

No longer David, Stone Brewing recast as Goliath

Two harborside happy hours ■ West Coast politics, East Coast money

S A N D

VOL. 45 | NO. 33 | AUGUST 13, 2020

Rever

Two years of turmoil at Gompers Prep

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

More in the back of this issue

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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.

Improper attribution

I'm glad to see Ed Bedford's disclaimer of the "Newsolini" reference. I love the OB Pier, and the Cafe has a special place in my heart, so I read the review in the July 16th issue. I was surprised by the term Newsolini. I thought: OMG, it's really happening. Even the food reviewer is blasting government for public health advice. So, I was happy to read that he didn't use the word, and I suggest the editors stop putting words into other people's mouths! That's how fascism starts...

Marcia Boruta
Hillcrest

Hiding Escondido

In "Here's That Rainy Day" (Cover Stories, August 6), Thomas Larson stated, "[Carlsbad] Fourth in County population (112,000) behind San Diego (1.4 million), Chula Vista (272,000), and Oceanside (174,000)..." - oh? Is the Reader again snubbing inland San Diego County's largest city, Escondido, with a population of over 152,000, which places it fourth in county population?

BTW: Kudos to Matthew Lickona for his sublime "Golden Dreams" contribution (July 29) "Maple Muse" and "Texting While La Mesa Burns: An Exchange Between Father and Son During the May 30th Protest's Violent Aftermath." I honestly think his enormous talent has been wasted all these years at the Reader; our gain, world publishing's loss. The beauty of his prose can bring joy to even a cynical New Yorker reader such as myself. Mr. Lickona's ode to the maple he saved

in his backyard brought a tear to my jaded eye. And the epigrams he placed at the article's beginning were spot on in a world such as ours. Thank you, Matthew Lickona!

Pamela Gravlin
Vista

Profane purist

I just want to say Robert [Lerner's] letter says there's a classical music radio station in San Diego ("Classics in Plain Sight," Letters, July 30). Bullshit. I grew up in the 1930s making crystal sets and making radios and in those days radio was something that was broadcast through the air. You received it on an aerial in a radio. It wasn't some stupid fucking cable thing. So that guy, what he says there's a radio station, he's full of shit. There is no radio station playing classical music in San Diego that you could receive on a radio through an aerial that comes to the receiver through the air. If there's some damn thing on the Internet or on cable or something that is not radio. Radio is broadcast through the air. I don't know what they call that other shit, podcasts or something, but it is not radio.

Anonymous

Political leavings

This is in reference to the Volume 45, Number 32, August 6 2020 ("Tacos Lily: good enough for Anthony Bourdain!" Tin Fork). Dr. Vince Medici of Medici-Medicine.com has good info in reference to politicians and collaborators handling pandemic and immunity. I would not eat shellfish nor scavenger meat for zinc or any vitamin. Seems political agenda using Covid-19 for lockdown is an excuse. Many reject or ignore moral insight thanks to liberal legislation and media.

Name withheld
San Diego

Gunning for Del Mar

Just a quick thought, if the Del Mar Fairgrounds is \$96 million in the hole, maybe they shouldn't be trying to kick out the Cross Roads of

continued on page 4

San Diego Reader

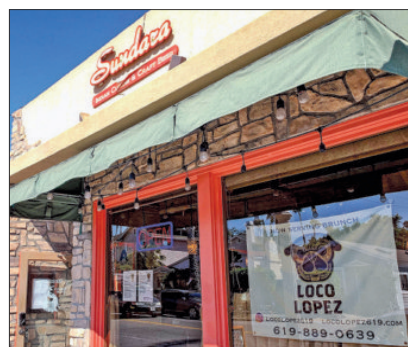
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August 13, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

If it ain't broke... — page 12



The latest OB brunch pop-up — page 21



Bodies in motion — page 26

ADVERTISING

Display Ads

Automotive	33
Cannabis	34
Classifieds	27
Health and Beauty	14
Legal Solutions	11
Massage	27
Music	25
Research Studies	9
Restaurants	20

NEWS & FEATURES

Letters	1
Neighborhood News	
Aids versus Covid in Bankers Hill	2
News Ticker	
Barbara Bry's big bucks	3
Under the Radar	
West Coast politics, East Coast money	3
Ask a Hipster	
Who will negotiate with invading aliens?	4
Unreal Estate	
Mission Hills masterpiece	8
Street Style	
Report from the land of brand whores	9
Two years of turmoil at Gompers Prep	
Teachers' union messes with success, by Joe Deegan	12
Puzzles	32
News of the Weird	33

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance, Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures, Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness	16
--	----

San Diego Booze News

No longer David; Stone recast as goliath	17
--	----

Religion

"Our mission is to reach, teach, and release."	18
--	----

Restaurants

Tin Fork: two harborside happy hours	20
Feast: Loco Lopez takes brunch over the top	21

Music

Blurt: Pepper; Nathan Hubbard	23
Local Five: San Diego acts you ought to check out	24
Immortal Beauty: Symphony's fall season not canceled... yet	25

Movies

Scott Marks makes due with <i>Skin</i> : <i>A History of Nudity in the Movies</i>	26
Movies at Home: <i>The Devil's Road: A Baja Adventure</i>	26

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BANKERS HILL AIDS v. COVID

Is the city using one pandemic to minimize another?

On July 28, an appeal of the environmental determination for the Olive Street park in the uptown area was defeated by a unanimous vote of the San Diego City Council. City staff had determined that the infill project, a .74-acre pocket park on city-owned land in Bankers Hill, was exempt from analysis under the California Environmental Quality Act. Not

“The memorial and the deck are intended to, and will, attract thousands of people.”

so, said appellant Jennifer Hasso, who owns an historic home next to the site, and who is suing the city over alleged trespassing to assess the land where the park would be built.

The city posted a notice of right to appeal the determination on April 13. The appeal was filed two weeks later. “We got the notice while other government agencies were closed” due to COVID, Hasso’s attorney said, with the result that they were unable to contact state and local agencies and obtain needed records. It’s another loose end brought on by the shutdown — the city claims the project isn’t covered under the governor’s COVID-19 order.

Other issues brought up in support of environmental review ranged from biologi-



Critics say the AIDS memorial should be in Balboa Park, where there would be easier access.

cal resources to flood hazards. But the most controversial had more to do with another sort of environment. Among the features proposed for the park are play and fitness areas, a new storm drain, seating, walkways, landscaping, lighting, fencing, an overlook deck, and

a regional AIDS memorial. Since planning began in 2016, critics have complained that the neighborhood park is the wrong location for the memorial, which would honor San Diego’s 8000 victims. Somewhere more accessible like Balboa Park would be better, they argued, adding that the park is too small for San Diego’s first and only public AIDS memorial, especially one designed to include a large scenic overlook deck above Maple Canyon. “The memorial is critical to CEQA,” Hasso’s attorney said. “Unfortunately, it does appear the city is aware of that, and is actively watering down the description to get around CEQA. The city’s small little watered down park” and the actual proposal “are fundamentally at odds with what is necessary for the CEQA analysis.”

The appeal states the land where the deck would be built belongs to Hasso. The city owns the land just north of Hasso’s home, which has no setback from its property line. Further, some of her property extends onto city land, and will have to be removed when the park is built. According to the city, the encroachments include portions of a block

BAJA

Sin tax vs. sin tax Smoke-less but not smoke-free, thanks in part to duty-free

During the first three months of the COVID-19 health emergency, beginning in March, “sales of cigarettes in Mexico diminished by 45 percent, [an equivalent to] 254.5 million packs,” reported *El Financiero* on July 27. “This means that in those three months, 209.1 million packs were no longer purchased, compared to 463.6 million in the same period last year, after it was determined that smoking is a risk factor for the so-called SARS-COV2.”

Over the weekend, I spoke to Baja smokers about the news. “I’ve been smoking about the same amount,” said Elice Tucker, 56. “Most of my friends down here in Rosarito, both Mexicans and Americans, are smokers. I believe most of them are smoking the same amount.”

In 2015, Tucker retired and transplanted from Clairemont/University City to the tourist and beach city south of the border. Recently, she was part of a massive food drive that assisted “about 5000” Rosarito families, many of which were employees of faltering businesses

EMPRESAS

La venta de cigarros cae 45% en México por el coronavirus

- En el 2T20, los ingresos de Philip Morris en México cayeron 32% y BAT prevé impacto de 3% en sus ganancias globales.
- Les afectó el paro de actividades no esenciales y el cierre de bares y hoteles.

ALEJANDRA RODRIGUEZ 27/07/2020 Actualización 27/07/2020 - 1:22



Smoke ‘em if you can afford ‘em.

wall and wooden fence, landscaping cobbles, and a concrete ditch.

The city holds that the park meets all guidelines and is consistent with both the general plan and uptown plan, serving a population within 1/4 mile. Per the city, “Rather than being a large gathering space, Olive Street Park can provide a reflective, passive space” for visitors.

Hasso doesn’t see it working out that way — by design. “The memorial and the deck are intended to, and will, attract thousands of people.”

SHEILA PELL

shut down because of the pandemic. “I don’t believe the numbers in the [*El Financiero*] article,” she adds. “Whenever I go into a convenience store here, Mexicans and Americans are still buying cigs. The price increase they are referring to, those have been the average prices per pack for at least the last three years.”

Regarding that increase, the report stated, “At the beginning of this year, the *impuesto especial sobre producción y servicios* (special tax on production and services) for cigarettes was updated according to inflation, with an increase of 7 pesos per pack, an average cost of 63 pesos (\$2.80).”

continued on page 6

Encroachments on City Property





Cybele Thompson, out of the game but in the \$100 club.

Brying all the way to the bank...

...vs the sickly transit of Gloria money

How much of a hit has the coronavirus pandemic inflicted on San Diego political fundraising? Based on a comparison of first-half 2020 campaign contributions versus the 2016 take, a sizable but not overwhelming one, partially ameliorated by a lockdown-free June. Final numbers now posted online by the city clerk's office for the first six months of 2020 show that mayoral candidate Barbara Bry made the most of what has turned out to be a brief break between local Covid-19 waves. As the San Diego lockdown largely lifted beginning June 1, the Bry campaign and an ostensibly independent political committee backing her mayoral bid pulled in a total of \$366,219. Gloria, on the other hand, managed to come up with considerably less during June's lockdown hiatus, \$159,418.

Bry's total haul benefited from higher individual giving levels, including \$10,000 from Mission Valley developer and Trump convention delegate Tom Sudberry, which went to Success San Diego in Support of Barbara Bry, a committee not bound by the city's \$1150 campaign contribution maximums. Maximum donors to Bry's official campaign fund, known as Barbara Bry for Mayor 2020, included \$1150 each from La Jolla lobbyist Matthew Peterson, Ben Arnold of Southern Realty Development, Aaron, and Dan Feldman of developer Sunroad Enterprises, developer Chris McKellar, mega-apartment mogul Stuart Posnock, and contractor Douglas Barnhart, along with Barnhart-Reese partner Tamela Reese.

The largest single June contributors to Todd Gloria for Mayor 2020 included Mission Valley landowner Lawrence Cushman, lobbyist Richard Ledford, lawyers Charles Christensen and Krista Cabrera, ex-city manager, now developer Jack McGrory, Lynne Gorguze, wife of ex-councilman and current House Democrat Scott Peters, and Steve South, president of the EDCO trash hauling giant. Each came up with maximum donations of \$1150 each. Peters kicked in the same. Cybele Thompson, who quit her job in July as director of the city's Real Estate Assets Department following a stinging report about the handling of the controversial Sempra high-rise deal, gave \$100 to Gloria on June 25.

Matt Potter

Covid-related wealth crisis

Political giving reduced to less than healthy levels

The failed campaign for this year's Measure C posted the city's biggest cash haul during the first half of this year. The measure would have hiked the tax on hotel stays in the city of San Diego to pay for a controversial convention center expansion and homeless relief program. Measure C failed to obtain the required two-thirds vote of approval needed to levy new taxes, and the city's hotel lobby threatened to take the matter to court to overturn the electoral mandate. But the COVID-19 pandemic, which shut down the convention business across the nation, has put a damper on such talk for the time being, as hotel lobbyists have set about requesting rent relief for their once-lucrative waterfront properties on city-owned land. During the early days of



Barbara Bry, blessed despite less.

2020 leading to the March 3 election, the pro-convention center tax group raised a total of \$1.13 million from hotel owners and related ventures, with the two most significant single contributions of \$250,000 each arriving from Marriott International, Inc. and the Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego.

According to the city's online campaign disclosure data, the midyear filing deadline of June 30 saw the city's mayoral run-off candidates, Todd Gloria and Barbara Bry, both Democrats, locked in a tight fundraising battle. Barbara Bry for San Diego Mayor 2020, along with Success San Diego in Support of Barbara Bry, a so-called independent expenditure committee, garnered a total of \$263,695 in contributions. The latter picked up \$10,000 on February 10 from parking magnate Scott Jones, and \$35,000 on February 21 from the Browning Family Trust, whose trustee is ex-Democratic state senator Steve Peace.

But fundraising has been so tight that Success San Diego was forced to borrow money from its supporters, a phenomenon

continued on page 36

UNDER THE RADAR

Boss Tweed and San Diego politics

Democrat Terra Lawson-Remer is far out in front of Republican incumbent Kristin Gaspar in the fundraising battle between the two campaigns for San Diego county supervisor. According to disclosure filings with the county Registrar of Voters, Gaspar took in just \$66,373 in monetary contributions between February 16 through June 30 of this year. Lawson-Remer got \$301,286 during the same period, per her filing.

Contributing to the Democrat's funding heft was a total of \$12,275 worth of donations from East Coast givers, including \$850 on May 2 from Adam Berenzweig, whose facial recognition and "mind-reading" company was bought by Facebook in 2019. He told DigitalTrends.com in September of last year about the firm's wristband that "decodes electrical signals from neurons in the spinal cord," the site reported. "I could certainly see a future where people are wearing this device all day, and that it's the thing that is used to interact with people's phones, the lights in their house, and the radio in their car," said Berenzweig, who now works for Facebook.

Other out-of-town Lawson-Remer donations included \$850 each from retired Wall Street hedge fund mogul Malcolm Wiener and his wife Carolyn Wiener of Greenwich, Connecticut, and \$850 apiece from Jonathan and Thomas Wiener, of the same city. The Connecticut Post reported on June 5, 2015 that the couple hosted a lavish \$200,000 fundraiser at \$2700 a person for Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential bid. "The reception, held at the \$29.7 million Roman villa of Malcolm and Carolyn Wiener, was closed to the media," the account noted. Known as Villa Candia, the Wiener mansion was "developed by 19th-century New York political boss William Tweed," and is "known for its extensive collection of rare art."

Encinitas retiree Pete Peterson kicked in \$1700 for Gaspar, as did Urban Plates restaurant owner Saad Nadhir and wife Lillian. According to the group's website, Urban Plates is currently closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Though she came up short in the campaign cash-raising derby, Gaspar benefited from an ostensible independent expenditure by the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee. The PAC spent \$57,070 on anti-Lawson-Remer hit pieces during the first half of the year, says its financial disclosure report, as well as kicking in \$27,500 in sup-

port of Assembly Democrat Todd Gloria for mayor. Financial backers of the chamber's PAC included Caterpillar, Inc. (\$10,000, March 28); H.G. Fenton, Inc. (\$20,000, March 4); Kilroy Realty, L.P. (\$10,000, February 24); Republic Services (\$10,000, March 19); and XJD LLC (\$25,000, February 21). XJD of Beverly Hills is run by Michael Schlesinger, a controversial developer of condos on the former Escondido Country Club golf course.



County supervisor candidate Terra Lawson-Remer is hauling in the out-of-town campaign cash.

No exit plan Emergency preparedness and evacuation planning aren't exactly at the top of San Diego State University's list of priorities, seriously jeopardizing the safety and well-being of both students and staff. So says a newly released June 10 audit by the state university system. "We reviewed ten campus and auxiliary emergency generators, and we found that one was not tested on a monthly basis as required. The generator was designated to provide

emergency power to the University Towers residence hall," per the audit. "Performing testing of emergency generators provides assurance that critical resources will be readily available and functioning in the event of an emergency."

