

Donut Panic in Grantville

Homeless at Del Mar Fairgrounds nixed ■ 8 northbound lanes added to border crossing

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 32 | AUGUST 6, 2020

Reader

Here's that rainy day

Hard times for 17 San Diego County cities

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

More in the back of this issue

HORSE EQUIPMENT: English, western, horse vacuum including case, brand new blankets, clippers.

BRANDI PIERCE: You're always in my prayers, my heart is a lonely hunter now, Jerry B.

KYLE KRASKA, I love it when you talk hockey.

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LETTERS

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

Ollie's joyful legacy

Hello, in many respects we make San Diego our second home. We are here five or six times a year and find a tremendous sense of peace and serenity. We are certain that one day we will make this our permanent home but until then we will enjoy our visits. Due to recent need for increased social distancing we brought a motor home this year for the first time and parked at this little place in Mission Bay. As I took the morning walk, I noticed this abandoned trailer park. It seemed like it had a tremendous amount of history behind it. Wondering what the story behind it might be, I did a Google search, and much to my surprise, found something much more informative and interesting to read than a typical Wikipedia snippet. In fact, the article ("De Anza mobile homes pushed out of Mission Bay," Cover Stories, September 14, 2011) was so well written, funny, and enjoyable that I couldn't put it down. When I looked to see who had written it the only name it had listed was "Ollie." I see that he no longer works there. Is there a way you could kindly direct me to an email where I could let him know how much I enjoyed the article and his writing, or perhaps you could relay this message for me? So glad that I found the Reader. Looking forward to many more enjoyable reads!

Sheldon Pickering
Mission Bay

Tapping OC's trough

Just a response to the article on the Fairgrounds ("Del Mar Fair asks Orange County Fair for bail-out,"

Neighborhood News, June 16): Orange County Fair has a surplus because of a lawsuit settlement. Fairgrounds surplus monies go to the States General fund each year. The Del-Mar Fairgrounds through the Fair, special events and Horse racing, have contributed 10's of millions to Californians.

Mark Anderson

Author responds: Thank you for your email but what you said is simply not correct. Financial statements for the Orange County Fairgrounds going back over a decade show the continuing build up of reserves by spending less than annual revenues. No one knows what "lawsuit" you are talking about. Care to share?

All fairgrounds contribute to the state general fund when they pay their sales tax to the state. That's as far as that goes. They maintain their own bank accounts. Fairgrounds' surplus monies are NOT transferred to the State each year but are kept by the fairground. The California Food and Agriculture Code creates and governs fairgrounds. Regarding transfer of funds to the State, see the following section: 4001.

Any money which is received by any association, other than from the sale of real property or pursuant to a lease, easement, or agreement for the extraction of oil or gas from lands owned or controlled by it, shall be retained and used by the association for its:

- General use and purposes.
- Maintenance.
- Membership in livestock registry associations and fair associations.
- Support and operation.
- Acquisition, installation, maintenance, and operation of recreational and cultural facilities at its fairgrounds.

I am forwarding this to each Del Mar Fair board member in case they have been given bad information.

Thank you
Ken Leighton

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San Diego Reader

SanDiegoReader.com
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August 6, 2020



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Kinda says it all — page 22



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

DEL MAR

Pink's Fixx won't fix fairgrounds' red

But is complaining about iffy proposal Barketting up the wrong tree?

Without the fair and other special events held throughout the year, the Del Mar fairgrounds has announced it expects to be \$65 million in the hole by the end of summer. And its hat-in-hand plea to borrow \$5 million from the board that runs the Orange County fair was rejected on July 23. Now, the fairgrounds is in the process of laying off 60 percent of its 157-person full-time staff. The good news is that fair management found it could get an extra \$70,000 per month by leasing unused parking to rental car companies who use acres of asphalt for storage. And a potential lifeline seemed to arrive when Governor Newsom announced a \$750 million plan to subsidize new homeless housing programs throughout the state.

In May, the Del Mar fairgrounds board (officially known as the 22nd District Agricultural Association) announced it was dealing with a company known as Fixx Solutions to run a new program on the fairgrounds that would house up to 1500 homeless in portable FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) trailers.

The *Union-Tribune* first told the world about Fixx Solutions and its Del Mar Fairground housing proposal in a long May 21 article titled "One-year pilot program would include 200 or more modular units at Del Mar." A June 21 *U-T* article announced that the board that runs the fair was "pushing ahead with a preliminary plan to install temporary housing." It quoted board member Don Mosier, who said, "There has been quite a bit of progress on the Fixx proposal." But attorney Erwin Shustak, who lives near the fairgrounds, was concerned at the announcement. "I've been a fraud lawyer for 44 years. The first thing I do when you tell



PHOTO CREDIT: ALUMNUS ESTACONOVET FAIR

Not a future homeless shelter, after all.

me you want to do business with someone, I say, 'Do you know who they are? Give me 24 hours to look into them.'"



An email from a board member indicates that Fixx Solutions was brought forward by board member Lisa Barkett.

He says his look into Fixx Solutions and its principals showed a history of judgements, litigation, personal bankruptcies, and liens involving its principal, Jeffrey Pink. "And they had no discoverable history of experience working with housing and with caring for that community," says Shustak.

Fixx Solutions, which appears to be based out of the Woodland Hills home of Jeffrey Pink, made a similar proposal to open a shelter near Oroville in Northern California. At their March 19 meeting, members of the Oroville city council said they were concerned that Fixx was "being dishonest" and "not representing who they say they are." Also: "[Fixx Solutions] are just trying to find a place to make money," and "They say they've been coming up here for many months, yet nobody locally knows of this organization at all." Pink, who represented himself at that meeting via an audio teleconference, told the Oroville council, "I'm sorry if you think we're a dishonest company." One council member responded by saying, "I don't want to hear anything more from this person."



Erwin Shustak: "I understand the fairgrounds is desperate to bring in cash flow."

Shustak, who is the president of the Rancho Del Mar Association, a community of 125 homes on Via de la Valle, says he is not against the idea of housing the homeless at the fairgrounds. "We're not NIMBYs. I just want to make it 100 percent clear we're concerned about doing business with people whose backgrounds should be fully investigated." He told the Del Mar Fair board that he discovered eight

judgements against Jeffrey Pink, totaling over \$980,000, and almost \$200,000 of federal and state tax liens filed against another member of the Fixx Solutions team. "Both Pink and a third member of his team have a history of personal bankruptcy filings. I want to make it clear that having judgements or liens or bankruptcies in your past doesn't necessarily mean you are not qualified. What it does

mean is you have to be very careful and ask a lot of hard questions of who you're doing business with. I understand the fairgrounds is desperate to bring in cash flow, but that doesn't mean that you should make more ill-informed decisions to increase that cash flow. That's not how you solve your problems."

On July 28, Jeffrey Pink told me that after three months, Fixx Solutions was withdrawing its plan to house the homeless at the Fairgrounds. "We're withdrawing our San Diego proposal," Pink said by phone. "We decided it's not worth our time." But many who follow the workings of the Del Mar Fairgrounds suggest that the whole Fixx affair — which got such prominent, front-and-center attention from the Del Mar Fair board — suggests a deeper problem with the fair board itself. At the July 14 Del Mar Fair board meeting, the fairground staff said the Fixx Solutions proposal came to them as an unsolicited proposal. But an email from a board member indicates that Fixx Solutions was brought forward by fellow board member Lisa Barkett. Del Mar Deputy Mayor Terry Gaasterland and others confirmed that it was in fact Barkett who brought Fixx Solutions forward. And according to attorney Shustak, that introduces questions about board member Barkett.

Barkett has served on the Del Mar Fair board since 2011. She has been reappointed

twice by the governor, who appoints all nine members of the Del Mar Fair board. "Why she's on the board is beyond me," Shustak says. "I think if you have millions of dollars of judgements against you, and allegations of conflicts of interests, and pending litigation with family members involving other public projects, that should mean you have automatic disqualifications against voting on other public projects. The board members of the 22nd DAA are the custodians of public property and the public's trust. Their own personal dealings and backgrounds should be beyond reproach."

The *San Gabriel Valley Tribune* published a story last year that told how Lisa Barkett and her husband Wil-

liam had been sued by her sister and brother-in-law for \$3.5 million over an unpaid loan for a solar farm. The paper wrote: "Defendants William and Lisa are a married couple with an extensive history of borrowing money from lenders and not repaying them, the lawsuit states. The couple allegedly lived well beyond their means by using shell companies and ownership transfers to avoid foreclosures and

"We're not NIMBYs. I just want to make it 100 percent clear we're concerned about doing business with people whose backgrounds should be fully investigated."

other asset seizures." A cursory public records search shows a number of judgments and liens against Lisa Barkett and her husband, totaling almost \$7 million. Emails and phone calls to Barkett and to Del Mar Fairgrounds marketing director Jennifer Hellman to try to get comments directly from Barkett were not successful.

Shustak thinks there is a systemic problem with the Del Mar Fair board. "Why is it that Orange County [Fairgrounds] which doesn't have a racetrack, which has a much smaller fair, and doesn't have a beautiful facility like we have, have \$53 million in reserves and we are \$96 million in debt with no reserves. Something doesn't seem right."

KEN LEIGHTON

THE BORDER Border restrictions eased New northbound lanes at San Ysidro

On July 23, construction in Tijuana commenced on eight new lanes leading into the San Ysidro Port of Entry. "With this expansion, we will be reaching 35 lanes, and what will that consist of?" Jesús Felipe Verdugo López, general manager of the Secretaría de Comunicaciones y Transportes in Baja California, was reported to have asked. "It is to rebuild the sanitary drainage, the rainwater

continued on page 6

County mouse, central committee mouse

Either way, Fletcher knows how to find the cheese

When Nathan Fletcher was running for county supervisor in 2018, his wife, Assembly Democrat Lorena Gonzalez, routed hundreds of thousands of dollars she obtained from Sacramento special interests — including big oil and a private prison operator — to the San Diego Democratic Party, which in turn used it to help elect her husband. Gonzalez's move made for some juicy pre-election campaign postmortems, but it boosted the one-time Republican Fletcher, long a wanderer in the local political wilderness, into an office where county taxpayers paid him total salary and benefits of \$239,172 last year, according to the website TransparentCalifornia.com.

Fletcher's not running for reelection this year, but he has continued the family tradition of routing major money gleaned from a bevy of California lobbyists to the local Democratic Party, most recently in support of his reelection to the board of the party's central committee. The powerful central committee seat has given Fletcher a big say over candidates and issues, including his controversial opposition to this year's Proposition A, a growth control measure also opposed by county Republicans. Fletcher's cash-raising saga began last fall when he quietly set up a political fund on November 1 called Nathan Fletcher for Democratic Central Committee 2020, fronted by Encinitas campaign professional Nancy Haley. Funding of the committee began early this year, with separate \$10,000 donations on January 30 from Manpower of



Fletcher makes hand gesture commonly associated with rubbing cash money bills together.

San Diego, co-owned by mayoral candidate Todd Gloria backer Mel Katz, and the Building California Together PAC. The Building California Together political action committee has been financed in part by labor unions and the California Resources Corporation, “an oil and natural gas exploration and production company committed to environmentally sustainable and responsible development of properties exclusively in the State of California,” per the company's website.

On January 30, \$1000 was donated to the Fletcher committee by the California YIMBY Victory Fund, a Sacramento-based pro-development political action committee backed by a host of San Francisco Bay Area tech executives. They include employees of Stripe, co-founded by Irish billionaire John Collison, which gave \$100,000 in May of last year. On February 15, 2019 the Deputy Sheriffs' Association of San Diego County PAC kicked in \$10,000 for the Fletcher effort. The Pechanga Band of Indians came up with \$2500 on February 25.

Fletcher was easily reelected to his central committee seat in the March primary. But filings with the county Registrar of Voters

continued on page 33

Neal Obermeyer



UNDER THE RADAR

More palm greasers' help wanted

Faced with a housing meltdown aggravated by COVID-19, the San Diego Housing Commission is preparing to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars not on new residential units but to retain the services of a pricey Sacramento lobbyist. “The consultant will play a key role in representing [the housing commission] in Sacramento and identifying potential opportunities for advocacy,” says a July 22 request for proposals for what the agency calls Advocacy Consulting Services. “It is critical that [the commission] have a voice in Sacramento, as well as the opportunity to participate in policymaking and provide input during the State legislative and regulatory processes.”

Precisely how much the lobbyist will cost the city's already stressed housing fund is left for would-be advocates to propose, with final responses due August 20. Desired qualifications include “demonstrated experience in government relations and legislative advocacy efforts, including success as evaluated by bills introduced/passed, and other similar measures.” Any new hire would bolster the efforts of the city's longtime Sacramento lobbyist Platinum Advisors. During the current legislative session, the city of San Diego has paid \$186,500 to Platinum, a lobbying shop run by **Darius Anderson**, the controversial longtime influence peddler for now-bankrupt Northern California utility giant Pacific Gas & Electric. “Widely recognized as one of California's most effective political strategists and fundraisers, he has and continues to advise many of California's highest-ranking political and business leaders, including US Senator **Dianne Feinstein**, California Attorney General **Jerry Brown**, former California Assembly Speaker and San Francisco Mayor **Willie Brown**, and corporate executives **Ron Burkle**, **Eli Broad**, and **Brad Grey**,” says an Anderson profile on the website of UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies, where he and wife Sarah are benefactors.

In 2018, Anderson put his 76-acre, six-bedroom, two-residence Sonoma County estate up for sale. “The property, known as the Kenwood Ranch, at 10420-10440 White Fang Glen — complete with paved roads, an 8-acre vineyard, a baseball diamond, and sculpture gardens by Burning Man artist **Bryan Tedrick** — first went on the market in the middle of last year for \$15.6 million,” according to a January 2019 story by San Francisco Business Times. By then, the price had been cut to \$12.4 million. “The ranch came out unscathed from the wildfires that barreled through nearby towns and vine-

yards alike in 2017.”

A December 2019 account by two Pacific Sun investigators for *RawStory* accused Anderson of misusing a fire recovery non-profit he set up ostensibly to provide relief for fire victims. “Despite laws prohibiting such foundations from making campaign contributions, Rebuild North Bay donated cash to support local elected officials,” according to *RawStory*. “While Rebuild North Bay has performed some charitable acts, it has devoted more resources to creating a network of business people and local public officials to lobby bureaucrats and legislators in Washington DC.” Adds the story: “The day after Christmas 2017, PG&E cut Rebuild North Bay a check for \$2 million; the utility's largesse accounted for 75 percent of the foundation's contributions in the ensuing months.”

In the meantime, Platinum has been lobbying the state government on behalf of the city of San Diego regarding “homeless issues” and “Homeless Funding,” per state disclosure filings.

Chicken gets bounced An independent expenditure committee backing city councilwoman **Barbara Bry** — who is facing off against fellow Democrat and Assembly member **Todd Gloria** for San Diego mayor — picked up \$10,000 from Republican Mission Valley developer **Tom Sudberry** on June 30, per a July 24 disclosure report. Other June donors to Success San Diego in Support of Barbara Bry for Mayor 2020 included **Peter Cooper**, president of La Jolla's P. J. Cooper and Company, with \$5000 on June 30, and **Gregorio Galicot** president of BBG

Communications, giving \$5000 on June 29. Son of **José Galicot**, known to some as the “godfather of Tijuana,” the younger Galicot gave the legal maximum of \$5400 to Trump's first presidential campaign on June 29, 2016... Truncated by the coronavirus pandemic, San Diego's political rubber chicken circuit had a short life in the first half of this year. Still, some city officeholders managed a few bites of free meals before the bug shut down the campaign socializing. Newly

filed gift disclosure reports reveal that Republican city councilman **Chris Cate** made it to the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's 149th-anniversary celebration on February 13 with a free dinner pass worth \$175. Cate also put in a January 31 dinner appearance at the San Diego United Lions Club's 2020 Lunar New Year Charity Daily, valued at \$60. Council Democrat **Georgette Gomez** got a \$69 pass to a January 24 Roe v. Wade

continued on page 33



Lobbyist Darius Anderson doesn't seem worried about malfeasance allegations.



A \$10,000 campaign donation from a developer is enough to make mayoral candidate Barbara Bry sort of smile.

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Dear Hipster:

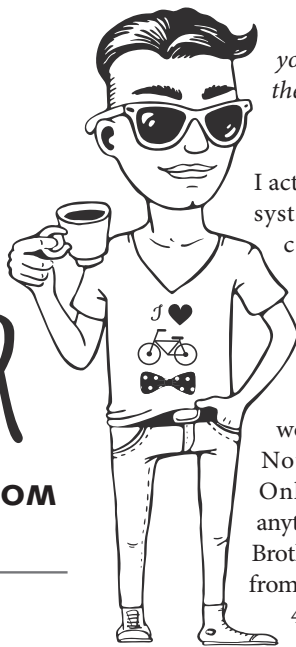
When are you going to cover that mugshot of yours in the Reader with a mask? You could just draw one on that supposed likeness of you.

— SAM KING, EL CAJON

You watch, the moment I do that is the moment the official position on mask use by strikingly handsome caricatures changes from “all strikingly handsome hipster caricatures should wear masks except for when they are eating California burritos” to “no strikingly handsome hipster caricatures should wear masks unless it is a Tuesday when the moon is waning into its final quarter.” Since the Reader comes out between Tuesdays, I would be seen as uncharacteristically out of touch, and we can't have that.

Dear Hipster:

I'm diving back into the dating game these days, pandemic or no pandemic. One of the weirdest things we are dealing with lately is how hard it is to make smalltalk. Care to guess what absolutely dominates the casual conversation lately? Yeah. So, I am writing in on behalf of myself and all the other people on the dating scene to implore members of the local dating pool to stop talking about current events to the extent they concern public health in any way shape or form whatsoever. On that note, if you have any great suggested icebreakers or conversations starters that you might wish to share for those of us ready to talk about,



you know, anything else, then I'm all ears.

— JORDAN

I actually solved this entire system some time ago by coming up with the ultimate conversation starter. You just have to ask someone, “What's your favorite Queen song?” This works only with Queen. Not Bach; not Cardi B. Only Queen. If you pick anything older than a Jonas Brother, you get blank stares from basically anyone under 40. If you pick something newer than, say, Phil Collins, 10/10

Boomers go off on an unsolicited rant about hip-hop instead of admitting they have no idea what you're talking about. Even people who otherwise never listen to Middle Aged Dad Rock can usually pick a favorite Queen song. Heck, even people who are otherwise indifferent to Queen (like me) manage to have a favorite Queen song (“I Want to Break Free”).

I confess, I don't know why this is so, but almost anyone can name a favor-

ite Queen song. It is one of life's little mysteries. More to the point, the answer tells you everything you need to know about the person. If someone gives you an obscure track from *Queen II* then you know you're dealing with a hardcore hipster arena rock nerd, and if they say, “Bohemian Rhapsody,” then you know they've at least heard one Queen song before. If they pick any song from the *Highlander* soundtrack then you can all but guarantee they have, at some point, contemplated how cool it would be to own a sword.

Honestly, the hardest part of this conversation starter used to be finding a way to bring it up naturally in conversation, which made it more of a conversation “enhancer” than conversation “starter,” but now that there's a recent Bryan Singer biopic streaming on HBO Max, it's easy to turn “seen any good movies” lately into something much more interesting. Try it. It works. I don't know why, but it works.

—DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

In Bedford with fascists

(Reprinted from 7/30 issue) So Ed Bedford thinks Governor Gavin Newsom is a fascist for limiting restaurants to outdoor service, referring to him as “Newsolini” (“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

Ed Bedford responds:

You're going to have to believe me on this. “Newsolini” was not what I wrote in my Tin Fork text. “Gov Gav” was how I referred to Gov. Newsom. “Newsolini” was an editor's addition. I too have inlaws whose grandparents were in the Italian Resistance who suffered mightily at Mussolini's hands. Incidentally, I support keeping restaurants outside. I support mandatory masking. I do not think the governor is a fascist.

