City auditors uncover a bundle of new corruption cases

A good reason to drink stout this summer 
Covid cluster

# VOL. 45 | NO. 30 | JULY 23, 2020 SURUA MODE

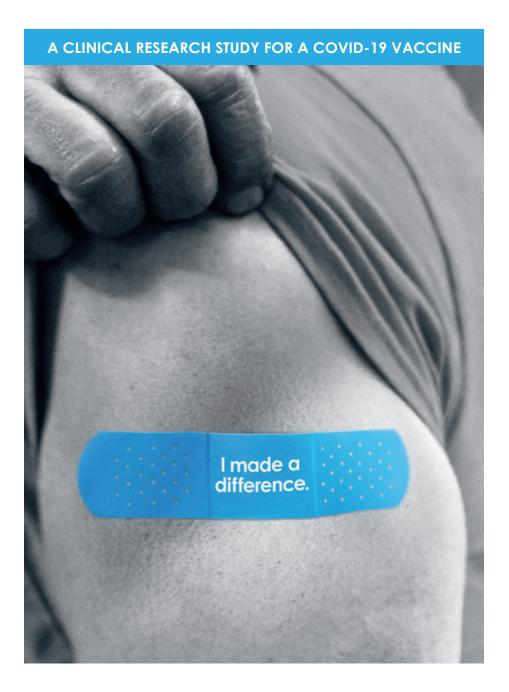
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According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) 27 million

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), 27 million
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#### **LETTERS**

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

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

"Jacked-up sewer rates laid to \$33 million of polluter subsidies, San Diego auditor indicates" News Ticker July 17

This auditor is doing his job; I wonder how long he will last in the position. But doing his job or not, the bureaucracy goes its merry way being lazy, unconcerned, and probably corrupt. And yet critics claim that the city is anti-business. Why doesn't the city have enough funds to meet its basic responsibilities? This is just one of many reasons.

—Visduh

Want to win a Pulitzer? Investigate the city of Lemon Grove where they have rigged the sewer rates to pay for more than half of all of the city services under the guise of participating in this debacle.

-Ponzi

Sadly, corruption has been the default social norm throughout much of history. It shouldn't be tolerated.

-Socks3742

#### "Advice to surfers headed for Rosarito" Neighborhood News July 14

So basically Jay M. is a kook!!!!! Keep your boogie board and skateboard in Eastlake, son. Mexican cops have always been corrupt. Jacinto has respect for the surfing community from both sides of the border and was completely fucked over in this situation.

—Nick Davis

If you are not Mexican stay out of Mexico.

—AlexClarke

That advice is excellent advice. The cops in Mexico are utterly corrupt and are looking for shakedowns whenever they can get them. Why this guy hasn't learned and still says it is safe to visit is a mystery.

continued on page 4



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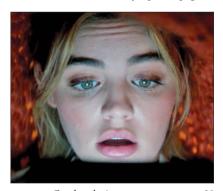
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Restauranting ain't easy — page 12



When it's too hot for pho - page 23



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San Diego Reader July 23,

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#### **NEIGHBORHOOD** NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEAN BEACH

#### **Baked by the beach** Former bartender okay with making less bread, baking more

In late March, when stay-at-home orders were initially put into place, one item seemed to be in higher demand than toilet paper: yeast. It seemed some people just couldn't live without their daily bread. So when many people reported they couldn't find any yeast for sale that in April, Con Pane Rustic Breads stepped in and donated yeast to the community so people could bake bread at home. In May, a biologist noticed that people were "yeasthoarding" and even gave lessons on how to make your own.

In Ocean Beach and Point Loma, the shortage provided an opportunity for the bread man. Think old school milkman, but with bread. Fresh, warm, crusty loaves, handdelivered right to your doorstep. "I've been baking since I was a kid," Frank Gaffney explains. "So as soon as the stay-at-home



Frank Gaffney: "I'd been bartending for 10 plus years"

I was good at, which was making bread. I put some feelers out there, seeing if anyone was interested. Within an hour, I had 20 orders. Naturally I freaked out, as I did not expect that response, but I got to working and did but not really rewarding at the end of the day. It's a huge pay cut going from the bar business to baking business, but I'm genuinely happier now. And having no boss is always a plus! I meet so many quirky people delivering to Ocean Beach and Point Loma, it's amazing."

500 people. He often sells out, and there is a waiting list for his loaves, which include classic country; roasted garlic & rosemary, mixed olive, cheddar & jalapeno, and of course, sourdough.

"I'm making anywhere from 20-50 loaves per week," says Gaffney, "depending on how much energy I have. I do bake them at home for now. I've already outgrown it, so I have to keep orders to a specific number each week. I don't want to jump into anything bigger just yet, as I'm not sure if orders will keep coming in when the rest of the world opens up. My most popular loaf is probably the roasted garlic and rosemary. But my favorite is the everything-seeded loaf (not on

the menu), it reminds me of New York everything bagels. I'll make it if anyone asks. I do donate some of them to elderly neighbors or friends in need."

The loaves vary in price from \$8-\$12. Check https://www.instagram.com/bornandbreadsd/ for more information.

DELINDA LOMBARDO

RAIA

#### Surfer meets turf Five-oh no-no at K-38

On July 3, at about 2 pm, Jacinto Garcia noticed surfers being questioned by Mexican police officers across the street from his K-38 Surf Shop in Rosarito. He clicked the record button on his phone and walked across Federal Highway 1 towards the group. Garcia sent his video to me on July 12; the Spanish dialogue between Garcia and the police officers in the video was translated.

"They are my friends, what problem do you have?" Garcia asked the policemen.

"If you want to know, meet us at the police station," responded one of the police officers.

"It's the paper [license] plates," said an American woman. "They're trying to take the car."

"Do you have a registration paper?" Garcia asked.

"Oh no; it's in the mail," responded an American man.

Garcia then looked at the two police officers. "You can check your database if the car is stolen or by his license plate, to see if it belongs to him."

"No," responded the police officer. "That permit is [valid] for the United States, not here" "Look, sir," Garcia argued.

"Who are you? Who are you?" yelled the police officer as he rushed Garcia.

Garcia yelped, then the video abruptly ended. "When [Garcia] sees an injustice he acts on it, as in this case defending the tourists in the gray Tacoma truck," said Jorge Nieto. "I

#### "It's a huge pay cut going from the bar business to baking business, but I'm genuinely happier now."

orders were put in place, my eyes lit up. I realized I would have all this time to finally pursue this. I didn't really know what was going on with my job, and unemployment was a huge mess, so I figured I'd just do what

some math and slowly scaled everything up and its been working out ever since."

Before the pandemic, the bread man was a booze man. "I'd been bartending for 10 plus years," the 32-year-old says. "Stellar money,



The bread is crusty, the new clientele is not.



Cops had had enough of his lip.

the surfers that way." Nieto is a Baja reporter and avid surfer; he was the second Facebook user to re-post the surfer/police altercation video posted on Garcia's timeline. This video was filmed by an unidentified person from across the street near the surf shop. "He was then illegally beaten and arrested," Nieto

continued on page 6

#### It's a dirty business

#### **Wastewater waste**

Something stinks in city's sewer operation Residential sewer customers have been subsidizing San Diego's industrial wastewater control program, which has boosted the financial pain of those already stressed by years of faulty water billing by derelict city officials. Such are the findings of a July 15 report by Interim City Auditor Kyle Elser, following up on a 2013 audit of the program, determining that "outdated fees, billing lapses, and inadequate controls" are responsible for millions of dollars in possibly illegal subsidies being underwritten by San Diego residents. "From FY 2010 through FY 2019, [industrial wastewater control program] costs have totaled approximately \$38.8 million," according to the document. "Of these costs, only \$5.5 million (14 percent) was recovered from [industrial wastewater] permittees, while the remaining \$33.3 million (86 percent) was passed on to other wastewater customers, such as residential and commercial customers, via wastewater rates." The \$33.3 million in subsidies. the audit adds, "came exclusively from City of San Diego wastewater customers, even though [the industrial wastewater program] serves the larger metro area."

According to the report, the anti-pollution program "permits, monitors, and inspects a variety of industries across the city and 12 other participating agencies to detect and minimize the discharge of toxic substances into the sewerage system." But while expenses of the activity have soared, payments collected from industrial polluters have lagged, causing a wild imbalance in expenses and revenues. All the while, officials have continued to ignore the findings made by the 2013 audit. "We made a total of 8 recommendations in our public audit and an additional 5 recommendations in our confidential memorandum to ensure that program costs are tracked; fees are regularly reviewed and updated; billing is

continued on page 36

#### **Neal Obermeyer**



#### UNDER THE RADAR

**Finding Stacey's fix** San Diego's super-secretive ethics commission continues to soldier on through the COVID-19 epidemic with yet another penny-ante fine against a failed city council candidate levied at the end of an online meeting. On June 11, the commission slapped third-place District 7's third-place finisher **Wendy Wheatcroft** with a \$500 fine for failing to label some of her campaign pieces properly. A "banner did not include an 'Ad paid for by' disclosure,"

noted a stipulation agreement reached with the candidate. Although "meet and greet" fliers dispatched by the campaign "included the requisite disclosure, it was printed in a 6-point typeface," smaller than required.

Now comes the commission's latest penalty, a \$250 fine against council candidate **Ross Naismith**, who placed 5th in a field of six hopefuls in the 9th district. "On October 10, 2019, Respondent sought

and received advice from the Commission's Education Program Manager, who informed Respondent that campaign business cards must include an 'Ad paid for by' disclosure in 10-point type," says the commission's July 9 sanction. "On October 15, 2019, Respondent paid for 250 business cards that were subsequently distributed in support of his candidacy. Although the business cards included the requisite disclosure, it was printed in a 4.5-point typeface."

Naismith further compounded his offense by running off 4500 business cards, also with 4.5-point disclosures. Insiders attribute the

commission's reticence to take on more serious violations to the imminent retirement of executive director **Stacey Fulhorst**, a staunch defender of the panel's secrecy. While meeting behind closed doors on July 9, commissioners unanimously dismissed an unidentified complaint regarding "Failure to Timely File Campaign Statements." A second complaint, involving "Campaign Ads – Telephone Communications," wa

phone Communications," was unanimously approved for investigation.

Meanwhile, the commission has issued a job notice for Fulhorst's replacement, with a series of qualifications that differ from Fulhorst's record. "It is essential for the Executive Director to prioritize and promote integrity, transparency, and accountability at all times," says the notice. "This individual must be driven and independent yet recognize the position's connectivity within a complex and

diverse ecosystem of local government, which is continually changing and adapting to meet the needs of its citizens." The announcement goes on to say that a candidate for the position must be "emotionally intelligent: utilizes strong interpersonal skills and the ability to deal effectively and tactfully with a wide variety of people in sensitive situations."

According to the notice, a bachelor's degree is required, with "legal and regulatory training preferred." The prospec-

tive annual salary is listed at between \$150,000 and \$180,000. Last year Fulhorst received a total of \$223,810 in pay and benefits, including total pay of \$183,647 and benefits of \$40,163, according to the website *Transparent-California.com*.



Wipe that grin off your face, former city council candidate Wendy Wheatcroft! Font-size violations are no joke!

#### Crash and burn As

the coronavirus continues to ravage California, San Diego city auditors remain at their posts, uncovering a wave of

new corruption cases that have emerged during the viral onslaught. "We investigated an allegation that the Zebra electric-moped rental company misinformed customers regarding the legal use of their vehicles," says the July 9 report to the city council by interim auditor **Kyle Elser**. As a result, says a description of Elser's June 16 finding, some Zebra customers hit the streets without possessing class M2 drivers' licenses and got ticketed for moving violations. "The allegation was determined to be substantiated, but during the course of our investigation, the company withdrew from operating in

California "due to regulatory issues with the government."

Meanwhile, Sweep, Inc., a maker of software for scooter and related vehicle regulation, came up with \$5500 in cash on June 18 at the behest of **Kevin Faulconer** for the San Diego mayor's COVID-19 business relief fund, according to a July 14 disclosure. "We believe micromobility can thrive in cities when locally-hired teams of hard-



\$150,000 of labor union money is enough to make Todd Gloria smile.

working individuals are given the necessary software to regulate and monitor the space," says Sweep's website.

#### **Among the special interests**

COVID-19 cutbacks have gotten so bad that at least one city contractor has hired a lobbyist to convince San Diego city hall to roll back some of them. West Coast Tree Arborists has retained California Strategies and Advocacy's continued on page 37

#### HIPSTER@SDREADER.COM



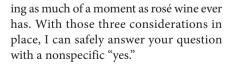
#### **Dear Hipster:**

Rose (rosé?) wine: hipster, trendy, or merely pretentious?

Delicious, well-deserved elitism.

There are exactly two mainstream wine drinking positions that account for something like 98 percent of the people you will find raising a glass of vino to their lips. You have the people who say, "Oh, I just don't 'do' white wine," and then there are the people who won't drink "red" wine. The remaining 2 percent of wine drinkers comprehend the superficiality of these positions, and those people, coincidentally, are exactly the kind of people who also drink rosé. There may be a bit of preten-

tiousness wrapped up in that, but there's also a good deal of well-deserved elitism. Moreover, although I'm no wine savant, from what I understand, rosé is having kind of a moment right now. At least, that is to say it's hav-



#### **Dear Hipster:**

What is de rigeur for hipster skateboarding in 2020: longboard; penny board; standard g board; banana board; or no board, relying upon cycling or walking instead? There has to be a right answer for this.

— PROGRESSIVE GURU

You have a taxonomic issue here, because ≝your question implicates two potential categories of human/skateboard relation-ships. The first category would be skate-

board hipsters, i.e. legit skaters who are super hipster about skater gear and culture. The second category would be hipster skateboards, which is just skateboards for garden variety hipsters.

The first category comprises a narrow subset of skaters who emulate Z-Boys with ultra-old-school, sliding skate styles, complete with long hair and (sometimes) fraved jorts. Really, any kind of skateboard will do for these skateboard hipsters, but this kind of attitude comes with a necessary ration of geekiness, so

they prefer boards built to emulate the deks of the 1970s. These are the kind of skaters who like to talk about seeking out the "soul" of skating. They are roughly equivalent to the surf hipsters who ride longboards and draw the constant, irrepressible ire of mainstream surfers. They are weird mysteries, and, although they can usually shred just as hard as anyone else, they choose not to for reasons known only to them.

Garden variety hipsters split about 80/20 between "no skateboards," because skateboards are for irritating kids jamming down crowded sidewalks at walking pace, but without control; and between penny/

> banana boards because enough other people are doing it that it seems like a good idea. As you might expect, they have about as much connection to skating as the average citizen has to motorsports and highperformance driving from behind the wheel

of whatever fungible crossover hybrid SUV he or she overpaid for in order to avoid buying a more useful vehicle.

Just for thoroughness, I will add that you usually see two types of people on longboards: weirdly extreme downhill racer types, and stoned bros on their way to a disc golf course. Regular skateboards remain pretty much exclusively the province of actual skateboarders, with a tiny minority of young people who impulsepurchased a skateboard that will soon be exiled to the basement when the new owner discovers (a) skating is hard; and (b) members of the opposite sex are almost never impressed by it.

—DJ STEVENS

continued from page 1

—Visduh

Auto insurance is not required in Mexico, having a current American registration is. The cops were within their right to stop this car. Garcia's point was that the cops could have used some discretion, apparently they disagreed. Cops being cops.

—PassionatelyModerate

The cops in Mexico are corrupt, but it's not safe for Mexicans either. They'll shakedown anyone, including a Mexican gentleman I work with. Race is irrelevant.

-Socks3742

"Diane Jacob gives chunk of campaign fund to sheriffs, what they do with the money"

News Under the Radar July 15

She's the epitome of a professional, life-long politician, taking care of her supporters to the end.

—Visduh

"Oceanside Democrats feud over membership " Neighborhood News

#### July 7

it's not just Oceanside, most politicians = corruption, thievery, puppets bought and paid for.

-rplm

Dinner. It happens at dinner. I want a mayor in Oceanside that doesn't have dinner with anyone except his family and friends. Corruption starts at dinner. It starts with a conversation. Corruption in Oceanside is essentially bought off politicians, voting on things that most people in Oceanside don't know or care about and because it's nickels in a dollar world, the money citizens lose through graft is unnoticed.

—Eric Anderson

Club stacking, grand-standing on important issues only during election years, in-fighting has driven away the dedicated volunteers of previous elections and only deliberately splits votes and prevents the "real" candidates from being elected. In his farewell address, George Washington warned the American people of the dangers of creating false factions if political parties were formed. We should have listened to George.

-Linda Waishaw



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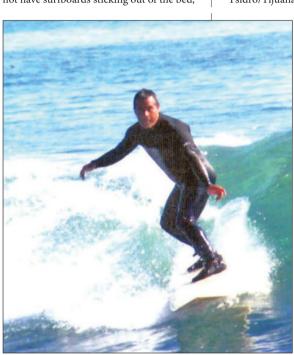
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#### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

explained. "Then his wife approached the scene to claim physical abuse by the Rosarito municipal police." On Nieto's re-shared video, the two policemen are seen on top of Garcia, restraining him with handcuffs while one of the Americans appears to be filming the tussling from about seven feet away. Garcia's wife is seen attempting to pull the officers off her husband. Garcia is then thrown in the back of the police truck. "They also arrested his wife," Nieto continued, "and when their neighbor, an employee of the pharmacy, wanted to take a photo of the patrol number, she was loaded [into the police truck] by force."

Jay M. is a boogie-boarder and skate-boarder from Eastlake who visited Rosarito prior to the pandemic. "Americans should always have their paperwork in order — the police were right," he opined. "They (the surfers) should bring someone like me, who speaks fluent Spanish and English; I'd go for free beer and tacos. Try and take an old beater [vehicle] down — not a Tacoma *del año* (current year model). It's best to stay low key and not have surfboards sticking out of the bed,



Jacinto Garcia surfing pre police beatdown.

and if you do, cover it up with blankets and add some wood slabs so it looks like you're hauling firewood or building something."

On July 11, mayor of Rosarito Araceli Brown opened the beaches in the downtown area from 6 am to 10 am. The other beaches in the city, including K-38, about ten miles south of downtown Rosarito, remained closed. "Some who still surf Teresitas or K-38 get in through the parking lot of a [nearby] hotel and simply do not get out of the water if the police arrive," Nieto added. "I think this



Shirli Weiss's offer to pay for trimming of the neighbor's trees four times a year went nowhere.

altercation sends a bad image abroad, because Baja is famous for its waves."

I spoke to Garcia on July 13. That day, K-38, which is about 40 miles south of the San Ysidro/Tijuana border, had 3-4 foot waves.