The document notes that "both the campus and SDSU Research Foundation evacuation procedures were in draft form" and that "emergency preparedness training was not consistently completed by new staff within one year of hiring."

Adds the audit, "The campus did not have a formal building safety coordinator program or policy that addressed initial and refresher

specialized training or roles and responsibilities." Worse yet, building safety officers included "employees who were no longer active, and some [who] had not completed annual refresher specialized training." ...San Diego County's Parks and Recreation Department has some explaining to do about some missing pieces of equipment, says a county audit. "Out of a sample of 24 items from the minor equipment list, 3 (12.5%) items could

not be located," according to the document. Lost items included an Apple Studio Display Monitor, valued at \$645, a Simmons SD7PK Electronic Drum Set (\$599), and Skate Equipment, Knee & Ankle (\$860).

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)



Kristin Gaspar came up short in the campaign cash-raising derby.

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Dear Hipster:

If aliens invaded the Earth tomorrow bent on our destruction, who would be the best person to act as a diplomat on behalf of the entire world?

— TYCHO, HILLCREST

I'm weirdly flattered you think I might know the answer to this; I'm also pleased to report that I do, in point of fact, know the exact human for the job. I know you're thinking, "He's going to say 'himself,'" but I promise I'm not.

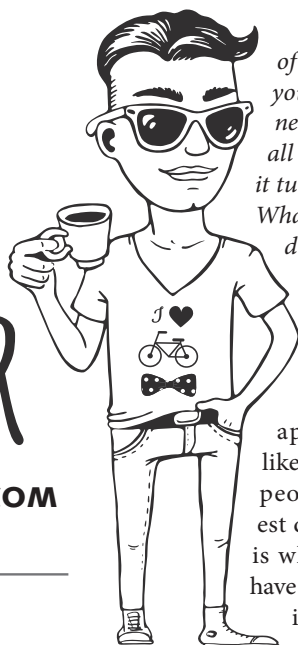
When you're greeting a hostile, extra-terrestrial lifeform, you want to put humanity's best foot forward by sending out a person of great sophistication and culture to speak on behalf of the human species.

At the same time, you need someone humble, so the invaders do not perceive an exaggerated threat that inspires them to vaporize the planet with their space weapons. At the same time, you need to find somebody who will

communicate a simple message of peace, yet who also seems capable of understanding the interstellar mysteries that might ignite the imaginations of a warlike race from beyond the solar system. The only natural choice is, of course, Morgan Freeman. And, I mean, if they have any idea about earth culture whatsoever, you know the aliens have seen *The Shawshank Redemption*.

Dear Hipster:

Some things in life are inherently disappointing. Obviously, anytime something is hyped up and it doesn't live up to expectations, you get disappointed like a little kid who has been waiting for Christmas morning since the day after Halloween. I guess the adult version



of that is probably when you finally tune into that new Netflix original series all your friends love, and it turns out to be only meh. What are the biggest hipster disappointments going around right now?

— DAVE

Well, there are the whopping great disappointments of life, like how, at least for most people, the single greatest disappointment in life is when they realize they have reached the age where, if they were ever going to be famous, it would have happened already.

Similarly, the moment you realize clouds are not in fact soft and fluffy is pretty much the moment you know you'll never truly be happy again, at least not in any meaningful sense. These disappointments affect hipsters because, contrary to popular belief, hipsters form a subset of ordinary humanity.

But then there are the peculiar disappointments of hipster life. Take, for example, the kind of disappointment I recently felt when an acquaintance falsely informed me *The Adventures of Pete & Pete* was streaming on Amazon Prime. This pernicious falsehood raised my hopes of returning, if ever so briefly, to the 1990s at their spiritual best; and then

those same hopes were dashed upon the rocks of grim reality. I, alongside the other hipsters inexplicably drawn to revisit retro children's programming, must resign ourselves to the fact that Nickelodeon executives have hidden

the channel's single greatest achievement somewhere deep beneath a mountain where they mutter in the darkness and keep their precious safe from prying eyes.

If you want to spot a hipster disappointment, look for any situation where somebody like me is completely bent out of shape about something, and you can't help but ask, "Who cares about this trivial little thing?" Well, I care, Nickelodeon, and don't you forget it. And while you're at it, maybe you can remind your friends at General Mills how unfair it was to bring back Fruit Brute cereal for exactly one year in 2014, and then take it away again for the foreseeable future.

— DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

the West gun show ("Fixx Solutions housing not going in at Del Mar Fairgrounds," Neighborhood News, July 28). I don't know how much revenue those shows bring in, but it seems pretty stupid to reject income from a perfectly legal and popular source.

Pete Fitzwell
Bay Park

Meritorious debate

I am one of the many local residents who are up in arms at the Del Mar Fair Board consideration of putting up to 1,500 homeless "cottages" on Fair property. This is an irresponsible proposal that would irreparably damage our wonderful community. That said, the personal attacks on Fair Board member Lisa Barkett in your article were inappropriate and unnecessary. She has been responsive to my inquiries, and I believe is acting in what she views as the best interest of the Fair and the community. This topic needs to be debated on its merits, not by attacking those involved. Once our leaders and our citizens understand what is being proposed, they will reject this absurd idea. Let's hope they do so for the right reasons.

Tim Haidinger
North County

Snap cats

After reading the "North County feral cat rescuers out on a limb" article dated July 21 (Neighborhood News), we at the Spay-Neuter Action Project of San Diego can empathize with the overwhelming scope of managing just a segment of the feral cat population, in the best of times. There is no work-around however when a public health crisis cuts off limited resources to slow the mating cycle of unowned cats; impeding any progress made. We can relate. As an affordable spay and neuter provider whose sole mission is to prevent, or stop, the

needless birth of unwanted cats, dogs, and rabbits, our doors closed temporarily during the first months of the pandemic. It was hard not to think about the excess litters that came into existence during that time, but were relieved when our spay and neuter mobile clinics for publicly-owned pets resumed on June 1 under strict guidelines, in communities struggling with just too many surplus animals. Our top-ranked veterinary team is averaging 10 clinics a month and will increase in number when we fill a part-time RVT position, slated for primarily weekdays. If you are interested in joining the team to save more animal lives, please send your resume to info@snap-sandiego.org. Donations to sponsor a pet or cover the cost of surgical supplies, always our greatest need, would be greatly appreciated!: snap-sandiego.org/donate-to-snap-san-diego

Dorell Sackett
San Diego

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

"Olive Street pocket park weathers appeal by adjacent home owner"
Neighborhood News
August 4

Why do we need a public memorial for AIDS? Yes, AIDS is awful, but so are many other medical conditions like heart disease, cancer, diabetes, or any other diseases and there no memorials for those, nor should there be.

—Solandra

"Why these nine Escondido restaurants are closing"
Neighborhood News
December 9, 2019

If you want your retail or food establishment to flourish for a long time, you'd better buy the land or get a 30 year or better lease. Even with a lease your costs will rise over time because they all have bumps in the rent at each renewal option.

—hammers

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“This tax increase has already been carried out, and it was a severe blow to the economy of the 15 million smokers in [Mexico],” reportedly said Cuauhtémoc Rivera, president of ANPEC, the National Association of Small Merchants. “What happened in these two [plus] months in proportion to fallen cigarettes [sales] was due to the lack of income, because 83,000 jobs have been lost in the country.” Rivera added that prior to the pandemic, a person might have purchased two packs, but now their consumption had dropped to one pack, or they opted for the “illegal market,” which is estimated to be more than “6 billion cigarettes a year.” The “illegal market” refers to store operators or street vendors that open up cigarette packs and sell individual cigarette sticks for about 6 pesos, an equivalent to a quarter a piece.

“People quit smoking and hardly drink because there is no work and money,” Ensenada-resident Alex corroborated. “The minimum wage here in Mexico is equivalent to \$80 a week.” Alex is a wood fabricator by trade, and brings his San Diego family cartons of cigarettes from Ensenada. He tacks on a small fee to cover his gas and toll booth expenditures. “If you are able to work a minimum wage job here during these times, count your blessings, although I can’t imagine some will buy cigarettes and/or liquor while their family eats less.”

“Sometimes I run out of U.S. made cigarettes before my monthly visit, and I buy the Mexican cigs,” noted Rosarito’s Tucker. “But they are really harsh and they make me cough a lot. I normally smoke American Spirit yellow, but they can only be found at the Smoke Shop in downtown Rosarito, and are expensive.” They are expensive in San Diego, too — usually around \$10 a pack at a 7-Eleven or liquor stores. But, says Tucker, “I can get a 10-pack carton at the duty-free stores in San Ysidro for about \$42; so that’s less than \$5 per pack. The reason the American Spirits are so much cheaper at the duty-free stores is because of the taxes that California implements. All cigs at duty-free are cheaper, but you have to buy them and take them into Mexico. Then you can bring them back into the U.S. but it must be declared.”

That part is serious business. “The duty-free stores require you to register your driver’s license number and phone number — and it is all in their computer. So before you check out, they have to log in with your info. You are not able to take the cigarettes out of the store yourself. You have to sign the receipt, which is in three parts — I was told that one part has to go to the government for taxing issues. You get one copy and wait outside for your purchase, then the employee brings out your merchandise in exchange for your receipt. They also have your license plate number, car

color, make and model, and they watch you take it to your vehicle and then follow you to the border entrance via the freeway. Or if they are really busy, they have a person standing on the side of the road at the entrance and let them know via FM radio that you are coming; if you don’t take that entrance you get reported and get banned from making purchases there in the future.”

Carlos, a 35-year-old business owner from Tijuana, has been smoking since his teen years; he didn’t elaborate on how many packs he smokes a week, but he said he smokes about the same amount nowadays as pre-pandemic. “I’d rather smoke the Mexican Marlboro Blancos (white-colored packs); here they are about 65 pesos (\$2.92) per pack.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

VISTA

Death by taxes?

Legal marijuana has to fight outlaws and city hall

The city of Vista has rewarded its six medical marijuana dispensaries with a remarkable thank-you gift for playing by the rules turning in an estimated \$175,000 a month in extra tax dollars for city coffers. “They told us we are turning in three times what they expected,” says Justin Christman, owner of Flora Verde, which has been open since October. So imagine his surprise at what came next. “Our annual business license fee used to be \$640 a year,” says Christman. “They just told us it will now be \$28,000. We never got a phone call or any discussion that this was even being considered. It’s a f*cking joke.”

“Our annual business license fee used to be \$640 a year, They just told us it will now be \$28,000.”

Christman says the reason the city of Vista gave for this mandatory 4375 percent increase in fees was that it will cost Vista that much to launch a new accounting program, wherein a city-hired auditor will come on site to do extensive auditing at each dispensary. He says the increase is “not legitimate. There is no way it will cost them that much money and take



“Thanks for cooperating with government. Now pay up!”

that much time to do this. What they are trying to do is come in and look at our books.”

City clerk Kathy Valdez oversees marijuana licensing in Vista. She says that the new \$28,000 fee, passed by the city council June 23,

dispensaries pay as much as \$75,000 a month. City Clerk Valdez says that as of June 30, the six dispensaries had turned in \$1.3 million in new, so-called Measure Z taxes, named after the initiative that forced the city to allow medicinal dispensaries to open.

News of Vista’s pot tax windfall reached Oceanside Republican city councilman Christopher Rodriguez, who just announced that he is running for mayor. At Oceanside’s June 24 council meeting, he gave a dramatic speech that referred to the Vista model as the right way to tax and regulate this inevitable industry, and urged his fellow councilmembers to allow the opening of storefront dispensaries. “My father was a Latin King,” Rodriguez said at the June 24 meeting. “He moved cocaine and dealt drugs.” Marijuana, said Rodriguez, was his “beginning.” And now, he claimed, “two-thirds

is not actually a business license fee, but rather a “required auditing fee.” Valdez says the city has hired an outside consultant to determine if the \$28,000 amount is too high, and if so, it could be adjusted downward after the first year.

None of the Vista dispensaries contacted wanted to divulge their monthly tax payment to the city, but some estimate that the busiest

of the marijuana that’s circulating through our city right now is from illegal operations. It’s government’s responsibility to look at facts and think, ‘How can we stop the black market?’” He said that it is up to local government to fight back against “black market thugs who are illegally bringing it into our city and funneling it to our kids, who are now using it more than alcohol.” And he implored his council colleagues to schedule a special meeting in July so it could craft a ballot initiative, asking Oceanside voters



Amber Newman and her husband own A Soothing Seed which has been making door-to-door deliveries in Oceanside.



Chris Rodriguez at June 24 council meeting said it is up to local government to fight “black market thugs who are illegally bringing it into our city.”

continued on page 34



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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

The nearly century-old estate at 2212 La Callecita in Mission Hills, once dubbed Longview Manor, “is truly a one of a kind treasure,” according to listing remarks published at *realtor.com*.

“This architecturally significant home was built by ‘San Diego’s only master designer’ Ralph Hurlburt and is in the Mills Act,” the listing continues. Hurlburt, uniquely distinguished in San Diego’s list of established masters as a designer rather than an architect or builder —



Who wouldn't empty their coffers for a timeless coffered ceiling?

there are dozens of each — came to San Diego in 1916 following World War I. He had a hand in real estate sales, law, and finance before focusing on

architectural design and forming a decades-long partnership with influential local builder Charles H. Tifal. Never actually listed as an architect, Hurl-

burt was still responsible for the design of dozens of distinctive houses from Point Loma to Kensington to La Mesa before his death in 1942.

The Mills Act refers to a property tax scheme whereby owners of historically significant properties receive a discount on property taxes in exchange for an agreement to maintain homes in a fashion substantially similar to their original construction. The La Callecita home’s current annual tax bill (in excess of \$22,000), however, doesn’t seem to reflect that discount.

“Incredible ocean views will dazzle you from the kitchen, backyard, master bedroom and balcony off the master,” the listing continues. “Original hardwood floors are found throughout most of the property, as well as original tiling through the entryway. The timeless coffered ceiling in the sun-filled living room dates back to 1926 when the home was originally built.”

“The fireplace in the living room is an original Ernest Batchelder piece, which has the largest single tile on register in San Diego County,” the home’s description boasts. Batchelder’s hand-carved tiles are a highly-prized centerpiece on the mantles of pre-WWII homes across Southern California.

While retaining much of its historic charm, the Manor has also been updated to accommodate modern living standards. The home was replumbed in 2018, and low-voltage audio/video wiring was added the following year, along with fresh carpet and paint. The home has six separate zones for Sonos smart speakers, including one for outdoor entertaining, and the home’s three full and one half bathrooms

continued on page 31

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Street Style

BY SAMANTHA ST. PIERRE

Report from the land of brand whores

I was catching up via video chat with my friend Debbie, a 31-year-old wine buyer who recently moved to Rhode Island. We got to talking about our plans being canceled due to covid, and she mentioned a canceled wedding for which she bought an outfit that was sadly sitting in her closet with the tags still



DEBBIE DUSTED OFF A MUSTARD YELLOW JUMPSUIT ENSEMBLE THAT SHE WAS SAVING FOR A WEDDING IN WINE COUNTRY

on. Shortly after, Debbie obliged my request for a virtual fashion show so that I could see the would-be ensemble.

“This was going to be for a wedding in California, in wine country,” she said as her mustard yellow wrap-bodice, wide-leg jumpsuit (\$70, Nordstrom Rack) lit up my

laptop. “So, I figured instead of doing dresses like everyone, I wanted to be a little bit more edgy. Make a statement.”

Thrilled to know that it still fit her new “quarantine figure,” Debbie debated accessories. She pulled out a pair of brown leather, caged stilettos (Schutz brand, \$60 at a consign-

ment store), deciding they would achieve a more monochromatic look. “Apparently, monochromatic is a new thing, which... I could try to pull off. I’m always down to try!”

“I didn’t know what jewelry because I haven’t decided on the shoes yet. But when you have an open neckline, it’s good to have a pop of color with jewelry.” She thought of a perfectly matching set of tassel earrings she’d found at a boutique for about five Euros when she lived in Spain. Pleased with the final decision, she asked, “Now that I know what I’m wearing, when I do get to go to this wedding!”

