

Ed Bedford finds the sidewalk café of his dreams

Chula Vista teen bullied into fashion ■ Yeezy for president!

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 31 | JULY 30, 2020

# Reader

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## LETTERS

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

### Classics in plain sight

A July 23 column titled "The good news in San Diego classical music" by Garrett Harris (Classical Music) failed to mention the classical music radio station in San Diego. What, you didn't know there was a classical music station in San Diego? Well, apparently KPBS, which operates the station, doesn't want anyone else to know about it either. It's a secret I accidentally discovered while scanning the monthly radio ratings several months ago. I contacted the station and suggested, at minimum, they mention this in their bi-monthly newsletter to members. Five months later, still no acknowledgement. In the latest audio ratings, KPBS-FM HD2 sub channel ranks number 28 out of 32 rated radio stations, so apparently I'm not the only one who discovered this. Classical music advocates will remember the 2018 loss of XHLNT (aka XLNT1 104.9) which morphed to rock. That station, based in Baja, suffered low ratings due to a signal which skipped over many parts of San Diego. The KPBS station carries programming from a service called Classical24.

Robert Lerneer  
Valley Center

### In Bedford with fascists

So Ed Bedford thinks Governor Gavin Newsom is a fascist for limiting restaurants to outdoor service, referring to him as "New-solini" ("OB's Walking On Water Cafe: Sinkers and seagulls," Tin Fork, July 16). That's both juvenile and disgusting, right up there with people who call public officials Nazis for requiring wearing masks in public places. Bedford has no idea what actual fascism is. Many San Diego residents (me included) have had family murdered by actual fascist regimes or forced to hide for years to avoid being murdered. If Bedford and the *Reader* don't see a difference, there's something seriously wrong with your view of the world.

Cary Lowe  
Point Loma

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

"Essential views in Del Mar"

Neighborhood News  
July 14

Oh my! The problems of the elite. I planted trees so that I would not have to see my neighbor. But, then I don't have a view of the ocean.

—AlexClarke

"Adam Day in show-down with fellow San Diegan Jeffrey Krinsk on CSU board"

News Ticker  
July 21

This new power broker, Adam Day, seems to be a chip off the old block, namely his dad who was

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# San Diego Reader

SanDiegoReader.com  
619.235.3000

July 30, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

OCEANSIDE

### Covid kitties in crisis

#### Fears of feral fecundity, fatalities amid pandemic's procedure pause

KB has been helping feral cats for ten years. She traps them and then gets them spayed or neutered. Sometimes others in her rescuer network bring them to her. "You keep them in a separate room, you feed them, and play with them so they get used to human interaction," she says. "You take them to medical appointments to get their shots. There's a lot of cleaning. You have to do a load of laundry every day. When they are 8-12 weeks old or weigh over two pounds, they get spayed or neutered, and then they go up for adoption or get returned to the wild if they can't be socialized. I cry like a baby every time I let them go. Their quality of life is very poor. They live in terror and fear. They usually only last six months on the average."



A family releases a feral that had been trapped and neutered.

KB doesn't mind being known as the cat lady. Or that her cat love is a drain on her resources. "I was always unpaid. I would always drive [the pets] to adoption events. I'd even make cat blankets and kitten hammocks." She is nothing if not devoted. "I was visiting foster kittens in [the Oceanside] cattery. I was concerned about this one little guy. I went to the front desk and I said, 'There is something wrong with so and so.' The kid says, 'We don't have time right now.' I said, 'This is an animal that needs taking care of right now.' At which time, he told me 'You're a crazy foster.' That was ten years ago, but it still sticks with me that I was viewed that way by a shelter employee." KB says the incident "opened my eyes" to some



If you don't spay, the cats will play — and this is the result.

employees' attitudes. "What happened with Covid, though, made me speechless."

Oceanside's cat shelter is run by the San Diego Humane Society, which oversees two shelters in Oceanside as well as shelters in Escondido and San Diego. KB says that the city of Oceanside should look at contracting with a different operator to look after its abandoned local animals. "The shelter is no longer spaying or neutering the cats we brought in. I used to bring in as many as I could trap. Then they said because of Covid-19, they weren't doing it anymore. I get the impression these people

are greedy. They have greedy vice presidents who are getting paid but ignoring the needs of animals that they are now turning away."

The San Diego Humane Society website shows that it employs seven vice presidents and 11 "directors" who oversee specific departments. Their fifth annual Day of Giving fundraiser, held last month, raised \$606,624. They put

out their own magazine and oversee such projects as the Animal Adventure Camp, the Shelter Medicine Program, and a Pet Loss Support Group.

One recent communication from executive director Gary Weitzman had a cute photo of Peaches, a Vietnamese pot-bellied pig looking for a home. It was pictured above a dog in a rainbow tiara wishing members "Happy Pride." "In March, right after Covid hit, their website showed just a few cats for adoption in Oceanside, and they used to have 50," says KB. "I heard that when Covid hit and they stopped letting the public in. Where did all the cats go? Their staff says they are a no-kill shelter, but the truth is they only keep the animals

that they think are immediately adoptable."

Jenny Major runs Sunrise Rescue, which is based in Oceanside but helps animals from throughout Southern California and Baja. She says that until her non-profit status is approved, she is operating as an independent rescuer. "I get contacted ten times a day from

"The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically reduced the number of animals coming into our shelter locations."

people about cats needing help," she says, adding that there is a vast Facebook network of animal rescuers. "I will take a lot of the tough cases. I paid for a \$4000 veterinary bill for a mother cat that had pneumonia myself. I still owe \$2000 on it. When Covid hit in March, a lot of the shelters just stopped taking animals and they stopped doing spays and neuters. A lot of that has to do with the sterile surgical gloves and the peroxide-based sanitizers



"I get contacted ten times a day from people about cats needing help,"

being diverted away from the animals and towards human hospitals. All this happened just at the same time the kitten season hit. People would leave kittens outside a shelter under a bush, and the shelters would tell the rescuers, 'You better come get these kittens or they will be put to sleep.' The shelters get help from the government but the rescuers rely only on donations." What's worse, Major says, is that some people are now dumping

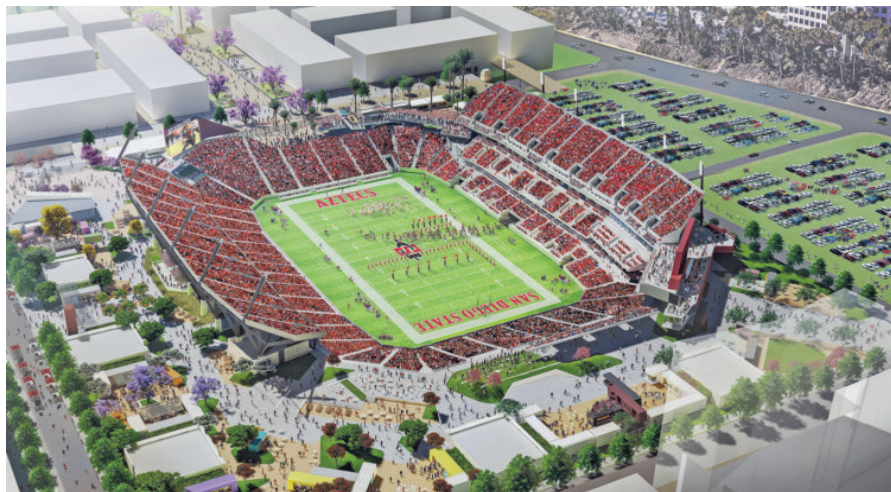
their cats, "because they think they will give them Covid." On the other hand, "People who are getting depressed find that having kittens helps them get out of their depression."

Major says she relies on low-cost clinics that charge only \$55 for a neuter and \$70 for a spay operation. "Other vets on the open market may charge up to \$250 for a neuter or \$600 for a spay. Some vets are taking advantage of us because they know that without the shelters, we are desperate." She explains that many rescuers facing high vet bills are finding that it pays to transport sickly cats south of the border. "I have a transporter who will take a cat to Tijuana for x-rays and then she brings it back to me. There is one cat with a possible brain tumor that was looking at a \$6000 head CT [scan] up here, but it was only \$600 down there. One transporter brought me six kittens from Mexico that were buried alive in a bag under a bunch of branches. They were discovered by a dog who sniffed them out. I had one pregnant cat from Tijuana named Bazmorda who was pregnant, had a bad eye, and was so constipated they thought she would die. That cost me \$600. But she's a happy cat who wants to live so here she is."

Longtime volunteer Susan Kerner maintains that overall, animal rescue in Oceanside was greatly improved when it was taken over by the San Diego Humane Society in 2010. Before that it was run by the non-profit, independent North County Humane Society. In 2006 the executive director of the North County Humane Society resigned following a Drug Enforcement probe into missing Vicodin tablets. Former director Stacy Steel pleaded guilty to using the ID numbers of three veterinarians who had worked for the Oceanside shelter to acquire the drugs for herself. After she left, the shelter was plagued by massive staff overturn: over a four year period departure, the Society was led by four different executive directors, and seven key personnel left or were fired. Kerner says she doesn't think there is another operation that could even realistically bid to take over Oceanside's animal care contract.

Nina Thompson, acting marketing director for the San Diego Humane Society, says spay/neuter surgeries has been resumed for the animals that they are sheltering. "No animals have been euthanized at San Diego Humane Society due to Covid-19. In fact [SDHS] has not euthanized a healthy or treatable shelter animal since 2002." Thompson does say that the shelters are now open through appointment only. "There are currently 19 cats available at our Oceanside campus. The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically reduced the number

*continued on page 6*



Who needs transparency when you've already got a killer view like this?

## Different sh\*t, same Day?

“Kangaroo court” helps bounce CSU trustee  
Just weeks after San Diego State University emerged victorious in its \$82 million bid to buy the city-owned land formerly known as Qualcomm Stadium, a closed-door power struggle has caused the resignation of San Diego’s newest appointee to the California State University’s board of trustees. Jeffrey Krinsk, co-founder and managing partner of San Diego-based class action law firm Finkelstein & Krinsk, resigned on Friday, July 17, after what some insiders say was a behind-the-scenes facedown with past board chairman Adam Day involving university transparency.



Adam Day: “I would appreciate in the future ... to refrain from impugning the character of our hardworking staff.”

The agenda for the trustees’ July 21 meeting shows that discussion of a “Violation of Trustees’ Code of Conduct and Resolution of Censure,” was to be introduced by current chair Lillian Kimbell. “Chair Kimbell will present information regarding misconduct by a member of the Board of Trustees which Chair Kimbell has determined to be a breach of the Trustees’ Code of Conduct and will recommend that the Board of Trustees vote to censure the Trustee.”

The conduct code, per a *Los Angeles Times* account, “says, among other things, that a trustee should use designated institutional channels when conducting board business and refrain from actions that may prove embarrassing to the CSU.”

“I resigned because of the censure and the belief that it took place... without my knowledge or ability to respond,” Krinsk told the *Times*. “It was a kangaroo court.” Seventy-year-old Krinsk was appointed to the seat in August of last year by Gov. Gavin Newsom but was still awaiting confirmation by the state senate. The *Times* described a May committee meeting

during which Krinsk vigorously questioned the timing and adequacy of a previous meeting notice. After producing evidence of the date of the notice, the paper said Day told Krinsk, “I would appreciate in the future... to refrain from impugning the character of our hardworking staff.” For his part, Krinsk told the *Times* that “the idea of acting politely is secondary to my belief that accomplishment and meaningful consideration of alternatives is important to a university as important as the CSU.”

CSU has a widely known predilection for guarding the secrecy of many of its records, ostensibly available to the public under the state’s public records and public meeting acts. In one recent case, a February 2019 request for the retention agreement and fee schedule between the university system and the law firm of Sheppard Mullin, hired to conduct closed-door negotiations with the city over the sale of the Qualcomm Stadium site, was denied. “The record which memorializes the retention agreement between the CSU and Sheppard Mullin is the retention agreement itself,” wrote university counsel Sasha K. Danna in a February 25 email. “Agreements entered between CSU and outside legal firms are protected by the attorney-client privilege and attorney work product doctrine and will not be disclosed. With respect to any future invoices, please note that attorney billing statements are also protected from disclosure under the attorney-client privilege and work product doctrine.”

Ex-CSU board chairman Day is chief administrative officer of the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, the East County casino owner, and onetime chief of staff to Supervisor Dianne Jacob. He was a key



Jeffrey Krinsk: “It was a kangaroo court.”

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# UNDER THE RADAR

**Cisterra’s cash** A political action committee attached to the Downtown San Diego Partnership, a non-profit group ostensibly devoted to improving life and business in the center city, served as a conduit for lobbyists’ money funneled into races for both Democratic and Republican county central committees. According to the PAC’s July 20 disclosure for the period from February 16 through June 30, \$5000 was paid to city council Democrat **Vivian Moreno’s** central committee reelection bid; \$2000 went to a group calling itself Republicans Keeping San Diego Great, benefiting the GOP central committee election bids of **Kevin Faulconer** mayoral staffers **Aimee Faucett**, **Francis Barraza**, and **Elizabeth Spillane**, chief of staff for term-out city councilman **Mark Kersey**. He gave up the GOP last year to become an independent, after abandoning a troubled 2018 Republican state senatorial primary bid. Moreno and the three Republicans prevailed in their respective races, per election results posted online by *Ballotpedia.org*. Moreno has made no secret of her desire to block unwanted Democratic endorsements by the central committee, which could threaten her future political aspirations.



Five thousand bucks is enough to make Vivian Moreno smile.

Downtown San Diego’s financial backing of the Faucett, Barraza, Spillane, and Moreno efforts has come from a bevy of special interests, including the influential lobbying firm of Sheppard Mullin, which kicked in \$3333 on March 2, and the same from Cisterra 7th and Market, LLC. Cisterra is the would-be developer of a controversial Ritz Carlton Hotel, along with offices and housing two blocks east of the Gaslamp Quarter.

According to a July 8 disclosure filing, Sheppard Mullin has been retained by Cisterra to lobby for approval of “land use entitlements, environmental analysis, including Site Development Permit, Development and Disposition Agreement and related approvals for development of a mixed-use project including residential, hotel, commercial and cultural uses at 7th & Market in the Centre City area of downtown San Diego.”



Hannah Castillo, former local campaign manager, is now director of coalitions for the Trump campaign.

**Sempra’s limited charity** San Diego-based Sempra Energy grabbed a few headlines back in March of this year when the giant power company announced its foundation would be handing out “\$1 million to help small to medium-sized nonprofits in California as they continue to serve critical needs related to the ongoing coronavirus situation.” Added the company’s news release: “The grants for California nonprofits will be part of a larger \$1.75 mil-

lion Nonprofit Hardship Fund from the Sempra Energy Foundation that will be made available to charities in the areas of the United States where Sempra Energy and its family of companies operate, including California, Texas and Louisiana.”

But the fund was quickly tapped out, with no word yet on when the company will replenish it. “On April 3, the online application was shut down due to a significant volume of requests,” per Sempra’s website. “We have now distributed the full \$1.75 million across all three states to help meet basic needs for vulnerable populations and will be assessing unmet needs and factoring these considerations into our future planning.”

Federal disclosure reports show that during 2018, the most recent period for which filings are available, Sempra’s foundation handed out a total of \$1.832 million in “contributions, gifts, and grants paid,” but received a total of just \$706 in contributions. Interest on the cash balance was \$143,953. The shortfall reduced the book value of the charity’s assets from \$10.121 million at the beginning of the year to \$8.440 million by December 2018. Major donations included \$50,000 each to Save the Children and International Medical Corps; \$10,000 went to the San Diego Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Community Center; and \$75,000 to the American Red Cross in Washington, D.C.

## Trump’s local consultants

Among former San Diegans working for President **Donald Trump**, the biggest name is arguably **Peter Navarro**, one-time anti-growth Democrat and mayoral candidate who narrowly lost

to Republican **Susan Golding** back in 1992. But some other locals are also playing prominent roles in Trump’s reelection bid. **Hannah Castillo**, director of coalitions for the Trump campaign, is a GOP Hispanic outreach specialist formerly from Phoenix. In San Diego, she managed the unsuccessful 2016 city council campaign of **Ray Ellis** and was leadership development manager for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. Castillo worked

as marketing director for San Diego’s Deverett Media Group, run by self-styled family TV movie-maker **Jeff Deverett**, according to the website *Democracyinaction.us*. Among current projects under development, according to the company website is *Sweet 15*, whose principal Sophie “is turning 15 and her parents are so excited to be planning the big Quinceañera celebration. However, Sophie who would much

continued on page 27

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# ASK A HIPSTER

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## Dear Hipster:

*If a vampire ate too many hipsters, would it suffer any ill effects?*

— CHAD

If vampires were anything like normal humans, which they might well be if they existed, then they would have to watch what they eat. A vampire who eats only people who subsist on fast food burgers and diet cokes will get hardened vampire arteries, or at least suffer the carcinogenic effects of sucking blood sweetened with aspartame. One might think a vampire would prefer the blood of hipsters; perhaps it has its own terroir that hints at organic produce and fair trade coffee. If you are what you

eat, then to a vampire, a hipster would be the supernatural equivalent of a grass-fed cow, or, more accurately, a highly specialized kind of bear that hunts only grass-fed cows.

Vampires and hipsters have more in common than you might think. Both tend towards nocturnal lifestyles, although hipsters do so by choice (all the bars are open after dark), not because they will burst into flames at the slightest touch of the sun's rays. Many hipsters wear a lot of black, lending them an incidental "children of the darkness" vibe. Liquid diets prevail in all cases: vampires prefer human blood, while many hipsters sustain themselves almost exclusively on kombucha, craft beer, and the occasional glass of alcoholic craft kombucha.

Popular media portrayals tend to show vampires as pretty suave characters in comparison to the other classes of movie monsters, at least if brooding and wearing



crushed velvet counts as suave. Your werewolves are more or less hairy chested party animals that lose it in time with the lunar cycle. Maybe they are supposed to be some kind of metaphor for horny teenagers or drug addicts who can't control themselves. Zombies and mummies shamle around, exhibiting little interest in anything save the flesh of the living. For what are they metaphors, consumerism run amok? But vampires...vampires are hip.

They're always doing cool stuff, like giving impromptu organ concertos; hypnotizing attractive, innocent people who just blew in from somewhere much less cosmopolitan; and bemoaning the mundanity of mortal life with the kind of "over it" attitude one can cop to only after living through 200+ years of pop culture, most of it bad. Perhaps vampires have been eating hipsters all along.

## Dear Hipster:

*Is coleslaw or potato salad the most hipster side dish of socially distant summer get togethers in the park?*

— AT MY COOKOUT



FROM F.W. MURPHY'S NOSFERATU

A really obscure vampire...

Definitely potato salad. Don't get me wrong, I love a tangy 'slaw with a hotdog or some 'cue on a sunny summer day, but the infinite variability of potato salad fosters so much more creativity. Add some cheese, bacon,

pickled duck eggs — the sky's the limit. No matter what you do with coleslaw, it's still a bunch of soggy, shredded veggies. Everybody wants to be the kind of person who shows up with a batch of cool potato salad at a party, and then all the guests are standing around saying, "Oh, you know, I don't normally eat potato salad, but this is something I really like!" At the same time, they're all taking a bit of coleslaw to be polite, but secretly they're bitter because the juice from the 'slaw is sogging up the burger bun, and occupying valuable real estate that might otherwise have gone to more potato salad.

— DJ Stevens

## LETTERS

continued from page 1

president of SDSU from 1978 until about 1996. Dad was imperious and dictatorial to the max, and managed to alienate the faculty at SDSU and get their vote of no confidence for his actions to manage the economic downturn in the early 90's. The man was just not a leader: at best he was an administrator who didn't care to listen to anyone other than himself. Does this sound like his son, the sort of bossy, mouthy, and dictatorial personality that he seems to be? Like father, like son, except that Adam lacks his father's doctorate and academic credentials. In fact, how did Adam come so far and so fast?