"I spent one night, like 30 hours in a terrible jail cell full of tweakers," he said. "They made me sign some papers and let me go. Tell the readers that they are safe here. If you are stopped and you actually made an infraction, ask for your ticket and go to the police station and pay your fine. They will take your license, and you will get it back. If you haven't broken any laws, just keep asking for a ticket, and do not give them any money. The Baja Board of Tourism is monitoring any abuse. Once the tourists are stopped by police, they should dial 078, and they are going to be immediately assisted with a translator. I just had an interview with a news station from Mexico City, and they also inter-

viewed the mayor. Those cops were fired."

MIKE MADRIAGA

DEL MAR

#### A tree grows in Del Mar A different sort of urban infill

To keep Del Mar's essential services going amid the pandemic, the city proposed a pause on tree and view complaints through June 30, 2021. It didn't go well. To many residents, defending a scenic view from a neighbor's overgrown trees *is* essential. "One of the few

advantages of living in Del Mar over San Diego is view protection of some degree," Scott Reineck said in a letter. "Ocean views are too important to be delayed, especially now with everyone being home most of the time," wrote Shannon Taylor.

The city council backed off from the reso-

staff time range from coastal development and conditional-use permits to encroachment and tree removal permits, as well as long-range planning and code enforcement.

When it's a protected tree at stake, a torrey pine or Monterey cypress, things get more complicated, but non-native trees are also part

#### "One of the few advantages of living in Del Mar over San Diego is view protection of some degree,"

lution last week after hearing from many residents who demanded that the Trees, Scenic Views, and Sunlight ordinance stand. "I know you can figure out a way to continue with the ordinance," wrote Ali Quintas. But it won't be easy. Severe budget cuts have slashed the city's workforce by 10 percent. Two planning positions were lost, and tree and view complaints are what take up the most time. The ordinance allows homeowners who want to restore views or sunlight blocked by a neighbor's vegetation within 300 feet of their property to enlist the city's help. The ordinance always intended for neighbors to try to resolve tree disputes before the city got involved. But within a year of its adoption in 2002, the applications began.

According to a staff report, the \$3790 fee to process a Trees, Scenic Views, and Sunlight Ordinance application is only about half the actual cost of service that goes into each permit. No fees are charged for an informal inquiry – explaining the process to potential applicants and vetting issues – but it takes one to three times longer than an application. The full process takes about 92 hours. In contrast, a single-family residence requires roughly 84 hours for standard design review processing – one of the essential services the staff hoped to save by halting view complaints. Other services that will have to jostle for reduced

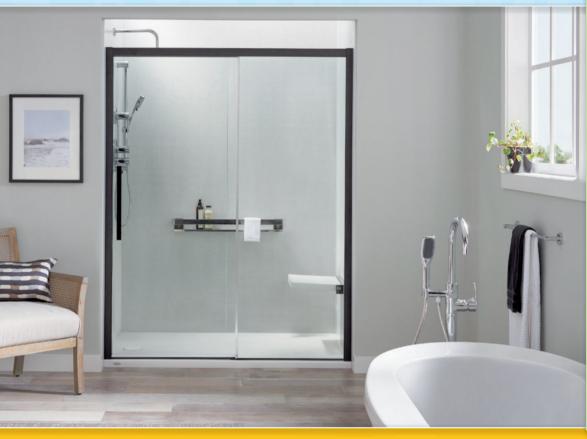
of the fray. Condo owners at Del Mar Woods have filed dozens of complaints over a neighbor's 40-foot eucalyptus trees and other growth. These complaints continue today. An agreement by the property owner to trim the trees twice a year and remove some of them didn't restore everyone's ocean views. Shirli Weiss's offer to pay for trimming of the neighbor's trees four times a year went nowhere. Her case was denied by the planning commission, appealed to the city council (which deadlocked), and finally sent to San Diego Superior Court, with a request that the city re-hear the dispute or come up with a new trimming agreement. Weiss wrote in to oppose the city's current plan and suggest changes to the ordinance, which the city admits hasn't been updated since its adoption in 2002. (It's long been on the work plan, but due to pandemic and staff cuts, the focus shifted to conserving resources for the most important services.) Suspending the ordinance won't stop trees from growing and hampering views, said Weiss, who believes the city should have a mandatory tree trimming program.

Right now, the ordinance favors the tree owner "with the perverse incentive" to let trees keep growing, because if he wins a scenic view application, he wins. And if he loses? "The applicant has to pay to trim his trees."

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Mary Io (not her real name) is 19, fit, gregarious, embarking on college life. But it's been a rough couple of months. She, her mom, dad, sister, sister's boyfriend, and her grandmother all recently caught the coronavirus.

"I actually have no symptoms," she says. "I am fully recovered. But here's how it happened: June 30th I had a stuffy nose. And a headache. So I'm like, 'Okay, it's one of my summer allergies,' and my parents were like, 'Yes, you're fine.' So then I called my doctor, to get sinus medication. And she said, 'Well you work in a restaurant, so let's get you tested.'

"So I took the test, and it came out negative, and I continued to work, and then around the 4th of July, my sister started feeling sick, my dad started feeling sick, my sister's boyfriend, who also works at my mom's restaurant, started feeling sick. But they were all super different symptoms. Like, my dad had what I had, stuffy nose, my mom had a fever, and then my grandma had stomach aches, and my sister's boyfriend had a fever. So all of us took off work and we got tested again, and then all of our tests came back positive. So we all have been quarantined. I've been quarantining with my



Sign on one closed eatery

dad and my mom, and my grandma lives in the back house. And she's 86. She's not doing too well. And my sister's boyfriend, who is 30, has lost 10 pounds. He sweats the sheets every night.

"I wasn't scared before this hit us. I thought 'Oh, it won't affect me. And if it does, I'm healthy, I'll be able to bounce back.' I never really thought about giving it to my parents or my grandma. In the beginning, they were all blaming me because I have been the most social. But my grandma has been to the store with me. We go on drives every morning. She's seen people. If she thought I had brought it in, she'd be mad, but she knows she's put herself out there, too.

"My stuffy nose and headache quickly went away. I fully recovered within like a week. I stay away from my grandma, even though I don't think I could re-catch it from her. But you never know. Mine was just like any old stuffy nose. But that's the scary part, because a lot of people don't know they have it, and don't even have the possibility of getting tested to find out."

Meanwhile, Mary Jo's gearing up for her first college year, studying in front of a laptop screen. So what about a social life? "Friends are huge to me. So if I'm not allowed to see them for two weeks, it's a little hard for my mental health. I don't have a boyfriend, so I have no idea, but these times have definitely made it harder to get boyfriends and make new relationships. In my group, none of us is really looking, but I think not attending the party scene at college or all of that frat life has made the boys go a little crazy."

Even signs of affection like hugging, she says, look like history.

"I think it's elbows for a good long time."

#### **Guitar therapy**

"I am so bored!" says my neighbor Ellen.

Blame the virus. It has stopped her from doing the things she loves, mainly pop-up lunches at food trucks, and parties. Especially parties. Get a couple of shots in her and that powerful singing voice wails out, usually "My Way," and everyone holds their glasses protectively.

Only thing is, no more parties.

Which is why we're on College Avenue, heading into Sam Ash's, the music franchise. "I want to learn guitar," she told me, "so I can accompany myself." She's brought me along to help her choose, because I can put a few 6-string chords together. At first we flirt with a ukulele. But no, she wants the Full Monty. the shutdown. It was two months of pentup demand, people suddenly with time on their hands, money they haven't spent in bars, and an empty feeling, like at the very least they need a hobby they can work on while they're stuck at home. Our main problem is we still don't have the staff we did to spend time with people."

And they aren't out of the coronavirus woods yet, either. "These days, singing is dangerous," says Manjarrez. "It's all those drop-

"That's the scary part: a lot of people don't know they have it, and don't have the possibility of getting tested."

A guitar that'll do more than just go plunkety plunk.

We wander in a daze between walls of guitar after guitar. Electric, solid, big-sound acoustics, 12-strings. "If you're just starting out, you'd be best to get something simple," says Diego Carrillo, the salesman who's helping us. "Maybe acoustic, unless you really want to play rock and roll."

He takes us into the acoustic department,

lets. I mean we used to have lessons and band spotlights on a Friday night. Classes were a big part of our business. We'd have rock classes. groups performing, folk, jazz lessons here, the whole nine yards. There's none of that now, just when people need it most."

But the chain's owners aren't panicking. Maybe because they recognize these circumstances. "It's the Ash family," Manjarrez says. "They started selling instruments in 1924,



What \$170 buys: Neighbor Ellen's new Yamaha sits on newly recruited rabbit rest. Rabbit not too happy. Ellen happy. Now just has to learn to play. She's part of a post-Covid trend.

and the first thing you notice is, well, empty walls. He apologizes. "Re-stocking is really hard at this time," he says.

Turns out it's also demand. The whole nation seems to have turned to music to fill the long hours of social isolation. Guitar Center, the world's largest musical instrument retailer, reports its online sales more than doubled since the shelter-in-place mandate, and guitars, especially acoustic guitars, are "on fire."

Brett Manjarrez, the loquacious store manager, says there are lots of Ellens out there. "We got a tsunami of people coming in after Hicksville, New York. They survived the Great Depression, and, over 90 years later, the same family's still going. Now they have 44 stores, but I still talk directly to third- and fourthgeneration Ash descendants. It's like a big box mom and pop."

That's comforting: if the Ashes could play their way through the Great Depression, this economy should be a cinch.

Ellen ends up getting a Yamaha acoustic 6-string. Her first guitar. Costs \$146.25.

"Remember," I say. "The hole points away from you." ■



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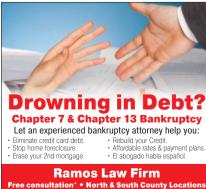
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San Diego Reader July 23,

# SURVIAL

THE RESTAURANT BUSINESS, AS BETTE DAVIS ONCE SAID ABOUT GROWING OLD, AIN'T NO PLACE FOR SISSIES. The hours are long; the profit margins, razor-thin. Customers are notoriously fickle, and a few bad Yelp reviews can turn today's hot spot into tomorrow's ghost town. On top of that, in markets such as San Diego, soaring real estate values can spell disaster when leases come up for renewal.

And that was before COVID-19.

Within days of the World Health Organization's March 11 declaration of a global pandemic, California's governor, Gavin Newsom, ordered the closure of all non-essential businesses, including bars and restaurants.

And an already precarious business model took a sucker punch to the gut.

Some of San Diego County's more than 8,100 restaurants remained open, offering takeout and delivery only. Others closed temporarily. Some closed for good - including Troy's Family Restaurant in Clairemont, Mother's Saloon in Ocean Beach, and the San Diego-based Souplantation chain, which shuttered all 97 of its all-you-can-eat buffet restaurants in the wake of an admonition by Frank Yiannas, the FDA's Deputy Commissioner for Food Policy and Response, that restaurants should "discontinue operations such as salad bars, self-service buffets or beverage service stations that require customers to use common utensils or dispensers."

Here in San Diego County, restaurants were allowed to reopen the last week in May, but due to social distancing requirements most are running at 50 percent or less of their prior capacity – particularly after state officials, citing a spike in COVID-19 cases, on July 6 banned all indoor dining for the next three weeks. Tables have been removed or roped off to make sure every party is at least six feet from everyone else; a number of restaurants, such as the Local Tap House and Kitchen in Oceanside, have converted a portion of their parking lots into outdoor seating to make more room.

With summer here, restaurateurs remain in survival mode. Here are some of their stories.

Buoyed by drink sales, the takeout business at the two Señor Grubby's restaurants flourished.

#### Marketing takeout

Tom Spano is the 56-year-old general manager of Piatti Italian Restaurant and Bar on Avenida de la Plava in La Jolla Shores, a mainstay of the community's dining scene for nearly 30 years. The traditional Italian trattoria, with an open kitchen and a stonehearth pizza oven, is a favorite among locals and also draws heavily from tourists of the nearby La Jolla Shores beach. Piatti is owned by a limited partnership that owns and operates nine restaurants, mostly on the West Coast.

Spano remembers hearing about a novel coronavirus spreading from China into neighboring Asian countries and then Europe and thinking, "This will never happen to us. This is the United States — we're going to get this thing nipped in the bud before it becomes a problem."

Then came the World Health Organization declaration of a COVID-19 pandemic on March 11, and he and his team had to do some quick thinking, Spano recalls.

"I remember on Sunday, March 15, when Governor Gavin Newsom ordered restaurants to cut their capacities in half — we tried it that night, leaving all our tables out but taking away the chairs from half of them," Spano says. "People were coming in and asking us, 'Why can't I sit there?' So the next day I thought, 'Let's just take out half the tables, as well. So I loaded up a truck and took them all in my garage. And then the very next day we were told we had to shut down completely except for takeout, and I remember thinking, 'Ugh, I could have left those tables in the restaurant."

At that point, Spano says, "we thought we'd be shut down for two weeks, so we started painting the walls, painting the tables — all this deferred maintenance we never got around to doing before because we were always open. I even put new linoleum in my office, and all the while we were doing takeout."

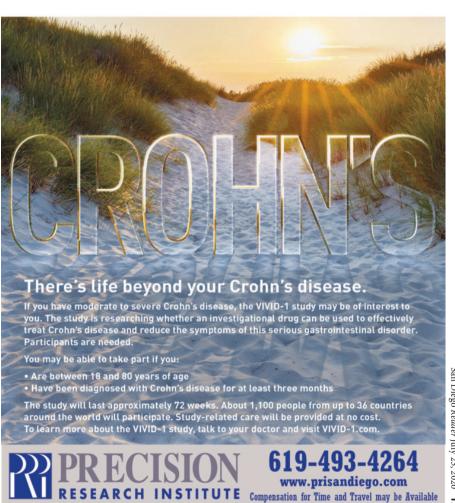
Takeout accounted for no more than 10 percent of Piatti's business prior to the pandemic, Spano said. After two weeks and still no opening date, he says, he and his team began aggressively marketing takeout, relying largely on regular customers, "who really supported us during this time."

"We were able to do about 20 percent, 25 percent of our normal business, just with togo," he says. "And we were feeling really good about that, because we knew of so many other places that were only doing about 5 percent of their regular business."

Strict sanitation controls were put in place for people coming into Piatti to pick up their food orders. "In the beginning, we weren't encouraged or required to wear masks, and we couldn't get any hand sanitizer, so we had to instruct our guests to wash their hands in the bathroom before they picked up their food and used our credit card machine," he says. When the mask order came in, Spano says, "everyone started making cloth masks my neighbor, even one of our bartenders. Then we were able to get hand sanitizer and that made life a little easier."

To save money, Spano says, all but a skeleton crew were furloughed. Rent wasn't a problem, because the partnership that owns Piatti also owns the building. And to help workers who had been sidelined, he says, he and others who remained at the restaurant collected tips from to-go customers, which they then passed on to their furloughed compadres.







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"The community really supported us," he says. "I had two customers, in particular, who were extremely generous - one dropped off a check even though he didn't order any food, and the other gave us a \$500 tip."

By the time Piatti reopened on June 4, Spano says, he and his team had collected more than \$35,000 in tips that were then dispersed to the furloughed staff.

The dining experience at Piatti is a lot different than it used to be. Before, there were 26 tables inside the restaurant and another 24 on the outdoor patio, with a total capacity of 195. After the June 4 reopening, there were just 15 tables indoors and 14 on the patio - and as of July 6, inside dining is again no

longer allowed.

"We're down to 14 tables, or 25 percent of capacity," Spano says. He's encouraged by the emergency executive order San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer signed on July 7 that allows restaurants to expand outdoor seating onto sidewalks and parking lots without cumbersome regulatory requirements. "We'll see what happens," he says. "I'm cautiously optimistic."

Since the early June reopening, Spano says, "we've been following all the county guidelines. We have people who are just walking around, sanitizing everything that a guest touches: tables, chairs, menus. If a table is next to a wall, the wall gets sprayed down. Bathrooms are sanitized every half hour. There's nothing a customer touches that somebody else has touched - no sugar caddies, no salt and pepper shakers. If people order coffee or tea and want a sweetener or cream, they get little individual packs. And if they want salt and pepper or chili flakes, we bring them out and after they are done using them they go back into a box to be sanitized."

Employees are only allowed in after a temperature check and a brief questionnaire they need to fill out on a computer before they clock in, Spano says. "They're asked if they have a cough, a tickle in their throat, a fever, and if anyone they know has been exposed to COVID-19," Spano says. "We've had a couple of situations where an employee has a spouse or a brother



"We're down to 14 tables, or 25 percent of capacity," says Tom Spano, general manager of Piatti Italian Restaurant and Bar in La Jolla Shores. He's encouraged by the emergency executive order San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer signed on July 7 that allows restaurants to expand outdoor seating onto sidewalks and parking lots without cumbersome regulatory requirements.

who works somewhere where someone's tested positive. We make them stay home until they get tested and they get their test results back and they're negative."

Business at Piatti during June was running at about 75 percent of normal, Spano says buoyed by takeout, which appears to be holding steady and may be in for another uptick given the ban on indoor dining.

"I don't see things going back to normal until there's a vaccine," he says, "but in the meantime, we're doing the best we can."

#### Salvation came

Belynn Gonzales was devastated when the shutdown orders came. She has been running Garcia's Mexican Restaurant on State Street in Carlsbad's historic "village" since 1979, making a comfortable living but working upwards of 60 hours a week. The restaurant had been opened by her grandparents, who raised her, back in 1960. Gonzales, now 64, remembers working there as a child, busing tables while her grandmother worked the kitchen and her grandfather ran the barbershop next door.

The grandparents retired in 1970 and leased out the restaurant to another operator while Gonzales pursued an accounting degree at San Diego State University. After she graduated, she decided to reopen Garcia's, at the tender age of 23.

For years, her business had consisted primarily of serving customers inside the restaurant, with 14 tables seating two to four people each, and another seven tables outside on a curbside patio that takes up three parking spaces under an allowance from the city. Twenty-five percent of her business came from catering, mostly pharmaceutical industry events, with takeout accounting for just five percent.

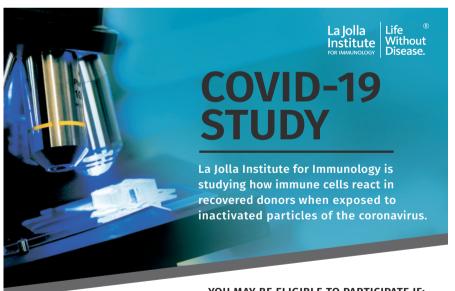
The pandemic and shutdown orders happened quickly, with little warning. "It was a nightmare," Gonzales recalls. "You know your monthly expenses, and all of a sudden it turned around to where we were able to do takeout only, so it was a scary feeling."

