

Bill Batten's long road to TapRoom Beer Co.

Pauma Valley shootout ■ Edge and flow in Mission Hills

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 12 | MARCH 19, 2020

Reader

Ceviche Craft

builds bowls and towers

Editor's picks from this week's free classified ads

More in the back of this issue

THERE IS NO SUCH THING as a true atheist. Free talk, People's Co-op, March 26.

DAD'S OLD STEREO I'm looking for American made tube-type stereos, like Fisher, Scott.

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LETTERS

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

Crack's bandage

Affordable housing is necessary but it's a bandage on a cracked wall ("Shrinks' Paradise," Under the Radar, March 12). The whole system at the base needs overhaul. Greed, hedonism, over-commercialization, liberal politicians, anti-moral legislation, and imposition, confusion of these kids, liberal media influence from educators, parents, etc. The kids are confused. Ignorance of and rejection of moral insight affects their choices and attitude. Psychiatry services without those spiritual insight and guidance principals would be a fail-

ure and a waste of money and time for the most part at least. The main thing is our damaged social system. It's a spiritual problem. So I think that this is what needs to be done, otherwise we'll continue to be destroyed by so many social problems and misery that shouldn't be necessary.

Joe Saoia
San Diego

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

"Dining out in the time of Covid-19"

Feast!

Restaurant Reviews

March 15

I went out for lunch and dinner yesterday and there was no one in line and only a couple tables occupied. Do it fast because I bet they shut the restaurants down next.

—mb2121

I've had the same experience going out to eat. How

continued on page 4

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March 19, 2020



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Mask penned by Deadpool artist — page 14



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Carrillo's crusade

So many ways to back Hueso

What is Urban Associates, Inc., and why has it so far spent \$50,000 on a rough-and-tumble bid to elect Senate Democrat Ben Hueso to the San Diego County board of supervisors? State disclosure records reveal a web of Sacramento influence-peddling centered around Pedro Carrillo, a longtime Democratic power player who is listed as president of Urban Associates, based in the city of Commerce. Urban Associates is registered with the California Secretary of State as a lobbyist employer. In addition to his role there, Carrillo is managing partner of Prime Strategies California, which is registered as a lobbyist and counts Urban Associates as a client as of February 13.

"Pedro served as the principal consultant to the California Assembly Select Committee on Housing in the Silicon Valley, the principal consultant to the California Commission for Economic Development, and to the Speaker of the California Assembly," says Prime's website. Prime "merged" with Urban Associates four years ago, according to an October 17, 2016 news release. "By coming together with Prime Strategies, we bring a more diverse set of capabilities to our clients and for the first time can offer services in Washington, D.C., and other major cities and states across the country," the release quoted Carrillo as saying at the time. Resigned Assem-



Ben Hueso's supporters know it's not enough to build up your friends; you must also tear down your enemies.

bly Democrat Raul Bocanegra, the target of a 2018 Assembly sexual harassment probe which found he made "unwanted advances" toward three female staffers, was quoted as calling Carrillo and an associate at Prime "the future of California."

Besides Urban Associates, another client disclosed by Prime Strategies' most recent filing, dated January 20, is oil giant ExxonMobil Corporation, which has paid the lobbying firm \$89,828 during the current session, according to the document.

Prime's filing provides no details regarding what Urban Associates is up to, or why the company made its five-figure donation on behalf of Hueso, disclosing only that the firm, which became Prime's client on February 13, seeks to lobby the governor and legislature about "general matters."

During the primary campaign, Hueso was backed by two so-called independent expenditure committees: San Diego Strong, Supporting Ben Hueso for Supervisor; and Hard Working San Diegans for Ben Hueso for Supervisor 2020. Urban Associates, Inc. gave \$25,000 to San Diego Strong on January 27. In addition to the two pro-Hueso groups, a third independent campaign committee, aimed at one of Hueso's opponents and calling itself San Diegans for Responsible Government, Opposing Rafa

continued on page 23

Neal Obermeyer

LOCAL BOY SCOUTS CHAPTERS ADAPT TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION'S BANKRUPTCY FILING TO PROTECT AGAINST HUNDREDS OF SEX ABUSE CLAIMS



Was the Zodiac killer in San Diego?

Amateur sleuth thinks so

By Delinda Lombardo

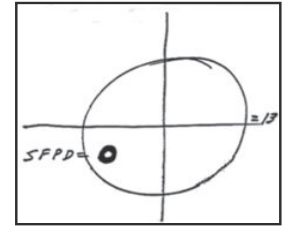
After the Oceanside Police confirmed on February 3, 2020 that they're "looking into" claims that the unsolved murder of Ray Davis in 1962 could have been committed by the infamous, and still unidentified, Zodiac Killer, it brought to light another San Diego cold case which many hope will be re-examined.

Most notably active in Northern California during the late 60s to early 70s, Zodiac taunted the police and public with letters detailing his crimes. Letters began, "This is the Zodiac speaking" and were signed with the zodiac symbol. He also sent encrypted messages, or ciphers, claiming that his identity was hidden within them.

To this day, there remain numerous unsolved cases outside of Northern California linked to Zodiac. He has been officially confirmed as having attacked four men and three women between the ages of 19-29. By his own admission, Zodiac boasted there were a "lot more" victims in Southern California, hinting that he killed 37 people.

In a letter mailed to the *San Francisco Chronicle* on March 15, 1971, Zodiac wrote, "I do have to give them credit for stumbling across my Riverside activity, but they are only finding the easy ones, there are a hell of a lot more down there."

Once such case might be that of Johnny Ray and Joyce Swindle. The murders, which occurred along the boardwalk in Ocean Beach, contain some striking parallels to confirmed



The Zodiac killer's symbol

'Thrill-Kill' Figured in Newlyweds' Death

By WALT GRAY

SAN DIEGO (AP)—A newlywed couple's stroll along a picturesque stretch of beach ended in horror when a sniper's bullets cut them down from behind. Then they were shot in the head, close up, execution style.

Police say it may have been the act of a thrill-killer.

The gunman perched on a rocky cliff overlooking the Pacific. He took advantage of moonlight to conceal himself. The roar of the surf muffled his shots.

State where Navy Radioman J.C. Johnny Ray Swindle, 18, and Joyce Swindle, 19, both of Jasper, Ala.

SWINDLE had married his bride on Jan. 18, a honeymoon in a three-room cottage near the beach from where they were

Five shots were fired from the sniper position, police said, and two more from close range, indicating that the killer fired the last two shots into their heads in a kind of coup de grace.

Another stroller found the couple in a pool of blood in a patio at the foot of a steep ocean, it fascinated her son, "I wish of state. The patio is said Miss Smith.

SWINDLE said Miss Smith when he paid a moon's rent a few hours before the fatal stroll that he and his wife had left arm and head.

They strolled.

They strolled.

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JOYCE SWINDLE Shot Down, Killed

JOHNNY SWINDLE Shot Down, Killed

She described the Swindles much blood does a person have? Nelson said the stone surface of the sea wall was covered with blood near the bride's head.

'Halt' Set to Run

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UPI) — Birmingham police commissioner, Thursday qualified to join a ship there that is due to return to San Diego in March.

Edward Nelson, 35, who found the victims, said he heard the mortally wounded Negro civil rights leaders last Swindle gasp, "My God, how year in Birmingham.

The 1964 murder of Johnny Ray and Joyce Swindle bears similarities to known Zodiac killings.

Zodiac murders.

On February 5, 1964, the recently wed Swindles were walking south along the boardwalk from the corner of Newport and Abbot, just below the Silver Spray Apartments, when they were shot by someone on the bluff at the foot of Naragansett Avenue. Afterward, the shooter went down the staircase and shot them point blank.

According to the *San Diego Union*, "five shots were fired from the sniper position above. Police said two more were fired at close range, indicating that the killer fired the last two shots into their heads, as a kind of coup de grâce."

The Ocean Beach murders, known as the Honeymoon Killings or Seaside Killings, match the Zodiac's modus operandi and are heavily referenced as 'suspected victims' among experts who have profiled and researched the cases.

The Swindles had a routine of walking along the seaside each night. At the time, it was semi-secluded

and quiet, similar to many of Zodiac's other crimes scenes. He was also known to stalk his victims, so he may have known their routine. There were no signs of sexual assault. Johnny's watch and wallet were taken, but police did not believe robbery was the motive.

The proximity to a body of water and the victims' ages parallel other cases. Johnny was 20 and Joyce was 19 years old.

June 1963, Robert Domingos (18), and Linda Edwards (17) were shot and killed on a beach near Gavilota. They were identified as possible Zodiac victims because of specific similarities between their attack and the Zodiac's attack at Lake Berryessa six years later.

October 30, 1966, Cheri Jo Bates (18) was murdered in Riverside. There was no sexual assault or robbery. Zodiac claimed this attack.

In 1968, Zodiac murdered teenagers David Faraday (17) and Betty Lou Jensen (16) on Lake Herman Road, very near the lake itself, in Vallejo, northeast



Shots fired from this OB bluff killed newlyweds Johnny Ray and Joyce Swindle on February 24, 1964.

of San Francisco. There were no signs of robbery or sexual assault. Zodiac contacted media to gloat and share details of the killings that had not been made public.

In July 1969, Zodiac attacked Darlene Ferrin (22) and Mike Mageau (19) at Blue Rock Springs near Vallejo. Again, there were no signs of robbery or sexual assault. Mageau survived the attack. Zodiac contacted media to claim this murder and the Faraday-Jensen murders.

In September 1969, Cecelia Shepard (22) and Bryan Hartnell (20) were attacked at Lake Berryessa in Napa County. There was no robbery or sexual assault. Zodiac contacted media to gloat and claim this attack.

October 1969, Paul Stine (29) taxi driver was shot in the head in his own cab in San Francisco. His wallet was taken. Zodiac claimed this killing as well. This is the case most similar to the



Findagrave.com shows this tombstone for the slain couple at Pleasant Hill Cemetery in Walker County, Alabama.

Oceanside murder of Ray Davis in Oceanside, 1962.

Johnny Ray Swindle was shot behind his left ear. The shot behind the ear against of male victims was a clear aspect of Zodiac's modus operandi.

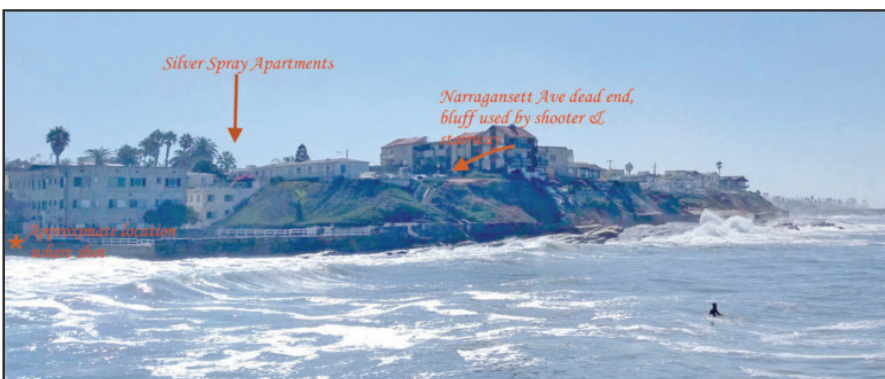
Johnny Ray Swindle's wallet and watch were taken. The didn't fit normal Zodiac procedure. But two years and eight months after the Swindle murders, a similar watch was recovered at another Zodiac crime scene.

According to the Department of Justice report, a Timex watch with a broken strap was discovered ten feet from Cheri Jo Bates' body, likely wrenched off dur-

ing the attack. The Timex watch was presumed to be the offender's, although it failed to provide any clues as to the killer's identity.

The Swindles were murdered by a .22 caliber weapon, which coupled with other similarities to Zodiac prompted then Chief of San Diego Police O.J. Roed to mail a letter on December 31, 1968, to Thomas E. Joyce, the Sheriff in Vallejo. The letter references a telephone conversation about the double homicide of Faraday and Jensen on December 20, 1968. Roed requests one of the cartridge cases from that crime scene

continued on page 23



The approximate positions of the never-identified shooter and his victims.

UNDER THE RADAR

Voluntary leave-takings The other shoe remains to fall in what local media watchers are calling the great *Union-Tribune* buyout of 2020. The story starts on February 20 with reports by CNN that *Los Angeles Times* and *U-T* owner Patrick Soon-Shiong was yearning to get rid of an undisclosed number of editors and reporters at the properties he acquired two years ago with heady promises of growth. "I have made a decision to invest what it will take to make sure that the *Los Angeles Times* remains a viable business for at least another 100 years," Soon-Shiong told the *Wall Street Journal* in a story run March 19, 2019. "If we get to five million [digital subscribers] ultimately, that will make that possible."



Does Patrick Soon-Shiong's sly grin spell doom for the *Union-Tribune*?

Then last fall, *Times* editor in chief Norman Pearlstine gave a blogger for the Poynter Institute a much lower estimate of hoped-for digital subscribers: "We think we can get to 750,000 to a million subscribers," ventured Pearlstine. "It's going to take some work, but at that level, our economic picture will look a lot better than when Patrick bought it"

There have been no subsequent public progress appraisals from the closely held operation until last month, when CNN posted a newsroom memo, announcing that the California Times, Soon-Shiong's holding company for the papers, was "offering voluntary buyout packages (an 'Employee Voluntary Separation Plan'). Employees with more than two years of service are eligible to apply." The memo set off a wave of rumors that many old-time stars of the *U-T* would be heading out the door to the green pastures of retirement, but as of this week, nothing has been confirmed by the company. "As in previous buyout offers, many people are weighing their options," a writer who identified himself as a current *U-T* staffer said in an online message board. "For me, the offer comes at an ideal time. I've submitted the paperwork and, if the company approves, will depart with no hard feelings. Quite the opposite — the *Union* and *Union-Tribune* have been good to me. The staff is now the smallest I've seen in 35-plus years here, and the buyout doubtless will shrink our ranks further."

Let them eat consultants As the county's homeless crisis continues to burgeon, officials are preparing to spend tax money

on yet another consultant to study the matter. "Homelessness is a complex problem," notes a request for quotation issued February 24, entitled Upstream Homeless System Research and Evaluation Service. "The body of research on this topic has demonstrated that homelessness cannot be

solved by a single intervention and requires the coordination of multiple, interconnected strategies working together toward a common goal." Adds the document, "Often, the work of local and regional governments focuses either on crisis intervention or crisis prevention, but not on the system or structural shifts necessary to address root causes of homelessness."

The researchers have a lot of ground to cover, including whether the county can do anything at all, based on the open-ended tasks presented in the request. "Contractor shall provide fully developed research... in report form for upstream homelessness prevention, including identification of multiple sets of factors that may exist at differing points along a person's lifespan and whether sufficient evidence exists to warrant an upstream prevention approach to homelessness." Officials are counting on the report to "establish whether an evidence base for... upstream homelessness prevention exists." The cost to taxpayers has yet to be announced.

Second place, no cigars The *Union-Tribune* can claim a mixed record for its endorsements during March's primary season, but most of its wins came at the second-place margins of tight races. The newspaper's number one priority, a controversial room tax measure to fund yet another convention center expansion and homeless relief package, fell short of the two-thirds vote required for passage. Political insiders credit the paper's editorials and lack of in-depth coverage for making the campaign a squeaker.

Still, there was no cigar, and the performance fell short of the days when *U-T* opinion writers so dominated the electorate that their endorsement of big taxpayer-financed projects, including the downtown baseball park, guaranteed a win. Results of the paper's support of candidates for the county's board of supervisors were uneven, with port commissioner **Rafael Castellanos**, highly touted by the newspaper,

continued on page 23



Rafael Castellanos is still smiling, even though a *Union-Tribune* endorsement wasn't good enough for second place.

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LETTERS

continued from page 1

can you catch anything if no one is there? Newsom wants restaurants at “50% capacity” but it’s a lot less than 50% already. I hope the restaurants aren’t shut down.

—Socks3742

“Newland Sierra backs a winner – Kelvin Barrios” News Under the Radar March 11

“The Behavioral Health System in San Diego is broken,” Really? There is no real mental health system. What there is is fragmented. Those with good comprehensive health insurance have some level of care available. The rest either have to pay out of pocket or qualify for taxpayer funded care. What is needed is we need to go back to having mental health institutions where the mentally ill can receive in house treatment or if they refuse or are unable to care for themselves need be housed until they respond to treatment. Some may need to be institutionalized for the rest of their lives.

—AlexClarke

“Men’s Journal moves to Carlsbad”

News Under the Radar March 11

What’s so attracting for “ASN” to move to Carlsbad? I have not been to Carlsbad in the recent months, but in my longtime living there -- for decades, Carlsbad has been the 1 of the several SNOB-BIEST ATTITUDED CITIES IN THE COUNTY. (as I speak in social behavior -- via their exposure of their living status) Obviously, consumers pay for this behavior in some way or another -- especially in the dining-restaurant menus.

—ised

“Heartbreaking Homeless Court in Oceanside” Neighborhood News March 10

Giving out tickets for illegal camping (especially if camping outside isn’t illegal) is ridiculous. Does anyone really expect them to show up in court and pay the fines? And where is the money for these fines going to come from? What little money they might have won’t go towards court fines, and if they end up in jail it’s a waste of taxpayer money. Hopefully Homeless Court is an effective way to at least try to deal with this.

