

The \$4 billion airport renovation plan

Beatles Fair returns ■ Toni Atkins - fundraising machine ■ Home of the \$3 burger

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 44 | NO. 49 | DECEMBER 5, 2019

Reader

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Airport Authority wants \$4 billion renovation

“Does it have to cost so much?”

By Joe Deegan

Terminal 1 at the San Diego International Airport has been disparaged of late as not befitting the high-class city that San Diego aspires to be. The characterization is part of a Regional Airport Authority campaign to promote a makeover of the airport as a whole — to the tune of 3 to 4 billion dollars.

er Richard Ellis.

“Of all the improvements we might make to San Diego,” said Bazzi, “those that improve transportation I favor the most. I’ve been in most of the top-tier airports around the country and their terminals are all much nicer than here. San Diego needs to upgrade and modernize, especially for more busi-



The airport authority has been disparaging 1960s-era Terminal 1 to drum up support for yet another airport renovation.

During a recent early morning visit to the airport, I met Jim Pillifant, a long-time resident of Normal Heights who was flying to the Midwest to spend Thanksgiving week. Pillifant said he had only one complaint about the airport makeover.

“Does it have to cost so much?” he asked.

At Terminal 1, I inquired of local travelers for reactions specifically to the Terminal 1 project which, as described in the Authority’s Airport Development Plan, is more of an expansion than a renovation. I met Bryan Bazzi, a go-getter looking 30-something who works locally in commercial real estate for Coldwell Bank-

ness efficiency.”

Bazzi was unabashedly enthusiastic about the Terminal 1 expansion. “Even the 11 additional gates,” I ask, “that will be driving the project’s high price tag?” He didn’t flinch for a moment, suggesting that the gates would make traveling easier.

Of the many issues raised by community members commenting on the Airport Development Plan and its draft environmental impact report, questions about the 11 new gates planned for Terminal 1 have been among the most common. The development is scheduled to be complete in 2022 or the following year, yet at its current rate of

growth, the airport will reach capacity between 2024 and 2026. Capacity means that no new flights can be added to Lindbergh Field’s schedule of operations. New gates in Terminal 1 are not necessary, nor will they be when the airport reaches capacity. So what is their purpose?

Alan Bark thinks he knows. “The Airport needs them to justify spending 3 or 4 billion dollars,” he tells me outside his home overlooking Mission Bay in Mission Beach. Bark is a retired American Airlines pilot. He flew for 32 years until reaching mandatory retirement at 65. (He was assigned to flight school while serving in the Coast Guard, an opportunity he knows was a lucky break. “I’ve lived a charmed life,” he says.)

Bark makes a more serious charge that is consistent with the following remark in the Airport Development Plan. “As airports approach capacity,” the statement reads, “airlines typically implement changes to continue to meet increasing demand for travel by: Using larger planes to accommodate more passengers; Filling more seats per flight; Adjusting flight schedules to reduce peak-hour congestion.

“The [San Diego] airport’s capacity is limited by its single runway and a departure curfew...”

As the draft environmental impact report on the development makes clear, there are “symptoms” of the coming capacity already occurring, long waits on the taxi-way during early morning hours being the most obvious. People want to fly early in the day and, as the day goes on, flying becomes less and less popular, unless one is taking a “red-eye” or an international flight.

There is not land enough at Lindbergh to ever build an additional runway. And San Diego lost the chance to



The Airport Authority wants to build more gates at Terminal 1, but critics say Lindbergh Field’s near-capacity status makes new gates unnecessary.

have a bigger airport when it voted down moving the airport to the Naval (now Marine Corps) Air Station Miramar. After that, notes Bark, the military put in a veterans cemetery on the Miramar land. “That is an insurance policy that nobody but the military will ever occupy that land,” said Bark.

What then is left to tinker with but the curfew? Currently the airport is undergoing unconstrained growth in passenger demand. When the airport reaches capacity, or even when it becomes con-

strained by the limitations of the single runway, it will start to jettison the San Diego tourist economy. One can bet that there will be frantic searches for solutions as capacity becomes imminent.

At an early November meeting of the Mission Beach Precise Planning Board, Bark virtually accused a representative of the Airport Authority’s planning department of deceiving the public into thinking the new gates were only part of its announced goal of providing passengers a comfortable experience. “You

must be planning to change the curfew,” said Bark. “Those gates are preparations for increases in flights that will only be possible if the curfew is abolished. Isn’t that right?” To which the representative answered: “That’s not my department’s decision to make. It would be up to the Airport Authority Board.”

“It’s all about money,” Bark tells me outside his home. “More people wanting to fly, more flights. The airport will go after the curfew hours. It’s the easiest, cheapest way to fit more airplanes in.”

Neal Obermeyer



But Nancy Palmtag, a veteran of airport noise wars, disagrees. “That couldn’t happen. The curfew is too ingrained historically. It goes back to the 1970s and has stood the test of time. And nobody wants to fly at 3 am anyway.”

In 1976, CalTrans required the curfew. Commissioners of the Port of San Diego (who oversaw the airport then) challenged it unsuccessfully in court. Originally, the curfew extended from 11 pm to 7 am. It was later whittled down to midnight to 6 a.m. Today it stands at 11:30 pm to 6:30 am.

Palmtag’s Loma Portal home lies directly under planes flying the 275-degree route from the Lindbergh Field runway. That places her within the contours of an area in which the Federal Aviation Administration acknowledges that residents endure an unacceptable “com-



Traveler Jim Pillifant wonders why the renovation has to cost so much.

munity noise exposure level” higher than 65 decibels during a 24-hour period. The area has been getting longer and wider as air traffic continues to grow in San Diego. In 2018, 19,339 people lived within it. This year the number has hit 20,000 and, in 2026, it has been projected to reach 34,276. The FAA says residents living within the contours may apply for financial help to obtain sealed windows and air conditioning, although many say they’ve applied to no avail. Palmtag’s house has received “sound proofing,” although I could



Mission Beach activist Gary Wonacott lobbied to get quieter planes at the airport.

hardly believe it as we talked at her kitchen table.

In the mid-1980s, Palmtag and Mission Beach community activist Gary Wonacott were successful in convincing the FAA to require the airlines to use FAA-designated stage 3 jets instead of the much noisier stage 2 planes. Two years ago, Wonacott suggested at a meeting of the Airport Noise Advisory Committee going now to the even quieter stage 4 aircraft. At the organization’s next meeting, he says, “its leader, Sjohnna Knack, brought in a consultant to state that stage 4 aircraft would not help a bit. Six months later, certain citizens were selected to join two ‘advisory’ committees. The trouble is that Knack controls all the relevant information they get and her hired consultants shoot down just about every citizen concern. And, although the public can attend the meetings, they are not allowed to comment.”

Wonacott, a retired mechanical engineer, argues that one solution to capacity that nobody seems to be think-



Nancy Palmtag lives directly under the take-off zone.

ing about is to reroute the many short flights into and out of Lindbergh to a couple of smaller regional airports, such as Brown Field and Palomar Airport. Routes to destinations fewer than 500 miles away, such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Sacramento, make up the majority of the current 290,000 Lindbergh operations per year. For international flights, “the interface of Brown and Rodriguez Field [Tijuana] ought to be enhanced,” says Wonacott. Bus shuttles could deliver many passengers to either their departure or arrival



Retired airline pilot Alan Bark believes airlines will use increasingly larger planes as the airport nears full capacity.

points, he thinks. When this was suggested once, long ago, then Councilman Bob Filner “promoted” residential building at the end of Brown Field’s runway to scuttle the plan, according to Wonacott.

If the capacity problem is not solved satisfactorily, according to Wonacott, who has analyzed the data and written a detailed collection of comments on the draft environmental impact report, the lack of imagination as to how to solve the airport capacity problem will cost the San Diego economy \$2 billion. The failures of imagination may be due, he thinks, to San Diego County relying on SANDAG to solve ground transportation problems while only the Airport Authority addresses air transportation. “Has anyone ever thought of integrating the two?” ■

UNDER THE RADAR

Non-freedom of speech The surprise death of *Union-Tribune* biotech writer **Bradley Fikes**, at 62, brought forth a sentimental obituary in the paper, which labeled the scribe “part Dr. Dolittle, part Inspector Gadget,” and “a walking fashion disaster.” Unmentioned was Fikes long tenure as a frequent commenter on *Reader* blog items before his ex-employer, the *North County Times*, was purchased and shuttered by *Doug Manchester*, then owner of the *Union-Tribune*, which picked up the writer for its own staff. “You’re right of course about the *SD Reader* having long done the real watchdog reporting on the city’s fiscal irresponsibility, that the *Union-Tribune* hasn’t,” noted Fikes in an August 22, 2010 post when the *U-T* was owned by Beverly Hills vulture investor **Tom Gores**, who bought the paper from ailing **David Copley**. “Still, the new Watchdog group has done some good stories along those lines, including one on A-1 today. While admittedly tardy, and lagging behind the *Reader* and [the *Voice of San Diego*], it’s still an improvement over the *U-T*’s awful record of edifice-complex boosterism.”

In December 2011, Fikes opined, “While I like *VOSD*, it’s got a real problem with its fact checks. Sometimes they are not factual, but the writer’s opinion. That’s misleading,” adding, “*VOSD* should either get rid of its fact checks entirely or strictly confine them to facts.”

On July 22, 2011, before the *North County Times* was shut down by Manchester in October 2012, Fikes wrote about the demise of the *Arizona Daily Star*, then under the same ownership as the Escondido-based *NC Times*. “As a *North County Times* employee, I extend my sympathies to those laid off from the *Daily Star*, and hope we will avoid that long shadow of additional layoffs. (DISCLAIMER: This is just me speaking, but I believe my colleagues feel the same way. We haven’t given up!) Since we’re in the information business, we can scarcely escape hearing the gloomy news. But we’re still working hard to show that newspapers, in print and online, have a place in the 21st century. Also, kudos to the *SD Reader* for stepping up the frequency and extent of its blogs.” A few months after Manchester’s North County takeover, the running commentary from Fikes abruptly ended.

Entry edifice complex Word that San Diego State University booster **Ben Clay** has been named to an SDSU task force to investigate problems related to the death of a student has insiders raising their eyebrows. Longtime lobbyist Clay — identified as a “community activist” in

a November 27 story about the appointment by the *Union-Tribune* — has long helped pay for big-ticket pet projects of university officials, including the Clay Gateway, a monumental entry edifice at Montezuma Road and Campanile Drive. “This is the entryway to the university, and it needed it, so we were glad to help out,” Clay told the *U-T* at the \$1.4 million project’s ribbon cutting in November 2016.

Not only a major financial benefactor of the university, retired influence peddler Clay holds key positions on boards related to the outcome of the school’s bid for the city-owned Mission Valley property formerly known as Qualcomm Stadium. He’s been chairman of the board of the San Diego River Conservancy and is also a member of what is now known as the San Diego County Credit Union Stadium advisory board, overseeing what is left of the tattered city facility. His wife Nicole continues to run the family business, called the Clay Company, registered to lobby for a host of establishment interests, including apartment building giant Garden Communities, healthcare’s Kaiser Permanente, trash behemoth Republic Services, Mission Valley landowner Jacobs Vernon Project, LLC, leased lodging owner Evans Hotels, and even the University of San Diego and its master development plan. Perhaps the client most related to Clay’s latest SDSU assignment plumbing the depths of the university’s intoxication culture is cannabis delivery service Eaze Solutions.

Faulconer’s stellar behest Democrat **Toni Atkins**, the state senate’s pro tem, continues to pad her ballot measure

committee with funds from California special interests. Loyola Law School professor Jessica A. Levinson, president of the the Los Angeles City Ethics Commission, told the *Los Angeles Times* in March 2017 that such so-called issue committees represent “an end run around contribution limits.” And, “just another way for candidates and officeholders to legally raise money” above voter-imposed contribution ceilings placed on

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BRADLEY FIKES

Add a Memory Share This Page

Beloved *Union-Tribune* biotech writer Bradley J. Fikes dies at 62.

Bradley J. Fikes, an ever-on-the-move ball of energy who roamed the science labs of San Diego as the *Union-Tribune*’s biotech writer, searching for medical advances that might someday alleviate human suffering, died on Tuesday. He was 62.

His family said he passed away of natural causes at his home in Grantville while sliding his time between poring through medical journals and exploring the two other great loves, the San Diego Zoo and Salsar Park in Escondido.

Fikes — who was part Doctor Dolittle, part Inspector Gadget — was especially excited earlier this week as he pulled together a

www.sdsu.edu/newsroom/2016/11/27/bradley-fikes-dies-at-62

Obituary for U-T writer (and San Diego Reader commenter) Bradley Fikes.



Ben Clay has been tabbed by SDSU to look into a student’s death.

PHOTOGRAPH BY FRANK VILLALBA/SDSU

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LETTERS

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

Biking down in Coronado

Yes, I was calling regarding your bike down in Coronado ("Bike stolen from Hotel Del Coronado recovered from Tijuana swap meet," City Lights, November 27). BikeIndex.org. I tried to contact them, I tried to leave them a message. I tried to register with them. I was able to "pretend to register." I couldn't get my bike registered. I couldn't get my serial number registered. I couldn't do nothing. Probably I figured because I had no donation to make to them. They made it very hard and it was quite deceiving, and I just wanted that to be known and put into print, and I hope that they work on solving this problem for us, because we here in San Diego do have some nice bikes and we'd like to be able to register

them with them.

Jay Maasch
El Cajon

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

"Ex-Lincoln High soccer coach arrested in Orange County"

News Ticker
November 25

You don't need physical evidence or witnesses to effectively prosecute sex crimes. You need the courtroom skills to get through to a jury that he, she, or the child is telling the truth. Once again, a prosecutor worth his or her grain of salt knows how to do it. If you lack those skills, you shouldn't be prosecuting. A friend of mine (in the Bay Area) prosecutes sexual assault. He's never lost a case as a prosecutor - sexual assault or otherwise. Like any profession, some people are better at their job than others.

—Socks3742

"You won't recognize new UCSD hospital" City Lights October 2

There are so many things wrong with this plan that it is hard to know where

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NEWS & FEATURES EDITOR

Ernie Grimm

SENIOR EDITORS

Matt Potter, Matthew Lickona

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Chris Woo

CONTRIBUTORS

Ian Anderson, Ed Bedford, Robert Bush, Joe Deegan, Barbara Fokos, Dave Good, Moss Gropen, Dryw Keltz, Thomas Larson, Ken Leighton, Bill Manson, Cherie Peacock, Elizabeth Salaam, Jay Allen Sanford

CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER

Stephen Hatch

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

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

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Tiffany Ferren-Cirino

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

Kelsey Muma

AD/MARKETING COORDINATOR

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DIGITAL AGENCY MANAGER

Daniela Penkova

DIGITAL AGENCY COORDINATORS

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers



Xavier Cajica-Bautista on Facebook. Reportedly, he prefers to coach girls for some reason.

THE OC Molesting approach leads to arresting coach

New place, new name, same old story
Xavier Cajica-Bautista, a former San Diego Unified special education assistant and soccer coach, was arrested by the Irvine Police Department November 16 for assault with intent to commit rape, sexual battery, obstructing use of a cell phone to report a crime to police, and theft.

A woman who asked to be called Grace said she went out with friends on the night of Friday, November 15, to a bar in Anaheim, where she met Matthew Austin, a Navy sailor from Coronado who she said told her he was in town for a soccer game, along with fellow sailor Larry Flores. Grace said she decided to join Matthew in his hotel room in Irvine for the night, and that he was the only person with her in the room when she went to sleep. But she was awakened in the middle of the night by a stranger who turned out to be the soccer team's coach: Xavier. At the time, she had no idea who he was. She said he was naked, lying on top of her and trying to force her legs open. Matthew was gone. "I screamed like I never screamed before," she recalled.

Grace said she fought him off with a rage she didn't know she could muster. "I was telling him he was going to pay for this. He

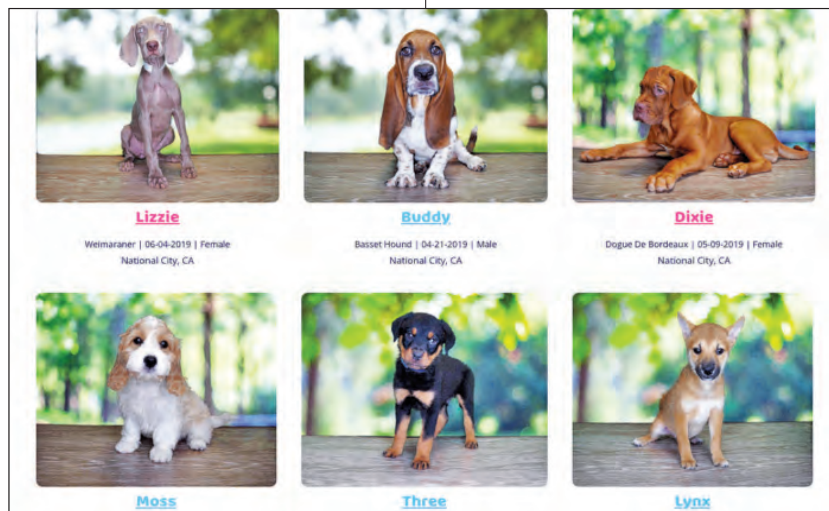
took my cell phone and he disconnected the hotel room phone to stop me from calling the police. I fought my way to the door and screamed until people came and called the cops." She said police arrived, and Xavier was arrested after a brief period of questioning.

"Why did this have to happen to me?" she asked. "The police took me to meet with a forensics nurse. They took my clothes and every bit of evidence they could think of. They took pictures. And they gave me medication for infections...I believe God was on my side and may have woken me up just in time," she said before adding, "I was having such a good time that night. It was the best time I was having with my girlfriends in a long time. But I decided to leave with Matthew. I trusted him because he was in the Navy. I have a very big patriotic heart and I believe someone who can commit their life to the military has a very big heart. But...this really messed me up. I am scared for my life. I haven't been outside and I don't want to be anywhere where it's dark." She added, "I believe I was fooled and taken advantage of."

Xavier Cajica-Bautista, born February 26, 1988, was released from an Orange County jail after four days when the Orange County District Attorney's Office didn't file charges. He claims innocence and says his DNA was not found. When I asked him for a copy of the DNA report, he asked me not to contact him again and refused to explain what happened in the hotel room. Matthew and Larry refused to say which soccer team they play on with Xavier, or how he came to replace Matthew in the hotel room. The Orange County DA's office did not respond to a request for comment.

Grace's restraining order against Xavier.

After getting a copy of a restraining order against Xavier from the police, Grace said she searched the name of her alleged attacker on the internet and found the July 23 *Reader* story I had written about past allegations of sexual assault against him from a student at Lincoln High School. The alleged victim, a minor, won \$400,000 in a civil suit. A source close to that case said a San Diego police detective vigorously investigated and pressed for criminal prosecution, but deputy



Despite politicking, these pups are headed to the polls.

DA Trisha Amador decided not to go ahead.

In the July article, I reported on Xavier's name change, which he reportedly got because he kept losing jobs working with students when employers became aware of the allegations against him. Grace said, "I want everyone to know Xavier is not safe to be around. He's a criminal. He's a liar. He's a coward. He doesn't have the character of a teacher. I don't want to see this happen to another person ever again."

According to a Spring 2019 graduation publication from Azusa Pacific University, Xavier obtained a master of science in physical education degree, but the previous state certificate of clearance he had for his work at San Diego Unified expired over a year ago, and no state certificate is listed under his new name, at least not yet.

A source who wished to remain unnamed said Xavier was given a chance to work for San Diego's SD Elite soccer club in 2018 as an interim assistant after he lost jobs at Chula Vista Soccer Club and Rebels Soccer Club, but that he was let go after a few months. The source said a suspicion was raised when Xavier expressed a preference for coaching girls over boys and repeated his desire to coach a girls' team — a request which was reportedly denied. The source expressed frustration that nobody knew about Xavier's history with the Lincoln High student and that such "loopholes" in the system allowed him to pass a live-scan background check.

A representative from the California State Soccer Association-South has not responded to say how an investigation that launched in July concluded, or what Xavier's status as a coach is. Rebels Soccer Club was the last known youth club Xavier coached for. They rehired him after he lost his job at SD Elite, but a Presidio soccer league official said he left Rebels again through "mutual consent" in July. Rebels did not respond to a request for comment.

ERIC BARTL

NATIONAL CITY National City Puppy makes a mess

On the ballot or off?

Next March, National City voters will decide if a new ordinance banning the retail sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits should be overturned. Similar to a state law that took effect this year, the city's ban aims to halt the sale of puppy mill animals. "It's not about puppies; it's about where they are coming from and the pockets that are being filled financially to make this happen," councilmember Mona Rios has said.

The scheduled vote is the result of a long struggle between animal advocates and pet store operator David Salinas, who owns National City Puppy, the Puppy Patch, and other pet stores in the county. As Salinas sees it, his stores can't survive if they have to rely on selling supplies but not puppies. On October 2, the day before the city's ordinance was to take effect, he turned in a petition with enough signatures to get the issue on the ballot.

But 900 of the 3000 signatures submitted were deemed invalid, and animal advocates questioned how they were obtained. "When I went to Walmart, this [was] the exact sign" being used to solicit signatures, Karen Clayton told the council at a recent meeting, waving one she saw tossed in the trash. It read: "2 great issues to get on the ballot" - rent control and "stop pet trafficking for National City residents." Kayla Penny, an employee of National City Puppy who helped collect signatures, said they informed people about what they were signing, "making sure they knew they should have a choice in being able to decide whether the puppy store stays or goes."

City clerk Mike Dalla said the registrar of voters took charge of verifying signatures for the city, and certifying that there were enough valid signatures. The city council then had to make their own decision about the matter at a meeting on November 19. The council

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could either repeal or submit the ordinance unchanged at the next municipal election, Dalla said. Vice mayor Ron Morrison, the lone councilmember against the ordinance, said it should be up to the state, not individual cities, to patch holes in the Pet Rescue and Adoption Act. Both the state and city laws require pet stores to obtain animals from shelters and rescues, but the city goes further, barring stores from profiting at all from the sale of rescue pets — pets which activists say are still coming from mills and sham rescues. “The state law allows you to partner with not only a public shelter but also a 501c3 that is partnered with a shelter,” said attorney and animal advocate Bryan Pease, who worked on the bans. “But there’s another question no one is following up on: Is the 501c3 actually operating a shelter?” Pease favored letting voters decide on the ordinance. “You shouldn’t back down and repeal it.”

But some who opposed it now sounded eager to forego a vote. Richard Pena, a representative for National City Puppy, said Salinas was willing to work with the city to “create a resolution that best reflects the needs” of residents, animal advocates, and the puppies. The money that will go to an expensive ballot measure and multiple lawsuits would be best allocated for important city services, Pena said. “We have reached out to your city attorney and asked her to begin the negotiation process as soon as possible; specifically, before you decide to place our referendum on the ballot.” Councilmember Rios looked out at the crowd of Salinas supporters, and said that Pena “said something entirely different than what you all are saying, so you guys need to get on the same page. He’s saying, ‘Let’s talk about this before it gets on the ballot.’”

Vice mayor Morrison made an unsuccessful motion to rescind the ordinance, which goes to voters on March 3. “Twenty-twenty is a big year,” said mayor Alejandra Sotello-Solis, worrying that people “are already casting doubt on what messages are being put out.”

SHEILA PELL



“I paid \$98 USD for 14 lobsters of legal size.”



“I don’t see or taste any difference. They’re both sweet and juicy...”

BAJA Truckin’ Baja lobster

A long drive to save on langostas

Al Meza loves eating fresh California spiny lobsters. However, “it got very expensive for me,” he said. “I used to spend about \$600 on 18 California spiny lobsters from a Point Loma market; I can’t afford that anymore.”

But recently, the Vista man discovered a cheaper way to purchase fresh California spiny lobsters, referred to as langostas or “rock” lobsters and usually caught via one-way steel-traps with bait inside: at Ejido Eréndira, a small town south of Ensenada that’s about 125 miles south of the border. “They were a day out of the water,” Meza said on November 23. “I paid \$98 USD for 14 lobsters of legal size — that was 250 pesos a kilo. I wanted 14 more, but that was all

“If they think it’s for business, you [can] get in trouble, but if it’s for home consumption, you’ll be okay.”

the fisherman had.” That’s about \$28.60 per pound. Meza said they were just like the ones he used to buy in California. “I don’t see or taste any difference. They’re both

sweet and juicy with a divine crunch when you bite into them.” He then offered fellow long-distance shoppers something to consider: “The customs agents might not like the fact that you are transporting live seafood,” he said. “I always cross seafood frozen, and mostly uncooked. If you flash freeze them, when you thaw them, they taste like they’re fresh out of the water.” (Note: on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website, there are more restrictions placed on bringing in Thanksgiving



Baja bug bargain!

turkey meat into the U.S. than there are on seafood. The site’s “Travelers bringing food into the U.S. for personal use” section reads: “Fish – personal amounts of fish, shrimp, abalone and other seafood are allowed and can be fresh, frozen, dried, smoked, canned or cooked...are generally admissible.”

Sylvia, from San Diego, saw Meza’s lobster photos on social media. “What is the allowed amount [to bring back to San Diego]?” she asked Meza, who replied, “Sylvia, if they’re in season, as many as the agent believes you can consume in a gathering. I really don’t know what that means. I think

it’s all up to the agent. If they think it’s for business, you [can] get in trouble, but if it’s for home consumption, you’ll be okay.”

If other San Diego County residents want to follow Meza’s fresh lobster lead and trek into Baja, they have until March to do so. “The closed season is mid-March through September,” states the California Department of Fish and Wildlife site regarding lobsters in Baja. “The opening being the first Wednesday in October for commercial and the first Saturday before that for recreational take.”

On November 24, I searched for California spiny lobsters in San Diego markets for a price comparison, and not one offered the California crustaceans on their website. A few offered the langostas’ East Coast counterpart, the Maine lobster, with prices starting at \$13.99/lb.

MIKE MADRIAGA

OCEANSIDE O’side abides high tides

People love houses with a view of the (rising) water

A one-mile strip of Pacific Street between Wisconsin Avenue and Tyson Street recently played host to ten realtor signs at the same time, all looking to draw attention to beachfront homes on The Strand down below. And the asking price for one 2916-square foot condo was marked down last month by \$1.8 million. (The new asking price is \$2,595,000.) The surge in supply is surprising, perhaps: The Strand is Oceanside’s most traveled seaside roadway, and many of the scenes for TNT’s *Animal Kingdom* were shot in its beachfront bungalows. Then again, perhaps not so surprising: on occasion, The Strand gets inundated with seawater, forcing beachfront homeowners to protect their homes with sandbags. A storm surge coupled with a King Tide condition (an unusually high tide caused by the alignment of moon and



Jan Dickinson says Oceanside’s vacation rental market is on fire.

sun) can be particularly dangerous. And now, you have people like NASA’s head climatologist Dr. James Hansen saying that a 10-foot sea level rise could arrive in 50 years, thanks to climate change. Some Strand homeowners have been

continued on page 22

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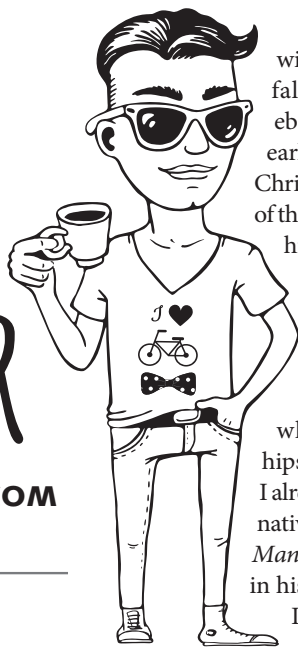
Dear Hipster:

You have told us winter is basically here, and we should all be drinking warm, alcoholic beverages to chase off the Yuletide chill. I would challenge one of the basic assumptions underlying your analysis. To wit, your assumption it is in fact winter. Winter begins on December 21, when the hibernal solstice places the sun at its yearly nadir, pitching the world into maximal darkness. Before the solstice, it is merely autumn. Thus, I cannot resist asking you, did you mean to imply it was winter... wait for it... before it was cool?