Gonzales tapped into her savings to keep the business open, and put large hand-lettered signs outside announcing the restaurant was open for takeout. She also offered home delivery and a 25 percent discount on all menu items.

Salvation came when the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), the state agency that oversees licensing for alcohol at restaurants and bars, allowed restaurants to sell beer, wine, and cocktails to go, which previously had been forbidden. The only stipulation was that the drinks have "a secure lid or cap" and are sold with food.

"That more or less saved the day, particularly after people started receiving their unemployment checks," Gonzales said. "The first two weeks [of the shutdown] were really slow, but then, during April, it was like New Orleans — everybody was tired of being locked

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up and they began ordering takeout and walking around the village with drinks in their hands."

Even so, she said, total sales at Garcia's Mexican Restaurant for the month of April were just 18 percent of what they had been in April 2019. It wasn't until the end of the month and early May that takeout — both of food and of drinks - really soared. "People were out and about, and what we found was that because we were open while a lot of other restaurants were closed, a lot of people discovered us - people who had never been our customers before."

Garcia's ended May with business at 75 percent of what it had been the previous May, Gonzales said, "and it was all takeout, since we didn't get clearance to reopen until the end of the month." When restaurants were allowed to reopen, the inside dining room lost six of its fourteen tables due to social distancing requirements, while outside, on the patio, Garcia's lost only three out of nine.

Even with the reduced capacity, Gonzales says, business was actually up from what it was a year ago, with no slowdown in takeout. But with the July 6 ban on indoor dining, she says, she's more than a little worried.

"We are going to start doing home delivery again, and we do have the patio, outside," she says, adding that she's considered putting up some tables out back, in the small parking lot. "But it just looks so ugly out there, I don't know..."

Belynn Gonzales was devastated when the shutdown orders came. She has been running Garcia's Mexican Restaurant on State Street in Carlsbad's historic "village" since 1979.

Gonzales says she and other restaurant owners are lobbying the city to turn State Street into a pedestrian mall, at least during the summer, to allow for more outdoor dining — similar to what the city of San Diego has done in Little Italy.

"Let's get tables out there, strolling musicians, a real European flair," she says. "I think that would be so awesome."

#### All that government cheese

Justin Jachura is the managing partner of a North County restaurant chain that was birthed in 2005 when he and a couple of friends — they had all attended Buena Vista Elementary School in Carls-

bad — decided to open a taco stand in Oceanside.

Today, Jachura's operation consists of six restaurants, about 125 employees and annual revenues in the millions. Jachura, 45, oversees three Los Tacos taco stands, two in Oceanside and one in Temecula; two sit-down Señor Grubby's Mexican restaurants, one each in Oceanside and Carlsbad; and a Grubby's Poke and Fish Market in The Shoppes at Carlsbad.

When the pandemic hit, he recalls, the first thought that came into his mind was "how are we going to survive, how are we going to keep our employees working and basically not lose our ass? Nobody knew there was going to be this huge sup-

plemental income from the government, so we figured we had to stay open and figure something out. All six locations immediately shifted to takeout, but then the mall announced it was closing so we closed the poke place — that one took the hardest hit."

No sooner had Governor Newsom issued his stay-at-home orders than the March rains came. It was a double whammy, Jachura recalls. "Those first two weeks were depressing," he says. "It was a record low — we had close to a six-figure loss for the month. Business was down about 60 percent," kept afloat largely by the three taco stands, which had always derived the bulk of their business from takeout.

Like Gonzales, Jachura says the ABC's decision to allow alcohol to go sales was his salvation, triggering an unexpected surge in business at the two Señor Grubby's restaurants in Oceanside and Carlsbad.

"I had found out about it [the ABC decision] the night before," Jachura says. "Some industry friends called me around 10, and right away I figured that in order to stand out we would offer two-for-one cocktails to go. I was up until 1 the next morning, designing stickers to put on the lids, and then I drove out to the poke restaurant we had closed and grabbed all the 16-ounce cups with lids I could find and brought them to Grubby's. We began offering two-forone cocktails the next night, within hours of the ABC announcement."

Buoyed by drink sales, the takeout business at the two Grubby's restaurants flourished, especially at the Carlsbad location, which is right on the town's main drag, Carlsbad Village Drive, two blocks east of the beach. "April started bouncing back fast," Jachura says, with revenues about the same as they had been the yearago April.

Then came Cinco de Mayo, when Jachura learned, firsthand, the meaning of the adage, "too much of a good thing."

"What began happening during this pandemic was the way people order food went very much virtual, either through restaurant websites or through delivery services like Grubhub or DoorDash," he says. "Before, people would either call or stop in to order



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"We were prepared for a huge summer," says Tom Tarantino at RoVino Foodery in East Village. "We were excited about the Padres. excited about Kaaboo, excited about Pride, excited about Comic Con and all the other conventions. And then, this...."

takeout, and they would know right away how busy we were and how long their orders would take. But when you click a button, either on your computer or on your phone, you no longer have this visibility. At our Carlsbad location alone. we had \$5000 in orders coming through in one hour, and it completely overloaded us. It was the first time ever I felt not in control. It got to the point where by 6, I had unplugged the phones, but there was nothing we could do — the online

orders kept coming in. The printer would print orders until it ran out of paper, and as soon as we put a new roll of paper in, it would start up again. We finally turned off DoorDash and kept hitting the delay button on Grubhub; then I called my web guy and told him to take our website down. What we didn't know was that Google had streamlined ordering as well so that when you went to our Google listing you could place an order as well, so we wound up taking down our Google listing too — that's how bananas it got."

Talk about a perfect storm. "I think it was a combination of people being caged up like animals for a month, easy access to online ordering, and people getting government checks, all that government cheese," Jachura says. "It just snowballed into a clusterfuck."

Even with the poke restaurant out of the picture, Jachura says, chainwide revenues in May were up 7 percent from the previous May. He hasn't yet tallied numbers for June, but expects even better tidings now that the dining rooms at the two Señor Grubby's locations are once again open. Seating capacity is at 65 percent of what it was before the pandemic, he says, and in Carlsbad, he's created additional outdoor seating by extending the back patio into the parking lot.

The biggest, and most pleasant, surprise, he says, is that takeout has held up even though the restaurants are now open. Prior to the pandemic, he says, takeout accounted for 15 percent of chainwide revenues. Now, it's holding steady at 50 percent.

"I think the restaurant business is changed forever," Jachura says. "Every delivery service spiked, and if it takes 30 to 40 days to form a habit, people have been using these apps for two or three months now and I don't think they're about to stop. Takeout is the new normal for the restaurant business. It's gotten so that on weekends and Taco Tuesdays, we're shutting down all our delivery apps – it's crazy how busy we've gotten."

Jachura is so optimistic about the future that he plans on opening a new restaurant in San Clemente and as many as two others in the North County area over the next year. He's also looking into opening a "virtual kitchen" to cook exclusively for takeout and take the pressure off his restaurant kitchens.

"I was telling my partners last year we should look into renting a warehouse and building multiple virtual kitchens and leasing them out to other people," he says. "Just last week, I got a call from a company that's doing precisely that, wanting to know if we are interested in leasing space. I thought, 'Damn it, someone got ahead of us."

The July 6 ban on indoor dining, Jachura says, won't have much of an impact, because "we're already set up for this all our locations have some sort of patio seating, and we've never let up with to-go. We've been through this before."

Still, he believes the ban on indoor dining is a prime example of governmental overreach. "I understand what they're trying to do," he says, "but I don't see the data to support it. It's crazy — it's somewhat asinine. I hate to

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see my fellow restaurant owners suffer for no reason, particularly because we've put into place every single safety protocol they asked us to do."

#### Sanitize the tables

Tom Tarantino comes from a restaurant family. His cousin, John Tarantino, owned the popular John Tarantino's restaurant in Point Loma in the 1970s, and as a teenager, he used to work in another of the family's restaurants, Valentino in Mira Mesa.

Now 54, Tarantino owns and operates two San Diego restaurants: RoVino Rotisserie + Wine, a high-end Italian restaurant on Kettner Boulevard in Little Italy that he opened in 2015, and the RoVino Foodery, a casual Italian "comfort food" restaurant, deli and market he opened in East Village in 2019.

He began the year with much optimism, he says — especially for the newly opened Foodery.

"We were prepared for a huge summer," Tarantino says. "We were excited about the Padres, excited about Kaaboo, excited about Pride, excited about Comic-Con and all the other conventions. And then, this..."

As soon as Governor Newsom ordered restaurants to limit their business to takeout and delivery, Tarantino says, he shut down RoVino Rotisserie + Wine completely. The restaurant specializes in authentic Sicilian and Northern Italian food and is known for its extensive wine selection. High-end restaurants don't generally do much business in takeout, Tarantino says. Customers pay, in part, for the atmosphere, "the great wine selection, and the five-star service," he



Justin Jachura says the ABC's decision to allow alcohol sales to go was his salvation, triggering an unexpected surge in business at the two Señor Grubby's restaurants in Oceanside and Carlsbad.

says. And the food tastes much better when it's served fresh.

"Quite honestly, when you order, say, lamb chops or steak, that food doesn't really hold up well to go," Tarantino says. "When you order lamb chops or a steak medium, we make sure it goes out medium, but if you order it for takeout, it continues to cook, and you're not getting it at its best at that point."

The Foodery remained open, with the market deemed "essential" and the rest of the menu, including many pasta dishes, ideal for takeout, Tarantino says. "There was a big uptick in meals for two," he says. "We catered to people who typically went out to restaurants and were now doing takeout, and they wanted good food, not fast food. All of our food is homemade, and it's really what people wanted for their families."

RoVino Rotisserie + Wine reopened in early June at 50 percent capacity, Tarantino says, and as of the end of the month total business at both restaurants combined was running at about 60 percent of normal. "What happened with us, business was coming back, then the riots hit and that was another down spiral, but now it seems everyone's coming back," Tarantino says. "People are still a little cautious. They ask questions like, 'What are you doing to keep us safe?"

At the Little Italy location, he says, "we have acrylic dividers, we sanitize the tables, the chairs, menus and the wine list, our servers all wear masks and gloves, and we do everything we can to keep people safe," he says.

At the Foodery, Tarantino says, takeout remains in high demand. "We have a hot line," he says. "People order food through an acrylic shield and get served from behind the counter. We have options every day: meatballs, sausage and peppers, shepherd's pie, different pasta dishes, chicken marsala, chicken piccata, stuffed bell peppers, risotto — all these options, and I think what makes us different is you can get that homemade

#### Calendar

### OUT WELCOME TO FEEK

#### Thursday | 23

#### MIKE PINTO'S ACOUSTIC LIVESTREAM

Mike Pinto blends reggae, ska, dub, and Latin rhythms, while keeping true to his roots on acoustic guitar. Before

the pandemic shutdown, he was staging weekly live acoustic performances around town on college and reggae radio stations. His most recent sevensong EP, The Sugarshack Sessions, involves full-band acoustic renditions of songs selected from Pinto's catalog, and there are YouTube videos for each. He recently released a new single, "Come a Long Way," on which Jack Johnson's drummer Adam Topol guests. Pinto will be performing acoustic songs based on requests every Thursday night this July.

WHEN: Thursday, July 23 and Thursday, July 30, 5:30 pm WHERE: YouTube.com

#### Friday | 24

#### **OLD GLOBE:** WORD UP

**Every Friday** night, Arts Engagement **Programs** Manager and host Laura Zablit will be



joined by some of San Diego's incredible performing artists, and together, they will create opportunities for viewers to learn from and participate in a given art form, creating accessible art in real time. These will include spoken word, rap, puppetry, singing, and more,

> often with bilingual and multicultural elements.

WHEN: Fridays, 6 pm. Through August 28 WHERE: theoldglobe.org

LORI **MCKENNA ALBUM** RELEASE

Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Lori McKenna performs an acoustic livestream concert from her hometown venue, Club Passim, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in support of her new album, The Balladeer. McKenna has written songs for Miranda Lambert, Carrie Underwood, Little Big Town, Tim McGraw, Faith Hill, Hunter Hayes, and Reba McEntire. She co-wrote "Always Remember

Us This Way," which was featured in the Academy Awardwinning 2018 film, A Star Is Born.



#### Saturday | 25

#### VIRTUAL ROSÉ **EXPERIENCE**

Brian Donegan leads a live tasting of six rosés plus a Q&A. Digital assets to be downloaded and printed at home: a rosé tasting mat, tasting notes, and a digital invite for friends. Attendees purchasing the local ticket package can enjoy a tote bag and a rosé cocktail to-go created

Oil Cocktail Company.

by Snake

#### Wednesday | 29

WHEN: Saturday, July 25, 4 pm

**WHERE:** sandiegowineclassic.com

#### THE GOOD DRONE

Recent drone footage out of China showed bound, blindfolded Uighurs being loaded onto trains. Warwick's will host professor at the University of San Diego Kroc School of Peace Studies Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick as he discusses his new book. The Good Drone: How Social Movements Democratize Surveillance. Choi-

> Fitzpatrick analyzes the way small-scale drones are used for a great many things: documenting human rights abuses,

> > estimating demonstration crowd size, supporting anti-poaching advocacy, and advancing climate research.

#### WHEN:

Wednesday, July 29, 4 pm WHERE: facebook.com/

warwicksbooks/ live





San Diego Reader July 23, 2020

#### HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

#### ANIMAL **FRIENDS**

**Interactive Summer Camp** with Animals Summer Critter Camp at Helen Woodward Animal Center gives kids the chance to interact with animals, create crafts, play games, participate in fun activities, and more. Questions? (858) 756-4117 x 318 or education@animalcenter.org. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Summer Critter Camp has the following changes: Grade range is Kindergarten-6th grade, daily registration is not an option, weekly price is \$195 per child. Thursdays, 8am; Fridays, 8am; Mondays, 8am; Tuesdays, 8am; Wednesdays, 8am; through Monday, August 24, \$195. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

#### ART

Comic-Con International at Home From July 22-26, fans will be able to enjoy the fun of Comic-Con@Home for free with exclusive panels and presentations about upcoming comics, films and more. Thursday, July 23, 10am; Friday, July 24, 10am; Saturday, July 25, 10am; Sunday, July 26, 10am; comic-con.org/toucan/comicconhome-sets-july-dates. (ONLINE)

#### BOOK SIGNINGS

Warwick's Author Livestream: Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick Warwick's will host Professor at the University of San Diego Kroc School of Peace Studies, Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick, as he discusses his new book. The Good Drone: How Social Movements Democ**BOOZE NEWS** 

#### An excellent reason to drink a stout this summer

San Diego beer has had a tumultuous pandemic, fraught with brewery closures, layoffs, lost revenue, and industry-wide anxiety about what the future holds. However, that hasn't stopped a number of local breweries from brewing fundraising beers to support local and national causes.

With last month's arrival of protests demanding social justice and police reform, a number of local breweries voiced support for the effort. No fewer than three dozen of them decided to participate in the nationwide Black is Beautiful initiative. Started by Marcus Baskerville, the African-American head brewer and cofounder of San Antonio's Weathered Souls Brewing, the project invites craft breweries to brew his Black is Beautiful stout recipe, "in an attempt to bring awareness to the injustices that many people of color face daily." The only caveat is that the breweries "donate 100% of the beer's proceeds to local foundations that support police brutality reform and legal defenses for those who have been wronged."

Despite the financial strain the pandemic has put on the beer industry, more than a thousand breweries have participated, representing all 50 states and 19 countries. Locally, breweries began to release their versions of the stout in July, starting with a mega collaboration of 20 breweries led by Horus Aged Ales and AleSmith **Brewing**, with proceeds going to nonprofits including Black Visions Collective, Campaign Zero, The Innocence Project, and National Bail Out. Check blackisbeautiful.beer to see which local breweries are offering their own version of the beer.

Breweries haven't been the only ones to throw support to this cause; several beertenders have donated some of their most precious resources: their tips. At Latchkey Brewing, a team led by Teresa Pominville pooled their tips to make donations to Black Lives Matter and the ACLU. At University Heights brewpub Kairoa Brewing Company, a crew led by Daylen Dalrymple followed Pominville's lead, deciding to pool tips



Despite issues surrounding the pandemic, dozens of San Diego breweries have contributed to fundraising beers.

to donate to the Black Womxn Deserve Mutual Aid Fund, which provides financial support to black women in crisis. Inspired by their servers' altruism, customers tipped heavily to contribute to each pool: the Latchkey beertenders contributed \$1075 to the two organizations; the Kairoa crew's donation amounted to \$1633.

Meanwhile, with its beer festival canceled for the year, the San Diego Brewers Guild lost its mechanism for generating revenue to support the much needed guidance it offered its 120 mem-

bers during the pandemic. In response, a group of breweries, connected via Stone Distribution, collaborated to produce the San Diego Brewers United Double IPA. Stone Brewing, Modern Times Beer, Pizza Port Brewing Co., Port Brewing, Mother Earth Brewing Co. and Thorn Brewing Co. contributed to the beer, which features a distinctive hop bill of Rakau Nelson Sauvin, Citra, and Azacca

Proceeds from the beer will support the Brewers Guild during this down year. In addition

to buying the beer at Stone Brewing locations, beer industry fans may support the Brewers Guild directly by purchasing merchandise through its web shop.