Over the years that I’ve known Debbie, she’s lived in California, Colorado, Rhode Island and parts of Spain. I asked if her many homes had influenced her style. “Yes, one hundred percent. They’re brand whores on the east coast, versus California,” she joked, and recalled that living in Boulder taught her how to layer her “Patagucci” outdoor clothing.

continued on page 31

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Two years of turmoil at Gompers Prep

ONLY 16 YEARS AGO, gang fights were constant at Gompers Secondary and Middle Schools in Chollas View. That changed when teachers, parents, and a new administration banded together to turn them into charter schools. Part of the decision involved removing the teachers union that had long been in place and going non-union. In 2012, a high school, Gompers Preparatory Academy was added on the grounds. If success can be measured in a 100 percent graduation rate and college acceptance numbers, Gompers Prep as a charter has been a success. All seniors in the 2020 graduating class were accepted into college, including 75 out of 133 into four-year colleges, while the remaining 58 were accepted into two-year colleges.

But another kind of fighting returned to Gompers when the union arrived back on campus.

Gompers has always done the “heart work” for the kids, in addition to the regular hard work of education, says Dolores Garcia, “and the union does not want to do that.”

This summer, after a contentious year-and-a-half aftermath to the teachers union taking hold at Gompers, the school’s leadership team laid off 29 out of 67 teachers, or close to 40 percent. They cited greater costs, including low enrollment, for the fall semester as the reason for the June 1, 2020 move. A little over three weeks later, the affected teachers were ordered to remove



all their belongings from the classrooms. Then, on July 6, the school rescinded the layoffs.

The confusion exacerbated the divisiveness on campus over the presence of the union, says math teacher Azucena Garcia, who notes that a few of her colleagues left as a result. She grew up in the Chollas View neighborhood and attended Gompers Prep, which lies immediately south of State Route 94 on 47th Street. After graduating from Reed College in Portland, Oregon, she joined Teachers for America, an organization which helps inexperienced young people land their first jobs. Garcia is now 32. In 2013, she became a math tutor at Gompers Prep, and two years after that, a full-time teacher there.

“I was always aware that Chollas View is an underserved community and came to believe in educational equity. I still live in the community and walk to work,” Garcia said.

When you ask teachers at Gompers when the union activity started, they tend to say November 2018. That’s when actual recruiting began. It was also then that the union was first “recognized.” But Garcia remembers agitation having started in the spring



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Azucena Garcia:
“I was always aware that Chollas View is an underserved community and came to believe in educational equity. I still live in the community and walk to work.”

of that year. “It happened largely as a result of a series of negative articles in *inewsourc*e in 2017 that reported on former Gompers students and teachers complaining that poor training had caused a lack of preparation for the students’ classwork at UCSD. There were charges of low scoring on standardized tests and grade inflation to make sure students graduated, even though they weren’t ready for college.”

The Gompers leadership seemed embarrassed by it, according to Garcia, and, to compensate, worked the staff extra hard in preparing their classes during the spring and summer of 2018. “Gompers teachers already work 205 days a year compared to 185 in

San Diego Unified District schools. So that’s when a lot of grousing began, especially among newer teachers,” she said. “And we wanted to have a greater voice at the school. There’s too much top-down decision making now.”

Why mess with success?

Those who had fought the union’s coming to Gompers, spearheaded largely by chemistry teacher Kristie Chiscano, produced a 197-page document petitioning the California Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) to decertify the union. But it took them all of 2019 to produce and, at the last moment, their attorney forgot to file it by deadline. The board refused to act on the petition, which eventually did arrive in early January 2020. Given the circumstance of “omission,” as opposed to simple failure to submit, the organization promised to get around to considering the petition later.

In the meantime, union members filed their own objections, namely, three charges of “unfair labor practices,” against the union opponents and the Gompers administration. The Public Employee Relations Board then announced that the decer-



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE DEEGAN

Kristie Chiscano believes that having an active union would jeopardize the success Gompers has enjoyed since becoming a charter school in 2005.

tification petition would have to wait for a hearing until the unfair labor practice complaints were adjudicated.

Now everybody waits for the results. And waits. And waits.

Chiscano argues that unions undermine charter schools. In the bad old days, before Gompers went charter, the school

had difficulty hiring teachers who wanted to stay. The school district would make the choices, usually rookies who would use the Gompers assignment as a jumping off point for moving to a more preferable (and safer) assignment.

Chiscano is one of the veteran teachers at Gompers. She is a former surgeon who wanted to make an educational difference in a low-socio-economic-status community. She became credentialed in biology and advanced placement chemistry. At Gompers, she has started a robotics program as well.

“The decertification petition, if successful, would allow us the opportunity for a secret ballot overseen by a third party,” said Chiscano. “All along we have wanted every teacher to vote on whether to have a union.

But the San Diego Education Association, or SDEA, [the organization that represents teachers throughout the school district] has blocked any chance of voting by means of the unfair labor practice complaints.”

The problem, said Chiscano, was that some teachers were never made aware that a union was in the works. One such is computer technology instructor Sean Bentz, who told me, “I am the most veteran teacher at Gompers, and get extra pay for doing extra work. It’s like a merit system. So the organizers must have known I would not have been a good person to approach.”

Chiscano continued: “Some people say they were told by union organizers that the new organization was going to be an ‘association’ only, not a union. Others said they

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were rushed or pushed to sign,” she says. “In fact, we have never seen what those who signed actually agreed to. The tactics of the organizers were never fully transparent.”

Having an active union at Gompers Prep promises not only to raise pay for teachers but it’s likely to lower their working hours as well, thus eliminating certain extra preparation activities and before-and-after school efforts that many new teachers don’t like. Chiscano believes that would jeopardize the success Gompers has enjoyed since becoming a charter school in 2005. In addition to graduation and college acceptance rates, she cites another impressive statistic: since 2013, Gompers students have been given 200 scholarships to attend UCSD through a program the school’s director, Vincent Riveroll, worked out with the university.

No success of similar scale ever occurred at Gompers before 2005. “And these days, they show that Gompers has been two to three times

more successful than similar schools nearby,” said Chiscano.

Especially at the time Gompers was getting off the ground as a charter, the before-and-after school time the faculty put in paid huge dividends. In a 2009 article titled “Gompers Takes a Bow,” *Reader* writer Ernie Grimm showed how deploying teachers at the entrances to the campus helped prevent the many gangs in the area from distracting and harassing students as they arrived in the morning and left in the afternoon.

That strategy has been successful ever since, even as the local gangs (52 of them, some say) have never left the area. But some newer teachers don’t see that as a part of their job as faculty members.

Gangs ran Gompers

Dolores Garcia, the administrative assistant for student affairs at Gompers, started her career there in 1997. She has vivid recollections of the before-and-after situations of becoming a charter school. At the

time of the changeover, there was only a middle school.

Garcia grew up in Chollas View and had once belonged to one of the many gangs that dominated the area. The gangs “were in and out of classrooms,” said Garcia, and the student dropout rate was high. Gangs ran Gompers until, in 2004, the school district sent a young Vincent Riveroll in to fix it. “Put the students first” was the motto he immediately instilled. He initiated strong discipline, including mandatory uniforms and, as a master teacher, did not hesitate to go into classrooms to help struggling classes. “The SDEA hated that and managed to convince the district to remove him,” said Garcia.

“That’s when parents and community members came together and fought for Riveroll to come back. Together they decided the only way to turn Gompers around was to establish it as an independent charter school. By doing that, they were also able to eliminate SDEA.”

Early this year, Gar-



Gompers Prep as a charter has been a success. All seniors in the 2020 graduating class were accepted into college, including 75 out of 133 into four-year colleges, while the remaining 58 were accepted into two-year colleges.

cia started serving the bargaining committee from the leadership perspective, trying to hammer out a teachers’ contract with union representatives. The San Diego Education Association’s Anthony Saavedra has been chairing the meetings. After the Covid-19 shutdowns started everyone working from home, some union participants began getting increasingly “disrespectful,” she claimed. “They were also sounding off on social media, misrepresenting our beliefs. We’ve had a huge involvement in the school by our students’ parents. But suddenly they too were being insulted as not smart enough,” said Garcia.

Gompers has always done the “heart work” for the kids, in addition to the regular hard work of education, she says, “and the union does not want to do that.”

Garcia stepped down from the bargaining committee in early July. “I do not want a union at Gompers so that we re-live 2004,” she continued, “and now I am free to say that. If I’d said it while still on the committee,

they’d have taken it to PERB as another ‘retaliation’ against the union.”

Garcia believes that eventually parents and local community members may rise up and force the union out. Too many people don’t want it.

Bullying and silencing

Before contract negotiation meetings take place, union representatives meet with the various departments of the school to collect the concerns and requests faculty members want them to introduce as the bargaining for the new contract takes place.

In April of this year, Spencer Mills, an English teacher and union member on the bargaining team, met by Zoom with the English department. As the meeting was about to close, Viridiana Word, who was named Teacher of the Year for 2019-2020, pressed Mills to make sure he would take “everyone’s” interests to the negotiations. What followed, according to Word, was an insulting and demeaning tirade against her. In a long letter, Word complained

about the way she was treated.

In part, the letter reads as follows: “I asked Mr. Mills if he would please consult the department before he decided things on our behalf, especially as things move forward with bargaining. What resulted was a back and forth discussion that ended up in him silencing me by muting my speaker while he continued to berate me.”

In another section of the letter, Word wrote: “I feel this action to be incredibly egregious because, as my bargaining representative, I expect Mr. Mills to really capture what each of the members of the department feels regarding certain topics, rather than him assuming what he thinks we feel, because, as he stated last night, he is ‘a smart guy’ and can gauge where everyone is.”

On April 28, Word sent the letter to the union. “The only response I got was a referral to a union colleague. I wanted someone in charge to discipline Mills for bullying and silencing me, not a colleague.” (When I caught up with

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Mills later, he said of the incident only that he used "protected speech.")

The concerns Word wanted Mills to take to bargaining revolved around a flexibility she has enjoyed since coming to teach at Gompers eight years ago. "A union contract cannot capture caring for students," she says. "It does not allow for flexibility. I want to have the option to call a student at night and not be stuck to 3:30 pm as the official end of the day. If the leadership wants me to tutor, I don't want to be told 'No, it's break time.'"

Intimidation

Mills is one of the more strident union activists at the school. He will be going into his fourth year at Gompers Prep this fall. In his first job in education, he worked for the La Mesa-Spring Valley School District assisting before-and-after school programs.

I asked Mills why, in order to establish itself at Gompers, the union didn't stage a secret ballot election for all teachers to see how many favored collective bargaining, then begin promoting its advantages to anyone

opposed. (The opposite approach has caused a charge that the effort was clandestine.) Although Mills did not take part in the union's early recruiting campaign, he told me: "We knew that the school leadership would not like the idea of a union and that there would be criers and screamers. Also, there was the likelihood that veteran teachers would have too much negative influence on how younger teachers should vote. So it was decided that first contacting a small group was needed to get started. Eventually, we reached 75 percent of the teachers who said they were interested."

Ever since, the union has interpreted the 75 percent to be the vote.

Mills agreed that being "deployed" at crucial times around campus does not seem to be work for teachers. But there are a number of other important issues, salaries probably being the most compelling. In 2017, Mills's first year at Gompers, he earned \$43,000. "If I had been working in the district," he said, "I would have made \$7000 to \$8000 more."

"Then there is fa-

voritism. Certain people have gotten summers off, not because of merit, but simple loyalty.

"And there is a culture of fear at the school due to 'at will' employment. People have a lot of anxiety about speaking their mind. They realize that they could be gone at the drop of a hat. The administration does not have to throw its weight around. The intimidation is latent.

"But I will say I have great respect for our director, Dr. Riveroll. He has great qualities I admire. I've learned a lot from him."

Although the layoffs were reversed, the rationale for their original adoption was disingenuous, Mills believes. Increased costs for the fall did not acknowledge \$2.7 Gompers received from Paycheck Protection Plan funds, the Care Act, and other funding. "Teachers were to bear the brunt of the layoffs," said Mills. "Zero percent of the layoffs aimed at a reduction in leadership. When asked, the administration said they were not considering that."

Mills has been participating not only in bar-

gaining but on the organizing committee as well. This intense involvement, he thinks, resulted in his being reassigned by the administration from tenth grade, for the start of the 2018 year, to seventh grade for 2019.

"I think of myself as a high school teacher," he told me. "I understood what was going on. They were trying to provoke me to quit.... Let me mention also that one day while I was in my classroom teaching, my supervisor walked in and wanted to know where my badge was. I had only forgotten to put it on. I emailed the supervisor about the interruption and was told later that that was disrespectful."

Good attrition rate

Kristie Chiscano takes issue with a number of

union complaints. "They get mad at leadership for coming into struggling classes," she said. "But that can help a class. They say the school's teacher attrition rate is bad. However, the national average since 2010 has been 50 percent in high-poverty regions. As of three years ago, 85 percent of our teachers have been remaining at Gompers. We have a good attrition rate.

"Gompers has an open-door policy in its various campus committees. But union faculty who had concerns that bothered them, they wouldn't go through the committees. Most union teachers are fairly new.

"All of these issues make me doubt whether a union contract is really needed at Gompers. I think it will

be counterproductive."

Alphabet soup

Cheryl Coney is a labor organizer at the California Teachers Union. Like Azucena Garcia and Dolores Garcia, Coney grew up in Chollas View. As Azucena began participating in the effort to form the union at Gompers, she reached out to Coney for advice.

Coney was adamant that she only answered Garcia's questions and did not participate in the campus recruiting efforts or contract negotiations. "All of that is done exclusively by the new union itself," she said. And she said she can only provide background information, not any kind of personal or official stance toward the union effort.

But she was help-

continued on page 34

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Your Week

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RUINS: FORBIDDEN TREASURE USING ZOOM

Friday | 14

CAN YOU ESCAPE?

Play The Escape Game's newest game, *Ruins: Forbidden Treasure* using Zoom. Control an avatar wearing a live feed camera, search 360° images of the room, and use items in your online dashboard to progress through the game. A game guide will be there to help along the way. Assemble a team of friends, family, or co-workers, no matter where they are. You have 60 minutes.

WHEN: Every day, 9 am to 10 pm

WHERE: theescapegame.com

VOTE READY CONCERT

An event designed to motivate fans to verify and update their voter registration. The concert, part of the *Live From Out There* livestream series, will show original self-recorded performances by The War On Drugs, Robin Pecknold, Daniel Rossen (of Grizzly Bear), Christopher Bear (of Grizzly Bear/Fools), Kyp Malone (of TV On The Radio), Jaleel Bunton (of TV On The Radio), Kevin Morby, Waxahatchee, Tarriona Tank Ball, Hand Habits, Ciggy, Kam Franklin (of The Suffers), The Building and Allison Russell & Leyla McCalla (of Our Native Daughters).

WHEN: Friday, August 14, 4 pm
WHERE: p2a.co/z1YE3KA



Saturday | 15

I LOVE A CLEAN SAN DIEGO

This year, the Zero Waste Fair is going virtual to bring you its presentations, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions. This opportunity will highlight low-waste living, composting, recycling, and environmental justice. Attendees will have the opportunity to try eco-friendly crafting, make personal zero waste goals, and win sustainable prizes. Highlighted topics: living zero waste with the EcoGoddess guided tour of a refill store,

climate action planning at the city of Encinitas, composting at home, recycling right, environmental justice from the University of San Diego, and crafting with repurposed materials to send a message. Online registration required.

WHEN: Saturday, August 15, 9 am to 1 pm

WHERE: ilacsd.org



DEX ROMWEBER



FRIDAY, AUGUST 14: THE WAR ON DRUGS AT VOTE READY CONCERT

Sunday | 16

DEX ROMWEBER LIVESTREAM FROM THE CAVE

While with the Flat Duo Jets, Dex Romweber pioneered the template for the stripped-to-the-essentials guitar/drums duo format that influenced the White Stripes and the Black Keys. Romweber's livestream series will take place the third Sunday of every month live from The Cave, an underground hangout in Chapel Hill, NC. The Zoom event will show Romweber playing piano, guitar, and singing songs from his solo records, the Dex Romweber Duo, and the Flat Duo Jets. Expect

classic covers as well as songs from his newest release, *Good Thing Goin'*.

