

Phil Rath cleans up on the local lobbying circuit

French breakfast in Little Italy ■ For the aspiring real estate mogul

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 23 | JUNE 4, 2020

Reader

DEADLY PARKS

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

More in the back of this issue

ALL DOGS DRAW PEOPLE and I draw all dogs. Pet portraits in color pastels.
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LETTERS

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

Shout-out to pick-up

I'd like to give a shout-out to restaurants that serve walk-up and drive-thru customers with the same promptness and courtesy. Starbucks and McDonalds come to mind, but I'm sure there are local examples. There will still be a climate crisis and a need for "transportation justice" after the pandemic passes or a vaccine is developed.

Andrea Monk

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

"San Diegans head to Phoenix"

Cover Stories
May 27

How can San Diegans accept the Arizona climate, so openly? Considering the normal behavior of sandstorms, just as what fog is to San Diego. I bring the

sandstorms issue in the exact context as how SDR wrote it: "damage to car." But rather pluralizing it to cars, in general: as (who be or been) San Diegans are very emotional about their cars. This been proven in the behavior of decades of road/car traffic on the asphalts within San Diego County.

—ised

The cost of living is lower but it's very aggressive, hostile, lawless, ridicule is common — completely different culture. It's a right to work state, co-workers are competitive, the population age average is 30, lots of age discrimination, it's common to gang up on people to create hostility, they ridicule people finding faults even minor and gossip common, no union to go to your on your own and right to work means employers can let you go without cause, you can go to work and be told your fired and nothing you can do about it. It was a really bad choice to move there, and I grew up there and know the culture differences. Before you choose there are regional differences you have to consider. I found out the hard way, lost a lot of money moving.

—Tifysmiles

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San Diego Reader

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June 4, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers



"We're gonna need a bigger bus."

SCHOOLED

The memes on the bus go Partly Fake

But parents of schoolchildren still have cause for concern

Many parents of children who ride school buses felt "taken for a ride" on May 20 — myself included. That morning, I noticed a meme on Facebook that appeared to be a screenshot taken from the CDC website; it read in part: "New CDC guidelines [sic] for reopening schools... Wear masks over the age of 2; no field trips, assemblies, or external organizations in the schools; the distance on school buses — one child per seat, skip rows." The meme was shared on various Facebook and NextDoor groups, and on school bus driver forums throughout

ered by the district. Opined Bill, "I am assuming we will need more school bus drivers if they spread the kids apart on our buses, which already seemed at full capacity [pre-pandemic]. Besides bus drivers, we are going to need more buses and use more more gas."

Curious, I clicked on the meme that had piqued my interest. A popup window appeared: "Partly False Information Checked by independent fact checkers." I clicked the "see why" button: "The information in this post is a mix of true and false statements or it could simply be incomplete. In some cases, the information is misleading. Fact-Check from *USA Today* Partly False. Fact check: CDC's guidelines for reopening schools are recommendations, not rules."

According to an article posted by Facebook on May 12, besides collaborating "with over 60 fact-checking organizations around the world that review content in more than 50 languages," they are using AI (artificial intelligence) to detect misleading memes. The article showed how photos and screenshots taken from videos posted by mainstream media are sometimes slightly altered and then re-posted online.

On May 19, the CDC posted an updated list for schools and bus drivers. Underneath the "As a bus transit operator, how can I protect myself?" section, it read in part: "Limit close contact with others by maintaining a distance of at least 6 feet, when possible; consider asking bus passengers to enter and exit the bus through rear entry doors; avoid touching surfaces often touched by bus passengers; use gloves if required to touch surfaces contaminated by body fluids."

"I am not sure how [school bus drivers]

"I am a bus driver with 256 kids a day. I make 3 trips; some kids don't even get home till almost 6. It's not possible."

the U.S.; perusing the comments, I noticed that the debates were fairly balanced. Then I communicated with some local bus drivers.

"There is no way you can [follow] the social distance [on a school bus]," said Corrie from North County. "I am a bus driver with 256 kids a day. I make three trips; some kids don't even get home till almost 6. It's not possible."

"That's going to be difficult to adhere to with the seating, depending on how many kids ride and how many buses they will have in service," agreed an MTS bus driver who requested anonymity due to policy.

In April, Bill from City Heights considered a full-time bus driver job with the San Diego Unified School District that started at \$21.22 an hour — with paid holidays, paid sick leave, paid vacation leave, a CalPERS retirement plan, and with health/dental/vision benefits for the driver and qualified dependents that are fully cov-

could load from the rear," said the MTS bus driver. "It will probably have to be the front door for them, but I see a need for more drivers and buses to operate safely. We are not allowed to leave passengers behind but we do have a ten-passenger limit, and if there is a stand-by bus, they do send it out. One time I had 20 passengers and no back up and I had to proceed. I loaded 20, and left two people, but I was instructed to do so. We've been pretty good about rear door entry, and it's up to passengers where they sit, but when I had those 20 people I had people in every seat."

"Are you fearful when you drive?" I asked.

"I was in the beginning, but I try to stay calm and brave. I took an oath to become a bus driver and that's what I remind myself when I start to get stressed out."

MIKE MADRIGA



Carlsbad Farmer's Market before pandemic. "We don't know if or when we will ever get back to those days."



A sparse Carlsbad farmers market now.

CARLSBAD

Village vendors vexed by pedestrian proposal

Restaurateur Resnick requests rescue

The once bustling Wednesday afternoon Carlsbad Farmers Market has re-opened with a fraction of its former clientele. "We don't know if or when we will ever get back to those [packed] days at the market," says Christine Davis, executive director of the Carlsbad Village Association which oversees the 26-year-old attraction.

"We are down from 52 vendors to 30 due to the mandatory spacing between booths." Still, after being dormant for two months, commerce in Carlsbad's downtown Village business district has begun to revive. Garcia's Mexican restaurant

was one of the first eateries in North County to implement the "parklet" curb cafe model to expand its outdoor dining space, and Mas Fina Cantina has since followed suit.

But the owner of two different State Street restaurants says COVID-19 has brought dire consequences to his eateries, and he's asking the city of Carlsbad for some intervention to keep his restaurants afloat. John Resnick operates Campfire and Jeune et Jolie. Last

November, after being open less than a year, Jeune et Jolie was named one of the 26 best restaurants in San Diego by *Conde Nast Traveler*. "I am incredibly concerned for my two businesses and the 132 amazing people we employ," Resnick told the Carlsbad city council in a letter. "Restaurants are particularly vulner-



"Are they trying to destroy us?" Trove Marketplace's Carrie Moore reacts to pedestrian-only proposal for State Street.

able," because, he says, eateries often have small dining areas and "... margins are extremely thin... Time is of the essence." He proposed two different ideas for the city to consider. One was for restaurants to be allowed to have food and beverage service in their parking lots. The other, more controversial, idea has fellow State Street business owners talking: "I believe it would

be in the city's interest to temporarily convert [State Street] to a pedestrian thoroughfare for the summer." And it seems that Resnick resonated: the city of Carlsbad is currently polling business owners and residents on State Street, asking them if they would like all or part of their street to be closed to vehicles and open only for pedestrians. The plan to eliminate cars could impact just the 40 businesses on

continued on page 6



Councilwoman Monica Montgomery made sure Lyft was I Am My Brother's Keeper's keeper.

Can Lyft gift cover short shrift?

Charity ought to begin at home, or at least corporate HQ

On May 5, San Diego City Attorney Mara Elliott announced her office was joining a lawsuit against gig transit companies Lyft and Uber for violating Assembly Bill 5, authored by Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, a fellow San Diego Democrat. Other plaintiffs in the case include California Attorney General Xavier Becerra and the city attorneys of San Francisco and Los Angeles. "California law is clear: for the full range of protections afforded by California's Wage Orders, Labor Code, and Unemployment Insurance Code, workers are generally presumed to be employees unless the hiring entity can overcome this presumption by establishing each of the three factors embodied in the strict 'ABC' test," the suit claims. "Uber and Lyft cannot overcome this presumption with respect to their drivers."

Accusing the ride-providing giants of "thumping their noses at the California Legislature and the officials charged with enforcing these laws," Elliott added, "It's time for Uber and Lyft to respect the law."

Two days later, at the behest of San Diego city council Democrat Monica Montgomery, Lyft gave \$5000 worth of free rides to I Am My Brother's Keeper Community Development Corporation, based on Imperial Avenue in Montgomery's Fourth district, per a May 27 disclosure filing. The charity, led by executive director David Muhammad, specializes in workforce training, clean energy, and providing food to the poor — and is currently holding a COVID-19 food distribution event every Tuesday at the Jacobs Center, according to the non-profit's website. Muhammad "founded the Baltimore



David Muhammad holds a COVID-19 food distribution event every Tuesday at the Jacobs Center.



The non-profit's so-called green program is run by Sister Maria Muhammed.

Citizens for Positive Change [Community Development Corporation], an entity that cultivated partnerships between family-driven organizations working to end our nation's youth homicide epidemic one neighborhood at a time," per his profile on the site.

The non-profit's so-called green program is run by Sister Maria, "known for working in numerous fields over the years until she found her love and niche in teaching at Muhammad University of Islam in Inglewood, and The School of Original Thought in Baltimore, Maryland where she was also appointed to the position of Dean of Girls," the site says.

Lyft's gift is another example of how, detractors say, the company has deployed charitable contributions during its ongoing battle with state officials to remain exempt from the requirements of AB 5, which would force drivers to be employees rather than freelancers. "Both [Lyft and Uber] have launched an aggressive public relations campaign in the hopes of enshrining their ability to mistreat their workers," asserts the Elliott suit, "all while peddling the lie that driver flexibility and worker protections are somehow legally incompatible."

In November, Lyft boasted that the Round Up & Donate program, which solicits charitable contributions from its riders, had raised more than \$18 million from Lyft customers. "We're in awe of the collective impact they've made protecting LGBTQ+ rights, supporting U.S. veterans and military members, helping provide rides when they're needed most, and so much more," says a November 7 blog post by the company. "Curious which areas in the U.S. give the most? Here are the

top 10 cities based on the dollar amount donated: San Francisco, NYC, L.A., Chicago, Washington D.C., Boston, Seattle, Philadelphia, Denver, Miami."

In June of last year, Jeren Miles, Lyft's then-head of Community Affairs, Public Policy, came up with \$250 for the 2020 San Diego mayoral campaign of Assembly Democrat Todd Gloria, according to city filings. The San Francisco-based company gave \$50 to the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee on September 30 of last year.

Matt Potter

UNDER THE RADAR

Richly Rath Phil Rath, the longtime Republican insider and close advisor to San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer, continues to clean up on the local lobbying circuit, according to his latest personal statement of economic interests, filed May 27 and covering the period from September 12, 2019 through the end of last year. Rath's current mayoral patronage gig is as a consultant to the chief operating officer and administration, the document says, providing no other details.

On the outside, Rath owns PPR Solutions, Inc., which the disclosure calls a public affairs consultancy. That outfit, valued at between \$100,000 and \$1 million, took in more than \$100,000 in pro rata gross income for Rath, per the report. Clients constituting \$10,000 or more of revenue for the concern were restaurant chain Chick-fil-A and marijuana vendor Loud, Inc. Also on PPR's greater than \$10,000 list: Newland Sierra, LLC; Paragon Partners; Torrey Holistics; UMMC, Inc; Will Senn; SBC Inc; Lennar Homes of California; Vulcan Materials; Real Outrageous Partners, LLC; Strainwise; and Torrey South Ventures, LLC.

One the city's busiest lobbyists, Rath also lists himself as a partner in Rath Miller, Inc., another public affairs consultancy valued between \$100,000 and \$1 million, which provided more than \$100,000 of gross income to Rath, says the disclosure. The list of clients furnishing greater than \$10,000 of revenue to the company included developer Zephyr Partners, pot proprietor Torrey Holistics, and Conduent, a so-called business services provider with a \$39,000 city consulting contract, according to a June 30, 2019 purchase order. Strainwise battled the Del Mar school district last November over a pot shop location sought by the Denver-based company. "Not only is this proposed dispensary directly next to our maintenance, operations, facilities and technology offices, which in and of itself is extremely disconcerting, the proposed project has some potential environmental impacts that have not been thoroughly investigated through the CEQA process," Del Mar school superintendent Holly McClurg complained to the *Union-Tribune*.

Rath's web of lobbying contracts resulted in an \$11,000 fine levied against him in August 2018 by the city's ethics commission for "extremely egregious" violations of conflict-of-interest laws during his tenure

as a Faulconer-appointed board member of the now-defunct Civic San Diego. The influence peddler admitted he failed to disclose cash he'd received from developer Affirmed Housing before voting on one of the firm's projects. Rath was subsequently slapped with a follow-up fine of \$5000 in the same case by the California Fair Political Practices Commission for breaking state law. "These violations are extremely egregious because they undermine public confidence in the



Money, and wrist-slap fines, make lobbyist Phil Rath smile.

integrity of the City's decision-making process," ethics commission chair Deborah Cochran said in an August 2018 news release.

Early this year, Rath, currently chief of San Diego's Medical Marijuana Coalition, helped shepherd a marijuana-friendly billboard law through Faulconer's office and the city council that kept 352 of 644 signs eligible for pot ads. The lobbyist is a significant donor to Assembly Democrat Todd Gloria's bid to be San Diego mayor, giving a total of \$1050 in November and December 2019. He subsequently came up with the same for Republican city councilman and failed mayoral candidate Scott Sherman in January and February of this year.

No more better tomorrow

Republican Chris Cate won his second term on the San Diego city council in November 2018 by beating Democrat Tommy Hough, leaving him with just two years before terming out. Cate now has his eye on District 77 of the Republican Central Committee. On May



Chris Cate seems pleased with his post-city council prospects.

4, another of his controlled committees, Citizens for a Better Tomorrow by Chris Cate, transferred \$24,247 — all of its money — to his central committee election fund, according to a May 19 filing with the city clerk's office. In February 2018, Better Tomorrow's website, subsequently taken down, said the group planned to back a state ballot proposition to "end early release of rapists and child traffickers and would add 15 crimes to the list of violent crimes for which early release is not an option." The committee also promised to seek a "Proposition 13 Portability Initiative," to "allow homeowners 55 years of age or older to transfer some of their Prop 13 property tax base to a home of any price, located anywhere in the state, any number of times."

Twenty thousand dollars of the group's cash came from Allan Camaisa, vice chair-
continued on page 19

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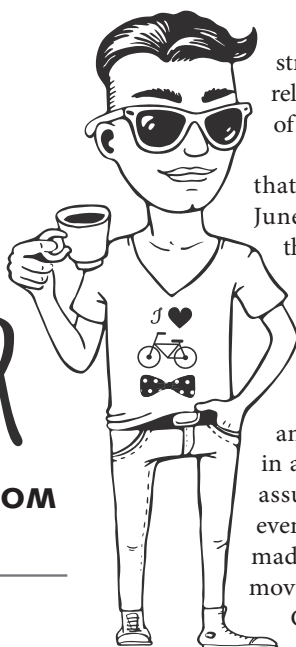
Dear Hipster:

Considering the ubiquity of pandemic-related news coverage, which has even started to infiltrate something as innocuous and not-particularly-newsworthy (no offense, obviously) as *Ask a Hipster*, I thought I might throw you a bone with some lighthearted, "let's talk about the weather" kind of fun. Is May Gray the hipster version of June Gloom because it was cloudy in the morning first?

— Theresa, Normal Heights

I'm not sure if I want to respond to your aspersions of my nonexistent newsworthiness with a smug, "Hey, thanks for acknowledging how obscure and 'above the fray' I like to keep things," or an indignant paraphrasing of Judge Dredd along the vein of "I am the news!" Either option leaves me feeling better about myself, so I've got that going for me. I guess pick whichever one of those makes you feel better about yourself, and we will both claim a win.

On the merits of your inquiry, I appreciate the sincere overture towards normality. Isn't it about time we got back to laughing about hipsters? At the same time, we must simultaneously acknowledge and appreciate all the good things they have done for 21st-century culture. If hipsters had not persistently blogged to a readership of zero about home-cultured sourdough starters for the past decade, how would the country ever have survived the first few weeks of pandemic lockdown without



stress-induced baking to relieve the crippling terror of the unknown?

Anywho, you're right that May Gray is hipster June Gloom, but not for the reason you suggested.

This may be hard to believe, but May Gray actually works the door one day a week at the Tower Bar, and plays rhodes piano in a band that my friends assure me is super good even though they've never made it, and legit collects movies on Laserdisc. June

Gloom works in the HR department at a Fortune 1000 company and

rage tweets whenever the store is out of White Claw, which is fine — I'm not here to judge — but not very hipster.

Dear Hipster:

I'm in the market for an ironically cool people mover. Think of it as a protest against the rising tide of identical crossover SUV hybrids that somehow manage to mix poor

fuel efficiency with incompetent offroading, yet everybody wants them nonetheless. Is it more dope to ride around in a big old station wagon, or a cool van from the 1970s with one of those rooftop spoilers like in the *A Team*?

— D.



How June Gloom copes.

Let's get this straight. Neither of these is a strictly bad decision on your part. It's a virtual tie in my book. The only question that matters here is, "Does the station wagon have those seats that flip up from the floor and face backwards out the rear window?" If so, station wagon all day. Plumb near the coolest things I can imagine is riding to a music festival with seven of your closest friends, all your stuff lashed to the roof rack, and getting to sit in those rear-facing seats. The rear-facing station wagon seat is the only example in the history of human transport where kids fought about sitting in the back instead of riding shotgun. Even the most extreme, rooftop van spoiler can't match that for sheer ironic nostalgia factor.

—DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

"How San Diego school kids will ride buses" News Ticker

May 26

This is sad. They're kids, not 85-year-olds with underlying health conditions. Let kids be kids, and it's time to return to normal. Less than 1% of Californians — the same chances you have of winning a mega jackpot lottery. Most Americans don't buy lottery tickets.