— HECTOR C.

Sure, maybe you could be a stickler for rules and demarcate a hard line between autumn and winter, where the former ends abruptly at 11:59 pm on December 20 as the latter begins. But not only is that not very fun, it also makes little sense to me. It's not as if the season actually sets in with a crash and a bang from one minute to the next. The difference between fall and winter is something you experience differently each year. The experience is ultimately very analog, like slowly moving the fader on your vintage two-channel amplifier so that the seasons segue smoothly from one to another along an infinitely variable curve.

Hipsters traditionally begin the fall season by publicly scorning (while privately enjoying) the year's first pumpkin spice latte, but these days the latte bestows its spicy blessing upon us long before the calendar announces the official end of summer. Thus, because hipster fall arguably begins in summer, why can't hipster



winter arguably begin in fall? I've personally celebrated hipster winter as early as July, by listening to Christmas music. And many of the traditional signifiers of hipster winter are already upon us. For example, I have already worn a 1970s-style ski sweater to the patios at my favorite bars, which is a sure sign of hipster winter, and I think I already spotted a *Star Wars* nativity scene featuring *The Mandalorian's* "Baby Yoda" in his little floating manger.

I defy you to find a more reliable sign of Hipster Winter 2019 than that!

So, there you have it. Winter is when you want it. Nothing means anything. Enjoy your eggnog.

Dear Hipster:

I was at a restaurant the other night and I saw a guy dressed basically as The Dude from The Big Lebowski. I am about 99 percent sure he was wearing his normal clothes, as opposed to being in costume or ironic dress. I need to know if that's hipster AF or plain weird.

— DANIEL

An accurate Dude costume represents either the height of Halloween accomplishment or the purest hipster commitment to a themed



The hip is strong with this one.

Big Lebowski viewing party where you and your friends drink hella White Russians. Dressing like the Dude every day because you like the feeling of a tatty sweater and gym shorts seems to me little more than a commitment to liv-

ing like a guy whose only form of identification is a Ralphs card. Somewhere in the middle lies the ultimate hipster move — accidentally assembling a note-perfect Dude costume because everything else you owned was dirty and you had to meet friends for an impromptu Taco Tuesday, then acting like you don't know what anyone is talking about when people start quoting the movie at you. Magnificent. I bet that's what was going on.

— DJ Stevens



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PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW MURPHY

John Leguizamo, filling in the gap between the Mayans and Pitbull.

Listen up, morons!

John Leguizamo is having a moment. His one-man show *Latin History for Morons*, which relates his effort to instill a sense of Latin pride in his middle-school-aged son, played San Diego over three years ago. Then it opened on Broadway. Then it became a Netflix special. But instead of getting frozen on film, the live show is coming back to town: December 8 at the Civic Theater. And he just signed a deal

you, when you know nothing of Latin history between the Mayans and Pitbull? When even *Latinos* know nothing, thanks to historical erasure?

At one point, Leguizamo relates a meeting with his therapist, who accuses him of using humor to deflect from core issues. The show seems to function in converse fashion in its use of humor — highbrow, lowbrow, and occasionally no-brow — to help sell the core issues. (Moctezuma II gets played as... flamboyant, a missionary priest can't help but mention altar boys, etc.) "Rehashing all this history — of our empires, the biggest empires in the world, being destroyed — produces a sort of historical PTSD in you. You go through the stages of grief, and I feel like the audience goes through them, too. They're in denial, they're bargaining with themselves, they're angered and then depressed, and at the end, they leave with acceptance. I went through all that when I was doing the research."

He started the project after finding his son playing a video game in which he was shooting at Native Americans and calling them savages. "That was a little bit shocking. I was like, 'Dude, do you understand who you are?' But if your classmates are saying negative things, you can't help but absorb it and want to be like them. You don't want to be other." Talking of which: "I told my son that if he was uncomfortable with the show, I would abort it and do something else, but he understood that it was a 55-year-old playing a 12-year-old as I remembered him to be." *You know me?*

Frozen assets

Casually Googling to figure out which one was Elsa and which one was Anna was enough to awaken the Algorithm, and it wasn't long before I was presented with a sidebar ad from Target

that invited me to "Celebrate Disney *Frozen 2* at our free in-store event on Nov. 23, 10 am-1 pm. Hear Elsa & Anna tell all-new tales on Google Nest Mini, enjoy fun giveaways, and more!" A canny move. The kiddies, still high from attending opening night shows, could

style cameras depicting scenes from *Frozen II*, in theaters now! There was also a coloring and activity pad, which included stickers.

Nothing else to do but shop: all *Frozen II* merchandise was 25 percent off using Target Circle. And there was so much merchandise. Seven

"Rehashing all this history — of our empires being destroyed — produces a sort of historial PTSD in you."

direct that energy toward beginning their Christmas campaigns on the parental wallet. The parents, still exhausted from the previous evening's pilgrimage to Arendelle, could rejoice in the prospect of someone else occupying their children for a few minutes — and maybe pick up some Smart Storytelling tech in the process. (Not for nothing did Alison Willmore's review in *New York Magazine* get the headline, "*Frozen II* Exists Because the Market, Not the Story, Demanded it." As of this writing, it has made over 700 million dollars.)

But alas: no spirit or spell could make the Google Nest Mini shake hands with the Target store wi-fi. The plan, said the beleaguered young man manning the table with the plastic *Frozen II* tablecloth, was to read from the *Frozen II* Little Golden Book. "For cer-

Lego sets; seven books; Elsa & Anna dresses, plus jackets, tees, and sweatshirts; sheets and comforters; night lights and snow globes; lunchboxes and thermoses; purses and backpacks; tea sets and baking tins; headphones and hair clips; bath bombs and body mist; board games and drawing tools; costumes and karaoke; and of course dolls — so many dolls. Never mind Anna and Elsa; consider Olaf, the half-smart snowman given life by the ice queen. Just a sidekick, but



So much merchandise.



Leguizamo as Moctezuma II in his Netflix special.

with Macmillan to produce a young-adult graphic novel version, a format that allows him to "add a lot more history about what was great about our empires. I'm not constricted by people's attention spans."

The attention-friendly show itself "is different from all my other shows," he says (the list includes *Mambo Mouth*, *Spic-o-Rama*, *Freak*, *Sexaholix*, and *Ghetto Clown*). "I'm at the top of my game right now. I leave everything on the stage like I've never done before. People feel a need to see it live because they know it's like a religious experience." Or at least therapeutic. "Therapy saved my life; I love therapy. And I feel like one-man shows, especially mine, are the rawest that a performer can ever be with an audience. It's my thoughts, my opinions, and my demons, right there."

Throughout, he tells stories in which he escalates confrontations by pounding his chest and aggressively asking, "You know me? You know me?" The unspoken answer to that combination of challenge and plea: how *can*



Fancy tech may fail you, but you can rely on plastic trinkets.

tain books, the Nest will key into your voice and recognize what you're reading, and it can provide sound effects. But it's not working, and we don't even have the right book."

He showed me the *Frozen II* Big Golden Book, which, he advised a co-worker, had a lot of pages by comparison, big pages, with a lot of words on each page. This wasn't story hour at the library. The reading was scrapped. The giveaway involved tiny plastic trumpets, tinier bottles of soap bubbles, and extremely tiny Viewmaster-

so marketable! Follow-Me Friend Olaf, \$39.99; Sing & Swing Olaf, \$24.99; Lego Olaf, \$14.99; oversized stuffed Olaf, \$49.99; regular stuffed Olaf, \$14.99; small stuffed Olaf, \$9.

As I left, I heard a child's despairing cry rising up from the vicinity of the 5'x4' *Frozen II* Ultimate Arendelle Castle (*Chateau supreme d'Arendelle*), featuring seven furnished rooms and a moving balcony for \$199.99, followed by a parent's weary threat: "Fine, then Santa's not coming this year." *Let it go...*

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Street Style

BY SAMANTHA ST. PIERRE

Fierce fingertips

Attempting to blend in with the football fans during a Sunday game, I started chatting with the couple next to me. I met 30-year-old Justine, who had pristine nails pressed against her pint of beer. I thought white was a curious choice of color, until she told me she recently got engaged. “I was going for bride vibe!”

I realized I knew even less about nail trends than I do about football. Justine was happy to inform me. He first tip; be assertive and clear. “People get tripped



JENNIFER ACHIEVES FIERCE AND SPARKLY FINGERTIPS WITH DIP POWDER



JUSTINE'S PRISTINE GEL MANICURE SENDS BRIDE VIBES

up when they go into the nail salons and they're like, 'Oh, would you like this pedicure?' No, you have to tell them. If you want to get a deal and go in there knowing what you're doing, just say 'I want a gel mani, spa pedi.'”

She likes the gel style best and sticks to three brands she thinks last the longest: OPI, Gelish, and Perfect Match. “There's a lot of other ones, tried 'em all, they peel,” she said with a wave of her hand. “Another life hack — put sunscreen on your hands,

because you're putting it under the UV light.”

The seasoned nail vet goes once a month and closes out at \$62, with tip. “And don't waste your time on any kind of salon that doesn't have spa massages,” she says, insisting on getting the most for her money. “Mine has champagne, that's why I like to go there!”

Later in the week, I spotted sparkling nails reaching for a salad at Trader Joe's. I pulled 25-year-old Jennifer aside to ask about her fierce fingertips and she explained her dip powder manicure.

“So it's kind of like acrylic, but you just have to get this gel on them first and then the nail tech dips them into the powder three times. By the third time, it's really hardened so then it's practically impossible for your nails to break.”

Jennifer says this method

continued on page 55

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

This week, prospective buyers have an opportunity to “fall in love with timeless Spanish architecture” at 1640 Torrey Pines Road, a 3095-square-foot residence “minutes from the vibrant Village of La Jolla” and located among “luxury cinemas, top schools, gourmet restaurants, shops and more,” according to a listing description retrieved from realtor.com.

Built in 2000, the three-bedroom, three-bath “masterpiece” is only on its third owner.



French doors, Spanish tile, California living.

“This stunning home exudes luxury living with ultra-high-end finishings throughout, including

Viking appliances in the kitchen, hardwood flooring, and extensive use of hand-selected tiles.”

Despite its relatively young age, “no expense was spared” during an extensive remodel, includ-

ing hand-textured walls and coved ceilings, bare wood window casings with triple-paned glass, “extensive use of stone,” and multiple fireplaces, each with a unique custom mantle.

The home’s master bedroom “is a true retreat,” and occupies the entire upper level of the residence. “Unwind in your marble tub, which was carved from a single block of Carrara marble” or enjoy “endless sunsets and expansive views of twinkling city lights up San Diego’s golden coastline from the Cove to beyond Oceanside,” along with a private office “to make working from home a breeze.”

Back downstairs, “two large living/family rooms offer spectacular views of the crashing waves below while

the expansive patios and decks offer the utmost in privacy and tranquility and a front row seat to the crashing waves below.”

Outside, “the locally famous Torrey Pine trees and beautifully manicured King Palms offer yet another dramatic layer to the beautifully manicured grounds and anchor this iconic residence.” Out front, a stone-inlaid driveway with two curb cuts “offers smooth ingress and egress” and leads to a pair of garages flanking an entry courtyard with Spanish tile water feature; French doors from there provide access to the living areas.

“This is a rare, once in a lifetime opportunity to purchase one of the most idyllic properties in all Southern California.”

continued on page 55

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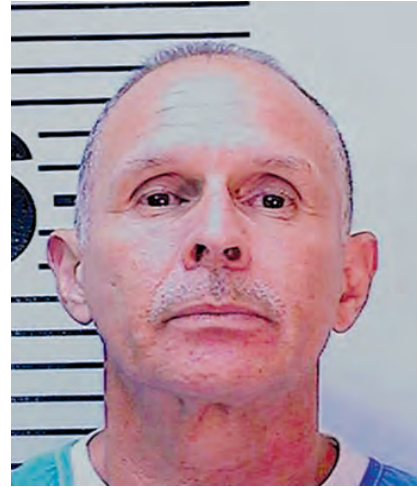
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Eric Anderson has self-published three books from San Quentin.



Manuel Bracamontes worked as a bus driver and then as a pipe fitter.



Adrian Camacho was sent to death row for shooting a rookie Oceanside cop during a traffic stop.



Scott Erskine is one of San Diego's most notorious killers. While in prison, he raped a fellow inmate.

San Diego's death row inmates

When the California Supreme Court overturned the death sentence of convicted double murderer Jeffrey Young last July, the number of San Diegans on death row went down by one, to 37.

Young, 44, had been convicted of the 1999 shooting deaths of Teresa Perez and Jack Reynolds, both employees of a parking lot near San Diego International Airport, during a botched robbery. He was sentenced to die on November 28, 2006.

Nearly 13 years later, the state's high court tossed the conviction because, it said, the prosecutor focused on Young's white supremacist beliefs and Nazi tattoos rather than the actual crime. Young now faces either a new trial or a reduced sentence of life without parole.

While 37 other prisoners who were convicted and sentenced to death in San Diego remain on what is officially known as the "Condemned Unit" at San Quentin State Prison, neither they nor the 695 other Californians who have been condemned to die at the state's hands are likely to do so.

Even though California voters three years ago rejected a ballot measure to repeal the death penalty, Governor Gavin Newsom in March signed an executive order that suspends any further executions for as long as he is in office.

The move was largely symbolic: California hasn't put anyone to death since January 17, 2006, when 76-year-old Clarence Ray Allen was executed after 22 years on death row. He had been convicted on three counts of first-degree murder. At the time of his execution, he was legally blind, diabetic, and confined

to a wheelchair, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

Even before Allen was put to death, California was far from a killing state. Of the 1493 convicted murderers who have been executed in this country since the 1976 reinstatement of the death penalty, only 13 were put to death in California. Experts say this is largely due to the protracted appeals process. Every prisoner who is sentenced to death gets an automatic appeal to the California Supreme Court, a process that can take five or more years. The state court ruling may then be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. Prisoners also can file "habeas" appeals to challenge the constitutionality of their convictions, as well as "last chance" appeals to the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the U.S. Supreme Court.

In February 2003, the *San Diego Reader* published a story noting that 31 of the 616 inmates who at the time were on death row in California had been convicted and sentenced in San Diego. Four particularly brutal killers were profiled: Susan Eubanks, who in 1997 shot her four children to death after a breakup with a lover; Ivan and Veronica Gonzalez, convicted of torture and murder for the 1995 death of

Veronica's four-year-old niece; and Bernard Lee Hamilton, who in 1979 murdered a young mother of two boys, cut off her head and hands, and dumped her body near Pine Valley.

Hamilton died of natural causes in March 2016 at the age of 64. Counting Young, nine other killers from San Diego have been added to the list since the 2003 *Reader* story, leaving one of the original 31 unaccounted for (the *Reader* story did not list the

names). The killers, their crimes, and their fate:

Eric Anderson - condemned to die on October 28, 2005. Fourteen years after he was sentenced to death for killing an El Cajon racetrack owner during an attempted home invasion robbery, Anderson has built a new life for himself in San Quentin. He has self-published three books that are available on *Amazon.com*. Two are compilations of short stories from death

row; the third is a series of sketches, a throwback to his former life, on the outside, as a tattoo artist.

Amazon calls him a "gifted author" and a "talented artist." "People on death row are very limited in their activities," the author's description reads. "Almost 24 hours a day — day in, day out — he has to stay alone in a small cell. His writing and art are a way for him to reach out to others. The purpose of his published books, and his art in general, is

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to share his talent with the outside world. It's his legacy...."

THE MURDER

Anderson was sentenced to death for the April 14, 2003 murder of Stephen Brucker, the owner of the Cajon Speedway. The quarter-mile track, located between Gillespie Field and State Route 67, had been opened in 1961 by Brucker's grandfather, Earle Brucker Sr., also the founder of El Cajon Stock Car Racing Association. Brucker, who ran the track with his brother Kevin, lived with his wife and two children on Medill Avenue, just east of the El Cajon city limits near Interstate 8.

Believing Brucker had a safe in his house with up to \$2 million in cash, Anderson and two others, Brandon Hand-

shoe and Apollo Ryan Huhn, met in Handshoe's mobile home in Rios Canyon to plot the crime. The afternoon of the murder, Anderson drew diagrams of the house and talked the others through the plan. They left the mobile home in Anderson's Ford Bronco; a witness testified that before they left Anderson pulled a black, semiautomatic .45-caliber gun from his waistband, cocked it, and said, "Let's do this fast."

When they arrived at the Brucker home, Handshoe remained in the car as a lookout. Anderson, his gun tucked under his arm, and Huhn walked toward the front door. Handshoe heard a shot and then a scream; Anderson and Huhn promptly returned to the car, telling their part-

ner only that something had gone wrong. They raced off.

A short time later, a sheriff's deputy arrived at the Brucker residence, responding to a 911 call. He found a mortally wounded Brucker, still clutching the phone and drenched in blood. Brucker was rushed to Sharp Memorial Hospital but died of a single gunshot wound to his chest that had penetrated his heart.

AFTERMATH

After the shooting, Anderson shaved off his mustache and ditched the Bronco for a white truck. He told his girlfriend he was leaving San Diego because of a parole violation. He wound up in Oregon, where on May 16 he was stopped by police for a traffic infrac-



The lethal injection room at San Quentin State Prison, completed in 2010.

tion. Police searched his truck and found a stolen handgun. Anderson was arrested and sent back to San Diego for a parole violation. In the meantime, detectives,

responding to tips, had fingered Anderson and Handshoe as key suspects in the Brucker killing. Handshoe was arrested first and testified against Anderson in a plea deal.

During the penalty phase of the trial, Anderson dared the jury to sentence him to death, which they did.

Anderson's initial brief on direct appeal

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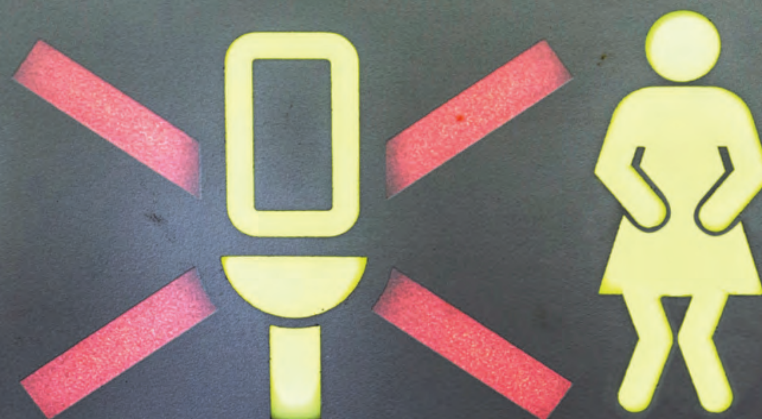


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was filed on November 4, 2013, more than 10 years after the murder of Stephen Brucker and eight years after he was sentenced to death. His appeal was denied and in June 2018 the California Supreme Court affirmed both the judgment and the sentence of death. Last April, the U.S. Supreme Court denied Anderson's petition for a writ of certiorari, refusing to review the California court decision.

Manuel Bracamontes – condemned to die on December 14, 2005

He appeared to be a family man. He worked as a bus driver and then as a pipe fitter, and lived with his girlfriend and children, including a young daughter, in an Otay Mesa condominium. Also living in the same condo complex was the Arroyo family. One week after he moved out, Bracamontes returned one night and kidnapped 9-year-old Laura Arroyo, whom he sexually assaulted and then murdered in a nearby business park.

“There are some cases that even the most

ardent death penalty opponents, if they knew the facts and saw the scene and saw what it did to the relatives and saw what the guy did to the victim, would agree with the penalty,” said Garland Peed, who prosecuted Bracamontes for the crime and now works as a Deputy District Attorney in Riverside. “It’s easy when you’re talking theory, but most prosecutors and law enforcement officials who have worked really bad murders like this one will tell you there is evil in the world — there’s no other explanation — and nothing short of whatever the number one penalty is, is what we have to go for,” Peed said. “I don’t care if the Supreme Court overturns it – this is so bad I’ve got to do everything I can to make sure this guy never sees the light of day. I couldn’t talk to the father without crying. And when the father was testifying in court about his little girl, there was not one person in the courtroom, not even the judge, who wasn’t crying.”

THE MURDER

Laura and some friends had been playing in the front yard of their condo complex on the evening of June 19, 1991. After she had gone inside, the doorbell rang, around 9 pm. Laura answered the door. When her parents came to see who was there, they found the door wide open and little Laura gone.

Early the next morning, Laura’s battered and bruised body was found in an industrial complex on Bay Boulevard in Chula Vista, about three miles away. She had been stabbed 11 times in the chest, abdomen and neck, suffered six chop wounds to the head, and had been suffocated. The attack, with a pickaxe, was done with so much force it chipped the sidewalk underneath Arroyo’s body.

AFTERMATH

Five witnesses said they had seen Bracamontes near the condo that evening, including one of the children with whom Laura had been playing. But there was no physical evidence linking him to the crime until DNA



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samples taken from Laura's body were re-tested in October 2003 at the urging of the San Diego District Attorney's Cold Case Unit. By then, Bracamontes' DNA was in the system thanks to a prior conviction on domestic abuse charges. Sperm DNA was found underneath her finger nails, on her pink "dancing bear" night shirt, and in her mouth. This led authorities to conclude that she had also been forced to fellate Bracamontes, something that investigators didn't realize back in 1991.

At Bracamontes' trial, an expert witness testified that an agricultural tool called a "pick mattock" might have been the weapon used to inflict many of the wounds on young Laura's face and shoulder blades. Workers at a construction company

where Bracamontes worked as a pipefitter said he had access to such a tool. Bracamontes initially denied being at the condo complex the night of the murder, but later said he went there late at night at the behest of his girlfriend.

After Bracamontes was found guilty, Laura's mother, also named Laura, urged Superior Court Judge John Thompson to sentence her little girl's killer to death. "She did not deserve to die in such a cruel way," Arroyo said through a Spanish interpreter. Before handing down the death sentence, the judge called Bracamontes a "sadistic, sexually violent predator." The case was profiled on television's *Cold Case Files*, in an episode titled, "Danger at the Door."

Bracamontes applied for 38 extensions before finally filing his opening brief on direct appeal before the California Supreme Court in January 2018. The prosecution filed its response in September 2018. A year later, on September 9, 2019, Bracamontes filed his reply brief.

Adrian Camacho – condemned to die on February 7, 2006
A gang member — and illegal immigrant — who dealt drugs for a living,

Camacho was sent to death row for shooting a rookie Oceanside cop during a traffic stop. When the sentence was pronounced, Camacho teared up and dabbed at his eyes with a tissue. His attorney, Kathleen Cannon, told the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, "Mr. Camacho is very disappointed."

THE MURDER

Camacho was sentenced to death for the June 13, 2003 murder of Tony Zeppetella, who had recently joined the Oceanside police force. The murder occurred during a gun battle that began after Zeppetella pulled up behind Camacho's car in the crowded parking lot of the Navy Federal Credit Union at Avenida de la Plata and College Boulevard in Oceanside.

Zeppetella got out of his car and walked up to Camacho's car window. Camacho had drugs in the car, along with a semiautomatic firearm, and, according to court testimony, was terrified of being arrested and deported for what would have been the third time.

As Zeppetella approached, Camacho pulled out his gun and fired at the officer. Camacho got off four more rounds before a wounded Zeppetella

could return fire. Although he had fallen to the ground and was bleeding to death, Zeppetella shot back, hitting Camacho in the leg as he got out of the car. Camacho fired more bullets into Zeppetella, one of them severing the bone in his upper arm. No longer able to shoot back, Zeppetella tried to crawl for cover, but Camacho caught up with him, pistol-whipped the officer and then stole his gun, which he used to fire the final shots into the doomed rookie cop.

The last four shots could be heard on a 911 call made by a witness, according to a *San Diego Union-Tribune* report.

AFTERMATH

Camacho fled the scene and hid in his mother's Oceanside home, about a mile away. He slit his wrists and scrawled "I'm sorry" and other apologetic messages, in blood, on the bathroom tile. He surrendered to police about four hours after a SWAT team surrounded the home.

During Camacho's murder trial, his attorneys argued that their client was in a drug-induced psychosis when he shot Zeppetella and thus should not be held accountable. This psychosis was fueled by a mix of heroin, methamphetamine, and the prescription antidepressant Paxil. Camacho's defense also argued that the suicide attempt indicated remorse. Prosecutor David Rubin (now a Superior Court judge), however, called Zeppetella's shooting "a cool, deliberate act of murder." He noted that after his arrest, Camacho wrote threatening letters to his jailers, vowing in one to "send one of 'em home

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Reader

in a... body bag.”

The jury convicted Camacho of first-degree murder with special circumstances and sentenced him to death. The *San Diego Union-Tribune* reported at the time that Zeppetella's young widow, Jamie, “smiled softly as the judge read the verdict.”

Since February 5, 2015, Camacho's case has been fully briefed on direct appeal before the California Supreme Court.

Scott Erskine – condemned to die on September 1, 2004

One of San Diego's most notorious killers, Erskine was sentenced to death for the March 27, 1993 murders of two young boys in the south San Diego neighborhood of Palm City. His badness began at an early age, triggered, defense attorneys said, when he was hit by a car at the age of 5 on Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach and suffered a traumatic brain injury. At the age of 10, Erskine started molesting his 6-year-old sister. When he was 15, he pulled a knife on a 13-year-old girl and raped her; the very

next day, he assaulted a young female jogger. At the age of 18, he tried to rape a 14-year-old boy and beat him unconscious. While in prison, he raped a fellow inmate.

THE MURDERS

Erskine was sentenced to die for killing 9-year-old Jonathan Sellers and 13-year-old Charlie Keever on a rainy spring Saturday in March 1993.

Keever and Sellers' older brother were friends. The brother had to go to a band recital, however, so Charlie decided to hang out with little Jonathan. According to court documents, witnesses saw the boys at an arcade and pet adoption center, and then at a Rally's hamburger stand. Later, another witness saw them riding their bikes in the Otay River bed, near a washed-out bridge.

Driving his blue Volvo across a field, Erskine approached and then blocked the bike path. Moments later, the two boys rode up. Erskine lured them into an igloo-like fort made of brush, where he bound and gagged them. He molested both boys for

hours, and then strangled them with a rope. Jonathan's body was found by a jogger two days later, hanging from a castor bean tree branch near the entrance of the fort. He was nude from the waist down, and his genitals showed signs of sexual assault. Charlie's body lay nearby, also half naked, with dried blood on his genitals from bite marks. The ropes were still around their necks.

AFTERMATH

In October 1993, seven months after the killing the two boys, Erskine lured a woman he had met at a bus stop to his home and, over several days, repeatedly raped her. The victim testified that she willingly accompanied Erskine to his home for a beer. After they both snorted methamphetamine, Erskine choked her to the point of passing out before raping her orally and vaginally. After the assault, he gave her clothes to wear and cooked her a steak before driving her to a meeting with a classmate at the Hyatt Regency hotel. She waited five days before calling police. Erskine was arrested later that

day as he was returning to his apartment. Given his prior record, he was sentenced to 70 years to life in prison.

