails, selected to complement the flavor of the given dish. The dinner will feature food from Executive Chef André Clark, Ketel One Botanicals Dinner: Crostini crostini, humboldt fog blue cheese, chantrelle mushroom, prosciutto Paired with classic Ketel One martini - Ketel One Original garlic stuffed olives Watermelon Salad watermelon, cucumber, jalapeno, feta, mint, cilantro Paired with Spa Day cocktail - Ketel One cucumber & mint, Fresh lime and Coconut Water Pacifico Striped Bass hazelnut crusted, blueberry coulis, basil Paired with The Peach Tea - Ketel One peach & orange blossom tea infused honey syrup, peach juice and fresh lemon Herbed Bread Pudding herb bread pudding, pomegranate creme anglaise Paired with The Ketel Krush - Ketel One grapefruit & Rose, Fresh grapefruit, Fresh lemon, Passionfruit vanilla syrup, Coconut water and Rose Float Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm; \$65. 21 and up. Masters Kitchen and Cocktail, 208 S. Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

Mindful Mushrooms & Olivewood Gardens The Berry Good Food Academy, the culinary education arm of the Berry Good Food Foundation, hosts hands-on cooking classes every third Sunday of the month at the state-of-the-art Studio Kitchen. Discover delicious locally cultivated fungi from Mindful Mushrooms and cook with our inspiring community partners from Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center. Sunday, May 19, 11am; \$25. Specialty Produce Warehouse, 1929 Hancock Street, (MISSION HILLS)

When searching for the perfect Italian wine, one needs only to search for the telltale black crow logo and the name Oliver McCrum. Oliver's passion is importing wines from small, family-run estates, with an emphasis on indigenous varieties,

**Oliver McCrum Wine Dinner** 

traditional winemaking techniques, and little or no oak influence. The wines are always focused, elegant, and balanced. It is our honor to welcome Oliver McCrum himself for a dinner featuring some of his personal favorite selections paired with Chef Jeremy's family style Italian dinner. Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm; \$75. 21 and up. Vil-

Patrón Tequila Dinner Gather your amigos for an epicurean

lage Vino, 4095 Adams Avenue.

journey through Mexico. You'll be whisked away by the finest Patrón tequila paired with five irresistible courses, featuring Aguachile, Grilled Octopus and Grouper, Pork Belly and a Chocolate Torta. in the intimate private dining room. \$125 per adult, includes five-course tasting menu with tequila pairings. Friday, May 17, 5:30pm; \$125. 21 and up. Amaya, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court, (DEL MAR)

Savoring Early Summer The Berry Good Food Academy, the culinary education arm of the Berry Good Food Foundation, hosts hands-on cooking classes every third Sunday of the month at the state-of-the-art Studio Kitchen. Learn about pickling and preserving the ingredients of early summer with Chef Spencer Dahlman of San Diego's Garden Kitchen. Chef Dahlman will show attendees how to prepare a sweet and savory tomato jam, a nasturtium jelly, and vinegar-based vegetable pickles, with leftovers for guests to take home and share with friends and family. Sunday, May 19, 2pm; \$25. Specialty Produce Warehouse, 1929 Hancock Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Sevilla Festival Rashelica Winery a Tribute to Sevilla, Espana Flamenco, Paella, Tapas, Vino, Art Garden. This Festival is a Celebration of Spring Feria de Abril Sevilla is a tradition that started in 1846 Feria de abril de Sevilla, "Seville April Fair" is held in Andalusian capital of Seville, Spain. The fair generally begins two weeks after the Semana Santa, or Easter Holy Week. The fair officially begins at midnight on Monday, and runs six days, ending on the following Sunday. During past fairs, however, many activities have begun on the Saturday prior to the official opening. Each day the fiesta begins with the parade of carriages and riders, at midday, carrying Seville's leading citizens which make their way to the bullring, La Real Maestranza, where the bullfighters and breeders meet Sunday, May 19, 11:55am; \$10-\$35. Rashelico Winery and Art Garden, 17948 Highway 67. (RAMONA)

The Friday Unwind Featuring live music on the patio and vendors pouring tastings of local craft beer, wine or spirits, and weekly food and drink specials that run all night. Fridays, 5:30pm; through Friday, October 25, free. Crossings at Carlsbad, 5800 The Crossings Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Tillamook Ice Cream Happy Hour Enjoy an exclusive Tillamook Ice Cream cocktail, the Tart Strawberry Fizz (\$12) as well as free Tillamook ice cream flights to celehrate summer. With retrofitted VW buses and colorful ice cream carts, the brand will be making stops everywhere from community events to restaurants and shops serving up flights of Tillamook Ice Cream. Sunday, May 19, 12pm; free-\$12. You & Yours Distilling Co., 1495 G Street. (EASTLAKE)

#### Tillamook Ice Cream Pop-Up

This summer, the Tillamook Summer Scoop Series is setting off from Tillamook's home on the Oregon Coast to bring their delicious ice cream to dairy lovers in Southern California. With retrofitted VW buses and colorful ice cream carts, the brand will be making stops everywhere from community events to restaurants and shops serving up flights of Tillamook Ice Cream. Friday, May 17, 3pm; free. Thorn Street Brewery, 3176 Thorn Street, (NORTH PARK)

Tillamook Ice Cream Pop-Up This summer, the Tillamook Summer Scoop Series is setting off from Tillamook's home on the Oregon Coast to bring their delicious ice

cream to dairy lovers in Southern California. With retrofitted VW buses and colorful ice cream carts, the brand will be making stops everywhere from community events to restaurants and shops serving up flights of Tillamook Ice Cream. Saturday, May 18, 12pm; free-\$9. Donut Bar, 631 B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIFGO)

Uncork & Unwind Uncork & Unwind is a monthly, 80-minute yoga class with integrated wine tasting. During the yoga sequence, the chakras of taste and smell become heightened, laying the foundation for an exceptional tasting experience of 3 red wines, 2 white wines and finished off with a sparkling wine. Sunday, May 19, 3pm; \$40. 21 and up. Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo. (RAN-CHO SANTA FE)

Vintners Association Wine Festival Join us for unlimited wine tasting, music, and a wine-themed silent auction at the 2019 San Diego County Vintners Association Wine Festival. The festival will feature some of San Diego County's finest wines - many of them award-winning! Saturday, May 18, 1pm; \$55. 21 and up. Sikes Adobe Farmhouse, 12655 Sunset Drive (ESCONDIDO)



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## HAPPY HOUR

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.

**Cafe Sevilla Tapas Bar:** *Daily*, 3pm-6pm: \$3 off everything on food and beverage menu.

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

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

BOOZE NEWS

#### Local Roots brings booch to north county

Add hard kombucha to the list of craft beverage attractions on the Hops Highway. In late April, **Local Roots Kombucha** opened a spacious and colorful tasting room in Vista, taking over over the brewery and license left behind following **Toolbox Brewing Company**'s abrupt closure last fall.

Local Roots was already in business when that happened, just barely. Cousins and cofounders Ryan White and Joe Carmichael started up in Carlsbad last year, producing traditional, soft kombucha using cold pressed juices and certified organic ingredients. Kegs and cans moved quickly, and they maxed out production capacity within six months. They needed room to grow just as the turnkey opportunity became available.

Plus it accelerated part of their long term business plan: joining the hard kombucha market.

Kombucha in general has been on a steep upward trajectory nationwide, with reports of 30-percent annual growth for the mixed fermentation tea as it's moved from health stores into cafés, markets, and bars. Within San Diego, hard kombucha companies have shown a likewise steep trajectory. Pioneering hard kombucha brand Boochcraft just completed expanding the 1000-barrel Chula Vista brewery it launched with only three years ago into a 70,000-barrel-per-year operation. Meanwhile, North Park's Juneshine opened in a turnkey brewery less than a year ago, but has already started moving into a former Ballast Point brewery in Scripps Ranch that could produce up to a reported 100,000 barrels annually. Craft brewers have taken notice. Otay Mesa's Novo Brazil has started selling hard kombucha in addition to beer, and all three brands now offer hard kombucha in cans.

White and Carmichael come from hte healthcare and aerospace industries, respectively, and Local Roots grew out of a shared interest in healthy eating and cold press juices, which ultimately led them to brewing kombucha at home. Carmichael suggests the same principles are behind the sudden demand for kombucha in its hard form.

"For us, it fits a bigger picture," says Carmichael, "People are changing the way they're eating, and with that they're changing the way they're drinking too." Hard kombucha, he explains, offers health minded consumers the first real opportunity to drink something inherently healthy when they imbibe. "It's not just another



A flight of hard kombucha: a dry, mixed fermented tea beverage measuring seven-percent alcohol.

flavor, not just another palate experience."

While the vinegary reputation of traditional kombucha is still a marketing hurdle hard kombucha makers have to overcome, a flight of hard booch at Local Roots reveals exceptionally dry fare, brewed with a blend of black and green teas and a house culture that yields low perceived acidity. Assorted combinations of cold pressed fruits, roots, herbs, and spices added after fermentation provide just enough sweetness to mask it. Most flavors feature fruit combined with something aromatic, such as blueberry ginger or

watermelon basil. For some, that includes hops, such as a citra and pear combination, and the so-called Hoppy Habanero, where the chili pepper heat is braced against piney cascade hops.

One of the unique benefits of The Boochyard, as Local Roots calls its artificial-turf-and-patiofurniture-styled tasting room, is a chance for drinkers and nondrinkers (whether kids, teetotalers, or designated drivers) to enjoy similar beverage experiences side by side.

In addition to seven-percent alco-

hol booch, Local Roots continues to make soft kombucha too. Every regular kombucha flavor has a corresponding hard kombucha, made using the same ingredients. So, tasting notes for the soft strawberry mint may compare to the hard strawberry moiito.

It's a reminder that potency isn't the crucial part of crafting a beverage. "Even though it's nonalcoholic," says Carmichael, "it's still a craft."

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

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, Rumple 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 1-cate 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 & cliantro hummus, coconut prawns, spicy seared ahi, teriyaki beef brochetes, goat cheese mousse with toasted almonds and pimento. Des-

sert: chocolate dipped strawberries & handmade truffles. Menu subject to change. \$8 Honey blackberry lemonade, \$8 mimosa sunset, \$7 campuget 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

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

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

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

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



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Old City Hall: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 cocktails, drafts, and house wines. Bites from \$5 (avocado toast) to \$7.50 (calamari, bacon & bleu cheese flatbread).

**Werewolf American Pub:** 

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

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

#### EAST VILLAGE

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

#### **KEARNY MESA**

94th Aero Squadron: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.75 house wine by the glass, draft beer, \$3.25 domestic beer bottles, \$3.50 margaritas, \$9 draft pitchers.

Crab Hut Kearny Mesa: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$4 draft

beers (\$15 pitchers), \$7 house wine, house cocktail, and sangria. 75 cent wings (6 minimum), \$1.50 oysters (5 minimum), \$4 crab poppers.

Ichiro's Happy Japanese Res-

drinks and appetizers.

Khan's Cave Grill & Tavern: Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Sunday, 3-7pm: \$3 Fireball, \$4 draft of the day, \$5 house wine, \$6 martinis, \$7 specialty cocktails. Wednesday, 3-close: \$3 Fireball, \$4 draft of the day, \$5 house wine, \$6 martinis, \$7 specialty cocktails.

Koon Thai Kitchen: Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm: Two for \$5 Stone, Heineken, Widmer, Tsingtao, Bluemoon, Kirin, two for \$6 Singha and Ballast Point, two for \$7 all draft

Pampas Argentine Grill: Tuesday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1 off all beers, \$5 wine by the glass, margaritas, \$5(\$15 pitcher) sangria, \$6 wells, \$6.50 mojito, house martini. Appetizers \$3-\$13. Bar area only.

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.

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

#### LITTLE ITALY

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

#### MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

#### MISSION BEACH

Cannonball: Monday-Friday, 2-5pm: \$6 Saparro, well cocktails, small sake, house red or white wine. Discounted sushi and shares.

Sandbar Sports Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 14oz drafts, \$8 22oz drafts, \$6 Sandbargaritas. \$4 tacos. Sunday, 10am-2pm: \$25 bottomless mimosas (includes food item).