— Visdub

**"San Diego point system could produce some worthless parks"**

Neighborhood News  
July 20

The theory sounds reasonable, but the proposed point system is quite subjective (and complicated to manage). Some elements that earn points are trivial or at least not as critical for most communities as space. The

City Council should not approve this plan. Instead, planners should first identify how to allocate parkland equitably throughout the city. Then they should work with neighborhoods to determine the most valued amenities for each park. That should vary based on what residents actually want, not what officials decide is right for them. This affects other areas besides those listed, btw, especially Uptown. It's no coincidence that this plan is being pushed along with Complete Communities: it's a bureaucrat-centric, pro-developer approach that pretends we already have a public transportation system that doesn't exist yet and possibly never will.

—stonevalley

**"Stop the selfies at La Jolla Cove"**

Neighborhood News  
July 21

People are so frustrated/bored to death/sick of the government tyranny we're dealing with they have no desire to have more "rules." I don't blame them at all. The whack jobs want to defund the police, so do laws even matter anymore?

—socks3742



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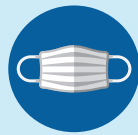


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**Practice hand hygiene.** Wash your hands regularly or use hand sanitizer.



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Learn more at [sdmts.com/CleanRide](https://sdmts.com/CleanRide)

of animals coming into our shelter locations. One reason is that more people are home, which means fewer animals have gone stray.

Meanwhile San Diego Humane Society never closed due to COVID-19. “We have remained open through the entire pandemic.”

KEN LEIGHTON

BAJA

## Cinema by the sea Will pandemic produce drive-in revival?

On July 17, at about sunset, some *Rosaritenses* flocked to the beach adjacent to Abelardo L. Rodríguez Park, a block west of Federal Highway 1. The occupants of the predominantly packed vehicles were greeted by a Tijuana Zonkey-looking mascot and Rosarito mayor Araceli Brown and her entourage. “We are going to watch [*Maleficent*] at 9 pm tonight,” Brown had said on a Facebook Live video.



Rosarito mayor Araceli Brown (in gray dress) cuts the ribbon.

“We still have time — come by with the whole family.” DIF, a social service agency of the Mexican government, recently transformed the beachfront property into Auto Cinema, a drive-in movie theatre similar to our South Bay and Santee drive-ins. People can watch the movie through the windshield of their cars; sometimes, truck and station wagon drivers park backward, so the occupants can lie down and watch the movie from the back



“But what about the waves?”



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALBERTO E.

The surf might obscure some of the dialogue, but then again, it's *Maleficent*

of their vehicles.

Friday, July 17 was the beachfront theatre's grand opening; the entrance fee was 200 pesos (\$8.86 USD) per vehicle, and the following day, they showed *Guardians of the Galaxy* and *Relentless*. The news and preview posts were shared over 300 times on Facebook. “OMG, how cool,” Bianca commented. “But after a while, I want to walk to the ocean.”

“But what about the waves?” Juan questioned. “Won't the noise affect the movie experience?”

Aside from Juan, nobody else commented about the three-foot waves crashing close by and interrupting Angelina Jolie's translated audio.

“[There are] no speakers,” posted Lynn, a Grossmont College alumna. “It's a low-frequency FM broadcast that we can tune into from our home.” Her accompanying Facebook photo was taken from an elevated vantage point, and

showed two giant movie screens with 20-plus vehicles in the frame. According to Mexican news reports, the drive-in accommodated 100 cars or trucks and has a third movie screen.

Mario, a local movie buff, saw the online previews. “Drive-ins will make a comeback, watch,” he opined. “Walk-in theaters aren't open yet, and we are tired of streaming during this pandemic. I like to see big action on a big screen, and because I have a thumping

sound system in my car, it's as if you're part of the movie. If lockdowns continue, and social distancing becomes the norm, drive-ins are the wave of the future.”

Marco, a computer tech from Rosarito, reminisced, “Drive-in movie theaters back then taught me so much. Not a whole lot from



Some miracles are worth less than others, especially when what you really need is a park.

what was happening on the screen, but what was happening while walking [past] rows of rocking cars on my way to the kiosk to buy popcorn. I had to dodge the cables from the poles to the speaker hanging on the partly open windows; there was no Bluetooth back then. [It was] hard to see through some of the steamed-up windows, though. Yup, quite an education for a kid way back when. The '60s were a blast. I say bring it all back.”

On July 11, Tijuana's Bigmoon Auto Cinema showed the circa-1986 *Queen: Live At Wembley Stadium* concert video. The circa-2017 drive-in theatre can accommodate 60 vehicles and is about nine miles southeast of the San Ysidro/Tijuana border. As Freddie Mercury was singing on the 100-foot movie screen — and heard via the venue's loudspeakers — gyrating spotlights on each side of the screen beamed colored lights through the smoke emitting from the fog machines. “Do you guys want to see Michael Jackson, Metallica, Led Zeppelin, in open air like we are now?” asked a Bigmoon Auto Cinema rep on the company's Facebook Live feed. “Bro, that's what's up,” responded Mario. “With

concerts canceled, dude — I'd love to watch classic concerts and movies on a big screen with 4D effects. I don't think they offer that here in San Diego.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

PARK PLACE

## Three-point Miracle

### Point plan for parks prompts parody

When it comes to park space, the mid-city neighborhoods of Kensington, Normal Heights, and City Heights are among the least served, according to the San Diego Foundation's 2010 Parks for Everyone report. The report defines “park poverty” as a neighborhood's having less than three acres of park for each 1000 residents. (The metric was commonly used when the report was published.)

Undeveloped land is scarce and costly, and as the city helps developers look for ways to push more housing into these and other neighborhoods, the mayor has proposed a new way to think about parks — one that clearly aban-

dons the quest for land: create a point system to measure park value by ease of access (by bus, for example) and its amenities (like food service and signs) rather than counting its size.

Although city planners took the plan to a number of advocacy groups, they brought the plan to the community planners committee, which is made up of people from four dozen neighborhood planning groups, only after the comment period ended on June 11. And it still has not been presented to individual neighborhoods, from what planning department head Mike Hansen told the city's official planning commission. Nor was it presented by city planners or the mayor to city-created recreation councils that oversee hyperlocal park use. Instead, neighborhood planning group leaders heard about it in June through the parent committee, and carried the information back to the planning groups. It's not clear if any recreation councils have discussed it. (Most parks and rec centers have been closed or limited since the pandemic lockdowns began.)

When they reviewed the parks point plan, the community planners committee concluded

continued on page 37



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**Maple muse**

*“Things fall apart; the center cannot hold.”*  
 — W.B. Yeats, “The Second Coming”  
*“And you know something’s happening, but you don’t know what it is, do you, Mr. Jones?”*  
 — Bob Dylan, “Ballad of a Thin Man”

It strikes me that part of aging gracefully is realizing that the end of your world is not the end of *the* world. One man’s decadence and decay is another’s foment and fruition.

There’s an old maple tree growing just inside the eastern edge of my backyard. Well, not growing. Dying. It was vigorous and laden with leaves when I moved in 17 years ago, but the extended drought, combined with the reduction of really cold winters — the kind that let the tree go deep-sleep dormant — has taken a toll. Of late, as it heaves forth its ever-



**The maple: not dead, but definitely dying.**

later, ever-diminishing splay of green, I have found myself sympathizing, even identifying. An exhausted east-coast transplant, thinning up top, less vital and more stressed, struggling more to produce less, creaky and trembling to the point where it maybe can’t support the kids who clamber up its trunk before launching off the zipline platform with happy abandon. Why, a fellow could write a poem on the subject. *I think that I shall never see/ My youth again, just like that tree...*

But as former literary agent John Hodgman once noted, only jazz criticism pays more than poetry. And self-pity is never a good look, especially in those old enough to enjoy some perspective. Better, perhaps, to use the intimation of Death’s approach provided by an expiring tree as a kick in the

existential pants. Time to look to the future, and to those who will inhabit it. For the past five summers, I’ve been promising my daughter that I will restore the playhouse at the bottom of the yard. This is probably my last chance before she ages out of interest in such things. Things fall apart, so you have to put them back together. That’s civilization.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Texting While La Mesa Burns: An Exchange Between Father and Son During the May 30th Protest’s Violent Aftermath**

Father: “They broke the windows at the Vons shopping center.”

Son: “That’s so crazy. You never hear of that except in history books. I kind of want to be part of it, because it’s part of history, even if it’s not necessarily great. I don’t want it happening, but it’s happening.”

Father: “This part isn’t historical, it’s just criminal. I do understand the appeal, but there are always consequences.”

Son: “For me, I want to be part of that, just once, just pure chaos and no one thinking of laws or morals, just for a night. I know that sounds bad. Being hit by police crowd control does sound painful, but that’s part of the experience, feeling that pain.”

Father: “What you’re talking about is the same reason so many people are eager to go to war when it breaks out. And veterans will tell you that the thrill in combat is real. But a lot of them regret it all the same. And those are the ones who survived. I don’t feel the pull of pure chaos myself, because I’ve worked to build a life, and I know how close chaos always is to taking it away.”

Son: “But war goes on and on. This is a one-time thing, at least for me. Why not?”

Father: “Because someone has to clean up. Someone always pays when people break shit. And if you don’t give a shit about other people

“I don’t feel the pull of pure chaos myself, because I’ve worked to build a life.”

having to deal with the damage you do, then you’re no better than the people who don’t give a shit about the damage they do to you.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Later that night, Father drove Son past Chase Bank as it burned; the sight proved sobering.



**“Someone has to clean up. Someone always pays when people break shit.”**

The bank’s twisted hulk still remains along Spring Street. The other two buildings that burned have been razed. Someone has cleaned up the mess, and now someone will build anew. And I will replace my broken shovel so I can clear away the earth that mounds muddily against the playhouse’s foundation when the backyard floods in the rain. I will not yield to the secret satisfaction of watching the world fall apart in tandem with my own little life.

We can’t really afford the restoration just now — the busted shovel is just the start of it, and primer is \$22 a can — but you can’t always count the cost. And I’ve been scrounging wood scraps from neighborhood construction sites, enough to replace the broken workbench inside and the rotten trim outside. (The broken window frames and flower boxes will have to be disassembled, sanded, and rebuilt, but I’ve got a daughter who enjoys such work.) The playhouse itself was scrounged; we found it on Craigslist, free to anyone who would come to Vista, disassemble it, and haul it away. The pieces sat in our garage for at least two years, but we finally built it in 2007. The chairs that



**Small-scale civilization.**

why I’m so fond of Hamlet’s “Use every man after his desert, and who shall ‘scape whipping?” I’ve been skipping along on the seat of my pants for some time now, and it shows. I think of the scene in Yves Robert’s film *My Mother’s Castle*, in which young Marcel Pagnol realizes that his new friend’s seemingly luxurious home is actually threadbare and crumbling. And I don’t have many illusions about what I’m doing or how well I’m doing it; nobody’s coming from Instagram’s @PlayhouseParadise (which I am sure exists but will not investigate) to photograph my handiwork. But as I finished my first Saturday’s efforts, my daughter said, “You gave me your whole day.” Last weekend, we primed; this Saturday, we’ll paint. Then I’ll think about taking down that maple tree before it falls over and hurts someone. ■



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# UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

La Jolla Farms is easily one of San Diego's most exclusive neighborhoods. Bordered by the Salk Institute to the north, Scripps Institution of Oceanography to the south, and the UC San Diego campus to the east, the Farms consists of just 96 private parcels along the bluffs towering 300 feet above Black's Beach.

Unlike the village of La Jolla, where luxurious homes jockey for space and views on lots often no bigger than those found in a typical suburban tract,



More land than you usually find in coastal La Jolla.

estates in the Farms enjoy an acre or more of private land. That's plenty of room to house the elaborate pools, private tennis facilities, and the manicured lawns usu-

ally reserved for inland upscale hotspots such as Rancho Santa Fe. All this makes the Farms "one of the most affluent and secluded communities in San Diego."

The area, and the beach below, acquired their respective names from the Black family, which moved to La Jolla around the time horse racing began in ear-

nest in Del Mar. The land that comprises the Farms was originally a thoroughbred farm where the Blacks raised and trained their race horses.

Listed for the first time in over 25 years, the gated private estate at 9740 Black Gold Road occupies 1.29 acres of fully landscaped grounds. Promotional materials featured on *realtor.com* call the freshly updated property an "entertainer's delight."

The home is described as an "elegant recently remodeled luxury mansion with unobstructed ocean views from the master bedroom." The "highly secure estate offers hardwood floors, multiple view decks including a rooftop deck framed by colorful gardens, lush landscaping, a beautiful fruit orchard, and privacy."

The nine-bedroom,

eight-bath residence includes nearly 8800 square feet of living area, offering "endless entertaining possibilities" thanks to its "chef's kitchen and butler kitchen, wine room, cozy theater room, and game room." There's also a private "gym, with room for indoor spa rooms" and a guest suite that occupies its own wing of the house.

The master bedroom alone occupies nearly 500 square feet of living space, not including the bathroom suite outfitted with a marble-lined tub and shower. Other features include five fireplaces, zoned air conditioning, a backup generator to ensure the home is never without power, and garage parking for four cars with a large circular driveway to park another dozen behind the compound's security gate.

*continued on page 27*

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# Street Style

BY VERONICA GARCIA

## Chula Vista teen bullied into fashion

Though I'm a fan of San Diego's flourishing influencer scene, I didn't know that some of them are as young as 15. I reached out to Camila Mendivil to ask how she accomplished her skyrocketing presence in the digital space. Mendivil explained, "I started my blog  *Rendezvous with You* in summer 2017. That's also when I started focusing my Instagram page on fashion and posting more photos of my outfits. I'm 15, and I live in Chula Vista." That means she was only 12 when



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TOP: WILD FABLE FROM TARGET, SUNGLASSES: VERSACE, SHORTS: MICKEY SOUTH BOUTIQUE

she started cultivating her online presence.

When I asked her why she decided to create a blog, especially at such a young age, she responded, "My blog and Instagram actually all came about as a response to being bullied. After

hearing rumors about myself, getting picked on, and being excluded, I really wanted to make a statement and inspire others also struggling with bullying. I put my creative energy into styling outfits as a way to rise above the bullying and show

others that you have to be yourself and love yourself no matter what others say or think about you."

Mendivil wants her blog to feel like a casual "get together" or a coffee date with a friend, just chatting about shopping or skincare tips.

Mendivil was born and raised in San Diego. What she enjoys most about our city is that there's always something to do outdoors, such as going to the farmer's markets, hiking, or strolling around Little Italy. Her favorite local boutique is Chycas Boutique in Eastlake. "They really get to know their customers, and if they don't have a particular style or item that you're looking for in stock, they try their best to get it in the store for you."

I asked Mendivil how her blog has evolved over the years. "I feel like my Instagram posts have evolved over time from just being focused on fashion to now posting about beauty, makeup, and lifestyle. On my blog, I try to make a dedicated post

*continued on page 27*

**Find more Street Style at [sandiegoreader.com/style](http://sandiegoreader.com/style)**

## CROHNS

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If you have moderate to severe Crohn's disease, the VIVID-1 study may be of interest to you. The study is researching whether an investigational drug can be used to effectively treat Crohn's disease and reduce the symptoms of this serious gastrointestinal disorder. Participants are needed.

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# To play with REPTILES all day

In the pandemic, reptile sales are spiking, not decreasing.

**T**o hold an anaconda, it's best to spread your hands out like spatulas and let the snake lie there, feeling supported. If the serpent doesn't feel buoyed in your hands, it will squirm and droop like it's upside down, which, from its spatial orientation, it is. The snake has a belly—the lighter colored half underneath—and the belly wants to be down, if not on the ground, then grounded. Otherwise, it curls and twists, not because it has it in for you, but because the creature is trying to get away, that is, out of midair and back to the security of its burrow or enclosure. Once you brace the writhing beast from below, snake and handler calm down—find, as it were, common ground.

I'm fascinated by this snake-human interaction. It's early 2020, the coronavirus has been uncaged in Wuhan and headed for Europe, and I'm agog at the many ways we approach these coiling marvels. By “we,” I mean my fellow southern Californians, those, like me, whose alarm-meters ping at the sight of anything thrashing about and those whose delight in serpents is irreplaceable — both sorts mingling in a sky-high ceilinged arena for the Reptilian Nation Expo at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

It may be a generational thing—a millennial thing—that teens, tweens, and kids pack the hall; apparently, they love shopping, buying, owning, housing, raising, and holding up (from below) the very snakes and other reptiles/amphibians at which their pulled-along grandparents recoil.

A sixteen-year-old, his forehead tangled with a waggish mop of black hair, asks a snake dealer if he might examine a small pattern-honed ball python. (Much more on these captive breeds in a minute.) Clearly a devotee, he cradles the snake in his open





“Sixty-five percent of people in the U.S. own a dog,” says Loren Leigh. “Nine percent own reptiles.” It’s not huge — not yet — but it’s more than doubled in the last decade.

hands and brings it close to his chest, then to his face, his eyes wide, smiling possessively. He slows his hand motions to the pace of the curious, near-sighted snake. It’s not quite two feet long, very delicate, the color of scrambled eggs with inky marks like cracked asphalt after an earthquake. An animated abstract painting.

Then, with choirboy affection, he rubs a finger under the snake’s chin, and the python, its head/neck still in the S-curve (as if to strike), seems to bliss out, kittenish, at the tender touch. The teenager says to his group of friends watching him, “When I have money and I don’t live in a mobile home anymore, I’m going to buy one of these guys.”

A young girl, daughter of a father who tells me they “already have eleven ball pythons at home, in buckets,” shows off her latest purchase — a coiled constrictor resting on a damp paper towel inside an eight-inch

wide plastic container. Its mottled markings alternate a vanilla white and a banana cream — sort of like a yoghurt swirl. The dad says, “OK, honey, now we’ve got a dozen,” and the daughter looks sagely pleased, as if she’s been given a diary in which to record her secret thoughts.

(*Fun facts:* In the last 25 years, captive breeders have engineered 5000 patterns and colors for the ball python species. The snake is motion-named because that’s its defense: tucking its wedge head in, the python spirals its body tight when it’s stressed or afraid, which, owing to all the Expo fuss, must be most of the time.)

I pass hundreds of deli cups of ball pythons as well as hundreds of clear plastic boxes with outré species like the New Guinea Red-Eyed Croc Skink, six inches long with a spike-stippled back; and the male Desert Iguana, of local renown, the lizard that does female-inviting pushups. (In the legitimate

commercial snake trade, no venomous snakes are sold.) Serpents slumbering in their containers seem okeydokey under heat lamps, flicking their tongues at their lids: Where am I? Orlando, Memphis, Anaheim?

It’s easy to anthropomorphize snakes, especially when such human devotion suggests cuddliness, adoption, and bonding. In our new stay-at-home era, these exotics have seized the acquisitive imagination of Americans, our new national pets. As the trend preys on Mom and Dad — owning a reptile is a parental signal of a kid’s maturity — living room terraria and their horde may surpass zoos in the preservation and cultivation of this class of animals, some 12,000 species. Even so, collectible creepers such as the Sulcata Tortoise (lives to 100) and the Hermit Crab (lives to 10) seem as indifferent to us as anything else we try and domesticate.

#### From Costa Rica to a deli cup

I’m escorted through this faunal miscellany of Assassin Bugs, Tanzanian Tailless Scorpions, and Baby Nile Monitors by Loren Leigh, owner of LLL Reptiles (flagship store in Escondido) and a major exhibitor at the Reptile Expo. Three of Leigh’s seven regional stores, where he sells all kinds of scaly critters, are in Southern California. In the pre-viral years, he displayed his animals and product lines at 35 reptile expos across the country. “Sixty-five percent of people in the U.S. own a dog,” he says. “Nine percent own reptiles.” It’s not huge — not yet — but it’s more than doubled in the last decade.