WHEN: Sunday, August 16, 5 p.m

WHERE: <https://bit.ly/2C7ikUY>

Tuesday | 18

AUTHOR LIVESTREAM: CLARE MACKINTOSH

The Couch Surfing Book Tour continues as Clare Mackintosh discusses her book, *After the End*. A couple named Max and Pip are both best friends and lovers—unshakable. But then their son gets sick and the doctors put the question of his survival into their hands. For the first time, Max and Pip can't agree. They each want a different future for their son. What if they could have both? This is a free virtual event on Zoom.



CLARE MACKINTOSH

WHEN: Tuesday, August 18, 4 pm
WHERE: warwicks.com

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 sdiereader.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

Art of Elan: Stephanie Richards The San Diego Museum of Art is pleased to announce its partnership with Art of Elan to host an online video series featuring Stephanie Richards - trumpeter, conductor and composer. Tuesday, August 18, 6pm; youtube.com/user/SanDiegoMuseumofArt. (ONLINE)

Internal Combustion Virtual Art Exhibition The San Diego Watercolor Society proudly presents "Internal Combustion, a Virtual Art Exhibition." Sundays, 12:01am; through Saturday, August 29, \$9. www.sdws.org. (ONLINE)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Warwick's Author Livestream: Clare Mackintosh Warwick's and Liz Fenton and Lisa Steinke will host the Couch Surfing Book Tour with #1 international best-selling author of *I Let You Go*, *I See You*, and *Let Me Lie*, Clare Mackintosh, as she discusses the new paperback edition of her book, *After the End*. This is a free virtual event on Zoom. Tuesday, August 18, 4pm; warwicks.com/event/mackintosh-2020. (ONLINE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

100% Clean, Renewable Energy & Storage Dr. Mark Z. Jacobson who is the director of the Atmosphere and Energy Program at Stanford University, will present his groundbreaking work on the

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

No longer David, Stone Brewing recast as Goliath

Stone Brewing is inarguably one of the cornerstones of San Diego beer, and of the craft brewing industry as a whole. Behind marketing slogans such as "yellow fizzy beer is for wussies," Stone has long positioned its brand as an underdog: a scrappy champion of small, artisan brewers taking on a corporate big beer establishment that treats the beverage as a commodity.

That fight became less symbolic in 2018, when Stone launched a highly publicized lawsuit against MillerCoors and its budget beer brand, **Keystone**, alleging trademark infringement over Keystone cans that put a clear emphasis on the word "stone."

Stone itself is not so small anymore. Entering its 25th year, the brewery that gave us Arrogant Bastard ranks as the 18th largest brewery in a nation of eight thousand. It operates large brewing facilities on both coasts, and briefly served beer internationally, with a brewpub

in Berlin, Germany (sold in 2019) and a taproom in Shanghai, China (recently closed).

So when Kentucky nanobrewery Sawstone Brewing emerged from obscurity last month to accuse Stone of using bully tactics over its own trademark dispute, Stone found itself on the opposite end of a big beer-versus-small beer public relations battle.

Earlier this year, Stone's trademark attorneys hit Sawstone, which opened last August, with a petition-for-cancellation filing with the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Subsequently, a July 19 Kentucky Sports Radio story entitled "Shame on you, Stone Brewing" went viral, painting Stone as a heartless company using its superior resources to go after "a micro-brewery that is trying to stay above water during a global pandemic."

Reinforcing the Stone-as-bully narrative is the fact that Stone has filed nearly a hundred such petitions for cancellation since January 2018. The agency's web site records reveal petitions against scores of alcohol production or retail businesses incorporating some variation of the word Stone in their trademark applications.

While Stone's aggressive efforts to protect its Stone registered trademark may be easily traced to its lawsuit against MillerCoors, that trademark took a bruising hit in the court of public opinion. Craft beer fans across the internet, including plenty of longtime local fans, quickly "jumped on the hatewagon" against Stone.

At least, that's how Stone Brewing cofounder Greg Koch characterized it in a wordy July 27 blog posted to the Stone web site entitled "In response to the wildly irresponsible actions of... Sawstone Brewing" — to date the brewery's only official response to the "bully" allegations.

In the post, Koch, last seen in a documentary about himself entitled *The Beer Jesus From*

America, contends that the Sawstone kerfuffle is a "coordinated harassment campaign aimed at our company," complete with "fraudulent reviews of our locations on well-known review sites."



Stone Brewing Co. has beer fans divided over its aggressive pursuit of trademark protection

He goes on to point out that trademark protection against "confusingly similar" branding is "a routine part of doing business," and repeatedly asserts that these efforts, which are ultimately decided by the trademark agency, are resolved "amicably."

A representative from Stone denied repeated requests to back up Koch's claims by providing examples of fraudulent reviews or examples of amicable settlements reached in prior trademark disputes.

As to whether or not Stone is a bully, the majority of Stone's trademark petitions appear to have merit. For example, it contested a **Stoney's Brewing Company** in the Pittsburgh area, and a **Cask & Stone Brewery** in Napa, California, where Stone operates a brewpub. Others seem more open to interpretation, such as the **Stone Bowl**, a fruit bowl restaurant in Georgia, or **Holystone Distilling** in Salt Lake City. Stone

has also sought trademark protection over the word Bastard — objecting to such beer names as Magnificent Bastard and Approachable Bastard. However, closer to home was the August 2019 petition aimed at a small local brewery, La Mesa's **Helix Brewing Co.**, and its flagship IPA that goes by the name "Stoner Moment."

From a lay perspective, it would take a true stoner moment to find the term "confusingly similar" to the Stone brand, to use Koch's metric. In light of the current dustup, one would think that Stone would have more interest in preserving cultural cachet than going after a small brewer in its own backyard. However, as of this writing, Stone lawyers remain engaged with Helix over the use of the term. Helix Brewing founder Cameron Ball declined to comment on whether Stone's overtures to settle the matter could be described as "amicable;" he does report that "Stone Brewing is not going to drop their objection to Stoner Moment."

And while backers of Sawstone Brewing Co claim any similarity to Stone Brewing Co. is moot because the historic building housing its brewery was constructed from sawstone, history suggests Stone's trademark protection was always going to succeed. Which leaves little doubt Sawstone has engaged this fight primarily as an opportunity to gain national attention (and set up a GoFundMe campaign that has raised nearly \$15K).

In that respect, Greg Koch is the last person who should be casting stones (no trademark violation intended). Koch made his name and fortune leveraging a David-against-Goliath stance. If he's content to play Beer Jesus, settling into the Goliath role should be a cinch.

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

scientific basis of the energy portion of the Green New Deal. There is no charge for this online event, but please register in advance. Thursday, August 13, 5:30pm; **free**. bit.ly/2CdF5qv. (ONLINE)

Action Karate Class: Ages 5 to 12 This is a karate class designed for kids ages 5-12. Children will learn "easy to follow" moves at home in this interactive class. This is not a class you will just watch, parents will be involved too. Please wear comfortable clothes and turn your cameras on! New families can use promo code "MyFirst" to get their first ActivityHero Live class for free. Thursday, August 13, 4pm; **free**. bit.ly/33IgN3h. (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 17, 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 15, 8am; \$75. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

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 13, 5:45pm; \$89 or Saturday, August 15, 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 13, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (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 15, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

Family Law Earl B. Gilliam Neighborhood Law School: Free educational seminar about Family Law in California with Q&A Session. Wednesday, August 19, 6pm; **free**. bit.ly/3kqwtOp. (ONLINE)

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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

New Venture Grace Church

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www.newventuregrace.com

Membership: 3,000 (Post-COVID, 700)

Pastor: Shawn Mitchell

Age: 66

Born: San Diego

Formation: Point Loma Nazarene University, Point Loma; Bethel Seminary, San Diego; Church of the Holy Land Studies, Israel; Goethe Institute, Berlin, Germany.

Years Ordained: 48

San Diego Reader: What is your favorite subject on which to preach?

Pastor Shawn Mitchell: I'm an evangelist. I have that gift. So my subject is definitely going to be a message of hope to help populate

heaven. My personal mission is to help as many people to get to heaven as I can before going there myself. So I try to preach a message where anyone can say, "Oh, I get it now." If they can say, "I do believe in Jesus Christ," that's a great day for us.

SDR: Why did you become a minister?

PM: I came to Christ – it seems like forever now – April 17, 1971. A Youth for Christ group was singing at the Civic Theater in San Diego. I went to go hear this group...and I never heard anyone up to this time talk about God and Jesus in a way that sounded so powerful. I was raised Catholic, but I never heard two

words put together: "Born again." That night, I made a decision to follow Jesus, which changed the trajectory of my life. Then I went to school so doors wouldn't be shut, which is when I started attending Bible college. I didn't begin pastoring, though, until about 30 years ago, when the Lord began to instill in my heart that I wanted to make a sizeable difference, not in speaking and learning, but in pastoring groups of people. That was in 1989, which is when New Venture Grace began. Thousands have been through the church since then. But it started with a desire to do more.

SDR: What is the mission of

your church?

PM: Our mission is to reach, teach, and release. We reach people for Christ; we teach people the things of Christ; and then we release people to do the work of Christ. Our vision is to help people find Christ and live life to its fullest. Since we started, that has been the mission and vision that has propelled us. I don't fish, but they say that if you go fishing, you have to go to where the fish are, and you have to use the right bait. So annually, we are known for putting on the largest outdoor Easter sunrise service in the county. It's right on the ocean. Oceanside blocks off streets and puts bleachers on the



Pastor Shawn Mitchell

streets because of the sheer numbers that come. We get 5000-6000 people and we feed about 3000-4000 with every Easter service.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PM: This life is just the warm-up act for heaven. I know I'm on borrowed time

now. I'm loving it down here, but the real party is going on somewhere else – in heaven. I do not see anywhere in scripture that there is purgatory. I was raised with that as a Catholic, and purgatory comes out of the Catholic Bible – the Vulgate version, which has only two verses that talk about this kind of holding tank called purgatory. But when Jesus was here, he spoke about hell as if he wanted to be sure that no one went there. Because he gave free choice, there has to be the option. The only place where God is not is hell.

– Joseph O'Brien

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

all levels are welcome. Wednesday, August 19, 4pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com/. (ONLINE)

Forming a Legal Business Entity to Sell Soap

Soap Business 320 is a beginning business class for anyone interested in forming a new business. This class focuses on the applications, fees, licenses, and permits required to form a legal business entity. Classroom hours: 3 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Class fee: \$68. Materials fee: \$9. Sunday, August 16, 12pm; \$77. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Guided Medicine Buddha Self-Healing Meditation

In this class Varada introduces you to the Medicine Buddha and the traditional Buddhist practice of yidam, through which you can access and Enlightened Being to open a spiritual door to your own innate power. Sunday, August 16, 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)

Tennis 2 Experienced

This class is about developing more control, for those who have already taken Beginner tennis class. We'll include instruction, traditional tennis plus special games designed to accelerate learning skills and techniques. Saturday, August 15, 9:30am; \$75 or Wednesday, August 19, 5:45pm; \$89. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Voices for Children CASA Volunteer Information Session

Help youth in foster care by vol-

unteering with Voices for Children today! To reserve a space for one of these sessions, please see link or call (858) 598-2230. The events are being held virtually for the time being. Tuesday, August 18, 6pm; **free**. speakupnow.org/. (ONLINE)

Writing & Publishing Magazine Articles

We will go through idea generation, how to find publications that are right for your idea, and how to pitch to editors and locate their e-mail addresses. You will be emailed the Zoom link 24 hours before the start of class. Saturday, August 15, 1:30pm; \$30-\$36. 18 and up. bit.ly/3gU5sR6. (ONLINE)

Writing Scenes: Playwriting Workshop Ages 11-13

In addition to working through the best tricks of the trade, this class will help you ensure your scenes are the very best they can be. You will be emailed the Zoom link 24 hours before the start of class. Thursday, August 13, 10am; Friday, August 14, 10am; \$99. bit.ly/2PE7vwN. (ONLINE)

Yiddish Fun Bereshis: Yiddish Alphabet Class

Yiddish from the begin-

ning) is a Yiddish Alef Beys (alphabet) program aimed for those with no prior Hebrew alphabet experience. By the end of the first class, the student will be able to read a number of words/phrases. Along with "doing the work" of literacy, we will also learn through culture, idioms, jokes, curses, and of course, song. Be prepared for a lot of Simpsons gifs. This is a one-hundred percent no judgment, no attitude, no shaming classroom environment. SATURDAYS: 9am PST. July 18 through August 22. Registration: Please email dave@yaaana.com or call 619-719-1776. Zoom link is available upon registration. Friday, August 14, 4pm; \$15-\$75. yaaana.com/index.php/2020/07/13/yiddish-fun-bereshis/. (ONLINE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Balley TV: Ishmael Butler & Sharon Van Etten

Free therapy? Virtual pub? Balley TV – a new virtual talk show hosted by Joe Talbot of Idles – is both those things and much more. Filmed in isolation and with conversations ranging from current events to creating music during quarantine, episodes will be rolled out throughout the summer. Guests will include Ishmael Butler and Sharon Van Etten. Friday, August 14, 4pm; Search "Balley TV" in YouTube. (ONLINE)

I Love A Clean San Diego Zero Waste Fair

This year, the Zero Waste Fair is going virtual to bring you a variety of informative and fun presentations, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions. This opportunity will highlight low-waste living, composting, recycling, environmental justice, and more. Saturday, August 15, 9am; ilacsd.org/event/5th-annual-zero-waste-fair/. (ONLINE)

Momentum: A Creative Industry Symposium

Two days of community, creativity, and inspiration. From film and theatre professionals to dancers, visual and culinary artists; the region's most notable creative leaders share how their industry has affected positive change. Visit website to view a list of confirmed speakers. \$10 Suggested Donation for both sessions Monday, August 17, 12pm; \$10. bit.ly/31CFuLE. (ONLINE)

TwainFest 2020

Join host Mark Twain - his own true self! - as he reminisces on the past, muses on dreams for the future, and introduces us to some of literature's most influential giants. Thursdays, 11am; Fridays, 11am; Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, August 16, **free**. write-outloudsd.com/twainfest/. (ONLINE)

FILM

Dinner and a Movie: Gidget Goes Hawaiian

Enjoy curated sips & eats paired with a screening of "Gidget Goes Hawaiian" – outdoors at a poolside table, laid out with social distancing in mind, surrounding The Pearl Hotel's iconic oyster-shaped pool. "Dinner and a Movie" is an elevated movie-and-poolside dining experience perfect for a date night, girls' night or just because. Reservations are mandatory as seating is limited with safety protocols in place. Please call 619-226-6100 for reservations. Continue the fun after the movie – book a room at The Pearl Hotel with your "Dinner and a Movie" reservation and receive a special \$70 room rate for the evening (plus taxes and fees). Wednesday, August 19, 8pm; \$35-\$100. Pearl, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

FOR KIDS

KPBS Kids Event: Molly of Denali

Sled into fun with Molly of Denali for a Facebook Live event with KPBS. Ms. Sarah will be doing a live reading with a surprise craft at the end for you and your family to do at home. Thursday, August 13, 12:30pm; **free**. Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (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

Virtual Superhero 5K

Miracle Babies will be holding its 12th annual Superhero 5K virtually from August 16 to August 31. Participants can walk/run/skip to support families with critically ill newborns in the neonatal intensive care unit. The virtual event allows anyone anywhere to participate in this year's 5K. The community is encouraged to come together online to show support by posting on social media with the hashtag #MB5K. To register and create a team, visit online. Sunday, August 16, 8am; \$20-\$45. bit.ly/3f1JMGq. (ONLINE)

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A tale of two happy hours

This could be the best experience on the waterfront.

We arrive at six bells. They're ringing out aboard the *Star of India*. Love it! (We're talking 3 pm, landlubber's time.) Pursuant to our campaign to find places with a ton of fresh air blowing in, the Scottish Lady and I are down here at the Embarcadero beside the *Star of India*, but actually staring at this egg-shaped glass geodesic dome. Brand new. It juts out over the waters, right beside what looks like a giant black sushi roll.

"What da...?" I start to say.

"It's a restaurant," says Annie. "Och, it's *ane, twa, tree*, four restaurants!"