Meanwhile, the San Diego murder case remained unsolved. Rick Carlson joined the San Diego Police Department's homicide team shortly after the two boys were killed and befriended Charlie Keever's mother. “It was such a big case, and so tragic,” said Carlson, now retired. “Mrs. Keever used to come down to PD all the time, and then she'd go patrol the canyon, looking for suspects.”

In 1994, Carlson created a mosaic as a memorial for the two boys at Montgomery Middle School. “Getting to know her got my emotions up,” Carlson recalled. “What a big trauma it

is... to have two moms and both of them lost their children.”

As the 1990s progressed, advances in DNA technology led to the establishment of the FBI's Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS, which allows federal, state, and local forensic laboratories to exchange and compare DNA profiles electronically. In March 2001, scientists retested DNA samples that had been taken from the two young boys' mouths eight years earlier and discovered that someone else's DNA was left in Keever's mouth. The sample was entered into CODIS and was matched to Erskine.

Erskine was brought to trial in September 2003. In the meantime, Florida police matched Erskine's DNA to the

unsolved murder of a 26-year-old woman killed in 1989. He admitting raping her, breaking her neck, and leaving her to drown in the Intracoastal Waterway near Palm Beach. For that murder, he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to life.

A jury found Erskine guilty of murder on October 1, 2003. In April 2004, after the first jury failed to agree on a penalty, Erskine was sentenced to death, which a judge subsequently affirmed on September 1. The obligatory appeals were filed, with the latest action occurring in May 2019, when the California Supreme Court upheld Erskine's conviction and death sentence.

— Thomas K. Arnold

Part 2 next week.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 8

denied flood insurance, and a few homes designed with subterranean parking can only hope they can get rid of the Pacific Ocean with bilge pumps faster than it wants to come in.

But many local real estate pros contacted for this article say they are not aware of a mass selloff connected with invading seawater. "Yeah, I saw those signs too," says real estate pro Chris Abad. "I think it might be that the market just reached a high point and people thought this was the best time to sell." He says another issue may be the difficulty in getting approval to install protective rip rap (boulders) in front of houses to avoid erosion. "You have to go through the Coastal Commission for that, and people may not want to deal with that."

Real estate agent Bob Botkin says he has four oceanfronts on the market. He says business is booming on the beach, especially in the vacation rental business. "My [owner] in Colorado just took his off the market. He found out he could make \$100,000 a year in vacation rentals." Still, he says ocean water breaching The Strand



At least the signs are safe from the sea...

roadway and soaking homes is a concern. "We had a King Tide last winter and had to use sandbags. Water didn't get into any of our units, but I did hear of one unit that got it." Jan Dickinson says she has been in the business of selling seaside homes "for many, many years." She agrees that Oceanside's vacation rental market is on fire, but notes, "My property has flood insurance. But it is my understanding that

a lot of properties [on The Strand] can no longer get flood insurance."

"The market has leveled off a bit," says one agent who does a lot of business with oceanfront homes but who did not want to be named. "There was a tiny fluctuation, but I'm not sensing any kind of panic. Overall, the trend along the coast is pretty stable." She adds that the flooding issue is just something people deal with. "It just

brings another level of maintenance." But she admits some of the homes on The Strand seem to have been designed with a major flaw: underground parking areas. "I certainly would not have designed them that way. I can't even imagine why the city allowed that to happen." (Lifeguards say that anytime there is more than an inch of rain, the southern end of Strand can fill up with water. They have had to rescue some residents from the homes with subterranean parking who got flooded out.) Agent Stormy Rogers says some homes were built with subterranean parking almost 20 years ago, before climate change became front-of-mind. "But the 17 units on the 700 block [of The Strand]? They just built those. How did they let that go through?"

Russ Cunningham, principal planner for the city of Oceanside, responds: "I don't have any background on the Strand project in question." As for rip rap, Cunningham affirms that a permit from the California Coastal Commission must usually be issued before it can be installed to save a home from sea damage. But he said the city did allow one homeowner on the 1200 block a city-issued exemption, which avoided the Coastal Commission process altogether.

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Reader

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 5

THE IMPERILED OCEAN

Ocean journalist Laura Trethewey will discuss and sign her new book, *The Imperiled Ocean: Human Stories from a Changing Sea*. Her narrative journalism follows people as they head out



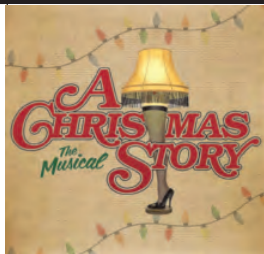
to sea. As battles are fought, fortunes made, and lives lost, the ocean faces an uncertain future, growing ever more unstable, threatening to upend life on land. Trethewey is the senior writer and editor at *Ocean.org*.

WHEN: Thursday, December 5, 7:30 pm
WHERE: Book Catapult, 3010-B Juniper Street, South Park. thebookcatapult.com

Friday | 6

A CHRISTMAS STORY: THE MUSICAL

Nine-year-old Ralphie Parker wants one thing for Christmas: an official Red Ryder range model carbine action BB gun. There's only one problem:



everyone else is convinced he'll shoot his eye out. Undeterred, he begins his saga of convincing all the necessary players, from his sweet and protective mother, to his straightlaced teacher Miss Shields, all the way to Santa Claus himself. Ralphie's vivid imagination conjures up several numbers, from "Ralphie to The Rescue," in which he defeats every foe a young boy can think of, to tap routine performed by a gun moll-esque Miss Shields.

WHEN: Sundays 2 pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 7 pm, Fridays 8 pm, Saturdays 4 pm. Through December 29.

WHERE: Horton Grand Theatre, 444 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. sdmt.org

Saturday | 7

TAMALADA TIME

Learn how to prepare Christmas-time hand-made tamales, using ingredients such as banana leaf and corn husk. Participants will master their tamale-making skills, connect with their food and community, and take home recipes and tamales.

WHEN: Saturday, December 7, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm

WHERE: Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue, National City. olivewoodgardens.org



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8: KIM PETRAS AT OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK



Life is What Happens).

WHEN: Saturday, December 7, 10 am

WHERE: Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street, North Park.

sandiegobeatlesfair.com

Sunday | 8

KIM PETRAS AT OBSERVATORY NORTH PARK

Pop diva Kim Petras recently launched into the Top 4 of the iTunes Pop Chart with her new album *Clarity*. Singles such as "Icy" have dominated Spotify's New Music Friday and Apple Music's Best of the Week for several consecutive weeks.

She was recently on MAX's "Love Me Less" remix and a new Charli XCX track alongside Tommy Cash, "Click," as well as releasing a new Halloween mixtape, *Turn Off The Light Vol. 2*.

WHEN: Sunday, December 8, 2019, 7:30 p.m

WHERE: Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue, North Park. observatorysd.com

BEATLES FAIR

A celebration of all things related to the Fab Four. Enjoy a full day of music, discussion, and memorabilia displays, plus a rock 'n roll marketplace. Performers: Blac Rabbit, True Stories, The Baja Bugs, Revolution Band, The Nowhere Men. Speakers: Robbie Rist (*Brady Bunch*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*), Mark Brickley (*Postcards from Liverpool*), John Borack (*John Lennon:*

ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

5-PEAK CHALLENGE: MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK

Challenge yourself to a fitness adventure and do it at your own pace.

Driving directions: The Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center is located at One Father Junipero Serra Trail in San Diego. It is a few hundred yards east of the intersection of Jackson Drive and Mission Gorge Road and located on the north side of Mission Gorge Road. The trailhead locations of 5-Peak Challenge trailheads vary, but you can find a lot of information at the Visitor Center. **Hiking length:** 5-23 miles, depending if hiked individually or combined hikes. Except for Kwaay Paay Peak, all trails are about 5 miles out-and-back. Dogs on leashes allowed. **Difficulty:** Moderate to strenuous. Elevation gain/loss over 1000 feet, varies with each hike. If you are doing all peaks in one day, the elevation gain is 4249 feet. Trekking poles are highly recommended.



The trail up South Fortuna is sometimes called the Stairway to Heaven

Hiking to the top of one or more of the major five peaks in Mission Trails Regional Park has always been an adventurous challenge for park visitors. The 5-Peak Challenge became a formal activity beginning in 2015 when participants began recording and documenting their hikes to the following peaks in the park: Cowles Mountain (1592'), Pyles Peak (1379'), Kwaay Paay (1194'), North Fortuna (1291'), and South Fortuna (1094'). Cowles Mountain is the highest peak within the City of San Diego. On November 27, 2015, 16 individuals from Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties completed the 5-Peak challenge in one day. Since then, others have taken up the challenge. However, it is not necessary finish in one day to participate.

You may hike all five peaks in any order you like and take as long as needed. Some individuals

take weeks or months to complete their goal. Time is not a factor in your victory! When you reach a peak, take a "selfie" or have a friend take a photo of you next to each summit sign. E-mail your photos to 5-peakchallenge@mtrp.org when done for verification. After you are notified by the park, stop at the Visitor Center between 10 am and 4 pm to get your official 5-Peak Challenge certificate and logo pin. You may also take your photos to the Visitor Center for verification.

Note that the distances given for the routes to the five peaks as outlined on the map are one-way distances to peaks. If you want to do more than one hike at a time, we recommend doing North Fortuna and South Fortuna on the same day. The same recommendation can be made for Cowles Mountain and Pyles Peak, and then do Kwaay Paay on a third trip. When doing Kwaay Paay, be cautious on the descent from the summit. The trail is steep and quite slippery, whether wet after a shower or dry like it tends to be in the heat of summer.

Take plenty of water with you, some salty snacks to replace electrolytes, sunscreen, and a first aid kit. While hiking, be aware that rattlesnakes are active all months of the year.

There is little shade as you hike along up and down. In the summer and early fall, the temperature in the sun can be close to 100°F. Rangers and Volunteer Patrol personnel have

continued on page 27

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

Art at Cinepolis Select artists will offer a 10 percent discount and/or donate 10 percent of their proceeds to the Helen Woodward Animal Center. Saturday, December 7, 6pm; **free.** Del Mar Civic Center, 1050 Camino Del Mar. (DEL MAR)

First Friday Art Walk Oceanside First Friday Art Walk Oceanside is partnering with the Spring-Hill Suites by Marriott and Camp Pendleton Toys for Tots, for the 5th annual Tree Lighting Ceremony. Over 70 artists registered to exhibit. Guests are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy donation for Camp Pendleton Toys for Tots. Friday, December 6, 5pm; **free.** SpringHill Suites by Marriott San Diego, 900 Bayfront Court. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Maker's Market The Carlsbad Village Association's third annual Maker's Market, A Crafter's Showcase will bring 55 local and regional artisans specializing in hand crafted items, for a one-day, open-air Makers Market. Saturday, December 7, 9am; **free.** 2938 Roosevelt Street

Queen Bee Market Winter Shopping Expo Queen Bee Market is an urban-style handmade market featuring vendors who make their products by hand from booths that are designed with flair. Saturday, December 7, 10am; Sunday, December 8, 10am; **free**-\$3. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Shop Mingei Holiday Market Shop Mingei brings another year of local artists, refreshments and festive merriment at the annual Holiday Market in the Command Center. Sip, mingle and shop for jewelry, apparel, housewares, and more. Friday, December 6, 5pm; **free.** Arts District Liberty Station, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Laura Trethewey: The Imperiled Ocean Ocean journalist Laura Trethewey will discuss and sign her new book, *The Imperiled Ocean: Human Stories from a Changing Sea*. *The Imperiled Ocean* is a deeply reported work of narrative journalism that follows people as they head out to sea. Thursday, December 5, 7:30pm; **free.** Book Catapult, 3010-B Juniper Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Molly Moon: Five Wishes Molly Moon will discuss her new book *Five Wishes* in the Mary Hollis Clark Room. Mollie Moon's life has been filled with travels throughout Europe, the U.S. and South America, which has given her exposure to many lifestyles and cultures. Saturday, December 7, 1pm; **free.** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Chula Vista Starlight Parade Enjoy the free Children's Faire, take pictures with Santa, sled down a real snow hill, attend holiday story time, jump in a holiday bounce house, enjoy a holiday tent filled with dozens of free crafts and more. Saturday, December 7, 2pm; **free.** Memorial Park Bowl, 373 Park Way. (CHULA VISTA)

Encinitas Holiday Parade More than 100 parade entries will roll, march, cycle, scooter and cruise down the Coast Highway. Followed by a countdown and ceremonial tree lighting, Santa himself will make a brief appearance to kick things off at 5 pm at the Lumberyard shops courtyard. Saturday, December 7, 5:30pm; S. Coast Hwy. 101 Encinitas

Family Friendly Holiday Nights Enjoy three family friendly nights of holiday events: Snow Sledding with real snow, Letters to Santa, S'mores Roasting, Cookie Decorating, Holly Trolley Rides, Live Entertainment, and more. Thursday, December 5, 5pm; **free.** Westin

Carlsbad Resort & Spa, 5480 Grand Pacific. (CARLSBAD)

Frosty Farm This festive event in San Diego combines hands-on animal interactions with family-friendly activities, which makes it the perfect place to create new memories. Saturday, December 7, 9am; Sunday, December 8, 9am; \$10-\$20. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Giant Snow Globe Experience See the giant illuminated Snow Globe and meet the costumed character Snowman. The twice nightly snowfall is accompanied by choreographed lights and music. Children receive free holiday headbands and "magic" glasses so they can view the snow falling in rainbow colors. Sunday, December 8, 4pm; **free.** Village Walk at EastLake, EastLake Parkway at Miller Drive. (EASTLAKE)

Holiday Family Festival Enjoy magic tricks and hand-blown balloons by Santa's Elves, musical entertainment, rides on the Holiday Express Train, and a magical snowfall experience at 12pm, 1pm and 2pm. Saturday, December 7, 12pm; **free.** Village Walk at EastLake, EastLake Parkway at Miller Drive. (EASTLAKE)

Holiday Gathering Enjoy an open house experience with a tour of the clinic and an in-depth view to all of the therapies and services provided, with in-house promotions gift ideas for you and your loved ones. Drinks, treats, and kid friendly programming will be provided. Friday, December 6, 3pm; **free.** Ravive Health & Vitality, 2907 Shelter Island Drive #219. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Holiday Market From jewelry and yoga gear, to crystals and candles, the third annual Holiday Market features local makers to help fulfill your mindful holiday gifting needs. We'll also feature delicious bites and beverages, music and of course some end-of-year deals on Sojourn classes and retail. Saturday, December 7, 1pm; **free.** Sojourn Healing Collective, 2870 Fifth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Holiday Sip & Shop Enjoy limited and award winning wines with discounts between 30-50% off. Sunday, December 8, 12pm; 21 and up. Carruth Cellars Wine Garden, 2215 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

Make & Take Gifts at the Library Whip up some special homemade gifts for the special people in your life. Make and take snickerdoodle lip scrub, peppermint lip balm and bath salts. Sign up by calling the library or send an email to rsvp@coronado.ca.us -Supplies will be provided. Sunday, December 8, 2pm; **free.** Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Parade of Lights Viewing Party Forget circling around the Bay searching for a place to park, battling traffic and crowds to catch a glimpse of the parade boats. Your ticket gives you excellent views of this San Diego tradition while you indulge in hearty appetizers, complimentary sangria, two drink tickets for other beverages, and

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India Street at West Date St



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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

The All Faith Center

Contact: 17762 St. Andrews Dr., Poway 858-487-8885 www.allfaithcenter.org

Membership: 18 faith teams (composed of “thousands” of members from area congregations)

Pastor: Steve Albert (co-pastor with wife Abigail Albert)

Age: 72

Born: Philadelphia

Formation: Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA; Drexel University, Philadelphia; University of Colorado, Boulder, CO; Emerson Theological Institute, Oakhurst

Years Ordained: 37

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

Pastor Steve Albert: REBOOT is one of the 17

books I’ve written, and I wrote it a year after having a major stroke in 2003. The stroke took the complete left side of my body and all the muscles in my face were gone. It took me a full year before I was back doing ministry work. ... REBOOT tells about how you get your physical body back to a normal state after some major challenge. Most of the things I talk about in my sermons come down to how you get from point A to point B in a healthy manner without spending a lot of time complaining. “God isn’t looking at me anymore!” “I’m gone!” “I’m ready to leave this planet!” Instead, we’re really just rebooting from one point to the next.

SDR: Why did you become a minister?

PA: I had been doing communications consulting work with a number of people—how to understand personalities and not fly off the handle when your mother-in-law tells you she didn’t like what you did, or not tell your boss off when he tells you he wants you to work late. This consultant work just morphed into helping more and more people with life issues, especially when someone is going through a death in the family, or a major change as we talked about before, rebooting in one way or another. While I was doing it, there was this natural realization that I was good with other people. I didn’t

want to be a psychologist, and then I became interested in the different faiths and what they were doing. That’s when ministry showed itself.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PA: Basically, our mission is to have everyone sit down and have a meal with one another, to ask questions: “What was it like growing up in your neighborhood?” “What was it like being with your family?” “Oh, you had two brothers? I had two brothers.” “Oh, you like this type of television? I enjoy that too.” To help people find out that those who dress differently, speak with a different accent, or wear their faith strongly are



Steve and Abigail Albert

energy that was in your body when you were alive. I would hope all souls would believe the concept of karma — if you didn’t do things right the first time around, you might have to come back and get your hand slapped once or twice, but

very similar to you. All you have to do is be inquisitive enough to find out who they are and what they’re doing.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?
PA: You really never die... When you leave this plane of existence through what we call death, you enter a different form — a soul form, perhaps — that you can’t see... but it’s the same amount of

we know there is an equalizing element in the universe. Just like rebooting through an illness, as much as it hurt when you were getting sick, it feels that much better when you can say you got through it.

— Joseph O’Brien

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

free parking. Sunday, December 8, 4:30pm; \$100. Tom Ham’s Light-house, 2150 Harbor Island Drive. (HARBOR ISLAND)

South Park Holiday Walkabout & Luminaria The Walkabout is a fun-filled evening to explore this charming, hip and historic ‘hood. Some businesses stay open late and have specials and entertainment. Saturday, December 7, 5:30pm; **free.** 30th and Beech St/30th St. and Kalmia St

St. Nick at Night This family event is festive, yet relaxed, and is the perfect place to escape the hectic holiday happenings. Enjoy cookie decorating, hot cocoa, beautiful lights, animal interactions, a craft, and group story time with Santa. Friday, December 6, 5pm; \$5. Helen Woodward Animal

Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Tamalada Time La Tamalada is an authentic Mexican tradition associated with Christmastime. Learn how to prepare hand-made authentic tamales using fresh and traditional ingredients such as banana leaf and corn husk. Saturday, December 7, 10:30am; \$75-\$195. 18 and up. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Teddy Bear Teas Step into the elegant Westgate Room restaurant where guests will be treated delicious beverages, premium teas, fresh house-made pastries, and desserts. Entertainment from Santa’s Magician and Elf, storytime with Santa Claus and each child will be gifted their very own teddy bear. Friday-Sunday, December

6-8, 2:30pm; **free**-\$80. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The French Holidays Market Shop for your Christmas gifts in French style with French artisans, crafts and food. Meet our Teachers and Staff, visit our facility, and register for our Winter Session. Register before December 7, 2019 and receive a Winter Discounted rate. Saturday, December 7, 10am; Alliance Française de San Diego, 6640 Lusk Bl., Suite 104. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Wacky Wonky Wonderland The annual Wacky Wonderland is a community holiday festival and donation drive. Sunday, December 8, 11am; **free.** San Diego Center for Children, 3002 Armstrong Street. (LINDA VISTA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Art Class for Kids Collage is a French word meaning adhere, paste, or glue. Kids will be taught how to assemble cut and torn paper to design their very own holiday design. All supplies provided. Saturday, December 7, 10am; **free.** Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Body-Heart-Mind Meditation Enlighten the Body-Mind through Heart practices rooted in meditation, mindfulness, and martial arts. Sunday, December 8, 11am; **free.** 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Cultured Dairy & Eggnog Workshop Discuss food fer-

mentation and its many benefits. Sample and show you how to make various probiotic-rich dairy foods such as kefir, yogurt, simple cheeses, and of course, eggnog! Friday, December 6, 6pm; \$50. Future Generations Center for Healthy Families, 3355 4th Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Inner Engineering Total Inner Engineering is a comprehensive system addressing every aspect of who we are from body, mind, emotions, to the fundamental life energy within us. Inner Engineering imparts the distilled essence of yogic science. This 4-day program is offered by an Isha Teacher trained by Sadhguru. Thursday, December 5, 6:30pm; Friday, December 6, 6:30pm; Saturday, December 7, 8:30am; Sunday, December 8, 7:30am; 15 and up. Institute of the Americas, UCSD,

10111 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Non Alcoholic Sip & Paint Want to enjoy a paint night without the bar or restaurant? Want a paint night without the alcohol that all ages can enjoy? RSVP on our website or call 760-421-4422 for more details. Fridays, 5pm; through Friday, December 6, \$35. Cynthia’s Artistic Expressions, 713 Mission Avenue Ste. C. (OCEANSIDE)

Yoga Mornings Start your morning with a refreshing yoga class at The New Children’s Museum. Classes are friendly to all levels of difficulty. Bring your mat and find your zen. Participants must be ages 18+. Saturday, December 7, 8:30am; \$5-\$10. New Children’s Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)



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COMEDY

A John Waters Christmas Saturday, December 7, 7pm; \$55-\$100. Observatory North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Improv Night Free improv show inspired by your stories. \$5 and \$6 craft beers during show. Friday, December 6, 8pm; free. Rough Draft at Mesa Nueva, 3869 Miramar Street. (LA JOLLA)

Jeremy Piven Thursday, December 5, 8pm; Friday, December 6, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$30-\$50. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Pam Ann Pam Ann, the perfectly-inappropriate-in-every-way air-hostess, is celebrating her new role as the Brand Ambassador for Air Italy with her spanking-new show. Her take on the world of airlines and aircrew may require a spoonful of sugar, a xanax and some Mary Poppers. Saturday, December 7, 7pm; \$35-\$55. 18 and up. Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage, 3940 Fourth Avenue #200. (HILLCREST)

DANCE

Latin Sunday Social Dancing 50/50 Salsa & Bachata dancing with DJ Farley spinning Latin tunes, salsa dance lesson. Sunday, December 8, 4pm; free-\$10. Cocina del Charro, 1020 West San Marcos. (SAN MARCOS)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Crying Hands: The Deaf Experience Under Nazi Oppression The Museum's Deaf Victims of Nazi Persecution and the Holocaust Initiative is committed to preserving and telling the stories of deaf survivors. Thursday, December 5, 7:45pm; free. Congregation Beth El, 8660 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

NCA Bird Club North County Aviculturists, will hold the annual Winter Holiday Party with a potluck and a Golden Bird drawing. This meeting is for members only, but you can join at the meeting. Saturday, December 7, 5:30pm; free. Vista Masonic Lodge #687, 761 Eucalyptus Avenue. (VISTA)

FOR KIDS

STEAM Maker Festival The STEAM Maker Festival is an opportunity for members of our community to come out and display their commitment to the outreach of STEAM programs and to show that SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY can impact learning in fun and exciting ways. Saturday, December 7, 10am; \$6-\$8. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Squash Smash 2019 After Halloween collect as many pumpkins and gourds as you can. Ocean View Growing Grounds Food2Soil will compost the smashed squashes for you and give you prizes for rescuing your neighborhood's gourds from going into the landfill. Saturday, December 7, 9am; free. Sierra Academy, 6460 Boulder Lake Avenue. (SAN CARLOS)

NATURE

Festive Berries in the Park Join a Mission Trails Regional Park Nature Guide as you experience the winter adaptations plants and animals employ to make their home in sage and chaparral communities on a fun and engaging nature exploration. Meet inside Visitor Center. Saturday, December 7, 9:30am; Sunday, December 8, 9:30am; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Get in Touch With Nature Work Party: Help us plant wildflower seeds and California Native Plants. All ages invited. All participants will receive some free wildflower seeds. Saturday, December 7, 9am; free. Point Loma Native Plant Reserve, Mendocino Boulevard and Greene Street. (POINT LOMA)

Harbaugh Seaside Trails Restoration This fall, you have the opportunity to restore native habitat with a stunning backdrop of ocean views. Volunteer to be part of the historic restoration of Harbaugh Seaside Trails. Volunteers will help Nature Collective biologists to install native plants that will attract pollinators, such as birds, bees and butterflies! Register online. Saturday, December 7, 9am; free. Harbaugh Seaside Trails, 2965 Highway 101. (SOLANA BEACH)

Whose Tracks Are These?

Take a walk with a Mission Trails Regional Park Tracking Guide. Learn the art of discovering signs left behind by illusive wild-life. Look forward to two fun-filled hours of "dirt time" from 8:30 to 10:30 am. Meet in front of Visitor Center. Saturday, December 7, 8:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Makers Arcade Holiday Fair Guests enjoy a fun and festive opportunity to mix and mingle throughout the day, buy local, and shop small for the holidays while enjoying delicious food, handcrafted cocktails, live music, a photo booth, crafts for all ages, and more. Saturday, December 7, 10am; Sunday, December 8, 10am; \$5. Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier, 1000 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

North Park Toyland Parade & Festival With vintage cars, marching bands, dance groups, beauty queens, city officials, and Santa Claus. Sunday, December 8, 11am; free. University Avenue between Utah and 32nd St., North Park

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling You know you want to unplug digitally and revel in You'd Better Watch Out, an evening of stories to caution, amaze and elevate during the most commercial time of the year. Thursday, December 5, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro, 2145 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

SPORTS & FITNESS

San Diego Metal Yoga Do yoga set to metal. These vinyasa-style classes are taught by a legit certified yoga instructor who happens to like Sabbath, Pelican, Howl, and Black Breath. Class is appropriate for all levels. Price includes yoga and a beer afterward. Bring your own mat. Thursday, December 5, 7:30pm; \$18. Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

ROAM-○-RAMA

continued from page 24

assisted hikers and dogs when the temperature was at 112°F. So check weather conditions before heading out. The best time is in the spring, when it is cooler and nature is in its glory with spring bloom.

When you have the time, Google 5-Peak Challenge and click on 5-Peak Challenge - Mission Trails Regional Park, for good information and inspiration from some of the individuals who have completed the challenge. By the end of 2019, there will be

close to 12,000 hikers who have completed the 5-Peak Challenge.

For details about the habitats and plants encountered while climbing these peaks, check out the individual peak writeups found in previous Roam-O-Rama columns printed in the San Diego Reader.

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

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Home of the \$3 burger

...and the killer deviled eggs

What's missing? I keep looking at this thing. But nothing's amiss. It is a complete burger, with slab of meat, slab of red onion, slab of cheese melting over the patty like a Salvador Dali watch, slab of tomato, lots of lettuce, pots of ketchup and thousand island...and the danged thing costs only \$3.

And this at one of the best-known eateries/bars/live music/dancing spots in town. El Cajon town, that is. 'Course, you can only get it in happy hour and here at the bar, but happy hour stretches from 2-6 every day, and this bar is clearly the go-to reunion spot for *Cajonistas*.

That's what it feels like when you come in, anyway. I had been heading towards the trolley on East Main when I found myself among sophisticated terraces of chairs and tables out on the sidewalk and spreading into a big internal patio.

I've been in and out of El Cajon a lot recently, and each time ended here, sitting up to this long black wooden counter not far from the courts and City Hall. Clientele's an interesting mixture of City employees (I'm guessing) and East County denizens, mainly local people who seem to know each other. The bar has this huge backboard, loaded with likker and topped with a collection of growlers from all over, like Picnic Tap from Nashville, or Novo Brazil, from, hey, Otay. "Growler collecting dust at home?" says a box in the menu. "Bring it in for a free beer and cheese burger. *Must be one we don't have on the wall.*"

"That's Gabriel, our owner," says Pam, who's working the bar. She's been here since this owner took over 19 years ago. "He is a serious collector. Growlers, rare beer cans, you name it."