Leigh, his talk spiced with genial humor, is

quick to point out that “the trade” includes snakes, lizards (fan favorite: the bearded dragon), salamanders, frogs, toads, turtles, tortoises, and arachnids (spider idol: tarantulas). Essentially, planetary ground dwellers. The study of these animals is herpetology, from the Greek *herpo*, to creep or crawl. Which, metaphorically speaking, suggests surprise, stealth, and, with the addition of witches, conjuration and the dark arts: eye of newt, toe of frog, adder’s fork, lizard’s leg.

The online market, he says, is unquenchable. “Reptiles are one of the few animals we can ship. You can’t just go to FedEx and package a dog. But these reptiles can be transported around in containers. With a little food and water, they’re fine.” (Reptile prices range from \$50 to \$4500; the sky-high tags



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Flyer approved for use until: 03/9/2023 IRB record # VD-214-0320 A3



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

**LLL Reptiles has three locations in Southern California. The biggest motivator in reptile growth, according to LLL's owner, Loren Leigh, is that families treat the acquired animal like a companion.**

attach to the rarest and the prettiest.)

The Del Mar Expo is a midsize retail fair on the exhibition highway. Events nationwide and worldwide number in the thousands. In Southern California, the Reptile Nation Expo arrives spring and fall in Del Mar, as well as in Ontario, Long Beach, and San Bernardino. (The largest trade event is in Chicago, a Macedonian army of 500 vendors, replete with many hundreds of species.) Leigh says of breeders, “We used to

be backroom hobbyists, now we're businesses.” His tabled array carries all the accoutrements for both intimate and massive terraria, with such products as fake hollowed-out logs to burrow in, lots of moss, and the ubiquitous touch of the macabre, a (plastic) human skull.

Temecula breeder Michael Roscoe, new to the pet trade, is already specializing in “high-end ball pythons and boas and lizards.” Another hobbyist turned entrepreneur, he travels overseas a lot, often

to Germany. To transport his product, he must “individually pack them with heat, cold, whatever the journey demands. They need insulated boxes in line with the airlines, which require permits and health certificates and veterinary inspections, as do U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S.D.A.” He laughs heartily at the onerous regulations. Profits, however, are not his prime motivator. “I get to play with reptiles all day.”

Leigh, 42, has fulfilled his childhood passion

**After years spent watching San Diego Natural History Museum visitors, Brad Hollingsworth calls crawly creatures the “unlovables. A herpetologist deals with people's negative perceptions of a venomous snake, a scaly lizard, a slimy frog. ‘Oh, they're so prehistoric’”— like that's a bad thing.**

for reptiles. He wants to extend the love to close-knit families. “Look around,” he says. “Young families, kids, teenagers. They used to be ‘backroom, in-the-garage, weird-dad’ animals. Now they're in the living room, Mom's into it, it's a teaching tool. It's replaced the hamster.”

The young treasure “the oddity of it all,” he says, the tinkerer's shop of gemlike shapes, textures, colors. The chameleon swivels its eyes to see in front of and behind itself, independently, too, a companionable sleuth or sidekick for a child. (Capitalizing on chameleon cuteness is Disney's Pascal in *Tangled*.)

One industry motivator is that millennials worry far less about the crawling horde than their parents and grandparents. In addition, unlike the extroverted dog or horse, reptiles induce a science-fiction-like awe, “beings from another world.” Leigh says. And while ancient myths of reptiles stalking helpless humans abound

(in the Garden of Eden, the Serpent is Satan transmogrified), those myths dissolve once the animals are handled and studied.

The biggest motivator in reptile growth, according to Leigh, is that families treat the acquired animal like a companion. “For us, the fish tank of 50 years ago is now the snake tank.” Recently, a buyer thanked him for selling him “Lorenzo.” “Who is ‘Lorenzo?’” Leigh asked. It's a tortoise, with a 50-year lifespan, who teaches his kids responsibility: he must be fed, kept clean, engaged, and turtle-sat during family vacations.

“Most snakes do not get big,” Leigh says. “Most snakes are not harmful; most snakes are wary of us, and they're defensive. Look around. People are holding monitor lizards without an ounce of dread.” He says wary “parents and their 1975-fear-of-everything-reptile” label any monitor “a Komodo dragon,” ready to rip your face off. Kids think “just the opposite — my reptilian friend.”

#### Reptile study and preservation

Strolling through the San Diego Natural History Museum's Living Lab exhibition (caged live animals) with long-time curator of herpetology Brad Hollingsworth, I learn that after years spent watching visitors, he calls crawly creatures the “unlovables. A herpetologist deals with people's negative perceptions of a venomous snake, a scaly lizard, a slimy frog. ‘Oh, they're so prehistoric’ — like that's a bad thing.

The tag “unlovable” suggests conflict between those who treasure these animals and those who loathe them. To be clear, the Natural History Museum does no breeding; its reptilian/amphibian focus is local habitats. Hollingsworth says, “We hunt, we trap, we count reptiles” in the Southern California and northern Baja wild. The museum exhibits very few live species.

When it comes to snakes, the serpents with

#### HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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the greatest and grimmest notoriety are rattlesnakes. The public's response to these triangle-headed beasts is fear of getting bit. But that fear regularly accompanies disrespect and ignorance, Hollingsworth says, even the desire to "chop off its head! How about just keeping our distance when we encounter a rattler?" he asks. "As midlevel predators, they are crucial to regional ecosystems." They are food for coyotes and they control rodents. They have their place, though we are hesitant to let them have it.

Reptile decline is real. Many species have been overrun by human rapacity, while few have thrived. Take a couple of frog species. Who knew how fierce their competition has been? A century ago, the American bullfrog overtook local ponds. How? Served for dinner in "frog-leg restaurants," a few hopped out of the pot, down the alley, and into local ponds and estuaries. They flourished because they are insatiable, "ferocious predators," Hollingsworth says. "Herps eating herps." Even today, these invaders are still "displacing native frogs, turtles,

and garter snakes."

One of the more defenseless of its genus — *rana* — has been the native California Red-Legged frog. This frog has "massively declined" due to the American bullfrog's ravaging. Hollingsworth and his colleague's prime mission, mostly in northern Baja, is to protect the Red-Legged from invasive plants and predators, and, if possible, restore their natural habitats, giving the amphibian a chance at a comeback. So far, it's a mild success, as their numbers, according to the latest count at the Nat website, hover around 200.

#### The wild bunch and the pet trade

Hollingsworth helps me nail down two approaches to herpetology. One is the reptile in the wild (its flora habitat), which the museum studies and catalogs, and the other is the pet trade in reptiles (its breeding facility and living-room habitats), which has become a thousand times more plentiful. Regarding the former, Hollingsworth describes the newest research tool: digital photography. Such documentation — leaving the critters *in situ* — is a



"How about just keeping our distance when we encounter a rattler?" suggests Dr. Hollingsworth. "As midlevel predators, they are crucial to regional ecosystems." They are food for coyotes and they control rodents.

hands-off way to "collect" reptiles in the wild. Photographers post their shutter-finds and the breadth of their discoveries on the website I-Naturalist.

Hollingsworth is still processing how to think about the role of herp collectors in a world losing so many amphibian and reptile native spaces. (In the United States, 80 percent of the wetlands that once existed no longer do.) He says, "All pet collecting has its purpose and place in educating people and letting them fall in love with a reptile's inti-

mate nature — especially when you're keeping one at home. For me, [those reptiles are] far removed from natural habitats and the wild."

What's more, the place of reptiles in our world is

not just a species concern but an environmental one. He partitions the divide like so: human-made environments for reptiles, manufactured and decentralized and temperature-controlled; and natural

environments, where diversity reigns, where animals are (somewhat) protected from two-legged conquest, and where islands of preservation are now *de rigueur*.

There's a split — the tension weighing on animals more than on us — between public and private, between the wild and the zoo, between a species' right to self-determination and a human right to species-ownership. (Rights we extend to ourselves can be, but seldom are, extended to animals.)

As I press Hollingsworth about the pet trade, he is hesitant to "say anything ill about people." He's curious about the amateur breeders and their intentions. To what degree "does the selling of [captive] animals help wild animals?" He's not sure what the answer is. But there's

*continued on page 39*

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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# Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

## Thursday | 30

### 10,000 YEARS: SAN DIEGO'S ARCHEOLOGICAL RECORD

Over 36,000 archaeological sites have been discovered in San Diego County. People have lived in the region for over 10,000 years; and these sites contain



CINDY STANKOWSKI

their material culture. This presentation will reveal what archaeology has uncovered about the ancient peoples who called San Diego home. Free virtual Living Room Lecture via Zoom. Guest speaker: Cindy Stankowski.

**WHEN:** Thursday, July 30, 5:30 pm to 7 pm

**WHERE:** [sandiegoarchaeology.org](http://sandiegoarchaeology.org)

## Friday | 31

### DIET CIG LIVESTREAM

Diet Cig will be playing their first ticketed show in support of their recently



DIET CIG

released album *Do You Wonder About Me?* (Frenchkiss Records). The livestream takes place via the NoonChorus platform. Half of the show proceeds to be donated between the Okra Project and host music venues such as the Masquerade, Cat's Cradle, Mississippi Studios, Neumos, 930 Club, Margin Walker, Rickshaw Stop, Kilby Court, and San Diego's Casbah.

**WHEN:** Friday, July 31, 5 pm

**WHERE:** [noonchorus.com/diet-cig](http://noonchorus.com/diet-cig)

### NEWPORT FOLK FESTIVAL

Deer Tick and friends are among the performers slated for this year's virtual edition of the long-running Newport Folk Festival. It kicks off with a salute to Mavis Staples on day one, and guest performers on day two include Leon

Bridges, Robert Ellis, Sharon Van Etten, The Tallest Man On Earth, and Courtney Marie Andrews. On the final day, there will be a free online screening of the film *Our Voices Together*, with performances from Brandi Carlile, Jim James, Pink Floyd's Roger Waters with Lucius, and Jason Isbell.

**WHEN:** Friday, Saturday, and Sunday July 31 through August 2, 5 pm

**WHERE:** [newportfolk.org/revival](http://newportfolk.org/revival)

## Saturday | 1

### MEALS ON WHEELS MARCH FOR MEALS 5K WALK

The March for Meals "Commit to Getting Fit" challenge was originally scheduled for March 2020, but will now be virtual, and participants are encouraged to Commit



to Getting Fit between Sunday, July 12 and Sunday, August 23. Although the event is free this year, fundraising is encouraged and donations are welcome as proceeds will help provide nutritious meals and a daily wellness checks for

San Diego's homebound and isolated senior population. This six-week event encourages participants to walk in their neighborhoods and share their progress on their fundraising page and social media using the hashtag #MOWSD2020Walk. The final day of the event will be August 23.

**WHEN:** Through Sunday, August 23.

**WHERE:** [meals-on-wheels.org](http://meals-on-wheels.org)

## Sunday | 2

### BASKET MAKING & GOURD ART CLASSES

The Gourd and Basket Guild presents their annual Class



Day. Most classes will be outside, students will be spaced out, and masks are required. Classes: Coiling on a Gourd with Grace Swanson, Lauhala Tissue Box with Sue Kamin, Knotless Netting with Polly Giacchina, and Latch

Twining a Small Basket with Willie Ziegler.

**WHEN:** Sunday, August 2, 10 am to 3 pm

**WHERE:** Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center,

1580 Cannon Road, Carlsbad.  
[baskets-gourds.com/classes](http://baskets-gourds.com/classes)

FRIDAY, JULY 31: THE NEWPORT FOLK FESTIVAL

**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](http://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](mailto: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; through Monday, August 24, \$195. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

## ART

**Fierce Tenderness, a Virtual Art Exhibition** The San Diego Watercolor Society is proud to announce the Virtual Art Exhibition, "Fierce Tenderness", juried by award-winning artist Jane Riles. You can enjoy viewing 95+ original watermedia paintings on our website, [www.sdws.org](http://www.sdws.org). The paintings are also for sale in our Online Store. Through Saturday, August 1, free. [sdws.org](http://sdws.org). (ONLINE)

**Internal Combustion Virtual Art Exhibition** The San Diego Watercolor Society proudly presents "Internal Combustion, a Virtual Art Exhibition." Exhibit runs from August 2-29, 2020. The paintings are by our very talented members and are shown in our online slide show as well as the Online Store. Sundays, 12:01am; through Saturday, August 29, \$9. [www.sdws.org](http://www.sdws.org). (ONLINE)

## BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

### Delivery service gives small breweries a home delivery option

Amid the ever-changing rules about how breweries may do business, at least one positive development remains constant: the ability of breweries to deliver beer directly to consumers' doorsteps. This regulatory relief has offered an opportunity to retain loyal customers, and to sell more beer — that is, for beer and booze companies with the resources to offer home delivery.

For a collection of small breweries in North County, a new service emerged in April that offers same-day delivery to residents who live north of the 56 freeway, and as far north as Fallbrook. **BrewCatalog.com**

currently delivers cans and crowlers from ten businesses, including **Culver Beer Co, Dogleg Brewing, Dos Desperados, Ebullition Brew Works, Helia Brewing, Legacy Brewing Co., Northern Pine Brewing, Wild Barrel Brewing Company, My Yard live**, and hard kombucha maker **Local Roots**.

The small startup was built on the hustle of young entrepreneur Jason McBride. The recent Cal State San Marcos graduate originally teamed up with partners to develop an online ordering platform for self-distributing breweries: something beer buyers could use to quickly view and order kegs. But when the pandemic hit, McBride explains, "The landscape of wholesale changed."

While the closing of bars and restaurants all but tanked the need for wholesale ordering, when the new rules allowed delivery, he says, "We took that opportunity to pivot to direct to consumer."

He reconfigured the web site for retail customers, and now picks up beers from each brewery for daily deliveries. Delivery is free over \$100, and ranges from \$1-7 depending on zip code otherwise. Breweries pay a commission on each order, which proves less than the cost of delivering their own beers.

"We were going to do the delivery thing," says Culver Beer cofounder Ben Fairweather, "but

we're a small team as is, so it was going to be a tough logistical thing on our plate."

"It's cheaper than paying for a vehicle, pay-

they tend to re-order beers from their favorite breweries, but also, "They're trying breweries they weren't trying before, in addition to the ones they already like."

Four months since launching, McBride still handles the deliveries himself, as he can't be sure whether regulations will continue long enough to invest in an additional vehicle or driver. However, he remains optimistic that California will see the merit in making this regulatory relief permanent. "I don't consider them deregulations," he says. "I consider them new regulations."

His delivery customers seem to feel the same way.

McBride continually asks them for feedback, and tends to hear the same thing: "Even before the pandemic, they wanted their beer delivered."

For more craft booze news, see [sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news](http://sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news)



A selection of beers delivered throughout North County via Brew Catalog

ing for staff and insurance and all that," adds Northern Pine cofounder Anne Ortega, "so it's working fantastically."

The service may also be helping the breweries reach new fans. McBride reports a modest yet steady stream of orders — around 30 a week — and says he often sees repeat customers. He says

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**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/wlxgip3b10br18i/> If you have questions or concerns, email: [education@luxartinstitute.org](mailto:education@luxartinstitute.org) or call: 760.436.6611 ext. 200 Thursday, July 30, 9am; \$200-\$220. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Basket Making & Gourd Art Classes** The Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild presents their annual Class Day. Most classes will be outside with ocean breeze. Students will be spaced out and masks required. Class fees includes

all materials. Classes include Coiling on a Gourd with Grace Swanson, Lauhala Tissue Box, Knotless Netting, and Latch Twining a Small Basket. To reserve a space in the class of your choice, contact Polly Giacchina at [pollyjig4@gmail.com](mailto:pollyjig4@gmail.com). Students will pay the teacher directly on class day, so bring cash or a check made out to instructor. Bring your own lunch. Sunday, August 2, 10am; \$25-\$55. 18 and up. Agua Hedionda Lagoon Discovery Center, 1580 Cannon Road. (CARLSBAD)

**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. Saturday, August 1, 8am; \$75. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Coding Camps for K-10th Grade** ThoughtSTEM offers fun, flexible summer camps for incoming K-10th grade students that spark a lifetime interest in coding! Choose from week-long morning (9am-1pm), afternoon (1pm-4pm), or full-day (9am-4pm) camp options at UCSD's beautiful campus. This summer, we're excited to be teaching kids computer science using cutting edge educational technologies that we've developed with the support of the National Science Foundation. Mondays, 9am; through Friday, August 21, \$300-\$612. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Competitive Tennis 3: Drills & Games** This class is for those who play tennis, but want to learn to hit better and move faster. The class includes special games designed to accelerate learning skills and techniques including 4-Square, Olympics, and Offense/Defense. Bring a tennis racket, water, hat or visor and sunscreen. Thursday, July 30, 5:45pm; \$89. Or Saturday,

August 1, 11am; \$75. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Consciousness Expansion with Sound & Meditation** Teresa's joyful presence is a blessing. Take time out of your busy life to sit with her in the bliss of meditation and explore the expansion of consciousness through the power of sound. Thursday, July 30, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (ONLINE)

**Storytelling Through Drama Ages 8-10** Students will delve into acting techniques and exercises designed to explore a character's physical, mental, and emotional life. This class is designed for students ages 8-10 years old. 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](mailto:programs@sandiegowriters.org) for your link. Thursday, July 30, 10am; Friday, July 31, 10am; \$99. [sandiegowriters.org/summer-camp-storytelling-wilfred-paloma/](http://sandiegowriters.org/summer-camp-storytelling-wilfred-paloma/). (ONLINE)

**Sustainable Materials Management 101** Learn what current environmental issues Carlsbad residents are facing, how the City's working to address waste in the region through their Sustainable Materials Management Plan. Register below with your email address to receive the webinar link. Saturday, August 1, 10am; free. [eventbrite.com/e/sustainable-materials-management-101-tickets-110707555278](http://eventbrite.com/e/sustainable-materials-management-101-tickets-110707555278). (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. Saturday, August 1, 9:30am; \$75. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Voices for Children CASA Volunteer Information Session** Help youth in foster care by volunteering with Voices for Children today! To reserve a space for one of these sessions, please see link or call (858) 598-2230. The events are being held virtually for the time being. Saturday, August 1, 10am; free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (ONLINE)

**Webinar: Legal & Financial Basics** Learn from local estate planning and elder law experts about getting key legal documents in place and how to plan for the costs of future care. Thursday, July 30, 1pm; free. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (ONLINE)

**Writing About Mental Health** In this class, discuss the pros and cons of writing about our mental health or the mental health of a family member or friend. 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](mailto:programs@sandiegowriters.org) for your link. Saturday, August 1, 6:30pm; \$30-\$36. 18 and up. [sandiegowriters.org/august-writing-about-mental-health-rebecca-chamaa/](http://sandiegowriters.org/august-writing-about-mental-health-rebecca-chamaa/). (ONLINE)

**Yiddish Fun Bereshis: Yiddish Alphabet Class** Yiddish Fun Bereshis (Yiddish from the beginning) is a Yiddish Alef Beys (alphabet) program aimed for those with no prior Hebrew alphabet experience. By the end of the first class, the student will be able to read a number of words/phrases. Along with "doing the work" of literacy, we will also learn through culture, idioms, jokes, curses, and of course, song. Be prepared for a lot of Simpsons gifs. This is a one-hundred percent no judgment, no attitude, no shaming classroom environment. SATURDAYS: 9am PST. July 18 through August 22. Registration: Please email [dave@yaaana](mailto:dave@yaaana).

