

Golden Dreams — Homeschooling family's life on wheels

Meat pies in Chula Vista ■ Tea made from coffee ■ Susan Davis travelogue

SAN DIEGO

VOL. 44 | NO. 34 | AUGUST 22, 2019

Reader

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August 22, 2019



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN ELLIOT

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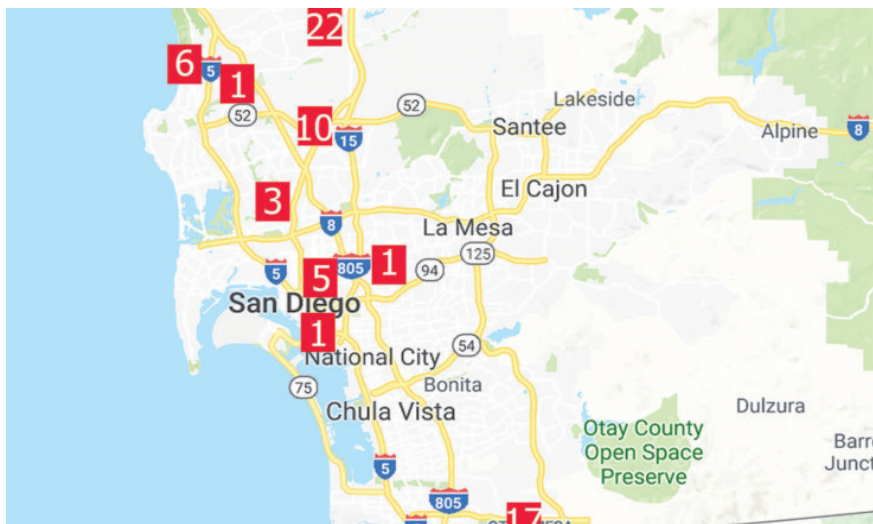


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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers



Marijuana growing application sites: a growing industry means growing revenue!

No pot of gold in San Diego

But other municipalities marshal marijuana makings for the marginalized. Two San Diego city council members exploring ways to tap the city's \$12 million annual marijuana tax haul are likely out of the money, based on a July 31 memo from City Attorney Mara Elliott. "You have expressed your desire to explore the establishment of a Cannabis Equity Program, which would be intended to provide support and mentoring services for communities that may have suffered disproportionate levels of law enforcement of cannabis-related crimes," writes Elliott to council Democrats Chris Ward, running for state assembly, and Monica Montgomery. "On November 8, 2016, California voters approved Proposition 64 legalizing adult use, cultivation, and retail sale of recreational cannabis in California. City of San Diego voters also approved a ballot measure labeled 'Measure N,' establishing a Cannabis Business Tax." But the measure, which got more than a two-thirds vote, imposed a general tax, "the proceeds of which must be placed into the City's General Fund to be allocated in accordance with the City's annual budgeting and appropriation process." As a result, "the Council may not make multi-year commitments of Measure N tax revenues toward specific goals absent a new public vote approving a special tax."

It's worth noting that reparation-based pot equity programs, including those in Oakland, Los Angeles, and Sacramento, are burgeoning. "The Social Equity Program is one tool the City of Los Angeles is using to begin to acknowledge and repair the harm caused by the War on Drugs and the disparate enforcement of cannabis prohibition," per L.A.'s website, "Individuals with past cannabis arrests and/or convictions, and those that were low income and lived in high arrest communities

... experienced the brunt of societal harms associated with cannabis criminalization." L.A. has earmarked \$3 million annually for three years "to promote equitable ownership and employment opportunities in the cannabis industry in order to decrease disparities in life outcomes for marginalized communities."

"This is the social justice for us," Gidai Maaza, a mental-health therapist seeking a cannabis license in Fresno, told the *Washington Post* in April. "This is reparation." Ten percent of roughly \$10 million in annual revenue expected from the pot tax approved by Fresno voters last year is set to go into a "community benefit fund," which the *Post* describes as "money that could be used to build up neighborhoods run down by drugs."

"Now, I will admit that I do not think that what we're doing fits in line with the term 'reparations' in a whole, because I don't think that the industry or government agencies can ever fully repair the harm that was done," Cat Packer, head of L.A.'s cannabis regulation department, told the *Post*. "But I think that what we can do is to try and acknowledge that harm, and to promote policies that address that harm."

Matt Potter

Gonsett v 5G

Does the fifth G stand for Government Interference?

On August 7, after months of meetings and tinkering with different plans for 5G regulations, county supervisors chose a path. The new rules will guide the placement of next generation technology in unincorporated areas, but the days of the major-use permit are over. The federal government's small cell order, which took effect in January, aims to clear-cut a path for the 5G network, and lim-

continued on page 68

Community College District forced to trim \$30 million

Blame placed on state funding reductions, pensions, software snafus

By Joe Deegan

During the 2019 - 20 academic year that started this week, the San Diego Community College District will have to trim its spending by \$30 million in order to achieve

funding, there are new demands on districts from their employee pension systems. The San Diego Community College District's "[State Teachers Retirement System] obligation has increased from

called PeopleSoft. What has been "most costly," according to Carroll, has been "running two systems at the same time until the conversion is completed."

The costs of the new and old systems were projected in the fiscal year 2018 - 19 budget as \$3 million "for annual license and maintenance fees." But the costs haven't ended there. "Additionally, functional and technical consultants with strong PeopleSoft knowledge and experience have been engaged to support the District's Information Technology Services and Student Services staff during the



FROM SPOCC.EDU

A modern campus serving modern students demands a modern system!

a balanced budget. So stated a June 12, 2019, email to employees from Chancellor Constance Carroll, who took the opportunity to explain how it's not "our very successful" organization's fault.

Two factors support that point of view. First, the state of California's formula for funding its community colleges has changed from an enrollment-based approach to one that takes into account other factors as well. In the new approach, the "mechanism... would be 70% enrollment-driven, 20% driven by economic factors affecting students, and 10% driven by student performance metrics."

On top of lower state

\$7,306,278 to \$16,964,270 for a General Fund hit of \$9,657,992. The District's [Public Employees Retirement System] obligation has increased in the same period from \$6,875,902 to \$11,592,739 for a General Fund hit of \$4,716,837. That "means that \$14,374,829 has shifted out of operational funding and more will be required in the future."

The blame for a third factor that Carroll's email described is not as easy to lay at the feet of others. She labeled it "the high cost of [a] massive software conversion," "moving from an antiquated and dysfunctional computer system to a modern, integrated system"

implementation process."

Expensive, yes, "Yet the district cannot not have the modern system," says Peter Zschesche, a longtime board member who finally declined to run for the position again in the 2018 elections. "The district serves over 100,000 students. So most critical is its ability to integrate different functions, to connect them to each other. In the old days, payroll, faculty needs, student services and the financial side of the district had their own software systems that could not be related to the whole."

"But why," I ask, "has the rollout of PeopleSoft been such a fiasco?"



Chancellor Constance Carroll gets to deal with the fallout from changes at the state level.

"I wouldn't call it a fiasco," says Zschiesche, founder and president of the local Employee Rights Center. But he does acknowledge that glitches were experienced by teachers and staff on the district's three campuses — City, Mesa, and Miramar — as they have been trying to use the new system.

Full disclosure — I taught at Mesa College when PeopleSoft was first coming online. I used it several times to report extra wages for substituting in another instructor's class. The experience was frustrating. I remember clerical staff grouching about using it, too. At the beginning of terms, department chairs have had problems scheduling classes. And teachers have often received incorrect information about the enrollment in their classes and difficulties reporting attendance. Employees across all three campuses were finding PeopleSoft to be user-unfriendly.

One particularly unfortunate glitch resulted in an undisclosed number of faculty members not receiving their monthly paychecks on time.

"PeopleSoft requires users to go through more steps than they've been used to," Zschiesche tells me. "Not everybody is adept at technology, of course. But what

users need to do is dig deep and commit to mastering the system. It doesn't happen overnight. And there is no one person responsible for the problems. It's everybody's job."

One person who might be in the line of blame is Bonnie Ann Dowd, district



Bonnie Ann Dowd



Peter Zschiesche

executive vice chancellor for business and technology services. But Zschiesche tells me he cannot see her having made mistakes because "she had plenty of experience in the business world prior to a long career in community college education." Dowd has done her job in the San Diego district since 2011 and was vice president for finance and administrative services in the Palomar Community College District for the previous 21 years.

In emails to Dowd and Jack Beresford, the director of district communications and public relations, as well as to Mesa College's ultimate faculty insider Jonathan McCleod, I asked for help in understanding how PeopleSoft's rough roll out came about and especially

about the role I had heard a company called Ciber, Inc. played in it. None of them responded. Fortunately, I found some clues on the district's board meeting minutes.

Mentions of the consultant companies assisting in the implementation of PeopleSoft start turning up in the publicly available district board meeting minutes late in 2015, although only those from 2013 to the present are on the district website. Starting at the November 12, 2015, meeting, the board

approved formal authorizations for Dowd to negotiate "additional consulting costs for an extension of [an] existing contract with Ciber, Inc., and/or the second lowest responsive bidder, Sierra Crestone for the completion of the PeopleSoft ... Administrative System implementation." At the December meeting, \$1,235,232 was authorized for the Human Capital Management module, then \$1,000,000 to finish the Finance function as well as Campus Solutions, the name of the student services tool that would cap the implementation of the entire PeopleSoft project. Finishing Campus Solutions by summer 2017 was granted \$7,033,862.40, Finance another \$1,747,680 and

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UNDER THE RADAR

Immigrant's plea With talks for a labor agreement between the *Los Angeles Times* and its reporters' union lagging, the journalists are beseeching *Times* readers to get in touch with the super-rich man in charge to speed things up. "Today, the *L.A. Times* Guild is launching a campaign that gives a voice to readers, so you can explain why you care about *The Times* and support a fair contract for our journalists," says the guild's website. "If you have space in your messages, please let our new owner, **Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong**, know that you support a fair contract that ensures job security and a better quality of life for our journalists — and be sure to thank him for investing in the future of *The Times*," says the guild's website. "Adds the request, "Wrapping up our contract talks quickly means we'll be able to focus on doing what we love: delivering the news to you."

The guild gained the legal right to represent *Times* employees shortly after Soon-Shiong agreed to buy the paper from troubled Chicago-based Tronc, Inc. He finally took custody of the operation in June of last year and began what quickly turned into strife-filled talks over the guild's first contract. "Late in negotiations, the company has proposed a draconian policy on books and other creative projects that, as a condition of employment, would go far beyond the work-for-hire standards of U.S. copyright law and the relicensing practices historically allowed by *The Times*," said a February 13 communication to management posted on the Guild's website. "If we have a book idea related to our work, even if fictional, the company wants unfettered power to claim control over whether it gets written, who owns the copyright and what we might get paid for it. The company also wants to claim the film rights to such books even if the company grants permission for the book to be written, on unpaid leave, for an outside publisher."

Down in San Diego, where Soon-Shiong owns the *Union-Tribune*, relative labor peace reigns as a result of a close 1998 vote by editorial and advertising workers to throw their then-union, the Newspaper Guild, out of the plant. But one recently departed *U-T* scribe is sounding off against management on his own. "Please don't abandon or ignore the Hispanic community of San Diego County and its binational region. Not

now, not in the weeks to come, not in the future. I ask you this as an immigrant from Mexico and a long-time naturalized citizen of the United States," says an August 7 online piece in *Medium* under the byline of ex-*U-T* engagement editor Luis Gomez. "Believe me when I say that your news-

room is severely lacking representation of a population that makes up more than 30 percent of people in San Diego County," the item continues. "Saying we have one Latina in our editorial board is not enough."

Summer vacation in the House

It's the middle of summer, time for congressional staffers to hit the road with free travel and lodging picked up by deep-pocketed

political donors. On July 15, House disclosure filings show **Michael Perez**, a foreign policy and immigration staffer for San Diego House Democrat **Susan Davis**, took off for Kyiv (Kiev), Ukraine on July 15 for a weeklong parliamentary poll watching jaunt courtesy of the National Democratic Institute, a so-called non-governmental organization closely tied to the Democratic Party. It is chaired by **Madeline Albright**, Secretary of State under President **Bill Clinton**.

This year's 2019 Democracy Award Dinner in October will honor comic and Donald Trump critic **Trevor Noah** of the *Daily Show*. "**Michael Perez** was invited for his specialized knowledge and expertise of the Eurasia region and politics," the disclosure says of the \$2580 July tour. The

report adds that "NDI works to support/safeguard democratic institutions around the world."

Jessica Mier, another Davis staffer, departed Washington on June 20 for a week in Canada thanks to the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress, backed by the Hewlett Foundation and the Korea Foundation, according to the group's website. That trip, costing a total of \$3948, took Mier to Ottawa, Winnipeg, and Calgary. "I am

the District Director and this trip focuses on U.S.-Canada trade relations and border operations," Mier writes. "I am the local lead staff member on both of these issues."

Events on the itinerary included meeting with Manitoba mayor **Judy Swanson** regarding "challenges facing a town on the border," a "tour of the Peace Garden," and a discussion with a Canadian customs official about "goods traveling over the

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It seems Dr. Soon-Shiong is not at one with the union.



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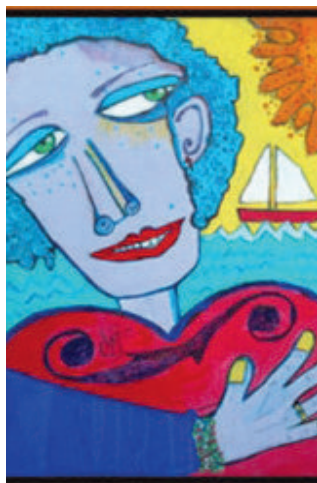


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LETTERS

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

Idle worshipper

My fellow San Diegans, Todd is our God ("Gavin Newsom carries water for billionaire benefactor," News Ticker, August 9)! Sign of the cross everyone! San Diego reveres Todd especially our beloved community of Hillcrest home of *La Cage aux Folles*. A sinner however slipped God Todd a Micky Finn on University Avenue! Seems our deity has gone south with being God. I'm sick and crestfallen beyond repair. I was a devout believer in God Todd! After all, every member of the California State Assembly endorsed God Todd so how can we be so wrong? Even Jerry the Jesuit endorsed God Todd! Jerry? I was over the moon for Jer! Linda too! So, let's get down to business in getting God elected in San Diego! I'm a candidate too except I can't

Ben Smith
Sonoma County

match God Todd! They call me a misogynist for liking bikini girls! I'm a horrible and terrible man. God bless you, my fellow San Diegans, in Christ!

Daniel Smiechowski
Bay Ho

Better trap builder

I just read the recent article titled "San Diego rat tales" by Dryw Keltz (Neighborhood News, August 13). I wanted to say that I follow all of the news covering rodent related issues around California and the United States and this was a refreshing read to say the least. Dryw did an excellent job researching his piece and sharing good data to support his opinion. I especially appreciated his effort to find a safe and humane method of rodent control. I thought it would be worth reaching out and introducing you to the Goodnature A24 Automatic Rat and Mouse Trap. We distribute this unique, CO2-powered trap that was designed with conservationists for eradicating invasive rodents. The trap is 100% poison-free and certified humane. Additionally the trap is self-resetting for simple, low-maintenance rodent control.

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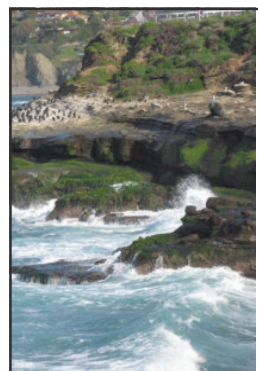


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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

THE LONG ROAD BACK City takes HEAPs of cash for homeless

Council prefers large bills to Solutions for Change

Struggling addict Mario Duron says there was at least one time when the system screwed him. “I had been through drug court. I had been sober for eight months. My probation officer visited my house and found these little plastic Corona bottles, which were only used for decoration. Still, they said that was a violation and they took me back to jail. I just decided to go on the run; I thought they weren’t trying to help me.”

But make no mistake, the 36-year-old Vista resident says there were plenty of times when he was in fact the bad guy. “When I was young, we moved from the country to the city,” says Duron, recalling his youth in Escondido. “That’s where I first encountered gang life. I started getting harassed. It was hard to fit in. I had to make friends just to survive.” He says he started smoking marijuana



Mario Duron: from cooking meth to senior cook.

swamp, thanks to his court-supervised stay at the Alpha Project’s live-in Vista facility, a place called Casa Raphael. “They start you in a group of twelve. They told us that statistics show that only one of twelve actually make it. Out of that first group, three of us became productive members of society. I guess you could say we broke the mold.”

After ten months in Casa Raphael, Duron got a chance from Vista’s Flying Pig restaurant. “I was hired in January of last year. The chef knew my background. He started me as a dishwasher. I went to prepping and pan fry, to the grill, and then to saute. Now I’m the senior cook.” Duron is grateful to the Flying Pig. “That was my first paycheck job. Last year, I got my first apartment.” But now,

“They start you in a group of twelve. They told us that statistics show that only one of twelve actually make it.”

in elementary school. “I don’t care what anybody says; pot is absolutely a gateway drug. I started skipping school in 6th grade. By 7th or 8th grade I got off the rails. That’s when my drug addiction took a curve and I started doing meth. I started slipping through the cracks. When I stole my mom’s car, I ended up in juvenile hall.” After that, he ended up in both the Donovan and Chino correctional facilities for felony charges, including evading police in a high-speed chase and possession of a loaded firearm. “Every time I was released, I ended up going on the run. The whole time, I didn’t think I had a problem. I started using heroin...For a while, I was cooking meth in Tijuana. I really don’t know how I ended up being alive.”

Desperation finally hit him at 33. “I was willing to try anything and everything.” A probation officer who understood his readiness to change steered him into the Alpha Project, a non-profit that helps people suffering from drug addiction and homelessness. Duron says it was the system that ultimately helped pull him out of his drug

he’s leaving for a full-time maintenance job with the Alpha Project. “My end goal is to become a drug and alcohol counselor. I want to help other people going through what I went through.”

Treating the addicted and the homeless has become a burgeoning industry, as local governments increasingly turn to Alpha Project and other groups for help. But at least one outspoken leader in the effort to fight addiction/homelessness often makes it clear that he thinks his organization’s path to wellness is superior. Chris Megison, founder and CEO of Solutions for Change, spoke at an Oceanside city council meeting in October, imploring the council to actually turn down its share of a one-time grant of \$18.8-million because it involved a so-called “housing first” concept of immediately providing shelter to needy people. The council did not agree with Megison, and voted to accept the HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program) funds.

Megison champions a tough-love approach to homelessness, and frequently rails against anything close to “handouts”

or a housing-first approach. “I was strongly cautioning how the state now mandates only one methodology, requiring housing first,” he said of his city council appearance. “If you can use [state grant money] only one way, it can be a nightmare for Oceanside or any other community.” He says he is proud that Solutions for Change “said no” to federal and state money. At a public

meeting on homelessness in Oceanside on August 10, he told a group that 60 percent of Solutions for Change’s funding comes from its own “enterprise” income, derived from its hydroponic farms. He says the other 40 percent comes from private donations. It’s true that Solutions for Change has clients who use federally-funded vouchers, but Megison says that the voucher income is not put into the main operating fund, and is instead used for maintenance and “operations of an apartment complex.”

Megison met recently with Tim Yzaguirre, executive director of Oceanside’s Bread of Life, about the possibility of merging Solutions For Change’s efforts with those of Bread of Life at the latter’s Oceanside campus. The two agreed not to combine, but Megison did contact Bread of Life’s landlord. One person connected with the city of Oceanside said that contact may have triggered Bread of Life’s recent and significant rent increase — from \$10,000 to \$16,000 a month. Yzaguirre did not want to talk about specific numbers, but he said Bread of Life was in fact hit with a 40 percent increase in its rent, and that traditional rent increases had always been in the three to five per cent range. But if Bread of Life gets elbowed out of its longtime campus, Yzaguirre said he will be happy to accept it. “We are a Christian-based organization. If God wants us at this location, no one can change that. If I’m supposed to be here, I’ll be here.”

Bread Of Life is run with an unpaid staff of over 100 volunteers. The payroll for the Solutions For Change staff is over \$1 million a year. Megison said the two

groups should not be compared. “There are three different types of intervention,” he explained. “Bread Of Life is an outreach that provides food to homeless people. They are a relief effort. Solutions For Change is also about recovery and restoration. They don’t do any of that.” But Bread Of Life’s Yzaguirre disagreed. “We also do restoration. The whole point of a church is restoration. That’s why we are opening the Life Skills Academy in September, which will give people skills with finances, job readiness, nutrition and health.”

Recovered abuser-turned-cook Duron does not agree with Megison’s take. “I think every person deals with getting clean differently. The same program that worked for me may not work for the next person. It’s like making a meal. There is really no one right way to make a dish.”

KEN LEIGHTON

NORTH PARK Rats relocate to renovated region

Why hunker with the homeless when you can hang with the hip?

A few weeks ago, I was startled to find an unwelcome visitor climbing up a wall inside our North Park garage: a rat. My wife and I had dealt with mice at our last house (and also in North Park), but the only time I had ever seen rats in San Diego was near the jetty at Dog Beach in Ocean Beach.

As I began to research traps and what kind of rat I was dealing with, I was surprised to find that the rodents were a hot topic of discussion in Southern California. Carl DeMaio, chairman of Reform California, was in the news cycle last month, claiming that “California is being overrun by rodents.” Reform California has a new report out that includes data regarding increased service calls for rats over a 12-month period. Some 23 different pest control companies throughout the state participated, and the survey found that all of them had at least a 25-50 percent increase in service calls related to rats. The majority of the companies reported a 76-100 percent increase, while two even reported a spike of over 100 percent.

DeMaio’s report mentions Orkin’s annual “Rattiest Cities” rankings. The nationwide pest control company ranks cities by the number of “new rodent treatments” performed annually. San Diego jumped from the 47th rattiest city in 2016 to the 26th rattiest city in 2018. (Los Angeles

continued on page 8



Not quite America’s Rattiest City, but moving up the list!

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currently sits in the number two slot, while Chicago claimed the throne for the fourth year in a row.) Reform California's report states that "the measured and observed increase in California's rodent population is directly related to the increase in the state's homeless population." But this doesn't sync up with San Diego County, which saw an 11 percent decrease in its homeless population last year. If the rat population is increasing, it might be being driven by something other than unsanitary homeless encampments.

San Diego County's Vector Control Program monitors insects and other animals capable of "transmitting the causative agent of human disease." They logged over 2500 complaints (a peak number since 2010)



Kelly at Ace Hardware in Hillcrest recommends electronic rat traps.

about rats in 2017, but those numbers dropped to about 1800 in 2018. So far this year, they have received 873 complaints or requests for service. According to Vector Control, "This is lower than in past years at this time (2018: 1213, 2017: 1310, 2016: 1211)."

To get a clearer sense of how rats were impacting human lives in my neighborhood, I sent out a feeler for local rat stories via social media. I was surprised to find that numerous individuals in the North Park area have had encounters with the pesky pests. Corinne Maxfield relayed the tale of a rat that she and her fiancé named "Invader Zim." Zim lived with the couple for a few months in their 400-square-foot duplex. "Peaceful 9 am coffee & book reading interrupted by a skittering rat across the center of the living room, tail as long as my forearm, truly a New York City-sized rat. Quarantined it in our kitchen, and waited for it to trust our traps. Could hear it banging pots and pans in the cupboards while we tried to sleep. Took four days. Not until it was disposed of did we learn the true horrors. We keep a clean house, but every

single corner hidden by furniture (including our BED), plus behind couch cushions and picture frames, was COVERED in feces. We thought it strange we did not uncover a nest, as we realized the rat must have lived with us at least two months (based on evidence such as chewed bath mats we had not dared fathom were compliments of a fat rat). Worst of all: a month later, we extra deep-cleaned the stove, removed the ceramic top portion, and found it had made a cozy home under the burners. We cooked food for months over layers of rat excrement and fat knots of MY HAIR (!!!) and mounds of carpet fibers and mystery items. To think, that rat simply waltzed up the stairwell and into our happy home through the screen door. Or worse yet, up through the toilet. If you have not seen the YouTube video on the science behind rats and their fascinating acrobatic talents in

climbing up toilet pipes, I highly recommend enjoying that real-life horror media."

You aren't completely safe outdoors, either. Lisa Michael and her wife would often indulge in a nighttime hot-tub soak at their home in Normal Heights. While enjoying the water, they regularly saw rats running up and down their fence or along

the edge of the sunshade above them. On one occasion, a rat decided to join the party. "One night, a rat fell right into our hot tub!" Michael said. "Ugh! He couldn't get out! It took several cringing attempts to get him scooped out! Ugh!! We both shrieked verry loud while we were trying to scoop it out of the hot tub." Other tales told of a dog that threw-up a hairless rat, a nicotine-addicted rat that would steal packs of cigarettes off a back porch, and a guy who witnessed a posse of crows repeatedly swooping in, picking up, and dropping a rat. Were they angry or hungry?

San Diego definitely seems to have its fair share of rats. The question is, how do you get rid of them — or keep them from coming into your life in the first place? Vector Control states that rats cannot live without food, water, or shelter, and that you can get rid of rat problems by rodent-proofing your home and storage buildings, removing food sources from your property, using traps (not poison bait) inside your house, using traps or poison bait outside your home, and getting rid of rat habitats.

DRYW KELTZ



"There's evident broken glass, human waste, needles, all sorts of random crap."

OCEAN BEACH OMG SDPD AWOL in OB From trailer to trash

"The stench by the wall is overwhelming," said Ocean Beach local Tracey. "I barely go that way anymore. So unfair to the actual residents! Come on SDPD-DO SOMETHING. All the trash and sketchy/drugged out/aggressive people discourage me from going to the wall and surrounding area. I've lived in OB for 10 years, and it has never been this bad. I actively report things and communicate with the police, and it's just disheartening to see the state our great town is in. I don't understand why the police can't make it less comfortable for them, so the actual citizens can enjoy the beach, parks and town."

"Where are the police in general?" Chelsea asked. "I haven't seen the police foot-patrol

sure or whatever, then after so many unpaid tickets, wouldn't jail be the next step? I don't understand the 'Don't even give tickets cause they won't pay them' justification."

Brant Long, another long-time local who works along Newport Avenue, shared his experience. "Parks & Rec/Park Ranger/Lifeguards/SDPD have been ignoring the backside of the wall for the entire summer. Where's the PD beach team specifically designated to handle this type of stuff? There's evident broken glass, human waste, needles, leftover drug baggies, alcohol bottles, trash, and all sorts of random crap. I've been working along Newport for the past four weekends and haven't seen PD drive by a single time. Once again, this community had been (purposefully?) forsaken by the city."



OB = Olfactory Blight?

presence in a while. Dog Beach lot and grass area has been bad too. Saw a peach of a citizen sleeping in his customized fort on Thursday. Guess who had to clean it all up Friday morning? So frustrating. Like my boyfriend says, sadly, this population has completely given up on society. So cleaning a mess is the last thing on their minds. If the police actually gave tickets for things like littering, dogs off leash, public intoxication, indecent expo-

Aside from the ignored health and safety code violations strewn along the beachfront and sand, graffiti has become the norm along the seawall at Newport and Abbot Street. Mediums used for this 'art' include chalk, peanut butter, mayonnaise, and paint. Marc has a front row seat to the destruction, volunteering his time to clean the walkway along the seawall every day, but even he's having difficulty.

continued on page 28

Suit Up

BY MATT LOUV

Clothing "foster mom" has some advice for you

For most men, buying second-hand clothing is an alien experience, and that puts them behind a steepening curve. According to industry reports, the secondhand clothing market is set to match or surpass new clothing sales in the next decade.

Brandi Muñoz is owner of San Diego's La Loupe Vintage clothing shops (one on Adams in Normal Heights, the other on Park in Uni-



VICTORHUANG/ISTOCK

LOOKING VINTAGE DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN LOOKING OLD.

versity Heights). The self-styled "foster mom for cute clothes" says that only about 10 percent of her customers are men. But that number is growing. Slowly.

Vintage clothing sells itself. It's more durable, tends to be slimmer cut, looks interesting, and doesn't come with a high ecological and

ethical price tag. Even if you don't dress like a roadie for the Grateful Dead, you wind up with better clothing when you buy vintage.

Still, shopping for it can be intimidating. Thrift stores such as Goodwill are the cheapest source, but they swallow your time. There are great deals to be found online, but you

don't get to try the item on until you've bought it. Resale shops like La Loupe represent an attractive middle ground, offering curated selections that can be cheaper than the mall.

Brandi says the most important tip for newbie secondhand shoppers is to browse with an open mind. If you expect to find something specific, you will likely be disappointed.

She also cautions that sizing can be tricky. You may have to try on many pieces before you find something that fits properly. The juice is worth the squeeze.

Vintage shops aren't all rodeo shirts and bellbottoms. Resale should be considered an option even for men who dress conservatively. The value for money is just too high to ignore.

If shopping for clothes feels like a chore to you, vintage might turn it into a hobby — a potentially lucrative one. When you get bored with your wardrobe, sell it.

Find more Suit Up at sandiegoreader.com/fashion

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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Hanging in Doubt

Family of Rebecca Zahau questions use of San Diego special investigators in examination of Jeffrey Epstein suicide

On July 13 of 2011, Rebecca Zahau was found dead outside the Coronado home of her boyfriend. She



"Nothing could go wrong there..."

had apparently been hung from a second-story balcony. Her wrists and ankles were bound, and she had a shirt stuffed into her mouth as a gag. She had suffered four instances of head trauma, and a



San Diego County's Chief Clown of Convolutions, Contusions, and Coroners Ronald Bozo demonstrates to County officials how a person might bind their hands and feet prior to hanging themselves and so ensure no turning back, in an effort to justify his ruling of suicide in the Rebecca Zahau case. (He neglected to shove a t-shirt into his mouth as a gag a la Zahau, because he needed to be able to speak, unlike Zahau, who might have feared she'd somehow repent of her decision and cry out for help despite the nylon cord crushing her windpipe.) Similarly, said Bozo, Mr. Epstein most likely choked himself hard enough to break several bones in his neck prior to hanging himself in his cell, "just to make sure there were no mistakes this time. Remember, he'd already had an incident and been put on suicide watch once."

may at the news that the same team of investigators had been called in to help with the case of

Jeffrey Epstein. The wealthy sex offender, pedophile, and alleged trafficker was found hung in his cell on August 10, after allegedly telling a friend he had compromising information about prominent, wealthy, and powerful former associates.

"Am I the only one taking crazy pills here?" asked Zahau's cousin Amory Zahau-Zapruder, apparently echoing a scene from the Ben Stiller film *Zoolander*.

"You get another case where there are signs of strangulation prior to hanging, and you call in the same clowns who pulled a Colonel Klink in San Diego?" But officials with the Metropolitan Correctional Center in New York where Epstein died said they "saw nothing" amiss with the unprecedented collaboration.

Punch Drunk

Local Irish pubs rush to commemorate UFC fighter's barroom assault

A video posed on the Internet makes the case that on August 15, former UFC champion Conor McGregor sought to buy everyone at the bar in Dublin's The Marble Arch a round of his Proper Twelve Irish whiskey. A white-haired gent with a pint declined his offer, not once but twice, and so McGregor

socked him in the head. Local drinkeries were quick to react, though none quicker than the The Field in the Gaslamp, which was advertising "Conor McGregor's Sucker Punch" on its Facebook page within 10 minutes of the video's appearance, with promises of a free sample to the first 100 souls who bought a

shot of Proper Twelve to accompany it. Local chain Hooley's followed within a couple of hours later with a craft cocktail called Elder Abuse: a shot of Proper Twelve, a shot of Four Loko, and a shot of absinthe, shaken with egg white until the whole thing foams over. Up in Normal Heights, The Ould Sod kept it simpler with its Shot to the Head shot: Proper Twelve with a two dashes of Mad Dog 357 Hot Sauce. As of press time, there were unconfirmed reports that McGregor was seeking to



The Field's Sucker Punch: Milk (nonfat, like Conor), whiskey (Irish, also like Conor), POWdered sugar (get it?), and NUTmeg, because it takes serious sack to punch a man just because he doesn't want you to buy him a drink. Also, it's tasty.

copyright the recipes for all three beverages.

Art Imitates Life Imitates Art...

Harassment claims inspire bold new work for upcoming opera season

"We were scrambling for a little while there," says James "Silk Purse" Sowsear, Creative Director and House Composer at San Diego Opera. "There we were, thinking we'd scored a major coup: signing Placido Domingo himself to perform in next season's scheduled showcase, Benjamin Britten's *The Rape of Lucretia*. And then these eight women come forward with stories of experiencing sexual harassment at the hands of our star tenor. The optics were...not good. It was one thing when the Met fired James Levine for messing with young

men. They're the Met. They'll be fine. But as everyone knows, opera in San Diego is barely hanging on. We couldn't afford to pay Mr. Domingo his kill fee and hire someone else, and we sure as hell couldn't go on with the show. But then, one of those cute little things we keep around the office to help out said that as long as people were referring to "the #MeToo era" as an era, it was probably a big enough deal to serve as an artistic subject. "Somebody should make a show about that," she said. That's when the light when on, and I realized:

somebody should make a show about that. Inspiration is funny that way: you never know what will set it off. And best of all, we still had Domingo under contract! Think of the publicity! Now we just have to hope the matter doesn't get settled between now and next Spring."

"Really, it's both an honor and a pleasure to be able to write specifically for the voice of one of the all-time great tenors," says composer Sowsear. "I've been listening to Placido Domingo since I was a child, and I can almost literally hear him tearing into the outraged indignation of an aria such as 'Inquietante e impreciso' ('Troubling and inaccurate'), or the self-pitying sorrow of 'Era un'altra volta' ('It was another time'). And almost as importantly, I think the work will have real staying power: there's a mythic force to it, a classic tragedy of a great man and great lover being undone in his old age, both physically and in his reputation. The chickens are coming home to roost. I'm not saying I'm glad that these women went through what they did; I'm just saying that their suffering has not been in vain."



WHO PLAYS WHO

VISITING DEMOCRATS EDITION



On *Stranger Things*, Jake Bussey played Bruce, a reporter who mocked the idea that a young woman could break a big story

At a San Diego press conference, Governor Gavin Newsom mocked the idea that people under 21 who had hunting licenses could buy a rifle.



On *Game of Thrones*, Max Von Sydow's Three-Eyed Raven had the Greensight, which allowed him to see into the future.

At a Del Cerro fundraiser, Joe Biden said that eight years of Donald Trump "will fundamentally change the character of this country."



In *Network*, Peter Finch played a deranged newscaster who said, "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it any more!"

Speaking in Vista, Bernie Sanders said, "We're going to end the grotesque and unfair level of income and wealth inequality in America today."

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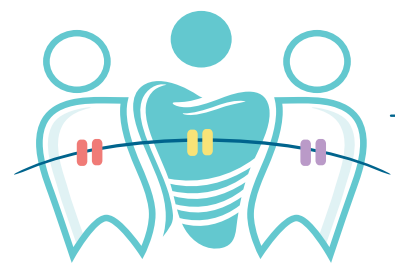
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Daniel, Robyn, Tati, Victor, Jiraiya, Gabi, Isabelle

Home is where the RV is

“I worked out that in Europe we would need \$300 a day for 126 days,” says Gabi Robledo. She was 16 at the time, the planner of the family. “That meant we had to save up \$38,000.”

We’re sitting on the exercise machines of her dad’s fitness studio here in Coronado: Tati (8), Jiraiya (11), Isabelle (15), Gabi (18), Daniel (20), dad Victor (44), and their mom Robyn (43). They’re talking about this nomadic life of theirs that started with an RV drive up to Canada, five years ago.