—socks 3742



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

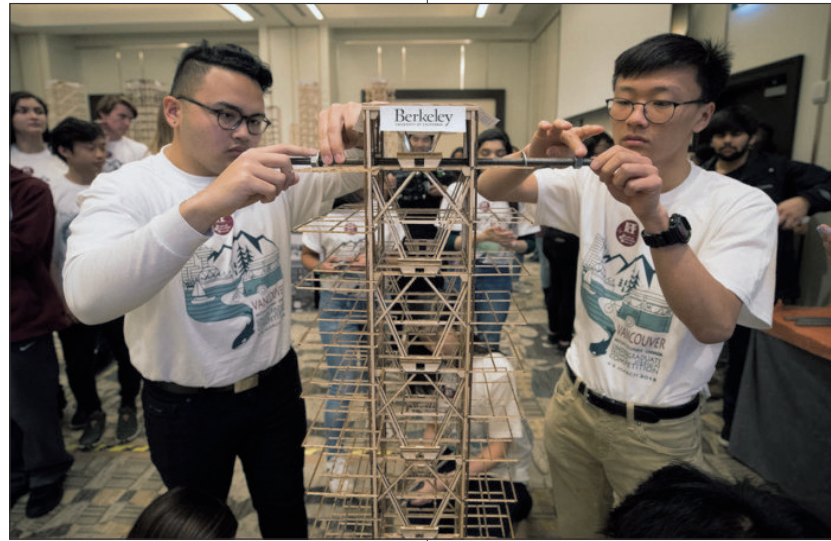
THE GROUND BENEATH OUR FEET

Shaky situation

San Diego buildings may weather quake, but poor planning persists

On March 4, the San Diego Earthquake Planning Scenario, Magnitude 6.9, was released at the National Earthquake Conference held in the downtown Sheraton, concerning the Rose Canyon Fault Zone. The scenario, which took experts in the emergency management, geoscience, and engineering fields over five years to create, read in part: “The San Diego region could suffer severe damage to its buildings and lifeline infrastructure, with devastating consequences to the communities and economy, following a major RCFZ earthquake.”

The scenario “represents one realization of a potential future earthquake by assuming a particular magnitude, location, and fault-rupture geometry and estimating shaking using a variety of strategies,” says the U.S. Geological Survey site. “In planning and coordinating emergency response, utilities, local government, and other organizations are best served by conducting training exercises



Conference attendees put the “model” in “earthquake modeling.”

said Leslie Henderson, the event’s co-organizer. “Our organization — Earthquake Engineering Research Institute — brings together all of the stakeholders, players, and experts. So we’ve got the science people, which is great. But how do you activate the science? And you’ve got people doing research — my [specialty] is about risk communication findings in building codes.”

Henderson added, “We have a website, www.InspectToProtect.org,” that can be used to help assess risk by location. “As far as residential,” she said, “you have good building codes in California and it appears to be all green. Green is ‘current code adopted,’ red means ‘code is not adopted or code out of date,’ and black is unavailable. There are five states that won’t even report their codes; we

struggle mightily in Tennessee, and in counties of Texas — they don’t have building codes enforced across the board. Only 30 percent of the United States have the building codes to meet the relevant hazard they can face, whether it’s an earthquake or something else. It’s a huge disconnect, so this conference is about closing those gaps, making sure

everybody is up to the minute on different parts and pieces, and then looking for those intersecting laces where we can really push through a breakthrough.”

Henderson noted that “our organization has a partnership with San Diego County and its Chief Resilience Officer, Col. Gary Johnston, and we knew the 2020 scenario would be just about finished in time to be a topic at this conference. The scenario is a

starting point — it’s a projection of findings and impacts that the local leadership can take to use and work with, and it’s a model for that.” The last earthquake scenario for San Diego was released in 1990, four years after two people in our county reportedly died due to the magnitude 5.4 Oceanside earthquake on July 13, 1986. According to the *New York Times*, Chula Vista resident Arless Wilson, 55, had a heart attack during the quake, and died at the hospital shortly

“According to the Southern California Earthquake Center, there is a 60 percent chance of a 6.7 or greater earthquake occurring in Southern California.”

after. And according to *Voice of San Diego*, an 87-year-old book collector died after being rescued from his downtown San Diego apartment, where he was “buried alive” underneath his books.

During the 2014 South Napa earthquake, “the one death was because of a television set” that struck the victim. “So the focus here in California is really on the non-structural element,” Henderson explained. “The property damage driver, in San Diego and everywhere else, is the non-secure things — things like water pipes and systems. Whenever I come to California, I always ask the Uber driver, ‘What are you thinking about with regards to earthquakes?’ and the answer is usually, ‘I’m not.’ Then I’m like, ‘What have you done to prepare for one? Do you know how to turn your gas off at your gas shut-off valve? Do you have any plan in place?’ And the answer is usually that they do not.”

On March 3, I visited EarthquakeTrack.com, and learned that San Diego has had eight magnitude 1.5 or greater earthquakes in the last 30 days, plus a magnitude 2.3 quake in Julian. “We were [north of San Diego] once with a veterinarian,” Henderson continued, “and he was really excited to tell us that the building code to

his hospital was a strong, structurally sound building code, and he was right. But when we looked inside, he had glass bottles of medicine on shelves with no brackets, unsecured crates for the animals... So we worked with him, and said there were additional things he could do, and he didn’t know that. That’s what we talk about in California, because we feel good about the codes, but inside your home or business, it’s different. We have videos of how to secure your light fixtures, TVs, shelves — and how to turn off your gas and how to make sure your gas hoses are secure so they don’t break during an earthquake, so you don’t have a fire.”

Throughout the three-day conference, there were sessions and exhibits that featured the Ridgecrest earthquake sequence of July 2019, the San Diego Scenario ShakeMap fault map, exhibitors demonstrating retrofitting and other safety mechanisms, earthquake safety videos and earthquake animations, and a variety of guest speakers and presentations. There was also a seismic design competition, wherein over 350 competitors from about 50 universities built and tested their four-foot-tall model buildings on an earthquake simulator based on downtown San Diego parameters. The Quake Cottage, an eight-seat “major” earthquake simulator, shook visitors and demonstrated the importance of using

earthquake fasteners for cabinets, furniture, flat screen TVs, lab equipment, office equipment, refrigerators, cabinet doors, and more.

Henderson, who is also the president and CEO of Federal Alliance for Safe Homes Inc., flew in from Florida; she was in Puerto Rico a couple of months ago. “In our organization, we do everything from hurricanes and earthquakes to wildfires,” she said, “and we work globally providing information to activate information. Earthquake in particular, this is the toughest one, because on a science basis, there’s so much that we don’t know, and there’s the uncertainty. Getting the word out on earthquake is difficult, because it comes with no warning and is not on peoples’ minds. So connecting everybody might sound pretty basic — but that’s half the battle.”

The San Diego City website states, “According to the Southern California Earthquake Center, there is a 60 percent chance of a 6.7 or greater earthquake occurring in Southern California. Yet an American Red Cross survey conducted in 2004 shows only one in four households in the Western United States is prepared to face such an emergency.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

continued on page 8



The Quake Cottage.

based on realistic earthquake situations — ones similar to those they are most likely to face. They can also be used to examine exposure of structures, lifelines, utilities, and transportation corridors to specified potential earthquakes.”

About 600 attendees from around the world to attended the March 4-6 quadrennial conference. “It’s the who’s who of everyone from every different sector on earthquakes,”

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THE COUNTRYSIDE

Measure for Measure

Voters reject A and B — so what's option C?

Developers want to build a village on a scrubby sweep of land in Otay Ranch, home to the tiny Quino checkerspot butterfly. The small colony of endangered butterflies is among the last in the county. Forty-five miles north, on remote fire-prone slopes, other developers want to build thousands of homes. Proposals such as these in recent years are what brought Measure A to voters last week. At the core of the initiative, also known as Safeguard Our San Diego Countryside, is the county's general plan.

The plan is often praised for corralling sprawl and focusing growth near existing villages and amenities. But some disagree: "The general plan doesn't prevent sprawl; it promotes unmitigable, long term, invincible sprawl," says Duncan McFetridge, with the Cleveland National Forest Foundation. In recent years, developers have tried to stretch the plan's boundaries into the boondocks, where land is cheaper. It's easy for them to propose, McFetridge says, "because there is a lot of 2-4 acre sprawl zoning in rural areas just outside of the village boundary." And supervisors, mired in a housing crisis, kept making exceptions to the general plan.

Measure A, which was fought by the building industry, would have ended all that. Any housing project seeking to amend the general plan to build more than five homes in rural and semi-rural parts of the unincorporated county would be put to a countywide vote. Also on the March 3 ballot was Measure B, aimed at a single project near Escondido and asking whether the county's approval should be affirmed. Newland Sierra wanted to build 2100 units on land zoned to allow 99. (Supervisors had made an amendment to allow 2135.) In an odd twist, voters rejected both measures. So, no voter-checks on backcountry sprawl...and no Newland Sierra. Not now, anyway. (Other big projects, such as Lilac Hills Ranch, have been voted down — only to return.) And Measure A would have applied only to new general plan amendments. Many of the proposals that inspired it are inching ahead. While supporters think the county will be slower to approve such plans, losing Measure A means a fight over every single project — even though the issues are the same.

Meanwhile, environmental groups like the Sierra Club have filed lawsuits challenging the county's climate action plan, which they say ignores the emissions that will arise from the



Will the checkerspot butterfly lose its spot to developers?

PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW FISHER

far-flung housing. An upcoming appellate court decision on the climate action plan "could throw a wrench in the county's environmental impact report approvals," McFetridge says. "Without a legal CAP, the general plan is invalid."

After supervisors approve a general plan amendment, the Local Agency Formation Commission must approve or deny changes, such as annexation of rural land into a city's sphere of influence. According to the commission's website, six "substantive" proposals are expected to be submitted in the next few months. Three involve city annexations in North County to accommodate large housing projects, including Harvest Hills and Sager Ranch in Escondido, and Rancho Lomas Verdes in Vista. Valiano and Harmony Grove Village South had their county approvals overturned in January by the San Diego Superior Court. Approval of Adara, the subdivision in Otay Ranch with the endangered butterfly, was challenged by conservation groups; the complaint described an area "at serious risk for fast-moving, wind-driven fires."

It's not as if there's nowhere left to put homes within the county's development blueprint. Since the general plan was adopted, 5,802 homes have been built in the unincorporated communities, leaving room for another 60,748 homes.

SHEILA PELL

OCEANSIDE

Help and hope for the homeless

Custom court creates lawful leniency

Every time Oceanside's police chief appears at a community forum to speak with irate residents about the homeless, he makes it clear that his hands are tied. "We can no longer arrest people for being homeless," says Chief Frank McCoy, pointing out that an appellate court decision in a case called *Martin vs. the City of Boise* ruled that cities can't arrest or ticket people for being homeless. But the dirty little secret, according to an employee at an Oceanside-based homeless support program, is that area homeless are still getting busted for existing inside a tent. "They give out tickets for illegal camping all the time," says the staffer, who declined to be named and who did not specify which agency

is handing out the tickets.

Some homeless advocates say getting tickets for illegal camping is one of those ironic Catch-22s: the tickets demand they appear in court and pay a fine, while they often have no transportation to get to court and no money to pay the fines even if they did. Summons often go their last known address, which is pointless. Then the compounded "failure to appear" multiply their hardship.

North County superior court judge Brad Weinreb says he is happy to help some people unravel their legal entanglements. For the last 18 months, he has overseen a monthly court session commonly known as Homeless Court. On February 28, Judge Weinreb showed up at a meeting room on the Vista campus of North County Lifeline in a robe and high-top Converse Chuck Taylor sneakers. His smile and warm demeanor made it clear to the 40 defendants that this legal proceeding was not going to be harsh. "We want to give you all a fresh start," Judge Weinreb told the scofflaws, who each had a collection of misdemeanors

helping young fathers support their children and themselves. ("He has been working as a painter and has been dealing with his anger issues," explained defender Peters.) In order to participate in Homeless Court, you must be presented by a non-profit organization which has vetted you and can vouch that you are willing to show up and participate in case management programs. Those programs — such as Green Oak Ranch, Amity, Interfaith Community Services, Casa Rafael, or North County Center For Change — each send a staffer, who stands with the defendant in front of Judge Weinreb. And each defendant writes a letter to the court explaining their desire for a chance to get legally untangled. Judge Weinreb says he is thankful that these serial minor offenders can get it together. "The court recognizes your effort," he says at the beginning of each trial.

Some of the participants left the room in tears, including one woman who started going downhill after losing her mother, sister, and significant other within one year. "Everyone died in her life," explained one of her advocates. Another older gentlemen who appeared as if he didn't

Participants can avoid getting their wages garnished and can get their driver's licenses back.

and infractions to their name. He welcomed them to his court with a reminder that the worst thing they could do going forward was to not show up for court. "We can't work to help you if you don't bother to show up."

The North County Homeless Court has been in operation since 2005; the San Diego program has been active since 1979. Each session includes the judge, a clerk, two bailiffs, a public defender, and a representative of the district attorney's office. And each defendant

believe what had just happened remarked while leaving: "I'm glad they handed me this instead of a ticket." Each person who leaves Homeless Court gets a statement, prepared by the clerk and signed by the judge, indicating that warrants have been taken back and fines forgiven, in case they get stopped by a police officer before their newly cleaned-up status appears in the court's computer system. Participants can avoid getting their wages garnished and can get their driver's licenses back.



Judge Weinreb sports Converse All-Stars as he dishes out assists to the homeless.

gets one get-out-jail-free-card. (You can attend Homeless Court only once.) The participants must either be truly homeless or be facing extreme financial need.

Even though Homeless Court sessions are public hearings, public defender Terri Peters asked that photos not be taken and that the names of the defendants not be published. Peters introduced each defendant, telling the judge about jobs found and sobriety gained. One of the defendants awarded a clean slate was brought to the court by Dad's Club, a Vista program dedicated to

In one case, someone lost his car by turning right on a red light. "This was one of the intersections where it says you can't turn on a red," said a court participant. "He couldn't afford to pay the ticket, which led to a bench warrant, which led to a suspended license. When he was pulled over for driving without a license, they towed his car." While Homeless Court helped him erase the tickets, the man never got his car back. In other cases, people needed to have fines forgiven for not paying to use public transit. Surprisingly, about a third of the Homeless Court participants involved those who were physically or mentally impaired. One lady had suffered a stroke and was confined to a wheelchair.

The North County Homeless Court is held the last Friday morning of every month. The next one is April 24 at North County Lifeline. The March session was postponed due to the annual Stand Down event, which focuses only on veterans.

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"Every cruise offers passengers the opportunity to sit on a deck chair and do nothing but drink frilly cocktails for hours while they wait for the sushi buffet to be restocked," says Princess spokesman Reginald Footman. "But at Princess, we recognize that what sets a cruise apart are the activities. And during our special tour extension at Miramar, those activities will continue unabated — even, from a certain point of view, improved." Clockwise from upper left: 1. Passengers enjoy the opportunity to bond while helping each other to complete the Fun Run obstacle course — the same one used by Marines preparing to enter combat zones. 2. The pool offers cruise-goers an opportunity to relax and also stay afloat for up to two hours at a time in the base's popular "sinking ship scenario." 3. Everyone enjoys a scenic hike, and the area's pristine, undeveloped landscape looks kind of like the romantic hills of Tuscany if you squint. 4. Dancing has always been a popular on-board activity; at Miramar, dancers can take their fun to "the next level" with balletic hand-to-hand engagement techniques!

Ashford Ascendant

University reliance on online education during coronavirus scare points to pioneer

Following the announcements last week by many major universities, including UCSD, that they would be suspending classroom instruction and moving to online classes in an effort to slow the inevitable spread of coronavirus, Ashford spokeswoman Betty Bluecollar made an announcement of her own. "For decades, Ashford University has made the case that the traditional college experience is nothing but a cash grab by outdated institutions trying to leverage the one thing that really sets them apart: real estate. By selling the idea



You can't spell "affordable" without "Ashford." Well, almost.

that learning — a process that, in many cases, requires nothing more than a text, a teacher, and a willing mind — must take place in the rarefied atmosphere of "the campus," these shame-

less schools have kept costs high enough to turn higher education into one more method used by the privileged few make sure they stay that way while keeping the many down. And heaven knows, there's a reason they charge so much: all those facilities to keep up, all those real estate taxes to pay, all those bodies to house, and on and on. But nature has a way of correcting our illusions, and now, the coronavirus is showing the world just how silly all that campus claptrap really is. UCSD will do just fine teaching

its students at home until this pandemic passes. Of course, they'll still keep charging exorbitant prices to do so, but that's their prerogative. Still, we here at Ashford would like to invite students to consider what it is they're paying for as they sit in their childhood bedrooms, and then to consider what we like to call the Ashford Advantage. If online learning works some of the time, why not all of the time?"

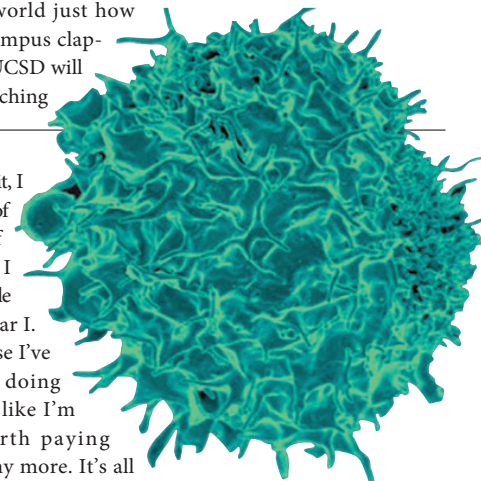
Green with Envy

Deadly flu laments rise of celebrity disease culture

At a press conference held last week at the County Coroner's Office, a visibly agitated Flu made the case for increased media attention to the three reporters in attendance. "I killed 86 San Diegans this year - 86!" said Flu. "Way better than last year. One of my best, really. But does anyone notice? Does anyone get excited and start taking

emergency precautions against my deadly power? No sir. They're all too busy stocking up and hunkering down in preparation for coronavirus. How many San Diegans has coronavirus killed, again? Now I know how cancer must have felt when AIDS hit. Suddenly, there's a hot new kid in town, and even if he hasn't done much, it sure looks like he has, because all the cameras are

on him. Dammit, I am the flu. One of the great killers of all time. In 1918, I killed more people than World War I. But just because I've been around, doing my thing, it's like I'm not even worth paying attention to any more. It's all 'coronavirus this' and 'coronavirus that.' They're stripping the stores of toilet paper for this clown, and all I can get is moms buying some extra tissues. It's a sad world when a century of



What about me?

solid work can be forgotten in a matter of weeks because some punk disease shows up and starts making headlines."