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# SHEEP AND GOATS

## I ANSWERED THE CALL

**Christ Church (Episcopalian) of Coronado**

**Contact:** 1114 9th St., Coronado 619-435-4561

www.christchurchcoronado.org

**Neighborhood:** Coronado

**Membership:** 200

**Pastor:** Father Michael Tinnon

**Age:** 70

**Born:** Lexington, KY

**Formation:** University of Kentucky, Lexington; Asbury Theological Seminary, Wilmore, KY

**Years Ordained:** 43

**San Diego Reader:** What's your favorite subject on which to preach?

**Father Michael Tinnon:** I always draw people's attention to God's love and grace – his unconditional love, and that he loves us despite our

faults. We're flawed as human beings; we mess up and miss the mark and say things we don't mean. I try to draw people's attention to the fact that God loves us despite ourselves, and that God's amazing grace reaches us at the point of our need. From what I've experienced, people carry a lot of baggage through life and it's hard for them to forgive themselves for things they've done. It's important to know God created us in his image and we're unique and special. **SDR:** What is the mission of your church?

**FMT:** Our mission is more outreach focused. We do a lot with veterans, since the church is made up of a lot of retired military from all the branches.

The Navy is huge here. We have a couple retired admirals who attend, and many retired captains. But they're not wrapped up in themselves. Our mission is to be disciples of Christ and go out into the world and make a difference. **SDR:** Where is the strangest place you found God?

**FMT:** As an U.S. Air Force chaplain, I had gone to Iraq and Afghanistan, and although typically the Air Force chaplains would stay within the wire, because it was such a joint effort over there, chaplains were tagged to go different places. So every now and then I would go outside the wire, to the fields, to do worship services. I remember going to an austere site in Iraq. My

chaplain assistant and I drove a Humvee out there and got to the site. We set up on the hood of the Humvee, the holy communion – the bread and wine. I preached a generic message about God's grace, and we probably had 40 troops gathered around the Humvee. It was just before dusk, and we were about to distribute the holy sacrament. As I handed the bread to this one sergeant among the troops, he had tears running down his face, recalling that special moment God spoke to him. So I discovered that God can certainly be anywhere and, at that moment, he was a very real presence for that young man, as he certainly was for me as well. It was quite remarkable when and where



Fr. Michael Tinnon

God decided to show up.

**SDR:** Where do you go when you die?

**FMT:** I don't see life ending, whatever we consider life. It's a spiritual dimension, and certainly we read in scripture a lot about heaven and hell. When you think of good and evil, it's hard for me to fathom that some people could lead a

life in such a horrific fashion, to never have experienced forgiveness, and to continue to live that way – hurting people, robbing, stealing, killing – and there not be some kind of judgment. When we think of heaven, we think about looking up, and when we think about hell, we think about looking down, but I always believed it was more a spiritual dimension. The Apostle Paul says we see through a glass dimly – which means we don't know what these things look like. But we all have hopes and aspirations of what will happen after this life.

– Joseph O'Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at [SDReader.com/worship/](http://SDReader.com/worship/)

com or call 619-719-1776. Zoom link is available upon registration. Saturday, August 1, 9am; \$15-\$75. [yaaana.com/index.php/2020/07/13/yiddish-fun-bereshis/](http://yaaana.com/index.php/2020/07/13/yiddish-fun-bereshis/). (ONLINE)

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

**Balley TV: Jeff Ament, Jehnny Beth, Fern Ford** Free therapy? Virtual pub? Balley TV – a new virtual talk show hosted by Joe Talbot of Idles – is both those things and much more. Filmed in isolation and with conversations ranging from current events to creating music during quarantine, episodes will be rolled out throughout the summer. Guests will include Jeff Ament, Jehnny Beth, and Fern Ford. Friday, July 31, 6pm; Search "Balley TV" in YouTube. (ONLINE)

**Inaugural SD Climate Hub Mixer** What is climate justice? What does it mean when people say "climate justice is racial justice" and "climate justice is social justice"? Answers to these questions and more will be addressed by our amazing speakers at the Inaugural San Diego Climate Hub Mixer. You'll get to hear from Christopher Chaleunrath with Earthjustice, Sonja Robinson with NAACP San Diego and Sustainable Urban Network "SUN" Talk Radio, and Omar Frederico with Mid-City CAN. After the speaker presentations, there will be a live Q&A and updates from the four nonprofit Climate Hub organizations: Bike San Diego, Climate Action Campaign, SanDiego350 and Surfrider Foundation San Diego County. Thursday, July 30, 5:30pm; free. [hammondclimatesolutions.com/climate-hub](http://hammondclimatesolutions.com/climate-hub). (ONLINE)

**Patient Appreciation Sale** CBD and THC promotions, cannabis wellness education, and prizes. Bring in a friend for an extra 10% off your

purchase. Saturday, August 1, 9am; 18 and up. Ramona Cannabis Company, 736 Montecito Way. (RAMONA)

## FOR KIDS

**Virtual Fun Animal Friday: Owl & Bats** Fly through the night with Pacific Animal Productions to learn about some of their flying friends live on Facebook. Meet Gizmo the Barn Owl and Peanut Butter & Jelly the Egyptian Fruit Bats. Friday, July 31, 10am; free. [facebook.com/events/1966849276783916/](https://facebook.com/events/1966849276783916/). (ONLINE)

## LECTURES

**10,000 Years: Archaeological Record of San Diego** San Diego is blessed with abundant natural and cultural resources. Over 36,000 archaeological sites have been discovered in San Diego County. These sites contain the material culture of people who have lived in the region for over 10,000 years. This presentation will reveal what archaeology has uncovered about the ancient peoples who called San Diego home. Thursday, July 30, 5:30pm; free. [zoom.us/webinar/register/7315943203577/WN\\_AKOU8NpdSg2xkBF5jW-1tYQ](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/7315943203577/WN_AKOU8NpdSg2xkBF5jW-1tYQ). (ONLINE)

**Consequences of Untreated Sleep Breathing Disorders** It is estimated that 22 million Americans have a sleep breathing disorder and 80% of those are undiagnosed. Come listen to Dr. Steven Olmos explain what you can do to advocate for your health, get diagnosed and how to prevent long term effects. Thursday, July 30, 12pm; free. [register.gotowebinar.com/register/707577921777363472](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/707577921777363472). (ONLINE)

**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 compassion-based 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. Gifts payable with cash, checks, Venmo or online donation. Saturday, August 1, 9:30am; \$100-\$400. [belovedsandiego.org/racial-resilience.html](https://belovedsandiego.org/racial-resilience.html). (ONLINE)

**Title IX: It's Not Just About Sports** Join the Women's Museum and American Association of University Women for a virtual talk about the history and current status of Title IX. SDSU's Dr. Lee Mintz and other Title IX invitees will discuss the new regulations that will be implemented on August 14. This is a free program. You must register to receive the Zoom link. Thursday, July 30, 5pm; free. [eventbrite.com/e/title-ix-its-not-just-about-sports-tickets-114324798550](https://eventbrite.com/e/title-ix-its-not-just-about-sports-tickets-114324798550). (ONLINE)

## MUSIC

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

**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, often with bilingual and multicultural elements. Friday, July 31, 6pm; Search "Old Globe word up" on [youtube.com](https://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; through Friday, July 31, Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

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# Cook the books

*It's an artistic mix of egg, pepper, red onion, queso fresco, radish slices, and avo.*

**G**uess what? Bright orange umbrellas on Orange Avenue. They light up the blue sky near Tenth in Coronado.

The gods must've been speaking to me this morning. It so happens the scarf I wrapped around my face is bright orange. Is this Destiny or what?!

Whatever, there is a kind of rebirth going on hereabouts. A favorite haunt had been the Cafe Madrid, right outside the original Bay Books. You could grab your book, or magazine or iPad, and then go sit down right in front of the bookstore, and start reading and sipping in the aura of that shopload of knowledge.

Of course, the Cafe Madrid was only a coffee cart, started by the much-loved Luis Madrid, but it had a perfect *feng shui* about it. Nobody told you to "Please wait to be seated," and — way ahead of its time — it was all outside. So, Covid-ready.

And usually, it would be full of local characters and tourists, arguing about, well, let's not even go there. But not bitter and twisted. Relationships mattered more. And all you had to buy was a \$1.50 cup of joe.

Then comes the new landlord, triples rents, and closes down all who can't afford to play ball. Then, Covid. But finally, good news: Bay Books has reopened, a few doors north. And, included, the Bay Books Cafe, Covid-ready, all outside. And this time, guess what? They're offering actual food!

Breakfast, anyway. And reasonably priced too, looks like.

You can spot the cook among the books, Jose Wong, swirling eggs, shaking pepper on top, popping a pan into an oven.

The smells are enough to stop me in my tracks. I know their joe is good. I've paused for a cuppa here before. The two baristas, Paulina and Jorge, pour a flavorful blend. It's from Cafe Virtuoso out of Barrio Logan. Organic. Roasted right.

And today, I'm spotting an extra sandwich board on the sidewalk, advertising hot breakfasts. They have the normal baked goods display, but

now they have added two more serious breakfast options. Croissant egg sandwich, and avocado toast.

Hmm. I still ain't holding out much hope for anything you could actually call a full-on brekky. Except that the garlicky, bacony aromas filtering through my orange scarf are telling me to hang in there.

So why not? But which one? The toast with stuff piled on top, or the croissant with everything stuffed inside. Toast's \$7.95. Croissant's \$8.25. Good prices. Honestly, it's hard to find anything cooked for under 15 bucks on the island. Usually, as they say in Hawaii, it's Island Prices. So just on principle, I go for one of each. Plus lay down about three bucks for the coffee.

I secure a table spot just as Paulina calls out "Avocado toast!" She slides over a white box. We're not talking silver service. Not even paper plates. But I open the box, and have to say, it does look nice in there. It's an artistic mix of egg, pepper, red onion, *queso fresco*, radish slices, and avo. Lots of avo. Sliced, not squished into a paste people usually wipe on in an avocado toast situation. And on top, purple and white edible orchid petals. It's a piece of art.

I hate to bust it up, but I take one bite anyway, right at the counter. Oh yes. So-o savory.

"It's toast from a *batard* loaf," says Jose. He tells me the *batard* is called that because its football shape was between the classic long baguette and the round *boule* type. (Think Mexican "bolillo," but bigger.) The "bastard" shape was called that because it was neither long nor round. It was the last shape to arrive on the French scene, in the 1800s. *Nouvelle* kid on the *bloque*!

Whatever, it's a delicious, tangy toasty bread. "I put French butter, olive oil, and then crumble *queso fresco* on top," Jose says. "And pepper is important for the taste."

He's right about that. It's essential for the egg and avo combo. Really, it's a beautiful lush mix that hits just the right notes with the coffee. And



Perfect match: croissant, eggs, avo, bacon



Jose and Paulina: new ideas for the bookshop cafe

munching it out here on the fresh morning sidewalk? Can't beat it. I even enjoy the orchid petals, though they are more for looks than flavor.

Turns out Jose is a highly-qualified chef. His family owns an Asian restaurant in Merida, in the Yucatán, not far from Cancun. The Xing Yun. "It means 'Good Luck,'" he says. "I'm 24 now, been cooking since I was 14. I have cooked in 29 restaurants." One was Micaela Mar y Lena, one of the most famous in Merida. "It was 18 hours a day, seven days a week, for three months. No days off, \$200 a week. But I learned everything there."

He also graduated from a prestigious culinary school, has worked with three Michelin-starred chefs, and later this year will be heading to a job in Japan. "I want to learn as much as I can," he says. In the meantime, he has plans for Bay Books Cafe. "The owners are applying for a wine and beer license," he says. "We're talking about offering sunset oysters and other delicacies in a happy hour. It feels right for a bookshop cafe."

Boy, what a great idea. Specially with the sun setting right across Orange.

Meantime, Paulina calls out "Croissant egg sandwich!"

Oh man. That's me. And already I'm pretty full



Avocado toast: who knew two eggs and avocado could create such umami?

with the avo *batard* toast. Still, this loaded crescent turns out to be lighter than air, crispy flaky, eggy (there's two over-easy eggs in there), and whacked into a tangy sharpness by a thick wad of bacon. Fresh coffee helps too.

It hits me: here, outside a book store, right in the middle of the sidewalk, we are becoming seriously gastronomic.

I sit back, get ready to liberate this table. The rising sun's rays become orange through the umbrellas. The orchid petals look luminous.

But I'm already thinking oysters. Can't wait for the oysters. ■

**The Place:** Bay Books Cafe, 1007 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-0098

**Hours:** 7:30am-6pm, daily (till 8pm, Friday, Saturday, Sunday);

**Food hours:** 8am-2pm daily

**Prices:** Croissant egg sandwich, \$8.25; avocado toast, \$7.95

**Buses:** 901, 904

**Nearest bus stops:** Orange at 10th

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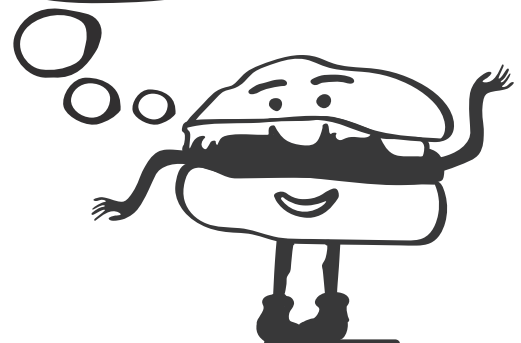
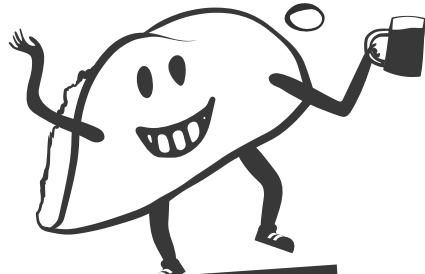
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# Mona Lisa survives

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## Mona Lisa deli survives dumpster fire 2020

*Mona Lisa; 2061 India Street, Little Italy.* A shudder passed through San Diego's sandwich-loving community this week when news spread of a suspected arson attempt at San Diego's old school Italian deli, Mona Lisa Italian Foods. In as perilous a year as 2020, the idea a beloved institution would go up in flames seemed entirely too plausible.

And what happened did very much resemble 2020, in the sense it was an actual dumpster fire. Fortunately, our fire department was right on top of the small blaze, and though it scarred the side of the going-on-fifty-year business, the staff inside the deli tell me it wasn't enough to disrupt business.

Indeed, when I stopped by the day after the fire to pick up a few sub sandwiches, a steady flow of customers still trickled in, grabbed a ticket, and waited for their number to be called. Granted, we were all wearing

masks, and working to dodge each other in the narrow aisles of the deli shop, which sells a hearty selection of Italian cured meats, cheeses, liqueurs, and pantry items.

The other side of the building is normally a sit-down restaurant, which has been closed to diners during the pandemic re-closing. The good news on that front is that Mona Lisa's pizzas, pastas, and hot sandwiches are still available to go during regular business hours, and that the restaurant is putting the indefinite closure to good use by remodeling its dining room.

However, despite fire and virus, the deli side operates about the same as it ever was, and it was always a great place to grab to-go sandwiches, built on fresh, sesame crusted Italian rolls.

Per usual, one of the sandwiches in my order was the deluxe, a classic Italian sub of mortadella, dry salami, ham, and provolone. The triple threat deli sandwich never fails to satisfy, but cured meats are a big deal at Mona Lisa, so I usually like to try a second sandwich featuring one, whether its Genoa salami, imported prosciutto, or spicy sopresata. This visit, my second sub featured a thick stack of delicious hard salami made by

## FEAST!



The "deluxe" Italian sub, served in the deli at Mona Lisa Italian Foods



Mona Lisa has been serving from this Little Italy location since 1973

Molinari & Sons, a century-old salumeria based in San Francisco.

I passed the scorched outside wall on my way out of the deli and set off in search of some self-styled al fresco dining. In all my years dining out in San Diego, I don't think I've ever sought out so many picnic spots. Though many of our neighborhood restaurants are having a go at crafting new outdoor

spaces to enjoy, those that only do to go orders can benefit from San Diego's multitude of outdoor spaces. While I've been practicing isolation, I have been able to find unbusy parks, or sections of beach, and have been using my take-out orders as an excuse to enjoy a bit of outside time.

Now I wonder why I ever thought to eat Mona Lisa subs indoors in the first place.

by Ian Anderson



A sub featuring dry, hard salami from vaunted San Francisco salumeria Molinari & Sons

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## How the internet saved Hogetsu Bakery

*Hogetsu Bakery; 1210 Third Avenue, Chula Vista.*  
For 37 years, Masa and Haru Takeda have made and served Japanese tea cakes in their tiny Chula Vista shop, Hogetsu Bakery. Primarily, they offer *mochi*, the chewy, glutinous rice cakes enjoyed with tea and on special occasions in the land of the rising sun.

When Hogetsu first opened, they worked seven days a week, kept busy by an aging contingency of war brides, the Japanese wives who came back in the arms of American soldiers following World War II. By the time that nostalgic generation began to pass on, younger members of Chula Vista's diverse community had discovered the sweet, gummy-like treats, keeping the Takedas in steady business over the years. Steady, that is, until the pandemic struck, and the small business took a big hit.

It was around Father's Day that Chula Vista realtor Edna Mitchell shared a photo of Hogetsu *mochi* to the Facebook group Eating and Drinking in San Diego, along with a warning the shop "had a much bigger display/variety" prior to covid-19, and was "possibly closing down" due to a slowdown in business. Members of the sometimes quarrelsome, always hungry group were quick to decide



The pink and yellow striped, more chewy mochi

they would not let that happen, and stepped up en masse to save the day.

The jovial shop owners talk back and forth to tell me what happened next, the way close couples sometimes do.

"We had lines going all the way to the back, every single day," says Masa. "It never stopped!"

"Everything sold out," Haru interjects, "So we had to produce more."

"We worked 'til 2 or 3 in the morning," adds the husband.

"Chaos!" laughs the wife. "It was unexpected, it was very unexpected."

The Takedas don't use computers, so they didn't see the surge in customers coming, and while it's given their struggling business a boost, they find humor in the idea there may have been a bit of misunderstanding. They did move



A masked Masa Takeda, standing in his Japanese tea cake shop of 37 years

their entire selection of *mochi* — which includes strawberry, green tea, coconut, and other flavors — into a single glass counter. But they tell me the main reason they did so is that they're getting older, and no longer had the patience to walk ten feet back and forth between cases while customers picked over the flavors they wanted.

As for the talk of closing the shop? "We're getting to the age of retiring," says Haru.

They don't know exactly when they will end Hogetsu's run, but want to do so by choice, rather than when they're forced to by age or health. "There's a Japanese saying," Masa explains, "If you wait until you fall to buy

a cane, you're too late."

Masa Takeda has been making traditional *mochi* for 50 years. He spent three years learning to do so in his native Kyoto, Japan, and the skill earned him a visa to the U.S. by virtue of the cultural contribution he would bring. He first set up shop in Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, where he met his wife, a third-generation Japanese-American. He tells me he decided to move to San Diego during a 1980s visit to San Clemente. To the north, he saw traffic and smog. To the south, he saw blue skies and open spaces. And so they settled in Chula Vista.

Miscommunication or otherwise, Hogetsu continues to

enjoy a resurgence thanks to the patronage of socially networked foodies, and the Takedas express extreme gratitude. What's certain is, for whatever reason, San Diegans may not have much longer to appreciate and enjoy the sweet and authentic Japanese treats Hogetsu Bakery provides, such as the *chofu*, a piece of *mochi* wrapped in a crepe, impressed with a small flower graphic.

In other words, we should keep the long lines coming. Just don't be surprised if the Takedas encourage you to visit one of the other small businesses next door, whether the Panda Imperial Chinese restaurant, or Los Primos Birria. When Hogetsu



A chofu: pancaked-wrapped mochi cake

does close, they would like to see other local businesses survive.

"The small stores, we are 90 percent of businesses in the United States," says Masa, "Those are the ones getting hurt [by the pandemic.] I want to help the local, small stores."

by Ian Anderson

## FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

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# blurt the inside track

## Worthy of active listening

“*Lineas* is the Spanish word for lines,” says Puerto singer-guitarist Zachary Polletta of the surf duo’s new single “*Lineas*.” “I envision corduroy lines of incoming swell. Or the line a surfer takes while riding a wave. Or the succession of the notes played in this song. Like taking a brush to canvas and all the routes that could or should be taken.”

