

Covid crisis proves a cornucopia for city hall lobbyists

Dreams of a perfect post-pandemic day ■ Why hipsters are pro-lockdown

S A N D I

VOL. 45 | NO. 19 | MAY 7, 2020

Reader

WHO'S LAUGHING NOW?

I don't recall when I first heard the word "prepper," but it was definitely derogatory, perhaps a step above but certainly related to "hoarder"

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

More in the back of this issue

BULK UP with 55-pound rubber hex dumbbells.

POETRY READ (via Zoom) – limited to reading poems of published authors.

NEED GOOD HOME FOR MY HORSE, 14-year-old Clydesdale mare.



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LETTERS

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

More canine kryptonite

I just finished reading your story "Border dogs are our Kryptonite" by Marty Graham ("San Diego's border dogs are our kryptonite," Cover Stories, April 15). I'm a little behind because I live in Mexico and don't get to see the Reader as often as I would like. I have two doodles myself and so this story by Marty Graham really caught my eye and really tugged at my heart strings. I think this is just a great, great story and I would love to see more stories like that in your magazine and in anyone else's newspaper for that matter. So just wanted to thank you very much for that wonderful story.

Jamie Reynolds
San Miguel Village

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

"Will Covid-19 turn San Diego's water plan into Toilet to Grave?"

News Ticker
May 1

What is the cost of a perfectly sanitary waste water system and what other things would we have to give up to "make it so"? NASA has and is spending zillions trying to develop something close for Space use and you can be sure it's cost is astronomical, no pun intended. As for me and I bet for most of us trying to live in SoCal, the majority of these focused studies are just another attempt to shift our limited financial resources to projects that increase the cost of making changes to the status quo. A great example is the conversion of sea water to drinking, a wonder idea that is costing plenty because a small group is demanding perfection instead of allowing SD to provide lots of additional potable water for our current and future growth! Suggestion: we are going to spend money, let's spend money studying how to re-hydrate the Salton Sea and put in a high speed rail

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San Diego Reader

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May 7, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE GIBBS/CIRCA71

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I'll quarantine here forever — page 9



Oh my darling... — page 25

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEANSIDE

Harboring rotters

Rancid red tide, slippery slipfolk

Starting on April 26, the water in the Oceanside harbor has taken on a rich brown hue. But while the coffee-colored water may look like a briny fecal stew, harbor fisherman explain that it has nothing to do with a busted sewer main or toilet flushes from the live-aboards who stay in the harbor year-round. “This is all because of the red tide,” says Bruce Campbell, who has been catching shrimp, lobster, and crab for the last 50 years. It turns out the recent plankton invasion that makes for pretty, glow-in-the-dark waves at night also makes for a foul-smelling marina. “But it normally happens around July 4,” says Campbell. “This year, with all the fresh water from the rain and the warm weather,



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and it killed everything in the harbor. You’d see all the starfish and lobster crawl out of the water and crawl up on the rocks to get away from it.... It wouldn’t have been so bad this year if we hadn’t gotten that last seven inches in one week.”

Garner says that back in 2005, the live bait he caught and kept in containers alongside his boat, “died and turned into a milky lime green.” Despite all this, Campbell and Garner

Ted Schiafone says there are 850 slips for recreational boats, and about 85 are rented by people who are given year-round live-aboard status. The other 765 can stay overnight up to three nights a week. Based on rates provided by Schiafone, a live-aboard with a 30-foot boat would pay about \$480 a month in basic slip rent, and an extra \$114 because the boat is deemed a live-aboard. The permission would include two adults and potentially a child and a pet. The extra \$114 means they get free electricity and water, and may use the harbor’s laundromat and shower facilities.

The county has mandated a shutdown of all recreational boating, which means all pleasure craft in county marinas cannot head out to sea. On April 22, Schiafone notified the 765 slip renters who are not permanent live-aboards that they could visit their craft in the daytime but that “due to all of the measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19, overnight stays are not permitted.” Protest ensued. At an April 22 city council meeting, Councilwoman Esther Sanchez railed against the new temporary restrictions. “Folks who are slip renters who have the ability to stay overnight see them as a second home,” she said. Indeed, one slip renter who is not a live-aboard tells me that in addition to the three-night-a-week allowance, they are allowed an additional “nine or ten three-night sleepover passes a year. And on top of that, they can buy what they call a hotel pass where they can stay an additional three nights a week for \$28.”

The slip renter says that the harbor administration maintains a waiting list for slip renters who want to become one of the 85 who can use their boat as an apartment. “It takes like four to five years to get a permit,” he says. Current live-aboards on the list can’t transfer their live-aboard status to others by sale or by inheritance.

The Oceanside harbor administration uses a “key fob” pass that allows slip renters to open their gates. The pass is supposed to

monitor the activity of all slip renters, but some harbor regulars wonder how effective the system is. “I am not there a lot at night, but what I hear is that there are a lot of people cheating the system,” says bait trader Garner. “I’ve heard it’s been going on for quite some time. They are using all the live-aboard facilities but not paying the live-aboard fees. It’s not fair to the others who live there legally and pay their share.”

Harbor manager Schiafone says his staff does go after Oceanside’s sneaky boat people. “It’s those illegal live-aboards (sometimes called sneak-aboards) that create issues. The Harbor was never designed to handle them living at the Harbor. The electrical system that runs down each dock could never handle the demand. Our on-shore facilities are not built to handle more live-aboards than what are legally permitted. Many vessels are not equipped to live aboard, such as proper heating, cooking, or plumbing for sanitation. That is a huge safety and environmental issue. Illegal live-aboards are stealing a service from the Harbor.”

(In order to keep poop and dishwater out of the harbor, Schiafone says all live-aboards are required to have a holding tank on their vessel, and that they can either use a harbor-supplied waste pump, call a service company to pump out the tanks, or take their boats out at least three miles and cast their waste to the sea.)

Some marinas do not allow any sleepovers at all. The closest marina to Oceanside is in Dana Point, 21 miles north. Officially, only 12 of its 2400 slips may be used for for sleepovers. And a woman who answered the phone there says the policy is to phase out all sleepovers: once the grandfathered-in 12 slip-owners pass, the slips will lose their sleepover status. Still, she grants that when it comes to sneak-overs, “We have a lot of those.”

KEN LEIGHTON

TAKE OUT

Pandemic vs. polystyrene Will coronavirus conquer environmental efforts?

As restaurants shift from dining in to takeout and delivery, coastal cities face are wrestling with an old foe: plastic. Encinitas is moving ahead with the last phase of its plastics initiative, which bans the retail sale of disposable food ware and other products made from expanded polystyrene (better known as styrofoam). Often used for carry-out, styrofoam’s insulating qualities and low production cost have helped spread it across the food retail industry. But its frequent appearance at beach cleanups and the fact that it is not biodegradable have led to bans, including one in San Diego — though that was put on hold after a lawsuit was filed by restaurant owners, a container company,

continued on page 6



A live-aboard with a 30-foot boat would pay about \$480 a month in basic slip rent.

I guess it came a little earlier. It sucks up all the oxygen. Pretty soon, you’ll probably see [algae] floating in the harbor.”

Longtime locals will tell you the brown harbor water will eventually start to emit a strong stench. James Garner catches anchovies and sardines, which he sells through his Oceanside Bait Company, and he thinks this may be the worst invasion in 15 years. “The last time we had a red tide this bad was in 2005 after we had 27 inches of rain,” says Garner. “When [the plankton] died, it turned to acid

still seem bullish about the live bounty still available to them out past the jetty.

But the post-COVID-19 rules, put into effect April 21 by the city of Oceanside, brought to light what some says is a dirty little secret about the Oceanside harbor: the Oceanside marina, built in 1963 to house recreational pleasure craft, has morphed into a permanent residence for the live-aboards who are using it as a “floating trailer park,” according to some who are unhappy with the transformation. Oceanside harbor manager

Water washing worries

Will toilet-to-tap KO COVID-19?

Already under siege by cost overruns and litigious contractors, San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer's \$1.4 billion plan to turn the city's sewage into drinkable water faces new doubts and questions of increased costs brought on by the global coronavirus pandemic. "Regulatory guidelines for virus removal in potable reuse systems need additional review for possible more stringent requirements in the event of a coronavirus outbreak," says an April 2 editorial in the journal *Environmental Science and Water Technology*, co-authored by Haizhou Liu of UC Riverside's department of chemical and environmental engineering.

"For example, the state of California currently requires a 12-log removal of viruses during the entire indirect potable treatment train." But that may not be enough in the face of pandemic onslaughts by newly evolved viruses, say Liu and co-author Vincenzo Naddeo of the University of Salerno's sanitary environmental engineering division, department of civil engineering. "Additional log-removal credit may be needed to protect public water systems in light of a virus outbreak," per the paper. "Preferential requirements for different viruses may be needed. Another important research need is a better understanding of the efficacy of emerging disinfection technologies for coronavirus inactivation, especially treatment steps that are integrated into potable water reuse." Still another potentially expensive task in the age of Covid-19, according to Lieu and Naddeo, is to "develop new or upgrade existing water and wastewater treatment infrastructure for hot-spots that possibly receive coronavirus from sources including hospitals, community clinics and nursing homes."

Long controversial, the mayor's toilet-to-tap sewage reuse plan swept through city council after sponsors agreed to bar non-union contractors from bidding on much of the job, thus gaining the backing of council Democrats. The local Associated General Contractors chapter subsequently sued, arguing that special state legislation to prevent non-union contractors from working on state-financed portions of the project was illegal. Authored by Assembly Democrat



UC Riverside's Haizhou Liu didn't mention in his report that it's just icky to drink recycled sewer water, but you can read between the lines.



Co-author Vincenzo Naddeo of the University of Salerno's sanitary environmental engineering division, department of civil engineering

Todd Gloria, a current candidate for mayor, and Toni Atkins, state senate pro-tem president, the fate of the bill is before a superior court judge, whose ruling is widely expected to undergo appeal regardless of the decision.

The legal wrangling is likely to add to the project's timeline and cost, which threatens to go sky-high in the face of new treatment requirements brought on by the Covid-19 crisis — which itself is spawning more varieties of disease with which to contend, Liu and Naddeo note. "As a preventative measure against the coronavirus outbreak, the public is significantly increasing the use of bactericides, virucides, and disinfectants to prevent a possible infection and is limiting travel and activities. This behavior affects our lifestyle and the economy, but from an environmental point of view, it will increase the environmental presence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria."

Matt Potter

Benign growth?

Multiplying expenditures reach troublesome levels at Cancer Center

As COVID-19 continues to ravage the world, officials at UCSD's Moores Cancer Center are no longer spending heavily on global travel and entertainment — at least for the time being. But just months before the pandemic hit, the center was called out by university



Crazy caterer expense may not be prudent on its face, but it is yummy in the tummy.

auditors for mismanagement of the state institution's official travel and amenity money by unidentified executives, including "a recently hired administrator."

"The objective of our review was to determine whether selected [Moores Cancer Center] travel and entertainment expenditures were processed in compliance with policy, fund source restrictions, and budgetary requirements," says a December 5 report subsequently posted online by the University of California's Audit & Management Advisory Services unit. "A trip by the Administrator to

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UNDER THE RADAR

Viral influence peddling The COVID-19 crisis continues to provide a cornucopia of new work for San Diego city hall lobbyists. Latest to benefit is the Intesa Communications Group, whose principals include **Maddy Kilkenny**, onetime aide to Republican county supervisor **Greg Cox** and ex-vice president of the downtown super-lobbyist Clay Company. Intesa just picked up SeaWorld as a client. A big local campaign donor, Kilkenny has given a total of \$14,475 to city politicians and their causes since 2011, with \$2250 provided to Republican mayor **Kevin Faulconer**, and \$1150 to the current mayoral campaign of Assembly Democrat **Todd Gloria**, according to data from the city clerk's office. In 2016 Faulconer named Kilkenny to the board of the now-defunct municipal redevelopment arm known as Civic San Diego. Her husband, developer **Sean Kilkenny**, came up with a total of \$3064, with \$1000 for Gloria.



Maddy Kilkenny is one of the lobbyists enjoying the coronavirus-related increase in work at City Hall.

Besides city matters regarding SeaWorld's "new masterplan," the aquatic attraction has tasked Intesa with lobbying "any and all decisions regarding COVID-19 response, reopening, and rent," according to the firm's new registration filing, dated April 21. SeaWorld has of late received notoriety as one of the big national companies seeking federal relief loans during the pandemic. "Over the past 10 years, records show SeaWorld Entertainment has earned nearly \$193 million in pretax profits. But it has paid less than \$8 million in total income taxes," per an April 29 *Orlando Sentinel* review of the company's financial statements. "That works out to a tax rate of 4 percent — over an entire decade. SeaWorld's tiny tax bill is a result, in large part, of a multibillion-dollar private-equity buyout of the company orchestrated just over 10 years ago. When SeaWorld went public a few years later, company executives boasted to Wall Street that they weren't paying income taxes."

The company has reportedly furloughed 95 percent of its workforce but says it has enough cash on hand to survive through 2021, according to the Associated Press. On April 6, chief executive **Sergio Rivera**, in office for just five months, abruptly quit following what were described as "disagreements with the board." Noted the *Wall Street Journal*, "executive officers are cutting their base salaries by 20 percent until its parks resume normal operations."

In an additional coronavirus-related move here, another registered San Diego lobbyist, the National Electrical Contractors Association, amended its disclosure of activity on April 21 to

include the matter of "permit process under covid-19." Since 2007, three executives of the association have given a total of \$19,600 to city politicians, including \$1450 to Gloria's bid for mayor.

Lynched by coronavirus The death of **Harland Svare**, notorious in San Diego as losing head coach for the drug-addled Chargers of the early 1970s, is rekindling memories among old timers first revealed by team psychiatrist **Arnold Mandell** in his 1976 tell-all,

The Nightmare Season. Svare, who died at age 89 on April 4 in a Steamboat Springs, Colorado nursing home of what daughter **Mia Anderson** told the *Union-Tribune* was suspected COVID-19, barely survived a stadium parking lot mob scene after losing 41-0 to the Atlanta Falcons back on October 21, 1973. "As I got to ground level, I faced a milling crowd of angry drunks, waiting for Harland," Mandell wrote of the near disaster. "I had

just reached my car when the mob stopped milling and turned as one toward the entrance to the underground lot. I heard Harland gun his motor a few times. I started back toward the crowd. Then I couldn't see much because they were surrounded ten or twelve deep by screaming, gesticulating fans

hurling insults, cans, bottles, rocks. The car couldn't move forward. I got close enough to see some dauntless punks trying to soap the body and windows with obscenities. I had to fend constantly to keep from being

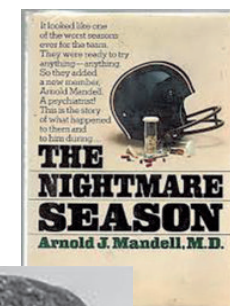
knocked down and maybe trampled in the rush as the mob surged whenever Harland would gun the motor and inch the car forward."

Added Mandell: "The hood and trunk were pocked with dents. A clumsy drunk leaped on the hood and jumped up and down grotesquely, giving them the finger before he slid off." After a painfully long stand-off, "sirens announced that a couple

of police cars were on their way. Thank God." Concluded Mandell, "I just stood there for a while, trying to stop shaking, to get over the feeling that I had almost witnessed a lynching."

In June 1977, Svare told reporters regarding his disastrous tenure with the team, that "the problem was drugs, and nothing could be done about that. When you lose complete control, then

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Harland Svare, coach of the drug-addled Chargers during the early 1970s, survived a near lynching by drunk, angry fans after a 41-0 loss.

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Dear Hipster:

I'm a hugger, not a hand shaker or a cheek-kisser. But I worry — is hugging dead forever, because everyone will be scared to touch each other for the foreseeable future? I actually hesitated to write, because my question is coronavirus-adjacent, and everyone is sick of hearing about coronavirus stuff by now; but then I realized there isn't much else to talk about. I've been watching the dust bunnies procreate like dust bunnies do (i.e. "rapidly") in my living room for a month, and I'm running out of stuff to think about.

— BRAD

Man, maybe we had it all wrong. Maybe this whole thing was a high-level conspiracy by the anti-hug people to once-and-for-all stamp out the world's greatest gesture of affection. Those sneaky bastards.

But I doubt it will work. At the end of the day, hipsters gotta hug. For every person saying "things will never be the same again," millennia of human history suggest we fight the same battles (and enjoy the same glorious victories) over and over and over again, and each time there's somebody there to say "things will never be the same." If history is any guide, the breathtaking shortness of humanity's collective memory assures that today's tragedy is tomorrow's meme, and by the end of the year you'll be dressing up as it for Halloween.

Dear Hip-ocrates,

I've been wracking my brain over where hipsters might fall in the Reopen California vs. Double Down on the Lockdown debate. If you've taught me anything, it's that hipsters



dislike mainstream trends and conventions. Closures, masks, and social distancing went from zero to mainstream in a day. On the other hand, the Reopen crowd seems a very flag-wavy bunch, and that doesn't strike me as a hipster scene. On a hypothetical third hand, lots of hipsters work as baristas, brewers, barkeeps, and the like. They can't be loving this shutdown, can they? Or, am I making the mistake of looking for groupthink in a group that rejects groupthink on principle?

— F. COTTON, BYWATER

Many hipsters are on the Double Down train, but not for the reason you might imagine. You see, for a whole generation of younger hipsters, this is the first time they have had to face anything like real hardship. Sixties hipsters had Vietnam. Eighties hipsters had AIDS and general economic hardship. Older Millennials had 9/11. The twenty-something hipster set currently sitting at home smoking weed and wondering when the bars will open back up? Frankly, they have had it pretty cushy till now, and they know it, too.

Hard times define us. The Greatest Generation didn't spawn the hipster Beats because people tired of the Lindy Hop. Hard-nosed, disenchanted hipster irony forged itself somewhere between the hammer of slugging it out through the Great Depres-

sion and the anvil of watching war tear the world asunder and shake society to its foundations.

The young hipsters of today may not cop to it, but they're secretly stoked to be living through their very own hardship. The topsy-turvy chaos of life under Shelter in Place, along with all the complications that may yet follow, will disabuse a whole generation of the naiveté born of nearly a decade of economic prosperity and generalized easy living. If it goes on a little longer, it gets a little realer, and the more legit will be the social and emotional scars that will let a generation of hipsters know they really lived.

— DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

into SD, which would ease growth pressures in SD and make SoCal a world class futuristic city! Potable water is the new oil, especially in \$D.

—Founder

"re-hydrate the Salton Sea" Easily done – open a channel to the Gulf of Mexico. Happiness for both countries.

—swell

"Rovino the Foodery: rotisserie chicken and wine"

Tin Fork

April 30

Ed, thank you for the review. I discovered Rovino and go there every couple of weeks for hot take-out and some desserts. They have spumoni ice cream that is the best ever. Their pastas are really good. I didn't know their chicken was a house specialty so I'll try it next time. Also, Rose is so sweet, she's the one that usually helps me at the counter. Hope you can do some more reviews of local places that are open for business.

—Ponzi

"Oceanside's cheapest housing is in the harbor"

Neighborhood News

April 28

With the cost of living in California, I'm not surprised this is going on. It's unfair to the people who are playing by the rules. Sleepovers, sneak overs, and key fobs is a little too bizarre for me. It is a huge safety and environmental issue, and if it gets out of hand will they shut down residential living on the water?

—Socks3742

"Why did Ashok Israni give money to Faulconer, Gomez, Moreno?"

News Under the Radar

April 29

Anyone ever notice how comfortable these homeless HAVE been, with the hardcore cement foundation? Over the time duration, sporadically, I have seen some of the biggest smiles from such classified people, from any general human smiles, in public atmosphere. Seems they are not living that bad.

—ised

"A close look at religions in San Diego"

From the archives

May 2

Atheistic: (adjective) Disbelieving or lacking belief in the existence of God. Thus it is not a religion. The problem with religion is that each religion teaches that their belief system is the "one and only" and that all the other religions/belief systems are dooming their followers to hell. One can have faith without religion. One can believe without religion. Religion can only exist if it promotes (sells) itself and extracts money from their followers. Many religions do good things but above all they are in the business of selling their particular brand to people. Extracting from them through threats of going to hell or excommunication the giving of money. Just so no one is confused an Agnostic (noun); a person who believes that nothing is known or can be known of the existence or nature of God or of anything beyond material phenomena; a person who claims neither faith nor disbelief in God.

—AlexClarke

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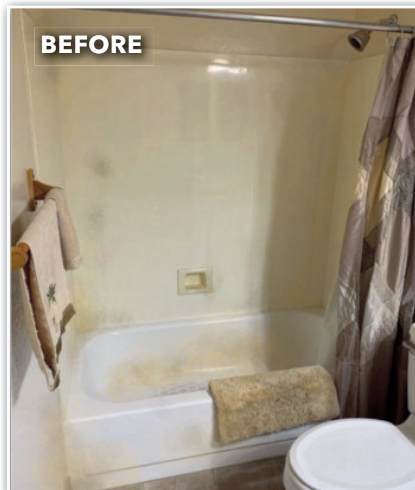
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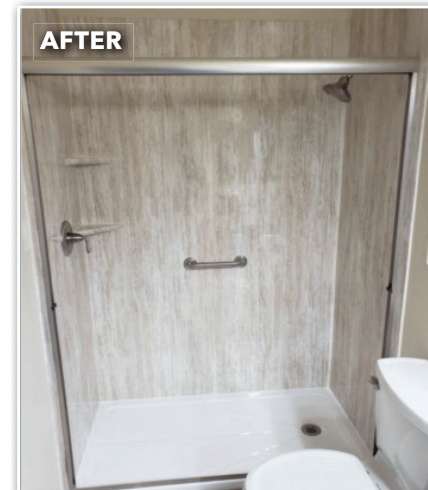
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and the California Restaurant Association.