Over the years since, they have traveled through the US and Canada (2015), Europe (2017), Kaua’i, New Zealand, Bali (2018). And Gabi and Isabelle and Robyn are going to Mont Blanc later this year.

“So what happened about the \$38,000?” I ask.

“We worked hard, and we got it,” says Robyn, a dynamic, enthusiastic woman. “And that trip through Europe was the best lesson in economics for the kids. I mean, in France, food was the most expensive thing, 100 Euros a day. In Croatia it was the camping. Thirty Euros a day. We all had to work it out together.”

“I was always hungry,” says Daniel. “That European trip, we spent the first two months in an eight-person tent. Seven of us. It rained all the time. We were driving past 1000-foot waterfalls, at midnight. In broad daylight. In Norway. We ate a lot of beans and rice. One bowl. Two spoons between us.”

“But being a family, none of that matters,” says Robyn. “I actually like my kids. I want to be around them. We don’t get sick of each

other. We don’t have to find baby-sitters, because we’re always with them. I home-school them. In California, I just need to sign an affidavit that I’m educating them. I want them to learn about the world, about starting up businesses, about hard work. So when we’re saving up for a trip, we all go to work. In Colorado, before the last trip, Isabelle (15) was the first to get a job, as a barista, and she was the best paid. But once we’re traveling, we concentrate on activities, biking, rock-climbing, surfing. Poor Victor has to lug this ‘coffin’ surfboard bag — 50 pounds, three surfboards — everywhere we go.”

“I condition all the kids,” says Victor, “so they can climb at 14,000 feet and not get winded.”

“This is their education,” says Robyn. “They can learn the first ten presidents any time.”

“Running and writing. That’s what

I’m interested in,” says Daniel. He says he has already written three novels (he hasn’t looked to publish them yet). He has also been running marathons since his 14th birthday, and 50-mile, 11-hour races since he was 17.

A lot of talk is about food. “Delft!” says Daniel, of the Dutch city. “Best apple pies in the world!”

They’ve traveled to 26 countries so far, and still live in their RV in RV parks when they come home to San Diego.

Don’t they ever miss, well, a “home”?

“Home,” says Gabi, “is where the RV is.”

Robyn maintains a website: “Nomads with a Purpose.”



Shot from their website

To fight the good (cyber) fight

Phuoc Nguyen, a guy I was standing next to on Fifth Avenue watching the street’s Comic-Con crowds last month, might turn out to be a caped hero himself. He’s a cyber crime-fighter. “You could say cyber criminals are just like Comic-Con,” he said. “People dressing up to deceive.”

Nguyen is chief financial officer of a cyber security firm right in downtown San Diego. “You’re living in one of the three cyber-security capitals,” he said, “San Diego, along with Washington DC and San Antonio, Texas. And San Diego has the edge.”

According to Markets and Markets, a — you guessed it — market research firm, the global cybersecurity market is growing by leaps and bounds. It will be worth \$156 billion by the end of this year.

“But the question is where this industry will

health industry and “life sciences.”

Up here on Bankers’ Hill in shared office space, Nguyen and Winslow come across as missionaries, pressing companies — especially smaller companies — not to ignore the threat. But they realize how daunting the whole challenge can feel. Nguyen says a surprising number of companies have already been blackmailed by hackers, and have ended up privately paying the ransom to keep their reputations intact.

So what are they doing about it? Winslow says he has invented an algorithm that helps small companies arm themselves against cyber-invasion.

“My invention makes it easy for, say, medical companies to exchange confidential medical information. I invented the core algorithms that make security simple for companies to deploy.” He words this carefully: “So for example, with Capital One, if there was a development group



Nguyen, Winslow: “Security is a journey, not a safety net.”

settle,” says Nguyen. “Remember how Detroit became the world capital for automobiles? And Silicon Valley became the *it* place — excuse the play on words — of the computer industry? Well, in the cybersecurity world, San Diego’s looking good: even four years ago, the total economic impact of cybersecurity workers in San Diego was \$1.5 billion.”

Wow. That’s the equivalent of 3.3 Super Bowls. Or 8.5 Comic-Cons!

I thought about that after the Capital One fiasco (they let slip the personal details of 106 million customers), which follows a long line of similar events. Could the country’s pain be San Diego’s gain?

San Diego is certainly bulging with robust young companies vowing to fight the hackers, phishers, and ransomers. Nguyen and partner Ford Winslow’s company, Ice Cybersecurity, is one.

They concentrate on cyber security for the

that accidentally left test data out in the public arena, that would be a common scenario.”

He’s fighting human carelessness, in other words. “So you need to integrate the people and the process. Our algorithm tells you in your language what you should do. The alternative? Hire people to be security professionals. That can be expensive.”

One of their contracts has been to put a protective wall around the 211 social services help line. “We’re securing data so the neediest in our community, whether they need food, rents paid, gas bills paid, or medical help, can safely send their information to a community service provider and be helped immediately. We make sure their info will remain secure. We definitely feel good doing this.”

So what about the rest of us?

Winslow’s advice is surprisingly basic. “Change your passwords regularly, and don’t click on random attachments.”



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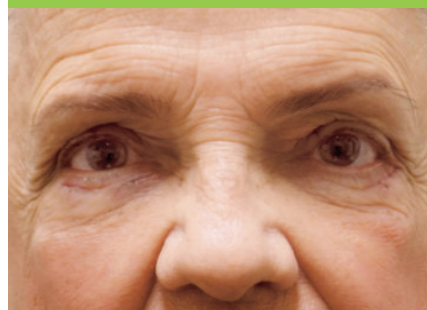
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Dear Hipster:

I've recently moved into San Diego, and into my first apartment post-college that's really mine. At least, it's mine and my roommate's, because there's no way I could afford a 1BR spot for myself. It's straight up too expensive. I work as a barista (hence the anonymous message, as I don't want my regulars to identify me), and I earn what I actually thought would be pretty good money, considering the relatively high minimum wage in California. As I adjust to the high cost of living a normal life, I have to say, my mind is completely boggled. How can so many hipsters hold down stereotypically "hipster" jobs (like mine!), yet still freely enjoy hipster extravaganzas like craft beer, \$8 avocado toast, Polaroid photography, designer beard tonics, and vinyl records?

— BROKE BRO IN
NORTH PARK

A lot of things in life scream hipster, but perhaps nothing so perfectly encapsulates the daily irony

of hipster life quite like not really being able to afford the things everybody makes fun of you for liking. You could include in that measure the rent on a modest apartment in a nice, hipster neighborhood, as opposed to somewhere out in the sticks. Congratulations on achieving a major hipster milestone.

In further irony, the sometimes high cost of hipster living is a direct consequence of non-hipsters developing a taste for hipster stuff. For example, a surprisingly long time ago in pop-culture years, "loft" apartments in converted industrial buildings were the cheap, hipster alternative to conventional urban apartments.



Finance and other business bro types, envious of hipsters' bohemian lifestyles, started moving in — except they demanded concierges and pre-installed \$20,000 Viking professional ranges they wouldn't ever cook on. Priced out of the market, and unable to compete with all the proactive, value-adding synergy creation and optics management going on all of a sudden in their neighborhoods, all the hipsters had to move into condos with popcorn ceilings where they developed a sudden appreciation for mid-20th century design cues.

Being by nature resourceful types, hipsters have found many ways out of this particular pickle. I can provide some insight, but you have to stay with me, as it might take a little while to run through all the tricks.

Step One: Achieve Insider Status

Economists sometimes talk in terms of "internal" and "external" costs. Individuals must bear the former as they go about their business, while the latter costs are borne by... someone else, often society at large.

Hipsters have figured out how to externalize the cost of a hipster lifestyle by seeking employment within hipster industries. Like drinking fancy coffee? Become a barista! Can't afford to grow your vinyl record collection? Work part-time at the record store (good

luck)! Like drugs? Become a casual drug dealer!

Gaining access to hipster resources at below-market rates eases the burden of consuming hipster goods at the wages normally earned by hipsters working in hipster industries. Of course, plenty of darn cynical bastards take only cold comfort from receiving employee discounts on kale smoothies and Miller High Life in lieu of a salary that can pay for a mortgage, but you shouldn't listen to them, because they're merely covetous of all the free lattes you're drinking while they're stuck paying retail at Starbucks.

— DJ Stevens



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THE WEIRDER THE BETTER

*when it comes
to backcountry
real estate*

Looking out over Los Tules, a community of a few hundred homes above Warner Springs Ranch

Bad foundations. Leaky pipes. Illegal garage conversions. Death (owner or otherwise) on a property. These are all things that have at least once derailed the sale of a piece of real estate during my 20 years in the industry

But that's not why I'm winding my way up State Route 67, slipping past the backside of Poway and continuing through Ramona, where

the town's handful of stoplights will be the last I'll see on this late May excursion. I'm interested in talking to some seasoned real estate veterans plying their trade in San Diego's vast backcountry. My limited dabbling there has taught me that the work quickly becomes more complicated once taken-for-granted niceties such as city-maintained streets, water, and sewer systems are left behind.

State Route 78 carries me eastward out of

Ramona, through vast stretches of dry meadows dotted with occasional stands of trees or rock outcroppings. Horses wander behind fences along the highway, a few head of cattle graze here and there, and at one point I spy what appears to be a herd of camels perched on a hillside.

The highway gives out in Santa Ysabel, a small town near the headwaters of the San Diego River that grew out of a Spanish mis-

sion *asistencia* beginning in the early 1800s. Today it's best known as headquarters for a pair of well-recognized local baked goods producers: Dudley's Bakery and the Julian Pie Company.

The mining town turned mountain retreat of Julian is a few miles up a grade to the south. Instead, I head north on State Route 79, continuing to climb as the hills become rockier and the pastures a bit greener, eventually reaching the sprawling, sleepy community of Warner Springs, nestled among some of the highest peaks in the Laguna mountain range.

It's here that I'll meet Angela Acosta, an agent who grew up in the area, left to pursue a Stanford degree, spent several years traveling the globe, but ultimately decided to return home 16 years ago to raise her own family.

Acosta meets me near the highway and we trek for several minutes down a roughly-graded dirt road that's still far more easily traversed than the one I'd taken on my own misguided attempt to reach one of her listings by relying on GPS. (Google Maps are not to be trusted when it comes to dirt roads). I'm wondering if it was a wise decision to trade the ruggedness of my battered old Jeep for the Realtor prestige of my wife's Lincoln for this trip, but Acosta apparently has no such qualms about aggressively piloting her BMW through the ruts and dips of the trail.

"It's the weirder the better for me, in terms of listings," she tells me, hopping out of her SUV with an infant daughter in tow. "The quirrier, the unpermitted-er — I've

done everything from multi-family listings in the High Desert to land and single-families down to the Tecate border."

The property we've arrived at on San Felipe Road might qualify as a bit rustic, with its hewn-wood construction lending

a woody feel to the interior, but it's not exactly weird. Built in 1989 by Roger Craig, a World Series-winning baseball player with the Brooklyn Dodgers and St. Louis Cardinals who served as manager of the Padres in the late seventies, the

home features more than 3500 square feet of living area and a pool, along with 40 acres of land that includes a seasonal creek running below the homesite. Eric, the affable seller (also a licensed real estate agent, it turns out), invites me inside

for a tour. A unique feature that stands out from the otherwise luxury ski chalet feel of the home is a second-floor floating hallway leading to the master bedroom, where the railing balusters are a collection of Craig's old baseball bats.

As we walk the property, I ask Acosta about how a real estate transaction, and the job of the agent, differs up here in the mountains from urban real estate.

"You're going to have to get well and septic certifications to sell a house,



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which is something city folks don't have to deal with," she begins. "A well guy will come out and run water for an hour or two, noting how many gallons per minute are flowing. Water tables fluctuate, and sometimes you'll break suction, meaning the pump is pulling water out faster than it's flowing into the well casing."

The well at the San Felipe house produces 33 gallons of water per minute, much more than the two-gallon flow rate that's considered the minimum acceptable to most lenders. Acosta says that Warner Springs' location at the base of the county's highest peaks location puts the community "at the top of the food chain in terms of water access" for the county. A high water table means that wells usually don't



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE RICE

Angela Acosta stands in front of a Warner Springs home built in 1989 by Roger Craig, a World Series-winning baseball player.

cause problems up here. That's not always the case — sometimes sellers have to drill a new, deeper well if an existing one isn't producing.

"Including pumps and tanks and a water

tank, that could run \$20,000," Acosta says, referring specifically to Warner Springs. "But I've heard of people elsewhere spending \$60,000 or \$80,000 on a well, since the cost is largely

based on depth. If you're near a lot of agricultural use, which we're not, that could impact the available groundwater.

"When it comes to drilling wells, we'll usually hit water about 50

to 80 feet down, but in other regions like Santa Ysabel or Ramona I've seen them go down 1000 feet and not hit a drop."

She shows me to the well's pump house, where mechanical equipment pushes water up to a storage tank on a nearby hill and gravity feeds it back to the house. Since 1990, the county has required all new homes in the backcountry to be equipped with at least 5000 gallons of on-site water storage, with fire truck hookups for use in case of emergency. Acosta points to the pump house roof, designed to be removable so that a crane can reach in and extract the pump when it wears out after five or ten years and needs to be replaced.

"Something we real estate agents really have to have our heads on a swivel about is environ-

mental stuff," Acosta continues. "I have to know my flora and fauna pretty well, recognizing sensitive habitats for things like coastal sage, riparian areas. You wouldn't be able to build your house right by a creek, for example; the county would never stand for it."

This environmental stuff, it turns out, helps ensure future development of the area will be limited.

"A lot of people will see a 40-acre parcel out here and think, 'Awesome, I can subdivide and develop that!' Well, the county might say that there's an eight-acre minimum lot size, but they really don't want the backcountry to be anything besides the backcountry. They make it very cost- and time-prohibitive for subdividers.

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a moth, an Indian artifact being found, these could all derail a project. The county will tell you, 'Give us \$50,000, and we'll let you know what we think about it.' You can get really involved in the project, and the county might still come back a year or two later and tell you no. People ask me about this all the time, and I have to keep finding polite ways to tell them not to waste their time."

"When we came here 30 years ago from the city [of Los Angeles], my dad could have bought an 85-acre parcel or an 11-acre one. They were the same price, but because the smaller one had already been subdivided into four lots he opted for that one."

I ask about what motivates people to live the rural lifestyle in Southern California, a

region much more well known for urban sprawl than 40-acre homesites.

We begin with her own story: Acosta's father was a prison guard in Chino. The stress of his job led him to seek refuge in the wilderness, and the family would often escape the city on weekend camping trips.

"We moved here on my ninth birthday, and we never went camping again," Acosta says with a laugh.

"I went off for college and worked for six

years in the Bay Area, Chicago, Germany for a while, but I got it out of my system and came home. For me and almost every client I've ever worked with, people are looking for a healthier lifestyle. Clean air, clean water, more sustainable living. There are a lot of cottage industry opportunities out here, I've got a friend that has a safari tent on her property that's rented out almost every day of the year. You can run a business out of your house."



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She rattles off a host of home businesses neighbors and clients have engaged in: wine-making, farming hops for local breweries, camel dairies. It turns out the camels I was only partially convinced I saw on the drive up were on the grounds of Oasis Camel Dairy, purveyors of camel milk chocolates and a host of camel-derived soaps and skin-care products.

“Basically, we enjoy a lot of freedoms. Not necessarily to do anything nefarious, but in a ‘No one tells me what to do on my property’ sense. If you want to walk around naked...” Acosta trails off.

The freedom of country living is a virtue I’ll hear extolled time and again, from Acosta, her seller, and others I

talk to over the next few weeks. Leaving the San Felipe house, Acosta stops to point out a sign at the driveway entrance reading Rancho Dos Aves (Two Birds Ranch.)

“It’s one feeling we all share when it comes to city life,” she explains, grinning broadly as she extends two upturned fists toward me, middle digits raised.

Mountain life, however, does present its own unique blend of problems. “We go to Temecula. That’s the closest shopping, and it’s 35, 45 minutes one way. If you get home and realize you forgot milk, you’re not going to have milk. On the other hand, we never have to sit in traffic. You’re pretty much hauling ass on a country road until you get to Temecula, Poway, wherever.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE RICE

The second-floor floating hallway features railing balusters made of a collection of Craig’s old baseball bats.

“Building from scratch is not for the faint of heart,” she continues. “You’ve got to have a good imagination and be very deter-

mined, because it can be discouraging to go to the county and get a ‘no’ because you asked the wrong question about your project or didn’t

phrase it properly. What I see more of is people buying something old, even if it’s funky or frankly not even usable, and improving on that.”

Beyond the lack of water and sewer, other utilities also pose problems.

“We do have SDG&E, but only for electricity. If you want gas, it comes from a propane bottle. There are definitely areas where even electricity is too far away to reach. These people have been on generators for a long time, but they’re starting to buy into solar or wind power. The off-off-grid stuff is really challenging, because if you need financing, there aren’t a lot of banks that will lend on something so far away you can’t plug into the power grid.”

Much of the financing for these properties, then, comes from owners themselves.

“Especially if it’s vacant land. One of the first questions I’ll ask

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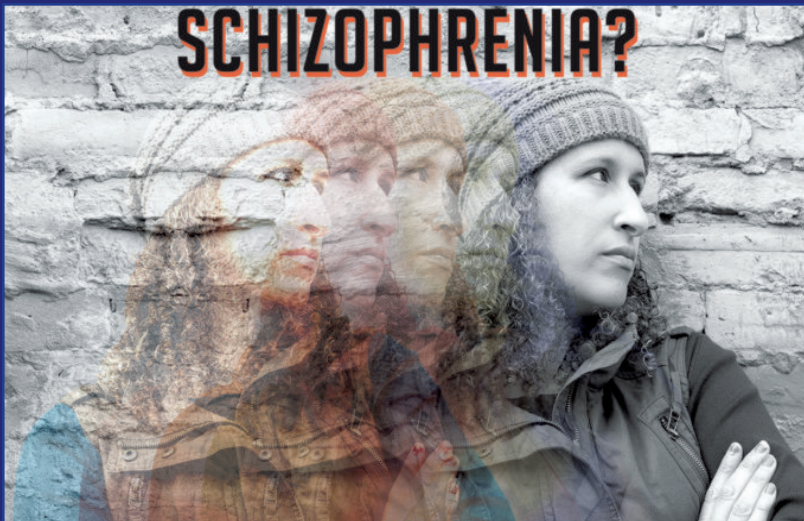
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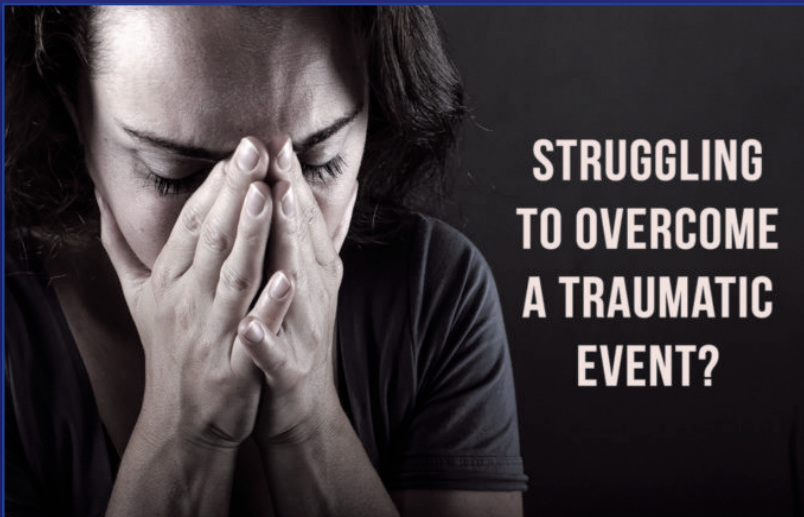
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is whether the seller is willing to carry paper, even if it's just for three or five years. It can significantly speed up the process in finding a good buyer," Acosta tells me. "Even then, you're going to need 20 percent down as a buyer."

After San Felipe, we hop back on State Route 79 and wind our way another few miles north, passing through the closest the area comes to a downtown in a tick under 30 seconds. In total there's a fire station, community center, and the town's school campus that serves about 200 students, ranging from pre-school to high school, who travel from as far as 45 miles away to attend. Acosta herself attended from fourth through eighth grades, but the town had no



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE RICE

The Lieu Quan Meditation Center is reportedly home to some of the country's largest Buddhist statues, which occupy an otherwise unremarkable ranch.

high school when she was younger and she instead took a bus for two hours each morning and afternoon going to

and from Julian to continue her education.

The Pacific Crest Trail crosses the highway here, and a few

hikers trudge north. I wonder if they'll hit the desert leg of the trail before the weather becomes unbearable.

A short while later, we pull into Los Tules, a hillside subdivision of a few hundred homes that looks downright suburban compared to where we've just been. Acosta stops at the top of the hill near a vacant lot she's preparing to list — it'll go for \$125,000, though homes in the neighborhood are worth anywhere from \$300,000 to \$1 million, and benefit from a network of paved roads and a community water system that alleviates the need for wells. Perched on lots ranging from a half-acre to about thrice that size, some homes date back to the 1880s and sit beside neighboring buildings a century or more their junior. Acosta says distinguished local architect Cliff May, influential in driving the post-war

ranch style that permeated many San Diego suburbs, designed a handful of residences here in the 1940s.

From the hilltop, we're afforded a sweeping view of Warner Springs Ranch, historic grounds that served as a waystation for emigrants from the East Coast headed for San Diego and Los Angeles in the mid-1800s and eventually evolved into a health spa and golf resort.

"If you see that clearing with all the rocks down there, that's the original village site of the Cupeño people," Acosta gestures. "They were displaced years ago when John Warner developed Warner Springs, subjected to their own version of the trail of tears to what's currently the Pala reservation. They

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still have a bunch of the little adobe casitas that are original to the village that were converted into hotel rooms when the resort was created in the 1980s.”

While Warner was notoriously hostile to natives, many actually stayed on to work the land until, after Warner's death, former California governor John Downey acquired the ranch and sued to evict the tribe from their village. Downey himself died in 1894 before the case was settled, but the Cupeños were indeed forced off their land in 1903.

Before parting ways, Acosta takes me even further north to Chihuahua Valley, near the county's northeastern border, for a bit more offbeat sightseeing. First is the Lieu Quan Meditation Center, reportedly home to some of the country's largest Buddhist statues, which occupy an otherwise unremarkable ranch. Some tower 20 feet or more above the ground. There's no one around but the driveway gate is left ajar, and Acosta assures me that anyone is welcome to come and go



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVE RICE

Bronner's "All-One-Faith" Rain Forest, a 1200-acre parcel purchased by Emanuel Bronner, patriarch of the Dr. Bronner's line of soaps and personal care products (though not a doctor), with the goal of establishing a rainforest on the arid, desert side of the mountain range.

as they please so long as they respect the grounds.

There's also Bronner's "All-One-Faith" Rain Forest, a 1200-acre parcel purchased by Emanuel Bronner, patriarch of the Dr. Bronner's line of soaps and personal care products (though not a doctor), with the goal of establishing a rainforest on the arid, desert side of the mountain range. Bronner spent much of his life proselytizing for

his self-crafted Judeo-Unitarian faith as a means of "uniting spaceship earth; the company's product labels still contain large doses of his philosophical musings.

After snapping a few photos and saying goodbye it's a long, long drive back into town.

Fast forward a few weeks, and I'm speeding east on Interstate 8, climbing into La Mesa, dropping

through the El Cajon valley, climbing again through Blossom Valley and Alpine. I pass the

Viejas tribal casino that appears ever-more opulent every time I see it, Pine Valley, and finally crest the western peak of the mountains and descend into Buckman Springs. From here, it's a similarly uneventful 15-mile slog south to Campo, the main point of interest along the way being a 20-minute traffic delay near Mountain Empire High School. I make a mental note to take SR 94 on the way home for a change of scenery.

As I near my destination, things get a little more interesting. First up is an oddly compelling array of rusting metal that stretches for acres: this turns out to be the Motor Transport Museum, which includes in its collection everything from San Diego

buses dating to the 1940s to World War I era military machinery and the Julian Stage, one of a pair of vehicles that shuttled passengers and cargo between Julian and Lakeside from 1912-1915.

Further on, an aging white building with a tall silo is emblazoned with "Standard Sanitary Manufacturing Company" in peeling black paint. A century ago, the company that would become American Standard had a mica mine out here; the plant refined material to create the porcelain to make toilets for a nation becoming acquainted with indoor plumbing.

After another jaunt down a rain-rutted Custer Road, I reach the listing of one John Elliott, a longtime backcountry agent based in Descanso, just north of

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I-8 on the way to Lake Cuyamaca. The house is unimpressive, a well-maintained but dated ranch-style that wouldn't be out of place in any suburb save for its four-acre lot. It's the property itself, however, that has a story to tell.

"This whole area was part of Camp Lockett, a military base in the 1940s," Elliott explains, but the military presence here dates to much earlier. "This particular site was one of the last encampments of the Buffalo Soldiers, the famous all-black cavalry unit. One of their barns still sits on the property."

As he warns me to watch out for rattlesnakes, we descend into the backyard where a mammoth wooden building with fading white paint sports a

sign reading "11th Cavalry." The Buffalo Soldiers were part of the 10th Cavalry stationed nearby, but the historical significance of the barn isn't entirely diminished. Inside, old tack that Elliott says dates back to the military days still hangs on the stable walls.

"I've had people try to buy just the sign more than once," he laughs. "But it's going to come with the barn still attached."

Elliott moved to the backcountry as a teen from the Granite Hills neighborhood of El Cajon and attended the old Mountain Empire High School. Until the current campus was built in the early 2000s, the school was housed down the road in old Camp Lockett barracks, which were used as an Italian



"I've had people try to buy just the sign more than once," Elliot laughs. "But it's going to come with the barn still attached."

prisoner of war camp during World War II.

"The history of the area is really interesting, once you get into it," Elliott continues. "You

can still see a bunch of pock-marked rocks on a side of the mountain where the troops used to practice firing their cannons; and right down where the railroad line comes across the border there's a tunnel, and inside they've got this big white line painted across the middle of it with arrows pointing each way and 'Mexico' and 'United States' marked next to them."

When it comes to real estate, Elliott shares many of the same concerns as Acosta: wells (I learn many were hand-dug as late as the 1960s), lenders being unwilling to offer financing, buyers not being prepared for the remoteness (he even uses the same anecdote about the danger of forgetting milk at the grocery store), property boundaries, and fire protection.

"The neat thing about doing real estate out here is you can take a deep dive into the deeds on these parcels, and they really tell you about the history of the area, how it's developed over the years and

how economics have really shaped the fate of the land.

"I'll pat myself on the back, I'm pretty good at reading title reports, particularly when it comes to identifying access easements. Sometimes you'll find parcels that appear landlocked, and you've got to find out why that's the case. Often it just may be a gap in the deeding process — somebody years ago may have granted an easement that wasn't recorded, and you've got to then try to get a title company to insure over that gap to restore access.

"That's not always the case. I've got 300 acres out in Guatay that's landlocked by the Forest Service. You used to be able to cross their land to access my listing, but they've changed road requirements and suddenly decided to stop recognizing the existing road. My client's now had to spend \$250,000 doing environmental studies to get his road re-established.

"Everybody likes to shop online for real estate, so much of the

market has gone to the internet. But out here, each and every piece of property is going to be different, so you have to really be out here on the ground, assessing not just a house but the land and its facilities in real life.

"Most of the properties out here, if you look into it, will still have race restrictions written into the deeds as late as the 1930s where not only are minorities prevented from owning land, they can't even live on a parcel unless they're there under the employ of a white landowner. Obviously, laws have been passed striking these down and they're entirely unenforceable, but they're still there and it's just kind of shocking to see."

When it comes to prospective buyers, he says many romanticize the idea of owning land without really considering the amount of work that goes into it.

"Everybody thinks they want a 10- or 20-acre parcel, but there's a whole lot of responsibility that comes with that, and people aren't always aware of the amount of work that needs to be done to maintain that vacant land. You've got to own a weed whacker, mower, maybe even a tractor and brush hog, and you've got to use them.

"Defending against fire is a huge deal, and it's getting worse. A big part of that lies in trying to get insurance, it's getting to a point that if you're in an area that's been designated as having a high fire danger you've got to go to the state for the California FAIR plan, which is an expensive two-part insurance plan that not only covers

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you in case your house burns down, but also for liability if it's where a fire starts. That's something that's much more complicated up here."

Campo also has its answer to Los Tules, the tight-packed development I saw in Warner Springs. It's called Campo Hills, was built in the mid-2000s, and is packed with hundreds of identical tract homes on lots no bigger than you'd find in any modern subdivision. I wonder why anyone would want to make such a long drive into the country just to feel like they're still in the suburbs at home.

"You wouldn't think it would be incredibly popular, but it is," Elliott assures me. "Properties come on the market and they're gone really quick. I mean, the prices are good, these places are going for a little over 300 grand, for San Diego that's inexpensive. It's just how far you're willing to drive.

"During the crash, investors swooped in and bought a bunch of them up, so there are a lot of rentals now. You see a lot of military families, a lot of Section 8. Compared to what you get for the price in the city, it's not a bad place to live at all."

Another interesting subset of listings one finds out here are forest cabins, built in the first half of the 20th century in the Cleveland National Forest on federally-owned land. Elliott is currently offering one, a 900-square-foot two-bedroom built in 1926, for \$95,000.

"Back in the day, the Forest Service wanted people to come up here and enjoy their public land," Elliott explains. "So they set up a permit process allowing people



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN ELLIOTT

Another interesting subset of listings one finds out here are forest cabins, built in the first half of the 20th century in the Cleveland National Forest on federally-owned land.

to build little cabins from Guatay to Mount Laguna. These are some really cool, neat little houses that are all around 100 years old by now; some of the last ones were built in the '40s.

"Back in the early '90s, they took an inventory of every cabin and compiled its history, took photos of the exterior, and you're not allowed to modify the exterior appearance in any way going forward. They're frozen at that exact period in time."

Elliott says about 300 of these cabins exist throughout the county, though strict restrictions prevent owners from living in any full-time. Forestry permits specify that all cabins are vacation rentals that can be visited for no more than 180 days each year, and Elliott says people flouting the rules elsewhere in Southern California are part of the reason for the rules.

"Up in Big Bear, they ended up with people building all of these mansions that they're putting on Airbnb, using as vacation rentals, and just paying Forestry an \$800 annual use per-

mit. So they completely revised the system to stop that kind of abuse in the future."

Headed home along Highway 94, I'm enjoying a peaceful drive, trying to take in as many sights as I can. I'm well familiar by now with the ranches, rocks, and fields that make up our backcountry, but alert for some more unique finds like the old toilet factory or the Camp Lockett buildings, which I make a detour to see before leaving Campo. Apparently I'm not "hauling ass" as much as natives like Acosta might prefer, so I find myself frequently pulling onto the shoulder to let trucks, many of them outfitted with white-and-green Border Patrol livery, blow by.

It turns out this is a grave mistake. Just past the turnoff that would take me from Potrero to Tecate, I find myself surrounded by three border patrol vehicles, and all three fire up their lights and sirens and force me off the road. Responding to a demand to know who I am and why I'm here, the first thing that comes to mind is that I'm

a real estate agent touring properties for a prospective client — I have a few of Elliott's listings on the passenger seat, and in my head this is a simpler explanation than the truth: I'm a writer

who is also a real estate agent who came out here to interview another real estate agent about what it's like to sell real estate.

Apparently my answer is still suspicious, as I'm detained for the next half-hour by the six agents who've emerged from their two trucks and a Jeep as they try to radio in to confirm that my license is valid and that I am indeed legally present in the US.

"Our computers are all going to crap so this is going to take a while, because apparently we've got some other spending priorities," one tells me after about 15 minutes, sarcastically nodding his head toward the sliver of border wall poking up along a hillside.

When I'm eventually freed (after taking the note that yielding

to oncoming traffic is considered a "suspicious activity" when done near the border), I think about how this is exactly the kind of encounter both Acosta and Elliott tell me they came out here to avoid.

"Up here, you find a lot of very independent-minded people," Elliott had told me, again echoing Acosta. "They don't want to be connected to a lot of government assistance, interference, or regulation, they want to be left to be able to do what they want to do. San Diego's backcountry is absolutely beautiful. It's a lifestyle that isn't for everybody, but it's fun, rewarding, and offers an unmatched outdoor experience to those who are willing to commit to it."

—Dave Rice

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“We can’t even get the walkway swept with all the bodies along the wall, people who won’t move,” he said. “We had to leave two big piles of sand because there was nowhere to throw it without burying someone. On the bright side, our lack of sweeping made cleaning up spilled paint on the walkway pretty much effortless. Maybe rubbing freshly tagged areas with sand will remove it as easily?”

What has happened to OB? “There was a guy painting the whole wall with crap and food,” Randy told me. “Rubbing peanut butter on the wall. The cops came by and just rolled their eyes and said, ‘We have more important stuff to do.’” The entrance to the Ocean Beach Pier has become a San Elijo camping site without the fees. On August 10 at 6:15 am, there were six people sleeping on the sand on the left side entrance to the pier, with their prized possessions littering the beach. On the right side entrance, four people were sleeping on the beach: same scenario, but with a blue pup tent next to them. Discarded needles, human feces, homeless camps, and graffiti, all along the seawall at the beach. And police walk by and say they have better things to do?

On April 1 of this year, the Ocean Beach Mainstreet Association removed the police trailer that had been located in the OB Pier parking lot for over 20 years. Association president Denny Knox explained at the time: “We talked to the police department about it, said we’d be happy to keep it. But they said things have changed, especially in the last three or four years. They all have computers in their cars, a lot of tools in their car, they don’t have to go in somewhere to write up a report. So there’s no need for the trailer. I just don’t want to put money where it’s not being useful. I would actually like to have something that actually helps us, but think 20 years is a long run. It definitely made a difference for us when it started, but they just don’t use it like they used to. This will not affect police presence in the lot.” But according to one police

officer who wished to remain anonymous, the removal of the police trailer has “emboldened the criminal element in that lot.”

“It is sad and disgusting and I worry a lot that my kids will step in something,” Meredith said. “I’ve lived here my entire life and it’s never been this bad. But this morning, as I walked by with my kids and looked at this mess, I decided to keep walking and show them the beautiful ocean and sand and pier right in front of us. Not to turn my eyes to reality, but to show them all the beauty that is right in front of them if they just look. The ocean will always make me smile.”