She's right. Starting at the geodesic dome, they have Portside Gelato and Coffee, then Miguel's Cocina, then The Brigantine, and upstairs, Topsail, which looks like the upscalest of them all. And the good Covid news is they all have this sea breeze sifting fresh Pacific air through the place. It turns out these guys opened only a couple of weeks ago. But no shortage of customers. This being the Embarcadero, tourists are traipsing in and out all day long. That doesn't mean food's cheap. Here at the Brigantine, small plates start at \$10 (for most soups and salads), and top out at \$23, for shrimp and crab Louie. Large plates start at \$24 (chicken Milanese), and go up to \$55 for lobster tails.

"Forget it," says Annie. Except this is when the *receptionista* goes inside and comes back with a print-out page. "Happy Hour," she says.

Oh yes. Now we're talking. Basically all draft beers (and they have nine) go for \$5 each, and so does a glass of house red or white wine. Food deals too. They include three oysters on the half shell, two oyster shooters, a plate of calamari strips, a bowl of clam chowder, potato skins, "Napa Valley Nachos" (whatever that means), a flatbread, and a house salad. Also a bunch of slider options like ahi tuna, Wagyu beef, fried fish, pulled pork, or "free birder" chicken. Not a bad set of choices for five Washingtons.

Of course, we have to wait. But that's no pain. This is a spectacular building, with an even more spectacular view, once you get through the odd egg-roll back part. The glass frontage looks out at a Big Bay panorama from the Midway aircraft carrier on the left, around past the active-duty carriers at North Island, to Point Loma to *HMS Surprise*, the

square-rigger frigate from *Master and Commander*, past *B-39*, the Russian sub, to — suddenly, in your face — the giant bowsprit of the *Star of India*. It really does make you go "Oh wow," first glimpse you get. You sit down so close you feel you can touch her.

So Scottish Lady and I order a Karl Strauss Boat Shoes Hazy IPA each, which is kind of appropriate, because IPA — India Pale Ale — was what *Star of India* for sure carried out to the British troops stationed in "Inja" back in the 1860s. And it was the extra hops they threw in that kept the beer from going bad on the months-long voyage.

So yeah, barista Julie's waiting for us to get on with it. "Uh, the house salad?" says Annie.

"It's got hearts of palm, cranberries, glazed pecans," says Julie.

"I like sweet," Annie says.

Dang. So do I, but since Ensenada, I'm also loving oysters again. So I get the three in half shell, plus — was there ever any contest? — the skins, five of them, bristling with bacon, chives, drooling golden cheddar. Dee-lish! But so are the oysters, with stinging horseradish and a sweet, tomatoey cocktail sauce.

The hazy IPA goes down so well, we order another, while it's still happy hour. And in the end, we've hung around so long chomping, slurping, and waiting for the sun to dip, we get the bowl of chowder and a slider, the ahi one, just to keep our seats. And, have to say, chowder's great, but the slider, with its big chunk of tuna flesh and a wasabi-soy aioli that's not shy about giving you



The main magic of this place: The maritime world outside



Upper deck: At sunset it's the place to be

a slow burn, is the top story of the day.

And guess what? Next afternoon, we're back, this time to Miguel's. (Nice touch is the walkway around all four restaurants

is open to the public.) And here, kinda roasting in the afternoon sun — there are no awnings — we check their HH offerings. As with the Brig, everything is \$5. Along with more of that cloudy beer, Annie gets a cup of *albondigas* soup and a flatbread. And the flatbread is the deal. It's nice and thin, but weighted down with jalapeños, olives, melted cheese, and Annie pays \$4.25 extra for chicken. Scrumbo!

Me, I go for the *empanadas piccadillo*. I'd feared there would be too much pan and not enough flavor, like some I've had. But no, these



Oysters: surprisingly filling



The skins: heaven in a spud

little half-circles are deep-fried, a little crispy, and full of ground beef, jack cheese, roasted corn. Plus guac and salsa, and a *crema*.

Only complaint is out on deck, they have no shade. People next door are so broiled they hang their menus from the glass barrier to shelter their faces. The crew takes pity on us and moves us into the shade, but hey, why didn't the architects think of this?

Still, short of sailing away on the *Star*, this could be the newest, best experience on the waterfront. ■

The Places: *The Brigantine*, Port Side Pier, 1360 North Harbor Drive, *The Embarcadero*, 619-719-4960; *Miguel's Cocina*, 1360 North Harbor Drive, *The Embarcadero*, 619-719-4962;

Hours: 11am-10pm, daily (last orders, 9:30pm)

Prices: *Brigantine Happy Hour prices = \$5 for:* three oysters on the half shell; two oyster shooters; calamari strips; clam chowder; potato skins; Napa Valley Nachos; flatbread (with chicken, \$9.25); house salad; sliders (with ahi tuna, wagyu beef, fried fish, pulled pork, or "free birder" chicken);

Brigantine standard prices: BLT wedge salad, \$10; chowder bowl, \$10; cup, \$7; shrimp and crab Louie, \$23; chicken Milanese, \$24; lobster tails, \$55

Miguel's Happy Hour prices = \$5 for: *Albondigas soup; Miguel's flatbread; taquitos (shredded beef or chicken); calamari strips, empanadas Piccadillo; flautas de carnitas y queso; guacamole; nachos; sopes (shredded beef or chicken); three carnitas tacos*

Buses: 280, 290, 923, 992

Nearest Bus Stops: North Harbor Drive and Ash 280, 290 (southbound); 923, 992 (northbound);

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Loco to go

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Loco Lopez takes brunch over the top

Sundara; 1424 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Point Loma. As breakfast burritos go, it was already going to hit every greasy morning mark: bacon, eggs, fried potatoes, and melted cheese, with a splash of avocado green. But rather than the usual flat, off-white wrapper, the signature queso burro from Loco Lopez glistened with a golden crust, courtesy of griddled cheddar cheese encasing the entire tortilla.

The pop-up brunch spot opens Friday through Sunday inside of Ocean Beach Indian restaurant Sundara. The dinner venue is no stranger to sharing its kitchen in the morning, having hosted breakfast pop up Jake & Eggs a few years back.

FEAST!

Sundara alum, local chef Richard Lopez, was furloughed from his regular gig due to the 'rona pandemic, he was invited to come in and start up his own take-out operation.

Lopez responded with Loco Lopez, and it doesn't take a detailed study of the menu to see where the "loco" comes into play. Inspired by the style of griddled cheese tacos popularized locally by the likes of Puesto and Famoso Mexican Street Food, the \$10 breakfast burrito wrapped in cheese melted right on the flat top is only one of the over-the-top breakfast items to be found.

Hard to miss is the donut grilled cheese, which sees a glazed donut sliced into two sandwich slices, between which three kinds of cheese are grilled along with bacon and serrano chili jam. The whole decadent thing is finished with powdered sugar for \$10.

So is the "El Chingon breakfast sando," a \$12 breakfast sandwich made with a croissant given the French toast treatment, and stuffed with fried egg, bacon, two sausage patties, and more melted cheese. This literally heavy breakfast sandwich is not for the meek.

While such uber-indulgent items certainly stand out, those seeking relatively toned-down fare can look to the avocado toast (\$8), or a pair of breakfast tacos (\$10). For those who prefer lunch, \$12 gets you a pair of bacon-wrapped TJ hot dogs, or a *plancha* (a.k.a. flat top) burger served on a potato bun with

goopy American cheese. Pre-paid online

ordering makes this an easy take-out option for Obecians, or anyone within a short drive. Lopez has a table set up at the Sundara entrance, so I just pulled up, hopped out, grabbed my orders, and made it home while they were still hot. Of course, after eating some of these hefty breakfast items, I didn't much feel like going anywhere for a while.

by Ian Anderson



Ocean Beach dinner restaurant, Sundara, has a history hosting brunch pop ups.



A grilled cheese and bacon, made with donut halves instead of bread.



El chingon breakfast sandwich, made with a French toast croissant.



The Loco Lopez 'queso burro': a breakfast burrito enveloped in griddled cheese.

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A family style spread picked up from Thai Joint.



House made "e-sarn" Thai sausage.

Thai Joints rule in the Heights

Thai Joint; 3456 Adams Ave, Normal Heights. It sits within an inconspicuous stucco strip on Adams Avenue, smack in the middle of Normal Heights, with a generic sign bearing a generic name: Thai Joint. How many times have I driven past without stopping?

I had to be told it's a sister restaurant to the University Heights Thai spot, Plumeria, and to Chi Extraordinary Kitchen, which is also on the stretch of Adams spanning the upper end of North Park (we might as well call it North Park Heights). I've been fond of

Plumeria's vegetarian and vegan Thai Cuisine since it opened in 2012. And in the past five years, I've also been wowed by Chi Extraordinary's focus on Thai seafood dishes. In other words, Thai Joint is worth stopping for.

Turns out, the original Thai Joint opened more than 15 years ago at a different Adams Avenue location. This one's only been open since 2018, but it doesn't seem like the residents of Normal Heights forgot the brand. Thai Joint has no patio or parking lot space to dress up as outdoor seating. Nevertheless, during the current pandemic closure, I continue to find a steady stream of customers picking up take-out.

There's a steady stream of delivery drivers representing pretty much every delivery app — Thai Joint works with all of them. One of the drivers I meet while picking up an order shares how challenging it can be to lose weight while running deliveries. How he's on an intermittent fasting diet, which means he fasts during the day and only eats in the evening. He used to drive people around for Lyft, but switched to food during the pandemic. Now every time he picks up great smelling meals, it makes him hungry.

Thai Joint is one such challenging place, he says. When he clocks out, he occasionally returns as a customer. He

vouches for the crispy tamarind wings.

I vouch for the house made E-sarn (a.k.a. Isan) style sausage. The ground pork sausage has a crispy skin, flavored with ginger, galangal, lemon grass, chilis, and herbs. You can spot the occasional grain of rice in there, responsible for a satisfying tang distinct from that of hot dogs. The \$7 appetizer will appeal to sausage fans, and while you may find the same wings at Chi Extraordinary Kitchen, the sausage is exclusive to Thai Joint.

Entrees represent the usual suspects of American Thai restaurants: coconut and lemongrass soups; curries of red,

yellow and green; noodles and rice dishes featuring ginger, soy, and/or chili based sauces. To some extent these are all better than average, and cost \$10 to \$12 apiece, depending on your choice of protein, which at this location includes chicken and BBQ pork. Or, you can order a vegan version of just about any of them.

I don't know how the heights came to be blessed with such abundance, but it's an easy area to pick up a great family-style feast. Just be warned, these Thai Joints revel in spice: anything higher than level 3 should truly burn.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

Hatch Chile Season: Chile Roastings To Go

The distinct fragrance and taste of Hatch Chile Peppers is always a favorite of the Gelson's customer. Chileans can be ordered online and are available for pick up. Gelson's has long been a local advocate for Hatch Chiles, a mildly hot and savory pepper that, when perfectly roasted, yields a uniquely delicious flavor, both spicy and sweet, offering a flavor pop that enhances a range of recipes. Customers can order their chiles for any Saturday, up to the Thursday immediately prior. Customers can choose a pick-up window. Saturday, August 15, 10am; \$40. Gelson's Market, 2707 Via De La Valle. (DEL MAR)



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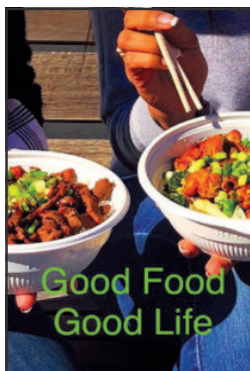


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blurt the inside track

Bradley's house Reggae trio Pepper's version of Sublime's "Work That We Do" is the lead single off a new compilation, *The House That Bradley Built*, due September 4 and featuring never-

Diego in 1999, and took up residence in Carlsbad, Vista, and Oceanside. In 2003, they landed a record deal with Volcom Entertainment and began working with Matt Phillips of Silverback Management



Reggae outfit Pepper's new album pays tribute to Sublime's late Bradley Nowell.

released acoustic covers from the catalogue of the late Bradley Nowell's band, performed by more than 20 guest artists. Nowell died after a 1996 heroin overdose.

"Work That We Do" has always been one of my favorite Sublime tracks since the first time I ever heard it on the *Robbin the Hood* album," says Pepper singer-guitarist Kaleo Wassman. "It was so hard to get that CD in Kona in those days, and I was lucky enough to have a friend who owned it. I remember sitting in the parking lot of Taco Bell listening to the album for the first time. It was magic for me, hearing those great songs with so many different sounds and textures. There were a lot of different recording styles on that album, and we wanted to recreate the raw vibe of that track in our cover of it. So, with quarantine in place, we were able to work remotely at my home studio with the production team."

The duo that would become Pepper formed in Hawaii when Wassman and bassist-singer Bret Bollinger began playing together in middle school. They found a drummer named Yesod Williams, left Kona for San

(Fishbone). They went on to play as many as 200 shows a year as tour support for 311, Flogging Molly, and on multiple Warped Tours. The band landed on top of Billboard's Reggae Chart last year with their eighth studio album, *Local Motion*, and they've often shared bills with another Sublime-ly inspired local act, Point Loma's Slightly Stoopid.

Other performers on *The House That Bradley Built* include locals Hirie, also heavily influenced by Nowell and Sublime. "When you have a band like Sublime, the Clash, or Big Audio Dynamite that fuse so many styles of music effortlessly," says Wassman, "you understand that they are true music fans at their core, not just musicians but lovers of music. That energy, that frequency resonates through people and is felt with this authenticity. San Diego is a border town and we have so much culture here. I live in Oceanside now, and it's the only place besides Kona that I'll live in the States. The vibe in San Diego has so many layers, which is why these types of bands continue their influence here."

The album also features G. Love, the Expanders,

Common Kings, the Skints, Long Beach Dub Allstars, and Trevor Young (SOJA). Descendents contributed a ukulele rendition of their song "Hope," a song Bradley covered on *40 Oz. to Freedom*. Half Pint performs his song "Lovin'," which was the original sample for Sublime's "What I Got," and Jim Lindberg of Pennywise covers "Boss D.J." A duet of the Melodians' classic "Rivers of Babylon," which Sublime covered on an acoustic release,

is sung by Bradley's son Jakob Nowell and Bradley's father, Jim "Papa" Nowell. Proceeds from the album will help fund the Nowell Family Foundation's opioid recovery facility, Bradley's House.

So what touchstones do San Diego bands

still have in common with the music Bradley Nowell made with Sublime so many years ago? "Passion for what they're playing and singing about," says Wassman. "And authenticity, a unity of cheering each other on in the genre, always giving the maximum respect to the artists that started it all, our Jamaican brothers and sisters."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Nathan's new normal "I should say first and foremost, that I always just wanted to play music in general and I really didn't have any barriers between genres," says musician Nathan Hubbard. "The first two CD's I bought were Charlie Parker and the Art Ensemble of Chicago, and the first rap I heard was Public Enemy's *It Takes a Nation of Millions To Hold Us Back*. As a kid, I didn't really make those distinctions."

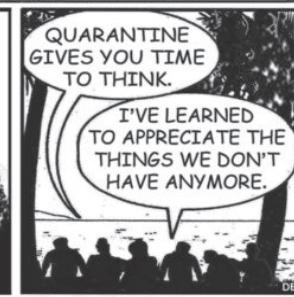
Perhaps having grown up with such an open mind can account for Hubbard's latest accomplishment: a double win at the San Diego Music Awards — "Best Jazz album" for *This Stream* featuring a trio with Harley Magsino and Kevin Jones; and a win in the "Best Hip-Hop" category,

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for *The Bully Pulpit*, a new release by the cooperative group Parker Meridien which combines Jack King and John Rieder.

Jazz and hip-hop are two very distinct worlds, and I was curious how Hubbard is able to navigate that terrain. "I just like music. I listened to my parent's records, and my older brother was giving me music. I appreciate all of these different things. Some people think of me as a jazz drummer, but I have classical training, and I've been making recordings and beats all of my life. But I don't want to just dabble, both jazz and hip-hop require a lot of discipline

think. There's a lot of common history, and I think you can pretty easily go back and forth. One hand, you have Chuck D from Public Enemy mentioning John Coltrane in one of his lines. It can be specific, too, like someone sampling a Roy Ayers or Gary Burton album from the seventies. So there's a shared knowledge, and in each situation, digging deeper into those specifics is the key. That's been a major part of how Parker Meridien makes music."