The Encinitas rules won't take full effect until October 20, to give businesses time to find alternatives, which the city has assisted with. But no one planned for a pandemic. Amid the coronavirus crisis, the state has suspended its plastic bag ban and fee, due to worries about contamination. And locals, once supportive of the plastics ban, may be reconsidering. "Please record my very loud NO to Phase 3 of the city's Plastics Initiative," one resident wrote in a letter to the city. Businesses "are going off a cliff."



Barrio Dogg's normal takeout container.



Styrofoam equivalent - three times cheaper.

Restaurants have had to close or lay off all staff. "Do NOT create one more barrier to obtaining cost-effective materials that will help these sectors get up and running as soon as possible," she said. "This measure, in particular, likely will affect minority-owned businesses disproportionately."

It's been nearly three years since Encinitas first banned the use of styrofoam by food providers for to-go meals. The city targeted disposable, single-use foam containers, from clam shells and cups to plates and trays. School districts' food service programs were exempt, and so was food prepared or packaged outside Encinitas. Last year, the city began working on a comprehensive plastics initiative. The first phase took effect February 22, and required that plastic straws and utensils be given out only if customers asked for them or if they were offered by a food provider. Straws were banned starting in

August. The second phase took effect April 18, and prohibited plastic beverage bottles at city facilities and special events. Phase three, introduced last month, kicks in June 20, prohibiting the retail sale of disposable styrofoam foodware. It includes egg cartons and food trays, as well as coolers or similar containers not encased in hard plastic, and also foam packing materials. (The city's investigation into the local availability of foam products found that it varies: from retailers that don't sell any foam to those selling "a significant quantity of product.")

When Encinitas set its sights on plastic, city staff said business owners could charge diners a bit more to offset the higher cost of alternative materials. That wasn't a huge problem in the small, relatively affluent community. But San Diego's styrofoam ban didn't go as well: for some restaurant owners, using more expensive materials like paper threatened to become a significant burden. That ban, also rolled out in stages, got started in February 2019. But in December, the city halted enforcement after a lawsuit filed by three restaurant owners, Dart Container Corporation, and the California Restaurant Association claimed the city should have conducted an environmental study. (City staff says they are

working on the documentation for the study pursuant to the settlement.) Still, for some small restaurants, the cost of alternative packaging isn't a deterrent. "We have been recycle-focused from the beginning of our restaurant project," says Pablo Rios, chef and co-owner of Barrio Dogg on Logan Avenue. "Our hot dog boats, side dish containers, and to-go bags are all made of paper products and 100 percent recyclable."

Rios says the cost of the materials they're using is much higher than it would be using packaging like styrofoam, but environmental responsibility is part of their quality standard. COVID has pushed the costs even higher. "Our operating costs have gone up since takeout and delivery went from being 15 percent of our business to now the only source of revenue."

SHEILA PELL

36-hour arrest for anyone caught on the Baja streets or highways

Larry Thompson Sunday, April 26, 2020



The government of Baja California Sur reminds everyone that no vehicle should drive on city streets, because we are in phase 3 of the coronavirus health emergency.

BAJA

Pandemic on the peninsula The further south, the tougher the restrictions

Recently, Ann Reid and her husband planned a trek from their Ensenada home to San Diego to pick up their mail and shop. But the transplants were concerned about checkpoints and roadblocks, both as they headed

reportedly bring copies of their electric bills to prove their residency.) On April 22, Alex made a delivery to San Diego, then returned to Ensenada the same day. "I was stuck in traffic for an hour and a half after the third toll booth," he told me. "Then I pulled up to the checkpoint and the officials checked my temperature with a gun-looking [handheld device]. You don't have to get out of the

"Then I pulled up to the checkpoint and the officials checked my temperature with a gun-looking [handheld device]."

north towards San Ysidro and as they made the roughly 75 mile return drive back home to Ensenada. "The checkpoint is at El Sauzal (north Ensenada)," Reid told me on April 26. "They've moved it nearer to the toll booth. Its original location was causing severe traffic back-ups. Apparently, the flow is better now."

On April 20, Armando Ayala Robles, the municipal president of Ensenada, restricted access to the port city — allowing only residents and travelers who have had an emergency, those with health issues or jobs, and those transporting food and medical supplies. "At the checkpoint coming into Ensenada, they ask for your ID," said

Alex, a Mexican national who drives trucks for an Ensenada transport company, "and if you aren't from Ensenada, and it's not for [the aforementioned reasons], they are not letting you in. They tell you to return towards the toll booth." (Some Ensenadans

vehicle unless your temperature is higher than 37-38 degrees (Celsius)."

If you live in Ensenada and have a fever at the checkpoint, "you have two choices," Reid explained. "You can continue into the city and be subjected to their incom-

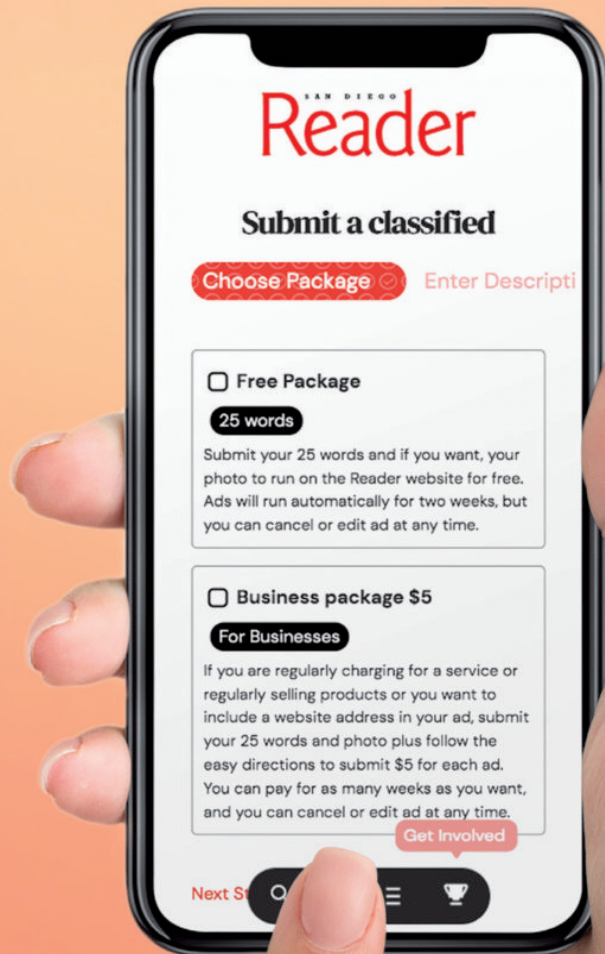


Clean machine- chilling at the chlorine carwash.

ing protocol, which includes two weeks of mandatory quarantine, or you can turn around. And I believe that they will come around to check on you during quarantine.") The simultaneous check of temperature and

continued on page 14

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SAN DIEGO
Reader

Time to march on the capitol

Have you noticed how, at the governor's COVID-19 press conferences, someone usually asks about how come unemployment benefits aren't reaching all the people who have applied for them? The governor takes time to explain how they're trying to catch up with the sudden swelling of the unemployment ranks, and how, just before the virus appeared, unemployment was really low, so staffing at EDD (the state's Employment Development Department) was low. But they're staffing up now, he says, and things should get better.

"I don't buy that," says my friend Rob. He used to be in advertising, and then the surfboard business. "These days," he says, "I'm in the gig economy. The restaurant business. I had a bit saved away when this happened. But my coworkers all fell off a financial cliff. They're hurting, bad."

"I started this folder the other day on my computer, after [EDD] hung up on me several times, after I'd been on the phone [trying to get through] 4, 6, 8 hours a day. Then I actually did get through. I got one of these wonderful ladies, a tech lady who was ordered



They're calling him Governor Newsolini.

are not getting paid. They're not getting money paid into their accounts. The governor needs to, please, get the funds out to the people. Worry about investigating later, man. People need to eat. Maybe there are a few crooks in there. But for the most part, these are good people. They work hard for a living. They need their money."

Rob's starting to get emotional. "I'm just saying," he says, "people are desperate. Can you imagine? Hunger in California, fifth largest economy in the world, home of Silicon Valley, because its government can't get its hands around the kind of accounting problem FDR was handling back in the 1930s?"

Ron's Garage

"It's very odd, being here playing alone in your house, with no audience, even though we know they're out there," says Ron Wheeler. Until the coronavirus, he led one of the best-loved cover bands in San Diego, "Ron's Garage," named after the "studio" they practiced in — his actual garage.

Now, every Monday night, Wheeler plays alone into an iPhone, giving a concert for his fans, everything from Neil Young's "Like a

"But for the most part, these are good people. They work hard for a living. They need their money."

hurricane" to the Beatles' "Back in the USSR." She stayed on hold with me the whole time, trying to get through to EDD's department that handles basic claims."

Rob says she did not succeed. He's back at square one. With the San Diego region's number of unemployed reaching close to half a million, compared with an estimated 70,000 before the virus hit, it's no surprise bodies like the EDD are overwhelmed.

"But people like me, who don't get through to the EDD to find out where their unemployment money is, are pissed. We're not trying to take advantage of the government. We're not crooks. We're not criminals. We just need to eat. We have bills to pay. Our rent's due. We need canned goods. We need vegetables. People aren't getting what they need. They're not getting what they've been paying into. One gentleman told me it was 'Time to start marching on the Capitol.' The governor needs to hear from We the People. He needs to understand that we're real breathing human beings who have worked our whole lives, who are out there. We hired you as our leader, and realistically, people

He may make \$100 a night, via an electronic "tip jar." Not bad for a performance piped into your iPhone 11 from your house in La Mesa. But nothing compared to the crowded Sunday afternoon patio shows Ron's Garage was famous for at McP's Irish Pub in Coronado. That patio always looked like a scene from the Tivoli Gardens, with girls and boys and old Navy guys and their wives or girlfriends draped over the walls, sipping suds, or dancing right in front of Ron's four-piece rock group.

"I've played McP's since they began in 1983," Wheeler says. "And the thing about that place has always been the vibe the kids — and their parents — give off, dancing and joshing and drinking away. They made us put the energy into our music."

Wheeler has been playing since he was a 14-year-old in Kansas City, Missouri. He came out of the Navy as a Chief Petty Officer. "I was an aviation guy at sea on carriers, fixing jet engines," he says, "but I've always kept up the music." So have his buddies, guitarist Claudio Martin, drummer Gary Taylor, and

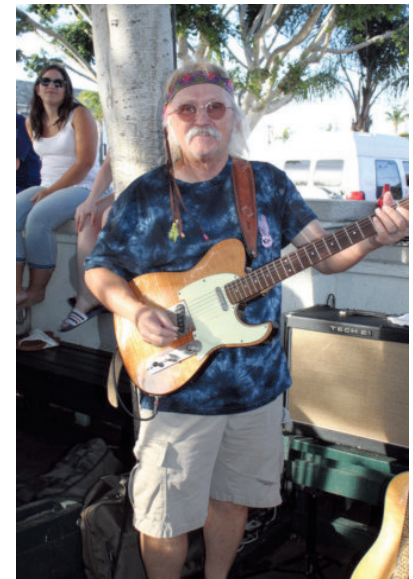
Phil Lean, bassist and singer. Lean's famous at McP's for his version of Led Zeppelin's "Whole Lotta Love," usually the finale on a Sunday afternoon. But he's also a music teacher at Francis Parker with a Ph.D. from UCSD in theoretical studies in voice, and has written music for movies such as *Indiscreet* and *The Beneficiary*. He was once part of a trio called The Self-Righteous Brothers.

Lean sets up his own iPhone studio in his guest room on the 12th floor of the Coronado Shores complex. He hangs the iPhone by a strip of Gorrilla tape. "We coordinate on broadcast days. Ron does his on Mondays 6-8; our buddy (singer/guitarist) Gonzo, Fridays, 5-7; and me Saturdays, 6-9. You have to play a lot of popular rock numbers. Between us, we've probably got 1000 songs down. But especially Gonzo and me, we'd get into more esoteric music. Nothing fancy. More like 'Reelin' In the Years' from Steely Dan."

Financially, Lean has his teaching job to fall back on. Wheeler has his Navy pension and his job teaching special ed. But a lot of their musician friends are not so lucky. They're facing desperate times. "That's why we give our tip money to fellow musicians," says Wheeler.

Technology makes this studio concert format possible. But even though listeners can "chat," request songs, and throw tips in the "jar," Lean says it's a lonely way of making music.

And yet one of their biggest fans — writer Joe Ditley, who tunes in to all three weekly performances — says they have saved him from the emptiness and depression this coronavirus situation threatens to inflict on so many of us. "They're a living connection to what I'm already calling the good old days," says Ditley. ■



Ron Wheeler



The Fifth Beatle? Phil Lean is a Beatle fanatic



Phil Lean in his idyllic studios. His weekly concert streams via Facebook

516 STRATFORD COURT | DEL MAR, 92014

BEDS: 4 | BATHS: 7 | CURRENT OWNER: 516 Stratford Court LP | LIST PRICE: \$14,500,000

UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

This week, we visit what's billed as "the highest standard of California coastal living," a 6532-square-foot oceanview mansion at 516 Stratford Court.

According to listing remarks retrieved from Trulia, the home is "ideally situated on one of Del Mar's quietest oceanfront locations," just north of Torrey Pines State Beach.

"Created in collaboration with designer of the stars Samuel Amoia and built by Zephyr Development," Stratford's contemporary construction



Take the floating staircase, or better still, float upstairs in the glass elevator!

"is both stunning and state of the art."

Modern improvements to the home — originally built in 1987 as two units but extensively

remodeled as a single-family home in 2020 — include "fully incorporated smart home features" that "offer effortless living," while "access is

easy for everyone," thanks to a commercial-grade glass elevator offering an alternative to the floating staircase for passage between the home's levels.

"Entertainers will appreciate a chef-grade kitchen equipped with designer finishes and top-of-the-line appliances," as well as the game room, marble bar, and "director's theater" with seating for ten. There's also a temperature-controlled wine cellar with glass walls that "allow the stylish display of your private collection."

"Guests will be marveled by the seamless outdoor living and ocean view pool" accessed via a series of vanishing pocket doors that open up more than 800 square feet of covered outdoor living space to the interior. The yard also features a separate spa area and private putting green to alleviate any stress that avid golfers may be feeling from being kept off the links by quarantine. A three-car

garage with wood-and-glass custom doors adds to the outdoor parking space on the paver-lined, gated driveway.

The elevated master bedroom "feels like a resort within itself with a private veranda, massive walk-in closet, and spa-like bath with steam shower and ocean view soaking tub."

For those "with health in mind," the estate also includes "an oversized gym, dry sauna, and therapeutic steam room."

The listing serves up a reminder of the great walkability of Del Mar, with dining and shopping opportunities available a short stroll away — once dining out and boutique-hopping become a thing again.

Public records show ownership of the home
continued on page 32

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Demetrius Karras is the media manager at Firearms Unknown in Oceanside. Most people who enter the store according to Karras are “looking for something for the immediate situation and are not stockpiling weapons.”

WHO'S LAUGHING NOW?

I don't recall when I first heard the word “prepper,” but it was definitely derogatory, perhaps a step above — but certainly related to — “hoarder.” A prepper, as I understood it then, was someone preparing for the end of the world, like in the early '60s, when bomb shelters came into vogue along with theories about Martians living among us.

It was a mere two years ago that I encountered my first modern-day prepper. He arrived at my door in the form of my neighbor, wearing camouflaged pants, combat boots, and a backpack he called his “bug out bag.” He was ex-military and requested the use of my swimming pool for an experiment

he wanted to run. Once I agreed, I accompanied him to the pool, where he laid down his pack, removed his boots, and leaped into the deep end. Next, he unhitched his pants, tied the pant legs in knots and scooped air into them to make a float. Between gasps, he explained that he was preparing for the possibility of being lost at sea.

After drying off, he revealed the articles in his bug out bag to me. Among other things, there was a whetstone, flint, stick matches, duct tape, three sharp knives, a hand-crank radio, a water purifier, a thin plastic tarp, and a few rolls of quarters.

Once my neighbor left, I told my wife that his were the ravings of a combat victim

in need of treatment for post-traumatic stress. Then I ran out and bought a case of pinto beans, five gallons of water, and a 49-function Swiss Army Knife. To justify the knife's purchase, I told myself I needed it for camping trips with the grandkids. But the device sat buried in my desk drawer.

When the news announced a virus threatening our country, my thoughts on the matter were immediately divided. One part of me believed what I was told by the news, while another part flashed a newsreel of memories featuring SARS and Ebola, pandemics that probably took out fewer Americans than lightning strikes. Or so I half-reasoned while purchasing the last remaining pair of rubber gloves and a hospital mask. When nobody was looking, I took out my knife, oiled and sharpened the blades, and placed it in what can only be described as a bug out bag. And there, two months later, the knife sits, unused, patiently awaiting disaster



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS AHRENS

Contents of the author's bug out bag include a hand-crank radio, Leatherman multitool, solar-powered headlamp, strong twine, gaffer tape, hard cash.

ter along with two boxes of stick matches, half a dozen candles, packets of dehydrated food, a hand-crank radio, and a water purifier. I hesitate to name myself a prepper, but I must admit these preparations help me sleep at night.

When I went looking for my prepper neighbor, I found he had bugged out to a bunker in Arizona. Did he have room for me if "it all came down,"

as he warned it someday would? *Were these the times he had warned of?* I wondered while contemplating the thin line between paranoia and preparedness. Had I crossed that line?

Defining a prepper is difficult because there are as many types of prepper as there are disasters to prepared for. Some of the most common are earthquake preppers, bug out

preppers, stay at home preppers, and doomsday preppers.

Some make the case that preppers existed

long before there was a name for them. Anyone alive before or during the Great Depression behaved as preppers do in our day — if not before they stood in a soup line, then surely afterward. They came of age when self-reliance was common and government served as a sometimes necessary safety net when the crops failed. Your grandparents may not have been paranoid, but they realized that even a prosperous country could turn downward in the time it takes for a drought to hit.

Preparedness seems to have first gone into disfavor during the cold war era, when granny's root cellar was converted to a fallout shelter. Once the big one failed to launch, shelter builders were branded as weird

dos, and the world was split into two unequal camps: the majority of the population trusted the doctor, the news, and government agencies to be truthful and protect them against everything less potent than death. The other camp figured the best defense against hardship lay at the end of their arms. The most extreme among their emotional descendants are what we now call...

Doomsday Preppers

"They laughed at Noah until it started raining." — Prepper proverb

After a mass catastrophic event, the earth may be repopulated by politicians who took shelter beneath the capitol, cockroaches, and doomsday preppers. While it seems unlikely that even

continued on page 33

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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RESEARCH STUDIES



SCHIZOPHRENIA RESEARCH STUDY

UC San Diego Researchers are looking for people with schizophrenia to take part in a research study investigating a medication called Cariprazine.

If you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia, are between 18-64 years old, and in generally good health, you may be eligible to participate.

Medical evaluations and study drug or placebo will be provided at no cost.

Eligible participants may also receive financial compensation for study related time and travel.

For more information, please call: **(619) 543-6107**

home address provides the city with a log of locals who might have the coronavirus. And while many Ensenadans grow uneasy or irate waiting in traffic to return home, others say it's worth the wait, and that the filter protocol is keeping the port city of approximately 800,000 lower in positive COVID-19 cases and COVID-related deaths compared to Mexicali and Tijuana.

As of this writing, reports show that Ensenada has 30 confirmed COVID-19 cases, and five deaths attributed to the virus; Tijuana has 737 cases and 120 deaths; Mexicali has 471 cases and 40 deaths. Expats are saying the numbers are low because of lack of testing facilities in those cities in February and March. Alex said he spoke with one of the soldiers during his 1.5 hour wait at the Ensenada checkpoint last week. "The soldier said the wait was long because an ambulance from Tijuana arrived at the filter station with cadavers; they [supposedly] died from COVID-19. And the ambulance driver was instructed by a Tijuana hospital to bring the remains into Ensenada for cremation purposes. The soldier [said they] didn't allow the ambulance in, and made the driver return to Tijuana."

On April 23, Rosarito-based American Diego Knight posted a video produced by his co-workers from the *Infonort* news outlet. It was a segment on "Chlorine Pa'la Baja," an Ensenada event held earlier that day where more than 400 vehicles were sanitized with about 200 liters of chlorine. The disinfecting event was reportedly held at an Ensenada fire station and in the recreational areas of a general hospital where patients with COVID-19 are treated. "It's more serious in Ensenada than here in Rosarito," Knight said. "There, from 9 pm to 6 am, there's a policy there deterring anyone from going outside of their houses."

The restrictions get tougher once you get beyond Ensenada into Baja California Sur. "Driving down to BCS at this time is probably not a good idea," said Reid. "BCS just instituted some crazy tough restrictions. One person per car, stay at home unless you must go out, no alcohol is being delivered to the stores, so once they're out, masks required at all times. Personally, I think some of it is a little overboard, but it's not my call. I'm just hoping they don't do that up here."