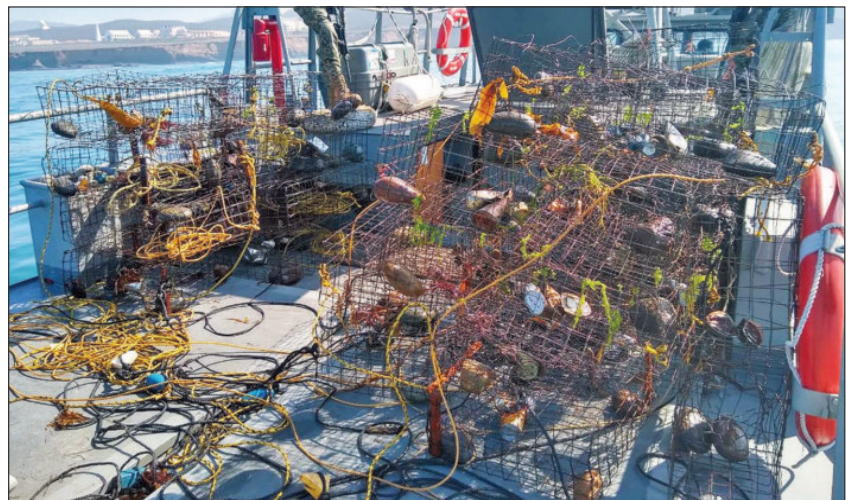
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Mexican Navy liberates lovelorn lobsters

Mating season moratorium — but you can still buy the frigid ones

According to Mexican news outlets, on August 7, the Mexican Navy, along with workers from the National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries, secured 280 lobster traps and rescued and released 740 lobsters in Ejido Eréndira, a small community about 62 miles south of Ensenada. “The lobsters were caught in a period of time deemed by the government as illegal,” said R. Gonzalez, a seafood chef from Ensenada. “The restriction is usually between around March and September 15. This is done in order to protect the sustainability of our lobster resources. During this time of the year when the lobsters begin their reproductive stage, it is prohibited to capture, fish, or sell lobsters in the area.” Asked about lobsters sold at Puerto Nuevo and Ensenada’s Mercado Negro seafood market, he replied, “The lobsters that are [sold and] consumed during the restriction period were [likely] frozen, and that inventory has to be reported to the government agencies. The price of live lobster is about \$30 a pound [fresh] and \$20 frozen here in Ensenada,” he added, “though it can be cheaper. Illegal fishing of all seafood products is sort of common in Mexico, due to corruption among some fisheries and some inspectors.”



CREDIT ROSARIO EN LA NOTICIA FACEBOOK

Just now, the Baja bugs are caught in a more tender trap.

Celeste C. is an Escondido resident who’s been visiting Puerto Nuevo, known as “Lobster Village,” since the 1990s. I communicated with her on August 10. “We ate at the Puerto Nuevo 2 restaurant,” she said. “It came with a good-sized lobster, rice, beans, tortillas, and

spacious, and well-decorated. We got our food quickly, but did not feel rushed.” Overall, the restaurant scored a 4.5 average, and no one complained about the prices, despite lobster being out of season. “The price has gone down from a U.S. visitor’s perspective,” explained

Celeste, “because the peso isn’t as strong as it was, which makes the prices overall seem cheaper. Plus, it varies in different seasons.”

Since 2001, Ramon Hernandez, a City Heights resident, has treated his family and friends to Puerto Nuevo. “I remember when the waiters would bring out three different sized live lobsters and you could choose if you wanted them fried or steamed — I always had mine deep fried. The prices per lobster did vary from time to time, and recently, we also have to consider the *casetas* (toll booths) again, since I heard they are opera-

tional again.” Hernandez said that he’s been exploring north-of-the-border options. “We’ve been eating lobster at Lotus Garden on University for about \$20-\$25 a pound,” he added. “But here, we don’t have the waterfront to gaze at and unlimited tortillas and melted butter dip.”

MIKE MADRIAGA



“We’ve been eating lobster at Lotus Garden on University for about \$20-\$25 a pound but we don’t have unlimited tortillas and melted butter dip.”

salad with homemade dressing, and the cost was about \$25.” Celeste is a Yelp Elite 2019 reviewer with 146 reviews under her belt; she rated her lobster experience at five stars out of five. “They went out of their way to explain things and you could tell they were having fun!” she said. “The restaurant inside is clean,

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT



Saturday | 24

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Round one is “round robin,” where each team plays four games. The top two teams from each court play head to head in a single elimination match. The top eight teams (based on score) move on to round two; single elimination games take place until we have a first place team. If you don’t want to

the 5700-acre Mission Trails Regional Park). Until the early 1970s, the lake was part of a sand and gravel mining operation. After the lake was mined out, it was turned into a camping and fishing facility. The area

was planted with riparian vegetation, especially willow. The willows along the streams and lakeshore grew into thickets, attracting the federally endangered Bell’s vireo.

WHEN: Saturday, August 24, 8:30 am to 10 am

WHERE: Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail, Santee. mtrp.org



SATURDAY AUGUST 24: SHADE ALONG THE TRAIL

WHERE: Embarcadero Marina Park North, 400 Kettner Boulevard, djhertickets.com

WHERE: La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla. ljcommunitycenter.org

Sunday | 25

CANDY & SHELLEY GO TO THE DESERT

When their car breaks down on its way from New York to California, two childhood friends’ road trip comes to a screeching halt. While roasting in the midsummer sun, they fend for themselves...until a biker shows up.

WHEN: Sunday, August 25, 7 pm to 8:30 pm; Monday, August 26, 7 pm to 8:30 pm



Tuesday | 27

HEART AND JOAN JETT

It’s a double-dose of girl power as the reunited Wilson sisters of Heart team up with former Runaways star Joan Jett for a dual-headline tour.

Heart’s Love Alive tour is paying tribute to their back catalogue, and also covering faves from bands such as Led Zeppelin. Jett is playing tunes from her own career.

WHEN: Tuesday, August 27, 7:30 pm
WHERE: North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre, 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista.



play, watch the tournament go down while enjoying drinks and food from the sidelines.

WHEN: Saturday, August 24, 8 am to 3 pm

WHERE: Dog Beach Del Mar, 3200 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. bgcsandieguito.org

SHADE ALONG THE TRAIL

Shade from the Sycamore and Cottonwood trees provides relief from summer sun as you wander the environs of Kumeyaay Lake Campground. Join a trail guide for walk through the campground’s riparian habitat (it’s part of

BARKS & BREWS FEST

Pups are highly encouraged, and families are welcome. Craft beer tastings from dozens of breweries, cocktails, food, local vendors, and furry friends. Dogs can run free in designated unleashed areas for small and big dogs, compete in one of the pet-friendly contests, or relax in one of the lounges. Tunes by local artists all day, as well as dancing in a silent dog disco.

WHEN: Saturday, August 24, 12 pm to 5 pm



ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

LOS SANTOS TRAIL LOOP (SANTA ROSA PLATEAU)

Take this hike to view old California—rolling hills, oaks, wildflowers, and wildlife.

Driving directions: (Murrieta) From I-15 N toward Temecula, take the Clinton Keith Road exit and turn west (left). Drive 4.2 miles to the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve Visitor Center on the left to visit exhibits, pick up a map, and to pay the day use fee of \$4/person. Or, you can skip the visitor center and continue driving the 4 miles to the trailhead and pay the day use fee there. Take Clinton Keith Road for one mile past the visitor center. The road makes a sharp right and becomes Tenaja Road. Continue on Tenaja Road for 1.7 miles until you reach a stop sign. Tenaja Road turns right, but instead continue straight onto Via Volcano and go 0.8 mile until you see the sign for the Vernal Pool Trailhead. Park in the good-sized gravel parking lot. **Hiking length:** 5 miles out-and-back. Allow 2+ hours. **Difficulty:** Easy to moderate with a 488-foot elevation gain. Best time of year is March-May for wildflower viewing, but year-round use is possible and encouraged to see the preserve in all seasons. Watch for and avoid poison oak. The trails can be steep and rocky for short stretches. Trail signs are clear and easy to follow; pick up a map at the visitor center or online. Trails are closed after heavy rains.



A bridge crossing in a pastoral setting

Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve, near Murrieta in Riverside County, consists of 9000 acres and many hiking trails. The one described here has good hiking with lots of beautiful vistas; wildlife such as birds, coyotes, rattlesnakes, and newts; rolling, grass-covered hills; sprawling oaks;

and wildflowers. At certain times of the year, you can spot the snow-covered mountains of San Geronio and San Jacinto. Look also for coyotes walking through the landscape, or for their roopy scat on the trail. Listen for the beautiful song of the meadowlark.

Starting at the Vernal Pool Trailhead, walk 0.1 mile to the Los Santos Trail, go left (north), and continue for 1.2 miles. The trail is strewn with volcanic rocks, mariposa lilies, poppies, and prickly pear cacti. (Flowers are more likely in the spring.) The trail leads to oaks, bringing some shade. Watch for shade-loving poison oak as well. It is best to stay on the trail, and rest on benches that are available along the way. While sitting or walking, watch the tall grasses waving in the wind, and take in the California live oaks and Englemann oaks perched on the hillsides.

This is a great area to learn the differences between the California or coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and the Englemann oak (*Quercus engelmannii*). The live oak is a densely branched evergreen tree with prickly-edged, cupped leaves that are shiny, dark green above, and drab green and hairy below. The Englemann

continued on page 33

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

ART

Optimus Volts: We Are The Dreamers Of Dreams Optimus Volts is a solo show featuring new sculptural works inspired by the artist's childhood experiences, interests, and objects. Enter the mind of Optimus Volts. Opening reception wine sales to benefit The AjA Project. **OPENING PUBLIC RECEPTION: SUNDAY, AUGUST 25.** Sunday, August 25-October 13, 6pm; **free.** Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

PostSecret Live with Frank Warren In this interactive presentation, you'll learn about the inspiration and history of the PostSecret project, ask Frank your questions, listen to others share their secrets or share your own, find out about the PostSecret exhibit, and more. Friday, August 23, 6pm; \$15-\$20. Casa del Prado Theatre, 1800 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

The Night Owls Members' Choice Mix it up with friends and art lovers at the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library. Vote on your favorite artwork as the Night Owls presents Members' Choice. Space is limited, so reservations are recommended. Friday, August 23, 7:30pm; **free**-\$15. 21 and up. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

West Coast Shell Show Presented by the San Diego Shell Club; Come see exhibits on shells, as well as shells for sale from around the world. Free admission and each child who visits will receive a special gift. Saturday, August 24, 9am; Sunday, August 25, 9am; **free.** Casa del Prado, 1650 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

BEER

End(less) Summer Pig Roast Gravity Heights will host their first annual End(less) Summer Pig Roast in the beer garden. Chef Ryan Johnston and Chef Keith will be serving a traditional slow roasted pig feast with all the fixins. Saturday, August 24, 12pm; \$25. Gravity Heights, 9920 Pacific Heights Boulevard. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Pups & Pours Beer & Wine Tour We'll treat you to about 10 ample pours of beer or wine at 3 local craft beverage hubs, plus delicious food pairings and guided walking tour of Historic Old Town San Diego for you and your pup. Visit online or call 858-551-5115 now to book. Saturday, August 24, 2:30pm; \$89. 21 and up. San Diego Beer and Wine Tours, 330 A Street #143. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Spirits Festival The two-day 11th San Diego Spirits Festival features a weekend of cocktails and lots of entertainment. Unlimited Cocktails, Bartender Battles, Chef Demonstrations. Saturday, August 24, 2pm; Sunday, August 25, 2pm; \$65-\$120. Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier, 1000 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Shady Ladies & Hop Heads Historical Pub Crawl Created in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding New Town San Diego, now downtown, the combination historical tour and pub crawl explores the historic Gaslamp District. Drinks are not included in price. Friday, August 23, 5pm; \$10-\$20. 21 and up. Gaslamp Museum at the Davis-Horton House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Christy Hale: Todos Iguales/ All Equal The Lemon Grove Historical Society and the Lemon Grove Library will unveil Christy Hale's new, bilingual book, "Todos Iguales/All Equal," exploring the landmark 1931 desegregation case in Lemon Grove's lone grammar school. Information: 619-460-4353; 619-463-9819. Friday, August 23, 1pm; **free.** Lemon Grove Library, 3001 School Lane. (LEMON GROVE)

Crystophver R. Music Book Launch party for *Intellectual Suicide (Poetry to Die For)*, a new collection by local poet Crystophver R. Music and a special performance. Copies of the book will be available. Saturday, August 24, 3pm; **free.** Lestat's Hillcrest, 1041 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Huda Al-Marashi: First Comes Marriage The San Carlos Branch Library welcomes Huda Al-Marashi to discuss her book, *First Comes Marriage: My Not-So-Typical American Love Story*, an Iraqi-American memoir about immigration, marriage and love. Friday, August 23, 2pm; **free.** San Carlos Library, 7265 Jackson Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Luis Alberto Urrea: House Broken Angels The Festival of Books presents author Luis Alberto Urrea, who has written 17 books and is a 2005 Pulitzer Prize finalist for non-fiction. Born in Tijuana to a Mexican father and American mother, the former *Reader* contributor will speak, as well as signing his new book *House Broken Angels*. Saturday, August 24, 7pm; Luce Court at Liberty Station, 2641 Truxtun Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Téa Obrecht: Inland Téa Obrecht discusses and signs her new book, "Inland." Obrecht is the internationally bestselling author of "The Tiger's Wife." This event is free and open to the public. Reserved seating is available when the book is pre-ordered from Warwick's for the event. Only books purchased from Warwick's will be signed. Thursday, August 22, 7:30pm; **free.** Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

3D Art Exploration: Sewing Sunday Artists of all skill levels are invited for an open studio with Textile Artist Ann Olsen. During this Sunday's art exploration, learn to make a stitched felt bird, or add to your collection by adding variations with stitching and applique. To register, call (760) 730-5203, stop by Studio ACE or sign up online. Sunday, August 25, 2pm; \$4-\$5. Studio Ace, 3861 Mission Avenue #B3. (OCEANSIDE)

A Mending Song Mend your fears about making music as you learn improvisational loops, beats, and melodies. Limited to 12 participants; advance registration recommended. Sunday, August 25, 11am; **free.** Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

All About Worms Join Solana Center for this presentation where you will learn the basics of vermicomposting. Learn how easy it is to compost with red wiggler worms! Saturday, August 24, 12pm; **free.** 18 and up. Julian Library, 1850 Highway 78. (JULIAN)

Back to School Design Workshop This workshop will teach how to create functional and friendly spaces for kids, tweens and teens. Thursday, August 22, 6pm; **free.** Living Spaces, 8730 Rio San Diego Drive. (MISSION VALLEY)

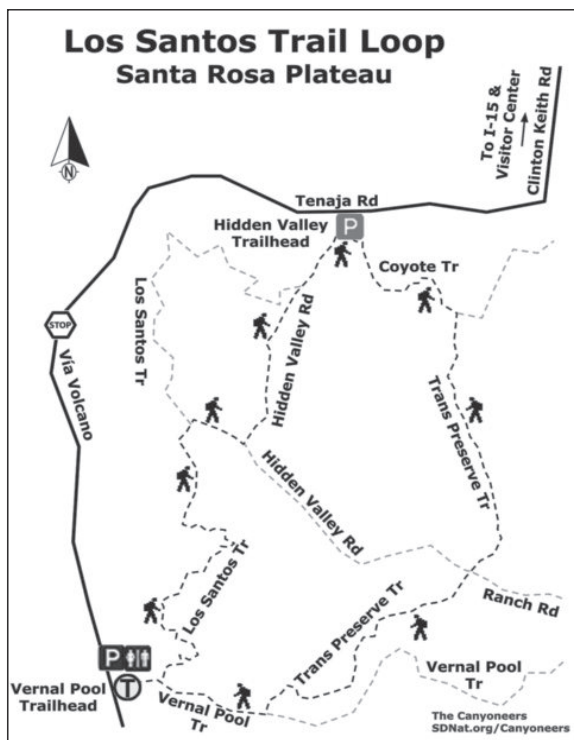
Drawing & Painting Saturdays Class includes Drawing, Painting and other 2D Creativity. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by adult Saturday, August 24, 10am; \$4-\$5. Studio Ace, 3861 Mission Avenue #B3. (OCEANSIDE)

Expanding Consciousness with Sound & Meditation Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss of meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound. Thursdays, 7pm; through Thursday, August 29, **free.** 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Gongs & Crystal Bowls Meditation Join us for a relaxing sound bath meditation. These sound healers will fill the room with restorative harmonies that release tension, clear the mind and bring you into a deep state of relaxation. Saturday, August 24, 5pm; \$25. Modo Yoga San Diego, 3091 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Grief Yoga Class This class is slow-paced, trauma-informed, and includes full-body movement designed to support the body's efforts to bear up under the weight of grief. Led by Monique Minahan, author of *The Grief Practice*. Sunday, August 25, 9:30am; \$15. 18 and up. Acupuncture and Massage Indigo Dragon Center, 451 La Veta Avenue. (ENCINITAS)

How to Inventory Your Fine Jewelry This class will teach you how to inventory and photograph your jewelry, appraising and



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



You Can Be a VETERINARIAN CAMP

This camp offers a rare opportunity for kids to practice veterinary skills, interact with a variety of animals, and gain experience with equipment they might use in the future! It also encourages aspiring veterinarians to pursue their dream of helping animals.

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insuring your jewelry. Also learn about selling your personal jewelry through a variety of channels. Thursday, August 22, 2:30pm; \$20-\$25. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Indigo Dye & Shibori Explore the many possibilities of magical Indigo dyeing with bold and beautiful Shibori, the ancient Japanese art of dyeing natural fabrics and using resist techniques: folding, clamping, stitching, twisting and compressing. Bring your clean 100% natural fibers; cotton, silk, hemp, bamboo or rayon clothing or fabric to dye. Please register in advance. Thursday, August 22, 10am; \$76-\$88. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Kombucha Workshop Making kombucha at home is healthier & more affordable than buying it in a store. This workshop with Edible Alchemy will educate & demonstrate all we need to know about DIY kombucha. Saturday, August 24, 7pm; \$13-\$38. Sleep Bedder at Sommeil, 2867 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

Leather Repair Learn the basics of at-home leather repair and maintenance with Chris Padilla. Limited to 12 participants; advance registration recommended. Saturday, August 24, 11am; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Live Model Drawing Sessions Three-hour Life Drawing Session for both beginning and advanced artists ages 18+. Working with a live nude model, each session will include a series of warm up poses using quick gestures followed by a short pose and then a long pose. Live model, tables, and chairs are provided, with 6 easels available on a first-come first-serve basis. Artists must bring all drawing supplies. Saturday, August 24, 1pm; \$12-\$15. 18 and up. Studio Ace, 3861 Mission Avenue #B3. (OCEANSIDE)

Macrame Boho Fringe Plant Holder Craft Workshop Learn how to make your very own Macrame Fringe Plant holder. Admission includes step-by-step instructions, all the supplies and a 6" pot for your plant! Includes a beer of your choice. Thursday, August 22, 6:30pm; \$40. Culture Brewing Company Ocean Beach, 4845 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Mending Hours Bring an item in need of repair and join artists Michelle Montjoy, Anna O'Cain, and Siobhán Arnold for self-care and community building. Advance registration not required. Friday, August 23, 11am; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Salsa Making Watch Rosa make and teach a variety of tasty salsa recipes. Rosa Hernandez, "La Chacha" (the cleaning lady), is artist Claudia Cano's alter ego. Limited to 12 participants; advance registration recommended. Saturday, August 24, 2pm; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Senior Resources in San Diego Learn about resources that can help seniors remain independent at home for as long as possible. This workshop will also cover available services such as programs for nutrition, transportation, education and in-home care. To register, call 1-800-82-SHARP (1-800-827-4277) or visit sharp.com/citywellness. Thursday, August 22, 12pm; free. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Sing For Your Life A holistic vocal boot camp for beginners to professionals. Learn singing techniques for vocal longevity, overall health, and happiness. Workshops run one day weekly for 5 weeks. Visit www.sing4yourlife.net for more information. Saturday, August 24, 11am; 18 and up. Theatre Arts School of San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Road #203. (LIBERTY STATION)

Teen Weaving Project This workshop is geared toward teens and tweens. Limited to 12 participants; advance registration recommended. Sunday, August 25, 2pm; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Understanding Alzheimer's & Dementia Alzheimer's is not normal aging. It's a disease of the brain that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. Join us to learn about the disease. Friday, August 23, 1pm; free. Alzheimer's Association, 5075 Shoreham Pl., #240. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Nancy Foley

NEVERMORE

My steps are heavy this early morning,
head throbbing, muscles tight.
Above me, dark clouds with slumped shoulders
release tears into steel-grey Mission Bay.
I pass a few people, heads bowed, sluggish pace,
a shrouded, somber atmosphere.

The shrill sound of seagulls breaks the stillness
echoing the desperate cries of students diving
under desks to escape yet another school shooting.
This time a Colorado high school a few miles
from Columbine, where on that grave day in '99
thirteen kids were gunned down.
Today eight students wounded, one killed.
Kendrick, a teen, takes a bullet in the chest
while subduing a deranged gunman.
The only child of now heartbroken parents is no more.

The air grows dense
"He should have been protected"
I shake my fists
"He's a victim, not a hero"

Screaming into the sky
"We don't need another child hero"
A fiery-eyed raven with a rifle-stocked tail
swoops down and scowls at me
NEVERMORE

Extra Care at CVS

Yesterday I bought a greeting card with cash
two ninety-nine plus tax
handed clerk three ones and a quarter.
She scanned my red extra care card
got only three cents change, but
received a receipt almost my exact height:
five feet four inches long!
It offered me eleven coupons which totaled
twenty-nine dollars in discounts
but limited to one coupon per transaction
which all expire in seven days and exclude
sale, promotional, clearance items ...
a warning that returns are with receipt only
with encouragement to "share your feedback"
by filling out a one-minute survey
with a reminder "*hablemos español!*"
"Did you bring your own bag?" the clerk asked
"For my card or for the receipt?" I answer
They may label themselves as "extra care" but
to me they are extra careless with our environment
as I leave tripping over my white, dragging tail
with fire flaming from my nostrils.



Nancy Foley earned her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Dayton. She and her husband moved from Indianapolis to San Diego in 1982. After raising four children, Nancy enrolled in creative writing classes at SDSU. She has been a member of the San Diego Community College Writer's Workshop since 2007. Her poetry appears in the 2019 San Diego Poetry Annual, 2018 Escondido Municipal Gallery Poetry/Art Summation, and in four anthologies: *For the Love of Writing, A Volume of Voices, Fruit & Fig Leaves*, and *The Stories Start Here*, as well as the self-published collection *In Her Own Words*. She was the featured poet in both the 10/06/16 and the 5/10/18 issues of the *San Diego Reader's Rhyme & Verse* section. On 2/5/17 Nancy was the guest poet at the monthly gathering of Poets Inland North City, SD. Her nine grandchildren provide ample material for her essays and poems.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

COMEDY

Adee McCovey and Andy Kern
Adee McCovey, Andy Kern and host Gina Manning. \$10 cover charge, two drink minimum. Reservations & Bottle Service: 858 314 2700 Thursday, August 22, 8pm; \$10-\$25. Club M, 5200 Grand Del Mar Way. (DEL MAR)

Brian Regan Saturday, August 24, 7:30pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Monique Marvez The bill features YouTube sensation Monique Marvez, who has appeared on HBO, Comedy Central. Showtime and more as well as other comedians. Cover plus two drink minimum. Thursday, August 22, 8pm; \$10. 21 and up. Club M, 5200 Grand Del Mar Way. (DEL MAR)

Orny Adams Orny Adams delivers a powerful, incisive standup routine that vacillates between the relevant and the absurd. Orny attacks what's wrong with the world and sometimes even what's wrong with Orny. He's brutally honest, satirical and his performance is ceaselessly energetic. Thursday, August 22, 8pm; Friday, August 23, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, August 24, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Ballroom Lovers Party Non-stop dancing to DJ ballroom music: Waltz, foxtrot, cha cha, rumba, tango, swing, night club 2-step, quickstep, samba, big band standards, romantic love songs, and ballroom classics. Free off-street parking, refreshments included. Saturday, August 24, 8pm; \$10. Mary Murphy's Champion Ball-

room Academy, 4255 Ruffin Road #200. (TIERRASANTA)

Dinner & Flamenco Show Live Music & Dancing! Flamenco Show- Special Guest Singer Juan Murube from Sevilla, Spain First time performing in San Diego! 3 Course Prix-Fixe Dinner includes 2 glasses of Spanish Wine. This event will sell out, so reserve your tickets now! Thursday, August 22, 6:30pm; free-\$69. Parc Bistro Brasserie, 2760 Fifth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Downbeat Big Band & Swing Class Come Dance and/or listen to the Greatest Big Band sound in San Diego. The Downbeat Big Band's 17 musicians and songstress play all your favorites: Swing, Latin & Ballroom dance tunes. Sunday, August 25, 5pm; \$10. Veterans Museum and Memorial Center, 2115 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Gospel Line Dancing Do you love line dancing? Do you love gospel music? Join us for an awesome beginner gospel line dance class! For more information, please visit sdrock.com/linedance or email linedance@sdrock.com. Thursday, August 22, 6pm; free. 18 and up. Rock Church, 2277 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Red Room Burlesque & Music Show This show is a combination of music, dance, classic and neo burlesque. Sunday, August 25, 6pm;

\$5-\$10. Bancroft, 9143 Campo Road. (SPRING VALLEY)

San Diego Summer Showcase A special night of dance, spoken word, music, food, and art. Come down and celebrate local talent with us! Saturday, August 24, 8pm; \$15-\$25. Dancehouse Point Loma, 2180 Chatsworth Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

San Diego Barber Festival Celebrating two years, The San Diego Barber Fest attracts over 200+ attendees. A multi-generational celebration, the festival offers barber competitions, food, music, award ceremony, and interactive activities for children and families. Sunday, August 25, 1pm; \$15-\$150. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Y.E.S. Festival An annual family friendly daytime event and mixer for San Diego's Young, Engaged, and Serious entrepreneurs. Young Black & 'N Business hosts events, workshops, and promotions that connect the greater San Diego Region with its diverse and eclectic civic minded business community. Saturday, August 24, 2pm; \$10-\$40. Fair@44, 4350 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

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FILM

San Diego International Kids' Film Festival San Diego International Kids Film Festival will screening 150+ films from 30 + counties in multiple venues for three full days, present one of the only film market that focus on Children and Family cinemas. Event detail and ticket information at <http://sdkidsfilms.org/Event.html> Friday, August 23, 10am; Saturday, August 24, 10am; Sunday, August 25, 10am; \$5-\$999. Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

FOR KIDS

Family Discovery Walk It is summer at Mission Trails Regional Park and a trained MTRP Trail Guide will be ready to take families on an afternoon walk through the park. You will see and hear what nature has to offer while your guide provides some details about the flora, fauna and geology of Mission Trails Regional Park. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Sunday, August 25, 3pm; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Flying the F/A-18 "Hornet" Join Colonel Stephen "Fozzy" Acosta, as he shares some of his missions and experiences as an F/A-18 "Hornet" pilot. Kids and adults will enjoy his demonstration some of the equipment USMC pilots use and his explanation of the unique capabilities of the Hornet. Free admission and parking. Saturday, August 24, 11am; **free**. Flying Leatherneck Aviation Museum, 4203 Anderson Avenue. (MIRAMAR)

Make-A-Wish Tuna Challenge This event is the largest tuna fishing tournament in the continental U.S., raising over \$3 million to date for the Make-A-Wish foundation. The tournament will culminate with

an awards banquet celebration on Sunday, August 25 at the Portuguese Hall hosting a fresh fish fry lunch with entertainment, and a chance to win raffle items and bid on great auction items. Friday, August 23, 6pm; Saturday, August 24, 6pm; Sunday, August 25, 6pm; \$30-\$150. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

LECTURES

BACC Lecture: Restoring a Masterpiece An in-depth discussion of the process that went in to restoring Francisco de Zurbarán's Virgin and Child with The Young Saint John the Baptist, featured in Art and Empire: The Golden Age of Spain. Friday, August 23, 7pm; \$7-\$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

The Divine Feminine: Women & Hormone Series With a focus on women's hormones, health, and healing, Estancia La Jolla Hotel & Spa welcomes locals and San Diego visitors alike to take part in its new series that will examine important matters in a woman's life. Complimentary parking and cocktails will be provided to attendees. Each class will take place on-property and will begin at 6:00PM with registration at 5:30PM. Thursday, August 22, 6pm; \$35-\$40. Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa, 9700 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

NATURE

A Cool Summer Morning Whether it is cool or hot, join a MTRP Trail Guide on a morning hike along a trail in Mission Trails Regional Park. Meet a trained Trail Guide inside the Visitor Center to see some of the unique species of plants that survive in our Mediterranean Climate. Along the way you might see some of the birds,

insects, reptiles and pollinators who also call this area home. Saturday, August 24, 9:30am; Sunday, August 25, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Adventure Hiking Scavenger Hunt We will meet in the local parking lot and go over the ground rules. There will be two different Scavenger Hunts (Difficult and Challenging) depending upon your fitness and hiking skill level. We will hand out our Adventure Hiking Scavenger Hunt info sheets and then we're off! This is a little different concept from most scavenger hunts, as we will all be together as one group and the object of the game is whoever finds the most items, wins! We will laugh, learn and have an overall blast as we search out on pre-determined trails to find the objects listed on your info sheets. Thursdays, 6:30pm; Fridays, 6:30pm; through Thursday, September 12, \$20. 18 and up. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Camino Ruiz Rim to the Creek Hike Join naturalist Les Braund for a hike leaving from Camino Ruiz Park. Most of the hike is in the shade of tall Chaparral vegetation and follows a switch-back trail from the rim of the canyon down to the valley floor and stream side. See uncommon native plants such as the Summer holly shrub and others. Saturday, August 24, 8am; **free**. Camino Ruiz trailhead, 11489 Camino Ruiz. (MIRA MESA)

Leopard Shark Snorkeling Join aquarium naturalists and search for Leopard Sharks and other local creatures off the La Jolla coast. Discover the abundant variety of animals that make their homes just offshore along sandy bottom and rocks. Intermediate swimming ability is required and previous snorkeling experience is recommended. Participants supply their own gear. Ages 10+ (minors must be accompanied by a paid adult).

ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 30

oak tree is less dense; the branches are artistically angular. Its leaves are flat blue-green ovals, with smooth edges. It is drought deciduous, meaning that in extended dry and hot conditions it drops leaves. The Reserve has one of the largest stands of these trees in its native southern California range. They grow best above the dry coastal plain and below 4,300 feet elevation.

After 1.0 mile, there is a steep rise covered with chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*). This shrub, also called greasewood, is a keystone plant of the dense, woody chaparral ecosystem. As a keystone species, it has a disproportionately large effect on its environment; the chaparral ecosystem being dramatically changed when the species is removed. Its small bundled leaves and deep roots allow it to survive long periods of drought. It responds to fire by both resprouting from a burl and germinating seeds stimulated by chemicals in charred wood and smoke.

At mile 1.3, turn right (east) at the cutoff to Hidden Valley Road for 0.2 mile. Then turn left (north) onto Hidden Valley Road, walking for 0.7 mile. There you will see a sign for Coyote Trail (east), a beauti-

ful trail with lots of oaks, sycamores, and a stream with a bridge crossing. It's a good place to look for frogs and newts. In the spring, you will see lots of globe lilies, checkerblooms, purple vetch, popcorn flowers, and scrub oaks. This trail is only 0.5 mile long. When you come to a sign for Trans Preserve Trail, turn right. You will be passing a rise called Poppy Hill on the right. In spring, you will see plenty of poppies and large stands of lupine here.

After 0.9 mile on the Trans Preserve Trail, you will cross Ranch Road and continue on the trail up the hill (south) for 0.8 mile, toward more stands of oak trees. Take time to sit on the bench and enjoy more vistas of the area while listening for the ratcheting call of the acorn woodpecker, the trill of a spotted towhee. You might spot a soaring red-tailed hawk or hear the territorial call of a red-shouldered hawk. Next, there is a trail junction with Vernal Pool Trail. Turn right (west). The parking area where you started, which is just 0.5 mile away, will complete the loop.

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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Win a dinner for 2 at Texas de Brazil.
Deadline to Enter: Monday, September 16 at 1pm

Enter to win at sdreader.com/contests

SHEEP and GOATS

Hugo Grotius

Among all good men one principle at any rate is established beyond controversy, that if the authorities issue any order that is contrary to the law of nature or to the commandments of God, the order should not be carried out. For when the Apostles said that obedience should be rendered to God rather than men, they appealed to an infallible rule of

action, which is written in the hearts of all men. . . . He knows not how to rule a kingdom, that cannot manage a province; nor can he wield a province, that cannot order a city; nor he order a city, that knows not how to regulate a village; nor he a village, that cannot guide a family, nor can that man govern well a family that knows not how to govern himself; neither can any govern

himself unless reason be lord, will and appetite her vassal; nor can reason rule unless herself be ruled by God, and (wholly) obedient to him.

– from *On the Law of War and Peace* by Hugo Grotius

Hugo Grotius (1583-1645) was a Dutch political philosopher and legal expert, and one of the founding fathers of the principles of

which international law was later to be constructed. He argued that natural law – a reflection of divine law, especially as found in the Ten Commandments – was the only firm basis by which any nation could rule, and by which and any international society of nations could flourish. In this way, Grotius argued, man would be ruled, not by coercive warfare, but by a lasting cooperative peace among nations.



Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship

Pre-purchase required. Members: \$25 Public: \$30 Saturday, August 24, 8am; Sunday, August 25, 8am; Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Wild Walk: Nocturnal Neighbors

Ever heard a bump in the night that made you walk a little faster? A rustle in the bushes that sent the hairs on the back of your neck tingling? Come learn about some of the likely culprits during this one-hour evening program that takes place at sunset. We'll explore the twilight creatures common in San Diego County and discuss some ways we can be a good neighbor to all wildlife, including what lurks in the dark. This program is not intentionally scary! Please bring a flashlight, wear sturdy hiking shoes, and long pants, and bring any water or snacks you may

need. Saturday, August 24, 7:30pm; free-\$20. Iron Oak Canyon Ranch, 12310 Campo Road. (SPRING VALLEY)

SPECIAL EVENTS

La Mesa Classic Car Show

The La Mesa Classic Car Show features pre-1974 cars, trucks and vans parked along La Mesa Blvd. Live DJ's and bands will be along La Mesa Blvd, and an award giveaway each week honoring that evening's best cars! Thursdays, 5pm; through Thursday, August 29, free. La Mesa Village, Spring Street at La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Little Italy Urban Challenge

The Little Italy Food Hall will be hosting a scavenger hunt around

the Little Italy neighborhood on Saturday, August 24. Teams of two will receive clues and search around the neighborhood for answers. 1st place team will win a \$200 LIFH gift card, 2nd place team will win a \$100 LIFH gift card, 3rd place team will win a \$50 LIFH gift card. Saturday, August 24, 3pm; \$10-\$20. Little Italy Food Hall, 550 West Date St., Suite B. (LITTLE ITALY)

SPOKEN WORD

George Kuchar: Rainy Season Reading

George Kuchar's "Rainy Season" and readings from Lorena Gomez Mostajo, Omar Pimienta, Itza Vilaboy. Saturday, August 24, 8pm; \$3-\$5. Bread & Salt, 1955 Julian Avenue. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

So Say We All Storytelling Showcase

The inaugural North County Storytelling Showcase, hosted by our wonderful friends at Brothers Provisions. Come join us for a night of live, true stories, told boldly from the mouths of the people who lived them, and learn how to get involved in the show. Friday, August 23, 7pm; free-\$5. Brother's Provisions, 16451 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

\$5 Karma Class Enjoy an all-levels hot yoga class that leaves you feeling refreshed, calm and relaxed. Friday, August 23, 7pm; \$5-\$10. 18 and up. Modo Yoga

San Diego, 3091 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Chakra Crystal Bowls Chakra Bowl Sound Bath. Studio 207, bring mat. Sunday, August 25, 6:30pm; \$20. 18 and up. Dorothea Laub Dance Place Studio, 2650 Truxton Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Metal Yoga These vinyasa-style classes are taught by a certified yoga instructor who happens to like Sabbath, Pelican, Howl, and Black Breath. Price includes yoga and a beer afterward. Bring your own mat. Saturday, August 24, 10:30am; \$15. 21 and up. Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

Night Fishing On Thursdays & Fridays through August, some areas of Dixon Lake will be open until 11:45pm for fishing. We expect to be stocking more catfish on August

2nd and again on August 16th. A California Fishing License is not required. A Dixon Lake permit is required to fish, and can be purchased at the concessions window. Thursdays, 5pm; through Friday, August 30, \$5-\$7. Dixon Lake, 1700 North La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

WORSHIP

Liturgical Worship Uplifting message and music in a beautiful sanctuary. Communion offered to all. Meet new friends at Coffee Hour after the service. Sundays, 9:30am; through Sunday, September 8, free. King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2993 Macdonald Street. (OCEANSIDE)

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Be sure to pick the *Reader's* annual Burger issue out on September 12

Read all about the most burger-tastic spots in San Diego and the pure magic that is beef inside of a bun.
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MARY BETH ADAMS THE MOST COMPLICATED OF SANDWICHES

At its essence, it's a beef patty encased in a simple white bread bun, perhaps a smear of ketchup atop. But Americans, in our never-ending quest for new flavors and combinations, love to think up new ways of adorning them. Lettuce, tomato, and onion is the classic garnish combo and the gold standard for many. You might gently push the boundaries with caramelized onions, a pungent aioli, or an unusual cheese. But why stop there when you can enhance the patty by adding a bit of bone marrow, slipping a sunny side-up egg under the top bun, or drizzling a fancy sauce over it all? Whether your taste is classic or anything goes, our favorite burgers have a little something for everyone.