How is he spending his time in the pandemic?

"I've been recording a lot of music. I make tracks, then send them to people and have

out too much like we would in a normal summer. My kids are used to me putting on my nice shoes after dinner and going off to play music somewhere."

What does he miss most about playing live?

"I don't know if I could even sum that up. It's clear that I love performing. It's a physical thing and a mental thing. I think the lack of playing gigs has made me realize that it's kind of an addiction in a way. After a while you realize you're willing to do almost anything to keep playing. I've always thought of myself as a night person, and I tend to miss that the most."



PHOTOGRAPH BY CARI VEACH

Jazz meets hip-hop and rock in Nathan Hubbard's drumsticks.

and a lot of study and work to make it happen."

Hubbard also plays in rock groups and often earns a living doing musical theater. Is there anything he wouldn't touch? "Well, you wouldn't see me playing disco, for instance. It's not that I don't appreciate dance music, but it's not something I know well enough to do. But hip-hop and jazz share more than you might

them send me tracks. I've been trying to use the time to reach out to people that maybe I haven't worked with before because of physical distance. I've also been working with a singer in town and we've been writing music together, and I'm working on an octet record for horns and rhythm section. And I've been trying to keep my three kids occupied without going

What's the new normal for you now?

"We just packed it in. We stay close to home, we're trying to keep it mellow and stay out of harm's way. It's a totally new challenge."

— Robert Bush

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

LOCAL *five*

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Find LIVE FIVE online at sandiegoreader.com/music



ACE FREHLEY

Original Kiss guitarist Ace Frehley moved in 2009 to San Diego, where he lived in a condo near Balboa Park with local singer Rachael Gordon, who turned up on his next solo album. By the end of 2015, Frehley was recruiting locals like Ray Brandes to help with his covers album *Origins Vol. 1*. The following year, he and Gordon moved to Rancho Santa Fe, though the duo has since had a very public and acrimonious falling out. Frehley hasn't let that or the pandemic shutdown deter his plans to release *Origins Vol. 2* on September 18. A video is streaming online for his cover of Deep Purple's "Space Truckin'." The sin-

gle was recorded with his longtime studio drummer Matt Star and keyboard player Rob Sabino (Peter Frampton, Simon & Garfunkel). "'Space Truckin' was recorded years ago, and then I just re-recorded some parts and changed it a little," says Frehley. "We never ended up putting it on a record, so it was just sitting around. It turned out very well. Rob Sabino is a very accomplished studio musician, and we actually grew up in the Bronx together, so we go way back." Other album guests include Robin Zander of Cheap Trick, former KISS comrade Bruce Kulick, John5, and Lita Ford.



TRAVIS BARKER

Blink 182 drummer Travis Barker is still building his reputation as the busiest drummer in California, guesting on tracks covering multiple genres, as well as working on new music of his own. He recruited Lil Wayne and Rick Ross for his song "Gimme Brain," the first release under his DTA Records label, a joint venture with the Elektra Music Group to explore cross-genre collaborations and develop new artists. "All Of Me," a new single from the second album by Los Angeles duo The Score - comprised of Ed-

die Anthony (vocals, guitar) and Edan Dover (keyboards, production) - features Barker guesting on drums. He also appears on the newly-released deluxe version of POORSTACY's debut album *The Breakfast Club*, drumming on the track "Choose Life," inspired by a famous monologue from the UK film *Trainspotting*. In addition, there's a new collaboration track with Run the Jewels called "Forever." Other artists Barker has recorded with recently include nothing,nowhere, ILLENIUM, O3 Greedo, and Lil Nas X.



TOLAN SHAW

Having first gained local attention with the New Archaic, who won Best New Artist at the 2009 San Diego Music Awards, Tolan Shaw began honing his solo act around ten years ago, performing at local coffeehouses and opening for touring artists such as Matt Costa, Jon Foreman, and the Format. He won first place as Best Songwriter at the 2011 San Diego County Fair in Del Mar, and took first place in the Fair's 2013 Singer-Songwriter Contest. Over the past couple of years, he's been selling music to TV shows including his track "Good Day," heard on MTV's *Undressed* and an SDSU recruitment ad, and both "Eyes"

and "Never Met You" were on CBS' *The Young and the Restless*. "Last week, I found out a song I co-wrote with Marti Amado Corr for German film and TV company, Sonoton Music, was placed in an end scene of a Turkish TV show on Fox Turkey called *Sen Çal Kapımı*," says Shaw. "A week later, it has over a hundred thousand plays on Spotify, is number six on the Top Viral chart in Turkey, has 250 thousand hits on YouTube, and hundreds of people from Turkey and other foreign countries are reaching out about the song. What a cool way to connect globally with people through music and media."



ANDY ROBINSON

Acoustic/electronic/world/folk performer Andy Robinson first earned notice as a drummer, formerly with local progressive rockers Horsefeathers and L.A. underground groups like Elton Duck and Invisible Zoo. He's known as an accomplished dulcimer player, and he recently became an endorsing artist for Louson Drums, which manufactures a wearable Cajon. In addition, "I play the kalimba [and] I play mostly acoustic instruments, but I really love synthesizers, with their infinite sound-making potential. I drum, I play harmonica, I loop, I sample, I sing, but I don't sing actual words very often." His track "The Open

Door" was nominated Best New Age Song at the 12th Annual Independent Music Awards, with judges including Suzanne Vega, Tom Waits, Ziggy Marley, Judy Collins, and Weird Al Yankovic. His albums include *Exotic America*, *Music Bucket*, and 2017's *AndyLand*, which he promoted with a series of performances at area garage sales. "I've released another song from my album-in-process," says Robinson. "'I Thought I Knew America' is about how we seem to be waking up from the American Dream. Tripp Sprague on bass, Chelsey Moore on backing vocals, I play dulcimer and everything else."



THOUSAND BELOW

Based in Ramona, Eyes Like the Sun was a popular rock band harkening back to the sounds of the 1980s. After splitting, several members re-formed as post-hardcore band named Thousand Below and signed to Rise Records, releasing their debut album, *The Love You Let Too Close*, in October 2017. Fronted by singer James Deberg, last year's release of their second album *Gone In Your Wake* was preceded by a single for "Chemical" and a vid-

eo for a new track, "Disassociate," followed by a tour with Of Mice & Men. They just debuted a video for their song "171 xo," featuring the band performing indoors and on a rooftop. Their upcoming acoustic remix EP *Let Go Of Your Love*, featuring four reworked tracks from *Gone In Your Wake* and one new song (the title track), drops August 21 via Rise Records. Sumner Peterson of Dead Lakes appears on the new version of "Chemical."

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. **Free.**
Friday, 4pm — Balley TV: Ishmael Butler & Sharon Van Etten.
Friday, 6pm — Old Globe: Word Up.
Friday, 4pm — Vote Ready: A Concert for Voter Registration.
Saturday, 6pm — Biffy Clyro Livestream Concert.
Saturday, 10am — Björk Live from Reykjavik.
Saturday, 12pm — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays.
Saturday, 6pm — Pepper & Friends: Night of Stripped Back Livestreams.
Saturday, 2pm — ProgStock Virtual Series.
Saturday, 5pm — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20.
Sunday, 5pm — Dex Romweber Livestream From the Cave.

Palomar Starlight Theater:

Saturday, 8pm — The Family Stone.
Sunday, 2pm — Dreaming of You: Selena Tribute.

MUSIC EVENTS

Old Globe: Word Up Word Up! is a digital opportunity for community members to connect with each other and participate in a new performing-art medium each week through a live-streamed collaboration. Every Friday night, Arts Engagement Programs Manager and host Laura Zablit will be joined by some of San Diego's incredible performing artists. Together they will create opportunities for viewers to learn from and participate in their art form, creating accessible art in real time. Friday, August 14, 6pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Symphony's fall season not canceled... yet

It's August, a month in which I usually begin to look forward to the Masterworks Season at the San Diego Symphony. However, at this point I don't believe there will be fall concerts this year.

One of the reasons I look forward to the Masterworks Season is that it gives me something to listen to that is new and different. Even if it is music I'm familiar with, the performances are always unique. When left to my own devices, I usually wander back to the same old stuff I've been listening to for years, if not decades. It's not only that I've listened to the same music over and over, but I've listened to the same performances of the same music over and over.

The symphonic season is

also a big part of my favorite time of year. Classical music is something that starts in autumn. I know there are plenty of summer festivals, but going downtown to Symphony Hall is a fall ritual. It goes with the football season, the new semester, The Metropolitan Opera Season, and Christmas starting too early — all things that I love.

Virtual concerts I love not, but I'm afraid that is what we are going to be left with until the 2021-22 season. I only hope our classical music organizations can survive what will be a year-and-a-half hiatus.

I will admit to not really missing concerts so far. I believe that is because things closed down in March. That was close enough to the end of the

season that I didn't miss it too much. Now that we are in August and I'm beginning to pine for autumn, I find myself starting to experience a profound sense of loss for the cultural traditions that have been a part of my life for decades.

One of the more frustrating factors is that there was a new sense of direction and purpose in almost all of the cultural organizations that I cover. Covid-19 put the brakes on what was shaping up to be the beginning of a new era in San Diego's cultural life.

The San Diego Symphony had just completed its first season with a dynamic new music director, Rafael Payare, and it was magnificent. The Shell, the symphony's new



The San Diego Symphony had just completed its first season with a new and exciting music director, Rafael Payare.

waterfront summer home, was scheduled to open this summer.

The La Jolla Music Society was just completing its first year in its new venue, The Conrad, in downtown La Jolla. The San Diego Mainly Mozart Festival had scheduled a festival with music director Michael Francis leading the stellar festival

orchestra in five concerts jam-packed with some of my favorite music.

I could be wrong about no fall concerts. Some big news about treatments for COVID-19 could arrive. Policies about quarantine could change. The San Diego Symphony hasn't canceled the fall concerts yet. There is some hope.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

UPCOMING SHOWS

Belly Up Tavern:

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

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.

Old Town Blues Club:

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

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, Aug. 20 — Peter Sprague Weekly Livestream Concert. **Free.**
Friday, Aug. 21 — Old Globe: Word Up.
Friday, Aug. 21 — Andy Frasco Interactive Online Concert Experience.
Saturday, Aug. 22 — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays.
Saturday, Aug. 22 — ProgStock Virtual Series.
Saturday, Aug. 22 — Andy Frasco Interactive Online Concert Experience.
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 — Idles Livestream Concert.

Saturday, Aug. 29 — Tommy Emmanuel. \$15-\$20.
Saturday, Aug. 29 — Idles Livestream Concert.
Saturday, Aug. 29 — Grammy Museum Spotlight Saturdays.
Saturday, Aug. 29 — ProgStock Virtual Series.
Saturday, Aug. 29 — Follow The Light Virtual Music Festiva.
Sunday, Aug. 30 — Joshua Scott Jones Sunday Sunset Livestream. \$10.
Sunday, Aug. 30 — Idles Livestream Concert.

Palomar Starlight Theater:

Friday, Aug. 21 — Yachtley Crew.
Friday, Aug. 28 — Wayward Sons.

Soma:

Wednesday, Sep. 2 — AJJ, Xiu Xiu, Emperor X.

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 What You Have

Nudity, uncovered

We open as the curtain rises on the #MeToo movement. When our return to cinemas is finally ensured, there will be a new closing credit aberration to reckon with, a job described simply as “Intimacy Coordinator.” Hired by the studio, it’s their task to oversee sex scenes, to choreograph them such that the line between actors and sex workers is never blurred. If ever there were a film in which nakedness was essential to the plot, it’s

MOVIES

Skin: A History of Nudity in the Movies.

My first job managing a theatre was a Landmark single-screen that changed double-bills daily. The year was 1980, and the City of Chicago, which still required theatre owners to acquire permits for each movie they exhibited, would frequently send a deputy around to keep exhibitors honest. A knock on the door echoed through the lobby 30 minutes prior to the matinee performance of Josef Von Sternberg’s *The Scarlet Empress*, a scandalous-to-this-day adaptation of the life of Catherine the Great, and one of the last films to be released before the infamous Hays code became law.

No sooner did the Catholic Legion of Decency publish its ratings list to churches than lines began forming at theatres showcasing the condemned titles. Movie censorship, regulated by both city and state when *The Scarlet Empress* opened in 1934, led to the film’s “Adults Only” classification. The rep was older than cinema itself, puritanicalism personified, cloaked in grey business dress and topped with a marled blue lambswool mane wound tight in a bun. Tugging at the leather knot button of her color-coordinated gloves, from which dangled an unfiltered Chesterfield, the relic from the Hays Office insisted that we display an X-Rating sign in the box office. The revenue lost by tuning away a teenage throng eager to watch a black-and-white costume picture from the 1930s was incalculable.

It was called the Hays Office, but former Postmaster General Will Hays was less a censor than he was a shill on the studios’ payroll. It was Catholic layman Joseph Breen who, more than any individual of his time, shaped Hollywood morals throughout its golden period. In the truest sense of the term, pre-code films ceased to exist when the production code was first submitted to studios in 1929. But critic Mick LaSalle rightfully points out the era in Hollywood’s history frequently

called pre-code actually refers to films released between 1929 and 1934, that glorious period before the code actually became enforceable.

I am not going to pretend that I have not enjoyed my fair share of onscreen nudity — my first nipple was Ali MacGraw’s in *Goodbye, Columbus* — but in retrospect, a starlet’s nude scene seldom lives up to her agent’s “essential to the plot” incentive.

With rare exceptions (*The Pawnbroker*, *The Last Picture Show*, *The Crying Game* are the first films that come to mind), nudity does more to advance an actress’s career than it does the plot.

After denuding a great deal of information, the film begins to fall apart — around the same time as the studio system — all but abandoning historical perspective as it collapses into a checklist of favorite flashes. Russ Meyer and Pam Grier are given their due, but damn if the filmmakers don’t gloss over the 1970s, by far the most fertile era for nudity in mainstream cinema. Though it’s directed by Danny Wolf, the true auteur behind the film is producer/talking head Jim “Mr. Skin” McBride, aided by fellow professional flesh-spotter and publisher of *Celebrity Sleuths*, Barry Kemelhor.

It could be argued that *American Pie* introduced sex comedies to a new generation of teenagers, but Wolf veers far off the mark by spending more time on *Howling 2* than the original, and fawning over dross like *Terminator 3* or the overall inexorable *Not Another Teen Movie*. Ditto Blake Edwards, whose masterful *10* is given short shrift in favor of Julie Andrews taking a pause amidst the forced hysterics of *S.O.B.* to flash her “boobies.” And a little fact checking is in order: actress Camille Keaton claims that *I Spit on Your Grave* was the first film in which a rape victim goes back to get revenge on her attackers. But the subject was covered four years earlier, and to greater effectiveness, in the exploitation marvel *Act of Vengeance, aka Rape Squad*.

In closing, one must applaud the filmmakers for their wisdom in including the single most important full frontal romp committed to film in the past 20 years: Ken Davitian’s nude wrestling match with Sacha Baron Cohen in *Borat*. A better film on the subject awaits. Until that time, we’ll have to make do with a solid opening hour and the random parade of tits and giggles that follow. ★★★

—Scott Marks



Skin: A History of Nudity in the Movies: Sinema stripped bare.