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

“Stop the selfies at La Jolla Cove”

Neighborhood News
July 21

Anyone seeing an act of harassment or harm to a sea lion may report to federal authorities on the NOAA hotline 800-853-1964. 24/7. A federal agent will respond. No other agency has jurisdiction. Can you identify a culprit? - a license plate number if no photo. I have been watching sea lions at Boomer Beach for years and

never seen anyone harm an animal, so have evidence. And don't bother the lifeguards. Note: there is no illegal distance from a sea lion.
—bigdipper

“Kanye West for president” Blurt Music News July 30

It's a sad publicity stunt. He's mentally ill, and I would think the only thing harder than being mentally ill would be mentally ill in the public eye. I feel sorry for him.

—Socks3742

“Death, destruction and rebuilding in La Mesa” Golden Dreams July 29

I hope that the merchants in the La Mesa Springs shopping center are prepared for this Saturday's riot. While peaceful protests are a right there are always some who hide behind a well meaning peaceful protest to foment hate and destruction.

—AlexClarke

“Fixx Solutions housing not going in at Del Mar Fairgrounds” Neighborhood News July 28

Great article! It's so amazing no one did any due diligence on Pink, and it's even more amazing that this badly thought out “concept” got this far in the first place. Plus the Barketts are huge political donors, but how is that possible given all the judgments? Thank you, Ken, for a great story!

—Carla Echols-Hayes

“Fletcher's central committee campaign funnels major money to Democratic Party” News Ticker July 27

Controlling the Central Committee of the County Democratic Party is not a bad idea. When Fletcher first ran for Supervisor, his wife Lorena Gonzalez had engineered early preferential voting of the Central Committee that went Fletcher's way, strengthened his candidacy and contributed to his subsequent election.

—monaghan



Not pictured: The Dear Hipster

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drainage, to reinstall the public lighting, and to build a rolling slab that will be around 25 centimeters of rigid concrete slab, and below that a base stabilized with cement.”

The \$1.8 million upgrade will reportedly



Tired of the waiting game, Y. Stover is considering a Senti pass.

speed up the wait times driving back into the U.S. by 25-30 percent. On July 28, the “border wait times” section of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website stated that the general lanes wait time at midnight was about 2.5 hours, which is about 30 more minutes than usual; at 7 am, when many motorists cross to come to work in San Diego, wait time

can see, they already have the booths ready.”
 “They (the U.S.) inspire us that they have not forgotten us at the border,” Aram Hodoyan Navarro, president of the Consejo de Desarrollo de Tijuana (Tijuana Development Council), was reported to have said. “That even in these hard times that we know the country is going through, they dedicate resources to the border.”

According to the U.S. General Service Administration website, the U.S. has spent about \$741 million expanding and enhancing the San Ysidro Port of Entry since 2011. It completed Phase 3 last winter, which included the southbound I-5 realignment and the northbound vehicular inspection areas. There’s no mention of an estimated time of

new lanes, the traffic moves faster because the people in the slow lanes move into the faster lanes,” he said. “Now imagine opening eight lanes of traffic — I think it’s going to flow much faster for us, even when trailing our toys.”

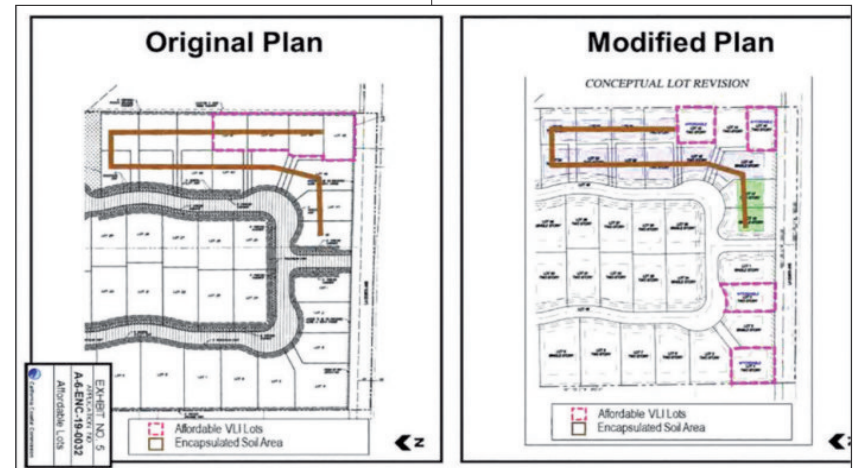
General manager Verdugo López reportedly added: “What else does [the construction] include? A system that we call wi-fi is included, which is [implemented] to measure waiting times. A person who comes from anywhere in the city, in real time, can assess how long they will wait to pass, and can make the decision to cross San Ysidro, or cross at Otay.”

“That’s awesome,” Valdez said. “Our phone service is shoddy when we wait to cross. We can [hopefully] get wi-fi and upload and stream our new race videos onto our social media.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

can afford.

Another problem: Under the soil are the highly toxic leftovers from 84 years of flower farming, including the banned pesticides DDT, dieldrin, and toxaphene. Water from the northern site drains into the lagoon. Once excavation and grading are underway, compounds could be further unleashed, opponents say. The current application includes the demolition of old greenhouses, as well as grading and constructing public access trails and stormwater improvements to trap the pollutants. (The foundation wants the soil moved offsite to a hazardous waste landfill.) While the applicant, David Meyer of DCM Properties Inc. (a consultant for the Weston Family), made several improvements, the soil will be remediated by encapsulation, according to the environmental impact report. Burying and sealing toxic soil is a common method, and the process was



NorCo ghetto? Clustering the low-income properties was proposed to make them easier to manage.

CARLSBAD

Where to put the poor? Low-income lagoon living locations prove prickly

A proposed 48-lot housing project, set to be perched over a lagoon, has survived an appeal to the Coastal Commission. The “La Costa 48,” to be built just west of I-5 along La Costa Ave in Encinitas, would yield 44 market-rate homes and four “very low-income” homes, likely managed by Habitat for Humanity.

According to the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, which unsuccessfully appealed the planning commission’s approval of the project to the city council last year, there are several problems with the proposal. Mainly, it threatens one of few remaining tidal wetlands on the southern California coast. The area is rich in wildlife — and it’s rich, period. So little affordable housing has been built, the city is waiving standards for only four units as a density bonus project, opponents say. “Houses in this area on a third of an acre are selling at nearly \$2,000,000 without a water view,” said Howard Krausz, chair of North County Advocates. According to a staff report, mortgage and rents for households that qualify are based on a formula required by the state, depending on what the homeowner or renter

approved by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health, which will oversee the final results. Even so, who wants to live on top of the stuff? It turned out the “very low income” homes would all be clustered in the southeast corner of the site, near the freeway and a gas station. And one of the homes would sit right over the burial site for the toxic waste. According to the applicant, this layout was chosen for the convenience of having them all together, thus allowing for better management.

In September 2019, the same year the coastal commission adopted its first environmental justice policy, the commission determined that the siting of the very low income homes wasn’t fair, could deter affordable housing, and would have to be revised. Since then, the very low income homes have been shifted around like Monopoly pieces, but not enough for the Batiquitos foundation. “Three out of four of the very low-income houses in this project remain concentrated at the southern edge along La Costa Ave,” said the foundation’s lawyer, Arie Spangler. Now, under new conditions the commission approved last month, two of the affordable units will be moved away

continued on page 13

“I don’t think it’s going to save time crossing the border, The bottleneck is before the border crossing into the U.S.”

was 2 hours, which is about 30 minutes more than normal. In the ready lanes, where adult travelers over 16 years of age are required to have high-tech RFID-enabled cards, wait time at midnight and 7 am were about 1.5 hours, where normally it should’ve taken about an hour. On the Senti lanes at midnight, commuters crossed in about five minutes; at 7 am it took motorists about 15 minutes to cross.

“I’m thinking of getting a Senti pass,” said Alpine resident Y. Stover, who travels across the border on a regular basis. “I have Ready Lane [documentation], but sometimes when they close many lanes, it can be brutal and take 5 hours to cross. A Senti pass is not that expensive, I think it’s like \$122.50 for 5 years. They are doing a great job expanding the border.” She sent me a screenshot from the *Uniradioinforma.com* July 23 news report on the eight lane expansion. “You

completion of lanes leading in from Tijuana.

“I don’t think it’s going to save time crossing the border,” opined Tijuana’s Pedro Vargas, who analyzes roadways and race terrains in the U.S. “The bottleneck is before the border crossing into the U.S.” M. Valdez, a San Diego street racer who participates in Vargas’ San Pedro Mártir Hill Climb race in Ensenada, disagrees. “Every time I cross back into the U.S., the minute they open up one or two



Racing team: “I think it’s going to flow much faster for us.”

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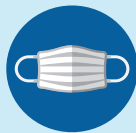


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With kids in the park, when kids could still gather.

Kids dislike this isolation

For Jeanne Volk, it was a triple whammy. “I had been teaching fourth graders for 20 years, out of the same classroom. I loved it, but I was thinking of change, about maybe starting a tutoring center, when the Covid hit. Then, my husband’s business dried up. He does sound production, for, like, concerts, convention centers, special events. Suddenly, no events. And then my mom, who I was very close to, passed away, in March. That devastated me. Overnight, my life had changed 100 percent. I have a masters in education, and I love my job. But I could see, all the signs were on the wall. Now that we’re going into full-time distance learning, if I was going to change, this was the moment.”

Indeed, an idea she had been nurturing for years — setting up a tutoring center for kids of work-stressed parents — suddenly was even more relevant.

“Kids miss school friends they were used to seeing and playing with most days. They dislike this isolation, and also not having someone, a teacher, come to their desk to explain a problem they don’t understand,” she says. “And even if a mom or dad has the time, they don’t always cut it as teacher.”

“About the last thing my mom said to me was, ‘Do what’s good for your soul.’”

So, incredibly, Volk resigned her steady teaching post, and set about establishing a place where kids can study — together, but also via zoom — channeling their own classes and teachers. She hopes to launch in time for the expected August 31st school year.

“It will be a distance learning and tutoring center in Eastlake for students who need

support, in an environment where they can come, and can stay focused. They bring their own device, and their head sets, to connect with their teachers, with lessons. Then they would do class homework for school. I’m calling it Treetop Tutoring Center, and we would offer that environment.”

Also, Volk says, students could develop friends, their own cohort, bubble, pod — three or four other students whom they physically meet safely every day outside the confines of home and immediate family.

What really clinched her determination was her own 5-year-old daughter Joy, who’s due to be starting in the Chula Vista public school system.

“We got the [post-covid] news that she was not going to be starting in school. She was going to do distance learning. So I appreciate what all these parents are getting ready to go through, because I’m going to go through it myself. And I’m like, ‘Wow! This is really an issue. How can I be working if my daughter’s at home?’”

“Then I started thinking: if I opened up these offices

a friend has offered me, and I made it a tutoring center, then I could provide an environment where kids are able to come during those prime school hours, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm, and I’m like, ‘Oh my gosh this is doable.’ We’d have to do the social distancing. In each office, we could fit five children comfortably, plus a desk for me.”

She says she’ll charge around \$25 per hour. So not everybody could afford it, but if it frees parents to work, there might be incentive for state assistance to similar programs.

“It will never replace real live classrooms,” Volk says, “but one thing I’m sure of: I’m going to get more than five kids.”



Selfie in the classroom.

Summer’s silent killer

Alison Tummond has devoted her swimming career to teaching babies not to drown. I met her tackling actual ocean waves here where she was cooling down after Arizona’s punishing heat.

“Bode Miller’s daughter Emeline drowned, in a California swimming pool, a couple of years ago,” says Alison. “She was 19 months old. It’s what I’ve been trying to prevent for 36 years.”

“In California,” says DDS, the state’s Department of Developmental Services, “drowning is the leading cause of injury-related deaths among children under the age of five.” In 2018, fifty-

was in high school and college, I decided I was going to be a lifeguard, and the pool manager I had did not like teaching young children to swim, so he gave it to me, as a 16-year-old. So I developed this knack of teaching young children to swim. It was very challenging, because these kids are very scared and very hard to control. I put myself through college on swimming income. It’s a real niche market to be able to teach young children. They are much more capable of swimming than people realize. And boys are easier than girls, because their play is more physical. They cry less.”

“Anytime you have a pool, or a bathtub, or a toilet, or a bucket, a child can drown.”

five young children drowned in California, 32 of them in swimming pools.

“I have been teaching for 41 years,” says Tummond. “I specialize in 2-5-year-old survival, and elementary stroke development. The #1 cause of death for children under the age of five is drowning. Especially Arizona and Florida. Drowning is very silent. It takes anywhere from 30 seconds to four minutes for a child to drown. Most of the time, the child is not in their bathing suit, so they were not intending to be swimming. It’s a very silent death.”

She says a lot of instructors teach a child only to roll over in the water and float on their back. “But I teach a child to swim, and find the wall and climb out. Because if the child misses the roll-over, after they fall in, and they don’t get their face out of the water, and they start to panic, they’re done. There’s a lot of potential with a child two and above. I would rather a kid have enough skills to swim to the wall and climb out, rather than lie on their back and wait for somebody to come and find them.”



Alison Tummond: can’t get through a day without swimming eighteen lengths.

She says most parents are unaware of the dangers, and how quickly this can happen. “Phoenix, like LA, is the land of swimming pools. And we have a lot of lakes. It’s toddlers: once they get through the dog doors, the gates get left open, there are no [pool] barriers, the barriers break down, the child opens the door, it is so easy.”

Tummond teaches kids to swim and float from the age of two. “But the risk happens as soon as the child begins to move. Probably about a year old.”

Her dad was an ocean lifeguard in his youth, in Coney Island, New York. “I have been swimming competitively my whole life. And when I

Arizona stats are high, but she says California has a problem, too. “I don’t have your statistics, but any time you have a pool, or a bathtub, or a toilet, or a bucket, there’s a lot of different ways a child can drown.”

And, she says, don’t even talk to her about water wings. “Those wings, puddle jumpers, are unbelievably dangerous. Because they hold a child vertical in the water, and when you swim you need to be horizontal. That’s why Bode Miller’s daughter drowned. She was used to wings. And when she fell in without wings, she went down vertically. and when you swim your legs have to be behind you. You can’t do that with wings.” ■

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Almost factual news

Placing the BLAME

Black Lives Matter offshoot chooses street outside Police Headquarters for street mural

“Black Lives Matter’ is a brilliant slogan, but I started to worry that its message wasn’t getting through all the surrounding noise any more,” says San Diego Black Lives Matter organizer Reggie Johnson. “I don’t want to waste time arguing with people who try to co-opt or drain it of power by saying that All Lives Matter or White Lives Matter or whatever. So when we got ready to do a little street painting the way they did in DC and New York, we thought of amplifying the message somehow, to boost the signal. We talked about ‘Black Lives Always Matter,’ to get the message across that this movement isn’t going away, and that the Powers that Be can’t just wait for things to quiet down and go back to normal. But the acronym BLAM seemed a little dicey, given the opposition’s fondness for pointing out the way



Message received?

that gun violence afflicts the African-American community. But then one of our members noted that while ‘Always’ addressed time, we still needed to address space, because so many Americans still think this is a problem Somewhere Else. So we came up with Black Lives Always Matter Everywhere, which works nicely.”

Wall of Moms MAGA?

Non-profit expands efforts to include stopping flow of drugs to kids

Last week, the Wall of Moms — the yellow-shirted edifice that stood in protest against federal agents’ accosting of Portland protesters — threatened to crumble after it was revealed that founder Bev Barnum had filed to make Wall of Moms a non-profit organization independent of Black Lives Matter. “BLM is now one part of WOM,” she wrote in a text. “There are so many needs to be met.” Critics accused her of exploiting the Black Lives Matter movement the way Elvis exploited black musicians, but supporters were quick to note that “‘Mom’ is a term that transcends race,” according to WOM spokeswoman Karen Wokenshield. “And the concerns of moms transcend



Wallflowers: a Wall of Moms contingent links arms with President Trump beside a section of the as-yet-unfinished border wall. “What Trump is doing in Portland is indefensible,” says Wokenshield. “But we here at Wall of Moms aren’t out to play politics. We’re out to protect the children. So of course we’ll stand with him against the rising tide of drugs washing over our southern border. And we won’t desecrate any Kumeyaay land while we’re doing it.”

any one moment. It’s true that George Floyd laid the first brick when he called for his mama, but the fact remains that the first wall of moms was built in response to federal officers being unleashed in Portland against largely white groups of protesters. And now, it’s time to build other walls, all across this great nation of ours. Walls are

good. They protect what needs protecting. That’s why we’re even partnering with President Trump. Too many of us have lost little ones to the scourge of drugs brought in from Mexico. We’re going to show him that a wall of steel is nowhere near as intimidating or unyielding as a Wall of Moms. *Chinga tu madre?* Not on our watch.”

Culture Clash

Discovery of priest’s letters reveals tension between church, locals

A recently discovered cache of letters in the basement of San Diego’s famed Mission Santa Anna has revealed that things were not always suffused with the peace of Christ during the Mission’s early days. “Relations have become strained between members of the Santa Anna mission and the neighboring residents,” wrote Father Jose Blanc to his superiors in Madrid. “The rift began primarily over stable space, but is being fueled by a cultural divide. Residents have called in the local authorities over concerns that we are not taking sufficient measures to stop



In a rare photo from the late 1700s, Father Jose Blanc, a Spanish Franciscan missionary, surveys the territory at Mission Santa Anna, located in modern-day Logan Heights.

the spread of disease. They are outraged by our message that unless they repent and believe in the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, they will burn in eternal hellfire, calling our preaching, ‘rude, bigoted, and hateful.’ They complain that we are mostly White, and that we are encroaching on a largely Indigenous neighborhood. And

they have resisted our efforts to remove unChristian influences from their midst. Still, we will persevere, and we look forward to the day, perhaps hundreds of years in the future, when this church serves as a foretaste of heavenly tranquility for those in its vicinity. But we really do have to do something about the stable space.”

The Crowd Goes Mild!

Poppin’ Padres petition for permanent props in stands

The San Diego Padres started their season 4-1, their best initial record in decades. And while some may credit the unlikely success to new manager Jayce Tingler, and others to the general up-is-down insanity that has marked 2020, at least one player has a different theory. “It’s the fans,” says pitcher Sam Splitter. “All while I was up there on the mound against the Diamondbacks during the season opener, they were there for me, smiling at me, rooting for me. They weren’t there to socialize, or to kill a little time before heading off to dinner, or to sip craft beer while I worked my butt off in the background. They never even looked away.” Splitter realizes that the fans stayed put and stared hard because they



Manager Tingler: “Turns out you don’t have to be all that durable to be die-hard.”

were just photographs pasted on cardboard. But he’ll take it. “Cardboard doesn’t take off during the seventh inning stretch,” he noted. “Cardboard doesn’t buy a season ticket behind home plate and then leave the seat empty night after night when the season goes south. Cardboard doesn’t get drunk and boo the guys who are out there trying their best. Cardboard is constant. The face may change, but the support remains the same. As far as I’m concerned, those guys are the real deal.”

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

from the roadway and spread into the community. Other new conditions will speed up the completion of public trails and connection with the I-5 bikeway. Ongoing soil testing was debated, but will only continue through the mitigation period unless contaminants remain.

As the foundation sees it, there's no certainty about what will ultimately be built. DCM Properties indicated they will sell the project to a developer in the future, who could proceed with the current plan, or start over.