The Friendly

4052 12th Street
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

The Friendly is actually a pizza joint, and it scoffs at conventional burger rules — the Dirty Flat Top (\$5), gets squeezed on the griddle to within an inch of its life, but the result is a burger I think about over and over. I don't know how they manage it, but the patties are crisp and caramelized, with a thin, pink, perfectly juicy middle. Two burgers are stacked with gooey American cheese, topped simply with softly grilled onions, between a buttered and griddled white bun. Ketchup or other condiments aren't available, but you won't miss them. Go ahead and add a slice of pizza to your order. At \$3.50 per, it's a shame not to, and you can munch on it while you wait for burger nirvana.

Born & Raised

2205 16th Street
LITTLE ITALY

You'd expect a fine dining steakhouse to also do a fine burger, and Born & Raised does not disappoint. Using a 70/30 mix of ground aged and dry-aged steak scraps and a bit of bone marrow for a luxurious flavor and mouthfeel, only around fifteen 5-ounce patties are available daily. Brioche buns are freshly made by sister restaurant, Ironside. Drizzles of classic Marie Rose dressing, frizzles of fried onions, smoky cheddar cheese sauce and a disk of crunchy pancetta hit all the right notes. Of course, you can't put just any old fries next to such a decadent burger; a stack of precisely cut Pommes Pommes are moistened with a touch of garlic oil, baked, then flash-fried to order, ready for dunking in garlic aioli. Don't skip the house-made pickle. It's a spicy, tangy palate cleanser.

Balboa Bar and Grill

2401 16th Street
BARKER'S HILL

I love a great dive bar, especially one that not only serves up a delectable burger, but has a solid menu of old-school classic cocktails. The third-pound, custom ground Balboa burger, grilled on a flat top to a nice char, is piled with fresh lettuce, tomato, onion, a smear of rosy garlic aioli, and oozy melted American cheese. It's nestled into a freshly baked, toasty bolillo bun from a bakery in Barrio Logan and sturdy enough to soak up all the succulent juices without falling to pieces halfway through your meal. It's a deal at \$8.75 and a steal during happy hour from 4-6 daily when it's a mere \$5, plus a buck off cocktails,

Viewpoint Brewing Company

2201 San Diego Drive
DEL MAR

It's not unusual for breweries to also serve great food, but Viewpoint Brewing Company takes the Backyard Burger a step further. The patty, fresh from Chula Vista's Hamilton Meats and Provisions, is crowned by a house-made brewer's cheese infused with hefeweizen and a bit of Marmite. It has a creamy, complex flavor that complements the tangy house-made, iceberg lettuce, tomato, and grilled onion complete the garnishes, all tucked into a Sadie Rose brioche bun. Wash it down with one (or two) of 20 brews as you kick back and enjoy the expansive views of the San Diego Lagoon.

Mishmash

3821 16th Street
BARKER'S HILL

Originally a pop-up serving the area's breweries and farmer's markets, Mishmash set roots down in Barrio Logan in 2016. The Cheese Louie, an off-menu item, is a 1/2-pound, hand-pattied in-house using ground beef from Barrio Logan's Butcher Block Meat Market. Laying the now-famous is your choice of four different flavors of house-made American cheese — mgdai, jalapeño, habanero and the soon-to-be-released scorpion pepper cheese. The Thousand Island liberally applied to a toasted Sadie Rose bun is truly made from scratch; even the aioli here is handmade. Don't skip the fries, either. Hand-cut, Belgian style, they're twice fried and accompanied by your choice of two sauces from a list of nine, all house-made, including a vegan spicy

chipotle option.

Current American Brasserie

140 West Broadway
CASLAMP QUARTER

I'll admit that what first drew me into Current's elegant surroundings was a sign outside that promised \$8.00 Beefeater martinis on Mondays, and who couldn't use a good strong adult beverage on a Monday. But I also loved the Beasrie Burger, a half-pound of Hamilton Meats and Provisions ground beef, expertly done medium-rare. Also inside the Sadie Rose bun is a bit of wilted arugula, mucky aged white cheddar, and caramelized onions. Soft butter lettuce leaves, ripe tomato slices and pungent house-made pickles round out the embellishments. If martinis aren't your thing, other days of week have their own deals, including Bullshit Bourbon and rye, half-price bottles of wine, and Lucid abstinence specials.

Sieu Boheme

4200 16th Street
MISSION

Blues Boheme's Frenchified take is anything but conventional. The Croque de Garçon stars Angus beef, ground in-house, served open-faced on a slice of buttered, toasted brioche, adorned with brie, a slice of crunchy Ducroc ham, melt-in-your-mouth slow-cooked onion, and a sunny fried egg. Of course, crispy, herbs de Provence-sprinkled pommes frites are the perfect side dish. Over thirty wines are available, a pitcher (quarter- or half-liter) to wash it down.

WE'RE BURGER RICH, Y'ALL
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The last café on earth

“People do become addicted to these meat pies.”

Heading south again. Blue Line. Chula Vista. Glaring sunny day. Have to transfer at H Street. I cross the tracks.

This is when I notice a pop-up tent right between the northbound platform and the bus area. Actually, it's a bit more permanent than pop-up. I see they have the full array of coffees, a display unit with pastries, and a fold-out table and chairs.

I'm kinda drawn to this. Not exactly starving, until I start thinking about it. Trouble is, I'm thinking about it.

“Do you have anything that's, like, savory?” I ask the woman. She has a generous face with lots of laugh lines. Maria Lopez. Yeah. Suddenly, I'm liking the idea of sitting right here in the sun, watching the red trolleys come and go just yards away. Ringside seat.

“Oh yes,” she says. “I have these burritos, \$1.50, with ground beef and potatoes. Or chorizo and potatoes. Or beans. Frijoles. But not refried. Healthier. I make them myself. I make everything.”

Huh. I look at them. Not that huge, but I remember the burritos I've had in Tijuana. Much slimmer. And these ones here sure go for a slim price. Can't argue with \$1.50. “You know, they became a thing during the Mexican Revolution,” says Maria. “Fast food for the men — and women, the *Adelitas* — heading into battle. And wrapped in flour tortilla, not corn, because they're mainly a northern item. My customers love them. I make about 100 a day.”

I see that she also has sandwiches, chicken or turkey, for \$4.50, \$6 with a drink. Plus croissants (\$1.50) lemon poppy croissants (\$2), and coconut cake (\$2.50). Nice, but not exactly what I'm craving.

“Anything else?” I ask.

“Well, you're lucky today. I make my English

meat pies, Thursdays only. I think I have two left.”

And she says they're \$2.50 each, so yes, hell yes! Now I think about it, I haven't had a decent savory home-made meat pie for many a moon. And when they're good, they're very very good.



Maria claws out the two from the back of the cabinet. They're deep little pies with thick crusts, a mashed potato hat, and meat juices oozing out. Maria tosses them in a microwave, and pretty soon, here they are, steaming on a sheet of white paper in front of

me. Oh mama! Umami! Taste buds dance a jig. Savory's the word.

“To drink?” she says, and pretty soon we settle on a ginger-lemon combo (“Refreshing summer fizz,” says a temporary summer sign. “24 oz., any flavor, \$3.75 simple, \$5.25 Red Bull.”). With Red Bull! Who knew? Natch, I go for that, which she



Homer wants in on this carrot cake

mixes with the ginger and lemon syrups and sparkling Perrier water. Soo refreshing in this midday heat.

I take it all to the stowaway picnic table, and it's that ringside seat alright. Trolleys come and go. People stream

around nearby, then suddenly evaporate. You feel like you're either at Grand Central or the last café on earth.

But the main thing is these pies. They have oozy meats inside. Ground beef, in a savory caldera of celery, yellow onions, carrots, peas — all under pastry and the dollops of mash.

“I also put in thyme, rosemary, and bay leaves,” she says.

You can taste those bay leaves.

But the other great thing is the pastry. Crumbly yet rich. Not flaky, but makes you think of filo, like baklava pastry, with its lightness. “I make it with cheese pastry, butter, cream cheese, heavy cream, flour, and pastry flour. That gives the flakiness,” she says. “People do become addicted

to these meat pies. Specially men.”

Heavy cream? In these li'l meat pies? That is wild. Whatever, they're not just scrumbo, they're filling. And it turns out they have a back story.

“In 2010, I spent three days in Oxford, England,” Maria says. “My friend and I were backpacking through Europe. I had retired from the UCSD Health system as soon as I turned 50.”

She loves everything British. The history, the architecture, the cozy tea shops, the ceremony of eating.

“I went into a coffee shop at Oxford's long-distance bus station. I bought two meat pies there. It was love! I try to make mine exactly the same. But they're hard to copy. We can't get the right English mustard, the water is different, the butter is different. But I aim to get the flavor, so it's not too salty, or sweet.”

Talking of sweet, this is when I notice a brick of carrot cake. Ooh. I've got to have a chunk. It costs \$2.50. She baked this too, of course. “This is from a recipe of a dear old friend. I changed it up a little. Like, I put pineapple in. I think that's unique. And walnuts, raisins, apple sauce, and of course, carrots.”

By now I'm noshing and nodding. Nearest thing it tastes like: dark fruit cake, my total fave (don't tell my friends). That rich, dark, brandy taste, embellished by the fruits.

“And you make this all?”

She nods. “I start cooking every night at one, and cook through till maybe 4 am. Then we open at five. Not me. I sleep till twelve, then come back here and take the afternoon shift.”



Maria Lopez with the week's last two Oxford-style meat pies



Floral coffee cup gets message to trolley travelers

I have to ask her why she charges such low prices. “I'm very proud of my culture,” she says. “I was born in Tijuana, very poor. Here I make enough profit to sustain myself and my business. That's all I need. I know the people who come by at 5:30 in the morning. They struggle every day to make ends meet. I've been lucky. I want to give back.”

Wow. Me, I'm looking forward to coming back, early-early next time, glugging that morning joe with a banana cake, lemon poppy croissant, or, if it's Thursday, probably another pie.

Plus I'll be taking my front seat at the daily show.

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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.



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(corner of State)



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3 Gourmet Tacos for \$6

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Buy One, Get One Complimentary Breakfast Item

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



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



Buy 2 Entree's and Get a FREE Appetizer

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2271 1st Ave
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A cold brew and espresso boilemaker, and a clown to haunt your nightmares.

Modern Times's infamous horchata slushie: cold brew coffee with almond milk, and sweet syrup of cinnamon and vanilla (\$6). If you enjoy your coffee black, like me, try opting for the coffee-styled boilemaker. Here, rather than a shot of whiskey in your beer, you get a shot of espresso in your cold brew (\$6). The shop

presents the option for a barrel aged espresso shot (\$4.25). So I ordered a boilemaker with barrel aged shot in a nitro cold brew. The hint of bourbon-soaked oak and jacked up caffeine in a creamy nitro brew made my day. And I may never sleep again.

by Ian Anderson

El Trompo grows in Barrio Logan

Tacos El Trompo; 1879 Logan Ave suite C, Barrio Logan. The sight of a trompo spinning on a Tijuana street corner is usually accompanied by a crowd, and the same appears to be true in Barrio Logan. At least, so suggests the early popularity of Tacos El Trompo, a new taco shop at the corner of Logan Avenue and Cesar E. Chavez Parkway.

"El trompo" is the name given the vertical rotisserie oven cooking the pork dish *al pastor*, the so-called "shepherd style" that resulted by the intermingling of Lebanese immigrants with Mexican cuisine in the early 20th century. Marrying cultures does have a way of producing such delights.

Thin cuts of marinated pork are stacked high on the spit, typically topped with a pineapple, then slowly cook as they turn endlessly before radiant



An al pastor taco at El Trompo.

heat, thin chunks hacked off from the outside in. Places like Tijuana's open-air Taqueria Franc will position a *trompo* front and center, partly to attract customers, but also to

facilitate access. Because the crush of customers clamoring for its *al pastor* tacos at dinner-time can quickly turn as hectic as Black Friday at Walmart.

El Trompo's *trompo* doesn't

sit out on the street; it turns within the kitchen of a small shop in a small strip mall. Barrio Logan's newest Mexican restaurant sits only a couple doors down from its oldest, Las



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Escondido, CA (downtown)



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sandwichessandiego.com



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Mada-Sao Hot Pots

4681 Convoy St, San Diego, 92111



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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



The trompo at the center of Tacos El Trompo.

Cuatro Milpas. If nothing else, the proximity drives home the idea that this neighborhood was already pretty well set for tacos when El Trompo opened here two months ago. Nevertheless, whenever I've made it by, a steady stream of customers have come through ordering breakfast, burritos, tortas, and even soups.

But as the Trompo name suggests, start with an *al pastor* taco. These \$2.50 street tacos may not inspire the sort of midnight madness witnessed at Taqueria Franc. However, they will save you a border crossing, and if the past week of my life is any indication, they quickly become addictive. They're nothing more than a pair of made-in-house corn tortillas, plus diced onions and a thin dressing of guacamole over the rotisserie pork. But add salsa to taste, and you get three or four bites of savory bliss.

If you don't dig on swine, add a beef birria taco, or chicken or carne asada. but be warned, *al pastor* tacos have a way of making other tacos seem inferior. Tacos like this are the reason we keep eating street food.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

12th Anniversary Brunch We will have our usual all you can eat buffet with a few special items to celebrate: Bottomless Mimosas, Build Your Own Bloody Mary Bar, 12 Year Old Scotch Tastings, Live Music, Lawn Games, Giveaways, and more. Sunday, August 25, 10am; **free**-\$48. Crossings at Carlsbad, 5800 The Crossings Drive. (CARLSBAD)

California Dreaming Beach Party Beach Party of the Decades Clam Bake, BBQ, BREWS, Live Music by The Mar Dels Live out your California Dreams and cel-

brate summer, music, and fun on San Diego's Mission Bay. Sun, fun, food and you! Join us as we celebrate our Southern California lifestyle. Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, August 29, **free**-\$52. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Celebrity Chef Series with Beau MacMillian The next guest chef in their ongoing Celebrity Chef Series will be renowned chef Beau MacMillian. The five course dinner will focus on game meats with two courses each from chefs Malarkey and MacMillian, and a dessert course by Herb & Wood's Executive Pastry Chef Adrian Mendoza. Thursday, August 22, 6pm; \$150. 21 and up. Herb & Wood, 2210 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

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. 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)

Country Brunch House of Blues Restaurant & Bar Country Brunch Live is a food and music celebration featuring live country music and made-from-scratch, Southern-inspired brunch menu. Country Brunch Live is a multi-sensory experience of food and music that will kick-start folks' weekend vibes. House of Blues Restaurant & Bar sets the stage, spotlighting a lineup of country artists performing top country favorites. No Cover For Entry. Free Live Music. Walk-Ins Welcome. Brunch reservations recommended. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 29, **free**. House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Davis Estates Winemaker Dinner Rancho Valencia's esteemed Winemaker Dinner Series continues with Davis Estates. Dishes like langoustine and heirloom corn chowder, monkfish served with calasparra rice and tomato soil, coal-roasted pork mangalita slid-



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Mada-Sao Hot Pots

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



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1/2 off a 1 topping pizza

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



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Free Crepe

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

refill

3752 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA 92103

ers, rib cap steak frites and halloumi are expertly paired with Davis Estates wine selections, including a 2013 Phase V Petite Sirah and 2013 Late Harvest Cabernet Franc. Thursday, August 22, 6:30pm; \$175. Rancho Valencia, 5921 Valencia Circle. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Enjoya La Jolla Sunsets and Saturdays are coming alive with a free afternoon filled with live music, tasty treats, exclusive offers and other surprises throughout La Jolla Village. Music & Entertainment, Exclusive Shopping Deals and Demos, Prizes & Contests, Sips & Snacks, more. Saturdays, 3pm; through Sunday, September 8, free. La Jolla Village Square, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Food Truck Fridays The highly anticipated Food Truck Fridays program returns May 31 for 18 straight weeks of great food, free live entertainment, and family-friendly fun. More than a dozen carefully curated gourmet food trucks will be parked along the El Prado walkway every Friday, through September 27, from 4:00pm to 8:30pm. Now in its fourth year, Food Truck Fridays is a program of the Balboa Park Conservancy in partnership with the

City of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation. Food Truck Fridays gives thousands of park visitors and families a unique opportunity to sample a diverse, rotating selection of gourmet food trucks, serving everything from appetizers and main courses to desserts and specialty beverages, all in one convenient location. In addition to exceptional food options, Food Truck Fridays presents a full slate of family-friendly fun: Different music and dance acts perform each night in the Plaza de Panama. The Plaza's "living room" setup is rolled out, along with giant family game sets. Various Balboa Park cultural institutions and community partners offer hands-on activity and crafts booths for kids. Fridays, 4pm; through Friday, September 27, free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Gastronomy Without Borders Culinary Excursion Rancho La Puerta is excited to collaborate with Baja Test Kitchen and Edible San Diego to host a special one-day culinary excursion, celebrating the women makers of Baja California's culinary and wine movement. Depart from San Diego to Rancho La Puerta's cooking school, La Cocina Que Canta, for an all-

inclusive culinary-focused day trip. A valid passport is required. Saturday, August 24, 8:15am; \$249. Rancho la Puerta, 21520 Tecate. (BAJA)

Groove Brunch with Tiki Bingo Miss Sassy Stiletto is taking over Groove Brunch with Tiki Bingo, beats provided by Sunburnt Reynolds. Sunday, August 25, 10am; Pearl, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Mingei Makers Join Mingei International Museum at JuneShine Ranch to embroider your own quirky design. Learn basic techniques and stitches and enjoy hard kombucha tastings while you work. \$30 members, \$45 adults. Saturday, August 24, 12pm; \$30-\$45. JuneShine Ranch, 10051 Old Grove Road. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

San Diego Dim Sum Tour Are you a foodie? Have you tried traditional Cantonese dim sum – The small plate experience, the chopsticks, the tea, the steam-heated carts, the stacked steamer baskets, the lively conversations? For a limited time, you can join Wild Foodie Tours and enjoy a truly unique dining experience. You'll learn about dim sum's Silk Road roots, flavorful teas, and traditional Southern Chinese etiquette while brunching

on a variety of classic dim sum specialties like barbecue pork buns, rice crepes, siu mai, and egg tarts. After the meal, we'll take you on a walking tour through the heart of Asia-town and end at a popular Asian supermarket for some quick shopping. Perfect tour for those seeking a truly unique experience. Trip length of 2-3 hours with a walking distance of 1-2 miles. Sundays, 10am; through Friday, December 27, \$69. Jasmine Seafood Restaurant, 4609 Convoy St., Suite A. (KEARNY MESA)

Street Food Tour Join Wild Foodie Tours for an all-inclusive, fun, and insightful street food tour in Tijuana. You'll enjoy tastings at 5 food stops, 1 non-alcoholic beverage stop, and 1 dessert stop to taste the best flavors of Tijuana. Guests meet at the McDonald's at the San Ysidro Trolley Station. For info and/or to book, visit wildfoodietours.com Saturdays, 12pm; through Thursday, December 26, \$69. San Ysidro Trolley Station, 700 E. San Ysidro Boulevard. (SAN YSIDRO)

Sunset Luau on the Bay Travel to the Polynesian islands without leaving Mission Bay. Guests may enjoy Polynesian island cuisine,

including a Kalua roasted pig, tropical drinks, entertainment from Pride of Polynesia and much more! Friday, August 9, 6pm; free-\$74. Catamaran Resort, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanks(for)Giving in August The North County Food Policy Council invites you to the second annual Thanks(for)Giving in August. All event proceeds will benefit the Turkey Tally Program, which provides turkeys to local families in need during the holiday season. Please join us for (no host) cocktails, a dinner & silent auction and live music by songwriter Gregory Page, who will bring the theme of gratefulness to life through his unforgettable songs such as "Counting Blessings." Please consider making a donation for turkeys through our Virtual Food Drive if you are not able to attend the event. Thursday, August 22, 6pm; \$32. El Corazon Senior Center, 3302 Senior Center Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

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)

Tiki Fridays Join us every Friday for Tiki Fridays at George's Level2 Bar. In addition to our regular happy hour specials, we'll be offering new, delicious Tiki cocktail specials every week. Hawaiian shirts welcome. Fridays, 3:30pm; through Saturday, August 31, George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Whiskey Around the World Come taste the best whiskeys from small distilleries around the world. We will sample American, Irish and Scotch whiskeys as well as a few of our newest international whiskeys. We'll have food pairings to go with each tasting. Saturday, August 24, 6:30pm; \$40. 21 and up. Vom Fass, 1050 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Whisky & Cheese Pairing The sweet smokiness of whisky creates a whole new meaning to the term "perfect pairing." Sample four varieties from here and there along with at least six of our favorite whisky-friendly cheeses. Saturday, August 24, 7pm; \$45. 21 and up. Seven Grand, 3054 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)



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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

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

Hornblower Dinner Cruises: Friday-Saturday, Ship boards at 5:30. Cruise 6-8pm. \$42 per person. Apps include: crackers & flatbreads, caprese salad, garden fresh crudité, jalapeño & cilantro hummus, coconut prawns, spicy seared ahi, teriyaki beef brochets, goat cheese mousse with toasted almonds and pimento. Dessert: chocolate dipped strawberries & handmade truffles. Menu subject to change. \$8 Honey blackberry lemonade, \$8 mimosa sunset, \$7 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

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

KEARNY MESA

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: Monday-Tuesday, Sunday, 4-6pm: \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

San Diegan makes tea from discarded coffee fruit

The life cycle of coffee has been well documented. The coffee cherry grows on a shrub until it's red and plump, then gets harvested for its seed, which is extracted, dried, and ultimately roasted into a coffee bean. What's often left out is what happens to the coffee fruit itself.

"What most people don't realize is that the best coffee comes from the best coffee cherries," says Kabir Gambhir. He explains that coffee farmers determine when their best coffees are ready to pick based on the presentation of the fruit. "They're picking the best, ripest, most beautiful red coffee cherries," he continues. "Those coffee cherries will indicate the quality of the seed inside." The crazy part, accord-

ing to Gambhir: "The majority of that amazing fruit is just thrown away!"

Called cascara, for the Spanish word meaning 'husk,' the fruit and skin of the coffee cherry is routinely discarded, a byproduct of the millions of farms supplying the global coffee industry. However, cascara has the nutritional makings of a superfruit, and a growing number of entrepreneurs have embraced its stand-alone value as a source for fruit flavored, lightly caffeinated, antioxidant rich tea. Gambhir is one of them. Two years ago, the San Diego native established the company Bevea, and introduced a line of sparkling coffee fruit teas called Cascaraa. They infuse ginger and other botanicals into tea brewed from cascara sourced from a coffee farm in Costa Rica.

"We think it's an incredible, overlooked natural resource," he says.

Including the cascara itself, the carbonated beverages are made using all organic ingredients. It's billed as a healthy alternative to soda, and a more refreshing, less acidic alternative to kombucha. Gambhir, who had been an every day coffee drinker, originally became interested in cascara a couple years ago when looking for ways to reduce his caffeine intake without eliminating

it altogether. At 30 milligrams per 12-ounce serving, his teas contain less than a third the caffeine found in an equivalent cup of coffee.

Coffee as we know it developed in Yemen

several are available in a sugarless, keto-friendly option. Gambhir notes that cascara flavors range as widely as those of coffee itself, from earthy and chocolaty to bright and fruity. The coffee fruit selected for Cascaraa teas stick to the fruitier side, with notes of apricot, tamarind, and other dried fruit.

While consumers may appreciate the nutritional benefits of coffee fruit tea, the environmental and economic benefits earned Cascaraa a spot in this year's BBVA Momentum accelerator program, which offers support to social entrepreneurship which benefits the greater good. Industry estimates suggest it takes 35 gallons of water to produce enough beans for one cup of coffee, so upcycling what was previously viewed as a waste product helps recapture some of that inefficiency. Additionally, it opens a secondary revenue stream for coffee farmers, who often don't make enough to be able to afford to drink their own product. Every nine bottles of Cascaraa, Gambhir says, "removes a pound of waste, and gives a farmer back roughly 50 cents."

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



Hibiscus ginger sparkling coffee fruit tea, one of several other Cascaraa flavors

about 500 years ago, and as Gambhir began developing cascara tea recipes, he learned about qishr, a coffee fruit and ginger concoction Yemeni Sufis developed as a precursor to the hot beverage. That inspired him to add whole ginger root to his teas, but then he took the brewed beverage in a cold, carbonated direction to create the Cascaraa line. A growing list of flavors includes elderflower cardamom, lavender, mint-basil, rose chili, and hibiscus. Most are flavored with organic cane sugar, though

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

LA MESA

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.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off all draft beer, wine, and cocktails, \$3 off wine bottles, \$1 off a la carte tacos. Saturday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$4 Bloody Marys.

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

Narumi Sushi: Daily, 5-7pm: 99

cents select appetizers with purchase of large beer or sake.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: Tuesday, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$4 local beers, \$6 Mules and Art Snob. Half off all starters. Wednesday, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$6 Mules and Art Snob. Half off all starters, 85 cent wings. Thursday, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$6 Mules and Art Snob, \$8

all martinis. Half off all starters. Friday-Sunday, 4-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all beers and mixed drinks, \$6 Mules and Art Snob. Half off all starters.

West Coast Barbecue and Brew: Monday, 11:30am-3pm: \$1 off all pints. Tuesday, Thursday, 11:30am-3pm, 8-10pm: \$1 off all pints. Wednesday, \$1 off all pints all day. Friday, 11:30am-3pm, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints. Saturday, 8-11pm: \$1 off all pints. Sunday, \$14 craft beer

pitchers all day.

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.

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HAPPY HOUR

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

NORMAL HEIGHTS

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

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

NORTH PARK

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Tuesday, Open until close: All you can eat taco bar, two for one tequila, \$5 margaritas. *Sunday*, Open until close: & frozen blood orange margaritas, frozen mango mules.

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

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

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

Barrel Republic: Monday-Tues-

day, 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 wines.

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

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

Fat Fish Cantinagrill: Monday, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Tuesday*, 3-11pm: \$9.50 lobster tail. *Wednesday*, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Thursday*, 3-11pm: \$1.25 street tacos, \$2 shrimp tacos. *Wednesday*, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Saturday*, 3-11pm: \$2.50

fish tacos. *Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 house margaritas. *Saturday*, 11:30am-3pm: \$12 bottle of champagne. *Sunday*, 10am-3pm: \$12 bottle of champagne.

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: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 house draft beer, \$5 guest draft beer, \$7 featured craft cocktail, 50% off wine bottles. \$2 off all starters, \$12.99 burger and 14 ounce beer.

The Promiscuous Fork: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off beers on tap and select wines by the glass. \$5 Caesar salad, mini-beef sliders, grilled chicken tacos, smoked pork belly street tacos.

SD Taproom: Monday, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, cocktails, wines. \$2 off appetizers, \$3 off half pound angus beefburger. *Tuesday*, Thursday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, cocktails, wines. \$2 off appetizers. *Wednesday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off draft beers, cocktails, wines. \$2 off appetizers. \$2 off featured cask beer of the week, half off wine bottles.

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.

POINT LOMA

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

Banzai Bar: Monday-Friday, 2-5pm: \$4 drafts, wells, wine. \$2 sliders.

Harbor Town Pub: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$5 drafts, house wines, Ballast Point spirits, \$2 BBQ sliders.

Jimmy's Famous American Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 off drafts, \$5 well drinks, \$7 margaritas and wines. \$10 sliders.

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

Seaside Pho & Grill: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off all drafts, \$4 to \$7 wines by the glass.

Shanghai Bun: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off all draft beer, \$3 house wine, \$4 sangria, \$5 well drinks, \$6 Tito's or Jack Daniels.

The Wine Pub: Daily, 4-6pm: \$5 craft beers on draft, \$5 select red and white wines, \$5 toasted Levain with caramelized onions, blue cheese, and sausage, Cheese of the Day, arugula salad, three-cheese crostini.

RANCHO BERNARDO

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

SAN MARCOS

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

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

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

San Marcos Brewery & Grill: Monday-Friday, 3pm-7pm: \$3.50 12oz. select draft ales (\$3.95 16oz.), \$4.29 wine by the glass, \$4.99 bloody mary, Cape Cod, screwdriver, margaritas, \$5.99 cocktails. *Saturday-Sunday*, 3pm-6pm: \$3.50 12oz. select draft ales (\$3.95 16oz.), \$4.29 wine by the glass, \$4.99 bloody mary, Cape Cod, screwdriver, margaritas, \$5.99 cocktails.

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

SANTEE

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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

Madison: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$7 signature cocktails, red or white wine by the glass. Appetizers \$6-\$10

Park & Rec: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm, 10pm-2am: \$4 PBR or Tecate, \$6 margarita, oldie, mules, uh escape, all wines, \$7 dealer's choice.

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



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blurt the inside track



A sparse album, but the stripped-down approach keeps things personal.

A little surfy, a little post-rocky Ryan Jubela owns Masters Kitchen and Cocktail in Oceanside. Earlier

this year, he asked Dennis Sheridan if he wanted to play an acoustic gig at his restaurant. Sheridan took

the offer as a challenge. He knew the gig would entail learning numerous covers to fill up a three-hour slot. He committed and got cracking learning covers.

“A few friends showed up and I got a lot of good feedback,” Sheridan said. “Some people that I really trust said ‘You’re really onto something with this acoustic stuff.’ I took it to heart. There was this one weekend where there wasn’t much going on for me, and I have this little shed studio in my backyard. I flipped on the computer and I decided to record a song that I had demoed electrically just with the acoustic, and it sounded really good. Then I was like ‘Why don’t I just record a whole album?’—and I did.”

Sheridan recorded the core of *Midwestern Pacific* in two weeks and spent another six weeks “tweaking it.” It’s a sparse album that serves as a sort of grab-bag of his songs from the past 14 years. Some date back to his mid-2000s band, Follow The Train, while others were written for



his current band, Endcastle. As a result, he feels that he even though he didn’t write anything specifically for this album, that perhaps “the record was writing itself over time.”

Many of the songs are very personal to Sheridan, who felt the stripped-down approach laid them bare to the listener. “When you’re playing in a bar, most people aren’t really listening to the words that you are singing,” he said. “That’s the coolest opportunity that making a record like this gives you. If you’re someone who likes to spend a lot of time crafting lyrics, you have a chance to put out some poetry and put

to music.”

On other musical fronts, Sheridan’s aforementioned indie-rock band, Endcastle, are about to hit pause. The group has two gigs scheduled for August and may enjoy retirement after that. “I think that August 31 show is probably going to be the last thing that we book, but I don’t like to close the book on things like that. We’re all still friends. We still have these songs that we still know how to play. If a cool gig came up, I’m sure we’d play again,” he said.

But as one saga concludes, yet another begins. There is a new trio on Sheridan’s plate. Look for Space Motor in the

local clubs — maybe as early as September.

“It’s a little surfy. It’s a little bit post-rocky,” Sheridan explained. “I think we sound like Broken Social Scene a little, but maybe surfier. Maybe some American Analog Set mixed in there. There’s probably a little bit of Sebadoh influence. For me, my guitar playing influence is always going to be J. Mascis. A lot of effects. I think people will dig it.”

— Dryw Keltz

To be said for the live experience “I’ve got a nice crew with me and I’m excited we were able to put this
(continued on page 46)

MUSIC BOX



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SATURDAY 8/31



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album together,” says trumpeter Curtis Taylor about *Snapshot*, his latest record that dropped last month. *Snapshot* was recorded live and it features up-and-coming San Diego pianist Hugo Suarez alongside L.A. veterans Ben Shepherd on bass and Gene Coye on drums.

Taylor, an Ohio native, came to San Diego from New Jersey in 2014 with one primary motivation: to work with Kamau Kenyatta, who enlisted him to play on the Grammy-Award winning Gregory Porter album *Liquid*

Spirit.

In the Spring of 2016, Taylor got hired as a professor/guest lecturer at Cal State San Marcos. I wanted to know what his goals were for his students.

“The music program there is pretty new, so I’m just trying to give them the basic skills they need. A lot of them come in not knowing much, with this being their first experience playing jazz, so I’m introducing them to a lot of new concepts.”

Does he miss home? “I fly back to Ohio or the Midwest pretty regularly, so that’s not an issue. I do not miss New Jersey or New York. I don’t know if I feel like a San Diegan yet,

but I love the community. Everyone has been really welcoming, and there’s a lot of transplants like me here, and we make a nice melting pot.”

The 34-year-old jazz man’s perspective recently changed dramatically when he became a father. Taylor’s son Khamari is less than a year old and he lives with his mom in Michigan, which explains the frequent flyer miles. “It’s hard, because I’m very much in a transitional time right now,” says Taylor. “Your entire life changes when you have a child — and I think about my son on a daily basis. I want to be there for him.”

In the meanwhile, Taylor



PHOTOGRAPH BY ROBERT SANCHEZ

New dad Curtis Taylor is eager to share his jazz expertise with the neophytes at Cal State San Marcos.

is pleased with his new album, recorded live at The World Stage in L.A.. “We did a one-week tour to promote it, and I would love to put 52 of those weeks together, man. There’s something to be said for the live experience — you just can’t duplicate that in the studio. Our music is improvisational — you could hear the

same four cats play the same tune 10 times in a row, and each one would be different. That’s why the album is called *Snapshot*, it’s a sonic snapshot of that moment in time. This music should be experienced live, because the audience becomes a part of it, and if the audience is hip, you feel like you can do anything.”