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

ratize Surveillance, in conversation. This is a free virtual event on Facebook Live. Wednesday, July 29, 4pm; warwicks.com/event/choifitzpatrick-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Natalie Jenner Warwick's and Liz Fenton & Lisa Steinke will host the Couch Surfing Book Tour with debut novelist and founder of the independent bookstore Archetype Books, Natalie Jenner, as she discusses her new book, The Jane Austen Society. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Tuesday, July 28, 4pm; warwicks.com/event/jenner-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Seraphina Nova Glass Warwick's and Liz Fenton & Lisa Steinke will host the Couch Surfing Book Tour with professor, playwright, and screenwriter, Seraphina Nova Glass, as she discusses her new book, Someone's Listening. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Tuesday, July 28, 5pm; warwicks.com/event/novaglass-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Turnbull, Cleeton, Maher Warwick's will host Three Authors, Three Decades, a panel discussion with three historical fiction authors, Bryn Turnbull, Chanel Cleeton, and Kerri Maher, as they discuss their new books, The Woman Before Wallis (Turnbull), The Last Train to Key West (Cleeton), and The Girl in White Gloves (Maher). This is a free virtual event on Facebook Live. Monday, July 27, 5pm; warwicks. com/event/three-authors-threedecades-2020, (ONLINE)

#### **CLASSES &** WORKSHOPS

American Buddhist Healing Practices Join Varada for guided healing meditation utilizing Mantra recitation, Tonglen (Taking and Sending) practice and chakra meditation. All are welcome; no experience necessary. Monday, July 27, 6pm; free. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

**Animating With Cels Virtual** Summer Art Camp LUX Art Institute - Virtual Summer Art Camp 2020 Week 6: July 27th - July 30th Title: Adventures on Plastic: Animating with Cels (Ages:12-15) Price: Members - \$200, Non-members - \$220. In this session campers will experiment with animating and collaging on cels. Cels are sheets of transparent plastic that enable animators to layer drawings over backgrounds, creating complete images without computers. Register at the following link: https://luxart.wufoo. com/forms/w1xgip3b10br18i/ If you have questions or concerns, email: education@luxartinsititute. org or call: 760.436.6611 ext. Monday, July 27, 9am; Tuesday, July 28, 9am; Wednesday, July 29, 9am; \$200-\$220. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Beginner Tennis 1 Tennis is a great way to meet new people, have fun, stay healthy and live longer. Learn forehand, backhand, ground strokes, volleys, lobs, overheads and serves. Monday, July 27, 5:45pm; \$89. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASOUITOS)

**Consciousness Expansion with** Thursday, July 23, 7pm; free. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

**Ekphrastic Writing** This class will allow you to explore a range of writing forms, practice interpreting art through your perspective, develop your writing voice, and broaden your understanding of visual art. Together we will analyze ekphrastic writing, and then participants will be offered writing prompts to assist in responding in their way to famous art pieces. You will be emailed the Zoom link 24 hours before the start of class. If you sign up less than 24 hours before the start of the class, please email Kristen at programs@sandiegowriters.org for your link. Saturday, July 25, 10am; \$30-\$36. 18 and up. sandiegowriters.org/july-ekphrastic-writing-rebecca-chamaa-joycehayden/. (ONLINE)

#### **Exploring the Spiritual Path**

This class meets regularly on Saturday mornings and consists of seated meditation and a Dharma talk that speaks to integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century daily lives. Saturday, July 25, 11am; free. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

Live In-Person Musical Theatre Summer Camps Star Rep Theatre is offering seven weeks of In-Person Theatre Camp Programs with three different age groups between 5-16, from July 20-September 4. Each camp is one week, and includes: Frozen, Moana, Annie, Seussical, Hamilton, Newsies, Backstage Tech, Six, Grease, Mama Mia, 13, and Hero/Villain. Normally our summer camps have over 30 campers. Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, only 12 campers allowed per camp. Mondays, 8am; through Friday, September 4, \$195-\$525. Star Repertory Theatre, 329 East Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Live Virtual Painting & Drawing Class Virtual art classes in painting, drawing and encaustic art you can register for on a new virtual live page. Artist Leslie Pierce/ And Something Different gallery. Fridays, 7pm; through Monday, July 27, \$20-\$250. andsomethingdifferentstudiogallery. com/artclassesandworkshopsinsandiego. (ONLINE)

Meditation & Mindfulness Join Karuna for seated meditation and mindfulness discussion. Tuesday, July 28, 7pm; free. dharmacenter. com. (ONLINE)

Meditation for Writers In these weekly one-hour zoom sessions with Rebecca Jane, you will learn meditations that come from a variety of wisdom traditions. Also, in these zoom sessions, after practicing the meditation, we will explore

various writing prompts. You will be emailed the Zoom link 24 hours before the start of class. If you sign up less than 24 hours before the start of the class, please email Kristen at programs@sandiegowriters. org for your link. Saturday, July 25, 12:30pm; \$5. 18 and up. sandiegowriters.org/meditations-writersrebecca-jane-07-25/. (ONLINE)

Morning Meditation Join Karuna for a half-hour seated meditation. Tuesday, July 28, 7am; free. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

Mostly Meditation Meditation only session. Brief Dharma Center instruction provided at the beginning of class as needed. Sunday, July 26, 11am; free. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

Painting Animals Virtual Summer Art Camp Campers will acquire painting skills combining elements of composition and color theory using acrylic paints. The objective of the class will be to paint the student's favorite animal. Register at the following link: https://luxart.wufoo.com/ forms/w11sp9hc0r6pbcr/ If you have questions or concerns, please send email to LUX Art Institute's Education Department at: education@luxartinsititute.org or call : 760.436.6611 ext. 200 LUX Art Institute, 1550 S El Camino Real, Encinitas, CA 92024 / Education Department: education@luxartinsititute.org / 760.436.6611 ext. 200. www.luxartinstitute.org. (Ages : 8-11) Price: Members - \$200, Nonmembers - \$220. Thursday, July 23, 9am \$200-\$220. (ONLINE)

Redefining Sustainability: Beyond Green Meet sustainability leaders in San Diego and network with like-minded people who are pushing the envelope of business as a force for good. After registering on Zoom, the meeting link will be sent in a confirmation email within 24 hours. This meeting link is unique to you. Wednesday, July 29, 6pm; free-\$10.



Sound & Meditation Teresa's joyful presence is a blessing. Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss of meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound.

20 San Diego Reader July 23, 2020

eventbrite.com/e/redefining-sustainability-beyond-green-tickets-109524681270?aff=SDReader

(ONLINE

Tennis 2 Experienced This class is about developing more control, for those who have already taken Beginner tennis class. We'll include instruction, traditional tennis plus special games designed to accelerate learning skills and techniques. Wednesday, July 29, 5:45pm; \$89. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASOUITOS)

Unstuff Your Life: 5-Week Course Get organized, lighten your load and stay organized with this intensive course that provides a simple yet effective system for staying organized and getting rid of your "stuff." Called "the most organized man in America," Andrew is also the author of several books including Unstuff Your Life: Kick the Clutter Habit and Completely Organize Your Life for Good. To register for the five-week course, please visit licommunitycenter.org/ calendar. Tuesday, July 28, 10am; \$129-\$149. (ONLINE)

Wednesday Connect: Safety in Your Home We will discuss in detail how to make your home the Best Safe Zone. I will share practical "Hand-Outs" for you to walk through your home - room by room. To register, please visit online. Wednesday, July 29, 10am; free. Ijcommunitycenter.org/wednesday-connect. (ONLINE)

Yiddish Yoga Gib a shnuf tsu dayn guf - Give Your Body a Breather. Enjoy a 45- minute yoga class combined with Yiddish yoga vocabulary! English translation is available. Zoom link available upon registration. Cost: \$7 per class or a \$20 monthly membership. PayPal payments available via link. Registration: email to tanya.y@yaaana. com Sunday, July 26, 10am; \$7-\$20. Registration: email to tanya.y@ yaaana.com. (ONLINE)

#### DISCUSSION GROUPS

**30th Anniversary Ruby Awards** Join San Diego Housing Federation for the 30th Anniversary Ruby Awards, the county's largest affordable housing industry recognition event honoring the best people, projects, and achievements during the past year. The event will be held via digitally live stream this year. Thursday, July 23, 3pm; free. housingsandiego.org/events-2/ruby-awards2020. (ONLINE)

WIB-SoCal Townhall: Women In Bio Are you interested in building meaningful connections and developing skills to advance your career? Please join us on July 29 to learn more about Women In Bio and the ways you can take your career to the next level by getting involved! Wednesday, July 29, 6:30pm; free. womeninbio.org/event/SoCal72920. (ONLINE)

#### FARMERS' MARKETS

Escondido Certified Farmers Market Local, organic and delicious produce fro certified farms. Also, a variety of local hot food vendors such as El Veganito, Evelias, Little Someone Japanese cuisine and much more. Tuesdays, 2:30pm; through Monday, December 27, free. Escondido Arts Partnership Escondido Municipal Gallery, 262 E. Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

#### **FOR KIDS**

#### Free Diaper Drive-Throughs

Miracle Babies is extending its diaper drive-through events throughout the summer. The diaper donations will be open to all San Diego families in need during this difficult time. For families who currently have a baby in the NICU, parents can write "NICU NOW" on their dashboard to receive a special care package. Visit www.miraclebabies. org for more information. To register for an upcoming diaper distribution visit miraclebabies.org. Saturday, July 25, 10am; free. Jack in the Box Corporate Office, 9357 Spectrum Center Boulevard

#### FUNDRAISERS Meals on Wheels' March for

Meals 5K Walk This event will be virtual and participants will be encouraged to Getting Fit between Sunday July 12, 2020 and Sunday, August 23, 2020. This free and fun fitness challenge will help support San Diego's homebound and isolated senior population. Although the event is free this year, fundraising is encouraged and donations are gladly welcome as proceeds will help provide nutritious meals and a daily wellness checks for this most vulnerable and fragile population. For more information and sponsorship opportunities please contact: Debra Adelman at (619) 278-4041 or dadelman@meals-on-wheels. org. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays; Mondays; Tuesdays; Wednesdays; through Sunday, August 23, free. meals-on-wheels. org/MarchForMeals5k. (ONLINE)

#### **LECTURES**

Racial Resilience: Antiracism as Spiritual Praxis Racial Resilience is an anti-racism training seminar with the primary goal of becoming an anti-racist member of society. We will utilize compassionbased contemplative practices to teach participants critical race theories. Collectively, these two aspects will hone our capacity to define, identify, and sustainably dismantle internalized, interpersonal, and structural racism. Saturday, July 25, 9:30am; \$100-\$400. belovedsandiego.org/racial-resilience. html. (ONLINE)

#### **Rhyme & Verse**

Cancelled

A poem by Marjorie Maddox

- Williamsport, PA: Little League World Series 2020

The boy, the girl, the bat, abandoned

not just like that, but left no less with less

in his own country, her own county,

the state of all now no state at all

for the winning, the cry to "Play ball!" dying

too fast to call foul, so far out of bounds

of all we imagined remotely possible on these scrubbed streets

meant not for pandemics, but parades, collectable pins,

curbside toddlers catching candy, even nostalgic seniors

tipping their ballcaps for favorite flags and destinations,

while uniformed twelve-year-olds—momentarily glove-less—

practice waving back, not quite believing they've won the right

to arrive in this small town of heroes and dreams. Except

this year. Now sidelined. No, cut altogether from the team.

There's nothing more to say. No instant replay.

The deserted streets and stadiums will fill again,

but not with their smiles. You can't postpone thirteen.



Marjorie Maddox is professor of English and Creative Writing at Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, PA. She has published 11 collections of poetry—including *Transplant, Transport, Transubstantiation* (Yellowglen Prize); *True, False, None of the Above* (Illumination Book Award Medalist); *Local News from Someplace Else; Perpendicular As I* (Sandstone Book Award)

— the short story collection What She Was Saying (Fomite); four children's and young adult books — including Inside Out: Poems on Writing and Reading Poems with Insider Exercises and A Crossing of Zebras: Animal Packs in Poetry; I'm Feeling Blue, Too! — Common Wealth: Contemporary Poets on Pennsylvania (co-editor); Presence (assistant editor); and more than stories, essays, and poems in journals and anthologies. For more information, please see <a href="https://www.mar-joriemaddox.com">www.mar-joriemaddox.com</a>

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

#### MUSIC

Old Globe: Word Up More of a gathering than a show or a class, Word Up! is a digital opportunity for community members to connect with each other and participate in a new performing-art medium each week through a live-streamed collaboration. Every Friday night, Arts Engagement Programs Manager and host Laura Zablit will be joined by some of San Diego's incredible performing artists. Performing art forms will include spoken word, rap, puppetry, singing, and more. Friday, July 24, 6pm; Search "Old Globe word up" on youtube.com. (ONLINE)

#### NATURE

Reopening Celebration The aquarium will open with new pathways and new procedures to keep guests - as well as staff safe and healthy. Guest capacity will be limited during this initial phase, so advanced reservations will now be required for all guests, including members. Timed tickets are available online. Don't miss the new ocean-view Shark Café and updated exhibits. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; Mondays, 9am; Tuesdays, 9am; Wednesdays, 9am; through Friday, July 31, Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)



an Diego *Reader* July 23, 2020

# Hockey, Guinness, and "Smiddicks"

#### An Irishman and a Canadian open a bar

hy do I always get these cool vibes here? I mean, it's an area that can be a little scrubby, around 6th and B

downtown. Lots of people hanging around the 5th Avenue trolley, specially since places like House of Blues and the San Diego Symphony's headquarters at Copley Symphony Hall have closed down. Right now, they are dead as dodos. Covid has sapped the life out of this neighborhood.

Then, oh yeah. I remember the place I was trying to think of: Stout Public House. An Irishman and a Canadian ran it. Wonder if they're still open? Ah, and there it is. Maroon tile frontage, maroon canopy, small patio.

But cool vibes? Way cool. I always think of those crazy nights at Stanley Cup time, when the entire hockey world gravitates to this little joint to watch the Kings of Cool zinging around, whacking pucks and each other with their sticks. Mark Prendergast (the Irishman) and Dave Toth (the Canadian) ran what a lot of the faithful say is San Diego's nearest thing to an ice hockey fan's heaven. Also, a genuine Irish pub. And they're open!

Their proudest claim is that they pour a Guinness like a Guinness needs to be poured. Two-part pour. Patience.

Their other proudest claim is that they also serve a beer that's older than Guinness: Smithwick's Irish Ale. "John Smithwick brewed it first in 1710," says Mark. "Guinness bought them out in 1965, but Smithwick's Ale is still more popular in Ireland than Guinness."

I look for somewhere to sit. I can see they're hurting here. With outside-only eating and drinking, they've got just a two-table frontage, plus a couple more tables beside their little deck. Right now, there are four people eating and drinking. Even so, and I remember this tradition here among the folks who'd choose to sit outside; they're a talkative bunch, arguing between jokes, yakking between tables. Still,

with that whole two-level inside area out of action, it must be slim pickings for the owners. It's a pity for the customer, too, because the

crowd —hockey fans from all over the world — gave the place a real international flavor. I've seen Russians, Canadians, Finns, Icelanders, Norwegians, Koreans, guys and gals from any of those colder countries where hockey is a religion, crammed

in, glugging, arguing, cheering. More revival meeting than rivalry.

So first decision right now is for a Smiddick's. (That's how they pronounce it, not "Smith Wick's.") It's a nice red ale that's more malty than hoppy, good to go with pub food. Second decision is for the nosh that this ancient booze will wash down.

Mark seats me in the only separate-enough space available, at the end of the left-side table. One other gent's here, eating fries (\$5) and slurping his beer. Rusty. Software designer. Pretty soon we're into it, arguing about whether software designers are designing humankind out of a role on this earth. "Well," he says, "we all do it. AI is here. I have designed software that streamlined the laying off of a bankrupt corporation's staff. Thousands of jobs. I have always felt bad about that."

"It feels a bit like that here," says Mark.
"We used to depend on House of Blues for a
lot of customers, along with Symphony Hall
and all of the orchestra players. That was like
500 or 600 regulars we could depend on. Now,
they're both closed. If it wasn't for the likes of
Rusty here, our faithful regulars, we'd be out
of business."

The menu is pretty huge, for a small pub. Of course, being Irish, they have to start off with corned beef and cabbage (plus potatoes and baby carrots). Costs \$16.

By far the best deal seems to be the mini angus burgers, \$4 each, or three for \$11. Also poutine, the French-Canadian fave of fries



The bona fide Irish public house on Sixth Avenue

drowned by gravy and cheese curd. That goes for \$12. The Stout Salad, with candied walnuts, pears, goat cheese and apples, actually looks like the most interesting dish so far. Costs \$11, or \$16 with chicken. Or \$18 with shrimp, grilled salmon, or steak. But I'm just hungry for something plain and hot. I ask Mark about the potato skins. They go for \$10. "A lot of people like the skins with shepherd's pie on top," he says. "Basically, beef, lamb, and carrots."

That costs \$3.50 extra. But sounds interesting, and kinda self-indulgent, taste-wise, too. So skins and pie it is. And a second Smiddick's, even though to this Arrogant Bastard-raised boy, it tastes kinda tame in comparison to San Diego beers.

But the skins and Shepherd's Pie make a wonderful, flavorful, protein-filled combination. Something of Worcestershire sauce in the meat. It all sits on the skins and infuses them with juiciness and salty flavor. And there's plenty of sour cream, greens. And



Holding it all together, scads of cheese



Mark (the Irishman)

cheese, lots of golden cheese, capturing the meat. It's more than I can eat. I have to pack two skins to go.

Next time, I'm going to want to try the Guinness Stew (\$15), to see how the stout (here at Stout, heh heh) flavors the meat. And for a breakfast, their corned beef hash and eggs (\$15). Meantime, I feel like coming back every day just to help keep these guys afloat. At least until hockey season kicks in. ■

The Place: Stout Public House, 1125 6th Avenue, downtown, 619-702-7933

**Hours:** 4pm-10pm, Saturday-Wednesday; 11am-11:30pm, Thursday, Friday

**Prices:** Corned beef hash and eggs, \$15; Fries, \$5; corned beef and cabbage, \$16; mini angus burgers, \$4 each, 3 for \$11; poutine (fries, gravy, cheese curd), \$12; The Stout Salad (candied walnuts, pears, goat cheese, apples), \$11, with chicken, \$16; with shrimp, grilled salmon, or steak, \$18; potato skins, \$10; with shepherd's pie, \$13.50; Guinness Stew, \$15

**Buses:** all downtown

Nearest bus stops: 6th and Broadway

**Trolleys:** Blue Line, Orange Line, Silver (vintage) Line

Nearest trolley stop: 5th Avenue station, at Fifth Avenue and C Street

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#### Too hot for pho

For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit SDReader.com/feast

#### When it's too hot for soup at Pho Ca Dao

Pho Ca Dao Vietnamese Kitchen; 2647 Fenton Pkwy #D104, Mission Valley. Ikea, Costco, Lowes.

Even during a pandemic they draw

throngs of shop-

pers to their corner of Mission Valley. My car eked along with the slow moving traffic of their massive, shared parking lot, a million square feet of asphalt, from which waves of heat could be seen rising to meet the searing midday sun.

Eventually I made it to Pho Ca Dao Vietnamese Kitchen, the latest location in a growing chain of family-owned Vietnamese restaurants. The

> first opened in a shuttered City Heights Arby's nearly two decades ago, and while its phở menu has

fueled its expansion to seven properties, from Rancho Bernardo to Santee to Chula Vista, that's not what brought me this day. It was too hot for the aromatic noodle soup.