SHEILA PELL

TIJUANA

Pandemic priorities

Less money, but more time with family

"All of us that had to leave our families for the American dream; we paid a high price, not living with who we love," said "Amanda López," a 50-year-old Mexican woman who worked in San Diego for 18 years with only a tourist visa. (López asked to be anonymous because she fears the US government would be able to identify her and cancel her visa.) She lost her job due to the pandemic and the partial border lockdown, but she doesn't plan on returning once the border reopens.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDY BOVIC

Morning at the border: is it worth it?

López started her workdays by waking up at five in the morning. She would take public transit to the border and wait in line to cross. "Straight from my house all the way to work took about three hours," she said. Her boss first gave her work when she was 33 years old. Amanda was a chef, working on feasts for up to 400 people. Her employer, who gave work to her and approximately 20 other tourist visa workers, paid less than minimum wage and didn't respect overtime wages. "I worked a

minimum of eight hours but often 10, 14, 15, sometimes even 18 hours – hours that should have been paid double, but she wasn't paying that," she said. It's not possible to cross every day with a tourist visa, so she would stay in the U.S., sleep at her employer's house, and work three or four days out of the week. What she earned in the US was much more than what she would have earned in Mexico for the same job, but at times, she would get to sleep at her own house and see her daughters only twice a

week. Thanks to the money she was making, she was able to be the sole provider for her three daughters, one of whom is ill, while sending money to the rest of her family. She comes from an indigenous Mazahua family, which migrated to Tijuana from Sitácuaro, Michocán.

But everything changed when the COVID-19 virus outbreak reached the U.S. in March, and California tried to contain its spread by cancelling public events. "She just called me and said, 'I got all my events cancelled. I'm sorry, we won't be able to work until new notice,'" López said. In that moment, she realized that she was alone. "That opened my eyes. I thought she really appreciated my work, my presence, but she just got rich from my efforts."

After she realized her employer wouldn't support her economically during the COVID-19 crisis, she decided to start again on her own and go after a new horizon. "I'm going to stay in Mexico now. I'm opening my own business, and it's going well." Even though she works more days per week and earns 50 percent less income, she feels better now that she doesn't have to do the long waits to cross the border. She gets to spend more time with her family, and is free from all the pressure she'd receive from her former boss.

CARLOS IVÁN MOLINA AGUILAR

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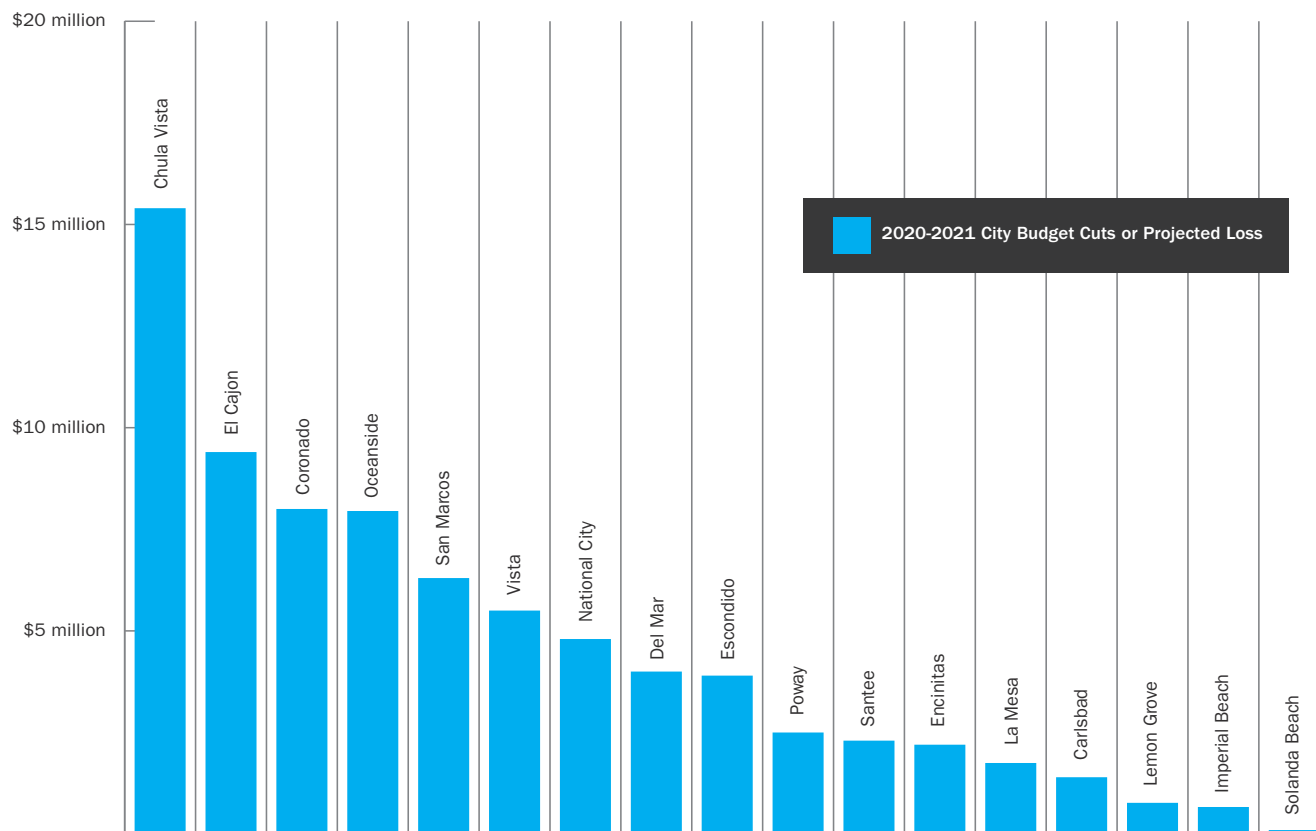
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Here's that rainy day

Hard times for 17 San Diego County cities



San Marcos City Manager Jack Griffin begins his annual June letter to the mayor and city council, “It is kind of my pleasure to submit the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Operations and Maintenance Budget.” That “kind of” summarizes the sour monetary mood facing San Diego’s 17 county cities and their managers in the new pandemic normal. The economic pain of dwindling rev-

enue varies by city and its relative affluence, but losses are universal. Since March, taxes on hotels, entertainment, bars and restaurants, car sales, and pot shops — typically about a third of a city’s spending base, collectively — have fallen and, as people remain largely at home, will continue to fall. As a result, most previously funded departments and staff, though spared, are being pared: social services snipped, capital

projects deferred, full- and part-time workers furloughed or laid off, new hires frozen, libraries closed, recreation programs reduced, street repairs delayed, and parks dark. No municipality can cut salaries and benefits for firefighters and police; cities are contractually bound.

The fiscal year generally runs from July 1 to June 30. Budgets are not set in stone. They are subject to the vicissitudes of collection, that is, a



SAN-MARCOS.NET

Jack Griffin,
San Marcos City
Manager

city's annual expenditure is as much mandated as it is projected: X dollars must come in to pay for Y services.

The capsule summaries of 17 city budgets below tally their 2020-2021 expenses, each belt tightened, each forecast trimmed. The figure for cuts shows what's already been made while the figure for losses is projected. Many cities have reserves to bail them out, at least, for the coming year. Those with lean stashes and rising costs suffer more.

Carlsbad

Budget: \$287.4 million

Cuts: \$1.4 million

Fourth in county population (112,000) behind San Diego (1.4 million), Chula Vista (272,000), and Oceanside (174,000), Carlsbad is sitting rather pretty on a little Fort Knox of reserves. Several years of robust tourism — Legoland, flower fields, car dealers — and



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Over the last decade, Chula Vista has been a homebuilder's delight.

increasing property values have fattened the reserves to \$88.9 million. (Note: generally, the county's seaside cities, obvious vacation meccas, fly higher and fall harder if they don't have a well-stocked pantry.) Fewer funds from "affordable housing revenues and donations" will lower revenues. The City Manager writes in the budget summary that Carlsbad was on pace to have its best monetary year ever. "The impacts of the COVID-19 have drastically impacted sales tax, transient occupancy tax, income from prop-

erty and investments, and other revenues." And yet a cut of \$1.4 million hardly sounds drastic for what seems one of the best positioned communities in the county.

Chula Vista

Budget: \$405.7 million

Cuts: \$15.4 million (TBD)

This 52-square-mile palms-to-pines city — home to some 65 parks, a fine old California downtown, and a 61 percent Latino population — has been a homebuilder's delight. In the last decade, the explosive growth has been concentrated in sprawling

developments — Eastlake, Rancho del Rey, and Otay Ranch. There's lots

of land and landscape in Chula Vista, but it's also getting packed, though

not yet sardine-canned like Mission Valley.

The 2020-2021 budget was passed before the coronavirus costs were factored in: "Job losses, business closures, and related financial impacts will reduce revenues," reads the fiscal-year report. The same report states that the pre-Covid estimate was \$15.4 million more than last year. It's likely the projected cuts will return to the 2019's level, less \$15.4 million than what's currently projected. The city could either (or both) siphon that sum from its reserves or defund 53.5 administrative positions Chula Vista wanted to add this coming year.

Coronado

Budget: \$53 million

Losses: \$8 million

A precipitous drop in

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annual funding is slated for Coronado: from \$61 million (fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019), to \$53 million (July 1, 2020), to \$48.9 million (July 1, 2021) a near 20 percent slide of \$12 million in two years. City Manager Blair King calls the current squeeze “The Ugly.” And yet, note his sunny forecast: “Yes, these are interesting times. While we did not expect a pandemic, we have long prepared for a recession and hard economic times.”

Where will King and Co. find scarce cash, as its 1913 hotel rooms are largely empty this summer? The promise, as outlined in the Budget Brief, notes the city will rely on reserves and “subordinate funds,” which are more than adequate. Despite taxes on tourists and sales tumbling more than 60 percent, taxes on Coronado’s sky-high properties will rise 4 percent to \$34 million in revenue going forward, a healthy dose of do-re-mi, good times or bad.

Del Mar

Budget: \$25.7 million

Cuts: \$4 million

This two-square-mile



Blair King,
Coronado City
Manager

CORONADO, CA, US

tiny town, bounded by ocean, lagoon, and freeway, relies heavily on taxes from boutique hotels and entertainment venues. Chief of the latter is the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Without the Fair, fans for horse races, and myriad expositions, the venue expects to lose 92 percent of its yearly income. More than half of the Fairgrounds’ workers are facing layoffs or farewell (no golden parachutes, apparently). Tax losses from this one source will accumulate. The City Council, citing the “extreme financial crisis,” cut 10 percent of city salaries via layoffs and furloughs. The plan to rid the town of unsightly utility poles



Del Mar relies heavily on taxes from entertainment venues like the fairgrounds, which expects to lose 92 percent of its income this year.

and overhead wires, budgeted by Measure Q, has been tabled. The knife also sliced out \$1.5 million for “operating costs, capital improvements, and special projects.” (In June, a councilmember predicted it would take at least two years “to get out of this hole.”) One bit of good news is that San Diego Association of Governments will pony up \$66 million to stabilize the tracks along the eroding coastal bluffs — the well-worn route for Amtrak, the Coaster, and freight

trains. Yet if riders quit jiggling up to Los Angeles and back or down to San Diego and back for work and whatnot, all those repairs, while necessary, will serve a ghost express. Good thing the fixup is classified critical infrastructure.

El Cajon

Budget: \$74.1 million

Losses: \$9.4 million

The title of El Cajon’s latest revenue report speaks to just how squishy budget projections can be: Preliminary Annual Budget Summary, a.k.a., “we’re not sure what’s happening.” City Manager Graham Mitchell writes that compared to last year, “the City has experienced a significant change in local economic conditions.” To even the

keel, El Cajon is drawing \$3.6 million out of its \$41.7 million reserve fund. (That reserve, healthier than most cities, exists for “an economic or natural disaster.” Many cities mandate reserves: if the worst happens, they’re on their own. Deficit spending is not allowed, and no feds in white hats are riding in.) Projected revenue boosters include new car dealerships (Honda, BMW, Mercedes-Benz), plus nearly \$40 million in already appropriated funds to revitalize the transit center and improve the infrastructure on Main Street and El Cajon Boulevard. Of all the budget reports I’ve read, El Cajon’s seems the most aspirational — many of its



Graham Mitchell,
El Cajon City Manager

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

CITY OF EL CAJON, US

conclusions suggest a city that still thinks itself affordable despite San Diego County’s overpriced housing and sparse selection.

Encinitas

Budget: \$71.2 million

Losses: \$2.2 million

Encinitas, an amalgam of six towns, bordered by six miles of splendid beach, budgets on a two-year fiscal cycle; this is the second year of what’s already been appropriate. It includes a modest pandemic-related revision, a projected loss of \$2.2 million. Like other seaside communities, Encinitas receives 67 percent of its annual revenue from property taxes, the most silver of linings. The safe bet is most homeowners will pay what they owe.

One of the city’s projects is an undercrossing (under the railroad tracks) between Highway 101 and Vulcan Avenue in Leucadia. Despite a

RESEARCH STUDIES



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strong citizen coalition to build it, the budgeters broke many a heart when they voted the venture “unfunded” this June. Garbage collection is costing more, and the excess will help buy a new sprinkler system, carpeting, chairs, and a paint job at City Hall, improvements already delayed for decades. Parks and police expenditures have escaped the ax.

Escondido

Budget: \$114.1 million

Losses: \$3.9 million

Alas, the one thing most county residents are loath to add is more sales tax. The city of Escondido, to reduce a projected punishing deficit, wants its citizens to vote on a one-cent sales tax in November, which would beef up the city’s coffers during the current downturn. How much it will help is unknown. A third of the general fund is for city services; 85 percent of that outlay is for personnel. All municipalities are top-heavy in paying salaries and pensions; most communities are loath to arbitrarily cut wages. It usually leads to a revolt, a slowdown, and a demoralized workforce.

In the Budget Brief, the city declares that “annual projected deficits were to grow to \$14 million by Fiscal Year 2023-24 and were to continue over the next 15 years.”

Note the past tense: “were.” That was before things got complicated. Translation: Escondido will run a \$7 million deficit for the next two years, and \$7 million every year after that until 2038. Such dire losses might be less withering with a 1-cent sales tax and the return of sales and franchise taxes to their pre-Covid range, given a revitalized U.S. economy. But an ongoing financial crisis may mean cuts or losses (choose your poison) for years to come in the county’s “City of Choice!”

Imperial Beach

Budget: \$20.8 million

Cuts: \$667,000

Here’s one city that announces in its current budget summary its top priority: “to live within its means.” It’s nice to hear some humility. IB is a town almost invisible to the big butch berg of San Diego to the north. But IB buffers environmentally the southern reach of the county with its

proximity to the border, the Tijuana River, and the South Bay tidelands. Maybe its unknown charm is fading, as the city has instituted high percentage increases for property taxes and building fees. Still, the town of 27,447 is “experiencing extraordinary fiscal impacts.” Their pension debt is \$12 million, and the town owes \$850,000 to the Sheriff’s department. (In the past decade, county cities in the South Bay have seen police and fire department costs rise from 40 to 65 percent of their budgets.) Because the city works on a two-year cycle (2019-2021), the effects of the current mess are not reflected in its budget summary. Emails and calls have gone unanswered. Seems city hall has furloughed itself.

La Mesa

Budget: \$53 million

Losses: \$1.75 million

La Mesa, which budgets every two years, held emergency council meetings after George Floyd-related protests and a revised mid-biennium update to their expenses. Police, fire, salaries, and



In Encinitas, one of the city’s projects is an undercrossing (under the railroad tracks) between Highway 101 and Vulcan Avenue in Leucadia. Despite a strong citizen coalition to build it, the budgeters broke many a heart when they voted the venture “unfunded” this June.

pensions account for 80 percent of expenditures. The council signed off on more pandemic-related losses totaling \$1.75 million. It’s also necessary to withdraw \$5.1

million from the city’s \$27.8 million reserves, a steep 58 percent rise over the reserve withdrawal last year. In 2008, La Mesa residents passed a 20-year, three-

quarters-of-a-cent sales tax; for city use only, it brings in 18 percent of the yearly revenue. One outlay, already received from community block

continued on page 36

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BETWEEN THE BURIED & ME

Friday | 7

BETWEEN THE BURIED & ME LIVESTREAM CONCERT

The Raleigh, North Carolina-based progressive metal band will celebrate their 20th anniversary by performing two livestreamed renditions of their album *Colors*. Says the band, “These will be full band performances in the basement where we wrote the record in 2007. There will be two performances followed by question and answer chats for subscribers, as well as a full discussion where we can answer anything you want to know about the record.”

WHEN: Friday, August 7, 5 pm

WHERE:

betweentheburiedandme.com

Nixon, Nicole Roerick, and Chelsea Zeffiro. These artists and their projects were chosen for their interdisciplinary approach to subject matter driven by current events. The artists’ residency portfolios will premiere with live talk-backs, showings, discussions. Free to the public.

WHEN: Saturday, August 8, 4 pm to 7 pm

WHERE: tickettailor.com/events/discoriot

OUTDOOR SHOWING OF YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

Mel Brooks is “Puttin’ on the Ritz” in this bawdy spoof of the Mary Shelley



YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

Saturday | 8

S P A C E ARTIST SHOWCASE

DISCO RIOT’s second edition of the S P A C E Alliance Studio Residency Program showcases three performers in residence: Jaime



classic. Frankenstein’s grandson (Gene Wilder) uncovers his secret legacy and succumbs to his degenerate DNA, forging a creature (Peter Boyle) with a monstrous lust for life. Speaking of life: everyone must wear a facial mask when entering and exiting the theater and maintain a six-foot distance until seated.

WHEN: Friday through Sunday, August 7 through 9, 8 pm to 10 pm

WHERE: Cinema Under the Stars,



WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12: ZOONOTIC DISEASES OF MARINE MAMMALS

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Wednesday | 12

ZOONOTIC DISEASES OF MARINE MAMMALS

The American Cetacean Society will host Dr. Stephanie Norman, a wildlife veterinarian and epidemiologist involved in the aquatic animal health field, spanning invertebrates to top-level predators. Her presentation will give an brief overview of some of the more key zoonotic (transmission moves from animals to humans) diseases originating from marine organisms of several taxa — shellfish, fish, and marine mammals — as well as the concepts of

One Health and epidemiology, and how they come into play with zoonotic diseases. The presentation is free, open to the public, and online via Zoom.

WHEN: Wednesday, August 12, 7 pm to 8:30 pm

WHERE: acssandiego.org

Sunday | 9

BJÖRK LIVE FROM REYKJAVIK

Icelandic pop star Björk livestreams three matinee performances, staged before a live audience at Reykjavík’s Harpa Hall. The concerts showcase Icelandic musicians with whom Björk has worked over the years. The artist’s instrumental arrangements will be played by members

of the Icelandic Symphony Orchestra, Flute Septet Viibra, and the Hamrahlíð Choir, without electronics or beats.

WHEN: Sunday, August 9, 10 am
WHERE: dice.fm



BJÖRK

DISCO RIOT

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 sreader.com/events/submit.