Curtis Taylor plays the Westgate Hotel poolside series on September 12. Further details can be found at curtistaylor.net — Robert Bush

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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

THU., AUGUST 22 ALESANA Capture, Avoid, Dead Superstar, Shawshank Redeemed	BRICK BY BRICK	SUN., SEPTEMBER 8 HAMMERFALL Alchemy, Nightshadow, Manic
FRI., AUGUST 23 NEBULA Sasquatch, Desert Suns		MON., SEPTEMBER 9 STEVE GRIMMETT'S GRIM REAPER Old James, Killing Tyranny, Twelve Foot Shadow
SAT., AUGUST 24 SKINLAB Arrival of Autumn, Salvation in Nothing, Hollow Stage, Humanoid	SAT., AUGUST 31 9/11 BENEFIT: THE FOOKS Wonka Bar, Governor Drive, Whiskey State Of Mind	WED., SEPTEMBER 11 JINJER The Browning, Sumo Cyco, Know The Ending
THU., AUGUST 29 THE LAST TEN SECONDS OF LIFE No Zodiac, Kaonashi, VCTMS, Osmium	THU., SEPTEMBER 5 ENFORCER Warbringer, Beekeeper, Malison	THU., SEPTEMBER 12 MR. KITTY Pastel Ghost, Sidewalks And Skeletons
FRI., AUGUST 30 PATHOLOGY Narcotic Wasteland, Alpha Apex, Psycho Mantis	SAT., SEPTEMBER 7 BLESS YOUR HEART BURLESQUE Charity Show For Pinups And Pit Bulls	FRI., SEPTEMBER 14 KATAKYLISM Exhorder, Krisiun, Hatchet

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FRIDAY • AUG 23 EMO NITE		WEDNESDAY • SEP 11 TIM BLUHM (MOTHER HIPS) DAVE GLEASON TRIO
SATURDAY • AUG 24 THE MAGNIFICENT THE LOONS • EL VEZ & THE MOTHERFUCKERS THEE ALLYRGIC REACTION		THURSDAY • SEP 12 THE JACKS • THE FRETS BADTALKERS
SUNDAY • AUG 25 MAN OR ASTROMAN? HUMAN BEAT		FRIDAY • SEP 13 REBECCA JADE JAKE NAJOR AND THE MOMENT OF TRUTH EUPHORIA BRASS BAND
TUESDAY • AUG 27 HOWLIN' RAIN PACIFIC RANGE • DRUG HUNT		SATURDAY • SEP 14 EARLY SHOW JUNIOR BROWN LATE SHOW SUREFIRE SOUL ENSEMBLE • MONTALBAN QUINTET • MOANS
WEDNESDAY • AUG 28 JOE WOOD • CHANGE TODAY '83 TO '93 HARD FALL HEARTS THE HELLFLOWERS		SUNDAY • SEP 15 EX HEX • SETH BOGART (HUNX AND HIS PUNX)
THURSDAY • AUG 29 THE BIRD AND THE BEE ALEX LILLY AND SAMANTHA SIDLEY		MONDAY • SEP 16 FINESSE RECORDS TOUR CLUBZ & GIRL ULTRA
FRIDAY • AUG 30 BLEACHED THE PARANOYDS		TUESDAY • SEP 18 METHYL ETHEL
SATURDAY • SEP 1 BOOTY BASSMENT		
TUESDAY • SEP 3 MELVINS • REDD KROSS		
WEDNESDAY • SEP 4 PICTOGRAPHS DOOM BLOOM SOUTH TOWNE SHAM		
THURSDAY • SEP 5 BLEACHED THE PARANOYDS		
FRIDAY • SEP 6 AESTHETIC PERFECTION		

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LIVE *five*

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JAVIER ESCOVEDO at the Merrow

AUGUST 22

DIY lounge rocker Gary Wilson headlines an all-local bill that also features Javier Escovedo, whose musical family members include Alejandro Escovedo (*No Depression* magazine's 1998 Artist of the Decade), and brothers Coke, Peter, and Mario. Coke and Peter were percussionists in the Santana band, while Mario fronted local punk godfathers the Dragons. Javier lived in Huntington Beach before moving as a teenager to Chula Vista during the mid '70s and co-founding the Zeros, considered one of the city's most important early punk acts.

Aside from participating in occasional Zeros reunions, he's also taken turns at roots-rock with Austin-based True Believers, and he later founded City Lights. Also appearing is Fictitious Dishes, whose members have played in the Dirty Legs, Revenge Club, and the Unruly Bangs, as well as Mandarin Dynasty (now in Portland, OR) and Love Lashes. "As far as musical stylings go," says the band, "the general 'indie pop/rock' descriptor is probably the easiest to apply, though we have been described as 'femmegpunk.'"



MICHELE LUNDEEN at Proud Mary's

AUGUST 23

Known as the "Queen of Steam" for her soulful vocals, Michele Lundeen has shared stages with blues-rock heavies such as John Lee Hooker, Savoy Brown, Elvin Bishop, Tommy Castro, and more. In concert and on record, she blends classic roadhouse rhythm & blues with jump swing, Memphis groove, sultry jazz, and funky soul. Frequently nominated Best Blues at the San Diego Music Awards, beginning with her 2005 debut full-length *Song Inside Me*, she and her band won Blues Lovers

United of San Diego's Regional International Blues Challenge, scoring the chance to represent San Diego at IBC in Memphis. Her work with BLUSD includes taking part in the organization's annual summer Youth Blues Camp (one of which just wrapped). She expended her musical reach overseas when she toured Holland in March 2017, and she recently recorded her version of Janis Joplin's classic track "Half Moon" for an upcoming Wayne Riker Gathering album, *R&B Thunder*.



HAPPY RON HILL at Spacebar

AUGUST 24

"I never sang a note until I was 30 and didn't even think about a music career until my 40s," says comedic singer-songwriter Ronald Hill, aka Happy Ron. Beginning with open mics and tutorials found in books like *How Music Really Works* by Wayne Chase ("I went on a weeklong retreat with him in Canada") and *Songwriting Secrets of the Beatles*, Happy Ron has racked up over 1000 performances and a San Diego Music Award nomination for Best Local Recording for his debut full-length *Terribly Happy*. Produced by Sven-Erik Seaholm, the album includes his ode to cheek swatting, "All She Needs Is a Spankin," as well as "The No Tantric Woman

Blues," "Sick of Her Shit," and "Dickless Wonder." Guest locals include Kelsea Rae Little (the Wrong Trouser), Robin Henkel, and Cathryn Beeks. His video for "If You're Bored in San Diego (It's Your Fault!)" features area locales from the Cardiff Kook statue to the Balboa Park fountain, HOB, Hooters, and an overhead view of Black's Beach shot by hang gliders. Born without a socket in his left hip, Hill finally had hip replacement surgery in 2016. "I was amazed at how much more connected to my body I am, and how much more I'm able to focus on my music."



SARA WATKINS at Bernardo Winery

AUGUST 25

Nickel Creek songwriter/fiddler Sara Watkins surprised many when she signed with Nonesuch Records, announcing plans to release a self-titled solo debut. The all-star effort was an impressive splash for a young musician already decorated with accolades from her time up the Creek, produced by Led Zeppelin bassist John Paul Jones (who also once worked with local performance artist Diamanda Galas) and featuring Gillian Welch and David Rawlings, Elvis Costello drummer Pete Thomas, Tom Petty keyboardist Benmont Tench, and Soul Coughing bassist Sebastian Steinberg." She wrote or co-wrote eight of the 14 tracks on the record, which

also includes interpretations of songs by Norman Blake of Teenage Fanclub, Jon Brion ("Same Mistakes"), Jimmie Rodgers ("Any Old Time"), and famous former neighbor Tom Waits ("Pony"). The album also features Nickel Creek bandmates Chris Thile and her brother Sean Watkins. In addition to playing with groups like the Strolls and her trio I'm With Her (alongside with Sarah Jarosz and Aoife O'Donovan), she has guest-starred as fiddler and/or harmony vocalist on albums by Bela Fleck, the Chieftains, Ray LaMontagne, Ben Lee, Dan Wilson, Richard Thompson, and Alex Woodward, among others.



JASON HANNA at Bar Pink

AUGUST 26

San Diego native Jason Hanna began teaching himself to play the trumpet at the age of twelve. Growing up in a Mexican-American family, he was exposed to traditional Mexican songs and jazz standards from a young age. On the advice of Mike Bogart, a Navy trumpeter known for his work in the Maynard Ferguson Big Bop Nouveau Band and Tower of Power, Hanna joined the Navy and

played in the military band. Since leaving the Navy, Hanna has played with groups such as Westside Inflection, Ellie Lamson, and SOL e MAR, as well as sitting in with various other ensembles and players like Gilbert Castellanos, Mikan Zlatkovich, Archie Thompson, and Bill Caballero. He leads his own Jason Hanna Jazz Trio and Jason Hanna and the Bullfighters.

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LEONARD OUZTS | SEPTEMBER 12-14

TRAE CROWDER | SEPTEMBER 19-21

NICK THUNE | SEPTEMBER 26-28

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Observatory **UPCOMING SHOWS**

NORTH PARK



FRIDAY, AUGUST 23



SATURDAY, AUGUST 24



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28



THURSDAY, SEPT 5



SATURDAY, SEPT 7



THURSDAY, SEPT 19



SATURDAY, SEPT 21



FRIDAY, SEPT 27

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You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Alexandria at Torrey Pines:
Friday, 5pm — Durell Anthony & Nik Mathews. Free.

Arts Park @ Chollas Creek:
Sunday, 3pm — Be About It. Free.

Bar Pink:
Monday, 7pm — Jason Hanna.

Barefoot Bar and Grill:
Sunday, 2pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:
Friday, 8pm — Metalachi.
Saturday, 8pm — Super Diamond. \$22-\$39.
Sunday, 6:30pm — Help Homeless Youth Dance Party.
Monday & Tuesday, 7pm — The White Buffalo. \$25-\$44.
Wednesday, 8pm — Angels & Airwaves. \$19-\$35.

Bernardo Winery:
Sunday, 6:30pm — Sara Watkins.

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 8pm — Alesana and Capture.
Friday, 8pm — Nebula.

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

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — The Surrealistics and Imagery

Machine. \$7.
Friday, 9pm — Emo Nite. \$12.
Saturday, 8pm — Schizophonics.
Sunday, 8pm — Man Or Astro-Man? and Human Beat. \$25.
Monday, 8pm — Evan Konrad. \$10-\$12.
Tuesday, 8pm — Howlin Rain and Pacific Range. \$15.
Wednesday, 8pm — Joe Wood and Hard Fall Hearts. \$8-\$10.

Ché Café:
Wednesday, 7pm — Free Throw and Chris Farren. \$15-\$18.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:
Thursday, 8pm — Summerfest Synergy: In Step.
Friday, 8pm — Summerfest: Concerto Grosso.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club:
Friday, 4pm — SOJA.

Donut Panic:
Sunday, 6pm — Middle Eastern Music Jam. Free.

El Corazon Senior Center:
Thursday, 6pm — Thanks(for) Giving in August. \$32.

Embarcadero Marina Park South:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Ultimate Miles Davis. \$17-\$108.
Friday, 7:30pm — Singin' in the Rain In Concert. \$17-\$108.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Chaka Khan. \$17-\$108.
Sunday, 7:30pm — The O'Jays and the Commodores. \$17-\$108.

First Presbyterian Church:
Sunday, 4pm — San Diego Street Choir & Richard Lederer. Free.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:
Sunday, 4:30pm — Combs, Grinnell, Thorsen, & Sellers. Free.

Harney Sushi:
Monday, 6:30pm — Israel Maldonado. Free.

Henry's Pub:
Wednesday, 9pm — Shane Hall Trio.

Holding Company:
Wednesday, 6:30pm — Sonic Tonic.

Hornblower Dinner Cruises:
Monday, Sep. 2 — Labor Day BBQ Brunch Cruise with Live Jazz. \$75.

House of Blues:
Thursday, 7pm — Jerry "Hot Rod" DeMink.
Friday, 7pm — Leoni Torres. \$47-\$72.
Friday, 9pm, Wednesday, 7pm — The Moneymen.
Saturday, 7pm — Crash Test Dummies. \$35-\$60.
Sunday, 8pm — Crown the Empire.
Sunday, 7pm — The Stilettoes.
Tuesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Burna Boy.

Humphreys by the Bay:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Kenny G.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Boz Scaggs.
Monday, 8pm — Pink Martini. \$62.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Chris Isaak.

Inn at Rancho Santa Fe:
Friday, 6pm — Tim Yancey. Free.

Irenic:
Friday, 7pm — Beach Goons and Junkie. \$15.

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Bryan Ferry.

Kraken:
Saturday, 3pm — Sonic Tonic.

La Jolla Community Center:
Friday, 7pm — Rob Thorsen Trio. \$18-\$25.

Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows:
Sunday, 1pm — Pool Party. \$35-\$569.

Lestat's Coffee House:
Saturday, 8pm — Gregory Page. \$20.

Lincoln High School:
Saturday, 6pm — San Diego Chorus: Road Trip. \$15-\$45.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
Thursday, 8pm — Kristine W. \$35.
Saturday, 8pm — Judy Carmichael. \$40.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:
Saturday, 9pm — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Merrow:
Thursday, 9pm — Gary Wilson and Javier Escovedo.

Mother's Saloon:
Friday, 8pm — Lost Monarchs. Free.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Friday, 8:30pm — Tower 7.
Saturday, 4pm — Boon and Kiel.
Saturday, 8:30pm — The Traumatists.

Museum of Making Music:
Saturday, 7pm — John Jorgenson Quintet.

Music Box:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Little Jesus and the Delirians.
Friday, 8pm — A Perfect Tool and Up the Irons.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Wayne Wade & Al Campbell and Roots Covenant.
Sunday, 8pm — Paula Fuga.
Tuesday, 7pm — Molotov and Tulengua. \$47.
Wednesday, 8pm — Gondwana, Payuca, Marujah. \$32-\$34.

NanoComposix:
Wednesday, 4pm — Open House. Free.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Heart and Joan Jett.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Smashing Pumpkins and Noel Gallagher's High Flying Birds.

Observatory North Park:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Tuxedo.
Wednesday, 8pm — Protoje. \$25.

One Paseo:
Saturday, 4pm — Summer Sun-Down. Free.

Open Air Theatre:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Kacey Musgraves.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — ZZ Top and Cheap Trick.

Pala Mesa Resort:
Saturday, 6:30pm — West of 5. Free.

Parc Bistro Brasserie:
Thursday, 6:30pm — Dinner & Flamenco Show. Free.

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Clinton Davis Trio. \$15-\$18.

Pour House:
Saturday, 8pm — Inspired & the Star.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:
Friday, 7pm — Michele Lundeen.
Saturday, 7pm — Taryn Donath.

Rock Church:
Thursday, 6pm — Gospel Line Dancing. Free.

Rosie O'Grady's:
Friday, 10pm — Josh Rosenblum Band. Free.

Rustic Root:
Monday, 6pm — Durell Anthony & Ian Patrick Cler. Free.

Salk Institute for Biological Studies:
Saturday, 5:30pm — San Diego Symphony & Laura Benanti. Free.

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Friday, 10pm — The Avett Brothers.

Shoppes at Carlsbad:
Friday, 6pm — Israel Maldonado. Free.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 8pm — Kyle Craft and Showboat Honey. \$12.
Friday, 8pm — Molly Burch. \$12-\$14.
Saturday, 8pm — Shonen Knife. \$15-\$18.
Sunday, 8pm — Ian Olney and Rose. \$5-\$10.
Monday, 8pm — RacketGirl and Laugh Tracks. \$6.
Tuesday, 8pm — Mal Blum.
Wednesday, 8pm — Ms Nina. \$12-\$15.

Soma:
Thursday, 7pm — BlueFace and NLE Choppa. \$47.
Friday, 6pm — Stick To Your Guns and Counterparts. \$18.

Spacebar Cafe:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Happy Ron Hill.

Spin Nightclub:
Friday, 10pm — SD Union: DJ Craze. \$20-\$25.

Standley Park and Recreation Center:
Sunday, 5pm — Greg Pardue & Forecast. Free.

Studio Door:
Thursday, 7pm — Paul Combs. \$10.

Sycuan Casino:
Saturday, 4pm — Live. Free.

Thornton Winery:
Saturday, 7pm — Boney James. \$85-\$160.

Trinity United Methodist Church:
Saturday, 7pm — San Diego Contra Dance. \$10.

USS Midway Museum:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Bayside Gospel Concert. \$25-\$60.

Westfield University Towne Centre:
Saturday, 12pm — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

Westgate Hotel:
Thursday, 6:30pm — Sunset Poolside Jazz Series: Irving Flores. \$25-\$35.

Winstons Beach Club:
Saturday, 2pm — 8 East Band. Free.
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.



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CLASSICAL MUSIC

Odeum Guitar Duo Sonatas & Concertos across the Centuries. Saturday, August 24, 7pm; \$5-\$10. Mount Soledad Presbyterian Church, 6551 Soledad Mountain Road.

Jazz Vespers Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archie Thompson & the Archtones and guest musicians. Saturdays, 5pm; through Monday, December 30, free. First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 1700 Block of 4th Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Jazz Vespers Jazz emerges as a truly American church music. It is the balm that has the power to inspire, heal and transform. It is the hope of reconciliation and reminds us who we are, where we have come from and us to dream and create new spaces to live as our best selves. Jazz is the music of hope and liberation. San Diego Jazz Vespers at Christian Fellowship is a creative collaboration between jazz our artists and liturgists—creating a fusion worship experience that is always unique different and expands the church's liturgical traditions. Our Jazz Vespers is a unique ecumenical experience of worship—come and experience the power of God's Spirit in worship with us at Christian Fellowship UCC. Jazz Vespers at Christian Fellowship UCC is incubating a progressive inclusive spiritual community where the sacred liturgy of the church intersects with jazz, blues and gospel and develops Christ-centered hope, love, liberation and resiliency in the lives of its members and the community. Sundays, 5pm; through Tuesday, December 31, free. Christian Fellowship Congregational Church, 1601 Kelton Road. (EMERALD HILLS)

San Diego Street Choir & Richard Lederer Annual BlesSings event by Street Choir. Guest performer is Richard Lederer on "music." Choir will sing popular songs related to

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Beethoven's jest

I'm sure you remember the old "interrupting cow" knock-knock joke. Interrupting cow wh—? MOOOO!

That joke was very much on my mind during Miró Quartet's all Beethoven concert on Saturday, August 11, at The La Jolla Music Society Summerfest.

I should probably explain. During the Beethoven *String Quartet Op. 135*, cellist Joshua Gindele became "the interrupting cello." The joke was created by Beethoven and expertly told by Gindele.

Within the context of the music, the cello clearly interrupts the line of the other instruments and goes in another direction. Gindele pulled this musical phrase off with an attack for the ages as a sly grin crept across his face, emphasizing the comedic quality of Beethoven's music.

It might not sound like

much, but it is a moment I will never forget. Not only was it an insightful moment into the personality of Beethoven's music, it was also *entertaining*. We could use a little more of that in the concert hall. Ok, we could use a lot more.

It is instances such as this which make attending concerts a rich and rewarding activity. I will admit that I wore a thin coat of trepidation as I entered the concert. You see, I had interviewed and gotten to know The Miró Quartet earlier in the week, and I enjoyed their process. What if their concert didn't come off? What if, *gasp*, I didn't like it?

Lucky for me, The Miró Quartet is a world class ensemble composed of impeccable musicians who allow their own unique personalities to exist within their performance.

It was a spectacular concert, and as mentioned above, one I will remember.

Do I need to mention the exact repertoire played? Sure, why not?

The concert started with Beethoven *String Quartet Op. 18, No. 4*. This was the early Beethoven selection. Following was Beethoven *String Quartet Op. 135*. This was the late Beethoven selection, very late. In fact, *Op. 135* is the final piece of music Beethoven completed. Intermission.

The concert concluded with a "middle quartet" by Beethoven, *Op 59, No. 2. Opus 59, Nos. 1, 2, and 3* were commissioned by Andrey Razumovsky, who was the Russian court ambassador to Vienna. He supported Beethoven's career to such an extent that



We need all the Razumovskys we can get, including those named Prebys.

not only are the three *Opus 59 Quartets* dedicated to him, Beethoven's Symphonies 5 and 6 are as well.

The reason we care is that we need all the Razumovskys we can get in the arts, and this concert was presented in a center named for a modern-day Razumovsky named Conrad Prebys, may he rest in peace.

This was the first time I

had been in the audience at "The Conrad." Actually, the concert was in the Baker-Baum Concert Hall at The Conrad. I found the acoustic to be quite accurate. My personal preference is for a "wet acoustic" which allows the sound to ring in the hall, but I thoroughly enjoyed the concert experience at The Conrad, especially with The Miró Quartet playing.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Home. Richard Lederer speaking to an event of highest bidder's choice will be auctioned off at the show which is free. Performance will be at 103 year old sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church. All proceeds go to Ladle Fellowship for homeless and poor of downtown San Diego. Sunday, August 25, 4pm; free. First Presbyterian Church, 320 Date Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Symphony & Laura Benanti On August 24th, 2019 Salk will host their 24th Annual Symphony at Salk. This evening will be full of music, featuring the sensational San

Diego Symphony and special guest artist Tony Award-winner Laura Benanti. Experience warm camaraderie, gourmet food and drink, a breathtaking sunset and refreshing ocean breezes, all against the backdrop of one of the world's most striking architectural masterpieces. Symphony at Salk is the cultural event of the summer and a chance to share an extraordinary experience with friends and colleagues. Proceeds support Salk's award-winning Education Outreach programs, which are provided at no cost to the youth of San Diego and their teachers. Your support of

Symphony at Salk also contributes to a vital source of funding for the Institute's internationally renowned and award-winning scientists, who explore the very foundations of life and seek new understandings in neuroscience, genetics, immunology, plant biology and more. Be it cancer or Alzheimer's, aging or diabetes, Salk is where cures begin. For more information regarding sponsorship opportunities, please contact Judy Hodges at 858-550-0472 or by email at hodges@salk.edu. For in-kind media sponsorship and benefits, please contact press@salk.edu. For tickets and more information visit: <https://symphony.salk.edu/tickets/> Saturday, August 24, 5:30pm; free-\$100000. Salk Institute for Biological Studies, 10010 North Torrey Pines Road.

Summerfest Synergy: In Step Thursday, August 22,

8pm; Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Summerfest: Concerto Grosso Friday, August 23, 8pm; Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

Yonatan Leviim Violin Recital Yonatan Leviim, world class virtuoso violinist, has performed in over 70 countries with many major orchestras, leading chamber musicians and in some of the world's most prestigious venues. This concert is a unique opportunity to experience the pure sound of the violin at the hands of a maestro. The program will feature masterful works by such brilliant composers as Bach, Telemann and Paganini. Beverages available for sale. Saturday, August 24, 5pm; \$25. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard.

UPCOMING SHOWS

710 Beach Club: Tuesday, Sep. 3 — Lost Monarchs. Free.

Ambassador Lounge: Saturday, Sep. 7 — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. Free.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: Friday, Sep. 13 — Martino & Lent: Clara Schumann & Her Loves. \$35-\$40.

BNS Brewing & Distilling: Saturday, Sep. 7 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Belly Up Tavern: Thursday, Aug. 29 — David Grisman & the Dawg Trio. \$58-\$102. Friday, Aug. 30 — Queen Nation.

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Saturday, Aug 31st - Give Me Back My Wig

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Saturday, Aug. 31 — Vaud & the Villains.
 Sunday, Sep. 1 — Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers. \$20-\$35.
 Wednesday, Sep. 4 — Katchafire.
 Thursday, Sep. 5 — Robert Cray.
 Friday, Sep. 6 — Band of Skulls. \$22-\$39.
 Saturday, Sep. 7 — Mariachi El Bronx.
 Monday, Sep. 9 — Stephen Marley.
 Tuesday, Sep. 10 — Stephen Marley.
 Wednesday, Sep. 11 — Greg Laswell.
 Thursday, Sep. 12 — Marshall Tucker Band.
 Friday, Sep. 13 — Millencolin. \$25-\$44.

Brick by Brick:
 Friday, Aug. 30 — Pathology and Narcotic Wasteland.
 Thursday, Sep. 5 — Warbringer and Enforcer.
 Sunday, Sep. 8 — Hammerfall.
 Wednesday, Sep. 11 — Jinjer and the Browning.

Brown Cup:
 Friday, Aug. 30 — The Soto Six: Lee Morgan & Benny Golson Tribute. Free.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:
 Friday, Aug. 30 — Música En La Plaza. Free.
 Friday, Sep. 6 — Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact.

Carvers Steak & Chops:
 Saturday, Aug. 31 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Casbah:
 Thursday, Aug. 29 — The Bird and the Bee. \$16-\$18.
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Sun 8/25 Red Room Burlesque
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 Final Path \$7

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Fri 8/23 Disappointing Joseph

Sat 8/24 Teaser

Thu 8/29 Pink Floyd

Fri 8/30 Jess Ray and
 The Haymakers Side Hustle

Sat 8/31 Copy Cat Killers

Fri 9/6 Woke Up Dead &
 Domination CFH

Sat 9/7 Strait Jacket

Sat 9/14 One Night In the
 City Chaos tributes

Fri 9/20 Hey! Ho! Let's Go!
 Ramones tribute
 Brixton '76
 The Clash tribute

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Saturday, Aug. 31 — The Young Wild and Creature Canyon. \$12-\$14.
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Booty Bassment. \$10.
Tuesday, Sep. 3 — Melvins and Redd Kross. \$30.
Thursday, Sep. 5 — Bleached.
Friday, Sep. 6 — Aesthetic Perfection and Empathy Test. \$20-\$25.
Tuesday, Sep. 10 — Olivia Gatwood. \$15-\$17.
Wednesday, Sep. 11 — The Tim Bluhm Band. \$15-\$18.
Friday, Sep. 13 — Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact. \$10-\$12.

Central Library:
Friday, Aug. 30 — The California Soundtrack. Free.

Cheers:
Friday, Sep. 13 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Thursday, Sep. 12 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Del Mar Fairgrounds:
Friday, Sep. 13 — KAABOO Del Mar.

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Steel Pulse.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Angels & Airwaves.
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Taste of New

Orleans.
Monday, Sep. 2 — Wayward Sons. Free.

Dizzy's/Musicians Union Hall:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Christopher Hollyday & Telepathy Quartet. \$10-\$25.

Ebullition Brew Works:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Rayford Brothers. Free.

Embarcadero Marina Park North:
Saturday, Sep. 7 — San Diego Blues Festival.

Fast Times:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Black Levee. Free.

Fleet Science Center:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Sky Ladd. Free.

Flying Pig Pub & Kitchen:
Sunday, Sep. 8 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Go Lounge:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Just in Case and the A-Bortz.

Goodbar:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — Vinyl Night 12" Singles Club. Free.

Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, Aug. 31 — The Wallflowers.

Henry's Pub:
Tuesday, Sep. 3 — SM Familia.
Tuesday, Sep. 10 — Brent Curtis Trio.

Herringbone:
Tuesday, Aug. 31 — Israel Maldonado. Free.

Hornblower Dinner Cruises:
Monday, Sep. 2 — Labor Day BBQ Brunch Cruise with Live Jazz. \$75.

Hotel Indigo Del Mar:
Tuesday, Sep. 3 — Kathleen Murray. Free.

House of Blues:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — Dub Trio.
Friday, Aug. 30 — Jerry "Hot Rod" DeMink.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Lilbootycall.

Monday, Sep. 2 — Andy Grammer. \$35-\$63.
Wednesday, Sep. 4 — Tessa Violet. \$15-\$18.
Friday, Sep. 6 — The Sidekicks.
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Kalimba. \$45-\$70.
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Black Pool and RORRE. \$15-\$18.

Humphreys by the Bay:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — The Stray Cats.
Sunday, Sep. 1 — The Stray Cats and the Shelters.

Sunday, Sep. 8 — Greensky Bluegrass.

Irenic:
Thursday, Sep. 12 — Jay Som and Boy Scouts. \$15.
Friday, Sep. 13 — Phora. \$25-\$175.

Kalabash School of Music and the Arts:
Friday, Sep. 6 — Angel City Bluegrass Boys.

Ki's Restaurant:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Robin Henkel & Whitney Shay.

La Jolla Community Center:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — The KatieCat & Cain Jazz Trio. \$15.

La Jolla Sports Club:
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
Thursday, Sep. 13 — Countess Luann and Friends.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
Thursday, Sep. 5 — Errollyn Healy & Cris O'Bryon. \$25-\$35.
Thursday, Sep. 12 — Adam Pascal. \$40.

Merrow:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Burlesque Sunday Tease & Happy Hour. Free.

Thursday, Sep. 12 — Future Scars and Sprain. \$5-\$7.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — California Rangers.
Friday, Aug. 30 — Bonneville 7.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Celeste Barbier.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — The Good Pour.
Thursday, Sep. 5 — Sickstring Outlaws.
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Open Mic All Stars.
Thursday, Sep. 12 — James Allen Band.

Friday, Sep. 13 — Ristband.
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Billy Fedak & The Road Trippers.

Music Box:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Red Not Chili Peppers.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Trident and Demuir. \$17-\$22.

Sunday, Sep. 1 — The Steely Damned 2.
Tuesday, Sep. 3 — Local Natives. \$20.

Friday, Sep. 6 — Grateful Shred. \$22.

Saturday, Sep. 7 — Jordin Sparks and Funk's Most Wanted. \$20-\$45.

Thursday, Sep. 12 — Hayden James, Naatons, Farr. \$22-\$25.
Friday, Sep. 13 — Adrian Belew and Saul Zonana.

National:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Hoodstock Music Festival & Fundraiser. \$10-\$15.

Nick & G's:
Friday, Sep. 13 — Tim Yancey. Free.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Nelly, TLC, Flo Rida.
Monday, Sep. 2 — Korn and Alice in Chains.

Observatory North Park:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Morgan Heritage and Arise Roots. \$25.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — The Get Up

Kids and Cloud Nothings.
Thursday, Sep. 5 — K.FLAY. \$25.

Open Air Theatre:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Massive Attack: Mezzanine XX1.

Pala Casino:
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Brian Wilson and the Zombies.

Panama 66:
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Uptown Rhythm Makers. Free.

Parq Restaurant:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Dee Jay Silver & RoadHouse.

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
Friday, Sep. 6 — Maluma.
Tuesday, Sep. 10 — Carrie Underwood.

Pour House:
Friday, Sep. 6 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Poway's Irish Pub:
Friday, Sep. 6 — Equinox. Free.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Hastings Band.

Saturday, Aug. 31 — Give Me Back My Wig.
Friday, Sep. 6 — Billy Watson.

Friday, Sep. 13 — Flipside Burners. Free.
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Nathan James.

Quartyard:
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Ftampa, Cizak, Gui Scochi. \$10-\$15.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Friday, Aug. 30 — Kim Simmonds and Savoy Brown.
Thursday, Sep. 12 — Wind Rose and Arkona.

Rookies Restaurant and Sports Bar:
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Lea Love.

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Tony Bennett. \$65-\$125.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — Ryley

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SAT 8/24	HIP YA! LITTLE A AND THE ALLNIGHTERS AND THE FREMONT'S!
SUN 8/25	BENEFIT FOR MIKE CHIRICUZIO
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Monday, August 26
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Tuesday, August 27
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 Midnight Block
 Kids N Propane
 Stalins of Sound
 The Mice • CFA
 Santa Ana Knights

SUN, 8/25
WOLFPACK
 The Gay Agenda
 Se Vende
 Dark Alley Dogs

Walker and Wild Pink. \$12.
Friday, Aug. 30 — Throwing
Muses. \$25.
Thursday, Sep. 5 — T.S.O.L. and
Authentic Sellout. \$16-\$18.
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Chris
Cresswell and Brian Wahlstrom.
\$12-\$15.
Tuesday, Sep. 10 — The Loons
and the Fadeaways. \$5.
Wednesday, Sep. 11 — DAISY
and the Havnauts. \$12.
Thursday, Sep. 12 — That 1 Guy.
\$15.

Friday, Sep. 13 — Secret Fun
Club and Blood Ponies. \$8.

**South Coast Winery Resort
& Spa:**
Sunday, Sep. 1 — Michael Paulo
& Friends. \$40-\$85.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Silent
Movie Night with Clark Wilson.

Star Theatre:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Star Rocks
Summer. \$10.

Sycuan Casino:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — Dip Day
Club: Dee Jay Silver.
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Live. Free.

Thornton Winery:
Saturday, Sep. 7 — Keiko Matsui
and Sax to the Max. \$85-\$170.

Til-Two:
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Hippie
Death Cult.

Twin Oaks Valley Vintners:
Saturday, Sep. 14 — Bonneville
7. Free.

U-31:
Monday, Sep. 9 — JA Young
Wealth & Kogniak. Free.

Viejas Arena:
Wednesday, Sep. 11 — John
Mayer.

Westgate Hotel:
Thursday, Aug. 29 — Sunset
Poolside Jazz Series: Gilbert
Castellanos Quartet. \$25-\$35.
Thursday, Sep. 5 — Sunset
Poolside Jazz Series: Besos De
Coco. \$25-\$35.
Thursday, Sep. 12 — Sunset

Poolside Jazz Series: Curtis
Taylor. \$25-\$35.

Winstons Beach Club:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Into the
Void. Free.
Monday, Sep. 2 — Electric Waste
Band. \$5.
Monday, Sep. 9 — Electric Waste
Band. \$5.

Zel's Del Mar:
Saturday, Aug. 31 — Folklorick.
Free.

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Tim Atkins 6pm
Blonde Brothers
8:30pm

Sunday, August 25:
Brunch 10am-3pm
Jaron Yancey 12pm
Stone Steps 7pm

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Tuesday, August 27:
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THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

33 1/3 - House of Dreams

The story of the Gold Star Recording Studios and its co-founder, lead engineer and hit maker Stan Ross. In Hollywood for 33 years, Gold Star was the birthplace of some of the most famous pop and rock hits of all time. Experience the music of a young Phil Spector and his Wall of Sound, The Beach Boys, Sonny and Cher, Tina Turner, The Righteous Brothers, and Ritchie Valens. The song playlist includes "Summertime Blues," "La Bamba," "Good Vibrations," "Be My Baby," "Unchained Melody," "Wouldn't It Be Nice" and "In A Gadda Da Vida."

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS.

All Shook Up

It's 1955, and into town rides a guitar-playing young man who changes everything and everyone he meets. Musical fantasy with classics like "Heartbreak Hotel," "Jailhouse Rock," and "Don't Be Cruel."

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

And Miss Reardon Drinks A Little

Their father having deserted them in their childhood, the three Reardon sisters have grown up in a house of women, dominated by their recently deceased mother.

ANTI-REVIEW GARRETT HARRIS

Romeo, Juliet, and sectarianism

"WHEREFORE ART THOU ROMEO?" I'm assuming that's a line you've heard before. For the purposes of this article, I'd like to change it to "Who-fore art thou Romeo?"

Who were the Capulets and the Montagues? There were two famous families in and around Verona named I Capulletti and I Montecchi. They often fought. The earliest mention of the families comes in Dante's *Purgatorio*.

Well and good.

Who were the Capulets and Montagues during Shakespeare's day? The Montecchi did immigrate from Italy to England and became the Montague family. However, I'm going with Protestants and Catholics. Every single person who saw *Romeo and Juliet* was aware of the national conflict between the Roman Catholic Church and King Henry's Church of England. There are several scholarly works written about whether or not Shakespeare was a secret Catholic.

There is even speculation that Shake-

speare didn't write any of his plays but that he was the "front man" for a group of Catholic sympathizers who wrote all of the plays as allegorical propaganda.

The point is that the standing feud between Protestants and Catholics was destroying the lives of the innocent. You might think "destroying the lives of the innocent" to be a bit over-the-top, but consider: 430 Catholics were killed by Henry VIII. His daughter, Mary, aka Bloody Mary, killed some 300 Protestants.

Now we come to our day and time. We need not look too far to find our Capulets and Montagues; we are approaching an election year, after all. Democrats and Republicans are two feuding groups who seem to care neither about the chaos created by their feud, nor the innocence destroyed by it.

After decades of discord, a feud becomes about itself and not about the original sin which got it started. The participants of any feud can list the wrongs

But time has erased the tender closeness of girlhood; one sister has married and cut herself off; another has begun to drink more than she should; and the third, after a scandalous incident at the school where she teaches, is on the brink of madness. When the married sister comes to dinner to press the need for committing her sibling to an institution, all the pathos, humor and honesty of the play

are combined.

LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Candy & Shelley Go to the Desert

When their car breaks down in the middle of nowhere on their way from New York to California, the two childhood friends' road trip comes to a screeching halt. While roasting in the midsummer sun, they fend for themselves until a biker shows up...

LA JOLLA COMMUNITY CENTER, 6811 LA JOLLA BL., LA JOLLA. 858-459-0831. 7PM SUNDAY & MONDAY, AUG. 26.