As for Rosarito checkpoints, Knight says, "Going down the free road from Tijuana to Rosarito, there is a checkpoint; they ask why we are coming in, and check if we have a mask. We went through it today (April 26) and we had masks on, and no problem. And I saw a couple who were tourists in downtown."

Bonita C. is an expat who lives in



If people will eat tacos next to corpses, they'll eat carnitas amid COVID.

Ensenada; she said she recovered from a (self-diagnosed) case of COVID-19 in February. "I always cross at Tecate," she said to me on April 27. "I go through *Carretera Federal 3*, or if I go through Mexicali, I take 2D. Last time [I went to the U.S. and returned], there was one military checkpoint and they did not search or ask me for my temperature. I just opened my windows so they could look in."

MIKE MADRIAGA

BAJA

Bad cough or bullet?

Amid illness and death, life carries on

My friend Mariana texted me a few weeks ago after I posted my story about the coronavirus piñatas. "You know my brother and I got it, right?" she asked. Mariana's brother Juan is my private doctor in Tijuana. (I'm not using their real names; they talked to me on the condition of remaining anonymous.) Juan's was one of the earlier cases confirmed by the government. (The rest of the party of six in the car got tested, but their cases were never reported.) "On March 15, we celebrated a small birthday party with my brother, my son, and a few friends. Everyone that was in the car when we went home ended up positive [for COVID-19]. Fortunately, my son never had any symptoms. My brother had a bit of a fever, but that was it. The other girls in the car and I had it horribly. My symptoms started with just slight headaches and chest pains, but it increased little by little to the point I thought, 'Am I going to die tonight?' Every breath I took was empty as if I was on the surface of the moon; the air felt non-existent. The cough, headaches, and fever didn't worry me; not being able to breath is the scary part. I went with every specialist I know. Since there is no cure, they just give you any treatment. Without complications or going to the ICU, I still felt like I was going to die for six horrifying nights. After those nights, I had a day of coughing blood and my symptoms

started fading away. I'm only 33, I exercise regularly, I'm not overweight, I don't have any pre-existing conditions. It makes me sad to see that my neighbors don't care. They are still having their carne asada parties."

Juan told me that as of "April 21, Mexico was declared officially on Phase 3. I'm at the COVID filter outside Clinica 20 with IMSS. In Tijuana we have IMSS, ISSTE, and ISSTECALI; other parts of Mexico have more institutions. Each branch takes care of the different types of workers. At IMSS we take care of general workers (from

"It makes me sad to see that my neighbors don't care. They are still having their carne asada parties"

factories, restaurants, etc.). But because of COVID, they mixed all the branches. In the tent outside Clinica 20, we check all the patients. If they have respiratory symptoms, we take them to the COVID consulting room; people without respiratory symptoms are sent home. Those who we suspect might have it, if it's not serious and they don't need ventilators, they get sent home. We don't test them. There is no need to waste resources on thousands of people, since we don't even have a way to treat them. Those that have serious symptoms get hospitalized. We administer the tests, and those cases end up reported."

IMSS Clinica 20 is situated near Mercado de Todos, an area usually bustling with activity. The market is closed, but there was plenty of activity in the area on a recent Thursday afternoon. The clinic had yellow precaution tape tied poorly on a railing. A big brown tent was set before the entrance with a big sign that read *Filtro* and posters depicting the cartoon anti-viral heroine Susana Distancia.

Half a block away from Clinica 20, I found a stand of *tacos varios*. As I placed my order, the *taquero* asked me, "para llevar?"

despite the stand's big sign declaring they only had orders to go. Confused by the question, I asked if I could eat my tacos there. The *taquero* told me they only had them to go and wrapped my tacos in tin foil. Just a few feet away from the stand, a group of people sat on a planter devouring tacos on plastic plates that were not to go.

As of this writing, there have been 222 deaths in Baja due to the virus. The daily news is dominated by corona, but there were 115 homicides in April, for a total of 560 through 2020. A narco tunnel was discovered in late March in the Otay region, along with nearly \$30 million worth of drugs. The Mexican peso is plummeting, hovering near the 25-pesos-per-dollar mark. Tijuana has the most cases, but the streets are not desolate. Activity is low, many businesses are closed, and those that are open have ropes around the perimeter to enforce safe distancing. All restaurant orders are to go. Yet people still cram themselves in public transportation; most wear masks, but gloves are rare. The old ice cream truck still makes the rounds around the neighborhood; so does the guy who sells tamales out of a cooler from his bicycle; and so does the beat-up car that drives around selling *capirota*s. At every other corner, there are street salesmen offering disposable masks, washable masks with all types of graphics, plastic guards, gloves, and antibacterial gel.

I have crossed the San Ysidro border three times since the quarantine started. The wait time was minimal, and border patrol only asked me if I was going to work. The lanes have been heavily reduced, but tourists are not allowed to cross until May 21. Citizens who cross the border for essential jobs report no changes in their commute. At the border, they sell facemasks. I bought six disposable masks for \$10 the last time I crossed as a favor to my friend Antonio Ley, who recently moved out of Tijuana to establish himself in San Diego. I caught up with him in Mission Hills to discuss the latest Tijuana news — more specifically, reports that east of Tijuana is not following the quarantine or the social distancing rules. "When people ask me about Corona in Tijuana, I want to show them the picture of the people eating tacos next to the dead body," says Antonio Ley inside his food truck, *Corazón de Torta*. "Do you think these people are afraid of a bad cough or a fever?"

The picture Ley mentioned depicts a family eating tacos next to a dead body; the photo was taken by Gustavo Suárez in 2018 for the *Frontera* newspaper.

MATTHEW SUÁREZ

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 7

BIRCH AQUARIUM'S KELP CAM

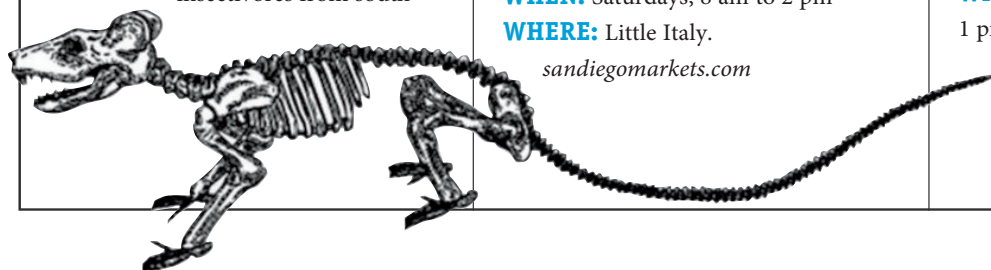
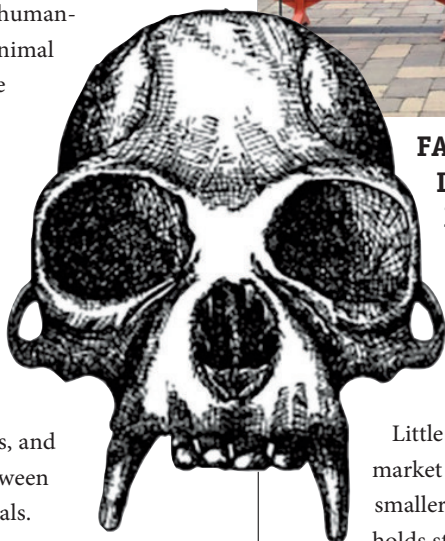
View a giant kelp forest from home any time. Tune in to see a live feed of Leopard Sharks, Moray Eels, Garibaldi and a 300-pound Giant Black Seabass. Also, join Birch Aquarium's Tuesday and Thursday Kelp Cam *Facebook Live* events. An aquarium educator will be online, answering your questions and chatting about the ocean world.

WHEN: Everyday through Tuesday, June 30. *Facebook Live* events Tuesdays at 10 am and Thursdays at 2 pm

WHERE: aquarium.ucsd.edu/kelpcam

ANIMAL BONES AND TEETH: STONE AGE ENVIRONMENTS

Zooarchaeologists seek to answer questions about humanity's past using animal remains from the archaeological record. These researchers explore what people ate, what environments were like, the movements of animals across landscapes, and relationships between people and animals. In this talk, Gillian Wong will dive into what it means to be a zooarchaeologist and how animal remains can be used to understand our history. She will draw specifically from her Ph.D. work, which uses the remains of micro-mammals such as rodents and insectivores from south-



western Germany to reconstruct climates and environments during the stone age.

WHEN: Thursday, May 7, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm

WHERE: sandiegoarchaeology.org/zooarchaeology

Saturday | 9



FARMERS MARKET LITTLE ITALY MERCATO

Take a solo shopping trip to find nutrient-dense fresh food in a safe open-air environment at the

Little Italy Mercato farmers' market on Saturdays. A new, smaller version of the market holds stalls for 18 farmers and a few essential groceries on two blocks of West Date Street from India Street to State Street. Only one person per household will be admitted. Visit the website for full rules on shopping at the Mercato.

WHEN: Saturdays, 8 am to 2 pm

WHERE: Little Italy.

sandiegomarkets.com



BIRCH AQUARIUM'S KELP CAM

Sunday | 10

IN SEARCH OF THE HARLEM STREET SINGER

The New York Guitar Festival presents a twelve-song series paying tribute to Reverend Gary Davis, who performed on the streets of Harlem from the late 1940s until his death in 1972. Overcoming poverty, racial discrimination, and blindness, Davis made both influential recordings and noted festival appearances. Artists scheduled to perform: Bill Frisell, Rosanne Cash & John Leventhal, Fantastic Negrito, and Amythyst Kiah. Access is free; the New York Guitar Festival and performing artists are asking viewers to make donations to MusiCares.

WHEN: Everyday through May 15, 1 pm.

WHERE: youtube.com/user/guitarfestival



Monday | 11

THE FASHION BIZ WITH ANNA CROWE

Join Fashion Week San Diego for a discussion of hot topics in the fashion industry via Zoom. This week's guest is Anna Crowe, founder and CEO of Crowe PR. In the virtual chatroom, Anna and the team will discuss PR tips and tricks for the fashion industry.

WHEN: Monday, May 11, 10:30 am to 11:30 am

WHERE: fashionweeksd.com/events



San Diego Reader May 7, 2020 15

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

ART

Beyond the Pale: Virtual Art Exhibition

The San Diego Watercolor Society proudly presents "Beyond the Pale, a Virtual Art Exhibition." Enjoy great watermedia art 24/7 at link. Exhibit runs from April 29th to May 30th, 2020. The paintings are by our very talented members and are shown in our online slide show as well as the Online Gallery. Award-winning artist, Susan Keith is the juror. Paintings are for sale, and, upon purchase, will be shipped to the buyer unframed. Be sure to watch our website for updates regarding timelines for opening our physical Gallery at Liberty Station. Until then, there will be a new Member Virtual Show each month for your enjoyment. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays, 12pm; through Sunday, May 31, free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Cornel/Henry Art Exhibition: Jennifer Georgescu

The Cornel/Henry Art gallery presents an online exhibition of the 'mother series' by Jennifer Georgescu, a San Diego based photographer and mother. Jennifer Georgescu (BFA, Watkins College of Art) is a photographer and mother based in San Diego. With a background in painting and photographic arts, she utilizes medium format film photography, installation, and digital technology. Her work describes instinctual aspects of humanity correlating to and differing from societal structuring. Her projects analyze dualisms in language, relationships, mythologies and control. Jennifer Georgescu is part of the Photolucida 2019 Critical Mass Top 200, the 2019 recipient of the John Chervinsky Scholarship of Griffin Museum of Photography, and the 2019 recipient of the William Male Foundation Award. Recent exhibitions include the Baldwin Photographic Gallery, Milwaukee Art Museum, Fort Wayne Museum of Art, Center for Fine Art Photography, and Vermont Center for Photography. Recent publications include Lenscratch, Aint Bad, Don't Smile, the Missouri Review, Silvershotz, and SHUTR magazine. Thursdays, 12pm; Fridays, 12pm; Saturdays, 12pm; Sundays, 12pm; through Friday, May 29, free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Kelly Vivanco: Pastime Pastime: New works by Kelly Vivanco Kelly's exhibition will run from May 9 through June 6. Distinction Gallery online only exhibition featuring small scale paintings with

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Bay City Brewing pouring in East Village

I'm not saying we jinxed it, but San Diego sports were enjoying an uncommonly good year before all sports were canceled due to coronavirus. Aztecs basketball started 26-0 and figured to make noise as a top five team entering NCAA's March Madness tournament. Major League Rugby's San Diego Legion started the season a dominant 5-0. And since no one can factually dispute it, let's assume the Padres would have kept up those winning ways with a perfect home stand through April, right?

The postponement of baseball

has disappointed not only sports fans, but also East Village businesses. Downtown restaurants, bars, and breweries count on the Padres season like shopping malls count on Christmas. Not to mention Comic-Con and the regular convention center traffic.

For Bay City Brewing, a share of that scene was finally within reach following a long wait. Its Point Loma brewery has already proved a hit among sports fans — it sits across the street from the sports arena, home ice for the San Diego Gulls hockey team, and has become a de facto co-host on game nights. When the Gulls' seasons season was suspended on March 12, Bay City took a hit, but showed its resolve to stay open on social media: "We're bummed, too. Even though the fate of the season is unclear, we would still love for you to grab a brew with us."

The brewery posted a notice to customers pledging high safety standards, and followed up with an announcement for the grand opening of its new restaurant and tasting room near Petco Park, about 1900 feet due north of home plate. Crowned by a three-thousand square foot, indoor-outdoor rooftop lounge, Bay City's East Village investment was intended to open

March 16.

Instead, on March 16, Major League Baseball announced it would delay the start of its season for at least two months, and California's governor ordered bars and restaurant dining rooms closed



A look at the rooftop beer lounge Padres fans are missing out on this season. Photo courtesy of Bay City Brewing Co.

to the public. Bay City announced it would be "closed until further notice."

"We've been working on this project in East Village for two years," says Bay City cofounder Greg Anderson, who also operates McGregor's Grill near the Aztec's football stadium. "It took a year just to get the conditional use permit"

Bay City did just manage to initiate a soft open phase for Bay City Brewing East Village (627 Eighth Avenue), but it didn't do much to show off the location's fourth story deck. "It rained for six days in a row."

The new outdoor pregame venue may have to wait, but Bay City has shown signs of a comeback. By late March it had reopened in Point Loma for beer to go, and on April 3, it went ahead with an East Village opening: curbside takeout of pizza and beer.

Anderson says he and his partners weren't sure how effectively opening for the first time would work, but ultimately, East Village is a community they're excited to be joining, so they might as well be there to serve the neighborhood, baseball or not. Sell some beer. Pay some employees.

"If payroll and sales are equal," says Anderson, "it's kind of a win."

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

custom frames crafted by Kelly's husband, Peter Hillier. About the artist: Kelly Vivanco, a native to Southern California, earned her BFA from Laguna College of Art and Design. She works with a variety of media to create art with whimsy, nostalgia and a sense of child-like wonder. Vivanco draws from the real and imagined world to populate her works with a host of playful and curious characters. She takes inspiration from vintage photographs, children's literature and the oddness of her dreams. Saturday, May 9, 6pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Little Fish Comic Book Studio

Online Classes Classes are available online right now, and extra classes are being added to meet to increased demand. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, May 31, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Women's Museum California

Virtual Exhibits Create a digital exhibit where you are the curator and visit virtual exhibits where you can explore stories about women yesterday and today on the website. Thursdays, 12pm; Fridays, 12pm; through Monday, June 1, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

And Something Different

Studio: Art Classes Online art classes with Leslie Pierce/ And Something Different Studio. Thursdays, 12pm; Fridays, 12pm; Saturdays, 12pm; through Saturday, May 30, free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Composting & Vermicomposting

Basics Workshop Learn how you can improve the quality

of your soil, reduce waste and air pollution, while saving energy, money, and water. Learn how to compost in this 2-hour presentation where you will learn the basics of backyard composting and vermicomposting (composting with worms). Using trial-tested advice and interactive demonstrations, our expert educators will teach you all you need to know to get started with a bin that fits your needs and lifestyle. In this workshop, we will cover the following topics: What is composting and why it is so important What tools and materials you'll need Which items are compostable and which are not Harvesting and using your compost. One attendee will win a free raffle prize. This composting workshop is funded by The County of San Diego. Register online. Saturday, May 9, 10am; free. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Full Moon Manifestation

Full Moon Manifestation with Lydia Real (Flower Moon): In this time of uncertainty, change, and energetic shifts, it is important to remain positive and stay focused on your goals. The Full Moon is known to be a source of energetic power for inspiration and clarity. Using the basic principles of the Law of Attraction in conjunction with the specific energies associated with each month's Full Moon, effect positive changes and manifest good into your life. Join us in guided meditation, gratitude activities, prompts, and goal-setting exercises designed to assist in identifying your vision and keeping your attention on your intentions. Thursday, May 7, 6pm; \$30-\$36. 18 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Improv for Writers

Improv for Writers with Jorjeana Marie: Harness the creative power of improvisation exercises that are guaranteed to ignite any writer's idea machine. Learn tips and tricks

on how to come up with ideas in a brand new way. Jorjeana will offer prompts and games for coming up with ideas to help with all our writing. Learn secrets to help bypass writer's block and generate infinite ideas. Leave feeling renewed and equipped with a new writer's toolbox. Sunday, May 10, 2:30pm; \$30-\$36. 18 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Journalism (Nonfiction Writing IV)

Online: Journalism (Nonfiction Writing IV) with Dean Nelson: Though this class is offered as part of the Certificate in Nonfiction Writing, there is no pre-requisite to join this class. All students, members, and nonmembers are encouraged to enroll. Sunday, May 10, 12pm; \$180-\$216. 18 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Live Lesson Masters

Live Lesson Masters is a network of musicians and instructors who are ready to impart their lifetime of knowledge and experience upon you. Real time, face to face, all online. Thursdays, 8am; Fridays, 8am; Saturdays, 8am; Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, May 31, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Live Virtual Painting & Drawing Class

Virtual art classes in painting, drawing and encaustic art you can register for on a new virtual live page. Artist Leslie Pierce/ And Something Different gallery. Fridays, 7pm; through Monday, July 27, \$20-\$250. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Lovejoy Creations Studio

Live Painting Sessions Daily YouTube live painting sessions and videos. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; through Friday, May 29, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Meditations for Writers

Meditations for Writers with Rebecca Jane: In these weekly one-hour zoom sessions, you will learn meditations that come from a variety of wisdom traditions. These are breathing techniques that you can practice every day. Over time, the practices can help build inner focus to help creative productivity, with the added benefit of a stronger immune system to keep you healthy. Also, after practicing the meditation, we will explore various writing prompts. You will have an opportunity to be meditative, imagine possibilities, and create from the voice of your meditative self. Sharing is also welcome. These sessions intend to be uplifting and pure fun. Saturday, May 9, 12:30pm; \$5. 18 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Online Belly & Exotic Go-Go

Class Combo class Belly and Exotic Go-Go dance class, live online. We will learn some floor moves, Belly Dance moves and dance to a song. Online, so dress up and have fun with Nikkal and Sunny. Please RSVP by making payment to get a meeting code. Fridays, 5:30pm; through Friday, June 5, \$12. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Outside the Lens Virtual Photography Workshops

Virtual Workshops, Screenings and other events coming soon. Check their website for updates with specific classes and dates. Thursdays, 12pm; Fridays, 12pm; through Saturday, May 30, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego School of Ballet

Online Classes Online ballet, pilates, tap and stretch classes for students at home. The classes are 1 hour and are free with a suggested donation. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; through Friday, May 29, Online Internet Events, All

over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Songbirds Virtual Music

Classes Virtual music classes for families available beginning April 6. Tuition includes three classes per week for 10 weeks. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; through Friday, May 29, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Women's Financial Fitness: Homebuying Process

This online session of Women's Financial Fitness is "Homebuying Process: Tools to help you plan for a home purchase." We'll be discussing: When you should start the homebuying process - What you should be aware of when considering a home purchase - What to look for in a REALTOR® and lender - What costs you will have after you move in. Thursday, May 7, 5pm; free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Birch Aquarium Kelp Cam

Live Q&A Have you ever wanted to chat with Birch Aquarium's experts? Tune in on Facebook Live to meet aquarium educators and aquarist and get the inside scoop on what is happening behind the scenes, learn about cool careers, and get your ocean questions answered. We'll also watch the Kelp Cam and talk about the creatures in our exhibit. Join us on Tuesdays and Thursdays on Facebook. Thursdays, 2pm; through Tuesday, June 30, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Flying Colors Backstage Summit

Flying Colors (Casey McPherson, Steve Morse, Mike Portnoy, Neal Morse, Dave LaRue) are pleased to announce the Flying Colors Backstage Summit, a 4-day

SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

First Lutheran Church of San Diego

Contact: 1420 Third Ave, San Diego 619-234-6149

www.firstlutheransd.org

Membership: 280

Pastor: Kurt Christenson

Age: 59

Born: Groton, CT

Formation: St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN; Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley

Years Ordained: 32

San Diego Reader: How long do you spend writing your sermon?