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

Endless — We open in mid-misfortune: Chris (Nicholas Hamilton) is in the passenger seat, three beers to the wind, his designated driver girlfriend Riley (Alexandra Shipp) texting behind the wheel, and two oncoming cars screeching along on their way to put an end to love. At least in this world. Survivor’s guilt overwhelms Riley, while Chris, unable to cross over, forges on in oblivion. (As strong a presence as Shipp brings to the role, that’s exactly how drippy Hamilton’s ghostly brooder is.) It turns out that Scott Speer’s (*Step Up Revolution*, *Midnight Sun*) weigh station for ascending souls is an agreeable destination with perks galore. How old you were when you died is how old you stay. Communication amongst the limbo dead is a plus. Want to globe hop? Just think of a destination! And did I mention that one can fly anywhere they desire, no wings attached? In Chris’s case, it’s even possible to make aural and physical contact with his beloved! Presented with uncomplicated conviction by a director skilled at sleight-of-hand, even the most ludicrous plot points prove pleasurable. When not cranking out video shorts, Speer works exclusively in genre pictures, making him a rarity among today’s directors. Oddly enough, though the film is meant to jerk tears, not once did I find my hand reaching for a Puffs. 2020. —S.M. ★★★

The Tax Collector — Last year’s pawn shop acquisition of *Dark Blue* was almost enough to call for a reevaluation of David Ayers’ screenplays. His violent professional friendships, and the profane musings that entail between passenger and driver never were

my bag — better a twentieth viewing of Walter Hill’s *48 Hrs.* than a second appraisal of *Training Day* — but the advance word on this led with “unwatchable,” so here I am. David Cuevas (Bobby Soto) is a juice man for the mob, loved by his family, but not feared enough by his enemies. That explains the rapport between David and co-collection agent Creeper (Shia LaBeouf), an exsanguinous enforcer who instills enough fear in their vic-

tims for the both of them. Once professional movie stars LaBeouf and George Lopez are written out of the script, it’s strictly amateur night, with Soto not strong enough to carry the picture. And if exploitation is the desired end result, why cloak it in a mist of social significance that, when dissipated, has nothing to show for itself short of a pile of bloody corpses, pointlessly added to shock enlightenment into today’s jaded viewers?. 2020 —S.M. ●



THE DEVIL’S ROAD: A BAJA ADVENTURE (2019)

Right after producer Todd Bruce discovered his distant relationship to naturalist Edward Alphonso Goldman, he employed the services of daughter Bri (associate producer) and son J.T. (director) to create a modern-day, two-month variation on the expedition his great grandfather and partner Edward William Nelson made through Baja at the conclusion of their 14-year trek across Mexico. Starting in San Diego, the men took the scenic route — loose rocks



The Devil’s Road: A Baja Adventure: *The Bruces* — Todd, Bri, and J.T. — take us on a spirited ride to hell and back.

forced them to zig-zag a path all the way to Cabo. As one ecologist points out, “That’s longer than the length of Italy.” The turn-of-the-century exploration coincided with the dawn of the portable camera, and their visual documentation (and species collection) remains unparalleled. As are the views the Bruces expose us to, leaving one to ponder what the pioneering duo would have done with a drone camera. Through historical trails and Spanish missions, we watch as our trio are aided and abetted by friends and (even more) family members, all backed by an infectious score. This riveting ride through the Baja countryside is part science documentary, part historical adventure, and as good a home movie as any you’re likely to see.

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PERSONALS

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BUTCH Onyx is happy now. The loss hurts a lot. Your pops is sad. Go for the goldfish.... Ha Now, go put out the fire and love your desire.Gman

DAVID H So sorry Onyx went to Doggie Heaven. No more pain. Off The Top. Gman got your back.

SCOE DAWG Puppy has the detox covered. She used her digits to make the buy. Got to Love Her. It ain't no puzzle. Double Five Double Deuce. Gman

IS IT December 4th yet?

I WILL BE 65 :-O Sunday Aug 9... between 12 & 1 I'll be sitting west side of lilly pond (Balboa Park) anyone please say happy b day to me if there. Thanks!

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

RFK SPORTING WOOD The trumpet was indiscernible over the aural assault of the Flexies, delivering a hardcore message to an audience clad in pink. Much like the mirror at Adams Ave theater, so to, these dreams of 'buckets at lakes', are shattered. I shall survive LV

BRANDI PIERCE I can no longer see you with my eyes or touch you with my hands, but I will feel you in my heart forever, 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 Carie. 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.

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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.

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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

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PHOTOSHOP 101 CLASSES This general meetup will be held live & online via GoToMeeting.com, instead of at the Photo Arts building in San Diego's Balboa Park. Specific details, and how to join once you RSVP, are here: https://www.wattsdigital.com/San_Diego_Meetups.html john@wattsdigital.com



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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

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

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

RETIRED WOMAN SEEKS ROOM Active senior, refined, non conformist, unworldly, non tech, conservative, quiet, considerate, health conscious, Louise call (442) 777-8110, leave voice message.

ROOM WANTED Professional female. Looking in the Encinitas area. Please call (248) 320-3329

SD \$557 ROOMMATE FOR FURNISHED BEDROOM Seek roommate: adult male only for all-male house. Utilities paid+sec deposit required + WiFi+no

smoking or vaping+close to bus+street parking. Share: bath+kitchen+wash&dryer. More details? Text: "557RA" to (858) 367-0533. AcaciaStHouseSD@protonmail.com

SENIOR MALE SEEKING room or room to share. Quiet, considerate, employed (858) 282-4370.

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

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

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

HOME SWEET HOME bedroom for rent, near downtown, walking distance to shopping, dining, bus stops. \$700 per month, call now. (619) 847-8824

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.

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

4BR 2.5BA TOWNHOUSE 9831 Genesee Ave, San Diego, CA 92121-4BR/2.5B/

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<p>\$75 60 min. Couples Massage With this ad. Expires 09/02/2020 Free Table Shower & Free Hot Stone with 60 minute Body Massage</p>		



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LA MESA, \$1550. 2BD+1BA Large apartment in small 6-unit complex. New wood-like flooring. Fenced patio with washer/dryer hookups, 1 assigned parking spot. Near 94 freeway. Water and trash paid. No pets. 7410 Lime Street #D. Agent: (619) 298-7724.

MISSION HILLS, \$1375. Upstairs studio+1BA. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 W. Washington #7 and #10. 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.allpointsrealestate.com

NEED TO RENT GARAGE or warehouse space for 2 weeks to repair my Corvette. There will be no oil/grease stains. I am meticulous. Call Burk at (619) 847-9106. Thanx.

NORTH PARK, \$1495. 1BD+1BA. Lovely 1 bedroom upstairs unit, vaulted ceilings, upgraded kitchen and bathroom. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, assigned off-street parking for one car. Water and trash paid. 3753 Cherokee Ave #8. Agent: (619) 298-7724.

NORTH PARK, \$1750. 2BD+1BA, deposit \$1750. New wood-like flooring. Laundry on site, parking space assigned, water and trash included. No pets. 4169 Alabama. Agent: (619) 298-7724.

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.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495. 1BD+1BA downstairs unit with patio. All appliances, plank flooring, parking, laundry room. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #7. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

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.

1BD/1BA MISSION HILLS Upstairs garden apartment in Mission Hills. Available September 1. \$1700/month. Call

Kara at (619) 781-7257 / kara.riekstins@gmail.com

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

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

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.

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

OCEAN BEACH 2/2- \$465K, FHA Great Location - No steps, Newer laminate floors, 4 pane windows, fireplace, private balcony and washer/dryer included. Private pking and storage. Ocean View rooftop deck. Agent (619) 384-7330 / obhelen@yahoo.com

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(858) 799-0219



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



SAN DIEGO - NO JOKE \$50,000 Beautiful "detached" mobile home situated at the end of the block elevated higher to catch the breeze and city lights from your very own porch. Indoor/Outdoor living makes this home spacious and open. Refreshed and ready for you to move into. (858) 274-3866 / j_sarullo@yahoo.com

MUSIC

TROMBONE - PREMIER Bach 36, W-F, .525 bore, 8 inch bell. One trombone to do everything. Good cond. Selling half market value, \$750. (619) 264-3686

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

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

2 PUREBRED BENGAL FEMALES available for forever homes August 25th. 4 purebred, gender unknown, available September 25th. \$250 deposit holds. Hypoallergenic! (619) 597-9729 Pine Valley. Hurry.

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

MISSING A RABBIT IN B? 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 / jonnahtanhesk@mail.com

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

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

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

SPORTS

ADVANCED SOCCER PLAYERS Meet other local pickup soccer players. Gather, meet new people, and play the game. Only for advanced level. <https://www.meetup.com/sdsoccer/>



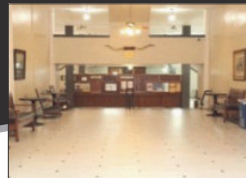
SAN DIEGO BASKETBALL Hey ya'll, basketball for the non-basketballers is back. This group is a simple. We play non-competitive pickup basketball games on a weekly basis. <https://www.meetup.com/ballerssandiego/>



SAN DIEGO SOFTBALL 12:30 PM to 4:15 pm. Every week on Saturday. Juarez Elementary School, 2633 Melbourne Dr • San Diego. The field is on Melbourne St, go up Mission Village and drive and left on Shawn (619) 985-2173

SPORTS CARDS AND MEMORABILIA Have thousands I need to get rid of. If interested email shisea30@gmail.com.

DOWNTOWN \$550-880



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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



SPEEDBAG FOR BOXING Speedbag is \$20 made by Everlast, holds air, mounts to wall, used. (760) 807-7414



SWORD LESSONS Due to the ongoing pandemic and business closures, South Coast Swords is now offering outdoor private lessons while following social distancing and other precautionary protocols. These classes will focus on solo drills and cutting. info@southcoastswords.com



WHOLESALE SOCCER/ FUTBOL BALLS Need balls for practice without spending a fortune? They will work for both boys and girls. These balls come deflated to save you on shipping. Petra Sports & Leisure (951) 299-7330

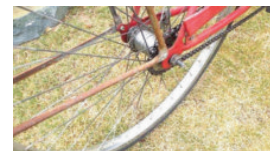
BASEBALL CARDS TOPPS 80's-90's Unopened with Bubblegum and thousands more (619) 743-6900 text.

BICYCLES

CRUISER Men's style mid size cruiser bike. Candy apple red nice \$50.00 (619) 438-4567.



28" MERCURY BICYCLE WHEELS Good condition. Ten gears on rear wheel, needs one tire, Shimano Ultegra gears. (760) 214-4007



SCHWINN HOLLYWOOD - \$200 Made around 1970. S-7 wheels in nice condition. Rides well. 26". \$200. (760) 405-7149

WALL BIKE STAND - \$20 Wall bike stand by Everconcept for two bikes \$20. Brand new in the box, paid \$49 plus shipping online. (619) 421-7158

BIKES FOR SALE Best to 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



UNIVEGA SINGLE SPEED ROAD BIKE \$165. It has Cinelli bars, and an Italian-made stem, custom leather grips or fake leather - not really sure, and the seat was reupholstered with the same material. Frame is 48 cm. The bike is light and fun to ride. (619) 341-0094

VINTAGE SCHWINN 3 BIKE LOT \$3000: 1981 Schwinn Blue single speed with original springer. Nice. 1980 Blue Schwinn five speed Adam hub, real nice. 1981 black schwinn five speed, Adam hub real nice. Mike (602) 466-4938

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

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.

MOTORCYCLES

ELECTRIC FAT TIRE TRIKE foldable aluminum red, 750 watt motor, key lockable ignition. 4 hours time baskets fenders, lights. Chris \$2000 (619) 578-8262

KAWASAKI KLR 650 2003 Yoshimura pipe/ spark arrester. New progressive front springs, new front, rear tires handlebars, turn signals, graphics steel footpegs, k&n \$2000, call Chris (619) 578-8262.



2017 ROADGLIDE SPECIAL \$21,500 2017 Harley Davidson Roadglide special in immaculate condition. The color scheme (Laguna orange) is the upgraded option that will absolutely turn heads. (805) 444-6577



ALL-ELECTRIC ZERO MOTORCYCLE Take a leap, step away, and jump onto an all-electric Zero motorcycle. Two wheels, a maintenance-free powertrain, and miles and miles of what embodies American freedom. No gas, no oil changes, no filters, no fumes, no spark plugs and no noise. (714) 978-4487 / Info@zeromoc.com

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

AUTOMOTIVE

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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FOUR TIRES Used only 1200 miles, p 215/60-15, paid \$450, asking \$250. (858) 792-7777

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.

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

HELP WANTED

ENGINEERING Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD) seeks an Associate Director, Product Development Engineering in San Diego, CA to provide product development & technical leadership to drive new initiatives. Req. MS + 2 or BS + 5 yrs exp. Mail resume to: (BD), Attn: Cecilia Sam, 3750 Torrey View Ct., San Diego, CA 92130. Must reference Job Title: Associate Director, Product Development Engineering; Code: 000958. EOE.

ENGINEERING/TECHNOLOGY Keysight Technologies has an opening in San Diego, CA for a Customer Success Manager (CSM1) Adopt, retain, expand, and upsell Keysight software solutions and contracts to our Enterprise customers. Position may require travel up to 20%. Mail resume & reference job code to: Keysight Technologies Inc., Attn: US Country HR, 1400 Fountain Grove Parkway, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

HANDYMAN NEEDED for exchange housing. I give you house, room, utility, for two hours work. Phone number is (619) 479-4212. Address is 7505 Gayneswood Way San Diego California 92139.

MULTIPLE POSITIONS (VASTek, Inc. has opening in San Diego, CA) Director of Engineering: Req up to 25% domestic & up to 10% intl travel. Req Bachelor of Engr (any field) & 5 yrs prog exp OR Masters of Engr (any field) & 2 yrs exp. 2 yrs of exp must include: (1) working in a regulated product dvlpmnt

environment such as medical devices or pharmaceuticals; (2) industry standards for commissioning, qualification, & operation of facilities & utilities for cGMP manufacturing, (3) working with teams in multiple geo locations including SE Asia; & (4) managing cross-functional teams & collaborating across the business. Manufacturing Engineering Specialist: Analyze the market demand for different contracting manufacturing engr personnel. Use analysis of metrics & knowledge of manufacturing engr principles to determine the suitability & feasibility of specific employees for specific client requirements as well as the suitability of specific projects for fulfillment by co. Will work in unanticipated locations. Req Masters in Industrial Engr, Manufacturing Engr, or Industrial Tech. All Positions: Send resume to attn: Daniella Loza, VASTek, Inc. 1230 Columbia Street, Suite 1180, San Diego, CA 92101 (refer to job title).

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

PROJECT ENGINEER Aark Engineering seeks Project Engr. in El Cajon to work w/ structural engineering team, write reports, & more. Resume: 1870 Cordell Ct. Ste. 202 El Cajon, CA 92020

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEER Lytx, Inc., a driver risk management company, seeks the following in San Diego, CA: Senior Software Engineer: Support full software lifecycle (requirements, design, code, unit test, deployment, sustaining) for assigned modules. Reqs BS + 3 yrs. To apply and see full requirements, go to https://lytx.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/Lytx, and search by Requisition #R-1002 to submit cover letter and resume.

SR. ENGINEER, SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEER Becton, Dickinson & Co. (BD) seeks a Sr. Engineer, Software Development Engineer in Test in San Diego, CA to test applications & systems using code & software tools. Req. MS + 2 or BS + 5 yrs exp. Mail

resume to: (BD), Attn: Cecilia Sam, 3750 Torrey View Ct., San Diego, CA 92130. Must reference Job Title: Sr. Engineer, Software Development Engineer in Test; Code: 000044. EOE.

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@emeraldslight.com

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

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

RESPONSIBLE MAN FOR ODD JOBS Hi, 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. (619) 966-5165 / flanagan619@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR HANDYMAN PROJECTS Call (619) 514-6002. Looking for yard cleaning, move out cleaning.

RESPONSIBLE MAN FOR ODD JOBS Hi, 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 with client. (619) 966-5165. Flanagan619@gmail.com (619) 966-5165 / flanagan619@gmail.com

DO YOU NEED A CAREGIVER? In home companion-aide, prefer to work in La Mesa or San Carlos

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

I BUY VINYL RECORDS All types of music, fair prices paid. Call (619) 250-3088.



BUYING OLD BASEBALL CARDS Paying cash for old pre 1980 baseball, football, basketball, and other sports and non-sports cards. Garbage Pail, 1986 Fleer Basketball too. Looking for vintage memorabilia and autographed items. Old comic books too. Let me know what you have. (832) 651-8302 / ashscot@aol.com

ENTHUSIASTIC BOATER Furloughed San Diego resident without a budget, would enthusiastically like to give your boat a new home and great care. I have no funds to purchase, but would be so appreciative to adopt it. Let's talk (not a hipster

HELP WANTED

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family
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landlubber). (408) 506-4421 / ultrajeff@icloud.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

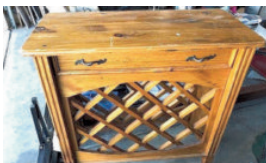
STEREO GEAR/LP RECORDS Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL, Marantz, etc. Pre-recorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, (619) 889-5237.