Based in OB, Polletta and drummer Sean Nowland

that’s alive and well in the music, the only thing that can transplant the world to a place of grace. Thus, ‘*Lineas*’ is the resolve after the storm, a time where we are free to walk on the shoreline and reflect on what the storm taught us, something we all need now.”

A video for the track, filmed by *Vice* and *Surfer Magazine* videographer Kyle Buthman, is a cinematic meditation on the refuge of the California coast featuring professional female surfers



Puerto members sport the ball-cap-no-shoes look that made nobody famous.

blend jazz, sixties rock, and vintage soul on their debut album *Portugal*, produced by Jordan Andreen (Lukas Nelson, Karl Denson, the Damned) and due August 6. Says Polletta, “With regards to the first single being an instrumental, as with most of our writing processes, we did not set out to write an instrumental track or a song that excluded words. I sing when I have words to say, but other times I try to let the music do the speaking.”

Not that he’s averse to speaking about the music. “*Lineas*’ is a creative meditation of musical exaltation that bends between Dave Brubeck’s ‘Take Five’ and the Doors’ ‘Riders on the Storm.’ The instrumental suite pays homage to the happiness that creativity grants an individual.... The song represents a paradise

Candra Jordan, Tessa Timmons, Bianca Dootson, and Leah Johsens longboarding Santa Cruz’s infamous Steamer Lane. “The video itself contains a combination some existing footage, plus some new surf sessions that took place over the last few months. Fortunately, most beaches are still open for recreating and physical activity, meaning surfing is permitted, which allowed Kyle Buthman and the gals to get some additional footage for the edit.”

The surf duo cites expected influences such as the Beach Boys and the Surfaris, as well as more left field figures such as Duane Eddy and Wes Montgomery (Polletta) and Art Blakey and Dr. Dog (Nowland). Although together only for a couple of years now, their music has already been featured in filmmaker Kyle Buthman’s surf video

“Scenic Route to Salinas,” and several singles have been uploaded to Spotify, including “Playday,” “Sick For You,” “Call the Doctor,” and “Agree to Disagree.”

They’ve opened for locals the Mattson 2 and Montalban Quintet, and Polletta says they’re looking forward to trying out the new tracks on audiences, especially the instrumentals. “When things were good pre-COVID, we played all types of gigs. Some were prolonged sets with more passive listening for audiences. When you’re playing multiple hours of original music, sometimes it’s nice to keep your mouth shut and just jam. But within those jams are songs worthy of active listening. Album worthy

tunes. I wouldn’t be surprised if our upcoming releases contain all instrumentals, or none, depending on how we’re feeling or what we’re trying to convey.”

“I think we’re less concerned about trying to make a hit, and more concerned about playing what feels right, word or no words. That being said, we know there

are some hits in there.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

## Kanye for president

On the 4th of July, Kanye West tweeted: “We must now realize the promise of America by trusting God, unifying our vision and building our future. I am running for president of the United States! #2020VISION.”

I took to my social media to see if the 43-year-old rapper turned entrepreneur would have San Diego voters lining up at the polls in support of “Ye”. For West to be on our California presidential ballot as an independent, he has until August 7 to retrieve 196,964 signatures, which is 1 percent of our registered voters — according to [Ballotpedia.org](http://Ballotpedia.org).

Unlike West’s massive airtime and internet streams,



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which copped him an unprecedented 21 Grammy awards — my reach out yielded the equivalent of radio silence. So I jumped online to peep the rapper’s political movements, and listened to his CDs, including: *Late Registration* (2005), *Graduation* (2007), *My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy* (2010), *Yeezus* (2013) — and his 2019 *Jesus Is King*: a Christian rap-infused, blue-colored CD packaged in a jewel case sans cover art, reminiscent of a test-press CD.

On July 5, SoCal rapper Ruslan KD tweeted a poll and captioned it “if the election was tonight, who would you vote for?”; of the 550 votes, with nine hours left, the “Famous” rapper was leading at 47.6 percent over Trump’s 12.7 percent, Biden’s 21.3 percent, with the remainder going to “others.”

On July 16, the Yeezy sneaker creator qualified to appear on the November 3 Oklahoma presidential ballot, which was the first state where he met the requirements prior to the deadline. Kanye registered himself as a “BDY” (Birthday Party) independent candidate; and he paid the \$35,000 filing fee, according to Misha Mohr, an Oklahoma Board of Elections spokeswoman.

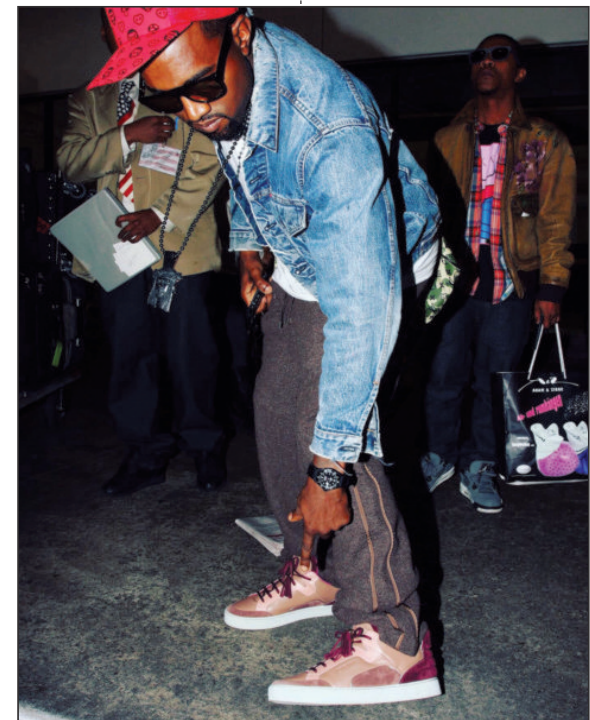
“Cha-ching,” chimed my iPhone. Danielle, a local hip-hop head and 26-year-old college student, hit me via direct message. “I think Kanye probably wanted to test the waters,” she typed. “Kanye has expressed that he is a newborn Christian and he sees Trump aligning himself with those values. I think he supports him because he agrees with what Trump stands for. Being the light of the world is what we’re called to do as

Christians, so Kanye is going to stand out in this dark world with the decisions he has to make regarding his faith, and his relationship with Jesus.”

On July 19, at West’s first presidential rally in Charleston, South Carolina, West spoke on abortion, gun control, addiction, and abolitionist Harriet Tubman. But whereas his 2005 album *Late Registration* garnered him a Grammy award for Best Rap Album, his late registration and inability to collect 10,000 signatures in the state by the July 20 deadline, disqualified the rapper’s

bottom up, allowing him to directly connect to the pulse of the streets and the upscale communities. His business prowess allowed him to profit a unique brand, Yeezy, a mega brand he developed with Adidas. I think Kanye serves two purposes: he understands what the government structurally depends on, and that’s money, and he connects with the voters through his branding and reach through his fashion products.”

“And since Trump has made the best economy in America’s history for its workers,” Danielle added, “the



Rapper, sneaker mogul, presidential candidate.

chance to run for POTUS in South Carolina.

“Cha-ching” chimed my phone again. Caesar Morales, a local photographer and hip-hop purveyor got at me. In 2018, Morales photographed Trump when he visited our downtown. “It’s simple, Kanye comes from the

hip-hop industry benefits due to the increased purchasing power of the American people.”

— Mike Madriaga

Find Blurt online at [SDReader.com/blurt](http://SDReader.com/blurt)

## CONTRIBUTORS

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ



You're above Black's Beach, so rugs are optional.

## UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 12

Outside, the grounds include a built in stainless steel barbecue station, fenced dog run, "massive entertaining deck," and a "resort style saltwater pool and spa."

Ownership in the Farms also comes with one of the most treasured prizes for San Diego surfers — a key to the gate blocking an access road to Black's Beach. Without it, beach access is limited to a pair of steep trails which are difficult to manage while carrying a surfboard. The precious few who possess

one of the coveted keys are able to reduce their hiking time to the waterfront considerably.

According to public records, the Black Gold residence is owned by El J Associates, a holding company helmed by Sherry Kaen. Kaen purchased the property for a reported \$1,875,000 in 1995. Her husband Edward, likely without coincidence, is the co-founder of Blackgold Funds, a real estate investment firm.

After two-and-a-half decades off market, the 1990-built manse was listed for sale in late June with an asking price of \$10,900,000 that remains unchanged to date. ■

## Street Style

Continued from page 13

about bullying every October, which is anti-bullying month." She recognizes that her audience is young and that they struggle with bullying on social media, so her underlying goal has always been to spread awareness and help those going through hard times.

Mendivil highlighted some of her favorite brand collaborations to date. "I recently styled a few looks for Rue21, and it was such an awesome feeling to hear that they liked what I created and wanted to partner up. Another one of my favorites is Revlon. Every time I receive a package from them to create a makeup look, it feels a little unreal. It really empowers me to keep working harder."

Of course, I had to ask her what a perfect day in San Diego would look like. "My ideal day in San Diego would be breakfast at either Café 21 or Great Maple. Then I'd head over to Fashion Valley and look around Bloomingdale's for an outfit. I'll take a quick coffee break and grab a "Best Drink Ever" from Better Buzz as I make my way to Zara. For some pampering, I'll make an appointment at Rinse Salon for a haircut and get my nails done at Tippy Toes in Hillcrest. (I can't wait for them to reopen!) To end the day, I'd probably grab dinner at Cucina Urbana, North Italia, or Buona Forchetta. I love Italian food. And for dessert, a scoop of honey lavender ice cream from Salt & Straw and a walk around Little Italy (and can't forget to take photos for social media along the way.)

You can keep up with Mendivil on Instagram, on TikTok @Camila. Mendivil, and on her blog, [Rendezvouswithyou.com](http://Rendezvouswithyou.com). ■

Matt Potter

## Under the radar

continued from page 3

rather be spending her time and the family money on her new robotics project."

Another San Diego consultant working for Trump is **Ashley Hayek**. The ace fundraiser was paid \$43,429 by San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer's city council reelection campaign in 2010 and got \$76,385 working for Republican councilwoman **Lorie Zapf** the same year, city records show. These days Hayek heads up Women for Trump.

— 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/](http://sandiegoreader.com/staff/matt-potter/contact/).

## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

**move behind the expansion of SDSU to Mission Valley to include lease of commercial and residential property. (Sycuan helped bankroll the November 2018 ballot measure by which voters greenlighted the city deal with San Diego State, contributing a total of \$125,000, records show.) The son of former SDSU president Thomas Day, he was also caught up in 2012's Ticket-Gate scandal. Then a member of the Del Mar Fair Board, he failed to report passing seven free Bruno Mars tickets to Glenn Quiroga, executive vice president of the Sycuan Tribal Development Corp.**

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## TOM BROSSÉAU

Due August 19, singer-songwriter Tom Brosseau's *The Prairie* will feature eight Brosseau originals and a cover of John Prine's "They Oughta Name A Drink After You." Guest players include Sheldon Gomberg, Robbie Robinson of Robinson Mastering, Mary Jones, and DLT. A single is streaming online for "My North Dakota Home," and a tour is in the works for September and October taking him through North Dakota, Washington, Oregon, and California. Brosseau has taken advantage of his quarantine time to release two albums already this year. *A Lifetime Ago* is a curated collection of the more obscure and unreleased songs spanning the years 2002 to 2019, with B-sides,

studio outtakes, and live performances. *Live in York* is an acoustic concert album recorded in 2019 and featuring ten original songs: seven from various past releases, and three new tracks that were debuted in concert ("Maybe Tomorrow Night," "Town & Country," "I Found a Horseshoe"). Episode four of his monthly variety radio program *The Great American Folk Show* airs August 2 on Prairie Public, featuring bluegrass star Peter Rowan. Los Angeles-based street singer Sunny War, Toad the Wet Sprocket founding member Glen Phillips, and a visit with Mary Beth Orn and her daughter, Medora Burning Hills singer Bethany Andrist.



## CULTS

"Trials' focuses on the power that addictions and harmful ideologies have to transform," says Cults of their new single. "The chorus walks a tightrope between a metaphor for gaslighting and a despairing worry about the person you still hold out hope for." Taken from the duo's upcoming *Hosts* album due in September, a video for "Trials" was shot by Jeff Strikers. "Cults asked me back in April if I had any ideas for a music video we could make while quarantined across the country," says Striker. "Via Zoom, we shot Madeline [Follin]'s performance against a green tablecloth from a party store. I started experimenting with

an old optical illusion called Pepper's Ghost, projecting Madeline's image onto a sheet of glass to create a ghostly, hologram effect. They use this technique on the Haunted Mansion at Disneyland. It was pretty magical, and the whole process was constant discovery and surprise. An ideal creative experience." The previous single from *Hosts*, "Spit You Out," celebrates ending toxic relationships. Co-produced by Cults and Shane Stoneback, mixed by John Congleton, and mastered by Heba Kadry, it's the band's first song entirely co-written, performed, sung, and co-produced by Madeline Follin.



## EDDIE VEDDER

Former San Diegan Eddie Vedder once made a guest performance covering the Ramones' "I Believe in Miracles" with the Supersuckers, when they played the final, sold out show on their North American tour on June 19, 2014. That performance was just released as a single, thanks to the audio track being recently discovered. The set was shot with multiple cameras, but the multitrack audio files were found only recently, buried within the hard drive. "Somehow, Eddie had found out about my cancer diagnosis and put the word out that he'd like to come to the show and maybe do something with the band," recalls Supersuckers

singer Eddie Spaghetti, who was about to undergo surgery at the time, "especially with the impending struggle I was about to undertake with the whole cancer fright. The song was extra poignant. After the show, Eddie talked to me for a long time and pointed me in a direction to get my shit cured. He was super helpful with getting me hooked up with a support team of doctors and hospitals that I would probably not have had access to without his assistance. He also wrote a big fat check to help get me through the hard times of not being able to work that was to come."



## MATTE BLACK

The new dark electro-pop rock band Matte Black features Daniel Corrales, whose previous duo PRGRM essentially ended with the death of co-founding singer Tza, aka Tonya Pugh, in summer 2017. The band also includes Alex Gonzales, fresh off working on Julien-K's Harmonic Disrupter album, and Bidi Cobra. All three had previously played together in the New Division. "We started working on a lot of new material that needed to fall under a new entity that now is called Matte Black," says Cobra of the tracks that began to come together while the duo was touring with

Julien-K's band. "Some of the songs were written for Harmonic Disrupter and didn't quite get picked up," says Gonzales, "but I still had a special place for them and decided to pursue them." The trio's debut album *I'm Waving, Not Drowning*, due later this year, includes a cover of Depeche Mode's "Stripped" and is so far preceded by a single for "Pure" that proudly displays its New Order influence, and is also reminiscent of pioneering local electronic duo Red Flag. Gonzales and Cobra recently performed a livestream set on Facebook from Gonzales' home studio.



## VOKAB KOMPANY

Based in Pacific Beach, Vokab Kompany is a hip-hop, soul, and electro act that performs with a live backing band, usually including around five to seven musicians. Founder and co-producer Rob Hurt (aka Robbie Gallo) spent his teen years near Lake Tahoe, where he first teamed up with former high school English teacher Matt "Burkey" Burke, singer/MC of Native Root. The frequent San Diego Music Award winners have spun off countless solo projects and collaborations, and members sometimes moonlight by recording commercial jingles such as one

of the "Movin' and Groovin'" TV and radio ads created and paid for by the Metro Transit System (MTS). A 2013 Kia Motors commercial featuring their song "Back to the Past," from a collaborative album with Crush Effect called *VKCE*, starred Blake Griffin as a time traveler who goes back to the past to visit his younger self. The first Vokab Kompany album since 2016, *Small Victories*, recently dropped, opening with a track called "Like That" which features Denver-based Jpod.

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

## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

### Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 5:30pm — Mike Pinto Acoustic Livestream.

Thursday, 7:30pm — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. **Free.**

Friday, 6pm — Balley TV: Jeff Ament, Jehnny Beth, Fern Ford.

Friday, 5pm — Diet Cig NoonChorus Livestream.

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 5pm — Newport Folk Festival.

Friday, 6pm — Old Globe: Word Up.

Friday, 1pm — The World's Greatest Soca Party. **Free.**

Saturday, 7:30pm — Belly Up Livestream: Common Sense. \$10.

Saturday, 2pm — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Saturday & Sunday, 2pm — Steinbeck Country United Global Festival.

### Open Air Theatre:

Sunday, 7:30pm — David Gray.

## MUSIC EVENTS

**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. Together they will create opportunities for viewers to learn from and participate in their art form, creating accessible art in real time. Performing art forms will include spoken word, rap, puppetry, singing, and more, often with bilingual and multi-cultural elements. Friday, July 31, 6pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### Belly Up Tavern:

Friday, Sep. 4 — Super Diamond.  
Sunday, Sep. 6 — Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers. \$20-\$35.

### Harrah's Resort Southern California:

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Shinedown.

### House of Blues:

Sunday, Sep. 6 — Juice.

### Kensington Club:

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

### Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Wednesday, Aug. 12 — The Mavericks.

### Music Box:

Friday, Aug. 21 — Paul Oakenfold. \$29-\$32.

Sunday, Aug. 30 — Caramelos de Cianuro. \$35-\$65.

# IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

## Equality based on inequality

A recent thought piece in the *New York Times* suggested that top tier orchestras could get rid of blind auditions in order to create more diversity in orchestras.

A blind audition means the musicians auditioning for an open spot in an orchestra perform behind a screen. The auditors do not even have the musician's name. This process ensures there is no discrimination based on race, gender, age, body type, weight, or visual playing style.

The musician is evaluated only on the quality of the music produced. A blind audition creates equality of opportunity. What the *New York Times* article is suggesting is called equality of outcome. With equality of outcome, the players that fulfill the desired outcome of the audition are given

an advantage.

According to the article, blind auditions were put into practice after a 1969 court case that was brought against The New York Philharmonic by two African-American musicians. Since then, the number of female orchestra players has risen dramatically. The number of African-American and Latino players has not.

Imagine, if you will, an orchestra holding an audition but only allowing African-American and Latino players to apply because the orchestra wants to add those demographics to the roster. That is what the *New York Times* is suggesting.

The article makes sure to emphasize that the percentage of African-American and Latino players is low. It makes no mention of the Asian players in orchestras.

Conductor Sir Simon Rattle claims that there are more people taking piano lessons in China than there are people living in Germany. Asian cultures are participating in classical music in astounding numbers and the number of Asian players in American orchestras reflects that. Other cultures are not participating at the same level.

This is not a racial issue, it is a cultural issue. The dominant culture in America right now is hip-hop. People of all races and ethnicities love hip-hop. However, the majority of hip-hop artists are African American, and African-American culture produces great hip-hop.

No one is suggesting that if there were more white hip-hop artists, more white people would like hip-hop.



"Intolerance" performed by the American Symphony Orchestra at Carnegie Hall

Plenty of white people love hip-hop, because the culture appeals to them, not because the performers are of a certain racial makeup.

The culture of classical music is not very appealing. There's not a lot of alcohol, no dancing, limited potential for sexual encounters, and everyone is sitting quietly. It's not a party, and people like to party. Getting rid of blind auditions will not change that.

For whatever reason, classical music journalists have the idea that if the demographics of orchestras reflect the demographics of the greater community it will improve community engagement.

I'm not sure what "community engagement" means. Hopefully, it is code for buying tickets and making donations, because that is what classical music organizations really need.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at [SDReader.com/classical](http://SDReader.com/classical)

### Old Town Blues Club:

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

### Online Internet Events:

Thursday, Aug. 6 — Steven Cade Livestream Concert.

Thursday, Aug. 6 — Catalinaville.

Thursday, Aug. 6 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. **Free.**

Friday, Aug. 7 — Between the Buried & Me Livestream Concert.