Lower cupboards are also plastered in stickers. One from Arrogant Bastard beer reads, "It's not too expensive. You're too cheap."

"Celebrating 100 years of Cruisin.' El Cajon Classic Cruise," says this other poster. I mean, wow. They've had Classic cars doing their weekly cruise for a hundred years? That is amazing.

Alongside are photos of El Cajon before there were cars. Coaches, wagons, kids galloping by on horses, captured scenes from right outside here. Guess El Cajon truly was the Wild West. As far West and wild as you could git.

The wall of beer cans includes names like General Pulaski Beer, celebrating the man famous for saving George Washington's life at the Battle of Brandywine. Wow again. Wonder if that's worth anything?

Gent next to me has ordered a "flat-iron bites appetizer." Says it cost him \$8, down from the standard \$10.95. "This is the best happy hour in town," he says.

I mean, saving three bucks sounds good, but not fantastic, deal-wise. Whatever, that gets me perusing the happy hour menu. Hmm. Fish tacos, \$3, carnitas tacos, \$3, cheese fries, \$5, flatbreads, \$6. (They include topping choices of BBQ, carnitas, spinach, margherita, or vegetable.) Also "tuna deviled eggs," \$5. Wow, deals? Now we're talking.

And they ain't done: over the page, there's whole nother list of "bar food" with happy hour prices like potato skins for \$6, down from \$9.95, cheesy bread for \$4 (\$7.95), deep-fried mushrooms for \$5, Louisiana chicken strips for \$6.

But what really grabs my eye is this burger. Comes with every usual thing and costs three buckeroos. They have a \$5 version, a "triple cheese" burger, too, but I have to check this \$3 beauty out, as soon as I have ordered me up a lemonade (yup, working nights, and besides, I'm starting to get a taste for it).

The happy hour prices seem even better when I look at the standard menu. We're talking \$15 salads, \$17 stuffed calamari, \$21 ribs, \$13 cheese burgers.

Ten minutes later, Pam brings my \$3 bargain from the open kitchen. And really, this is a full-on burger. They haven't stinted on the meat or the fixins. Slider this ain't.

"The burger and fish tacos and carnitas tacos are best sellers every day," Pam says.

But fact is, I've also got my eye on the



Pam with my BBQ pork fries

mushrooms and tuna deviled eggs. So a couple of nights later when I'm back, that's exactly what I go for. And I swear, together they're just right, appetite-wise, even for a growing boy like myself. There are like eight mushrooms hiding inside golden batter. They are so lush when you liberate them from their shell, they're almost like oysters. Plus, I have a cerveza this time, which makes it all go down well. And actually, it's a toss-up between them and the eggs



Deviled eggs and tuna

hour (usually \$12.95). We're talking lots of shredded pork, a ton of cheese, onions, guac, crème fraiche, and of course, fries. Mama!

In the end, I get another meal out of it back at the ranch, so we're talking say \$4.50 per meal? I swear, I'm beginning to understand how people stay so loyal to El Cajon. They don't gouge each other here. Maybe they have a generous bone the rest of us lack. No wonder everybody around this bar's so danged happy.



My BBQ pork fries, with other delicious gunk

The Place: Downtown Cafe Bar & Grill, 182 East Main Street El Cajon, 619-440-5687

Hours: 11:00am - 9:00pm, Monday, Tuesday; 11am - 10pm, Wednesday, Thursday; 11am - 11pm, Friday, Saturday; 10am - 8pm, Sundays

Happy Hour Prices: Flat-iron bites appetizer, \$8; fish taco, \$3; carnitas taco, \$3; cheese fries, \$5; flatbreads (BBQ, carnitas, spinach, margherita, or vegetable), \$6; tuna devil eggs, \$5; potato skins, \$6; cheesy bread \$4; deep-fried mushrooms, \$5; Louisiana chicken strips, \$6; cheese burger, \$3; triple cheese burger, \$5; deep-fried mushrooms, \$5

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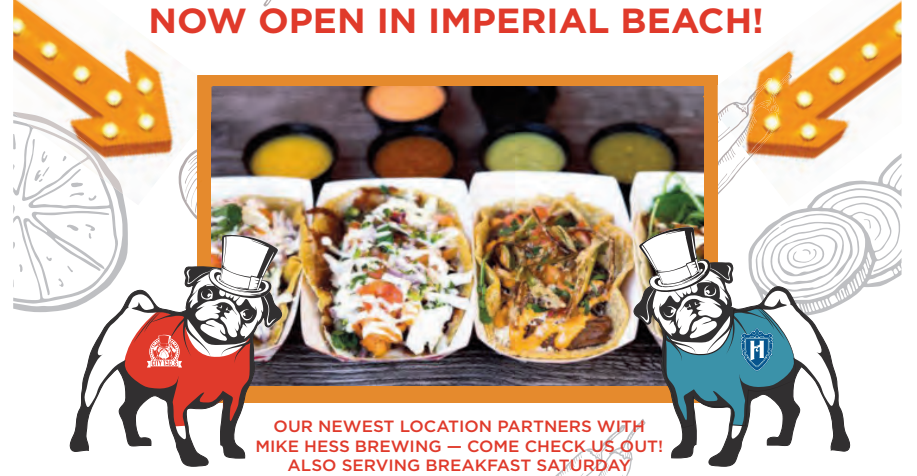
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Coffee tacos

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Showed up for coffee. Stayed for tacos.

Seven Seas Roasting Company; 1947 Fern Street, South Park. It was a Sunday morning, and following a sunny hour at the Grape Street dog park, I decided a cold

brew coffee sounded refreshing. (This happens a lot.) Conveniently, Seven Seas Roasting Company has its roastery and café in South Park, a few blocks away. The direct trade roaster serves coffees grown in unexpected national origins, such as Vietnam and Laos, and I've gotten hooked on its nitro cold brew. It's rare to find a blend of coffees grown on three continents (Asia, Africa, and South America), and the nitro does well to smooth out this

FEAST!

brew's roasty and chocolaty complexity. None of the above intent suggests a taco meal was imminent. And yet, when I showed up at Seven Seas, there was a taco cart in front, along with several customers both eating tacos and drinking coffee.

The tacos were being served by Dos Tierras, a branch of a local catering business, Chicano Soul Food. Its cart is set up to keep chafing dishes filled with stewed *guisados* on heat, and to grill hand pressed corn tortillas.

The pairing initially surprised me, but a few minutes later, with my nitro cold brew and a trio of tacos in hand, I realized it's not such a far out notion. Mexican



The Seven Seas coffee shop in South Park.



Seven Seas nitro cold brew coffee blends beans from three continents.

hot chocolate and the hot chocolate-masa drink *champurrado* aptly demonstrate how well distinct flavors of Mexican cuisine play with the dark, roasty flavors of cocoa. Plus, of course, the chocolaty Oaxacan *mole negro* is one of the most celebrated and nuanced sauces on the planet.

Just chocolate pairs so wonderfully with Mexican food, so does coffee. The Chicano Soul Food crew seems to grasp this: turns out the taco cart routinely pops up at other coffee shops in town, including Heartwork Coffee Bar in Mission Hills,

and the little Italy location of James Coffee. It served tacos at the annual Cold Brew City cold brew coffee festival. In case you're not sold, you'll find Dos Tierras following a more conventional course by popping up at local breweries, whether Thorn Brewing in Barrio Logan, or Novo Brazil Brewing down in in East Lake.

But, there's more to be surprised about, wherever you encounter this particular coffee cart; that is, several of the *guisados* it serves happen to be vegan. Yes, I did particularly enjoy the 24-hour confit pork shoulder the cart bills as "pork birria," but also good was a lentil and pumpkin seed stew featuring charred corn, poblano



This taco cart from Chicano Soul Food appears at coffee shops, breweries, and more.

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pepper, and small chunks of the small gourd *chayote*. One of the best it serves is the so-called Funghi Ranchero, which brings together mushrooms and chili peppers with a truffle gravy.

In short, the tacos are good. The coffee is optional, but also good. And from now on, tacos will be a permanent part of my breakfast rotation.

by Ian Anderson

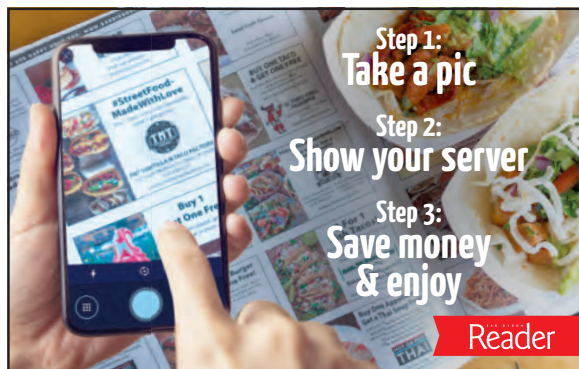
Empanada Kitchen bakes hand pies on the Boulevard

Empanada Kitchen North Park; 2855 El Cajon Blvd Suite 3, North Park. The world has come up with a lot of cool sounding words — pierogi, sambusa, calzone, pupusa — to describe what the English would call a pastry, and what we here in America might rather mundanely call a “hand pie.” I’d argue the best known variation of savory stuffed pastry is the most fun to pronounce: empanada. Made famous in Argentina (but originally from Spain), the meat or vegetable filled morsels are easy to find in specialty shops around Buenos Aires. And the same could be said about San Diego these days, thanks in part to Empanada Kitchen.

It’s one of those farmers market success stories. After a couple years as a vendor at the North Park weekly market, Empanada Kitchen upgraded to a brick-and-mortar shop downtown in early 2018. This fall, the business grew again, expanding into a second storefront location; this one back in North Park.

The new spot is found on El Cajon, The Boulevard, a couple short blocks west of 30th Street, in the same small strip mall home as the Heart & Trotter butcher shop. The casual counter eatery bears a similar, bright yellow design motif, and offers the same menu of empanadas found at the original location.

Which is to say, baked empanadas. Traditionally, they may be fried as well, but sticking to the oven here results in empanadas that more closely resemble single-serve pies, from the texture of the crust to the moist interior. If you really know a lot about empanadas, you might be able to tell which filling a specific one contains just by looking at it; subtle differences in how the empanadas are folded offer clues. For example, the beef empanada has sort of a half moon shape, with a braid run-



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A new Empanada Kitchen location on El Cajon Boulevard.

ning along its curved edge, while the chicken empanada replaces braids with a series of sequential folds. Conversely, the ham and cheese empanada is round, with a ridge circling its top edge.

Most of them cost \$3.50 apiece, though you can make a meal of three for \$9.50. The ground beef and shredded chicken in them are stewed with minced vegetables, and are scrumptious. I must assume the same about the \$4.50 lamb option that always seems to be sold out before I arrive.

This is one of the rare street food shops that pays more than lip service to vegetarians. Meatless options include a caprese empanada (with basil, tomato, and mozzarella); mushroom

and goat cheese; sweet corn and basil; and the vegan ratatouille empanada, which is stuffed with finely diced and roasted onions, peppers, garlic, zucchini, and eggplant. Naturally, all of the above go well with the house chimichurri (though I'm partial to the mild heat of a spicy version).

If you ask me, the coolest thing about a dedicated empanada restaurant is that you can shop your appetite. One makes for a quick, grab and go snack. Two fills you up about the same as a small sandwich. Mix and match three or more empanadas and you start to enter balanced meal territory, without any need for a fork.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

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. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, January 5, Chandler's, 1 Ponto Road. (CARLSBAD)

Country Brunch Country Brunch Live is a multi-sensory experience of food and music that will kick-start folks' weekend vibes. No Cover For Entry. Free Live Music. Walk-Ins Welcome. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 29, free. House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

December Tequila Tasting Team partners with different tequila and mezcal brands regu-



Chicken empanada on the left, beef on the right.

larly to educate guests about how the chosen spirit is harvested and what foods it pairs best with. Friday, December 6, 5pm; 21 and up. Galaxy Taco, 2259 Avenida de La Playa. (LA JOLLA)

Drink Play Create: Ugly Sweater Party Don your favorite ugly sweater and join us at the next 21+ after-hours event. Tickets include a hands-on art activity, access to the Museum's art installations, pub games, food tastings, a cash bar and more. Plus, best ugly sweater wins a prize. Thursday, December 5, 6pm; \$20-\$30. 21 and up. New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Fall Harvest Wine Dinner Series The Fall Harvest Wine Dinner features Executive Chef Brad Wise and Guest Chef Brian Redzikowski. The six-course dinner will be paired with wines from Frog's Leap Winery in Napa Valley. Guests will enjoy six courses for \$120 per person, plus tax and service charge. Thursday, December 5, 5:30pm; \$120. 21 and up. Fort Oak Restaurant, 1011 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION HILLS)

Holiday Hotcakes Breakfast Boys & Girls Clubs of San Marcos will be hosting its annual Holiday Hotcakes Breakfast presented by California Coast Credit Union. Thursday, December 5, 6am; \$7. San Marcos Community Center, 3 Civic Center Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Poetry & Prosecco Sunday Brunch Pair poetry with your Prosecco during Sunday brunch at The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe's Morada. Jeremy Brownlowe, known as the Typewriter Troubadour, will pen personalized poetry in the lobby of The Inn. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 8, free. Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

San Diego Dim Sum Tour 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. 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. Trip length of 2 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)

Sip & Shop Enjoy a festive night of shopping under the stars with exclusive retail lines. Sip on champagne while enjoying tea sandwiches and hand-crafted macaroons. Tickets include full day access to the spa and our pool, valet parking and unlimited food and beverage experiences. Thursday, December 5, 4pm; \$35. Estancia La Jolla Hotel and Spa, 9700 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

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)



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DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Garage Kitchen + Bar: Monday, 4-7pm: \$5 mules, \$12 burger and beer, 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Football specials after 3pm: Bud Light draft \$2.50 pint or \$7 for 34ounce stein, \$20 five domestic beers (Bud, Bud Light, Mich Ultra), \$30 five specialty beers (Golden Road Wolf Pup IPA, Golden Road Mango Cart Wheat, 10 Barrel Cucumber Crush Sour, Truly Wild Berry or Grapefruit), \$7 wings, short rib fries, Bob's sliders. Tuesday, 4-7pm: \$5 margaritas, Cazadores Blanco, \$15 five Corona beers, \$2 carnitas taco, 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Wednesday, 4-7pm: \$10 select wine bottles, \$3 off flatbreads, 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Thursday, 4-7pm: \$4 bottles of beer, \$6 coffee and donuts dessert, 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Football specials after 3pm: Bud Light draft \$2.50 pint or \$7 for 34ounce stein, \$20 five domestic beers (Bud, Bud Light, Mich Ultra), \$30 five specialty beers (Golden Road Wolf Pup IPA, Golden Road Mango Cart Wheat, 10 Barrel Cucumber Crush Sour, Truly Wild Berry or Grapefruit), \$7 wings, short rib fries, Bob's sliders. Friday, 4-7pm: Half price bombers, 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Saturday, 4-7pm: 51% off appetizers and select drinks. Football specials all day: Bud Light draft \$2.50 pint or \$7 for 34ounce stein, \$20 five domestic beers (Bud, Bud Light, Mich Ultra), \$30 five specialty beers (Golden Road Wolf Pup IPA, Golden Road Mango Cart Wheat, 10 Barrel Cucumber Crush Sour,

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Novo Brazil is huge in Otay Ranch

Already the county's southeasternmost brewery, Novo Brazil Brewing has opened a second location somehow even farther southeast. And it's not small. The roughly 14,000-square-foot brewery and restaurant occupies a corner spot at the upscale Otay Ranch Town Center. It stands as an outpost of San Diego beer amid such retailers as the Apple Store, AMC Theaters, and Barnes & Noble in a storefront that used to be an Anthropologie.

It immediately becomes a local beer hub for east Chula Vista. More than a quarter million people call the city home, but most of its breweries are clustered near its downtown area, closer to the bayfront.

For the tens of thousands who reside in its vast expanses east of the 805 freeway, Novo Brazil has been the only brewery to establish a physical presence.

Since launching in 2015, it has gradually packed its warehouse space in Eastlake with a brewhouse, tasting room, canning line, and quality assurance lab. While the property has done well to help the brand grow into a multi-state distributor, as a local retail presence, it's been hampered by its industrial location. Novo's new location is not just a craft beer tasting room, it's a community-facing restaurant with a small batch brewhouse on premise.

"Here, it's a more family-friendly environment," says Tiago Carneiro, who founded the business with his father and brother. The family hails from the Brazilian town of Belo Horizonte, which, like Chula Vista, loosely translates to "beautiful view."

Setting up shop within an outdoor mall gives the brand instant visibility to a population unreached by most craft beer entities. Supporting its efforts are enormous televisions, shuffleboard tables, room for live music, and a more than 900-person capacity. There's a full kitchen serving a fusion of Brazilian, Mexican, and American cuisines, and at the rear of the dog-friendly space, a play area is being built for children.

Of course, beverages are the main draw. Behind a seemingly never-ending length of wavy bartop, the brewpub will routinely offer



A 14,000-square-foot brewery and restaurant with 14 x 10-foot TV screens

sours, wild ales, and other styles with organic ingredient infusions. And it's not all beer: the remainder of its 60 tap handles will pour hard kombucha, soft kombucha, hard seltzer, and wine. That soft kombucha is made by K Happy Kombucha, Brazil's largest kombucha producer, which also happens to be owned by the Carneiro family. In fact, of all the aforementioned drinks, only the wine isn't a part of their beverage empire.

Novo Brazil has expanded to the point where it's not just a beer company anymore. "We want to be fermentation company," says Carneiro. "Anything that we can ferment, we'll try it." Last year, it became one of the first local breweries to add hard kombucha to its offerings. Building on a white tea base, it's now up to seven different canned flavors of Nova Easy Kombucha, including combinations such as mango ginger and lavender hibiscus. It will further expand its product line this month with a new line of hard seltzers.

For more craft booze news, see sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news

Truly Wild Berry or Grapefruit), \$7 wings, short rib fries, Bob's sliders. Sunday, 4-7pm: 51% off appetizers and select drinks. All day: \$4 Refuge cans, \$5 Fireball, \$10 bottles of champagne. Football specials all day: Bud Light draft \$2.50 pint or \$7 for 34ounce stein, \$20 five domestic beers (Bud, Bud Light, Mich Ultra), \$30 five specialty beers (Golden Road Wolf Pup IPA, Golden Road Mango Cart Wheat, 10 Barrel Cucumber Crush Sour, Truly Wild Berry or Grapefruit), \$7 wings, short rib fries, Bob's sliders.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Melting Pot Gaslamp: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$7 select cocktails and martinis, \$6 featured

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

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

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



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

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

HILLCREST

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

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

Hachi Ramen: Daily, 3-6pm: \$3 Sapporo, \$4 hot sake, \$5 wine or daily cocktail special. Deals on bites like teriyaki pork buns and chicken & shiitake, as well as \$3 edamame, \$4 dumplings.

Hundred Proof: Daily, 4-6pm: \$7 cocktails.

KEARNY MESA

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: Monday-Tuesday, Sunday, 4-6pm: \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium wells, weekly craft cocktail specials. Texas style BBQ prepared fresh daily with other Southern delights. Drink specials all night. Wednesday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$5 all draft beers, bourbon slushies, premium wells, weekly craft cocktail specials. Texas style BBQ prepared fresh daily with other Southern delights.

LA MESA

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

LITTLE ITALY

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

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

MIRA MESA

Crab Hut Mira Mesa: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$4 draft beers, \$7 house wine, house cocktail, and sangria. 75 cent wings (6 minimum), \$1.50 oysters (5 minimum), \$2.50 raw clams or raw scallops (minimum 3), \$4 crab poppers, \$5 sausage sliders (minimum 3). Sunday, 7pm to close: \$4 draft beers, \$7 house cocktail

Inchin's Bamboo Garden: Monday, 11am-9pm: Half off all drinks at the bar and on the pet friendly patio.

NORTH PARK

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

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

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

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything. Tuesday, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything, Miller High Life bottles \$3. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-7:30pm: \$1 off liquor.

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

HOPE 46: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 off select wine by the glass, \$4 wells and draft beers.

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

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

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

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

PACIFIC BEACH

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 Patio on Lamont Street: Monday, 3pm-10pm: \$5 drafts, \$6 selected well drinks and wine. Appetizers \$4-\$14. Tuesday-Sunday, 3pm-6pm: \$5 drafts, \$6 selected well drinks and wine. Appetizers \$4-\$14. 10pm-midnight: \$5 drafts, \$6 selected well drinks and wine.

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.

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

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

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

RANCHO BERNARDO

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

SAN MARCOS

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

SANTEE

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



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

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

SPRING VALLEY

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

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

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Daily, 3-6pm: All bottled beer \$3.75 or \$4.25, \$5-\$5.50 select wines by the glass. \$3.50-\$11 appetizers.

Draft Republic: Daily, 2-6pm, 10pm-close: \$2 off drafts, \$6 select wines, well cocktails. \$7 snacks. \$17.95 any burger or sandwich with a beer, fries, house salad.

Drift: Daily, 4-7pm: \$5 for 16 oz drafts, \$10 craft cocktail of the day, \$4 off wine carafes, \$10 shares and flatbreads.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cafe 21: Daily, 3-6pm: Half off craft beer, mimosas, and sangria pitchers.

Cueva Bar: Tuesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: \$5 tapas and select beer and wines.

Great Maple: Monday-Friday, 5-6pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 cocktails.

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.

VISTA

TownHall Public House: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6pm: \$1 off wines by the glass.

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blurt the inside track



50 Cent and Snoop Dogg — not fans of mumble rap.

“All them n*** sound the same”** “That’s what’s wrong right now, everybody trying to rap the same style with the, I don’t know who created it, if it was Future or Migos,” said Snoop Dogg in a 2014 SnoopDoggTV video segment, “but all them niggas sound the same.”

Then at about the seven-minute mark of the YouTube video, Snoop and Grammy-award winning rapper 50 Cent, mimic the “mumble rap” style wherein the lyrics sound indistinct.

In the 90s, my uncle said the same thing to me as I watched the “Doggy Dogg

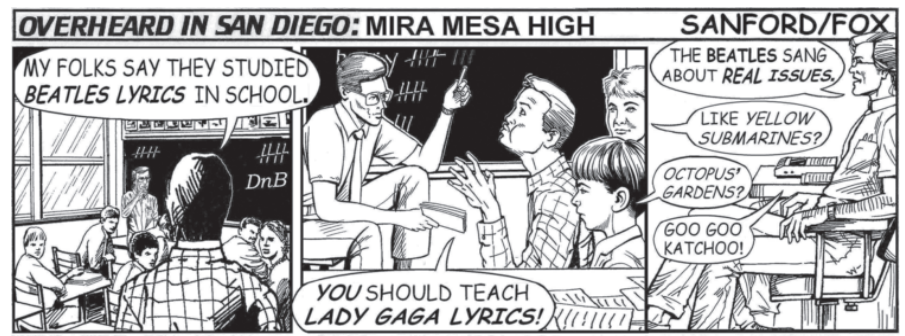
World” video on MTV. “Why they gotta ruin The Dramatics’ [sampled] song like that,” he said, “I don’t understand what they’re saying.”

That was in 1994, about three years after Aaron Newbom was born. “Snoop’s position is absolutely right about a lot of the mumble rappers,” Newbom said. “But, the same statements could be made in any genre of music. So he is right, but also wrong in that sense.”

Newbom is a mumble rap fan from City Heights; I chopped it up with him on October 21 before he left to work at a local medical manufacturing facility. “What mumble rap song sounds original and artistic, to you?” I asked him.

“Let’s start with ITSOKTOCRY,” he responded. “In his song ‘Jirachi,’ he makes use of voice alterations and autotune, but in a way that he almost turns his voice into an instrument on its own.”

ITSOKTOCRY is a Denver-based rapper with face tattoos and colored hair — two characteristics



OVERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM - IF WE USE YOUR TIP, YOU GET THE ARTWORK

that older hip-hop heads tend to identify with mumble rap, which is not always “on point.”

“On his ‘Pop, Lock, and Dropdead’ song, ITSOKTOCRY portrays this ‘party to escape the endless depression we are all experiencing in this society’ mentality,” Newbom explains. “He is also sarcastically bragging about complete despair and suicidal thoughts” — which are themes evident in the emo rap subgenre that’s crossed over with mumble rap, at times.

While most of ITSOKTOCRY’s lyrics are coherent, the mumble part of the song, goes:

*Got blood on my pink Vans
Got knives, I don’t use
hands
Hush man, you not my
mans
Smoke blunts with
Slenderman*

“Not all mumble rap is meaningful and artistic,” Newbom admits, “but not all 90s rap is either.”

“Then of course there’s also XXXtentacion. Most hip-hop people I know agree he was one of the most talented artists who died in 2018 before he really got to flourish.”

Many SoundCloud listeners, say that when rappers incorporate the word “aye” in their music, which XXX did

in some of his songs — that can pigeonhole the song into the mumble rap genre. “ITSOKTOCRY has all those trademark mumble rap elements,” Newbom said, “like saying ‘aye’ after some lines, then yelling unintelligible things, and mumbling about drugs and money, with simplistic pounding delivery.”

In 2015, a Minneapolis producer calling himself “falls,” reportedly infused some trap beats and sound effects to Snoop and 50 Cent’s mumble rap sound bytes; in 2018, a music video of the trap and mumble-joint titled “Snoop Dogg – Mumble Rap Anthem (feat. 50 Cent)”

(continued on page 38)

MUSIC BOX



THURSDAY

THE SLACKERS
VIERNES 13
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★ DEC 05



FRIDAY

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★ DEC 06



SATURDAY

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QUICKLY, QUICKLY

DEC 07



SUNDAY

PINK FLOYD
4 SIDE OF FLOYD
(SEATED SHOW)

DEC 08



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surfaced.

Snoop will perform at the House of Blues on December 8. ITSOKTOCRY does not have San Diego listed in his 2020 schedule as of yet.

—Mike Madriaga

Another rotten day

job “I made a new record with Talls from the KneeHighs that we’re releasing December 6,” says Edgar Alminar, aka DJ GarGar, one half of the Beautiful State. The duo builds multilayered hip-hop tracks from recorded snippets of artists one might

not expect would inspire rapping. “I sampled some of my favorite groups with reckless abandon, like No Knife, Radiohead, Modest Mouse, Coldplay, The Beatles, Pretty Girls Make Graves, Greg Laswell, the Flaming Lips, Black Heart Procession, and Ben Folds Five.”

Alminar has long favored unconventional musical blends, going all the way back to the early 2000s, playing keyboards and percussion for rockers Irradio (who once recorded with Alan Parsons) while also DJing for hip-hop quartet the KneeHighs, along with three MCs: Talls, DaDa (onetime KUSI news editor Dave Drury), and Dalton. The KneeHighs

earned kudos and respectable sales for their releases *Global Warming* (2005) and *Rise and Shine* (2007), with the latter winning Best Hip-Hop Album at the 2007 San Diego Music Awards (they were nominated again two years later). They opened for big name headliners like Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Talib Kweli, DJ Quik, Pigeon John, and Blowfly, but Alminar says live performances became increasingly annoying.

“We played Fifth Qtr in downtown, and some guy claiming to be a famous rapper’s cousin came onstage and insisted on freestyling in the middle of our set. He basically killed the vibe for the rest of the night, and he

wasn’t even good.” By 2012, recording commercial jingles had become another way for the KneeHighs to help pay the bills. They were one of five local artists asked to record a 60-second spot for “Movin’ and Groovin,’” a TV and radio ad campaign created and paid for by the Metro

Transit System (MTS) to get San Diegans to appreciate public transportation (Vokab Kompany, Buck-O-Nine, Ron Fountenberry, and Todo Mundo also participated).