Dept. of Mass Hysteria OH SNAP

Is Thanos to blame for coronavirus outbreak?



Above: Thanos, the cosmic cutter who sought to restore balance to creation by eliminating half of all life in the universe. His first attempt, using the power of the infinity stones before Thanos could acquire them, was initially a success, but was ultimately undone by Tony Stark, aka Iron Man, who figured out time travel and went back in time to collect the stones before Thanos could acquire them. But now Tony Stark is dead, thanks to his heroic sacrifice, and so there is no way to go back in time to stop whoever ate an undercooked bat and brought coronavirus into the human community. As the deadly virus spreads across the globe, online groups are asking: is this Thanos' final victory from beyond the grave?

Street Style

BY MIRANDA POTMESIL

Edge and flow in Mission Hills

One Saturday morning, I made my way over to Mission Hills to explore M-Theory Music, the neighborhood vinyl store. Before stopping in, I walked to a quirky coffee spot a block away, Meshuggah Shack. It was adorned with trinkets and offered a signature Disco cold brew on tap. There I ran into Mari, who works in Life Science Communications at a Biotech marketing agency in San Diego.

Her flowing floral skirt (Aritzia, \$160) drew me in. It



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contrasted with the structured black leather jacket (All Saints, \$600) that draped over her upper half. When asked what drew her to the skirt, Mari replied, “I love that it’s flowy. I like darkish colors, but I don’t like



FLOWING ARITZIA PEASANT SKIRT, \$160

wearing only black.”

Concerning the cordovan-colored leather boots she was wearing (Frye, \$260), she said, “They’re my favorite, and they last forever. I’ve never, ever had to throw a pair

of Frye boots out. They’ve been through it all.”

She continued, “Boots are my staple. I wear boots almost every single day, partly because you can dress them up, go out in them, wear them to work. They always really tie an outfit together.”

A plain white blouse (Aritzia, \$130) tied at the ends completed her look, complemented by a dainty gold beaded necklace (Mejuri, Birthday gift) that she wears daily.

Mari frequents the UTC mall to hit up stores such as Rag & Bone, Aritzia, and Revolve for weekend clothing.

When asked what inspires her daily fashion, she echoed the sentiments of her outfit that day: “I like things that are a combination of edgy and flowy. I’m sure that’s a product of growing up in New York and also spending a lot of time in Santa Barbara.” ■

Find more Street Style at sandiegoreader.com/style

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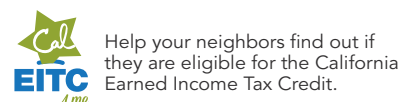
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Stan Agbulos and a sample of his Kirby collection.

Comic Fest quest

I spotted the poster for the 2020 San Diego Comic Fest during a visit to Gelato Vero last December. Or rather, I spotted Bill Sienkiewicz's name on the poster; he was to be this year's guest of honor at "the friendly, intimate comic convention" held at the Four Points Sheraton on Aero Drive. I was impressed. Sienkiewicz blew up the comics scene in the mid-'80s, right as my love for the medium was peaking. I spent an absurd amount of teenaged time studying his painterly, semi-

that it would be so, so cool to get Sienkiewicz to do a sketch of The Shadow and then give it to my brother. I didn't know how much it would cost. I had seen a detailed sketch cover on eBay for \$999, and I wondered what \$200 would get me. It seemed a lot, but it represented a lot of love: for the artist, for the character, for my brother, for our shared memory of youth.

I stopped by the Comic Fest on its first full day, March 6. Sienkiewicz wasn't there, though people said he would be, despite the growing concern over coronavirus. The Fest's

other big get for the year, prolific comic writer/screenwriter/novelist J. Michael Straczynski, had pulled out, and several exhibitors had posted signs forbidding handshakes. In the men's room, attendees complained about the lack of hot water as they washed their hands. Over in the exhibitor hall, comic vendor Stan Agbulos was selling artist-decorated facemasks



Signed source material for the MCU.



Crime does not pay... but sometimes, drawing does!

surreal work in *Elektra: Assassin* and *The New Mutants*. I studied it because it didn't look like anything I'd ever seen, and because it made me feel something: a thrilled fascination, a sense of expanded possibilities.

Further, I had just discovered his miniseries starring *The Shadow* — the olde-timey superhero who served as the template for Batman. I grew up on recordings of *The Shadow's* 1930s radio show, thanks to my older brother's cassette tape collection. (On some episodes, Orson Welles provided the voice of the invisible crusader; this was before he moved to Hollywood and made *Citizen Kane*.) I got it into my head

for \$50: a couple of Venoms, a Carnage, and a Joker smile. "I sold three in Hawaii," he told me. "I'd been seeing a lot of young kids wearing cloth masks with designs on them, and I thought, 'Why not have individual pieces of artwork?' Every time people see them, they'll know exactly when they were drawn."

Agbulos specializes in comics signed by the late Jack Kirby — the artist who teamed with writer Stan Lee to lay the foundations of the Marvel Universe. Agbulos had once worked delivering Kirby's art from the artist's home to Marvel's offices, and "much of what I have here is what I had Jack sign for me for all the

stuff I did." The collection includes an *Avengers* #1 worth around \$11,000; over half of that value is thanks to Kirby's signature. "Nobody ever thought the comic market would be the way it is right now," says Agbulos, who ran a comic shop in the Bonita Point Plaza before he went to med school, and who returned to sales after he retired. "Authentic Kirby autographs are hard to find, because he didn't like to sign books, and so his wife Rosalind and his biographer Mark Evanier signed most of what's out there. Jack had a very distinct 'K.' All of the autographs I sell are authenticated by either Professional Sports Authentication

had been there done that, but I didn't feel like I necessarily wanted to recreate what I had read. I wanted to sort of take [the medium] to what worked for me... *Toasters* was a chance to play with everything that I had fallen in love with, more about abstraction and emotion than pictorial illustrative narrative... 'Here's a chance to really break out of the perception of what comics can be.'"

After the chat ended, Sienkiewicz stepped out into the lobby to sign some items for the devoted. The line was long and patient, but I didn't last much past the first fellow. He'd had reason to wait since before the Fest started at 10 am: a

"Every time people see the masks, they'll know exactly when they were drawn."

or CBCS." He wishes he'd gotten Kirby to draw something for him, but he is glad to have one piece of original art: a page from *Sgt. Fury and The Howling Commandos*. "Jack was like, 'You want the Howlers? You don't want Thor?' But it's like anything else: you collect what you like."

Sienkiewicz arrived just in time to sit for a 5 pm conversation with comic book culture chronicler Rob Salkowitz. He had been battling a deadline for, wouldn't you know it, a comic book project. "I was going to do four pin-ups, and I turned it into a 10-page story," he explained. "If anything, it made me fall in love with the medium all over again." All over again? Later in the discussion, he said that he pursued his decidedly non-superhero project *Stray Toasters* because, after growing up on comics, "I don't want to say I was bored or

pile of Sienkiewicz comics with covers in need of both signature and illustrative embellishment via silver paint pen. When the artist finished, his admirer picked up his pile of comics and put down what looked like a pile of hundreds.

As I drove home, I talked — into my tape recorder, but at myself. "You don't get childhood back by paying \$100 for the *Star Wars* Death Star playset you had when you were a kid." (Yes, I had it; yes, it was for sale at Comic Fest.) "And you don't get it back by paying \$200 for a sketch of something that mattered to you a long time ago. You don't get childhood back. You don't even get the feeling back. You get a memory of the feeling. That's why they call it nostalgia" — a mash-up of the Greek for "pain" and "return home." Because like the man says, you can't go home again.



Masks by *Deadpool* artist Marat Mychaels and *G.I. Joe* artist Jamie Sullivan.

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SHOOTOUT IN PAUMA VALLEY



Study of the the bloody, pearl-handled pistol found inside the home at 15600 Adams Avenue in Pauma Valley

When the deputies arrived at the 15600 Adams Avenue in Pauma Valley, the sun was hovering just above the surrounding hills. It was only hours before winter solstice, and sunset was officially clocked at 4:47 pm on that day: December 20, 2018.

Deputy John Avedesian, 31, was the only

one who wore sunglasses; they were prescription, so his vision was perfect. He later said the low sunlight did not bother him. But the other two deputies said that the bright rays shining directly into their eyes were blinding.

Avedesian lifted the simple latch on the white metal gate. There was no lock. It was easy to push the big gate all the way to one

side, allowing the deputies to begin the walk up the driveway. It was a two-acre parcel, and the long driveway made a turn near the top, leading to a one-story hacienda-style home at the top of the slope.

The house was perfectly backlit by the lowering sun. Though sunlight glowed around the red tile roof, the structure was just a dark

silhouette to the men approaching.

Deputies had responded to a dispatch described as “unknown.” That lack of information made them wary. Avedesian started the camera hanging on his chest and quickly double-tapped it. Without speaking to each other, the deputies spread out as they approached. One deputy walked toward the front door at one end, Avedesian walked toward a window in the middle, and the third deputy walked toward the corner furthest from the front door.

The officers knew it was unwise to be bunched-up into one easy target, deputy Jared Muli later explained in court. Thirty-nine-year-old Muli had been with the San Diego County Sheriff for 15 years, and on that day, he was patrolling out of the Valley Center substation, which covers Pauma Valley.

“I’m feeling unsafe”

About 30 minutes earlier, at 3:43 pm, the emergency phone operator had gotten a call from a disturbed man. “Nine-one-one emergency,” she answered, “what are you reporting?”

The man sounded excited. He said, “I need emergency! I just don’t feel safe in my own

house!” He gave his address as 15628 Adams Drive in Pauma Valley, and he said his name was Jay.

Jay confirmed his address at least five times during his phone calls to the emergency number. But that 15628 number was not really his home address; that address was actually down the hill and across the road. His true home address was 15600. From the elevated position of the house at 15600, Jay probably could see deputies when they first arrived and went to 15628, across the street.

When he spoke to the emergency operator, Jay said, “I’m reporting I’m feeling a little unsafe in my home. I’m a proud American, ma’am. I’m an RN. I work for a home health agency. San Diego County, ma’am. I just moved here. I love nature.”

The operator was not distracted by his rambling. She asked, “I know you said that you don’t feel safe; is there someone in your home who’s making you not feel safe?”

Jay said, “I just feel, around my home, maybe I just don’t feel safe,



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ma'am."

The operator asked, "Okay, do you need police or do you need paramedics?" Jay answered, "I'm a registered nurse ma'am. I need both, ma'am. I'm feeling a little distressed. I'm feeling distressed. My heart is hurting, ma'am."

The operator was a California Highway Patrol dispatcher, and she tried to pass the call to the San Diego County Sheriff's dispatcher, but during that time, Jay's call dropped off. The Sheriff's dispatcher then reconnected with Jay, and she said, "We have a call entered for you not feeling safe at 15628."

Jay answered, "Yes, I just, yeah, I'm just new to the area ma'am. And I just, I just feel unsafe. Ma'am, if you could get paramedics and the police department."

The Sheriff's dispatcher wanted to know, "Why do you need paramedics?"

Jay responded, "I just don't feel safe." He repeated that he was a proud American. "I'm from here. I just want to speak to someone, what



IMAGE FROM AVEDESIAN'S BODYCAM

After he heard "GUN GUN GUN," deputy Crawford drew his weapon and looked into the window in the front of the home.

else can I say ma'am?" He told her, "I'm a nurse, I would know when someone's in an emergency or someone's in trouble, right?" Jay rambled and cursed. He said that he was 28 years old.

The dispatcher persisted, "Okay, what do you need a paramedic for?" In reply, Jay wondered if he should call the nearby Indian reservation. The dispatcher confirmed his address yet again, and told him that deputies were en route. When she tried to get paramedics on the line to speak with Jay, his

call dropped off again.

Next, Jay phoned a co-worker named Cara. They both worked at a home healthcare company; she later confirmed that Jay had been employed there as a registered nurse for about four months. Jay told Cara that he did not feel safe in his home, and he gave Cara the same incorrect house number that he had given the emergency dispatchers. Cara later said that Jay did not sound normal, and she thought he sounded intoxicated, so she phoned 911 at 4:06

pm to request a welfare check for him. Eventually, Cara was able to give the dispatcher Jay's correct home address.

In the meantime, Jay made another phone call, this one to his favorite Mexican food place. Gilberto's Taco Shop was only about a mile away. He ordered his usual burrito plate and a Coke. Jay was a regular customer, and he knew the girls who worked there. When he called that late December afternoon, he chatted comfortably with employee Sandra. Sandra later testified in

court, "At first, he sounded normal."

Sandra was the first witness at a jury trial more than a year after the shootout. She remembered it was about 4 pm that Thursday afternoon. "He was calling in to place an order," Sandra testified. "Then he told me to hold on for a second. Then he asked me to call 911 for him. I just heard a lot of echoing, inside, like if he was running, then I just heard him shouting 'Call 911! Call 911! They are shooting at me!'"

Sandra continued, "Afterwards, it sounded like banging, but I'm not sure if it was the gunshots or something like that. He had told me that he had been shot, and I felt like he was serious." The taco shop employee called 911 at 4:19 pm on December 20, 2018. Her recorded phone call was played in court on January 15, 2020.

Shots fired.

Shots returned.

When deputies went to the first address, 15628 Adams Drive, they found two elderly persons who

were confused about why deputies had come. The deputies were there for about two minutes before the dispatcher gave them the correct address.

They then drove their three patrol cars, all black-and-white Ford Expeditions, out of the driveway and parked on the street, Adams Drive, directly in front of the correct address across the street.

Deputy Avedesian started his body camera early enough to capture the beginning of the gunfire. It began less than 90 seconds after his arrival at the correct address.

Deputy Corey Crawford testified at the trial a year later. He had worked for the Los Angeles Police Department early in his career, and then he made a change and became a San Diego County Sheriff's deputy. He was 37 years old and had been a local deputy for 8 years at the time of the shootout. On that Thursday, he was working overtime out of the Valley Center station. Deputy Crawford said, "In Valley Center, we go to calls with a cover."

RESEARCH STUDIES

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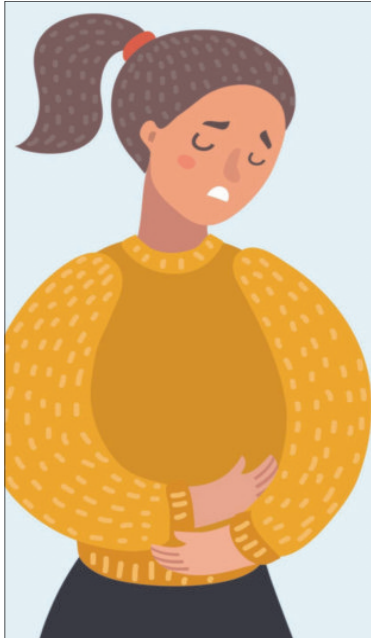
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That means more than one deputy will respond to each call so officers can cover each other.

Deputy Crawford said his department-issued handgun is a .40 caliber Glock. The magazine holds 15 rounds, and he always has one round in the chamber ready-to-go, so he has a total of 16 shots available in one load. Plus he has a rifle and shotgun in his patrol car.

Crawford testified that at 3:43 pm he got a call from dispatch for “unknown trouble.” Crawford knew deputy Muli well. They had worked together many times, but Crawford had met Avedesian only once, when the latter had requested a police canine and Crawford delivered the dog. Avedesian had begun his career with



EVIDENCE PHOTO SHOWN TO JURY

Three deputies responded to the call from Adams Drive that late afternoon in December 2018: Jared Muli, John Avedesian, and Corey Crawford.

San Diego Police, working downtown. At the time of the incident, Avedesian had recently switched over to working for the County Sheriff, and he had never been to Valley Center or Pauma Valley before. SDPD was the first local agency to experiment with body-worn cameras, so Avedesian was very familiar and comfortable with the

technology. He camera was recording as the trio walked up the sloping driveway with the sun in their eyes.

Deputy Crawford recalled later, “I remember hearing the TV,” as he approached the front door. He said that after he knocked, he stepped back a few steps, because he knew that “you could be shot

through the door.” There was no window in the door upon which Crawford knocked.

Meanwhile, Avedesian was walking toward the center of the house, where there was a window. His eyes were not blinded by the sunlight, and with his prescription sunglasses he was able to see into the window as they approached. Avedesian later said he could

see a shirtless man, holding a pistol, come into view. Avedesian said he believed the man was rushing into a position where he would be able to see the door upon which deputy Crawford had knocked. Avedesian immediately drew his pistol and yelled, “Gun! Gun! Gun! Gun!”

Deputy Crawford later testified, “I remember looking to the door and to the house, because I don’t know what [Avedesian] is seeing, because I had no idea where the suspect was at that point.” Crawford quickly unholstered his gun, but he had no target, and he took cover behind one of the thick wooden beams holding up the patio cover. From his position behind the wooden beam, “I saw in-

side that window, a male come from the left and into view of where I was standing.” He said the half-naked man pointed a pistol at him and fired one round.

When he testified, deputy Crawford was sure he saw the man with a gun, “Pointed right at me.” He testified, “I saw it and I heard it. I heard the weapon fire and I saw the muzzle flash.” Crawford said he quickly fired three shots in return. Later, he said he was simultaneously scared and angry as he returned fire.