Friday, Aug. 7 — Old Globe: Word Up.

Friday, Aug. 7 — Mick Adams & the Stones.

Saturday, Aug. 8 — Between the Buried & Me Livestream Concert.

Saturday, Aug. 8 — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Sunday, Aug. 9 — Björk Live from Reykjavik.

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 Reykjavik.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Pepper & Friends: Night of Stripped Back Livestreams.

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 Reykjavik.

### Open Air Theatre:

Sunday, Aug. 30 — Kidz Bop.

### Palomar Starlight Theater:

Friday, Aug. 7 — DSB.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — The Family Stone.

Sunday, Aug. 16 — Dreaming of You: Selena Tribute.

Friday, Aug. 21 — Yachtley Crew.

Friday, Aug. 28 — Wayward Sons.

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What You Have

# Mooving picture

In ancient times, they might have called *First Cow*, an allegorical tale of two culturally discordant cowpokes who join forces to carve out a culinary slice of the American dream, “Figowitz and the Chinaman” and played it for laughs. Never one to shy away from solemnity, Kelly Reichardt is the last director you would expect to devote even a moment of screen time to playful self-reference, but, billed as the “Woman

With the Dog,” Alia Shawkat and her

hound uncover a pair of skeletal remains while on a morning hike. Even with the ending behind me, the underlying rationale behind opening a western set in the early 1800s as a modern-day continuation of *Wendy and Lucy* escaped me.

Hired as cook for a company of Oregon fur trappers, Otis “Cookie” Figowitz fizzles when it comes to keeping the angry huntsmen fed. Frying fish is easy; it’s catching one that presents a problem. His is a childly soul: in addition to aiding a baby lizard floundering as it tries to right itself, Cookie gives shelter to King-Lu (Orion Lee), a Chinese immigrant wanted for killing the man who murdered his best friend. Together with the help of a cow — the first one in the territory, imported from San Luis Obispo so that moneyed Brit Chief Factor (Toby Jones) might have milk with his morning tea — our duo of entrepreneurial neophytes are about to become the first Mrs. Fields outlet on the Oregon Trail.

The idea for baking was gently blended into the narrative. It’s the little girl with the milk pail who first catches Cookie’s eye. Tired of the flavorless “flour and water bread” that passed for scones, he steals onto Factor’s property to siphon a cup of dairy. And with King-Lu’s brains and Cookie’s gastronomic brawn, the two are certain to have a hit on their hands.

There are no doubt those who will find the film’s pacing relentlessly slow. Perhaps karate and/or a few dozen CG spaceships whizzing overhead might have brought the kick in the ass needed to mollify the easily amused. But in addition to directing and co-writing, Reichardt also edited the picture, leaving one to believe the cut is presented exactly as she wanted it. She did not, however, compose the music — still, William Tyler’s score accurately recreates the field recordings of the era — and blessings to those whose idea it was to quickly jettison that authentically annoying old west staple, the Jew’s harp.

A DVD screener of *Wendy and Lucy* was placed in my care almost two months before it played town, but only a

theatrical presentation would do. Several of the evening scenes were so darkly lit that all I could discern was occasional glimpses of the pup’s floating teeth. With the luxury of a theatrical visit no longer a viable option, be advised that unless your screening room is fitted with a 100-inch Jumbotron and blackout shades, there’s a good chance that a chunk of *First Cow* may be lost to the night. In addition, I highly suggest using the Closed Captioning feature on your remote, as some of the dialogue (and dialects)

have a tendency to garble.

Don’t look for Shawkat to appear in a wraparound sement to close the picture; formula is not a term in Reichardt’s lexicography. Without once calling him out by name, *Wendy and Lucy* captured the hopelessness and despair of George W. Bush’s America better than any film of that period. This is nowhere near as ambitious as that, but the director arrives at a major personal awakening: a lead character who has finally come to trust a two-legged friend. ★★☆☆

—Scott Marks

## Video on Demand New Release Roundup

**The Cuban** — Luis Garcia (Lou Gossett), a once influential and now unresponsive Cuban musician living out his days in a dementia-induced fog, is afforded one last whirl at life when his nursing home places him in the care of callow, well-intentioned pre-med student Mina (Ana Golja). She replenishes his dietary regimen with home-cooked Cuban meals and restores music to his life — the needle hits the wax and the rainbow of cognizance that momentarily surges through Luis’ every fiber is a special effect that defies CGI. Luis is far from the stock curmudgeon often tied to the genre: he was a mean drunk, and a negligent father who abandoned his family when his son was eight. But the supporting cast houses a veritable who’s who of stock characters: the former love whom Luis now mistakes for his caretaker, Mina’s Muslim mother (Shohreh Aghdashloo) who refuses to let her daughter date outside the faith, a Nurse Ratchet-lite supervisor (Lauren Holly) who looks down on her new hire’s methodology, etc. Still, Gossett is nothing short of electrifying, and Golja is so convincingly naive that they alone kept it afloat for as long as possible before sentimentality and the candy colored flashbacks that line the film logjammed at the intersection of Artifice and Sap. 2019 —S.M. ★★

**Day 13** — A pinch of *The Burbs* and a smidgen of *Rosemary’s Baby* combined with a generous helping of *Rear Win-*



**First Cow:** The lengths some people will go to have milk with their morning tea.

dow — the bad guy is named “Thorvald” — aren’t enough to reap much in the way of thrills amid director Jax Medel’s pedestrian plotting. Actions are justified simply on the basis of past forms and gut instinct. Colton (Alex MacNicoll) arrives home one night, and for no reason other than the fact that many horror-thrillers begin this way, he begins stalking the halls of his mother’s home, fireplace poker in hand. (Her new lover notwithstanding, wouldn’t Colton recognize the sound of his mother’s voice?) With mom off on a much-needed vacation, Colton has ample time to explore the neighborhood. It’s been two decades since the house across the way was occupied; surely Colton can’t be the only one on the block to notice the figures of the 70-year-old single dad (Martin Kove) and his recently adopted teenage daughter (Genevieve Hannelius) passing before the flickering lights? And what with the front porch rigged with more surveillance equipment than the Pentagon, wouldn’t the neighbors complain about the bright lights Colton uses to film at night? Alas, just when it starts to get good, the picture ends. It was dopey fun while it lasted, 2020. —S.M. ★

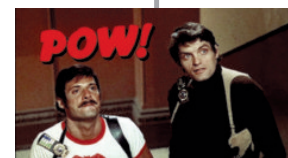
**End of the Century** — Lucio Castro makes a favorable first impression weaving a dream tapestry that, while not always 100% lucid in terms of narrative, nevertheless leaves a hypnotic, stylish imprint on the viewer throughout. Ocho (Juan Barberini) is a poet who makes a living writing ad copy for an airline. For 13 dialogue-free minutes we follow him through the day-to-day course of his vacation — eating, looking for love from his balcony, drinking, spontaneously masturbating — at the German Airbnb he temporarily calls home. Sum-

moning the nerve to invite passerby Javi (Ramon Pujol) to come up and see him, the two realize that they hooked up 20 years in the past. Castro then proceeds to take us in and out of time frames, with both actors assuming their characters throughout. Don’t try to make sense of it all; that

task is reserved for Castro’s psychiatrist. And in light of all the silent desperation on display, the inclusion of two softcore sex scenes felt redundant. If more of the same is not your bag, here’s a puzzling experiment worthy of your support. 2020 —S.M. ★★

## MOVIES@HOME

**THE SUPER COPS (1974)**  
Released three months after *Serpico*, Gordon Parks’ film followed a pair of successful *Shaft* scores with this real-life



The *Super Cops*: Ron Lieberman and David Selby star as New York’s Finest real-life *Batman* and *Robin* replicas.

account of two system-bucking traffic-cops-turned-considerable-crimebusters. The old guard doesn’t cotton to being upstaged by a pair of rookies, but when news of their exploits begins garnering attention, the jealousy-fueled sneers accrued in the station house topple under the weight of public adulation. (Also toppling: an abandoned building that falls victim to the wrecking ball in mid-chase during the film’s most spectacularly-staged action

sequence.) Established practice dictates that in biopics, footage or photos of actual subjects be withheld until the closing credits. But back in the day, the outrageous heroics of David Greenberg (Ron Leibman) and Robert Hantz (David Selby) — the public took to calling them *Batman* and *Robin* — might have been

a bit much for audiences to swallow, which may explain Parks’ decision to open the picture with grainy file footage of Bed-Stuy’s dynamic duo.

Ironically, the screenplay is by Lorenzo Semple Jr., one of the guiding forces behind TV’s *Batman*. And while Greenberg sports a ringer-tee with the iconic Bat symbol, a closing-credits “Thanks to” Bob Kane or DC Comics never materializes. Nor does Selby’s character. But Lieberman’s performance is so passionate that his determined right eyelid alone deserved a supporting actor award.

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## PERSONALS

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**KATHERINE Z** Dearest Katherine.. once again the reunions of fate have scuttled our reunion. We must not let them prevail! Until we meet again. Frank fredzhandy@yahoo.com

**DO YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY SUCK?** I'm sorry. Remember that family is not always blood, but those that will bleed for you. Hang in there! If there's no one else, you have yourself. People who love you don't hurt you. pandemicfriendships@gmail.com

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**FOR Z** This message contains 35 cc's of Ocean Beach love for Z. May contain trace amounts of Covid.

**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.

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

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**ACNE STUDY, AGES 18-35** Study involves home use device, study by dermatology division Scripps Clinic, stipend available, call (858) 764-9042 / ross.edward@scrippshealth.org 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 / ashkllivesteam744@gmail.com

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**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

**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 major 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

**LADAMEN 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) 207-9670

**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

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

## BICYCLES

**NICE CRUISER TYPE BIKE** Candy apple red. Good shape. \$50 (619) 438-4567.

**MONGOOSE BICYCLE** Mongoose hotshot bicycle new, 7 gear \$85.ONO, (619) 230-5496 / donegal1990@yahoo.com

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

## MOTORCYCLES

**HONDA VTX1300** 2006 vex 1300-new tires, carb.rebuild, saddlebags, windshield, mustang seat, garaged.37k.gently ridden. \$3750 obo anebur@yahoo.com

**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 harr no evil. Custom paint by Danny Martines. Performance parts (619) 762-4665

## RENTALS

# DOWNTOWN \$550-880



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



## YAMAHA R1 2008 - \$6500

The bike has 10,000 miles. It's in perfect condition. All its maintenance has been done at the dealers Southbay and now Del Amo Motorsports. Text me for more details. (619) 395-4790

## AUTOMOTIVE

**FOUR TIRES** Used only 1200 miles, p 215/60-15, paid \$450, asking \$250. (858) 795-7777

**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

**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@pacbell.net

**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

**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

**FOUR NEW TIRES** BFGoodrich AT, 255/70/16, new, never used. (619) 576-8196

**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

**2001 MERCEDES BENZ C320** low miles, fully loaded, leather seats, non smoker, well maintained, one owner. \$4,495 call (619) 948-1429.

**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

## HELP WANTED

**ACCOUNTANT:** Analyze, calculate and prepare financial documents. SAN DIEGO, CA Mail Resume: H Cabinet Inc., 7979 Stromesa Ct, San Diego, CA 92126

**MARKETING MANAGER:** Develop marketing plans with specific objectives. CHULA VISTA, CA Mail resume: Transpore, LLC, 1213 Trend Dr, Carrollton, TX 75006

**MECHANICAL ENGINEER** (R&D): f/t; factory automation & equip design; Resume: Advanced Mechatronics Solutions Inc. 10030 Via De La Amistad, San Diego, CA 92154

**SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER** Amazon.com Services LLC - San Diego, CA. Software Development Engineer - Assist senior engineers in the design & development of large-scale, multi-tiered, embedded or distributed software applications, tools, systems, & services. Multiple job openings. Send resume, referencing AMZ4235 to: Amazon.com, P.O. Box 81226, Seattle, WA 98108. EOE.

**SR. PROJECT MANAGER** (Req# IIC1312) Resp for obtaining, clarifying & aligning reqs & dvp biomedical project plans. MS+2yrs rtd exp or BS followed by 5yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

**WANTED IHSS PROVIDER(S)** for male 71. 4 hrs/wk. You make schedule. Ambulation, cleaning, shopping. Spring Valley. Call Bill at (619) 439-4651.

**SALESFORCE DEVELOPER** RevCult, LLC has multiple openings for Salesforce Developer in San Diego, CA to design, develop, test, modify & deploy computer applications. Req: Masters of Science +2years exp. Mail resume: HR, 12555 High Bluff Dr, Ste 255, San Diego, CA 92130. EOE

**DIRECTOR OF NUTRITIONAL SERVICES** Manage zoo global nutritional services department. Ph.D. in animal nutrition, wildlife science (nutrition), human nutrition, or closely related field (or foreign equivalent) or DVM (or foreign equivalent). Must have 4 years' experience in job. (619) 405-2862 / lcruz@sandiegozoo.org

**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 agarciar14@sbcglobal.net or leave message at (619) 596-9343.

**CAREGIVER/HOUSE WORKER** One only, Santee, pay open, car and phone, male 62 roommate, owner 38 female. (619) 771-2554 after 12 noon.

**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

**ASAP NEEDED IHSS PROVIDER** in Mission Valley. Monday-Friday 10am-1pm. Cooking, cleaning, shopping. Leave voice message, please at (619) 488-0822.

**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

**RESPONSIBLE MAN 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 please, may be at work. (619) 966-5165. By appointment.

Khevin (619) 966-5165 / fianagan619@gmail.com

**CAREGIVING** for the elderly, terminal, and disabled. Children, pets, and house sitting. Gardening and cleaning, contact Michell (619) 957-3764.

**DO YOU NEED A CAREGIVER?** In home companion-aid: f or details call Lisa at (619) 246-8219 or (619) 465-7651.

**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

**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

**DONATE OLD CLOTHES 4 CHARITY** Donate old jeans, sweatshirts, and t-shirts for charity. We pick up or you drop off, we wash and donate for you. Text your address: (858) 663-8563 / cynthiaedtech@gmail.com

**LOOKING FOR GRANDPA'S OLD TUBE STEREO** I am an electronics hobbyist, and I am looking for 1960's vintage, tube-type stereo components to refurbish, such as Fisher, Scott, Dynaco, Marantz and more. I pay cash so, Please, call Jack @ (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

**CASH FOR DIABETIC STRIPS** We buy diabetic test strips. Sealed/Unexpired boxes only. Get paid today. Local cash pick-up. Call for details. (619) 535-1848

**CASH FOR GOLD** We will buy your old gold jewelry, broken jewelry, gold coins, silver. Meet in a safe location (619) 915-8552

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

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

**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

**3-WHEEL VOLKSWAGEN TRIKE** in excellent condition, all legal, ready to ride, very clean, send a picture. (760) 420-3641

**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.

**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.

**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 violin. Please text (619) 932-2253

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

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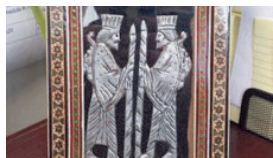
**WILL PAY CASH...** For records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional singing lessons available. Musicians wanted. Call Jeff Clark, (858) 382-7396.

## GARAGE SALES

**150 PAINTINGS AND ANTIQUES** 150 paintings and antiques for sale. I'm down sizing and this is a moving sale. I have about 50 paintings at 10 dollars a piece; some are listed artist and some I can't read the signature. (619) 892-7224



**ANTIQUE APPLIANCES** Appliances from the old family ranch, dating back to the 1930s or earlier. (619) 339-4279



**ANTIQUES SALE** We are selling family antiques that we collected for over 75 years. All items are located in one place, an Escondido office. (619) 888-0877

**ODDS AND ENDS IN HILLCREST** Thomas vintage reproduction radio, vintage Crumpler shoulder bag in

fantastic condition, Head racket ball racket, and more. (619) 822-6419

## FOR SALE

**ATTENTION TECHIES** Have unique Curtis Mathis tv walnut cabinet still has turntable and am/fm, could run computer sound through speakers. Please text (619) 631-9258.

**BANQUET ROOM FURNITURE** for sale: 3 long banquet folding tables, 16 '4-top' size tables and 52 banquet room wood chairs for \$20 each. See Tony (619) 200-3421

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

**DOLLS AND PURSES** I have about 10 old dolls, 3 of them are patented. Also expensive purses. (619) 362-1599

**HOUSEHOLD ITEMS FOR SALE** Glass lock front gun case, portable air purifier, 3 ft speakers, oak round dinner table, vacuums, snow chains. (619) 938-0511

**MISC FOR SALE** Bed, bath, inflatable shampoo basin, \$25. Left and regular adjustable canes, \$5 each. Med-aire 8 inch alternating pressure mattress by Drive, \$65. (619) 218-4031

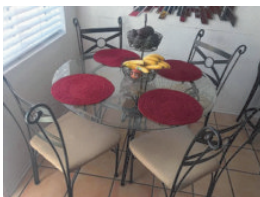
**MISC FOR SALE** One round-trip Southwest Airlines ticket in the United States, \$325. Two small 2-3ft stools, \$5 each. Sewing machine cart, \$10. (619) 283-8417

**MUSETTE PLAYER PIANO** Early 70s musette player piano, comes with roll, works but may need some work. Contact (619) 987-5682



**SOLI SHOTS** Soli-Shots Variety Pack. 9 Packs for \$ 69. <https://www.Soli.com/?rfsn=4357123.50c6fb1> (619) 751-8782 / schiefertammy@ymail.com

**CHULA VISTA MENUDO** Enjoy our delicious menudo with the best taste of Mexico at your table. Order white or red, put lemoncito, onion and dip some warm soft tortillas inside of it. (619) 422-2287



**GLASS TABLE WITH CHAIRS \$100** Glass table with chairs \$100. (619) 410-2928.

**TWO ORIENTAL LAMPS** from the 50's. \$50 for both, good condition. (619) 457-2316, text for pictures.



**NINTENDO SWITCH** Nintendo switch, \$460 or best offer. If you are interested, please call me. (619) 654-0096



**PAC MAN ARCADE** Arcade1Up mini Pac-Man arcade cabinet with riser, stool, and light up marquee, \$300. (619) 492-5329 / Karen@facauctions.com



**CLASSIC MID-CENTURY CHAIR** W25" H30" D23", \$50, (619) 365-9568



**COFFEE TABLE (SHABBY CHIC)** wood and glass coffee table with iron inlay under glass. \$100 OBO, cash only. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@Gmail.com

**MISC FOR SALE** Small dog doghouse \$40, black 6 drawer dresser with glass top \$50, 2 silver lamps black shades \$40. (858) 401-0336

**ROOF RACK** new in box, never used. Carries all kinds of things, will work on all cars, \$34.95. carryme123.com

## SHABBY SHEEK TV CART

White clad TV cart shabby sheek white and gray \$100 OBO, cash only. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@Gmail.com

**TABLES AND CHAIRS** 52 banquet room wooden chairs at \$20 apiece. 3 folding long tables, 16 4-top size tables please make an offer. (858) 232-1326

**CASSETTE TAPES** Ten cents each. Can be used to record over. Call Pau, I (619) 222-0278.

**FABRIC FACEMASKS \$5** Headbands and accessories with lots of fun patterns and colors. Ask about free size adjuster beads with purchase. (619) 850-3264 / kellylidner@gmail.com

**FIZIK ARIONE R1** Carbon braided rail road saddle 145g asking \$200 call (619) 518-1269, Mira Mesa.

**GREEN STEEL BAR HAMMOCK** 200 inches wide, with striped cloth, new \$400, sell for \$100. Del Cerro (619) 269-5331.

**HASS AVOCADOS** Home grown on my property in Escondido, grown without sprays or pesticides, medium & small mix of fruit, 20 lbs for only \$20, call (760) 746-7209

**MARATHON JACKET** New XL SD RnR Marathon jacket for sale, leather sleeves, \$70. Call (760) 274-5264.

**MISC \$10 EACH** 26 inch flatscreen tv, 100 watt sub woofer, blue ray DVD players, all work, no remotes. (619) 448-1910

**MOTORIZED BIKE** \$400 Call for details. (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

**NEW ROBOT COUPE** R2NCLR asking \$700 call (619) 518-1269.

**PRINTER HEWLETT-PACKARD** desk jet 1000, still in box, used twice only, like new. Ideal for

senior or student \$25. Telephone 1-(858) 484-4483

**RED ROOF TILE** adobe, \$3 a piece. Have a lot, about 100+. (619) 952-0426

**SHELF STABLE CHEESE** Natures SunGrown Foods provides a complete range of Dairy, Grocery, Meat, and Poultry, Frozen and Dry Products in China, Japan, and Taiwan Tokyo. Visit: <https://www.naturesungrown.com/sonoma-jacks.html> (415) 491-4944 / naturesungrown1@gmail.com

**SMALL LAMP** brown base with a black shade \$10 a famous picture young girl with her hands behind her back and barefoot: \$20-25 : Nancy (858) 505-0685.