A new KneeHighs CD was announced for release in 2016, but Alminar and MC Talls recruited guest appearances from No Knife’s Mitch Wilson (“Challenge of 6 Iron Ingots,” built from a No Knife sample) and Marquez! singer Jared Wardle (“Halfway to Zero”), as well as Tim Atlas (“Below the Surface”), Lauren Torres (“Bradus Kato”), fellow KneeHigh MC Dalton (“Gray”), and a full-fledged KneeHighs reunion took place with all four members on “The Myth.”

“We’re working on details for an album release party, not a show, but nothing is



Beautiful State’s Edgar Alminar (right) didn’t like working for the Marines. “It was a bunch of rigid people trying to pull rank on a civilian with no rank.”

the Beautiful State, Alminar and MC Talls recruited guest appearances from No Knife’s Mitch Wilson (“Challenge of 6 Iron Ingots,” built from a No Knife sample) and Marquez! singer Jared Wardle (“Halfway to Zero”), as well as Tim Atlas (“Below the Surface”), Lauren Torres (“Bradus Kato”), fellow KneeHigh MC Dalton (“Gray”), and a full-fledged KneeHighs reunion took place with all four members on “The Myth.”

“We’re working on details for an album release party, not a show, but nothing is

confirmed yet,” says Alminar. He’s hoping that this will be the band that guarantees he’ll never have to make ends meet with another rotten day job. “I’ve only had four but, if I had to pick one [worst], it’d be working at the front desk at Billington at the Marine Corps Air Station at Miramar. It was a bunch of rigid people trying to pull rank on a civilian with no rank.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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<p>ME FIRST AND THE GIMME GIMMES GLITTER WIZARD, MASKED INTRUDER DECEMBER 6</p>	<p>GASOLINA PARTY NOCHE DE PERRED DECEMBER 19</p>	<p>JAMN 96.7 PRESENTS BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY G BLASIAN, HEAT, MICHAEL GABRIEL DECEMBER 31</p>
<p>SNOOP DOGG WARREN G, RJMRLA DECEMBER 9</p>	<p>WHO'S BAD A MICHAEL JACKSON TRIBUTE NIGHT DECEMBER 20</p>	<p>LEGENDS OF ARENA ROCK TRIBUTES TO KISS, IRON MAIDEN, RUSH AND SCORPION JANUARY 3</p>
<p>SODA BAR PRESENTS WITH CONFIDENCE SEAWAY, DOLL SKIN, ANDY'S ROOM DEC 5 • VOODOO ROOM</p>	<p>OH SNAP! IT'S A 90S HIP HOP PARTY! DECEMBER 21</p>	<p>ULTIMATE 80'S PARTY FT. TIFFANY WITH BETAMAXX, DJ JON B JANUARY 10</p>
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<p>LA DISPUTE TOUCHE AMORE, EMPATH DECEMBER 12</p>	<p>HOLIDAY HANGOVER NT. 1 STRANGELOVE, U2 AMERICA, DUKE, STILL ILL DECEMBER 27</p>	

LIVE *five*

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ASTRA KELLY at Bella Vista Social Club

DEC 5

Astra Kelly began her singing career after taking note of Chicago's subway performers while en route to her job. Already trained in classical and jazz guitar, and with a few pointers from a veteran subway performer, she gave it a try and earned 50 dollars in two hours. She soon quit her job and recorded her first CD, *Stones, Bones and Boxes*, self-released in December 1996 and recorded in her apartment using professional equipment and guest engineers. In 2006, Kelly landed in San Diego, where she played in bands like Not Your Mom and an all-girl folk vocal trio, Schroeder Kelly. In addition to becoming a regular onstage

at Dublin Square in the Gaslamp Quarter, she DJ'd at KPRI (102.1), where she started with overnights midnight to 5 am before hosting the station's Saturday night Homegrown Hour. She showcased hundreds of local bands on that show before stepping down in 2009. Kelly has also been the voice of commercials for Starbucks, Motel 6, Southwest Airlines, and the American Diabetes Foundation. She's done prison songwriting workshops with Jail Guitar Doors USA, a non-profit organization co-founded by rockers Billy Bragg and Wayne Kramer that provides musical instruments and opportunities to help rehabilitate prisoners.



REBECCA JADE at Music Box

DEC 6

Rebecca Jade, who was the singer for Super Magnetic when that band won the 2010 Ultimate Music Challenge at Viejas Casino, released her debut album *The Jade Element* in 2011. A new ensemble called Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact debuted two years later, featuring at various times players like Alfred Howard and DJ Greyboy. Their debut self-titled release scored a 2014 San Diego Music Award as Best Blues Album, and Jade had to clear shelf space for more SDMAs in 2015 and 2017, as well as winning a Best of San Diego Award in 2016. While performing on the ocean as a member of saxophonist Dave Koz's music cruise, Latin star Sheila E. approached her about filling in for one of her back-up singers, and she's been a regular

member of Sheila E's band ever since. She recently appeared at Dizzy's fourth annual Vocal Summit and opened for Jeffrey Osbourne at Thornton Winery, as well as touring with Sheila E, with whom she performed at this year's Playboy Jazz Festival. The most recent Rebecca Jade & the Cold Fact full-length, *Running Out Of Time*, was recorded with Alfred Howard (percussion and lyrics) and released earlier this year. In addition to her own four albums, she's been featured in recording sessions with Kiko Cibrián (Luis Miguel) and has an ongoing project with Kevin Flournoy (Chaka Khan, Pointer Sisters, Donny Osmond). Lee Fields & the Expressions will headline, and the bill includes Brainstory.



SAN DIEGO BEATLES FAIR at Queen Bee's

DEC 7

Beatles Fair returns to North Park with a celebration of all things Fab, featuring a full day of music, discussion, and rare memorabilia for sale. With a floor setup and programming akin to early editions of San Diego Comic-Con, there will be fan displays, a rock 'n' roll marketplace, and themed panels, with speakers to include Mark Brickley (*Postcards from Liverpool*), John Borack (*John Lennon: Life is What Happens*), and Robbie Rist. The latter guest is best known as a former child actor who played Cousin Oliver the jinx on the *Brady Bunch*, as well as providing voices for the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Musical performers will

include Blac Rabbit, Revolution Band, the Nowhere Men, True Stories, and the Baja Bugs. The latter band, celebrating its own 30th anniversary, was founded by Hector Penaloza (the Zeros, Squiddo) and has featured Xavier Anaya (the Trebles) and members of My Revenge, along with around a dozen other players through the years. Penaloza also started a new Beatles tribute last year called Come Together (recruiting former members of the defunct Fab tribute Help), and he recently cofounded a new band called Neko Neko Neko.



PINK FLOYD at Music Box

DEC 8

Pink Floyd and the Pink Floyd Experience are fronted by guitarist Tom Quinn, with both bands usually featuring the same local players, including co-founding bassist Gus Beaudoin. "Our first gig was in 1995," says Quinn, who was inspired to form the groups after seeing the real Pink Floyd at Jack Murphy Stadium in April '94. "If I wasn't playing Pink Floyd covers, I can't imagine me doing any other tribute." Pink Floyd, who won San Diego Music Awards in 1999 and 2000, will stage *The Four Sides of Floyd*, merging tracks from *Dark Side of the Moon*, *Wish You Were Here*, *The Wall*, and *Meddle*, with a show is full of live visuals,

film projections, and sound effects of plane crashes, helicopters, and of course cash registers. The band includes singer-guitarist Joshua Taylor (cofounder of the King Taylor Project with his wife Sandi King) and transplanted British guitarist Jonny Tarr, who attended Paul McCartney's Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts and leads his own local band. The group also features Vision drummer Bob Sale (who worked on the soundtrack for the Tom Hanks film *That Thing You Do!*), New York-bred keyboardist Josh Weinstein, and vocalist Lauren Leigh.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW COWEN



EYEDRESS at Soda Bar

DEC 10

Filipino songwriter and producer Idris Vicuña, aka Eyedress, was reportedly Manila's first Filipino musician to be signed to a major British indie label. He was actually raised in the U.S., spending his childhood in Phoenix, Arizona before moving to San Clemente, California and playing in teen punk bands like the Liberal Underground and an indie rock group, Claud Winters. After moving back to Manila in 2005, he cofounded the indie noise pop band Bee Eyes before launching his first solo projects

under the name Eyedress. He's so far released four EPs, four albums, and over a dozen singles, with his newest – 2018's *Sensitive G* – recorded almost entirely by himself in his bedroom. Having relocated to Los Angeles last year, he recently released a video for his track "I Don't Wanna Be Your Friend," directed by Brvinfreeze. The Soda Bar show is the final date of a short four city tour before he returns to work on a new full-length, due next year.

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

AMSconcerts Bonita:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Roy Zimmerman. \$20-\$25.

Balboa Theatre:

Saturday, 8pm, Sunday, 3pm — SD Gay Men's Chorus: Jingle.

Bella Vista Social Club and Caffè:

Thursday, 5:30pm — Astra Kelly. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — D.I.V. \$16-\$28. Sunday, 8pm — Aly & AJ.

Tuesday, 8pm — Pete Yorn. \$35-\$62.

Wednesday, 8pm — JD McPherson. \$20-\$35.

Blind Lady Ale House:

Saturday, 9pm — Robin Henkel Band.

Brick by Brick:

Friday, 8pm — Exhumed, Necrot, Deathgrave. Saturday, 8pm — Authority Zero.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Shawn Colvin and Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Carlsbad City Library Learning Center:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Allison Adams Tucker & Peter Sprague. Free.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — Marco Benevento and Mattson 2. \$18-\$20.

Friday, 8pm — Magic Sword. \$15.

Saturday, 8pm — The Bronx and Slaughter Boys. \$25.

Sunday, 8pm — Death Eyes, Archons, Forest Grove.

Chalice Unitarian

Universalist Church:

Sunday, 7pm — Randi's (Damn) Jingle Ball. \$20.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 9pm — Bottomline. Free.

Ché Café:

Wednesday, 7pm — Defeater. \$15-\$22.

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 6pm — Dante Fire.

Ebullition Brew Works:

Friday, 5:30pm — The Rayford Bros. and Sangre Chicano Soul. \$8.

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego:

Saturday, 11:30am — Amateur Pianists Holiday Party. \$35.

Grand Ole BBQ Flinn Springs:

Friday, 5pm — Flipside Burners. Free.

Saturday, 5pm — Bonneville 7. Free.

Grossmont College:

Thursday, 7pm — Caravan World Music Ensemble: Music of the Middle East. Free.

Sunday, 2pm — Grossmont Guitar Ensemble. \$5.

Hale Production Studios:

Friday, 7pm — Disco Riot Wrap Party. \$35-\$60.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:

Sunday, 4:30pm — Mikan Zlatkovich Trio. Free.

Helia Brewing Company:

Thursday, 6pm — Jungle Poppins Christmas Album Launch. Free.

Sunday, 2pm — Jennifer Klein.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:

Friday, 8pm — Whiskey Ridge. Saturday, 8pm — Michael J Dwyer.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:

Friday, 8pm — Blame Betty. Saturday, 9pm — Ron's Garage.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Black Flag, the Dickies, D.I. \$27-\$75.

Thursday, 7:30pm — Greystone Chance.

Wednesday, 8pm — Sublime with Rome and DENM.

La Jolla Community Center:

Thursday, 7pm — Carlos Velasco & Friends. \$10.

La Jolla United Methodist Church:

Sunday, 4pm — Christmas Concert: Tell Us 'Bout a Baby. Free.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Sunday, 7pm — It Was 50 Tears Ago Today: White Album Tribute.

Martinis Above Fourth | Table + Stage:

Thursday, 8pm — Daryl

Sherman. \$30.

Monday, 8pm — Aubrey Logan. \$30.

Tuesday, 8pm — Lake & the Existence. \$20.

Wednesday, 8pm — Frenchie Davis. \$30.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:

Saturday, 9pm — Miss Demeanor.

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:

Friday, 9pm — Cheap Date. Free.

Saturday, 9pm — United Country. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Thursday, 8pm — Casey Donahew and Chancey Williams.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Saturday, 8pm — 8 East Band. Free.

Museum of Making Music:

Saturday, 7pm — Rob Ickes & Trey Hensley.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7pm — The Slackers. \$20-\$22.

Friday, 8pm — Lee Fields & the Expressions and Brainstory.

Saturday, 9:30pm — Louis Futon and Quickly, Quickly. \$18-\$20.

Sunday, 7pm — Pink Floyd: 4 Sides of Floyd. \$19-\$24.

Wednesday, 8pm — The Shelters. \$15.

My Yard Live:

Wednesday, 6pm — Dante Fire.

North Clairemont Library:

Tuesday, 6:30pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.

North University Community Library:

Sunday, 3pm — The Swingin' with Dean Show. Free.

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, 7pm — Unknown Mortal Orchestra. \$27-\$28.

Sunday, 7:30pm — Kim Petras.

Pechanga Arena San Diego:

Thursday, 7:30pm — The 1975 and Catfish & the Bottlemen.

Friday, 7:30pm — Illenium.

Pour House:

Friday, 5pm — Bonneville 7. Free.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Thursday, 8pm — John Tesh: An Acoustic Christmas.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:

Saturday, 10am — San Diego Beatles Fair.

San Diego Humane Society and SPCA:

Friday, 6pm — Holiday Benefit featuring the Forecast Jazz Duo. \$10-\$1000.

Sheraton Mission Valley:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Monica B. \$25-\$30.

Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego:

Tuesday, 7:30pm — Gamelan Ensemble & Mariachi Ensemble. \$5-\$10.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Reagan Youth and Midnight Track. \$15.

Friday, 8pm — Griffin House. \$18.

Saturday, 8pm — Tow'rs. \$10-\$12.

Sunday, 8pm — Valley Queen. \$12.

Tuesday, 8pm — Eyedress.

Wednesday, 8pm — Son Little and Christopher Paul Stelling. \$20.

Solana Beach Library:

Saturday, 7pm — Tibetan Bowl & Gong Concert. Free.

Soma:

Friday, 7pm — Health and Daughters.

Saturday, 7pm — Gryffin.

Space:

Thursday, 9pm — Toy Drive & Artist Showcase. Free.

St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church:

Friday, 7pm — Emmet Cahill: Christmas in Ireland. \$30-\$45.

Stone Brewing Co.:

Tuesday, 11am — PopUP Shop & Playdate. Free.

Til-Two:

Friday, 8pm — Fox Medicine.

University of San Diego:

Saturday, 7:30pm, Sunday, 2pm — Lessons & Carols. Free.

Village Faire Shopping Center:

Thursday, 1:30pm — Adrienne Nims. Free.

Whiskey Girl:

Sunday, 4:30pm — Snowtorius Ugly Sweater Party. \$5-\$10.

Zel's Del Mar:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Folklorick & Family. Free.

<p>THU., DECEMBER 5</p> <p>KILL DEVIL HILL Shield of Snakes, Warpath</p>	<p>BRICK X BRICK</p>	<p>SAT., DECEMBER 21</p> <p>DAMAGE, INC. Domination CFH, Woke Up Dead</p>	
<p>FRI., DECEMBER 6</p> <p>EXHUMED Necrot, Deathgrave, Mortal Wound</p>		<p>SUN., DECEMBER 22</p> <p>CATTLE DECAPITATION Atheist, Primitive Man, Author & Punisher, Vitriol</p>	
<p>SAT., DECEMBER 7</p> <p>AUTHORITY ZERO Sailor's Songbook, Ready Set Survive, Fallen Monuments</p>		<p>SAT., DECEMBER 14</p> <p>JONAH MATRANGA (FAR) Fake Figures + Special Guests</p>	<p>SAT., DECEMBER 28</p> <p>IGNITE Pulley, Chaser, Roman Watchdogs</p>
<p>WED., DECEMBER 11</p> <p>UNEARTH Darkest Hour, Thrown Into Exile, Blackcast</p>		<p>SUN., DECEMBER 15</p> <p>THE FALL OF TROY Strawberry Girls, Dead American, Andres, The Undertaking</p>	<p>SAT., JANUARY 4</p> <p>GODHAMMERED Londons Falling, Deep Sea Thunder Beast, Eyes of Perdition</p>
<p>THU., DECEMBER 12</p> <p>KHEMMIS Un, Garth Algar</p>	<p>WED., DECEMBER 18 (SOLD OUT)</p> <p>THURSDAY Chris Conley</p>	<p>FRI., JANUARY 9</p> <p>GOOD RIDDANCE Youth Brigade, The Last Gang, PSO</p>	

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<p>A JOHN WATERS CHRISTMAS</p> <p>SATURDAY, DEC 7</p>	<p>Alan Las North America Tour</p> <p>FRIDAY, DEC 13</p>
<p>chon. between THE BURIED AND ME</p> <p>SATURDAY, DEC 14</p>	<p>SILVER SUN PICKUPS</p> <p>TUESDAY, DEC 17</p>
<p>ERIC RACHMANY</p> <p>SUNDAY, DEC 22</p>	<p>POONISIDE</p> <p>SATURDAY, DEC 28</p>
<p>SAINT MOTEL</p> <p>SATURDAY, JAN 25</p>	<p>AMERICAN AUTHORS AND MAGIC GIANT</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEB 1</p>

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<p>Friday Dec 13th</p> <p>Sue Palmer</p>	<p>Saturday Dec 14th</p> <p>Missy Andersen</p>

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

Advent Choral Concert The 150-voice Chancel Choir and Masterwork Chorale of First United Methodist Church of San Diego will perform John Rutter's Magnificat and Four Winter Songs by Ola Gjeilo, with soloists, chamber orchestra and organ, directed by Stanley M. Wicks. Sunday, December 8, 7pm; **free**. First United Methodist Church of San Diego, 2111 Camino del Rio South.

City Ballet of San Diego: The Nutcracker The Nutcracker is the classic Victorian-era story of the adventures of Clara, the Nutcracker Prince, Herr Drosselmeyer and the Sugar Plum Fairy told through a magical theatrical experience to Peter Tchaikovsky's famous score. Friday, December 6, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 7, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 8, 2pm; \$34-\$93. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway.

Hallelujah! Messiah Sing-along For this classic annual performance, SD Master Chorale and audience members will sing as one ensemble, directed by SD Master Chorale Music Director John K. Russell, and accompanied by St. Paul's organist and SD Master Chorale Associate Music Director Martin Green. Distinguished soloists include local soprano Lisa Newton, alto Evangelina Woo, tenor Tony Malerich, and bass Matt Fallesen. Sunday, December 8, 5pm; \$10-\$25. St. Paul's Cathedral & Episcopal Church, 2728 Sixth Avenue.

Jason Vieaux: From Spain to the New World Grammy-winner Jason Vieaux is a guitarist that goes beyond the classical. Among his extensive discography is the 2015 Grammy Award winning album for Best Classical Instrumental Solo, *Play*. Sunday, December 8, 7:30pm; \$5-\$15. Cuyamaca College, 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway.

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,

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Puccini's papas

I've been posting daily music history tidbits on my social media. Wednesday, November 27 was a slow day, until I discovered that Michele Puccini was born on that day in 1813.

Michele was the father of the much more famous Giacomo Puccini, composer of *La Boheme*, *Tosca*, *Turandot* and other top-notch *verismo* operas. I had never looked into Puccini's heritage. Probably because his extra-marital affairs, the suicide of his maid, and the fate of his estate make such fascinating reading.

Yet there it was, a deep tradition of musicianship in the Puccini family. At the time of Michele Puccini's death, a Puccini had been *maestro di cappella* — choir master — of the Cattedrale di San Martino in Lucca for 124 years. The tradition

started with Puccini's great-great-grandfather, who was also named Giacomo.

Michele Puccini was a teacher of music and also composed several sacred pieces of music along with a *Concertone for Flute, Clarinet, Horn and Keyed Trumpet*. Some of the sacred music is on YouTube, but the performances aren't well recorded. The *Concertone* is.

I gave it a listen and I enjoyed it, probably more than I should have. It was written in 1838 and as such, has something of the *bel canto* era about it. The solo instruments have a singing quality that would fit right into an opera by Rossini or Donizetti.

Michele Puccini's music is oh-so-very Italian, and I can imagine a modern audience enjoying this *Concertone*.

On the other hand, I can't imagine an orchestra taking on the expense of four soloists in order to perform the piece.

Michele died when Giacomo was only six years old and therefore did not mentor his son in musical composition. Giacomo did participate in the musical life of the cathedral from an early age, but never became the "maestro di cappella."

Thanks to the YouTube sidebar, I was also able to listen to a piano concerto by Michele's father Domenico, grandfather of Giacomo. This piece smacks of the classical era but without the rigorous structure of Mozart, Haydn, or early Beethoven. It is, nonetheless, enjoyable.

Having listened to all of Mozart's mature piano con-



Giacomo Puccini

certos, I liked listening to a piece from within the same genre and style. It should be noted that Domenico's piano concerto is from 1800 and so is Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 3*. Clearly, Domenico was looking to the past while Beethoven was striding into the future.

I took it back one more generation to Puccini's great-grandfather, Antonio. I found a terrible video of a 1986 performance

of Antonio's *Miserere*. It too is of the classical style. Mozart and Haydn were the preeminent composers of the classical style, but just about everyone in Europe was composing in that style, though none as well those two awesome Austrians.

I found it fascinating to hear the procession of styles within Puccini's family. The heritage goes from the classical to *bel canto* to the *verismo* of Giacomo.

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Jazz Vespers San Diego Jazz Vespers at Christian Fellowship is a creative collaboration between jazz our artists and liturgists. 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)

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus December 7-8, 2019 Steven Schick, conductor Celeste Oram Thomas Nee Commission Robert Schumann Violin Concerto John Adams Harmonium Soloist: Keir GoGwilt, violin Keir GoGwilt, who dazzled in Thomas Adès' Violin Concerto two seasons ago, returns with another unfamiliar piece, the Violin Concerto of Robert Schumann. The La Jolla Symphony Chorus joins the orchestra for the work that launched John Adams' career: Harmonium sets texts by John Donne and Emily Dickinson, and its premiere in 1981 announced the arrival of a major composer. Celeste Oram, this year's Nee Commission winner, continues our tradition of melding music and visual art. Saturday, December 7, 7:30pm; Sunday, December 8, 2pm; \$15-\$39. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive.

Ling Conducts Prokofiev & Dvořák ARTISTS Jahja Ling, conductor Wei Luo, piano REPERTOIRE RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Suite from The Snow Maiden PROKOFIEV: Piano Concerto No. 3 in C Major, Op. 26 Dvořák: Symphony No. 8 in G Major, Op. 88 Please join us 45 minutes before the concert for a lively talk about the composers and the repertoire given by commentator Nuvi Mehta from the stage of Copley Symphony Hall. We begin with music from Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov's charming fairy tale opera about a magical snow princess who yearns to be part of the human world. Next, the sparks fly as rising-star pianist Wei Luo dazzles us with Serge Prokofiev's virtuosic Third Piano Concerto. Then, Antonin Dvořák's Eighth Symphony rings forth its festive tones as the trumpets call us to the dance!

Friday-Saturday, December 6-7, 8pm; Sunday, December 8, 2pm; \$20-\$100. Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street.

Musica Vitale Winter Concert The program will include the Coronado premiere of works by American vibrant contemporary composer George N. Gianopoulos whose music has been performed throughout Europe and America. Seating is limited so tickets are required. Doors will open at 6:40pm The Winter Concert is made possible by the Friends of the Library. Saturday, December 7, 7pm; **free**. Coronado Library, 640 Orange Avenue.

Neave Trio features works by three distinguished women composers spanning the Romantic era through the modern day, including Cecile Chaminade's Piano Trio No. 1, Op. 11; Amy Beach's Piano Trio in A minor, Op. 150; and Rebecca Clarke's Piano Trio. Sunday, December 8, 2:30pm; **free**. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard.

Palomar Symphony Orchestra: The Uncommon The Palomar Chorale, Chamber Singers and Palomar Symphony Orchestra present a program full of wonderful surprises including Carols and Lullabies (Christmas in the Southwest) by Conrad Susa, Dvořák's brilliant Symphony No. 8 in G Major, and Joan Tower's Sixth Fanfare for the Uncommon Woman. *Doors will open at 6:15pm for a pre-concert chat. Friday, December 6, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 7, 7:30pm; \$10-\$15. Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College, 1140 W. Mission Road.

Remembrance: Devotional Meditation of Green Tara Remembrance is a devotional musical meditation designed to draw us into connection with innate wisdom bliss. Green Tara, "Mother of the Buddhas" is the sublime embodiment of compassion who overwhelms suffering with joy and love. Sunday, December 8, 7:30pm; **free**. Coriography, 1795 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

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UPCOMING SHOWS

AMSconcerts Bonita:

Sunday, Jan. 12 — Dar Williams. \$30-\$40.

BNS Brewing & Distilling:

Saturday, Dec. 14 — West of 5. Free.

Balboa Park Club & Ballroom:

Monday, Dec. 30 — Auld Lang Syne Ball. \$10-\$15.

Balboa Theatre:

Sunday, Dec. 15 — The Colors of Christmas.

Thursday, Dec. 19 — Mariachi Sol de Mexico: A Merry-achi Christmas. \$35-\$68.

Friday, Jan. 3 — Willie Nelson & Family.

Beaumont's:

Saturday, Dec. 14 — Bonneville 7. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, Dec. 12 — Thievery Corporation and Brazilian Girls. Friday, Dec. 13 — The Young Guns.

Sunday, Dec. 15 — Blind Boys of Alabama and Nicki Bluhm.

Monday, Dec. 16 — Kiefer Sutherland.

Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Chris Isaak. \$99-\$174.

Wednesday, Dec. 18 — The Venice Christmas Show.

Thursday, Dec. 19 — The Tubes. \$32-\$62.

Friday, Dec. 20 — Cash'd Out Christmas.

Saturday, Dec. 21 — Betamaxx.

Sunday, Dec. 22 — Groundation.

Monday, Dec. 23 — Abbey Road Christmas. \$16-\$18.

Thursday, Dec. 26 — Lies N' Roses and Way Cool Jr.

Friday, Dec. 27 — Stick Figure. \$51-\$89.

Saturday, Dec. 28 — Stick Figure. \$51-\$89.

Sunday, Dec. 29 — Donavon Frankenreiter and Tom Curren.

\$30-\$53.

Monday, Dec. 30 — Donavon Frankenreiter and Tom Curren. \$30-\$53.

Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Steel Pulse.

Friday, Jan. 3 — Queen Nation and Graceband.

Saturday, Jan. 4 — 10th Annual Beat Farmers Hootenanny.

Sunday, Jan. 5 — Just What I Needed: Cars Tribute.

Wednesday, Jan. 8 — David Lindley.

Thursday, Jan. 9 — Chadwick

Stokes & the Pintos.

Friday, Jan. 10 — Tusk. \$23-\$41.

Blind Lady Ale House:

Friday, Dec. 20 — Robin Henkel Band.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, Dec. 12 — Khemmis and Un. \$15-\$18.

Sunday, Dec. 22 — Cattle Decapitation and Atheist.

Saturday, Dec. 28 — Ignite and Pulley. \$15-\$20.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, Dec. 13 — Carols by Candlelight Concert Sings for a Great Cause. \$69-\$87.

Saturday, Dec. 14 — Carols by Candlelight Concert Sings for a Great Cause. \$69-\$87.

Capri Blu:

Friday, Dec. 27 — Jennifer Klein.

Carvers Steak & Chops:

Saturday, Dec. 14 — Miss Demeanor.

Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Miss Demeanor. Free.