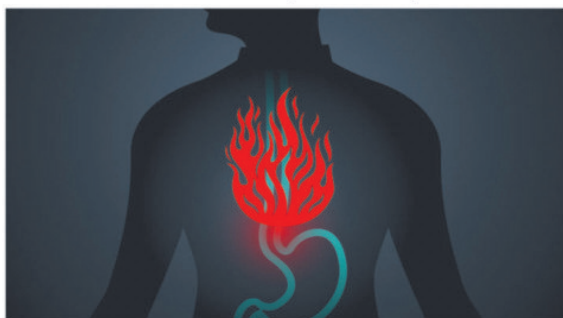
A ballistics expert later testified that one of deputy Crawford’s .40 caliber bullets passed through a wall and lodged in the suspect.

One 10mm bullet from the suspect’s gun lodged in the wall direct-

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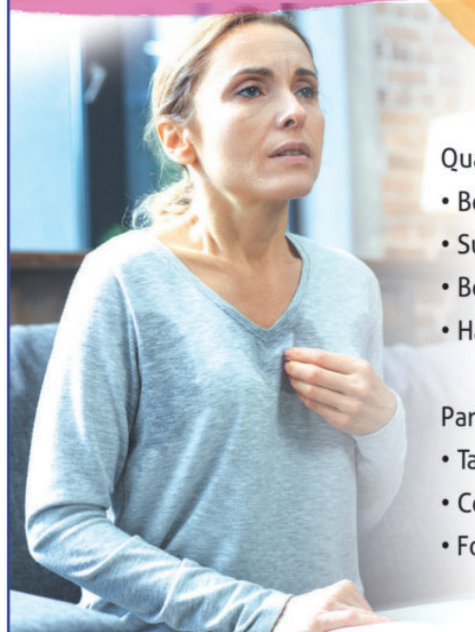
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ly below the window inside the house. Another bullet deflected off one of the wooden beams that was holding up the patio cover.

Avedesian returned fire, while he ran sideways to take cover behind a white shed he had seen during the walk up the driveway. It was later determined that Avedesian fired seven shots.

Deputy Crawford retreated backwards and took cover next to a low stone wall that ran along one side of the driveway. Deputy Muli was already crouched there. He was 39 years old, and had been with the San Diego County Sheriff for 15 years at the time of the shooting. He had chosen to walk toward the left side of the home, furthest from the door that Crawford



The suspect, Jose Nieto, in the hospital after surgery. He was shot once.

was approaching. Fortunately, Muli did not have enough time to make it to the double-doors on that side of the house, which was actually intended to be the main entrance into the home.

A ballistics expert later documented bullet damage in one of

the thick wooden doors at the main entrance. There was a neat round hole where a bullet had entered the door from inside. When the 10mm slug exited the door, it created a splintered, larger defect in the wood.

While all three deputies were crouching be-

hind shelter, more shots could be heard coming from the house. All three body cameras captured audio and video of the ongoing shootout.

Avedesian quickly decided that the white shed he was using for shelter was not really sufficient; he believed

that the shooter could leave the house by the double-doors on that side, and use the cover of trees there to approach. Avedesian snapped a fresh magazine into his Glock; he had fired off seven shots (later, he said he had lost count), and he wanted a full load. At the same time, he called out to the other deputies, "Hey I'm stuck here! I need cover!"

Avedesian wanted to leave the shed and try to join the other two deputies at the low stone wall. He called out, "Ready?" Then he took off for the wall.

After Avedesian made it to the spot where Crawford and Muli waited, he said breathlessly, "I dropped a mag but I'm good!" The magazine, still half-full of ammunition, was recovered later

by evidence technicians.

The deputies then ran in a crouched position while they retreated downhill, keeping close to the stone wall. They hurried all the way back to their patrol cars parked on the street. Crawford yelled for the others to get their helmets.

Deputy Crawford did not double-tap his body camera until he got back to his patrol car, but because those cameras make a "thirty-second-dump" of prior information, his camera did capture shots fired. (A skeptical defense attorney later wondered why deputy Crawford did not activate his camera earlier. "In a firefight like that, I am not worried about activating my body camera," Crawford replied. "I am worried about saving my life.")

At their patrol cars, all the deputies holstered their Glock 22s and grabbed their AR-15 rifles. Deputy Crawford later explained that "the house was made of brick, and the rifle will penetrate the brick if I have to use it."

Deputy Muli also explained to a jury why he took up the AR-15. "It has more accuracy at distance and more rounds and better ability to penetrate." Deputy Muli said he was positioned near the back of his vehicle when he saw a bullet hit the dirt hill in front of them, "It was basically a cloud of dust." On the recordings he could be heard telling the others to "move back, move back" and to take cover behind their cars.

Avedesian said he purposely took a position at his vehicle so that he was sheltered on the other side of the engine block.

RESEARCH STUDIES

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Crawford said he was crouched near his car. “I was at the back of my vehicle and I heard impact. It looked like it hit a trash can which was right next to my vehicle.” There was a green plastic trash can between his patrol car and the house above. On his bodycam recording, deputy Crawford is heard saying, “Hey, he just shot that trash can.”

When he testified in court, Crawford described their situation. “I felt like he could see us and we couldn’t see him.” This caused the deputies to continuously reposition themselves by moving around behind different parts of their patrol cars.

Crawford estimated that it took 10 or 15 minutes for more deputies to arrive in support of the



EVIDENCE PHOTO SHOWN TO JURY

The special extraction team collected Jose Nieto from the bathroom.

three who were pinned down on the street.

Later, it was determined that deputy Crawford fired a total of three shots, deputy Muli five, and Avedesian seven. All these came from their .40 caliber Glock handguns; none of the deputies fired their rifles that day.

The cavalry arrives

Sergeant McElvoy arrived about 6:49 pm to help extricate the suspect, who refused to leave the house. The sergeant was part of Special Enforcement Detail. He said they respond when there are persons “who have committed violent felonies

and refuse to surrender themselves.”

“We used an armored vehicle; it is an armored truck,” the sergeant testified in court. “It can carry about 16 deputies and is resistant to ballistic threats.” The special team in the armored vehicle went up

the driveway.

The sergeant said he remembered seeing the flickering light of a television in the house at first, but as the armored vehicle progressed up the driveway, that flickering light went off. The special team was not bothered by lack of light. In fact, “We were wearing night vision, we were not using any lights, and the residence was completely dark.” Sergeant McElvoy was explaining to an attorney why he did not see any of the blood smears after they entered the home.

Before they made entry, the team announced themselves, and they tried to get the suspect to come out of the home. They tried to phone him, they announced that they had an ambulance, and they

used flash bang grenades and tear gas. They sent in a robot, and the robot dispensed chemicals. But the suspect did not come out.

It was about 9:50 pm when they took Jay out of a bathroom. The sergeant said the suspect had dressed his own wound; there was a bandage on his hip. Jay Nieto was transported to Palomar Hospital.

Weed + gun

It was more than five hours after the shootout had begun that Nieto was transported to hospital and his blood was drawn to be tested. A forensic expert testified that Nieto’s blood showed 13.6 nanograms of Delta 9 THC, tetra hydro cannabinol, the active chemical in marijuana. The expert said this was

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a “higher” level of THC compared to what they normally see in their lab. She said that THC “likes fatty tissues” and moves from the blood quickly into fat tissue, “and that includes the brain as well.” She said the THC level can drop in as few as 3 hours, but there is no particular time-frame nor rate in which THC leaves the blood. The expert said that marijuana can be a stimulant or a depressant or a hallucinogen. “It can elevate your pulse, and dilate your pupils, and increase your blood pressure.” She said it can delay responses or reaction times, interfere with focusing on more than one thing at a time, and can affect learning or recall. She stated that stronger doses can produce paranoia or hallucinations or feelings of anxiety.

The man who used



EVIDENCE PHOTO SHOWN TO JURY

Three deputies' cars parked on Adams Drive. A bullet ricocheted off the trash can marked by the red circle.

the nickname “Jay” was actually Jose Luis Nieto. He was 28 at the time of the shootout. He survived one .40 caliber bullet, which entered near his right hip and then passed into his intestines. Medical staff recovered bullet fragments from the patient and gave those to Sheriff’s investigators.

Nieto was photo-

graphed in his hospital bed the next morning by a forensic technician. In the hospital photos, Nieto looked lean and tanned, with thick black hair, a full moustache and beard, and a smile on his face.

When Nieto was in court more than a year later, during trial, his face was pale, and he was clean-shaven. The hair

on his head was shaved up the sides and back, leaving a patch of short hair on top. Nieto wore a dress shirt and suit jacket while he sat at the defendant’s table with his private defense attorney. He had been held in lieu of \$1 million bail for more than a year, and he was still in custody when his trial began on January 14, 2020. Nieto was 29

years old during his two-week jury trial.

The prosecutor showed evidence photos of a pearl-handled, Colt Delta Elite 10mm semi-automatic pistol that investigators found inside the house. Technicians also found five expelled 10 mm cartridges inside; on one end of each cartridge was stamped: 10mm AUTO JAG. Both the pistol and magazine were found on a bed, separated, empty of ammunition.

Inside the home and in a car parked to one side of the driveway, evidence technicians found various marijuana and THC products. There were boxes of STIIZY pods, a hand-rolled cigarette, bottles of “tincture,” and plastic canisters labeled MEDICAL CANNABIS. The prosecutor described some of these products

as “concentrated” or “wax” marijuana. An expert testified that these products can induce paranoia or psychotic episodes.

Technicians collected many cell phones, from the home and car.

Nieto’s private defense attorney made much of the fact that none of the responding deputies used loudspeakers on their patrol cars to announce, “San Diego Sheriff!” before they approached the home. He wondered why the deputies never tried to use a bullhorn, to declare “Deputies!” or “Welfare check!”

Imperfect self-defense
In his closing argument, attorney William Elliott asked, “When did ‘protect and serve’ become ‘us against them?’ It’s sad.” He said, “I am sorry, the deputies did

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PHOTOGRAPH BY EVA KNOTT

Nieto smiled at jurors as they entered the courtroom.

not announce their presence. They could have.”

Attorney Elliott told the jury, “This is a tragic case.”

He pointed out that deputies claimed it was Nieto who shot first, but that was not seen on the video (although the audio recording did seem to confirm it). Further, “He was very, very high on tetra hydro cannabinol.” Elliott suggested that Nieto was probably delusional and hallucinating. “You have to be delusional to not know your own address,” he said.

He pointed out that the jury only saw what the deputies saw, because they were shown recordings from their body cameras. But they did not know what Nieto must have seen. And he said that they must consider that Nieto was the one who got shot. “Once you are shot and bleeding, it is reasonable that

you would react,” the attorney told the jury.

The defense attorney argued “imperfect self-defense.” He pointed out that, after all, “Once you get shot, it is pretty reasonable to think that you are going to get shot again.”

He said there was no way of knowing if any bullets fired from the house could even travel as far as the spot where the patrol cars were parked, on the street. And how should Nieto have known those were policemen? “He did not try to shoot three deputies knowing they were deputies,” the attorney asserted.

Prosecutor Chandle Konstanzer pointed out that Nieto had called and requested both police and ambulance, multiple times, and he was told that deputies were on the way.

She also told the jury, “Voluntary intoxication is not a defense.”

After about three hours deliberation, the jury of 7 women and 5 men declared Nieto guilty of three counts of assault on police officers with a semi-automatic firearm.

Nieto could be sentenced to as many as 45 years in prison. His sentencing is set for March 20.

—Eva Knott

CITY LIGHTS

Zodiac killer

continued from page 3

compare to a “similar case occurring in San Diego on February 5, 1964.”

The ballistics came back as a non-match. However, we do know that Zodiac varied his weapons and alternated between 9mm, .22, and possibly a .45 at Lake Berryessa.

There were no taunting letters or phone calls from anyone claiming to be Zodiac after the Swindle murders. Why not?

In a February 2004 article for *San Diego Magazine*, Dr. Howard Davis wrote: “The killer was never found; years later, similarities to the Zodiac slayings in the Bay Area prompted some police authorities to speculate the Swindle murders may have been a trial run for one of the most notorious serial killers in history.”

Davis has been researching the Zodiac Killer since 1987. He’s worked with foremost Zodiac Expert and retired police reporter for the *Vallejo Times Herald*, and has written many articles and scoops on the Zodiac.

Davis, who now runs the Zodiac Killer the Manson Connection website, told the *Reader*, “I was first to note similarities in the Swindle case and canonical [Zodiac] cases. They were a young couple; ambushed for no apparent reason with a

CITY LIGHTS

.22 (same caliber type long rifle.) As at Santa Barbara 6/4/63 and Benicia 12/20/69 attacks near water, there seems to be a water connection with [Zodiac], on or very near a holiday, in this case (Swindles) it was near Valentine’s Day. In 1969 [Zodiac] sent a page from an 1969 astrology magazine using paste ups which read: ‘Watch; want Zodiac, hidden magic amulet, flyt 555 birds fly south.’ I was first to publish it having obtained it from police reporter the late Dave Peterson. He told me a reporter found a United flight 555 left San Francisco — a city of meaning to Zodiac — everyday at 7:30 for San Diego. Birds can refer to planes or in the UK then to girls. [Zodiac] had UK connections. So this was a [Zodiac]-like cryptic hint he claimed some victims in San Diego.” ■

CITY LIGHTS

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

Castellanos for Supervisor 2020, weighed in on the race. That committee, which got \$25,000 from Urban Associates on February 25, dispatched hit pieces against lawyer and port commissioner Castellanos, which, when all the votes are finally tallied, may ultimately cost him second place in the race and a chance to take on Hueso in November’s general election runoff.

Matt Potter

Under the radar

continued from page 3

falling into a tight battle for second place with, but ultimately losing to, Southwestern Community College Board Member **Nora Vargas** in the First District. State senate Democrat **Ben Hueso**

CITY LIGHTS

was first.

The biggest embarrassment came in the District 3 supervisor race, where the paper’s favorite, Escondido Councilwoman **Olga Diaz**, fell to **Terra Lawson-Remer**, daughter of Democratic politico **Larry Remer**, for a second-place runoff spot against Republican incumbent **Kristin Gaspar**. *U-T* editorialists picked up a victory of sorts in San Diego city council District 1, where the paper’s endorsed candidate **Will Moore**, a lawyer, was clinging to a slim second-place lead over firefighter **Aaron Brennan**. The winner will run off against real estate consultant **Joe LaCava**, who placed first.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

The *Reader* offers \$25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voice mail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or sandiegoreader.com/staff/matt-potter/contact/.

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ART

Reception & Artist Talk: Michelle Montjoy will talk about her work and artistic process. Montjoy's immersive installations spread to overtake the space offering an absurd and surreal look at society's relationship to the environment. Friday, March 20, 6pm; **free**-\$10. Lux Art Institute, 1550 S. El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Seaport Sessions Enjoy live local bands and artists. Thursday, March 19, 5pm; **free**. Seaport Village, 849 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Stack Exchange A collection of photographic based multi-media work examining the theme of stack exchanges (overpass/underpass) and grade separations and how humanity's need to move and travel has created rhythmic and organic shapes. Saturday, March 21, 7pm; Kava Collective, 1731 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

That '70s Car Show The exhibit centers on the 1970s being a decade of advancements in automobiles and other technologies, social and political events, and the dramatic change it brought to the automotive manufacturing industry. Thursdays-Sundays, 10am; through June 13, **free**-\$12. San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

The Cats Meow: the Art of Kelly Hutchison An exclusive solo art show with over 60 oil paintings on display and for sale by local San Diegan lowbrow and surrealist artist, Kelly Hutchison, aka Dark-Vomit. Saturday, March 21, 11am;

free. Wonka Gallery, 8871 Balboa Avenue #b. (KEARNY MESA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Acrylic Pour Workshop This form of abstract art uses acrylics with a runny consistency to create psychedelic paintings. All materials supplied. Limited seats, registration required. With Beverly Brock Saturday, March 21, 2pm; \$35-\$45. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Animal Collage Connect with the animals by creating beautiful animal-themed works of art. Build an interesting 2-dimensional surface with texture, color, shape, pattern and more as your animal emerges. All supplies provided, and you are encouraged to bring magazines to share. Please register in advance. Thursday, March 19, 1pm; \$76-\$88. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Animal Reiki Join Lisa Larson, Animal Communicator, Author, Reiki Master, and Shamanic Healer, for her talk about reiki and healing for animals. Saturday, March 21, 10am; \$30. 18 and up. Dahl Holistic Health, 7902 Dagget Street. (KEARNY MESA)

Body-Heart-Mind Meditation Enlighten the Body-Mind through Heart practices rooted in meditation, mindfulness and martial arts. Everyone is welcome; no prior experience necessary. With Hathor. Sunday, March 22, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Consciousness Expansion with Sound & Meditation Teresa's joyful presence is a blessing. Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss or meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound. Thursday, March 19, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. Tsogyelgar Dharma Center, 1857 Tustin Street. (POINT LOMA)

Rhyme & Verse

Five poems by Ernest Hemingway

Advice to a Son

Never trust a white man,
Never kill a Jew,
Never sign a contract,
Never rent a pew.
Don't enlist in armies;
Nor marry many wives;
Never write for magazines;
Never scratch your hives.
Always put paper on the seat,
Don't believe in wars,
Keep yourself both clean and neat,
Never marry whores.
Never pay a blackmailer,
Never go to law,
Never trust a publisher,
Or you'll sleep on straw.
All your friends will leave you
All your friends will die
So lead a clean and wholesome life
And join them in the sky.

The Age Demanded

The age demanded that we sing
And cut away our tongue.

The age demanded that we flow
And hammered in the bung.

The age demanded that we dance
And jammed us into iron pants.

And in the end the age was handed
The sort of shit that it demanded.

Exploring the Spiritual Path

This class consists of seated meditation and a Dharma talk on integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century daily lives. Saturday, March 21, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Family Paint Night No experience needed and all ages welcomed. Create paintings that can stand alone or create a complete

painting by putting them together. RSVP now for your seats. Thursdays, 5pm; through Thursday, May 28, \$25. Cynthia's Artistic Expressions, 713 Mission Avenue Ste. C. (OCEANSIDE)

Fundamentals of Piano Learning the fundamentals of piano playing is a window to all musical instruments and dramatically enhances appreciation of music. Reservations required. Thursday,

Captives

Some came in chains
Unrepentant but tired.
Too tired but to stumble.
Thinking and hating were finished
Thinking and fighting were finished
Retreating and hoping were finished.
Cures thus a long campaign,
Making death easy.