ANIMAL FRIENDS

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

ART

Arts District Liberty Station Virtual First Friday A lineup of talented arts and culture groups share their craft at this unique and authentic event for San Diego residents and beyond. Join in on a selection of live activities like San Diego Dance Theater's performance, throwing vases/pottery wheel demo, woodworking craft demos or sing and dance along with Songbirds Music. Friday, August 7; **free**. libertystation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT. (ONLINE)

S P A C E Showcase Ed. 2 DISCO RIOT's second edition of the S P A C E Alliance Studio Residency program features three artists in residence: Jaime Nixon, Nicole Roerick and Chelsea Zeffiro. The artists' virtual residency portfolios will premiere on Friday the 7th with live talk-backs, showings, discussions to be held via Zoom on August 8th, 2020. Saturday, August 8, 4pm; **free**. tickettailor.com/events/discoriot/398142. (ONLINE)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Warwick's Author Livestream: Aimee Bender Warwick's and Liz Fenton & Lisa Steinke will host the Couch Surfing Book Tour with *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*, Aimee Bender, as she discusses her new book, *The Butterfly Lampshade*. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Monday, August 10, 4pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/bender-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Chas Smith Warwick's will host bestselling author of *Cocaine + Surfing* and *Welcome to Paradise*, Now Go to Hell, Chas Smith, as he discusses his new book, *Reports from Hell*. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Wednesday, August 12, 4pm; warwicks.com/event/smith-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Katherine Center Warwick's and Liz Fenton & Lisa Steinke will host the Couch Surfing Book Tour with *New York Times* bestselling author of *How to Walk Away*, Katherine Center, as she discusses her new book, *What You Wish For*. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Thursday, August 6, 4pm; warwicks.com/event/center-2020. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: T. Jefferson Parker Warwick's will host three-time Edgar Award winner and *New York Times* bestselling author, T. Jefferson Parker, as he discusses his new book, *Then She Vanished (Roland Ford #4)*, in conversation. This is a free virtual event on Facebook Live. Wednesday, August 12, 6pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/parker-2020. (ONLINE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

5 Steps to Solar Want to save more on your electricity bill? Whether your motivations for going solar are economic or environmental, there are multiple benefits. Topics Covered: Why go solar? Solar Rebates and Incentives. Roofing, Panels, & Batteries. Solar & Real Estate Value. Solar Lending. Thursday, August 6, 3pm; **free**. Please register on eventbrite to join. eventbrite.com/e/5-steps-to-solar-webinar-tickets-111885079284. (ONLINE)

American Buddhist Healing Practices Sit with Varada on Monday evenings and learn about meditation practices that can help you to alleviate your suffering and the suffering of others. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Monday, August 10, 6pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

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. Classes run Saturdays. Courtesy of Poway Adult School 858.668.4000. Instructor: Andrew Cretella (andrew@cretella.com). Saturday, August 8, 8am; \$75. Monday, August 10, 5:45pm; \$89. 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, August 6, 5:45pm; \$89. Or Saturday, August 8, 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, August 6, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

Employment Law & Workers Compensation Earl B. Gilliam Neighborhood Law School: Free educational seminar about California Employment Law & Workers Compensation with Q&A Session. Wednesday, August 12, 6pm; **free**. us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZ0scemqTgJE9VNwDo8EfUog5hhuSIUfDGS. (ONLINE)

Exploring the Spiritual Path This class meets regularly on Saturday mornings and consists of seated meditation and a Dharma talk that speaks to integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century daily lives. Saturday, August 8, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

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

Meditation 101: Learn How to Meditate via Livestream Join Buddhist nun Gen Lhadron via livestream and learn a variety of meditation skills to develop and maintain inner strength and happiness. Suitable for all levels of experience. Saturday, August 8, 10am; \$25. meditateinsandiego.org/. (ONLINE)

Meditation Practices for All Levels Join Mark for seated meditation, discussion and Q&A. No experience necessary. Sunday,



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SHEEP and GOATS

Nicholas Wiseman

It would of course be impossible to bring every branch of the natural sciences so completely into contact with sacred studies as these whereof we have treated nor can it be necessary to do so. For there is one way in which they all can be made subservient to the interests of religion by viewing them as the appointed channels by which a true perception and estimate of the Divine perfections are meant to pass into the understanding as the glass wherein the embodied forms of every great and beautiful attribute of the Supreme Being may best be contemplated and as the impression upon the mind of the great seal of creation whereon have been engraven by an Almighty hand mystical characters of deepest wisdom, omnipotent spells of productive power and emblems most

expressive of an all embracing all preserving love. ...For if the works of God are the true though faint image of himself, they must in some way partake of his immensity, and as the contemplation of his own unshadowed beauty will be the unsating everlasting food of unembodied spirits, so may we say that a similar proportion hath been observed between the examination of his image reflected on his works and the faculties of our present condition, inasmuch as therein is matter for meditation ever deeper, for discovery ever ampler, for admiration ever holier. And so God, not being able to give to the beauties of his work that infinity which is reserved to the attributes they exhibit, has bestowed upon them that quality which best supplies and represents it for, by making our knowledge of them progressive, he has made

them inexhaustible.

— from *Twelve Lectures on the Connexion Between Science and Religion.*

*Nicholas Wiseman (1802-1865) was a Cardinal of the Catholic Church and first Archbishop of Westminster after the Catholic hierarchy was re-established in England and Wales in 1850. Born of Irish Catholic parents, Wiseman grew up in Catholic schools and was ordained a Catholic priest in 1825. Rising through the ranks within the Catholic hierarchy because of his wisdom and scholarly acumen, Wiseman wrote extensively about the Catholic faith. His writings, an important influence on John Henry Newman's conversion to Catholicism, contributed some part in hardening Newman's opinions into certain truth in the matter. Wiseman is also known for having written a novel, *Fabiola* (1854),*



which tells a tale about the early Church in the catacombs. There have been three film versions of the book.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship

August 9, 11am; **free.** 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

Performance Poetry & Spoken Word Ages 14-17 We are going to explore variations in Spoken Word and Performance Poetry while developing your unique style and voice. This class is designed for our Young Ink Summer Camp for students ages 14-17 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 for your link. Thursday, August 6, 11am; Friday, August 7, 11am; \$99. sandiegowriters.org/summer-camp-spoken-word-haylinicole/. (ONLINE)

Webinar: Home Care, Day Care & Memory Care Is it time for more help? Learn about available care options, what they cost, and how to access them. Tuesday, August 11, 1pm; **free.** alzsd.org/services/education/. (ONLINE)

Women's Financial Fitness: Estate Planning with guest speaker Kristina R. Hess, Esq., the Managing Attorney at KR Hess Law, PC. When is a trust a good idea? What does a trust actually do? Is a trust expensive? When does life

insurance make sense? This session will be held in an online meeting room, where you can join via video chat, computer, or phone. Session login information sent when you register for the event. Thursday, August 6, 5pm; **free.** eventbrite.com/e/womens-financial-fitness-estate-planning-san-diego-ca-registration-111851406568. (ONLINE)

Writing Scenes: Playwriting Workshop Ages 11-13 Learn how to start your writing by working on scenes, the building blocks of plays. This class is designed for our Young Ink Summer Camp for students ages 11-13 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 for your link. Mon-Wed, August 10-12, 10am; \$99. sandiegowriters.org/summer-camp-playwriting-michaelshantz/. (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. SATURDAYS: 9am PST. July 18 through August 22. Registration: Please email dave@yaaana.com or call 619-719-1776. Zoom link is available upon registration. Saturday, August 8, 9am; \$15-\$75. yaaana.com/index.php/2020/07/13/yiddish-fun-bereshis/. (ONLINE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Nar-Anon Support Group Nar-Anon is a 12 step support group for families and friends of addicts. There are no dues or fees to join. Just come to a meeting. You will hear others who are going through similar problems talk about how they cope and find recovery. To locate a meeting the San Diego area, go to our website: www.nar-anon.com or call (800) 477-6291 or text (908) 914-2848 Tuesdays, 7pm; through Monday, November 29, **free.** 18 and up. Del Cerro Baptist Church, 5512 Pennsylvania Lane. (DEL CERRO)

FARMERS' MARKETS

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

FOR KIDS

Laurie Berkner: Dinosaur Beach Party Children's musician Laurie Berkner invites everyone to join her for a special Dinosaur Beach Party Virtual Family Concert. This live interactive performance for the whole family will take kids and families marching down to a virtual beach, bringing them the real Laurie Berkner show experience, with lights, camera, and paleolithic action. "We are doing another one!" says Laurie Berkner. "I am absolutely thrilled with how successful our first Virtual Family Concert was, and I can't wait to have a Dinosaur Beach Party with my fans. Sunday, August 9, 2pm; laurieberkner.com/. (ONLINE)

Virtual Summer Camps Don't let quarantine prevent you from introducing your child to the magic of theatre this summer. Summer camps including singing, acting, dancing and other specialties are now offered via the Zoom platform. Each camp will offer innovative ways for young people to create, interact, and collaborate from your computer or tablet. There's something for every age range and level of ability. Mondays, 9am; through Friday, August 28, \$100-\$300. juniortheatre.com/classes/. (ONLINE)

FUNDRAISERS

Meals on Wheels' March for Meals 5K Walk This event will be virtual and participants will be encouraged to Getting Fit between Sunday July 12, 2020 and Sunday, August 23, 2020. This free and fun fitness challenge will help support San Diego's homebound and isolated senior population. Although the event is free this year, fundraising is encouraged and donations are gladly welcome as proceeds will help provide nutritious meals and a daily wellness checks for this most vulnerable and fragile population. For more information, to make a donation, or to RSVP please visit link. For more information and sponsorship opportunities please contact: Debra Adelman at (619) 278-4041 or dadelman@meals-on-wheels.org. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays; Mondays; Tuesdays; Wednesdays; through Sunday, August 23, **free.** meals-on-wheels.org/March-ForMeals5k. (ONLINE)

LECTURES

Sierra Club: Hunting & Gathering - Shared Beginnings About 12,000 years ago, plants and animals were domesticated in some parts of the world. Fundamentally, our biological and cultural make-up remains rooted in this shared hunting and gathering lifestyle. Cindy Stankowski helps the public to connect with the past and her mission is to preserve archaeological collections. Friday, August 7, 7pm; **free.** facebook.com/sierraclubsd. (ONLINE)

Zoonotic Diseases of Marine Mammals The San Diego Chapter of the American Cetacean Society will host Dr. Stephanie Norman. Her presentation will give a brief overview of some of the more key zoonotic (transmission from animals to humans) diseases originat-

ing from marine organisms of several taxa: shellfish, fish, and marine mammals, as well as a brief overview of the concepts of One Health and epidemiology and how they come into play with zoonotic diseases. This presentation is free, open to the public, and online (zoom). Please visit ACS's website for more information. accsandiego.org/upcoming-speaker.php. Wednesday, August 12, 7pm; **free.** (ONLINE)

MUSIC

Old Globe: Word Up More of a gathering than a show or a class, Word Up! is a digital opportunity for community members to connect with each other and participate in a new performing-art medium each week through a live-streamed collaboration. Every Friday night, Arts Engagement Programs Manager and host Laura Zablit will be joined by some of San Diego's incredible performing artists. Performing art forms will include spoken word, rap, puppetry, singing, and more, often with bilingual and multicultural elements. Friday, August 7, 6pm; Search "Old Globe word up" on youtube.com. (ONLINE)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling, Masks Delve virtually into mysteries and myths of masks in ancient and contemporary use by members of Storytellers of San Diego. Featured are a Mexican folktale, a Korean folktale, another about Guy Fawkes, and a couple of personal tales taking place on the street while masked. In support of Eclipse Chocolate Bar and Bistro. Go to website for YouTube link. storytellersofsandiego.org/events.html. Ages 12 & up. Thursday, August 6, 7pm; **free.** 12 and up. (ONLINE)

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For more info go to sandiegomarkets.com



Southern comfort

“A little naughty to go south at this time, but hey, if it was good enough for Bourdain!”

Wow! I had forgotten this scene. You wind up in Baja on the southbound road through the mountains, until you swing a left and Blatt! The Pacific! A rippling blue carpet way below. It's quite dizzying.

We're on the way to Ensenada.

Why am I down here? Got to find out how everybody's doing, this side of the line.

So first stop, natch, Hussong's. Ruiz Boulevard, in the oldest part of town. Except, aargh! Closed. “Has been since COVID began,” says this mariachi guy. “Since the cruise ships stopped coming.”

This is Sunday. A band is playing beside Hussong's locked door. I notice that Papas and Beer also looks very closed. Other places are open, though. People are eating, and inside. But now I'm thinking of my other favorite place, the Black Market (Mercado Negro) on the waterfront.

Thank goodness, twenty



My oysters

minutes later I'm smelling fish and hearing the shouts of fishmongers. A group of Cubans inspect the scarlet Mojarra. The market isn't crowded, but it's open and alive. “Not responsible for broken windscreens,” says a sign beside the entrance.

“It's crazy,” says Armando, who's one of the fishmongers. “Everybody's still eating, but in these hard times, they're eating carne asada, meat, not fish. Our business is down 45, 50 percent last month.”

I mean, they still have hundreds of different fish, octopus, shellfish, all beautifully laid out, and the fishmongers still wear red, yellow or white protective aprons. They wave flies away with green swishes, joking with each other and shouting out their deals.

“Know of a good cheap place to eat?” I ask one, Javier. He says nothing, but grabs me and hauls me out of the market, into the

sunlight. “Wait here,” he says.

He comes back with a pretty lady on his arm. “This is my *novia*,” he says. “Jazmin. Okay, not my *novia*. I'm just in love with her.”

And he hands her off to me. “Come,” she says.

Ten seconds later we're outside this sun-drenched place called “Tacos Lily.” A big family is eating and chatting at a long table.

“Come,” says Jazmin again. She sits me down on a blue bench at a red table.

Hmm. Quite a menu. Meanwhile, Jazmin and, turns out, her sisters and her aunt are trolling the front for customers. First thing I see is, wow, *ostiones*. Oysters, from San Quintin, 90 pesos (\$4.50) for six, 180 (\$9) for 12. So that's, say, 70 cents each. I ask for the 1/2 dozen. And a can of Tecate (about \$1.50). Jazmin's sister Damaris brings radishes, chips, shredded cabbage, and a plate of *Saladitas* saltine crackers. And seven different salsas in glasses. Brown (habanero), orange (serrano), green (avo), gold (onion-cucumber?), on and on.

Huh. See a picture of Anthony Bourdain, sitting right here. I raise my Tecate to the Master.

Even before the oysters come, I'm snacking on all these chips with their dips. But then, the *ostiones*! Each shell has a quarter of lime. I squirt, lift the shell to my mouth. Big, so-o squelchy-salty-tasty. Go down a total treat.

Hmm. What next? Octopus cocktail runs about \$7. Same with shrimp, clams about \$8, mussel cocktail's about \$6 (or about \$8 for the large).

A country-style (*campechano*) *molcajete* of mixed seafood is 400 pesos, say \$15-20. *Siete Mares* (“Seven Seas”) soup goes for \$8, and *pata de mula*, which they translate as “Mule's Foot” (blood clams), are \$4 for half a dozen.

I look over at the people eating at the long table, munching fish tacos. Ochoa family. Three generations. They're down from Mexico to cool off. “It was 48 degrees (Celsius, 118 degrees Fahrenheit),” says Mrs. Ochoa. “I am shivering here in this sea breeze.”

“You can tell the fish is fresh here at the coast,” says Arturo, the father. “They taste so different here.”

Jazmin says this is where fish tacos were actually invented, right here at the market. In about 1960. Not only that, but *Siete Mares* soup came from here also.



Salvador sings of love to Jazmin

(\$1.10). Spicy shrimp's the best, picante and good. Goes well with my second can of Tecate. Although I sort of crave the *Gobernador* (\$2.70) taco. Think it's mashed up shrimp with grated cheese.

While I'm eating, Salvador the lone mariachi comes up and makes me an offer I can't refuse. Three songs for ten bucks, including the difficult Spanish one, “La Malagueña.” Plus *Cielito Lindo*, of course, so we can all belt out “*Ay yay yay yay, canta y no llores!* (Sing, don't cry!)” and a *ranchero* song. (We're all suitably distanced, of course). Then Aurora comes up with jewels and face masks to sell. She's proudly Aztec. She says not having the cruise ships coming in every day makes life difficult. She has a bracelet of silver owls I can give to maybe my friend Annie, for \$10.

How different is Ensenada, COVID-wise, from San Diego? Not much. “*Uso de Cubrebocas Obligatorio*,” (“Use of face masks mandatory”) say signs everywhere. Probably the biggest risk is in the ABC bus ride back to Tijuana. Passengers don't talk to each other, not at these close quarters.

It's nearly midnight when the bus drops me in TJ. Inspectors joke with each other in the deserted customs hall. Yes, a little naughty to go south at this time, but hey, if it was good enough for Bourdain! ■



Gobernador: more expensive at \$2.70, but worth it

before Puerto Nuevo, we made lobster popular, at *Mercado Negro*,” says Javier, who's come to check on us.

It seems the town of Ensenada was founded by a company from London, England. This market was born in the 1890s, and has survived on five sites around the port since.

In the end, I go for three tacos, the fish (70 cents), spicy shrimp (\$1.50), and *quesadilla*

The Place: Tacos Lily, Callejon de la Marina (at Miramar), Mercado Negro de Marisco, Ensenada, Baja California 646-144-74-18

Hours: 8am-7pm, daily

Prices: San Quintin oysters, 70 cents each; \$4.50 for six; octopus cocktail, \$7; shrimp cocktail, \$7; clam cocktail, \$8; mussel cocktail, \$6; mixed seafood (*campechano molcajete*), \$15-20; *Siete Mares* soup, \$8; *pata de mula* (blood clams) \$4 for half a dozen; fish taco, 70 cents; spicy shrimp taco, \$1.50; *quesadilla* taco, \$1.10

Buses: ABC from Tijuana, “Micro” buses around town

Nearest bus stops: Riveroll and 11th street (ABC); micros, just hail one down



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Donut Panic, order online

Donut Panic; 6171 Mission Gorge Road, Grantville. Another day, another conundrum. We know that quite a few local covid-19 outbreaks have been traced to restaurants, including no fewer than a dozen clusters in the past month. On the other hand: donuts.

Since the pandemic started, I've continued to try out and write about every iteration of socially distanced restaurant service as public policy has allowed it: from outdoor dining to glass partitions, plastic sheets, and even plywood boards between tables. I'm still here to say that the majority of restaurants I've visited have done well to make me feel safe: masked servers, sanitized credit cards, and bottles of the stuff posted by entrances and restrooms.

But I'd be lying if I didn't say that, as the number of covid-19 cases have risen in San Diego, so has my anxiety. Wearing a mask when I leave the house mitigates the risk, but it doubles as a reminder: every successive restaurant visit feels like an escalating round of Russian roulette.

That's a big reason that, despite the remarkable proliferation of outdoor dining opportunities we've seen this July, I've been sticking to take-out, to curbside pickup, and to contactless delivery. Skipping any number of alluring al fresco dining opportunities hasn't reduced my risk to zero, but I've continued to eat well enough without having to look over my shoulder to worry about the possibility someone might be breathing down my neck.

That was my fear when I woke up with a donut craving. Historically, buying donuts is browsing

activity, one where there are any number of other customers peering into the same glass case. Most donut shops offer little by way of outdoor space: they're small counter shops that can fill up quickly, often with impatient people (because most of us are impatient).



A half dozen donuts, ordered and paid online for same-day pick-up.

Fortunately, I found a local donut shop offering an alternative. Donut Panic is a hole in the wall in the Grantville area of Mission Valley. Owing to an assortment of egg- and dairy-free donuts, it's probably best known to vegans, but it offers the style of traditional donuts I craved. And, it offers same-day online donut orders and payment.

I point out same day because a couple of the usual suspect donut shops offering web orders ask you to pre-order the night before. Donut Panic had my selection of donuts ready within 25 minutes, morning of, and probably would have had them sooner if I hadn't tacked on a couple of better-than-they-looked breakfast sandwiches.