Pastor Kurt Christenson: I was blessed to have interned in an African American parish in south-central Los Angeles. So my sermons are topica — the scripture has to come alive for today. It starts with a deep exegetical process,

but that would become a lecture without including the story of the people and how that story interfaces with the story of scripture. How does scripture form and shape us through its story? It's taken me 33 years to write my sermons — no, actually, make that 59 years. I usually set aside two big chunks of two days, but that's just the formal part of the preparation. **SDR:** What's your main concern as a member of the clergy during this time of pandemic? **PC:** Not much has changed for us, other than having to stream our worship services on Facebook from my house because there's too much echo in the church to record anything people can

hear. Here at First Lutheran, we have a ministry to those on the edge of society which we've been engaged in for 30 years, and really, in some form or another before that, for almost the whole 112-year history of the church. We have to do it differently during this time, but caring for the needs of those at the edge of society has been a hallmark of this congregation. I arrived in September, so I'm pretty new here—and privileged to be here. The church started the Third Avenue Charitable Organization — TACO — and we had 160 guests for breakfast this morning whom we served. There are still people here for social work services and

to pick up their mail. On Mondays, we have dental, medical, and legal clinic—and an acupuncture clinic. There are 300 souls a week who get taken care here each week. How to maintain that with social distancing and all these other things we have to do has been a significant concern.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PC: Heaven. We get to go to heaven. I don't know if everyone goes to heaven — but I'm so grateful that no human being gets to judge. God will be the judge. I have every confidence in the eternal, loving, graceful hands of God and his wide embrace of humanity and



Kurt Christenson

of this creation that, thank God, he decided to make. He loves our stories and wants to hear our stories. I have a pretty wide view of heaven, and I'm grateful that eternity means having enough time to get things right. I'll be able to make amends for the all the relationships I screwed up and have enough time to

build relationships with the ones I missed. Also, maybe I'll learn to play the stand-up bass. But that's the mystery — how will people get to heaven? I'm happy to live in the mystery of what God has in store. I know there are people who want to have nothing to do with loving their neighbor in any way, it seems, or very little. I don't know — I'm grateful I'm not being asked to judge them, but God will. The same goes for me — I don't know if I'd be let in on my own merits. I'm grateful it all begins with unearned, freely given grace.

— Joseph O'Brien

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

online interactive music experience set to take place May 5th through May 8th. The event will feature all 5 members of the band taking part in songwriting instructions and tips, Q&A sessions, and even a chance to submit your own music and have it critiqued by the band. Thursday, May 7, 4pm; Friday, May 8, 4pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Happy Hour Live Fridays Grab a glass of your favorite adult beverage and join us virtually as we host local wine, beer, and spirits experts and small business owners. Learn about San Diego's craft beverage scene, enjoy a fun drinking game and take part in our audience Q&A as our experts answer your questions. Invite your friends for a virtual hang out. Fridays, 4pm; through Friday, May 29, free. 21 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Twin TempleVision Twin Temple announces the spawning of TTV (Twin TempleVision), a hellish new weekly livestream, broadcasted from their Satanic ritual chamber. You can laugh (and scream) along with this devilish duo's sin-tillating antics every Sunday at 3pm PST by subscribing directly to their YouTube channel. The duo shares devilish jokes, answers burning questions from fans, and of course performs Doo-Wop and blasphemous rites that you can join along with at home. So basically, everything you would hope for from a Satanic Doo-Wop band. Sunday, May 10, 3pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Wizard World: Meet the Cast of Family Ties Family Ties cast members Michael Gross and Meredith Baxter will take part in a live online discussion. Thursday, May

7, 12pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

LECTURES

Animal Bones & Teeth: Stone Age Environments Presented by San Diego Archaeological Center: Zooarchaeologists seek to answer questions about the human past using animal remains from the archaeological record. These researchers explore what people ate, what environments were

like, the movements of animals across landscapes, relationships between people and animals, and more. In this talk Gillian Wong will dive into what it means to be a zooarchaeologist and how animal remains can be used to address several key questions in our understanding of the human past. She will draw specifically from her PhD work that uses the remains of micro-mammals, like rodents and insectivores, from Langmahdhalde, an archaeological site in southwestern Germany, to reconstruct climates and environments during the stone age. Thursday,

May 7, 5:30pm; free-\$2. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

NATURE

Birch Aquarium's Kelp Cam View Birch Aquarium's Giant Kelp Forest from home any time via the live Kelp Cam. Tune in at any time to see a stunning live feed featuring Leopard Sharks, Moray Eels, Garibaldi and a 300-pound Giant Black Seabass. You can also join Birch Aquarium's Tuesday and

Thursday Kelp Cam Facebook Live events where an aquarium educator will be online answering your questions and chatting about our amazing ocean world. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays, 8am; through Tuesday, June 30, Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

World Binturong Day Celebration Wild Wonders presents World Binturong Day: A binturong (aka bearcat) is an arboreal animal that lives in the forests of Southeast Asia. Learn all about these amazing animals that smell like buttered popcorn

in a Zoom broadcast hosted by Wild Wonders. You'll see them get their daily enrichment, check out their agility skills, and understand the challenges they face in the wild. This is a Zoom broadcast, and is priced at \$20 for each connection. Participants will also get a Binturong Activity Kit filled with coloring pages, puzzles, and fun facts. Saturday, May 9, 12pm; \$20. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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IB magic

I glance inside. Looks so empty. Breaks my heart.

A group of us sits, staring to the west. “Is that one?” says Kelly. It’s sunset. But we’re not looking for green flashes. We’re looking for white flashes in the blue teeth of the waves. At night.

Every time a rack of rollers breaks, the spume lights up like the Border Patrol has shined a light through it. And on the big ones, it’s an explosion of light. Incredible.

And edible, says this guy Joe. “These little guys creating the light are algae, base of the food chain. They have lots of antioxidants. Whales love ‘em. Actually, plankton eat these algae, and whales eat the plankton, right? We should be in there!”

Hmm. Maybe not tonight. It’s moot anyway, because I have these three boxes of nice hot food I’ve just brought out from “The Most Southwesterly Bar & Grill in the USA.” IB Forum. They even give their exact latitude and longitude: “32 degrees, 34 minutes, 36.3 seconds N; 117 degrees, 07 minutes, 53.8 seconds W.”

This really is the last chance saloon. It stands right before the street extension that runs between the Tijuana River sloughs and the ocean. If you kept heading south, next stop would be TJ’s bullring. I want to recognize this place but don’t. Great burger joint I’ve been to before. But somehow, it looks different.

“We’ve just put in this wraparound patio counter,” says Connie, the manager. I’ve met her at the desk they’ve set up to stop us coming inside.

Connie says The Forum has been open since 1985. “Before that, it was some kind of biker bar.”

I glance inside. Looks so empty. Breaks my heart. Connie points to the takeout menu on the pinboard. Reduced offerings, for sure. But still

plenty here to choose from. Sports bar snacks such as potato skins (\$11), chicken tenders (\$10), fish and chips (\$15), a six-piece rib “starter” with fries (\$15), calamari and fish (\$15), or Philly Steak sandwich with sliced ribeye, peppers, grilled onions, shrooms, and cheese for \$12.75.



I’m really tempted by the French Dip. It costs \$13.75, but for that, you get sliced prime rib and Jack cheese, plus *au jus* for dipping (and sipping), along with my fave unmustard, horseradish.

And they offer grilled onions and shrooms for \$1.75 extra. Hmm. Best deal? Probably a cup of clam chowder for \$4.75. Or the buffalo chicken taco (\$5.50), or a grilled or fried shrimp taco for \$7. Top taco dollar is surf and turf with carne asada and shrimp and white sauce and cheese (\$7.25).



Perfect combo for watching a sunset phenomenon open-mouthed

But the point is this: it’s just gotta be something nice and greasy and crunchy and warm to snack on while you’re out there in the chill watching the blue waves crash.

“Any ideas?” I ask Connie.

“Well, our burgers were voted ‘best burgers’ three years in a row,” she says, though she doesn’t specify by whom. “People love our grilled mushroom and onion burger (\$12). Or the Sunrise, with the egg (\$13). Or most of all, the avocado bacon burger (\$13).” She says some tourists from the Midwest in summer have never had avocado. “It’s exotic to them.”

“D’aagh, think I’ll have your Forum Sampler, and the Aloha Burger, and, oh hell, a cup of clam chowder.”

“We’re out of clam chowder.”

Maybe just as well. Trying to balance that on a knee would be a mess.

“Cole slaw or fries with the burger?” asks Connie. “Or for \$2.75 more, onion rings or



Connie the manager: one-woman band?

house salad.”

Hmm. Go for the healthy one, I think. “Salad,” I say. Plus, I get an iced tea — even though they have everything from beer to takeout cocktails. But I can just see the interview. “I can explain it all, officer...” So I get an iced tea (\$2.16).

“Where can I eat this?” I ask Connie.

“Well, they haven’t cordoned off those benches that look out over the ocean,” she says.

Mmm. Yum. Twenty minutes later, as the horizon turns a chalky orange and blue, here I am starting with the tater skins (with cheese, bacon bits, green onion), and couldn’t have asked for a less messy choice. In the “Forum Sampler,” you get four potato skins, four hot wings, two chicken tenders, onion rings, plus — and these are vital — sour cream and ranch dressings. Fifteen bucks. Out here, picnic-style, they’re all delicious.

One or two people are still surfing, and kids are chasing each other up and down the beach while grown-ups just saunter. A bunch of friends on the benches next to mine yak away, waiting for dark.

Pretty soon we’re talking. Andy, Sally, Abbey, Cyrus, Joe, and Kelly among them. “We’re here every night,” says Javier. “We’re the IB Boulevard Club, right?” He’s just made up the name. The others agree to it.

I think of offering some of my food, but I guess



IB Forum’s claim to fame



The sunset crew waits for the visions of the night

sharing’s out. I’ve touched everything. I’m already staying at a kind of distance as it is.

But nothing compares to my Aloha burger. I know it’s sort of uncool to like pineapple in a burger if you’re a sophisticate, so guess I’m not, ‘cause I love it. The pineapple is grilled, they’ve added a honey garlic glaze, and big fat bacon slabs surround the two pineapple slices. Oh yes. And the salad is surprisingly big and generous and fresh. I take a chomp into the patty just as Kelly pipes up. “Ooh, look. Over there!”

By now, it’s dark enough to the south for a big rolling wave to light up blue, green, and white, like a snake afire under a sheet.

I swear. IB magic. I take one more bite from this magic burger, catch one more luminous wave. Then I’m up and heading north. All stocked up for tomorrow. ■

The Place: IB Forum, 1079 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-429-7507

Covid-19 hours: 11:30am-8pm, daily

Prices: Clam chowder, cup, \$4.75; buffalo chicken taco, \$5.50; grilled or fried shrimp taco, \$7; surf and turf taco (carne asada, shrimp), \$7.25; potato skins, \$11; chicken tenders, \$10; fish and chips, \$15; rib starter (6 pieces), fries, \$15; calamari and fish, \$15; Philly steak sandwich, \$12.75; French dip, \$13.75; mushroom and onion burger, \$12; Sunrise burger, (with egg), \$13; avocado bacon burger, \$13

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Farmers market in a box

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Market Box delivers the rest of the farmers market to your door

Throughout most of the county, weekly farmers markets were initially shut down on March 13, while the first rounds of covid-19 restrictions were put in place. Though many of the markets have re-opened in April, they've done so at reduced capacity, which means a handful of

farmer stands, and no non-farmer stands. Anyone who frequents farmers markets knows there's a cottage industry of small — often extremely small — vendors that produce and sell artisan foods. Local sauce makers, for example, such as Majestic Hummus and Bitchin' Sauce. Or home kitchen pasta makers, Home Pasta Company.

For such local food producers, farmers markets represent the best, if not only way to bring their products to market. Just like some restaurants we've seen get their start serving food at a weekly market stands, food

FEAST!



A chocolate dipped, plant-based *alfajor* (Argentinian sandwich cookie) from Alfa Alfajores, via Market Box.



Living microgreens from Quantum Microgreens, acquired through Market Box.

producers can parlay the low start-up costs to sell at a market, and grow over time into a more traditional business.

It turns out one group of food producers didn't waste any time finding an alternative outlet for their goods. After learning the markets had closed on March 13, Jessica Davis, the founder of fermented food specialist Edible Alchemy, couldn't sleep. By 6 am on March 14, she'd reached out to fellow market vendor Amanda Waterman, of Double Batch Almond Cheese, with an idea. And by March 15, Market Box was making its first deliveries.

It turns out, says Davis, "You can get a lot done

when you're working 22 hours a day!"

Davis and Waterman quickly set up a website to collect online orders, established ultra-sanitary processes for local pick-up and delivery, and reached out to fellow market vendors to offer an alternative way to distribute their products.

Six weeks later, Market Box represents nearly 50 vendors, and delivers as far away as Los Angeles.

Market Boxes go out twice a week: Sunday and Thursday, with the cut-off time for orders 6:59 pm the night before. Despite a \$15 fee, Davis tells me the majority of orders opt for delivery, many to customers who have completely quaran-

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A sampling of products available for delivery from Market Box on their Facebook page.

tined themselves at home due to compromised immunity, or other vulnerabilities to coronavirus. Those packing and delivering boxes do so wearing gloves, masks, and hairnets.

I made the decision to pick up my order, and found it to be the most socially distant pick-up I've made since the pandemic began.

First, it required driving to El Cajon. That's where Davis opened a co-packing commercial kitchen last May. Called Vegan Kitchen Collective, it's where she, Waterman, and other small food producers prepare their goods. It carries

all of the permits necessary for Market Box to operate.

I pulled up to the industrial suite (1100 N Magnolia Avenue, Suite D) to find a short line forming outside, spread apart by Xs marked on the ground in blue tape. Once it was my turn to enter the suite, I stood on another X, while a gloved and masked man on the other side of the room unloaded my items, one by one, onto a table, so I could see everything was there. Once confirmed, he left the room, and I walked over to load the products into a bag I brought with me.

Of the dozens of vendors featured, a key anchor is JR Organics farm, which means customers may stock up on produce when ordering a Market Box. I picked up an order of microgreens from Quantum Microgreens: the living greens (including micro broccoli, arugula, pea shoots, and more) in a shallow container continue to grow on my countertop until I cut them for dinner.

I picked up a loaf of sliced bread from North County bakery Prager Bros., which I've been using to make grilled cheese sandwiches with some of that Double Batch vegan



Corazon de Torta food truck, parked three days a week at Klover dispensary.

cheese (grated pepper jack). It doesn't melt as quickly as actual cheese, but I can promise you this: it tastes a lot more like cheese than it does like almonds.

It probably bears mentioning that every one of these vendors is entirely plant-based, so don't expect any dairy or meat products. But those hardly seem necessary when there are so many vegetables, breads, tortillas, dips, sauces, sauerkrauts, coffees, teas, and juices. I managed to get a can of Modern Times cold brew coffee, and bottle of Cascara probiotic tea.

And don't forget the desserts. The chocolate dipped vegan cookie from Alfa Alfajores, with a dash of sea salt and the tang of orange zest, is something I'll definitely go looking for once the farmers markets are back in full force. Though, even when that happens, Davis suggests Market Box might just stick around for good.

by Ian Anderson

Spring in my Corazon de Torta

It was about three years ago next weekend that I got my first taste of the Corazon de Torta food truck. It was parked towards the back of the Reader's Tacotopia taco festival, but buzz had already reached the front gates by time I walked in. Don't miss it, friends and colleagues warned me, Stand in line, so worth it.

They were not wrong. There's no taco festival this spring, for obvious reasons — we're hoping for September — but with our outdoor spaces beginning to open up, it felt like a great time to track this truck down, and enjoy my own little taco celebration.

In one sense, food trucks are ready-made to survive the sort of restrictions we face during the current health scare. They have lower overhead costs compared to restaurants leas-

ing by the square foot, fewer employees (if any), and they serve take-out by default. However, in practice, most food trucks count on doing business at popular gathering places — outside brewery tasting rooms, at public markets, and parked at the numerous special events our sunny city would normally be hosting every weekend this spring. Obviously, crowds have dried up everywhere by gubernatorial edict, so many food trucks have no place to go to attract customers.

Better positioned to survive are the trucks that park in the same leased location each day. But even those are experiencing dramatic drops in business. I've always had to wait ten or twenty minutes in line at the *mariscos* truck in the South Park Target parking lot (3030 Grape Street). Last week: no line at all.

A similar situation across



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Carne asada and al pastor street tacos from Corazon de Torta.

the street, next to The Bottle House liquor store (3012 Grape Street, South Park). In January, the Shawarma Guys food truck that started parking there last summer was named the number one restaurant in America, according to Yelp. Overnight, I watched that truck go from serving three to six customers at a time, to being surrounded by crowds of 15 to 20. In April: down to a trickle. That's got to hurt.

Maybe that changes now that more people are beginning to emerge from their homes to visit public parks and beaches. I used a few personal errands as an excuse to get myself in the vicinity of Corazon de Torta. The truck has bounced around over the years, most often doing business near brewery tasting rooms, from Societe in Kearny Mesa, down to the breweries and bars on Third Avenue, Chula Vista.

Under current circumstances, Corazon de Torta has settled on two regular, weekly homes: Friday and Saturday outside of Fall Brewing Company (4542 30th Street, North Park), and Tuesday through Thursday in front of the Klover cannabis dispensary, (3500 Estudillo Street, Mission Hills). It parks both places at 11 am, and continues till 6 or 7pm.

I found it in the Klover parking lot and picked up four tacos for my one-man Tacotopia: carne asada, al pastor, cauliflower, and chicken. Say what you will about the mood-enhancers sold inside the dispensary, but there's no doubt eating street tacos put a smile on my face. Even behind the mask.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

\$6 Shrimp for Mother's Day
Celebrate National Shrimp Day and Mother's Day at Rubio's when every shrimp entrée is just \$6. Sunday, May 10, 11am; Rubio's - East Mission Bay Dr., 4504 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Mother's Day Family-Style Takeout
Show mom how much she means to you this Mother's Day with a special family-style takeout meal from Café Bahia. Take a break from cooking and pair your meal with a featured bottle of wine. It's the perfect way to spend quality time with your loved ones at home! PRE-ORDER BEFORE FRIDAY, MAY 8 AT 5:00PM Sunday, May 10, 10am; \$37. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Mothers Day Curbside Paella Pickup
Don't make mom cook this Mother's Day. Instead, treat her to a culinary trip to Spain right at home. Cafe Sevilla is offering a special Mother's Day menu available for curbside pickup. Enjoy a variety of tapas and paellas accompanied by a carafe of our sparkling cava sangria or a bottle of premium Spanish wine. Plus, guests with orders over \$55 will receive a free \$20 gift card for use when we reopen. Sevilla is also offering several unique culinary gifts for mom, including a Sevilla branded apron, bamboo cutting board or polished steel paella pan. Place your pre-orders now by calling 714-717-4945. You can view the full menu at link. Sunday, May 10, 10am; Cafe Sevilla Tapas Bar, 353 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



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blurt the inside track

AB 5 pay cuts When California enacted Assembly Bill 5 at the beginning of 2020, the music industry braced for a heavy shake-up. The law created a new standard

(known as the ABC test) that employers would have to meet to hire workers as independent contractors. If they failed to meet these standards and misclassified their employees, they would be liable for the error.

The bill was primarily marketed as a means to get gig economy companies, such as Uber and Lyft, to offer better pay and protections to their workers. It cast a much wider net, though, as the law pertains to all independent contractors.

Many professions with lobbying power received exemptions from the start. These included doctors, lawyers, real-estate agents, commercial fishermen, and architects. Not included on this list: musicians.

Mathew Rakers falls into this category. He runs a Mira Mesa-based business called The San Diego Music And Art Company that provides “comprehensive and high quality music and arts education to students of all ages while supporting a growing network of skilled professional musicians, artists, photographers, and writers.”

Originally all the instructors were hired as independent contractors. AB5 changed this. “I had to hire on everyone as employees,” Rakers explained. “Everyone took a pay cut. It’s pretty common that people are either hiring on the teachers as employees with pay cuts or they’re just basically operating under the table now or possibly illegally and opening

themselves up to fines.

“That’s really frightening, because none of these people are wealthy,” he added. “It’s a whole class of the economy that’s like lower-middle-class



Mathew Rakers, who runs San Diego Music and Art Company, made former independent contractors employees after AB5. But, “Everyone took a pay cut.”

at best.”

On April 17, it was announced that new exemptions for musicians would be enacted when the State Assembly reconvened in May. A press release from District 80 Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, who authored the bombshell bill, states that “the amendments will preserve the ability for the following industry professionals to collaborate and contract with one another to produce sound recordings and musical compositions without application of the ABC test to determine an employer.” These professionals included musicians, vocalists, producers, and engineers.

The amendments will also specify that unless a musical group is “the main featured act headlining at a concert venue with more than 1500 attendees” or a “musical group performing at a large

festival with more than 18,000 attendees per day,” they will be exempt from the law as well.

The press release also listed specific music-related work that would continue to have employment protections under AB5. This included musicians performing in symphony orchestras, musical productions, and a “musical group regularly performing in a theme park setting.”

Not included on either

list was music instructors. These and many other musicians will continue to work, albeit with increased uncertainty as they learn to navigate the world of AB5 compliance, exemptions, and potential punishments.

“I’ve been following it really closely now for about half a year,” Rakers explained. “I would venture to say that some of my friends who are business owners have no clue how to deal with it and are taking the ‘I’m gonna bury my head in the sand’ method of dealing with this problem, because they don’t

want to think about it. Those are the people I’m most worried about.”

— Dryw Keltz

Greta groupies “These days, everyone is talking about flattening the curve,” say Cleopatra and Cordelia Degher, known collective as Stark Shay. “After this crisis, maybe we’ll also start thinking about how to flatten the carbon curve. How should we go forward when things return to normal?”