Neo-Thomist Poem

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not
want him for long.

Chapter Heading

For we have thought the larger thoughts
And gone the shorter way.
And we have danced to devil's tunes,
Shivering home to pray;
To serve one master in the night,
Another in the day.



Ernest Hemingway (1899-1961) was an American novelist whose terse yet implication-laden style almost singlehandedly reshaped American prose, both fiction and non-fiction. This style was not only a strategy for writing but reflected his view that man was measured by actions uncluttered by words and by achievements shorn of pretensions. Winner of the 1954 Nobel Prize in Literature, he published seven novels and an ample collection of short stories. His verse, which was occasional and almost invariably satirical, exhibits perhaps more clearly than his prose the influence that fellow American writers (and fellow expatriates in Europe at the time of their meeting), Ezra Pound (1885-1972) and Gertrude Stein (1874-1946), had on his body of work.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

March 19, 12:30pm; \$40-\$85. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Love Rocks Paint on stones to create an unusual gift for yourself or a friend. Materials will be provided, though if you have a favorite stone or paint, you are welcome to bring it. Please register in advance. Bring your sense of adventure and playfulness. Thursday, March 19, 10am; \$40-\$46. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Make a Ceramic Cup or Planter You'll learn the coil method of hand building pottery. We'll glaze it a color you select and you'll pick it up after it's fired. Ages 18+ Friday, March 20, 6pm; \$50. 18 and up. Mud Lily, 2888 Adams Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Meditation, Mindfulness & Microdosing A monthly series of meditating with herbal teas, essential oils, and plant medicines to work with our emotions: This one-hour talk is designed to give you an introduction into how to integrate these practices into your life in a very practical way. Saturday, March 21, 1pm; **free**-\$20. 18 and up. Liquid Eden Holistic Center, 3190 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Old Globe Theater: Community Voices Join Globe Artists in weekly writing and performance workshops, where you will develop a new short play. To sign up, please

email your name to Arts Engagement Program Manager Katherine Harroff at kharrhoff@theoldglobe.org. Saturdays, 9:30am; through Saturday, May 30, **free**. Lemon Grove Library, 3001 School Lane. (LEMON GROVE)

Palette Knife Painting Recreate a subject, using scraping knife style. Learn about color and positive/negative spaces. Please register in advance. Sunday, March 22, 4pm; \$50. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Salad Dressing Workshop This workshop will teach you how to make your own and taste your dressing on a salad that you make in class and take home recipes for other easy to make dressings. A glass of wine will be provided. Saturday, March 21, 11am; \$10. Vom Fass, 1050 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Typology Live with Ian Morgan Cron Ian is a master teacher of the Enneagram, an ancient personality typing system that identifies nine types of people and how they relate to one another and the world. The Enneagram is a powerful tool for understanding why we behave the way we do, and how our personalities are powerfully influenced by our motivations. Saturday, March 21, 8pm; \$26-\$246. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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SHEEP and GOATS

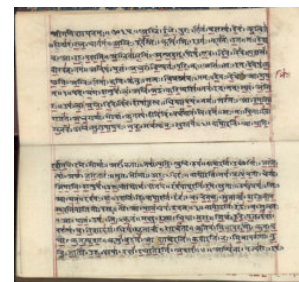
Kaushitaki Upanishad

Pratardana Daivodasi by fighting and virility arrived at the beloved abode of Indra. To him then Indra said: "Pratardana, choose a boon (vara)." Then said Pratardana: "Do you yourself choose for me the one which you deem most beneficent to mankind." To him then Indra said: "A superior (vard), verily, chooses not for an inferior (avara). Do you yourself choose." "No boon (avara), verily, then, is it to me!" said Pratardana. But Indra departed not from the truth, for Indra is truth. To him then Indra said: "Understand me, myself. This indeed I deem most beneficent to man, namely, that one should understand me. I slew the three-headed son of Tvashtri.... Some say, 'All the vital breaths speak along with speech when it speaks. All the vital breaths see along with the eye when it sees. All the vital

breaths hear along with the ear when it hears. All the vital breaths think along with the mind when it thinks. All the vital breaths breathe along with breath when it breathes.' That is indeed so," said Indra. "There is, however," he continued, "a superior excellence among the vital breaths. The really vitalizing and unifying vital breath, the breathing spirit or conscious self. One lives with speech gone, for we see the dumb; one lives with eye gone, for we see the blind; one lives with ear gone, for we see the deaf; one lives with mind gone, for we see the childish; one lives with arms cut off, one lives with legs cut off, for thus we see."

The Kaushitaki Upanishad is one of the ancient Sanskrit texts considered sacred by Hinduism and Buddhism. Considered part of a greater work bearing the same name – the Kaushitaki

Aranyaka, this text comprises four chapters of the larger 15-chapter work. Written in prose, the Kaushitaki Upanishad discusses such metaphysical questions as whether the soul exists, and how it transmigrates and is reborn. It also addresses whether the soul and God are one or distinct entities, and how individual souls can realize that they are Brahman – that is, Ultimate Soul or Eternal Being.



Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship

FOR KIDS

Fun for the Family Join MTRP Trail Guides on a Family Nature Walk and help your children discover the wonder and beauty of Nature! Be sure to wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes and bring along water. A hat and sunscreen are also recommended. Walks are canceled if raining. Meet at the Visitor Center Sunday, March 22, 3pm; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Nature Story & Crafts Children ages 5-10 are invited to join Ranger Heidi for a nature story, followed by an arts-and-craft project related to the theme of the story. RSVP by calling 619-668-3279. Saturday, March 21, 10am; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

LECTURES

Garden of the Dead Lecture & Historic Walk The House of Spain is sponsoring a lecture, fol-

lowed a week later by a historian-led guided walk through Presidio Park's historic "Garden of the Dead." Free RSVP to the House of Spain at rsvp2hos@gmail.com. Saturday, March 21, 9am; **free**. Presidio Park, 2811 Jackson Street. (OLD TOWN)

Harbor Seal Pupping Season Presentation Fun and fascinating program about the harbor seals and the pupping season with films, slideshow, lecture. Saturday, March 21, 1pm; Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

NATURE

Birds on the Wing The lake is always rich in migratory, as well as many resident water birds. Meet on the north side of the lake at Murray Park Dr. and Belle Glade Ave. and park in the paved lot past the ball fields and nearest to the lake. Bring binoculars and/or a field guide, if you have them. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes, and bring along water, a hat and sunscreen. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, March 21, 8am; **free**. Lake

Murray Community Park, 7001 Murray Park Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Discover Nature's Offerings Amid spring growth, lizards smell with their tongue and interpret the aroma through receptors on the roof of their mouth. Take a close-up excursion into sage, chaparral and riparian communities with your Mission Trails Regional Park Trail Guide and be amazed by the natural world. Meet inside Visitor Center Saturday, March 21, 9:30am; Sunday, March 22, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park

Night Time Sky Join members from the San Diego Astronomy Association at the Mission Trails Regional Park's West Sycamore Staging Area to view the nighttime sky through powerful telescopes. Rain or cloudy skies cancel event. Friday, March 20, 7pm; **free**. West Sycamore – Mission Trails Regional Park, 17160 Stonebridge Parkway. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

The Path Less Travelled Join Mission Trails Regional Park Ranger Andrew Miller at 8:00am at the West Sycamore Staging Area for a 90-minute guided nature walk. He will focus on the plant

communities and animals commonly found at West Sycamore. Please wear comfortable shoes, a hat and bring water. Sunday, March 22, 8am; **free**. West Sycamore – Mission Trails Regional Park, 17160 Stonebridge Parkway. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Tidepooling Adventures Sign up for a Tidepooling Adventure where our trained naturalists will show you how to tread lightly during your visit and help you discover the wonderful world of tide pools. For ages 2+. Under 15 must be accompanied by a paid adult. Pre-purchase required. Saturday, March 21, 2pm; \$15-\$18. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Walk For Water Join us for the 3-mile loop around Lake Poway. First group starts at 8:30AM. This event honors World Water Day and the millions of women, men, and children who walk several miles daily to fetch life-sustaining, clean drinking water. Family friendly, dogs allowed on leash. Sunday, March 22, 8:30am; \$10-\$15. Lake Poway Recreation Area, 14644 Lake Poway Road. (POWAY)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Storm Drain Stenciling Day Volunteer and give back to the community as we stencil pollution prevention messages on all storm drains in the neighborhood and remove litter and debris before it reaches the Los Peñasquitos watershed. Saturday, March 21, 10am; **free**. Torrey Hills Park, 4260 Calle Mejillones. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Cornhole Tournament Monthly Cornhole Tournament: Drinks sponsored by Fireball Whisky and Latchkey Brewing. Family Division will be a free entry with prizes and swag for the winning teams, kids are open to play. Advanced League is a \$20 buy in per person (\$40 per team) which includes a beer, wine or well drink. Sunday, March 22, 12:30pm; **free**. Carnitas' Snack Shack — Embarcadero, 1004 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Flower Flow Yoga After yoga we will provide an opportunity to have your photo taken in the assigned cut outs in the flower fields by our class photographer and every attendee will receive one free download of their choosing. Please bring with you on the day of the event: A yoga mat, water, signed waiver, digital ticket. This is a pet free event. Sunday, March 22, 8am; \$25-\$30. Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo del Norte. (CARLSBAD)

Karma Class \$5 hot yoga class. Karma means good energy and we put your \$5 donation towards charities that we feel connected to. Do good, feel good, be good. Fridays, 7pm; through Friday, December 18, \$5. 18 and up. Modo Yoga San Diego, 3091 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Rooftop Yoga All levels rooftop class: Yoga Jawn will provide the flowing yoga fun. After class, enjoy a complimentary drink: mimosa, draft beer or locally owned Skrewball whiskey. Bring your own mat. Water will be available on site, but please bring a reusable water bottle to refill. Saturday, March 21, 9am; \$25-\$30. Holding Company, 5046 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

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O'Brien's is a real pub

I've got to get a handle on my gluttonous impulses.

This restaurant-rich patch around Convoy and Balboa is one of my favorite areas in our fair city. So I'm glad to see business up here still looks just fine. Now, at 5 pm on March 10, the place is as busy as ever.

I walk in to 4646 Convoy, the strip mall. Rakiraki, the ramen place, already has people clustered outside, waiting for tables. I'm thinking Korean. Except, from just beyond, I'm hearing guffaws of pub-type laughter and the smell of cigarette smoke. A few steps further, and here's a patio-full of Falstaffian characters, sitting, quaffing, laughing, eating, and arguing about pronunciations.

"Plinny!" says this guy with big ruddy cheeks.

"Plinny!" says his drinking buddy. "Go ask Kimbo. Ask for a 'Plinny the Elder,' see what happens. She'll probably give you a Bud."

That's it. I'm staying. I mosey in through the patio to the green-walled room. Not that you see much of the walls. Even on a Tuesday the place is crowded.

I sit at the bar's last free stool. Now I've gotta know about this guy Plinny. I do a quick online check on Plinny the Elder. Man. The guy was awesome. Roman scholar, naval commander. He died trying to save a friend and his family in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii. He also talked up hops for beer.

So Kim the barkeep comes up. "I'll have that," I say.

"What?" she says.

"The Plinny," I say.

"We don't have 'Plinny.' Only 'Plinny.' That's how the Russian River Brewery people say it,

and it's their beer. So what's it to be?"

Sigh. Plinny it is. Specially as this is one of the few pubs I know with Plinny the Elder on tap.

The owner, Tom Nickel, is a World Beer Cup Champion brewer himself, and he has nurtured just about the whole San Diego brewing scene from its get-go. The pub has been running since 1994.

But now I'm head-down in the menu. Big one too. And I

notice the prices. They are so reasonable. Small soups, like the *albondigas* (meatball), go for \$6 (large is \$9). Small Caesar salad's \$5, \$8 with chicken. Full-on Harvest Salad, with turkey, apples, and cranberries, plus gorgonzola cheese to put the bite in, is \$12.

Turkey and Brie Melt on grilled sourdough's \$8.

And hey, for pre-St. Paddy's Day treat, why not corned beef and Swiss on rye for \$7?

And now I'm spotting the little blackboard near the kitchen. Under a sign that says this is an "Official Chapter Bar of the American Outlaws" (Oh yeah. Soccer), a hand-written board says "Taco Tuesday," and lists three tacos.

"Did you spot the Specials board outside?" says Kim. "Check that before you decide."

I do.

And out there I spot something so obvious, you never think about it: An actual ham-burger. A burger topped with ham.

"Burger patty topped with ham, bacon, grilled onions, lettuce, tomato, \$10," it says.

I've never thought of that before, the question as to why it's called ham burger if the meat's straight beef?

Bit flush at the moment, so what the heck,



Charred chipotle and spicy avocado sauces sex up two of the tacos



Barkeep Kimberly makes sure we appreciate the ham-burger

O'Brien's Beer Cheeseburger

spend \$10 more, get one of each taco, and the ham-burger too.

And the tacos, they're interesting. The first is confit duck (\$4.50). Uh, "confit?"

"It means the duck's cooked in its own fat," says Kim.

It comes with salsa verde, and, unlike most of the duck I have ever had, is really tasty, savory, and not tough. Maybe because it's cooked low and slow. The best thing is the spicy avocado sauce with cilantro, Serrano pepper, and sour cream. It makes that usually dull duck meat sizzle with flavor.

Middle taco is the shrimp (\$3). Beer battered. With chipotle sauce. And the thing about this is there is a ton of shrimp, and they're zingers. Some pepper in there knows how to hurt. Good though, and ain't this what beer's for?

The tofu Veggie Taco (\$4) is nice and nutty, and so right for the flavor of the oversized corn tortilla. Maybe more rabbit than beefy, but that's okay. It's a Beyond Burger patty, salsa fresca, avo, and cabbage. And did I say tender?

"Oh God!" Kim is shouting. "A Raiders' mug! I don't touch Raiders' mugs!" She's reach-

ing for one of the regular customers' hanging glass mugs. It has a Raiders' badge on its base. "I don't touch Chargers mugs either. Specially not since Rivers left."

My burger comes just as I'm starting to lean back and feel perfectly full. Dammit. I've got to get a handle on my gluttonous impulses.

Actually, it's tasty, in a modest way. There's the meat patty, slices of ham, slices of bacon, and grilled onions to wet it down and flavor it up. While I'm noshing, I check the history of the mystery: why's a hamburger called a hamburger? For starters, "ham" didn't start off meaning salted pork. It meant "back of the knee," like the hamstrings of pigs' legs. So forget "ham." Name's about where it came from, not what it is. It started in the 1800s as "Hamburg-style beef," which was chopped meat eaten raw. Same with wieners: they came from Vienna ("Wien"), and frankfurters (from, uh, Frankfurt).

The thing about this place is it's a real pub. Real atmosphere. Real passionate interest in beers. They rotate new beers in all the time, Kim says.

And, well, bottom line is, it's kind of genial. You leave feeling better, and not just because of Plinny the Elder.

The Place: O'Brien's Pub, 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1745

Hours: Monday, 10:30am-11pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10:30am-12am; Friday, 10:30am-1am; Saturday, 11am-1am; Sunday, 11am-6pm

Prices: Albondigas meatball soup, \$6 (large, \$9); small Caesar salad, \$5, \$8 with chicken; Harvest Salad (turkey, apples, cranberries, gorgonzola), \$12; Turkey and Brie Melt, \$8; corned beef, Swiss on rye, \$7; the Big Nickel (2/3lb burger, cheddar), \$13; Ham-Burger (meat patty topped with ham, bacon, grilled onions), \$10; confit duck taco, \$4.50; veggie taco, charred chipotle sauce, \$4; shrimp taco, \$3; harvest salad, \$12

Buses: 27, 44, 60

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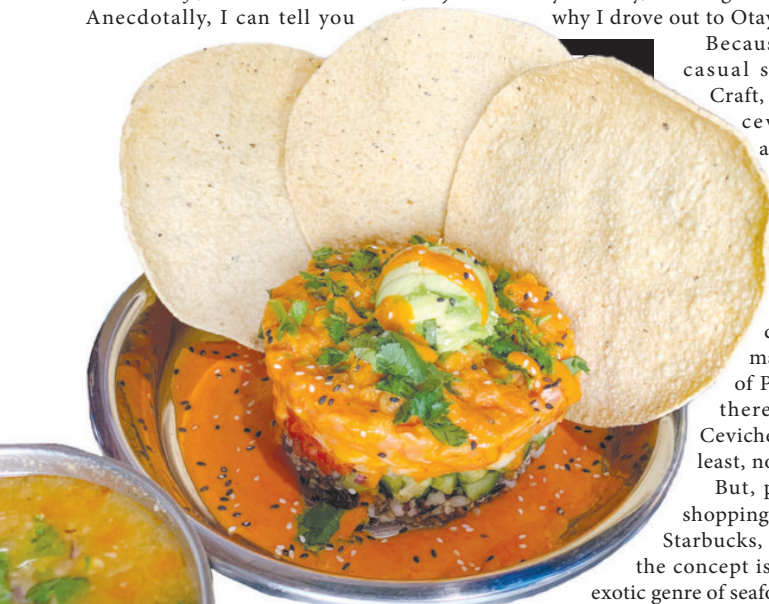
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Ceviche towers

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Ceviche Craft builds bowls and towers in Otay Ranch

Ceviche Craft; 1610 Millenia Ave #102, Otay Mesa. Anecdotally, I can tell you



A seafood tower of salmon and rockfish ceviches over a quinoa mix with diced veggies and rocoto red chili sauce.

that four out of five ceviches have shrimp in them. For those of us with shellfish allergies, that means, “No ceviche for you!” at least 80 percent of the time. I can further attest, nothing makes you crave ceviche more than watching your friends eat it, again and again, while you sit by, nibbling on corn chips. And that’s why I drove out to Otay Ranch last weekend.