Casbah:

Thursday, Dec. 12 — Bayside and Capstan.

Saturday, Dec. 14 — Blockhead and Eliot Lipp. \$15-\$18.

Sunday, Dec. 15 — Gary Heffern's Last Waltz Film Screening. \$10.

Thursday, Dec. 19 — Jade Jackson and Jason Hawk Harris. \$10.

Sunday, Dec. 22 — El Vez and Alvino and the Dwells. \$25.

Saturday, Dec. 28 — Big Sandy & His Flyrite Boys and Deke Dickerson.

Saturday, Jan. 4 — Petty 2: Tribute to Tom Petty. \$20.

Cheers:

Friday, Dec. 13 — Miss Demeanor.

Cheers Bar & Grill:

Saturday, Dec. 14 — Good Company. Free.

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Ché Café:
Saturday, Jan. 4 — World of Pain and Take Offense. **Free.**

Club M:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Winter White Party. \$30.

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Flipside Burners. **Free.**
Thursday, Dec. 19 — Miss Demeanor.

Cuyamaca College:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Jason Vieaux. \$5-\$15.

Encinitas Library:
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Nathan & Jessie: A Holiday Special. \$14.

Fairmont Grand Del Mar:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — New Year's Eve Party. \$40.

Famous Mexican Village:
Friday, Dec. 20 — Bonneville 7. **Free.**

Ferry Landing Marketplace:
Sunday, Jan. 5 — Miss Demeanor.

Four Points by Sheraton:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — The Finale NYE. \$35-\$50.

Grossmont College:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Electric Oud Trio. \$5-\$10.

Handlery Hotel and Resort:
Friday, Dec. 20 — Ugly Sweater Party. \$25-\$35.

Handlery Hotel's 950 Lounge:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Allison Adams Tucker Quartet. **Free.**
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Ian Buss Trio. **Free.**

Sunday, Dec. 29 — Mary Ann McSweeney Quartet. **Free.**
Sunday, Jan. 5 — Chase Morrin Trio. **Free.**
Sunday, Jan. 12 — Danny Green Trio. **Free.**

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Thee Dark Ages.

Friday, Dec. 20 — Jamacha Project.

Friday, Dec. 27 — Tony Cummins.

Saturday, Dec. 28 — Raney/Butler.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Tony Cummins.
Friday, Dec. 20 — Camino Paz.
Friday, Dec. 27 — Flophouse Playboys.

Hotel Indigo Del Mar:
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Kathleen Murray.
Saturday, Jan. 7 — Kathleen Murray.

House of Blues:
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Touché Amoré, La Dispute, Empath.
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Gospel Brunch. \$31-\$49.
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Hellyeah.
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Phantom Planet. \$25-\$30.
Sunday, Dec. 29 — Gospel Brunch. \$31-\$49.
Monday, Dec. 30 — L.A. Guns.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Thursday, Jan. 9 — Brian Jones Rock 'n' Roll Revival. \$5.

Jacobs Music Center/Copley Symphony Hall:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Noel Noel. \$20-\$100.
Friday, Dec. 20 — Noel Noel. \$20-\$100.
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Noel Noel. \$20-\$100.
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Noel Noel. \$20-\$100.
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Noel Noel. \$20-\$100.
Wednesday, Jan. 1 — Salute to Vienna New Year's Concert. \$33-\$129.

Joan B. Kroc Theatre:
Saturday, Jan. 4 — The Outsiders: Back To The Sixties. \$46-\$52.

Kraken:
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Bonneville 7. **Free.**

La Jolla Community Center:
Thursday, Jan. 2 — Carlos Velasco & Friends. \$10.

La Mesa Wine Works:
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Robin Henkel & Dave Castel de Oro.

Loft:
Wednesday, Jan. 8 — Cedric Burnside. \$9-\$30.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
Thursday, Dec. 19 — Dave Koz & Friends Christmas Tour.
Thursday, Jan. 9 — Art Garfunkel.

Martinis Above Fourth I Table + Stage:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Anna Danes & Friends. \$25.

Sunday, Dec. 15 — An Evening of Holiday Magic. \$59-\$99.
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Danielle Forsgren & Joe Savant. \$25.
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Ty Herndon. \$125.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Bonneville 7. **Free.**
Saturday, Dec. 28 — Miss Demeanor.

Mission Trails Regional Park:
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Winter Solstice Native American Flute Concert. **Free.**

Molly Malone's Waypoint Saloon:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Nemesis. **Free.**
Friday, Dec. 20 — Alter Ego. **Free.**
Friday, Dec. 27 — Safety Orange. **Free.**

Moonshine Beach:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Yankton.

Music Box:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Space Yacht.
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Kool Keith. \$20-\$22.
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Rockademy.
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Easy Wind: A

Very Jerry Christmas. \$16-\$18.
Thursday, Dec. 19 — Berkley Hart Christmas. \$30-\$35.
Friday, Dec. 20 — Infected Mushroom. \$27-\$30.
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness (Acoustic). \$39.
Sunday, Dec. 21 — The Grouch and Murs. \$22-\$25.
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Mud Slide Slim. \$22-\$27.
Saturday, Dec. 28 — The Crystal Method and Keith Sweat. \$25.
Sunday, Dec. 29 — The Steely Damned 2. \$38.
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — The Floozies and Maddy O'Neal. \$45-\$50.
Friday, Jan. 3 — Red Not Chili Peppers and Vitalogy. \$12-\$15.
Saturday, Jan. 4 — The Winehouse Experience. \$20-\$22.
Thursday, Jan. 9 — KT Tunstall and Charlie Mars. \$28-\$30.

My Yard Live:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Bonneville 7. **Free.**
Wednesday, Jan. 1 — Dante Fire.

Nate's Garden Grill:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Tinkersmith. **Free.**
Wednesday, Jan. 1 — Tinkersmith. **Free.**

Nick & G's:
Friday, Dec. 27 — Tim Yancey. **Free.**

Observatory North Park:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Allah-Las. \$25-\$30.
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Chon and Between the Buried & Me.
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Rebutation.
Saturday, Dec. 28 — Poolside and Neil Frances.
Friday, Jan. 10 — Mandolin Orange. \$27-\$32.

Ocean Beach People's Organic Food Market & Deli:
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Tinkersmith. **Free.**

Panama 66:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Uptown Rhythm Makers. **Free.**

Parq Restaurant:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Ball on Broadway: NYE 2020. \$10-\$50.

Phantom Lounge:
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Artist Appreciation Night. **Free.**

Pilgrim United Church of Christ:
Sunday, Dec. 15 — The Palomar Pacific Music Men Chorus. **Free.**

Pounders:
Friday, Jan. 10 — Miss Demeanor.
Saturday, Jan. 11 — Miss Demeanor.

Poway Library:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — The Swingin' with Dean Show. **Free.**

Poway's Irish Pub:
Friday, Dec. 13 — The Celebrities. **Free.**

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Robin Henkel & Nathan James.
Friday, Jan. 3 — Flipside Burners. **Free.**

Ramona Library:
Thursday, Dec. 12 — The Swingin' with Dean Show. **Free.**
Rosie O'Grady's:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Bonneville 7. **Free.**

San Diego Humane Society: Airport Road:
Friday, Dec. 13 — Holiday Benefit featuring the Forecast Jazz Duo. \$10-\$1000.

San Diego Maritime Museum:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Tim Flannery & Friends. \$55-\$85.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, Dec. 12 — Ariel View.
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Motel Radio. \$12.
Sunday, Dec. 15 — Omni. \$14.
Tuesday, Dec. 17 — Mark Diamond.
Wednesday, Dec. 18 — L.A. Takedown and Brokeback. \$10-\$12.

Thursday, Dec. 19 — Jade Jackson and Jason Hawk Harris. \$10-\$12.
Friday, Dec. 20 — Matt Embree. \$18.
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — Elektrik Voodoo and Boostive.
Friday, Jan. 10 — Moans and Aviator Stash. \$10.

Soma:
Friday, Dec. 13 — SiR.
Saturday, Dec. 14 — As I Lay Dying and After the Burial.
Wednesday, Jan. 8 — Motionless In White and Beartooth.
Friday, Jan. 10 — Cashmere Cat.

Soul of Yoga:
Saturday, Dec. 21 — Diáne Mandel & Richard Rudis Yuletide Concert. \$30-\$40.

Sycuan Casino:
Friday, Dec. 27 — Big Bad VooDoo Daddy and Bonneville 7. **Free.**

Sycuan Live & Up Close Theatre:
Sunday, Dec. 22 — Il Divo: Holiday Song Celebration.

Tin Roof San Diego:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Reviverfest: Thompson Square, more. **Free.**

Tower Bar:
Thursday, Jan. 2 — The Picturebooks.

Viejas Arena:
Friday, Jan. 10 — Tool.
Sunday, Jan. 12 — Tool.

Viejas Casino:
Tuesday, Dec. 31 — NYE Bash: A Roaring 20s Night to Remember.

Vinyl Junkies Record Shack:
Saturday, Dec. 14 — Satanic Puppeteer Orchestra and Lion Cut. **Free.**

Westgate Hotel:
Tuesday, Dec. 16 — Latin New Year's Eve. \$165.

WildWood Crossing:
Saturday, Dec. 21 — West of 5. **Free.**

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MON, 12/9
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Kuskatka

THEATER LISTINGS

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

A Christmas Carol

Bring the family to enjoy the holiday classic adapted from Charles Dickens' timeless tale of hope and redemption. This production features original music, stagecraft, puppetry, and live sound effects. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

A Christmas Story

Nine year old Ralpie Parker wants one thing for Christmas, an official red ryder range model carbine action BB gun. There's only one problem: everyone else is convinced he'll shoot his eye out. Undeterred, he begins his saga of convincing all the necessary players, from his sweet and protective mother, to his straightlaced teacher, Miss Shields, all the way to Santa Claus himself, that he needs that gun for the protection of his loved ones, and maybe even a little cowboy glory to call his own. Ralpie's vivid imagination conjures up several numbers, from "Ralpie to The Rescue" in which he defeats every foe a young boy can think of (robbers, mustache twirling villains, and of course, the school bully), to thrilling tap routine performed by a gun moll-esque Miss Shields, who sheds her sweater set and romance novel for a glittery red gown and a whole lot of moxie. HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

And Neither Have I Wings To Fly

The play takes place in an Irish country house the 1950's. A tight knit Irish family turned upside down when a handsome stranger comes into their lives. Wedding plans are changed. A ghost appears. And one of the daughters makes the bravest decision of her life.

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 9783 AVENUE OF NATIONS, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Around the World in 80 Days

The story of Victorian Phileas Fogg, who has determined, with mathematical precision, that the world can be circumnavigated in 80 days — and he has wagered his entire fortune on it. Joined by his trusty, acrobatic valet, Passepartout, Fogg sets off aboard steamships, locomotives, sleighs and pachyderms. Along the way, he meets the beautiful and self-assured Aouda, who joins him on his voyage, and he is pursued at every step by the unrelenting and bumbling Inspector Fix, who believes Fogg to be a notorious bank

robber, and who will stop at nothing to cut his journey short.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Cambodian Rock Band

This play/rock concert thrusts us into the life of a young woman trying to piece together her family history thirty years after her father fled Cambodia. Featuring a cast that performs a mix of contemporary Dengue Fever hits and classic Cambodian oldies, playwright Lauren Yee brings to life the Cambodian rock scene of the '60s and '70s, a movement cut short by the Khmer Rouge's brutal attempt to erase the music (and musicians) once and for all. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Ebenezer Scrooge's San Diego Christmas Show

All the traditional elements of Dickens's A Christmas Carol are intact—including the iconic ghosts of Christmases Past, Present, and Future—but with a local twist. Ebenezer Scrooge rediscovers the Christmas spirit in this Dickens mash-up set in "wintery" San Diego. SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, & WEDNESDAYS.

The Eight: Reindeer Monologues

Santa's reindeer tell all in an expose of the North Pole. With each deer's confession, the truth behind the shocking allegations becomes clearer and clearer and seems to implicate everyone from the littlest elf to the tainted Saint himself. Intended for a mature audience. POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. 8PM FRIDAY.

Hold These Truths

Shocked by the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, and driven by fear and prejudice, America shipped its own citizens of Japanese ancestry off to internment camps for forced detention. *Hold These Truths* tells the true story of American Gordon Hirabayashi, a young man who defied an unjust order. Join Gordon on a 50-year quest to avenge an injustice to his community and restore his faith in the U.S. Constitution. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, DEC. 8.

Home For the Holidays

Come celebrate with stories and songs about the comfort and joy of coming home to family, friends, and the familiar for the holiday season. OLD TOWN THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7PM TUESDAY, DEC. 10.

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. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, & WEDNESDAYS.

Linda Libby's HoliGay Storytime

Join the indomitable theatre icon Linda Libby after hours for some queer holiday cheer. Grab a drink in Fritzy lounge and saddle up with Linda fireside as she regales us with readings of holiday stories and songs that put the holly in your holi-gay. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-728-7820. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Mamma Mia!

In this popular musical, based on the songs of ABBA, Variety Donna lives on a Greek island where she runs a small hotel. Her daughter, Sophie, is preparing for her wedding, dreaming of her father walking her down the aisle. One problem: she doesn't know who he is! Jennie Gray Connard directs and choreographs for the Coronado Playhouse. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Mr. Dickens' Christmas Carol

A one-man version of the classic tale. Charles Dickens "has gathered an audience of friends" as he presents his newest work, acting out all of the parts himself. (Free childcare available.) CANYON COMMUNITY CHURCH, 610 PASEO DEL REY, CHULA VISTA. 619-421-6263. 7PM SATURDAY.

Natale; Journey to the North Pole

The circus-style show and Christmas-themed village is a nostalgic holiday experience with acrobatic performers and dancing animatronic polar bears, the show traces Natale as she sets off to the North Pole on a quest to find the World's Greatest Toy Store. Along the way, she encounters enchanted creatures that help her overcome the many challenges she faces crossing the polar cap. When Natale finally arrives, and is ready to choose her present, she discovers the true spirit of the season. Adjacent to the big top, the South Promenade will be converted into a "Holiday Village" that will include train rides, a glacier-like climbing wall, a bounce house, and vendors selling holiday treats and food.

LIBERTY STATION SOUTH PROMENADE, 2850 ROOSEVELT RD., LIBERTY STATION. 6:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 3PM & 6PM SATURDAYS, 12PM, 3PM, & 6PM SUNDAYS, 6:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

SILA (The Arctic Cycle)

Sila is the Inuit concept of the breath that connects all life. With a blending of Inuit mythology and and realism, this play exposes the consequences of human beings losing their connection to the natural world and ancient wisdom. Set in the Baffin Islands, just inside the Arctic Circle, eight characters — including a climatologist, an Inuit activist and two polar bears — find their values challenged as they grapple with a rapidly changing environment and world. The personal, political, mythical and ecological intertwine as crisis, danger and death shatter the world, only to reveal the possibility of healing. PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MIS-

SION RD., SAN MARCOS. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, DEC. 8.

Scrooge in Rouge

This quick-change, cross-dressing version of the Charles Dickens classic is set in a Victorian music hall. The Royal Music Hall Twenty-Member Variety Players are beset with a widespread case of food poisoning. This leaves only three surviving members to soldier on through a performance of A Christmas Carol. The undaunted trio gamely face missed cues, ill-fitting costumes, and solving the problem of having no one to play Tiny Tim. Done in the style of British Music Hall, Scrooge in Rouge abounds in bad puns, bawdy malapropisms, naughty double-entendres, and witty songs. A raucous holiday treat.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 6PM SUNDAY, DEC. 8. 8PM MONDAY, DEC. 9.

Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream

As one of Shakespeare's most popular romantic comedies, this play interweaves reality and magic, love and hate, chaos and order. Three distinct worlds are the focus: The Athenians, The Fairies and The Players. Chaos and comedy ensue when they all cross paths. Angry parents, rebellious teens, eloping young lovers, unrequited love, a natural world asunder, mischievous fairies, magical potions, mistaken identities, struggling young actors, wedding revelries, and an ass. Contrary to Shakespeare's original, this production takes place during modern times in the Mediterranean region. The addition of ethereal dances and orchestral accompaniment augment

this "dream-like" play.

STEELE CANYON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, 12440 CAMPO RD., SPRING VALLEY. 619-660-3500. 7PM WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11.

Welcome Home For The Holidays

Family friendly musical, Broadway blend with newer holiday influences. This show is a love-letter to the rat pack TV holiday specials of the 1960s. You might even spot a jolly old heavyset fellow in red. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM THURSDAYS, 1PM & 8PM SATURDAYS.

UPCOMING SHOWS

SDCC Winter Show:

Footprints

Footprints is meant to represent making footprints — the trail you leave behind, following leaders, peers and making a change of direction on your own but remembering your past. Remembering those that you have followed and mentoring people that follow you. San Diego Circus Center offers classes of varying intensity levels for all age groups, each focusing on a different skill or apparatus. Additionally SDCC offers a variety of live shows throughout the year.

SAN DIEGO CIRCUS CENTER, 2050 HANCOCK ST., SUITE A, MISSION HILLS. 619-487-1239. DEC. 13 THROUGH DEC. 15.

SILA (The Arctic Cycle)

Sila is the Inuit concept of the breath that connects all life. With a blending of Inuit mythology and and realism, this play exposes the consequences of human beings losing their connection to the natural world and ancient wisdom. Set in the Baffin Islands, just inside the Arctic Circle, eight characters — including a climatologist, an Inuit activist and two polar bears — find their values challenged as they grapple with a rapidly changing environment and world. The personal, political, mythical and ecological intertwine as crisis, danger and death shatter the world, only to reveal the possibility of healing.

PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION RD., SAN MARCOS. DEC. 12 THROUGH DEC. 14.

Scrooge in Rouge

This quick-change, cross-dressing version of the Charles Dickens classic is set in a Victorian music hall. The Royal Music Hall Twenty-Member Variety Players are beset with a widespread case of food poisoning. This leaves only three surviving members to soldier on through a performance of A Christmas Carol. The undaunted trio gamely face missed cues, ill-fitting costumes, and solving the problem of having no one to play Tiny Tim. Done in the style of British Music Hall, Scrooge in Rouge abounds in bad puns, bawdy malapropisms, naughty double-entendres, and witty songs. A raucous holiday treat.

OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE, 4944 NEWPORT AVE., OCEAN BEACH. 619-795-9305. DEC. 12 THROUGH DEC. 22.

By Gordon Greenberg and Steve Rosen
Based on *A Christmas Carol*
by Charles Dickens
Directed by Gordon Greenberg

Now Playing
Through
December 29

THE OLD GLOBE (619) 23-GLOBE TheOldGlobe.org

Robert Joy. Actor photo by Jim Cox.

The Wolf Hour: Prisoner of the past

A shade of wet newsprint grey smudges the facade of the still-standing South Bronx apartment. From the opposite side of the street, the only visible sign of life in the tenement is a faint glow coming from inside a center-frame window. A cut whisks us behind locked doors, where intense

close-ups, backed by the rail wheel squeal of a nearby elevated train, introduce us to June (Naomi Watts). *The Wolf Hour* dawns at the crack of the Summer of Sam, but instead of seeing a horror film, we're locked away on a mysterious journey with a brooding agoraphobic.

Somewhere along the way, something happened to June. A once promising literary figure, she has turned the apartment of her late grandmother into a personal foxhole, one that she hasn't emerged from in what appears to be years. Her only glimpses of the outside world are through her living room window or the crack of her front door. She rationalizes that staying inside makes it impossible to do more damage "out there." But the world inside is so dark that June shields her eyes when opening the refrigerator.

It took a lot of nerve for June to hit up her sister for cash; why couldn't Margo (Jennifer Ehle) have used the postal service instead of showing up on the doorstep with loan in hand? And in spite of her promise not to judge, Margot can't resist throwing in an "Oh, my God!" followed by a "How long has it been since you left here?" Sis is but one of a handful of characters granted entry to June's flat. (There are, admittedly, moments where one envies their ability to leave.) Not that Watts needs the company, mind you. She's one of the few actresses around capable of bringing enough depth to a performance to commandeer a one-hander.

A newly-hired grocery deliveryman (Kelvin Harrison Jr.) brings provisions, and later acts as a conduit between June and her publisher. The surest sign of June's once mighty popularity as a counter-culture icon comes from an anxious publisher, who four years earlier forked over the biggest advance in the company's history. To date, June has yet to submit so much as one paragraph.

Any thoughts of writer-director Alistair Banks Griffin copping an easy out by placing all motivation squarely inside a troubled protagonist's nog-

gin are dashed the moment Margo reacts to the sound of the doorbell. It's a near-constant source of anxiety throughout the picture, an oppressive, air-punching interruption that June would swear was deliberate. An officer shows up on her doorstep a week after she phoned in a complaint. When informed by June that "someone is genuinely trying to intimidate me," even a cop with limited powers of deduction would know to slap the cuffs on Griffin.

Then there's *Pet Hate #41144*: revealing a character's backstory via radio or television broadcast. Everything there is to know about our heroine's past come from watching (along with June) a VHS tape containing an old interview that indicates her book caused an investigation into her father's shady business practices, one that that resulted in his death. Add to this a crazily implausible premise that keeps drawing attention to itself in ways that have a tendency of sucking the viewer out of the moment.

Wouldn't it have made more sense to put in a direct call to your publisher, rather than wait to hear back from a two-bit hustler to whom you have entrusted your life's work? That's just one of the burning questions left unanswered when the lights go up. Here's another: "What exactly did June do to earn her fame?" There are some things that even Watt's face cannot provide. The end may not justify the means, but at the very least, the humanitarian response that motivates reclusive June to finally leave her flat is enough to take the sting out of what might have been.

—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.

The Aeronauts — Inspired by true events? For all the truth the opening title card contains, it might just as well have read, "Inspired by All Accounts." Wasn't it John Ford who said, "When the legend becomes fact, print any excuse imaginable to reunite Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne in the hope of rekindling the box office success



The Wolf Hour: Naomi Watts huffs and puffs but can't blow her front door down.

of *The Theory of Everything*?" There was no Amelia Wren. It was two male aeronauts — not a guy/gal pair of barnstorming chipmunks looking for romance — who piloted the historic gas balloon flight. Whenever the script calls for a flashback to play out on good old terra firma, rest assured that it lands with a resounding thud. The first hit of airborne turbulence sets the stage for a spectacular sequence of soaring unrest as the effects crew plays hacky-sack with the runaway balloon and its passengers. But once the storm passes, the reality of being stuck spending the remaining 90 minutes with two actors and a green screen sets in. 2019. — S.M. ★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Dark City — Dark, without a doubt, and dank, and steamy, and simultaneously futuristic and antiquated, and currently in the grip of pasty aliens who can reshape reality at will. (At the will of the scriptwriters, that is, not at their own.) An impressive production to a certain degree; an oppressive one to a far greater degree. With Rufus Sewell, Jennifer Connelly, Kiefer Sutherland, William Hurt; directed by Alex Proyas. 1998. — D.S. ● (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Ford v Ferrari — Come for the metal, stay for the mettle. Because as only-American-to-win-LeMans Carroll Shelby (Matt Damon) tells you at the outset, once you get your snarling, straining beast of a race car up over 7000 rpms, you go to the Race Place, where everything fades away and you're left with the question — the only one that matters, mind you — "Who are you?" Well, if you're autophile and superdriver Ken Miles (Christian Bale, skinny and sweet), you're the hero, the man of artistic vision and unsullied integrity (plus impatience with those who lack it) who is all but doomed in this rotten world. If you're Henry Ford II, you're the thin-skinned titan of industry who needs a genius if he's going to stick it to that painfully successful Eurosnob Enzo Ferrari. And if you're Carroll Shelby, you're the guy who has to get the Man and the Money Man to cooperate, despite the best efforts of corporate snake Leo Beebe.

Director James Mangold indulges himself with this tale of American manhood (152 minutes and an awful lot of auto racing), but he knows he can afford it — he's got Bourne and Batman as brilliant, brawling best buds battling the bastards. Think Iron Man and Captain America, only it's a (mostly) true story and what's at stake is not the fate of the universe, nor even an auto race, but the glorious, endless pursuit of perfection. 2019. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Frozen II — Let's start with the biggest and happiest surprise about Disney's followup to what was, before the *Lion King* remake, the biggest animated film ever: Olaf the Snowman is considerably funnier and more useful to the story this time 'round. His ridiculous recounting of the first film's events to some folks who need catching up is a meta delight, in contrast to the studio's usual self-commentary — and this installment's own jab at its use of a super-creepy, sleep-killing lullaby as story setup. Other positives: Elsa's ice powers make for some spectacular visuals, and the animators have outdone themselves when it comes to depicting water. (Speaking of which: the invocation of Travis Bickle's "real rain" — the sort that will wash not only the scum off the streets but the streets themselves off the face of the earth, along with the stain of original sin that made those streets possible — in an all-ages film is gutsy, if nothing else.) But it's not much gain against a good deal of loss. The tension between Elsa and her sister Anna this time around is...unconvincing, as it has less to do with "Don't shut me out," and more to do with, "Where I am going, you cannot follow." The story, which concerns a disturbance in the elemental spirits and a mystery in a misty wood, is both dragged out overall and rushed through in crucial moments to the point of neglect. And the songs range from underwhelming ("Into the Unknown") to cringingly silly ("Lost in the Woods"). Directed by Jennifer Lee and Chris Buck. 2019. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Good Liar — Looking to avoid spoilers? S/he (either Helen Mirren or Ian McKellen) joins a senior dating

service under an assumed name, hoping to track down the person who did them wrong sixty years ago. Said person is also hiding behind an alias. But how did they know to join that particular website and what name to search for? More fog: how did McKellan know that the pigeon they were setting up for a fall was going to crack a Putin joke in front of the Russian investors, thus doubling his take? And that's just in the first ten minutes. Jeffrey Hatcher's script, from a novel by Nicholas Searle, has more holes than a Swiss cheese golf course. Director Bill Condon (*Dreamgirls*, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Parts 1 & 2*) is a terrible liar, ill-possessed in spades when it comes to the sleight of hand needed to misdirect the viewer. Truth be told, where this one was headed was tipped in the trailer, give or take a side trip to Berlin to clear up backstory and confirm (or deny) Nazi heritage. Wait for Britbox. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Gremlins — Nobody is taken very much aback on meeting a pointy-eared furry little beast who speaks and sings in English, in a voice like Disney's Chip 'n' Dale. But after all, in this "typical" American small town (so beloved of executive producer Steven Spielberg), school is still in session on Christmas Eve Day and a subtitled Cocteau film is broadcast on local TV that night, and the grasp on character and psychology is more or less the exact equal of Dr. Seuss (e.g., the Widow Scrooge who vows to capture a troublesome mutt and put him in her spin-dryer). But it's rather as if Dr. Seuss had decided to supplement his reputable pediatric practice and peddle mind-altering, brain-damaging substances to the older kids on the school playground: the animated stuffed animal, when gotten wet, spawns egg-sized fur balls that grow up to be sharp-toothed batlike hellions who like to smoke, drink, break-dance, throw open the classic trenchcoat and expose themselves to females, and much, much worse. To find, or to imagine, the ideal customer for this concoction is a chore. The problem, in part, would be to find someone young enough not to be bothered by the cuteness and not to notice the total insincerity. (The horror element, much

diluted by the two aforementioned qualities, would not be part of the problem for the indicated age group, though a number of presumably grown-up critics professed, or pretended, to be bothered by it.) Such restrictions, of course, would not leave anyone around who could appreciate the cinematic in-jokes, but those are inappreciable anyway. With Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton, and Frances Lee McCain; directed by Joe Dante. 1984. — D.S. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Honey Boy — Shia LaBeouf's self-penned biopic turns out to be the biggest surprise of 2019. With expert assurance, the opening shot yanks us into the action without even bothering to use a stunt double. A simulated blast sucks tethered movie star Otis (Noah Jupe, age 12; Lucas Hedges, age 22) deep within the frame. When symptoms of PTSD emerge, the cauterized headliner can barely lift his voice to mutter, "From what?" Along with the pyrotechnics, a walking trauma case of an old man (LaBeouf) who infects all who cross his path with a sense of fear and self-loathing, that's what. There's but one typical aspect to dad's otherwise unpredictable nature; a resentful stage father jealous of his son's success in every way. At its heart, a film about a boy who both wants and deserves a better father and the inescapable reality that he will never get one. When it comes to cinema as therapy, LeBeouf put his time (and ours) to superb use here. Almost all is forgiven. One more like this and we'll consider *Disturbia* permanently expunged from the record. 2019. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Knives Out — Writer-director Rian Johnson sure is having fun these days. They let him into the Star Wars sandbox, and he built a monument to feminine genius that enraged a measurable portion of the fanbase and still managed to make over a billion dollars. (Sure, it was half of what J.J. Abrams managed with his reboot/remake, but it weren't no fan service, that's for sure.) Now he's pulling a reverse Netflix — slapping a TV-style Family Mansion Murder Mystery, the sort so ably handled by our British cousins, up there on the big screen — and turning it into a critique of American anti-immigration sentiment. The immigrant in question — actually, it's her mother who is undocumented — is Marta (Ana de Armas) the caregiver for a fabulously successful mystery author (Christopher Plummer). An author who, as it happens, is also the victim. The presumptive heirs — a splendid collection of wretches, none of whom can remember exactly what country Marta hails from — were already gathered for Dad's 85 birthday, so they stick around for the reading of the will, and also the investigation spearheaded by Daniel Craig in full Southern accent, for some reason. The goal here, besides solving the mystery in suitably clever fashion, seems to be to provide families gathered for Thanksgiving with both a rollicking good time and something to argue about at table. (A measurable portion of old white relatives may be enraged.) You can practically see Johnson's mischievous grin in every frame. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Last Christmas — It's a case of foreshadowing from the grave when the first line of George Michael's titular tune provides the basic framework for an entire feature. Small screen enchantress Emilia Clarke teams with Henry Golding and Michelle Yeoh, stars of

MOVIES@HOME

Once upon a time, movie alcoholics had a name, and that name was "funny drunks." This week's politically incorrect offerings put a spigot on two booze-enhanced works of art before uncorking one mean drunk of a movie.