For their debut release as Stark Shay, the musical siblings (born seven years apart) chose “We Begin Again,” a song about climate change and climate activism, released on Earth Day and “dedicated to Greta Thunberg and all of the young climate activists out there.”

“I would say, musically, it’s the kind of song you’d drive



down the west coast to,” says Cordelia, who dropped her debut EP *Open Up* in 2015. “Surfy, chill, bedroom rock. Lyrically, it’s a cry for help for Planet Earth. If you love Greta Thunberg, you’ll love it. Not sure you know this, but we’re Swedish as well as Californian, so we have a special soft spot for Greta.”

Both the song and a video were produced by the sisters’ dad Darius Degher, whose late-90s Swedish band Burning Bridges released one CD and performed at numerous festivals and clubs around that country. In San Diego during the 80s, he fronted the psychedelic new wave band Darius and the Magnets, as well as playing and recording with Warren Zevon before embarking on a solo career and releasing several CDs. His video for “White Boy Raving” aired on MTV’s 120 Minutes, making Billboard’s Top

released in the 90s, when I was growing up, I know by heart,” says Cleopatra, who was 20 when she released her own debut EP in summer 2012. “Cardboard Confessional and Garage Sale of the Soul were the soundtrack of my childhood. I know the lyrics to all those songs way better than my dad does. He’ll be playing one of the songs, and I’ll have to correct him when he sings the wrong lines.”

Cleopatra followed up her debut with a full-length called *Pacific*, mixed by Jeff Berkley in San Diego and mastered by Gavin Lurssen (T-Bone Burnett, Jackson Browne). Her music has been showcased on NPR’s *World Cafe Next* series, and she once sang “Footloose” onstage with that night’s headliner, Kevin Bacon.

Cordelia took up guitar at five and songwriting at ten. She won SDA’s 2014 Battle of the Bands, took second

The production on “We Begin Again” reflected the era of its creation. “We actually didn’t record our parts together,” says Cordelia. “I recorded my parts about a week before Cleo came down from Berkeley to visit, at the start of the pandemic lockdown. And then she added her parts. We’ve both recorded the majority of our music at our home studio with our dad, so this really wasn’t much different.”

The track recalls an earlier era of topical, ecological folk music. But can’t focusing so much on getting a message into the lyrics reduce a song’s musicality to more of a poem with background music? “Lyrics are really important for me to be able to connect with a song,” says Cleopatra. “What makes a song interesting is the combination of a line of lyrics to a particular melody. So, I don’t worry about any



Stark Shay: “It’s a cry for help for Mother Earth.”

Twenty Video list.

Now, back in San Diego, Degher recently dusted off 17 unreleased Darius and the Magnets songs for a new compilation, and the Magnets track “Saturday at 3PM” was heard in the 2017 film *Pitching Tents*, set in 1984.

“The albums that my dad

place in the 2015 Conscious Music Young Voices songwriting competition, and was a national winner in the Reflections Arts Contest. Cordelia’s solo single “October” was released February 13, Cleopatra’s newest EP is *Watershed*, and the sisters have recorded more music as Stark Shay.

musicality being lost. As long as it’s also fun to sing and I can play around with the sounds in the words, I’m happy.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

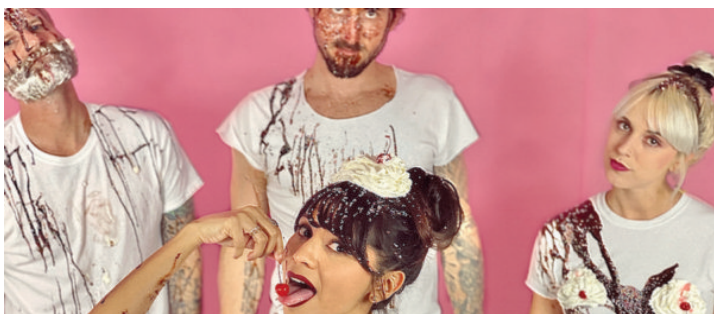
Robert Bush, Chad Deal, Dave Good, Andrew Hamlin, Dryw Keltz, Ken Leighton, Jay Allen Sanford



BELLE & THE DRAGON

Belle and the Dragon, featuring P.O.D. drummer Noah “Wuv” Bernardo and members of Flyleaf, took an impromptu tour of the streets of San Diego for the music video for their track “Trees.” “We shot this in Barrio Logan, San Diego on March 6, 2020, before the lockdown,” says singer Sameer Bhattacharya. “Wuv introduced me to Salud! in Barrio Logan when I was looking for some killer vegan tacos. Being down there felt inspiring, so I decided to shoot footage for ‘Trees’ there, not really knowing what was going to happen. The colors and the

vibe in Barrio Logan are inspiring. I took the footage and tried to make it feel surreal, almost dreamlike — the cognitive dissonance of seeing the forest through the trees.” Belle and the Dragon’s debut album *Birthrights* was produced by Dave Hidek (Flyleaf, Sting) and recorded at the Professor Bombay Sound studio in San Diego, with a vinyl edition available autographed by all three members. The band has been performing virtual concerts and hosting live conversations every Friday at noon on Facebook and Instagram.



HEY, CHELS

The debut full-length from local indie rockers Hey, Chels, *Everything Goes*, premiered online for free on May 1, with a vinyl edition planned for later this year via Brainworm Records. “Our reasoning is that we don’t feel right asking for money right now with the current state of everything,” says the band. “If you feel like helping the band out, share us with a friend, add us to a playlist, share us on your socials. We would very much appreciate it.” Hey, Chels was founded by Jacque Mendez (New Way On) on vocals and electric piano, Kevin White (Squarecrow, Lon-

dons Falling) on guitar, Ricky Schmidt (Western Settings, Caskitt) on bass, and Stephanie Presz (the Newport) on drums. Their debut self-titled EP produced by Patrick Ryan Heaney (Cage the Elephant, Cold War Kids, the War On Drugs), was released on vinyl last year via Via La Escalera Records, Wiretap Records, and A-F Records. *Everything Goes* was recorded by Pat Hills at Earthtone Studios in Sacramento. A music video is streaming online for the album track “You’ve Got You Now.”



NIGHTS LIKE THIEVES

This is a town full of thievery, with bands called Thieves Like Us, Thieves and Liars, Thicker Than Thieves, Baptism of Thieves, and now Nights Like Thieves, nominated Best Alternative/Indie Band at the 2020 San Diego Music Awards. Their third EP, *The Forgotten*, debuts online May 8 and features guests including singer Sonny Sandoval (P.O.D.), Scott Sellers (Rufio), Jared Woosley (Fivespeed), and Angel Flores (Painting Promises). “*The Forgotten* is a collection of songs that we’ve been sitting on for the last two years,” says frontman Mario J. Rivera. “We started off with 22 song ideas and came down to

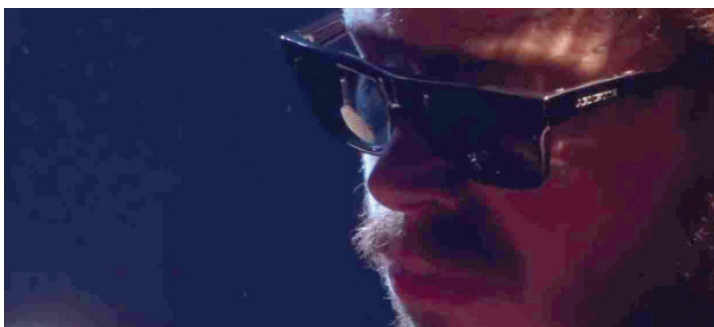
11 songs that we were planning on putting out as a full-length album. We then decided to split it in half and release two separate EPs.” The second EP, *The Lies We Tell Ourselves*, is due within the next three to six months. Rivera founded the band after moving to San Diego in 2016, having fronted Albuquerque’s Left Unsaid. Rivera’s comedic hip-hop band Monster Paws was heard on *Jersey Shore*, *Real World*, and a Ford commercial. The debut Nights Like Thieves EP, *Light the Fuse and Run*, was released in 2017 via La Escalera Records.



SANDOLLAR

Based in PB and OB, reggae rockers Sandollar can be heard on Netflix’s recently premiered action-adventure treasure hunt series *Outer Banks*. The song “Up Up,” from their 2013 album *Roller Coaster Ride*, is played approximately 11 minutes into the first episode of the teen-themed series. The band, which has charted as high as number seven on the iTunes Reggae Chart, started off in the early 2000s with a couple of high school buddies jamming in

wood shop. After their debut, *Plane Rides and Hillside*, a self-titled album was released in 2011, with a cover photo showing the band leaning on their car known as the Beast, a beat-up 1986 Suburban. After being singled out as San Diego’s best unsigned band and taped for an appearance on the web TV series *Indie Across America*, they signed to their current label, local Pacific Records, with a selection of music videos available online, including “Pouring Down.”



TRAVIS BARKER & POST MALONE

Poway’s most famous drummer, Blink 182’s Travis Barker, joined up with pop superstar Post Malone on April 24 for a livestream Nirvana tribute set to raise funds for COVID-19 relief efforts that earned some digital stroking from Kurt Cobain’s widow Courtney Love. “Goosebumps!” posted Love on Instagram after the show. “Go have a margarita @postmalone. Nothing but love from here. Congratulations. 2.6 million bucks for covid 19 relief.” Post Malone performed his portion of set from his home in Salt Lake City, UT, joined by Barker, guitarist Nick Mack, and bassist Brian Lee for the 75-minute, 15-song performance of hits

and fan favorites by the Seattle band. Nirvana bassist Krist Novoselic also tweeted during the set. “@PostMalone and crew are killing it! So proud of @PostMalone and crew. Everyone so good so talented. I am moved! I don’t think these fellows can play any better. They are on fire...I am holding emotions back the whole show.” Barker has a new DTA Records label, a joint venture with the Elektra Music Group to explore cross-genre collaborations and develop new artists. Its debut release is one of his own tracks, “Gimme Brain,” featuring guests Lil Wayne and Rick Ross.

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Online Internet Events:

Thursday & Friday, 4pm — Flying Colors Backstage Summit.
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday, 1pm — Reverend Gary Davis: In Search of the Harlem Street Singer.
Thursday, 4pm — Romeo Entertainment Group: Couch Concert Series.
Thursday, 12pm — Tayla Parx: Couchella.
Thursday, 1pm — Virtual Music Lounge: Donovan Copley of Hot Water.
Friday, 12pm — Casbah Live.
Saturday, 1pm — Escape the Virus with a Lights Out-ing.
Saturday, Monday, & Wednesday, 12pm — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Saturday, 11am — Prog From Home Virtual All-Star Concert.
Saturday, 5:30pm — Ron Pope Live From Home.
Saturday, 6pm — Shut In & Sing: Shut In & Pluck (Instrumental).
Sunday, 12pm — Rolling Stones Extra Licks.
Monday, 7pm — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.
Monday, 6pm — Monday Night Twilight With Grace Potter.
Wednesday, 5pm — Whiskey Sour Happy Hour.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Seattle Symphony Online Concerts

Live concert performances broadcast online every Thursday and Saturday. Thursdays, 7pm; Saturdays, 7pm; through Saturday, May 30, Online Internet Events, All over the world from.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Auditorium at the Scripps Research Institute:

Thursday, May 21 — George Garzone/Peter Erskine/Alan Pasqua/Darek Oles. \$35-\$40.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

The primary function of classical music fans

There are some real concerns out there regarding the future of many classical music organizations. I don't want to come off as unsympathetic, but I believe the destruction of these organizations by the COVID-19 situation won't mean that much in the grand scope of classical music.

Organizations in large urban settings will continue to survive. I think the San Diego Symphony and San Diego Opera will be okay, but if things end up going badly, my personal experience of classical music will remain somewhat unchanged.

Many of us listen to classical music all day every day. That habit is the primary

practice of classical music fans. Going to the symphony or opera is a secondary practice. Of the two, live opera has the most to gain over its recorded version.

If COVID-19 takes out our San Diego music organizations, my personal secondary practice will be to travel to LA. I used to regularly travel up to Los Angeles to go to the LA Philharmonic and LA Opera. I would rather travel a few minutes instead of a few hours, but without a local option, I'd gladly set out for concert experiences in Orange County or Los Angeles.

The one thing missing when listening to recordings is any sense of excitement in the room. There is no buzz in the air when watching

an opera on YouTube. It's a big loss, but I'm afraid this is going to be our reality for the foreseeable future.

Before the shelter-in-place order was put in place, attendance was down at the early March concerts I attended. Classical music audiences, as has been discussed to no end, tend to be seniors, and seniors are more susceptible to complications from COVID-19. Many appeared to be staying home based on the threat.

Are audiences going to come straight back to the concert hall? I'd like to think so, but I just don't see that happening. Ticket sales aren't the entire picture, but there needs to be an



Will audiences risk attending live concerts post-pandemic?

audience in order for any number of funding options to be viable.

Who is going to support concerts that have no audience? Without an audience, there won't be any funding — unless our local, state, and federal governments suddenly decide to channel significant public money toward classical music organizations.

Yes, the threat is real.

The 2020-21 seasons are far from being secure for all arts organizations, even as the shelter-in-place orders are relaxed. Will audiences risk attending? That is the biggest question.

I'm afraid I don't have any answers for how this will settle out for music organizations. I do know that my primary enjoyment of classical music will continue to be daily listening to recordings.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Belly Up Tavern:

Wednesday, June 10 — Taj Mahal Quartet. \$70-\$123.
Saturday, June 13 — Dead Man's Party.

Casbah:

Thursday, June 4 — Southern Culture on the Skids.
Thursday, June 11 — Geographer. \$13-\$15.
Friday, June 12 — Modern English and DJ Mario Orduno. \$22-\$25.

Ché Café:

Sunday, June 7 — Hala and Boyo.

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Sunday, June 14 — Grupo Intocable.

Ferry Landing Marketplace:

Sunday, May 31 — Miss Demeanor.

House of Blues:

Wednesday, May 27 — Testament and the Black Dahlia Murder.
Saturday, May 30 — Cub Sport.

Kraken:

Sunday, June 14 — Sonic Tonic.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, May 22 — Rob Thorsen, Hugo Suarez, Richard Sellers. \$18-\$25.

Martinis Above Fourth I

Table + Stage:
Monday, June 1 — Sandy Campbell. \$20.
Thursday, June 4 — Branden & James: The Lady Gaga Songbook. \$40.

Music Box:

Wednesday, June 3 — The Lemon Twigs. \$15.
Friday, June 5 — NoMBe and Bad Child. \$20-\$22.
Sunday, June 7 — Musiq Soulchild. \$48-\$50.
Friday, June 12 — The Routine.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Tuesday, June 9 — Steely Dan and Steve Winwood.

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, June 4 — STRFKR and Undercover Dream Lovers.
Friday, June 5 — Uncle Acid & the Deadbeats and Twin Temple.
Sunday, June 7 — The Fratellis.
Friday, June 12 — CHVRCHES.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, May 14 — Tayla Parx: Couchella.
Thursday, May 14 — Reverend Gary Davis: In Search of the

Harlem Street Singer.

Thursday, May 14 — Virtual Music Lounge: Chris Combette.
Thursday, May 14 — Sophia Belle of Home Despot.
Friday, May 15 — Casbah Live.
Friday, May 15 — Deep Heart: Roots, Rock & the Music of Carlos Vives.
Friday, May 15 — Reverend Gary Davis: In Search of the Harlem Street Singer.
Friday, May 15 — Dave Derby of the Dambuilders.
Saturday, May 16 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Saturday, May 16 — Escape the Virus with a Lights Out-ing.
Saturday, May 16 — Ron Pope Live From Home.
Sunday, May 17 — Rolling Stones Extra Licks.
Sunday, May 17 — Chris Smither All Request Show.
Monday, May 18 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Monday, May 18 — Monday Night Twilight With Grace Potter.
Monday, May 18 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.
Wednesday, May 20 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Wednesday, May 20 — Fireside Sessions with David Nail.

Thursday, May 21 — Tayla Parx: Couchella.

Thursday, May 21 — Virtual Music Lounge: Rako Pasefika.
Friday, May 22 — Casbah Live.
Saturday, May 23 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Saturday, May 23 — Escape the Virus with a Lights Out-ing.
Saturday, May 23 — Ron Pope Live From Home.
Sunday, May 24 — Rolling Stones Extra Licks.
Monday, May 25 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Monday, May 25 — Monday Night Twilight With Grace Potter.
Monday, May 25 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.
Wednesday, May 27 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Thursday, May 28 — Virtual Music Lounge: Kolonien.
Friday, May 29 — Casbah Live.
Friday, May 29 — Marty Stuart's Way Out West: A Country Music Odyssey.
Saturday, May 30 — Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.
Saturday, May 30 — Escape the Virus with a Lights Out-ing.
Saturday, May 30 — Ron Pope Live From Home.
Sunday, May 31 — Rolling

Stones Extra Licks.

Monday, June 1 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.
Sunday, June 7 — Rolling Stones Extra Licks.
Monday, June 8 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.

Open Air Theatre:

Thursday, June 11 — AJR.
Saturday, June 13 — Barenaked Ladies and Gin Blossoms.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:

Saturday, May 30 — Scooters, Ska, Rocksteady, Reggae. \$28-\$45.

Til-Two:

Friday, June 5 — The Bobby Lees.

Tio Leo's:

Friday, May 29 — 3 Car Garage. \$10.

Viejas Arena:

Saturday, May 30 — Alejandro Fernández.

Winstons Beach Club:

Sunday, May 24 — Caravan Tour Send Off Show. Free.

Wong's Dragon Room:

Saturday, June 6 — The 8 East Band. Free.

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Overwrought meets underripe

We open on a note of anticipatory anxiety: an offscreen voice awakens Karen (Otmara Marrero). Soft tones profess, “You’re beautiful,” followed by, “You’re gonna break my heart.” Other than an eager exchange with a pooch or a listened-to voicemail, this is the only substantive dialogue spoken for the first twelve minutes of

MOVIES

the picture. Is the ominous coo spoken by a mother figure? Given the proximity of the lens, it could be a lover. Perhaps an older sibling or a close friend? In the case of *Clementine*, try all of the above.

Flash forward however many months to find Karen, alone in the same bed, gazing upwards. The crack in the ceiling expresses all we need to know about the uneasy voice that greeted us, the one belonging to Karen’s recent ex, a celebrated artist known simply as D. (Sonya Walger). D.’s prognostic apprehension regarding her relationship with the much younger Karen proved correct, but Karen’s not the type to take getting dumped quietly. A great deal of ground is covered in the concisely cut together montage that follows, beginning with Karen stalking D.’s residence.

For whatever reason — in Karen’s mind, the selection is limitless — she decides to drive from SoCal to D.’s lakehouse in Florence, Oregon. Having missed the ingenious imitation igneous rock key hider on her first pass, Karen decides she has no choice but to break a window. A stroll around the grounds finds Lana (played with complexity by Sydney Sweeney), a young blonde, sunning on the dock behind the house. Karen thinks nothing of it and keeps walking. Later that evening, Lana shows up on her doorstep and cajoles Karen into giving her a lift in search of a lost dog. Big city Karen no sooner begins to question small town girl Lana’s sanity — who asks a stranger to play dog catcher? — than the likelihood of the pup’s name comes up. Who would name their dog Bingo? Only a celluloid canine answers to that handle, right? Even better than a screenplay that answers a question the moment it enters the viewer’s mind is one that has the dog show up to reveal that B-I-N-G-O really is his name-o.

The struggling actress in Lana is instantly smitten with her older, cosmopolitan new friend from Los

Angeles, but Karen keeps her distance. (The closest they get to a kiss in the first hour of the picture comes when supercharging a joint.) In this May-December narrative, arbiters of morality and taste arise in the form of age restrictions and artistic callowness. It’s a safe bet that at least a couple of

birthdays can be shaved from the 19 Lana claims to have celebrated. And when one look at a triptych of D.’s framed Rorschach paintings causes Lana to blurt, “I could have made them,” Karen leaps to the defense of her ex with, “But you didn’t.” She then takes it one step further, calling the artwork more about the “emotion of the process than the result.”

This brings us to the story that gives the film the title. An early childhood memory of Lana’s: sitting lakeside, a tangerine extending from her middle finger. From out of the sky swoops a sparrow, eager to abscond with the freshly-peeled fruit. Worse than the blood drawn from the encounter is the absence of witnesses to corroborate her story. The scene ends with the first of two clementines to be tossed overboard. When the second mandarin hits the water, it acts to punctuate a chlorophyllin reevaluation from one of our leads.

The film’s one big disadvantage is a score that sounds like watered down Bernard Herrmann being dropped on burning rocks. Still, here is a mystery, characterized by many of the contrivances associated with the genre, which one can nevertheless abide. Karen’s search is not a matter of whodunit — we can all identify with the irrational thoughts (and even actions) surrounding a break-up. It’s *why* these characters behave the way they do that gives the drama its force. When the gun Karen finds hidden in D.’s drawer upon her arrival at the vacation home does indeed come back into play, its return is powered by the logic of misdirected compassion, not contrivance. It appears that the younger woman Karen chose to rebound with is herself no stranger to breaking hearts. ★★★

—Scott Marks

VOD New Release Roundup

Arkansas — Kyle (Liam Hemsworth), a proud bottom-rung drug dealer, slithers a few steps up the crime ladder after being placed under the tutelage of Park Ranger Bright (John



Clementine: Recently dumped and ready to stalk, Otmara Marreo keeps her eye on the headrest in Lara Gallagher’s romantic drama.