Because there’s a new fast casual spot there, Ceviche Craft, that promises custom ceviche. It’s modeled after the myriad poke bowl shops that have appeared all over San Diego over the past five years, except rather than building on the Hawaiian tradition of poke salad, it makes custom bowls out of Peruvian ceviche. And there’s just the one shop: Ceviche Craft isn’t a chain, at least, not yet.

But, positioned in a large shopping center, next door to a Starbucks, it’s plain that’s where the concept is going. “We bring an exotic genre of seafood to a neighborhood



The custom order, fast casual model, applied to ceviche.

near you,” says its web site, knowing full well Otay Ranch isn’t a neighborhood near anybody other than the people of Otay Ranch.

But, it’s not a bad place to start, as evident by the line I encounter. When you get to the front of it, you can see all the toppings ready to go into your ceviche bowl: corn and hominy; diced cucumber, tomatoes, and carrots; mango and pineapple. More importantly, you may see the options for lime-juice cured proteins. There is shrimp, for sure, but then there’s octopus, ahi tuna, salmon, and “white fish” (on this occasion, they told me rockfish). There’s

marinated heart of palm, should you be after the even more rare vegan ceviche experience.

Pricing is by the number of proteins you choose, so \$13 for two, \$14 for three, and so on (I guess vegans need to double up on heart of palm). For that you get as many toppings as you like, served over a choice between *causa*, a Peruvian mashed potato flavored with yellow aji peppers, or a grain mix of quinoa, wild rice, and barley. All this is finished off with a choice of sauce, including *aguachile* (serrano pepper and lime juice), Sinaloa black (squid ink and red chili), tamarind glaze, and tra-

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WIN TICKETS		<p>Win 4 tickets to <i>Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows</i> CineConcert.</p> <p>Deadline to Enter: Monday, April 6 at 1pm</p>

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ditional Peruvian sauces of tiger's milk, yellow aji, and *rocoto* pepper, a red Peruvian pepper, similar to bell pepper but with a bit more heat.

We don't see a lot of *rocoto* anything in San Diego, so I chose that sauce to flavor my rockfish and salmon ceviche. I skipped the bowl to embrace the shop's alternative presentation: a seafood tower.

The food doesn't wind up being any different than if you order it in a bowl. It's all the same ingredients, they're just compressed into an upright cylinder shape using a steel mold. I thought my meal more impressive to look at (and photograph) this way, plus it helped shake the poke bowl comparison.

Though, only temporarily. The experience is little different, in terms of quality of fish and the easy ability for that fish to be lost in the excess of add-on sauces and toppings. In effect, the results taste less like soy and sesame, more citrus and chili pepper. It's not the best ceviche in the world, or in San Diego, or probably even Otay Ranch. But it was all mine, and it sure tasted a lot better than all those shrimp ceviches I didn't eat.

by Ian Anderson



A small shop tucked into Newport Avenue

Mad Munch now grills cheeses six days a week on Newport Avenue

Mad Munch Grilled Cheezer Co.; 4871-B Newport Ave, Ocean Beach. It's been over six years since I started encountering a booth slinging memorable grilled cheese sandwiches at local farmers markets. Back then, Zach Heinz and his then girlfriend Kate Uhle were operating the Mad Munch Grilled Cheezers Co. part time, on top of their day jobs. But in the past few

years the now-married couple has made the business their main gig. And effective last summer, Mad Munch got a place of its own, on Newport Avenue.

It's a fitting location for a grilled cheese business that seemed most at home at the OB Farmers market. Just a small counter shop next door to OB Hardware, the fixed location of Mad Munch offers two dozen different takes on the grilled cheese, including daily specials and weekend breakfast sandwiches.

Purists will find a straight

up melted cheese sandwich, the O.B. Cheezer (\$7), blending cheddar, colby jack, and mozzarella, grilled on sour-



dough with a seasoned compound butter. But Mad Munch is known for kicking this classic version up a notch by adding all kinds of cheese-friendly ingredients, including but not limited to pickle chips, avocado, roast beef, and mashed potatoes.

As I learned while visiting the shop, cheese-friendly ingredients can include peanut butter and raspberry

jam. At least, they join mozzarella on the After School Special (\$7). Mad Munch serves its sandwiches in a sort of small pizza box, cut into four, and the sight of elastic mozzarella strands stretching between quarters while creamy peanut butter and purple jam ooze out the sides of the buttery grilled bread convince the eyes it can be done. What

A baked potato with all the fixins, but in grilled sandwich form

a delicious hybrid of two childhood favorites. I usually prefer creamy, but can't help wonder what crunchy peanut butter could do to this sandwich.

I had another positive experience with Kater's Taters, a mash up of a grilled cheese and baked potato. A



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A peanut butter and jelly mozzarella grilled cheese

hash brown patty joins cheddar and Monterey Jack, the potato followed by sour cream and chives. In place of bacon bits, strips of bacon complete the package. It's impossible to hate this. The PB grilled cheese may not be a great candidate to dunk in the house tomato soup (\$3), but this one sure is.

So would the roast beef and

salami Zach Daddy (\$8), the tomato and avocado T (\$7), or the goat cheese and pesto Totes MaGoats (\$7). This is basically a place you can order grilled cheese to suit your mood, then take it out to a picnic table to nosh and take in one of the great OB pastimes: people watching.

by Ian Anderson

Can you stomach the head at De Cabeza?

De Cabeza; 1043 Broadway #108, Chula Vista. When Chula Vista's longtime lamb barbacoa favorite, *Aqui Es Texcoco*, moved into bigger digs up the street last year, the folks behind it held on to its 1043 Broadway location to focus on a different animal: cow. However, while *Texcoco* is known for pit roasting the entire lamb and serving every bit of meat in its assorted tacos and plates, its replacement turns its focus to a single part of the cow: the head.

De Cabeza specializes in cooking "cabeza de res en su jugo," that is, simmering the entire cow head in its own juices, so virtually every bit of flesh, fat, and collagen falls off the bone and into a greasy stew of meat and frothy, aromatic beef stock. While the lamb *barbacoa* adopts the traditions of Mexico City-adjacent



A half order (one-third pound) bowl of mixed cabeza meats, served with tortillas and taco fixings.

Texcoco, *De Cabeza* cooks in the style of two other Mexican states: Sinaloa, and its cattle-producing neighbor Sonora, both of which lie on the opposite shore of the Gulf of Cali-

fornia from Baja.

Devoted taco fans will know that when you see *cabeza* on a menu, it generally entails the cow's cheeks: the flavor-rich yet tough face meat that becomes

unctuous and tender when slow-cooked. To order that here, because meat from the entire *cabeza* is used, you must specify *cachete* (literally cheek). As at *Aqui Es Texcoco*, you may



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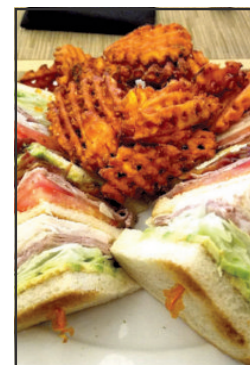


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A green chorizo taco at De Cabeza.

order tacos featuring these and other specific parts: *maciza* (head meat), *lengua* (tongue), *ojos* (eyes), and *sesos* (brains).

However tasty, at least a couple of those options will be terrifying to the American palate. If that's the case, start with the cheeks and head meat to discover why trimmings off the cow's head are considered a

delicacy (including the cow's fatty palate, by the way). If you're feeling adventurous but afraid to commit to an entire taco of eyes or brains, for example, opt for the taco *surtido*, or mixed taco, which chops up and wraps all of the above in a corn tortilla, so you can appreciate all the delectable morsels of fragrant, fatty, or tender meat without dwelling on the identity of

any particular texture. Or, as recommended to me by the shop's new owner (an 11-year employee of *Aqui Es Texcoco*), you can bypass any trepidation by simply sticking to one of the \$2.50 tacos: *carne asada*, *al pastor*, or the terrifically spicy green chorizo.

It pains me to admit, but eyes and brains do still make me uncomfortable on their own, so I tried to hide them in this fashion when ordering De Cabeza's primary entrée. *Texcoco* serves one-third and half-pound plates of mixed *barbacoa* meat, served with corn tortillas, and the usual taco fixins of diced onions, cilantro, salsa, and limes. De Cabeza does the same thing, except the different style of cooking means it serves one-third and half-pound *bowls* of *cabeza*, so it may contain that complex and savory stock.

Whether the third-pound

half-order (\$10.50), or half-pound full-order (\$12.75), the meats contained in your bowl will be mixed by default, though you may request or veto any particular head cut (cheeks only, or hold the eyeballs, for example). Expect to pay a couple bucks additional to include *lengua* (tongue) though: it's extra fatty and therefore flavorful, and therefore prized.

All chopped into pieces, the stewed meats, eyes, collagen, and other bits submerged in thick beef stock are far less scary. I knew there were brains in there, but I was able to focus more on the succulent combination of beef flavors and textures crossing my palate, including the same musky perfume that makes oxtail so memorable. If you need further encouragement, I can only promise you this: every bit of the cow's head tastes better than tripe.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Beatles Brunch Live Beatles music with Craig Blaine, reservations strongly encouraged: 619-795-1501. Saturday, March 21, 10:30am; **Parc Bistro Brasserie**, 2760 Fifth Avenue. (BANKERS HILL)

Cocktails for a Cause Every 4th Thursday, a percentage of your drink purchases will go towards PATH, an organization that assists the homeless neighbors here in San Diego. Thursday, March 19, 5pm; free. 21 and up. **Tipsy Crow**, 770 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Food for Good: IRC's Urban Farm Tour & Garden Cafe Come visit IRC's organic, urban farm in the heart of North Park. Learn about local food and climate change on our kid-friendly urban farm tours. Cap it off with a relaxing garden-infused tonic and lunch at our cafe. Saturdays, 11am; through Saturday, April 4, free. St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 3725 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Frog's Leap Wine Dinner Join us at Sheerwater for the Frog's Leap Wine Dinner featuring a special

five course menu by Master Chef Patrick Ponsaty expertly paired with world-class wines. The event will begin with a reception at 6 pm and seated dinner at 6:15 pm. Thursday, March 19, 6pm; \$170. 21 and up. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Lakehouse Food & Wine Festival Enjoy a festival-style celebration of wine, craft beer and food set to the backdrop of live music, local merchants, and sunny Lake San Marcos. Ticket includes: Your choice of 10 tastings of beer, wine or food. Sunday, March 22, 11am; \$25-\$40. **Lakehouse Hotel & Resort**, 1025 La Bonita Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Weekend Wine Down Weekend Wine Down specials include half-price bottles, seasonal vineyard flights of three (\$15) to perfectly pair with a selection of discounted artisanal cheese boards, a veggie plate and live music. Guests will be able to relax, indulge and enjoy the specially crafted offerings. Live music from 4pm to 9pm Sundays, 4pm; through Monday, December 28, free-\$75. 20|Twenty at Westin Carlsbad, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive. (CARLSBAD)



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blurt the inside track

Longtime Buck O Nine

lead singer Jon Pebsworth pops up as a talking head in the new documentary *Pick It Up! Ska In The 90s*. The film details the history of ska music while concentrating on the bands that broke in the so-called 'third-wave' of the movement. Besides

would be like, 'What's that? I don't know what ska is.' Then to explain it to them would be almost painful. There's times when people have asked me and I kind of feel like going 'I'm just not even going to answer. Let's just talk about something else,' Pebsworth said with a laugh.



Buck O Nine won't let ska die.

Buck O Nine, this era included such acts as The Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Reel Big Fish, Hepcat, and Goldfinger.

The ska scene had been simmering since the late 80s due to influential bands such as Operation Ivy. It wasn't until around 1997 that the music exploded into the mainstream. Ska's moment was fleeting though, as the movement quickly drifted back underground by 1999 as nu-metal bands began to take over the airwaves. Twenty years removed from the genre's peak popularity, the documentary makes a point of showing that ska is so far off the mainstream radar these days that many people have no idea what it is.

"That wasn't really surprising to me, because I remember even back in the 90s when the third-wave thing was really popping a lot of people

The band may not be as busy these days as they were during the third-wave era, but they're still active. They're not averaging two to three-hundred dates a year like they were in the mid-90s, but they still get together for shorter tours and to work on albums — the latest of which is 2019's *Fundaymental*. Logistically, it's a bit trickier now that half of the six-member band lives outside of San Diego.

"Andy [Platfoot — the band's bassist who lives in Yosemite] will jump in a rent-a-car, come through LA, pick me up, and then we're in San Diego," Pebsworth explained. "Steve [Bauer — drums] just flies in on a cheap flight (from Colorado.) So, it's not that hard to get everyone together, but it does take a good three to six months out to kind of plan something."

The band is already at

work writing songs for a follow-up to *Fundaymental*. Pebsworth said that they have four new songs they're working on right now, and that they are hoping to have twelve to fourteen on the finished LP.

"At the pace that we work it's going to be 2021 at least probably," He explained. "But, who knows, we might get it together quicker than that."

One thing that fans can count on is a lack of constant updates about the status of the new album on social media. At this point, the band is more concerned with discussing their songs than scheduling Instagram posts.

"We don't think too much about marketing and stuff like that anymore," he said. "Maybe we should. Maybe it doesn't matter. I don't know. We're just kind of on our own little pace at this point. When we have discussions over text messages or phone calls, it's more about 'what about the bridge of this song?'"

— Dryw Keltz

P-Lo's hecca dope

"Rapper P-Lo's style of music is 100 percent 'Bay Area' — the type of music you can dance to, whether it's with a partner or by yourself, and just good vibing," said Vanessa Wong, a 23-year-old hip-hop head from San Diego.

"I feel like what people know the Bay for, is like funk, turnt, hype shit and just this real high-energy music," P-Lo said in a *XXL* interview.

P-Lo is a hip-hop artist, song writer, and producer from Pinole, a city that's about 20 miles north of San Francisco. He's known as Paolo Rodriguez to his Filipino parents and some of his friends from Heartbreak Gang, or HBK — a Bay Area music and arts collective that he co-founded with rapper IAMSU!

When he played point guard for the Contra Costa College basketball team, while simultaneously making beats for his HBK *pares* (Tagalog for buddies) and working a day job, it was difficult for some of his people to accept his immersion into the hip-hop industry.



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"There was always times where people doubt, you know what I'm saying? But I figured they were more scared for themselves, than they were for me," P-Lo said in a *dailymotion* interview, "I never really tripped about people doubting me."

In 2013, the young rapper was at a crossroads. "I was working at this after school program, and I had been working there for like a week," he said to *XXL*. "Then one day I had to fly to L.A.... When your friend gets you a job, you're not supposed to take days off, but I had to leave, I had to go to L.A. So once I quit my job, and made the decision. I was like, 'Alright, I'll fully go in.' I had to fly to L.A. to go work with the Wiz again, and I was like, 'Alright, fuck it, this is the rest of my life.'"

P-Lo produced the "Bout Me" jam by Wiz Khalifa, featuring Problem and his partner IAMSU!. Four years later he collabed with E-40, one of the OGs of the Bay Area hip-hop movement, that took their "510 and 707 slaps" hella mainstream in the 00s — on the hyphy-esque "Put Me On Somethin'."

"What I think is cool," recalls P-Lo fan Wong, "is that personally I don't think any song of P-Lo is the same in style as another. He's always switching it up."

Wong watched P-Lo perform in Oakland, Santa Ana, and San Diego. "During the concert he brought me up on stage and performed 'Make It Last,' which gave me butterflies in my stomach," she continued. "I was living the dream: one of my favorite artists bringing me on stage and then singing to me and it was crazy. Then after the concert, I got to talk to him some more, and he was really kind and

down to earth."

Bhoy, an old-school San Diego hip-hop head, first heard his "*kababayan*" (fellow Filipino) on "Light This Bitch Up" featuring G-Eazy and HBK Gang-mate Jay Ant.

"Dude's hella tight, bro," he said. "I'm wondering if our Filipino peeps are backing dude here in the 619. I'm sure our *pinoy*s and *pinays* (Filipinos and Filipinas) are behind him. Back in the 80s-90s, our peeps said our hip-hop endeavors

hecka dope."

"I think we're (the Bay Area) able to represent the future of the world," P-Lo said to *XXL*, "where everyone co-exists and people are able to create great things together, from all walks of life, no matter where you came from and what you look like or whoever you are, and I think that's what we want to represent."

Bhoy and Wong will try to attend P-Lo's March 20 spring break concert at Papas



"I'm wondering if our Filipino peeps are backing [P-Lo] here in the 619."

were "hobbies" and not to be taken seriously 'cuz we were pressured to finish college. Then there was that crab effect when we pulled one another down. But that's in all cultures. It was only when someone of Filipino heritage blew up big to other races, when our peeps rode the coattails. It seems different nowadays, which is

& Beer in Rosarito — if tickets become available on the secondary market. The venue's website says they're sold out.

— Mike Madiaga

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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Intermission

A stanchion sign in the entranceway to the Reading Grossmont greeted customers with the request, “Please Purchase Tickets At The Concession Stand.” After years spent logging an average of eight movies a month in La Mesa’s munificent multiplex, this was a first. Sure enough, the outside ticket

MOVIES

window and the lobby concierge desk were vacant. Such a combination of sales operations is ordinarily a cost-cutting, multi-tasking endeavor to save money by not employing a box office person during off-peak hours. But this was a Friday afternoon, and the first day for a trio of hotly-anticipated new releases. It was also the opening weekend of an officially declared pandemic.