—Socks3742

You can bet that the school districts will not hire more drivers or buy more buses. If anything they will eliminate routes and require parents to drop off their children or have them walk to school.

—AlexClarke

"UCSD admissions not entirely clean"

News Under the Radar May 13

When I attended UCLA, UCLA and UC Berkeley were upper UC schools. And they were both hard to get into. UC Berkeley the hardest, and UCLA number two. Stanford was number one, and still is. Recently (2017 or 2018) UCLA was ranked number one (UC system) and UC Berkeley number two. I'm younger than you. In this day and age, the UC system is still the "cream of the crop" academically. I had no idea that UCLA "wasn't that hard to get into" years ago. Wow. There was no special consideration for cheerleaders. We had the same stringent

academic requirements that other students had. We did have "practice" like the athletes. I don't think "buying your way into college" makes a kid happy. It makes the well-educated parent happy, and it's to the detriment of your child. Not all kids should go to college. But you should have something lined up. College, trade school or military, etc.

—Socks3742

In my day, Berkeley was considered the top UC campus and UCLA the runner up. But Charles Young wanted to change that, and when he became chancellor of UCLA in 1968 he went to work and boosted its reputation greatly. But as for making UCLA a household word, it was John Wooden and his many NCAA basketball national championships that really did the job. In more recent years UCB, UCLA and our local upstart UCSD have been jockeying for top dog in how many undergrad applications they receive. The usual winner is UCLA, you know, UC Hollywood and UC at the Beach. One of my offspring followed in my footsteps and headed to Westwood about twenty years ago. What attracted him? Well, I kept those yearbooks from the 60's out where he saw them, and he thought the sports programs would still be as good as they were when Wooden and his boys were knocking down titles, and when Gary Beban won the Heisman Trophy. While he was there neither team did worth a hoot. Oh, I didn't bribe his way in; he did it all on his own.

—Visduh

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the one-block area of used for the Farmer's market (between Grand Avenue and Carlsbad Village Drive), or be expanded to include the entirety of the mile-long street.

David Graham is chief innovation officer for the city of Carlsbad. He says that at this time, it does not seem like the State Street businesses or the city council have reached a decision. "We don't yet have a consensus." He says the city will continue to poll the State Streeters not yet contacted by the Carlsbad Village Association. It is expected the Carlsbad city council will revisit the pedestrianization of State Street in June.

"When I heard about it, I about had a heart attack," says Carrie Moore, co-owner of the Trove Marketplace, an indoor emporium hosting some 70 different vendors. "It doesn't work for me." She says she understands the plan was connected with Councilmember Cori Schumacher's overarching plan to bring a trolley system to Carlsbad. "If you want a village full of restaurants, then I guess it might work." But Moore says a pedestrian-only State Street endangers stores that sell furniture or other large items. "It will handicap all businesses on this street except restaurants," agrees Skylar Ireton, whose Skylar's Home and Patio is next door to the Trove Marketplace. Besides, he says, the city is still avoiding the major issue facing businesses in the downtown village area: a lack of parking. "I've been here for ten years, and the city keeps saying they are going to build parking structures. But nothing ever gets done. They keep adding businesses, but they never address the parking problem." Adds Moore, "I have had people tell me they drove around the block four times before finally just giving up. They keep saying to use the train station parking, but when everything gets back up and running again, that fills up."

It's not only large-item retailers who are concerned: Cindy Wright of Mulloys Fine Jewelry says, "I don't think [closing the street] will help. As it is, the farmer's market kills our business every Wednesday."

But Will Lerner, a bartender at the Village Pub, one of Carlsbad's oldest businesses, thinks "it's a really good idea. If you want to call it a village, then let's make it a village and give people the freedom to roam." He says the diagonal parking in front of his bar is dangerous. "I've seen a lot of near misses."

Whatever the city's decision, Ireton says the store across the street from his will thrive with or without traffic, with or without a pandemic. He says Handel's handmade ice cream has a line down the block through most of the day. "I remember on March 20, which was right after the lockdown started, they had 50 people lined up waiting for ice cream. The line never stops."

KEN LEIGHTON



Nothing to declare...except my intent to bring joy south of the border.

TIJUANA

Suds flow sur In Baja there is no beer/ That's why we buy it here

Big-label beer started running low across Mexico in early April after government officials ordered all beer and spirits production to come to a halt, deeming it a non-essential industry amid precautions caused by the spread of the Coronavirus. Authorities have yet to set a resume date for production. The mandate led

Day, thanks to cross-border shoppers stocking up for family parties.

In a reversal of Prohibition-era practices, other cross-border travelers are taking beer from the United States into Mexico to make some quick cash. In the Facebook group *Donde Hay CERVEZA en Tijuana* — "Where is there BEER in Tijuana" — people can buy and sell beer with other members, or share where they have seen beer in stock. The group

"beer consumption is not essential during these times, but many of us do enjoy having a beer every now and then."

the country's two largest producers, Grupo Modelo and Heineken de México, plus independent craft brewers, to cease all operations. Many reacted to the ban by making large purchases, which forced retailers to place product limits on sales as stock depleted. As reported by the *Reader's* Matthew Suarez, a limit of three six-pack containers per customer was implemented in Tijuana.

As major-brand beer has become almost impossible to find in Tijuana, some crossborder locals have taken advantage of their essential trips to San Diego to take some cerveza back home. "I pick up a little something if I pass by a store," said Estaban, a Tijuana resident who makes regular trips across the border, picking up two 12 packs of Heineken at the Ralphs store on East Palomar Street in Chula Vista. "Finding beer is normal up here, so it's not a big deal," he remarked. At the Broadway Walmart in Chula Vista, some Tijuana-bound shoppers loaded their label of choice into their Baja California-plated vehicles. A shopper who declined to provide his name loaded beer, cleaning supplies, and electronics into his trunk.

He said all his purchases were for home use, but that he was planning to share his Modelos with a neighbor in the *El Soler* neighborhood. A Walmart employee said beer sales have been a bit higher than they were before stay-at-home mandates went into place, and that there was a big increase in the days before Mother's

was founded on April 29 and has over 2800 members. Its "about" tab notes that "beer consumption is not essential during these times, but many of us do enjoy having a beer every now and then for pleasure, with family or during videoconferencing, etc." Group users share



Bud Light and Michelob Ultra are headed for Baja.

images of what they have in stock, along with information such as price and delivery radius. Beer put up for sale in the group often features packaging and labels used in the U.S. User photos often show loaded shopping carts at U.S. Walmart locations or include mentions of crossing back with beer for sale. On



Group user Samuel shows off loaded beer carts for sale.

average, a 24-pack of Tecate, Coors Light, Michelob Ultra, or Bud Light for sale in the group ranges from 700 pesos to 900 pesos, about \$31 to \$40. (Moderators seek to prevent highly abusive pricing.)

Despite the high demand for commercial beer, some Tijuana retailers still have craft beer in stock. And independent breweries are selling their product directly to consumers in the absence of regular taproom activities and wholesale distribution to eateries.

Last week, Grupo Modelo's Victoria brand released *Victoria Chingones*, a product with an ABV of 1.8% which allows it to bypass the beer production ban. Although it eased the supply strain and can be found with ease, many are reluctant to consume the new brew.

MARIO A. CORTEZ

VALLEY CENTER

Lilac Hills keeps coming up Proposed development proves as perennial as its namesake

It wasn't on the county planning commission's May 15 agenda, but conversation about Lilac Hills Ranch, a proposed subdivision near rural Valley Center, sprouted up again. The county had given the current developer, Ranch Capital, a May 20 deadline to withdraw the project — which includes 1,746 homes, retail and a 200-bed assisted living facility — due to serious fire safety flaws. Attempts to obtain easements for brush clearing from property owners along West Lilac Road, a planned evacuation route, had failed. Lacking a viable alternative, the project is headed to the board of supervisors on June 24 with a recommendation of denial, said Mark Wardlaw, director of Planning & Development Services. But the developer chose not to withdraw.

With the deadline looming, commissioners discussed finding "solutions" to the impasse. Last week, an attorney for two environmental groups warned the commission in a letter that their "discussion and action at the May 15 meeting violated the Brown Act." That is, Lilac Hills wasn't anywhere on the agenda, with the result that those who might want to

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

This week in Unreal Estate, we're exploring a property perfect for the aspiring real estate mogul who also needs a place to stay in downtown's trendy Little Italy neighborhood.

Sure, you get the 7000-square-foot penthouse suite, but wait, there's more: "The offering is the *entire* building" at 1929 Columbia Street, according to listing materials retrieved from *realtor.com*. With an extra 17 rental units on the lower floors, the property includes a total



The colossal patio provides "a sensation of bringing the ocean and bay into the home."

of 20 bedrooms and 24 baths. "While the building has verifiable income today, the possibilities are endless, as entire floors can be adapted for other

use types."

Let's leave those other units aside for now, as they only compose about half of the building's total square footage, and focus on that

owner's unit that occupies the entirety of the sixth and seventh floors.

"This penthouse is highly cultivated and detail rich, with sweeping

views of the San Diego Bay and Pacific Ocean," boasts the listing. "As the elevator opens to your private and sprawling living, dining and open concept kitchen, a feeling of awe comes over you."

West-facing glass doors ten feet tall disappear seamlessly into the walls, allowing the owner to "find yourself immersed in a quintessential indoor-outdoor living space." A chef-inspired kitchen "is well equipped with Miele appliances, column refrigerator, integrated dishwasher and trash, walk in pantry, and wet bar to boot."

"The home is automated from top to bottom," including a whole-house sound system, motorized window shades, Nest programmable thermostats, Lutron custom lighting, and "art displayed

on plasma screens."

"In vogue with the ultra-luxury aesthetic," a pair of en-suite bedrooms, laundry room, half bath, and "A/V closet with its own trash chute" round out the first penthouse floor. The top level is dedicated to housing "a massive master retreat," which includes a "freestanding tub for 2+ and a shower enclosure larger than most downtown bedrooms."

"A colossal patio extends the master living space, cantilevered over the building and providing a sensation of bringing the ocean and bay into the home." The patio features a pair of gas fire tables, rooftop succulent gardens, and an outdoor bar with multiple televisions, rounding out "some of this penthouse's over the top features."

continued on page 19

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Street Style

BY MIRANDA POTMESIL

Thai island fashion

This week, Street Style goes international as we make our way to the Thai island of Koh Phangan. It's there that Danielle has been living for the past year and a half, working on creative projects and studying plant medicine.

Her outfits echo the lifestyle of the island — free flowing and simple, yet splashed with many different cultures from around the globe. “Being in Thailand has inspired me to wear more natural clothing made from organic materials, such as cotton. I like comfortable, loose fitting clothes for the heat.”

Danielle's white wrap dress is just that, light and loose, handmade of 100 percent cotton in Thailand (Local shop, \$30). The piece is comple-



DANIELLE'S OUTFITS MAINLY CONSIST OF HANDMADE PIECES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE.

mented by a crystal necklace that she bought from her friend's local jewelry store in Koh Phangan (\$35) and traditional beaded earrings from Mexico that were gifted to her.

“I love pops of color, and wearing items that are made with love and care,” she says.

The centerpiece of her second outfit is a black kimono handmade by a woman from South Africa (Sovereign, \$66). This simple fit is completed by a brown brim hat that she picked up while traveling through Bangkok (\$20) and a mala necklace that she had made in Rishikesh, India (\$25).

“I draw my inspiration from the forest,” she explains. “I love clothing that makes me feel like a fairy in the woods, that reflects the beauty of the earth, and is made out of natural materials.”

Danielle has been traveling the globe for the past 4 years, but now spends most of her time in Koh Phangan. There are a few shops on the island selling the beautiful clothing that makes up most of her new wardrobe. For more casual strolls around the island, she's picked up bra tops plus sarongs to wrap around her waist. “In Thailand, they also have these gorgeous handmade light scarves you can wrap yourself as a dress. Simple and easy for going to the beach.”

Asked if the general style of the island was similar to hers, she replies, “Yes and no. A lot of the people living on the island are yogis, so they wear a lot of yoga clothes. There are people like me who dress with a similar earthy, gypsy, natural vibe. So many people are creative with their style here.” ■

Find more Street Style at sandiegoreader.com/style

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A close-up of a laboratory microscope with a blue light effect. In the background, there are lab equipment like pipettes and a multi-well plate.

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Vet holds the line between protest and riot

I was late to the protest in La Mesa on Saturday night. I hadn't intended to go at all — what could I possibly add that social media and TV news would not have covered? But I stopped by the Vons a little after 8:30, found it was closed, and noticed the “Fuck 12 pigs” tag on the brick wall at the northwest corner of the parking lot. I walked up Allison, checking the many tags: besides “Fuck pigs,” the most common were “Black Lives Matter,” “ACAB,” and George Floyd's unheeded plea, “I can't breathe.” I arrived in time to see the last of the windows shatter on the Heartland Fire & Rescue pickup truck parked outside City Hall, and to see a group of young men set it on fire and pose for selfies in front of the conflagration.

Air Force veteran and current SDSU student Chris Mavry was not late to the protest. By the time I spoke with him at a little before 9 pm, he had been there for six hours, trying to keep the peace. I found him on Date Street, walking the no-man's-land between the line of silent sentries in riot gear guarding the Police Station and the angry crowd in the parking lot across the street. The protestors shouted: “Learn to love something, you hateful motherfuckers!” “You love to hide behind your masks and your guns and your badges; fuck all of you!” “You shot a woman between the eyes, assholes!” (The aftermath of that incident, which involved a bean-bag bullet, can be seen on the YouTube channel of California Citizen



Fire truck on fire.

know they probably won't shoot me. I'm not inciting violence, and I'm wearing this” — his camouflage Air Force shirt. “If I'm out in front, it keeps the danger off [the protestors]. We

just gotta check each other, make sure violence isn't happening on both sides. I make sure our bad apples are talked to. If someone's throwing rocks, I tell them, ‘Hey, that's not we're about right now.’”

As he paced north and south on Date, Mavry talked to the cops over his megaphone: “My fellow Americans, I just want to remind you about a few of your fellow Americans we have lost. Trayvon Martin, Breonna Taylor. I don't want to be here. I'm tired, bra; I'm so tired.

But I'm more tired of seeing my people killed on the nightly news. So I got to be out here. We don't want to be your conscience. We shouldn't have to tell you that it's wrong to kill a man. But when you love somebody, you're gonna let them know when what they're doing is wrong. We love you enough to tell you that you can do

better. No man deserves to die in the street like an animal. That's not what I fought for.”

He stopped his address to hustle over to a flare-up along University. “Hey brother, that's not what we're here for!” he called to the California Citizen Watch reporter, who was shouting at a man and a woman standing in front of the police: “Fuck you, bootlicker!” over and over. Then Mavry addressed the man: “Hey how you doing? I'm Chris, a fellow American. You know they're killing Americans on the street right now?”

“You're telling me they're going apeshit right now?” asked the man, incredulous.

“Who's dead right now?” asked the woman. “You're in La Mesa.”

“My brothers and sisters are doing some bad shit,” admitted Mavry. “But we callin' out ours.”

“Are you, though?” asked the woman.

“We are,” replied Mavry. “I been doing that all night. I served in the Air Force for seven years, three combat tours.”

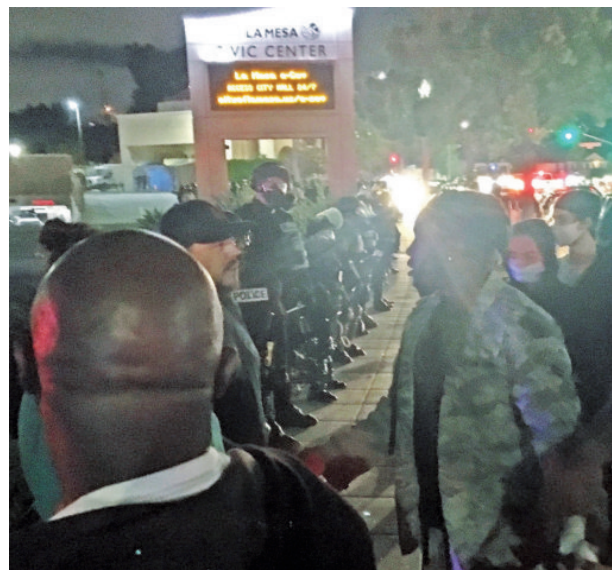
“Thank you,” interrupted the man, quite sincerely.

“And I sleep at night knowing my baby might die tomorrow for no reason other than the color of their skin. All we're here to do tonight is protest these ideals that our country stands for.”

“There's a difference between a protest and a riot,” said the woman.

In the end, Mavry couldn't possibly check his. There were too many of them, and they were too inflamed, their shouts of rage giving way to whoops of glee at their own destructive power. (“There's something on fucking fire, bro!”) They burned a Vons delivery truck, and a second car on Allison. As I walked back to my own car in the Vons parking lot, someone hollered, “Who wants takeout?” The mob was looting Panda Express — and the beauty supply shop, and Vons. A woman held a red flower in the foreground as she took a picture of looters emerging from the smoky grocery store, laden with beer and booze. Someone else had stolen armfuls of baseball bats from Play it Again Sports and was passing them out. The mob put them to use on the shopping center windows. I headed home, but not before I heard someone shout, “Grossmont Center next!”

Sunday morning, I drove past the burned out husk of Randall Lamb engineering on Palm, and the two banks on Spring Street that had been torched the previous evening. I visited the mall and saw the broken-out windows of the Starbucks inside Target. There were more broken windows at the nearby BevMo — apparently, the bad apples had been thirsty. Still, Mavry had done his part, keeping the violence in check as he walked his self-appointed rounds. “Part of me didn't want to come,” he told me. “You know it's not going



Mavry reasons with the opposition as police look on.

Watch.) Also this: “Why are you pointing your gun? Shoot me, bro! What the fuck!” At that, Mavry faced the police, raised his megaphone, and led the crowd in a chant of, “Hands up, don't shoot!”