**TOYOTA FLOOR MATS** Complete set of genuine Warner T10 G.M. serial # T10-1C-3782212, low mileage, have extras with it, call for more info. (619) 203-9903.

**TRANSMISSION 4 SPEED Borg** Warner T10 G.M. serial # T10-1C-3782212, low mileage, have extras with it, call for more info. \$900 obo (619) 542-0472.

**TV SMART BOX** Every channel on the planet No cable bills. Call (619) 850-3264. \$300 Guaranteed or money back. (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

**VALENCIA JUICE ORANGES** Fresh, juicy, sweet, very thin skinned, grown on my trees at my home in Escondido, no sprays or pesticides. I am the only person that touches, picks & bags the oranges, 25 lb bag for \$17, possible delivery (760) 746-7209

**WYDER'S DRY PEAR CIDER** aged 25+ years. 11.5 oz, 4% abv, Canadian vintage. Collectors item, mint label. \$100 obo. Text/call: (612) 250-0222

**HP DESK JET 5570** New HP Desk Jet 5570 for sale.... Call...

## AUTOMOTIVE

# SMOG CHECK \$19<sup>95</sup>

Year 2000 and newer. Plus \$8.25 certificate. By appt only.  
Vans and trucks extra. Free retest when we do the repair.

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up to 4 quarts & oil filter  
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- New spark plugs
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- 4-cyl. Most cars

**\$54<sup>95</sup>**

+ \$5 hazardous materials fee  
Prices may vary depending on make & model.

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4 wheel, toe adjustment only, most cars.

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We can diagnose and repair any electrical issue.

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do not text. Model SDGOB-1581. (858) 842-4249 / ednadrews@yahoo.com

**LAMP HOBBY** Lamps traded, sold, repaired and restoration. Aladdin, Rayo oil or kerosene are great for when the lights go out. Located in North County but often near downtown San Diego (760) 212-5654 / davidasbury@cox.net

**MOBILITY SCOOTER**  
Condition: used. Seller notes: "used normal wear new batteries installed well kept condition" w/cover. Model:GB146. Weight Capacity: 300lbs. Brand:Golden Technologies. MPN:GB146. Suitable for: indoor/smooth surfaces. \$350 OBO. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

**BOOKS AND VHS TAPES**  
Dozens of books & VHS tapes; e-mail me @ donnamackersie@att.net & I'll send you lists, which include books about: erotic, health, hypothyroid, old classics, children's, & VHS comedies, music, & movies. \$4 each; accepting best bid for classic books. donnamackersie@att.net

**52CM SPECIALIZED TARMAC**  
SL3, Ultegra group set, Mavic SSC wheels set \$1,600 Mira Mesa (619) 518-1269

**100 PERCENT CORN TAMALES**  
Are you ready for corn tamales — 100% pure corn. Order now. (619) 638-6237

**\$20 LUNCH/DINNER SPECIAL**  
Great value two large pizzas and 1 order each of wings, fries and churros. Order for pickup today. (619) 523-4324

**BEST BIRRIA TACOS** Come and enjoy our delicious birria tacos with the best taste of Mexico to your table. Well served with lemons, onion, cilantro and sauce. (619) 422-2287

**KENMORE REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER** 21 Cu. Ft. Ice maker, inside water dispenser. Color: bisque, very clean, \$250. (760) 603-8634.

**LEATHER COUCH, HIGH QUALITY** Excellent condition beige color. \$200 OBO. Pickup in Clairemont. Size: 80x36x36 inches (6.6x3x3 feet). Cash only. (858) 247-9445.

**LECHON** Text (619) 931-0170 to order your lechon. Pick up & delivery available.

**QUEEN-SIZED BED** futon/couch combo. Like new, tan color \$175 OBO (858) 232-1326 Tim.

**CASSETTE TAPES** Ten cents each. Can be used for recording. Call Paul (619) 222-0278.

**FIBERGLASS CAMPING SHELL** or canopy. White. For small short bed truck. \$50. Text me. (619) 438-4567

**PAINTING FOR SALE** I have a famous painting it came from the SD Art Museum. Young girl with her hands behind her back

and barefoot, \$20-\$25. Nancy (858) 505-0685

**SADDLES, DRESSAGE** classy European. For slender rider. \$350. (619) 244-2458

**KENMORE REFRIGERATOR** Beige color. Good condition. \$150. (858) 538-6499

## SERVICES

# SHE CAN CODE

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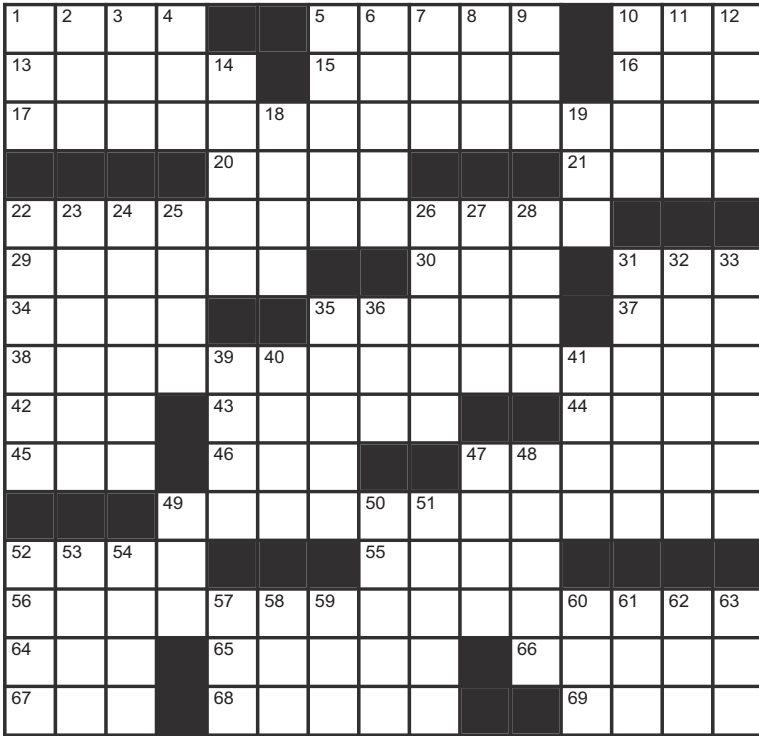
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# CROSSWORD



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## Across

1. Scratchy voice
5. Archipelago part
10. Cookie container
13. Pays (up)
15. Agitates
16. Palindromic brand in the kitchen
17. Comment from someone with their mouth covered?
20. Skye of "Say Anything ..."
21. "Bill & \_\_\_\_\_ Excellent Adventure"
22. Looking good when covering one's face?
29. Goes on a second date with
30. "Mad Men" channel
31. "Wheels"
34. "I could \_\_\_\_\_ horse!"
35. So far
37. Mine cart contents
38. Offerings provided by those favoring facial coverings?
42. \_\_\_\_\_ talk
43. More introverted
44. Fork prong
45. NFL rushing units
46. The Blue Jays, on scoreboards
47. Dance done to the 2015 hit "Watch Me"
49. The perfect facial covering for your feline?
52. Club \_\_\_\_\_

55. His Twitter handle is @ Pontifex
56. Hit reality competition series in which you can't see the person performing ... and this puzzle's theme
64. De-squeak
65. Alpha's opposite
66. Easily fooled
67. Washington, D.C. legalized it in 2014
68. First or economy
69. Secluded valley

## Down

1. One making a ewe turn?
2. "Pick a card, \_\_\_\_\_ card"
3. Mo. town
4. Louvre pyramid designer I.M. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Neighbor of a Pakistani
6. Philosopher Kierkegaard
7. Falsehood
8. Tree in many street names
9. Wanders around JFK?
10. Laughing matter
11. Fired
12. Towel holders
14. Vengeful feeling
18. Beans high in protein
19. Investor's purchase: Abbr.
22. Like J.Crew clothing
23. Brought up
24. Prevents, by law
25. Jazz or Blues

26. Oscar \_\_\_\_\_ hot dogs
27. USA part: Abbr.
28. 1970s-'80s sketch show on which John Candy and Eugene Levy got their starts
31. Cancún kitchen
32. Skybox locales
33. Pursue again, as an elected position
35. Director Kurosawa
36. Opposite of NNNW
39. Subj. for Galileo
40. One going on foot?
41. Unit in a shopping cart
47. Snoozes
48. Got room service, say
49. Hoover \_\_\_\_\_
50. Some digital videos, briefly
51. Musical endings
52. "Enough!"
53. Answer to the old riddle "What's round on the ends and high in the middle?"
54. Neighbor of a pec
57. Bronx-born congresswoman, familiarly
58. T-shirt choices, briefly
59. Mauna \_\_\_\_\_ (Hawaii's tallest mountain)
60. Unlikely race favorite
61. Dodgers legend Hodges
62. Expectant time
63. Kylo \_\_\_\_\_, "Star Wars" antagonist

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

## RULES OF THE GAME

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

# Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

## THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

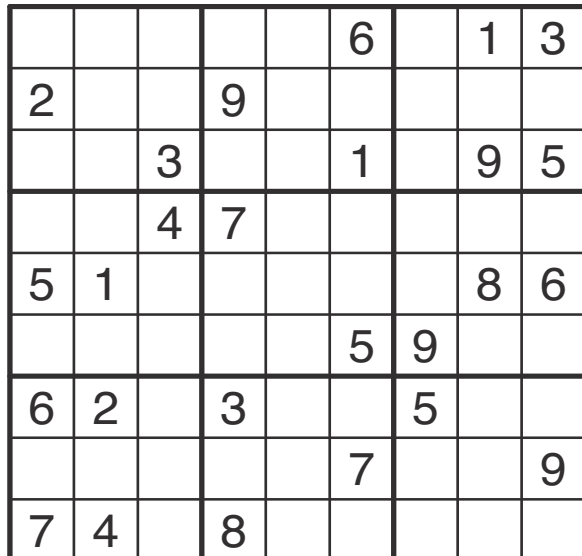
Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

👉 Jerry Tubbs, Carlsbad, 6.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

# SUDOKU

## EVIL:



## RULES OF THE GAME

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

## THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

👉 Kun Yang, San Diego, 11.

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 Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

# Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

## SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

## EVIL:

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

that “the new plan would lead to worsening park shortages,” even as the Complete Communities Plan adds 325,000 new people to the city. The Complete Communities plan—including

“the devil is in the details. The city could make this work really well or the city could cheat us out of the parks we need by park-packing and amenitizing things up.”

the parks point system — is being pushed hard just now. Launched just before the pandemic, the plan sailed through early review by city council members on Tuesday and is headed to the full city council this month.

The rush is raising objections. “We need more time to look at this,” says Jim Baross, former chair and current member of the Normal Heights Community Planning Group and a retired Parks and Recreation Department analyst. “This is a citywide plan, but each neighborhood is very different. The design for the parks, how they’re used, and the point system for each park needs to reflect the different area where parks are needed. Scripps Ranch has very different needs than Normal Heights, for example. Who assigns the point values is a really important question,” Baross added. “Our (neighborhood) recreation councils have been devastated in the past year and haven’t had a chance to look at this. Having a dedicated community group to inform those choices gets to a better result for the community.”

Every neighborhood that has looked at the parks plan has come away with serious concerns about the point system. In Kensington-Talmadge, community volunteers came up with a novel way to express them: the severely park-deprived neighborhood’s community group evaluated existing parks by the point system and created fictional parks on city land to demonstrate how the point system could lead to good scores for terrible parks. Under the new point system, the current parks bring the neighborhood to 17 percent of where it should be, with the goal of 180 points calculated at 12 points per 1000 residents. Add some amenities to the existing parks, and the neighborhood gets to 25 percent. Planning group members concocted four new park locations on city land, including small plots at Fairmont and Meade, Fairmont and El Cajon Boulevard, and even a dead end street called Miracle Drive. If cleared, of cyclone fence, weeds, barricades, and red diamond signs — the dead end would overlook a canyon. Add a viewpoint sign and a bench to the paved area, and it becomes worth at least three points toward Kensington-Talmadge’s 180 required points, according to the point system. And the less-than-half-acre patch of

city land on the northeast corner of Fairmont and El Cajon Boulevard would immediately get eight points, because it’s near a major bus route. Add a sign for way-finding, tables and chairs, a place-making feature like banner art, a comfort station and arrange them in a way that an event could be held, and you’ve picked up as many as 23 points.

Kensington Talmadge group chairman David Moty stressed that the ‘new’ parks are hypothetical, but notes that “the devil is in the details. The city could make this work really well or the city could cheat us out of the parks we need by park-packing and amenitizing things up.”

MARTY GRAHAM

## LA JOLLA

### Signs, smells, and selfish selfies

#### Pups, poop, people, and pix don’t mix

It’s sea lion pupping season at La Jolla Cove, and social distancing isn’t working too well — at least not between humans and pinnipeds. Ellen Shively, Seal Society of San Diego volunteer, spent July 19 carrying a sign to help remind people to keep their distance. She also helped rescue a yearling that had seven fish hooks in its mouth. And she saw a crowd force three



“There were people all over the sand literally chasing the mother sea lions and their pups.”

pups off a cliff. The pups couldn’t swim out of the crack, so the moms kept pushing them up on the rocks, she says. One mother seal sprang into action. “I actually saw her dive from the top after her pup fell.” For over two hours, people who drove the pups off the edge watched, laughed, and took pictures, she says.



Weird: someone brought a child to the children’s pool.

“There were people all over the sand literally chasing the mother sea lions and their pups, throwing sand in the pups’ faces and on and on. It was hard to watch.”

So what’s the right distance from which to view a baby pinniped? Or a 1000-pound bull? The answers aren’t clear from the signs posted at most entrances to the cove, which only warn against touching animals and advise staying

back. The Sierra Club Seal Society wants the city of San Diego to step back in. In 2017, San Diego’s Parks and Recreation Department commissioned the Marine Coastal Management Plan-La Jolla to address the growing number of human/pinniped encounters, and signs were one recommendation. The 91-page report also tackled the odor issues that prompted an unsuccessful lawsuit by business owners against the city. In the end, the pinnipeds prevailed. Sort of.

The signs are often ignored, even with splashy wording like “No Selfies with Seals!” People still touch and pet the animals, and still block their path to the ocean or beaches, advocates told the San Diego Environmental Committee last week. The situation is, they say, “woefully under-managed.” Shively blamed the use of small print, placed far above eye level, and wordy messaging. Some signs are faded, and none of them specify when pupping season arrives. Advocates worry that when people go down the stairs for a closer view, they may startle the animals, possibly causing the separation of mothers and newborns or raising the

risk of a pup drowning. The situation is “dire and dangerous” for both people and animals, they warn, recommending a specific distance be added to the signs, and also that a ranger and docent be there daily. Currently, there is only one ranger to monitor La Jolla Cove, La Jolla Point, and Boomer Beach.

Although sea mammals are federally protected from harassment by the Marine Mam-

mal Act — which is enforced by the National Marine Fisheries Service — as well as municipal codes, tickets are rare. Robyn Davidoff, Sierra Club Seal Society docent, suggested that NOAA, the Coastal Commission, and the city of San Diego come up

with a reasonable protective distance guideline, though exactly how far that is remains unsettled. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration — NOAA Fisheries — recommends a viewing distance of at least 150 feet. Shively says the best viewing spot for sea lions is the sidewalk in front of the Woman’s Bridge Club at La Jolla Point (over 400 feet). The Sierra Club Seal Society draws the line at a minimum of 20 feet.

SHEILA PELL



Pups not old enough to swim driven from rocks.

## Preordained

— Justin Couch, 25, of Spring Hill, Florida, who sports a tattoo of a machete under his left eye, was arrested June 13, according to the Hernando (Florida) County Sheriff's Office, for allegedly attacking a man with a machete. The unnamed adult male victim told officers Couch forced him out of the home where he'd been living and began arguing with him "for no reason," reported Fox13 News. As the man attempted to gather his belongings from the home, deputies said, Couch allegedly hit the victim with the flat side of the machete's blade, "then swung the machete at the victim's face," striking his arm with the blade as the man tried to ward off the blow. "The victim is currently unable to use or move his left hand due to the severity of the injury he sustained," investigators said. Couch was arrested for aggravated battery.

## Sign of the Times

— A perfect storm may be brewing to strike down the long-maligned one-cent coin, the penny. Earlier this year, the U.S. Mint cut back on coin production to keep its workers safe amid the COVID-19 pandemic, reported NPR's *Planet Money*. At the same time, people stopped spending, especially with cash, and word of a coin shortage spread, prompting some stores, such as Kroger, to start rounding their prices to avoid making coin change. Last year, the mint made more than 7 billion pennies, almost 60% of its total coin production, and each one-cent coin cost TWO cents to

produce, putting the loss at more than \$72 million. Still, the mint has no plans to eliminate the coin. It's been up and running at full capacity since mid-June, and according to spokesman Michael White, about 40% of the coins it has produced since then have been pennies.

## Animal Lovers in Maine

— Officers from the Somerset County (Maine) Sheriff's Department and the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency searched the apartment of Jessica Hutchins, 36, looking for drugs on July 13, which they found, according to Sheriff Dale Lancaster. "We also got an alligator out of her home," he told the *Morning Sentinel*. The 2-foot-long gator was being kept in Rubbermaid tubs, but, Lancaster said, having an alligator in Maine is illegal without proper permits. Officers seized a total of \$12,000 worth of drugs along with the alligator, and Hutchins and several accomplices were charged with a number of drug-related crimes. The gator was removed by the Maine Warden Service.

## Angry Animals

— Neighbors on Occidental Street in a North Oakland, California, are at odds over the presence of Bruce, aka Paco, aka Peter, aka Pierre, aka Abraham ... a peacock. While some residents are happy to welcome him, *SFGate.com* reported on July 15, others want him to move on and have lodged a complaint with the city. "For the past 15 weeks or so he has screamed relentlessly, every day," Jesse T. wrote on the Nextdoor app. "It liter-

ally feels like he is inside my house." The peacock is believed by Animal Control to be feral. But Dennis Fett of the Peacock Information Center in Minden, Iowa, thinks Bruce/Paco/Peter is providing a service. "They're like a watchdog," Fett said. "They have keen hearing." (The neighbors) should count their blessings."

## Bright Ideas

— Yoshito Harada, 32, readily admitted to police in Higashiura, Japan, that he slashes women's car tires so he can then step up to "help" them fix their flats. On June 11, *Oddity Central* reported, a 43-year-old unnamed woman leaving a grocery store noticed that her tire was flat. As she pulled over, a man stopped his car and offered to help, but the woman had had a similar experience a year before and recognized the good Samaritan, so she contacted police. Officers viewed surveillance video from the market and saw Harada slashing the woman's tire just before she emerged from the store. Further investigation revealed Harada has a history of approaching women this way going back to 2013, and authorities believe he has pulled the stunt more than 1,000 times.