#### MISSION HILLS

The Regal Beagle: Monday, 3-6pm: \$6 lagers, pilsners, IPAs, hard apple cider. 25 cent mini corn dogs. Tuesday, 3-6pm: \$1 off everything. Wednesday, 3-6pm: \$6 lagers, pilsners, IPAs, hard apple cider. Thursday, 3-6pm: \$6 lagers, pilsners,

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Shakespeare Pub & Grille:

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

**Starlite:** Daily, 5-7pm: \$5 select drafts and well drinks, \$8 select wine glass, \$2 off specialty cocktails, \$5.50 food specials (chickpea battered greens, mini kale Caesar, sloppy Jose tostadas)

#### 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.

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#### 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.

#### **Dunedin New Zealand Eats:**

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

**HOPE 46:** *Monday-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 Guiness. \$6-\$8 appetizers.

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

Seven Grand: Monday-Satur-

*day*, 4-8pm: \$5 beers, \$6 select house cocktails.

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

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

#### PACIFIC BEACH

**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.

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

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

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

#### Pacific Beach AleHouse:

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**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.

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#### Phil's BBQ Rancho Bernardo:

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

#### SANTEE

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

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

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#### **Brew Pub Plaza**

Erasmo Castellanos, 94440, Tijuana

# the inside track

**Soul stickler** Vocalist Rebecca Jade has had a busy year. Between local gigs all over the county and out-of-

I wanted to know what she's learned about touring at the pop-star level from two years on the road. "I

important, especially with lots of really early lobby calls after late concerts. I might only get a few hours of sleep in the hotel before needing to leave for the airport in the morning. Now I've collected special pillows to use, and I bring a blanket because the planes are always so cold. I always try to get a window



Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact rehearsed for six months before recording their album Out of Time.

town touring as a backup singer for pop-star Sheila E., she still managed to record a follow-up album, Running Out Of Time with Rebecca Jade & The Cold Fact.

finally figured out how to fly and be able to catch up on my sleep on the plane, which is very helpful," Jade recalls with a giggle. "I'm learning that rest is super

seat — you'd be surprised how little things like that can allow you to catch up while you're in the air."

When home, Jade has been finishing the new



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Cold Fact album. "We're excited because we've been together for five years now, and we've evolved considerably as a band since the last one. We know each other a lot better and there is a different, deeper camaraderie happening,"

The core band in the Cold Fact is Alfred Howard (percussion and lyrics), Jake Najor (drums), Jason Littlefield (bass), Daniel Schraer (keys), and Ian Owen (guitar).

"We rehearsed for six months before we went in to the studio, so we were able to knock out the band parts in two days. Then I went in to the Redwoods home

studio to lay down the vocal tracks. I'm a stickler for getting my parts just right, and I needed a few takes to make that happen."

How did The Cold Fact begin?

"I've been working with Alfred since my first solo album because he's an excellent lyricist. Later on, he approached me to do a soul record, and I jumped at the chance. He's got great ideas, and everyone is able to contribute so we're creating something that's very organic. He's a phenomenal writer, he just has a beautiful way of painting with words."

While they await physical

copies of the new album, plans for a release party are on hold, but you can catch Rebecca Jade & The Cold Fact on September 6 at the California Center for the Arts.

— Robert Bush

#### Thanks to Sugaroo!

Music, you'll be able to hear the Stereotypes' 2002 song "Redhead" in Universal Pictures' A Dog's Journey when it opens in theaters this weekend. "I recorded 'Redhead' 17 years ago at Earthling with John Finkbiner and William Skoff in one evening," recalls guitarist and Earthling Studios operator Mike Kamoo. "I (continued on page 66)

# MUSIC BOX



**BOOGIE** KB DEVAUGHN **BOBBY SESSIONS** 

MAY 16

MAY

17

MAY

18



**DESERT DWELLERS SAAND** 

WEDNESDAY 5/15



THURSDAY 5/16



FRIDAY 5/17



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MAY 19







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DREAD MAR I

MAY 23

INSPIRED AND THE SLEEP CAPYAC

WEDNESDAY 5/22

DARK ALLEY DOGS, STATIC ON THE STEREO, PUNKTURE

THURSDAY 5/23

SUNDAY 5/26

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distinctly remember playing Dylan Martinez's guitar for this track. Out of 18-plus releases, it's the only recording that uses a Les Paul."

A new version remastered by Paul Abbott at ZenMastering is now available online. It's their first Hollywood film placement, though their music has previously been heard in TV shows such as Kyle XY, Suits, and the Knight Rider revival, as well as ads for Coleman camping gear, E-Harmony, and Orville Redenbacher popcorn.

Occasional Blink 182 member Tom DeLonge has relaunched his sci-fi rock band Angels & Airwaves with their first new song in three years, "Rebel Girl," said to be from an upcoming album and feature film project. "Rebel Girl' is a space-age love song that combines my enduring obsession for new wave, pop punk, and anthemic rock and roll music," says DeLonge. "As some of you might've heard, I recently took a brief minute to start up an aerospace company, so you never know: I may play this song from a satellite deep in space, beamed toward everyone's house viciously on repeat."



Angels & Airwaves may someday broadcast from space. Until then, catch them at House of Blues October 5-6.

Recently signed to Rise Records, home of Mavday Parade and ISSUES,

the band's music will no longer be released through DeLonge's To the Stars Academy of Arts & Science. Their first live dates in seven years include a twonight stand at downtown's House of Blues on October 5 and 6.

Glory, the 60s-70s hard rock band with members of Iron Butterfly (drummer Jack Pinney), the Beat Farmers (guitarist Jerry Raney), and Bratz (guitarist Jack

Butler), will reunite with all three players at Winstons on November 3. According to Raney, "We may be able to get Mike Millsap to come and sing a couple. It's hard to get him out. He was our lead singer in the early days. I'm hoping to have Preacher Patterson on bongos and percussion."

Millsap's appearance at a 2010 Glory reunion was his first performance in around 20 years. Glory gigged at

0 313131 & WIN

venues such as Starlight Bowl in Balboa Park, opened locally for Steely Dan and ZZ Top, and were reportedly the first local band to play both the Belly Up and San Diego Stadium. Rhythm guitarist Mike Berneathy passed away last October.

— 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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THURSDAY • MAY 16 **SHY GIRLS AKUA** 

FRIDAY • MAY 17 **EMO NITE** 

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

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THE DODGES THE PETTY SAINTS J. HOFSTEE

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June 6	THE FAB FOUR The Ultimate Tribute with Ed Sullivan		featuring The Clark Sisters with The Walls Group
		June 23	GRUPO INTOCABLE <sup>o</sup>
June 7	JEFF DUNHAM	June 26	POP 2000 TOUR
June 9	CHRISTIAN NODAL <sup>o</sup>		hosted by Lance Bass of *NSYNC
June 12	JAKE OWEN	June 27	LINDSEY STIRLING
June 13	CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED	June 28	AIR SUPPLY
		June 29	PITBULL
June 14	TOBY KEITH	June 30	LOS TIGRES DEL NORTE°
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June 15	SMOKEY ROBINSON		SUNSHINE BAND
June 16	MARIACHI SOL DE MEXICO <sup>o</sup>	July 2	TRACE ADKINS
June 19	SIMPLE PLAN	July 4	BRAD UPTON

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JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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# LIVELive

#### **SENSI TRAILS** at the Bancroft

MAY 16



Originally forming in Outer Banks, NC before relocating to the far more surf-friendly shores of Ocean Beach, Sensi Trails is a reggae band featuring Kyle Rising (guitar, vocals), Kaya Hall (bass), and Jordan Starke (drums). They just made a local TV appearance on KUSI's Good Morning San Diego, after returning from a short northern California tour that included their first time playing venues in Santa Cruz, Monterey, and Santa Rosa. An east coast tour at the end of April included dates in Washington DC where the group performed two new original songs,

"Taxes" and "She Loves." A single released around the same time, "Just Livin'" featuring Kbong, is from their debut EP *Prohibition*, recorded locally at Imperial Sound with E.N. Young (Tribal Seeds). It was recently nominated for song of the week on Christian's Cosmic Corner Radio, which of course featured the weed-friendly band prominently in this year's 4-20 broadcast special. You can also catch them Friday, May 17 at 710 Beach Club in PB, as well as May 31 at Aztec Brewing Company (Vista) and June 28 at Winstons in OB.



#### THE DINETTES at the Rabbit Hole

**MAY 17** 

Formed in the late '70s and originally (though not always) an all-girl punk band, the Dinettes were once coveted by Runaways mastermind Kim Fowley, who booked them for his Battle of the Girl Bands at the Coo Coo's Nest in Costa Mesa in late 1979, expressing interest in signing them. Even though they declined his management, the band did fine for at least a couple of years, playing the first Western Front punk festival in San Francisco (organized by Dead Kennedys frontman Jello Biafra), and releasing a 1979 single recorded at Accusound, "Poison" b/w "T.V." They also recorded demos at local Straighta Head Sound, and a live tape was later circulated from a November 1979 gig at the Deaf Club in San Francisco. After splitting around 1981,

Lisa Aston (later Lisa Aston Emerson) continued to play punk with the Injections and Xterminators. Singer/drummer Irene Liberatore joined the Puppies with Dale Conover (who'd next launch Trees), as well as playing on albums like Bo-Day-Shus by Mojo Nixon and Skid Roper and on Cindy Lee Berryhill's debut *Who's Gonna Save the World?* Joyce Rooks joined Trowsers, a ska/reggae band which Kim Fowley also had a fleeting interest in, as well as becoming a latterday member of the Penetrators and playing cello with Cabaret Oscuro and Bauhaus bassist David J. A December 2017 Casbah reunion has resulted in occasional followup Dinettes gigs, though the roster has been in constant flux. The May 17 Rabbit Hole bill includes the Havnauts and Little Evil.



#### THE STILETTOS at House of Blues

**MAY 18** 

Collectively, members of the Stilettos have performed with the Blue Cats, the Rockin' Aces, Hot Rod Lincoln, the Beat Farmers, and the David Patrone Quartet. The band is fronted by Tommy Price, who was raised in Baltimore where he fronted top shelf rockabilly and roots rock bands such as Great Train Robbery and the Fringe. He moved to San Diego in 1997 and formed the Stilettos in 2000, augmenting the lineup in 2006 to include his wife, singer Tina Star, a former professional ballet dancer and theatrical performer who later began playing standup drums with

the group as well. Alongside bassist Alberto Gonzales, they specialize in rockabilly and swing tunes from the '50s and early '60s, as well as peppering setlists with originals and contemporary rockabilly songs. Their album Walkin' Down the Boulevard was released in 2010, earning them enough local cred to start landing weekly gigs in the Gaslamp Quarter, as well as offers to play hot rod and chopper shows, vintage film fests, and the occasional race, fundraiser, or wedding.



#### BROGUE WAVE at the Belly Up

MAY 19

Celtic pub rockers Brogue Wave features David Lally alongside Matt Hensley (Flogging Molly) and Skelpin members Patric Petrie and Tim Foley. Their newest release, a live album with tracks recorded this past January and February at O'Sullivan's Irish Pubs in Carlsbad and Escondido, debuts at the Belly Up on May 19. It was crowdfunded via Kickstarter with a goal of \$2000, raising over \$3500 from backers, six of whom pledged at least \$150 each. They recently booked Flogging Molly's 2019 Salty Dog Cruise, departing from Ft. Lauderdale November 8 and pairing them with headline acts such as Pennywise, Still Little Fingers, and Frank Turner. The Belly Up bill isn't too shabby either, it includes multiple SDMA Best Americana winner Sara Petite, crooner Tony Cummins, and stoner rockers Sweet Tooth.



#### **HEXA** at the Casbah

**MAY 20** 

Hexa (not to be confused with the same-named duo featuring Lawrence English with Xiu Xiu's Jamie Stewart) is an electronic pop project launched in 2015 by Carrie Gillespie Feller (Tactical Ffever, Street of Little Girls, Lunar Maps) after her band Ilya split in November 2015. It's one of only several band projects. Feller and her husband Scott Feller (Street of Little Girls) also founded Hours in 2015, alongside Hexa drummer Rostam Zafar (Bleak Skies) and, later, Josh Quon (Die Miflbildungen Des Menschen). In 2016, Carrie, Josh, and Scott co-founded Pleasure Model with Mitch Wilson (No Knife). The following year, she co-founded Possible Man With Possible

Gun, featuring members of Bleak Skies, Hexa, and Hours, including drummer Aaron Queen (guitarist for Bleak Skies and drummer/keyboardist for Di Nigunim) and cellist Dale Holland. Early 2018 found Hexa back on the front burner, playing around town with their newest member, singer/guitarist Megan Liscomb (Bunny Gang/Boy King, Soft Lions, P.J. Sparkles). Currently featuring Carrie Gillespie Feller and Liscomb alongside Acacia Collins and Erika Marie, Hexa just taped a Half Way Home session at the end of March, performing songs such as "Teach Me" and "The Trees." The Casbah bill includes John Errol, EST, and DJ Jon Blaj.