“Whenever the police start shooting, I stand in front of them,” Mavry told me, “because I



The morning aftermath.

to be the best of humanity, on both sides. But if somebody doesn't take a leadership position and say, ‘It's about *this*, not *that*,’ who will? I don't know how I'm doing it; it just came alive inside of me. I don't want anybody else's children to die — theirs, ours, whoever.”

MATTHEW LICKONA


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Police found Nicholas Turner lying in the grass, dying of an upper-body stab wound, near Redwood Circle in Balboa Park.

DEADLY PARKS

Author Marty Rubin once observed, “Parks and playgrounds are the soul of a city.” A century before him, famed 19th century horticulturalist Andrew Jackson Downing similarly sang the praises of these urban spots of green when he wrote, “Plant spacious parks in your cities and loose their gates as wide as the morning, to the whole people.”

The city of San Diego alone has more than 400 parks — and there are many more in the county’s 17 other cities and unincorporated areas. But

while those parks are meant to provide a pleasant respite from daily life, sometimes bad things happen at them.

Worst of the worst

Balderrama Park is a small neighborhood park in one of Oceanside’s more troubled communities. It’s one of those areas built before zoning laws, where you’ll find boxy, two-story apartment buildings scattered among shabby single-family cottages and bungalows. Some homes are well-kept; most aren’t. High weeds, cars on blocks,

and “Beware of dog” signs posted on chain-link fences are frequent sights.

Located on San Diego Street, a few blocks north of Mission Avenue, just east of Interstate 5, Balderrama Park offers residents a playground, tennis and basketball courts, a small recreation center, and a patch of green ideal for pick-up soccer games and family picnics.

Originally known as Eastside Recreation Park, the three-acre park was renamed in 1970 after Joe Balderrama, the first U.S. serviceman from the heavily Latino neighborhood (known to locals as

“Pozole”) to be killed in action in World War II.

He was 19 — just four years older than Annabell Flores, a young Latino girl with laughing brown eyes, when she was shot and killed early on the morning of September 3, 2016 in the park that bears his name.

Young Annabell — nicknamed “Littles” — was sitting by herself, unaware of what was about to happen. Two men wearing masks ran into the park and opened fire, without provocation. Police found Annabell lying on her back in the playground area, with a fatal gunshot wound.

Less than two years later, a judge sentenced two Oceanside gang members, Daniel Ramos and Elias Ramos (no relation), to 92 years to life in prison and 84 years to life in prison, respectively, for Annabell’s murder. Daniel pulled the trigger, while Elias scouted out the site before the shooting, the judge said.

Prosecutors said the two gangsters were looking for a rival gang member at Balderrama Park, intending to kill him.

The prosecutor told the judge this crime was the “worst of the worst.”

Balboa Park

It’s the oldest and grandest of the city of San Diego’s four regional parks, measuring 1172 acres and attracting 20 million visitors per year, the city says. Host to both the San Diego Zoo and the Old Globe Theatre, the park is home to more than 15,000 trees; 14 specialty gardens; nearly 100 arts, education, recreational, social and sports organizations; and 17 museums and cultural institutions. Balboa Park was the site of two world’s fairs, the 1915-16 Panama-California Exposition and the

1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition, which gave the park such iconic structures as the California Tower, the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, the Spanish Village Arts Center, and the Zoo.

Palm Canyon is described on the Balboa Park website as a “hidden ... tropical oasis, containing more than 450 palms (58 species) within its two acres.” The canyon is crisscrossed with hiking trails. The original cluster of Mexican fan palms dates back to 1912. In 2001, the California Conservation Corps restored the trail that connects Palm Canyon to the Old Cactus Garden.

Shortly before noon on February 27, 1985, 40-year-old actor David Huffman was stabbed to death in Palm Canyon by Genaro Villanueva, a 17-year-old undocumented immigrant from Mexico. Huffman, who was appearing as Lenny in the Old Globe Theater’s production of *Of Mice and Men*, had been sitting near the Organ Pavilion in his parked van, playing his bagpipes, when he heard a vacationing Canadian couple shouting that someone was standing in the doorway of their friends’ motor home. He looked up and saw Villanueva take off running.

Huffman jumped in his van and drove after the fleeing teen. When Villanueva leaped through some bushes into Palm Canyon, Huffman stopped his van and ran after the teenager, down the meandering dirt hillside trail. A scuffle ensued; Villanueva pulled a screwdriver from his pants pocket and stabbed Huffman twice in the chest, killing him — and then fled. His body was later found by a group of schoolchildren who were taking a nature

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walk along the trail at the bottom of the canyon. A coroner's deputy estimates Huffman bled to death in 30 to 45 seconds.

Villanueva was arrested two weeks later, after his parole officer saw a police sketch drawn with the help of the Canadian tourists.

After a quick trial in December of that same year, a jury convicted Villanueva of first-degree murder. Villanueva, who at the time of the killing was attending San Diego High School, testified that he stabbed Huffman in self defense because he feared the older, bigger man

would kill him, but the jury didn't buy it. In June 1986, Villanueva was sentenced to 26 years to life in prison for Huffman's murder. He was sent to the California State Prison in Centinela. In December 2011, Villanueva was denied parole for 15 years.

Just before his death, Huffman was slated to appear in the miniseries *North and South*. His credits also include the films *The Onion Field*, *The Honor Guard* and *Blood Beach*, and the TV shows *Little House on the Prairie*, *Newhart*, and *Trapper John, M.D.*

Redwood Circle

It's a large lawn area at 2700 Balboa Drive, just east of Sixth Avenue and north of El Prado, where numerous shade trees grow. The meadow is a popular spot for large family gatherings and wedding ceremonies and receptions.

On Saturday, August 4, 2018, police responding to a 911 call shortly before 10 am found 38-year-old Nicholas Turner lying in the grass, dying of an upper-body stab wound. He was taken to a nearby hospital and pronounced dead.



Annabell Flores, a young Latino girl with laughing brown eyes, was shot and killed in Balderrama Park when two men ran in and opened fire.

The 911 caller, 47-year-old Damon Crudup, was later arrested for the murder. The two were boyfriends. Both were homeless transients. Crudup pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter and received a five-year prison sentence.

Morley Field

It was named after John Morley, who served as a superintendent in Balboa Park from 1911 to 1939. The sports complex features 25 tennis courts, a swimming pool, a senior center, a playground, group picnic areas, an archery range, a multi-

purpose ball field, a velodrome bicycle track, bocce courts, a disc golf course, and other sports and fitness attractions.

On September 6, 2009, just before 8:30 pm., police received reports of gunshots in the Morley Field area. They found 23-year-

continued on page 35

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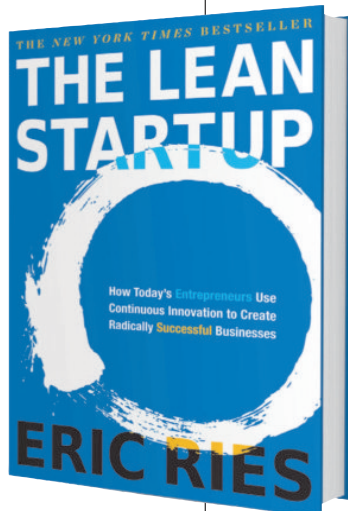
AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 4

ENTREPRENEUR BOOK STUDY

Dive into the book *The Lean Startup* by listening to audio clips and discussing the implications and applications of its ideas to businesses. Author and entrepreneur Eric Ries explains the lean startup approach, which has changed the way that many startup founders seek to build companies and launch new products — largely based around the principle of rapid idea validation before investing heavily in an idea. It's helpful, but not required, to read chapters in advance and bring questions to discuss. Zoom link/password and chapter summaries sent before each session.

WHEN: Thursdays, 4 pm to 6 pm.
Through June 18.
WHERE: theleanstartup.com



Friday | 5

PRAY FOR SLEEP: BEHIND OUR EYES

The members of Columbus, Ohio rockers Pray For Sleep are so young that two of them had to skip their high school graduation in order to play *Rock on the Range* in 2018. Their debut album *Behind Our Eyes* addresses mental health issues that affect young people,



as seen in the video for the single "Scream Back." The band will perform the digital bonus track "Blood Is Not Blue" plus additional songs from the album in a livestreaming concert broadcast from JCR Studios in Marion, Ohio.

WHEN: Friday, June 5, 4 pm
WHERE: boxcast.tv

Saturday | 6

SHINING: LIVE AT THE HEAVY WATER PLANT

Combining black metal and free jazz, the

Norwegian band Shining is probably best known for stunts like playing on top of a mountain. Singer-guitarist-saxophonist Jorgen Munkeby is the sole founding member of the group, which has seen over a dozen members come and over the past two decades. While they work on their next release, the band will perform their fifth album, 2010's *Blackjazz* (the record that defined their improbably hybrid sound) as a livestreamed concert.

WHEN: Saturday, June 6, 2 pm
WHERE: shop.shining.no



SATURDAY, JUNE 6: SHINING LIVE AT THE HEAVY WATER PLANT

Tuesday | 9

SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST: MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY

The well-known Texas native and Academy Award-winning actor Matthew McConaughey has appeared in over 40 feature films. He is a producer, director, and also a philanthropist with his Just Keep Livin Foundation. In this SXSW Session you'll get to check out a candid chat with McConaughey and Jeff Nichols,



MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY

who wrote and directed the critically

acclaimed 2013 film *Mud* (which starred McConaughey and Reese Witherspoon), and participate in an audience Q&A.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 9, 10 am
WHERE: sxsw.com

Wednesday | 10

VIRTUAL TEXTILE ART WORKSHOP

Textile art encompasses many processes and fibers to create immersive and tactile art. In this workshop, you will learn three processes to create textiles and designs using fibers including paper and fabric hybrids, resourcing natural dyes and printing, and creating imagery with fibrous textures.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 27, 10 am to 12 pm

WHERE: luxartinstitute.org



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

ART

Arts District Liberty Station: Virtual First Friday Experience galleries, museums, artist studio tours, live art demonstrations, and more online happenings. Friday, June 5, 12pm; libertystation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT. (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 custom frames crafted by Kelly's husband, Peter Hillier. Saturday, June 6, 6pm; distinctionart.com/kellyvivancoart.php. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Recycled Materials Runway Event The EAP's annual fundraiser features artwork and fashion designs with a focus on emerging fashion designers and students. Saturday, June 6, 6pm; EscondidoArtsPartnership.com. Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 E. Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Achieving Your Zero Waste Potential Join Solana Center for this 1-hour webinar where you will learn the basics of waste reduction, why it's important, and how to keep at it even with our changing circumstances. We'll dive deeper into the concepts of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and understand why they are said in that order.

Saturday, June 6, 10am; **free**. solanacenter.org/civCRM/event/info?reset=1&id=1439. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Entrepreneur Book Study: The Lean Startup Join us for a deep dive into the revolutionary book, *The Lean Startup*. We'll be playing audio clips and then discussing the implications and applications of ideas to our own businesses. It's helpful, but not required, to read chapters in advance and bring questions to discuss. Zoom link/password and chapter summaries

will be sent to attendees before each new session. Thursday, June 4, 4pm; **free**. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/entrepreneur-book-study-the-lean-startup-on-zoom-tickets-104672542392>. (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. Sunday, May 31, 12pm; \$180-\$216.

18 and up. sandiegowriters.org. (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. Fridays, 7pm; through Monday, July 27, \$20-\$250. andsomethingdifferent-studiogallery.com/artclassesand-workshopsinsandiego. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Meditations for Writers Each week in these weekly one-hour zoom sessions with Rebecca Jane,

you will learn meditations that come from a variety of wisdom traditions. These are breathing techniques that you can practice every day. Saturday, June 6, 12:30pm; \$5. 18 and up. sandiegowriters.org. (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. gogodancearts.com/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Painting Class: Sunset Dog & Cat Silhouette Two hour class via Zoom. Use your own supplies. Can use other materials: crayons, markers, colored pencils, watercolors, pastels, etc. Saturday, June 6, 4pm; \$25. lovejoycreations.com/. (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 Monday, June 29, songbirdsmusic.com/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Virtual Drawing Workshop Cover several dry mediums including graphite, charcoal, and pastel as well as produce one still life and one landscape drawing by the end of the class. Contact LUX Art Institute if you have any questions or concerns at educa-

tion@luxartinstitute.org or call 760.436.6611 ext. 200. Friday, June 5, 10am; \$40-\$50. 18 and up. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Women's Financial Fitness: Budgeting Learn how to take control of your financial future through the tried and true discipline of budgeting. It can change your life. This online session of Women's Financial Fitness is "Budgeting: Rebuilding your budget to maximize savings." Thursday, June 4, 5pm; **free**. eventbrite.com/e/womens-financial-fitness-online-session-budgeting-tickets-107126024824. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

The Story of Plastic & Panel Discussion The Story of Plastic screening link will be available June 1-4, to those who register. It will be followed by a Zoom webinar panel discussion on June 4 from 7:00-7:50 pm, featuring U.S. Representative Mike Levin, Carlsbad City Councilmember Priya Bhat-Patel, Michael Doshi from Algalita, Alex Ferron from SurfRider, and Jessica Waite of "The Plot" in Oceanside. Thursday, June 4; **free**. eventbrite.com/e/the-story-of-plastic-panel-discussion-tickets-105002304720. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Is your favorite brewery open yet? Check Magie's spreadsheet

The past ten weeks have been a roller coaster ride for the San Diego beer industry, as abrupt public policy shifts due to coronavirus have kept breweries and fans alike on their toes. Every individual beer company has had to navigate rule changes that seem to crop up overnight: *Can we stay open? What can we do to offer beer to go? Should we offer home delivery? Should we reopen to customers?*

We have 160-plus breweries in San Diego County, and their answers have looked about as similar as a helles lager does a pastry stout. Some have closed altogether, others have limited their hours, and a handful have operated relatively close to normal, minus the barstaff.

As a regular industry watcher, I can attest: keeping track of how any individual brewery has addressed the crisis is challenge enough. From one week to the next, a brewery might drastically shift its opening hours, pack-

aging options, and ordering system. Trying to monitor how the whole dang industry is doing? That's the work of Atlas, or, more accurately, Sisyphus.

In San Diego, it's the work taken on by Magie Brennan. Since March, Brennan has kept busy maintaining an online spreadsheet updating the status of San Diego breweries during the covid-19 shutdown.

Originally, the spreadsheet was simple enough: it detailed whether breweries were open or closed to take-out business, and their operating hours. But as the weeks have gone on, she's expanded its scope. Now there are columns to show which breweries offer home delivery, shipping, and links to online orders; and tabs highlighting the same info for mead, cider, and craft spirit makers. She updates the database to reveal special offers, whether they involve discounted beer prices or free shipping coupon codes.

Brennan didn't start doing this because anybody paid her, or even asked her to. She started doing it, she tells me, because she loves the beer community, and it felt like a positive, productive use of her time.

"I'm unemployed at the moment," she says with a chuckle, "so I have a lot of time on my hands."

Brennan has been involved in both the beer industry and the community surrounding it for years. She worked as a local beertender before the pandemic hit, and served as manager of the San Diego Beer Choir.

Despite being out of work herself, Brennan wanted to remain supportive of the industry she loved, and looked around online to find which of her favorite breweries were operating during the shutdown. She quickly realized it was a

challenge. "Not every brewery is really good at keeping people updated on their social media," she says. "I was getting frustrated, and my friends were getting frustrated."

She started a comment thread on a local beer



A T-shirt from the San Diego Brewers Guild, still working to support local beer business during the pandemic

industry Facebook group, asking industry insiders to update their circumstances. Beer writer Ian Cheesman appreciated her effort, and set up a Google Docs spreadsheet, so the information could be more easily organized, updated, and shared.

Brennan has taken the concept and run with it. Once or twice a week, she scours local breweries' social media channels to catch any changes, reaching out to breweries directly when there's any confusion, or a lapse in communication.

For those of us in and around the industry, the spreadsheet has proven an invaluable resource for finding out what the various businesses have been doing, and also for helping us understand where and when we can go buy fresh beer to support them. The San Diego Brewers Guild has gone so

far as to add a link to the spreadsheet on its home page, with a button marked "Brewery Statuses"

Now, as taprooms begin to reopen, the spreadsheet has become even more relevant. A week following the news taprooms could conditionally reopen, barely 30 percent of them have chosen to do so. Brennan has added a column showing which are open (highlighted in green to make them easy to spot). For those that have announced impending reopening dates, she's updated that too.

Brennan plans to keep up the work at least through mid-June as these changes continue, and is hopeful most will figure out a way to open by that time. "I'm curious about the [breweries] that

have been completely closed," she says, "I think it's even more important once we find out they're open, to support them. They've had zero revenue all this time!"

Magie also hopes the spate of reopenings will add to her own future revenue. This industry folk hero is in the market for a new beertending job.

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



Magie Brennan is an active member of PInk Boots Society and the California admin of the Facebook community Craft Beer Girls

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

weigh in had no notice. Under the Brown Act, topics not on the agenda are limited to things like asking questions for clarification and brief announcements or reports. The letter said that the discussion “went far beyond” the types of comments allowed on non-agendized topics, and lasted for over 20 minutes.

The conversation began with a mention of the deadline to fix the fire safety issue. “I’m a bit dismayed,” said commissioner Edwards, citing how much time and effort staff and the commission had put in, and volunteering to help resolve the issues before it went to the board. He suggested setting up “a short ad hoc meeting with an ad hoc group to report back to the commission.”

But according to the letter from attorney Sara Clark, doing so “would directly conflict with county requirements” regarding impartial, transparent decision-making. The solution-finding would “presumably take place behind closed doors and without any public input,” leaving the public out of the conversation about serious safety issues. However, a few commissioners said they thought it was permissible to form an ad hoc committee without public notice, noting that they had done it before. “I

for one think it’s possible to find a solution, and I’d like the opportunity to forward that to the board” said commissioner Woods — if the director allowed them to form a subcommittee. “Which I think we can on our own, but I’m not sure on that issue.”