Despite its name, Pho Ca Dao has expanded its menus over the years to include a other Vietnamese dishes, and this Mission Valley location offers the most extensive menu, including regional specialties such as seafood udon soup and anise beef stew. But it was too hot for those too.

Fortunately, many Vietnamese dishes are designed to be especially desirable in the summer heat. As an added benefit for those of us seeking refuge from the excesses of Costco size capitalism, this Pho Ca Dao is equipped with a full bar.

Not many have had a chance to visit that bar though, as this location opened in early March, just before on-premise dining shut down for more than two months due to the pandemic. Fortunately, it's equipped with a spacious covered patio,



but cold menu items were still what we were

after, beginning with gôi cuốn, the fresh spring



Grilled

pork bánh mì





Bun, cold noodle salad with grilled chicken and Vietnamese sausage.

sausage, the pork was well exe-

cuted and flavorful. Something

Pho Ca Dao does well is make

Vietnamese food appealing to

a broader audience than one

might see patronizing

restaurants in Little Sai-

gon. Which makes this

new Pho Ca Dao Viet-

namese Kitchen loca-

tion an excellent entry

point for those newer

to the cuisine. Costco

members, perhaps, or Ikea

shoppers who find it too

hot for Swedish meatballs.

Eggies on a bun or

Eggies East Village; 707 G St

Unit 108, East Village. There

are a handful of parties grab-

bing breakfast on the narrow

patio of East Village's location

of local breakfast and booze

chain, Breakfast Republic. But

restaurant dining is kind of

in a iar

by Ian Anderson

include poached pork and shrimp rolls, and "surf and turf" rolls of grilled shrimp and beef. But they may be ordered with a choice of proteins, so we settled on the lemongrass beef - not as common a find, but dare I say more satisfying than a burger on a day like this, wrapped in moist rice paper with cold noodles, fresh greens, and pickled veggies, with peanut sauce to dip them in.

A sort of alternate take, without the wrapper, is the bun noodle salad. Here, our cold noodles over leafy greens were topped with pickled veggies, crushed peanuts, and a mix of grilled chicken and Vietnamese pork sausage. It's a salad for people who don't like salad, meaty yet cool.

I couldn't resist leaving without a grilled pork bánh mì. It was a tad less greasy or pungent than most of my favorite bánh mì sandwiches in town, but like the beef, chicken, and nerve-wracking right now, so I pass it by. More my speed right now is its new neighbor, sister restaurant Eggies.

There are far fewer breakfast items to consider at Eggies: it's primarily a breakfast sandwich concept. But it was designed to be a tiny counter shop, and was built with a sidewalk-facing counter that proves ideal for the covid era. As I approach, a masked customer simply walks up to the counter, orders, pays, and within minutes is on his way.

I phoned ahead my order, so it's an even simpler transaction. I didn't even have trouble finding parking. That's likely lining during these uncertain times. The signature sandwich here is the Eggies classic: bacon, sausage, cheddar cheese, and a fried egg on brioche. Its \$9 price tag doesn't thrill me, but then the thing turns out to

to grasp at any small silver

be bigger than a double double, so I can't complain. The apple smoked bacon is nice, the maple and sage sausage patty is nicer. I'd kind of like to see an Eggies sandwich with just sausage, but the rest of the menu just gets bigger.

For example, the BLT, which pairs bacon with bacon jam, bacon sausage, and muenster cheese to go with lettuce and tomato. Or the California, where bacon and muenster are joined by tomato jam, a ground turkey patty, arugula, and of course avocado.

For those who don't dig on swine, the Which Came First sandwich is delivers just as much salt as bacon, courtesy of fried chicken. Unlike the other sandwiches, volk didn't run from the fried egg on this one. Some people don't like runny yolk, but I do: I would suggest giving your egg preference when ordering to let the kitchen know you care.

All of the above sandwiches



A breakfast sandwich bigger than a double double, with bacon, sausage, fried egg, and cheddar on brioche bun.

are served on brioche bun, but the fifth sandwich Frenchtoasts it, with sweet custard. bechamel, tomato jam, and ham. However, it's not all sandwiches at Eggies. Another option is to order breakfast in a jar, and it's made with strawberries and mascarpone cream: a sweet diversion from the counter's mainly savory appeal, priced at \$8.

Take out options are important right now, and Eggies is well positioned to do a lot of business, with existing locations already in place in Pacific Beach and Liberty Station. And if you miss the brunch cocktails of breakfast Republic, no worries: you can nab a mimosa or bloody mary for six bucks.

by Ian Anderson

#### **FOOD & DRINK**

Virtual Rosé Experience It's always a good day to rosé at home! San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival hosts a virtual rosé tasting experience, co-hosted by JULEP venue and Snake Oil Cocktail Co. The ticket includes six full bottles of Sommelier's Choice Rosé, allowing attendees to taste rosé from around the world, and deepen their understanding of the popular pink wine. Additionally, the virtual event features a Sommelier-led rosé tasting and live Q&A led by Advanced Sommelier, Brian Donegan, digital assets to be downloaded and printed at home and a reusable tote bag filled with a rosé cocktail to-go created by Snake Oil Cocktail Company (15 oz) paired with a virtual mixology demonstration, Saturday, July 25, 4pm; \$120-\$130, 21 and up. sandiegowineclassic.com/event/ virtual-rose-celebration/(DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



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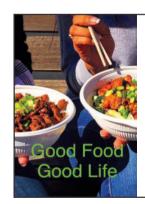
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# the inside track

#### **Playing Keith Richards**

for a living isn't always a rock star trip, as Young Hutchinson, from Stones tribute band Jumping Jack Flash, can attest. A county fair stopped the Flash mid-set — for the the actual Rolling Stones played a private function there several days later (for \$2.2 million, a somewhat larger fee than ours, lol). Not the first time that we've played on a stage that either the Beatles or

the Flash mid-set — for the stage that either the Beatles or "Not are "Not

Jumping Jack Flash was stopped mid-set in favor of a county fair pig race.

sake of the pig race. And in a definitive Spinal Tap moment, they showed up in Texas, to find themselves second on the bill. Under a patio furniture sale.

Pre-covidsteria, the band were scheduled to play Belly Up again as part of the Beatles vs. Stones tribute band extravaganza on July 31. That won't be happening now. Still, a Belly Up show brought Hutchinson one of his favorite memories of being Keith.

"As usual the show was sold-out, but when we arrived for soundcheck we saw that there was already a large crowd in front of the venue — hours before doors would open.... One of the BU staffers approached me on stage and said "There's a phone call for Mick or Keith. Can you take it?"

"Whoever it was had hung up, but we found out the reason for all the buzz, when Stones played on at one time, and it just blows our minds every time."

Drummer Axel Clarke, "Ringo" for the other half of the bill, Beatles tribute Abbey Road, affirms his own love for this town. "Belly Up is honestly one of my favorite venues to play," avows Clarke, praising it as "the one venue that always sings at the top of their lungs to 'Hello Goodbye'. We always ask the crowd to sing along on that tune, but the Belly Up belts it like a gospel choir!

"Back in 2011 there was a massive blackout across most of SoCal. We were set up at the Music Box and the power went down during soundcheck. The consensus was to just hang out until it came back on but it never did. Walking and driving around downtown in a compete blackout was a weird, apocalyptic experience."

Looking the Stones look while playing the notes, poses certain stretches. As Hutchinson relates, "Pat Hennessy (who plays Brian Jones and Ron Wood) and I formed the group in 2005, and it's harder than you think to put a show like this together. Not only do the players have to be able to play at the level and also want the gig, but they have to physically resemble a skinny little British rock & roll star.

"Not an easy find in the

U.S. in the 21st century I can tell you. Imagine how lucky we were to find Joey Jagger, lips and all."

Clarke, asked about Beatle costume changes during the show: "We usually do the Ed Sullivan black suits, the Sgt.Pepper uniforms, and the Abbey Road cover looks but we have others like Shea Stadium, that we mix in sometimes. I like them all equally but, if it's a hot outdoor show, I dislike them all equally! They're not the most

breathable fabrics'

The show contains several surprises, and a big finish I'm not supposed to spoil. I did ask Clarke if the Beatles actually wrestle the Stones onstage.

Quoth Ringo: "Only if an Octagon is available."

— Andrew Hamlin

**Cello taught, museum humbled** Carolyn Grant,
executive director of the
Museum of Making Music
Carlsbad, came to music early
and passionately.

"This involvement [with playing music] is actually the core purpose of my life. As an older adult my musical adventure is centered around the cello. I began studying the instrument about 15 years ago. I have learned more about life and about myself through the cello than by any other means. I grew up playing piano, and I dabble in guitar and vocals, but my serious study now and

sales, and the evolution of the "shopping" concept itself.

I END UP CUTTING

MY FINGER?

**OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO:** RANCHO SANTA FE

I DON'T

THINK I SHOULD

FARN SHARPS

for many years to come, hope-

The National Association

of Music Merchants is a trade

association charged with

leading and strengthening

the music products industry.

Founded in 1901, it's one of

the oldest trade associations

Museum's been in business

since 1998, when it opened to

professionals (and two years

part of the association's head-

It's always been designed

to honor makers and sellers

of musical instruments, but

circa 2013, as Grant explains

storyline were out of date, and

"Both the technology and

the original chronological

the displays were ready for

The new renovation

features a narrative strung

a refresh."

later, the general public) as

quarters in Carlsbad.

in the United States. The

fully, is on the cello."

Finally, "Using The Instruments" invites the museumgoers to reflect on their own musical experiences, their memories of playing, memories of hearing music, or both.

Folks will be able to jam out on "a variety of acoustic and electric instruments," emphasizes Grant. "We are also planning on providing a



Museum director Carolyn
Grant came to music early and
passionately.

lifts. But

Grant says the
Museum — which also plans
to offer subsidized school
tours, and just started a
program for foster youth at
San Pasqual Academy called
Expressive Sound Arts — is
on course to reopen in February 2021.

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

"I feel a great and evergrowing sense of responsibility to offer visitors a museum that invites and welcomes them into a new world, or one that offers them a new perspective on a world with which they are already familiar," she concludes. "The thought that this renovation will allow the museum to reach a broader audience and impact more lives for years to come is truly motivational.

"Also, seeing the museum team use their many strengths... to create this



An artist's rendering of the Museum of Making Music's new design.

through three concepts:
"Making The Instruments,"
"Providing The Instruments,"
and "Using The Instruments."

"Making The Instruments" addresses the history, culture, politics, and logistics of manufacturing. "Providing The Instruments" addresses the history of shipping, delivery,

few vintage keyboard instruments, such as a Hammond Organ and a Celesta, for people to play upon request. For our younger visitors, we are creating a dedicated space filled with age-appropriate instruments."

Naturally, most of this will have to wait until the virus

new museum experience for the community, is perhaps not unexpected, but certainly an absolute joy and very humbling."

— Andrew Hamlin Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

#### CONTRIBUTORS

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

# LOCAL Live

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#### **KEYMON**

Kendrick Dial — aka Keymon — made his local mark with the Lyrical Groove, who won Best Hip-Hop at the 2013 San Diego Music Awards and Best Hip-Hop Album at the 2014 SDMAs. He also hosted a San Diego soul music radio program in collaboration with Listen Local SD called Spoken Soul Radio Show. Now going by the name Keymon, he just dropped a new single, "Y'all Mad," written by Dial and produced by Trevle' of Nefalum. "'Y'all Mad' uses hip hop, spoken word, and song to address responses to protests and other

forms of resistance by the black community and their allies," he says. "Using music in this way comes from a long tradition. Singers like Nina Simone, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Sam Cooke, and others all made songs in response to current events. [This song] talks about the various ways black people and their allies have protested over the years and how, no matter the method, the responses are often still negative." A video for the track is streaming online.



#### **BUTTERFLIES**

Pea Hicks first came to notice with bands like Tit Wrench, as well as his offbeat collaboration with Rob Crow, Optiganally Yours, based around a home organ made in the early '70s by the Optigan Corporation, a subsidiary of Mattel toys. Multi-instrumentalist Kenseth Thibideau moved to San Diego in 1998 at the suggestion of the aforementioned Rob Crow, with whom he later toured with Pinback and co-founded Goblin Cock. He's also played keyboards for Three Mile Pilot, and bass for prog-rockers Sleeping People, as well

as composing music for television and radio commercials. Hicks and Thibideau have made use of the time afforded by the pandemic shutdown to form a new band called Butterflies. Their just-released debut album features 21 original tracks and a cover of "White Lily" by Laurie Anderson. According to the duo, one hundred percent of proceeds from the album — which includes contributions from Marie Haddad and Chris Prescott — will be donated to blue candidates running for the U.S. Senate in 2020.



#### TROUBLE IN THE WIND

"We asked our fans to send in video clips of how they are making it through these hard times with their families," say country rockers Trouble in the Wind of the video for their song "We'll Make It Through." The track is taken from their upcoming album *Weird Living*, due August 7 and produced by John Reis (Rocket From the Crypt). "John is able to communicate with the individual personalities involved and get the group to perform their best," says bassist Trevor Mulvey. "He under-

stands the dynamic of the band in the studio setting like a conductor knows the individual sections of an orchestra." Mixed by Ben Moore at local Singing Serpent studio, it's their third album on the label run by Lou Niles, In Your Neighborhood Music. The band's All the Boys EP just earned them a Best Country or Americana trophy at the San Diego Music Awards, which in 2018 named them Artist of the Year. They'll drop a single for Weird Living's title track at the end of July.



#### **JOHN LOWERY**

John Lowery started his career as a singer-songwriter in the mid-'90s while living in Portland, Oregon, and playing with underground alt-rock heroes Hatful of Rain, formed with Dramarama guitarist Mark Englert. At one time, their drummer was Courtney Taylor-Taylor from the Dandy Warhols. Since 2000, Lowery has been releasing increasingly folky and introspective solo albums such as *Fancy Car, I'm Going Home*, and *Epiphany*. Among those he's played or recorded with are Latin jazz guitarist Jeff Linsky, Grammy Award-winning producer

John Smith (Nu Shooz), and drummer Tony Snow (Dramarama). He relocated from Portland to Oceanside and then Carlsbad, where he's been recording and playing around town, honing a style developed from cited inspirations such as Tom Petty, REM, and the Eagles. As a solo artist, he says his lyrics are personal and inspired by his own real-life experiences. A new solo single, "I Love a Woman," just debuted online, taken from his autobiographical album *Lucky Guy*.



#### **ME AULD FLOWER**

Irish folk singer Me Auld Flower has lived in San Diego on and off for many years, alternating with his home in County Galway, Ireland. His new single "Get Out of California" and its accompanying video coincided with the release of a limited edition CD, *The Vaults of Consciousness*. The song was written after arriving home in Ireland after one of his San Diego sojourns. "I'd met a lot of dodgy characters, got myself into some strange situations, and my life had begun to spiral a little bit," he says. "My relationship at the time had exploded spectacularly and I ended up holed up in a

rural country house for my own good with a stray cat I'd just met. Each of us minding the other. I wrote the song on a long summer's evening, sitting in the upstairs window looking out on the back garden and adjoining churchyard. The sun was setting, the trees were full of birdsong, and the cat, who usually turned tail whenever I picked up the guitar, sat quietly on the windowsill in a kind of unspoken solidarity. It was a really productive and beautiful time in my life, during which I wrote most of the album. A potent remedy to what had passed."

#### THIS WEEK'S **SHOWS**

Ferry Landing Marketplace: Sunday, 2pm — Miss Demeanor.

#### Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 5:30pm — Mike Pinto Acoustic Livestream. Thursday, 7:30pm — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free. Friday, 5pm — Lori McKenna Livestream Album Release.

Friday, 6pm — Old Globe: Word Saturday, 5pm — Andrew Bird Livestream Concert.

Saturday & Monday, 12pm -Live From the Grammy Museum Archives.

Saturday, 8pm — Monsta X Livestream Concert. Sunday, 5pm — Joshua Scott Jones Sunday Sunset Livestream.

Tuesday, 6pm — Belly Up Livestream: Donavon Frankenreiter. \$10.

Palomar Starlight Theater: Friday, 8pm — Elton: The Early

#### Veranda at Rancho Bernardo

Thursday, 5pm - Rick Harchol. Free.

#### **CLASSICAL** MUSIC

#### **Summer Piano Recital**

Listening, enjoying and supporting are free at this recital open to any amateur pianist who wishes to perform. We will be showcasing adult pianists who will display their musicality and technical skills (plus courage, for some). All piano music is welcome and the pianist can pick whatever music he or she wishes to play, including ensembles with another pianist or musical partner. Saturday, July 25, 3:30pm; free. 18 and up. Greene Music Recital Hall, 7480 Miramar Rd., Suite 101

#### **UPCOMING SHOWS**

#### **Belly Up Tavern:**

Friday, Aug. 7 — Robert Cray. Saturday, Aug. 8 — Dennis Quaid and the Sharks. \$30-\$53. Tuesday, Aug. 25 — Drive-By Truckers, \$30-\$53. Wednesday, Aug. 26 — Israel Vibration.

Sunday, Aug. 30 — The Paladins

and the Tail Gators.

#### Casbah:

Friday, Aug. 7 — Guttermouth, The Line, Authentic Sellout. \$18. Saturday, Aug. 8 — Owen. \$20.

#### Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Shinedown.

#### **Kensington Club:**

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Spanish Love Songs and Future Teens.

#### **IMMORTAL BEAUTY**

BY GARRETT HARRIS

#### The good news in San Diego classical music

Well, we are back to square one with the reopening of the county, and that is bad news for San Diego classical music organizations. The good news is that the restriction on concerts is forcing our cultural organizations to create content for an online audience. This is something that could have been started five, seven, 10 years ago, but for whatever reason, most San Diego organizations have been slow to move

Since most of the classical music crowd hasn't been creating online content, there is certainly a learning curve happening right now. Having dabbled in YouTube, I can assure you that the struggle is real.

The San Diego Opera is probably the exception. The opera has been functioning as a media entity since at least the 1990s when then-general director lan Campbell had an opera

radio show on KPBS. The opera also has a vast library of Opera Spotlight features that were produced by UCSD and John Meiner.

Over the past several weeks, San Diego Opera has been stepping up their media posts and digging into those archives. How far will they dig? I have no idea, but there have been some big-time singers at the opera over the years including, Joan Sutherland, Luciano Payarotti, and Beverly Sills.