Malkovich) and then partnered with blithesome jerk Swin (Clark Duke) to drive deliveries across state lines. (The opening passage had me hooked — or maybe I’m just a sucker for Malkovich.) Kyle’s preoccupation with uncovering the identity of their boss, a pawn shop owner known only as Frog (Vince Vaughn), leads to a series of flashbacks that prove repetition is the key to learning. (The plot wasn’t so convoluted that we needed a third act recap to bring a character — and by extension, the audience — up to date.) Relatively speaking, Duke had a meteoric spurt in movies (*Superbad*, *Kick Ass*, *Hot Tub Time Machine*) before settling into life on the small screen. For his directorial debut, the co-scripter and Arkansas native saw to it that Swin would be a change of pace from the pasty-faced nerds to whom we’ve grown accustomed. He should have spent more time on a co-star who supplies more of a deadpan table-reading than straight-out performance. Eden Brolin, Vivica A. Fox, Barry Primus, Michael Kenneth Williams, and Brad William Henke round out the first-rate supporting cast. 2020 —S.M. ★★★

Dangerous Lies — New to Netflix: a television-tempered thriller in which the winds of mystery act as a vacuum to reasoning. Katie (Camila Mendes), a caregiver four months on the job, arrives at work to find her 88-year-old charge (Elliott Gould) dead in the attic. Before the meat wagon arrives, Katie and her always-around husband Adam (Jessie T. Usher) rummage through the old man’s belongings and find a trunk filled with \$100,000 in scattered green. Adam returns to relieve the chest of its contents, only to be met by a blow to the head from a fellow home invader. Why didn’t the clobberer abscond with the loot? Furthermore, upon regaining consciousness, why didn’t Adam make off with the cash just as he intended? Try as director Michael Scott might to pin the blame for Gould’s death on

Adam, the sleight of hand is obvious here, to the point where it makes the real villain in the piece stand out all the more. With: Jamie Chung as the sketchy lawyer and Cam Gigandet as a slimy, uni-functional “real estate agent.” 2020. S.M. ●

Nuestras Madres (Our Mothers) — More than twenty years after the bloody Civil War in Guatemala ended, military offences are at last being tried before a criminal court. It is the job of Ernesto (Armando Espitia), a young forensic anthropologist, to exhume and arrange the skeletal remains of the soldiers, and to gather testimony from their widows and children. His mother Cristina (Emma Dib) discourages her son from wasting time trying to unearth the bones of the father he never knew, but Ernesto’s gut indicates otherwise. The hunch pays off when a witness shows up holding a group photo that includes a man respectfully called “the Boss” by his underlings — a man who bears a striking resemblance to Ernesto’s father. Does the snapshot indicate a soldier different from the hero who has been living inside his son’s head all these years? In 78 minutes, first-time director Cesar Diaz’s flashback-free narrative sets out a present-day story of quiet desperation and family entanglements with dignity and restraint. A silent montage of the worn-down faces of real-life survivors goes far to underscore the tales

of horror and degradation that women were forced to endure. Strong stuff for Mother’s Day, but worth it. Now playing on the Digital Gym’s Virtual Cinema. 2019. S.M. ★★★

Sword of God (aka *The Mute*) — In the Middle Ages, an unnamed stranger (Karol Bernacki) tends to the wounds of a recently shipwrecked bishop (Krzysztof Pieczynski). Sent on a mission from the King, the latter’s task is basically to beat Christianity into the heads of the heathen islanders, with the alternative being certain death. The natives take target practice on the large wooden crucifix the bishop clutches in his hand, yet the newly-arrived pair are allowed to live. To suppress the race of medieval clay people and prove their resident diety a sham, the pious potentate emerges unsinged from a stroll through the flames of hell. Surprise: what sounds like Ming the Merciless’ demise in a *Flash Gordon* serial is actually a mesmerizing, wildly accomplished historical drama from Polish filmmaker Bartosz Konopka (*Fear of Falling*). The double-edged title alludes to one of our two leads having his lips sewn together, as well as the film’s muting a chunk of audience comprehension by subtitled “human speech” and not the pagan chatter. The Film Movement Plus release held its Virtual Cinema Premier just last week, and is currently awaiting your digital download. 2018. S.M. ★★★



Sword of God (aka *The Mute*): Have you heard the Good News? 25

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PERSONALS

SUGAR SNAP Shawn, We are two pages stuck together in this novel called Life... Love you, Bobby

FRANK ZANZIBAR Hello darling! Hope you're staying safe keep washing those beautiful hands. I dream of you! Katherine.

ROOFTOP CONVO shots of tequila. Alley Graffiti dope as you. Moon and the stars. Ode to Buster

TO MY KIDS Paul's my #1 Brentneys my girl & Nicole's her girl. Jamison's my heart. Gwendolyns my baby. Love always mom.

HAVE COFFEE ON ZOOM WITH A PASTOR Have a virtual cup of coffee via Zoom, Tuesday mornings, 9:00, and an open conversation with Pastor Chuck from St. John's United Church of Christ, 501 Laguna Honda Blvd., San Francisco. Join Zoom meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/4807693658> (415) 731-9333

LOOKING FOR BARBIE LYNN She used to work in La Jolla with a friend named Lisa. I lost contact with her. Beach bunny Barbie. 619-586-0131, Tony.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to my beautiful daughters, Vanessa, happy sweet 16 and Priscilla 15. Happy birthday and I love you, mom.

I MISS... all my hockey friends!

JUST WANTED TO SAY HI and I love you kids, Paul, Britney, Jameson, and Gwendolyn, plus Nicole. Love mom.

LOOKING FOR CAROLINE BANKHEAD good friend who I lost touch with four years ago. I would appreciate if anybody could help me. My number is 619-586-0131 Tony and Chappo want to get in touch with her.

ROSES ARE RED violets are blue, ah heck are you getting tired of this? Oh & Is it may yet?

KATHERINE ZANZIBAR Dearest Katherine, hoping our

paths will cross once the virus is put to rest. Frank Z.

HAPPY 25TH Bob I love you more then you will ever know. Happy 25th anniversary. May we have more happily married years together. Love, your wife, Lois (858) 285-5287 / thisidmesue@gmail.com

TIMOTHY LINEHAN 1965 -2018 missing you Love K. I am with the Drummer!

FRIENDS OF JAMES HARPER (JIM) Please call Jim's family-Ann, Jennifer, Jamie. (619) 917-6975

NOTICES

READER BRUNCH AT THE PARK 2020 Join the San Diego Reader at our second annual Reader Brunch at the Park event on Saturday, October 17, 2020 at NTC Park in Liberty Station. Brace yourself for the most brunch-tastic event around. A brunch battle like no other, attendees will spend the afternoon munching on unlimited brunch bites from 20+ vendors. Don't forget to cast your vote for the Best Classic Brunch Bite. Brunch without booze is just a sad breakfast, so be sure to stop by the bar for your full-sized pours. Proceeds from the bar will benefit Traveling Stories, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing books to kids who don't have any and inspiring a love for reading everywhere. Mingle with other like-minded brunch enthusiasts under the San Diego sun while listening to live music and enjoying photo ops, lawn games and so much more... because brunch is always a good idea!

COVID-19 The Unarius Academy of Science offers free info upon the science of cause and effect, past lives! This virus was first here in the year 1347, the black plague. (619) 715-1866 / proctorquest@aol.com

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participants will be paid, call Travis. 619-761-2102. Referral number only.

POETRY READ (VIA ZOOM) The group is limited to reading poems of published authors. This is not a group for folks who want to read their own writing. Please select works of moderate length, five minutes max, so that everyone will have an opportunity to read. www.meetup.com/Poetry-Read/

ECKHART TOLLE ZOOM MEETUP GROUP Eckhart Tolle meetup group using Zoom. Will start with 15 minutes of silent meditation, followed by an Eckhart Tolle audio or video recording, or a reading from one of his books. <https://www.meetup.com/Eckhart-Tolle-Zoom-Meetup-Group/>

VIRTUAL DANCE PARTIES HERE Social Distancing? You can still have fun at our Virtual Dance Party every week. Everyone is invited, but dancing is encouraged (and head bobbing is totally fine). Using a computer? Just make sure you have a webcam. Using your phone? Just make sure you download the ZOOM app. <https://www.facebook.com/VirtualDanceParty/>

DID YOU LOSE YOUR GLASSES? at Trolley Barn Park? I found them next to this strange electronics part. Hope you weren't murdered by a robot from the future. 619-781-2431

COWBOY THEATER Watch the 100 best B-Western movies on cable channel 23. Free! 12 noon Mondays, 2PM Wednesdays, 9AM Fridays.

TACOTOPIA 2020: TACOS VS BURGERS Presented by Anheuser-Busch, this year only, we are celebrating the pure magic of both tacos and burgers! The San Diego Reader and Anheuser-Busch are pleased to invite you to the biggest clash of the cuisine festival, know as 'Reader Tacotopia 2020: Tacos vs Burgers Presented by Anheuser-Busch! The largest UNLIMITED taco and burger event in San Diego on September 12, 2020. This event will take place in beautiful Golden Hill Park. At Tacos vs Burgers, we will take advantage of our SoCal surroundings by gathering

the very best taco and burger vendors all in one place for your gastronomic pleasure. At the end of the day, attendees will ultimately decide who will win the Best Taco Award and the Best Burger Award. The unlimited taco and burger tastings, full-sized Anheuser-Busch beer pours and margaritas available at the bar, live music, lucha libre wrestling, lawn games and San Diego sun will make this our most popular event ever! ReaderTacotopia.com

AVIATION THEATER is now on Youtube. San Diego pilots, airplanes, and aviation adventures.

ITREASURESANDIEGO.COM San Diego's ultimate treasure hunt! Original, unique, challenging, educational and fun. Seeking all treasure hunters!

OVERCOMING BETRAYAL IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM Written by fRee SPiRiT UNiQUe.... available now on... iTunes, Amazon, Xlirbis and Barnesandnoble.com!!

PEN PALS WANTED Older man, currently hospitalized, no internet desires pen pals. Write to Dave DiMino 3102 East Highland Ave #21 Patton, CA 92369

WIDOW OR WIDOWER? Interested in wholesome social activities? See our club: Widows or Widowers (WOW), San Diego www.wowso.org or 858-278-3884

CLASSES / LESSONS

BEGINNER GUITAR LESSONS Are you looking to learn how to play the guitar? Get in contact with me and we can get started right away. I'll start with the basics: notes, scales (modes), chords, how to pick correctly, alternate picking, legato, how to practice correctly, etc. Depending on your determination, overall knowledge and progress that will determine how much I charge. \$10-\$50. (858) 945-4469 / Koaphagia@gmail.com

FREE TAI CHI ZOOM CLASSES FROM A MASTER Classes are led by Master Simon Wong (Sifu) and senior instructors. Sifu is a master of Yang style Tai Chi, Omei Mountain 100 Day chi kung, the 7th generation master of Bamboo Forest Temple Mantis, founder of Yellow Dragon Fist Kung Fu, and holds a 9th-degree black sash with the AMA. www.meetup.com/tai-chi-meetup-london/



LEARN HOW TO KNIT AND CROCHET W PHILLY KNITS We're into spreading the joy of fiber arts (knitting, crochet, pompoms, sewing, etc.) across Philadelphia and the rest of the world via Zoom. Plus, we collect donations of yarn, fabric, and supplies for the Philadelphia School District. www.meetup.com/Philadelphia-Knitting-Meetup/ (714) 204-2690 / LynnLandes@gmail.com

VIRTUAL BAGEL MAKING CLASS This is a meetup group for people who want to learn and teach various Jewish baking techniques. We've done classes on bagels, bialys, pita bread, rye bread, challah, rugelach, and more. <https://www.meetup.com/Jewish-Baking-Meetup/>



CITY HEIGHTS ROOM FOR RENT - \$690 Room for rent at a family home. We're seeking a person who has a safe job and is clean to share bathroom and kitchen. City Heights between

WITCH CIRCLE ON ZOOM You'll learn from experienced members of the witchcraft community. Whether you are just starting on your path or you have been into witchcraft forever, you are very welcome. Every month we offer free workshops to our growing community and are continuing to do this albeit via Zoom. <https://www.meetup.com/witch-circle/>

YIN YOGA W/ CHANT AND SHAKING MEDITATION ON ZOOM Daily Yin Yoga classes suitable for beginners and also people who have built a regular practice. Bio energy shaking meditation is free to attend for all and chant is 5e payg. www.meetup.com/Yin-Yoga-Classes-Online-Zoom/ mischia11@gmail.com

THE GUITAR SOCIAL We've locked ourselves in and we're doing loads of stuff for free online. We're doing a jam every day at 2pm on Zoom, we're distributing practice videos and tabs to over 300 people a day via WhatsApp, <https://www.facebook.com/theguitarsocial/> thomas@theguitarsocial.com

50% OFF SKYPE SPRAY TAN TECHNICIAN COURSE We provide step-by-step instruction and go over everything you need to get started. You will be trained by a certified spray tan technician. <https://www.spraytaneducation.com/> (866) 620-7438 / info@spraytaneducation.com

JOIN OUR ZOOM BOOTCAMP ONLINE CLASSES Tune in our Zoom bootcamp - only \$10 per class! You can Venmo after the class, if you enjoyed it. Mon/Wed/Fri 25 am, Tuesdays at 6 pm <http://www.bootcampvenice.com/> (212) 786-2259

ZOOM OR SKYPE GUITAR AND BASS LESSONS Hi, I'm Adam and I teach guitar, bass, songwriting, and music theory online through Zoom or Skype. I'm a music instructor with over 17 years of experience teaching private lessons and coaching bands. Visit <http://musiclessons.guru> for more info. (760) 383-1143

PLAY PIANO the way you want to! Pop, classical, jazz, blues, improvise. FREE lesson/interview. Over 40 years' experience teaching and performing. E-mail: Lee 619-281-8118. See www.LeeGalloway.com.

ROOMMATES

ROOM FOR RENT Grossmont/La Mesa area, outdoor, smoking, cats ok, off street parking, large room with bathroom. \$450/month, \$400 deposit. 619-340-7064



\$950 FOR A BEDROOM IN BANKERS HILL Seeking roommate, move in asap. mattjak28@gmail.com



CITY HEIGHTS ROOM FOR RENT - \$690 Room for rent at a family home. We're seeking a person who has a safe job and is clean to share bathroom and kitchen. City Heights between

Polk Ave. and Orange Ave. (619) 538-4222

RETIRED VET SEEKS roommate to share 2bd + 2ba house in San Marcos. Retiree preferred, call for more 760-727-4393.

EL CAJON room for rent, \$750 a month. Includes utilities, kitchen privileges, Wi-Fi, gated. Available by May 3. 619-504-7511.

BEDROOM NEAR PENDLETON Rear bedrm/bath pvt. porch. Queen bed, desk, TV, DISH TV, \$700 mo, \$200 clean pnyipit@aol.com

ROOMMATE WANTED IN CLAIREMONT \$590/month bedroom, nice quiet place, net, utils included, no pet/drugs/smkg. Near highways 15, 805& 52, steps to UTC & UCSD. Address: 4885 Cole St, #2., San Diego, CA 92117. Male only, Call Tim 858-314-0415 (Cell) or text message. (858) 314-0415

NEED A ROOM IN CARLSBAD? \$1,500 / mo. (all utilities included) in Carlsbad. 15' x 10' second bedroom in 3bd/2.5ba townhome. Private bathroom and washer/dryer upstairs. Call or text if interested! John @ (619) 252-8111

UCSD ROOMMATES WANTED My friend Josh is renting out a 3 bedroom house one block away from UCSD, right above Scripps pier. Looking for male or female close to his age (23). \$1000 per month rent includes: private bath, private bedroom, private parking spot and internet, electricity, water. (626) 404-4855

SOUTH SAN DIEGO Room for rent. \$500/month. \$500 deposit. Male preferred. Unfurnished. 619-572-5598.

ROOM WANTED 61 yr. old young single no family Virgo healthy, never married, non-smoker, non-drinker, clean SoCal native low income male, high school/college graduate. Seeking any somber liny room please in house Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Clemente. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

RENTALS

LANDLORDS AFFECTED BY COVID-19, WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! Need good tenants? We can successfully manage your property during & after this difficult time! Please contact us @ 619-347-8137(text) today. (619) 347-8137 / kyoko.murakami@live.com

COLLEGE AREA, \$1675. 2BD+2BA upstairs apartment. New vinyl flooring, Garage parking with additional rent. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. Call for details on special move in deals. 4828 Art Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

GOLDEN HILL, \$1950. 1BD+1BA 600sqft unit near Balboa Park and Downtown. Updated kitchen and bath. Walk-in closet. Easy freeway access. Call for details on special move in deals. 1301 28th Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

GORGEOUS VRBO BY SUNSET CLIFFS BEACHES Fully furnished 1 bdrm with washer/dryer, kitchenette, ac, private entry-1.5 blks to Sunset Cliffs beaches. Great area \$125/night or \$600 week (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@yahoo.com

MISSION HILLS, \$1425. STUDIO+1BA Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors. Some utilities included. Call for details on special move in deals. No pets. 630 W. Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS, \$2495. 2BD+2BA. Skylights, secure underground parking, laundry on site. No pets. Call for details on special move in deals. 5780

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\$35

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\$55

60 min. Couples Asian Massage
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Friars Road. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1275. Cozy studio near Adams, downstairs corner unit, wood-like flooring, on-site laundry, water, trash and gas included. Great location with easy freeway access. No pets. Call for details on special move in deals. 3351 Madison Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK, \$2350. 2BD+2BA near Morley Field. 1000sqft. On-site laundry. No pets. Call for details on special move in deals. 3711 Arnold Ave. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

SOUTH PARK, \$1300-1700. Lovely studio and 1 bedroom apartments perfectly located near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. Easy 5-minute commute to work. Secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking only. Call for details on special move in deals. 2329 C Street. Agent: 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

TALMADGE, \$1450. 1BD+1BA 600 sq ft, wood like flooring throughout. Upstairs unit. Fireplace. Private balcony. Water and trash included. No pets. Call for details on special move in deals. 4416 47th St. Agent, 619-298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

BEDROOMS FOR RENT NEAR MILITARY BASES 2 bedrooms available. The houses are only 2-5 miles from the 32nd St. military base and 10 minutes from Coronado and Balboa Naval Hospital. \$850 for one person, \$950 for two people max. deposit \$300. Utilities and wifi included. Shared bathroom and kitchen. (408) 813-0440

LANDLORDS AFFECTED BY COVID-19? Need good tenants? We can successfully manage your property during & after this difficult time! Please contact us @ 619-347-8137(text) today! (619) 347-8137 / murakami.consulting@hotmail.com

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT \$500 Office Space for rent available on the June the 1st (Or may the 15). Recently remodeled office space for rent. Great space to use as an away from the home office or start-up business (Essential). It would make a great counseling office has a relaxing atmosphere. Don't let the pictures fool you it's much larger than it looks can fit 2 large desks comfortably, \$500 a month six-month lease. Utilities, trash and internet included! Location: Mission Gorge Rd. in Allied gardens close to all freeways (619) 723-5379

TECATE 2 BED/2 BATH - \$700 USD New apartment for rent in the Bellavista neighborhood in Tecate. It has two bedrooms, each with a full bathroom, a kitchen, dining room and terrace. \$700/month. For more information call 664 603 0545, 664 5280455 or (664) 603-0545



\$1958 MOVE IN NOW. GET ONE MONTH FREE. Newly renovated apartment. Rent \$1958. Deposit \$500. One bed one bath. 620 Sq.Ft. Montecito Point Apartments - (Hillcrest/Mission Hills) 4179 3rd Avenue San Diego, CA 92103. (619) 291-4803 / montecitopoint@conam.net

\$2438 2X2 PENTHOUSE Dual master floor plan, high ceilings & fireplace. Rent \$2438. Deposit \$1000. Two bed two bath. 950 Sq.Ft. Montecito Point Apartments - (Hillcrest/Mission Hills) 4179 3rd Avenue San

Diego, CA 92103. (619) 291-4803 / montecitopoint@conam.net

2X2 DUAL MASTER FLOOR PLAN Newly renovated. Rent \$2378/mo. Deposit \$500. Two bed two bath. (Late May/June move-in) 950 Sq.Ft. Montecito Point Apartments - (Hillcrest/Mission Hills) 4179 3rd Avenue San Diego, CA 92103. (619) 291-4803 / montecitopoint@conam.net

HILLCREST Studio + one bath, includes water, secure building, underground parking, gym, spa, bbq, patio, on site laundry, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, queen Murphy bed, non smoker, no animals. 858-272-8008

5 BEDROOM HOUSE IN TIJUANA 5 bedrooms, 3 full bathrooms, parking for two cars, and backyard. Near schools, shopping malls and two minutes from a main boulevard. (664) 748-1977

2-BED/1 BATH APARTMENT IN TJ We have a 2 bedroom and 1 bathroom furnished apartment available for \$550. Secured and gated location. Family friendly apartments located 5 minutes from San Ysidro border. (664) 772-4478

1920S CRAFTSMAN COTTAGE IN KENSINGTON \$2,800. Newly available 1400 sq. ft. 2+ Bdrm. Airy, well-lit. Suitable for single family - or 3 roommates. Master bdrm w/ "powder room" & "stacked" washer & dryer / small office space / 2nd bdrm w/ walk in closet with french doors to a patio. (619) 563-0082 / ladybugart@ladybugart.net

DOWNTOWN, \$250-495. Artist work spaces: Office or work spaces and retail available. 636 C Street, 92101. Inquire inside (C Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www.jspropertymanagement.com.