Possessed with a religionist’s faith in the healing power of cinema, I naturally anticipated a crowd. After all, where else are people to turn when just about every other form of entertainment has been put on hold until the virus is no longer considered a public-health threat? And yet: ticket sales fell to their lowest level in two decades. (To help defray losses, theatre chains might want to consider hawking Charmin at the concession stand.) Employees in the lobby outnumbered the patrons. Six feet of social distance? Try sixty. The ten patrons gathered inside the cavernous Grossmont #1, eager to see *Bloodshot*, sat strategically spaced apart.

Before handing me my bucket of golden kernels and a bottle of Dasani, the rubber-gloved usher ripped my ticket, and I headed to the washroom for a twenty-second surgical scrub of my mitts. Once inside the theatre, I muted the Screenvision adverts, choosing to spend the pre-show minutes jotting down the few times in my life when the moviegoing experience — as opposed to anything on the screen — left me fearing for my life. Four brown shirts, sporting swastika arm bands and seated in the back row of Chicago’s 3 Penny Cinema, cheering on Hitler’s every word during a rare public screening of Leni Riefenstahl’s cogent Nazi-bankrolled documentary, *Triumph of the Will*. Then there were the armed guards stationed in all four corners of the Biograph theatre looking to diffuse a bomb threat phoned in just

hours prior to the opening day presentation of *The Last Temptation of Christ*. And who could forget that Easter Sunday screening of *Vincere* in the big Hillcrest, during which a foundation-rocking earthquake hit? I was the only one to remain seated, figuring, *What better place for a guy like me to check out than inside a movie theatre?*

This morning, Monday, March 16, theatres in New York and Los Angeles were placed on lockdown for the length of the outbreak. Regal Cinemas has closed their theatres nationwide. By the time you read this, the same orders to close may apply to San Diego movie screens. Two of our town’s premiere cinematic events — the San Diego Latino Film Festival and the San Diego Asian Film Festival’s Spring Showcase — have already been postponed. So far, according to their websites, Reading Cinemas and AMC Theatres are continuing to operate their movie theatres. Rest assured that if it’s in the best interests of their valued patrons, each is prepared to shut their doors. For now, both chains are following the guidelines set by the Center for Disease Control. New and enhanced procedures have been put in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. What are being referred to as “high-touch point areas” (kiosks, counter tops, bathrooms, glass, handrails, doorknobs, etc.) will be sanitized on the hour. Cashless transactions are preferred. Patrons, while encouraged to maintain a physical distance, won’t be asked to sit four chairs apart from friends and family members.

This just in: what began with theatres capping the normal seating capacity of each screen to 50% has now been reduced to 50 seats. Even the indies are pushing back release dates. A24 has decided to relaunch Kelly Reichardt’s *First Cow* later in the year. If theatres do shutter for the duration, and we’re forced into hibernation, check this space for reviews of home video sensations. Let’s hope it doesn’t get to that. I sure do love going to the movies.

[Editor’s note: word has just come in that Landmark Theatres is suspending all operations until further notice.]

—Scott Marks



Our critic takes a moment to translate Gibberish into the English for, “Purchase tickets at concession stand.”

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.

Burden — Mike Burden (Garrett Hedlund), proprietor of the Redneck Museum, is Klan and stupid to boot. Were it not for girlfriend Judy (Andrea Riseborough), the film’s backbone, and her faith in the redemptive power that can reach even monsters, this would be just another say-no-to-hate potboiler. A fact-based race drama with religious overtones makes for a lousy situation in Hollywood terms. But there’s no such thing as a bad genre, just rinkydink raconteurs who take great pleasure in exalting the what before the how. Many are quick to complain that the film absolves a white supremacist of his sins. Burden ultimately does the right thing, but the chilling string of evil events that snowed under Burden’s heart ultimately made it impossible to appreciate his extenuatory actions. Announced in 2015, completed in 2016, and previewed at Sundance in 2018, this is the first film in seeing the projector light of day. Andrew Heckler makes his directorial debut. With Tom and Tess Harper as the adoptive parents and Forest Whitaker oozing moral credibility as Reverend Kennedy. 2018. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Hope Gap — The title serves double-duty: a cove tucked under the cliffs of Seaford that bookends the action and that delicate emotional space between exceedingly erudite lovers who have experienced their last gasp of romance. Grace (Annette Bening) is surprised to learn their son Jamie (Josh O’Connor) didn’t call his mother to announce his upcoming weekend visit. He didn’t have to, seeing how it was dad (Bill Nighy) who extended the invite hoping that the boy might stay a little longer to play intermediary

in case Grace didn’t respond well to the news their 29-year marriage was dissolved and that her husband had decided to play house with another woman. (His greatest mistake was a passive inability to stand up for himself.) She’s not going down easy — it’s a clause written into every one of the actresses’ contracts, but seldom with Grace’s ferocity. “What will he do if I say no?” Grace asks the divorce lawyer representing her husband. Let the stalking begin in this tense romantic drama that showcases both its leads in top form. 2020. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Hunt — Trump supporters are dropped in the middle of Arkansas, armed, and left to fend for themselves against a group of human-hunting liberal democrats. A spoiler alert might normally have been in order, but instead of adding an air of mystery and bolstering suspense by withholding any mention of political affiliation until an hour into the picture, Craig Zobel (*Compliance*) and the Blumhouse brats tip their hand early on: the word “deplorables” is splashed across the screen before the opening credits roll. So much for subtlety. Even the cameo killings - no matter how big the celebrity name, their time on screen can be short — got old. Every word of satire in this cavalcade of torture porn is spelled out so that even the lowest-grade moron in the room can get in on the laughs. The filmmakers play the most dangerous game of all: talking down to the choir. So much so that their target audience and Trump’s deplorables appear to be one and the same. 2019. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Rosemary’s Baby — Roman Polanski’s Hollywood debut, and his deepest dive into commercialism. These working conditions serve mainly to point up his shortcomings as a storyteller. He slides right over some of the cues for spine-tingles, as if he simply missed them in his reading of the trashy Ira Levin novel. And his expressionistic camerawork, with its distorting lenses and furtive movements, converts the Manhattan apartment locale into a sort of undulating funhouse, and it thereby undermines the intended shock effect of situating demonism in a cozily mun-

dane setting. The acting doesn’t add any stability, what with John Cassavetes’s j.d. sulking, Ruth Gordon’s birdlike squawking, Mia Farrow’s precarious teetering behind a pumped-up belly, and the headless stand-in used for Mia’s nude shots. A better, more earthbound movie on devil worshippers in New York City is the Val Lewton-Mark Robson *Seventh Victim*. 1968. — D.S. ★ (AMC FASHION VALLEY)

Saint Frances — Bridget (screenwriter Kelly O’Sullivan) is a self-proclaimed agnostic feminist who’s not quite ready to be a mother, or much of anything else for that matter. Given her admitted aversion to responsibility, a snarky aside aimed at the religious art adorning her potential employers’ wall, and a pronounced eagerness to bail in mid-interview, it’s a wonder that she gets the job nannying for a biracial lesbian couple. Any topic can be made funny given the right approach, even abortion and postpartum depression. The woman seated next to Bridget at the clinic asks, “Is this your first time?” The joke’s payoff and the spoiler that comes with it gave rise to repeated slappings of the knee. Ditto the deployment of vaginal secretions as a running (runny?) gag that’s bloody brilliant. First-time director Alex Thompson’s normalizing drive to be all things to all people frequently does so at the expense of character development, and it wasn’t until an hour into the picture and a mean-spirited in-joke between nanny and her charge that one began to feel an affection for the duo. Still, imperfections can sometimes be beautiful. See this movie! 2019. — S.M. ★★★ (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER AND CAFÉ)

Strangers on a Train — Uneven suspense film from Alfred Hitchcock, watered down from the diabolical Patricia Highsmith original. Too many lumpy set pieces and too many stuffy characterizations (a glamorous tennis star, his loyal fiancée, her U.S. Senator father, a gaggle of Capitol Hill socialites, and an unctuous psychopath). However, the beautifully synchronized opening, Laura Elliott’s impersonation of a purebred bitch, and the deliciously sadistic finale are not to be missed. Farley Granger, Robert Walker, Ruth Roman, Leo G. Carroll. 1951. — D.S. ★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

Birdbrained

— Officers of the North Wales (England) Police believe they have solved, with help from the government Animal and Plant Health Agency, the mystery of why more than 200 starlings were found dead in a road in Bodedern on Dec. 10. Rob Taylor of the police force's rural crime team revealed that the birds suffered severe internal trauma, "support(ing) the case that the birds died from impact with the road," he told Sky News. "It's highly likely the murderation took avoiding action whilst airborne, from possibly a bird of prey, with the rear of the group not pulling up in time and striking the ground."

The Passing Parade

— KTVX reported a man in Sandy, Utah, mistakenly assumed his local 24 Hour Fitness was open ... 24 hours. Dan Hill went to the gym late on Jan. 11 and finished his session with laps in the pool after midnight. When he emerged, he realized everyone was gone and the doors were locked. "Doesn't the name suggest that they stay open 24 hours?" Hill complained on Facebook. He called his wife, who suggested he "find a comfortable place to sleep." Instead, he called police dispatch "and the guy pauses for like 10 seconds and says, 'You're where?'" Hill said. He explained that he didn't want to risk tripping the alarm system and "get busted for breaking and entering," so police responded and freed Hill from his unexpected prison. A manager from the gym apologized in a statement and said, "We made the decision recently

to close select clubs in the overnight hours. ... We clearly did not do a good job of our closing procedures for this club on Saturday night."

Can You Blame Her?

— Shawna Joseph, 28, of Jersey City, New Jersey, lost her cool on Jan. 7 at the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission in Bayonne. Asked to leave around 2 p.m. after becoming angry over the length of the lines, authorities said she returned later that afternoon and unleashed her wrath, smashing computers, assaulting workers and kicking the police officers called to arrest her. The Associated Press reported that Joseph eventually was responsible for about \$23,000 in damages, according to authorities, and after she was arrested, she was found to have a PCP-laced marijuana cigarette in her possession; she was charged with criminal mischief, drug possession, aggravated assault and hindering apprehension.

Least Competent Criminals

— Storm Corral, 40, and a possible accomplice went to a lot of trouble to enter the Cigarettes Cheaper store in Sonora, California, on Dec. 22, according to police. They bored a hole in the ceiling, gaining access from a vacant building above the business, which probably took a couple of hours, Sonora Police Chief Turu VanderWiel told Fox40. When Corral tripped an alarm inside the store, he tried to escape back up through the hole but ended up falling through the ceiling into a storage room, all of which was caught on surveillance video. For all his effort,

Corral came away with just a bag of rolling tobacco and two energy drinks, said an employee of the business, but he caused thousands of dollars worth of damage. Corral, who was already on probation, was charged with burglary and conspiracy to commit a crime. Police are still looking for his suspected accomplice.

Awesome!

— During the Tokyo Olympics this summer, athletes will sleep on beds made of cardboard, a nod toward sustainability in keeping with Tokyo's commitment to a "green" Olympics. Which all sounded admirable until Australian basketball player Andrew Bogut pointed out a potential problem: "Great gesture ... until the athletes finish their events and the 1,000s of condoms handed out all over the village are put to use." In response, Airweave, the manufacturer of the beds, told AFP the beds will hold up to 440 pounds and have been through rigorous stress tests. "As long as they stick to just two people in the bed, they should be strong enough to support the load," the company said.

The Continuing Crisis

— In Mexico City, Mexico, on any given day, 22 of the 467 escalators at subway stations are broken down, reports the Associated Press, and on Jan. 14 Metro authorities published a list of causes, including "corrosion due to urine" among the top five. Fermin Ramirez, assistant manager for rails and facilities, said he's concluded that riders urinate on the escalators in

off-peak hours or at lightly used stations -- "even though it seems hard to believe." "When we open up escalators for maintenance, there is always urine," Ramirez noted. Twitter users pushed back, noting that there are no restroom facilities in most Metro stations. The Mexico City subway provides 1.6 billion rides per year -- the eighth largest in the world by some measures.

Extreme Measures

— An unnamed 55-year-old man from the town of Pitalito, Colombia, got cold feet before his scheduled marriage over the weekend of Jan. 18, but lacked the courage to tell his fiancée. Instead, with the help of his best friends, he faked his own kidnapping, reported Oddity Central. The groom's pals told authorities they had seen a group of armed men on motorcycles abduct their friend, and because kidnappings for extortion are not unknown in Colombia, the local police responded in force. Police Commander Nestor Vargas ordered roads closed, sealing off the town, and began a search. That's when the friends got nervous and admitted they'd made the whole thing up. Authorities kept the groom's identity a secret to protect him from other townspeople, who've been down this road before: This is the second time the groom has left a bride waiting at the altar. He and his cohorts will likely face jail time of up to six years.

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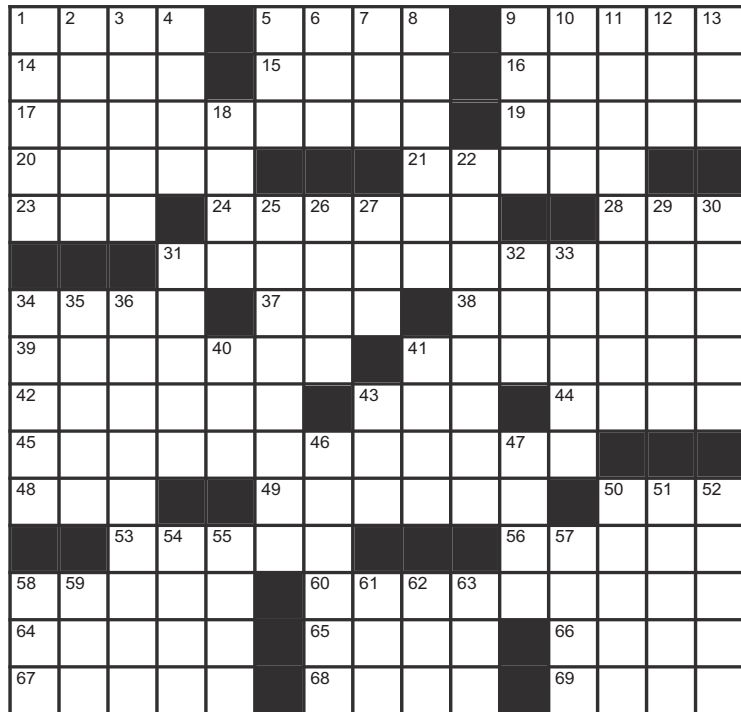
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Across

1. Rap's Snoop _____
5. Salon offering
9. What a spin doctor might be called on to take care of
14. Fallopian tube traveler
15. The Jonas Brothers, e.g.
16. Out in front
17. "The Lover" actress whose birthday, perhaps coincidentally, is 3/20
19. "Betta Getta _____" (car slogan)
20. They block for the QB, informally
21. "Battlestar Galactica" commander
23. Mach 1 flier
24. Nobel laureate Gabriel _____ Márquez
28. "If u ask me ..."
31. "Mad Men" actress whose birthday, perhaps coincidentally, is 1/5
34. Jacob's biblical twin
37. Purchase for Wile E. Coyote
38. Mother _____
39. It's "well regulated" in the Constitution
41. Ray gun ray
42. Tripping
43. "_____ be my pleasure!"
44. Rae who created "The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl"

45. "Lassie" actress whose birthday, perhaps coincidentally, is 6/25
48. Follower of Marx?
49. 2008 Jessica Alba thriller
50. Knee injury site, often
53. "_____ knew only darkness and stillness": Helen Keller
56. Joel on the radio
58. Rode the ump, say
60. "Journal of a Solitude" author whose birthday, perhaps coincidentally, is 5/3
64. Pastrami order request
65. Sign by a fire escape
66. Tape or patch
67. Tasted, biblically
68. Disavow
69. Carpet measurement

Down

1. Karate schools
2. Most toilet seats
3. Put the pedal to the metal
4. FBI guys
5. School fund-raising grp.
6. Go wrong
7. Wrestler Flair
8. Wool variety
9. Cabo's peninsula
10. *cough*
11. Ones confined but not charged
12. Bit of butter
13. Abbr. on a food label

18. Uber alternative?
22. Routine
25. It's a real lifesaver
26. Words before fever or risk
27. Persian, e.g.
29. Flat-topped hills
30. 2005 biography subtitled "The Making of a Terrorist"
31. Electricity, slangily
32. Actress Aniston, to friends
33. Ring of Saturn?
34. Word derived from the Japanese for "picture writing"
35. Congestion site
36. Co-creator of the "Watchmen" comic books
40. Up to, briefly
41. "Am _____ only one?"
43. 1950s White House nickname
46. Broke (in)
47. Singer McEntire
50. Modify
51. Body double?
52. "Wonder Woman" star Carter
54. Singer with the 2012 hit "Let Me Love You"
55. Alphabet quartet
57. "The Joy of Cooking" co-author Rombauer
58. Feathery neckwear
59. Toronto's prov.
61. Firefighter's tool
62. Yang's counterpart
63. Hog's home

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

P	H	U		B	E	R	G	S		C	S	T	A	R	
H	O	R		E	X	E	R	T		T	O	R	M	E	
Y	O	U	B	E	T	T	I	E		S	L	U	E	D	
L	T	G	E	N		E	P	I	C		S	L	C		
L	O	U	T		H	I	G	H	H	A	T	T	I	E	
I	W	A	S	H	A	D		A	N	Y	M	A	N		
S	L	Y		B	L	A	S	T		P	E	S	T		
				B	O	O	H	O	O	T	I	E			
R	A	F	A				O	R	M	A	N		P	O	D
A	D	L	I	B	S		E	P	S	T	E	I	N		
C	O	O	L	M	I	L	T	I	E		I	S	L	A	
E	L	O		X	X	I	I			I	N	E	R	T	
S	P	R	E	E		E	N	D	I	N	A	T	I	E	
I	H	E	A	R		G	E	E	N	A		A	G	S	
N	E	R	T	S		E	S	I	G	N		S	S	T	

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@dreader.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:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Mark Burton, San Diego, 1.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Email: _____ Phone # _____

SUDOKU

HARD:

			7	2	4		9	
		7		1		5		
							1	
	4		2				3	
		2	1		7	6		
	5				3		7	
	6							
		3		9		8		
	9		8	5	2			

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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **KJ Rayner, San Diego, 1.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Email: _____ Phone # _____

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

3	6	5	2	8	9	4	1	7
9	2	1	4	6	7	8	3	5
8	7	4	5	3	1	6	9	2
6	8	7	1	9	5	3	2	4
4	5	9	3	2	6	1	7	8
2	1	3	8	7	4	9	5	6
5	3	2	9	4	8	7	6	1
1	4	6	7	5	3	2	8	9
7	9	8	6	1	2	5	4	3



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The first 100 people w/min. \$150 order will get a free morning, daytime, or evening Bhomb pre-roll AND 12% off all future orders! Must mention ad.