The Mainly Mozart Festival is ramping up its efforts by leveraging the personalities and charisma of their administrative and artistic leadership. Chief executive Nancy Laturno has a "New With Nancy" update every other Friday that streams live on Facebook and is then available on YouTube. Music director Michael Francis has begun a series of episodes that explore repertoire and feature existential insights

Friday, Aug. 7 — Mick Adams &

into the lives of the conductors and the music itself.

is presenting a Digital Series. The weekly virtual gatherings are live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook every Wednesday evening and available for on-demand viewing afterward. The series features members of the orchestra and even Music Director Raphael Payare discussing the music before the performance is aired

The Symphony is also creating what could be called educational video with the voice of the Symphony, Nuvi Mehta. The videos are produced in collaboration with members of the orchestra. For instance, assistant concertmaster Wes Precourt was the audio engineer on a video about Verdi's opera Aida.

is that the musicians union finally figures out a way to

The San Diego Symphony

My big hope for all of this

Classical music, meet modern media.

work with organizations to share the music without it being financially impossible. In my opinion, the financial restrictions on sharing performances are crippling an already struggling industry. Perhaps the stay-at-home orders will force a change that benefits the players, the organizations, and the audiences.

Regarding Facebook: if an organization doesn't pay to "boost" their content, chances are you will not see it in your feed. If you

want to make sure you see everything these organizations are producing, follow the organization and in the dropdown window of the follow button, select "see first." This will make sure that posts from those organizations are at the top of your feed.

Selecting "see first" is kind of like a back-handed donation, in that the organization doesn't have to pay Facebook and then just hope their audience sees the content

#### See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

#### Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Wednesday, Aug. 12 - The Mavericks.

#### Music Box:

Friday, Aug. 14 — Sweet & Tender Hooligans and Shake Before Us. \$20-\$22. Friday, Aug. 21 — Paul Oakenfold, \$29-\$32.

#### Old Town Blues Club:

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Rod Run Classic Car Show & Sock-Hop.

Online Internet Events: Thursday, July 30 — Mike Pinto Acoustic Livestream. Thursday, July 30 - Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free. Friday, July 31 — The World's Greatest Soca Party.

Friday, July 31 — Diet Cig NoonChorus Livestream. Friday, July 31 — Balley TV: Jeff Ament, Jehnny Beth, Fern Ford. Friday, July 31 — Old Globe: Word Up. Saturday, Aug. 1 — Steinbeck Country United Global Festival. Saturday, Aug. 1 — ProgStock Virtual Series. Saturday, Aug. 1 — Newport Folk Festival. Saturday, Aug. 1 — Belly Up Livestream: Common Sense. \$10. Sunday, Aug. 2 — Steinbeck Country United Global Festival. Thursday, Aug. 6 — Steven Cade Livestream Concert. Thursday, Aug. 6 — Catalinaville. Thursday, Aug. 6 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream

Concert. Free.

Word Up.

Friday, Aug. 7 — Old Globe:

the Stones Saturday, Aug. 8 — ProgStock Virtual Series. Sunday, Aug. 9 — Björk Live from Reykjavík. Sunday, Aug. 9 - Kids' Turn San Diego Virtual Concert. Free. Thursday, Aug. 13 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free. Friday, Aug. 14 — Balley TV: Ishmael Butler & Sharon Van Etten. Friday, Aug. 14 — Old Globe: Word Up. Saturday, Aug. 15 — Björk Live from Reykjavík Saturday, Aug. 15 — ProgStock Virtual Series. Saturday, Aug. 15 — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20. Sunday, Aug. 16 — Dex Romweber Livestream From the Cave. Thursday, Aug. 20 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free. Friday, Aug. 21 — Old Globe: Word Up. Saturday, Aug. 22 — ProgStock Virtual Series. Sunday, Aug. 23 — Björk Live from Reykjavík. Thursday, Aug. 27 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free. Friday, Aug. 28 — Old Globe: Word Up. Saturday, Aug. 29 — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20. Saturday, Aug. 29 — Idles

Livestream Concert.

Livestream Concert.

Virtual Series.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — ProgStock

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Idles

Sunday, Aug. 30 — Joshua Scott Jones Sunday Sunset Livestream. \$10.

Sunday, Aug. 30 — Idles Livestream Concert.

#### Open Air Theatre:

Sunday, Aug. 2 — David Gray. Sunday, Aug. 30 — Kidz Bop.

**Palomar Starlight Theater:** Friday, Aug. 7 — DSB.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — The Family

Sunday, Aug. 16 — Dreaming of You: Selena Tribute. Friday, Aug. 21 — Yachtley Crew.

Friday, Aug. 28 — Wayward Sons.

Cabello.

Pechanga Arena San Diego: Tuesday, Aug. 11 — Camila

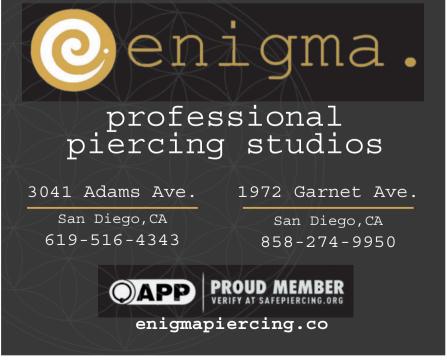
Wednesday, Aug. 26 — The Killers and Johnny Marr.

Soda Bar: Monday, Aug. 10 — La Luz and Silver Synthetic.

Monday, Aug. 24 - Meth. and

#### Viejas Arena:

Monday, Aug. 10 — Janet



#### Porno pilgrimage

MOVIES

hat's A Nice Girl Like You doing in a lead review spot like this? Happy accidents happen. Were it not for my stringent self passing on a screener with a disclaimer branded across the bottom of the screen and subtitles printed over it — throughout the entire picture! — this gently salacious R-rated romantic comedy might not

have gotten the chance to gradually sneak up on me.

Producer/star Lucy Hale first blipped my radar in a pair of lowbudget Blumhouse Pictures horror entrees (Truth or Dare and Fantasy Island). The one image peremanently branded in my brain file was that of a narcotic pair of peepers beaconing from beneath a diligently-mown supraorbital ridge. What a set of brows on this lass — as though Joan Crawford and Martin Scorsese produced a daughter out of wedlock. When it came to delivering jumpscares, the camera loved Hale, even though there was not much to love about her choice of projects. Until today. (And even then with a degree of kind indulgence.)

The direction by the Brothers Riedell, Chris and Nick, sets the film off at a sluggish pace. A running gag involves the rather prurient Lucy Neal (Hale) practicing a line of smutty pillow talk: something to do with a throbbing member, and I don't mean an angry teamster. What eventually evolves into a brilliant curtain line was a long time in the making, particularly when the first joke in the film involves a senior entering the powder room and unwittingly overhearing Lucy in full-throated rehearsal. This is followed by a transitional pan-up/pan-down that turned day into night so rudimentally that it left me pining for a superimposed close-up of the whirling hands on a clock.

Lucy is shocked to discover that her boyfriend of four years (Stephen Friedrich) has purchased a membership to a porn site, especially since he has her lying beneath him every night. (It might have something to do with the fact that during these meetups, her mind is anywhere but on lovemaking.) She delivers an ultimatum: porn or me. The next day finds him gathering his belongings and moving on. Is it the pornophobe in Lucy that makes it impossible for her to say anything even remotely racy, let alone enjoy sex? She's about to find out, with the help of three friends and a "Sex To-Do" list that consists of such endeavors as: watch 25 hardcore skin flicks, visit a sex shop, take in a strip club, etc.

Harvard grad Lucy lives in a beautiful home willed to her by her grandmother, which may explain how she can make a living as a member of a classical music quartet that per-

> forms at swanky weddings. (An upcoming audition with the

Philharmonic is teased throughout the picture.) It's at one such set of nuptials that she meets Mr. Right, Grant Anderson (Leonidas Gulaptis). His sole function is to anchor the film in coincidence, constantly appearing in the wrong place at the right time throughout the picture. Both the film and its lead would have done better without him. What clicks is when the focus is on Lucy, aided and abetted by her musical mates, checking items off her list. Remember Mindy Cohn, Natalie Green on TV's The Facts of Life? She's all grown up and never better than as the cello-playing cohort who vicariously rekindles her 25 year marriage thanks to her friend's forays.

Not all of the segments pay off. And better no music at all than a series of standards performed by the Soundalikes. Still, the film proves unsinkable, thanks to the overall good-natured feel of the presentation and the star's captivating display of light comedy. ★★★

—Scott Marks

#### **Video on Demand New Release Roundup**

**Guest Artist** — Basically a one-act, one-location play, with not enough material to justify its scant 74-minute running time. Jeff Daniels stars in and scripted this tale of Joseph Harris, an alcoholic (what else?) playwright who hasn't produced bupkis in over 20 years. He agrees to mount his latest production (that has yet to be written) in Lima, Michigan, where he's set to be met at the station by (what else?) a nerd by the name of Kenneth (Thomas Macias). A third character, the nebulous station keeper Franz (Richard McWilliams), is on hand whenever a cutaway is needed to break things up. Kenneth claims to be Harris's #1 fan, yet he oversleeps when the train carrying his idol, whom he's supposed to pick up and bring to a hotel, pulls into the station? And if Harris is so intent on getting a drink, why not raid the hotel minibar as Kenneth



A Nice Girl Like You: Lucy Hale's eyes have it.

suggested, rather than spending his first night in Lima inside a remote train station? Frankly, I'd rather spend my time reclining in the lounge that opens the picture, listening to Harris' agent (Erika Slezak) and her client go at it, than living out another fanboy fantasy. Timothy Busfield directs. 2019 —S.M. ★

**Walkaway Joe** — A kid with trouble for a father and a father whose son wants nothing to do with him fill the gaps in each other's lives in this tough but tender road picture. "Always know where the cue ball will wind up after the shot," says pool hustler Cal (Jeffrey Dean Morgan) to his fast-learning teenage son Dallas (Julian Feder). It's a piece of advice first-time director Tom Wright follows almost to the letter. When Cal disappears, Dallas packs his cue and a pocket full of past winnings and, hops a ride with Joe (David Strathairn), an honorable man traveling cross-country to ostensibly crash his estranged son's wedding. Strathairn is one of the most trusted actors in Hollywood — who else could have played Edward R. Murow? Many an actor would have buckled when Cal asked what a man his age is doing in the company of a 14-year-old boy, but Strathairn's response clearly and cleanly sets things straight. Filmy green screen effects at times detract from powerful dialogue exchanges, and one burning question remains unanswered: if both his ex and his son hated him, how did Joe score a printed invite to his boy's wedding? But overall, this sturdy genre picture is well worth a look. 2020. —S.M. ★★★

Yes, God, Yes — The directorial debut of Karen Maine, author of Obvious Child, tracks a coming of age sex comedy set at a Catholic high school retreat that proves the road to damnation is paved with masturbation. Any film that begins with a quote from scripture followed by the textbook definition of "tossing a salad" has my attention. It's the latter act of sexual perversion that has made Alice (Natalia Dyer) the target of gossip among her classmates. In order to make this film work, a fine line needed to be trod, such that both Mike Pence supporters and smart people would think they were the

film's intended audience. Alas, many of the jokes — licking the lid of a chocolate pudding wrapper, squirt bottles filled with mayonnaise, etc. — run the risk of turning off both groups. The truths Alice discovers while at the seminar cause her to break free and take refuge in a women's bar, where the owner hits her with a dose of education one never gets in the classroom, no matter the denomination, 2019. —S.M. ★★★



WHERE'S POPPA? (1970) When Robert Klane set out to

write the novel (and subsequent screenplay for) Where's Poppa?, he did so with the express intention of playing for laughs plot threads so tasteless and off-putting that

anyone in possession of even a modest sense of propriety would recoil in disgust. Surely that can't be Carl Reiner at the helm? The man who put the Petries of New Rochelle on the map, suddenly trading in themes of incest, elder abuse, nursing home neglect,

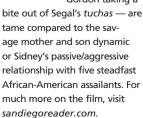
comedy — one of the darkest ever released by a Hollywood studio — and a film that defined political incorrectness long before the term was coined. It could never be made today. Oddly enough, the two "shock" scenes used to

matricide, racial steeotyping,

rape, and post-coital defeca-

tion? The result is a pitch black

promote the picture — George Segal in a gorilla suit trying to scare momma (Ruth Gordon) to death and Ms. Gordon taking a



Find more Movies@Home reviews at SDReader.com/movies-at-home

Where's Poppa?: George Segal,

Ruth Gordon, and Ron Liebman

in Carl Reiner's caustic comedy.

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#### **PERSONALS**

GOD'S LOVE (CON'T) "For God did not send His Son (Jesus) into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved." CMR

QUESTION: COVID 19 WTF where was I for # 1 thru 18? Is there a covid 20 waiting in the wings? Aaaaarggg!

LV LAUNDERER Captain Moroni has blown his horn on our garments of leisure. Let's hope the Feds allow us to dip our toes in some fresh water. Please bring a Homer bucket for old time sake. \$5 bucks per use, include toilet paper. RFK in the woods

BRANDI PIERCE the last time i saw you was Dec 23rd, i still love you and you and your children are always in my prayers, Jerry B

GOD'S LOVE "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." CMR

PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE FOR Z with some OB (Ocean Beach) love covid free.

**REMEMBER** Save \$ on toilet paper, use both sides :o).

HOLY RFK Much akin to a handkerchief used by the Blessed Pope John Paul, never underestimate the healing powers of a garment anointed with the backbake sweat of Baja beach futbol. Unfortunately there will be no Copa de Calavera this war Lake Bartism? I.W. year. Lake Baptism? LV

MARTIN WEHR you are the love of my life. Love you sweetie 3.14. Your tortiller'a with tattoos.

LISA HALLSTADT at VoiceofSanDiego.org. Your expertise and input are needed fir a habitat project. Please contact Charlotte (#50) at Think Dignity.

SAVE YOUR CITY #StrongSanDiego

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

#### **NOTICES**



WATCH OAKLAND ATHLETICS VS SEATTLE MARINERS Live stream baseball is back, with MLB's opening day scheduled for July 23 and 24. Before we know it, bat flips will make everyone furious in a fanless ballpark. (130) 302-6266 / ashiklivestream744@gmail.com

FREE FOOD If your family needs food or if you want to partner with us and contribute with any resources, please call us @ (619) 690-0623 #victorvoutreach

SEEKING ALL TREASURE HUNTERS San Diego's Ultimate Treasure Hunt: iTreasureSanDiego.Com is original, unique, challenging, educational and fun. Log on

MIRACLE MONDAYS ON ZOOM 6:30 p.m. Devotional singing and readings from A Course in Miracles and A Course of Love. For link e-mail denisermg@gmail.

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 unlimted 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

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 Anneuser-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 vent in Sen Diso event in San Diego on November 7, 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 I ReaderTacotopia.

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

OVERCOMING BETRAYAL IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Written by fRee SPiRiT UNiQUe.... available now on.... iTunes, Amazon, Xlibris and Barnesandnoble.com!!

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

#### **CLASSES / LESSONS**



LATIN FOR HOMESCHOOLERS Using Jenney's First Year Latin textbook (best of all the texts). Meet on Zoom, possibly in person. Starts Sept. 9. No charge for class, but students need to be motivated. Email or text if interested. (619) 565-3434 / jholman@sdreader.com



**BRAZILIAN BOOTY CAMP** 5:00 pm to 5:45 pm. Every week on Monday, 1185 Morena Blvd. Focuses on lower body and core exercises using bands, ankle weights and your own body weight. No cardio. Please bring a yoga mat or towel with you to this class.



YIDDISH CLASSES Online Yiddish classes with the Yiddish Arts and Academics of North America (YAAANA) - all levels. Please contact info@yaaana.com or (619) 719-1776 for more info or visit us at www.yaaana.org yaaana.org@gmail.com

BEGINNERS MOSAIC CLASS IN VISTA This is not an online class. it's an outside class. You will learn the basics: primers, adhesives, grouts, mortars, concrete colors, etc. You will learn how to create works of art mosaicforms@gmail.com

FREE BLACK TIGER SILAT PHEE BLACK TIGER SILAT ZOOM CLASSES Indonesian martial art (lineage dates to 1610 AD) exercise class for those interested and prospective students for physical classes. Imagine a yoga class that is effectively a tiger based combat system. www.meetup.com/Black-Tiger-Silat-Free-Zoom-classes/

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

**VIRTUAL BOLLYX - THE** BOLLYWOOD WORKOUT CLASSES Virtual BollyX is a Bollywood-inspired dancea bollywood-inspired darker-fitness program that combines choreography and intensive workouts with upbeat music from around the world. richajfit@gmail.

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Classes are outside and at a safe social distance. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

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

#### **ROOMMATES**

EL CAJON ROOM MATE/ COMPANION to share home in RV Park, 300 sq ft. \$250 per month, furnished, no deposit, utilities included. Please leave a message (619) 558-8964. Close

MATURE FEMALE LOOKING to be a roommate in the Encinitas area. Professional and clean. Call (248) 320-3329.

SAN MARCOS ROOMMATE large 2bd + 2ba, all amenities. Cat lover, smoke/drink OK. Prefer retired, no drugs/baggage. Private, quiet, negotiable. (760) 727-4393

**SPRING VALLEY \$500** Separate bedroom. Share utilities. Female preferred. Employed full-time required. Kitchen privileges. Laundry. No smoking. \$200 deposit. (619) 829-1504.

MASTER BEDRM LG 1,500 + UTIL Large master bedroom for one or two people. Close to beach. Park view, plenty of parking, park trails. 1 full bathroom and one half bath downstairs and bathrooms / kitchen shared. Looking for a couple of older men who are cool. Me I'm owned. cusackshaun@protonmail.com

SENIOR MALE SEEKING room or room to share quiet, considerate, employed, drug free. Enjoy reading, music, and movies. (858) 282-4370 SR SHARE residence (home condo, apt, etc), education skills, learning, music, games, holidays, friendship. Must love Elohim, Jesus, self, others, animals (two small dogs). (619) 847-3778

ISO ROOMMATES NEAR UCSD Looking for two (a male and female) roommates to fill up an apartment by UCSD.
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allowed. Message us for details. fletesjesus21@gmail.com



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SHARE HOUSE bedroom for rent, near downtown, walking distance to shopping, dining, bus stops. \$750 per month, call now. (619) 847-8824

ROOMMATES IN HILLCREST? I am moving back to San Diego from the Midwest and am looking for a place to stay. I am looking to rent a room from a female or a couple on a temporary basis in the Hillcrest, North Park, or Mission Hills. Please email me with info or questions. orlybn5@ vahoo.com

ROOMMATE NEEDED for newly designed Del Cerro condominium. Nice area, must see. Upstairs unit, got its own bathroom to the Master bedroom which is for rent. Available September 1st. \$1000/month. For details, please call Warren Barnard at (619) 247-9799

**SPRING VALLEY \$500** Separate bedroom. Share utilities. Female preferred. Employed full-time required Kitchen privileges. Laundry. No smoking. \$200 deposit. (619) 829-1504.