## News That Sounds Like a Joke

— After falling asleep following a 10-bottle beer-drinking binge, and failing to heed nature's call for 18 hours, a 40-year-old Chinese man identified as Mr. Hu was diagnosed with a burst bladder, the *New York Post* reported on June 23. The man appeared at Zhuji Peo-

ple's Hospital in Zhejiang, China, complaining of searing abdominal pain, and doctors discovered three tears in his bladder, one of which had caused his intestines to spill into the bladder. Mr. Hu underwent emergency surgery and was able to recover. Zhuji officials said while bladder rupture is rare, they see at least one such patient every year.

## The Litigious Society

— *The Tampa Bay Times* reports that Kris Hedstrom of Odessa, Florida, filed suit against her neighbor, Heather Dayner, in late May, demanding a paternity test for the five goats she purchased from Dayner or a full refund. Hedstrom bought the five Nigerian Dwarf goats - Bella, Gigi, Rosie, Zelda and Margoat - in December, paying \$900, and expected to register them with the American Dairy Goat Association, according to the lawsuit. Registered goats have higher value than nonregistered goats. But the ADGA denied Hedstrom's application because Dayner is not a member of the organization, and Dayner now accuses Hedstrom of trespassing on her farm and harassing her with calls to the police. "She's been a nightmare of a neighbor," Dayner said. Dayner plans to represent herself in court in July.

Send your weird news items to [WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com](mailto:WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com).



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**VOTED #1 IN SAN DIEGO**



continued from page 17

tension. For him, one division occurs in the desert between the off-road vehicle community and conservationists. Both groups love everything about the desert — the camping, the clear night skies, the scenery, the wildlife, the vegetation — except the off-roaders disrupt the fragile topsoil by riding across the land.

With pets, there's a similar divergence. He notes that people "take care of the animals, the same way I do." But what happens when they are bred and sold? "What's the motivation there? To make money or preserve them? I don't know of any case where they're contributing to their preservation."

And yet, Hollingsworth wants it understood that he believes the pet trade, like digital photography, will ultimately make reptile lovers love



SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

**One invasive reptile that got loose of late is the Green Anole. Dr. Hollingsworth says that too many of them were "well-embedded in the pet trade," as "feeder lizards" for snakes. "Our worry is that the anole will" shake up the natural order.**

reptiles in the wild as much as they do in deli cups. "The difference is one of nuance — and of intention."

If private breeders wanted to help the California Red-Legged frog, they would breed and reintro-

duce the species into the wild scientifically. One can't just dump an endangered animal into a habitat and hope it will repopulate their numbers. "Every introduced species will have a new genetic footprint." That new "invader"

can easily, despite the good intentions of its advocates, "significantly alter an ecosystem"—what's been in a pond or under a rock for hundreds or thousands of years.

One invasive reptile that got loose of late is

the Green Anole. He says that too many of them were "well-embedded in the pet trade," as "feeder lizards" for snakes. "Our worry is that the anole will" shake up the natural order. So far, they are staying pretty much "within landscaped yards," but that could change.

Perhaps the story here is that the pet trade and the museum trade, whose paths once paralleled, are now intersecting. The more captive breeds thrive in captivity and the more they escape, accidentally or on purpose, the more stress is put upon the natives. The risk is that nature will become zoo-like, composed of human preferences. Exhibit A: the Burmese python overrunning the wetlands of Florida.

#### **Pandemic pet sales spike**

In early March, pandemic-chastened, I cancel

several in-person interviews and on-site tours of animal labs, critter mélanges, and field walks looking for herps. Only in late May do I get back on the pony—and even then, only by phone.

Loren Leigh of LLL Reptiles describes his facility in San Marcos. He estimates he has 2000 slots for 700 species of reptiles and amphibians, from common to exotic, which he's breeding. The animals are racked on shelves, in plastic pullout bins, "drawered like a dresser." Heating and lighting elements are built into each drawer. For the bigger animals, he uses macrobins, four by four feet, lightweight, transportable.

Reptile breeders are, to say the least, heavily hands-on — cleaning and changing enclosures, prepping food and feeding, selling and shipping to individuals or for expos, and

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SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

One of the more defenseless of its genus — *rana* — has been the native California Red-Legged frog. This frog has “massively declined” due to the American bullfrog’s ravaging.

overseeing the seasonal breeding process, which, under captive conditions, follows natural contours of winter hibernation, warm-weather fattening, mating rituals, then letting females gestate and give birth, months later.

Like Noah, Leigh pairs

reptile species. “We’re looking to take a trait of this animal,” he says, “and breed it to a trait with another animal — to create new and exciting patterns and colors.” Such is genetic breeding: mate a lizard with a stripe on its back to another lizard with

little pink feet. Breeding answers the question, can those traits be combined? Often the answer is yes.

Perhaps surprisingly, in the pandemic, reptile sales are spiking, not decreasing. Why? Leigh says, “We’re recession-proof because people turn



PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER REQUIER

Reptiles make lousy patients, says Dr. Jon Enyart, veterinary director of the Humane Society’s Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. Slow healers, they need to be sedated and often show scant verve even while on the mend. They miss their digs too much. The endgame is to release them within a mile of where they were rescued, away from nets and traps.

homeward during crises, and we’re one of the few industries that’s still mail-order.” For the past three months, pet stores were

deemed “essential.” Pets need food (from crickets to frozen rodents), vet services, litter, lighting, and enclosures.

“The government’s not going to ask you get rid of your pet in a pandemic,” Leigh says. “We’re essential to help maintain the

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livelihood of the animals you own.”

Leigh says the pet store is really about human well-being. People want “to hang out, linger, spend time with animals.” When schools closed, parents brought their kids in. “It’s a safe place, like a zoo; people left home and came in to buy a pet. During a pandemic, they could,” however briefly, “escape it all.”

What of the worry that animals, especially from international breeders, may carry zoonotic viruses or crop-destroying bugs? He says “it’s nothing new.” Pandemics always ratchet up fears of disease transmission via vertebrates, and pet traders get blamed for the latest event. Just like avocados or lobsters from other countries, animals are screened and quarantined as necessary at one of four U.S. ports of entry, in facilities run by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Of his industry, Leigh says, “we’re not buying animals from these people,” that is, “animals from the wild, crammed into cages and sold in food markets where bacteria are exchanged. Unfortunately, reptiles are considered wildlife worldwide; they’re not protected like domestics, your hamsters and your dogs. So, we fall into the same category of import/export as a food item would.”

One way to keep the pet trade safe and viable is to keep it in-country. Thus, captive breeding continues to grow. At the Del Mar Expo, I espied many creatures — chameleons whose skin changes color with moods and tarantulas who, when riled, flick urticating hairs at predators — that are “native” to Central America or Africa, but not necessarily imported. They are, so the salespeople told me,

bred here.

Finally, I wanted to know what Leigh thought of Brad Hollingsworth’s suspicions that pet dealers and owners bear some responsibility for the growing number of nonnative species, released into and proliferating in our habitats — for example, the American bullfrog in the West and the Burmese python in Florida.

Leigh says he’s dumbfounded that any dealer would let a Burmese python loose when the owner/breeder “could make \$20,000 selling that snake to a consumer.” If a hurricane hits a zoo or towns are overrun by feral cats, the media sentence pet owners, sellers, and transporters to the gallows. “It’s unfair.” As for the American bullfrog, he faults the Fish and Wildlife Service for releasing the frog a century ago “as pest control. That had nothing to do with the escape of pet bullfrogs.”

Animals of all stripes, whether Ruth’s Chris Angus beef or Best in Show at Madison Square Garden, multiply exponentially under the human custom to have and to hold, to love and to groom, to sequester and to eat. For better and worse, there is a toll: 70 billion nonhuman creatures are “processed” (slaughtered) every year for human and animal consumption. I’ve never been able to fathom the irony that what defines our metabolic sustainability is what we love and what we eat.

#### Wild reptile rehab

A final post-Covid phone visit is with the San Diego Humane Society’s Dr. Jon Enyart, veterinary director of the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. The practice, which includes a hospital and “care rooms” for reptiles, birds, and

mammals, rehabs some 12,000 animals yearly, two-thirds of which are avian, followed by large and small mammals. Only about one percent, 100 or so, are reptiles and amphibians.

With the latter, he deals exclusively with local natives, none from the pet trade. Those “companion animals,” dogs and cats, turtles and rabbits — and ball pythons — are rehabled, if necessary, and housed in the Humane Society’s shelter as “stray holds.” The hope, often redeemed, is that their guardians will retrieve and handle them more responsibly. If not, the animals “should be adopted out,” Enyart says.

Ninety percent of the reptiles he treats consist of four species: the Pacific Gopher Snake, the California Kingsnake, the Southern Alligator Lizard, and the Western Fence Lizard. (Injured rattlesnakes are sent to a separate facility, in part, because of their venomousness.) Denizens of our canyons and mesas are triaged for trauma — sliced by weedwhackers, hit by cars, caught in garden netting or on glue traps. When a reptile’s scales are lacerated, Enyart sews them up.

Reptiles make lousy patients, he says. Slow healers, they need to be sedated and often show scant verve even while on the mend. They miss their digs too much. The endgame is to release them within a mile of where they were rescued, away from nets and traps. Enyart also says the success rate nationwide for rehabbing and releasing all native wildlife is about 31 percent, meaning (sad to say) seven out of ten don’t make it.

—Thomas Larson

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<b>Top-Shelf</b> \$5/GRAM	<b>Private Reserve</b> \$8/GRAM	<b>Exclusive</b> \$9/GRAM	<b>Exotic Shelf</b> \$12/GRAM	<b>OZ Specials</b> \$40/\$60/\$100 \$120 (Top Shelf)
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<b>PARAS TINCALLES &amp; H.H. Vapes</b> \$20	<b>Shatter</b> \$15/G	<b>White Fire Budder</b> \$35	<b>4 Raw Garden Carts</b> \$100	<b>AK 47 &amp; Bubba Kush</b> 2 OZ \$150 Many more strains available! Call for details!	<b>Presidential Shelf</b> \$280 oz
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**MOONROCK KINGPEN** 5 for \$100 (1G Vapes)  
Mix & Match with many more brands! FTP only.

<b>STIIIZY Pods</b> \$30	<b>WEST COAST CURE</b> \$40 (1G Vapes)	<b>Rove Carts</b> \$20	<b>Medibles</b> \$15 (300mg)	<b>CRUMBLE</b> \$15
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<b>Mystery Baking Black Label Bar</b> \$35 (1000mg Edible)	<b>Early Punch</b> 6 for \$100 (100mg Edible)	<b>Babylon's Garden</b> \$75 Diamonds \$40 Crumble	<b>Volcanic Crumble</b> 6G \$100
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<b>5 Rice Krispie Treats</b> \$10 (100mg each)	<b>Babylon's Garden Gummies</b> \$35 (1000mg) \$10 (150mg)	<b>GOLANI</b> 7 for \$100	<b>Moonrocks</b> \$20/G	<b>House Pre-Rolls</b> 4 for \$10
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**Best CBD Selection in San Diego!** **Free 100mg Edible + Exclusive Pre-Roll!** with every order for returning patients only. Must mention ad.



**HIGH MEDS DELIVERY SERVICE**

# HIGH MEDS

## DELIVERY SERVICE

SERVING ALL OF SAN DIEGO

**FTP-FREE GRAM, EDIBLE, PRE-ROLL, GRINDER, PIPE, & LIGHTER**

**Top shelf**  
28G  
**\$90**

**Private Reserve**  
14G  
**\$90**

**Exclusive**  
14G  
**\$99**

**VIP**  
10G  
**\$120**

**1000MG Edibles**  
3 for  
**\$99**

Refer a friend get **10% OFF**

Veterans, Seniors, and Disabled **10% OFF**

**Exotic shake**  
3oz for  
**\$99**

**Kushy Punches**  
11 for  
**\$99**

**Shatter**  
5G  
**\$99**

**Carts Buy**  
4 for  
**\$99**  
Get 1 FREE

**Pre Rolls**  
12 for  
**\$99**



Scan with Camera.

Call or Text for Orders

Must Show Ad for Discounts **(619)-729-1254**

Hours 10am-10pm

# OPEN 24/7 IN EL CAJON!

**FREE 1/8TH** First-time patients with min. \$30 donation. Must mention ad.

**TOP SHELF**  
**5G \$20**  
Any patient!

**PRIVATE RESERVE**  
**5G \$30**  
Any patient!

**EXOTIC**  
**5G \$45**  
Any patient!

**BLACK LABEL**  
**5G \$55**  
Any patient!

**STNDRD GUMMIES**  
**\$10** (200mg)  
**\$15** (400mg)

**DANK GUMMIES**  
**\$10**  
(500mg)

**NERDS ROPE**  
**\$10**  
(500mg)

**MOONROCK PRE-ROLLS**  
**3 FOR \$20**

**BLACK LABEL BROWNIES**  
**BUY 2, GET 1 FREE!**  
(1000MG)

**FREE ROLLING TRAY!**  
**SPEND \$100 AND GET A FREE ROLLING TRAY!**  
Must mention ad. While supplies last.

**FREE JOINT**  
Any patient with any donation! Must mention ad.

**EAST COUNTY MEDS**  
(Behind the liquor store. If our lot is full, you can use the liquor store lot.)

985 GREENFIELD DR. • El Cajon, CA 92021 • 619-909-1732

# SPRING VALLEY'S BEST NEW DISPENSARY!

**FREE GRAM OF EXOTIC!**  
First time patients with min. \$20 donation get a FREE gram of our best shelf!

**FREE HOUSE PRE-ROLL**  
with any donation!  
Must mention ad

**FREE GRAM OF HOUSE WAX**  
Spend \$120 and get a free gram of house wax!  
Must mention ad.

**\$10 OFF ALL OUNCES!**  
Valid for all shelves!  
Must mention ad.

**BLACKOUT PRE-ROLLS**  
**2 FOR \$15**

**2 CARTS \$40**  
Valid for Heavy Hitters, Brass Knuckles, and Kingpen Vapes.

**KushyPunch**  
**4 for \$45**

**WAX SPECIALS**  
\$20/G • 4G \$70  
\$25/G • 4G \$80  
\$30/G • 4G \$100

**BUY 3 VOLCANIC PRODUCTS, GET 1 FREE!**  
Must mention ad. Equal or lesser value only.

**FREE EDIBLE OR CART!**  
**Buy 3 Carts or Edibles, Get 1 FREE!**  
Equal or lesser value only.



*Valley Greens*

619-802-5351  
9960 Campo Rd.  
Spring Valley, CA 91977  
7 days, 8am-Midnight



# GRAND OPENING IN EL CAJON! OPEN 24/7!

**\$10/GRAM ANY SHELF!**  
Any patient, no limit! Must mention ad.

**\$240 OZ • \$130 1/2-OZ**  
**BEST SHELF!**

**\$125 OZ • \$65 1/2-OZ**  
**TOP SHELF**

**\$50 & \$100 OZs**  
**(FULL NUGS)**

**\$50 OZ**  
**FIRE SHAKE**

**BABYLON GARDENS**  
**\$35**  
(1000MG GUMMIES)

**1000MG BROWNIE**  
**\$35**

**BRASS MONKEY**  
**\$15**  
(TRIM)

**STIIZY**  
**CARTS \$45/\$25**

**BRASS KNUCKLES**  
**\$25**

**HEAVY HITTERS**  
**\$20**

**JEFF SESSIONS**  
**\$20**

**710 SHATTER**  
**\$20**

**WEST COAST VAPES**  
**\$45**

**UPLIFTED VAPES**  
**\$35**

**KIEF**  
**\$5**

**PLUME**  
**\$35**

**PRESIDENTIAL PRE-ROLLS**  
**\$10**

**GOLANI PRE-ROLLS**  
**\$10**

**HURRICANE LIGHTS PRE-ROLLS**  
**5 FOR \$20**

**HOUSE PRE-ROLLS**  
**7 FOR \$20**

**RAW GARDENS**  
**\$30**

**EXOTIC CARTS**  
**\$15**

*Wonderland Meds*

1282 Greenfield Dr.  
El Cajon, CA 92021 Open 24/7!

**Exclusive Deals Delivery Service**  
**FREE DELIVERY!**  
Text us for the full menu & pics!  
**619-396-6983** (San Diego)  
**619-396-9462** (North County)  
9am-Midnight Daily • We serve all of San Diego County!

**FREE 1/2 OZ SHAKE**

Min. \$40 orders. Must mention ad, first-time patients only.

**TOP SHELF \$45/OZ**

**PRIVATE RESERVE \$100/OZ**

**EXCLUSIVE \$180/OZ**

**TOP SHELF SHAKE \$25/OZ**

**EXCLUSIVE INDOOR SHAKE \$50/OZ**

**WEDDING CAKE \$45/OZ**

**CANDY FROST \$80/OZ**

**SUNSET SHERBET \$90/OZ**

**FORBIDDEN FRUIT \$150/OZ**

**OG GLUE \$180/OZ**

**ICE CREAM \$210/OZ**

**SHATTER \$15/G**

**CRUMBLE \$15/G**

**\$20** (1G VAPES)

**ROVE \$20** (1G VAPES)

**STIIZY \$20** (1G VAPES)

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

**\$10** (500MG GUMMIES)

**STONEY PATCH \$10** (500MG GUMMIES)

**HOUSE PRE-ROLLS \$5**

**KIEF 2G \$10**

**HIGHEST QUALITY, Most Affordable Implant Dentist in San Diego!**  
**Rated San Diego's Best Implant Dentist by San Diego Magazine!**

**Hybrid All-on-4 \$13,999**

**NO MORE DENTURES!**

All-ON-4 from \$340/month OAC & 60 months financing

Financing  
available for  
as long as  
60 months

**We Are Here For You**  
We modified our protection, disinfection and sterilization protocols for Covid-19 as early as mid-March. Our office was open for dental emergencies during the quarantine period, and we safely treated many patients.

**Same day appointments  
for dental emergencies.**

**New  
Patient  
Dental Exam**  
Includes cleaning  
and X-Rays  
**\$39**  
in absense of  
periodontal disease.

**PREMIUM IMPLANT PACKAGE \$2,499**

(Strictly Limited Time) implant fixture, custom milled abutment, solid zirconia crown, free dental CT scan. Implants from \$62/month OAC & 60 months financing.

**IMPLANT SUPPORTED  
DENTURES WITH  
3 IMPLANTS:**

FROM **\$4,900** (per jaw) Including 3  
implants, precision attachments and denture.

**BASIC IMPLANT PACKAGE**

**\$1999**

BACK FOR  
A LIMITED  
TIME

**NO HIDDEN FEES!**

**FREE CONSULTATIONS FOR  
IMPLANTS AND BRACES.**

**PORCELAIN CROWNS FROM \$499**

**BRACES FOR KIDS & ADULTS**

FROM **\$2,499**

**Braces from \$62/month  
OAC & 60 months financing**

**Schedule Your Free No Obligation Implant, Cosmetic, and Braces Consultation Today!**

Saturday Appointments Available • Se Habla Español

**Implant offices of Dr Armin Hage DDS & Associates**

**DR. ARMIN HAGE**

Is a Loma Linda University Graduate • Is a Diplomat at International Academy of Dental Implantology

**University Dental (College Area)**

6324 University Ave, San Diego, 92115

**619-319-9640**

**UniversityDentalSanDiego.com**

**Smile Designers San Diego (Sports Arena)**

3365 Rosecrans St, San Diego, 92110

**619-404-0061**

**SmileDesignerSanDiego.com**

\*Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 8-31-20 \*\* No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anesthesia may still be required.

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



Most Insurances Accepted • Same-Day & Early Evening Appointments Available • Free Second Opinion Consultation • Financing & Payment Plans Available  
Kid Friendly • Full Ceramic Crowns • Laser Dentistry • Bridges • Root Canal • Bonding • Dentures & Advanced Prosthodontics • Military & Senior Discounts