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#### THIS WEEK'S **SHOWS**

#### 710 Beach Club:

Friday, 8pm - Sensi Trails and Tunnel Vision.

#### Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Friday, 7:30pm — Hugh Gaskins, Jim Earp, Travis Oliver. \$12-\$17.

#### Bancroft:

Thursday, 8pm — Sensi Trails.

#### **Bang Bang:**

Saturday, 10pm — Mihalis Safras and Blaqwell. \$10-\$25.

#### **Barrel Harbor Brewing** Company:

Sunday, 4pm — FreeMartin.

#### **Bayside Park:**

Sunday, 10am -HAMFAMJAM. Free.

#### **Belly Up Tavern:**

Thursday, 8pm — Tusk. Friday, 8pm — Pato Banton.

Saturday, 8pm — Z-Trip. \$20-

Sunday, 8pm — Brogue Wave. \$10-\$18.

Monday, 8pm — Willie K. Tuesday, 8pm — Idles and Fontaines D.C. \$16-\$28. Wednesday, 8pm — Inspired & the Sleep and WYO & CAPYAC.

#### Birch Aquarium at Scripps:

Wednesday, 5:30pm — Green Flash: Tommy Castro & the Painkillers

#### Black Cat Bar:

Saturday, 8pm — The Shanghais and Action Andy & the Hi-tones.

#### Blonde Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Chocolate Afro House

#### Bread & Salt:

Sunday, 7pm — Nakatani Gong Orchestra. \$10.

#### **Brick by Brick:**

Friday, 7pm — Dark Funeral and Hate. \$28. Tuesday, 8pm — Skeletonwitch

and Portrayal of Guilt.

#### Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — Shy Girls. \$13-\$15.

Friday, 9pm — Emo Nite. \$12. Saturday, 8pm — Trouble in the Wind and Jonny Wagon. \$12. Sunday, 8pm — The Dodges and the Petty Saints. \$6.

Monday, 8pm — Hexa and John Errol. \$8.

Tuesday, 8pm — Geographer and Manatee Commune. \$13-\$15. Wednesday, 8pm — Dead Boys. \$15-\$18.

#### Cheers:

Saturday, 8pm — 8 East Band.

#### Cheers Bar & Grill:

Friday, 9pm — Safety Orange. Free. Saturday, 9pm — Good Company. Free.

#### Clairemont Lutheran Church:

Saturday, 1pm — San Diego County Recorder Society. **Free**.

#### **Doubletree Club Hotel San** Diego:

Saturday, 6:30pm — Nick Schnebelen.

#### First Presbyterian Church of El Cajon:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Abbey Road 50th Anniversary Concert. \$5.

#### First United Methodist Church of San Diego:

Sunday, 2pm — Gospel-Spirituals: Precious in God's Sight, Free.

#### Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town:

Saturday, 6pm — Tim Yancev. Free

#### **Grand Ole BBQ Flinn** Springs:

Saturday, 5pm — Farm Truck.

#### Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad:

Friday, 6:30pm — Free Beer Band. Free.

#### Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Sunday, 4:30pm — Richard Thompson Quintet. Free.

#### Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Gary Clark Ir.

#### Herringbone:

Exit.

Saturday, 12pm — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

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

Friday, 9pm — Private Domain. Free. Saturday, 9pm — Emergency

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:



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—Teresa Gunn

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Thursday, 5:30pm — Hooley's Open Mic.

Friday, 9pm — Flipside Burners. Free.

Saturday, 8pm — Heart Band.

#### Hotel Indigo Del Mar:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Kathleen Murray.

#### **House of Blues:**

*Thursday*, 7pm — Fish & the Seaweeds, Free.

Thursday, 8pm — Wolfmother. Friday, 7pm — Graham Gillot Band.

Friday, 8pm — Mickey Avalon. Saturday, 9pm — The Stilettos.

Saturday, 7pm — Yacht Rock Revue. \$15-\$20.

Sunday, 7pm — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink. Free. Monday, 7:30pm — Johnny

Marr. \$30-\$65. Monday, 7pm — The Moneymen

Tuesday, 8pm — Alicia Witt. Tuesday, 7:30pm — Nav. Wednesday, 7pm — Patrick "BlueFrog<sup>"</sup> Ellis. **Free**.

#### Iron Fist Brewing:

Saturday, 6pm — Lost Monarchs.

#### JAI at the Conrad:

Thursday, 7pm & 9pm — Anat Cohen Quartet. \$25-\$39.

#### Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:

Saturday, 7pm — Skillet Licorice.

## La Jolla Community Center:

Saturday, 7pm — Enrique Toral & Friends Broadway Cabaret.

#### La Mesa Wine Works:

Sunday, 1:30pm — Rolf Olsen Quartet, Free.

#### Larry's Beach Club:

Saturday, 5pm — Gone Blonde. Free.

#### Lestat's Coffee House:

Saturday, 5pm — Allison Lonsdale and Eben Brooks.

#### Lincoln High School:

Saturday, 7pm, Sunday, 4pm - San Diego Women's Chorus: Quiet No More.

#### Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:

*Friday*, 9pm — Roger!, True Stories, Velour.

#### Metta Space:

Sunday, 7pm — SUKHA: An Evening of Sacred Chant & Meditation, \$25-\$35

#### MiraCosta College:

Monday, 7:30pm — Jazz Music

Major & Pop Ensemble Recital. \$8-\$10

#### Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — A Perfect Tool & Systematic Chaos. Free. Saturday, 9pm — United Country. Free.

#### Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, 8pm — Brodie Stewart Band Friday, 8pm — Young Guns.

Saturday, 8pm — Martin McDaniel. Free.

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

Thursday, 8:30pm — Steele Horse Country. Friday, 8:30pm — Valentino Frankenstein. Saturday, 4pm — Adrienne Nims. Saturday, 8:30pm — Dirty Taxi.

#### Museum of Making Music:

Friday, 7pm — David Lindley.

#### Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Boogie and KB Devaughn. \$16-\$18. Friday, 7:30pm — Desert Dwellers and SAAND. \$18-\$20. Saturday, 9pm — One More Time. \$17-\$19. Sunday, 8pm — Dread Mar I. \$40-\$59

#### Navajo Live:

Wednesday, 7pm — Unpaved Highway and Revilution.

#### Observatory North Park:

Friday, 7:30pm — The Dandy Warhols. \$25. Saturday, 8pm — Cowboy Junkies. \$48-\$50.

#### Old California Coffee House & Eatery:

Saturday, 6pm — Rolf Olsen Quartet. Free.

#### Omnia San Diego:

Friday, 8pm — Tyga. Saturday, 9pm — Niiko x SWAE. \$30-\$50.

#### Pounders:

Friday & Saturday, 9pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.

#### **Pour House:**

Saturday, 8pm — Dommengang.

#### **Poway Center for the** Performing Arts:

Saturday, 8pm — Keb' Mo'. \$30-\$80.

#### Quartyard:

Sunday, 8pm — Matador.

#### **Rabbit Hole:**

Friday, 8pm — The Dinettes and Haynauts.

#### Rashelico Winery and Art Garden:

Sunday, 11:55am — Sevilla Festival. \$10-\$35.

#### Rockin' Baja Lobster — Old Town:

Friday, 5pm — Joe Cardillo. Saturday, 5pm — Santana Pa Ti.

#### Rosie O'Grady's:

Saturday, 8pm — Tori Roze & the Hot Mess.

#### Saint Archer Brewing Co.:

Saturday, 2pm — Sixth Anniversary. Free.

#### San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina:

Saturday, 5:30pm — USO San Diego Stars & Stripes Gala. Free.

#### Ship in the Woods:

Saturday, 1pm — Music Residency Benefit. \$12-\$20.

#### Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Shy Boys and Pavo Pavo. \$10-\$12. Friday, 8pm — Guana Batz and the Delta Bombers. \$20. Saturday, 8pm — The Dickies.

Monday, 8pm — Brushed and Daytrip. \$6.

Tuesday, 8pm — Black Taffy and Matthewdavid, \$10. Wednesday, 8pm — Conflict and the Linecutters. \$20-\$23.

#### Solana Beach Presbyterian Church:

Sunday, 5pm — Trio Ellas. \$30-

#### St. James by-the-Sea **Episcopal Church:**

Sunday, 4pm — Chanticleer. \$30. St. Michael's by-the-Sea:

#### Sunday, 1pm — Eclectic Lawn Concert. Free.

Templar's Hall at Old Poway Friday, 7:30pm — Scarborough: Simon & Garfunkel Tribute.

#### \$15-\$18. Tower Bar:

Sunday, 8pm — Turbulent Hearts and the Touchies.

#### **Trinity United Methodist** Church:

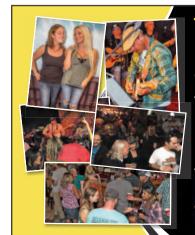
Friday, 7:30pm — San Diego Contra Dance. \$10.

#### Whistle Stop Bar:

Sunday, 8pm — Will Fox and Ryan Pollie.

#### Winstons Beach Club:

Thursday, 8pm — After Funk. \$5. Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.



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#### CLASSICAL MUSIC

Brahms' Requiem The chancel choirs of First Presbyterian Church and La Jolla Presbyterian Church combine forces to present Brahms' "Requiem", under the direction of Dr. Edwin L. Basilio and Dr. Keith Pedersen. The work will be sung in English, with soprano and bass soloists, and a full symphony orchestra. Free-will offering. Sunday, May 19, 6pm; free. First Presbyterian Church, 320 Date Street.

Chanticleer The San Francisco based GRAMMY® awardwinning ensemble Chanticleer embarks on its 42nd season in 2019-20, performing up to 100 concerts in the United States, the Bay Area and around the world. Praised by the San Francisco Chronicle for its "tonal luxuriance and crisply etched clarity,' Chanticleer is known around the world as "an orchestra of voices" for its seamless blend of twelve male voices ranging from soprano to bass and its original interpretations of vocal literature, from Renaissance to jazz and popular genres, as well as contemporary composition, Sunday, May 19, 4pm: \$30 St James bythe-Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect Street.

Classics Philharmonic: Sing Me A Story Sing Me A Story Ioin our musicians and vocalists . Victoria Robertson and Bernardo Bermudez in the orchestra World Premiere of Robertson's kidfriendly operetta The Enchanted Tail, a story about a princess and a fox. With musical highlights from famous operas, together we explore the wonderful world of musical stories. The program also features a guest performance by the San Diego Children's Choir. We delve deep into the beginning, middle, and end to bring

#### **IMMORTAL BEAUTY**

BY GARRETT HARRIS

#### Frothy Berlioz. Cataclysmic Saint-Saëns

I've been waiting for Charles-Camille Saint-Saëns' Organ Symphony at the San Diego Symphony ever since it was announced last spring. The day came, Friday, May 3, and Saint-Saëns was darn near upstaged by a plucky overture by Hector Berlioz.

I've used the word "plucky" but that is only in the context of the length of the Berlioz versus the Saint-Saëns. Besides that, there is nothing plucky about anything Berlioz ever wrote. The overture was from Berlioz's first and failed opera Benvenuto Cellini. The opera's title character was a famous Italian sculptor of the 16th Century — not necessarily an operatic figure. However, the overture is fantastique.

The overture begins with an energetic bang before transitioning into a section of rumination. Maestro Jahja Ling was back on the podium for this concert and he whipped up a nice frothy performance of the Berlioz.

Following Berlioz was another Frenchman, Francis Poulenc. I can honestly say that I am a fan of Poulenc's music and that his *Concerto for Organ, Strings, and Timpani* fares much better on recordings than in a live performance.

That is to take nothing away from the quality of the performance but rather the quality of the experience. It felt as though the organ was sitting in our laps while the strings and timpani were over the river and through the woods at grandmother's house in the pantry just behind the flour and sugar.