Dance Nation

Somewhere in America, an army of pre-teen competitive dancers plots to take over the world. If their dance is good enough, they will claw their way to the top at the Boogie Down Grand Prix in Tampa Bay.

MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Dogfight

Musical based on the Warner Brothers film. On the eve of their deployment to a small but growing conflict in Southeast Asia, three young Marines set out for one final boys' night of debauchery, partying, and maybe a little trouble. The men must compete in the "proud" Marine tradition of the "dogfight," a high-stakes contest to see who can pick up the ugliest date.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Little Women, the Musical

The adventures of Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March as they grow up in Civil War America. Jo longs to publish a novel. Meg longs for a fiancé. Beth longs for a piano. Amy longs to be admired.

KIT CARSON PARK, 3333 BEAR VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, & SUNDAYS.



PHOTOGRAPH BY JIM COX

And here you thought it was a sad but romantic love story.

committed against their "family" but rarely mention their own acts of aggression. They are, in a way, possessed by the feud.

Our current circumstances are becoming more and more sectarian as the feud in our politics deepens. Neither the right nor the left is very good at listening to

the other side. Both are busy spouting the wrongs which have been committed against them.

It's a potentially tragic situation, like *Romeo and Juliet*.

Romeo and Juliet plays at The Old Globe through September.

Rock of Ages

Journey back to the 1980s, era of big big bands, big egos, big guitar solos and big hair. Aqua Net, Lycra and liquor flow freely on the legendary Sunset Strip rock music scene. Amidst the madness, aspiring rock star Drew longs to become the next big thing in music, and longs for fresh-off-the-bus newcomer Sherrie, a Kansas kid with stars in her eyes. This musical-comedy features rock hits with music from Styx, Journey, Bon Jovi, and Whitesnake. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS.

Romeo and Juliet

Verona's Montague and Capulet families have been feuding for ages, and whenever they meet, violence breaks out. But when Romeo glimpses Juliet across a crowded dance floor, something different happens. Can star-crossed love survive in a world of rivalry and rage? LOWELL DAVIES FESTIVAL THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, & WEDNESDAYS.

Technomania Circus

Technomania Circus Celebrates its 20th year with circus acts, puppetry, magic, backlight, and strange performance artists. FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES NATIONAL CITY, 1131 ROOSEVELT AVE., NATIONAL CITY. 8PM SATURDAY.

The Underpants

Steve Martin's farce about the wife of Theobald Maske is an adaptation of the 1910 *Die Hose*, by German playwright Carl Sternheim. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM FRIDAYS, SATURDAYS, & SUNDAYS.

Weekend Revue: Broadway Backwards

Looking Glass Theatre's dinner-and-show fundraiser is back for its third year of music from the Great White Way. This year, performers will sing songs traditionally performed by another gender. Enjoy favorites from *Cabaret*, *Grease*, *Les Miserables*, *Wicked*, and more.

FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF SAN DIEGO, 4190 FRONT ST., HILLCREST. 619-298-9978. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 4PM SUNDAY.

Xanadu

A Greek muse inspires love, laughter and the world's first roller disco in this 1980's glitter explosion. This Tony Award-nominated, hilarious, roller skating, musical adventure about following your dreams rolls along to the original hit score composed by pop-rock legends, Jeff Lynne and John Farrar. Based on the Universal Pictures cult classic movie of the same title, which starred Olivia Newton-John and Gene Kelly, Xanadu is hilarity on wheels for adults, children and anyone who has ever wanted to feel inspired. Xanadu follows the journey of a magical and beautiful Greek muse, Kira, who descends from the heavens of Mount Olympus to Venice Beach, California in 1980 on a quest to inspire a struggling artist, Sonny, to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time the first ROLLER DISCO! (Hey, it's 1980!) But, when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation, and chaos and hilarity abounds.

ENCORE! THEATER, 9620 CAMPO RD., SPRING VALLEY. 619-670-1627. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

UPCOMING SHOWS

The Addams Family

The Addams Family is a musical comedy based upon characters created by Charles Addams in his single-panel gag cartoons, which depict a ghoulish American family with an affinity for all things macabre. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. SEP 7 THROUGH NOV. 9.

Almost Famous

San Diego, 1973. Led Zeppelin is king, Richard Nixon is President, and 15-year-old William Miller is

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an aspiring music journalist. When Rolling Stone magazine hires him to go on the road with an up-and-coming band, William is thrust into the rock-and-roll circus, where his love of music, his longing for friendship, and his integrity as a writer collide.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. SEP. 27 THROUGH OCT. 20.

David Mamet: Speed the Plow

A satire of Hollywood, a culture as corrupt as the society it claims to reflect. Charlie Fox has a terrific script for a currently hot client. Bringing the script to his friend Bobby Gould, the newly appointed Head of Production at a major studio, both see the work as their ticket to the Big Time. The star wants to do it; as they prepare their pitch to the studio boss, Bobby wagers Charlie that he can seduce the temp/secretary, Karen.

POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. SEP. 13 THROUGH OCT. 6.

Dream HouSe

Two Latinx sisters are on an HGTV-style show, selling their family home and hoping to capitalize on the gentrification in their “changing neighborhood.”

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. AUG. 30.

Green Day's American Idiot

This high-octane show includes every song from Green Day's album, *American Idiot*, and songs from its follow-up release, *21st Century Breakdown*. Johnny, Tunny and Will struggle to find meaning in a post-9/11 world. When the three disgruntled men flee the constraints of their hometown for the thrills of city life, their paths are quickly estranged when Tunny enters the armed forces, Will is called back home to attend to familial responsibilities, and Johnny's attention becomes divided by a seductive love interest and a hazardous new friendship.

OB PLAYHOUSE 4944 NEWPORT AVE SAN DIEGO CA 92107. SEP. 6 THROUGH OCT. 6.

Hamlet

Hamlet is a philosophical study of life and death, laced with some of the most recognized of Shakespeare's soliloquies including, Hamlet's “To be or not to be...” Home for his father's funeral, Hamlet learns that his father's brother, Claudius, has taken over the kingship of Denmark by marrying the queen, his mother.

COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH ST., OAK PARK. 619-581-2634. SEP. 20 THROUGH OCT. 6.

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Based on the classic Dr. Seuss book. This production features the songs “This Time of Year,” “Santa for a Day,” “You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch,” and “Fah Who Doraze,” the carol from the animated version of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. See a snow-covered Whoville, right down to the last can of Who-hash.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. NOV. 8 THROUGH NOV. 29.

John & Juan: History of the Golden State

John, a native Californian, and Juan, a Mexican immigrant, discover their common heritage in this lively theat-

rical romp through 500 years of California history. John learns from Juan about the state's Hispanic heritage, including early Spanish explorers, the original settlers of El Pueblo de Los Angeles, Father Junipero Serra, the Chumash Indians, and the missions along El Camino Real...and John shares with Juan the excitement of the Gold Rush.

CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ESCONDIDO, 340 N. ESCONDIDO BL., ESCONDIDO. 760-839-4138. NOV. 20 THROUGH NOV. 20.

Kiss My Aztec

When the Spanish set their sights on Mesoamerica and its riches, they will destroy anyone and anything that keeps them from conquering and claiming it all for themselves. But the Aztecs are like, “Hell, no!” This fresh, irreverent and outrageous satire could only spring forth from the insanely hilarious mind of John Leguizamo, last seen at the Playhouse in his acclaimed one-man show *Latin History for Morons*. Featuring a fusion of bolero, hip hop, merengue and rap, *Kiss My Aztec!* celebrates, elevates and commemorates Latinx culture in an uproarious new musical. Please note John Leguizamo will be behind-the-scenes this time — other fantastic actors will be performing.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. SEP. 3.

Laughs in Spanish

It's Art Basel and the stakes are high for the gallery Mariana runs in the Wynwood Arts District in Miami. And when Mariana's movie-star mother tries to help out things get muy complicado. *Laughs in Spanish* is a fast paced, cafecito-induced comedy about art and success—and mothers and daughters—and learning to love the people we can't change.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. SEP. 1.

Mamma Mia!

End your summer enjoying this upbeat musical with music and lyrics by Benny Andersson and Bjorn Ulvaeus of the Swedish pop group ABBA. The story: A young woman wants to invite the father she's never known to her wedding — only to discover that there are three possible choices! With ABBA classics such as “Dancing Queen,” “Take A Chance On Me,” “Mamma Mia” and more. This production features over 50 teen and adult performers. Rated PG

STAR THEATRE, 402 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-721-9983. SEP. 20 THROUGH SEP. 29.

Noura

Noura and her husband are Chaldean Christian refugees from Iraq, celebrating their first Christmas Eve as American citizens. But the long-anticipated visit of an orphan girl they once sponsored, now a promising college student, causes them to question who they've become and what they've left behind.

SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. SEP. 26 THROUGH OCT. 20.

Red: Man, Rascal, Clown

One of the great comics of the 20th century, Red Skelton, has had his hilarious escapades firmly established in comedy lore, but what

remains far less known is Red's private life, where he battled the scars of an impoverished childhood and rocky personal relationships. Storyteller and movement artist Jerry Hager brings to the stage Red's most memorable characters and routines—Freddie the Freeloader, Gertrude and Heathcliff, and his pantomime stories—while also giving an intimate look into the man behind the mask of a famous clown.

BERNARDO WINERY, 13330 PASEO DEL VERANO NORTE, RANCHO BERNARDO. 858-487-1866. AUG. 31 THROUGH SEP. 1.

The Taming of the Shrew (Part One)

Baptista Minola has two daughters that he wants to find husbands for. His younger daughter, Bianca, is sweet and quiet. There are many men who want to marry her. His older daughter, Katharina, is known for being wild and angry, and Baptista is worried no one will marry her. However, Baptista announces that Bianca cannot get married until Katharina gets married. Join for a night of open reading for part one. You are welcome to show up and just watch. Free and open to the public.

VETERANS MUSEUM AND MEMORIAL CENTER, 2115 PARK BL., BALBOA PARK. 619-239-2300. SEP. 3.

The Tempest Open Reading

You are invited to sharpen your cold reading skills by reading Shakespeare out loud. Open to actors and anyone who enjoys speaking and hearing wonderful poetry. All ages are welcome. Recasted after every scene for more chances to read. Casting is non-gender specific. If you'd like to just listen that's okay too.

BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKSTORE ESCONDIDO, 810 WEST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 760-480-2760. SEP. 17.

To Saints and Stars

This follows the lifelong friendship of Sofia, a NASA astronaut, and Zoe, the wife of a Greek Orthodox priest. Sofia and Zoe have been friends since they were children and not a day has passed where they have seen or spoken to each other. Their lives and friendship are changed forever when Zoe becomes pregnant with her first child and Sofia is chosen for the first manned Mission to Mars. As the day of Sofia's departure to Mars and Zoe's due date approaches, their relationship becomes more strained as each woman is forced to re-evaluate what they each have prioritized in their own life and the indelible impact that they have made on each other.

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. AUG. 31.

The Winter's Tale

Coronado Playhouse stages Shakespeare's late play. Leontes, delusional and paranoid king, goes suddenly berzerk and tears his family apart. He sends his wife to prison, and banishes his daughter. Sixteen years pass, giving events enough time for a magical ending about the power of forgiveness. Samuel Young directs. Admission, thanks to a grant from the City of Coronado, is free (maximum of six tickets).

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. SEP. 20 THROUGH OCT. 13.



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Cast of *The Coast Starlight*: Rob Yang, Stephanie Weeks, Mia Barron, Nate Mann, Camila Cano-Flaviá and Rhys Coiro. Photo by Sandy Huffaker.

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Directed by Barry Edelstein




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as Romeo

Louisa Jacobson
as Juliet

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THE OLD GLOBE (619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623) TheOldGlobe.org

Photos by Jim Cox.

Rojo: More dead hippies

The opening shot is a film's leading card, an image of introduction. The best of them shape, inform, and herald the tone for what lies ahead. So instead of wasting an audience's time with an impersonal pan down from a patch of blue sky, why not grab the crowd with a foundational kiss to build a movie

on? Writer-director Benjamín Naishtat's

MOVIES

Rojo doubles down by kicking things off with a pair of tempting curtain-lifting scenes.

We hold for a moment on the street-view of a good-sized home in an Argentinian Province. It's 1975, during the government's Dirty War. The door opens to reveal a portly gentleman carrying a walking stick in one hand and removing a mantel clock with the other. Like a steady push of circus roustabouts emerging from a clown car built for two, he's followed by an exodus of looters, most of whom cart only what they can carry. The pending coup won't be made official until the last scene in the picture. For now, all the viewer needs to know about the political climate is established in this silent two-minute launching shot.

Opener number two: though he's later dubbed "the hippie" (Diego Cremonesi) by law enforcement, the confrontational redhead who enters the restaurant one night looks more like a mustachioed detective out of a '60s giallo than he does a peacenik. Then, for no apparent reason other than a pronounced aversion to waiting on line, the walking time bomb goes off in the face of Claudio (Darío Grandinetti), a well known lawyer seated at a table for two and waiting for his wife to join him. It's the first of two tensely staged stand-offs, both of which play against audience expectations.

By giving up his seat, Claudio literally allows the table to be turned, but not before resoundingly expressing his reservations about his fellow diner. It's a brilliantly crafted dressing down, worth the time it would take to commit it to memory, just in case such a maggot should ever cross one's path. Who is this man, and why did he suddenly start shouting "Nazi!" in a crowded restaurant? The lunatic follows Claudio and wife Susana (Andrea Frigerio) to their home, where a self-inflicted gunshot wound comes this-close to ending his life.

Each film is generally afforded

one coincidence, a quick glance in the opposite direction of logic to help grease the narrative wheels. *Rojo* is no different. Could the aggressor have been a long-forgotten client harboring an existing grudge against the counselor, or was he simply a randomly-raging lunatic? In either case, Claudio is not guilty of committing a crime. In lieu of depositing the body at a nearby hospital or police station, he instead drives until dawn to find a final resting place in the desert for the soon-to-be corpse.

Three months later, signs of connecting Claudio with the crime begin to surface. Properties, including the house that opens the picture, are illegally being sold off to the highest bidder, but not without otherwise forthright lawyers helping to falsifying the paperwork. Add to this the presence of the great Chilean crime solver, Det. Sinclair (Alfredo Castro). Brought in at great expense to find the hippie's killer, his presence causes the barrister's outwardly cool facade to show signs of cracking. Castro was discovered by Pablo Larrain, and together they have made six films, including *Neruda* and the out-of-the-way masterwork *Tony Manero*. He's Chile's answer to Harry Dean Stanton and it's grand to see Castro's sullen-faced eccentricity given unexpected free comic range.

Sinclair was officially assigned to the force until a life as TV's #1 celebrity cop came calling and catapulted him to fame. Even when seated on the defensive side of a desk, he's the one who directs the discussion. His mere assignment on the case is enough to cause Claudio's flop sweat to start up. When Sinclair asks him to chauffeur him in the direction of the hippie's desert burial grounds, he figures his time is up. In a burst of satirical pomp, a master detective unwittingly confided to the criminal that he didn't have a clue as to who the murderer was or where the body was buried.

You doesn't have to be a walking textbook on the 1976 coup to follow the story, but in this case, a working knowledge of the era might help. If all else fails, do as I did and enjoy it as a comedy thriller.

Heads up: next week's lead review will cover the premier of *Bunuel in the Labyrinth of Turtles*, opening at the Digital Gym. The animated film takes us behind the scenes of Bunu-



Rojo: Alfredo Castro is the cop, but Darío Grandinetti's not the killer... sort of. It gets complicated.

el's third film — and only documentary — *Las Hurdes (Land Without Bread)*. I strongly recommend that you set aside 30 minutes in the coming week to find a copy on YouTube (preferably the one with the French narration) and give it a look. Until that time.

—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.

After the Wedding — Isabel (Michelle Williams), the manager of an Indian orphanage, travels to New York to pick up a generous endowment check. She soon learns that the daughter she thought was put up for adoption at birth by her ex Oscar (Billy Crudup) is alive and well and living with her father and his new wife (and Williams' million-dollar benefactor), Theresa (Julianne Moore). Per usual, Moore pads her resume with another dying diva, this one looking to find Oscar a suitable replacement (and another Oscar* for the actress). Having not seen the 2006 Susanne Bier original from which this was grafted, it's impossible for me to determine who to blame for the film's overall air of blandness and predictability. A little dab of hysteria, some form of exaggerated emotion (other than Isabel's unconvincingly profane mini-meltdown) would have added the melodramatic traction needed to make things interesting. But as mounted by Moore's husband, writer-director Bart Freundlich (*The Myth of Fingerprints*), the film is just too damn polite for its own good. 2006. — S.M. ★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, LAND-MARK HILLCREST)

Angel Has Fallen — First *Olympus*, then *London*. Will audiences fall for *Angel*? 2019. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Art of Racing in the Rain — We open with four-legged friend Enzo (voiced by Kevin "3-Packs-A-Day"

Costner), explaining why a dog's tongue makes it impossible for the animal to speak. And just like that, I'm psyched at the promise of a good dog movie. We know from the outset that before it ends, Enzo will make it to that giant fireplug in the sky, so I pocket a stack of concession napkins, just in case. All goes well until doggy mommy Amanda Seyfried face-plants and the subject ricochets from tail-wagging terpsichore to inoperable brain cancer. Lassie didn't know from malignant tumors. She'd run home, bark, and her humans would intuitively follow the Collie to the cavern in time to save the trapped miners. Cancer is to melodrama what CGI is to the MCU: a cheap, easy tool to control audience emotions used by filmmakers (in this case, director Simon Curtis and scenarist Mark Bomback) who have nothing to sell but tripe. Add to this a sub-Lifetime child custody battle, and you're sure not to laugh, cry, or fall in love. Don't believe me? Ask the 10-year-old I saw it with. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Back to the Future — The task of tailoring the time-travel theme to the teenage market has led to, besides such concrete accessories as skateboards and electric guitars, an inordinate dwelling on anachronisms, with a contemporary teenager plunged (much like an addict of TV's *Happy Days*, only deeper) into the Fifties. It's as though the genealogical time-line has collapsed into itself like a retractable aerial, or better, has been bent back on itself in a U-shape, so that the generation gap may be measured as the distance between parallel lines and without any unflattering reference to age. The interest in anachronisms never, predictably enough, rises above the parlor-gamsterism into which the time-travel theme so frequently, and comfortably, settles. But at this frivolous, almost vaudeville level, with a very wide latitude for caricature, the movie is quite consistently amusing, and even when not, is too fast-moving ever to be really annoying. And the tremendous speed ought not to obscure how scrupulously director Robert Zemeckis has set up the time motif (starting with the Rube Goldberg array of alarm clocks during the credits), nor how thoroughly he has sketched in the small-town locale, soon to be jerked back through thirty years of undevelopment (or ought that to be de-development?). The plot that unfolds thereafter is a sort of juggling-act of hot potatoes, including such things as the hero playing Cupid to his own parents, playing hard-to-get to

his own mother, and playing second-hand mentor to Chuck Berry. But the movie's brightest idea — its twice-baked potato as it were — does not come until the final fulfillment of the title. The weary time-traveller, having taken a hand in rewriting the future, now finds himself back in the present with a different past from everyone else. That idea, with its infinite possibilities for nostalgia and alienation, is passed over, of course, as rapidly and unreflectingly as every other idea in the movie, but coming as it does at the very end, or the virtual end, excepting one final frivolity, it tends to linger. Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd, Lea Thompson. 1985. — D.S. ★★★ (CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS LA COSTA; CINÉPOLIS VISTA)

Before Sunrise — Richard Linklater, of *Slacker* and *Dazed and Confused*, has unmistakably entered the mainstream: a "date movie" (according to *Rolling Stone* magazine) about a young Frenchwoman and American man who meet on a train, get off in Vienna, and pass one sleepless night together before the man catches a plane back to the States. The filmmaker continues, however, to paddle against the current, to hug the reedy edges of the stream. The thing that sets this romantic comedy a little apart is that the budding lovers really talk to one another. Boy, do they talk! — in long static dialogues in front of an unfidgety camera. They philosophize, they tell stories, they remark on their surroundings, they're never at a loss for words. It's not much like real talk (for all the sprinklings of "It's weird" and "It's cool" and "It's fantastic" and so on), but it's not much like screen talk either. Linklater talk, simply. You may not be as fascinated in the talkers as they themselves are, especially because one of them is Ethan Hawke, but you can be happy they've got each other. With Julie Delpy. 1995. — D.S. ★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Crawl — Just in time for hurricane season, a reminder that it's not just the water you have to worry about, it's what's in the water, too. In this case, a giant gator. All you need to know about the dynamic between the squally father (Barry Pepper) and daughter (Kaya Scodelario) is spelled out in an opening flashback to a childhood swim meet: overbearing sports dad stresses the importance of winning when all his trembly offspring can muster is a second-place trophy. (Scodelario's combined athleticism and habitually icy

glower make her a perfect casting choice.) What's the payoff when daddy's little "apex predator" becomes the dark horse favorite in a waist-deep battle to save his life in a basement arena stocked with alligators? A pronounced improvement over director Alexandre Aja's previous water-logged jump-inducer, *Piranha 3D*. Aja nimbly limits most of the action to the flooded cellar, save for a spectacular-to-behold display of carnage that plays out in the filling station convenient store conveniently located across the street. Though not a patch on Lewis Teague's charming *Alligator*, a steady dose of more action-thrillers like this may help send comic-book carcinoma into remission. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (REGAL ESCONDIDO)

David Crosby: Remember My Name

— Thanks to the burden of memory, this viewer felt deeply despondent at the sight of a 76-year-old rock legend on the road and bellhopping his own luggage. And seeing him gazing at the ceiling, his head nestled between couch pillows, it's hard to imagine David Crosby as one of the most reviled figures in the annals of rock. You'll have to take his word for it, seeing as none of his former bandmates agreed to be interviewed for the movie. (Recent file footage finds Neil Young firmly stating "It's never going to happen" before the interview can finish inquiring into the possibility of a CSNY reunion.) A second question arises, and it's one that even the musician has difficulty answering: after years of drug abuse, why is David Crosby still alive? As per usual with these celebrity biodocs, audience satisfaction is best gauged by one's appreciation for the subject matter, not the documentarian's (in this case first timer A.J. Eaton) ability to wow the crowd with innovation (though Crosby's back-seat commentary makes a ride up Sunset Blvd. a delight). Everlasting takeaway: his father was Roger Corman's regular cinematographer, Floyd Crosby. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

The Farewell — For her second feature, writer-director Lulu Wang (*Posthumous*) tackles the dubious tradition of lying to a family member in order to safeguard them from the truth. When Nai Nai (Shuzhen Zhou) is given three months to live, her family opts for what they consider to be the most humane send off: keep granny in the dark by throwing an attention-diverting wedding. Awkwafina drew raves for her performance as the peroxidized fruitcake in *Crazy Rich Asians*. Her dramatic turn as the granddaughter who was raised never to tell a lie is more refreshing than a splash of Aquafina. She's sensational! When Wang strikes an "Aren't old people funny?" pose, it's tantamount to accidentally stepping on the remote and up pops an episode of TV's *Golden Girls*. Sure, we know damn well that a dinnertime joke early on will return to hit cute, and that leaving lit cigarettes on his grave for grandpa to enjoy is categorically *umbday*. But on the plus side, Ms. Wang puts her Panavision lens to impeccable use. You can count the number of closeups on one hand. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Good Boys — Wanna make an audience cry? Throw a dog under the back wheels of a passing semi. Wanna make an audience laugh? Have a child say "fuck." Easy, ain't it? The twist to this otherwise plotless and pointless bush-league exercise in stoner comedy is the casting of three minors (Jacob Tremblay, Keith L. Williams, and Brady Noon) as the leads. Voilà: high-concept hilarity for lowbrows! More thought and ingenuity went into designing the Point Gray



Welcome to the transmogrifying squash-and-stretch universe of studio animators Max and Dave Fleischer. Much of the humor flies in the face of political correctness, it's my honor to announce. For links to the shorts, visit us online.

— Scott Marks

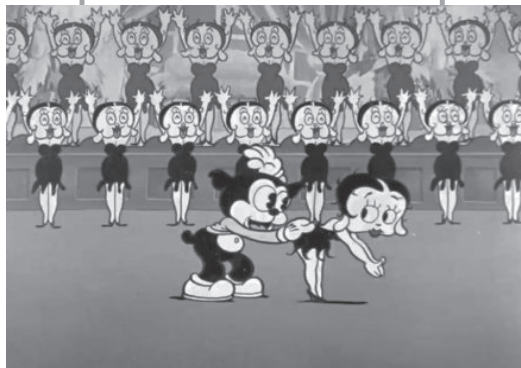
BIMBO'S INITIATION (1931)

Strolling down the boulevard, whistling a chorus of "Go In and Out the Window," Bimbo, an upright canine whose skimpy shirt lacks the fabric needed to cover his distended belly, tumbles down a swing-lid manhole cover, after which he's quickly contained by a studio rival. Our hero is then greeted by an apple-butted society of nightmare creations, an indistinguishable sextet armed with spiked boards, portable pull chain toilets, and one lingering question: "Wanna be a member?" It's only after six minutes of sucking, slurping, trap doors dropping, brick walls toppling, castration, ejaculation, strange sensations, engulfing, devouring, erections, dejections, blowing, snipping, and a shadowy decapitation that a door swings wide — to reveal an embryonic Betty Boop. A curling finger entices a flummoxed Bimbo to accept a personal invite to "Come inside, big boy." Beneath our mysterious fraternity brothers' bomb-shaped heads and melted wax bangs lurks a chorus of Boops that, once revealed, proceed to

spank the living fleas out of Bimbo. A milestone in animation that's been read as everything from a "sodomite gateway" to cartoon illuminations on how to make it in the Illuminati. Bosh! The goal of this single-minded pup is a lifetime membership in the League of Reformed Virgins.

I YAM WHAT I YAM (1933)

This firm believer in the indispensability of physical media is about to ask that



Bimbo's Initiation: Betty takes his Boop-Oop-A-Doop away.

you work a little harder for your art. Animator Mark Kausler's commentary track for this one can be found on the DVD collection *Pop-eye the Sailor Vol. 1*. It's worth the effort. Instead of straight history and/or useless description, Kausler discusses the short in purely visual terms: eye-line, fight cloud, truck out, metamorphoses gag, etc. Before Leonard Maltin's *Of Mice and Magic* set the record straight, cartoon directors didn't get their due. In the case of the Fleischer Studios, Max was head of production and brother Dave took director's credit on every short. Kausler credits animator Seymour Kneitel with the "nuts and bolts" direction and cites many a Dave Fleischer-derived spot gag. There are

also numerous references to Elzie Segar's pioneering comic strip and the influence it had on this, the first official Popeye cartoon. And Kausler takes it one step further with his uncanny ability to reference the work of each individual animator. From "Doc" Crandell to Shamus Culhane to Kneitel, Mr. Kausler spells out each man's contribution to the short. And never has second-hand smoke provoked more laughter than the trailing duck's surreal inhalation of what billows from the sailor's pipe.

DANCING ON THE MOON (1935)

Animation has abandoned almost all signs of subtlety, choosing instead to lob incoming comedic scud missiles over viewers' heads. Nowadays, when advance word promises a cartoon that incorporates gags

geared for kids that adults will also enjoy, it generally means fart jokes. But here, with the help of the Fleischers' dazzling stereoscopic table-top animation (and early 2-strip Technicolor!), a group of honeymooning zoo animals hop a rocket to the moon, only to return to earth with newborns in arms. How many children are there who, on the car ride home, will be precocious enough to query, "Mommy. Is 'dancing on the moon' another way of saying 'making babies?'" Hell, even I didn't know what it meant until well into my 40s. One of the sweetest, prettiest shorts to come out of the studio, with the toe-tappingist title tune this side of Owl Jolson's "I Love to Singa."

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Pictures logo than into spinning this profane "day in the life" adventure yarn. I'm all for a raunchy horseplay captained by foul-mouthed kids, but according to screenwriters Lee Eisenberg and Gene Stupnitsky, the dirtiest word in the English language is "wit." Were it not for cursing and the malapropistic misuse of sexual terms (misogynists give massages),

our trio of four-foot adenoidal gangsta rappers would stand mute. On the plus side, the promise of children ingesting Molly is never fulfilled. Normally I'd say first-time director Stupnitsky deserved to be stoned, but judging by the pacing and composition, he was. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Kitchen — Writer-director Andrea Berloff, working from a graphic novel by Ollie Masters, knows the story she wants to tell: one of sisters doing it for themselves and sticking it to the Man. And she has the tools to tell it in stars Melissa McCarthy, Tiffany Haddish, and Elisabeth Moss. She even has a solid setting: New York's mobbed-up Hell's Kitchen of the late '70s (the title thus becomes a clever-

ish play on "A woman's place is in..."). But what she doesn't seem to have is much of an idea of how to tell it. At the outset, our heroines — and they are offered as heroines here, no matter how heinous their behavior eventually becomes — find themselves in a bind: their Irish gangster husbands have been sent away for three years, and the new guy in charge won't even cover their rent in the meantime. But it turns out he's also not great at providing the protection that the neighborhood shops are paying for, so the ladies step in to take over his operation. — and then some. What follows is a weird little fantasy that seems uninterested in anything but empowerment by any means necessary. (The line "You do what you have to do" is dutifully uttered near the end.) The direction is flat (actors taking turns speaking their lines instead of actually conversing, etc.), the characterization baffling, the plot mechanics incredible — as in, not to be believed. 2019. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Lion King — The trouble with Jon Favreau's "photo-real" — as opposed to "live action" — remake of the studio's animated super-smash hit is there right at the outset, in the shot-for-shot copy of the opening scene. As the sun rises over the African plains, all the animals who inhabit the pride lands gather at the base of an enormous rock outcropping to pay homage to their future king: Simba, the leonine son of Mufasa and Sarabi. On the one hand, it's impressive as all get out: *gosh, but the animals look real*. On the other, why on earth are a bunch of real animals celebrating the birth of a new apex predator? Huzzah, a new pair of murderous jaws! Which one of us will be lucky enough to provide his first fleshy meal? Yes, yes, the question of eating your subjects came up in the animated version, but here's the genius of animation: it provides just enough of a remove from reality to make the notion of the hunted welcoming the hunter easier to... swallow. Here and elsewhere, the move to live-action becomes a net loss. As for the rest of it, I can't imagine that I'm the first critic to have seen this story and found his thoughts drifting to that other Africa remake: Weezer's cover of the Toto top 40 hit. People liked it, but I'm convinced they liked it because they liked Weezer, and because they knew the song already, and because it went down easy — not because it added anything worthwhile, or brought any fresh interpretation to the material. By this point, Disney's do-overs feel a lot like their cash-grabby, inspiration-free '90s direct-to-video sequels, only with vastly better production values. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Nightingale — Raped, beaten, and mistakenly left for dead after witnessing the slaughter of both her husband and newborn child, a young Irish ex-con (Aisling Franciosi) enlists the services of an Aboriginal tracker (Baykali Ganambarr) to help hunt down the responsible parties. First, commix a *Death Wish* tale of revenge with a *Driving Miss Daisy* directive on racial reconciliation. Stretch it over 135 minutes, set it in the distant past, and shoot in the Academy ratio: how can it miss drawing voter attention come awards season? If repetition is the key to learning, this could be the most educational movie ever made. How many graphic sexual assaults must it take, how many noisy children need be silenced by a bullet or thrown headlong into a wall, and how many persons of color shall be maligned or worse before it dawns on viewers that writer-director Jennifer Kent is more interested in hammering together a soapbox on contemporary societal horrors than she is in mounting a challenging dramatic framework? For

Calendar MOVIES

people unaware of the rape culture rooted in our patriarchal society, or those who have trouble grasping the inhumanity inherent in infanticide and racism, I heartily recommend this movie. All others stay far the hell away. 2018. — S.M. ● (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER & CAFÉ; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood — Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood — The studio rep at the screening asked that both audience and critics not provide any spoilers for this, Quentin Tarantino's ninth film. But Tarantino himself tells you everything you need to know on the "what happens" front with the title: the fairy-tale formulation that pauses before telling you the setting. Not in Nazi Germany, as in *Inglourious Basterds*. Not in the slaving South, as in *Django Unchained*. But in Hollywood — specifically, 1969 Hollywood, just as the damn dirty hippies were arriving to upset the ailing industry's apple cart. (*Easy Rider* was released a month before this film's climax, and aging Western TV star Rick Dalton (Leonardo DeCaprio) goes so far as to call a trespasser on his private road "Dennis Hopper.") Of course, movies weren't all the hippies had on their mind: society at large was in for a reckoning, with all its glitz and glam serving to obscure its fundamental greed and bloodlust. (Just look at the subject matter of its preferred entertainment: crime and violence everywhere you turn your TV's dial!) Tarantino has an eye for both the neon glories and the grotesque violence, and while it looks for one dizzying moment like he's serious about pitting one against the other, in the end he wraps both in his loving cinematic embrace. Oh yes, the story: it so happens that Rick Dalton, however poor his career choices, has nailed it when it comes to real estate: he finds himself living next door to Roman Polanski, the hottest director in Hollywood, who is renting the place with his gorgeous wife, the actress Sharon Tate.



Ready or Not: Samara Weaving gives a curiously intense interpretation to the term "blushing bride."