“I don’t want to discuss the item,” the chairman said, “but is it possible to, in a general question?” If an issue arose with a project, and commissioners are volunteering their time to meet with staff and the applicant, is that allowed? It was “probably something an ad hoc committee can do for a limited purpose and time,” said county counsel Thomas Montgomery, but since it wasn’t before them that day, they couldn’t make any decisions. “I don’t believe you can appoint an ad hoc committee to work with the applicant,” he said — it would have to be put on a future agenda.

The idea didn’t sit well with commissioner Seiler. “I’m getting a real uncomfortable feeling that we’d put an ad hoc committee together to promote a project that’s already been found inadequate relative to fire protection,” he said. “If commissioners go into an ad hoc committee to do that, to find a way to make this work, I think by right they should be recused from voting on that project. They now have a vested interest in it.”

In an update on the project, Wardlaw, described how it was first proposed by the



Fire safety is important and all, but...just look at all that sweet development!

Accretive Group in 2012, later rejected by voters, then in 2017 was picked up by a new applicant. “Then came the worst fires that California has seen.” There was also a change in fire marshal services within the Deer Springs Fire Protection District. For those reasons, the fire authority reviewed the project and raised a series of concerns about its fire safety design and evacuation suitability. Despite clear direction about necessary changes, only a few were able to be incorporated, along with some alternative routes. But the main problem is the inability to obtain 20-foot easements along West Lilac Road. “We’ve been working with

the applicant for over a year to address those issues and the fire authority has determined that the project is unsafe as currently designed,” he said.

The meeting ended with chairman Barnhart announcing he would appoint commissioners Edwards and Woods, who also expressed interest, to an ad hoc committee. And that they would put it on the agenda the next time. “It’s pretty tough to get a project through this commission if you’ve got the fire authority saying it’s unsafe,” the chairman said. “But I’m not so sure the accommodations can’t be made.”

SHEILA PELL

EASTER

Encinitas EGGstravaganza The City of Encinitas presents its annual Spring Egg Hunt. Adding to the fun in addition to the 20,000 eggs, this year we’ve got two live shows from Hullabaloo on-stage at 10:30am and 11:15am. Please note, there will not be any food or drink available for purchase at the event. Please bring your own basket or bag for eggs. Egg hunt times are as follows: 10:15 – ages 4 & under- upper field, ages 5 & up lower field, 11:00 – ages 4 & under- upper field, ages 5 & up lower field, 11:45 – ages 4 & under- upper field, ages 5 & up lower field. Saturday, June 6, 10am; Encinitas Community Park, 425 Santa Fe Drive. (ENCINITAS)

FOR KIDS

Seaport Streams Seaport Streams delivers family-friendly content bringing a some much-needed silliness and recreation to our homebound audience. The episodes are accessible via a live streaming Vimeo channel and on Seaport Village’s Facebook page. Friday, May 29, 10:30am; facebook.com/SeaportVillage/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Sing Me a Story: The Enchanted Tail Join Classics 4 Kids musicians and vocalists Victoria Robertson and Bernardo Bermudez in the broadcast premiere of

“Sing Me a Story: The Enchanted Tail.” Originally performed in May 2019 at the Balboa Theatre, this special performance was a collaboration between C4K and Opera4kids. With musical highlights from famous operas, together we explore the wonderful world of musical stories. The program also features a guest performance by the San Diego Children’s Choir. We delve deep into the beginning, middle, and end to bring musical stories to life. Friday, June 5, 12pm; free. classics4kids.org/learn-create-connect/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

MUSIC

Jazz Vespers Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archie Thompson & the Archtones and guest musicians. Saturdays, 4:30pm; through Wednesday, December 30, free. First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 1740 4th Avenue. (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, aquarium.ucsd.edu/kelpcam. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro: Travel virtually with members of Storytellers of San Diego to Time Keeps Traveling ON, a first Thursday virtual storytelling event. Time travel with personal, folkloric, literary stories and one monologue. Told up close and personal, Moth style. Thursday, June 4, 7pm; free. storytellersofsandiego.org/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

WORSHIP

First Lutheran Church of San Diego Virtual Service 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, 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. Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, June 28, firstlutheransd.org/. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Under the radar

continued from page 3

man of San Diego-based StemImmune Inc... Kevin Faulconer, in his final year as San Diego mayor, continues to rely on corporate funding for his non-profit One San Diego. The latest special interest to tithe is shopping mall giant Westfield Property, forking over \$10,000 on April 24, per a May 22 disclosure report signed by the mayor.

On May 11, Faulconer and county supervisor **Greg Cox**, a fellow Republican, leaned hard on Democratic California governor **Gavin Newsom** to loosen the kind of business restrictions that have kept malls closed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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



“A feeling of awe comes over you.”

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 8

Last sold in 2013 for \$950,000 when it housed only a 1930s-era triplex, the parcel is currently held by a Sacramento-based investment group that completed construction of the current building in 2017. To help offset the new owner’s mortgage payments, lower levels include four two-bedroom apartments,

a dozen one-bedroom units, and a ground-floor studio. A pair of one-bedroom units currently show as available for rent with an asking price between \$1995 and \$2100 per month.

As of May 1, buyers have been offered the opportunity to purchase “a world class asset located in, without a doubt, one of San Diego’s hottest neighborhoods.” The original list price of \$13,250,000 remains unchanged to date. ■

French breakfast in Little Italy

Such crunching, oozing goodness

Zinqué. Guess I just like the crazy French name. It's what French hipsters call a sidewalk bar where you can stop, slurp a beer while standing at the counter, and carry on with your day.

Now we have one here. Little Italy. But why "Zinqué"?

"Because in traditional places, the counter and tables are topped with untreated zinc," says Stephen, the morning's lone server. "Like here. They are 'zinqué'd.'" He pronounces it Zin-Kay. "It's a slang name in French. It's cool."

This is at 8 in the morning. One of the things that brought me to Zinqué: You never have to fret about whether it's open or not. The place serves breakfast, lunch, dinner, coffee, and drinks, from like 7 every morning to midnight every night. And until 2 am Friday and Saturday.

Right now, there's a racket going on across the road. Workers are bashing off ply molds from level two of a high rise under construction. But, hey, makes a good show. Stephen has just brought me out a nice wide cup of steaming black coffee. I could have sat inside, but chose this li'l round corner table out on the sidewalk. That's the other thing. No barriers between you and the sidewalk at this cafe. Just brass studs in the concrete showing the limits for tables. So you really feel part of the life of the street. This is as inside-outside as you can get. I'd never even heard of Zinqué till last week, even though they've been part of this little chain that a French guy named Emmanuel Dossetti started off in LA, ten years ago. Stephen's telling me about it. "His first was in Weho. West Hollywood," says Stephen. "It has since become a mini-chain up in LA. He has half a dozen now," he says. "This idea of an all-day cafe where you can stop for a coffee or a full-on dinner really took off. He's just opened his newest place in Scottsdale Arizona."

'Course, 8 am is the egg-crack of dawn for me. Consolation was, I thought I'd stop by here for a couple of *oufs* on toast. We're definitely beyond Little Italy's fashionable central zone, but The Waterfront bar (open as well at this time), and Rovino

Rotisserie make this a snug little gastro-corner.

OK. Breakfast? I check Granola with mixed berries and yogurt for \$8, a breakfast sandwich of egg, muffin, tomato, basil and gruyere cheese, also for \$8. Also a zucchini and egg white frittata bowl. Guess flavor will come from the avocado, parmesan, and pesto. There's also arugula on the side. This is \$7. Plus a mini egg white frittata with zucchini for \$3.50, \$3.75 with

cheese. Still, I get the feeling one bite would be it.

"We also have the brunch menu," says Stephen. He turns one of the printed pages.

Ah. More choice. Soft scramble with parmesan and herbs, but it costs \$13. Or "crispy, sunny eggs" with prosciutto and parmesan (\$15). A prosciutto and gruyere croissant with mixed lettuces goes for \$11, and baked eggs with chili and baguette is \$14. So is Quiche Lorraine. *Moules frites* (mussels and fries) is \$18, burger's \$15, and steak *frites* with chimichurri (parsley and garlic) sauce or peppercorn sauce goes for \$24. So a lot of items are up there, price-wise. And bottom line, I see a glass of wine (not that I'm thinking of having one now) is around the \$15 mark. That tells you what demographic they're aiming for. On the other hand, they do have a Monday to Friday happy hour, 4-7, where pork belly tacos go for \$6, salami toast \$4, country pate \$5, and cocktails and *aperitifs* are \$5 off. So you'll end up paying maybe \$10. Glasses of wine are \$4 off, and beer, \$2 off.

Meantime, I've got a belly to fill. I think of the egg dishes, but honestly, they sound a little anemic. Then I notice they've got a *croque monsieur* on the brunch list. And even the *croque madame*, which means a fried egg has been added on top of the cheesy, hammy, crisp-edged grilled thick-bread sandwich.

My Scottish friend, Annie, calls. "I'm stuck!" I say. "What's the best French breakfast?"

"Don't worry!" she says. "Think flakey, mouth-watering hot croissants, melting, buttery. Paris cafe on a plate! Just be sure to have them warm with a dollop of salt butter, maybe jam. Gulp your coffee.



My *Croque Madame* breakfast. Crisp, tender, garlicky



Stephen



Look Ma, no fence! Brass medallions, black line mark patio limits

Dunk the croissant. Stuff it with ham and cheese. You'll be smilin' like a *bylt haddie!*"

Not sure what the heck "*bylt haddie*" means, but she does inspire me to just allow this French thing to work its charms.

And now I remember the *croque madame* I had at Clayton's Bistro a few months ago. — such crunching, oozing goodness. So I ask for that. It comes out golden and thick and with a little forest of mixed greens nicely oiled. And it has a subtle but luscious flavor of garlic behind the cheese and

prosciutto. It's simple but oh-so filling.

Stephen comes out to check on his sidewalk customers. He's an interesting guy. Somehow got to Dubai, reveled in the architecture there (his daddy's an architect), and works mainly to get funds to do more travel. Even in this age.

Next time, I'm going for a *moules frites* breakfast, if I have \$18 to splurge. Love *moules frites*.

Sun's snaking along Hawthorn when I get up to leave. It's going to be a hot one, but this has been cool. ■

The Place: Zinqué Cafe, 2101 Kettner (at Hawthorn), Little Italy, 619-915-6172

Hours 7am-12am (till 2am, Friday, Saturday)

Prices: Granola, mixed berries, yogurt, \$8; breakfast sandwich (egg, muffin, tomato, basil, gruyere), \$8; mini egg white frittata, zucchini, \$3.50 (\$3.75 with cheese); soft scramble with Parmesan and herbs, \$13; "crispy, sunny eggs," prosciutto, Parmesan, \$15; prosciutto and gruyere croissant, mixed lettuces, \$11; baked eggs, chili, toasted baguette, \$14; quiche Lorraine, \$14; moules frites, fries, \$18; burger, \$15; steak frites, chimichurri or peppercorn sauce, \$24; breakfast egg sandwich, \$8;

Happy hour (Monday to Friday 4-7): pork belly tacos \$6; salami toast, \$4; country pate, \$5

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Gluten Schmooten

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Gluten Free Baking Co. makes desserts for all

The Gluten Free Baking Co.; 4594 30th St, North Park. A gluten free cinnamon roll shouldn't taste this good, I tell myself, before taking another bite. Then I recall what the woman behind the counter had told me.

"We sold out of the iced cinnamon rolls. The only ones left with icing are the vegan cinnamon rolls."

This isn't just gluten-free cinnamon roll, it's vegan too. And I'm devouring it. Only when my teeth break it down to crumbs do I notice a difference, a slightly

FEAST!

more granular texture, but by that point I'm distracted. Do I detect a hint of cardamom?

I've just picked it up from the tiny North Park bakery Gluten Free Baking Co. which had the misfortune to open in early February, just before the world of restaurant retail was upended by social distancing measures.

Amid this new normal, our social media channels have filled up with friends turned amateur bakers, who show off their homemade loaves, cakes, and bagels. And most of them look pretty good. But, no offense, friends, there is simply no way your gluten-free baking attempts come close to this.

Case in point: a mini lava cake, chocolaty decadent and smooth, and made without the help of gluten. This level of gluten-free baking success doesn't



Cupcakes in the case of Gluten Free Baking Co.



Gluten-free cream puffs, tough to distinguish from the glutenous kind.



A gluten-free strawberry vanilla glazed donut.



Decadent, gluten-free lava cake.

come without extensive practice. The founder

of this business has been at it for years, and professionally since 2015. According to the bakery's website, she was inspired by a gluten-free patisserie in Paris.

But this glass case is stuff with more typically American baked goods: cupcakes, cookies, muffins, and bagels. I spot a slice of cheesecake and several donuts. The bright pinkish red of a vanilla strawberry glazed donut gets my vote. It's in the style of a cake donut, with a spongy elasticity that doesn't quite match the original, but still works for this gluten-friendly eater.

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Candy cane brownies and ginger bread men, all gluten free.

However, when it comes to a pair of chocolate crème puffs, I question whether I could tell the difference between these and the “real” thing.

If you do prefer to gluten-free bake at home, this bakery is offering gluten-free cake and pancake mixes. And it sells gluten-free pasta as part of its covid-19 pivot. You may even find paper towels and toilet paper.

If you prefer contact-free pick up with your gluten-free baked goods, order through the website two days in advance for curbside pick-up. Choices include packaged boxes for \$20-24, each with

vegan and dairy-free options). Breakfast boxes include two each cinnamon rolls, muffins, and coffee cakes; bread boxes include half-loaves and bagels; dessert boxes net you assorted pastries, including that lava cake.

I shouldn't be amazed by the demand for this stuff anymore. A quick search of the new, searchable restaurant database on the *Reader* website shows well over a hundred local restaurants now regularly offering gluten-free options — and that includes pizza, pasta, and other breadly staples.

by Ian Anderson

After a weekend of unrest, lunch at El Chingon

El Chingon Bad Ass Mexican; 560 Fifth Avenue, Downtown San Diego. At a nearby table, a group of young women are discussing the weekend protests, which saw thousands of San Diegans demonstrate against police brutality. Primarily they express concern the message of peaceful protestors could be drowned out by the opportunistic destruction of those who only showed up to loot. The four women work in Gaslamp restaurants, but their jobs didn't bring them down here today,



El Chingon re-opens following a weekend of civil disquiet.

and neither did this lunch at El Chingon. They came downtown this Monday morning to help the cleanup effort that followed a tumultuous Sunday night.

As I drove into the city center, signs of yesterday's unrest were everywhere. Several blocks of Broadway were closed to traffic as police officers barricaded San Diego Police headquarters. Several retail storefronts exhibited broken glass; more had their windows covered with plywood — some since preemptively.



El Chingon taco plate: beans and rice with baja fish, al pastor, and carne asada with fried cheese tacos.

Other businesses worked to get their own plywood barriers up ahead of sundown.

I chose El Chingon for

lunch today, in part, because a Facebook friend had posted a photo of it this morning, with its own windows boarded up.



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After the weekend protests, police barricade the blocks around San Diego Police Headquarters.

But the plywood was down by time the Mexican restaurant opened for lunch, and from the outside things appeared relatively normal. But then, before I could enter, wearing a mask, my temperature was taken and my hands sprayed with hand sanitizer.

Oh yeah. We're still in the midst of a pandemic. It's tough to reconcile so many different, urgent matters taking place simultaneously. Some of the boarded-up downtown businesses have been that way since the

shutdown started in March, and as their ranks grow, the prevalence of plywood recalls many a dystopian sci-fi film.

Even for this food writer, it's tough to think about food at a time like this. Following the highly publicized riots, looting, and arson that took place in La Mesa Saturday night — in La Mesa! — a number of downtown businesses chose to close shop as protestors swelled in number downtown on Sunday afternoon, and especially after police deployed tear gas and

flash grenades in efforts to disperse them.

El Chingon was open Sunday, but from what I gather, it closed by 4:30 pm. Service staff helped board up the windows, and security staff stayed on to monitor the property.

It's especially tough to reconcile a place like El Chingon with these confounding times. The place is built around colorful depictions of Mexican culture: it makes playful use of Día de los Muertos décor, pumps

lively music through its loudspeakers, and specializes in agave spirit cocktails. More than anything, it's a fun place, designed for fun and celebration.

Now, thick plastic sheets form ad hoc barriers between booths to prevent the spread of coronavirus. TVs tuned to news coverage display images of both protestors and looters taking to the streets of American cities large and small.

The city is relatively calm this Monday lunchtime, and El Chingon still has a full menu to peruse, including take-out family meals of enchiladas, fajitas, and (thanks to sister restaurant Havana 1920), the classic Caribbean dish *ropa vieja*. For dine in, I'm at leisure to enjoy a \$14 taco plate. For my three tacos I chose Baja-style fried fish, al pastor, and carne asada wrapped in fried cheese.

I can't imagine what the universe has planned next for the struggling restaurant industry, but I hope it's something great for a change. Because even though it feels like the world is falling apart around us, the next day these good folk of the restaurant industry are getting up, cleaning up, and continuing to provide welcoming spaces.

by Ian Anderson

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blurt the inside track

Fifteen feet from stardom Local music fans might have done a double-take while watching Sir Elton John's performance at the 92nd annual Academy Awards ceremony of his song (which won an Oscar) "I'm Going To Love Me Again," when the show aired on February 9, 2020.