DOWNTOWN \$573-825. Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

LA MESA, \$1699-2090. 3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1699-2090. 3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Bienvenido a

la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavandería. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

NEED AN APARTMENT SHORT TERM? Make your reservations now and Get \$200 OFF every month. Studio+1BA available. Call for Monthly, Weekly and daily specials, up to 15% OFF. Includes: weekly cleaning service, daily continental breakfast, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858)799-0219. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

NORTH CHULA VISTA \$1,260 1bd + 1ba, large yard, large indoor storage, dishwasher, no smokers, two tenants max. Call Pat 619-423-3339

REAL ESTATE

2/2.5 TOWNHOUSE WITH PRIVATE GARAGE FHA/VA OK \$450k. End unit-private location 2bed/2.5 bath home with att 2 car side by side garage. No one above or below. Great location Call agent (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@yahoo.com

LARGE 2/2 BAYPARK HOME \$410k VA/FHA okay. Great Baypark area-over 1100 sq ft, washer/dryer, 2 full baths, pkg for 2cars. Call agent (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@yahoo.com

\$540,000 / 3BR - 1963FT2 - THE PERFECT HOME Rarely available Paradise Hills home on a cul-de-sac features a family room addition that opens to the kitchen & dining room. 3 bed and 2 bath home for \$540,000. (858) 371-7135

MODERN HOME IN TECATE, \$98,500 Address: Cofradia # 331. La Hacienda. Baja California. Tecate also known as "Pueblo Magico" is located in a border town with California, is the town where Ruta del Vino (Wine Route) starts. 2bd/2ba, 1,507 square feet of living space and modern design — all for \$98,500. Salvador Altamirano. (949) 419-5202

3 BEDROOM HOME BY THE ENSENADA BEACH 3 bedrooms home with a covered patio and in a safe and quiet neighborhood. Connects to all services including: water, light, drainage, phone, internet and TV. \$ 1,150,000 pesos (under \$50,000 USD). (646) 574-9015

CASH FOR HOUSES We will buy your house fast for cash. List, buy, sell, property management, foreclosure counseling; since 1997. Real Estate Opportunities, 619-940-8392, Chris Mountain, broker, DRE #01224992 (619) 940-8392 / realestateproblemsolved@yahoo.com

MUSIC

TROMBONE- BACH 36 W/F VALVE Classic model, rarely used, for sale. Smooth, fast slide with full sound. Great band/symphony/jazz horn. \$700 619-264-3686.



COME AND PLAY UKELELE ON ZOOM Bob is doing his Zoom thing everyday at 6pm. You have to email him first at rfannan@gmail.com to get on his list for the music and then to get the zoom code just before the session. This is a lot of fun. rfannan@gmail.com

FREE GUITAR CLASS OFFERED BY SDCCD On Zoom app for the rest of the semester. Free guitar classes for beginner and intermediate students. offered by the San Diego Continuing Education Emeritus program. (619) 388-1873

VIRTUAL DRUM LESSONS FOR KIDS. Online lessons are a safe social distancing activity for kids. Give your kids the gift of music. Visit DrumLessonsForKids.com to see what students and parents are saying. (323) 205-5378

GOSPEL AND SOUL ONLINE CHOIR We're going to sing some fantastic gospel, soul and contemporary songs together each Tuesday evening on Zoom. Anyone can join! No prior skills, no audition, totally come as you are. https://www.meetup.com/Gospel-and-Soul-online-choir/

L TRAIN BRASS BAND ONLINE MEETUPS Online mass-gatherings every Sunday via Zoom, game nights, workshops, random fun. Our instrumentation is inspired by NOLA trad jazz and European brass band traditions. https://ltrainbrassband.com/info@ltrainbrassband.com

MUSIC FROM THE TIGER KING A one hour free workshop celebrating the musical genius of Joe Exotic. https://www.theguitarsocial.com/thomas@theguitarsocial.com

ONLINE A-CAPPELLA FOR ALL AGES We are a group of people who love to sing, and we are looking for other singers to join us online and learn some a cappella together. We use Zoom for rehearsals. I have lots of sheet music, so join us. https://www.meetup.com/OnlineACappella/

BEATS AVAILABLE FOR RAPPERS AND HIP-HOPPERS I'm a producer who goes by Demented602 beats. I make hip hop/ambient beats and I'm well rounded in my craft and looking for artist to work with. Please check out my sounds to get a grasp of my ideas and beats. www.youtube.com/demented602beats

RECORD YOUR MUSIC - REMOTELY We are still available for mixing, editing and mastering your music! We just do it remotely. We can hook up with FaceTime if you need a bit more communication too. Just send your work and describe your needs. Protocols HD, tons of plug-ins, over 30 years in business in San Diego. \$40 per hour. Check us out at www.blitzrecording.com (619) 260-0837

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

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

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

PETS

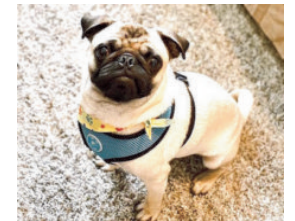
SOUND HAired HORSE Want to buy. For trail only. 619-438-4567.

LOST MALE CHIHUAHUA light brown/tan very small n sweet n

had bead collar. Has underbite and dark spots on each side of neck, names Conello please call 619-310-8112 reward \$100 last seen by gompers school on 47th st 92102.



\$500 REWARD FOR OUR SUKI (NATIONAL CITY) To the nice person that picked up my baby Suki. \$500 dollar reward. She's a brown Pekinges, one blue eye, one brown eye. Last seen in National City, Highland Ave./24th St. (619) 317-9977 or (619) 317-9977



HELP US FIND NIKKO IN SPRING VALLEY This is Nikko. He is one years old. Today he got out and is lost in it. If anyone sees him, please call 619-366-7663 or (619) 366-7663

NEED GOOD HOME FOR MY HORSE 14 year old Clydesdale mare. Text me 619-823-4488.

YORKI AND WIENER DOG IN ESCONDIDO I have this little white and brown 8 months old, full grown puppy. I'm trying to rehome him to a great home. He is not neutered. He is always so happy and loves to play. My phone number is (928) 233-2898

\$300 REWARD FOR STOLEN YORKIE Peewee was stolen on 3/20/20 by La Jolla Shores. A short man wearing a black hoodie ran off with him. Peewee

RENTALS

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(just west of the 805) San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 799-0219



is 11 years old, 5 lbs, with grey, tan and black fur. We just want him back. Please call Dina. (619) 371-0849

FREE BOXER All shots male born on 12-25-17. Need gone. Not friendly with male dogs or cats. Great with kids and very loving and friendly 6197712982 (619) 771-2982

BABY RHINO IGUANA Awesome rhino iguana for sale — asking \$545. Text me if you interested to (956) 498-7774

BEAUTIFUL BEAGLE PUPPIES Beautiful beagle puppies ready for forever homes. They're 8 weeks old, up to date on shots, and wormed. Re-homing fee, \$700. Contact (760) 317-7157

CONURE BIRDS FOR SALE Beautiful sun Conure and a pineapple green cheek Conure. I have other birds. Text me if you are interested, (619) 446-8104

INDIAN RINGNECK I have a blue female Indian ringneck for a re-homing fee of \$380. She is ready for breeding. Text at (619) 995-6584

SIBERIAN HUSKY - GOOD HOME NEEDED We have a 1 1/2 year old Siberian Husky in need of a great home. If you have a yard at your home, she will run outside all day long. She is a cuddler and loves to play. Vaccines are current and she just had a vet visit, she is in great health. Asking for a \$700 obo re-homing fee with her extra items. (619) 244-3737

PUPPY PUG IN LEMON GROVE This is my beautiful puppy pug, she is two months old and looking for a great home. She has her first shots. If interested, call or text (619) 430-5937

BRING STELLA HOME - \$500 REWARD Stella, a female Boston Terrier was lost from San Marcos at Calistoga Way and Elfin Forest Road. (760) 405-1524

CAT LOVER? Come and volunteer at Natcat! Call 619-469-8771 if interested. www.natcat.org

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES AND KITTENS Get your puppy or kitten fix by providing a temporary home for orphaned pets! Helen Woodward Animal Center provides all supplies and medical care while you provide love & transport for 2-3 weeks! Call 858-756-4117 x366 to learn more.

SPORTS

AUTHENTIC CHARGERS HELMET 24 SIGNATURES! \$300 This is one other helmet I'm selling with 24 signatures and will pass any major certification company (PSA, JSA, Global, Upper Deck, Steiner, or any other major company) If you

decide to you really want a COA. (619) 319-0232



BULK UP WITH RUBBER HEX DUMBBELLS Pair of 55 pound rubber hex dumbbells. Like new. Call to pick-up. Thanks. (760) 754-0223

VINTAGE NBA JACKET - \$75 Perfect condition. Please call only, this is a landline. Thanks. (760) 635-1209

BARCELONA SPORTS ONLINE WORKOUTS & YOGA Hello to all fitness freaks, beach lovers, couch potatoes, and yogis! We are offering online live workouts and yoga sessions on Instagram, Facebook and Zoom. <http://www.moandmace.com> sports@moandmace.com

KUNG FU ONLINE Ving Tsun Choei was made famous by the Ip Man movie franchise as well as by my granduncle Bruce Lee. Moy Yat Ving Tsun is the denomination we give to the way we teach our style. <https://www.meetup.com/vingsunexperience/>

NBA STARS BASKETBALL COLLECTORS CARDS Selling (16) cards. Mostly Upper Deck from years 1997 - 2003. (9) are autographed cards, mint condition in plastic. Asking \$60 for all will not split up, call or txt (619)672-0526 if interested. (619) 672-0526

OPEN PARK WOODEN CROQUET CADDY SET Made by Restoration Hardware. Great condition with no heavy marks or scratches. Please call or text with any interest of questions: (619) 322-4654

OUR PARKS ARE OPEN?! PLAY Bocce! Sportcraft bocce ball set in very good condition - \$20 (760) 746-542

SDSU SUMMER TENNIS CAMP 2020 Three sessions are offered to any kids, any levels, from 8 to 18 years old. We are offering top level coaching, fitness, and match play during the whole week. Register now. <https://goaztecs.com/jthompson@sdsu.edu>

SHIMANO TIAGRA A 50W REEL Cover, original box, brand new, never been used. Two speed. Asking \$500 or best. 858-228-6044

SPORTS CARDS 50-year collection, over one million

cards. 5,000 cards, \$20 each, also individual cards, Ruth, Gwynn, Junior Seau, Williams, La'Damian, Brady, Baseball, basketball, football. Call Joe 619-562-1129.

BICYCLES

MOTORIZED BIKE Motorized bike. Brand new.. (619) 850-3264



16" VINTAGE GT PERFORMER BMX Chrome BMX from early 90s w/ Skyway Moto mags. Tuned & ready to roll \$625. (619) 300-3364



MINI ROD BICYCLE BY ELECTRA - \$50 20" tires, (619) 884-9480

PACIFIC BEACH BIKE SHOP IS OPEN Open 9:30-5:30 daily. Pacific Beach Bike Shop, 1815 Garnet Ave., San Diego, CA 92109. (858) 201-9959

VINTAGE BURLEY TANDEM TOURING BIKE - \$525 Vintage Burley Duet tandem touring bike for sale in North County \$525. True temper frame, Suntour XCE components, 18 speed, alloy 27" wheels. Good used condition and USA made. Call if interested (760) 202-0512

YAKIMA BIKE HOLDER CAR RACK TYPE \$65 Attaches on top of car that has cargo carrier rack. You will need to buy the mighty mounts that fit your particular rack. Usually around 30 online. Call with any questions: Keith (650) 922-1974

BUDWEISER BEACH CRUISER BIKE - \$199 I have a collector's Budweiser beach cruiser. It's brand new and straight out of box. Call for more info: (619) 517-2202

JETSON E-BIKE J2000 \$1200 Built in 2016. It is 100 percent fully electric, no gas is required. This model features a 500W motor and offers pedal assist and a throttle. The Jetson mountain bike has a top speed of 20 mph and a range of 35 to 40 miles on a full charge. (619) 206-1382

MOTORIZED BIKE PEDAL OR USE ENGINE - \$400 Motorized bike pedal or use engine -

\$400 in Santee. 6198503264 (619) 850-3264

MOTORCYCLES

1974 IRON HEAD - \$5500 1974 x1ch iron head with Paughco frame, Lots of extras. \$5,500 for all of it. Call/text (760) 994-9539

1999 SUZUKI RM125 - \$600 Missing a cylinder so I got a 1996 cylinder in good condition and works with the '99 bottom end. Also comes w a service manual. Needs a top end, pipe, and chain. Hit me up phone/text. (760) 583-8888



2008 BMW R 1200R - \$6200 2008 BMW R 1200R - \$6200. Text Mike 949-537-1434 Bring your mask and cash. (949) 537-1434



2013 HONDA PCX SCOOTER \$1750 2013 Honda PCX 150cc, 36k miles. This bike has fuel injection and is water-cooled. Factory trunk and current CA registration. \$1750. Richard (619) 987-6483

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SSR 110CC PIT BIKE \$700. Registered with title. I bought on 4/20 from original owners for asking price. Like new condition. The kid I bought for doesn't want to ride it. Large enough for adults. Txt: (619) 654-4594

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2000 LEXUS SC300 Under 65K miles, super condition, new tires & wheels, BT dvd usb, backup camera & backup sensors. Call for info. (619) 840-8149 / mjackson8070@outlook.com



1955 HUDSON HORNET V8 - \$6800 It runs and shifts great. The seats are original and super dried out. I had the paint polished. It needs someone to take it to the next level. Clean CA title, (760) 519-3479

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DESIGN QUALITY ENGINEER (Req# IIC1292) Participate in prod dvlpmt & transfer activities, as well as prod field & internal quality initiatives. Ensure prod & process conformance to FDA & ISO 13485 standards. Req Master's. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

INFORMATION SECURITY ENGINEER (Req# IIC1283) Penetration testing for internal & external web apps using dynamic security analysis tools or through manual testing. MS+2orBS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

IT QUALITY & COMPLIANCE ANALYST (Req# IIC1291) Resp to plan & implement security measures on variety of appls incl SAP & SFDC & to estb & maintain SoX & FDA audit controls & provide metrics as needed. MS+2orBS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd SAP exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

MFG/OPS QUALITY ENGR (Req# IIC1285) Eval, review & appr nonconformances & quality events ID'd for sustaining manuf ops & represent as Subject Matter Expert in support of Audits. MS+2orBS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER (Req# IIC1290) Define tech reqs for new products. Characterize prod health & dvlp key metrics to drive efficiency & robustness improvements in manuf. MS+2orPhD. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER (Req# IIC1288) Apply knowledge of Engg, biology & biomechanical principles to design, dvlpmt & eval of biological & health sys & products. Req Master's. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

PROCESS DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER (Req# IIC1286) Prov tech knowledge to new prod intro & production process dvlpmt. MS+2 yrs rtd exp or PhD. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD) seeks a Senior Software Engineer in San Diego, CA to design and develop software applications. Req. MS + 2 or BS + 5 yrs exp. Mail resume to: (BD), Attn: Cecilia Sam, 3750 Torrey View Ct., San Diego, CA 92130. Must reference Job Title: Senior Software Engineer; Code: 000111. EOE.

SR. DESIGN QUALITY ENGR (Req# IIC1287) Participate in prod dvlpmt & transfer activities, as well as prod field & internal quality initiatives, ensuring prod & process conformance to FDA & ISO 13485 standards. MS+1orBS

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SR. ENGINEER Process Development (Req# IIC1294) Drive best practices to innovative genomic library prep & seq sys design, implementation, testing & analysis. MS+2 yrs rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

SR. MANAGER, SALES, ENABLEMENT (Req# IIC1295) Oversee all aspects of the financial services prod portfolio incl prod dvlpmnt & mgmt, financial analyses, forecasting, budgeting, demand generation & field awareness. MS+2orBS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

SR. SOFTWARE ENGINEER (Req# IIC1293) Collaborate with prod owners & other appl dvlprs to design, code (full stack) & maintain high quality, mission critical appls against estb processes in a scrum team setting. BS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

VALIDATION ENGINEER (Req# IIC1289) Support NPI projects, PDP transfer & sustaining activities rtd to validation of systems & processes. BS+3 yrs rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.



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Bright Idea

— As leaders worldwide search for ways to encourage people to stay home during the coronavirus pandemic, officials in Indonesia are taking advantage of its citizens' superstitions, Reuters reported on April 13. Kepuh, a village on Java island, is employing village residents to dress as "pocong," or the trapped souls of the dead, in Indonesian folklore. The ghostly figures, wrapped in white shrouds with their heads covered and dark-rimmed eyes peering out, surprise unsuspecting pedestrians, then disappear into the night. The strategy appears to be working: Villagers have been seen running off in fright when the pocong appear. "People will not gather or stay on the streets after evening prayers," resident Karno Supadmo said.

Names in the News

— A baby born on April 6 in Sheopur, Bhopal, India, will carry a special name with him through his life: Lockdown. Manju Mail, his mother, confirmed to hospital staff: "Yes, he is Lockdown, as he was born during the lockdown period." Her husband, Raghunath, told *The Times of India*: "It is a significant name. The whole world using lockdown as a means to stem this pandemic. We should not take Lockdown lightly."

— Similarly, in Chhattisgarh, India, another couple blessed their twins, born March 27, with timely names: Corona and Covid. Preeti Verma, 27, told the *Press Trust of India* her children's names symbolize triumph over hardships. "Indeed the virus is dangerous and life-

threatening, but its outbreak made people focus on sanitation, hygiene and inculcate other good habits," she said.

The Continuing Crisis

— Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies responded to a home in Saugus, California, on April 7 after a dispute over toilet paper turned violent, CNN reported. A 26-year-old man was arrested and charged with battery after his mother told deputies he had punched her. Sheriff's department spokesperson Shirley Miller said the man had accused his mother of hiding toilet paper, which she admitted to deputies, saying her son was using too much. "This is the first arrest I've heard of that started out over an argument over toilet paper," remarked Miller.

Getting the Message Out

— Civic-minded car designer Kanyaboyina Sudhakar of the Sudha Cars Museum in Bahadurpura, India, has built a one-seat vehicle in the shape of the coronavirus "so that awareness can be spread on social distancing," he told *The Times of India* on April 8. The six-wheeled Corona Car can go about 25 mph and took Sudhakar 10 days to build. "I have always made cars to give back to the society in my own way," Sudhakar said. "(I)t is important to tell people to stay home and stay safe, and the coronavirus car is meant to convey the message."

Priorities

— As tornadoes bore down on the South-

east on April 12, an unnamed family sought safety in a storm shelter in Crossville, Alabama, but said they were turned away when they had only one face mask. The woman told WHNT a man who opened the door asked if they had masks. "I said I have one mask," the woman said. "He motioned no and shut the door." The family ran back to their car and looked for shelter elsewhere. Crossville Mayor Tera Fortenberry had posted the face coverings requirement on Facebook, but the family didn't see the message. After the story became public, masks were donated to the town anonymously.

Inexplicable

— Davis, California, resident Shaun Lamar Moore, 40, was arrested on April 12 and charged with burglary after allegedly stealing a specimen that was waiting to be tested for COVID-19 from the Sutter Davis Hospital. Authorities said hospital employees reported a person had entered the facility April 11 and removed the specimen, Fox News reported. That evening, police were alerted that a sealed COVID-19 specimen was found in a shopping cart at a nearby CVS store. Police Deputy Chief Paul Doroshov said the specimen "hadn't been opened or tampered with based on the security seals. ... Although the incident is very serious, detectives do not believe (Moore) intended to harm himself or others," he added.

— Kevin Fallon, 30, of New York City reportedly sent warnings to friends and family on April 9 that he intended to blow up a bronze statue in Central Park depicting

characters from "Alice in Wonderland," according to court documents. On April 11, he allegedly followed up with photos of a pipe bomb and ammunition, along with threats: "This is going to hurt. None of you are safe. I am lethal." At his mother's request, NYPD conducted a wellness check at his apartment that day and found three bombs, ammunition and knives that had been taped together, authorities said. *The New York Post* reported the bombs were found to be nonfunctional, and later that day, Fallon was found at a hotel in the city, where he was taken into custody and charged with making a terroristic threat.

Desperate Measures

— Olive Veronesi, 93, of Seminole, Pennsylvania, wasn't shy about letting loved ones know what she needed during the lockdown. "I need more beer!" read a sign she held up, along with a can of Coors Light. A relative posted Veronesi's photo to social media, KDKA reported, and her predicament went viral. "I have a beer every night. ... I was on my last 12 cans. You know what, beer has vitamins in it. It's good for you, only don't overdo it," Veronesi said. On April 13, she got her wish: Molson Coors delivered 10 cases of her favorite brew to her front door. Her new sign reads, "Got more beer!"