Unluckily for them, however, the house used to belong to someone mixed up with a bearded weirdo named Charles Manson, the leader of a hippie commune situated on the site where Dalton and his stuntman Cliff Booth (Brad Pitt) used to make TV shows. Meandering but deliberate, gorgeous and garrulous, it is very much the writer-director doing what he does so well, but in very familiar fashion. Which brings up the intriguing possibility that in making a movie about movie making, his real subject here is himself. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

One Child Nation — There are a great many talking heads in this documentary from Nanfu Wang and Lynn Zhang that explores how exactly China went about preventing 338 million births between 1979 and 2015, when the one child policy ended and two children became the preferred number. (It seems there were no longer enough young to provide for

the old.) And as a rule, talking heads do not make for compelling film. But such heads, and such talk. A trafficker jailed for collecting abandoned children from the side of the road and selling them to orphanages (which then offered the children for international adoption). A midwife who kept count "out of guilt" of the 50-60,000 forced sterilizations and abortions she performed — on women who were "dragged to us like pigs" — and who now treats only people struggling with infertility in an effort to atone for her sins. And in a brilliant, agonizing mix of personal and political, more than a few family members. It also helps that the images that show up between the faces are not simply scene-setting, but demonstrative. A slogan painted on a wall: "Better to shed a river of blood than to birth more than one child." A yellow medical waste bag atop a heap of refuse, split to reveal its intact and inert contents. A pigsty where children hid in the hopes

of escaping collection. And to its credit, the film stays close to the ground — here's what people remember from a time that many would prefer to forget — and only occasionally allows itself reflection. Perhaps the most heartbreaking: Wang hearing the constant refrain, "It was policy, we had no choice," from those she interviews. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Ready or Not — Not. Before Grace (Samara Weaving) can get on with her honeymoon, the foster child who has just married into a family that made its millions off board games must first engage in a ritualistic game night. At the stroke of midnight, the mansion is put on lockdown and each of the bored gamers is assigned different weapons. Grace is given a two-minute head start, and a "catch her and you kill her" game of hide and seek ensues. This is a campy, deeply misogynistic remake of *The Most Dangerous Game*, geared for guys who get off watching a hot chick being slowly defiled for 90 minutes. And please, none of this girl-power nonsense; the outcome of the film is not determined by any signs of skill or intuitiveness on our heroine's part, but by pure dumb, and I do mean *dumb*, luck. Why *The Hunt* was pulled from distribution and not this is anybody's guess. The worst picture of 2019. Nothing comes close. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Tel Aviv On Fire — A Palestinian producer throws his regularly unemployed nephew Salam (the exceedingly low key Kais Nashif) a bone, in the form of a low-paying production assistant's job on TV's highest rated show, a nighttime soap set three months before the Six-Day War. All the dirty looks Salam scores from the head writer prove to have been worth enduring when he's promoted to take her place. Only trouble is, he's never written so much as a letter to Santa. Fate intervenes in the form of a prolonged stopover at a military checkpoint that puts Salam in touch with his future ghostwriting partner, a captain in the Israeli army (Yaniv Biton) who complains the show's depiction of the military is inaccurate. Director and co-writer Sameh Zoabi safely follows the Jerry Lewis formula — watch as the unqualified schmuck slaloms past every obstacle thrown in his path. Alas, the potential for sharp political satire takes a back seat to small screen spoofery, nudging this

more in the direction of *Soapdish*, rather than Joe Dante's transcendent *The Second Civil War*. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

The Peanut Butter Falcon — Writer-directors Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz team up to bring you what is quite possibly the feel-good movie of the year, for good and ill. The good part has a lot to do with the deep sweetness and natural ease between leads Shia LaBeouf and Zack Gottsagen, two unlucky souls who have kicked the proverbial hornet's nest and now find themselves on the lam in one another's company, headed south through North Carolina's Pamlico Sound. It seems LaBeouf's Tyler has let his grief get the better of him, while Gottsagen's Zak has gone and busted out from the joint — that is, the nursing home where he's been stuck by the state since they don't know where else to put an abandoned Down Syndrome person. The ill part has more to do with the story, which manages to hold the line between Southern-fried fairy tale and outright fantasy right up until the climax. Before our hero's big final battle, the just-right look and feel of things is enough to cover over the happy coincidences, the overdone bits of dialogue ("While you've been looking at your charts, we've been doing a thing called living life."), the cornpone side characters. Afterwards...well, if you're feeling good enough, it may not matter much. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY; EDWARDS MIRA MESA)

Toy Story 4 — The first half-hour plays like a reel of Pixar stand-alone shorts: *Woody Goes to School*, *Woody Saves Forky*, etc. It isn't until the arrival at Granny's antique store that the film finds its bearings. The voice box tracheotomy was an errant touch of genius. Too bad Disney couldn't have secured the rights to Jerry Mahoney, no doubt the inspiration behind the mini-army of evil ventriloquist dolls with dropped head syndrome. And since when did Woody become Jiminy Cricket on crank? Can the moralizing, STFU, and let's have some fun! (If you're not crying, it isn't because they're not trying; the filmmakers stop just short of pumping tear gas into the auditorium to make kids weep.) Why the need for Part 4? There are new characters to merchandise! Kudos to the genius behind Forky. A plastic spork, pipe cleaner, and popsicle stick that set the studio back 13 cents for parts, assembly, and blister packaging can soon be yours for \$24.95, S included. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Where'd You Go, Bernadette — With daughter Bee (Emma Nelson) almost grown and husband Elgie (Billy Crudup) making a name for himself in the artistic world, it's time for lapsed architectural whiz kid Bernadette (Cate Blanchett) to shut down the sacrificing (along with the 24 hour pharmacy inside her medicine cabinet) and put her artistic vision back to work. O film, how do I dislike thee? Let me count the ways. The child is wiser than both parents; all you need to know about our reclusive lead's backstory is conveniently contained in a YouTube celebrity documentary (enjoy the crudely photoshopped heads); and most damning of all, we are treated to that distasteful chick-flick staple: the impromptu mother and daughter singalong. If Julianne Moore is indie cinema's top pick for dying divas, Blanchett gets first dibs on the nuttos. Bernadette grates greatly, but even her blustery performance isn't enough to carry the script. (Director Richard Linklater shares co-author credit.) This might have worked my better had they played it as a screwball comedy. 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

FILM FESTIVALS

German Currents Film Festival *Finsterworld* (2017)

Some of my favorite films begin with a group of seemingly disparate characters who are gradually drawn together into one locale for a big dramatic reveal. And when a character drops the name Michael Haneke towards the outset, the viewer knows the proceedings are bound to get dark. This particular grouping includes, among others, a pretentious documentarian, a cop into cosplay, a fetishistic pedicurist, a classroom's worth of students on a day trip, and a mountain man whose only friend in life is a crow. Over the course of the film, two will be jailed, one will die, and one will spend a few hours locked inside one of Hitler's ovens. You see, in director Frauke Finsterwalder's *Finsterworld* (how's that for a tongue-twisting marquee-bender?), all roads lead to a concentration camp that brings out the worst in everyone. There is so much to admire in Finsterwalder's ambition and ingenuity that it seems a shame when happenstance rears its ugly head to guide the payoff. Still, there's enough invention — and a powerful enough performance by Carla Juri (*Wetlands*) — to make it well worth your time.

DIGITAL GYM: Friday, August 23 at 8 pm.



Mountain Miracle: The hills are alive! With a cure for asthma...

German Currents Film Festival *Mountain Miracle* (2017)

An asthmatic with an attitude, Amelie (Mia Kasalo) has reached the point where people don't dare make fun of her illness. (Call her an "asthma cripple" and she's likely to kick the soccer ball you're looking to retrieve even further out of bounds.) Eager to ignore her allergic disorder, Amelie's happily divorced parents send her to a clinic in South Tyrol; if the therapeutics don't cure the restless teenager, the view will. There, she takes up with herd manager Bart (Samuel Girardi) — don't all remote sanitariums come complete with a dairy farm? — a curly-haired redhead with a galaxy of freckles. So far, I am indeed engrossed by the manner in which the character gets a handle on her disease. And in my youth, I would have no doubt cheered on the couple's ensuing

escape up the mountain. Today, my allegiance quickly shifts to the parents, who start to fear the worst when the police return with their missing daughter's jacket, soaked through. At the risk of sounding like my father, the hills are alive with lessons to be learned. Directed by Tobias Wiemann. **DIGITAL GYM: Sunday, August 25 at 10:30 am.**

Luis Alberto Urrea in conversation with Paul Espinosa

Paul Espinosa is a name familiar to local film lovers for his award-winning documentaries *The Lemon Grove Incident*, *Singing My Way to Freedom*, *The Hunt for Pancho Villa*, etc. Luis Alberto Urrea is his bookish equivalent, a Mexican American poet, novelist, and essayist. NPR has dubbed Urrea a "literary badass" and a "master storyteller with a rock and roll heart." According to his website, the self-effacing Urrea describes himself as a guy who has "written a bunch of books, stories & poems, and I'll write a bunch more." Together they take to the stage in Liberty Station's Main Hall for this year's 3rd Annual Festival of Books. Be there for what's bound to be a lively meeting of the minds. For more information visit: <https://espinosaproductions.com/> **LIBERTY STATION MAIN HALL: Saturday, August 24 at 11:30 am.**

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PERSONALS

HAL you continue to continue without me, so I'm leaving. When you discover your wings, find me on the corner where we met. Amanda

LOIS LANE I apologize. I'll never drag you into one of my fights again. But stay away from that boy. Tis Ra

ON AUG 3 A BOX OF VINYL 45 records fell out of someone's truck at the corner of 36th and Orange, by El Cajon Boulevard. There has to be at least a hundred records. Let me know if you think they're yours. Email me atKcface@gmail.com

LA MESA KID: Let's make it work together. Te amo mucho. Tu novia, Purple

LARRY: all relationships must end. Unknown is how long do they last, how deep do they get, and how do they end.

RICHARD SMITH author of "A small room at the end of the hall," cover story about downtown YMCA in Reader, Oct. 14, 1982, please contact Reader editor at (619) 235-3000, ext. 222 or jholman@sreader.com.

FREEWAY FLIRT in Carlsbad on Cannon near Highway 5. You drive a brand new BMW X5 and I saw you eating a bagel. We flirted a bunch and got off at the same exit. I went right, and you went left. But I "really" regret not asking you to meet me for coffee. Hoping you see this. Message me (here on the classifieds) and tell me what I said at the light and what car I was driving so I know it was you.

MY DREAM CAME TRUE For 20 years I dreamed of you. You are the love of my life. I can't wait to marry you George. Our life begins at 50. Mary

LOOKING FOR CHRISTINA RIVERA who attended San Miguel Elementary in 75 to 79. Any info, prefer text 619-631-9258.

IF YOU SEE MEL at Viejas please say hello to her from David. And wish her a beautiful day, she is so nice.

FRIENDS OF JAMES HARPER (JIM) Please call Jim's family (619)917-6975

NOTICES

DAVE KOZ AT THORNTON WINERY Temecula Sunday 9/15 5pm Gourmet Supper Package Table for 4, \$716 value, selling \$600. Contact Ian 760-688-6556.

WHEN A "NO SOLICITING" SIGN is next to an apt door: please do not knock. You're soliciting time.

TINY HOUSE ENTHUSIASTS is a meetup group for all those fascinated/interested in the idea of tiny house (300 sq./ft. or less) and just sustainable living in general. <https://www.meetup.com/Tiny-House-Enthusiast/>

ATTN SAN DIEGO DIRT BIKE RIDERS Meet other local dirt biking enthusiasts; to share ideas, good places to ride, tips on mechanics/fixing bikes, meeting at local motocross tracks or in the desert and hanging out with new and old friends. <https://www.meetup.com/sandiegodirtbiking/>

FREE FISHING BOAT AND TRAILER in Jamul. The trailer needs tires to move it. The boat does have the motor and out drive in it. Photos here: http://bit.ly/free_boat_jamul

RUN AND CHUG A BEER Every Wednesday we meet at a different local bar throughout San Diego, go for a run, and finish back at the bar to cool down and

socialize over drinks. <https://www.meetup.com/SD-Fun-Run/>

DO YOUR FEET EMBARRASS YOU? Do you or someone you know suffer from a major foot condition and need help? A new major TV show is looking for diverse individuals with foot and ankle conditions caused by injury, disease, genetics or even neglect. Please send us your name, age, location, and a photo of you and your condition to: footshowcasting@gmail.com

PAYING \$1500 for Hispanic or Chinese families to be photographed and interviewed on topics related to being a part of an immigrant family/community. Casting call is in San Diego for September 5th or September 6th. We are looking for four families. Email eramirez@rescueagency.com for details.

NEED TO STORE MY SURFBOARD IN PB I am looking for storage for my surfboard anywhere near Pacific Beach. I will need access to it because I surf around 3-4 times a week. My name is Idris and I am willing to negotiate the price. Call/text: 612-772-7967

CATHOLIC CHARITIES Smoking affecting you at home? Receive a Subway, Staples, Starbucks or Office Depot card if eligible for free. 619-287-9454.

FEELING DARK, HEAVY, STUCK OR WEIGHTED? Maybe you need a fill-up. Light-Boosting can help you get your glow back, heal faster, & shine on! Available by appointment only. Text: 619-719-3189

PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK Purple Stride Saturday September 28, 2019 7:30am Raising awareness and funding for Pancreatic Cancer. <https://bit.ly/2Z8K55d>

FLIP PHONE/LANDLINE/DATA REDUCTION Billion, to be trillion dollar data mining companies, need to pay for data, data entry,

time spent, phones, service. (619)528-0907

FREE SOCIAL MEDIA GURU JK Web Sales believes that social media should be free while companies profit why should users https://calendly.com/joemorse

PUPPET SHOW! AUG 28-SEP 2 A delightful show for all ages!! Two Frog Stories & A Spider Song. 11am, 1:00 & 2:30 pm. BalboaParkPuppets.com, 619-544-9203

CAMPO INDIAN RESERVATION the people who live around you pray that you are not using reverse discrimination against them because this is against the law.

SATURDAY MORNING SOCCER in Balboa Park. For winner-stays-on format, we play golden goal or a max. of 8 minutes. If no goals have been scored after 8 minutes of play, the 'champions' stay on and the 'challengers' leave the field. If the 'champions' draw 2 games in a row they are considered to have lost. We'll play beside 6th avenue between Juniper and Laurel at 9 AM on Saturdays. http://bit.ly/balboa_soccer

CALLING STREET MOTORCYCLE RIDERS of all levels! September 1 is our monthly Starbucks-to-Campo ride. It repeats every first Sunday of every month. Meet at Starbucks at 2986 Jamacha Rd. in El Cajon at 8:30 am, then kickstands go up shortly after the riders' meeting at 9:00 AM. <https://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Sportriders/>

UCSD ALZHEIMER'S STUDY \$ Ages 50-80 with Alzheimer's. FDA approved medication free for 24 weeks plus payment. AlzheimerStudy@ucsd.edu (619)471-9455

UCSD EEG RESEARCH STUDY Paid Brain Wave Study seeks healthy participants, age 18-85, Drug Free, No Psych History. EEGStudy@ucsd.edu (619)543-7201

WATERSHED FILM AND PANEL Watershed Movie will be screened and followed by a panel of experts on SoCal water- 8/23 <https://tinyurl.com/WatershedMovie>

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VOLUNTEER@ITSUNCOMMON.COM Are you a student that needs to complete community service hours? Let us help you learn valuable skills and \$

UCSD EEG RESEARCH STUDY This research study involves using an FDA-approved medication and EEG. Call (619)543-2314 or email eeglearning@ucsd.edu.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/LECTURE CLINIC Free readings for new visitors. 7:30pm, the last Wednesday of the month. 8/28/2019, 9/25/2019, 10/30/2019 by Vessa's Clairvoyant Intuitive Program Graduates. 4455 Moreno Blvd. Ste. 108, San Diego, CA 92117. 858-509-7582.

PEN PALS WANTED Older man, currently hospitalized, no internet desires pen pals. Write to Dave DiMino 3102 East Highland Ave #21 Patton, CA 92369

"OVERCOMING BETRAYAL IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM" Written by fRee SPiRiT UNiQUe.... Available Now on... iTunes, Amazon, Xlibris and Barnesandnoble.com!!

READER BRUNCH AND BOOZE 2019: Join the San Diego Reader at our first annual Reader Brunch and Booze event on Saturday October 19, 2019 at NTC park in Liberty Station. Brace yourself for the most brunch-tastic event around. A brunch battle like no other, attendees will munch on UNLIMITED brunch bites from 30+ vendors, vote for the best and the bloodiest at the Bloody Mary competition while sipping on coffees and boozy drink tastings. Don't forget to cast your vote for the Best Classic

Brunch Bite, Most Creative Brunch Bite and Above and Beyond Bite. Brunch without booze is just a sad breakfast, so be sure to stop by the bar for your full sized mimosas and spirits. Mingle with other like-minded brunch enthusiasts under the San Diego sun while listening to live music and enjoying photo ops, lawn games and so much more...because brunch is always a good idea! Readerbrunchandbooze.com

READER BURGER'S AND BEER 2019 Join us in our continued search to find the best burger at the 4th Annual Reader Burgers and Beer at Golden Hill Park on Saturday, September 7, 2019. Try unlimited gourmet burgers from more than 20 of the best restaurants as they compete to win the "Best Burger" award. No burger is complete without some great beer! Enjoy unlimited beer tastings from 40+ local breweries. Curated exclusively by our food writers, this event brings together the very best burger and beer vendors — and you decide who will ultimately win.

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES & KITTENS Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.

CUBENSIS PATIENT ACT. Association Cubensis Therapeutics. Seeks doctors psychotherapists researchers, persons interested. Forming discussion groups/ effectiveness of cubensis therapy for depression and PTSD? 619-528-0907

COUNCIL NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRESS INC. Nonprofit seeks Native and non-native councils, businesses, organizations, to end homelessness/hopelessness. Synergy Art Foundation assists artists. Donate/Support them! 1-619-528-0907

CLASSES/ LESSONS

BRUCE LEE PRACTICED TAI CHI with his father. If you are interested Tai Chi, please join us at Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library! This is for beginners. http://bit.ly/tai_chi_sd

UNIVERSITY PRIVATE TUTOR English Grammar/Writing Tutor.

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FREE FENCING COURSES at Golden Sabre Academy, call 760-761-0960 for info. <http://goldensabre.academy>

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ROOMMATES

ROOM 4 RENT FEMALES ONLY University heights, near bus/freeways, shared bath upstairs, no smoking, pets, drugs, \$875 utilities/deposit. 8774_rents@cox.net

LA MESA HSE 15MIN SD+SDSU \$695+\$100 util+/dep. Room For 1 person. Share house/big yard kitch+sempirv bath. No pets/drugs/cigs/hvy drink/parties. 619-466-7500

CHRISTIAN LADY SEEKING to rent a room in Linda Vista for \$500. Seeking a room in a house with female homeowner or traditional married couple, with or without children. No adult single males or roommate situations. The home should be usually quiet and near a bus or trolley. Text only, Martha (619)885-8084.

SEEKING A 3RD ROOMMATE My friend and I are looking for a third person to rent a 3-bedroom house with in the Normal Heights/North Park/Mission Valley area. A little about us: I'm a 23 y/o straight male, employed full time as a systems engineer, and very mellow. I'm also an officer in the naval reserve. Julianna is the friend and she's a 23 y/o nurse, full time Navy active duty as an officer and works at Balboa Naval Medical Center. She has a really sweet cat named Reina. Our Insta handles are @that_tallsteve and @juliannambuhr if you want to check them out.

ROOMMATE WANTED in La Jolla, Mira Mesa and Sorrento Valley. Hi, my name is Sam and I am looking for room, private room, private bath, and parking garage or parking spot. Please text # 949-939-5658

ROOMMATE WANTED I'm Gordon. 35-year-old commercial actor. Looking to move in some place between Ocean Beach to North Park at around \$700. I would prefer a garage for parking my motorcycle, bicycle, and some camping equipment but not a deal breaker. Facebook: gordon.brown.37201

NEED NORTH COUNTY ROOMMATE My name is Kat and I'm looking for a room to rent in the North County area. I work in Escondido, so somewhere near there. I'm looking for month to month rent around \$600/mo utilities included, but willing to go higher for a great location. If you think we might be a good fit, please text/call/email me. Instagram: Kaffeentrips

28-YEAR-OLD FEMALE needs roommate. Looking for a room/roommate in Pacific beach. I'm Erin. I'm looking to rent a

cat friendly room or find a cat friendly roommate I can find a place with. My budget is around \$1000, and I'm looking to move sometime in the month of September. Please message me interested. My Instagram is erinkristen13. Thanks!

UCSD OR MESA COLLEGE student roommates. Clairemont 1 bedroom for rent \$700 per month (share two bedrooms in a condo). Welcome to single woman or single female student, if somebody is interested in it, please call/text 619-384-0392

ATTENTION BAY PARK/CLAIREMONT Granny flat. Disabled retired senior military male needs nearness to VA hospital for COPD treatments. Federal HUD money covered. 1(858)722-2964

ROOM FOR RENT one large room, unfurnished, \$750 plus other small room included. Private entrance, includes part utilities, shared: bathroom, kitchen, living room. No felonies, no drugs, no smoking except on porch. 619-243-9713

ROOM FOR RENT furnished room, utilities paid, \$650/mo. \$200 dep. Kearny Mesa/Mesa College area. (858)616-7039/ Soyng

UCSD STUDENTS a master bedroom is available now in a beautiful townhome in La Jolla! 5 min to UCSD by car and 12 min by bike. \$1150 plus utilities. Text me 303-886-3948 — 3276 Via Marin La Jolla 92037

MISSION BEACH 4BD HOUSE Large 4bd/2.5 bath avail 9/1/19, 9 mo lease. Prkg, Indry, steps to beach, furnished. \$4700+dep. 6 roommates max. 714-225-2835

SEEKING ROOMMATE in Serra Mesa, room available \$750/month with parking space. Wes 858-576-2143

UCSD ROOMMATE WANTED My roommate and I have a master bedroom with a private bathroom available at La Jolla International Gardens. Rent is \$663.75 as a double and open as a single (\$1327.50) or a triple as we can add up to three additional people onto the lease. Please directly message me if you would like more information or if you are interested. <https://www.facebook.com/elaine.chu.ec>

UCSD STUDENTS Hello, I'm currently going into my 4th year at UCSD and I'm looking for a year-long lease somewhere close to the bus stop. My budget is around \$1000. I'm currently studying Mathematics and Computer Science. I currently have an internship which will extend throughout the school year I'll probably be busy. Please message me if you have any rooms available. <https://www.facebook.com/jotastical>

LOOKING 4 A UCSD ROOMMATE Looking for a female renter for our master bedroom. Asking price is \$1200 including utilities. For questions, interests, or for more details and photos, please direct message me on Facebook. www.facebook.com/rachel.emerine

UCSD ROOMMATE WANTED \$1100/month, furnished private room in gated condo complex. UCSD and city bus at street corner. Near the Hyatt hotel and just minutes to UCSD campus and VA Med Ctr. Text (858) 997-8279

UCSD ROOMMATES LA JOLLA/UTC room for rent. 1 Clean furnished private bedroom available in a 4 bedroom townhouse. (646) 275-7535 email: linafary@gmail.com

UCSD ROOMMATE WANTED Private room available in UTC. Hi! Private room available right away, near Vons and 202 bus stop. Please reach out to rgomezvega@yahoo.com for more information

LA MESA- HUGE RM FOR 1 Hi ceiling, skylights, yard/new prv bath with tub, mini kitch. Indry, Net \$995+\$100 util+dep No pets/ smk- 1 person 619-466-7500.

ROOMS FOR RENT LA COSTA \$600, \$500 plus util, deposit. Quiet house, neighborhood. 3 miles to beach. No smoke, pets, couples, drunks. Laundry, shared bath. 760-942-7062

ROOM WANTED 62 yr. old healthy clean SoCal native low income male, seeking somber room in house Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Clemente. Dale (858) 401-2973

SAN MARCOS Room for rent, including private bath in mobile home near Palomar college in San Marcos. Thai couple prefer senior Thai woman, with job, great references. \$650 per month, \$350 deposit, no parking. 760-420-3641.

ISO SDSU ROOMMATE Single bedroom available now for \$738 with utilities included. Looking for a respectful and responsible roommate to rent a single bedroom in the heart of Colima del Sol. Text Emily at (315) 835-5480

ROOM FOR RENT \$750 in my West Chula Vista home. 1 person. Many amenities. Prefer active military. Call for details. 252-281-7076

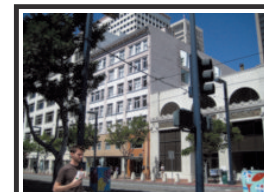
NATIONAL CITY, \$550. 1BD+shared bath including utilities. \$275 deposit, no smoking indoors, drugs or pets. No visitors after 9:30pm. Single occupancy only. Call Quiten 619-993-1671.

CHULA VISTA, \$650 One room for rent in condo, shared living room and kitchen. Male

preferred. Deposit \$300. Available now, any questions call 619-869-5814 or 858-397-3687 and ask for Kim.

RENTALS

LOOKING 4 A SMALL free-standing house or cottage. We are open to living from La Mesa to Downton, Beaches, Old Town, Clairemont Mesa and all other surrounding areas. \$1200-\$1700 depending what's included. Eric @ 904-373-4080



DOWNTOWN, \$250-495. Artist work spaces: Office or work spaces and retail available. 636 C Street, 92101. Inquire inside (C Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www.jspropertymanagement.com.

HOUSE FOR RENT 91911 4bd 3ba, 2 c gar, W/D hook ups in Chula Vista within 5 min driving to elementary, middle, & high school, and within 7 min to I-5 and I-805. Owner pays trash and pest control. \$2,700/mo, \$1,500 deposit. Pets ok with \$200 deposit. Call 619-761-9732.

NEED RENTAL Brick layer looking for a rental in North Park, South Park, or Pacific Beach. Please call 619-317-2883

LOOKING FOR A WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE unit, stiuo, or granny flat in The City of San Diego, great references. Ron Henderson 619-435-5501.

MISSION BEACH 4BD \$4,600 715 Verona Ct, Large 4bd/2.5 house, furn, prkg, Indry, Avail 9/1-6/1/20, may move in end of Aug. No pets. 714-225-2835

DOWNTOWN, \$1375. STUDIO+1BA. New fixtures, granite countertops, Murphy bed. Gated building. Coin operated laundry on site. Street parking. All utilities paid. No pets. 1747 5th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

DOWNTOWN, \$525-880. Under new management! Renovated, furnished Gaslamp rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Horton Plaza, restaurants, shops and laundry. Cable and utilities included. 720 4th Ave. 619-233-7594 or 619-727-0151.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN, \$1850. 2BD+2BA apartment. 875sqft., hard vinyl flooring, patio, air conditioning/ central

heat, on-site laundry. 1 secured parking space included. One pet OK! Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

BANKER'S HILL/DOWNTOWN, \$1625. 1BD+1BA apartment. 750sqft., hard vinyl flooring, air conditioning/ central heat, on-site laundry. Parking included. One pet OK! Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

DOWNTOWN, \$573-825. Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

LM/SV GATED FLAT 450 SQFT secluded, 2 open rms Lg patio, stove, ref, DW, MW, W/D on site, wtr, trsh, sdge pd, credit ck, cat, \$1,350 Mo w yr lease. \$1,500 deposit 619-987-0439.

LA MESA, \$1599-1990. 3BD+2BA (\$1990) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1599-1990. 3BD+2BA (\$1990) and 2BD+1BA (\$1599) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchens. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

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MOUNTAIN RETREAT HOUSE \$1,100 RENTAL in Paradise Mountain. Tiny house rental. Open beam ceilings. Beautiful brand new bamboo floors and appliances. New air conditioner and heating unit. One bedroom lot. Perfect for single person. Pet and horse friendly property. Please call for inquiries at 760-533-6821

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1725. 2BD+2BA in quiet complex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Assigned parking in gated garage. Water and trash included. Easy freeway access. No pets. 4416 47th Street #7. Agent, 619-298-7724.

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MISSION HILLS, \$1550.
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utilities included. No pets.
630 W. Washington. Agent,
619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK, \$1350.
1BD+1BA. Lovely 1 bedroom.
Vaulted ceilings, stove,
refrigerator, dishwasher, wood-
like flooring, balcony, assigned
off-street parking for one car.
3753 Cherokee Ave. Agent,
619-298-7724.

CHULA VISTA, \$2850.
3BD+2BA house. Plank flooring,
fireplace, walk-in closets, washer/
dryer hookups, attached 2-car
garage. No pets. 1330 Little Lake
Street. Agent, 619-298-7724.

REAL ESTATE

MOTEL FOR SALE BY OWNER
21-Unit motel & living quarters for
sale in Dove Creek, Colorado—
only \$499,000. Escape the big
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\$330 New kitchen, bath,
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7330 \$330k.

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bdrm, wood floors, w/d in unit and
private attached garage. FHA/
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Open floorplan, vaulted ceilings,
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2 pkg spaces and attic space.
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Great location, good rentals, view
potential \$1,295,000. Call agent
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BASS GUITAR, \$1,100 1989
"Signature" jazz bass, ash body,
maple neck & fretboard, audere
preamp, glassy highs, gig bag,
mint condition 619-980-6008.

BASS GUITAR, \$2,000 1989
"Signature" jazz bass, red burst
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preamp, MEC gold pickups, mint
condition 619-980-6008

BASS GUITAR, \$900 1990's
Schaller Rockoon(Kawai) bass.
maple neck, rosewood finger
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Excellent condition, no marks or
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Come to 4-part harmony
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Mesa. No experience needed.
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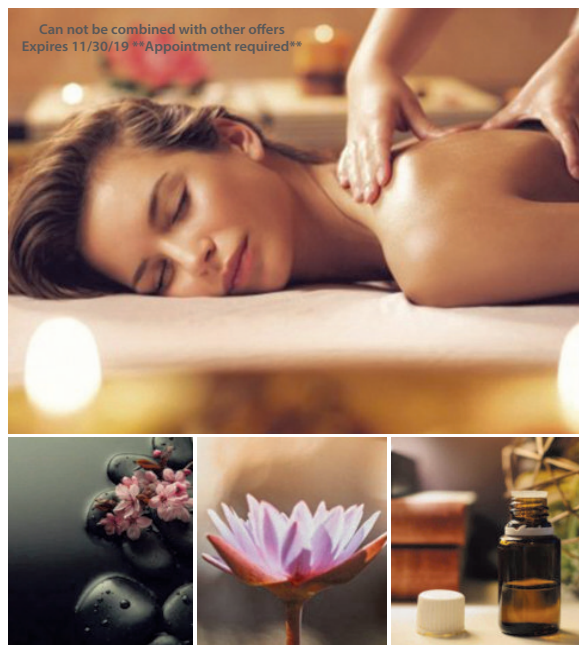
INDIE BAND SEEKS BASSIST
Indie band, mid-30s to early 40s,
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include GBV, Pavement,
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acoustic, Americana group. To
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MEXICAN BLACK KINGSLAKE
3 years old but not 100% sure on
sex, was told it was female with
good temperament. Asking \$140;
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need homes. We are re-homing
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SISTER is 4 year old, 68-pound
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long walks. Sister would make a
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proper conditioning first. She is
just waiting to fill a spot at a home
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Fee \$75 (already spayed, comes
with microchip, deworming, and
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information, please call 619-498-

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POMERANIAN PUPPY 16
weeks, shots, AKC, orange
sable female, small, homing fee,
adorable. 858-945-6990

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9 weeks old, one male, two
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needs 1 pet home, lots of
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BABY MURRAY RIVER
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They're about the size of a
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Please text me 714-855-8160 for
any questions.

TANGANYIKAN CICHLID
SPECIES FISH \$800 in
Escondido, Text or call (858)
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are welcome or trade for other
rare Tanganyikan cichlids. Meet
at a public place near my house
or I can send lots of pictures
so you know exactly what you
are getting.

ENGLISH BULLDOG up for
adoption. She is 9 weeks old
and is ready to go to her new
home. She is AKC registered and
is current on all her vaccines,
de-worming, de-parasited and
comes with a clean bill of health
from the vet. Please call/text to
714-363-2367 / 714-553-5133 for
more info.

SHAR-PEI in Carlsbad. My
2-year-old male Shar-Pei is
providing a stud service with a
fee of \$1000. AKC paperwork for
the bloodline of the Shar-Pei is
provided onsite. Call or text (269)
779-8455 for any questions.

PUREBRED GERMAN
SHEPHERDS Anyone interested
in purebred German Shepherd

\$250. 1 female and 7 male
will get first shots done and
dewormed if interested plzzzzzz
call 760-829-3343

TWO LAB MIXED W HEELER
PUPPIES \$120/EACH in La
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shots at 6 weeks. Ask for Larry
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WEENIE DOG FROM RAMONA
needs new home. No rehoming
fee for a 2 year old female
Weenie. Should be a one dog
home. Strong personality.
Please call Maria for more info at
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family. Great family dogs n super
intelligent. Up to date with shot
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ready to go. Adoption fee \$380.
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\$50 REWARD for lost gray and
white dog named Carmelita. Last
seen in downtown on J Street
and Park Blvd. Call 619-954-
0631 or 619-804-7325

IF YOU SEE A LOST PET IN
THE STREET Contact Babs Fry
immediately, she's a pet recovery
specialist and she doesn't
charge. 619-249-2221

\$1,500 REWARD for a lost
white Bulldog. Chelsea got lost
on 07/31 around 3:00pm in the
Imperial Beach area (Florence
St.). To the kind person that
can bring Chelsea home again:
we will give a 1500 dll reward.
She's very loved. Call/text
619-816-7456

LOST BLACK DOG with
one floppy ear at Carlsbad on
Unicornio Street. Was staying at
grandfather's house and got out
of yard. If you see him please call
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she is brown with black
and she is wearing a pink
collar with a heart shaped
tag. She is micro chipped.
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AM - Sep 22 at 9 PM Call (858) 876-5452 for info.

BASKETBALL FOR NON-BASKETBALLERS is back. This group is a simple: we play non-competitive pickup basketball games on a weekly basis. http://bit.ly/sd_hoops

THUNDERBOAT RACES ON MISSION BAY volunteers needed. You're volunteering at San Diego Bay Fair (760) 789-8870 We will be doing our 55th year of thunder on the water: the fastest boat racing in Southern California. Move in on September 9 and event is between September 13-15. Letter of your community service can be supplied upon request after the event by the directors. (760) 789-8870

FOOTVOLLEY CLUB is seeking new players for their exciting sport. Footvolley, as featured on ESPN's The Ocho — is a blend of soccer and volleyball and can be played on the beach. Check the action here on Instagram: footvolleyclub



WANTED TEAM SPONSOR Local soccer team looking for sponsorship from local businesses. We hope to compete in the North Park Water Tower Indoor league and the San Diego County Soccer League. Jersey logo spots available! Contact: sponsorship.futbolsinfronteras@gmail.com or (512) 623-0670.

TRI BIKES Cervelo p-3 58cm dura ace. Aegis trident 49cm ultra carbon frame. Vintage Modern. Great first tri- bikes. 760-458-9747

MEN & COED SOFTBALL LEAGUES. Starting after Labor Day. Accepting teams now. All teams go to playoffs. E-mail: johng@softballsd.com. Web: www.softballsd.com.

BICYCLES

TRIATHLON BIKE \$11,200 in Chula Vista 2019 Cervelo P5X Sram Etap Wifi http://bit.ly/cervelo_p5x.

BICYCLE FOR SALE 60s Peugeot city bike, excellent condition. Women's. 53cm \$100.

Phone/text 619-380-5889 or email haroldspaleta@icloud.com

CROOZER DOG BIKE TRAILER \$70 in Oceanside pull behind bicycle pet carrier. It's new. Text me at (442) 264-5909

24" VINTAGE 1983 BMX CRUISER Black Max Concord, with original BMX stickers, Araya rims, \$680, Chula Vista, 619-300-3364

LOWRIDER BIKE 4 sale for \$275, contact 619-788-6160 if interested. Cool bike to roll around to car shows or events.

ELECTRIC FUJI BICYCLE \$3800, La Jolla, 10 speed, full carbon fiber, 48 volt, Luna 9 speed 750 watt motor, 30 lbs. 858-459-6620

BIKE E RECUMBENT bicycle, \$175, black, in good condition, in Vista 760-822-5422

1970S WOMENS BEACH CRUISER for \$70 is still ticking in Encinitas, good vibrations, Murray, all original cruiser, still rides like the day it was built 50 years ago, if interested call 760-815-4401

REDLINE 16" BMX BIKE \$90, original yellow paint, Coaster brakes, (619) 300-3364

SCHWINN BMX CRUISER 24", Chrome with black Skyway-mag rims, \$320.00, tuned and ready to roll, 619-300-3364

BICYCLES 26" Ladies Diamond Back Clarity, like new excellent condition. \$200 Call 619-647-5981

BICYCLE, FUJI/ABSOLUTE Almost new, 21 speeds, 19 inch, orange, Shimano/Altus, new hybrid tires, new shifters, new pedals, Hillcrest, \$200, call Ted, 619-298-4777.

AUTOMOTIVE

2007 CONVERTIBLE PT CRUISER clean title, no A/C, runs great. Moving, must sell. \$3,000 OBO Carlos 619-325-7812.

ATTN FAST AND THE FURIOUS car type builders. I'm looking to share some shop space with someone. I've built cars in the past and have had a shop in the past. Just looking to reduce some cost. Personal or home garage space is fine. Call/Text 858-337-6118.

1950 TO 58 CHEVY tire rim rings 3 \$30 or will split. 1941 to 45 front bumper with guards rusty but straight 619-631-9258.

1997 LEXUS ES300 midsize luxury package, tan leather interior, all power and luxury

options. Low miles, clean title, will pass smog check \$3,495. Call 619-948-1429

1982 CHEVY C-10 \$1700 short bed pickup truck ready for restoration. Needs clutch, radiator, tuneup. Buyer responsible for smog. As-Is. 619-201-4634

1938 BUICK FOR SALE 38 4-door. 4" chopped top. Olds 350/350 drivetrain. Many extras. \$11K. Contact Bob at 760-943-7326 for more info.