**ROOM WANTED IN EL CAJON** 61 year old single male with no kids or pets seeks a quiet furnished room in a quiet stress free house or apartment. Must be close to my job and be within 1 or 2 blocks of busses. Clean, quiet, can pay between \$600-\$700/ month. Need by July or August, call or text (619) 708-1914.

MIDTOWN \$500 separate living room/kitchen space. 200 square ft., furnished, cable, 420 friendly. No drugs, alcohol, tobacco, drama. First/last. Senior/disabled/retired/student. (619) 528-0907

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

#### **RENTALS**

BANKER'S HILL, \$1395. 1BD+1BA large upstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, near Balboa Park. No pets. 342 Kalmia St. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1450. 1 bedroom upstairs apartment. New vinyl flooring. Garage parking with additional rent. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. 4828 Art Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www. allpointsrealestate.com

MISSION HILLS, \$1550. 1BA+1BA Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 W. Washington #2. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

MISSION HILLS, \$2495. 2BD+2BA. Skylights, secure underground parking, laundry on site. No pets. 5780 Friars Road. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www. allpointsrealestate.com

OFFICE SPACE IN UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS \$995. 300sqft. 4452 Park Blvd. San Diego, CA, 92116. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1995. PACIFIC BEACH, \$1995. 2BD+1BA downstairs unit. Plank flooring. Stove refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, laundry room, patio. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #1. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2795. 3BD+2BA 2-story apartment. Plank flooring. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/ dryer, parking. No pets. 1119 Oliver Avenue #5. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

SEEKING 1BR APARTMENT Young female searching for 1 bedroom apartment, condo, or house that accepts Section 8 housing voucher. Text or call Shneqwa (619) 539-9684

SOUTH PARK, \$1650. 1BD+1BA BUTIN PARK, 31650. IBUTINA apartments perfectly located near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. Easy 5-minute commute to work. Secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on site, street parking only. 2329 C Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

WRITER'S RESIDENCE Peaceful, Fresh air, Solitude, Self

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**\$40** 60 minute Full Body Swedish Massage

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Expires 08/06/2020

60 minute Full Body Deep Tissue Massage

60 min. Couples Massage

With this ad. Expires 08/06/2020 Free Table Shower & Free Hot Stone with 60 minute Body Massage



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1 BEDROOM /1 BATHROOM \$450 en Rosarito Casita de 1 recamara cerca de todo. Tiene ba-o, sala, patio, estacionamento. (661) 616-9655

SE RENTA TRAILA \$750 Colony Dr. en La Mesa, CA 91942. Se renta traila 750 y 200 depósito para una pareja o dos personas y un ni–o zona muy tranquila todo muy cerca (ba–o y cocina )empezar el mes de agosto en San Diego (619) 484-8980



LA JOLLA WINDANSEA CONDO 2B 2B Beautiful 2 bedroom 2 bath condo within walking distance to Windansea beach. Perfect for family or young beach. Perfect for family or youn professional. No pets. Many amenities; 2 swimming pools 2 jacuzzis clubhouse gym parking & laundry room. \$2850 1 year lease then month to month (619) 886-2330 / guillermo@ lizarragabrokers com

TWO BED/TWO BATHS Hey guys, take a look at our great two beds two baths. Unit 23 is available now for \$1849. Call us at (619) 460-4673 or email

(619) 460-4673 / rdefaria@essex.

PLEASE HELP US. Two active seniors looking for 1 bedroom. 12lb. dog. clean, quiet. No drugs, smoking, drinking. Can pay \$1050. Please call (619) 214-5218 / (619) 307-1342dh@gmail.com

VALLEY CENTER STUDIO -\$1,100 Studio apt. for rent in VC - about 500 sq. ft. \$1,100 a month (all utilities included along with laundry privileges.) It is suitable for one person. Available now. gated residence and parking. Call (760) 525-7294 in order to set up appointment

SDSU/GROSSMONT STUDENT RENTAL New student rental 2 single bedrooms with shared bathroom. Rent 1 bedroom for \$750 or both for \$1,400 Fresh modern carpet & paint Kitchenette (no stove/oven). San Carlos area. Close to SDSU & Grossmont College. (619) 302-1616

TIJUANA FURNISHED APT \$450 Furnished and includes Wifi, parking, water and electricity. One block from 2nd Street, 5 minutes from the San Ysidro Sentri, No children and no pets, \$450 (664) 774-9867

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

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

LA MESA, \$1699-2090. 3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air

RENTALS

#### **DOWNTOWN** \$550-880



#### **GREAT LOCATION!**

Renovated, furnished rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Seaport Village, Gaslamp Quarter, restaurants, shops, laundry. Cable and utilities included.

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conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1699-2090. 3BD+2BA (\$2090) and 2BD+1BA (\$1699) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helixl Espaciosos Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol

(619) 646-8670.

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

#### **REAL ESTATE**

4BED/3BATH OCEAN BEACH VA/FHA Stylish remodelled townhouse 1716 sg ft-open floor plan.new flo oring,cabinets,fixtures,sinks ,tile baths,appliances,quartz island,butcher block counters farmhouse sink.2 balconies,2 patios and 2 parking.Pool,spa etc \$639,000. Agent (619) 384-7330

CROWN PT 2BED/2.5BATH/ GARAGE Lovely townhome has central air conditioning, all hardwood flooring, granite counters, wine fridge, three patios all with french doors, two fireplaces, 2 car ATT garage, new water heater, washer/dryer. Only \$250 hoa fees. Call agent, (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@

3 BEDROOM/3.5 BATH \$175K We have a house about 5 min. from San Ysidro and Zona Rio. It's in Colonia Buena Vista, Tijuana. 3 bedrooms (aach room with a full bathroom) and 3.5 bathrooms, parking for 2 cars, Whatsapp for more photos/info. (664) 194-4689

ROSARITO PROPERTY \$20,500 Rosarito El Descanso beaches, price: \$20,500 USD, down payment or \$1,500 and monthly payments of \$192 for 8 years, cash price is \$16,500. with water and light services and 7 minutes from the highway. Whatssap for more info and photos (663) 120-9986

#### **MUSIC**

MUSIC PLAYER PIANO works but needs work, comes with bench and sheet music. Make offer. Phone number is (619) 987-5682

VOCALIST WANTED I'm looking for a vocalist (male 18-25ish) for an heavy rock/alternative metal band to sing clean/ heavier vocals. We have original songs @hard2beatdrummer on IG. We just need someone to put lyrics to them and sing. Text (619) 339-4039 for more info. (619) 339-4039 / hard2beatdrummer@gmail.com

**CASSETTE TAPES** Cassette tapes ten cents each. Can be used for taping. Call Paul (619) 222-0278.

TROMBONE- KING 2B Great horn! Fake books Bb, C, Eb, bass clef, call for prices and details (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.

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

#### **PETS**

PUREBREAD BENGALS Not cheap but worth every penny. Ready for indoor forever homes on August 25. Deposits being accepted now. Hurry! (619) 597-9729



STARTER TANK FOR MICE OR TERRA 10 gal tank, water tube, exercise wheel, food dishes, hide shelter, bag of pine chips,

canister of mouse food, 2 tanks, \$5 each for full set up. Pat, (619) 582-7407.

FOSTER ORPHANED PUPPIES 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



FREE CLOWN LOACH FISH We have 2 clown loaches that are healthy and active. Free for pickup in Ocean Beach 92107. 1 is about 5". 1 is about 3". Text Tim, (619) 933-1310.

HORSE CORRALS 2 at \$150 ea. Corral metal shade cover. 10 ft. X. 12 ft xlnt shape. \$100. text (619) 438-4567.

**WANT TO BUY OR** feed lease sound gaited horse for trail. (619) 438-4567 text please.

POODLE/TERRIER PUPPIES Born 2/29/20 9 females & 4males, white & beige fur, very playful \$150 each. Contact Gloria (619) 470-0733.

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

#### **SPORTS**



**CALLAWAY GOLF BALLS - \$10** CALLAWAY GOLF BALLS - \$10 3 Chrome Soft, 3 Warbird, 1 Superhot 55, 1 Superhot, 1 CRX Power, 1 HX Tour 56, 1 HX Pearl, 1 CX3 Hot, 1 HX Diablo, 1 Supersoft, All 15 for \$10. Text me. (858) 722-7735

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/



CHARGERS HELMET WITH 24 SIGNATURES Authentic Chargers helmet with 24 signatures! \$300. This is one other helmet I'm selling with 24 signatures and will pass any jor certification company. (619) 319-0232



GOLF SHOES - \$15 Arnold Palmer golf shoes size 9.5W. Good condition. Text (858) 386-3605



ICE SKATES Sheffield Steel and Made in Canada ice skates, size 12. Leather boot upper with no heavy marks or scratches. Inside clean with new condition laces. Blade could use sharpening. No blade covers. (619) 322-4654



ADAMIEN TOMLINSON COLLECTION Set of LT collectibles in Lakeside. Take a look, and come get them. Make an offer. (619) 871-4331



PLAYMATE VOLLEY TENNIS MACHINE Externally battery-powered ball machine. The machine can be left in your car while you bring the battery inside to charge. The remote control will pause the machine from the other side of the court. (602) 989-9893



SCOTTY CAMERON PUTTER COVERA 1. Jackpot Johnny -Black - \$40; 2. Jackpot Johnny -Red - \$40; 3. Circle T Dancing -White - \$80. All three for \$150. If interested, text. Cash only. (619) 207-9760

FLAT BAR SKATE RAILS FOR SKATEBOARDING - \$110 make custom flat bars in any size

#### **Need an Apartment Short Term?**

CALL NOW & GET \$200 OFF YOUR FIRST MONTH



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Weekly starts @ \$375 Call directly for more details.



Sorry we do not accept pets. Monthly rental maximum 2 people including children. \*Some hotel amenities included. Please call for details.

#### Free Continental Breakfast

- Free maid & linen service Free utilities
- Heated pool & spa Laundry facilities
   Free parking Microwave Refrigerator
- Easy freeway access
   Centrally located · High speed internet services
- 5415 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.

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

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

LEARN TO KITEBOARD We 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

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



SKULL BOWLING BALL VISION \$60 Used condition, drilled, text Joe (619) 857-0257



WING CHUN KUEN GROUP CLASS Every week on Tuesday/ Thursday. Trolley Barn Park, 1943 Adams Ave. (619) 840-5865

2013 HOBIE MIRAGE PRO 2013 HOBIE MIRAGE PRO ANGLER This 2013 Hobie Pro Angler 12 is in great condition. This is an excellent deal on a Pro Angler 12. Has horizontal rod storage, large hatch liner for gear, very stable, a fishing machine. Ready for the local lakes, bays, or La Jolla. \$2499 (619) 222-0766

BASEBALLS \$2.50 EACH Brand new baseballs, genuine leather. \$2.50 ea. No text email land line only.

FISHING GEAR Saltist reel 20 —-\$200. Silver revo inshore bait caster—-\$200. Diawa lexa -\$200 and more. Call for full list. (760) 448-0016

SAN DIEGO BUNNING MEETUP Wednesday, July 8, 6:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Every week on Wednesday. Starbucks,

> Everyone deserves a family

BECOME A MENTOR

MENTOR

Family Home Agency

5416 Lake Murray Blvd (Lake Murray & Kiowa, La Mesa), La Mesa. https://www.meetup.com/ SanDiegoRunning

SET OF 4 TENNIS RACKETS I have a four tennis rackets for sale - willing to split - make me an offer. 1 (185) 853-1701

SHIMANO TIAGRA A 50W REEL Cover, original box, brand new, never been used. Two speed. Asking \$450 or best. (858) 228-6044

#### **BICYCLES**

**RALEIGH TANDEM 21 GEARS** good condition, great for blind and disabled, real beach cruiser. Text only (619) 957-0400 \$600.

MEN'S CYPRUS 8 SPEED BIKE brand new, sell for \$375 firm. (760) 330-3677

1980S DIAMONDBACK MINI **VIPER** 16" - 100% original with pads. \$88 — (858) 254-5063 — serious only.

2 MAXXIS RAMBLER TIRES 700 x 40mm silk shield tubeless ready in good or fair condition. Plenty of life left in them. Has some sealant residue. \$20 for both. Collect (20) 1099, 6010 both. Call/text (310) 968-6910

ROAD SADDLE FIZIK KURVE BULL \$125, 220 grams, brand new, never used, original price \$155 (I have the receipt) just didn't fit my seat post. box included (858) 500-2806

SCHWINN SIDEWINDER MOUNTAIN This is a 26" wheel bike and used, not abused. It has 21 speeds and very good tires that hold air. First \$150 cash get this bike. (760) 212-0242

SINGLE SPEED - \$165 Rides great however the brake pads are newer and still squeaky. Also the front rim is a little tweaked side to side. You can't feel it at all when your riding it. (619) 341-0094

**NEW ALLEN SPORTS 3-BIKE** Sports 3-bike rack for \$130. Fits all cars, vans, trucks with 2 inch hitch receiver (858) 245-5183

#### MOTORCYCLES

38 BUICK STREET ROD 38 Buick 4 dr sedan. 4" chopped top. Olds 350/350 drivetrain. Edelbrock Intake/carb. Many extras. Contact Bob @ (760) 943-7326 for more info. \$11K. (760) 943-7326 / skutter@ pachell net

1995 FORD ESCORT Under 140000 miles. Manual transmission. Great on gas, excellent on commuting. excellent on commuting. Everything works. Recent service - oil change and brakes. More pictures, questions, or to take for a test drive call (619) 866-9169 / usambf@gmail.com

LAMBORGHINI DOOR MONTE CARLO 2003 Chevrolet Monte Carlo SS w/lambo doors. Clean title, current tags, AC, power windows and seats, custom paint, and custom wheels and tires, 15 TV screens and 15 speakers, custom seats, \$6400 (909) 520-4650



BMW ROCKSTER \$2950 2003 BMW Rockster. Number 281. Excellent condition, Chris, Price is negotiable. (619) 137-6949

**CASH FOR YOUR HARLEY** www.lifecycles.com (714) 490-0155



1982 HONDA GOLDWING \$500 This is a complete project bike with title. Hasn't run in at least 10 years. Odometer says 01473 but my guess is it could have turned over or stopped. (619) 892-1874



CUSTOM CHOPPER FOR SALE 2003 Twisted Metal custom chopper - \$12999. Bub exhaust. Custom paint with see no evil speak no evil and hear no evil.
Custom paint by Danny Martines.

like yours

California MENTOR is seeking loving individuals just like you to support an adult with special needs

Receive ongoing support and \$1200 to \$2600 a month (to cover the cost of care) for your spare bedroom.

**Call Heather** Today! 858-694-0120 MentorsWanted.com Performance parts (619) 762-4665

YAMAHA R1 2008 - \$6500 The bike has 10,000 miles. It's in perfect condition. All it's maintenance has been done at Del Amo Motorsports. Text me for more details. (619) 395-4790

#### **AUTOMOTIVE**

**LEXUS SC 300** Under 66K miles, super condition, New tires & wheels, BT DVD USB, Back-up camera & back-up sensors. Email for pics & info. (619) 840-8149 / mjackson8070@outlook.com

TIRES AND WHEELS four 235/60-16 tires and 5 BMW wheels, one tire like new, other ones very good. \$50 for all or will sell apart. (760) 214-3122



**CORVAIR PARTS** Lots of parts: heads, jugs, axles, flywheels, pressure plates, carbs, body trim, hub caps, flywheels, clutch plates, lifters, ring sets and much more. Lakeside. (619) 749-3068

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

1981 EL CAMINO \$8,000 **OBO.** very nice condition, has 231 v6, always garaged on non op serious buyer please 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



2003 CADILLAC CTS \$2400 180,000 miles. Exterior color: black · Interior color: Black. Clean, cold AC, runs great. Minor rips to seats (nothing a seat cover won't fix). \$2400 call or text. (858) 585-1457

96 BMW FOR SALE need a clutch, \$1000 OBO, dark green, ask for Paul. (760) 755-9149, (442) 264-3652

1988 F250 New motor (460), trans, cat, susp, brakes, wheels, tires. 5th wheel, 15,000lb tow capacity. Recent full service. \$4500 obo. (619) 244-8420

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

CAR STORAGE IN NORTH PARK Well lighted, wide but short, very easy to get in/out of. No large SUVs/vans. Car storage is ok. Uncovered. Not a garage. On 4400 block of Boundary St. \$95/month; \$80 for storage. Call/ text Rob (619) 581-4479... and repeat your phone number twice. (619) 581-4479 / robgworek@ vahoo.com

2004 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SUV perfect condition, like new, 138 K miles, white over gray. Everything works, all clean title and plates and insurance. \$6400. Cream puff. Must leave message (760) 420-3641, San Marcos

#### **HELP WANTED**

BUSINESS DATA ANALYST (Req# IIC1308) Analyze info from SAP to validate rules setup in Informatica. Perf data auditing on the invalid records to ensure Data Quality in Material Master Data. Req Masters. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

**BUSINESS SYSTEMS** ANALYST (Req# IIC1309)
Collaborate with GIS & business
teams to design appl solutions by analyzing business req, studying & creatively leveraging standard SAP capabilities. BS+5yrs rltd exp. Will accept Bachelor's equiv based on combo educ/ equiv based on combo educ/ exp as determined by a prof eval service. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, C/ 92122. Must ref title & Req#

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.

HELP WANTED



San Diego *Reader* July 23, 2020



858-586-6666





SENIOR CLAY MODELER Mercedes-Benz Research & Development North America, Development North America, Inc. has the following position available in Carlsbad, CA: Senior Clay Modeler (7220CB): Develop clay model surfaces from technical drawings, design drawings and rendering. To apply, mail resume: Attn: HR Dept, 309 N Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94085. Must reference job title and job code.

**CAREGIVER/HOUSE WORKER** 

One only, Santee, pay open, car and phone, male 62 roommate, owner 38 female. (619) 771-2554

DEEP LEARNING/AI ENGINEER (Req# IIC1306) Dvlp infrastructure, sys & predictive modeling & tools to

enable proactive & predictive maintenance in support of the Service & Support organization.

MS+6months rittd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

Therapeutics, Inc. has an opening for a Director, Research Laboratory Operations & Pipeline Product Support in San Diego, CA. Mail resume to Attn: Kristen (Job#DRL), Poseida

Therapeutics, Inc., 9390 Towne Centre Drive, Ste 200, San Diego, CA 92121.