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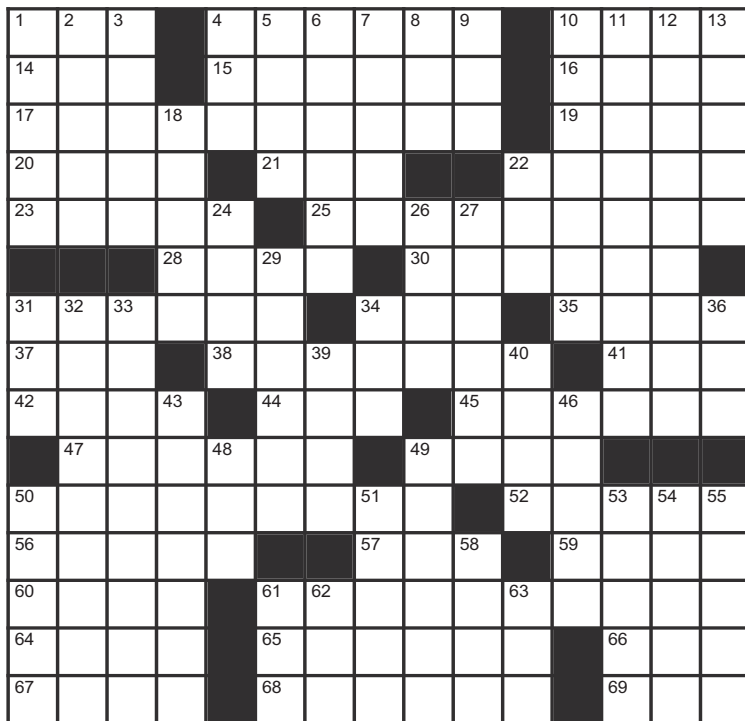
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CROSSWORD



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Across

1. Eur. distance measures
4. Placed text, perhaps
10. Went from 1 to 10, say
14. Actress Vardalos
15. It has a top and a bottom with nothing in between
16. Pixar clown fish
17. Fact! He wrote "There is no sin except stupidity"
19. "Can this be true?"
20. Bench presser's pride
21. Suffix for citrus drinks
22. Whac-_____ (carnival game)
23. Ice cream alternative, familiarly
25. Fact! This spider is named after the oval shape of its webs
28. Thus
30. Explorer Hernando
31. "Appear weak when you are strong, and strong when you are weak" writer
34. Commotion
35. Greek god with wings
37. _____ port
38. Fact! It's a length of time equal to 604,800 seconds
41. Madagascar, par exemple
42. Heroin, slangily
44. They rank below capt's.
45. Motley
47. Bobbing on the waves
49. Italian wine region
50. Fact! They were a series of

12. Nominee for the first two Nobel Prizes in Literature (1901-02)
13. Medicine dispenser
18. To date
22. _____ Lingus
24. Rice-shaped pasta
26. A following?
27. They may come calling
29. The Brady Bill, e.g.
31. Their, in Spanish
32. Image on the back of a \$50 bill
33. Annual June sporting event
34. Reactions at a petting zoo
36. Line part: Abbr.
39. "_____ Is Betta Than Evvah!" (1976 album)
40. McKinnon of "SNL"
43. Transfixed by
46. Infomercial knife brand
48. Yogi's sounds while meditating
49. He plays Steve in "Jobs"
50. City on the Missouri River
51. "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," e.g.
53. To the point
54. First Top 40 hit for Weird Al Yankovic
55. Tricks
58. "What have I done?!"
61. Pan Am rival
62. _____ Tin Tin
63. Hem's partner

Down

1. Big name in book publishing
2. Cheapskate
3. Vanzetti's codefendant in 1920s crime
4. Hipster beer, for short
5. Japanese consumer electronics brand
6. Snowmobile brand
7. Flooring installer
8. "_____ of discussion!"
9. Conk out
10. Enliven
11. "Oh, stop moping!"

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle submissions.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

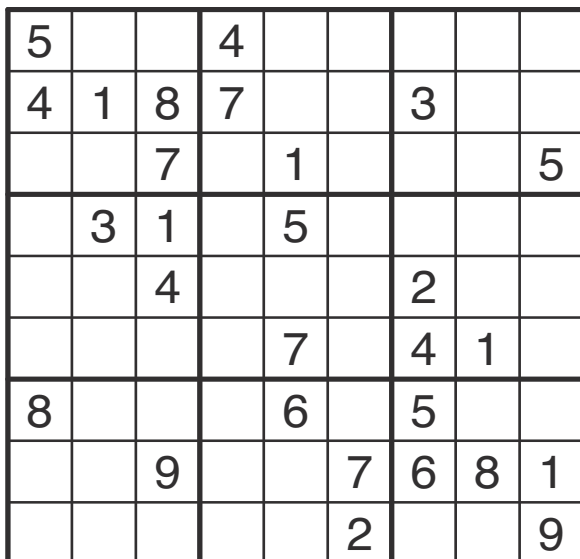
Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Tabitha Thompson, Escondido, 1.**

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

SUDOKU

HARD:



RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader Puzzle*, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

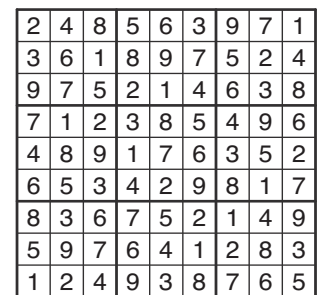
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☛ **Steve Krasner, San Diego, 5.**

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:



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UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 9

lies with an Encinitas-based limited partnership apparently set up for the express purpose of facilitating the home's remodel and resale, though time to bring the home to market has been a bit long. The Stratford estate last sold in May of 2015 for a reported \$10,250,000; the previous owners had sought a sales price

as high as \$13 million. Its current assessment of nearly \$10.9 million carries an annual property tax bill in excess of \$116,000.

After five years off-market, the new and improved Stratford was re-listed in late April carrying an asking price of \$14,500,000. That price, which remains unchanged to date, is a full million dollars less than the last recorded mortgage against the home, which funded in 2017. ■

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continued from page 13

the most prepared would survive something like a nuclear war, a crippling international emergency of less force would likely reshuffle society's deck. If that happens, knowing which wild berries to eat and which ones will kill you will be far more important than what shade of green to paint your toenails. Your favorite rock star will be worth no more than the price of his leather pants, and the science nerd able to grow anything edible will become the new sexy.

Jimmy Jack (not his real name) is not a science nerd, and while I have not spoken to him directly or been on his property, other preppers gave a clear look into his personality while keeping his location secret. They describe him as slight of build, in his mid-60s, and, except for the weather lines on his face, able to pass for someone two decades younger. Like most doomsday preppers, Jimmy lives in an undisclosed location, which in his case means somewhere 40-some miles east of downtown San Diego in the recesses of the Cleveland National Forest. His bunker is clean, comfortable, and constructed almost entirely of rebar-reinforced concrete. They say he has enough guns and ammunition to conquer a tiny country, a deep well he dug himself, a solar generator he built from scratch and scraps, several sets of military-grade binoculars, some night vision goggles, and a rugged off-road vehicle that, by their description, Batman would envy.

Mr. Jack occupies the property with his wife and two homeschooled

pre-teen daughters. Everyone in the family knows how to grow, trap, or shoot their own food with a rifle or a bow. Apparently, the girls, 9 and 12, are basically typical teenagers in some ways — with desires for cool clothes, play dates, and iPhones. While this puts them at odds with their parents, the family is united in its two main goals—survival and being left alone. To that end, the Jack home is camouflaged to appear like just another moldy old trailer set back from a country road. Apparently, Jimmy himself is ex-military, and his wife and children are all crack shots. The family's greatest communal fear is that the government will one day overstep its bounds and force them into what Jimmy terms "societal slavery," something he believes is already happening as "the masses exist in lock-step with the CIA-controlled entertainment industry." I am told he ends nearly every sentence with the words, "Better to die on your feet than live on your knees."

Who's laughing now?

"I am preparing for a worldwide pandemic; those who are prepared will survive. Those who are not will die." These are the words of Donna Nash, recorded before February 28, 2012, when she starred on the National Geographic channel's *Doomsday Preppers*. Seems prophetic now, but eight years ago, it sounded close to the fringe. As the current pandemic continues, masks and gloves are commonplace everywhere, but at the time of the Nat Geo filming, when she and her family wore such garb, they

looked mighty strange.

Bil Zelman is an urban dweller and one of the nation's top photographers. On video projects, he often collaborates with top-level videographer Jeycob Carlson. Zelman and Carlson work in a non-essential industry, and by their own admission are minor-league preppers. Zelman is what I would describe as passionate and peaceful by nature. He leans liberal politically, and so is an unlikely gun owner and hunter. Still, he uses a high-powered hunting rifle to take down his share of meat, elk being his most recent successful target. According to Zelman, "I'm a prepper, but so is anyone with a 401K. I'm not a doomsday prepper, because I don't think it's necessary or even possible to prepare for everything that could happen. To me, it only makes sense, however, to have extra water, gasoline, and some cash on hand in case of emergency." Zelman keeps 50 pounds of dried beans, a water purifier, and 30 gallons of gasoline at the ready.

Bil and his wife Megan keep their Land Rover packed with provisions for the good life, something they enjoyed for a month of what could be described as a prepper vacation on the Colorado River after the coronavirus was announced.

Jeycob Carlson tends more toward the conservative side of the political spectrum and is probably a more serious, albeit less prepared prepper than Zelman. According to Carlson, "I keep thinking about building a bunker, storing a year's worth of food and having a bunch of

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guns and ammunition, but I have four kids and all these items keep getting moved further and further down the list.” Still, like Zelman, Carlson is better prepared than most, with a few months’ worth of food for his young family to devour, just in case.

Lethal weapons

“They can have my gun when they take it from my cold, dead hand.” — Popular 1980s bumper sticker.

It seems that few true preppers live without some sort of firearm. I recently visited Oceanside’s Firearms Unknown, where I handled a 9-millimeter and a .22 pistol. I was leaning toward the .22, since it seemed less threatening than the 9-millimeter. But according to Unknown’s media manager, Demetrius Karras,



Bill Zelman and his wife Megan keep their Land Rover packed with provisions for the good life, something they enjoyed for a month of what could be described as a prepper vacation on the Colorado River after the coronavirus was announced.

“For home protection, the nine-millimeter is a better choice.” He didn’t say so, but it was implied that a complete novice like me would not be very accurate and that

the 9-millimeter would help compensate for my assumed bad aim. As I cuddled the pistol once again, the words of pacifist John Lennon’s song “Happiness is a Warm

Gun” rang true in my ears. The gun provided a certain amount of comfort, and therefore happiness. I nonetheless resisted its pull and returned it to the case it

came in.

Karras has the nonsense demeanor of someone who witnessed combat and served in the military for eight years. He is also one of the

least paranoid people I have encountered during these days of plague. Almost as if to prove the point, he is one of the few I saw in public in mid-April without a particle mask or latex gloves.

Firearms Unknown sells guns and accessories at prices ranging from a few hundred bucks to over a thousand. The customers in the store at this moment range from a young man with the appearance of a father of two kids in little league to a camo-attired Marine inquiring about part-time employment. All sales personnel are friendly and knowledgeable as they wait on the sometimes anxious customers. A dozen or so rectangular cardboard boxes line the floor, indicating a new shipment has just arrived. Kar-

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ras sees everyone from doomsday preppers to people who want to protect their families from a possible home invasion. The largest uptick in business is not from doomsdayers, but from those wanting to ensure nobody messes with the fam. He realizes he does encounter his share of doomsday preppers, but also realizes that they are hesitant to identify themselves as such. Most people who enter the store, according to Karras, are “looking for something for the immediate situation and are not stockpiling weapons.” Perhaps ironically, I feel more secure in this gun store than I do on the street.

Another popular '80s bumper sticker read, “Guns don't kill people, people kill people.” Almost as if reinforcing that thought, Karras tells

me of a knifing that occurred at his store a few weeks earlier.

Karras has seen live combat, but I have just met him and am uncomfortable quizzing him directly on how it feels to take a life. He rephrases my indirect question and puts it back on me, “How does it feel to kill someone? I've been shot at and I've shot people, but it never really bothered me.” Of course, I have to ask how he deals with the threat of the coronavirus. He replies, “After being shot at it doesn't seem that threatening.”

Hoarder joke:

Q: *Why did the hoarder buy so much toilet paper?*

A: *Because he's full of shit.*

Continuing, Karras adds, “As for as being a prepper, I'm prepared, but not overly. Having a shopping cart piled high with toilet paper seems a bit

extreme to me, because I think a shortage of items causes panic and it all begins to compound upon itself. Whenever politicians discuss limiting arms sales, a lot of people, myself included, have the reaction of buying more firearms to be grandfathered in.”

Prepper's Library

- *The SAS Survival Handbook*
- *How to Survive the End of the World as We Know it*
- *One Second After*
- *Bushcraft 101*
- *The Prepper's Survival Guide*

In 2018, the US experienced 14 weather-related disasters where damage exceeded over \$1 billion. These disasters stretched across the country and included two cyclones, eight severe storms, two

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winter storms, drought, and wildfires. When a disaster strikes, it's too late to think about what you should have packed to weather the storm, and before disaster strikes, it can be daunting to know what to include. All-inclusive kits are expensive and do not necessarily include items specific to you and your family. The basics include:

- Water — one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation.
- Food — at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food.
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert.
- Flashlight.
- First aid kit.
- Extra batteries.
- Sanitation needs — toilet paper, soap, feminine supplies,

plastic garbage bags and ties, plastic bucket with tight lid, chlorine bleach

Tools and supplies

What you need can vary greatly based on where you live, the type of disaster you expect, and your family unit. Here are some basic items that most people will need in a disaster:

- Wrench to turn off gas and water lines
- Cups, plates, and utensils
- Light source (solar is best so you don't have to worry about batteries.)
- Manual can opener or a utility knife
- Small fire extinguisher
- Pliers
- Duct tape
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Plastic storage container to keep everything in one place
- Documents



Jeycob Carlson says, "I keep thinking about building a bunker, storing a year's worth of food and having a bunch of guns and ammunition, but I have four kids and all these items keep getting moved further and further down the list."

In preparation, scan valuable documents and store them securely online so they can't be ruined by a disaster. It

may be helpful to have copies of key items like insurance cards, social security numbers, passwords, and insurance

policies in your kit as well. Take short videos to catalog valuables such as vehicles, computers, furniture, and artwork,

for insurance purposes.

Key documents include: wills, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, passports, social security cards, immunization records, bank account numbers, credit card account numbers and companies, family records including birth, marriage, and death certificates.

There is a balance between being prepared and alert and carrying on with our daily lives. Keep particle masks at the ready and wash your hands. Perhaps equally important, however, is to use this time wisely. Play games with those you are confined with, learn an instrument or a new language. Build a bug out bag for yourself and your family. It might just make all the difference should you need to go on an unplanned camping trip.

—Chris Ahrens

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

an international conference included additional days at another international location, some of which may have been personal, which were not explained in the documentation," according to the document. "Other events indicated that the Administrator traveled a day early, without explanation of the business justification, and an airport meal which may have been unallowable per policy. Other minor arithmetic errors were noted."

In addition, "a duplicate reimbursement was made to the Administrator for one travel event totaling \$1,040." According to the audit, "the Administrator had not realized the discrepancy as she was under the impression that another travel event had been processed and the overall reimbursement amount for her events was close to her estimated reimbursement. Another travel event for the Admin-

istrator related to mileage for the Administrator's commute from her home (outside of San Diego) to UCSD, after she was hired but prior to her relocation to San Diego," says the report. "While the Administrator received relocation assistance as part of her offer letter, it did not specifically address commuting for this time period."

In addition to those discrepancies, the document goes on to say that auditors found "two instances where the same group of employees were provided with meals more often than once per month. Also, itemized receipts were not always submitted for expenses of \$75 or more. We also noted that business meetings were often held in local restaurants, which can provide the appearance that a University business objective was not the sole purpose of the meeting. "The meals were not consistent with university guidance, according to the report,

which "states that business meetings between UCSD employees typically are held on UCSD property rather than in restaurants. Policy also sets limits on the frequency for providing meals to employees so that this is not considered a taxable benefit (meals should be limited to no more than once a month or twelve times per year, per group)."

A catered event held a year earlier held in association with what the report calls a Cancer Center Support Grant Site Visit also caught the auditors' attention. "In addition to the Site Visit held in October 2018, an External Advisory Board Meeting was held in September 2018 to serve as a 'Mock' Site Visit," according to the document. Combined expenses for both, including Event Production costs of \$119,274; Event Planning & Management services; \$33,456; Caterer, \$28,146; Branding/Graphic design, \$19,361; and Florist, \$14,772, totaled

\$235,818. "Certain aspects of these expenditures might raise question of whether the expenditure was the 'best use of University-administered funds' as indicated in policy. For example, the Caterer was based on the Los Angeles area, and the invoice included \$4,208 in travel, hotel, and per diem costs for catering staff. Payment of travel costs for a caterer does not appear to be prudent on its face, and the cost of production services appeared to account for over half of the expenses for this event (including a "rehearsal" at the [External Advisory Board] Mock Site Visit). While this may appear to be a high dollar figure, MCC leadership indicated that the business need for success at the event was high to secure future grant funding."

Interviews with cancer center staffers "indicated that there was some dissatisfaction with the local caterer at the Mock Site Visit, which prompted a last-

minute change to another vendor which had been used by the Event Planner in the past, and had delivered high quality services on prior occasions "The interviews revealed that "event preparations evolved significantly in the several weeks leading up to the event, and logistical and other considerations resulted in escalating costs."

A December 5 memo from the university's Audit & Management interim director Christa Perkins attached to the document says that "because we were able to reach agreement regarding Management Action Plans in response to the audit recommendations, a formal response to the report is not requested." As a result, the report says, the university received a refund for the unnamed administrator's duplicate reimbursement and the cancer center "agreed to develop budgetary guidelines for future significant events with estimated costs above a defined

threshold and ensure management accountability for adherence to established budgets."

Matt Potter

Under the radar

continued from page 3
nothing works."

He told Mandell: "I don't think that just posting signs in the locker room with a lot of warnings signed by the Commissioner is going to do anything," adding, "The league's attitude about dealing with the drug problem reminds me how my father dealt with sex. Mean looks and lots of no talk about it"

Wrote Mandell: "The players that smoked pot instead of drinking booze had developed full-fledged paranoia. They saw informers everywhere."

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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Chula Vista, CA 91911 • 619-493-9716

Lakeside's Best Dispensary! Open 24/7!

FREE 3.5 GRAMS OF NUGS + FREE 100MG EDIBLE!

First-time patients only w/min. \$10 donation. Must mention ad.

TEXT "DANK" TO 714-41 TO RECEIVE OUR DAILY SPECIALS!

TOP-SHELF \$4/G or 3G \$10
Any patient, no limit!

PRIVATE RESERVE \$8/GRAM
Any patient, no limit!

V.I.P. SHELF \$9/GRAM
Any patient, no limit!

WAX \$5 Select strain.
SHATTER 12G \$100 Select strain.
CRUMBLE 7G \$100 Select strain.
HOUSE WAX \$12/G
10 GRAMS OF SHATTER \$100
7 GRAMS \$50 Choose from 25 different strains!
Volcanic Crumble \$20/G
Exclusive Shake 3 OZ \$100
1/4-POUND starting at \$300
ROAR YELLOW SHATTER \$10/GRAM
JEFF SESSIONS CARTS \$25 (1000MG)
MOONROCK \$15/Gram Limited time only! Limit per patient.
BRASS MONKEY \$20
STINZY \$40 or 2 for \$70 (1G Vapes)
BRASS CARTRIDGES \$7
SHATTER & CRUMBLE \$20 Select strains.
Krush 3 for \$100 (1G VAPES)
GOLANI Joints 2 for \$25
WAXWOOD Starting at \$30
KNOCKOUT PRE-ROLLS \$20
Starting at \$15
3 RICE KRISPIE TREATS \$10
H.H. VAPES \$20
4 JOINTS \$10

Must Present Ad For Special Pricing. Offers Cannot Be Combined.

OPEN 24/7! Exotic Greens 12038 Woodside Ave. Lakeside, CA 92040 619-486-0134

OPEN 24/7!

Chula Vista's Best New Dispensary! Open 24/7!

2 FREE PRE-ROLLS!
First-time patients only with any donation.

\$9/GRAM ANY SHELF!
\$120 1/2-OZ • \$230 OZ

Exclusive Shake \$5/G | \$100 OZ
Select Strains 2G \$5
Shake \$50 OZ
Wax \$10/G
Moonrocks \$10/G
Full Nugs \$50 OZ
GOLANI Presidential Pre-Rolls \$10 \$10
BRASS MONKEY \$15/G (Trim) \$25/G (Nug)
1000mg Edibles \$30 (1000mg Edibles)
1000mg Brownie \$30
Stndrd Edibles \$10 (200mg) | \$20 (400mg)
BRASS MONKEY \$20
Exotic Carts \$15
H.H. Vapes \$20
Rove Vapes \$15
Uplifted Vapes \$35

Chula Vista's Finest Meds 2675 FAIVRE ST. Chula Vista, CA 91911 619-940-3255

OPEN 24/7!

Still keeping content fresh for you

We are updating our website and social media feeds with new content for you through this strange time. We are printing the Reader every week and distributing at most convenience stores and supermarkets in San Diego County.

We are not disappearing now as a lot of local media has.

We are here for your enjoyment.

We are also keeping our staff employed with health benefits. We don't want to lose anyone during this crisis and leave them without work.

But it is obviously a struggle.

We have lost most of our advertising which is our sole source of revenue. Who knows when we will get advertising dollars back from things like the San Diego County Fair, House of Blues, The Casbah, San Diego Symphony, or any event. We are struggling, but want to be here for San Diego.

We can't imagine San Diego without the Reader. We can't do it without you. Please patronize our advertisers when they re-open and, if you can, please help us now.



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