Regarding the quality of the performance, it was stellar. Local organist-madegood Chelsea Chen played the Poulenc beautifully with an economy of technique. However, Poulenc did not write a tour de force for the organ as he wasn't an organist.

Poulenc studied organ compositions and received advice from the great French organist Maurice Durufle, but the music still feels unnatural compared to some of his other compositions such as the *Concerto for Two Pianos* which stole the show in last year's final concert of the season.

Ms. Chen went ahead and supplied a tour de force organ piece as an encore. She played an arrangement of themes from *Star Wars* which received a raucous ovation from the audience.

Maestro Ling and the San Diego Symphony did not disappoint when it finally came time to roll out the Saint-Saëns Organ Symphony — except, at times, the tempo felt a few clicks

AUJOURD'HUI LUNDI 10 SEPTEMBRE 1858,

La PREMIÈRE Représentation de

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CHAYT. NM. BEPREZ, MANOL. FERDINAND-PRÉVOT, DÉRIVIS, WARTEL. SERDA. Triesse, Multiere
Mes BORIS-GRAS, STOLTZ.

BASSE. Mes Gulchard. Densitéer permiter. Bouriet devalue. Cordine.

(Les Entrées de Faueur sont auspendues.)

ACADEMIE ROYALE DE MUSIQUE. On compression A7 h.

Substant, pour la lucation, se Bureau de l'Académie Bayale de Manique, ror Grauge-Batellers, Bátel Chaltent, tem lo jours, de 11 à à bearma.

Never mind dancing about architecture, we've got singing about sculpting!

too slow, which made the perpetual motion of the woodwinds sound a little bit deliberate and controlled in the first movement. Yes, I am picking nits.

The first half of the first movement was bold and dramatic, as it should be. The second half of the first movement (there are only two movements) was some of the most beautiful playing I've heard from the orchestra. Absolutely gorgeous music. The bal-

ance between the orchestra and the organ was ideal in this instance.

The cataclysmic conclusion of the piece shook the symphony hall to its foundations. The organ was more than balanced by the enormous orchestra playing with all the blastisimo they could muster.

I left with a feeling of satisfaction. The anticipation I had harbored for almost a year was paid off — with interest.

#### See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

musical stories to life. Thursday, May 16, 10am and 11:45am; Friday, May 17, 10am and 11:45am; \$7. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue.

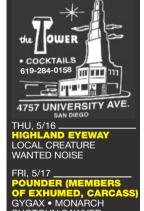
Jacobs Masterworks: Tchaikovsky Symphony No. 5 Gemma New, conductor Michael Barenboim, violin ALYSSA WEINBERG: Reign of Logic (West Coast Premiere) GLAZUNOV: Violin Concerto TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony No. 5 Saturday, May 18, 7pm; Sunday, May 19, 2pm; Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. Miranda Cuckson Violin program information to be announced Thursday, May 16, 7pm; free. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive.

North Coast Symphony Operatic Odyssey The North Coast Symphony Orchestra

presents "An Operatic Odyssey" featuring soprano Katie Polit. Ms. Polit will sing much-loved arias from Mozart's The Magic Flute, Puccini's La Boheme, Gounod's Romeo and Juliet and more. The orchestra will perform the Carmen Suite No. 1 by Bizet, The Barber of Seville Overture by Rossini, and other opera favor-

ites. Saturday, May 18, 2:30pm; \$8-\$10. San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena.

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,



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Sun, May 19
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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. Saturday, May 18, 7pm; Sunday, May 19, 3pm; \$10-\$20. Star Repertory Theatre, 329 East Valley Parkway.

#### **Poway Symphony Orchestra:** Beethoven! Beethoven! The

Poway Symphony Orchestra is pleased to announce the final concert for the season 2018 -2019. The all Beethoven program will include his magnificent Symphony No.7 which many Beethoven lovers consider his best. Also on the program is the wonderful Triple Concerto in C Major with as guest artists The Benefic Piano Trio from Los Angeles, The concert will be conducted by John LoPiccolo. Music Director and Conductor of the Orchestra. Sunday, May 19, 4pm; \$12-\$20. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road.

**Richard Lin** The program includes works by Brahms, Grieg, Poulenc, Raff, and Sarasate. Sunday, May 19, 3pm; \$38. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

SACRA/PROFANA: Border X-Sings SACRA/PROFANA will offer the final concert of its Tenth Anniversary season, presenting Border X-sings, a timely musical presentation that takes on issues of immigration, borders, nationalism, and historical perspective. The first half of the program will highlight the complicated nature of national identity by featuring the music of European colonialists alongside music and texts from indigenous sources as well as music from the African-American tradition, born out of slavery. Through this we seek to illuminate influences, conflicts. and the common humanity

inherent not only in the music of that time, but evident in us all today. The second half of the program features music by contemporary composers on issues of immigration, refugees, national identity and belonging. Sunday, May 19, 4pm; \$10-\$35. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street

San Diego County Recorder **Society** Meet on the third Saturday of the month to play recorders with guest conductor; all levels welcome. Saturday, May 18, 1pm; free-\$40. Clairemont Lutheran Church, 4271 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard

Spring Ring Music from our four bell choirs at St. Mark's. including Hallelujah Chimes, Peace Ringers, Glory Ringers and Carillon Choir, will fill the air during their annual Spring Ring. Members of the bell program range in age from third grade to adult. There is a large variety of wonderful music for bells that may not be suitable for worship services. Ringers and hearers alike will have the opportunity to enjoy some of these selections. Sunday, May 19, 4:30pm; free. St. Mark's United Methodist Church, 3502 Clairemont Drive

Villa Musica The concert includes talented student and staff performing on a variety of instruments, sharing their musical gifts. There will also be an opportunity drawing for prizes. Saturday, May 18, 7:30pm; free. All Souls' Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Boulevard.

Viva Musica Community Opus Project Celebrate the talent of our young musicians from the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory's Community Opus Project. Enjoy a community celebration that marks the end of the 2018-19 Community Opus Project year.

Santee

This free event will feature numerous performances by our Opus musicians, orchestras and bands, a variety of local youth musical performances, chalk art, face painting plus local food and other vendors. Saturday, May 18, 1pm; free. Memorial Park Bowl, 373 Park Way

#### **UPCOMING SHOWS**

#### Alpine Library:

Thursday, May 23 — The Bassett Brothers, Free

#### Athenaeum Music and Arts Library:

Friday, May 24 - Sue Palmer, Rob Deez, Angelo Pizarro. \$12-

#### **Aztec Brewing Company:**

Friday, May 31 — Sensi Trails.

#### Bassmnt:

Friday, May 24 — Rich the Kid.

#### **Belly Up Tavern:**

Friday, May 24 — The White Buffalo. \$25-\$44. Saturday, May 25 — The White Buffalo. \$25-\$44. Sunday, May 26 - Cash'd Out and Nancarrow.

Wednesday, May 29 - Freddie McGregor & The Big Ship Band. Thursday, May 30 — Sights & Sages and Burlap the Sac. Friday, May 31 — Red Not Chili Peppers and No Duh. \$16-\$28.

#### **Blind Lady Ale House:**

Saturday, May 25 — Ypsitucky.

#### **Bonita Museum and Cultural** Center:

Saturday, May 25 — Katie Ward.

#### Brick by Brick:

Saturday, May 25 — The Damned Things and Crobot.

#### Brown Cup:

Friday, May 31 — The Soto Six: John Coltrane & McCoy Tyner Tribute. Free.

## East County Live Music

₽Ba	ncroft	-				
Thu 5/16	K-Skunk& T-Chronic	23	JIRGHE			
	Sensi Trails	A.E.				
	Strictly Skunk \$5		ON . SAL			
Fri 5/17	Fisted	Fri 5/17	Arena			
	Jumped In		Aerosmÿthe			
	War Boy \$3	Sat 5/18	Serious Guise			
Sun 5/19	Scenic Byway	Fri 5/24	Barbwire			
Thu 5/23	Delma	Sat 5/25	Copy Cat Killers			
	Berri Txarrat	Fri 5/31	West of 5			
	Dark Globe					
	22 Missiles \$5	Sat 6/1	Final Days			
Fri 5/24	Lessons	Fri 6/7	Old Skool			
	Gray Weather	Sat 6/8	One Night			
Sat 6/1	BillyClub		in the City			
021 0/1	(reunion show) \$5	Karaoke w/ Jeffffff Every Sun @ 7pm & Weds @ 8pm				
914	13 Campo Rd,	8528 Magnolia #105,				

**Spring Valley** 

CHULA VISTA Brewery **LIVE MUSIC** Friday, May 17 **Good Friday** DJ Set by Boogie Buba with Stillo Saturday, May 18 Noche Tropical with Viejo Lowbo & Friends Sunday, May 19 Mariachi Sunday (5pm-9pm) with Resident Mariachi Diamente de San Diego Tuesday, May 21 Jazz Night with Paul Lopez CHULA VISTA BREWERY 294 3RD AVE., CHULA VISTA, CA 619.616.8806 CHUI AVISTABREWERY COM THE RESERVE AND ADDRESS OF THE PERSON OF THE

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Friday, May 31 — Música En La Plaza. Free.

#### **Carlsbad Community** Church:

Sunday, May 26 — Only Under God: A Patriotic Musical. Free.

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

Saturday, May 25 — The Lemonheads and Tommy Stinson.

Sunday, May 26 — Booty Bassment. \$10. Tuesday, May 28 - Howard Gelh

Wednesday, May 29 - The Undertones and Mrs. Magician.

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Wed 5/15 Club Kingston

Presents Sandollar & DJ Carlos Culture

Thu 5/16 After Funk

Fri 5/17 Diggin Dirt

Sat 5/18 MAOLI W/ LELANDY, TFLATZ, DJ AKRITE

**Sun 5/19 OBOKE** 

Mon 5/20 Electric Waste Band

Tue 5/21 Scenic Byway

Thursday, May 30 — Helms Alee. \$12-\$15 Friday, May 31 — Author &

Punisher and Xasthur. \$15.

**Central Library:** Tuesday, May 28 — Swing Dance under the Dome. Free.

#### Ché Café:

Thursday, May 23 — Downtown Boys. \$12. Friday, May 24 — Negative Gemini, \$12-\$15. Thursday, May 30 - Field Medic. \$12-\$15.

#### **Conrad Prebys Performing** Arts Center:

Saturday, May 25 — Heart of a Child Benefit Concert, \$30-\$100.

Coyote Bar & Grill: Sunday, May 26 - Flipside Burners, Free.

Longest standing music venue in PB! www.710BC.COM

Friday 5/17 Tunnel Vision • Sensi Trails **Cydeways** 

Saturday 5/18 Sofa King Bueno • Hall Pass The Openers -"Youth Music Fundraiser"

Tuesday Night Live 5/21 Avenna • Little Life Crisis

> Onen Mic 6:30nm **Every Wednesday**

Sunday, May 26 - She Says So. Free

**Del Mar Fairgrounds:** Friday, May 31 — Justin Moore.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union

Friday, May 24 — Robin Henkel

**Ebullition Brew Works:** Saturday, May 25 — The

Stilettos. Free.

Encinitas Elks Lodge: Friday, May 24 — Flipside

Burners & Tarvn Donath, \$5-\$10. **Fast Times:** Friday, May 24 — Donna Larsen

#### Fred's Mexican Cafe Old

& Messengers.

Saturday, May 25 — Tim Yancey.

Sunday, May 26 — Tim Apple. **Full Circle Saloon:** 

Friday, May 31 — West of 5.

#### Hacienda de Vega Carlsbad: Saturday, May 25 — Casey Hensley.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Sunday, May 26 — Ali Ryerson with Frank Potenza & Luther Hughes. Free.

**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.

High Tech High:

Thursday, May 30 — Off Beat Music Festival. Free.

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

Friday, May 24 — Ron's Garage. Saturday, May 25 — Dave Humphries. Friday, May 31 — Whiskey Ridge.

#### **Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill** Rancho San Diego: Thursday, May 23 — Hooley's

Open Mic. Friday, May 24 — Tony Cummins. Saturday, May 25 — Steven Langdon. Thursday, May 30 — Hooley's Open Mic.