**DIRECTOR** Poseida

after 12 noon

SENIOR SCIENTIST Position located in La Jolla, CA -Develop experiments for assay development, fluorescence microscopy, DNA amplification,

bioconjugation, DNA sequencing, bioconjugation, DNA sequencing studying properties of enzymes, & interactions btw biomolecules & materials. Apply: Job #STS2, attn V Brancaccio, Singular Genomics Systems, Inc., 10931 N. Torrey Pines Rd Ste 100 La Jolla CA 92037

SALESFORCE DEVELOPER RevCult has multiple openings locally to design develop test modify & deploy computer applications software & applications sortware & specialized utility programs. Required: Master of Science +2years exp. Mail resume: HR, 12555 High Bluff Dr, Suite 255, San Diego CA 92130. rhonda.

lee@revcult.com

EXTRA INCOME? FROM HOME? YES! Work from home. High pay potential. Simply refer businesses to our company through your referral link and our sales team takes it from there. Average commission \$2000 per funded deal. Residual Income possible for some services. work4dac.com

LOOKING FOR IHSS LOOKING FOR IHSS
PROVIDER Carefgiver in
Mission Valley for a nice lady age
50. Monday-Friday 9am-1pm.
Cooking, cleaning, shopping.
Please call (619) 488-0822.

CAREGIVER WANTED CAREGIVER WANTED
Reliable, able-bodied, for 24
hour shifts. \$120 cash paid at
end of each shift. No drinking,
smoking, visitors, pets, children.
mysandiegocarl@yahoo.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.

HANDY PERSON WANTED Dependable, able-bodied energetic, experienced worker wanted for yard work, home cleanup and repairs. \$8 per hour cash paid daily. mysandiegocarl@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.

#### JOBS WANTED

CAREGIVER CNA. retired UCSD LVN specializing in senior care. Full time, live in or out. Loving, caring, trustworthy, reliable private caregiver, companion, light house keeping. Please call Cely (858) 663-3279.

**GERIATRIC SOCIAL** WORKER will drive to doctors appointment, personal assistant, companion, prepare meals, light house keeping. Call Carol at (858) 525-1154

RESPONSIBLE MALE FOR ODD JOBS I do gardening, housework or you name it. No set rate. Just make me an offer. I accept cash or card. Text only to (619) 966-5165. By appointment. Khevin (619) 966-5165/ GHFlecher@hotmail.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

LOOKING FOR A LATE MODEL Lexus (350), low miles, cash buyer (619) 269-5331.

LOOKING FOR OLD TUBE STEREOS I am an electronics hobbyist, and I am looking for a 1960's vintage, tube-type stereo components to rebuild, such as Fisher, Scott, Marantz, Dynaco & more. Please call Jack (619) 296-3100 (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

RC HELICOPTER looking for all RC helicopter parts or the RC helicopter magazines. Call (760) 912-1775

**BUYING LOWRIDER** MAGAZINES Buying Lowrider, Lowrider Euro, Street Low and Teen Angel magazines from the 1970s to 2001. Email me photos / list. Thanks, John the1pjjohn@

3-WHEEL VOLKSWAGEN TRIKE in excellent condition, clear title, clean, must be immaculate. Will trade. San Marcos, (760) 420-3641. Call, must leave a message.

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.



LOOKING TO SELL SPORTS CARDS? We want to buy your old baseball, football, basketball, or hockey cards and memorabilia for cash now. We're fair, easy to work with, and can get that memorabilia off your hands quickly. Call or text us at (760) 607-6806 / Membership@ CollectingAll.com

LOOKING FOR GOOD RUNNING MOTORCYCLE at least 900cc, can pay up to \$2,000. Jay (574) 350-6786.

TRADE CRAFTSMAN GAS LAWNMOWER with bag for electric lawnmower with bag, any shape as long as it works. Bit hard to start but once going runs great. Text (619) 631-9258.

MAGIC CARDS collecting dust or in storage taking up room? I want your Magic The Gathering cards. My name is Tim. Let me bring some cash to you and give those cards a great new home. Call or text (619) 971-9640.

BOB BUYS LIONEL TRAINS 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.

ALWAYS PAYING CASH for old guitars and amplifiers. Any old or new band instruments. Call (619) 280-2075

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

CASH FOR WALT DISNEY AUTOGRAPHS, items, paper, original animation art, old Disneyland items, any type comics all before 1970. No Prints or videos. (619) 890-1390.

FISHING TACKLE Collector wants for his personal collection wooden lures, reels, & 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 violing 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@

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

#### **GARAGE SALES**

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,

#### **FOR SALE**

BRICK TILE for roofs, about 100+. (619) 952-0426

**CASSETTE TAPES** cassette tapes ten cents each, can be used to record over. call Paul (619) 222-0278.

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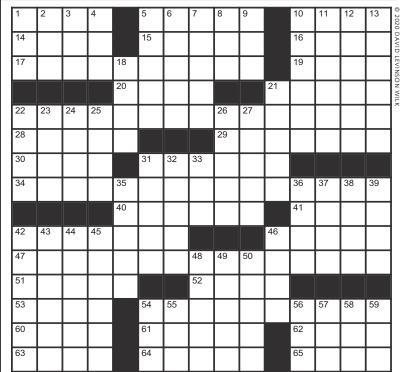
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#### RULES OF THE GAME

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

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3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader*Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or
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- provided.

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  5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

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#### **Across**

- 1. Loopy little films?
- 5. "I'm ready to be dazzled by your presentation"
- **10.** Sammy with 609 homers
- **14.** Big part of a Risk board
- **15.** Like wealthy landowners
- **16.** Universal donor's type,
- 17. Go a few rounds with a cocreator of "The View"?
- 19. Great
- **20.** Blonde or brown brews
- **21.** Swing by unannounced
- **22.** Figurine of comedian Patton made out of pasta?
- **28.** Half of a 1960s folk-rock
- **29.** Áreas of expertise
- **30.** Cy Young Award winner Hershiser
- **31.** C.S. Lewis' fantasy world
- 34. Group that came of age ballroom dancing?
- **40.** Brainstorm
- 41. "Me neither"

Name:

City: \_

Fmail:

- **42.** Country south of Martinique
- **46.** Invites to one's home
- **47.** Statement revealing unwanted pressure stems from NBA legend Bill?
- **51.** Nestlé bars filled with tiny bubbles

- **52.** Canal to the Red Sea
- **53.** Blockhead
- **54.** Streaming service that launched in 2019 ... and this puzzle's theme
- **60.** On the briny
- **61.** Stonehengé figure
- **62.** Move like molasses
- **63.** SpongeBob's pet snail
- **64.** Prom attendees
- 65. Exec, slangily

#### **Down**

- 1. Chatterbox's "gift"
- 2. Prefix with metric
- 3. Repair
- 4. Glimpsed
- **5.** 2008 Pixar film that takes place in 2805
- **6.** Largish jazz combo
- **7.** Take forcibly (from)
- **8.** Large body of eau
- **9.** Some mag. workers
- **10.** "Us, too!"
- **11.** Commensurate (with)
- **12.** Suffering from Alzheimer's
- **13.** Customer service workers
- **18.** They follow oohs
- **21.** "Oh, hogwash!"
- **22.** Air Quality Index factor
- 23. Whittle (down)
- 24. "Truer words were never spoken!"
- **25.** Powerful wind

- **26.** "Failure \_\_\_\_ an option"
- **27.** Express viewpoints
- **31.** First name in 1970s aymnastics
- **32.** Tormented
- **33.** Narrow coastal inlet
- 35. Anne and Condoleezza
- **36.** Extremely uptight
- **37.** 2000s TV show that begins with the crash of Oceanic Flight 815
- **38.** Smallish jazz combo
- **39.** "A People's History of the United States" writer Howard
- **42.** "\_\_\_\_ 17" (1953 film)
- **43.** Where Springsteen was born, in song
- **44.** "My Fair Lady" lyricist
- **45.** "If you say so"
- **46.** Vague, as a memory
- **48.** Just one Time?
- **49.** Longtime hair lightener brand
- **50.** They get more annoying as they grow up
- **54.** Toxin mentioned in Joni Mitchell's "Big Yellow Taxi"
- **55.** Livid state
- **56.** Not neg.
- **57.** Teammate of Babe
- **58.** Rapper Lil \_\_\_\_\_ Vert
- **59.** Complete collection

#### THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

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| State: | Zip Code: |  |
|--------|-----------|--|

Sandi Russell, San Diego, 1.

#### **SUDOKU**

#### **EVIL:**

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

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#### THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

Thomas Wilson, San Diego, 4.

#### **SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU**

**PUZZLE:** 

#### **EVIL:**

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

Name: \_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_

San Diego Reader July 23, 2020

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continued from page 18 can get that homemade comfort food you're not going to get anywhere else."

Tarantino says he's optimistic that business will return to normal one day, although he's not sure how long that's going to take. "I think it's just a matter of when they get a vaccine," he says.

But until then, he says, "we're doing alright. People are just so grateful to get out and see that we're following the guidelines — they're grateful to get out of the house."

The July 6 ban on indoor dining won't have much of an impact on the Foodery, Tarantino says, given the continued strength of takeout and the fact that most of the seating is outdoors, along Market Street. At RoVino Rotisserie +

Wine, he says, the restriction on indoor dining "is going to hurt us a little," although the restaurant has a good-sized outdoor patio. "We're going to ask people to limit their stay with us to one and a half hours per table, so we can accommodate all our customers," he says, "and we're going to require reservations."

### What the pandemic taught us

The sustained rise in takeout cited by several local restaurant operators is not restricted to San Diego. The Red Robin burger chain has 415 company-owned restaurants throughout the country — including three in the San Diego area: in National City, University Towne Center and Escondido.

On the company's latest quarter earnings call, in June, CEO Paul Murphy told analysts, "Following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and the shutdown of dining rooms, we quickly pivoted to an off-premise driven operating model and are emboldened by the continued strong growth in off-premise sales since the onset of COVID-19.... Our weekly off-premise sales momentum... has improved sequentially since late March when comp sales were down over 70 percent for the week ended March 22. Thereafter, we experienced steady weekly improvement to almost triple pre-COVID-19 offpremise sales levels, and at the 270 locations with reopened dining rooms, we are still capturing meaningful off-premise sales.... More specifically, restaurants with open dining rooms are maintaining off-premise sales that are approximately 1.5

to 2 times pre-COVID-19 levels and 40 percent of sales mix. The increase in our average off-premise sales per restaurant has been achieved by focusing on a few key drivers of the experience: taste of food, ease of order placement from a new enhanced website, order accuracy, speed of service, order packaging, ease of pickup, and team member friendliness.... We believe we will sustain strong incremental off-premise sales even as our dining rooms reopen."

Later, in response to a question from an analyst, Murphy said, "My view is that what the pandemic has done is it has taught people how to use off-premise. It's teaching people how to effectively order, pay, [and] use delivery for, in a sense, almost a meal replacement."

— Thomas K. Arnold

### **NEWS TICKER**

continued from page 3

timely; and cost recovery practices comply with City regulations and policies as well as state law. Since 2013, we have kept the Mayor, the City Council, and the Audit Committee informed of [the Public **Utilities Department's**] progress in implementing these recommendations via periodic recommendation follow-up reports."

Despite evidence that problems with the pollution-fighting effort have grown significantly worse by 2019, city administrators "only provided evidence to demonstrate that 3 of the 13 recommendations were fully implemented," the audit says. "A new fee study is nearing completion, and [the Public **Utilities Department] plans** to present the results to the City Council by January 2021," the audit notes. "As a result, many fees still remain unadjusted since 1984, and program

cost recovery remains very low. Public Utilities] continues to use overlycomplex billing processes for [the industrial wastewater program], which is inefficient and has caused billing lapses. Even though PUD implemented our 2013 recommendation to recover unbilled costs from FY 2008 to FY 2012, we found that, since FY 2017, PUD has again failed to bill many [industrial wastewater] permittees outside the City." These cost recovery practices remain out of compliance with City regulations and policies," the audit says. "More seriously, the possibility remains that, by passing on most program costs to other wastewater customers, the City may not be complying with Prop 218.

Adopted by California voters in 1996, Prop 218 generally requires that property-related 'fees and charges' — including charges for water and sewer service — not

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exceed the cost of providing the service."

Things could worsen under plans by city administrators to hire more staff and hike the salaries of wastewater inspectors "to address retention issues in the Program," according to the audit. "These changes are significant to the program's restructuring, but it is important to note that additional staffing will also increase the program's costs. Therefore, if program fees remain the same, there is a risk that cost recovery could become even lower."

Adding to the growing muddle, the anti-pollution effort "has a large backlog of inspections." As a result of the newly unearthed set of problems, Elser's office "plans to complete another audit of [the industrial wastewater program]; the tentative objectives of that audit will focus on operational issues of the program, such as permitting, monitoring,

and enforcement."

For now, officials say they are adequately handling the waste program's long list of shortcomings. "Public Utilities Department management agrees with recommendations included in the audit and has made considerable progress toward completing several of this audit's recommendations over the past year," says a July 9 memo to Elser from Public **Utilities Department Direc**tor Shauna Lorance. "Under the leadership of Mayor Faulconer, a new management structure and team are now in place, and we are committed to continuous improvement throughout our operations."

Matt Potter

## Under the radar

continued from page 3

services to "restore funding for tree trimming and removal in the City of San Diego's FY2021 budget," per a July 13 filing... Protect Neighborhood Services Now, a political action committee run by the San Diego Municipal Employees Association has quietly transferred \$150,000 to San Diego County Democratic Party. The employee's association is working in league with the Democrats to elect state Assemblyman Todd Gloria mayor, and the public workers' cash will go to that end, observers predict. Meantime, Maddy Kilkenny of the Intesa Communications Group, LLC, a local lobbying firm, raised a total of \$7745 for Gloria's mayoral campaign on June 23, according to a July 14 disclosure filing with the city clerk's office. Intesa's lone city hall client, SeaWorld, paid the company \$1000 to lobby for "master plan support recommendations" and "COVID 19 related matters?

> — Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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





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Deals Cannot Be Combined

### The Continuing Crisis

- The Cheyenne (Nebraska) County Commissioners vented their frustration on July 6 over an alarming threat posed by a native species in the state's panhandle. The Scottsbluff Star-Herald reported that commissioner Philip Sanders told the gathering that prairie dogs had caused almost \$3 million in damage to 2,600 acres in the county, and pleaded with representatives of the U.S. Department of Agriculture: "We have a group here from Lodgepole. Their whole town is being surrounded by prairie dogs, and we heed your help." The county has contracted with the USDA to handle it's animal control problems, but Sanders said the lone wildlife specialist charged with the task has been overwhelmed. "I feel like we've let Lodgepole down," Sanders said. "I don't want to eradicate (prairie dogs). ... I get it, but they're out of control."

 Nathalia Bruno, 24, of Newark, New Jersey, survived a harrowing mile-long ride through the storm sewer system under Passaic on July 6 after she drove into high water during a flash flood, NorthJersey.com reported. Bruno, a driver for DoorDash, escaped her car as it filled with water, but the current pulled both her and her car into the waterway that runs under the city, Passaic Fire Chief Patrick Trentacost said. Bruno rode the wave until it reached its outlet above the Passaic River, where she was "shot out" and swam to a backyard on the other side. A homeowner called 911, and Bruno was taken

to a hospital where she appeared not to be seriously injured. Her Toyota Prius was later found under a street the next day.

### **Sign of the Times**

- A statue of Christopher Columbus stands in Cleveland's Little Italy neighborhood, but if signers of a petition get their way, it will soon be replaced by a statue of Chef Boyardee. The petition, signed by hundreds, suggests Ettore (Hector) Boiardi, known for his "food and iconic mustache," would be a much better recipient of Cleveland's love, Cleveland.com reported. "Boiardi and his brothers built a canned food empire from the ground up," the petition argues, and "during World War II, this company produced canned food for American soldiers 24/7," earning Chef Boyardee a Gold Star in 1946.

### **Need for Speed**

- Kevin Nicks, 55, of Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England, was up to the challenge when he was invited to a racing event for unconventional vehicles at Elvington Airfield in North Yorks on July 4. Using parts lying around his house, Nicks mounted a Honda moped engine to the back of a wheelbarrow that recorded top speeds of 36 mph. "No wheelbarrow has flown down at the speeds I was going," Nicks boasted to the Daily Star. "It's thrilling and absolutely bonkers to drive it." This isn't the first time Nicks has motorized gardening equipment. He's also the owner of the world's fastest shed, which can reach speeds of 100 mph. "I

like being creative and thinking out of the box,"

### Do It Yourself

- Don Peters, 44, was arrested without incident on July 4, according to Akron, Ohio, police, after forcing his way around the counter at a Subway sandwich shop and making his own sandwich. According to police, Peters was intoxicated when he entered the store demanding a meal and became belligerent, damaging some plexi-glass before charging behind the counter. Cleveland.com reported officers said they found a bottle of vodka and a block of Subway cheese in Peters' pockets; he was charged with disorderly conduct, criminal damaging and open container.

- Wynn Hall of Exeter, Nebraska, might have expected to find a few beer cans or old tires at the bottom of his farm pond when he drained it for maintenance on July 3, but he discovered something entirely different: an empty, broken ATM. "I thought, who would throw a refrigerator or a stove and put it in the pond?" Hall told KOLN. "I took a picture and zoomed in on it and thought, that looks like an ATM." When authorities arrived, they had a good idea of the source of the machine, since one had been stolen recently, but the numbers didn't match up. Hall said he didn't drain the pond last year, but didn't think the ATM had been there too long. "This is by far the strangest and I was really shocked to see it," Hall said..

### Awesome!

- While Americans celebrated the Fourth of July by blowing stuff up, people in Seoul, South Korea, were surprised by an unannounced high-tech aerial display of encouragement and gratitude for medical personnel treating victims of COVID-19. AFP reported that 300 unmanned aerial vehicles, or drones, lit up the sky for 10 minutes over the Han River on July 4 with messages about wearing masks, washing hands and socially distancing, then shifted focus to thank frontline health care workers. It ended with a silhouette of the Korean peninsula and the message, "Cheer up, Republic of Korea." The event was not advertised in advance in accordance with social distancing rules.

### **The Passing Parade**

- Pennsylvania State Police received multiple calls on June 21 about a Mercedes-Benz driving in reverse on the Pennsylvania Turnpike during rush hour. Troopers arriving on the scene said they found Symara Cole, 27, of Silver Spring, Maryland, passed out in the car with all the doors locked, WTAJ reported. A semi driver had stopped his rig behind her to prevent others from being harmed. First responders found that Cole was under the influence of drugs; pending charges include DUI and drug posses-

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