I merely had to click on my choice of twists, sprinkles, and bars, pay via credit card, and drive



Just a hole-in-the-wall donut shop in Grantville.

over. I found a door propped open, a shop free of other customers, and a couple bags of food waiting for me. Donut Panic's masked proprietor passed them to me and I was on my way.

I used to prefer phone orders for take-out, but given our new reality, restaurants that embrace some sort of online functionality are starting to look better and better. If a tiny, independent shop like Donut Panic can make it work, I have to believe more sophisticated operations can make it happen.

by Ian Anderson



The name takes on added meaning during a pandemic.

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A Wicked Maine Lobster roll, served Connecticut style (warm, with butter).

Wicked Maine Lobster rollin' in North County

Wicked Maine Lobster Carlsbad; 3040 Carlsbad Boulevard. A lobster roll counter near the beach. That's what I found when I ventured outside last weekend looking for a little sunshine. Sometime in late spring, Wicked Maine Lobster took over what was originally a deli and coffee counter at Park 101. That's the beer garden-slash-food courtyard that sits on the Coast Highway end of Carlsbad Village.

As for Wicked, that's the local business operated by Alex and Eric Howard, a pair of brothers from Maine. Alex first launched

the brand as a booth at the Ocean Beach farmers market back in 2014. Many other farmers markets followed and gigs at music festivals (remember those?), including Coachella and Bonaroo.

I first recall encountering the lobster and clam chowder specialist when it signed on for its first fixed location, as one of the original vendors of the Liberty Public Market, then again a couple years after that when it expanded to the Little Italy Food Hall. So the addition of a Carlsbad location feels

right on schedule, even if it's had a pandemic to contend with.

A spaced-out line down the sidewalk suggests Wicked's arrival in North County has been welcome — it seemed to be the most popular draw to Park 101 this weekend afternoon, and mostly locals by the looks of things.

Maine lobster's not a cheap ingredient, so while \$21 might seem steep for a small sandwich served in a disposable cardboard container, the price tag for a lobster roll should come as no surprise.

It's available Maine style — served cold with mayonnaise — though you can opt for Connecticut's preferred style: warm with melted butter. If you're too So Cal to be an East Coast purist, there's always the option to get it California style, which includes bacon and avocado.

I stuck with butter so I could get a good look at the chunks of lobster topping the buttery Frankfurt roll. It's mostly claw meat, sprinkled with Old Bay

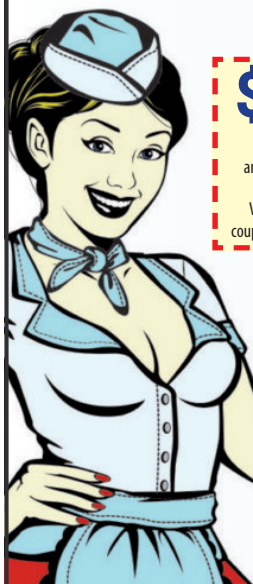
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A fire element spruces up the still-open dining patio of opened in 2020 Sicilian restaurant, Rusticucina

seasoning. Tender and flavorful, and though technically served on the wrong coast, beachy.

Little wonder Wicked has gone from market booth to growing chain. From the looks of things, it's future plans are even more ambitious. As many as five new locations are planned, including one in National City, several in Los Angeles, and another in Waikiki, Oahu. A Maine via San Diego lobster joint in Hawaii sounds like the kind of world I'd like to live in. Here's hoping this local success story doesn't get derailed by viral circumstances.

by Ian Anderson

RustiCucina offers homey, or take-home, Sicilian

RustiCucina; 3797 Park Blvd, Hillcrest. We were craving a meat and cheese platter but didn't want to dine in at a restaurant due to the latest coronavirus surge. So I took a look around for take-out options, and saw that Sicilian restaurant RustiCucina offers a pretty tasty charcuterie board for 22 dollars.

Part of the fun with charcuterie boards is presentation. So while the chef selected meats and cheeses and packed them in a cardboard take-

out container, once I got it home, I got to work arranging everything on a cutting board. Porchetta, prosciutto, and mortadella were joined by a couple crumbly blocks of parmesan, a semi-soft sage-infused cheese, and a winy harder cheese. Finishing my home-arranged board were dried cranberries and a garnish of mixed greens. A bottle of pinot noir completed the pre-dinner snack.

For those enough brave enough to dine out these days, RustiCucina has spaced out its patio, which is dressed with plants, shade, and a fire table. The Hillcrest restau-

rant opened in February, so it's barely had a chance to entertain guests in its verdant, wood accented dining room, and it's heartbreaking to see it sitting empty. But I've had good luck grabbing to-go orders.

A definite highlight was another appetizer, the dry-aged meatball. Tender and deeply savory, the softball-sized meatball was draped in melted mozzarella and sitting in a blend of tomato sauce and bechamel for \$13.

I'm not sure what specific meat blend goes into it, but it compares well to one of several "build your own pasta"

sauses, grandma's ragu (\$18) a tomato-based sauce made with a mix of beef, veal, and pork. Made in-house pastas on the menu include gnocchi, fettucini, tubular paccheri, and a gluten-free penne. With the ragu, I opted for bucatini, which made for a hearty dish, though I would have liked more meat.

Another pasta that didn't require any meat was the Sicilian pesto, which I tried with cavatelli, a sort of shell pasta shaped like small, sliced bread rolls. The toothsome pasta gave satisfying chew to the basil and sun dried tomato sauce.

But what truly won over the household — including a couple of Domino's-loving kids — was a pizza. Actually, though it's made with tomato sauce and melted cheese, they label the oblong Rustic pizza a flatbread. Topped with pepperoni, bacon, and sausage, the wood-fired flatbread features a fat, doughy crust that easily counts it among the best pizza options in Hillcrest. Which immediately makes it one of the best take-out options in the neighborhood, even if you skip the charcuterie.

by Ian Anderson



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blurt the inside track

Truth puppets The virus got so serious, so quick, that they ended up playing only one show of their projected spring tour. What's a meticulously-planning band to do when they suddenly can't play live?

In the case of San Diego's Mrs. Henry, the answer cru-

lucky break — they'd already mastered video technology through filming their guest-star laden tribute to the Band's "The Last Waltz," which they premiered last year at the Oceanside Film Festival.

The "Medicine Show," with nods to the old Band song "The W.S. Walcott Medi-



San Diego's Mrs. Henry turned to puppets when live gigs were no longer possible.

cially includes puppets.

"The process is pretty fascinating," comments Blake Dean and Dan Cervantes, on the puppet segments of their new "Medicine Show" webcast. "We all get on a group phone call and each of us has a microphone going into a recorder. We ad lib and improv off of each other like a Christopher Guest film, following an outline and making sure we hit certain plot points to move the story along. Then our isolated high quality audio gets edited and sent to the puppet lab, where each member of the band gets their individual words acted out with a puppet.

"It is a long process. There is a time lapse video of the puppeteering for episode two where you can see a clock in the background burn through 21 hours in less than a three minute video."

Mrs. Henry caught a

cine Show" and the actual medicine shows (performing troupes gathered around a snake oil salesman) that inspired it, will feature puppets, to be sure; but also videos from local folks in lockdown, plus Mrs. Henry and various musical guests getting together remotely.

Dean and Cervantes merrily offer a mix of truth and lies, about upcoming episodes: "We unite the greatest rock n roll band in the universe starring our friends in Earthless, The Blank Tapes, Howlin Rain, Warish, Ulysses from the UK, Howlin Jaws from France and beyond!

Jody teaches the Green orb guy to tap dance. Twizzlers, Ballast Point and Whistle Pig sponsor our show for free booze and licorice for life."

"You'll have to watch for the truth!" they sign off.

—Andrew Hamlin

Bounce On July 12, rap-star Megan Thee Stallion was shot in both of her feet.

"I was saddened and stunned, but relieved to find out she was ok," said Danyelle "Sweet Dee" Solana, a local hip-hop dance instructor. "Megan's probably still processing all of it before going into detail of the events."

Solana, 40, has a connection with the 25-year-old "Savage" rapper because they're both originally from Texas, and they Twerk and Bounce dance.

"I learned this style of

dance over ten years ago," Solana said, "to my knowledge Bounce is the dance style and Twerking is part of Bounce."

Twerking is when dancers squat or get onto their hands and knees, and shake their buttocks.

"With Bounce, you have moves like The Wiggle, The Clap, The Exerciser, and The Twerk — some of these names I've heard other people use and some I made up myself — so all those collectively make up Bounce."

On Megan Thee Stallion's BET Awards 2020 music video, she's depicted with her backup dancers in a *Mad Max*-type scenario performing the same dance moves that Solana teaches in her North Park dance studio. Megan begins the act with her new "Girls In The Hood" joint, then seamlessly transitions into rappin' the vocals to her "Savage" cut featuring



Beyonce — which copped the number one spot on Billboard Hot 100 song chart in late May. The BET video garnered 3.9 million views since it was uploaded on July 1, and a boatload of comments.

"We can't lie, she the CEO of twerkin'" said one fan.

"Twerk has been around for a while, like going back in the early 90s, I think," Solana said, "but I came across it around 2010, then I went to New Orleans in 2012 and saw all the people, but mostly women, dancing to the Bounce music, and I fell in love with it. I've always loved moving and shaking my booty and hips and I felt this took it to the next level!"

Prior to our countywide lockdown, Solana's "Booty Lounge" was packed at full capacity at 20.

"I had to start capping the class and waitlisting because we take up so much space while dancing. I wanted to make sure everyone could do it safely."

On Solana's website, a video shows her students on all fours on a yoga mat, shaking their booties.

"I use Megan's music when teaching my classes. I then tried teaching online, but was finding it hard to vibe with it. I love the energy of a live class and thrive off of it. I'm going to start uploading more tutorials and probably some live Zoom classes and have even toyed with the idea of conducting classes outside, but not sure how well received Twerking in public will be."

Twerking is not for everyone. After Megan was shot, male rap artists and their fans took to "The Gram" and Twitter to bash on the "All

Dat" rap artist and her Twerk dance maneuvers.

"Say what you will about it, but Twerking and Bouncing is hard. There is a technique and body mechanics involved. I'm also a personal trainer and massage therapist, so I try my best to incorporate terminology, anatomy and body mechanic basics in each class so that way students have a better understanding of the movement and how their body responds to it. I get that it is a provocative way of moving your body, but I believe that any type of dance and movement is good for your mind, body and soul connection."

Regarding Megan's assailant: nobody, including Megan, is giving specifics on who shot her. On July 27, Megan logged onto her Instagram to address her haters and update her fans: "There's nothing to joke about. It was nothing for y'all to start going and making up fake



Megan Thee Stallion is to twerking what LeBron James is to basketball.

stories about. I didn't deserve to get shot."

"Celebrities are still human beings," Solana said, "but unfortunately are caught up in this content-hungry world.... I'm sure she would have rather kept it to herself for a while but felt pressured to make some sort of statement. The

other person involved may be another famous person or at least have a celebrity connection in which there may be some legal stuff involved, and Megan may not be allowed to say much more."

According to a Los Angeles Police Department's July 15 news release regarding the shooting that morning, it reads in part: "Multiple individuals were detained [and] subsequent to their investigation, officers arrested Daystar Peterson, (who is also known as [singer and rapper] Tory Lanez), he was charged with 25400(A)1 PC—Concealed Firearm in Vehicle. He was booked at Hollywood Jail... and bonded out later in the day. One person was transported to the hospital and received medical treatment for a foot injury." The report makes no mention of Megan Pete, the rapper's legal name — although, she

announced on her Instagram that she was shot that Sunday morning.

—Mike Madriaga

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

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LOCAL *five*

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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STEVIE SALAS

Self-taught guitarist Stevie Salas is a Mescalero Apache Indian who was attending high school in Oceanside when he first picked up guitar at age 15. Choosing a music career over joining the Coast Guard, he got an early career boost after being spotted by George Clinton of Parliament Funkadelic. Before he reached legal drinking age, Salas was already touring with Rod Stewart, and Mick Jagger tapped him for a 2001 tour. He also branched into film production, including the 2017 documentary *Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World*, chronicling artists such as Link Wray, Robbie Robertson, Randy Castillo, and Jimi Hendrix, whose paternal grandmother was one-

quarter Cherokee. He followed that up with a film about the Standing Rock conflict involving Native Americans attempting to prevent oil pipeline construction on Indian land. Salas has been working at a San Diego studio with actor Graham Greene, who's narrating a short documentary Salas is doing called *The Water Walker*. "When I rock, I rock," says Greene in a related Facebook post. "Pissin' with the big dogs now." Also in town for the sessions with Ben Moore are director James Burns (VICE) and writer/director Kevin Munroe (*Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Ratchet & Clank*).



FREEMARTIN

Based in North County, acoustic rock band FreeMartin includes David Rees, formerly with local 1980s/1990s band BigFins. "Since then," he says, "I have been doing music and art primarily for games, software, and toys." Rees' song "Mac and Cheese" was a finalist in the 2011 International Songwriting Competition, in the children's music category, with a judging panel that included Tom Waits, Jeff Beck, and Ozzy Osbourne. The newest edition

of FreeMartin's *Shelter in Place Sessions* features them covering the latter-day Monkees track "Me and Magdalena," with the members (Rees along with Chris Crepps, Pat Morgan, and Ty Cox) playing their individual parts from remote locations. "It's now my favorite Monkees song," says Rees of the tune, which was originally created for the 2016 Monkees album *Good Times!* by Death Cab for Cutie songwriter Ben Gibbard.



CITY WINDOWS

Punk rockers City Windows - featuring transplanted former members of The Sky We Scrape (Chicago) and Deadhand (Las Vegas) - combine a variety of punk, indie, metal, and hardcore influences. Their debut EP *Oxbow*, just released via La Escalera Records, was recorded at Singing Serpent Studios with Ben Moore (Hot Snakes, Pinback, Rocket From The Crypt), mixed by Dave Holdredge (Lamb of God, Story of the Year), and mastered by Stephen Egerton of Descendents. A limited vinyl edition of 100 copies features music on side A, and printed art

on the flipside. They were just featured by Tim Pyles on 91x's local music program *Loudspeaker*, and they've been booked to play The Fest 19, running October 29 through 31, 2021, in Gainesville, Florida. Drummer Aaron Weislogel also plays with a new band called Pire, who just released their debut single "Arise," a topical track that addresses "the threads of white supremacy and patriarchy that have been woven deep in our world, our communities, our very lives," according to the band. The single is taken from their upcoming full-length *Parasympathetic*.



CHARLES BURTON BLUES BAND

Born in L.A., Charles Burton has been playing blues, country, rock, and roots music for over 40 years. After making his initial mark on the L.A. scene, he relocated to Honolulu for much of the 1980s, and then spent most of the 1990s living and working in Tokyo, Japan before relating back to California. Burton has released several CDs with his Charles Burton Blues Band, earning a Best Blues Album nomination at the 2013 San Diego Music Awards for the album *Sweet Potato Pie* and winning the

San Diego division of the 2009 International Blues Challenge. For the past decade, he's been doing annual European tours, where he headlines everywhere from clubs to festivals, as well as doing a Scandinavian tour with Maury "Hooter" Saslaff (Big Jack Johnson & the Oilers) where they played over 200 gigs in seven months. A new *Charles Burton Live* CD was released by Lux Records on August 1.



ARMY OF LOVE

Founded in 1983 by former members of Jonny Kat, Army of Love opened for REM and played local venues like the Spirit Club. Manager Tony Creed produced demos in L.A. and a self-titled EP was released in 1983. They opened for the Kinks in 1985 and recorded more songs with Creed, and then relocated to L.A. to record with Doobie Brother Jeff "Skunk" Baxter at Cherokee Studios. The group moved back to San Diego in 1987, after which they split. Bassist Jeffrey Bloom later played with World's Cutest Killers, Sex & Free Beer, and Stone Horse. Guitarists Peter Kenvin and Tommy Andrews, as well as

drummer Randy Willert, all went on to play with Voices, which formed in 1987. Somewhat surprisingly, Army of Love is featured in a new film, *Mighty Oak*, concerning a 10-year-old named Oak Scoggins whose musical talents inspire Army of Love to reunite and make new music, ten years after their singer-guitarist died in a car accident. The soundtrack features Coldplay, the Animals, and A Great Big World, and stars include Janel Parrish (*Pretty Little Liars*), Raven-Symoné (*That's So Raven*), and Alexa PenaVega (*Spy Kids*).

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Wednesday, 8pm — The Mavericks.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 7pm — Catalinaville.

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

Thursday, 6:30pm — Steven Cade Livestream Concert.

Friday, 5pm, Saturday, 12pm — Between the Buried & Me Livestream Concert.

Friday, 7pm — Mick Adams & the Stones.

Friday, 6pm — Old Globe: Word Up.

Saturday, 3pm — Anti-Flag Livestream & Chat. \$10-\$50.

Saturday, 12pm — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays.

Saturday, 2pm — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Sunday, 10am — Björk Live from Reykjavik.

Sunday, 3:30pm — Kids' Turn San Diego Virtual Concert. Free.

Sunday, 1pm — Voivod Livestream Concert. \$15.

Palomar Starlight Theater:

Friday, 8pm — DSB.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Could blind auditions work for opera?

When considering "blind auditions" for orchestras, I began to wish opera companies were also forced to cast their operas based on blind auditions. A blind audition means the auditors do not know anything about the musician auditioning. They don't know what school the musician went to; they don't know the name, gender, or ethnicity; and the musician performs behind a screen. Everything is based on how well they perform.

How I wish operas were cast solely on how well a singer sings. Opera is a theatrical art form based on the voice, so, in my opinion, a singer's ability to effectively sing the role is the primary concern. If the singer happens to look appropriate in the role, that helps.

It could be argued that no one sang the role of Aida better than Leontyne Price. Price is arguably the greatest

American opera singer of all time. Leontyne Price sang many roles in her career, Aida was the only role for which she had the right "look."

If there had been blind auditions, I am convinced that Leontyne Price would have been cast as Aida based on only her vocal abilities. Aida is a sub-Saharan African which means Leontyne Price, an African-American, looked the part more than almost every soprano who has ever sung that role.

Over the course of her career, Price was cast as several different ethnicities and nationalities. Every great opera singer is.

For decades, opera singers were hired based primarily on their vocal abilities.

No one cared if Franco Corelli, an Italian, sang the role of Don Jose in the opera *Carmen*. Don Jose is Spanish but the opera is in French, and Corelli's French

diction sounds quite Italian. However, his vocal ability to sing the role is head and shoulders above most other singers.

For the record, Corelli was on a recording of *Carmen* opposite Leontyne Price who was in the title role. *Carmen* is a Spaniard, Leontyne Price is an American. An Austrian, Herbert von Karajan conducted. The remaining principal cast was filled out by an Italian soprano, Mirella Freni, and an American baritone, Robert Merrill. The chorus and orchestra were from the Vienna State Opera and the Vienna Philharmonic.

There isn't a French or Spanish artist to be found anywhere on this famous recording. Why? Because once upon a time, opera was primarily concerned with vocal greatness.

Was opera only concerned with vocal greatness? Of course not. Opera has the



Lady Justice favors blind auditions.

same sordid past as any and all entertainment industries. However, it was the one place where a singer could get work based on the voice and not physical appearance.

The great opera singers of the past were a mixed bag when it came to having "good looks." The one thing they had in common was the ability to sing their roles with artistry and authority.

In the past 20 years or so, it seems as though the majority of opera singers have become attractive people. In that same time period, the voice has become less and less important.

Remember, opera is a

theatrical art form based on the voice. When the voice becomes less important, it erodes the foundation of opera and turns it toward the bizarre mish-mash of post-modernism that it is today.

Could blind auditions work in opera? Probably not. It's too easy to recognize a singer's voice.