2003 MERCEDES SL 500 CONVERTIBLE Mint condition, new tires, batteries fully serviced. Non smoker, registered and smogged, title in hand. \$8,900 OBO. Text or call 619-948-9189

1995 CHEVY LUMINA SEDAN Great 3.1 LT V6 engine. \$1500 OBO, 619-631-7040.

FOR SALE 2003 M3, 138,000 miles, needs hydraulic pump for SMG, otherwise runs great. Call Miranda 760-840-7198

98 CAMARO 3.8, \$3,000 OBO, best offer, one of a kind. Call 619-558-9942

USED SHERIFF TRAFFIC UNIT VEHICLE \$3500, 2007 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor P71 with 108,000 miles, pictures and info here: http://bit.ly/crown_vic_for_sale

AUTO DRIFTERS CHECK THIS OUT: 1999 Mazda MX-5 Miata for \$300. Bids start at \$300 at Otag Auto Auction (619) 661-0808

1981 CHEVY EL CAMINO 231 buick nice shape, been garaged, been non op since 05. No tire kickers, serious \$10,000 cash no B.S 619-631-9258

VAN Chevrolet van 350 engine, one ton, 20 feet long. Automatic transmission 1981, July 2018 rebuilt engine. New tires, breaks, battery. Excellent condition, worth \$10K for only \$2500. Located in Rancho San Diego, ask for Armand 619-660-0299

HELP WANTED

FULL TIME LIVE-IN NANNY 3BD/2BA, \$245 for room and board to watch 6 year old boy Thursday and Friday morning. Good for retired person, times vary, preferred someone with open availability, good with kids, and domestically clean. Rent and utilities free. Local San Diego. Age 50+. References required. North Clairemont. 858-750-9567(text preferred).

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) in San Diego is looking for volunteer drivers to help pick up donations from food banks, grocery stores, and restaurants and deliver them to our interim housing facility. PATH provides

breakfast and dinner to 100-135 individuals in need every day of the year. Weekly, monthly, and substitute drivers are needed. This is a great opportunity to support our community members in need and decrease food waste. For more information call Sigrid at 619-810-8606 or email sigrids@epath.org

CAREGIVERS.

Needed from all areas. 1 year experience. Hourly and live in. Must have reliable transportation. Assertive Care at Home, Inc., 8893 La Mesa Blvd., Suite B, La Mesa. 619-466-6890.

HOME CARE ASSISTANCE - CAREGIVERS NEEDED

Come work for the best! Home Care Assistance is San Diego's leading home care agency. We offer 12 hour shifts and competitive wages. For more information please call 858-842-1346 or stop by our office at 7521 Fay Avenue in La Jolla 10am-4pm Monday - Friday or call our North County office at 760-635-3646. Get started by applying online at <http://www.HCAmatch.com>

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Specialist: Dev & execute strategies for discovering & securing new business opportunities. SAN DIEGO, CA. Mail Resume: Louis Tommasino CPA & Associates 6265 Greenwich Dr., Ste. 210, San Diego, CA 92122

DISHWASHING PERSON NEEDED

Position open for a dishwasher/prep for restaurant. Looking for applicants who are motivated & have a positive attitude. nialee72@yahoo.com

ATTN: PC GAMERS we're looking for writers! Our website is a collection of PC game reviews, written by our team of game curators who hang out on Discord. Message us here for info: inquiries@opnoobs.com.

LOOKING FOR A FUN PHOTOGRAPHER

Hey there, name here is Vero and I'm looking for a fun photographer to create some content with. I'm a fashion influencer on Instagram and I'm looking to shoot consistently on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. My IG is @Veropliego.

SEEKING MODELS IN HILLCREST

Compensation: hair services trade for time. Looking for professional models/influencers. Must be willing to have hair cut and colored and styled for a photo shoot. Please check out my Instagram: @johnperryhair

THRIFT MUCH? Valley Thrift Store in Escondido is hiring. \$12 and hour. Call (760) 741-0133 to apply.

MERCEDES BENZ OF SAN DIEGO is hiring a greeter. Apply here: http://bit.ly/mbz_greeter.

BIRD ROCK COFFEE hiring barista \$12/Hour at Bird Rock Coffee Roasters in La Jolla. Call (760) 269-8609

COSPLAY MANUFACTURER in Ramona is hiring. Looking for an apprentice/intern that is a highly skilled seamstress/er to work with satins and stretch fabrics. You can see our work at <https://www.instagram.com/costumebiz/> compensation is negotiable. Email me on IG for more info.

BRA FITTER, LINGERIE AND swimsuit sales associate job at 772 Kettner Blvd. Call (619)702-6355 for details.

NATUROPATH DR NEEDED

Seeking a student naturopath doctor in treating a potential future patient with scar tissue related trauma. 619-684-0169

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Help disabled vets. \$22/hr. Travel the world. send resume to: care4disabledvets@yahoo.com

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Fencing full time. Will teach. Speak & write English. Valid CA Drivers License. 619-749-1494

NEED HANDYMAN/ CAREGIVER Will provide money and room. Please call (619)479-4212

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Want to make a difference? Join us every weekend to read to a child in need in one of our StoryTents. Visit travelingstories.org/volunteer today!

VOLUNTEER TUTORS

WANTED: The Children's Corps- AARP Experience Corps is currently recruiting volunteers ages 50+ to tutor during the after school learning programs in Central San Diego, Southeast San Diego and Lemon Grove. By volunteering as a The Children's Initiative AARP Experience Corps Volunteer Tutor, you will help change the course of students' lives. Experience Corps is a proven reading program made up of tutors who work with readers in Kindergarten through 3rd grade to help them with their literacy skills. To learn more and attend an information session please contacts An Das or Kristin Shea at pdas@theci.org or call 858-581-5887, 858-581-5880. ssruben@theci.org or call 858-581-5880.

Have a Spare Bedroom?

Earn a competitive stipend caring for an adult with a developmental disability in your home. Minimum requirements: Spare bedroom, proficiency in English, driver's license and high school diploma/ GED. Call today! www.MentorsWanted.com. 858-694-0120.

PLAN 9 ALEHOUSE in Escondido is hiring a dishwasher for \$12-\$13 an hour. Additional compensation: tips, other forms, and store discounts. Call and apply now at (760) 489-8817

POPEYES LOUISIANA KITCHEN in Escondido is hiring (760) 839-9166

LOVE BOBA? Boba Bar and Desserts is hiring for \$12-\$13 an hour. Call us at (858) 226-3903 for info.

MEDICAL/RETAIL BOUTIQUE Seeks mastectomy/compression garment fitter - requires a compassionate professional who understands the sensitive nature of working with women on their quest back to a "normal life." Willing to train the right person. Email whbsandiego@yahoo.com

CHOCOLATE LOVERS See's Candy Shops, Inc. in Scripps Ranch is seeking a sales associate. Pay: \$13/hour Call and apply at (858) 537-0732

MUSEUM ASSOCIATE NEEDED in Escondido. San Diego Children's Discovery Museum in Escondido is hiring a visitor services associate. Call (760) 233-7755 for info.

PARTY CITY Halloween seasonal jobs open at Carmel Mountain \$12/hour. Call us (858) 451-3900

EXIT GAME SAN DIEGO / ESCAPE ROOM hiring game masters for \$12/hour. Call to apply (619) 630-3277

LOVE PUMPKINS? BATES NUT FARMS is hiring for Fall season 2019 for work inside the pumpkin patch, retail store, office, receiving/shipping, help with educational program, tractor drivers and scarecrow making. (760) 749-3333

INTEGRATION SUPPORT ENGINEER: Provide high-end Level 3 support/troubleshooting to resolve escalated advanced client application integration issues & assist clients with application implementation optimization. Send resume to: Attn: Customer Svcs/Ops, Perseum Corp., 10301 Meanley Dr. Ste 250, San Diego, CA 92131.

GEEKS! Geek Squad consultation agent is needed at Best Buy San Marcos. Call (760) 891-0755 if you wanna support Geek Squad efforts to protect the world, one device at a time.

APPLICATION ENGINEER, Rohde & Schwarz USA, Inc., San Diego, CA: Create and modify existing test cases to support new test requirements from the customer. Reqs Bach Elec Engg. Comp App, or rel Engg field, & 5 yrs' exp in job offered or any rel occ, to incl., 5 yrs' exp in supporting RF based test sys, incl. test script & library dvlpmnt, especially at lower layers (L1-L3); 5 yrs' exp working w/ mobile comm sys such as LTE, GSM(G) GPRS, WCDMA & CDMA2000; 5 yrs' exp w/ IMS apps over LTE eg. SMS, VoLTE, video. Reqs 25% domestic & international trav. Exp may be gained concurrently. ER will accept any suitable combo of education, training, & exp. Applicants should e-mail resumes to Melissa Goldman, HR Manager, at melissa.goldman@rsa.rhodes-schwarz.com & reference "App Engg" in the subject line.

ENGINEER Perm tasks re certifying aircraft interiors. Reqs: MS/BS + exp incl exp w/ OEM aerospace manuf in direct dsgrn/analysis engr role. Send resume: Attn: S. Gauss/Re: Eng. Continental DataGraphics, 6910 Carroll Road, San Diego, CA 92121.

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NEED A RIDE? I will help you get from where you are to where you need to go and back on time. Schedule your medical appointments, shopping, church, meetings, other rides. Call or text Shay 619-243-9713. Daytime driving only.

LOOKING FOR CARETAKER POSITION in Campo/Boulevard. I'm 62, great references, and good handyman. I'm a man of my word, Chuck. Call 619-345-1465 or text me.

NEED GARDENING, CLEANING (inside or out), occasional babysitting (anytime), organizing, packing etc Cam 619-530-5448.

HEY, VALLEY CENTER. Weldon Mcgaha here, ready for work. Valley Center's extra hand. Reliable transportation. Caring rates apply - I am affordable for those on a budget. Private message me for details. Thank you. 760-655-9345

SUBSTITUTE BACKUP SINGER formal/casual events; 6+ octaves; please give at least 3 hours advance notice. Deposit req'd. Contact Sarah the Siren (619) 719-3189.

YOUR TEMPORARY PERSONAL ASSISTANT Laundry, pick up dry cleaning, post office, pet to vet, you name it. Affordable! 619-794-6909.

HOUSE SITTING Call me anytime for watching your house and pets while you are out of town. I am reliable and trustworthy. I can provide references. Call Edna 858-842-4249

WANTED/TRADE

CASH FOR DIABETIC STRIPS We buy diabetic test strips. Sealed/Unexpired boxes only. Get paid today! Local cash pick-up. Call for details. 619-535-1848

COLLEGE STUDENT NEEDS full size mattress. We have a college student trying to furnish his first home, and are wondering if anyone has a full-size mattress they no longer need. Bed and or box spring would be helpful. Please call Christine at 619-665-1264

PHOTOGRAPHER NEEDS PROPERTY to shoot at. I need access to a property, a nice backyard with a pool. Primarily for bikini model photography. I would be willing to rent the property for a reasonable fee. \$25-\$50 per hour. Model homes and high-end property in La Jolla and North County areas or new communities would be best! Flickr Photo Sharing: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/20177034@N02/> Dan 858-254-3647.

WANTED: MOTORCYCLE OR STREET LEGAL BIKE in exchange for portrait or cleaning services: seashellsnstardust@gmail.com.

YOUR UNUSED CLARINET OR SAXOPHONE any condition, or parts & supplies to replace the woodwinds Sarah's mom pawned when she was at school. Text 619-719-3189 Thanks!

ISO UNCIRCULATED PHOTOS of Space Man (from OB) for portrait project. Text Mj: 619-719-3189.

WANTED OLD FREE WHEELBARROW for planter so if you have one taking up space would have to be delivered. 619-631-9258

FEMALE PERSONAL ASSISTANT in exchange for separate granny unit coastal location only. Reliable references, 619-317-2139

I NEED A CHEAP RV I can do repairs if needed, thank you. 619-368-2933 ask for Will.

DICTIONARY DONATIONS Wanted for free tutoring of English learners. All kinds pls. Child's, adult, college, lang. translators in good condition. Will pick up. Call/text 619-534-3693.

RUNNING CAR My name is Adam, I am disabled, I am trying to get back into the work force. If you are going to get rid of an old running car pls consider giving it to me 619-874-0790. Jesus is lord.

LOOKING FOR power Lift Chair, 10,000 or more BTU air conditioner for 91 year old man. Needs to be functional, can pick up. 760-685-4157

LOOKING FOR DONATIONS Need \$6,000 to reopen my church in San Diego County. Contact 619-496-1035

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES Rock and Roll I buy 1950's-1980's Concert Posters, Flyers, Handbills, Used-Unused Tickets, Programs. Pls Call (619)522-0283 Private Party.

WANTED. Cash for Walt Disney autographs, items, paper, original animation art, old Disneyland items, any type comics all before 1970. No Prints or videos. 619-890-1390.

FISHING TACKLE Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, and Misc. by Heddon, Pflueger, Creek Chub, South Bend, Shakespeare, to name a few. Call or text pictures to: 619-972-3488

WILL PAY CASH.... For Records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional Singing Lessons available. Musicians Wanted. Call Jeff Clark, 858-382-7396.

WANTED: Speakers, amps and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call 1(619)-303-8031; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

WANTED San Diego Reader back issues with covers pertaining to the San Diego Chargers. Contact: Joe 619-929-4407

WANTED: NEW HF HAM RADIO Will trade for my \$800 violin. Please text 619-393-2253

WANTED Homeless guy needs running truck/van. It's cold at night and I can sure use and appreciate it. Thank you. Alex (619)451-4881

STEREO GEAR/ LP RECORDS. Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

GARAGE SALES

SALE SAT 08/24 8AM-2PM 515 Kempton Street, Spring Valley, CA. 91977. (Near SV swap meet) new & used clothing, household, Halloween, Christmas, crafts.

KIMBALL SENIOR CENTER Annual Rummage Sale, Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019 8:00am - 1:00pm. 1221 D Avenue, National City, CA 91950, over 20 Sellers

FOR SALE

STICKLEY BROTHERS CHAIR Signed original circa 1910. Blond oak, great condition. \$750 call 760-622-6434 (9am-7pm).

1948 TEARDROP CAMPER TRAILER factory built, four feet wide by ten feet long. New tires, wiring, two burner propane stove,

cabinet, countertop. San Diego 92102, make offer. 619-527-2411

FURNITURE Complete bedroom set like new, Kenwood stereo, entertainment center. \$800 for all. 619-405-7883

SPIDERMAN COMICS copper age, key issues, boarded and bagged, \$79 including four annuals. Ungraded in unbelievable condition, cash only. Text 619-395-4081 for more info or pics.

FURNITURE Dining room set \$90, China cabinet \$85, Coffee table \$35, all OBO. Free couch 90". Leave message 619-284-2845 text/call back.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CUSTOM ORDER infused edibles, tinctures, oils, ointments, drinks? Thebrokeelephant-creates@gmail.com

CUSTOM CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES phone accessories, vinyl, glass, wood, magnets, almost anything, same day. Any amount! 619-228-1769

COMPLETE DRONE KIT \$450 Includes drone/remote/6 batteries/extra props-guards/VR glasses/trickle chargers/ instruction/Conditioning charger available. 619-283-2865

ADULT SIZE SWIMMING POOL \$250 Intex above ground pool. Pool comes with a ladder, a solar cover and a new upgraded pump. 15 ft. in diameter and 42" deep. http://bit.ly/swimming_pool_sd

SUPREME FANNY PACK in El Cajon \$30 http://bit.ly/supreme_fanny

USED AIR JORDAN 1 SNEAKERS in fair condition, \$10. Size 9.5 http://bit.ly/jordans_used_sd

FORREST GUMP SNEAKERS \$5 Nike Cortez Basic Leather OG. Item is new but it has been tried on. Meet up in Mira Mesa in front of 85 Degrees Bakery. Price is firm. Don't message me for anything else. http://bit.ly/forrest_gump_nike

RADIO CONTROL Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle skateboard. \$5 http://bit.ly/tmnt_skate

PAIR OF 1960'S CHERRY WOOD French provincial twin beds; in excellent condition. \$400 or O.B.O. Call or text 619-200-1254.

MESSAGE TABLE ASKING \$200 OBO Cost \$500 new, mint condition including case and head rest. 619-991-1270

TWO ELECTROLUX VACUUMS will sell pair for \$30 for one for \$20. Need repair or for collector, text 619-631-9258

DYSON VACUUM CLEANER -NEW Dyson: Rolls Royce of vacuum cleaners. New, with box. Try it for yourself, nothing else like it. New \$400. Mine: only \$185. john92110@yahoo.com

SOLAR PANEL GROUND MOUNT Universal mount holds 10 large panels, used when roof's aren't suitable for installing panels, excellent \$2,600. (760)746-7209

PRICES NEGOTIABLE Cheap! NT desks, file cabinets, chairs, bookcases, computers. 619-840-1479

FURNITURE Coleman tent 4 rm. New \$30. 1890 end table \$300. Chinese table \$300. Fur table \$80. Cool. etc. 619-362-1599

RECORDER Reel to reel 4 channel recorder TEAC 3340S with simul-sync 619-403-4202.

HOT SPOT DEVICE Z917 T-Mobile, can connect up to 10 devices, used only a few times,

4G compatible. \$45 1(858)484-4483 Penasquitos area.

RECLINER, VASES, ART Recliner with ottoman, beige leather, swivel. Like new. Paid \$400. Asking \$125. Vases, artwork \$20. 619-527-2411 after 5pm.

SURVEILLANCE Bunker Hill 4 channel security surveillance DVR w-4 infrared day and nite cameras, mobile monitoring, and web surveillance capabilities. New in box, \$200. 619-838-9310

TICKETS AND BOOKS 4 Sea World tickets \$45 each. Assorted books 50 cents each. 619-359-9926.

HAMMOCK AND STAND regularly \$120, sell for \$50. 619-269-5331

THREE NICE NEON LIGHTS three for liquor store or bar, \$45 each. 858-695-0430

ELECTRIC SCOOTER for handicapped person, good condition, \$200. 858-695-0430

WHIRLPOOL washer and dryer 8yrs. old. 619-328-7812

HOBART H600 DOUGH MIXER: 3 phase, 1-1/2HP motor, 4 speeds, 60 quart mixer bowl, includes dough hook, flatbeater, wisk, excellent, \$5,900 (760)746-7209

1.TOTAL GYM all attachments \$250 OBO. 2. Kitchenaid Pro-Line mixer all extras \$200 OBO contact Les. 619-312-0077

ERGOTEC MASSAGE CHAIR with remote-15 massage stations. \$1,200 new, asking \$300 OBO drop front desk obo. Les-619-312-0077

GENERAL ELECTRIC slide in gas range, color white. Phone number 619-302-0090. Asking price \$150 or best offer.

SEA EAGLE INFLATABLE Delux 385FT Kit, 2 paddles, 2 seats, foot pump, skeg, carry all bag, manual. Excellent condition. \$600 lornasamuel6@gmail.com

COBRA EXPLORER KAYAK Paddle, life vest, Hobie seat. Very good condition. Great out in ocean. \$350 lornasamuel6@gmail.com

SHERIFF'S DEPT. AUCTION Property for sale- San Diego Sheriff's at kenporterauctions.com. *August 21st-28th* Jewelry, electronics, tools, sports gear.

SCREEN PRINT EQUIPMENT 4 clr 1 st manual screen printing press, flash dryer, 60 frames, ink, other equipment \$1,100 negotiable call /text 442-999-0564.

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BEER TAPS 15 different, priced from \$10-35. North Park. 858-864-2708

BED FRAME Heavy duty metal, queen size, adjustable, on 6 roller legs, blue, good condition. \$45 1(858)484-4483

TV SCREEN WALL MOUNTS Two 75 inch heavy duty. Each \$50 or best offer. Call (619)669-5436.

MISCELLANEOUS sports products in storage. Have sun glasses, banners, plaques and other items, too much to mention \$200 for all. Also a George Foreman bbq grill never been used \$50. Call Nick at 619-322-5476

RAINBOW VACUUM with attachments \$600. Contact 858-279-3428

GROW LIGHT SET with 2 overhead fixtures, one hood, one 1,000W ballast (HPS or MH), 4 1,000W bulbs, 2 600W bulbs. \$100. Bill 619-405-9687

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If you need help getting your cat out of a tree, call professional arborist Joseph Descans. I am currently 100% effective at safely removing fraidy-cat felines from trees. I rescued one owl in 2016; one chameleone in 2018; and one drone in 2019. Email me at jdescans@hotmail.com or call/text at 619-203-1722 for pricing.

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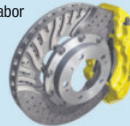
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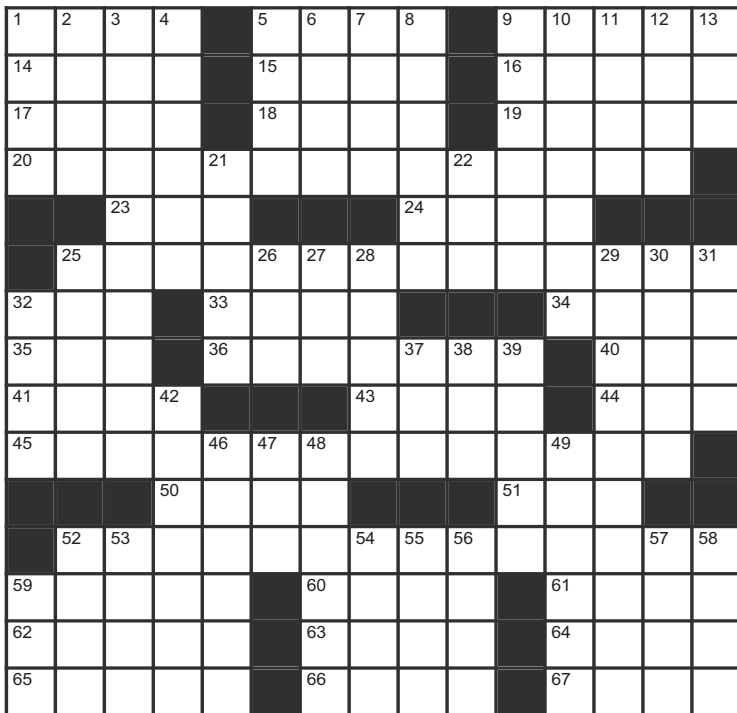
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CROSSWORD



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Across

1. XXX-XX-XXXX nos.
5. V, in physics
9. Words on some blood drive stickers
14. Tax _____
15. Ilhan _____, one of the first two Muslim women elected to Congress
16. Figure in Jewish folklore
17. Suffix with buck
18. Ship of 1492
19. '90s "SNL" regular Cheri
20. Tale of an impressionist painter's experience with #15 of 26?
23. "_____ queen!" (slangy affirmative)
24. High fever for Caesar?
25. Allow #13 of 26 to have some dessert?
32. Vinegar's partner
33. "Take a Chance on Me" group
34. Glance over
35. _____ Aviv
36. Statement when it's #14 of 26's turn?
40. Numero _____
41. Siouan people
43. First name in Harlem Renaissance literature
44. TV's Burrell and Pennington
45. Expression of one's adoration for #5 of 26?

Down

1. Balkan native
2. Voice of the Apple Watch
3. Highlighter color
4. Vehicle with caterpillar treads
5. World Cup skiing champ Lindsey
6. Leave out
7. "Video Games" singer Del Rey
8. Hypnotic state
9. Outfielder's cry
10. "Frankenstein" and "Dracula," for two
11. Protected while sailing
12. Florida's _____ Beach
13. Company that once owned Capitol and Virgin Records
21. "Dónde _____ los Ladrones?"

- (1998 platinum album by Shakira)
22. 24 horas
25. Deceive
26. "True Detective" and "True Blood" aier
27. "Charlotte's Web" author's monogram
28. _____ ball soup
29. It measures less than 90°
30. He married Kim
31. Baseball Hall of Famer Slaughter
32. Tweeter's "Then again ..."
37. Carpool lane initials
38. Poetic "before"
39. Smartly dressed
42. A book collector might seek a first one
46. Available
47. "Rocks"
48. "Stop bugging me!"
49. Raise
52. Start of Popeye's credo
53. "Punky Brewster" star Soleil Moon _____
54. Reed section member
55. Golfer's front or back
56. "We should totally do that!"
57. "Manhattan Beach" author Jennifer
58. Baseball Hall of Famer Early
59. Mexican Mrs.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

L	O	W		A	L	A	N		K	I	L	L		
I	W	A	S	S	U	M	O	F	L	M	A	O		
M	E	N	A	S	C	I	F	I	O	H	I	O		
A	N	D	Y	I	A	G	O	S	N	O	T	S		
			I	F	S		O	O	H	E	D			
S	T	A	T	U	T	E		D	I	M	I	T	R	I
M	A	R	A	L	A	G	O		N	O	K	I	A	S
E	R	E	I		N	O	M	S	G		E	L	M	A
A	D	U	N	I	T		G	O	P	U	B	L	I	C
R	I	P	T	I	D	E		D	I	D	A	S	E	T
			S	N	A	R	E		E	E	R			
E	G	G	O		R	A	N	D	R		R	H	E	A
C	A	R	R		E	S	T	A	R		E	E	L	Y
C	R	U	E		S	E	R	V	E		S	A	L	E
E	B	B	S		D	Y	E	S			R	E	S	

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle submissions.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

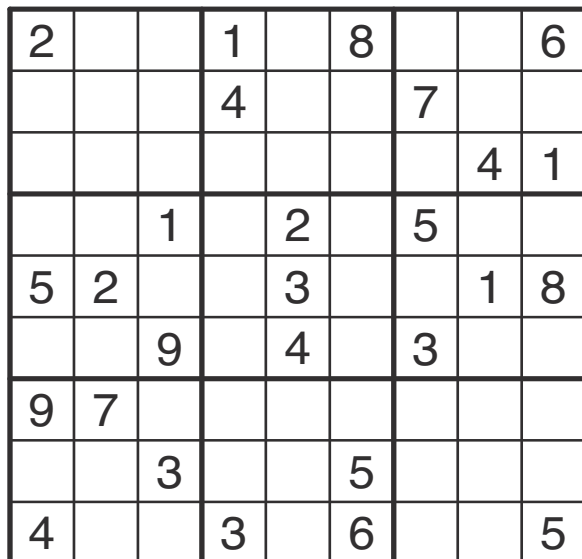
Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

☛ **Joseph Ciprian, San Diego.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

SUDOKU

HARD:



RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
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 - 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle submissions.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

☛ **Allen Dueber, La Mesa.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

3	9	2	1	5	6	8	4	7
4	8	6	3	7	9	2	5	1
7	1	5	4	8	2	6	3	9
8	3	9	2	1	7	5	6	4
2	5	1	8	6	4	7	9	3
6	4	7	9	3	5	1	2	8
9	6	3	7	2	1	4	8	5
5	7	4	6	9	8	3	1	2
1	2	8	5	4	3	9	7	6

Community college

continued from page 3

\$1,000,000 “of contingency funds” for finishing “the fully integrated” job. The expenditures were ratified in February 2016.

By March 10, 2016, faculty feedback was coming in. The meeting minutes mention two vice presidents of the American Federation of Teachers, City College’s Kelly Mayhew and Mesa College’s Ian Duckles, addressing the board regarding the PeopleSoft Human Capital Management implementation. The minutes included no more information than that. I emailed both professors to learn what they had said. Duckles answered, saying that he spoke on behalf of some faculty and staff. “When the payroll system moved to PeopleSoft, there were problems with people being properly paid, or paid at all... This was not really a problem anymore by 2017.”

Close to a year later, on January 26, 2017, the board indicated that a new contractor, the Huron Corporation Consulting Group, would now be “overseeing” the PeopleSoft implementation. In June, the board also amended its contract with Ciber to finish Campus Solutions for “a fixed price of \$6,092,833 with a targeted implementation date of fall 2018.” The following month, the district noted that it was executing “an orderly transition” of the contract “to Ciber Global, LLC, which recently acquired Ciber, Inc. in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware.”

As Ciber Global continued assisting the district’s information technology staff to implement PeopleSoft, the Huron Corporation launched a series of five “oversight and monitoring” studies, reporting them to the district board from May 2017 through August 2018. The reports noted both “positive trends” and “risks.”

For instance, said Huron, “The District’s technical staff has been more involved in development discussions,” and “Knowledge transfer in Student Records ... is underway and has improved overall understanding and skills.” Later, Huron remarked that “Project Management staffing levels have increased” and praised “Improved operational knowledge by SDCCD IT.”

On the other hand, according to Huron, “Ciber is not sufficiently involving SDCCD IT staff in development or troubleshooting,” and “Current staffing levels are well under those required in both the technical and functional areas.” And, “Ongoing support of legacy systems has impeded the adoption of knowledge transfer by IT staff.” Further, “Morale: the team has a sense of foreboding at the thought of Go-Live. They feel there will be things that will go wrong and they will be held responsible.”

In the area of development, “Unless improvements are made immediately, the project will fail.” And, “Minimal progress has been made towards identifying and creating test scripts.” On September 27, 2018, Huron declared that implementation of campus solutions was being postponed to the summer of 2019, the second postponement of the district’s original goal of 2017.

In May of this year, a fourth amendment of the district’s relationship with Huron was announced and ratified. “As a result of the departure of the former implementation partner [Ciber] as of January 31, 2019, Huron was asked to continue to assist the District through its go-live and post go-live.” Although no financial record of the three previous amendments to the Huron contract can be found in the currently available board minutes, the fourth is accompanied by fees to be paid to the company. They

include “\$676,000 professional services fees representing 3,380 hours at \$200/hour, plus travel expenses of \$101,400 to be billed at \$30 per hour worked.” The final tally is “not to exceed \$777,400,” money that will come out of Proposition 2 that was approved by the voters for building construction in 2002.

On July 18, a fifth amendment to the contract with Huron was announced to cover the post go-live period to last until the end of this year. No new financial arrangements were described.

Which brings attention back to Chancellor Carroll’s June 12 email to district employees. In it, she explained how she is planning how to counteract the \$30 million blow to her funding and to balance the 2019-20 budget. First, according to the email, the district will freeze new hiring, allowing attrition to save money. Second, she will search out “economic efficiencies” that can be achieved wherever possible. And third, the number of class offerings will be reduced.

The reduction of classes will lower instruction costs as well as pave the way for a revenue-increasing scheme. “We plan to reduce the District’s [enrollment] once again in order to qualify for what is called the ‘hold harmless’ category. Essentially, the State has stabilized districts/colleges that have lost enrollment and not achieved specific outcomes under the new formula, by providing revenue to them as if they had achieved their targets, i.e., holding them harmless.”

But San Diego’s district has been successful in hitting those targets, preventing it from receiving hold harmless funds, said Carroll. What she plans to do, therefore, is to reduce class sections, but make “every effort to ensure that students’ needs are met and to minimize the impact on

adjunct faculty.” Meanwhile, on August 9, at least some faculty received notification that timely receipt of their first paycheck depends on their logging onto PeopleSoft to re-accept their Mesa College teaching assignment. The problem? A “glitch in the new software.” ■

Under the radar

continued from page 3

border with the U.S.” In Calgary, the agenda included “Oil pipelines that start in Canada and go to U.S.”

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

its local control over deployment. The county has filed an amicus brief in support of other jurisdictions challenging the FCC order. "It's the worst feeling in the world when the community comes here, we can't mitigate your concerns, and then we get to look you in the eyes and tell you our hands are tied," said supervisor Kristin Gaspar.

As some saw it, supervisors simply made the wrong choices, and public safety could be affected. But was the problem jammed signals and other radio interference – or the 1000-foot setbacks that put small cells too far from where people gather in emergencies? On one side of the issue was Bob Gonsett, a broadcast consulting engineer who runs a radio lab in Fallbrook, warning that the network could garble or obliterate emergency communications. On the other side were the telecom com-

panies, saying their networks are vital to public safety. There is a "gaping hole in the small cell proposal. That hole offers no protection for the regional communications system, or for my laboratory," Gonsett told supervisors at a meeting the day before.

Gonsett's lab monitors public safety alerts for radio and TV for clients, including a primary emergency alert system station for Orange County. "Our involvement with EAS alerts is for broadcast only, not cell phones," he said. He makes sure his broadcast clients operate on the right frequency, and in the course of work, his lab occasionally reports radio interference that affects the county's regional communications system. This "gratis" reporting calls out "brute force overloading," resulting in garbled communications, which he says is just one type of interference. Gonsett wanted "protective language" added to

the zoning code. Full-size towers are already covered to discourage interference, but "no similar language is applied to small cells." (For instance, it could simply say that no radio interference shall be caused to the regional communications system, and other licensed radio systems.) Gonsett said he is the only public safety radio frequency receiving lab he knows of in the county. Supervisor chair Dianne Jacob agreed to ask staff if they can consider radio interference.

"I just have one question on the radio interference," Jacob said. "From a public safety standpoint, we don't want any interference with our regional communications system, which is our emergency communication system. Would there be any interference with an individual's 911 call?" AT&T spokesperson John Osborne said no. "We're not going to be operating on the 800

MHZ frequency the county uses. And the small cells would not interfere with a 911 call, but could actually allow more people to make 911 calls." Each carrier has a spectrum license that gives them "blanket authority to use that spectrum and that radio frequency only for your use within the county." There's no interference "because we're on the spectrum we're licensed to use," and can use anywhere in the county, Osborne said. "So that's from the FCC." Besides, AT&T isn't planning to put thousands of small cells in unincorporated areas, Osborne said. "We currently have only 24 nodes in our 18-month plan." But the 1000-foot setbacks from schools, churches, daycare centers, and hospitals would put a crimp in their expansion. The planning commission had recommended the setback for small cells from sites in the public right-of-way be

100 feet from the nearest building. Supervisors settled on 1,000 feet instead, citing aesthetics. (The FCC order allows jurisdictions to develop regulations related to aesthetics, but small cells can't be prohibited.) A letter from Verizon attorneys on Aug. 6 warned that it "would place much of the unincorporated county off limits." And Paul O'Boyle, an attorney for Crown Castle, asked for a continuance on the ordinance. "It's all about public health and safety – this ordinance does the exact opposite." The county's emergency services "use our networks to get that information out. We're just as essential as the county's networks." The setback from schools and churches "doesn't make sense. This is exactly where people congregate during emergencies. You need coverage there. These small cells only power about 300-500 feet at the most."

Sprint also sought a con-

tinuance. Mary Hamilton, a Sprint Network project manager, said the rules would impede access to high-speed technologies. "More importantly, if left in the current state, the ordinance you're considering today may cripple the next generation communications 5G will make available to first responders" and to citizens in times of emergency.

But just how far the small cells reach was another point of uncertainty. While traditional towers have a range of 18-20 miles, 5G small cells reach only up to 1600 feet, said county planner Eric Lardy. During board discussion, a motion made by Jacob reduced the 1000-foot setback to 300 feet from schools, childcare centers, hospitals and churches, while adding sheriffs' and fire stations. Since Gonsett's lab is located near a fire station, no new language was added to protect it.

Sheila Pell

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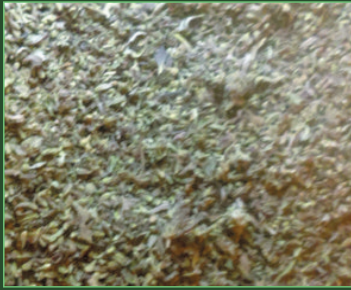


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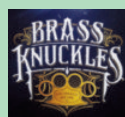
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