Yes, that was San Diego homegirl Rebecca Jade alongside five other

nationally broadcast award show involves a lot of preparation. Jade recounts her pre-performance week. "On day one all six of us met to rehearse in the Capitol Records building to learn our parts and get the sound down. Day two, we convened at the Dolby Theater and learned the choreography and got our blocking and rehearsed with a stand-in and the full band three



Local musician Rebecca Jade, second from right, performed with Elton John and his backup singers at the Academy Awards in February.

background vocalists accompanying the superstar. How did Jade score the gig? Turns out Sheila E. is the common denominator. Jade has been a background vocalist for Ms. E. for almost three years, often performing with Lynn Mabry (who was featured in the documentary *20 Feet From Stardom*.) "Lynn actually sang background on the original recording," Jade explains, "and the Academy wanted to use the same musicians. One of the women wasn't available, so she put in a good word for me and they obliged"

Accompanying a pop music legend on an inter-

times. On the third day we rehearsed with the band off-site and that's when we met Sir Elton. He was really nice and he came and introduced himself to each of the 18 musicians in the band. That takes us to Saturday, where we went back to the venue and did a full dress rehearsal. Finally on Sunday, we returned to the Dolby Theater, got into wardrobe, had our hair and makeup done and ran through the tune one more time. Then we had a few hours to kill before show time."

How did the show go? "I was pretty nervous, and I wanted to err on the side of caution, so I didn't

allow myself to look out at all the celebrities in the audience. I just stared at the empty aisle across

from me so I didn't lose my concentration and forget the choreography."

What did she do after? "We got to hang out backstage. All of us had gotten the chance to bond by then, so we just relaxed and watched the rest of the show. It was cool to be a part of it. It's a very well-oiled machine. After that I was happy to drive back to San Diego after a week in L.A. It was definitely a surreal experience."

— Robert Bush

"We got lucky right off the bat as far as playing shows. We honestly thought we would just play house

parties," says singer Brian Clinebell, whose band The Kabbs was about to celebrate a decade of local gigging when the pandemic shutdown happened. "Our friend Tyrone Taylor introduced us to touring bands that would stay at his place, like Jay Reatard or NoBunny, so it was pretty cool hanging with these guys. Ryan Rousseau from Destruction Unit asked us to play with them at the Ken Club after we did a little house party. I think the scene was really good back in the day, a lot of bands hung out at the same spots so everyone kind of knew each other. I think that helped us open for a lot of bands in town, and touring ones as well."

Clinebell notes that things were already getting more cutthroat before the live gigs stopped. "The scene was a competitive one, trying to put together a good show or get on a bill with some up-and-coming touring bands. It felt like a lot of us were all trying to jump on the same shows."

The Kabbs spent around a year working on their new self-titled full-length, recorded with Mike Kamoo at Earthling Studios and mastered by Rafter Roberts. Featuring a lineup of Clinebell, guitarist-singer Ryan Combs (Oh, Spirit),

bassist-guitarist Kyle Whatley (Tropic Popsicle), and drummer Tyler Ward (Oh, Spirit and Exfriends), the first single is called "Something to Lose." Says Clinebell, "The lyrics probably have the feel of breaking up with a girlfriend, or maybe the start of a relationship and blowing it at the start of something good. Also, it was the economic downturn as well, from what I can remember. I think I got laid off my first really good gig out of college as a graphic designer, so I had a ton of emotions going

"Brian did the cover art and design for the record," says Whatley. "We've been wanting to use this for so long. Brian created it for an art show a while ago, but I think us demoing a handful of songs out in the desert and this mix of psych, punk, and different melodies created a nice chaos where the artwork compliments the vibe of the record." An orange vinyl edition is also available.

"We have another video in the works for the next single, 'Spectrum.' Our friend Lucas Allen, a New



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The Kabbs were surprised by their own success: "We honestly thought we would just play house parties."

York City-based designer, does some great motion graphic work, so the next one will be animated."

— 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



THE GAY AGENDA

Founded in 2017 and calling themselves homo riot hardcore punks, the Gay Agenda features David Hurtt (Stalins of Sound), Luis Soraire (who played bass with Temblad before switching to drums), Matt Penning, and Garrett Ficacci. The band was the brainchild of Hurtt, who wanted to create heavy punk music in an openly and unapologetically queer vein. Following up on their self-titled 2018 EP, which blends punk and metal into a queercore cacophony, their new full-length *Penetrat-*

ing is due June 5 via La Escalera Records. Recorded entirely live in one take, the album was mixed and mastered by Ed Talorda, with cited influences including Limpwrist, the HIRS Collective, Napalm Death, Tragedy, and Disrupt. The lead single now available, “Homo Riot,” features Justin Pearson of The Locust, Retox, and Dead Cross. A vinyl version of the album includes a bonus track, a cover of Bjork’s 1995 anthem “Army of Me,” best known from the *Tank Girl* film soundtrack.



EVENING'S EMPIRE

“We’re bouncing souls who found each other on Craigslist and spent the last two years in a cocoon turning into what you see now,” says Evening’s Empire singer-guitarist-keyboardist Sam Strohbehn. “Everything is new for us. We have new singles, a new album, a new website and social media, and new merch. The world is new. The timing is crazy, but what are you going to do?” The alternative rock band includes Rock ‘n’ Roll San Diego honcho Shannon Woods, aka Shannon Sabin of the reformed Dinettes, and bassist-singer David Skolnik. In advance of their debut album *Alive*

For Us, dropping in July, their first single “Movies” was released May 15, followed this week by “Home” and “She Can Save,” due at the end of the month. “These past few years have definitely been some of the weirdest times we’ve ever seen in the world. With everyone so isolated, even before COVID-19, we wanted to make an album that is personal and brimming with life and optimism. The cover art is a piece called ‘Nostalgia,’ made by an artist called Frank Moth that spoke to us. It’s kind of a glimpse at recapturing the brighter future we used to all think lay ahead.”



WAYNE RIKER

As a member of the Guitar Institute, Wayne Riker has cohosted workshops around the world with A-list jazz and blues cats such as Larry Carlton, Robben Ford, Marty Friedman, Dave Grissom, and Duke Robillard. Known for his Quick Licks column in *Guitar Player* magazine, he’s also taken to telling stories between (and during) his instrumental performances, such as the time he met Jimi Hendrix cohort Randy California of Spirit, or how he was just about the only white guy at an intimate Hendrix concert, or the story behind how he

almost went to Woodstock in 1969 but instead ended up at a jazz fest featuring a brand-new group calling themselves Led Zeppelin. His 12th CD, *R&B Thunder*, was recorded at Studio West and released last year, and features six local soul vocalists singing individual featured tracks. His Wayne Riker Gathering is recording a follow-up album due this summer, *Blues Lightning*, featuring guest vocals from Lauren Leigh Martin, Michele Lundeen, Leonard Patton, Shelle Blue, Scott Mathiasen, and Deanna Haala.



TIMOTHY H

Based in Mission Beach, Timothy H has been a member of Mix Mob and the Dub Saints. “I’ve always liked the house beats out of Chicago,” he says, “but there is something about this place [San Diego] that makes for a real positive and laid back sound.” Citing influences such as Sublime, Run D.M.C, Chicago House Music, Bob Marley, Pearl Jam, and Pennywise, his debut solo full-length *Loved Or Hated But Never Ignored* was

released in 2012, with its first single “It’s A Good Day.” “When people say this is totally San Diego-style music, I take that as a huge compliment. This place has been my muse for this album, and that’s great people can hear that.” His 2017 single “Remedy” featured guest players from local stars P.O.D. and Slightly Stoopid. A new reggae/rock/pop single, “Three Waves Crashing,” dropped May 29 on all digital outlets.



THE NEW REGIME

Before becoming known for playing with NIN, Angels & Airwaves, Paramore, Beck, and M83, Ilan Rubin started his music career while still in grade school. He was 11 when he performed at Woodstock 1999 with local band Freak of Nature (aka FoN), which appeared on several Vans Warped tours, the same year that *Modern Drummer* declared him “Best Undiscovered Drummer Under the Age of 18.” After a tour overseas with Welsh rock act Lostprophets, and still not quite of legal drinking age, he became the drummer for Nine Inch Nails. Rubin

released a solo album in 2008, *Coup*, recorded under the band name the New Regime, a moniker he kept for a 2011 album, *Speak Through the White Noise*, entirely written, sung, and played by Rubin. Part one of his new four part EP series called *Heart, Mind, Body, & Soul*, was released in October 2019, with all four volumes now available. The backdrop of the new lyric video for “It’s Gonna Be OK” was filmed on the streets of a desolate New York City during the COVID-19 lockdown.

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:

Friday, 5pm — Live On Location: Lil Tjay at the Front Yard.
Friday, 6pm, Sunday, 8am — Michael McDermott Virtual Album Release.
Friday, 11am — Nuncheon Sessions: Lesibu Grand.
Friday, 4pm — Pray For Sleep: Behind Our Eyes.
Saturday, 8pm — Live On Location: Rico Nasty at the Studio.
Saturday, 2pm — Shining: Live at the Heavy Water Plant.
Sunday, 7pm — Gregory Page Almost Live Virtual Variety Show.
Sunday, 8pm — Live On Location: Tyla Yaweh at the Warehouse.
Sunday, 12pm — Rolling Stones Extra Licks.
Monday, 7pm — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.
Monday, 8pm — Waxahatchee Livestream. \$15-\$60.
Tuesday, 6:30pm — Rosa's Cantina Taco Tuesday Livestream Concerts.

Tuesday, 4pm — Seán Barna Livestream Release Show.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

A hateful little piece

I wish I could find the wherewithal to be a fan of classical music in the age of streaming. For a while, I watched out of obligation. That turned to watching out of guilt, and after the umpteenth youth orchestra performing 90 seconds of Beethoven that I've "gotta hear," I finally admitted the truth. I just don't enjoy it, at all. I'd rather look at an actual stream than another classical live stream.

I understand the importance of streaming classical music for organizations that need to stay in front of their audiences. I understand why a youth orchestra puts together a play-along. I also understand why they are short. It's a lot to coordinate. But though I understand it, I

still don't like it.

What other options are there? For youth orchestras, there are none. For everything else, there are a bazillion options. Why would I listen to the much publicized live-stream of Yo-Yo Ma playing the Bach *Cello Suites* when I can already hear him play them on any one of his three recordings, or when I can watch the well produced 2015 BBC Proms edition?

The production values are the number one factor in my disregard of streaming music. They vary dramatically.

I must admit that there are a few I've come across who are doing it quite well. Frequent San Diego violin soloist Augustin Hadelich has produced some fantastic vid-

eos of himself on both violin and piano. But obviously, those aren't live streamed as he can't play both at the same time.

Another I've enjoyed is frequent San Diego Opera artist Stephen Powell. A baritone by profession, Stephen has created some great videos of himself singing the tenor repertoire with a wink and a smile. I love this type of thing.

Yo-Yo Ma playing Bach, again is okay, but an operatic baritone masquerading as a tenor is golden. However, most of the other opera streams I've witnessed have been boring. I've given up on the free Metropolitan Opera streams altogether. (Guess I'll probably never pay to see



Yo-Yo Ma announcing his performance of Bach from Boston's WGBH on May 24

them in a movie theater if I can't bring myself to watch them for free at home.)

I like going to the concert hall. I like going to the opera house. The hard truth of the situation is that I'm not going to listen to the San Diego Symphony at home when I can listen to the Berlin Philharmonic instead. I'm not going to listen to any opera performers currently singing when I'm at home.

I don't like any of them enough compared to the greatest voices of all time.

Why am I writing this hateful little piece? Because I suspect there are others like me out there. There are others who wish they could get behind the streaming life, but just can't. To those kindred spirits I say, I hope we meet again in the concert hall before too long.

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UPCOMING SHOWS

Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, June 25 — Kraftwerk 3-D.

Belly Up Tavern:

Saturday, June 13 — Dead Man's Party.
Wednesday, June 17 — David Grisman's Dawg Trio. \$65-\$114.
Thursday, June 18 — David Grisman's Dawg Trio. \$65-\$114.
Wednesday, June 24 — Thao & the Get Down Stay Down.
Thursday, June 25 — Cracker.
Sunday, June 28 — Whitney Shay.

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Sunday, June 14 — Grupo Intocable.
Sunday, June 21 — La Adictiva.
Sunday, June 28 — Calibre 50.

House of Blues:

Saturday, June 27 — Ollie. \$12-\$14.

La Fleur's Winery:

Saturday, June 20 — Shay Skylar. Free.

La Jolla Community Center:

Friday, June 26 — Lori Bell, Ron Satterfield, Tommy Aros. \$18-\$25.

Music Box:

Friday, June 12 — The Routine.
Thursday, June 20 — Marc E. Bassy and Gianni & Kyle.
Friday, June 19 — Sir Veterano, Murs, Fashawn. \$20-\$30.
Saturday, June 20 — Queen Nation and Graceband. \$22-\$42.
Sunday, June 21 — Back to the Garden. \$22-\$24.
Friday, June 26 — RJD2 and DGTL CLR. \$25.

Observatory North Park:

Friday, June 12 — CHVRCHES.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, June 11 — Picture Show: A Tribute Celebrating John Prine.

Friday, June 12 — Live On Location: IDK at the Home Studio.

Saturday, June 13 — Live On Location: Shoreline Mafia at the Studio.

Sunday, June 14 — Gregory Page Almost Live Virtual Variety Show.

Sunday, June 14 — Live On Location: G Herbo at Studio M.

Monday, June 15 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.

Monday, June 15 — Waxahatchee Livestream. \$15-\$60.

Wednesday, June 17 — Fireside Sessions with David Nail.

Wednesday, June 17 — Kaki King: DATA NOT FOUND.

Sunday, June 21 — Gregory Page Almost Live Virtual Variety Show.

Monday, June 22 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.

Monday, June 22 — Waxahatchee Livestream. \$15-\$60.

Saturday, June 27 — Porch Pride Bluegrass Festival.

Saturday, June 27 — Josh Groban Livestream Concert.

Sunday, June 28 — Porch Pride Bluegrass Festival.

Sunday, June 28 — Gregory Page Almost Live Virtual Variety Show.

Monday, June 29 — Happy Ron's World Wide Community Sing Alongs.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, June 18 — Kevin Krauter.

Sunday, June 21 — Hazel English.

Thursday, June 25 — Heavy Heavy Low Low.

Saturday, June 27 — Hip-Hop & Poetry Night.



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Blue collar blues

At the same time many Americans are clamoring to get back to work, here comes a film about a man who refuses to be ousted from his job. Work gives us purpose; our jobs help to define who we are. What happens when an employee doesn't know the meaning of the word quit? Such is the plight of the inconspicuous toiler reluctantly made the center of attention in *Working Man*.

After decades at a routine job for a Rust Belt plastics company,

our titular laborer learns that his home away from home is shuttering. But that doesn't stop him from clocking in. Allery (Peter Gerety) is drawn to the plant, just as a George Romero zombie, back from the dead, might instinctively skedaddle to the shopping mall — it's a place that played an important role in their life. Neighboring co-workers look on in amazement as Allery makes his daily trudge through their small town, lunchbox in hand, to the manufactory. Even after the power is cut off, Allery refuses to stand lost in the foundry. With nothing to manufacture, he whiles away the days polishing the machine shop.

Deep in denial but pressed for an explanation, Allery tells his wife Iola (Talia Shire), "It's just something I need to do." It's been years since their son committed suicide, and their marriage has yet to recover. There is no anger between the two, just seared silence. Self-sufficient Allery's lunch consists of 4 rings of *braunschweiger* palm-pressed between two slices of white, a thermos of coffee, and a powdered donut for dessert. Even though we don't meet up with him until late in his life, it's a safe bet that Allery's routine hasn't altered in ages — at the very least, since his son died. After nine months working alongside Allery, Walter (Billy Brown) swears he's never heard him speak. But past events in Walter's life help him feel sympathy and respect for his shell-shocked co-worker. Rather than allow the locals to judge him, Walter turns Allery into the factory idol. With several outstanding orders to fulfill, Walter — banking on the plant reopening after news trucks in the parking lot turn them into social media sensations — encourages his co-workers to return to their jobs, if only on a temporary basis. He also credits the decision to an unwitting Allery.

Iola's transition from shock and disbelief to cheerleading wife is subtly personified. Shire is still playing Adrian Balboa, only now she's

married to a different kind of fighter. Character actor Peter Gerety has 51 television shows and 45 features to his credit. Several of his movies have a permanent spot in my DVD cellar (*The Curse of the Jade Scorpion*, *Changing*, *Paul Blart: Mall Cop*). The face seemed familiar, but without the help of IMDB, I was at a loss to name one. He's a chameleonic descendant of the royal families of Charles Durning or Kenneth McMillan, a character actor whose general imperceptibility made him a natural to play Allery. It's the role of a lifetime.