— Scott Marks

FATHER OF THE BRIDE (1950)

The camera glides across the spoils of what appears to have been a drunken bacchanal — more alcohol consumed than at a fraternity hazing — as opposed to merely the aftermath of a middle-class wedding party. Here's a fun drinking game. Match the families of the bride and groom one sip to their every glass, and you'll be seeing double by the second cue mark. Many no doubt remember the film's rubber-floored nightmare sequence, but that Dali-designed swatch of surrealism plays like documentary realism when compared to the disproportionate amount of alcohol consumed by the prospective in-laws. When the Banks (Spencer Tracy and Joan Bennett) and Dunstons (Moroni Olsen and "Good Witch" Billie Burke) meet, the menu consists of wine, martinis, and a post-dinner snifter of brandy that's almost as big as Tracy's head. Unlike the Banks' residence — where there are decanters and ice buckets on every flat surface — at the home of their future in-laws, the good stuff isn't readily available. Wait until you see the mini-bar concealed in Papa Dunstan's side table.

last year's unexpected big screen sensation, *Crazy Rich Asians*, for romantic comedy with a heart... transplant. Kate (a raccoon-eyed Clarke) isn't hiding from her Yugoslavian heritage so much as she's trying to avoid a mother (Emma Thompson, who also produced and co-scripted) bent on foisting it down her throat. Now, her life as a Christmas store elf is about to take a turn for the metaphysical, thanks to the mysterious Golding. Any story — no

It's topped only by the look of envy in Stanley's eye. And it's all played for sentimental laughs! I sure hope the "cancel culture" doesn't catch wind of this Vincente Minnelli classic.

THE PAJAMA GAME (1957)

Two musical masterworks were made back-to-back in 1957: the Paris-based Richard Avedon biopic *Funny Face* and the Cedar Rapids-situated *The Pajama Game*. Produced by two separate studios (Paramount and



A Very Special Favor asks that you don't drink and drive. You may spill some.

Warner Bros., respectively) and shot by two different cinematographers (Ray June and Harry Stradling, Sr.), the look of both films couldn't be more similar. Credit director Stanley Donen, still operating under Avedon's spell, for borrowing a heaping helping of the fashion photographer's neon-infused interiors and soft daylight exteriors for this romance between a newly-appointed superintendent at a small town pajama factory (John Raitt) and the Union leader (Doris Day) he faces off against and eventually falls for. This time, the drunken culprit is plant manager Eddie Foy, Jr., and it isn't a steering wheel that he's behind, but a knife throwing act that the ex-Vaudevillian dusts off to amuse employees at the annual company picnic. The

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result is an inappropriately uncomfortable moment, with Day as the designated "lady with the apple on her head." In this case, Foy's handiwork would have been just as nerve-wracking had the slings originated from a cold-sober hurler.

A VERY SPECIAL FAVOR (1965)

The titular good turn has nothing to do with loaning someone a few bucks or securing a pair of theatre tickets. Try this one:

an opposing lawyer (Charles Boyer) admires the manner in which manly (and guilty as hell) defendant Rock Hudson wins a case by seducing an attractive female judge. So much so that he asks the rascal to marry and impregnate the "spin-

sterly" 30-year-old daughter (Leslie Caron) he hasn't seen in 25 years. (I can't make stuff like this up, folks.) While *en route* to have it out with Caron, he runs into an angry hack (Larry "You Talking To Me" Storch), who suggests an instant fix for Hudson's romantic problems: "Belt her!" A quick pub crawl later finds the cab awash with misogynists, played by familiar faces Stafford Repp (*Batman's* Chief O'Hara) and George Furth (*Blazing Saddles'* Van Johnson). Meant to elicit laughter, it's difficult to imagine a time when the image of five Muthas For Drunk Driving converting a cab into a bar on wheels was ever deemed acceptable, let alone funny. Directed by Rock and Doris auteur Michael Gordon (*Pillow Talk*, *Move Over Darling*).

illuminating a feature almost entirely by Christmas lights. 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Marriage Story — Nicole (Scarlett Johansson) is the type who will reflexively engage in conversation with the petitioner outside the Ralph's supermarket, a nurturing soul who abandoned a potentially successful career in Hollywood to move East and work with her husband Charlie's (Adam

Driver) fledgling theatre company. Her star waned, he became the family's top draw, and in no time, they're lawyering up for divorce. Given the number of Awards voters whose marriages end in splitsville, films like this not only function as entertainment, they double as cheap, much needed audience therapy. That was certainly the case for Noah Baumbach, who patterned the film after his breakup with wife Jennifer Jason Leigh. (She'd have made a much better Nicole than Johansson.) As Johansson's counsel, Laura Dern grabs the camera by the turret, painting the screen with swagger, even going so far as to call Charlie a "smart cookie." That applies to the character, not Driver's performance, his most rank and file work to date. We wait for Charlie to explode, which he does, as if on cue. 2019. — S.M. ★★ (ULTRASTAR MISSION VALLEY AT HAZARD CENTER)

Midway — What happens when producers do double duty as screenwriters? Midway through *Midway*, it hit me. First-timer Wes Tooke, guilty on both counts, makes it so the special effects are more interesting than the characters and events they were meant to update for contemporary audiences. The cast, on the other hand, looks old-school sharp in their full dress blues — Woody Harrelson could be dangling a Spencer Tracy biopic, and damn if Joe Jonas isn't the spitting image of David Niven. The Dolby Atmos-enhanced battle sequences rocked the theatre, but without any semblance of conviction, the film barely sticks to the green screen. Director Roland Emmerich is an old hand at this type of derivative, effects-driven hooah (*Independence Day*, *Godzilla*, *White House Down*) — so old, in fact, that it's beginning to show. The digitized combat looks like something traced and transplanted from another war, one that took place in a galaxy far, far away. Universally panned at the time of its release, and with reason, your time would be much better spent watching Richard Fleischer and Kinji Fukasaku's *Tora! Tora! Tora!* 2019. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Waves — One doesn't expect to find a continuous 360 degree pan — the type generally associated with a declaration of true love — inside a moving car, let alone at the head of a picture. When, later in his tale of a suburban family in mid-crisis, filmmaker Trey Edward Shults takes another spin of his camera, he does so in a manner meant to amplify, not overmilk, a gimmick. He knows when his characters should speak, but more importantly, he knows when to shut them up and let the camera do the talking. (The exception being a soundtrack more interested in showing off a director's record collection than underscoring action.) The steep tonal leap from one character arc to another is seamless. And we're not likely to find a more impressive ensemble this year, starting with Sterling K. Brown as the demanding patriarch who's in over his head. As his onscreen daughter, Taylor Russell is assigned the unenviable task of playing a kindly character. (She does the part!) But after biting off one father and son reunion too many, the film that commenced with such a resounding bang ends on a meandering, artificially upbeat whimper. 2019. — S.M. ★★★★★ (ANGELIKA CARMEL MOUNTAIN, READING TOWN SQUARE)

The Wolf Hour — Reviewed this issue. 2019. — S.M. ★★. (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

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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 body, figured maple neck, chrome hardware, sadowky preamp, MEC gold pickups, mint condition 619-980-6008

BASS GUITAR, \$2,400 Custom made Bartlett bass, neck-thru (maple, wenge, purple heart), ebony board, bronze frets, cocobolo top and pickup covers, active Delano preamp, hard case, 619-980-6008

BASS GUITAR, \$1,200 Mint green ESP Horizon bass, all original, with ESP gig bag 619-980-6008.

BASS GUITAR, \$900 1990's Schaller Rockoon(Kawai). maple neck, rosewood finger board, perfect red body paint, red EMG pickups, active, 4string, Excellent condition, no marks or scratches. 619-980-6008

ROCK PUNK PSYCH BAND Seeks keyboarder and drummer. Age in 30's. In SD county. Smoke free people only . Songs written. pellecchiaketh@gmail.com.

REGGAE POP PROGROCK FUSION professional guitarist available for gigs, tours, recordings. CD/Tour credits. Dale Hauskins https://www.bandmix.com/dalehauskins/ (858)401-2973

UNIVERSAL SOUND Monthly creative band musicians lock-out rehearsal private practice AC studios now available. Half off first month rent. (858) 401-2973

MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO. Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24-hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, 858-522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

PETS

WIENER PUPPIES We have beautiful mini dachshund puppies, male and female, with first shot and deworming done. 858-264 5584

FOUND FEMALE TABBY cat on 11/27 in City Heights, about 5 yrs old and weights 9.2 lbs. Call 619-299-7012

LOST HUSKY ESCAPED ON THANKSGIVING Last seen near Point Loma Street and Alexandria Street in Point Loma. Please call if found! 978-303-5907

BABY CHINCHILLA looking for a family. My phone number is 760-920-1794

SIAMESE CATS Flame point males, chocolate point females, lynx point females. All vaccinated/wormed, clean, healthy, no fleas, eating dry solid food, litter box trained, and very well socialized. 702-536-0740



BUSTER is 4 year old, 46-pound neutered male Boxer mix with possible Pit bull. Buster is an athletic and cuddly dog. He likes to play and make a great running/hiking buddy with proper conditioning first. Buster walks well on a leash. At the end of the day, he is a cuddle bug and would keep you company during a good book. He is just waiting to fill a spot at a home in need! Animal ID: A1864267 San Diego County Animal Shelter 5821 Sweetwater Rd. Bonita, CA 91902 Hours: Tuesday – Sunday, 9:30am – 5:30pm. Closed Mondays and County Holidays. Adoption Fee \$75 (already neutered, comes with microchip, deworming, and vaccinations). For more information, please call 619-498-2311 or visit our website at www.sddac.com

HUSKY/SHEPHERD PUPPIES Beautiful male and female 6 week old pups, xlt temperament, proven lines, choose yours now 619-341-3885 \$400 to \$500.

PUPPIES I'm selling 2 puppies born 9/6/19, mixed with poodle/terrier. They are beige and white. \$200 call 619-345-7706 Gloria.

LOOKING FOR A FREE DOG 619-546-2110. Leave msg.

FOUND A PIG IN SPRING VALLEY on Amy Street. Animal control was called and will be at the Bonita Shelter. Call at (619) 767-2675.

2 YEAR OLD White Maltese dog stolen on October 21 by NAASCO. He responds to the name of Pasguas. He was wearing a white t-shirt with a grey skull on his back, blue harness, grey flea collar and a blue nylon collar with his name tag from TagsForHope. Any information please call me at 832-334-1304

PUPPIES I'm selling 5 puppies born 9/6/19, mixed with poodle/terrier, 3 males and 2 females. They are beige. \$200 priscillamaryannmangat@gmail.com

BENGAL MINI LEOPARD exotic kittens! Best ever Christmas gift! Deposits being taken and even payments if necessary for December 15th delivery! Hurry! 619-597-9729

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES AND 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.

SPORTS

FREE AIR HOCKEY TABLE We are turning this room to an office and don't want or need this table no more. http://bit.ly/free_airhockey

ARCHERY TARGET STANDS (2) For free They have been sitting outside and some small pieces might need to be replaced but the main wood pieces are solid. http://bit.ly/archery-stands

DESIGNER FUTBOL JERSEYS If you're a footballer and love soccer jerseys, check this! Would you buy remakes such as Versace or Gucci soccer style jerseys? Please respond to me at my Instagram @PureSoccerLife.

LEARN SYSTEMA THE RUSSIAN MARTIAL ART. It's rooted in ancient warrior traditions of Eastern Europe and used by the elite Russian special forces, known as the Spetznaz. http://bit.ly/2OD2e7H

SAN DIEGO PALEO/PRIMAL LIVING meetup is a fitness-oriented bunch of folks who take our inspiration from the paleo/ primal lifestyle. This means exercising the way humans evolved to move, such as the way kids naturally play and the movements of people in tribal cultures. http://bit.ly/paleo-meet

SENIOR WOMEN'S BASKETBALL in Mission Valley. Our oldest player is 89 years old. Any woman, age 50 or older, who enjoys basketball and shows good sportsmanship, may join and play. http://swba.us.com

SNOWBOARDS 4 CHEAP Get ready for this winter with Burton, Rossignol, Vision and K2. http://bit.ly/cheap-snowboards

STANDING BASKETBALL HOOP for free in Campo. http://bit.ly/free-basketball-campo

SPORTS CARDS Over one million, 70 year collection. Baseball, basketball, football, hockey, boxing, etc. Joe 619-562-1129. Gwen, Montana, Manning, Williams, Ruth, college Brady.

BICYCLES

SHIMANO TIAGRA A 50W Cover original box, brand new, never been used. Two speed, Cabela's list \$659.99. Asking \$550 or best. 858-228-6044

FOCUS BOLD2 electric mountain bike, medium size with 500 miles on it. Shimano xt with di2 electronic shifting. Bike retails for \$5500 and batteries retail for \$700 each; first \$2500 takes it. 619-339-0363

DIAMONDBACK RESPONSE Sport Bike, 20", Solana Beach,

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And Foot Care

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(619) 313-0102

\$195. Awesome mountain bike, used very lightly, never in dirt, has disk brakes front and rear, always garaged and original owner. Chris 858-378-4741

CENTURION ROAD BIKE
14-speed, Araya rims, Schwinn seat, tuned and ready to roll, \$200, 619-300-3364

MOUNTAIN BIKE by Specialized, \$125, in Clairemont. Call 858-263-5049

16 INCH SCHWINN Mini Scrambler Stingray bike. Very nice, 70s all original and unrestored. \$350. In San Marcos. Call Ron at 858-243-0887

SCHWINN STING RAY GRAPE CRATE BIKE \$300; 760-803-5223

ELECTRA BETTY BEACH CRUISER BIKE \$80, Imperial Beach, 20" tires, 619-884-9480

VINTAGE 16" WHEEL UNICYCLE \$45 in San Marcos, 760-224-0512

PURPLE BEACH CRUISER FOR A WOMAN \$35 in Pacific Beach, basket included, could sell basket for \$25 alone if I wanted. It has a big soft Schwinn comfy cushion seat. It is only \$35 because the back tire just needs a new inner tube. 858-699-4456

BIKE, BEANS AND BREWS
Anyone that likes bicycling and touring around San Diego. We will go to coffee shops and breweries. <https://www.meetup.com/Bike-Beans-and-Brews/>

MT. BIKE 21" KHS Sixtifty
606 hardtail, 650 wheels, less than 200 miles, new chain and cassette, extras. Cost \$1200, sell for \$795. 760-942-5692.

FUJI/ABSOLUTE Almost new, 21-speed, 19 inch, orange Shimano/Altus, new hybrid tires, new shifters, new pedals, Hillcrest, \$175, call Tedd, 619-298-4777.

MOTORCYCLES

CUSTOM CHOPPER MOTORCYCLE KC Creations custom built soft tail chopper. This bike was never ridden per se, it has just been a show bike to win at shows. The cost when built bout 12 years ago, was \$76,000. It has a \$10,000 dollar paint job. Price: \$19,995 Call: 858-270-7532

1983 TRIHAWK Harley-Davidson sports cycle, 2-pass. (side-by-side) sports car, but licensed as a motorcycle. It has a rigid steel-frame w/rollbar — so no helmet required by Cal.-DMV, nor is any smogging required. Sadly, nearly only 100-made \$16,995 <http://bit.ly/trihawk-for-sale>

BSA VICTOR 1970 \$9000, in Carlsbad. Bike is currently titled and nestled in a warm flat sipping hot tea over Castrol biscuits. Call John Z at 619-980-9802

2004 SUZUKI RM65 \$1500, in El Cajon. Awesome starter bike or transition off of a pee wee. 619-715-2847

2007 BMW POLICE BIKE \$3200, R1200RTP California Highway Patrol, Chula Vista. Call at 619-213-3138

'07 GT60 VESPA for \$6495
The scooter came in exactly one color: Vespa's 1947 prototype gray, and only 250 were exported to the U.S. Call TC or Alex at (619) 280-1718

'01 YAMAHA R6 for \$600
Engine turns over but won't start. With lots of upgrades. Selling. May consider parting out. In Chula Vista. 619- 621-9353

'07 BUELL FIREBOLT XB-12R
with lots of upgrades. Selling motorcycle for my husband. Sellenne 760-580-6909

VINTAGE MOTORCROSS COLLECTION I have spent decades collecting 1990 Yamaha YZ125, 1982 Husqvarna 250 WR 1978 Maico MC400 Magnum, 1974.5 Maico 440 GP, 1973 Bultaco 250 Pursang and 1976 Bultaco 250 — Guy (541)521-8156. I'm in Ramona.

SUPERMOTO SCHOOL
includes: instruction, track fees, bike rental, gear rental and professional photography. Whether you usually ride a sports bike, dirt, or cruiser motorcycle, you will become a better rider and have an absolute blast. www.SoCalSupermoto.com or call: 619-224-6686

HONDA SHADOW 1100CC ACE white & platinum, garaged, hard saddlebags, windscreen, floorboards, passenger backrest, spoke wheels, \$3000, (619) 917-5546.

1973 BMW R75/5 airhead motorcycle, \$3350. Call me at 619-207-3541

GLAMIS RIDERS: 1997 CUSTOM BANSHEE Extended A arms and swing arm, mildly ported and polished, tons of polished aluminum, custom painted frame, seat, shocks, pipes, too much to list with over \$13K invested. \$5,000. Call 619-990-7867

RARE 2003 RED DUCATI 999R for sale \$12,595. Call 760-746-6001 for details.

RIDE SCOOTERS TO MUSIC OF GEORGE HARRISON We meet in different places and scooter (bikes, skateboards, running also allowed) to the music of George Harrison. Singing with the lyrics is encouraged. <http://bit.ly/harris-scootering>

2000 HONDA SUPERHAWK yellow w new tires, oil. Many upgrades, runs great. \$2,650 text 858-231-0067.

AUTOMOTIVE

WANTED CHECKER MARATHON any condition, please call Robert 207-265-6640.

LEXUS 2004 beautiful red SC 430, 15k original miles, must see to appreciate. Please call 619-390-2222, price \$15,000.

1991 HONDA CIVIC HATCHBACK runs great, \$900. Obo, 619-210-5801.

1981 CHEVY EL CAMINO in nice shape. Not a beater. Always garaged, \$9,000 obo, serious buyer please. Text due to many call scammers 619-631-9258.

2005 BMW 325Ci excellent condition, new tires, paint, battery. Beautiful car, \$1,900 call 619-300-2970.

HONDA FOUR TRAX ATV
Quad atv, all wheel drive, 350cc, electric start, lights, looks and run very well, 5 speed w/reverse. \$1,750 619 201-0715

1999 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
130,000 miles, white, smooth ride, north San Diego. 760-443-2723, asking \$4,795.

LOOKING FOR A 2009 OR 2010 ELANTRA non smoking, no salvage, good condition. 805-341-6551.

VAN FOR SALE Chevrolet van, one ton, 350 engine, with 20 ft long automatic transmission. 1981, last July 2018 rebuilt engine, new tires, new brakes, new battery, excellent condition, worth \$10,000, selling for only \$2,600. Located in Rancho San Diego, ask for Armand 619-660-0299.

FORD VAN '02 \$600 nds. Fuel pump window. Clean, smogged, alarmed, 619-264-9329

1963 INTERNATIONAL TRUCK
900 Series, 155ci four cylinder, 4 speed manual, stepside. Very good condition, no rust/cancer issues, no dents, no accidents, paint looks good from 12ft away. This is a classic that needs a garage that I do not have right now. It wouldn't take much for this truck to be show worthy. all the good stuff is there and in good condition even have the original hubcaps. Interior and exterior 9 out of 10. call 559-940-4746 North County Encinitas asking \$7,600.

ATTENTION FAST AND THE FURIOUS FANS 1988 Toyota Supra for sale in Spring Valley. \$450. Project car. Lost interest. It ran when parked. No papers, bill of sale only. <http://bit.ly/supra-for-sale>

FREE VINTAGE RV in Escondido. 1986 Southwind Fleetwood. This was abandoned on our property illegally, and it needs to be gone. The parts and contents probably have value. http://bit.ly/free_fleetwood

CHEVROLET 427 ENGINE \$8400, Sandy 760-945-6586

HELP WANTED

DELIVERY DRIVER JOBS
Make up to \$17 / Hour. Must use your own Mini-Van or Cargo Van. Pass Drug, Background Check. PT / FT avail. 858-444-2350

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

REGISTERED CAREGIVERS
Immediate work. Hourly/live-in available. Must have reliable transportation. Assertive Care at Home, 8893 La Mesa Blvd., Ste B, La Mesa. 619-466-6890.

CAREGIVER (EAST COUNTY).
Active Quadriplegic male seeking PT caregiver in East County area (Santee/Lakeside La Mesa/EI Cajon). Must have reliable transportation and be dependable, energetic, enthusiastic, compassionate. Experience preferred but will train right person. Must pass fingerprint and background check. Duties include: personal care, transferring, dressing, bathing, grooming, cooking, cleaning, shopping. Please send resume or brief description of why you are an excellent candidate to agarciajr14@sbcglobal.net or leave message at 619-596-9343.

EBAY POWER SELLER/ LIQUIDATOR sought by Encinitas resident. Truck/van owner preferred for one weekend sales effort at Kobey's. Respond with qualifications to derekembree@gmail.com

WANTED STORYBOARD ARTIST Assist pre visualize tv and film scripts 40 tv scripts and 10 film scripts. <http://bit.ly/32U5fGR>

SALES REPS. \$160,000 PT.
B2B Pallet Wraps & Food Manu. No Exp. Flex sch. Lifetime residuals & bonus income. Text: 561-686-0000 Web: ParisPlastics.com

SALVATION ARMY WORKERS
Christmas Ambassadors (bell ringers) needed. Pick up application: 4170 Balboa Ave 92117 Mon-Fri, 9 to 4. Or call 858-483-1831

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS The Yiddish Arts & Academics Assn.

of N. America is looking for volunteers and interns. Contact 619-719-1776, jana@yaaana.com

CONSTRUCTION RENTAL FENCE Temporary rental fencing yard maintenance, service, repair and installation. Will train. (619) 499-7799

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.

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 contact An Das or Kristin Shea at pdas@theci.org or call 858-581-5887, 858-581-5880. sstruben@theci.org or call 858-581-5880.

VOLUNTEER TO READ TO KIDS Want to make a difference? Join us every

weekend to read to a child in need in one of our StoryTents. Visit travelingstories.org or volunteer today!

READY TO QUIT SMOKING?
Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder or Schizophrenia? Ready to quit? The Pacific Treatment and Research Center is looking for people who are ready to put out that cigarette! Participants will: Be 18-70 years old, have a strong desire to quit smoking, be in good overall health. 858-246-4673. www.pac-tarc.org.

JUNIOR SALES POSITION
Hi-tech satellite tech company seeking technical sales employee in Rancho Bernardo area. hr@spacemicro.com

SENIOR ANALYST Lytx, Inc., a driver risk management company, seeks the following in San Diego, CA: Senior Analyst, Client Operations: Support the operations function by maintaining large sets of critical operations data/metrics. Reqs BS + 5 yrs. To apply and see full requirements, go to <https://lytx.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/Lytx>, and search by Requisition # R-658 to submit cover letter and resume.

SOFTWARE ALGORITHM ENGINEER II for Leica Biosystems Imaging in Vista, CA to design and develop software & algorithms for automated operation of scanner systems devices. Req: Master's degree in Eng., CS, Physics, Mathematics or related field (foreign edu. equiv. ok) + 2 yrs. of exp. in digital signal processing; OR Bachelor's degree + 5 yrs. of exp. in digital signal processing. Send resume to Leica Biosystems Imaging, Attn: M. Marcuzzi,

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\$55 60 min. Couples Asian Massage <i>With this ad. Expires 12/19/2019</i>	

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JOBS WANTED

SEEKING WORK Hi my name is Zeina and you can text me at (760) 818-9353. I'm looking to make some extra money. Maybe starting like at 10 am in the morning. My only problem is that I do not have a car, so therefore I use our public transportation system here in Escondido. I'm 39 and healthy. I hope to hear from you.

DRIVER/COMPANION You are active, but don't drive anymore, or just temporarily can't due to an injury? I am here to help! I can stay with you as long as you need me, or I can just drop you off. I have reference letters, background check, TB test, CPR/AED first-aid certification, and a clean driving record. Marianna (619) 665-1122

INDIAN, BOLLYWOOD, PUNJABI HIP HOP DJ for hire. My name is DJ Vish. I am a registered and insured DJ. I will be glad to rock at your event. I cover the entire San Diego County. 253-632-4556

PERSONAL ASST Have CA dl. Available all hours whatever you need done! Eagle scout! Responsible 40+ years experience. 858-755-5913

NEED SOME HELP? In Chula or IB? Offering: Home care/ baby sitting, pet sitting/walking/ boarding. Handy man skills! Painting, etc! Amber & Darrell. 619-289-1648.

PET SITTING/HOUSE SITTING great Holiday prices! Call Edna 858-842-4249

MEALS FOR ROOM & BOARD Retired professional chef looking to exchange cooking for room & board. Call Chef Andre 760-717-2627 or chefandre10@yahoo.com.

HOUSING IN TRADE FOR SERV Guest house-granny flat-cottage. Experienced have a lot to bring to right arrangement Ms. Jessie G 619-204-8647.