The other side of this issue is the ability of singers to connect with donors who might underwrite a production featuring their favorite opera singer. That's nothing new. That one has been going on for at least 400 years.

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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. Performing art forms will include spoken word, rap, puppetry, singing, and more, often with bilingual and multicultural elements. Friday, August 7, 6pm; Search "Old Globe word up" on youtube.com. (ONLINE)

UPCOMING SHOWS

Belly Up Tavern:

Friday, Sep. 4 — Super Diamond.

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

Saturday, Sep. 12 — Pine Mountain Logs.

Embarcadero Marina Park North:

Saturday, Sep. 12 — San Diego Blues Festival.

House of Blues:

Sunday, Sep. 6 — Juice.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Sunday, Sep. 6 — Clannad.

Music Box:

Saturday, Sep. 5 — Gondwana, E.N Young, DJ Richie.

Thursday, Sep. 10 — Squirrel Nut Zippers. \$35-\$37.

Old Town Blues Club:

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

Old Town State Historic Park:

Saturday, Sep. 12 — Fiesta Old Town. Free.

Sunday, Sep. 13 — Fiesta Old Town. Free.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, Aug. 13 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free.

Friday, Aug. 14 — Balley TV: Ishmael Butler & Sharon Van Etten.

Friday, Aug. 14 — Vote Ready: A Concert for Voter Registration.

Friday, Aug. 14 — Old Globe: Word Up.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Björk Live

from Reykjavik.

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays. Saturday, Aug. 15 — ProgStock Virtual Series.

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

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

Saturday, Aug. 15 — Biffy Clyro Livestream Concert.

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 — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays. Saturday, Aug. 22 — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Sunday, Aug. 23 — Björk Live from Reykjavik.

Thursday, Aug. 27 — Peter

Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. Free.

Friday, Aug. 28 — Old Globe: Word Up.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays. Saturday, Aug. 29 — ProgStock Virtual Series.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Idles Livestream Concert.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Idles Livestream Concert.

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

Sunday, Aug. 30 — Idles Livestream Concert.

Friday, Sep. 11 — Lacuna Coil Live From the Apocalypse.

Pala Mesa Resort:

Thursday, Sep. 10 — MohaviSoul.

Palomar Starlight Theater:

Saturday, Aug. 15 — The Family Stone.

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

Friday, Aug. 21 — Yachtley Crew.

Friday, Aug. 28 — Wayward Sons.

Saturday, Sep. 5 — Rose Royce.

Sunday, Sep. 6 — Mariachi Divas.

Friday, Sep. 11 — Metalachi.

Soda Bar: Sunday, Sep. 13 — Christian Death.

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Gone baby gone

Peru 1988. Under the credits, newspaper headlines and file photos summarize the situation: a government at war against ruthless guerilla forces. Georgina (Pamela Mendoza) can be heard faintly in the distance, singing the song without subtitles that opens (and closes) the fact-based *Song Without a Name*. (We won't appreciate the full impact of the lyrics until the curtain-closing translation.) The singing

allows time to absorb the overfraught long shot that opens the picture. From a distance, we observe Geo, husband-to-be Leo (Lucio Rojas), and their wedding cortege making its way to the church. They're positioned at the bottom of the concrete landscape, as if the weight of Lima rested on their backs: freshly minted filmmaker Melina León proves herself to be a first-string stylist, skilled at the art of drawing a viewer's eye to the precise spot in the frame where the pertinent information dwells.

Geo doesn't want to have her unborn baby pop out during the bridal dance, so she leaves the rug-cutting to Leo. The couple live on the outskirts of desolation, in accommodations no bigger than a medium-sized potting shed. Situated at the foot of a slope, the shack appears to have come to rest after a good push and ensuing end-over-end tumble lodged it there. Shot as it is in black-and-white and in the pre-1953 square-shaped Academy ratio, it brings to mind a parched variation on Charlie Chaplin's Yukon cabin in *The Gold Rush*.

It's while she's working in the public market selling potatoes that Geo first learns of the San Benito Clinic. She makes note of the radio spot, and the next day, visits the satellite clinic, where she is greeted by a floor-to-ceiling "spots before your eyes" decorating scheme underscored by a children's jump rope ditty that goes something like this: "Single, married, widowed, divorced. Mother or not, you're worthless." The atmosphere is anything but conducive, but Geo is well into her third trimester and faced with an absence of alternatives. She wants to start the child off on solid footing, so she finds comfort after a doctor's examination assures her that she and the baby are doing fine, and that she's welcome to return to give birth free of charge.

We're told it's a baby girl, but neither mother nor audience see the child as it's whisked away in the soft focus background. León finds horror in an

environment usually associated with safety and nurturing. The staff informs Geo of the sudden scarcity of beds, and in a flash, she's turfed out and left banging on the clinic door, demanding to know the whereabouts of her newborn. The police have more urgent matters to prioritize than a missing infant, so Geo takes the next best step. We live in a world where the only time the word "news" is spoken is when the

word "fake" precedes it. No matter: enter Pedro (Tommy Párraga), a cross-checking journalist who is the first to respond to Geo's cry of "My child was stolen" when she shows up at the paper.

Surely an organization of baby-nappers isn't going to go to the trouble and expense of setting up shop and taking out radio advertising to satisfy one single infertile couple? But more accusers coming forward doesn't necessarily make Pedro's job easier: one politician he interviews is adamant in his belief that the kids will have a much better shot at life overseas than in a Peruvian hell hole.

If the subject matter turns you off, approach the film as two genre pictures for the price of one — a haunting woman's melodrama and a daunting police procedural, both of which are granted equal weight and steeped in the dignity of self-respect.

Now playing virtually at the Digital Gym Cinema. ★★★★★
—Scott Marks

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

L'Innocente — A predominantly female audience, apparently welded to their divans, drowse their way through a piano recital, but it's Count Egano (Massimo Girotti), seated center-frame and the first to exit, who draws our attention. He's followed by Teresa (Jennifer O'Neill), who interrupts her hostess to bid an early farewell, but not before shooting her lover's wife Giuliana Hermil (Laura Antonelli) a dirty look. (Teresa refuses to share a man with another woman, even if she is his wife.) Next out, Tullio Hermil (Giancarlo Giannini), exemplar of male narcissism that he is, who ditches his wife to rush to his mistress' side. This sets in motion what was to be the last Technicolor gasp of epic storyteller Luchino Visconti (*The Leopard*, *Death in Venice*), an emperor of style for whom opulence came second nature. (Note the miles of red flocked wallpaper with corresponding sheets



Song Without a Name: Pamela Mendoza has little to sing about.

and pillow cases.) It isn't until a journey to the past — in the form of a trip to a summer home — that the Hermils have time to rethink their marriage. (It also marks a momentary moratorium on red.) When it came to the aristocracy, Visconti used his viewfinder as one would a wrecking ball attached to a jeweler's eyepiece. (A great way to pass a rainy day is watching the director's systematic defilement of Nazi Baroness Ingrid Thulin in *The Damned*.) After learning that she's carrying another man's child, one reason alone convinced Tullio to take Giuliana back: her last pregnancy ended in miscarriage. Tullio needs a constant reminder of his wife's infidelity like he does an extra dollar; as such, he's banking on a similar outcome. If not, there are other ways to deal with an unwanted child. Film Movement's new-to-blu-ray restoration is nothing short of stunning. And don't miss Ivo Blom's video essay exaltation of Visconti's use of flowers as "depth cues." 1976. —S.M. ★★★★★

Waiting for the Barbarians — Mark Rylance stars as an insouciant Magistrate With No Name, stationed at the outpost of an unspecified border, whose only brush with justice involves a case of pig-poaching. Light carved through a square in the Magistrate's ceiling heralded a talented eye behind the lens, but nothing prepared me for shadow-sculptor Chris Menges (*Shy People*, *Notes on a Scandal*). Ditto Johnny Depp, reminding us of the actor that was, in the guise of sadistic Colonel Joll. He arrives to investigate unrest, but not before introducing this part of the world to the concept of steampunk sunglasses. (If Jack Sparrow had worn

these X-specs, everyone at Disneyland would be sporting a pair.) With little in the way of unrest to report, Joll works up some of his own in the form of commendable and inventive torture. (Imagine a human centipede of prisoners stitched together Macaulay Culkin-style.) Rylance returns to the post after abandoning it long enough to help a woman with two broken (by

Joll) ankles make it back to her tribe, only to be arrested and tortured by Officer Mandel (Robert Pattinson). Spoiler alert: the barbarians are us, and this type of obvious messaging remains the one big problem with this otherwise absorbing portrait of stout despair. 2019. —S.M. ★★



TENNIS, ANYONE...? (2005)

Things you learn at the movies:

next time you're at a strip club, walk up to the first exotic dancer you see and ask, "Do you work here?" That's just one of the dozens of durable laughs to be found when marginal small-screen sensation Danny (co-screenwriter and director Donal Logue) meets Gary (co-screenwriter Kirk Fox), a tennis instructor to the stars who is looking to act, but is unwilling to read the script because, as he tells his director, "I don't like



Tennis, Anyone...?: Kirk Fox, Danny Trejo, and Donal Logue pay a visit to Salvation Mountain before hitting the courts.

working that way." A series of off-screen actions (though it's hard to swallow a guy as savvy as Danny peppering his standup routine at a Jewish charity event with antisemitic tropes) cost Danny a lucrative network gig, but easygoing Gary is up for anything, so the two follow Plan B by hitting the courts to conquer

the competition on the celebrity tennis tournament circuit. No doubles were harmed during the filming of the doubles match: the film is helped immensely by

making the four leads play their own tennis. Even more convincing is the caustic insider showbiz humor spewed by an A-list comedy star and bred-in-the-bone jagoff, played with exuberant arrogance by an unmatched Jason Isaacs.

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PERSONALS

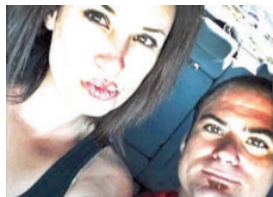
IS IT December 4th yet?

LITTLE TOMMY AND SULLY should help co-make the radio show San Diego needs. Kozwik

BRANDI PIERCE I miss you so much! You're always in my prayers, my heart is a lonely hunter now, Jerry B.

ANYONE PAYING ATTENTION? Mandatory: all conventions cancelled. Exception: gather homeless, poor, jailed, minority downtown ft apart. Problem solved. Extermination. Shamelessly, we blindly encourage clever genocide. Shame on us!

CUTE MASK 2ther you make me feel incredible. We're going to get through the hard stuff. I can't wait for you to be by my side.



R.I.P. TO MY ONE & ONLY Brandon Philpot went to Heaven July 7, 2020. He is survived by his wife Carrie. I miss you so much! Thank you for visiting me to let me know you are okay. See you in my dreams for your kisses! I Love you!!! #SMEEZLE #77 Love, your one and only wife.

GOD'S WILL. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not

willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." CMR

IVAN'S 8TH GRADE GRADUATION Ivan Coimbra Mojica-Muotri celebrating his 8th grade graduation. Autism and epilepsy cannot stop you, your smile make us proud! Mom & Dad

KYLE KRASKA I love it when you talk HOCKEY!

KATHERINE Z Dearest Katherine., once again the winds 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

MIDDLE AGE highly educated woman; Coast-to-Coast listener seeks like-minded person for friendship. Text: (619) 576-7465.

BIRTHDAY Shashank BDay month about gone. Gman loves you Let's party.

FISHING PARTNER WANTED to surf fish or pier fish with. I have the equipment, will teach the basics. Text John, (714) 584-4077.

SKO DAWG It ain't no puzzle. You got this beat Dawg. Puppy said get well we love you. (858) 382-7674 / gmanjones1120@yahoo.com

FOR Z This message contains 35 cc's of Ocean Beach love for

Z. May contain trace amounts of Covid.

SAVE YOUR CITY
#StrongSanDiego

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

NOTICES

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

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

COWBOY THEATER Watch the 100 best B-Western movies on COX cable, North 18 and South 23. Free! 12 noon Mondays, 2PM Wednesdays, 9AM Fridays.

TACOTOPIA 2020: TACOS VS BURGERS Presented by Anheuser-Busch, this year only, we are celebrating the pure magic of both tacos and burgers! The San Diego Reader and Anheuser-Busch are pleased to invite you to the biggest clash of the cuisine festival, know as "Reader Tacotopia 2020: Tacos vs Burgers Presented by Anheuser-Busch!" The largest UNLIMITED taco and burger event in San Diego on November 7, 2020. This event will take place in beautiful Golden Hill Park. At Tacos vs Burgers, we will take advantage of our SoCal surroundings by gathering the very best taco and burger vendors all in one place for your gastronomic pleasure. At the end of the day, attendees will ultimately decide who will win the Best Taco Award and the Best Burger Award. The unlimited taco and burger tastings, full-sized Anheuser-Busch beer pours and margaritas available at the bar, live music, lucha libre wrestling, lawn games and San Diego sun will make this our most popular event ever! ReaderTacotopia.com

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

OVERCOMING BETRAYAL IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM Written by iRee SPIRIT UNiQue.... available now on.... iTunes, Amazon, Xlibris and Barnesandnoble.com!!

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

CLASSES / LESSONS

PIANO LESSONS Credentialed, experienced teacher. Mesa College area. Reasonable rates, children and adults welcome. (858) 571-3360

BEGINNERS MOSAIC CLASS IN VISTA This is not an online class. it's an outside class. You will learn the basics: primers,

adhesives, grouts, mortars, concrete colors, etc. You will learn how to create works of art. mosaicforms@gmail.com

BELLY DANCE CLASSES We are on Zoom. This class is an amazing workout. This ancient art and technique includes sultry hip work, belly work, arms, posturing, finger cymbals, dance movement, performance. https://rachelbellydance.square.site/ (503) 866-1800



BEAT SOCIAL ANXIETY Please reserve a complimentary online social anxiety session to receive Zoom link and instructions: www.oncehub.com/socialanxiety

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



LIVE DRAWING LESSONS VIA ZOOM We've got a dynamic pose schedule, building up from shorter to longer ones. Models will be announced on our instagram, @soho_life_drawing

onlinebookings@soholifedrawing.com

PIANO TEACHER Piano lessons with experienced, credentialed teacher. Children & adults welcome. Mesa College/Lindbergh area. Call (858) 571-3360 / yolandadilorenzo@yahoo.com

SCHOOL TUTOR Credentialed experienced teacher. Will tutor all subjects for grades K-6th. Mesa College/Lindbergh area. Reasonable rates. Call (858) 571-3360 / yolandadilorenzo@yahoo.com

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

ROOMMATES

EL CAJON ROOMMATE/COMPANION senior RV park, \$250 monthly. 60+ only. Furnished. No deposit. Utilities included. 300 sq feet. Ed, (619) 558-8964. Leave name/number

\$497 ROOMMATE FOR SMALL FURNISHED BEDROOM Seeking adult male, share all-male house(ages 45-70): all utilities paid+sec deposit required + WiFi + no smoking/vaping+close to bus+street parking. Share: bath+kitchen+wash&dry. More details? Text: 497RA/ or call: (858) 367-0533. Available now. acciasthousesd@protonmail.com

LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT in or near Oceanside, San Marcos or Vista, California. I can pay up to \$700. My my email is ChuckWood398m@yahoo.com and my telephone number is (574) 350-6786. I'd appreciate a text

RENTALS

DOWNTOWN \$550-880



GREAT LOCATION!

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

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Downtown • Hillcrest • Mission Valley • North Park

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60 minute
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Expires 09/02/2020

\$40

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Full Body
Swedish Massage
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Expires 09/02/2020

\$50

60 minute
Full Body
Deep Tissue Massage
With this ad.
Expires 09/02/2020

\$75 60 min. Couples Massage
With this ad. Expires 09/02/2020

Free Table Shower & Free Hot Stone with 60 minute Body Massage

LUCKY FOOT MASSAGE

3505 Fifth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103

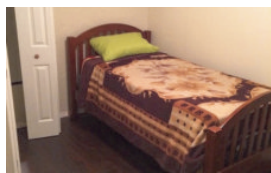
www.sdluckyfootspa.com • 619.299.5555

Lic. # 2017002221



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

SANTEE, \$650 2/2 home w/ homeowner, dog. Same price furnished/unfurnished. No kids under 18. Pools, spas, clubhouse, tennis. AC & heat, kitchen, W/D. No tobacco, or add'l pets. Share util. (619) 499-9663, phone calls preferred.



SD \$577 ROOMMATE FOR FURNISHED BEDROOM Seek roommate: adult male, share all-male house: utilities paid+sec deposit required + WiFi+no smoking, vaping+close to bus+street parking. Share: bath+kitchen+wash+dry. More details? Text: 577RA/ or call: (858) 367-0533. Available 25 Aug. (858) 367-0533 / AcaciaStHouseSD@protonmail.com

SHARE HOUSE bedroom for rent, near downtown, walking distance to shopping, dining, bus stops. \$725 per month, call now. (619) 847-8824

RETIRED WOMAN SEEKS to rent private room or ADU north county. Active senior, refined, non conformist, unworldly, non tech, conservative, quiet, conservative, health conscious, Louise call (442) 777-8110, leave voice message.

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

ROOM WANTED 61 yr. old young single no family, Virgo, healthy, never married, non-smoker, non-drinker, clean SoCal native low income male, high school/college graduate. Seeking

any somber tiny room please in house Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Clemente. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

RENTALS

1BD + 1BA female looking for rent to move out as soon as possible, August 2020. (619) 946-9379

MISSION BAY rental, \$1,500. 1bd, living room with fire place, huge kitchen, closets, beautiful Bay view. (858) 272-6060

MISSION HILLS, \$1375-1550. Studio+1BA and 1BA+1BA Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 W. Washington #2. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

MISSION HILLS, \$2295. 2BD+2BA. Skylights, secure underground parking, laundry on site. No pets. 5780 Friars Road. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointrealestate.com

OCEAN BEACH, \$1395. 1BD+1BA downstairs apartment, Sunset Cliffs. One block to beach! Plank flooring. Stove, refrigerator, parking, laundry. Small, quiet, gated complex. No pets. 4736 Point Loma Avenue #9. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1995. 2BD+1BA large upstairs apartment, Sunset Cliffs. One block to beach! Plank flooring. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, laundry. Small, quiet, gated complex. No pets. 4736 Point Loma Avenue #9. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

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

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

SOUTH PARK, \$1650. 1BD+1BA apartments perfectly located near Downtown San Diego and Balboa Park. Easy 5-minute commute to work. Secured building, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry on

site, street parking only. 2329 C Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointrealestate.com

GOLDEN HILL \$1600-1800 2 units- 1BD+1BA, garage and off street parking, private yards, washer/dryer, pets ok, credit check & deposit required. Contact (858) 775-7011. Available 8/1 & 9/1.



3 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH TOWNHOUSE \$1,000 rent credit with August 1 move-in. Newly remodeled two-story, end unit, cul-de-sac La Mesa townhouse. Rent is \$ 2,850. Security deposit is \$ 2,850. Move in ready. 12-month lease. Call Merrily at (619) 277-3464.

1 BDRM SUNSET CLIFFS \$2000 South Ocean Beach gorgeous, newly built, washer, dryer in unit, quartz counters, new appliances, paint, floors, moldings, cabinets, recessed lighting, storage area, private deck, a/c Good credit and sec dep required. obhelen@yahoo.com

2 BEDS 1 BATH APARTMENT \$1760 Coral Tree Apartments include access to a wide range of amenities: on-site laundry, on-site manager, security cameras, and skilled maintenance. San Marcos. (760) 727-1230

5 BED/3.5 BATH Newer construction, built in 2018. Shows like a model home. Very spacious 5 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. 3 story home, located in the Millenia neighborhood in Otay Ranch. 2248 sq./feet, \$3700. (619) 666-8194

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO RENT Senior male seeks small living quarters, self sufficient. (619) 394-0614

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

DOWNTOWN \$573-825. Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley.

Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. (619) 239-3808.

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

REAL ESTATE



PRICED BELOW VALUE AT \$110,000 This home is being shown via virtual tour. For sale is a beautiful 2007 manufactured home in the amazing family community of Lamplighter Village. Located In Spring Valley. info@freedomproperties.org

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE 2br/2ba, 1100 sqft. Located in Lynwood West Mobile Estates. Quiet 55 older park. Nice end lot. Community pool, clubhouse, laundry, small pets allowed. \$55000 (619) 851-8630

3 BED / 3.5 BATH \$177K House is 5 minutes from the San Ysidro border and Zona Rio. It's in Col. Buena Vista in Tijuana. House with large spaces, and you have the freedom to enjoy family gatherings. Parking for 2 cars and lots of land. (664) 194-4689

MUSIC

NORTEÑO GROUP FOR HIRE Norteño Tribu Chicana (619) 518-7116 or (619) 400-9219.

1955 CONN-10H TROMBONE Very rare and top of Conn line. Mint as new condition. None listed on ebay, call (619) 264-3686 for details.

CONGA DRUM Antique wooden conga drum 31" high. Missing two rings, made of solid wood and has la Raza written inside. If interested call (760) 224-0512.

DJEMBE, HAND CARVED, \$30 This traditional, hand-made djembe is rope that's tuned into a pleasant, bright sounding instrument. It's light weight and great for camping trips. (858) 754-8319

GUITARIST FOR FUSION POP Guitarist for fusion pop progressive rock reggae projects in Encinitas. if you're interested in having me track any guitars for your reggae pop progressive rock songs or projects. (858) 401-2973

GUITAR LESSONS Guitar lessons: standard, open tuning and slide guitar. Rhythm guitar, and blues lead guitar and slide. Call (858) 263-5049. \$30 per lesson.

UP TO 40% OFF ON PIANOS New and used Yamaha, B/äsendorfer, Schimmel, Steinway, Kawai, and many more. (858) 547-3636

MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly

rooms available. Adder Studios, (858) 522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

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

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

PETS

HORSE SADDLE Plantation style Buena Vista horse saddle. Like new. \$100. (619) 438-4567

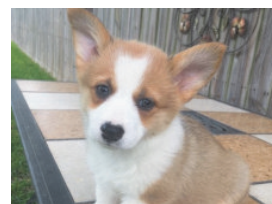


MISSING A RABBIT IN IB? I found someone's pet rabbit. Very friendly. I have him in a cat carrier. Gave him water & food. Please call/text. (619) 395-7296

PET GROOMERS Fully equipped mobile salon. We come to you. (760) 749-0911

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES NEW Chihuahua Pup. Text : (501) 819-3807 / jannahntanhesk@gmail.com

DOGO ARGENTINO PUPPIES Dogo Argentino puppies. Text us at:(501) 819-3807 / jannahntanhesk@gmail.com



PEMBROKE WELSH CORGI PUPPIES Corgis pups.Text: (501) 819-3807 / jannahntanhesk@gmail.com

4 PUREBRED BENGAL KITTENS still available! \$250 deposit holds. Forever homes August 25. Hypoallergenic! Best cats in the world! (619) 597-9729

HORSE EQUIPMENT New and used, show, training, bits, English, western, horse vacuum including case, brand new blankets size 72, clippers. Prices vary, best offers. (619) 442-4753

HOUSE/PET SITTER FOR TRADE Experienced and reliable house/plant/pet sitter available for trade/exchange of travel accommodations. Four week minimum. Great for those going on sabbatical, or out of the country, etc. Gardening and maintenance experience. Excellent references. (619) 551-4484 / appreciative@outlook.com

\$500 REWARD FOR NALA Missing from Imperial Beach. To the kind people who have found our Nala girl, please contact me. (619) 366-6711

JAPANESE-AKITA PUPPIES I have a beautiful beautiful female pup Akita ready for a forever home. She's 10 weeks old, up to date on shots, wormed, and comes with UKC papers. Call Alexander for more info (619) 932-2813.

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

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

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

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

SPORTS

SPORTS CARDS AND MEMORABILIA Have thousands I need to get rid of. If interested email shishea30@gmail.com.

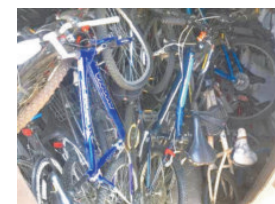


SUP STAND UP PADDLE BOARDS Brand new. They are wide, thick, light-weight, and all hard tops. Sizes: 8'6 and 8'10. \$699. (424) 259-3489



KAYAKS 12-foot single seat. Original owners with sales receipts from REI. Paddles and life vests included. \$325 each Kayak. (619) 507-8843 / georgeclay09@gmail.com

BICYCLES



BIKES FOR SALE Best text for address and just come look. I will definitely have a bike for you, regardless of size or budget. (760) 448-0016



DELUXE TRUNK 4 BIKE RACKS \$170 price is firm. New deluxe trunk mounted 4 bike carriers are ideal for weekend biking trips with friends and family or long haul trips cross country. (858) 245-5183

YIPPEE, WE CAN RIDE AGAIN Every week on Tuesday. This ride rolls out at 5:00 pm every Tuesday night. Meetup at the San Diego Velodrome Entrance at Balboa Park, 2972-3268 Florida Drive San Diego, CA 92104. (619) 932-2813.

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

RENTALS

Need an Apartment Short Term?

CALL NOW & GET \$200 OFF YOUR FIRST MONTH



Call for Daily Specials
Up to 15% OFF Daily Rates
Call Now

Weekly starts @ \$375
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California Suites Hotel
Apartment prices with hotel perks
www.californiasuiteshotel.com

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

Free Continental Breakfast

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- High speed internet services

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





FOLDABLE BIKE \$220. Dahon Stowaway in excellent condition. 5 speed. Rides and shifts smoothly. Price is firm. (619) 735-5578



OLD RUSTED BIKE \$115 Up for sale is an old rusty cool looking bike for \$115, obo. Maybe used for artwork or a lawn ornament. Call Joe for more details: (858) 774-9972



UNICYCLE FOR SALE \$60 This unicycle bears the logos of the Schwinn Bicycle Company from before 1992 when it was still based in Chicago, Illinois. Text for more info. (858) 754-8319

MONGOOSE BICYCLE
Mongoose hotshot bicycle new, 7 speed, \$75.ONO. (619) 230-5496 / donegal1990@yahoo.com

MOTORCYCLES

MOTORCYCLE WANTED 3 wheel Harley Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, Volkswagen, special. Must be great condition, legally registered, current plates. Call (760) 420-3641. San Marcos. Send picture



1981 HARLEY FXS LOWRIDER
This bike has a rebuilt lower end perfectly balanced with new.20" over pistons, new valve seats, new valve guides, and springs, etc. Installed is a new 40 cfm Bendix fully adjustable carb, with a S&S air cleaner. Lucky Collector Car Auction. (206) 467-6531



HARLEY-DAVIDSON, HERITAGE CLASS \$8,500, clean title, under 5k miles on rebuild. Custom paint job. Txt David. (805) 450-8651



VW TRIKE 1600 VW motor. Harley front end. Very nice condition - always garaged. Low miles on motor. \$10,000, no lowballers. (619) 787-3572

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

HELP WANTED

NOTICE FOR MBE/ WBE SUBCONTRACTORS Great Southern, LLC announces bid opportunities from Qualified MBE/WBE subcontractors in the following trades: Painting, Masonry, Landscape, and Fence Installation for the rehab of Chula Vista Apartments, a 44-unit project located at 201 Springfield Road, San Diego, TX 78384. Plans and specifications may be requested by emailing roxanne@greatsouthernllc.com. Qualification forms can be completed on our website at www.greatsouthernllc.com

SR. PROJECT MANAGER (Req# IIC1312) Resp for obtaining, clarifying & aligning reqs & dvlp 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#.

UPS TRACKING We're dedicated to providing you with the best of UPS information to you, with a focus on dependability. Customer service, and parcel related doubts. https://myupstracking.com/. https://myupstracking.com/ups-tracking/ (149) 942-1607 / baileidr.eid.v.ngf@gmail.com

MALE CARETAKER Offering free room with own bathroom in exchange for minor care of mentally challenged, 36 yr old AA male. Very little work is involved. No drugs/alcoholic. (619) 315-7179 / msemma777@yahoo.com

CAREGIVER NEEDED
Caregiver needed for female individual who is physically disabled in El Cajon. IHSS registry preferred, if not registered we'll work with you for registration and background check. Non smokers preferred. On the job training provided. (619) 756-2079 / pilar.santamaria@emeraldsight.com

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 agarcaiaj14@sbcglobal.net or leave message at (619) 596-9343.

WANTED CAREGIVER ASAP
Need woman for 100 hours a month. Senior disabled, must have a car and phone skills. Santee area, call Rachel (619) 771-2554.

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

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. mysandiegocar@yahoo.com

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

JOBS WANTED

LOOKING FOR HANDYMAN PROJECTS Call (619) 514-6002.

Looking for yard cleaning, move out cleaning.

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 / flanagan619@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-aide: f or details call Lisa at (619) 246-8219 or (619) 465-7651.

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

WANTED / TRADE

LOOKING FOR DAD'S OLD 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 & more. Please call Jack (619) 296-3100 (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

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

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

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

WANTED MOTORCYCLE three wheel trike. Prefer Honda, Volkswagen, Kawasaki, or HD. Must be clean, registered, title, low miles, 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. PIs 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) 393-2253

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

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

GARAGE SALES

MOVING. 6842 HARVALA SD 92115 8/7th- 9th 7am-1pm. Lots of books, bookshelves, cabinets, dressers, furniture, military history VHS tapes., DVDs, crystal, small appliances, office supplies, deck furniture, old gas grills propane and natural gas, lawn mower, living room set, tables.

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

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



EVERYTHING IN BACK OF TRUCK Worth over \$2000 sold individually. I'm moving and don't have time to do it. Items from past business. Beer cap catchers, bar, memorabilia, signs, new appliances, android charging cables. First \$350 takes it. (619) 852-8458



FALLBROOK ESTATE SALE For sale: collectible items, beautiful China set, area rugs, lots of mens and women's clothes and shoes, hand bags, sheets, blankets, towels, custom made

window drapes, lots of Beanie Babies and toys. info@socialstatesaleservices.com

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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

QUEEN SIZE BED with sleigh headboard, \$150 all or best offer, 619-448-1910.

AIR CONDITIONER window type, 10,000 B.T.U.S, works great, \$100 obo. (619) 203-0035

BROMILIADS different varieties, large stands, make money for Christmas. Call (619) 276-4901.

CUISINART STONWARE 10 piece set, Bailee collection, ivory and brown. Plates, cups, (619) 239-5139.

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FRONTLINE 3 POINT HITCH ROLLER Frontline three point hitch roller, or compacter, designed for compact and utility tractors. Heavy wall tubing,

solid continuous rod axle, precision ball bearings. https://forddistributing.com/frontline-roller-6-3-point-mount.html (888) 222-8455 / forddistributing.seo@gmail.com

HASS AVOCADOS Home grown on my property in Escondido, grown without sprays or pesticides, medium & small mix of fruit, 20Lbs. for only \$20.00, call (760) 746-7209

MISC FOR SALE 2-3 inch foot stools, \$5 each. Toaster oven, \$10. GE microwave, \$25. (619) 283-8417

REGIS PHILBIN BOOK Hardback copy, How I Got This Way, \$10, unwanted gift. Regis Philbin paperback book, I Am Only One Man, \$4. 1-(858) 484-4483

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. 25LB bag for \$17.00, possible delivery (760) 746-7209

VINTAGE AND MODERN COOKBOOKS over \$30 or \$60. Reach me at (619) 636-1151

WETSUIT Ironman Roka Maverick Elite II wetsuit for sale, arms up technology, small / tall size, nearly new, \$290 OBO, (760) 274-5264.

EXCELLENT WORKING WHEELCHAIR Excellent condition wheelchair. Very nice comfortable seat cushion. \$50. (513) 885-0118

\$2 HANDMADE EMPANADAS IN CHULA VISTA I have meat, pork rinds with little bean and

cheese. Call in your orders. (619) 254-3052

MEXICAN COCA COLA 4 SALE 8 oz. bottles of Mexican Coca Cola. 24 bottles per case for \$16 or \$1 each. Buy more than 1 case & get them for \$15 each. Delivery available for a small fee! We are located in Imperial Beach. priscilla.valdivinos@gmail.com

ROSES FOR YOUR LOVED ONES IN TJ We help you show affection and love to someone who means a lot to you. We have a wide variety of colors. 24 roses for 199 pesos. 48 roses for 399 pesos. 96 roses for 799 pesos. Messenger / WhatsApp. (664) 597-3590. We have home deliveries throughout Tijuana



ARTÍCULOS ARTESANALES Venta de artículos artesanales en Lemon Grove (selling of handicrafts in Lemon Grove). (619) 484-3000



JET TUB FOR BATHROOM Working jet tub for bathroom, \$100; if interested please call (619) 925-0799.

MARISCOS Buenos días, mi gente ya tenemos mesas y sillas para que deleite su comida 6062 university ave san diego recuerde de tomar su distancia por el bien de todos también tenemos uber eat y ordenes por tel (619) 787-4276

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BOSCH WASH MACHINE 4.5 CU-FT Bosch front loader 4.5 cu-ft, 110V. Size: 36.5H x 26.5W x 39D. This machine is still in great working condition. It has a very hot sanitary wash cycle. Local pick-up only. Sale price \$150. (858) 243-4139

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

FABRIC FACEMASKS \$5 Lots of cute patterns and colors. Headbands too. \$5 (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

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 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

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

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

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

TV SMART BOX Every channel on the planet. Call for details. \$300 (619) 850-3264 / Kellylidner@gmail.com

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

CHULA VISTA MENUDO Enjoy our delicious menudo with the best taste of Mexico at your table. Order white or red, put lemons, 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 CHIC 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

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

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

FERTILE CHICKEN EGGS free range, \$1 each/\$10 dozen. Lakeside, Shelly, text or message (510) 316-9278

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

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COMPUTER SCIENCE ORGANIZATION If you or your child are a K-12 student who are interested in learning computer science and Python, then consider signing up for a one-week bootcamp held by experienced high school students. Contact us at oliverwayne119@gmail.com or shecancode.net.

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INTER-FAITH WEDDING OFFICIANT Inter-faith minister available to officiate weddings in San Diego. \$550. thubtenpematenzin68@gmail.com, (619) 398-7196.

LOCKED OUT OF YOUR CAR? Call Junior for prices at (619) 874-4642. Available to get your keys back.

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2001 MERCEDES BENZ C240 Excellent condition, with all luxury options, always garaged, well maintained, low miles, \$4,750. Call (619) 948-1429.

38 BUICK STREET ROD 4" Chopped top Sedan. All Steel. Olds 350/350 Drivetrain. Many extras. Contact Bob for more details, \$11K...(760) 943-7326 / skutter@pacbell.net

1972 VW BEETLE IN TJ \$2,472 obo. Car is in Tijuana, reach me on Whatsapp. It's a project car. It needs bodywork and an interior, but runs. (664) 272-7288



2007 NISSAN TITAN TRUCK \$151,000 miles. Great work truck. This truck has been well maintained. Come test drive and take it home with you. Selling the truck because I'm not using it anymore. I have a work van now. Asking \$6500 OBO. (619) 928-1059



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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.

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 \$7,000 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

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

CASH APP REFUND The advancement tab is one of the basic holds onto the item this is in all probability subject for the Cash App refund. As such, at the off peril which you have to get your coins back, with the guide of using then you may use the help this is given james7thomas01@gmail.com

16% INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY Earn 16% interest secured by a Arizona real property tax lien recorded with Mohave County treasurers office. Have other high interest liens available for assignment. (760) 458-0177

Under the radar

continued from page 3

breakfast and a February 1 admission to a Roar Breakfast, valued at \$25, both from Re-Elect Senator [Toni] Atkins 2020. Topping them both in the shortened giving season was Democratic City Attorney **Mara Elliott**, who picked up a total of \$675 in dinner freebies from groups including liquor store proponents, the Neighborhood Market Association (\$300, February 28), and the National Electrical Contractors Association (\$170, January 11).

— 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/.

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

show that except for \$5000 paid on February 10 to the Progressive Labor Alliance PAC for a slate mailer, the Fletcher committee spent none of its funds on traditional electioneering. Instead, on May 30, Fletcher's committee transferred \$10,000 to the California Democratic Party, and on July 22 routed \$5000 to the San Diego County Democratic Party.

Matt Potter

GOOD PRICE IN TOWN!

OIL CHANGE \$15 4-cyl., most cars. Up to 5 qts. 10w 30	USED ENGINES & TRANSMISSION \$599* + From Labor Most 4 cyl. cars.
Low Prices On Body & Frame Work, Paint, Mufflers & Cat	SMOG CHECK \$1675 Most cars, plus \$8.25 cert. Fast & convenient. *Not a star station. From 2000 & up

TIRES ON SALE!

BRAKES from \$50 Front or rear. Most cars. + Labor	4 Wheel Alignment \$50 most 4 cyl cars
HEAD GASKET \$499 4-cyl. & most cars & machine extra.	AC SERVICE \$75 Most cars.

FREE CHECK ENGINE LITE '96 & up. Most cars.

REPAINT BUMPER OR FENDER from \$195 each. Most cars.	30K SERVICE \$75 4-cyl., most cars.
TIMING BELT \$95 4-cyl., most cars.	AXLE SHAFT \$99 4-cyl., most cars. plus labor each

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OIL CHANGE \$14.95
Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl. most cars

SMOG CHECK \$1175
Sedan only. SUV and Trucks extra. NON STAR CERTIFIED SMOG INSPECTION ONLY. Smog only for 2000 and newer vehicle. +\$130 DMV transfer fee +\$825 cert

BRAKES From \$49
Front or rear
*Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services \$65
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars

RADIATOR or Transmission Services \$45
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

TIMING BELT Parts & Labor \$75
*Prices may vary depending on make and model. most cars 4 cyl.

STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS \$95
Plus labor. most cars. 4 cyl.