Films about passive heroes have a soft spot in my heart; how difficult must it be to make a non-entity compelling? Not a patch on *The Last Emperor*, *Vera Drake*, or *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, first-time director Robert Jury's *Working Man* finds suspense amidst the humdrum, and love among the rubble of a marriage put on hold. ★★★

—Scott Marks

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

The Lovebirds — "Documentaries are TV shows that no one watches," Leilani (Issa Rae) fires back at her husband Jibrán (Kumail Nanjiani), a documentarian who fancies himself a "social activist." No sooner does the couple decide to cancel their four-year relationship than they're witnesses to murder. That leaves the filmmakers with two mysteries to solve: whodunit, and how to reconcile the busted romance? The script calls for Leilani and Jibrán to bicker incessantly, leaving director Max Showalter incapable of generating the illogical universe needed to make his unreasonable characters ring true. Prevailing pop-culture references supplant conversation — we interrupt our frantic dinner patter for a mood-shattering riff on the depth of metal milkshake cups. The poise, potency, and believability that Issa Rae brought to *The Photograph* are nowhere in sight. Leilani's a non-stop panic attack, while Nanjiani's Jibrán desperately whines over her dialogue. I wanted to enjoy my time spent with these characters, but Showalter never gave me the chance. 2020. —S.M. ★

Survive the Night — It's *Of Mice and Men* meets *Desperate Hours* when a pair of thickheaded criminals on the lam take refuge in the home of negligent sawbones Rich (Chad Michael Murray) and his family. The main draw



Working Man: Peter Gerety stars as a different sort of invisible man.

is Bruce Willis in a supporting role as Rich's competitive dad. It's not the worst of Willis (I missed *Trauma Center*, his previous pairing with director Matt Eskandari), but his performance couldn't be any less effective were he computer generated. How dumb does it get? "We're not here to hurt anyone," Mathias (Jon Olson) informs his hostages just moments after Jamie (Shea Buckner), his trigger-happy brother, takes out a member of the family. And with a yawning hole in his leg, Mathias elects to wait until sunrise to search the grounds for the doc to finish stitching him up. Never mind the night; I'll lay you eight to five that you won't survive 89 minutes. 2020. —S.M. ●

Up from the Streets: New Orleans: The City of Music

Did you know that opera made its American debut in New Orleans (not New York), and that Cuba once referred to New Orleans as its long-lost sister city? The all-encompassing topic of the origins and history of New Orleans jazz demands an epic seven-part documentary series along the lines of *The Blues*. A mere 104 minutes can't possibly do it justice, but damn if director Michael Murphy and executive producer/host Terence Blanchard don't try. (Apart from being a distinguished jazz trumpeter, Blanchard is a prolific composer for such films as *Bamboozled*, *Original Sin*, *The Comedian*, etc.) For those unfamiliar with Jellyroll Morton, Allen Toussaint, Mahalia Jackson, Louis Prima, Irma Thomas, and Louis "Punk Rock" Armstrong, I suggest you have pen and paper in hand to jot down the names of the performers covered for further research. And if you're like me (and Blanchard), the first thing you'll do when it's over is track down a copy

of Lennon & McCartney's "Blackbird." 2019. —S.M. ★★★

Movie theatre eats at home

With their screens boarded up for the duration, Reading Cinemas has found a way to bring the moviegoing experience to your home. No, not the rental of two prattling children and a team of obtuse husband-and-wife texters; rather, a concession stand array of tasty treats delivered directly to

your door. The menu includes classic movie favorites — freshly-popped popcorn available by the tub or three-foot family-bag, hot dogs, pretzels, and an assortment of Nestle candies. For those with more demanding taste buds, try their handmade turkey club sandwich on toasted bread, fresh-baked cookies (choice of snickerdoodle, peanut butter or chocolate chunk) and chicken tenders (playing exclusively at Grossmont). Available to order for curbside pickup or on the Uber Eats App.

MOVIES@HOME

THE KILLER THAT STALKED

NEW YORK (1950)

Sheila (Evelyn Keyes) had a headache. Was it a premonition that her husband (Charles Korvin) was carrying on an affair with her younger sister (Lola Albright)? In all probability, it was the T-man, hot on the trail of \$50,000 in Cuban ice, who followed her off the train at Penn Station. But diamonds weren't the only thing she was trafficking. Sheila was smallpox in the form of blonde death, a killer out of the past let loose among millions. (She had passed



The Killer That Stalked New York: Blonde death.

through an area of contagion, and with no quarantine restrictions between Cuba and the U.S., it was easier smuggling the disease across the border than the diamonds.) Breath means death; one out of three will perish. The only hope was to

vaccinate the entire city. Seldom has a 70-year-old film felt this topical. You'll gasp at something as simple as children pressing their lips against a public water fountain

that just moments earlier quenched Sheila's thirst. An overdone climax staged on a five-story ledge notwithstanding, screenwriter Harry Essex and directorial one-hit wonder Earl McEvoy walk us documentary-style through as many examples of how a disease spreads as 79 minutes will allow.

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PERSONALS

I'LL BE 65 IN AUGUST (but big whoop) I recall asking my mom "what you going to be when I grow up?" well I'm still not grown up & no plans yet.

KATHERINE Z. your message is uplifting in this world turned upside down. I will cherish them and hold my breath. love, Frank Z.

WANTED: HUGS AND TOILET PAPER what else is there?? So happy.

BJ & TERI NYSTROM Hope you are doing well, stay healthy. Brian B

STEVE & CHERYL EISENBERG Stay healthy and enjoy the summer. Brian B

MY DEAR FRANK so good to hear from you. I love you with all my heart. Before you know it we will be in each other's arms.

RFK you served me oysters on the half shell and mackerel in Carlsbad, both sunburned with an unquenchable thirst. Baja in July? LV

DEAR PICKLE, I Love You. Muahhh!. -Babe

BARBARA EVANS Hope you enjoy a good birthday and another healthy year to come. Brian B & Mernie A

BRIAN'S USHERS AT LJ PLAYHOUSE when the season resumes, hope to see you all in good health. Brian B & Mernie A

COLLEGE AREA SENIOR CENTER seniors, stay well and hope to see you when the center reopens. Brian & Bruce

ED & RUBY GINN Hope you are well and we'll see you at the cinema when films resume. Brian & Bruce

ELISSA IN SAN CARLOS Hope you stay well and continue in good health. Brian B

MERNIE A in Morena & Pat G in El Cajon, hope you continue in good health. Brian B

MIMI (ANGELINE) Hope you stay well and get lot's of gardening finished. Brian B

WALT & SANDY W Gary & Marsha R stay well and keep at it. Brian B

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

NOTICES

FREE EMERGENCY MEALS FOR KIDS AND TEENS IN LAKESIDE Daily from Monday - Friday 3:30 pm to 5 pm, kids' meals are available in front of the Lakeside Community Center on Vine St. The San Diego Food Bank and Heavens Window have partnered to help families.

NOTICE This is a notice stating that Michelle D. Hastings is no longer responsible for Christopher S. Hastings' poor spelling of words like "accrue."

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!



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CAMPO INDIAN RESERVATION the community prays that the turbine project is terminated the future of your reservation and your children depend on a safe environment.

COWBOY THEATER Watch the 100 best B-Western movies on COX cable, North 18 and South 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!

LALO ORAGAMI KIDS/CRAFT VIDEOS Arts and craft videos. J.T. productions; "The Hands That Facebook," "El Perro Gigante," "Zappa Beefheart," "10PM," "Concrete Summers Day." 619-528-0907

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LEARN MAH JONGG ON ZOOM Using Zoom and Real Mah Jongg Online app for Meettup during the Covid 19 duration. A phone interview prior to membership is obligatory. We play mah jongg using the current National Mah Jongg League card and rules. www.meetup.com/Southwest-Houston-Mah-Jongg/



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SDSU ROOMMATE WANTED \$700 / 140ft2 - bedroom available in SDSU area. It is available August 1, 2020. 2 car garage, swimming pool (maintained), washer/dryer, great stove, microwave, dish washer, fireplace (gas) lawn maintained, parking. (619) 549-6992

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RENTALS

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NORTH PARK, \$1475. 1BD+1BA, deposit \$1475, available now. Laundry on site, parking space assigned, water and trash included. No pets. 4169 Alabama St #1. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORTH PB, \$1640-1780. 1 bedroom units. Block to ocean. Remodeled kitchen/ bath, upgraded tile, garden window. Berber carpet, sunny, spacious, front yard. Craigslist: 8XY DIAMOND. 760-829-3083.

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\$1300 SUBLET IN ENCINITAS I am looking for a female (sorry men) to take over my lease which will be through the end of September. The lease can start at the earliest June 15th and the lease would end at the end of September, which would be a 3.5 month lease if started then. (808) 222-7421



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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. Piscina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

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.

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.

REAL ESTATE

GORGEOUS 3/2, ONLY \$249,900, VA ELIGIBLE End unit, completely renovated with garage and laundry setup. obhelen@yahoo.com

INVESTOR SPECIAL IN OCEAN BEACH 2bed/2bath with garage \$419k. Fire damage, needs

work. (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@yahoo.com

TWELVE DESERT ACRES near El Paso. Easy access. Only \$6,375. Low monthly payments. 442-615-0933

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE 2br 2ba, approx. 1,100 sqft. Located in Lynwood Mobile Estates, nice quiet end lot in 55+ community in El Cajon. \$55,000. Call (619) 851-8630 for more information.



NOW TOURING BANKERS HILL APARTMENTS WITH VIEWS Brand new large and modern apartments in Bankers Hill. Amazing views. High end finishes. Touring today-call for more information. Newly completed renovation! Up to 2 parking spaces included. Walk to Balboa Park, Hillcrest, Little Italy. Spacious private balconies. Spectacular views of downtown/ water. Text 505 506 0415 Now for a 3D tour link: <https://www.showmetherent.com/2308-Albatross-St-San-Diego-CA-92101> (505) 506-0415 / cceresia@san.rr.com

BAY HO RANCHER ON LARGE LOT IN CLAIREMONT Great opportunity in Bay Ho in a very quiet neighborhood, located on a loop, so very little through traffic. Home is a generous sized rancher with 4 beds, 2 full baths, and 2 car garage. Add your personal touches, a dwelling unit (for additional income) and create your own paradise. Did I mention very large lot? 9000 sq ft. Backyard is big enough for DU and still have room to entertain. Principals only, please - Agents please refer to MLS. Aireal: <http://Click.2.vu/4125QuawpawAve-SD> Katrina Hamilton, DRE 01410352. Direct: 858-405-4407 www.lifeisabeach92109.com (858) 405-4407 / list92101@gmail.com

MUSIC

1993 TAYLOR 810 DREADNOUGHT ACOUSTIC GUITAR - \$1749 Vintage 1993 Taylor 810 Dreadnought acoustic guitar made of solid rosewood back and sides, and a sitka spruce top. \$1749 OBO.

Reasonable offers considered. (808) 635-4936

FENDER JAGUAR BASS GUITAR Mint condition Fender Jaguar Bass with active electronics. Squier line. \$239. Call/text Mike 619-316-3143

GET YOUR MUSIC HEARD 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. www.blitzrecording.com (619) 260-0837



DRUMMER WANTED FOR HARD ROCK/METAL BAND We looking for a drummer who can compose: groovy, hard rock / heavy metal drum beats (619) 674-7844

HONDO 2 GUITAR Hondo 2 guitar model H119A. Nice condition, normal wear, a few scratches, missing one tuning knob. \$200. (760) 214-4007

LATIN SOUL BAND AVAILABLE FOR BOOKING The "Albert Picon Latin Soul Duo" is available to perform for weddings, birthday parties, quince-eras, family reunions, grand openings, anniversaries, art galleries, and more. (626) 646-8858

SILVER OSTRICH UKELELE CASE - \$50 Inner dimensions: 25" long x 7.5" wide. Anything smaller or perhaps a little bigger will fit also. \$50 (619) 846-6378

SINGER LOOKING FOR GUITARISTS FOR ALTERNATIVE PUNK POP I'm a lead singer from past cover bands. I just moved back to San Diego 1 year and a half ago. Looking for 90s and 2000s alternative style music punk rock musicians. (951) 415-7469

JE. SINCERE EVENTS GO GLOBAL Charlton Solomon Adler also known by the stage names of Je. Sincere, is an American business mogul, record executive, promotions / marketing director, club owner and restaurant owner. Born in San Francisco, California and raised

in San Diego, Adler first gained prominence as a club promoter in the early 2000s and eventually purchased a liquor to his own establishment Modinis restaurant Corp in 2008. Je. Sincere from EMEF has events set to launch in New Orleans, San Diego and Miami this upcoming fall. Check out all events on new website www.Jesincere.com



NEED A MARIACHI?! Serenade the most important person in your life. Call/text for any questions. (619) 710-5255

AKAMIKEBERRY San Diego artist AkaMikeBerry from EMEF has released a new music video called Big Bands. Along with his new website www.AkaMikeBerry.com

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

LOTS OF MUSIC BOOKS FOR SALE I have dozens of music books I'd like to sell, mostly classic rock, some blues. These are standard books showing the piano part, chords, lyrics, etc. Please e-mail me at donnamackersie@att.net for a list of books in PDF or Word. (619) 424-6133 / donnamackersie@att.net

25 FAKE BOOKS misc, TheReal Books volumes in Eb, C, Bb for saxes, trumpets, piano. New condition, half price. Questions and prices call 619-264-3686.

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

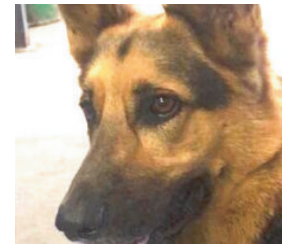
UNIVERSAL SOUND Monthly creative band musicians lock-out rehearsal private practice AC studios now available. (858) 401-2973

PETS

CORRAL 10". X. 12". Metal. Sunshade. Like new. \$100.00. 619-438-4567



ALL DOGS DRAW PEOPLE and I draw all dogs. Pet portraits in color pastels. 619-762-0590



LOST GERMAN SHEPARD BY HIGHWAY 80 Last seen on Silva Road and answers to "La Paz." He's brown, black and has white

RENTALS

DOWNTOWN \$525-880



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



markings. Please call if you find him. (619) 980-2508

LOOKING FOR SMALL OLDER female dog who is looking for a loving home. 619-795-7979

LEOPARD GECKO Male fancy leopard gecko, 1 year (858) 361-6826 / brandolync@gmail.com

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



PING PONG SOCIAL Do you have fond memories of playing Ping Pong with friends and family? Then this Meetup is for you. www.meetup.com/Ping-Pong-Social/



SDRC - SOCIAL DISTANCING LONG RUN Runners must try to run 6 feet apart. All runners must wear mask at the start (no mask required while running). Please bring and carry your own fuel/water and hand sanitizer for when you finish. Bayshore Bikeway (Silver Strand Bikeway). www.meetup.com/sandiegounclclub

FLAT BAR SKATE RAILS FOR SKATEBOARDING - \$110 I make custom flat bars in any size or height. Prices start at \$110 w/ bare metal. I can deliver to North County area for a small fee. Hit me up with any questions you might have (760) 622-7260



COME PLAY FLAG FOOTBALL AT UNIVERSITY CITY Games are at Nobel Athletic Field from 10:30 - 1 pm on Saturdays. Look for people setting up cones and warming up with footballs. Usual spot is by basketball court in center of park. Occasionally play on the soccer fields on the south end of the park. www.meetup.com/Nobel-Park-Flag-Football-Meetup/

LEARN TENNIS Come join us for our annual summer tennis camp on our beautiful campus. 3 sessions are offered to any kids, any levels, from 8 to 18 years old. Week 1: June 15 to June 19. Week 2: July 6 to July 10. Week 3: August 3 to August 7. https://goaztecs.com/ (619) 977-8280 / jthomsen@sdsu.edu

LEARN TO KITEBOARD We are a group interesting in all kinds of action sports, like standup paddle boarding, windsurfing, sailing, kitesurfing, rock climbing, diving, volleyball, and more. (858) 224-2629 / maxairkb@gmail.com

2M+ SWIM AT THE OCEANSIDE PIER Meet at the picnic tables on the south side of the pier and we start at 8 am. Confirm to Steve by text at 760.822.4529 to make sure the Saturday long swim is scheduled. www.meetup.com/Carlsbad-Ocean-Swimming/ (760) 822-4529

GOLF BAG WITH CLUBS - \$80 6 clubs are right hand and 10 are left hand. In Oceanside. Text please - 760-579-3456

SOCCER BALLS - \$40 Four size 5 soccer balls. All for \$40. Text me 760-846-6677.

TRIATHLON CLINIC Transitions and course for the CVC San Diego Half Triathlon. Get ready to swim, bike and run! This will be a triathlon clinic teaching you how to improve your triathlon skills or even how to get ready for your very first triathlon. Bryan@rehabunited.com

TUESDAY NIGHT FRISBEE 7:30 PM to 9:30 pm every week on Tuesday @ Walker Wangenheim Park at 10440 Black Mountain Road San Diego. How to find us: if you want some help with directions, you can reach me at 661-364-5610

SHIMANO TIAGRA A 50W REEL Cover, original box, brand

new, never been used. Two speed. Asking \$450 or best. 858-228-6044

BICYCLES

2017 SPECIALIZED AMIRA EXPERT 2017 Specialized Amira Expert UDI2 from Boels-Dolmans cycling team - \$2900. (858) 729-8421

24" REVCORE CRUISER BMX 24" Revcore cruiser from the early 90s with chrome finish \$1000 o.b.o (619) 300-3364



HIS AND HER BIKES - \$610 Ladies 21 speed Diamondback and Men's Greenline 26" beach cruiser - \$610 (858) 486-2597

JAMIS DAKAR 21" - \$550 Jamis Dakar 21" full suspension mountain bike in excellent condition - \$550



TOP END FORCE 2-HANDCYCLE - \$1800 Three-wheel bike, trike, recumbent bike, \$1800. (951) 531-7733



VINTAGE PINK BEACH CRUISER - \$75 Vintage KHS pink girls/ladies beach cruiser bike - \$75. 619-798-6115 I am in the College Area near SDSU.

BLUE SCHWINN FASTBACK FIXIE/ROAD - \$275 Schwinn high end road bike new was \$900. Size 54. Currently a Fixie ultra light. Have all equipments convert back to multi gear. All you need is new chain and tune up. Asking \$275 obo (760) 448-0016

LADIES COMMUTER, CRUISER - \$625 IN TIERRASANTA Just in time for the big weekend, Breezer ladies 20 speed bike. This is size small but because of the step through fits 5'11" to 5'11". (251) 923-7858

TREK MOUNTAIN BIKE - \$1800 Selling a 2012 full suspension Trek session 88 Trek's Session 88. Call or text 619-333-6887.