#### **House of Blues:**

Thursday, May 23 — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink, Free. Thursday, May 23 — The Exploited and D.I. \$20-\$45. Friday, May 24 — The Damned and the Buttertones. \$27-\$45. Saturday, May 25 — DSB: An American Journey. \$15-\$30. Sunday, May 26 - Gospel Brunch. \$22-\$44. Sunday, May 26 — Graham Gillot Band, Free. Sunday, May 26 — Jenny Lewis. Tuesday, May 28 — Arizona. \$21-\$41. Tuesday, May 28 — Robin Henkel.

Wednesday, May 29 - The Moneymen Band. Free. Wednesday, May 29 — Elle King and Barns Courtney. Thursday, May 30 - The Specials \$45-\$65 Thursday, May 30 — Jerry "Hotrod" DeMink. Free.

**Humphreys by the Bay:** 

Thursday, May 23 — El Gran Festival de Musica Cubana. Friday, May 24 - Little Feat.

#### Irenic:

Saturday, May 25 — I Am Through Being Cool Fest.

#### Ki's Restaurant:

Friday, May 31 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

#### La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, May 24 — Christopher Hollyday: Nat King Cole Tribute. \$18-\$25.

#### Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:

Sunday, May 26 — Memorial Day Pool Party. \$30.

#### 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

#### Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD:

Thursday, May 30 — UC San Diego Gospel Choir. Free.

#### Market Creek Plaza:

Friday, May 24 — Jazz at the Creek: A New Groove. \$25-\$90. Saturday, May 25 - Jazz at the Creek: A New Groove. \$25-\$90. Sunday, May 26 - Jazz at the Creek: A New Groove. \$25-\$90.

#### Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, May 24 — Still Around. Free

#### Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, May 23 — Megan Ruger. Friday, May 24 — Brodie Stewart

Band. Saturday, May 25 — Megan

Ruger. Thursday, May 30 — 40 Oz. to Freedom

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

Thursday, May 23 — Three Chord Justice. Friday, May 24 — Bonneville 7. Saturday, May 25 - Celeste Barbier. Saturday, May 25 — Blue Light.

Thursday, May 30 — Ghostriders Country Band.

#### Music Box:

Thursday, May 23 — Digital Bath and Anesthesia, \$10. Friday, May 24 — Minnesota. \$18-\$20. Saturday, May 25 — Matisyahu.

Sunday, May 26 — The Steely Damned 2. \$24-\$72.

#### Nick & G's:

Friday, May 24 — Tim Yancey.

#### **Observatory North Park:** Sunday, May 26 — Sleep and Big

Business. Wednesday, May 29 - Refused and Bleached. Thursday, May 30 — FIDLAR. \$27.

#### Omnia San Diego:

Friday, May 24 — Diplo. Sunday, May 26 - Steve Aoki.

#### Pacific Islander Beer Company:

Saturday, May 25 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

#### Pala Mesa Resort:

Friday, May 24 — West of 5. Free

#### Petco Park:

Saturday, May 25 — My LED LISA

#### Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

Saturday, May 25 - Sponge and Fuzz-Huzzi.

#### Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:

Saturday, May 25 — Tori Roze & the Hot Mess.

#### Rockin' Baja Lobster - Old Town:

Friday, May 24 — Jim Allen Trio. Friday, May 24 — Santana Pa Ti.

#### San Diego Maritime Museum:

Saturday, May 25 — Festival of the Sea: HMS Surprise Ship Pub.

Sunday, May 26 — Festival of the Sea: HMS Surprise Ship Pub. \$20.

Thursday, May 23 — The Bright Light Social Hour and Swimm.

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. Tuesday, May 28 — Íf We Were Turtles and Buriedbutstillbreathing. \$7. Wednesday, May 29 - Thick. \$8-\$10 Thursday, May 30 - Sego. \$10-

#### 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.

#### St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church:

Friday, May 24 — Triadic Memories. \$20-\$40. Saturday, May 25 - Triadic Memories. \$20-\$40. Saturday, May 25 — Triadic Memories. \$20-\$40.

#### **Trinity United Methodist** Church:

Saturday, May 25 — San Diego Contra Dance. \$12.

#### USS Midway Museum:

Friday, May 24 — Daughtry.

#### **United Church of Christ of** La Mesa:

Sunday, May 26 — Chamber Brayura, Free.

#### 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.

#### Winstons Beach Club:

Monday, May 27 — Electric Waste Band. \$5.













## 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.

#### 1776 Presented by JCompany Youth Theatre

The JCompany Youth Theatre kpresents 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 an all-female cast

LAWRENCE FAMILY JEWISH COMMU-NITY CENTER, 4126 EXECUTIVE DR., LA JOLLA. 8PM SATURDAYS, 1PM & 4:30PM SLINDAYS

#### 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. 1PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, & SIINDAY

#### 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.

#### Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Roald Dahl's classic with songs from original film, including "Pure Imagination," "The Candy Man," and "Ive 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. 7:30PM THURSDAY &
FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 1PM
& 6PM SUNDAY.

#### **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 CA-BRILLO, NONE. 949-492-0465. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

#### 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. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS

#### 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 Fail 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 GROSS-MONT COLLEGE DR., EL CAJON, CA 92020. 7:30PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY.

#### 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. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2:30PM SUNDAY.

#### **Gods of Comedy**

Daphne and Ralph are young classics 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. BPM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS. 2PM & FPM SUNDAYS. TPM

TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

#### Jane Doe in the Quiet Room

Enjoy a staged reading of Jack Shea's "Jane Doe in the Quiet Room." Jane comes from money and lives in L.A. She was found walking a San Diego freeway indiscreetly and has been taken to the hospital for an evaluation. Has she hit rock bottom? How long will she stay? Can one of the shift nurses and security guards help her?

LA JOLLA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6811
LA JOLLA BL., LA JOLLA. 858-459-0831.
2PM SUNDAY, 7PM MONDAY, MAY 20.

#### 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 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. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

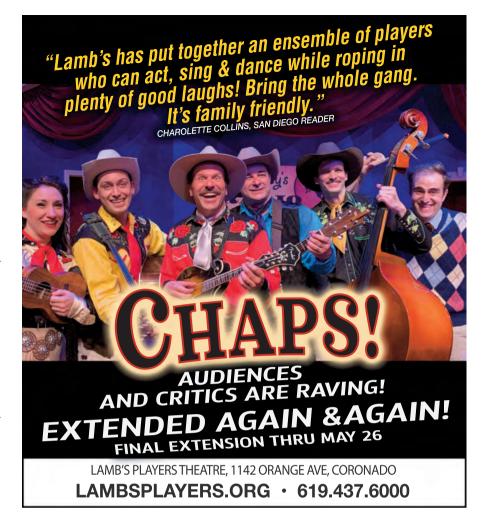
#### Pagliacci

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.

VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 7PM SATURDAY 3PM SUNDAY

#### **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. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS

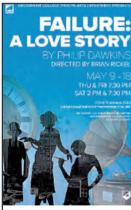
#### **Pride and Prejudice**

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 Flizabeth'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. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS

#### **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., SOLANA BEACH, 858-481-1055, 6PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 6PM SATURDAY, 6PM SUNDAY.



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.

#### To reclaim ideals and virtue

"FACTS ARE THE ENEMY OF TRUTH!" says Don Quixote in the musical Man of La Mancha. Soon after, he adds, "I think reality is in the eye of the beholder."

Perhaps that's why the 1965 Broadway musical and Tony winner is experiencing a bit of a resurgence of late. A new production just launched in London's famed West End; another will play at the Horton Grand Theater this fall. At the moment, the Oceanside Theatre Company is staging a production at the Sunshine Brooks Theater, which runs til May 26.

The subjectivity of facts has become a popular concern, given the politics of the past few years, as the promised democratization of speech delivered by the information age has mainly served to fragment our once shared perception of objective reality. Now, for every news report suggesting one truth, there appears another claiming the opposite. Armed with contradictory so-called facts, we are left to bicker with one another online over which reality should prevail.

In La Mancha, as in the novel that inspired it, Don Quixote sees a world of magic-endowed enemies that can be overcome only by the incorruptible nobility of a knight-errant. Plenty of characters try to call the Don's attention to empirical truths, and

even his faithful sidekick Sancho Panza points out that the ogre Quixote attempts to fight is actually a windmill. Is it? Or, as Quixote suggests, has the ogre cleverly transformed himself into a windmill to escape justice? Such reversals of logic have become familiar

Knightly quests were already an antiquated notion when Spaniard Miguel de Cervantes published the musical's source material, the novel Don Quixote. That was in 1605, a century after Columbus, a colonial era during which Spain became flush with wealth and military might. Through the 16th century, it was the undisputed most powerful country on the planet, with unprecedented global influence. But even as the 17th century began, it was an empire in decline: its armada stretched thin and no longer invincible, its economy dependent on colonial holdings that were beginning to escape its grasp. Even as Spain tried to maintain its might, the institutions that controlled it — the church and aristocracy — contributed no taxes to the state, overburdening the lower classes instead, and ultimately diminishing what we nowadays call gross domestic product.

In such a time and place, under circumstances that echo our own, perhaps it's not Quixote's disdain for facts that resonated, but that he resisted the argument over them in a



Rudy Martinez as Don Quixote and Steve Lawrence as Sancho Panza in the Oceanside Theatre Company production of Man of La Mancha.

quest to reclaim ideals and virtue.

The tragedy of Don Quixote isn't that he can't discern the reality before him, it's that his compatriots view his optimistic notion — that honor can be reclaimed in a world of prevailing self-interest — as insanity. His niece and heir sees him as doddering, her fiancé as a family embarrassment. The prostitute he puts on a pedestal as the virtuous Lady Dulcinea sees him as a nonsensical madman.

We're no less jaded today. Even within the musical, the audience doesn't directly root for

Don Quixote, but for the character Miguel de Cervantes. La Mancha's protagonist is the author himself, who finds himself imprisoned for questioning by the Spanish Inquisition, and acts out the story of Quixote as a play within a play, to prevent fellow inmates from destroying his manuscript. The structure suggests that a contemporary audience cannot suspend disbelief enough to accept Quixote's fantastic optimism. We need an extra degree of separation, the assurance that such an idea could prevail only as fiction.

#### 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

Original dances inspired by

the words of notable and

emerging poets. Faculty and

student choreographers

have each selected a poem

and created choreography.

Dance and poetry are

woven together throughout

the evening, as actors from

the Conservatory of Musical

Theatre and Drama perform

several poems between

dances.

Coronado

**High School** 

650 D Ave.

Fri and Sat,

May 17 and 18, 7 pm

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS,

#### **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. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 4PM SUNDAY,

## THE GRADIEN STEPH DEL ROSSO

Written and directed by Steph Del Rosso. Tess just landed a job at sleek tech start-up The Gradient: a center where men accused of sexual misconduct are sent to be rehabilitated. The clients go in with a lifetime of toxic male conditioning and emerge as new men, sensitized, redeemed. It sounds too good to be true, and maybe it is.

#### **UCSD Theodore** and Adele Shank **Theatre**

May 17, 8 pm, May 18, 2 pm

#### 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

DUCHESS!DUCHESS!DUCHESS!

#### **Duchess! Duchess! Duchess!**

By Vivian Barnes, directed by Juliana Kleist-Mendez. A Royal Wedding is looming. The Duchess and The Soonto-be-Duchess are meeting face to face for the first time to go over everything you ever needed to know to become a duchess. There are rules.

#### **Arthur Wagner** Theatre

May 16, 7:30 pm, May 18, 10:30 am. play and reality, entering into an increasingly serious game of power. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA 619-422-7787 8PM FRI-DAYS & SATURDAYS 2PM SUNDAYS

#### Wagner New Play Festival 2019

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 THURSDAYS FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS,

#### UPCOMING SHOWS

#### 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 24 THROUGH JUNE 2.

#### **Little Shop of Horrors**

Seymour Krelborn finds a strange plant during an eclipse and believes it to be his opportunity to escape his unhappy life on Skid Row. His co-worker, Audrey, is dealing with her own problems, and dreams of going "somewhere that's green." What neither of them realize, however, is that this strange and unusual plant is actually a smooth-talking, man-eating monster bent on world domination. Directed by AJ Knox. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. MAY 24 THROUGH AUG. 4.