FUN LOVING, COMPASSIONATE mindful caregiver. Experienced with

animals, children, blind, elderly, terminal, and live in home management. Flexible, reliable transportation, many references. Michelle 619-384-0708

MANDARIN NATIVE SPEAKER who used to be Spanish interpreter for many years in China now is looking for job of interpreter, assistant or tutor in San Diego. 858-666-5438 (able to speak four languages).

WANTED/TRADE

NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTHCARE WORKER Seeking health care office/legal/compliance. Local, state, federal exp. Avail ASAP 619-457-2545

NEED HELP with 1x womens clothes, girls 2Toddler clothes, infant boy 6 months clothes, 12 month boys clothes. Please, your unneeded clothes are a blessing! digosneys@gmail.com

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

WANTED VW BUS FRONT BUMPER and seat for 1966 Split Window. Call 619-279-7833.

BOB BUYS LIONEL TRAINS Yours, your father's or grandfathers trains stored in a box in the garage for years, call Bob, Lionel, MTH, Amer. Flyer Cash at your location Call Bob 760 579-2234 Thank you, Bob Shultz (sent with Gentle Effect).

WANTED San Diego Reader back issues with covers pertaining to the San Diego Chargers. Contact: Joe 619-929-4407

WANTED : L.A. RAIDERS HOME PROGRAMS 8/24/85, 9/8/85, 8/22/86, 11/16/86, 10/15/89, 8/18/90, 9/1/90, 10/31/93 Joe 619-929-4407.

WANTED VIETNAM WAR ITEMS Buying US military items from the Vietnam War. Uniforms, headgear, insignia, patches, lighters, etc. 858-335-9963

BEST PRICE IN TOWN!
SMOG CHECK \$175 Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up. + \$8.25 Cert.
BRAKES from \$50 Front or rear. Most cars. + Labor
OIL CHANGE & FILTER \$13.95 Up to 5 qts., new filter, 10 point checkout. +\$1.00 Waste Fee.
TIMING BELT \$75 Starting price, Labor + Parts.
COMPUTER DIAGNOSIS \$30 Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...
AXLE SPECIAL \$99 Includes Parts & Labor
MUFFLER From \$29 + labor
PREMIUM SHOCKS \$70 From Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair
PREMIUM STRUTS \$130 From Monroe or KYB + Labor per pair
STARTERS OR ALTERNATOR \$95 From + Labor
<small>*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition **Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing</small>
Brandon Auto 6670 Miramar Rd, # C San Diego, CA 92121-2559 858-452-9999

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.

FISHING TACKLE Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & misc. by Heddon Creek Chub, Pflueger, South Bend, Shakespeare to name just a few. Call or text pictures to: 619-972-3488.

WANTED 2 GOBLET/ GLASSES Will pay \$30 and pick up from you. 2 glasses inscribed "Old Town Mexican Cafe". I accidentally gave mine to Goodwill 619-749-9334.

RIDE SHARE DEC.23 SD looking 4 ride share San Diego 2 Corona Dec. 23. Depart am, arrive 2 pm, will help with gas money. Call 619-273-1182.

WANTED Homeless guy needs running car/truck/van/RV or boat. Please help me get back on my feet, God bless. Brett 858-250-9898

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.

WANTED: NEW HF HAM RADIO Will trade for my \$800 violin. Please text 619-393-2253

INDIAN ARTIFACTS WANTED Indian arrowheads/ artifacts wanted for personal collection. No interest in modern reproductions. Call Steve at 619-985-8562.

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 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

GARAGE SALES

BOATING AND WATERSPORTS SWAP MEET/YARD SALE on Saturday Dec. 7, all kinds of boating gear, kayaks, nautical treasures, spaces available next to the Oceanside Yacht Club, call 760-722-5751

SPRING VALLEY GARAGE SALE http://bit.ly/springvalley-yard

MOVING SALE BY COLLEGE There are various items for sale so please look at the photos and send me an email with "fair offer" and I will get back to you quickly. http://bit.ly/college-moving-sale

FOR SALE

MESSAGE CHAIR Human Touch HT-275. Cost \$2600 new, sell \$500. All functions working. WT-180 pounds. Reply to email: tsukida@san.rr.com

ORIGINAL 18TH CENTURY NEW ENGLAND GRAVESTONE rubbing. Matted and framed. 32" x 23" \$100. David 619-296-2958

STAY WARM, MY FRIENDS Cut and seasoned hard wood, tubular racks included, 1 1/2 cords \$200. 4 pick up 619-838-9310

BUNKER HILL SECURITY 4 channel surveillance, infrared day and nite, DVR. 4 cameras, web and mobile monitoring. New in box, \$150. 619-838-9310

SCI FI: STAR TREK Figures in OB. TGN, DS9, Voyager. Unopened \$25-100 each. Call 619-886-7099

PAIR OF WATERCOLOR PAINTINGS By very famous artist, Miriam Sowers. See her bio on the internet. Beautiful matting and framing, \$2000. 619-427-3350.

SWAP MEET STUFF will sell it all. Bog savings, call now! John 760-433-1297.

2 ORIENTAL WHITE FLOOR LAMPS tall ones, 2 for \$20; a back pack too \$5. Nancy 858-505-0685

POWER CHAIR Like new Jazzy sport Power chair. Asking \$1200. Contact Michael 858-208-7729

WHEEL CHAIR Everest and Jennings Traveler. Clean, works well, \$35. Oceanside, 714-722-0420

1970S HOT WHEELS COLLECTION \$20, in National City, http://bit.ly/1970s-hotwheels

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS signed jerseys by Tomlinson, Seau, Gates, Merriman. All size large/48. In Coronado. http://bit.ly/chargers-jerseys

POKEMON PIKACHU POKEBALL Terrarium, \$40 http://bit.ly/pikachu-ball

BIG SCREEN TV FOR FREE in Chula Vista. Pick up only. Well taken care of. Have no space for it. http://bit.ly/free-tv-in-cv

STEREO SALE Two Sansui speakers, Akai tuner, AcuTrac 400, remote control turntable. Akai 750D remote control cassette. 619-447-2367 harpo2@cox.net.

LA-Z-BOY SOFA \$499 (not convertible) like new. Neutral color, micro fiber fabric, around \$1,300 new. Call 619-523-1872, keep trying no answering machine.

CHRISTMAS PIANO: \$100 before you buy or rent, see if the kids will stick to it! 619-523-1872

NEW MATTRESSES FROM \$149 New mattresses at discount prices. No rebuilds, only 1st quality. American-made, not Chinese. Call for discount prices. 619-607-1141

FIREMAN'S OUTFIT Jacket, pants, boots and helmet. The new price is \$2000. Looking for an offer or possible trade. 619-830-8300

MOVING-STORAGE SALE I have bed frames for \$30-50, a rockin chair for \$30, a coin opt. washer asking \$500. Too much to list 619-251-6053.

HOBERT 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.

JEROMES RECLINER CHAIR in excellent condition \$50. Phone 619-504-1730.

OIL CHANGE	\$14.95
Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5 qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl. most cars	
SMOG CHECK	\$11.75
Sedan only. SUV and Trucks extra. NON STAR CERTIFIED SMOG INSPECTION ONLY. Smog only for 2000 and newer vehicle. + \$8.25 cert + \$1.00 DMV transfer fee	
BRAKES Front or rear	From \$49
*Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.	most cars
30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services	\$65
*Prices may vary depending on make and model.	most cars
RADIATOR or Transmission Services	\$45
*Prices may vary depending on make and model.	most cars 4 cyl.
TIMING BELT Parts & Labor	\$75
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Plus labor.	most cars. 4 cyl.
FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT	96 and up.
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		Includes 12oz R134 Freon, check system and test for leaks.		+ \$8.25 cert
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STAR Certified SMOG CHECK TEST ONLY \$41.75				
+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.				
OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER	FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE	ENGINE STEAM CLEAN	30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL	
from \$24.95	(both locations)	\$69.95	from \$179.95 4-cyl. Most vehicles.	
Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.	FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (Cliff Brown location)	Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.	Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension	
NEW CV AXLE	from \$159.95	TIMING BELT SPECIAL	\$50 off quoted price	
Parts & Labor		Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.		
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Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.				

DRILL SET Ryobi, includes charger with 2 battery. Holder drill need fixed. Test included. \$45. 917-420-3207

ELECTRIC FIREPLACE Golden Hill area \$65. Telephone number 619-702-6342 call.

HIKING BOOTS Mens Wide Size 8 hiking boots Keen Targhee II brown/olive. \$100 OBO. Worn once. 858-245-5378

WEBER CLUTCH and Schafer Flywheel scatter shield V-8 350. \$428 never used. Call or text 619-200-1254.

PURSES FOR SALE Louis Vuitton, Gucci, Coach, Dior. Call 619-869-5814

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

WWII GUN BOXES \$45 in perfect shape. I have 30 available. <http://bit.ly/wwii-gun-boxes>

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RECLINER French blue fabric, swivels, \$200. 760-736-3009

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CHRISTMAS TREE STAND for fresh tree, holds water, large to

extra large, used once only, like new, \$7. 1-858-484-4483

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IMPERIAL BEACH GAS STATION including real estate for sale. It has beer/wine license. Total net income: \$410K/year. Asking: \$3,990,000 obo. <http://bit.ly/ib-gas-station>

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ATTN HYPERBEASTS ever think of owning your own clothing brand? 50 white 100 percent cotton t-shirts with your company's logo printed in one color on the front and back of the shirt for only \$330! Set-up fee included, tax may apply depending on resale

status. Seven 13 Productions 619-266-0130.

SELLING AN OPERATING OXXO STORE \$165,000 includes land of 350 meters and 200 meters of construction. I have a contract with Oxxo for 15 years and all papers are in order. 619-373-5027

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- 4-cyl. Most cars

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+ \$5 hazardous materials fee
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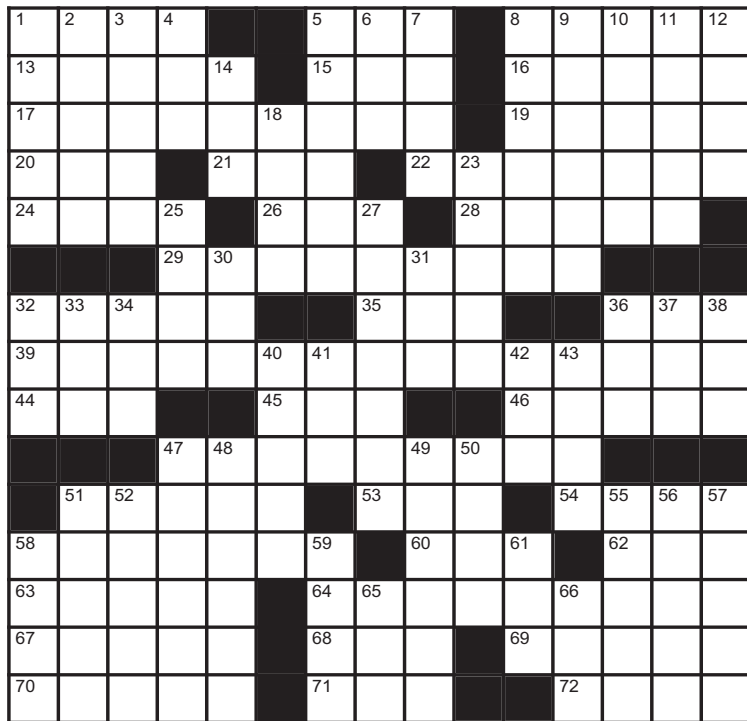
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AUTOMOTIVE

CROSSWORD



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Across

1. Barack's opponent in 2012
5. Word in brackets after a mistake
8. Cube-hopping character in a 1980s arcade game
13. Diarist Nin
15. Penn of "Harold & Kumar" films
16. Some steak orders
17. Creature whose name comes from the Latin for "thorn pig"
19. Like ____ on a log
20. Body part found in the 39-Across of 47-Across
21. ____ crawl
22. Creature with suckers
24. Otherwise
26. "____ bien"
28. Hilarious types
29. Creature that can extend its tongue to nearly twice its body length to catch prey
32. "Are not!" retort
35. Muscle below a delt
36. Setting for part of "Forrest Gump," for short
39. Where six of this puzzle's answers can be found in another six of its answers
44. '02 Winter Olympics host: Abbr.
45. Fleur-de-____
46. It may have a pet name
47. Creature that, despite its name, usually has no more than 750 legs
51. Prickly pears, e.g.
53. Rip Van Winkle had a long one
54. One of the National Toy Hall of Fame's original inductees

58. Creature that munches on mangrove leaves
60. "Scram, you!"
62. Beverage holder found in the 39-Across of 17-Across
63. Switchblade, e.g.
64. Creature that first appeared about 240 million years ago during the Triassic period
67. Where sailors go
68. Fish found in the 39-Across of 64-Across
69. Like many Christmas traditions
70. "Now you ____ ..." (magician's comment about disappearing cards)
71. JFK guess
72. Txts, e.g.

Down

1. It's tapped for sap
2. How sardines are packed
3. Rain delay covers
4. Personal quirk
5. One who's always looking for a lift?
6. McKellen who portrayed Gandalf
7. Egyptian queen's nickname
8. Market value of a company's assets divided by their replacement cost
9. Galoot
10. Fly off the handle
11. Uncle who told Br'er Rabbit tales
12. 48 in a cup: Abbr.
14. "How's it hangin'?"
18. Adidas rival
23. Largest Greek island
25. Earth Science subj.
27. Russia's first democratically elected leader
30. Este día
31. "Well, ____-di-dahl!"
32. Midriff muscles, for short
33. Actor Gibson found in the 39-Across of 29-Across
34. "Cake Boss" channel
36. Surrealist Turner found in the 39-Across of 58-Across
37. Fresh ____ daisy
38. Brief encounter?
40. Stan's buddy of old comedies
41. Chick-____-A
42. Said, as "adieu"
43. Leon who won a Pulitzer for his biography of Henry James
47. Big name in computer security
48. Group of PC gurus
49. Where Buddhists worship
50. It's a long story
51. Lake rental, often
52. Ouzo flavoring
55. Juul wares
56. Stalin-era labor camp
57. Warms up the audience
58. NYSE and Nasdaq, e.g.
59. "____ homo"
61. Spinning toy found in the 39-Across of 22-Across
65. Turn
66. Put a stop to?

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

T	H	A	D	T	H	E	A	X	L	A	O	S	
H	E	R	R	H	E	D	D	A	A	N	D	I	
A	D	I	A	O	R	G	A	N	D	I	E	T	
D	R	E	C	K	T	U	B	E	B	A	B	Y	
H	O	S	N	I	M	U	B	A	R	A	K		
F	B	I	D	E	E	R	E	A	G	A	P	E	
R	E	D	I	A	V	A	N	T	A	B	L	E	
E	A	T	N	O	I	N	S	U	M	S	E	M	
U	N	A	F	F	I	L	I	A	T	E	D		
D	O	G	R	U	N			O	U	I	J	A	
		A	S	S	B	A	C	K	W	A	R	D	S
C	Z	A	R	U	L	T	R	A	R	E	A	P	
A	O	N	E	L	E	T	A	T	T	A	T	E	
P	O	N	D	T	H	Y	M	E	E	D	E	N	

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:

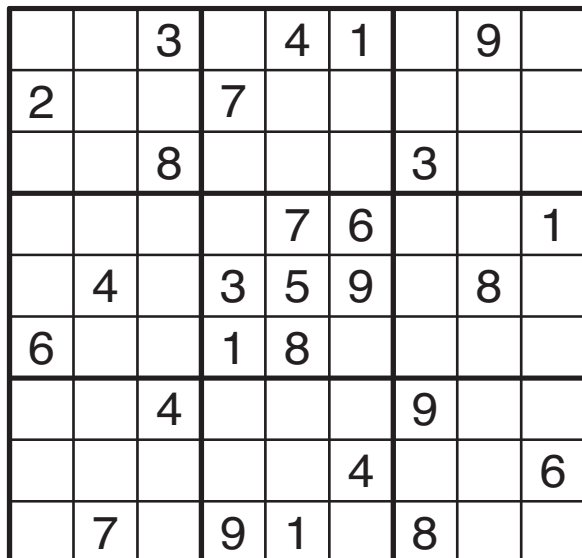
Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

☛ **Al Stumpfhauser, Oceanside, 4.**

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.
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 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk Monday-Friday between 9-11am or 1-3pm.

☛ **Jorge Alfonso, Chula Vista, 1.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

7	5	9	8	6	3	1	2	4
1	8	2	5	4	7	3	9	6
3	6	4	2	9	1	7	8	5
6	4	5	1	3	9	8	7	2
8	9	7	6	5	2	4	1	3
2	1	3	7	8	4	5	6	9
5	2	8	3	7	6	9	4	1
9	3	1	4	2	8	6	5	7
4	7	6	9	1	5	2	3	8

Under the radar

continued from page 3

candidate committees. Latest to tittle is the Barona gambling tribe with \$5000 on November 25, and a political action committee run by the California Faculty Association, a lobbying group for state university employees, with the same on November 22. Where the Atkins committee intends

to spend its cash in the coming year remains to be seen... Stellar Partners, a multi-national airport shopping proprietor which runs See's Candies, Old Town Market, and Mindworks at San Diego's airport came up with \$5000 on October 25 at the behest of San Diego mayor **Kevin Faulconer** for the UC San Diego Foundation to stage the 2019 Border Mayors Summit. "Mayor Faulconer Leads Binational Summit on Trade Rela-

tions, Economic Competitiveness and Immigration Impacts on Border Communities," says an online news release posted by Faulconer's people.

— 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/.



Torrey Pines, King Palms, California views.

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 15

Public records indicate ownership of the waterfront villa lies with William "Bill" Blankenship, a personal injury trial lawyer based out of Dallas, Texas. His family acquired the property in 2004 for a

reported \$1.8 million, after a decade and a half of appreciation, the county assessor currently values the home at \$2.6 million, which carries an annual tax bill just shy of \$33,000.

The Torrey Pines estate was first offered for sale in mid-November. It carried an asking price of \$12.6 million, which remains unchanged to date. ■

LETTERS

continued from page 4

to start. That area with its canyons and surrounding neighborhood with its narrow streets is disadvantaged from get-go. Even as long ago as 1963, it was a poor choice of location for a major hospital. Then the piecemeal additions have just aggravated the mess. A twelve-year plan? Oh, get real! It will likely take closer to 120 years to make all those changes. The price tag? Absurdly tiny. And now we have the University of California getting ready to play residential property developer and apartment landlord. What does that have to do with running a university? They have hospitals at all of the medical schools and those are for teaching (and research) purposes. Running hospitals should never become a business or profit center for the UC. Its management is already distracted by a

host of non-educational activities, and those med centers tend to suck up all the air when UC upper management is formulating policies. We can't live without the UC med centers here and in LA and SF and Davis, in addition to Irvine and Riverside. But they need to stick to their knitting and come up with realistic plans for operating them. Oops, I used the word "realistic" in the same sentence as a reference to UC med centers. (I need to be more careful.)

—Visduh

"Car accident attorney Eugene G. Bruno on 'brake-checking'" Golden Dreams November 28

"Parking Ticket?" -- be asked at the beginning. I say what begins all the trouble is there are too many cars on the road. (add for such a high demand, like car traffic on the public roads, raise the parking fees.) When

I read the reg to get my driver's license, decades ago: the California state DMV printed "driving is a privilege" -- add that driving laws were enforced differently back in such time. [but then the California DMV management has changed since then] Even when the state's economy was not in good condition, the driving laws were not enforced as in the past. Seems the cities, counties & state have plenty of \$\$\$ in the departments that are to do the enforcing; as the other departments lose their earlier-time priority.

—ised

"Faulconer staff churning" News Under the Radar November 27

Political aides and staffers move from politician to politician or to some PAC or political consultant firm like rats leaving a sinking ship. Faulconer will be relegated to the dust bin of has-been politicians.

—AlexClarke

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Continued from page 14

takes longer but lasts longer and is all about being more gentle on your nails. "I just feel like my nails are so weak, that they never stay without chipping or cracking, so I had to resort to that."

In total, she said the whole process takes an hour to 45 minutes and costs about \$40. When asked what inspired the silver glitter, she smiled, saying "I wanted to be festive for the holidays!"

Usually, when she goes to the nail salon, Jennifer brings pictures of ideas or things she's seen on Instagram. "Next, I'll probably get a French tip design, I saw that they're kind of coming back in. I want to do that!" ■

SAN DIEGO

Reader

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People With Issues

— KION TV reported on Jan. 7 that a Salinas, California, family's Ring doorbell camera captured video of a man licking the doorbell for more than three hours. The homeowners were out of town during the encounter, which took place around 5 am, but their children were inside. Sylvia Dungan, who was alerted to the activity at her front door on her phone, said, "I thought, boy there's a lot of traffic. ... Who the heck is that?" Salinas police identified the man as Roberto Daniel Arroyo, 33. Arroyo also relieved himself in the front yard and visited a neighbor's house. "You kind of laugh about it afterwards because technically he didn't do anything," Dungan said, although police later charged him with petty theft and prowling.

Armed and Clumsy

— Despite a flood of warnings from law enforcement about the dangers of shooting celebratory gunfire into the air on New Year's Eve, an unnamed Kansas City, Kansas, man just couldn't resist. As he prepared to head outside at midnight with his .22-caliber handgun, he "sat the gun down in the couch (and) accidentally shot himself in the stomach," tweeted Police Chief Terry Ziegler. *The Kansas City Star* reported Ziegler's department conducted a "tweet-along" during the evening, with multiple reports of shots fired -- so many that at 11:50 pm, officers headed to a parking garage to take cover from the bullets that were expected to rain down at midnight. At 12:01 am, the de-

partment tweeted, "Gunfire EVERYWHERE." Thankfully, no injuries were reported in the city as a result of the merrymaking.

Super Fan

— Dale Sourbeck, 49, of Pittston, Pennsylvania, had football on his mind after his arresting start to 2019. In the early morning hours of Jan. 3, he used a hammer to break into the Rock Street Music store and helped himself to two guitars -- to start with, reported WNEP TV. Presumably realizing he was being watched by surveillance cameras, Sourbeck left and returned to the store wearing a mask and grabbed three more guitars. Police tracked Sourbeck down using the surveillance camera shot of his license plate and found the stolen guitars in his home. Upon his arrest, the only statement he made was, "Go Eagles."

Special Delivery

— Veterinarian Molly Kreuze of Springfield, Virginia, is planning to purchase an artificial Christmas tree next year after her natural one came with something extra: more than 100 praying mantises. Kreuze told WJLA-TV the leggy insects emerged from an egg sac under the tree's branches and were "crawling on the walls, crawling on the ceiling, crawling on the windows." Kreuze captured as many as she could and was hoping to find a new home for them, as it seems "people really like" the bugs. The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture advised that people who find the egg sacs on their Christmas trees should clip the branch

and take it outside. Otherwise, without their regular source of food, the newly hatched insects will start to eat each other.

That Reminds Me of a Movie...

— Eakins Oval, a Philadelphia traffic circle, was the scene of an ominous accident on Jan. 1 when a 21-year-old unnamed man tried to climb a monument to George Washington at the center of the circle. WPIV-TV reported that the man slipped while climbing and fell on the sharp antler of a large deer statue at the base of the monument, impaling his left side. He suffered lacerations and was admitted to Hahnemann Hospital nearby.

Unclear on the Concept

— Students at a Fairfield, Ohio, middle school were subjected to an unexpected lesson on Jan. 8 when they reported suspicious behavior "taking place behind (the) desk" of substitute teacher Tracey J. Abraham of Cincinnati. WHIO-TV reported that the school resource officer at Creekside Middle School received several complaints from students that the teacher was, eh, taking matters into his own hands, and he was removed from the room and building. Abraham was booked and charged with public indecency and ordered to stay away from all locations where there are children under 18 years old.

Smooth Reaction

—A female jogger on the Goldenrod Trail in Oakland, California used pepper spray on a dog that attacked her on the morn-

ing of Jan. 3, angering the dog's owner, Alma Cadwalader, 19. According to KPIX-TV, police said Cadwalader retaliated by tackling and punching the jogger multiple times, and finally biting the victim on the forearm, causing significant wounds. Police posted a surveillance camera photograph of Cadwalader and asked for the public's help in identifying her; she was arrested on Jan. 4.

Oh, Florida

— Heather Carpenter, 42, was charged with damaging property and criminal mischief in Sarasota County, Florida, after expressing in a particularly gross way her dissatisfaction with the principal of the school where Carpenter was substitute teaching. Phillippi Shores Elementary School Principal Allison Foster had been helping Carpenter with a professional issue, but Carpenter was unhappy with the way it was going, according to the *Sarasota Herald-Tribune*. So on Dec. 1, in a park where Foster was hosting a birthday party for her daughter later in the day, Carpenter -- whose own daughter was invited to the party -- arrived with human feces, according to a witness, which she spread on the grill and picnic tables. Carpenter pleaded not guilty, but the Sheriff's Office report stated that she admitted she "intentionally placed human waste and fecal matter on the tables at Urfer Park with the intent of disrupting the birthday party planned by Foster."

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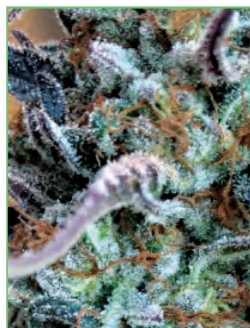
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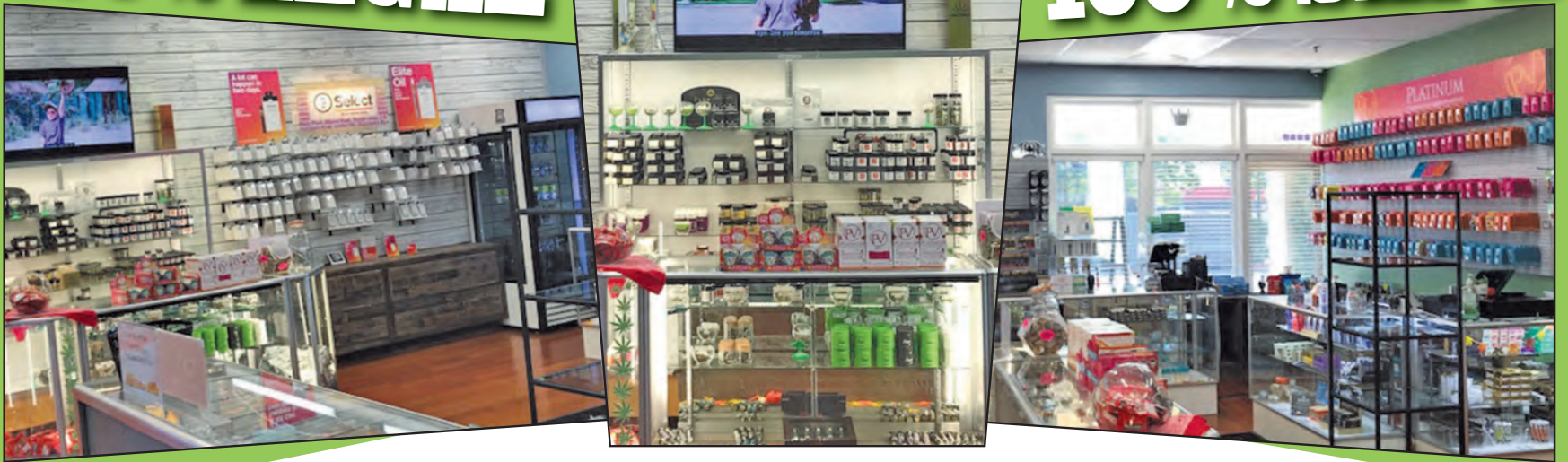
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