MOTORIZED BIKE Call for details. (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

MOTORCYCLES



2007 HONDA SILVER WING Strong engine with recently

replaced seals. 47+ mpg. 49085 miles. I've been riding it but it will require a front steering bearing. \$1600 c/cruzer@gmail.com

1976 HONDA GOLDWING GL1000 - \$585 Has Vetter fairings and boxes. Just over 20,000 miles on engine, new radiator, new gas tank and many extra parts. I started to restore it but due to health issues I can not complete. Presently not running but was running when I started the project. (619) 987-4981

1986 KAWASAKI KZ1000P - \$3500 Selling my 1986 vintage classic Kawasaki KZ1000P police bike. Text or lv a message and I will get back to you. (760) 419-9480

2000 HONDA VFR8000 - \$2900 I have the stock mirrors, two matching helmets and a jacket that I will include with the sale. Absolutely no leaks and runs like a very well maintained Honda! Call or text 619-796-8712

AUTOMOTIVE

1923 T BUCKET REPLICA 350 cubic inches, 400 automatic transmission, dual edelbrock, 4 barrel carbs, Mickey Thompson tires, \$9,500 OBO. 619-448-1826

HYUNDAI SANTA FE SUV 2004, \$7,000 like new, white over gray. Will trade for three wheel Honda motorcycle 2010 or newer, like new as well. Call 760-420-3641, must leave message, San Marcos.

2000 LEXUS SC300 Under 66K miles, super condition, new tires & wheels, BT dvd usb, backup camera & backup sensors. Call for info. (619) 840-8149 / mjackson8070@outlook.com

HYUNDAI SUV 2004 \$7,000 everything works, looks good, runs perfect, 130,000 miles, will trade for three wheel Honda Motorcycle 2008 or newer. Call 760-420-3641, must leave message.

2001 MERCEDES BENZ C320 low miles, fully loaded, leather seats, non smoker, well maintained. \$4,450 call 619-948-1041

1981 EL CAMINO \$8,000. want a truck 63 to 75 Gmc Chev 63 to 68 dodge will credit truck trade toward sell price text 619-631-9258.

1995 GMC BANDURA 2500 high top conversion van, TV, stereo, needs oil pump, sell as is. Has rust, new \$500 tires, gold, \$1,000 OBO. 619-408-9517

1997 LEXUS ES 300 Midsize luxury package, pearl white with tan leather interior. All power and luxury options, low miles, \$3,495. Call 619-948-1429.

2001 BMW Z3 ROADSTER 2.5 engine, Rare 5 Spd. Manual, only 87K miles, in excellent mechanical condition! Car located in San Diego. \$7495 OBO, 619-955-3248

97 CROWN VICTORIA v8 auto, heavy duty suspension, have smog and service records. \$2,200 619-542-0472

HELP WANTED

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

MM WAVE-IC DES. ENGR Renesas Electronics America,

in San Diego, CA is in need of: MM Wave-IC Des. Engr. (job#XH0515) Des trnsvr circuits for 5G & sat comm sys. Refer to job#. Apply: us-hr-staffing@dm.renesas.com

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

SR. ANALYST, OPERATIONS FINANCE Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD) seeks a Sr. Analyst, Operations Finance in San Diego, CA to provide general acct. and reporting support. Req. MS + 2 or BS + 5 yrs exp. To apply mail resume to: (BD), Attn: Cecilia Sam, 3750 Torrey View Ct., San Diego, CA 92130. Must reference Job Title: Sr. Analyst, Operations Finance; Code: 000912. EOE.

HIRING A WAITER AND A HOST at La Carmela Restaurant. Requirements: have official documents to work in USA, a good presentation and a good attitude, proficient in the English language. (619) 856-4370



SEEKING MEXICAN FOOD COOKS Join our team. We are hiring experienced cooks of Mexican food. Send us an email ponchosmexicanfood@gmail.com or apply in person! ponchosmexicanfood@gmail.com

DENTAL ASSISTANT WANTED Caring dental assistant wanted with over 2 years experience for 5-6 month maternity leave position for a small, family-friendly practice in Lemon Grove. If you are kind and dependable, please fax your resume and professional references (619) 463-9317.

CAREGIVER WANTED Reliable, able-bodied for 24 hour caregiving shifts. \$120 per 24 hour shift. No drinking, smoking, visitors, pets, children. san diegocar@yahoo.com

CAREGIVER (EAST COUNTY)

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

HANDY PERSON WANTED Dependable, able bodied, energetic worker wanted for Mira Mesa home repairs and yard work. \$8 per hour, non-negotiable. mysandiegocar@yahoo.com

HAVE A SPARE BEDROOM? Earn a competitive stipend caring for an adult with a developmental disability in your home. www.MentorsWanted.com. 858-694-0120.

SEAFOOD PROCESSORS Summer jobs in Alaska! From July 1-September 1. \$12.19 per hour straight time, \$18.29 overtime. We offer referral bonuses and a travel incentive

for those completing the season. Come join our team! Visit us at www.hookedonfish.com. Petersburg Fisheries, Division of Iclite Seafoods, Inc., 1-877-772-4294.

VOLUNTEER TO READ TO KIDS Want to make a difference? Join us every weekend to read to a child in need in one of our StoryTents. Visit travelingstories.org/volunteer today!

JOBS WANTED

YOUNG FIT GUY FOR GENERAL LABOR/ODD JOBS Hi, I'm looking to earn some extra money doing yard work, cleaning, or you name it. Text only to 619-966-5165 or 619-332-7347. Have transportation. Seniors welcome. Thank you (619) 966-5165 / fianagan619@gmail.com

FULL-TIME JOB High school/college graduate Southern Californian with reliable transportation. Seeking steady full-time employment in Mira Mesa, La Jolla, North County. Dale Hauskins (858)401-2973

WANTED / TRADE

ADULT TRI WHEEL BIKE Not selling. WANTED. Need bike delivered, budget \$50 or less. If more, not interested. Please text. 619-631-9258 PLEASE serious only

HANDICAP SCOOTER Seeking used handicapped scooter to buy for disabled senior. Please call 619-523-1872, Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 10.

LOOKING FOR DAD'S OLD TUBE STEREO I am an electronics hobbyist, and I am looking for a 1960's vintage Tube Type Stereo components to refurbish, such as Fisher, Scott, Marantz & more. Please call Jack. I pay cash *619) 296-3100 (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

MISC WANTED Rolex watch, pocket watch, military rings, school rings. Cell/text #619-279-7833.

WANT HOMEGROWN CHICKEN EGGS in Lemon Grove near San Miguel and lg ave area. Text 619-631-9258.

WANTED: OLD VW BUG, BUS Clean out your yard and garage. I buy parts too. Cell/text# 619-279-7833.

OLD STEREO EQUIPMENT Working or not ok. Amplifier, receiver, tuner, turntable, speaker, microphone, preamp, or? Call or text 619-279-7833.

YOUR OLD BASEBALL, FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, OR HOCKEY CARDS We want to buy your old baseball, football, basketball, or hockey cards and memorabilia for cash now. Call or text us at (760) 607-6806. (760) 607-6806 / Membership@CollectingAll.com

HONDA MOTORCYCLE three wheel, wanted or trade. Must be 2010 or newer, will trade for 2004 Hyundai Santa Fe SUV, everything works perfect and looks great, 130,000, very clean. Motorcycle must have helmets, jackets, legal clean title, same as Hyundai. Call 760-420-3641, must leave message.

WANT SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE Dated November 2017, 619-708-3152.

TRADE CRAFTSMAN GAS LAWNMOWER with bag for electric lawnmower with bag. Bit

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Yours, your fathers, your husbands or grandfathers trains stored in a box in the garage for years, call Bob at 760-579-2234. Top prices paid at your location. Also, MTH, American Flyer and LGB. Sell with confidence from Bob The Train Guy.

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WANTED FREE MOPED as long it runs. With permanent tagless lic plate. Not perfect is fine, would need delivered please text 619-631-9258.

SPONSORSHIP NEEDED by senior in San Diego. Needing a full dining room table and four matching chairs. Any framed large pictures would be helpful. Please call 619-488-0822.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES Rock & roll. I buy 1950s-1980s concert posters, flyers, handbills, used-unsold tickets, programs. Pls call 619-522-0283. Private party.

FISHING TACKLE Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & misc. by Heddon Creek Chub, Pflueger, South Bend, Shakespeare to name just a few. Call or text pictures to: 619-972-3488.

STEREO GEAR/LP RECORDS Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, 619-889-5237.

WANTED: NEW HF HAM RADIO Will trade for my \$800 violin. Please text 619-393-2253

WANTED: SPEAKERS, AMPS and other old stereo gear! The most cash paid always! Brands like JBL, Altec, McIntosh, Marantz and more! Call 1(619)-303-8031; e-mail JBL@cox.net.

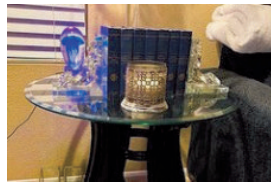
WANT USED AVIATION MAGAZINES and Radio Control Car Action magazine back issues. Please donate to me 760-912-1775.

WILL PAY CASH... For records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional singing lessons available. Musicians wanted. Call Jeff Clark, 858-382-7396.

GARAGE SALES

MOVING, BARGAINS

everything must go. 5051 Lenore Dr. San Diego 92115, Wednesday 7:30am.



ESTATE SALE IN CARMEL VALLEY Downsizing to a smaller place lots of beautiful furniture and housing items for sale. Contact for details, serious buyers only. Text 832-372-9327



JUNE 6/7 COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE IN OCEANSIDE

Join us for our annual community garage sale. One of the few places to "shop" during the pandemic. Furniture, kids toys, clothes, decor, tools, plants, vehicles, dirt bikes, and more. Sellers will follow state of CA safety requirements. Buyers please wear masks.

VIRTUAL GARAGE SALE IN OCEANSIDE We will be having many things for sale and everything must go. Call before coming, as items will be inside and not all pictured here. All this week. (760) 730-5124

I BUY GARAGE SALE LEFTOVERS If you're having a garage sale this weekend call me before its over I will buy leftovers for \$20 or more. Give me a buzz, I have a 5-star rating on Yelp and a cool guy. 619-670-6611, Cobain.

FOR SALE

DINING ROOM TABLE TOP granite top in good condition, please call 619-316-5709, \$400.

FOUR NEW TIRES BFGoodrich, 255/70R16, brand new, excellent condition, \$450. 619-576-8196

PREVAIL CHUCKS woman's daily underwear with odor guard, size large. 18 to a pack, \$7. Under pads or chucks, 30 inches by 36 inches, 10 to a pack, \$7. In San Diego, call anytime. Marie 619-488-0822

ROUNDTRIP TICKET IN US on Southwest Airlines, \$325. 619-283-8417

SHOPPING CART WITH WHEELS Wire shopping cart with wheels. Sturdy and in good shape. Built to last. \$15. (619) 223-9236

SPORTS CARDS baseball, basketball, football, hockey, 40 year collection. Must sell, make offer. Plus miscellaneous magazines and paraphernalia. Joe, 619-562-1129, 1639 Templewood Drive, El Cajon, California 92021.

STOVE O'KEEFE MERRITT 35 center grill, \$200. Frigidaire, 33 in clean, \$100. Amana Dryer, gas, \$50. 619-220-6888

FATHER'S DAY COFFEE MUGS Let this be a funny mug for Father's Day for your loved ones. New, mug features funny saying. Enter promo code "Daddy" and get free shipping. Go to Grumpyjuice.co

2 PLOTS AT GLEN ABBEY MEMORIAL PARK 2 burial plots in a beautiful area of Glen Abbey. Section 29, Block 11. Near Rose Cottage. Call Caroline to discuss. (619) 426-9100 / ddpeace@ymail.com

DELUXE SUITCASE 32 in, brand new in box, large wheels. Cost \$90, sell for only \$60. 760-727-2510 in Vista.

CHILE GUAJILLO FOR BREAKFAST OR LUNCH? With authentic Mexican ingredients, La Carmela brings you the flavor of Mexico to your home. (619) 352-0594



DELL LAPTOP - INTEL I / 6GB RAM / SSD HD Selling my Dell laptop. Fresh copy of Windows 10 + anti-virus, new battery. Asking... \$275. (619) 770-0011 / luislednick@gmail.com

POWER DISTRIBUTION BOX BLOCK CIRCUIT BREAKER Power distribution box block circuit breaker for amplifier 2 4 8 AWG gauge. Brand new. (619) 770-0011 / luislednick@gmail.com

YUMMY CREPES IN SPRING VALLEY Pick up only in Spring Valley. Cash only. (619) 254-5970

CDS, BOOKS, STUFFED ANIMALS I've got hundreds

of CDs in excellent condition at \$5 each, and less for large purchases - mostly classic rock, blues, and traditional jazz, with a few classical. Also have music books and other books, dozens of stuffed animals, all in excellent condition. I've placed all the stuffed animals on and around a large chair in my home so your children may choose the ones they like best! \$1-10 each, depending on size. Please e-mail me at donnackersie@att.net to set up an appointment to stop by my house on 5th Street in IB. (619) 424-6133 / donnackersie@att.net

METAL RACKS adjustable particle board shelves. 4 foot tall, 3 foot length, 2 foot wide. \$25 each, or all five for \$100. 619-838-9310.

FABRIC FACEMASKS \$5 Super fun cute fabric facemasks. New patters all the time. (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

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Fun With Mannequins

— Some sports teams eager to return to the field have taken to placing cardboard figures of fans in stadium seats to enhance the experience for viewers, but the FC Seoul soccer club in South Korea was forced to apologize May 18 after propping up sex dolls in the seats for its match against Gwangju FC, *The New York Times* reported. "We had tried to add some fun in the no-spectator match," the club explained. "But we have not checked all the details, and that is clearly our fault." "Details" included the buxom physiques and obvious logos of sex toy marketers on the dolls' clothing that fans watching quickly noticed. "We had confirmed that although the mannequins were made to look just like real people, they had nothing to do with adult products," the statement said, but the club admitted it had neglected to do a background check of the supplier, which makes sex dolls.

— Dinner at the renowned three-Michelin-star Inn at Little Washington in Virginia can set diners back a pretty penny -- unless they're not eating. When the Inn opens on May 29, some of its patrons will be mannequins, reported the Associated Press, attired in fancy 1940s clothing and placed strategically at tables to help with social distancing. "We're all craving to gather and see other people right now," said Patrick O'Connell, the Inn's proprietor and chef. "They don't all necessarily need to be real people."

Rebellion Served Cold

— An unnamed ice cream shop in Hong Kong is offering tear gas-flavored ice cream in support of the region's pro-democracy movement, reports the Associated Press. The shop's owner explained he wanted "to make a flavor that reminds people that they still have to persist in the protest movement and don't lose their passion." "It tastes like tear gas," said customer Anita Wong. "It feels difficult to breathe at first, and it's really pungent and irritating. It makes me want to drink a lot of water immediately." The owner tried several different combinations to achieve the flavor and found that black pepper came the closest. Before coronavirus restrictions, he said the store was selling 20 to 30 scoops per day.

Why Not?

— In Japan, people are enlisting the help of a long-forgotten mythical creature believed to ward off plagues in their battle against the coronavirus. Amabie, a mermaid-like being, first appeared in Japanese folklore in 1846, when she was reported to have appeared to a government official and predicted a rich harvest and a pandemic. She told the man the pandemic could be thwarted by drawing her likeness and sharing it with as many people as possible, BBC reported on April 23. Now, images of the spirit are appearing over five continents, and in Japan, face masks and hand sanitizer with her image are popular. One long-haul driver painted her on the side of his truck, saying, "I travel all over the country with my (goods) and Amabie to

pray for the disease to go away." Even the country's Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has joined in, tweeting an image of Amabie and encouraging people to "prevent the spread of the virus."

Going the Extra Mile

— A nurse in the western Russian city of Tula has been disciplined for "noncompliance with the requirements for medical clothing" after photos appeared on social media of her wearing only a bra and panties under transparent PPE on a COVID-19 men-only ward. The unnamed nurse told her superiors at the Tula Regional Clinical Hospital that wearing clothing under the PPE was "too hot" and that she didn't realize the protective gear was see-through. *The Scottish Sun* reported on May 20 that patients didn't seem to mind, though one admitted there was "some embarrassment."

Oops

— On May 15, staff at a Hamilton, Ontario, retirement home transferred all of its residents to a hospital because of an outbreak of COVID-19. That is, except for one. The following evening, after repeated alerts from the man's family, he was discovered in his room at the Rosslyn Retirement Residence by a security officer who had been dispatched to look for him. He was "alert" and was subsequently transferred to the hospital, the CBC reported. "This was clearly not something anybody would have intended to do," and the lack of a master list of residents contributed to the snafu, said Winnie Doyle, executive vice president of clinical operations at the hospital

where most of the residents were sent. "This was ... extremely distressing."

Just Funny

— University of Arizona wildlife biology professor Michael Bogan caught Saturday morning cartoons as they came to life in a video he recorded of a coyote chasing a roadrunner May 9 in downtown Tucson. Bogan could be heard on his recording saying, "There is literally a coyote chasing a roadrunner. I can't believe it. That is a straight-up cartoon." The reenactment of the classic setup between Wile E. Coyote and the Roadrunner caught Bogan's attention near the Santa Cruz River, Fox News reported. And, as life often imitates art, the real roadrunner escaped unharmed from the wily coyote.

Florida

— A Mother's Day bouquet became a weapon during an altercation in Pinellas County, Florida, early on May 11. Sandra Kay Webb, 32, allegedly became angry with her husband because he bought flowers for her children to give her for Mother's Day. *The Smoking Gun* reported that Webb threw the bouquet at her husband and hit him with it, then spit on him. Webb was charged with domestic battery; she admitted throwing the flowers, but denied the spitting.