#### 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 BI LINIVERSITY HEIGHTS 619-728-7820, MAY 23 THROUGH JUNE 23.

#### **Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street**

Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to London seeking vengeance against the lecherous Judge Turpin who framed him and took his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, the resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett's luck sharply shifts when Todd's thirst for revenge inspires a new ingredient for her meat pies that has the people of London lining up. OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEW-

PORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH, 619-795-9305, MAY 24 THROUGH JUNE 16.



## THE PETTYBREAKERS // SATURDAY, MAY 25

Gates 6 pm // Show 7:30 pm // Tickets: \$15 - \$40

The nation's premiere Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers tribute band re-creates the sights, sounds, and concert experience of the legendary singer. All of the classics are rolled into one concert: *American Girl, Free Falling, Break Down, Mary Jane's Last Dance*, and more.



## **JOHN WAITE // SATURDAY, JULY 6**

Gates 6 pm // Show 7:30 pm // Tickets: \$22 - \$57

During the 70s and 80s John Waite's hits dominated the airwaves, from *Missing You, Isn't it Time*, to *When I See You Smile*. See this rock icon and his band perform these songs and more live at The Moonlight.

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## TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!

moonlightstage.com // 760.724.2110

## **Trial by Fire:** Burning bathos

MOVIES

everal anti-death penalty features were fated to follow in the wake of Dead Man Standing (most notably The Green Mile), but in most instances, stories of wrongfully-accused lifers punching the clock on death row are the talk of voice-activated Smart TVs. No

stranger to television and movies, Emmy and Oscar-award win-

ning director Ed Zwick straddles the fence by paying passing homage to both mediums. It's only in terms of performance that Trial By Fire ignites the screen.

We open in mid-blaze, with Cameron Todd Willingham (Jack O'Connell) — or Todd as he's called by those closest to him — inside the smouldering home, unable, for reasons that will later become clear, to deliver his three babies from extinction. Fearing that his cherry Camaro could be turned to kindling — or did he sense a bigger blast if the flames were to reach the gas tank? — Todd stumbles from the burning house to push the car to safety. According to the appalled lady across the street, this decisively oddball move proved her neighbor guilty of placing the well being of his car before the lives of his children.

"Fire talks to you, it doesn't lie," asserts one crime scene detective, only

> to later top that rubric with this sagacious chunk of forensicality:

"Fire doesn't destroy evidence, it creates it." Someone in the department deserved to be fired, what with all the errors of detection initially afforded the investigation. Inside the scorched wreckage, a refrigerator blocks the kitchen door, as if knowingly and willfully placed there to block the exit. The floor of the bedroom in which detectives find the charred remains of three young girls indicates gasoline poured in the shape of a pentagram. In the days before the internet gave individuals their daily spew, America thrived on trial-by-talk-radio. In no time, the airwaves pulse with caller's



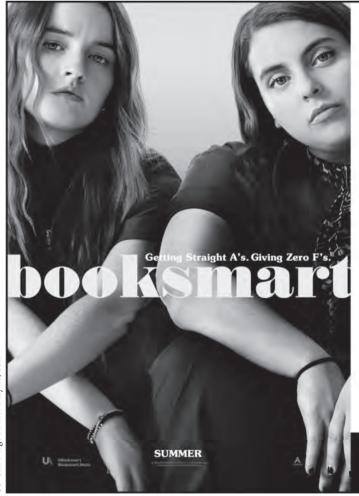
Trial By Fire: The aftermath of tragedy, but was it arson?

thoughts on ritualistic slaughter.

Then there are the false flashbacks, those moments planted by the filmmakers to raise initial doubt in the viewer's mind as to whether or not Todd deserves the jailhouse sobriquet of Baby-Killer. Was he honestly capable of tossing a lit cigarette on the gasolinesoaked carpet? And what's with the Rambo-esque war paint, streaks down the cheeks drawn from the ashes of tragedy? Reality goes like this: when the cops know Todd's name before

running his license, it's a cinch that the drive home from his children's funerals wasn't being interrupted for a routine traffic stop. Removed from his car, the grieving father is cuffed and placed under arrest for triple-homicide.

With David Grann's New Yorker article to guide them, Zwick and screenwriter Geoffrey Fletcher work quickly to whittle away at what could have amounted to lengthy courtroom proceedings. Stacy Willingham (Emily Meade) testifies that whatever beatings she took off her estranged husband were countered with an equal number of bruises given. She's quick to shoot down any accusations of forced attempts on Todd's part to terminate a pregnancy. If anything, Stacy finds her husband guilty of fear, not filicide. I believe every word of Emily Meade's bullshit-free performance. There's an authenticity in her, such that Stacy that can't help but hammer home Todd's innocence. Where was she when they were passing out awards to supporting players?



**U** Reader

## ENTER TO WIN TICKETS TO AN ADVANCE SCREENING OF

## booksmart

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DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY, MAY 17 AT 1:00 PM.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Seating is first-come, first-served and cannot be guaranteed. Theater is overbooked to ensure a full house. BOOKSMART has been rated R (Restricted - Under 17 Requires Accompanying Parent or Adult Guardian)

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Enter Elizabeth Gilbert (Laura Dern), a writer and teacher who, seven years into Todd's incarceration, happens upon his case when stopping to help a stranger fix a flat. Gilbert (not the author of Eat Pray Love) views the death penalty as a form of legalized revenge and begins to champion Todd's case. How creepy must it be for her children to learn that their single mother has a jailhouse boytoy? (Her ailing ex-husband clings to life just long enough to appear in a couple of scenes before checking out.) A born charmer, Todd flirts up a storm, causing friends of the smitten Gilbert to joke about her "death row romance."

Just because life offers up cliches doesn't mean a director has to play them as such. The traditional thawing of the glacial prison guard (Chris Coy) comes with no surprise or derivation. With plenty of time on his hands and Gilbert's penpal confessional to contemplate, Todd takes a turn toward the delusional. Not only does he dream of standing in Gilbert's kitchen, watching as she reads his letters, Todd imagines his oldest daughter spending quality jail time in dad's cell with him. It was at about this moment that my interest began to severly wane.

For Gilbert, it was never about guilt or innocence. All she ever wanted was a fair trial. Earlier, I made mention of slighting Meade in last year's awards derby. Laura Dern's probably been robbed of more awards than Meade's given performances. We always hear talk of not enough quality parts out there for women. O'Connell is fine in his role as the wronged man, but it's the women who carry the picture. With that in mind, fans of the genre and detailed performances alike could do worse.

-Scott Marks

#### **MOVIE** LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies

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



A cinematic counterpart to word association, this trio of films came to mind spontaneously and without reflection while watching The Garden Store trilogy.

Scott Marks

#### COOKOO CAVALIERS (1940)

Hey, Jan Hřebejk — steal from the Stooges and you're gonna get caught, I'm warning you! Where'd you get the idea to stage a beauty parlor scalping in Deserter? Nice try, but Swiss Model Airplane Glue will never replace Famo Hair Remover, the age-old follicle unfixative bottled here at the source in San Diego. (Visit YouTube if you won't take my word for it.) Kudos to Hřebejk for properly punching the gag with a closeup. That's more than can be said of Curlean photographer Jules White, who forced his poor Stooge starlets to suffer together in long shot. Seriously, somewhere in his formative years, Mr. Hřebejk must have been exposed to the work of Tři Stoogové. It's a rite of passage for male chowderheads worldwide, no matter their country of origin.

MY FAVORITE WIFE (1940) Imagine Cary Grant's shock when Irene Dunne, the shipwrecked wife he had

long given up for dead, washes ashore just after he's taken a second bride (the haughty Ms. Gail Patrick) — and with Randolph Scott, her hunky castaway companion of seven years, in tow. (In reality, Cary and Randy would have ditched the girls to spend quality time together in their Santa Monica beach house.) My Favorite Wife was to have been the original title of Leo McCarey's screwball anthem The Awful Truth (1937).



Bottled right here at the source!

Grant and Dunne returned for this unofficial sequel, with McCarey producing and receiving a co-screenwriting credit. (What? No Ralph Bellamy!) This time, the capable Garson Kanin took the helm, but it proved to be a case of the team's inability to reheat a souffle. Still, with this cast and crew, it would be impossible not to find something to entertain.

**CACTUS FLOWER (1969)** A single dentist (Walter Mat-

thau) with commitment issues tells his much younger girlfriend (Goldie Hawn) that he's married. Comedy happens when his spinsterish nurse (Ingrid Bergman) is recruited to play pretend wife. Because I wasn't looking to obscure fond memories of numerous teenage viewings, the snapcase for this one sat shelved in its original shrink wrap for lo these many years. (Beads of sweat materialized even before the title card hit the screen.) A hippie strolls the

> streets of New York, planting daisies under windshield wipers. After the second car, he falters and stares directly into the camera, as if to say, "What now?" Call it the Gene Saks Touch, named for a master of canned Broadway comedies. maestro of the shootnow-figure-it-out-later school of visual storytelling, and Auteur du Mame. From the

opening meet-cute - neighbor Rick Lenz smells gas seeping from under the suicidal Hawn's door — unseemliness follows at every turn of this comedy of adultery. It was to be Hawn's first movie; the carefully conceived dumb-blonde character she designed for Laugh-In paved the way for her to win an Oscar right out of the gate. The highlight here will forever be Vitto Scotti's lecherous count, whose Swiss Bank accounts almost outnumber his witty asides.

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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. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Aniara - It was supposed to be a threeweek jaunt to Mars aboard a transport ship: a floating erector set outfitted with deluxe accommodations, 21 restaurants, and an attraction known as Mima, a soothing rest-for-the-weary club room that administers emotional tuneups to uneasy colonists. But a collision with an asteroid knocks the cosmic liner astray, causing the craft to drift for what should have been no more than two years before finding a celestial body with enough magnetic pull to set it back on course. That's nothing compared to the 60 years (and a prevailing interest in global warming) it took for Swedish Nobel laureate Harry Martinsson's epic poem of an ill-starred starcruiser to make it to the movies. The characters and their situations are regularly overshadowed by the film's team of effects technicians and designers, whose contributions are exemplars of brilliance on a budget. And when was the last time an intertitle copped the biggest laugh in a movie? Newcomers Pella Kågerman and Hugo Lilja direct and Emelie Jonsson stars. 2018. — S.M. ★★★ (LAND-MARK 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?] timetravel 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 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)

The Biggest Little Farm — A splendid

commercial — as opposed to argument — for small-scale biodiversity as an effective operative principle for a family farm in Southern California. (Translation: although farming necessarily involves imposition on the natural world, the closer you get to being just one more strand in the ecological web, the better.) It's great to look at; director John Chester (who co-stars with his wife Molly) is a nature photographer from way back, and it shows. And there are moments both thrilling (the approach of the fires, the war on the snails) and heartwarming (the unlikely friendship between an ugly pig and an uglier rooster, et alia). But what there isn't is any sense of risk to go along with all the rewards that come from rejecting modern industrial agriculture. No sense of the cost that comes when the birds eat your fruit and the gophers eat your roots and the snails eat your leaves and the covotes eat your chickens while you search for sustainable solutions. The Chesters have investors. you see, and so what they're doing seems more experiment than exemplar: a chance to see what's possible when you don't have to be entirely practical. A chance to seek meaning as well as money. And as far as that goes, it works, as both farm and film. 2018. — M.L. ★★ (LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

**Double Indemnity** — Trash with pedigree: a novel by Cain, a script coauthored by Chandler, and fine work from Stanwyck and MacMurray, the latter of whom can always make sin look so unpleasurable. But this is not one of Billy Wilder's more personal projects, shallow and sleazy, and only conformistly cynical instead of (as in his better work) individually cynical. With Edward G. Robinson. 1944. — D.S. ★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ)