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Gorilla
Glue #4



Skywalker
OG



R.G.

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- All P.R. & Exclusive **\$10** per gram
- 20% OFF** Overall Purchase

May not combine Deals

OUNCE SPECIALS

- Mid Shelf **\$55** ▪ Private Reserve **\$225**
- Top Shelf **\$99** ▪ Exclusive **\$260**

Must Mention Reader Ad

5

BRASS MONKEY

Shatter or Crumble for **\$99**

All Cartridge Vapes

BUY 2 GET 3RD HALF OFF
Equal or Lesser Value

All Edibles

BUY 3 GET 4TH FREE
Equal or Lesser Value

5 Cartridges for \$99

Smart Carts ▪ TKO
 Brass Knuckles ▪ Heavy Hitter

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 Mon. - Sat. 8:30AM - 11:00PM
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\$5 Grams
Must donate for at least two grams. Choose from 5 strains.

2 Grams \$20 + Get a Pre-Roll for \$1
Valid for Irie Supplies only.

1/8ths starting at \$15

\$20 Grams of Shatter & Crumble

Buy 1/8th, Get a Gram for \$1
Valid for Claybourne only.

Buy 1/8th, Get 1/8th 50% Off
Valid for Sonoma Pacific (\$20 1/8ths) & Cannaste (\$28 1/8ths).

Buy 1 Wind Vape, Get 1 for \$1
Equal or lesser value only.

Huge Selection of \$20 1/8ths

LIC# C10-0000484

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20% OFF

of orders \$100+

MARCH CANNABIS MADNESS!

DELIVERYKIND.COM

Please use code **WeedMadness20** at checkout.

*No delivery fee. Valid for delivery only. Not valid in store or for in store pick-up. Must enter code at time of checkout. No discount will be applied at the time of delivery. Must be 21+ with a valid state issued ID. Qualifying total must be pre-tax. 20 mile delivery radius from Mankind. Expires 3/26/20.

KUSH CORNER

5G/ **\$40** PRIVATE RESERVE

5G/ **\$30** TOP SHELF

5G/ **\$20** FIRE!

\$40 1 OZ. SHAKE

\$30 2G SHATTER

\$10 FULL GRAM 80% THC VAPE

10% OFF ALL VAPE CARTS

\$25 3 TWISTED CONES

Open 24 Hours
9246 JAMACHA RD • SPRING VALLEY
(619) 547-2227

Grand Opening in El Cajon! Best Deals in East County!

FREE 2 GRAMS OF TOP SHELF!

First time patients with min. \$30 donation. Must mention ad.

\$9/GRAM • \$120 1/2-oz • \$230 oz

ANY JAR IN THE STORE!

No limit! Must mention the Reader ad.

TOP SHELF
\$4/G • 3G \$10

Private Reserve Shake
\$100 oz OR 14G \$60

House Shake **\$20 oz**
Fire Shake **\$50 oz**

Lifted Extracts
\$20
(1G Live Resin)

Excellence Sauce
Diamond **\$70** Butter **\$60** Sauce **\$50**

Trim Shatter & Crumble **\$15/g**
Nug Shatter & Crumble **\$25/g**

710 KINGPEN
\$25
(1G VAPES)

West Coast Cure Vape
\$45/1G

Full Green Nugs
\$65/ \$100 oz

House Pre-Rolls
\$5
Private Reserve Shake!

STINZY Pods
\$25 \$45
(0.5G) (1G)

Uplifted Vapes
\$35

Exotic Carts
\$15

Jeff Sessions
\$25
(1G Vapes)

Diamond Sticks
\$20

Dabwood Vapes
\$15

& H.H. Vapes
\$20 (1G)

Hurricane Pre-Rolls
\$10

Twisted Moonrock Pre-Rolls
\$10

Twisted Vapes
\$20 (1G)

Presidential Pre-Rolls
\$10

Hot Cheetos THC
\$10
(300mg)

710 Shatter
\$20/g

Blackout Brownies
\$35
(1000MG)

Wow Rice Krispie Treats
\$10
(500MG)

Chief n Kief Barewood
\$20 \$30

Golani Pre-Rolls
\$10

Kief
\$10/g

Kush Punch
\$15

Wax
\$10/g

Moonrocks
\$10/g

House Nug Shatter
\$15/g

Hash
\$15/g

The Syrup
\$35
(1000MG)

Sour Belts
\$10
(300MG Gummies)

Stndrd Gummies
\$10 (200MG) \$20 (400MG)

Cbd Tincture
\$40
(1000MG)

Babylon Gardens
\$35
(1000MG Candy)

Caviar Candy
\$35
(1000MG)

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1232 Greenfield Dr.

El Cajon, CA 92021

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420 Society

\$40 1 OZ.
SHAKE

\$30 2G
SHATTER

\$10 FULL GRAM
80%
THC VAPE

10% OFF
ALL VAPE CARTS

3 TWISTED CONES **\$25**

PRIVATE RESERVE **\$40** /5g

TOP SHELF **\$30** /5g

FIRE **\$20** /5g

OPEN 24 HOURS

9545 Campo Rd., Spring Valley ■ 619-496-5747

Bud Bar Chula Vista

EXCLUSIVE
\$13 /g, **\$55** /5g

PRIVATE RESERVE
\$9 /g, **\$40** /5g

Uplifted
\$35 /1G
Vape

Buy 2 Edibles @ Full Price
Get 1 Free!
Excludes Kushy Punch & NorCal

Glass & Accessories
10% OFF

CBD 15% OFF
We Have CBD Dog Treats!

Hash \$15 /G
\$25 /2G

\$280 OZ
Exotic

\$200 OZ
Private Reserve

\$150 OZ
Top Shelf

1/8 4G
Any Shelf
(Cannot be Combined)

\$15
Carts
Rove/Moonrock/HH/Brass Knuckle/Mario/Exotic

\$20
Jeff Session Cart
(limit 5)

Chiefin Keef Joints
2/\$30

\$15 /G
Golden House Wax

Royalty PreRolls
2/\$15

Moonrock Joints
2/\$15

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1001 Broadway, Chula Vista 91911
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Join VIP Club! Text "Buds" to 424-333-4872
Must Bring in Ad for Deals ■ Can Combine Up To 3 Deals

Happy Time Delivery



Call or text **619-402-2345**

Fri-Sat-9am-2pm, Sun-Thur-9am-12pm • Goody Bags for all FTP.
Mention This Ad for Free Gummies

For a Full menu
happytimesdelivery.com

Top Shelf

\$4/GRAM

Private Reserve

\$7/GRAM

Exclusive Shelf

\$10/GRAM

Exotic Shelf

\$15/GRAM

HAPPY HOUR Exotic Shelf

\$10/GRAM

9am-12pm
&
9pm-12am

Pre-Rolls

Starting at **\$10**

Wax

Starting at **\$10/GRAM**

Cartridges

Starting at **\$15**

Edibles

Starting at **\$5**

~ DAILY SPECIALS ~

Monday - **Happy Hour All day**

Tuesday - **Bubba Kush Wax 5 Grams for \$45**

Wednesday - **All Cartridges - Buy 2 Get one 25% OFF**

Thursday - **All Pre-Rolls - Buy 2 Get one 25% OFF**

Friday - **10% OFF Entire Purchase** (Not available with Happy Hour Prices)

Saturday - **Concentrate - Buy 2 Get One 25% OFF**

Sunday - **Top Shelf \$80 Oz**

Happy Hour every day from 9 am-12 pm & 9 pm-12 am

Free Delivery - Serving All of San Diego

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24/7

Visit Us Today For The
Lowest Prices and Best Quality
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24/7

13455 Highway 8 Business El Cajon 92021

**FREE Private Reserve Gram
+ 25MG Edible + Joint
with \$10 min. Donation** (With ad).

Indoor Shake \$30 oz Mid Shelf \$50 oz	\$90 oz Top Shelf	\$10 Gram House Shatter	\$20 Any Shatter 3 Grams for \$50
500 MG Edible \$10	\$20 Gram Live Resin Shatter, Crumble, Sugar	\$5 Off All Cartridges	\$10 Pre-Roll or 3 for \$25 Californian Fire Moon Rock Bombay Fire

Must bring in the ad for offers.



24/7

HIGHWAY 8 ME  **S**



24/7

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AND WASH YOUR DANG HANDS

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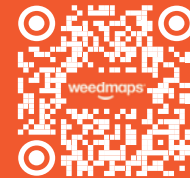
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RECEIVE A FREE GOODIE BAG**

***FREE 150MG GUMMIES*
WITH ANY PURCHASE!
(MUST PRESENT AD)**

**PRICE
COMPARISON**



KUSHY PUNCH



4 GRAMS



GRAM PODS



1000mg EDIBLE



BARE BLUNTS



STANDARD GYMMIES 400 MG



FULL GRAM LIVE RESIN WAX



5 GRAM 1/8th MOONROCKS



FULL OUNCE OF THE BEST FLOWER!

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MSRP

COMPETITORS

	\$8	\$40	\$40	\$35	\$25	\$15	\$20	\$40	\$200
MSRP	\$12	\$50	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$40	\$60	\$280
COMPETITORS	\$15	\$60	\$55	\$50	\$30	\$25	\$50	\$70	\$340

NO ONE BEATS OUR PRICES IN SAN DIEGO!

SAVE SOME GREEN

FREE
BUY FLOWER OR VAPE
GET .5G CRESCO VAPE
WHEN YOU BUY 1/8 OR .5G

FREE
OUTCO FLOWER
WHEN YOU BUY A
1G OUTCO VAPE OR 1/8

FREE
SYNERGY RELIEF
BALM
WHEN YOU BUY
(2) GET ONE

FREE
2 GRAMS
SUBLIME VAPES
BUY 2G SUBLIME
GET .5G

10% OFF
BAD APPLE
DEAL
GET PERCENTAGE OFF
TOP PRIVATE RESERVE

\$5.00
HY VAPE
CARTRIDGE
BUY 1G GET
HY DISPOSABLE

\$115
PLATINUM VAPE
CARTRIDGE
GET 2.5 GRAM
CARTRIDGES

\$5.00
HAPPY STICK
CARTRIDGE
WHEN YOU BUY A
RS .1G CARTRIDGE

\$5.00
EUREKA
CARTRIDGE
BUY 1G GET
.5G EUREKA VAPE

\$5.00
GET A NUG
JOINT PACK
WHEN YOU BUY (2)
NUG 3.5GRAMS

50% OFF
OUTCO
TINCTURE
GET (2)
17ML EACH

\$20
CONNECTED
PRE-ROLL
GET 2 1G JOINTS

\$32
PLATINUM
VAPE EDIBLES
GET (2) PV
EDIBLES

\$52
PV CART AND
EDIBLE SPECIAL
.5G PV CART
AND EDIBLE

\$1.00
KWIK EASE
DRINKS
GET (2) DRINKS
GET ONE

\$5.00
DRIVN VAPE
CARTRIDGE
BUY 1G GET
.5G DRIVN VAPE

DEAL
JETTY
DISPOSABLE
FOR \$25
2 FOR \$40

MOON BAR DEAL
1 FOR \$15
2 FOR \$28
3 FOR \$39
4 FOR \$48
5 FOR \$55
6 FOR \$60

**DIXIE
CHOCOLATE**
1 FOR \$10
2 FOR \$18
3 FOR \$24
4 FOR \$30
5 FOR \$36
10 FOR \$65

DEAL
HOLY SMOKES
INFUSED JOINT
1 FOR \$14
2 FOR \$25

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ANYTIME**

10% OFF ENTIRE PURCHASE

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SAN DIEGO CA, 92108

•LOCATION 2•

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The moment you've all been waiting for....

\$10 Unlimited

Exclusive Grams

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All Day, Every Day, Nor-Cal flowers, LA prices

\$50 House
OZ Special

\$90 Mid Shelf
OZ Special

FTP SPECIAL:
Free lighter,
grinder,
pre-roll, dab
(min \$20 donation)

STIIZY Full Gram
Cartridge

\$40
(limit 2)

3 Grams FOOL'S
GOLD Premium
Shatter for

\$35

4g Exclusive flower,
1g House Shatter,
1 pre-roll

All For **\$45**

House
Shatter
\$10 Gram
(no limit)

\$250
exclusive
Oz special

Buy one get
one 1/2 off
all edibles &
cartridges
(limit 2)

Offers good through 3/31/20 • Cannot combine deals • 1 coupon per customer per day
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Min. \$40 orders. Must mention ad, first-time patients only.

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EXCLUSIVE \$180/OZ

TOP SHELF SHAKE \$25/OZ

EXCLUSIVE INDOOR SHAKE \$50/OZ

WEDDING CAKE \$45/OZ

CANDY FROST \$80/OZ

SUNSET SHERBET \$90/OZ

FORBIDDEN FRUIT \$150/OZ

OG GLUE \$180/OZ

ICE CREAM \$210/OZ

SHATTER \$15/G

CRUMBLE \$15/G

BRASS KNUCKLES \$20 (1G VAPES)

ROVE \$20 (1G VAPES)

STIIZY \$20 (1G VAPES)

H.H. VAPES \$25 (1G VAPES)

\$10 (500MG GUMMIES)

STONEY PATCH \$10 (500MG GUMMIES)

HOUSE PRE-ROLLS \$5

KIEF 2G \$10

JAXX
CANNABIS

got pot?

\$4.20 1/8THS

WITH PURCHASE OF CROCKETT HAZE OR KEY LIME PIE 1/8TH

STARTING THIS FRIDAY 3.20.20

4GS OF SHATTER FOR \$40

LEMON SUGAR KUSH & LAVA CAKE
ON YOUR 1ST IN-STORE PURCHASE

FREE DOCTORS RECS

WITH MINIMUM PURCHASE

ORDER ONLINE WWW.JAXXSD.COM

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C10-18-0000350-LIC

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST.

El Cajon's Best New Dispensary!

Uplifted Vapes Event!
Fri, Mar. 20, 4-6pm



BUY 1 VAPE, GET 1 FREE!

Limit 1 per patient. Valid for
\$35 Uplifted Vapes.

\$9 /G

PRIVATE RESERVE
Any patient, no limit!

\$4 /G

SPECIAL SHELF
Any patient, no limit!

\$17 /G



Brass Monkey
Shatter

\$25 /G

Live Resin Shatter

\$10



Golani Rolls

3/\$25

Twisted Moonrock
Pre-Rolls

\$7 /G

\$60 /10G

SELECT
PRIVATE
RESERVE
STRAINS

\$30 OZ

OF PRIVATE
RESERVE SUGAR
SHAKE/TRIM

\$30



UPLIFTED
(1G Vapes)

2/\$35



& H.H. Vapes

\$18

Mario Carts

\$15

ATS Moonrocks
(1G Concentrate)

\$17

Stndrd Gummies
(400mg)

All offers expire Mar. 25, 2020. Must mention ad for special pricing.

El Cajon Kush Society

13739 Highway 8 Business

El Cajon, CA 92021

619-792-5582 • 7 days, 8am-Midnight

Winter GARDEN GREENS

OPEN 24/7 IN LAKESIDE/EL CAJON!

9018 Winter Gardens Blvd.
Lakeside, CA 92040 • 619-733-4451

\$9/GRAM - \$120 1/2-OZ - \$230 OZ
ANY JAR IN THE STORE!
No limit! Must mention the Reader ad.

TOP SHELF \$5/G • \$65 1/2-OZ • \$120 OZ		Private Reserve Shake \$100 OZ OR 14G \$60	
House Shake \$20 OZ Fire Shake \$50 OZ		BRASS MONKEY Trim Shatter & Crumble \$15/G Nug Shatter & Crumble \$25/G	
710 KINGPEN \$25 (1G VAPES)	West Coast Cure Vape \$45/1G	Full Green Nugs \$65/\$100 OZ	STIIIZY Pods \$25 (0.5G) \$45 (1G)
Dabwood Vapes \$15	& H.H. Vapes \$20 (1G)	Exotic Carts \$15	Uplifted Vapes \$35
Presidential Pre-Rolls \$10	Hurricane Pre-Rolls \$10	Twisted Moonrock Pre-Rolls \$10	Golani Pre-Rolls \$10
Wow Rice Krispie Treats \$10 (500MG)	Blackout Brownies \$35 (1000MG)	Moonrocks \$10/G	Hash \$15/G
Stndrd Gummies \$10 (200MG) \$20 (400MG)	Babylon Gardens \$35 (1000MG Candy)	Sour Belts \$10 (300MG Gummies)	Caviar Candy \$35 (1000MG)
7G \$50 (Select Strains)	Diamond Sauce \$65/G	Diamond Sticks \$20	Twisted Vapes \$20 (1G)
House Nug Shatter \$15/G	Kief \$10/G	Wax \$10/G	710 Shatter \$20/G
The Syrup \$35 (1000MG)	Cbd Tincture \$40 (1000MG)	Plug and Play \$35 (1G VAPES)	

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