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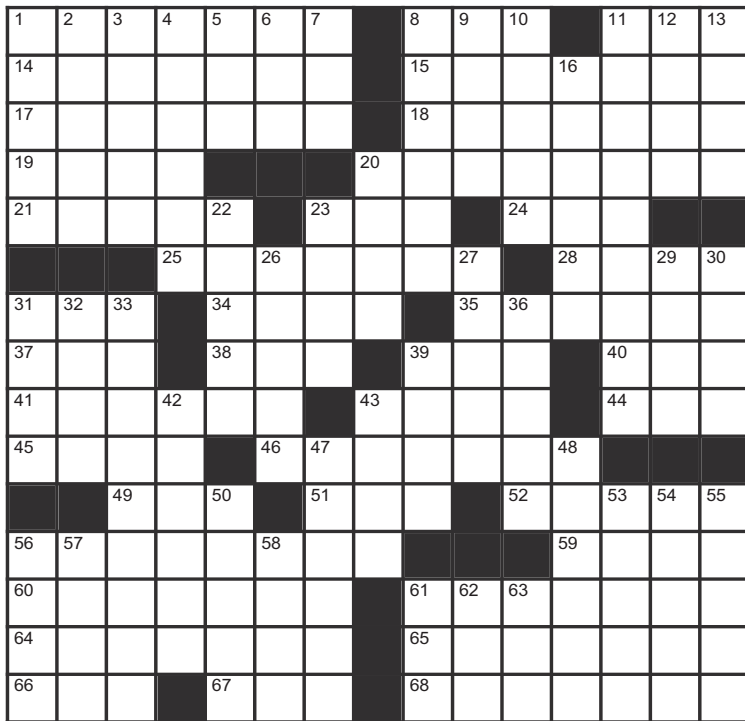
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Across

1. *Stephen who was the only man on Maxim's 2012 Hot 100 list of most beautiful women
8. Mudroom wall feature
11. ____ Friday's
14. Expand
15. Golf club not seen much nowadays
17. *Foodie
18. Mixing, as eggs
19. Go over 21
20. *Frequent home acquisition
21. Great buy
23. ____ culpa
24. "Park it!"
25. One who won't serve the average joe
28. "Wide Sargasso Sea" author Jean
31. Backup singer for Gladys Knight
34. "Nonsense!"
35. *It may keep you on your toes
37. "The Simpsons" character who holds a Ph.D. in computer science
38. Bigheadedness
39. Sir, to a Brit
40. Call to a toreador
41. *Fairy tale dwelling
43. The Soup ____ ("Seinfeld" character)
44. "Ask Me Another" aier

45. Calif. school near the Mexican border
46. Removed roots and all
49. QB's accumulation: Abbr.
51. Maui or Bali: Abbr.
52. Houdini's real name
56. *Carom
59. Singer Brickell
60. Thinness description
61. *Friendly relationship
64. Shows shame, perhaps
65. They're usually in the 80s and 90s
66. Many Caltech grads, for short
67. Asner and Sheeran
68. Unconvincing argument, in modern parlance ... or a hint to something found in the answers to the starred clues

Down

1. Legendary NYC club that helped launch punk rock
2. "Are you in ____?"
3. Good-for-nothing
4. A grasshopper may go on one
5. The Oilers, on NHL scoreboards
6. Food Network's "Pioneer Woman" ____ Drummond
7. It's dynamite!
8. WWII naval craft
9. Still-life vessel
10. Farm animals that butt
11. Iron man event
12. One getting hammered

13. "Picnic" playwright William
16. This year's starlet
20. Blend well together
22. Tag
23. ____ soup
26. Reference work next to Bartlett's, maybe
27. Full of excitement
29. Squeal of pain
30. Suffix with trick
31. "Super" campaign orgs.
32. Modern replacement for a cash register
33. Nonthreatening types
36. "____ to a Kill" (1985 Bond film)
39. "The Motorcycle Diaries" actor ____ García Bernal
42. Elizabeth I was the last of them
43. Sticks together?
47. Brandishes
48. New Age author Chopra
50. It might make you start
53. Surprise declaration at the altar
54. "No ____, Bob!"
55. ____ good example (is a role model)
56. Fury
57. "Gotcha"
58. Hopped to it
61. Seating specification
62. Nail, as a test
63. Org. with the slogan "Every child. One voice"

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

☛ **Arie Passchier, San Diego, 11.**

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

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 - 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.

☛ **Donna Rencsak, Carlsbad, 1.**

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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

continued from page 16

old Brandon Robinson on the ground next to his motorcycle, suffering from a gunshot wound. Robinson died later that evening from his wounds. According to police, "The preliminary investigation revealed Brandon was attending a birthday party in the park when an unknown suspect fired a gun, striking and killing Brandon."

Robinson had been sitting on his motorcycle, curbside on Jacaranda Drive near Pershing Drive.

The following spring, the murder victim's father, Larry Robinson, was interviewed by NBC news. He said Brandon, his youngest son, worked two jobs and most likely happened to be at the wrong place at the wrong time. "Was he the intended victim?" Robinson told News 7, "We didn't think so. Not at all. Not a little bit."

A police spokesman

agreed, saying, "There was an unrelated fight, and perhaps somebody pulled out a gun and fired a round, and Brandon was an unintended victim and struck with a stray round that was fired."

In 2016, San Diego County Crime Stoppers and the San Diego Police Department's Homicide Unit asked for the public's help to solve the then-seven-year-old case. Crime Stoppers offered a \$1000 reward, while the Governor's Office offered an additional \$50,000 for information that would lead to an arrest in the case.

Speaking to the media, Robinson's mother, Donna Jones-Robinson, held up a photo of Brandon and said, through tears, "He was a sweetheart, and he really didn't deserve what he got."

3000 Park Boulevard

The northern gateway to

Balboa Park is the appropriately named Park Boulevard. Just before the zoo parking lot, on the west side of the street, is an expansive lawn, studied with shade trees, that leads to the historic War Memorial Building, designed in 1950 by a gathering of prominent San Diego architects to honor veterans.

On December 12, 2016, around 2 am, police responded to a call and found 67-year-old Gregory Huster lying dead on the grass just off the road. He had suffered trauma to his body. Ten years later, San Diego Crime Stoppers offered a \$1000 reward for any information about the still-unsolved murder. According to a Crime Stoppers news release, "The preliminary investigation revealed that Huster may have been sleeping when he was attacked."

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Chicano Park

It lies beneath the Coronado Bridge, between National Avenue and Interstate 5 in Barrio Logan. Chicano Park is the pride of San Diego's Latino community. The park had been promised for years by transportation officials after they built Interstate 5 directly through the heart of Barrio Logan. Then, in 1970, it was learned the promise had been broken and the land would be used for a new California Highway Patrol station. Activists mounted a huge protest, forming a human chain around bulldozers. The decision was reversed and the park was built. Today, the seven-acre Chicano Park features more than 80 Chicano murals, as well as sculptures, gardens, picnic tables and playgrounds.

On July 2, 1988, at about 2:30 am, Rudolpho

"Nene" Rios was shot twice in the head while hanging around the park. He died two days later. The 20-year-old was a member of the Logan Red Steps gang, and his accused assailant, an 18-year-old member of the rival Lomas gang. The park, at the time, was in Red Steps territory. Rios was shot as he was standing with a Red Steps gang member nicknamed Dopey near the park's sandbox. The fatal blast came from a car. A suspect was identified, based on Dopey's description, but he was acquitted in a jury trial.

Linda Vista Community Park

This is one of the city of San Diego's "community parks," a designation reserved for larger parks that measure at least 13 acres in size and serve a population of 25,000. Near the



Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park is nestled on the foothills of Mount Soledad, where La Jolla meets Pacific Beach, and affords visitors sweeping views of Mission Bay from the rolling green hillside.

entrance of the park is a barbecue pavilion; other features include a skate park, basketball, tennis, and badminton courts, a baseball diamond, and a recreation center that routinely hosts community events such as "Family Fun Fridays" or the

Mexican Independence Day Fiesta. The 15-acre site was acquired in 1955 and the recreation center was built in 1960. Significant renovations were made in 1998. One Yelp reviewer, however, cautions, "The biggest negative of this park is the

evening. With poor lighting and few walkways, it is not a place that can be enjoyed after the sun goes down."

On November 8, 2019, a 19-year-old man was gunned down near the basketball courts shortly before 5pm. Nam Nguyen

was with friends at the park when they got into an argument with another group of young men.

In a statement, San Diego Police Homicide Lieutenant Martha Sainz said "a park staff member saw what was going on and told the groups he was going to call the police. Minutes later, the suspect pulled out a handgun and shot the victim. The suspect fled from the scene prior to police arriving." Nguyen was rushed to a nearby hospital, where he died.

Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park

This park is nestled on the foothills of Mount Soledad, where La Jolla meets Pacific Beach, and affords visitors sweeping views of Mission Bay from the rolling green hillside. The park also features sports fields and a playground. The park is named after

PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

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Kate Sessions, a famous horticulturist known as the Mother of Balboa Park. In 1892, Sessions leased 30 acres of land in what was then known as City Park from the city of San Diego to grow her plants. She promised to plant 100 trees a year in the mostly barren park, as well as 300 trees a year in other parts of San Diego. Most of the older trees still seen in Balboa Park — towering eucalyptus, cypress, pine, oak, and pepper trees — were planted by Sessions.

After her Balboa Park lease expired, Sessions moved her nursery operations, first to Mission Hills and then, in 1912, to the Mount Soledad foothills above Pacific Beach. In November 1957, 79 acres of city land east of the old Sessions nursery was dedicated as Kate O. Sessions Memorial Park.

On February 19, 1991,



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

In 2019, there were three shooting incidents at Kelly Street Neighborhood Park in Linda Vista.

brothers Robert and Vincent Garcia, 20 and 18, were driving along the park's Park Drive around 10 pm when they stopped after noticing they were being followed by a pickup truck. Steven McKinley, also 18, got out of the truck and started arguing with Robert Garcia over a

small debt he believed he was owed. McKinley went back to his truck, pulled out a small-caliber pistol, and shot both men. Robert lay dead on the ground; Vincent, shot in the chest and abdomen, drove to a nearby fast-food restaurant and called police. McKinley fled in the truck, which

was later found abandoned at Oliver Avenue and Strand Way. Police later arrested McKinley at his home on suspicion of homicide.

Kelly Street Neighborhood Park

This Linda Vista park is a 17-acre city park

in the western part of Linda Vista, surrounded on three sides by the Tecolote Canyon Natural Open Space Park. The park's stated size is deceiving, as most of its acreage runs into the open space. Only in the southeast, near Kelly Street, is there a circle of green lawn and a playground. Police have reported an uptick in gang activity, and a corresponding increase in violent crime, in the residential neighborhood near the park, which in 2019 saw three shooting incidents that left a 16-year-old boy dead and three others wounded.

The fatality occurred on May 23, when 16-year-old Carlos Valdovinos was gunned down in the park. According to newspaper reports, homicide detectives with the San Diego Police Department arrested Andy Chanh

Phongsongkham, 20, in connection with the slaying. Phongsongkham was charged with murder and a special circumstance allegation that could result in the death penalty. According to court records, Phongsongkham is a member of an Asian street gang, while Valdovinos was an associate of a Latino gang.

Just a few weeks after Valdovinos was killed, a 20-year-old man and a 15-year-old boy were shot near a memorial for Valdovinos. And in August, a 19-year-old male was shot and wounded near the park.

Lindbergh Neighborhood Park

It's a small park that butts against Interstate 805 just south of Balboa Avenue in Clairemont. The centerpiece is a playground set inside a large sandbox. On the other side of



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a walkway that bisects the park are basketball courts. The park is frequented by local residents, many of them families with young kids. The large expanse of lawn is often the site of impromptu soccer games. “Safe park in a safe neighborhood,” writes one *Local Guide* reviewer.

However, early on the morning of August 27, 2010, police officers responded to a report of gunfire in the park. They found a 15-year-old girl, Joanna Vargas, suffering from a single gunshot wound. Paramedics tried to revive her, but she died at the scene. Young Joanna’s time of death: 1:36 am. According to a San Diego Police Department news release, a “preliminary investigation has revealed that Joanna and her female cousin went to the park with two males. As the group stood in the park, an unknown suspect



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

Lindbergh Neighborhood Park is a small park that butts against Interstate 805 just south of Balboa Avenue in Clairemont. The centerpiece is a playground set inside a large sandbox.

fired a round at them, striking Joanna. The surviving witnesses noticed a white SUV facing north in the 4100 block of Ashford Street at the time of the shooting. The vehicle drove away at normal speed and was last seen turning westbound on

Balboa Avenue. Whether the SUV is related to the shooting is not known.”

Southcrest Community Park

It’s a welcome patch of green, studded with generous shade trees, in the blue-collar community

of Southcrest, between Mountain View to the north and east, Shelltown to the south, and Barrio Logan to the west. At the center of the park is a recreation center with indoor and outdoor basketball courts, a weight room, and community

meeting rooms. The Southcrest Civic Club built the original building and then donated it to the city of San Diego. Materials and labor were donated by local merchants, residents, and labor unions. The center was dedicated in 1950.

One Yelp reviewer noted, “There is a great hillside with some shade trees for picnic with great views over the city of San Diego. The time I visited, there were tens of families watching kids play baseball, and a few setting up tents and blow-up play slides/bouncy houses to have family/community gatherings.”

But a critic lamented on Foursquare, “Too many loose dogs and homeless.”

Shortly before midnight on Friday, February 7, 2020, an unknown assailant shot and killed a woman and wounded a man in Southcrest Com-

munity Park. The murder scene was between two trees towering over a concrete picnic table, near a homeless camp. Leah Michelle Horne, 19, and Adan Duque, 16, were shot by what witnesses described as two Latino men in their 20s, wearing dark clothing. Horne died from her injuries at a hospital, while Duque underwent emergency surgery and survived. Horne’s death was spotlighted on the Facebook page of Dear Humans, which claims to be “the voice of murder victims worldwide.” According to a GoFundMe campaign aimed at helping her dad pay for the cost of her memorial, “Leah was a young, passionate and beautiful woman at the tender age of 19. She was known by all as a firecracker with such an endearing love for her family and of her friends with so much heart. Leah

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Libby Lake Park

A neighborhood park in northeast Oceanside, Libby Lake Park's signature feature is a man-made lake surrounded by a footpath. Neighborhood kids come here to feed the ducks and then burn off some energy on the playground. The lake is surrounded by lawns generously planted with shade trees, and in the evening, around sunset, the light bounces off the lake and creates some spectacular photo opportunities.

Looks can be deceiving. Libby Lake Park is one of the most dangerous parks in the county, situated in the heart of Latino gang territory and, based on

Yelp reviews, a place you especially want to avoid after dark. "I live in the area so I know about this park and the violence..." wrote one Yelper. "I take my daughter to the playground during the daytime and I walk my dog. It sucks that I still get scared being around here, but I live across the street and it's a beautiful park to walk. I just don't stay late! It can get sketchy during the night."

Another reviewer, also on Yelp, wrote, "This park is notorious for gang activity. I had already been to this park a couple of times before finding out how much of a hotbed it appears to be for gang members and others to hang out in ... and had I known prior, I would never have brought my son here."

Libby Lake's negative reputation was reinforced by a pair of fatal gang-



PHOTOGRAPH BY THOMAS K. ARNOLD

Looks can be deceiving. Oceanside's Libby Lake Park is one of the most dangerous parks in the county, in the heart of Latino gang territory and, based on Yelp reviews, a place you especially want to avoid after dark.

related shootings in 2011 and 2013.

On the night of May 3, 2011, a teen couple was brutally gunned down while sitting on a hillside, looking out over the darkened lake. Police found the bodies of Sandra Salgado, 14, and 16-year-old Fer-

nando Solana around 10:30 pm after being called to the scene by reports of gunfire. Relatives said the teens were boyfriend and girlfriend, with no gang ties.

Prosecutors later said four members of a predominantly black street gang went to the park to

smoke marijuana. One of them, ALC Bejaran, had a gun. He saw the pair sitting on the hillside and shot them. It was done in retaliation for an earlier attack on one of his fellow gangsters. Bejaran pleaded guilty to two counts of murder and was sentenced

to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Less than two years later, another deadly shooting took place at Libby Lake Park. On March 13, 2013, a hail of bullets claimed the lives of Edgar Sanchez Rios, 16, and Melanie Virgen, 13. Two other teens were injured. The attack came at 9 pm. The bodies of the two dead teens were found lying near a memorial for the victims of the earlier shooting.

In May 2016, two gang members, Martin Melendrez and Santo Diaz, were charged with the murders, which prosecutors say were committed in retaliation for gang activity.

Melendrez pleaded guilty to murder and was sentenced to 40 years to life in prison without probation. Diaz pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter and was sentenced to 39 years in prison.

—Thomas K. Arnold

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Select strain.

SHATTER
12G \$100
Select strain.

CRUMBLE
7G \$100
Select strain.

GOLD ROAR
SHATTER
\$15/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

Alpine Carts
\$40

MOONROCK
\$15/gram
Limited time only!
Limit per patient.

BRASS
KNUCKLES \$20

BRASS
CARTRIDGES \$7

Black Label
Brownie
\$30 (100mg)

SHATTER &
CRUMBLE
Select strains.
\$20

3 for \$100
(1G VAPES)

JOINTS
2 for \$25

Starting at
\$30

KNOCKOUT
PRE-ROLLS
\$20

Starting at
\$15

3 RICE KRISPIE
TREATS
\$10

\$15

H.H. VAPES
\$20

4 JOINTS
\$10

STINZY
Pods
\$40 (1G)

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SELECTION!

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\$100/OZ

EXCLUSIVE
\$180/OZ

TOP SHELF SHAKE
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EXCLUSIVE
INDOOR SHAKE
\$50/OZ

WEDDING
CAKE
\$45/OZ

CANDY
FROST
\$80/OZ

SUNSET
SHERBET
\$90/OZ

FORBIDDEN
FRUIT
\$150/OZ

OG GLUE
\$180/OZ

ICE CREAM
\$210/OZ

SHATTER
\$15/G

CRUMBLE
\$15/G

\$20
(1G VAPES)

ROVE
\$20
(1G VAPES)

STINZY
\$20
(1G VAPES)

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

\$10
(500MG GUMMIES)

STONE
PATCH
\$10
(500MG GUMMIES)

HOUSE
PRE-ROLLS
\$5

KIEF
2G \$10

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619-404-0061

SmileDesignerSanDiego.com

*Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 7-6-20 ** No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anesthesia may still be required.

***Not all patients qualify for same day implants. Questions can not be answered over phone. Implant consult appointment is required. CT x-ray and bone graft not included.



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