Hail Satan? — The question mark in the title of Penny Lane's documentary on The Satanic Temple is integral to the story she's telling. Like Satan himself — the original disrupter in the Garden of Eden, the rebel and accuser who bedevils the righteous - Temple co-founder Lucien Greaves is a troll. His outfit's first gathering is more prank than piety: a kind of embodied internet gag about the dangers of opening the door to religious influence in the public square, because when you do, Here Comes Everybody, And there's no question that he enjoys the outrage that follows his proposals to celebrate the American ideal of religious tolerance by placing a statue of Baphomet next to a Ten Commandments monument on public land. But by the time he's strapping on a Kevlar vest before giving a speech, it's clear that, troll or no, he's not just doing it for the lulz. He and his fellow adherents - there are more than you might imagine, and from more walks of life — single reserious in their belief that Christianity is an oppressive, even hateful institution, and that the Seven Tenets of The Satanic and that the Seven Tenets of The Satanic Temple are a more decent, more human set of rules by which to live than the one Moses brought down from the mountain. (Do what thou wilt is absolutely not the whole of the law here: a charismatic chapter leader gets booted for rejecting the Temple's teaching against violence.) And they're serious about engaging the world in the name of their movement. But it's

not clear that what they've got going on is a religion, or even exactly what's meant by the word. Lane could have stood to do a little more with those sorts of questions, and a lot less sampling from old movies. But it's still a fine, thought-provoking effort. 2019. — M.L. \*\*\* (LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

**The Hustle** — Thirty years ago, Michael Caine and Steve Martin mugged their way through the slapstick guesswork of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, Frank Oz's lead-footed remake of Brando's nadir, Bedtime Story. Lower your expectations - gosh only knows the filmmakers did when they set Anne Hathaway (the actress Nikki Swift dubbed "Hollywood's most hated") opposite Rebel "Can't Open a Picture" Wilson — and you might leave feeling moderately entertained. It certainly is easy on the eyes and ears: squint, and cinematographer Michael Coulter's location nightwork combined with the sound of composer Anne Dudley's Mancini-inspired bounce will bring one as close as modern day cinema comes to Blake Edwards and Stanley Donen. (Not really, but I can dream.) Alas, other than a few precision sight gags (the Hefty Trash bag frocks were divine), the slob vs. snob pairing bleeds panache but clots at conviction. (What's with Hathaway's floating accent?) The main takeaway is Alex Sharp, the romantic lead looking to Dial this Charade put-on up a notch or two. 2019. —  $\hat{S.M.} \bigstar \star$  (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Intruder** — Charlie (Dennis Quaid), a locked-and-loaded delusional narcissist whose view of life is shaded by a red baseball cap, refuses to budge from his property even after its sale to a

young couple (Meagan Good as Annie and Michael Ealy as Scott) has been finalized. Who can blame a guy if the home in which he killed his ex doesn't hold some sentimental value? Besides. Scott has a tough enough time trying to convince psycho Charlie to back the hell off when Annie, stupidly sensing a lonely widowed soul, keeps opening the door to him. Quaid gives what could amount to a career-crowning performance. Not since Terry O'Quinn's star turn as The Stepfather has there resided in the basement a more nuanced, finely derailed monster. But it's a wasted effort, seeing as screenwriter David Loughery finds nothing new to explore. All of this seems to be just fine with director Deon Taylor, who pretty much had this material covered in Traffilk. 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

John Wick: Chapter 3 - Parabellum — Marks has a short fuse for Wick

**lum** — Marks has a short fuse for *Wick*, so review duties will fall on Lickona's watch. Review forthcoming at sandiegore-ader.com, 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Long Shot** — Director Jonathan Levine's mighty, even valiant, but still probably doomed struggle to make a rom-com for the post-Tinder era. So while it's still a given that people will bang before they feel close enough for something so intimate as a date and a slow dance. there's sort of a reason for it. See, she's the Secretary of State and he's her speechwriter as she prepares to announce a run for President, and they're in the Philippines during a bit of civil unrest, and well near-death experiences do tend to foment frantic fornication. And the requisite complications are sort of believable, too: he's a crusading idealist wary of sellouts, she's a politician who can't help but make compromises on her path to power. (Or can she?) But the things that come closest to making it all work are the leads: Seth Rogen's righteous wiseass bluster gets blunted by both love-interest Charlize

Theron and best friend O'Shea Jackson, Jr. (this is a good thing), and absolutely nothing dims Theron's star power (this is an even better thing). The political satire is a mess — think sledgehammer to watermelon rather than rapier to windbag — and the crassness winds up taking things from "keeping it real" to "yeah, that's just a grossout dream of how things ought to be." It may not work as a movie, but as a love story, it's got great appeal. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Pokémon Detective Pikachu — For a while, the first live-action Pokemon movie's achievements are enough: first and foremost among them, Ryme City, a vibrant urban world in which Pokemon and people live cheek-by-jowl and it doesn't seem unbearably weird or impossible. (Nor does it seem morally complicated, since the city's residents have gotten past that whole "gotta catch 'em all, store 'em in a globular prison, and then make 'em fight each other" mindset.) Second, a mystery that plays like a Young Person's Introduction to the Great Private Eye Stories of Yesteryear. All the requisite elements, cleaned up just enough to make 'em kid-friendly: your illegal drugs, your violent underworld, your feisty dame, your powerful interests, and your story of a tragic death that somehow doesn't quite ring true. And speaking of cleaned-up: Rvan Revnolds manages to find Deadpool's sweet inner child for his role as the amnesiac-but-still-wisecracking Detective Pikachu. So ves, there are virtues to set against the strange emotional flatness (there's never a sense of danger, and there should be), the big mid-movie slowdown (shoulda trimmed it to 90 minutes, tops), and the wheels-off-the-bus final act with its loopy Big Reveals and goopy Big Emotions. Maybe kids will love it. But I'm guessing that once Reynolds' adorable schtick wears thin, they'll be waiting for it to end. 2019. - M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Poms — After her doctor issues a death sentence, Martha (Diane Keaton) packs up and moves to a retirement community in Georgia where it's presumably much cheaper to shoot than New York or L.A. While unpacking she discovers a megaphone and high school uniform and decides to go out cheering. That is more than can be said for any members of the audience brave enough to see this condescending slop through to the end. What's funnier than an old bird flipping the bird? Not much, at least according to Zara Hayes, a documentarian exploring for the first time the limitless formulaic possibilities of geezer porn. Why must so many films depict older Americans as either burdensome shames or doddering sources of cuddly amusement? A paean to euthanasia and an embarrassment to all parties involved, particularly Keaton who believed in this so much that she agreed to produce. And if DC is looking for someone to play the Joker in a female reboot, Jacki Weaver's grotesque "Cookie Puss left in the rain" makeup job doubles as an audition reel. 2019. - S.M. • (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Rafiki — Blacksta (Neville Misati) assures his friend Kena (Samantha Mugatsia) that she will make a good wife But if the manner in which she eveballs Ziki (Sheila Munyiva) dancing across the street is any indication, heterosexual marriage is the furthest thing from Kena's mind. Kena and Ziki are the daughters of rival political candidates - and even that isn't enough to blow fresh life into this exhausted tale of jinxed love. From the giddy highs of first romance to the crashing despair brought by intolerance, there isn't anything in the picture audiences haven't experienced dozens, if not hundreds of times in the past. (The film's one standout is cinematographer Christopher Wessels' electric-colored lighting design.) Still, the fact that director and co-writer Wanuri Kahiu completed a pro-LGBT film in Kenya, a place governed by anti-gay sex laws, is itself a minor miracle. In the future, may the insurrectionary nature of Kahiu's work impact the people of Kenya, as well as the director's ability to find in her work a fresh vantage point from which to mount a story. 2018. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Tolkien — Director Dome Karukoski's portrait of the man who wrote The Hobbit and The Lord of the Rings tells three intertwining tales. The first and most artful of these gives us the making of a writer: an orphan whose mother taught him to love language before she died, a nature lover forced into the brimstone-belching industrial world, a boon companion who loses friends to the horrors of the First World War. The second — blunter, sometimes clumsier, but not without worthwhile points and pleasures - gives us the making of the works themselves. It may be a bit on the nose to translate the mortar bursts and mustard gas of The Battle of the Somme directly to the blasted monstrosities of Mordor, but when your subject spends a good part his literary energy mourning the violent destruction of a civilization, some allowance may perhaps be made. And the third? The gradual, sometimes wince-worthy, but ultimately gratifying making of a man, as he learns to love a woman. Tolkien casts a delicate spell: it's not difficult to imagine some viewers proving utterly impervious to its peculiar magic. But some others will be enchanted and even transported by its charms. 2019. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Transit** — What if *Casablanca* was set in Marseilles, and Rick was a famous writer

and also dead, but a fugitive Jew (Franz Rogowski, a remarkable blend of Woody Harrelson and Joaquin Phoenix) had assumed his identity? Why fugitive? Why else? the story is set near-ish the modern day, but there are still cleansing-minded fascists bearing down. And what if Ilsa was also a Jew and also the dead writer's wife, and also didn't know he was dead? Well, then you'd have Transit. And don't worry, I haven't given away anything you don't learn in the opening act. Besides, plot mechanics aren't really the point here — they prove to be the film's weakest link, given the coincidental path-crossing that winds up driving the story. The people are the point: trapped, ruefully philosophical but painfully pragmatic, and oh yes, vivid. Vivid like the saturated image, with its popping aquas, its glowing oranges, its bright Southern French sunshine and attendant deep shadows. Or maybe the place is the point — the story notes that Marseilles is a port city, and "ports are places where stories are told." Stories of survival and escape, but more often, of frustration and heartbreak. If the who-goes-who-stays ending is a touch more convoluted than Casablanca's, it also packs a more melancholy wallop. Christian Petzold directed, and ably adapted the screenplay from Anna Seghers' novel, 2018. — M.L. ★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The White Crow — 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 Nureyey, 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. At the outset, Pushkin attributes the dancer's apolitical pursuit of political asylum to "an explosion of character." So we know what happens. What remains is to determine the accuracy of Pushkin's account. Or rather, its precise meaning. Does "explosion" mean a rupture, a violent break with what's come before? Or is it closer to an eruption, the sudden manifestation of what's been building under the surface all along? (The title, a term for unusual outsiders, serves as part of the answer here.) 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. The film is painfully clear in its claim that what we love about talented people is not the person, but the talent. Even Nurevey himself is in thrall to his gift. That's not why he dances, of course. He dances because...well, why does he? Mentor Pushkin argues that "unless you have a story to tell, you have no reason to dance." And with that, he turns the key on this intelligent (if not always pleasant) examination. 2018. - M.L. ★★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

The Wild Bunch — Sam Peckinpah's earth-shaker about a holdup gang in the changing Southwest of the Nineteen Teens. The violence is self-consciously didactic, and the philosophy is selfconsciously existential. It remains one of the imperative movies of its time, though its merits are highly variable from one moment to the next. William Holden and Robert Ryan, playing former sidekicks now on opposite sides of the law, are both laconically eloquent about middleaged disgust. With Ernest Borgnine, Ben Johnson, Warren Oates, and L.Q. Jones, 1969. — D.S. ★★★★ (LAND-MARK KEN)

### **FILM FESTIVALS**

Jan Hřebejk is nothing if not ambitious. The Prague native spent most of 2017 working on *The Garden Store*, a trilogy of war movies that were released just months apart from one another. All three screen back-to-back (with intermissions) on May 25 as part of San Diego's first Czechoslovakian Film Festival. The show kicks off at the Museum of Photographic Arts at 10 am. Mr. Hřebejk will on hand to introduce all three films. (Expect a Q&A following the second movie, so dress sharp.) Nine hours is a big commitment to make, but you're up for it. For tickets, visit eventbrite.com.

## The Garden Store: The Family Friend (2017)

In the erstwhile days of pre-WWII Czechoslovakia, when post-dinner chatter switched to manly matters, womenfolk silently left the table as if on cue. But Emilka won't budge until her two scheming brothers-in-law either clue her in or physically escort her to the kitchen. Her botanist husband looks on in silence as she opts for the latter. The sight of her trampling his one-of-a-kind potted cacti causes hubby to drop their infant child and rush to the aid of the displaced succulent. It's a moment of Monty Pythonesque abandon that doesn't quite prepare one for the serious melodrama at hand. With two of the three brothers placed in POW camps, the story concentrates on the sisters back home, their children, and the titular doctor who may have been more than just a friend to one of them. The dialogue between adults is frank and cogent; using children as harbingers of irony proves much less persuasive. It's a demanding set-



Garden Store: The love between a family doctor (Ondrej Sokol) and a recent war-widow (Anna Geislerová) opens Jan Hřebejk's trilogy.

up — we're expected to brain-juggle a dozen or so loquacious characters — particularly for those not up to speed on the period.