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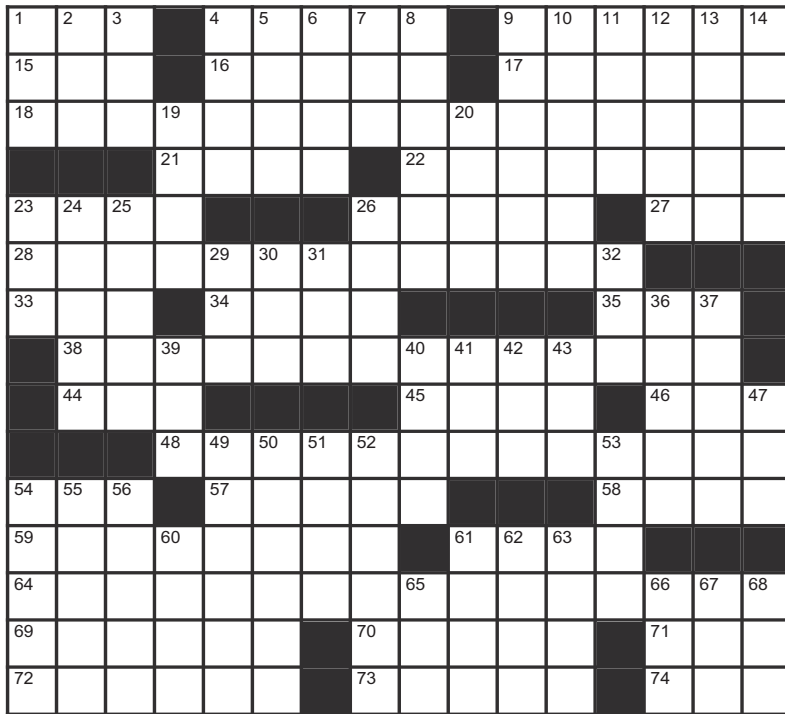
STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41.75
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2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

CROSSWORD



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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

R	A	S	P		I	S	L	E	T	J	A	R			
A	N	T	E	S	R	O	I	L	S	O	X	O			
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P	O	T		C	L	A	S	S		G	L	E	N		

RULES OF THE GAME

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

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

Across

1. Kissing in a restaurant, for short
4. Sean of "Stranger Things"
9. Mideast peace?
15. Internet company that helped launch TMZ
16. House haunter
17. "Havana" singer Cabello
18. Spa treatment that involves getting your fingernails done by a jokester?
21. Like fine wines
22. Let off
23. Kimono sashes
26. Draw ____ in the sand
27. Sorrowful cries
28. Moniker one might give to Anna Wintour or Tim Gunn?
33. One who's passed the bar: Abbr.
34. Movie in which Brad Pitt plays Achilles
35. Drops on the ground?
38. Sharp reprimand of a voice-activated assistant?
44. Plant, as seeds
45. [head slap]
46. Ailing
48. "Excuse me, mythical beast, still talking here...?"
54. Gloomy rock genre
57. Ancient region ruled by Alexander the Great
58. "Mi casa ____ casa"
59. Accidentally reveals
61. Apollo 11 org.

64. Comment a punster might use after delivering a groaner ... or a hint to this puzzle's theme
69. Way to get to Harlem, per Duke Ellington
70. "Honest!"
71. ____ rummy
72. They have a glow about them
73. Cook, as dim sum
74. Curious

Down

1. Bit of butter
2. "What was I thinking?!"
3. It's often brown or amber
4. Wide-eyed in wonder
5. Foot-long item?
6. "Meet the Press" host Chuck
7. "Kinda sorta"
8. Math set with an unspecified number of elements
9. Looks down on
10. Wilber who founded a fast-food chain
11. Rifle filler
12. Tropical vine
13. Sportswriter whose Twitter handle is @Buster_ESPN
14. Some "Downton Abbey" figures
19. Deep cut
20. Primary
23. "Diary ____ Wimpy Kid"
24. Things often drawn at night
25. Childish comeback
26. "... so long ____ both shall live?"

29. "____ be my pleasure!"
30. Pop singer Rita
31. Neither's partner
32. Dictator played by Forest
36. Early people of the Great Lakes
37. Languishes
39. The U.S. joined it in 1917
40. "Judge me by my size, do you?" speaker
41. Tic-tac-toe win
42. Bygone channel that aired "Veronica Mars"
43. NNW's opposite
47. Lucy of "Elementary"
49. Pop-up or foul ball, say
50. "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" family
51. Doing the job
52. Some easy baskets
53. "You got that right!"
54. Many "Frozen"-inspired Halloween costumes
55. "You Will ____ Tall Dark Stranger" (2010 film)
56. "SNL" alum Cheri
60. Equine : horse :: cygninge : ____
61. River near the Sphinx
62. 1998 Sarah McLachlan hit
63. Derive (from)
65. Preceder of com, org or edu
66. Swelled head
67. Free (of)
68. Fitting last word in a crossword grid

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Mary Arana, Encinitas, 14.**

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:

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

RULES OF THE GAME

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

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Matt Koller, Chula Vista, 11.**

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

Bright Ideas

— Commuters in Berlin, Germany, are required to wear masks on public transportation, and are subject to fines if they don't. Despite that, reports *Deutsche Welle*, so many people wear their masks incorrectly (covering the mouth but not the nose) that Berlin's transport company, BVG, is now suggesting that riders skip deodorant when they're getting ready for the day, in hopes that the body odor on crowded trains will keep those masks in place. "Given that so many people think they can wear their masks under their noses, we're getting tough," read a bright yellow posting from July 1 on Twitter. "The BVG is calling for a general deodorant waiver. So now do you still want to have your nose out?"

Wait, What?

— Iceland is offering a stressed-out world a unique way to blow off some steam, reports *Sky News* -- scream therapy. The country's tourist board is inviting people worldwide to record their screams to be played over loudspeakers in one of seven remote locations. "You've been through a lot this year," says the project website, "and it looks like you need the perfect place to let your frustrations out. Somewhere big, vast and untouched. It looks like you need Iceland." Psychotherapist Zoe Aston approves: "Using a scream as a way to release pent-up emotion allows you to ... reclaim the power that is inside you." Iceland has suffered relatively little during the COVID-19 pandemic, with 1,905 cases of the disease and 10 lives lost.

Compelling Explanation

— What started as a report of a naked man running down a road hitting cars in Owensboro, Kentucky, on July 16, soon turned into a home burglary in progress, reports WFIE. Daviess County Sheriff's deputies said they arrived at the home around 1:30 a.m. to find John Stefanopoulos, 41, standing inside, naked and covered with mud and blood. Authorities said the suspect rushed the officers while repeatedly telling them he had used "mushrooms with Jesus and that they were playing a virtual reality video game together." Stefanopoulos was eventually tased and taken into custody.

Suspicious Confirmed

— Andrea Balbi, president of the Gondola Association in Venice, Italy, announced on July 22 that the organization is reducing the maximum capacity allowed on the iconic boats from six persons to five, CNN reported. The change comes not because of social distancing, but because "over the last 10 years or so, tourists weigh more," Balbi said. He noted that heavier loads often mean the boats take on water, which makes it harder for the gondoliers to navigate in heavy traffic. "Going forward with over half a ton of meat on board is dangerous," remarked Raoul Roveratto, president of an association for substitute gondoliers.

Suspicious

— Liberty County (Georgia) sheriff's officers who found a body lying next to a railroad track in Allenhurst on July 14 followed pro-

tocol by covering the body with a sheet and waiting for the coroner. When the coroner arrived, detectives looked for injuries and quickly discovered the body was a female sex doll. WSAV reported that the doll was fully clothed and was anatomically correct. Officials think they may have been victims of a prank.

Angry Animals

— At Lassen Volcanic National Park in Northern California, five acres around Manzanita Lake were shut down after a man was attacked by an otter on June 25. Park Superintendent Jim Richardson told the *Redding Record Searchlight* the unnamed man was swimming in the river and came too close to the otter's offspring, known as kittens. "It is significant anytime an animal attacks a human," Richardson said. He did not believe the man was seriously injured, and he said the otter would not be relocated. "It's the protective momma (doing her job), and the attack came as a surprise," he said.

Least Competent Criminal

— Wendy Wein, 51, of South Rockwood, Michigan, was arrested July 17 after offering an undercover state trooper \$5,000 to kill her ex-husband and giving him money for travel expenses, WXYZ reported. Wein met the trooper after allegedly visiting the fake website *rentahitman.com*, where she completed a form requesting a consultation and named her ex-husband as the target. The owner of the website contacted Michigan State Police, who sent the undercover

officer. "I'm very surprised that someone thought this website was a true website," said state police spokesman Lt. Brian Oleksyk. The website owner said over the last 15 years he's been contacted a number of times by people wanting someone killed, and he turns all of those requests over to law enforcement.

"Incorrigible"

— Robert Berger, 25, of Huntington, New York, was scheduled to be sentenced last October after pleading guilty to possession of a stolen Lexus and attempting to steal a truck, but in an effort to avoid jail, he tried faking his own death, prosecutors charged on July 21. The scheme, they said, unraveled when authorities discovered a spelling error and inconsistencies in the font styles and sizes on the fake death certificate submitted by his lawyer. Further, The Associated Press reports, while Berger was "dead," he was arrested in Philadelphia for providing a false identity to police and stealing from a Catholic college. "It will never cease to amaze me the lengths some people will go to to avoid being held accountable on criminal charges," Nassau County District Attorney Madeline Singas said. "It's never a good idea to submit phony documents to the district attorney."

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continued on page 17

grants, will help the health and safety of La Mesa's homeless. According to the budget description, this means funds for "COVID-19 testing, diagnosis, treatment and/or other medical services; counseling; distribution of hygiene kits and personal protective equipment; meal and water delivery; housing navigation and case management; and supportive housing."

Lemon Grove

Budget: \$14.7 million

Cuts: \$770,000

Lemon Groves have never wallowed in the lap of luxury, and the enduring Latino settlement has been growing fiscally less sound, year by year, since incorporation in 1977. The pandemic has begun to snowball. Even with a \$5.4 million reserve, the city's finance direc-



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ



Brad Raulston,
National City Manager

ers to approve a tax on marijuana sales, adding \$500,000 to \$1 million a year. The welcome mat is out for other dispensaries to set up pot shops in Lemon Grove as well.

National City

Budget: \$96.3 million

Cuts: \$4.8 million

National City is a mecca for reasonable apartment rents. It's also a good bet for tax revenues coming from its Mile of Cars. These days, however, the virus

has slowed those funds considerably. According to City Manager Brad Raulston, National City is facing "significant revenue losses" of \$4.8 million. Their fiscal year, based on the January-to-December calendar, shows 2020's budget down to \$93.1 million from 2019's \$96.3 million. What about 2021? The city is bulwarking itself against more losses by "avoiding hasty decisions that may affect core services and employee morale, opting to instead focus on short-term measures to cut expenditures, freeze positions, defer capital projects, and utilize reserves."

Those frozen positions — an odd metaphor — are no doubt thawed out and staffed by current hires who are doing double duty, so I'm not so sure "employee morale" remains upbeat.

The Lemon Grove City Council is asking voters to approve a tax on marijuana sales, adding \$500,000 to \$1 million a year.

tor, Molly Brennan, says that if bad news keeps coming, that fund will disappear in two years. There is some talk of disincorporation, after which the county would become Lemon Grove's caretaker. And the ax has fallen. One sheriff's deputy, one sheriff's

department property and evidence specialist, 10 percent pay cuts for mayor and councilmembers, and a 25 percent reduction in street sweeping service. Oh yes, a hiring freeze, no paid-for city-related travel, no city-used auto expenses, no more graffiti removal,

no emergency satellite phones, no trauma programs, and definitely no more firework fests unless they're sponsored. The projected deficit for June 30, 2021, as of now, is \$1.8 million. Locals rejected a sales tax hike this March. But the City Council is asking vot-

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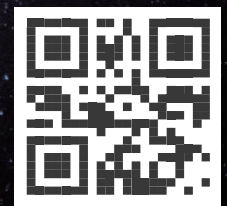
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The city is hoping for fiscal relief as are municipalities nationwide, mini budgetary handouts from Washington. Currently, it's another package on which the House and Senate are unable to agree.

A sour note: coronavirus deaths countywide are highest in National City's 91950 zip code.

Oceanside

Budget: \$157.6 million

Cuts: \$7.95 million

Comparing the budgets of 2019-2020 (\$172.8 million) to the current fiscal year reveals a major loss: \$15.2 million, one of the largest drops in the county. A closer examination suggests that the revenue to cover last year's budget was less robust than expected, especially during the first half of 2020. Thus, the city remains on a slow bleed. With the City Council mandating nearly \$8 million in cuts, the following reductions must be made: personnel costs (a.k.a. "vacant funded positions," which sounds like a hiring freeze) by \$4.29 million, maintenance and operations by \$2.1 million, and an obscure category called "internal service funds" by \$1.34 million. What makes all this much dicier is that the city has few reserves. That piggy bank is ultralight at \$610,000. Correction, the piggy has not been put in the bank: the sum is merely a projection, the evidence of things hoped for. But an economic rebound this year is likely a pure mirage.

Poway

Budget: \$93.1 million

Cuts: \$1.5 - \$2.5 million

Poway is nicknamed "The City in the Country." Half of its 40 square miles is designated open

space. It declares in its budget that the "pandemic has created a shock to all levels of the United States economy."

Not to worry; the city has a "Volatility Reserve," 45 percent of its annual expenditures, for just such a shock. Poway

officials see the pandemic making a "V," or down-up recovery, over the next two years, mapping out scenarios from mild to severe. City Manager Chris Hazeltine writes, with some self-flattery, that, as "a lean organization," Poway's "depart-

ments [have] identified expenditure retrenchment techniques that didn't threaten health and safety, reduce service levels, or eliminate existing staff."

The same thorn in the hide of all county cities persists: increas-

ing payouts to police, firefighters, salaries, pensions, and insurance premiums. Revenues in the last several years have fallen, not precipitously but with regularity. But no crisis, it seems, will stop Poway's premiere capital project from opening in

May 2021: the Mickey Cafagna Community Center, "a shared-use, multi-generational facility," which "will bring the community together for years to come." The center salutes Poway's irrepressibly genial ex-mayor, real estate developer, and chief

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cheerleader, who died in 2009.

San Marcos

Budget: \$75.6 million

Cuts: \$6.3 million

Hit especially hard in the economic gut is San Marcos: its unemployment rate went from 3 percent to 30 percent in one year. Things will worsen if landlords — some of whose income is based on student rentals around Cal State San Marcos — must delay payment on their property taxes. City Manager Jack Griffin, a rare stylish writer of budgetary analysis, describes how everything changed “from an economy-crushing pandemic to a period of civil unrest that has not been seen in over 50 years,” March to June, 2020.

To balance the budget, San Marcos has cut “non-safety employees” pay by 10 percent, fur-

loughed all part-time staff, and mothballed a clutch of vacant but needed positions. Messing with the work hours of their “safety employees,” Griffin writes, was “not viewed as a wise move at all.” The city maintains a hardy \$47.4 million reserve, which will drop when one \$6.6 million capital project, already grandfathered in for next year, comes due.

The sober Griffin reminds his beleaguered citizens that any restoration of the city’s mojo, especially with parks and recreation and part-time workers, will have to be “something approximating pre-pandemic levels. We may never get fully back to that level.”

Santee

Budget: \$46.4 million

Cuts: \$2.3 million

During the pandemic, citizens repudiated two



No crisis, it seems, will stop Poway’s premiere capital project from opening in May 2021: the Mickey Cafagna Community Center, “a shared-use, multi-generational facility,” which “will bring the community together for years to come.”

local clowns, food-shopping in a Nazi mask and a KKK hood. “Hate Has No Home Here” one sign read in the ensuing car rally. The city managed last fiscal year to balance its budget: revenues (\$45.4 million) exceeded

expenditures (\$44.8 million) and a reserve fund of \$9 million kept leaks plugged. Suddenly, the coronavirus stormed in, and the walls started to shake — sales and property taxes will meet neither pension payouts nor

the services of the County Sheriff’s Department. Here’s that rainy day. For the next 12 months, the city is about \$4.7 million below its outlays for capital improvements. It’s also a whopping \$40 million below the pro-



**Chris Hazeltine,
Poway City Manager**

jection for 2021-2022, which, in budget meetings, evokes the dreaded D word: deferral. Nearly all part-time workers, most in recreation, have been furloughed or laid off. The good news is that firefighters got a 2.5 percent raise, and not one of the 51 is working remotely.

Solana Beach

Budget: \$58 million

Cuts: \$100,000

In a dense 272-page budget report, Solana

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PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

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Beach officials say their spending plan concocts its “revenue assumptions included in the revenue forecasts,” which means the budgeters assume they will be able to forecast having X dollars for the coming fiscal year. Perhaps the conjecture doubletake reflects the muck all county cities are mired in this summer: the first wave of Covid is unrelenting on people, services, and funding. Unlike maskless adolescents bunched on the boardwalk, city budgets can’t social-distance from their expenditures. Solana Beach, along with other seaside locales known for dining, entertainment, lodging, and housing, has seen its yearly revenues, pumped by scads of fees and taxes, rise steadily by 4 to 5 percent. Indeed, the Trump term has been lucrative for the city’s coffers:

The five-year growth in property taxes alone has been 22 percent. Solana Beach, however, gets only 16 percent of every property-tax dollar. Thus, a million-dollar-home homeowner pays \$10,676 (property tax, 1.06767 percent) and the city gets \$1708. The implication: there must be many through-the-roof home values in this coastal El Dorado; the city’s \$100,000 shortfall for the coming year is virtually zilch.

Vista

Budget: \$85.4 million
Losses: \$5.5 million
 All mimsy among the avocado groves, Vista is budgeting \$85.4 million, up nearly 3 percent from the previous fiscal year. Like most cities, two thirds of the money has been allocated to public safety, the fire department, and the county

sheriff’s department — as it is every year. Expected revenue increases of \$2.5 million, Vista predicted, would accrue from property and sale taxes. Once the virus hit, that word “expected” fell off the budgetary wagon. In June, according to Vista city manager, Patrick Johnson, “we unfortunately made cuts to our Recreation and Community Services budget since our Moonlight Amphitheatre, Wave Waterpark, and Recreation Center are not open.”

And yet, a silver lining: Johnson will access nearly \$5.5 million from the city’s reserve funds, which has been “set aside over the years specifically for the next recession or economic downturn.” Vista’s reserve is 31 percent of the current budget, fairly deep at \$26.4 million.

— Thomas Larson

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Garden, Moonrock,
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28g
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with Purchase of
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Happy Hour (12pm-3pm)

Flower (8pm-10pm)

\$20/G Boss Shelf for \$17

\$15/G VIP Shelf for \$12

Edibles

- Buy 2 Drinks get 1 FREE
- STNDRD 6 for \$100
- Kushy punch 4 for \$45

OZ SPECIALS

\$50 Gorilla Glue

**\$200 (Various Indica,
Sativa and Hybrid)**

\$220 Exclusive

\$300 V.I.P.

\$100 3oz House Shake

Wax

• \$20 wax 4 for \$70

• Maya Shatter 6gs for \$100

DONATE \$120

And Get All Below

FREE

- 100 MG Edible
- 1 PreRoll
- 1 \$20 Vape

DONATE \$50

And Get All Below **FREE**

- 100 MG Edible
- 1 PreRoll



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\$15/G VIP Shelf
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Edibles

Buy 2 Drinks
get 1 FREE

STNDRD 6 for \$100

Kushy Punch 4 for \$45

Wax

\$20 Wax 4 for \$70
Maya Shatter 6gs for \$100

OZ SPECIALS

\$50 Gorilla Glue

\$200 (Various Indica, Sativa & Hybrid)

\$220 Exclusive

\$300 V.I.P.

\$100 3oz House Shake

Brass Monkey Shatter 3 for \$70 or \$30 a gram

Babylons Garden 1000mg \$35

\$20 Gram Golden Premium Shatter

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STIIZY \$30 Pods	 \$40 (1G Vapes)	Rove Carts \$20	Medibles \$15 (300mg)	CRUMBLE \$15
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5 Rice Krispie Treats \$10 (100mg each)	Babylon's Garden Gummies \$35 (1000mg) \$10 (150mg)	GODAM 7 for \$100	Moonrocks \$20/G	House Pre-Rolls 4 for \$10
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- STNDRD 200mg
- Babylon 150mg, 1,000mg
- NAMU 500mg

1G CONCENTRATE

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- PG Budder \$25
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ALL GRAMS \$10EA

*Excludes Exotic Strains

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(FULL NUGS)

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(1000MG GUMMIES)

1000MG BROWNIE
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BRASS MONKEY
\$15
(TRIM)

STIIIZY
CARTS
\$45/\$25

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\$25

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KIEF
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\$30 1/8THS
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CARTS 3 FOR \$50
Mix & Match several options

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KushyPunch

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