### The Garden Store: Deserter (2017)

Initial reports that each third of the triptych functioned as a stand-alone were greatly exaggerated; treat them as as one would chronological segments of a whole and view accordingly. We re-enter the postwar universe of the Brünner and Rohn families exactly where we left off; their lives, at least for the time being, having reached a status quo. Otto, the deserter brother, returns from the war to find business bustling at his chichi Valentino Salon. But what with Hitler out and Stalin on the way in, tensions inside his handsome art deco home, the one with the mustard door and Crayola green piping, have reached an all-time high. The seeds of dark, unexpected laughter planted by the fumbled baby in Part One reap unexpected riches when Otto's prankster son fills the shampoo bottles with model airplane, glue leaving three female Soviet soldiers smoother on top than Mussolini. More compelling (and narratively compact) than Family Friend, thanks in large part to the brilliant lead acting work of Macháček, who, by the time it's over, has all but depleted the life out of Otto.

#### The Garden Store: Suitor (2017)

And then there was Jindrich (Martin Finger), the angry brother held captive by the Nazis just long enough for his young daughter to grow up thinking the family doctor is her father. Deserter ends with an elegant aging device that advances the story by a couple of decades. What's left of the characters we've come to know takes a back seat to young love, with Jindrich fighting hard to discourage his now fully grown daughter Vilma (Aňa Geislerová) from making something serious out of her summer romance with titular courter Mirek (Ivan Lupták). Then a war buddy who saved Iindrich's life calls in the favor by requesting that a marriage be arranged between his gawkish son and beautiful Vilma. The blunt manner in which a fed-up Slavek (Jachym Kucera) at last gives Vilma the air hits like fireworks to the brain. Finally, there's Aunt Marie (Sabina Remundová) who, like a recurring sitcom character, has one signature function: she can't stop eating. Closing the trilogy on such an insignificant character was the biggest puzzler in an otherwise engrossing way to spend a Saturday afternoon.

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#### **Overreactions**

 Pavel Matveev, 15, of Mogochino village in the Tomsk region of Russia, apparently despairing of having lost a video game, was found in his yard Sept. 4 after committing suicide by decapitating himself with a chain saw. According to the Daily Mail, Russian media reported the teen's sinwhich he "spent hours," said one unnamed source. "This is what killed him."

#### **Likely Story**

 Vanessa Elizabeth Helfant, 38, of Knoxville, Tennessee, floated a "dog bites man" defense at her DUI hearing on Dec. 13, arguing that several parked cars struck her on March 25, 2017. The jury, however, didn't buy her story after hearing evidence: witnesses at the scene followed Helfant to her destination, and when officers arrived and knocked on the door, Helfant called 911 to report people knocking on her door. WATE reported that she eventually admitted that she had drunk half a pint of vodka and smoked marijuana. Helfant, who had no prior offenses, was convicted and faces at least 48 hours in jail and her license will be suspended for a year.

#### Which Witch?

- Tiffany Butch, 33, of Timmins, Ontario, Canada, may go down in history not for her psychic gifts, but for being the last person ever charged in Canada with "pretending to practice witchcraft." On Dec. 11, Butch,

whose nickname is the White Witch of the North, was charged under Section 365 of the Criminal Code for demanding money in return for lifting a curse. Two days later, that law was repealed. Marc Depatie, spokesperson for the Timmons police force, said Butch gave a customer "a sense of foreboding that a dreadful thing was about to happen to their family ... " But Butch denies the charge, saying other psychics framed her. "People proclaimed me a witch here and gave me a nickname, but I'm not a witch. I'm a psychic," she told CBC News. Butch is scheduled to appear in court on Jan. 22.

#### **Weird Science**

- On Jan. 1. Camron Jean-Pierre, an 11-yearold Brooklyn, New York, boy, lost his life after apparently suffering an allergic reaction to the smell of the fish his family was cooking for dinner, reported the New York Daily News. His parents used an unspecified medical device to try to help him, but he lost consciousness and emergency services were called. Camron was taken to Brookdale Hospital, but he couldn't be revived. Scientists have noted that people with food allergies can react strongly to odors from food, and inhaling these odors can cause extreme asthmatic reactions.

#### **People Different From Us**

- Asparagus is healthy and delicious. But for 63-year-old Jemima Packington of Bath, England, the columnar vegetable is much

more: Packington is an asparamancer, a person who can foretell the future by tossing the spears into the air and seeing how they land. "When I cast the asparagus, it creates patterns and it is the patterns I interpret," Packington said. "I am usually about 75 to 90 percent accurate." In fact, out of 13 predictions she made for 2018, 10 of them came true. What's in store for 2019? Packington tells *Metro News* that England's women's soccer team will win the World Cup and fears over Brexit will be largely unfounded. Oh, and asparagus will see an all-time high in sales.

#### **Bright Idea**

- If super-sharp shears snipping near your ears isn't enough of a rush, you might want to visit Madrid, Spain, and the salon of Alberto Olmedo, who uses ninja swords and blowtorches to cut hair. Claiming his approach is inspired by Renaissance tradition, Olmedo told Euronews that swords allow a hairdresser to cut hair from both sides of the head at once, resulting in a more even finish. He started perfecting the skill when he became "disillusioned with scissors." Olmedo also offers a cut with claws worn on the ends of his fingers, and plans are in the works to bring lasers into his work.

#### **Armed and Clumsy**

 Despite a flood of warnings from law enforcement about the dangers of shooting celebratory gunfire into the air on New Year's Éve, an unnamed Kansas City, Kansas man just couldn't resist. As

he prepared to head outside at midnight with his .22-caliber handgun, he "sat the gun down in the couch (and) accidentally shot himself in the stomach," tweeted Police Chief Terry Ziegler. The Kansas City Star reported Ziegler's department conducted a "tweet-along" during the evening, with multiple reports of shots fired - so many that at 11:50 pm, officers headed to a parking gargae to take cover from the bullets that were expected to rain down at midnight. At 12:01 am, the department tweeted, "Gunfire EVERYWHERE." Thankfully, no injuries were reported in the city as a result of the merrymaking.

#### That Reminds Me of a Movie...

- Eakins Oval, a Philadelphia traffic circle, was the scene of an ominous accident on Jan. 1 when a 21-year-old unnamed man tried to climb a monument to George Washington at the center of the circle. WPIV-TV reported that the man slipped while climbing and fell on the sharp antler of a large deer statue at the base of the monument, impaling his left side. He suffered lacerations and was admitted to Hahnemann Hospital nearby.

Send your weird news items to WeirdNewsTips@ amuniversal com

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MASTERS OF THE MOMENT Open to all artists in San Diego County eastcountyartassociation.org

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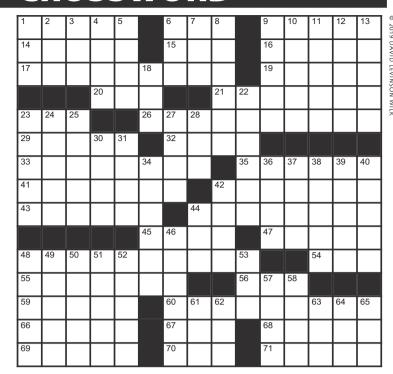
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San Diego Reader May 16,

, 2019

## **CROSSWORD**



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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE	Α	Α	S			F	Α	W	N	S		W	0	Ν	Т

#### 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
- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your
- 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:

  All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces
- 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

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

#### Across

- **1.** Connective tissue that gets its name from a Latin word meaning
- **6.** Fresh \_\_\_\_ daisy
- **9.** Ski lift varieties
- **14.** Duos **15.** Barbecue bone
- **16.** Longtime Rolling Stones bassist Bill
- 17. Mapmakers
- 19. Spouse of Alexander Hamilton
- **20.** \_\_\_\_ orch.
- **21.** First Lady between Lou and Ress
- **23.** Young \_\_\_\_ (kids)
- **26.** "The Powerpuff Girls" TV channel
- **29.** "Me, too!"
- **32.** Honey Bunches of \_\_\_
- **33.** Full discretionary power
- **35.** Did business with
- 41. It's enough to make you cry
- **42.** To the extent that
- **43.** Hemingway title character
- **44.** Its contents are often poured into a cereal bowl
- **45.** Nerve cell part
- **47.** Instagram filter shade
- **48.** Printmaker's durable sheet
- **54.** Patriotic org. founded in 1889
- **55.** Jazz up
- **56.** Sounds of hesitation
- **59.** Certain close-knit social media

- **60.** Message clicked on by an online buyer ... or a hint to solving 1-, 17-, 26-, 33-, 44-, 48or 71-Across
- **66.** It fires electrodes
- **67.**\_\_\_\_-wop
- **68.** Buffalo NHL player
- **69.** Like many student films
- **70.** George Lucas' alma mater:
- **71.** The late 1970s, politically

#### Down

- 1. Big step for a young company, for short
- 2. Skype annoyance
- **3.** It's inhaled
- 4. Mardi
- **5.** Glimpse
- 6. Verb that's a homophone for a letter
- 7. Title for Lancelot
- 8. Playing hooky, say
- **9.** Message that might include an "@" and a "#"
- 10. Company rule
- **11.** \_\_\_\_ acid (protein builder)
- **12.** Stubble remover
- 13. Snide remarks
- **18.** Med. plan option
- 22. Not as much
- **23.** Be of \_\_\_\_ (help)
- **24.** Prize that comes with 9 million kronor
- **25.** Tossed \_

- **28.** When doubled, dance of the 2010s
- **30.** Old-time teacher
- **31.** "Young Frankenstein" lab assistant
- **34.** Bit of finger food
- **36.** Whacks
- 37. Unfunny, as a joke
- **38.** Jobs for plumbers
- **39.** Yo, she was Adrian
- **40.** Schindler of "Schindler's List"
- 42. Hathaway of "Ocean's Eight"
- **44.** "Alley
- **46.** 1980 film with the #1 hit "Magic"
- **48.** One-named "Parks and Recreation" actress
- **49.** "\_\_\_\_, truth is the first casualty": Aeschylus
- **50.** "Kathy Griffin: My Life on the "(Emmy-winning reality show)
- **51.** Barbs
- **52.** "\_\_\_\_\_ Breath You Take" (#1 hit by the Police)
- **53.** Dirt road feature
- **57.** Fire hydrant attachment
- **58.** Lasting reminder
- **61.** Uno + uno
- **62.** Bespectacled Disney dwarf
- **63.** Prez on pennies
- **64.** Basics of school learning, in brief
- 65. Coffee alternative

Arie Passchier, San Diego, 10.

#### Prizes will be available for pickup at the

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

Name:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
5.3,1		

## SUDOKU

## Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

#### **EVIL:**

				9		6		8
				8	4			
							7	2
9	5			4		2	1	
		4				5		
	3	2		6			8	7
8	6							
			1	3				
4		5		2				

#### **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. <u>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.</u> One win per person within a 4 week period.
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- 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.

Dennis Jardim, Oceanside, 1.

#### **SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:**

#### **EVIL:**

7	1	9	6	2	3	5	8	4
2	3	4	8	1	5	9	7	6
6	8	5	4	7	9	1	3	2
3	4	1	9	5	6	7	2	8
8	7	6	2	3	1	4	5	9
5	9	2	7	4	8	6	1	3
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4	2	3	1	9	7	8	6	5
9	6	7	5	8	2	3	4	1

San Diego Reader May 16,

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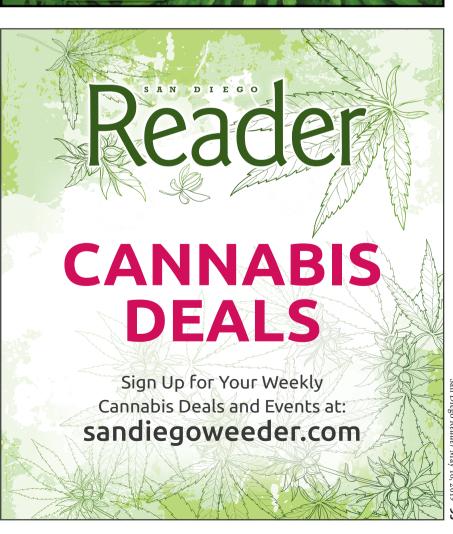
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Diego Reader May 16, 2019



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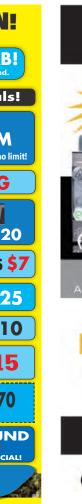


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