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

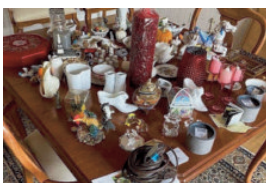


CARLSBAD GARAGE SALES Multiple homes garage sale on Saddle Drive in Carlsbad (760) 445-1445

ESCONDIDO GARAGE SALE Leaf blower, 10" saw blades, all kinds of metal boxes, all kinds of tool boxes, chain saw, battery chargers, small shop vac, Dyson vac, all sorts of plumbing and electrical parts, hand tools. (405) 812-6253



PRE GARAGE SALE IN EL CAJON Looking to move some large items before garage sale: shuffleboard table, slot machine, soda machine, basketball hoop, etc. (619) 990-9202



VISTA ESTATE SALE Tons of items available: antiques, furniture, collectibles, European crystal, oil paintings, kitchen miscellaneous items, tools in the

garage, etc. Text me at (714) 654-2992 to make an appointment. Cash only.

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 womens clothes and shoes, hand bags, sheets, blankets, towels, custom made window drapes, lots of Beanie Babies and toys. info@socialstatesaleservices.com

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

FOR SALE

38 BUICK STREET ROD 28 Buick sedan. 4 door chopprd top. Olds 350/350 drivetrain. Many extras. Contact Bob (760) 943-7326. \$11K (760) 943-7326 / skutter@pacbell.net



7 X 14 ENCLOSED TRAILER For sale by owner. 2016 7 x 14 enclosed trailer In perfect condition. Includes metal van storage. Used once to transport tools and materials. Been used as storage since. Must sell, best offer. jeremeyhunter@hotmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS RESTAURANT FURNITURE including many wooden chairs, dining tables, long folding tables. Tony (619) 200-3421

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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.

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Sedan only, NON STAR Smog inspection for 2000 & up only. SUV and Trucks extra. +18" cert +15" DMV transfer fee

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with plate, fork, spoon, \$5. (619) 218-4031

OLD SCHOOL BOX TV Hello gamers! 14 in Toshiba (no remote), very good condition. Pacific Beach \$40 OBO, please text (858) 273-3801.

RECORDS box of 45s, oldies but goodies - \$1 each. (619) 346-3939.



ELECTRIC MOBILITY CHAIR Used electric mobility chair; cost \$2000 new asking \$400. See ad online for photos. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE SPECIMENS African Ocotillo aka Alluadia procera. Also other Landscape Specimens: Beaucarnea recurvata, Euphorbia Ammak Variegata & Euphorbia Cotinifolia. Lalo of Vista. (760) 945-7892

THOMASVILLE HEMINGWAY BARSTOOLS Three Thomasville Hemingway Collection barstools. Made of bamboo and wicker with cheetah patterned cloth upholstery. All three in good used condition. \$425 or best reasonable offer. (619) 607-3208 / flying.the.black@gmail.com



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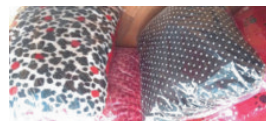
QUEEN SIZE BED with sleigh headboard, \$150 all or best offer, (619) 448-1910.



40" SONY HD TV TV was used very little as a TV for a bedroom, Looks and in perfect condition. Please call after 1 pm. (619) 840-8149 / mjackson8070@outlook.com

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



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PLANT SPECIMENS FOR SALE Alluadia procera; Beaucarnea recurvata; Euphorbia Ammak variegata; Euphorbia cotinifolia. All six to nine feet tall. Lalo, (760) 945-7892, Vista

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



STUN GUN FLASHLIGHT COMBO Stun gun get protection strobe light powerful flashlight with strobe combination \$20 and \$30 models. (619) 850-3264

TV SMART BOX NO CABLE BILLS TV smart box receive every channel all movies new and old TV shows pay-per-view all sporting events (619) 850-3264 \$300

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

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.

WHIRLPOOL REFRIGERATOR 18 ft Whirlpool refrigerator with ice maker, beige, manufactured is 0405. \$150, contact is (760) 477-7276 in Oceanside.

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\$2 HANDMADE EMPANADAS IN CHULA VISTA I have meat, pork rinds with little bean and cheese. Call in your orders. (619) 254-3052

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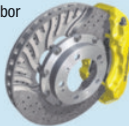


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BOSCH WASH MACHINE 4.5 CU-FT Bosch front loader 4.5 cu-ft, 110V. Size: 36.5H x 26.5W x 39D. This machine is still in great working condition. It has a very hot sanitary wash cycle. Local pick-up only. Sale price \$150. (858) 243-4139

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.

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

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

1997 PRINCESS 1ST GENERATION Beanie Baby Lady Diana tribute, perfect condition, make a reasonable offer. Also have a few older Hot Wheels, call for price. (619) 586-2814

HP LASERJET 4050 Excellent condition, (619) 743-6900 text.

STEREO & SURROUND SOUND EQUIPMENT Yamaha Audio Video Receiver. RX V1400, Pioneer audio video stereo receiver VSX-501, subwoofer-velodyne DLS (619) 743-6900 text.

SUBWOOFER Velodyne DLS (619) 743-6900 text.

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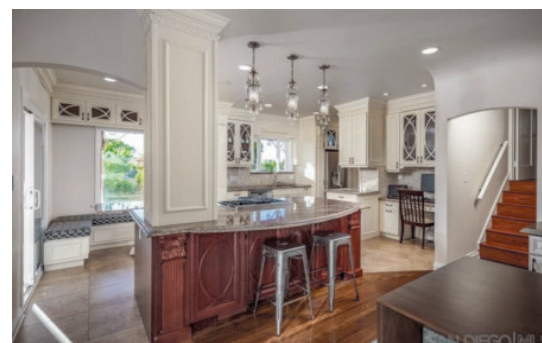
CASH APP REFUND The advancement tab is one of the basic holds onto the item this is in all probability subject for the Cash App refund. As such, at the off peril which you have to get your coins back, with the guide of using then you may use the help this is given james7thomas01@gmail.com

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 8

outfitted with modern slab counters and appliance suite.

Outside, the home's quarter-acre double lot offers space for "a tremendous fully fenced backyard and beautiful front yard as well," with the listing promising that "you will be amazed by the largest Dragon Tree in all of San Diego County, right in the front yard!" The grounds also boast a mini-orchard including avocado, lemon, lime, and pomegranate trees, among others.



The kitchen, updated to accommodate modern living standards.

"This extremely unique property epitomizes charm, history, and quality of life."

Public records indicate ownership of Longview Manor currently resides with Gregory Parise, a financial manager who has helmed several capital investment firms.

The property last sold in mid-2018 for a reported \$1.832 million.

The most recent sale offering for the Manor was made available in early June — since then, the \$2.55 million price tag has been reduced three times. Offers are currently being sought at \$2,395,000. ■



"If I wear flip flops in Spain, I'm immediately known as an outsider and an expat. No one wears flip flops in Europe unless you're going to the beach." But while she might dress slightly differently depending on where she lives, she doesn't let it stop her from being

herself. "Because I'm from California, I still feel a sense of comfort in wearing pajamas to the grocery store or wearing flip flops in winter. But I've adapted to the

trends that I like." Debbie finds balance by "staying true but also taking lessons. The things that have resonated with me, I like to keep wherever I move to next." ■

BEST PRICE IN TOWN!

SMOG CHECK Most cars, Vans, trucks, & European cars \$10 extra. 2000 & up. **\$11⁷⁵** + \$8.25 Cert.

BRAKES Front or rear. Most cars. **\$50** + Labor. **FREE Shuttle Service w/ repair**

OIL CHANGE & FILTER Up to 5 qts., new filter, 10 point checkout. **\$13⁹⁵** + \$1.00 Waste Fee.

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COMPUTER DIAGNOSIS Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery... **\$30**

AXLE SPECIAL Includes Parts & Labor **\$99**

MUFFLER from **\$29** + Labor

PREMIUM SHOCKS from **\$70** per pair. Monroe or KYB+ Labor

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STARTERS OR ALTERNATOR from **\$95** + Labor

*Prices may vary depending on make, model & condition
*Must present this ad at time of service for discounted pricing

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\$21⁷⁵*

+ \$8.25 cert

STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41⁷⁵

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Radiator coolant change
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Parts & Labor

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Recommended at 60k miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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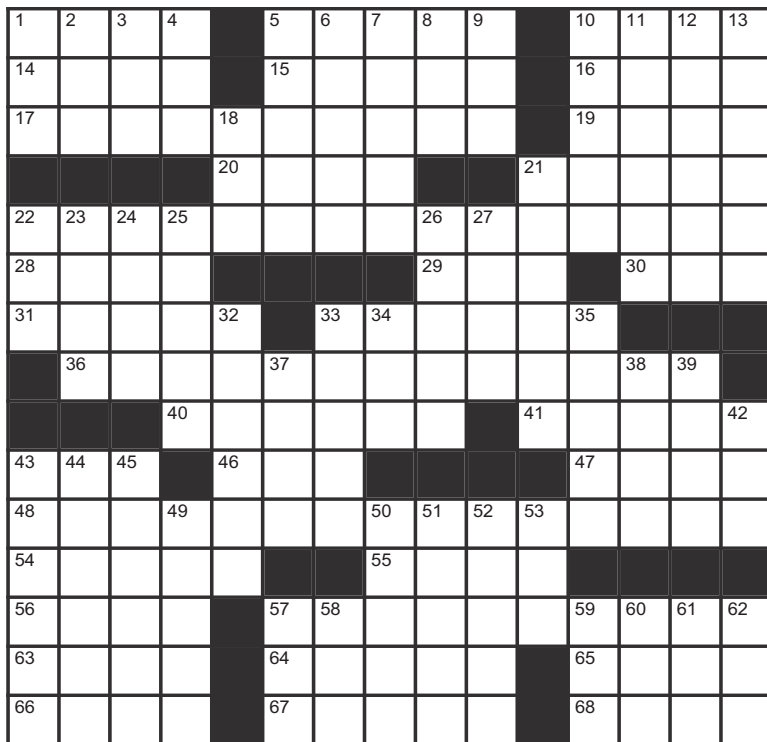
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CROSSWORD



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Across

1. Word flashing at an intersection
5. Creator of Thing 1 and Thing 2
10. Veal ____
14. Injury, to a toddler
15. Ailment that aptly anagrams to "cruel"
16. From the States: Abbr.
17. Hair gels belonging to a popular saxophonist?
19. Like the 1%
20. Make money
21. He might provide assistance after a crash
22. Forms a circle around the author of "Dianetics"?
28. ____ Romeo
29. One of an octopus's octet
30. Atlanta-to-Miami dir.
31. Chekhov's "Uncle ____"
33. Feature of a high-numbered pool ball
36. Sports organization that has doubled the number of baskets players usually shoot for?
40. Talks excessively
41. Agave fiber used in rugs
43. Pennzoil alternative
46. "C ____ la vie!"
47. Golfer's target
48. Dessert wine makes Desi Arnaz's daughter have posture problems?
54. On ____ (counting calories)

55. "Umbrella" singer, to fans
56. "Deal or No Deal" container
57. Expels only #2 and #10 of 26 after eating alphabet soup?
63. Prep school near Windsor Castle
64. Group of experts
65. Start of an advice column question
66. Warrior princess of '90s TV
67. "Likely ____!"
68. Statement upon dropping something ... or what's been dropped into 17-, 22-, 36- and 48-Across

Down

1. Stir-fry pan
2. What a fireworks show may inspire
3. "Hamilton" creator ____-Manuel Miranda
4. Barbie's beau
5. Content of some cubes
6. What Spanish Olympians go for
7. 2013-16 NCAA women's basketball champs
8. Natl. Library Card Sign-Up Month
9. 12th graders: Abbr.
10. Second of two sections
11. Close chicas
12. Happens again
13. Dr. Jekyll's alter ego
18. "By all means"
21. High-tech debuts of 1981
22. Brit's bathroom
23. "Frozen" snowman
24. Point ____ return
25. Settle a bar tab, for example
26. Angelic instruments
27. "Exodus" author Leon
32. Something you don't want to be under
33. ____ voce
34. Water tester
35. Yale founder Yale
37. "... why ____ thou forsaken me?": Matthew
38. Biennial games org.
39. Island near Java
42. Author Harper
43. Rocket-building company since 2002
44. So far
45. Pen
49. Brandon ____, lead role in 1999's "Boys Don't Cry"
50. University of Maine town
51. Pied ____
52. "r u kidding me?!"
53. End of a cause?
57. "Oh, and another thing," on a ltr.
58. Granola grain
59. Big fuss
60. Prefix for classical or conservative
61. Fist bump
62. 11th graders: Abbr.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

P	D	A		A	S	T	I	N		S	H	A	L	O	M		
A	O	L		G	H	O	S	T		C	A	M	I	L	A		
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A	T	T		T	R	O	Y					D	E	W			
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				S	O	W				O	O	P	S		I	L	L
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S	A	I	N	T	S			S	T	E	A	M		O	D	D	

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- 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.

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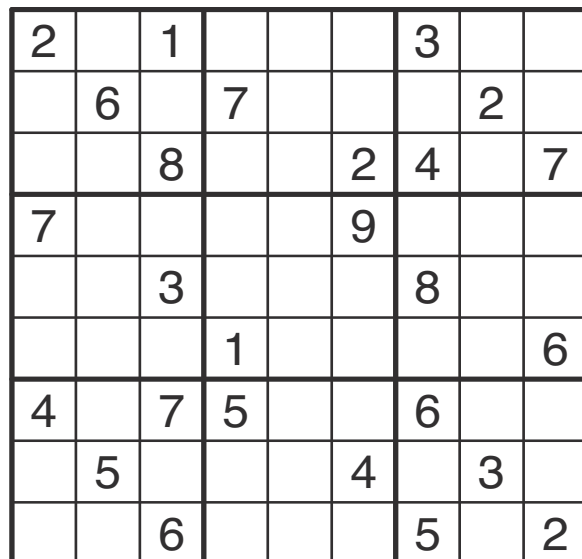
Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Maurice Ratnadurai, Oceanside, 1.**

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:



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 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

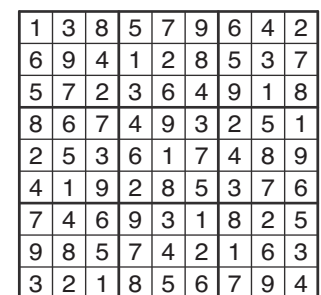
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☛ **Walt Meier, Carlsbad, 9.**

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:



Cliches Come to Life

— Gabriel and Tracy Brawn moved into Gabriel's childhood home in Dover-Foxcroft, Maine, in 2012 and enjoyed a warm relationship with next-door neighbor Steve Ritter, whose garage had been partially built on the Brawns' property decades ago. But after Ritter passed away in 2016, his wife and grown children took over the property, sometimes renting it out, and "this place turned to craziness and chaos," Tracy Brawn told the *Bangor Daily News* on July 16, leading finally to Gabriel Brawn grabbing his Sawzall on May 26 and cutting the Ritters' garage in half, right down the property line. "We're putting up a fence," Tracy Brawn said. "Fences make good neighbors." Dover-Foxcroft police Chief Ryan Reardon said, "We were aware of the situation and believe it's been resolved at this point."

Latest Alarming Headlines

— A roving gang of baboons in Knowsley Safari Park in Merseyside, England is known to vandalize cars and otherwise alarm visitors, but lately, *The Sunday Times* reported, they've been seen carrying knives, screwdrivers and a chain saw, which workers believe they've acquired from visitors. "We're not sure if they are being given weapons by some of the guests ... or if they're fishing them out of pickup trucks and vans," an employee said. Park officials have pooh-poohed the reports, saying, "We believe that many of these stories have grown in exaggeration as they've been retold."

Lost and Found

— Chris Marckres of Hyde Park, Vermont, went skydiving on July 25, but, he told NECN, "I think my adrenaline was so high and I was just so excited, I didn't realize I had lost it." "It" was one of Marckres' two prosthetic legs. The double amputee was harnessed to an instructor and landed safely, but he didn't know where the leg ended up. His plea for help on Facebook was answered the next day by farmer Joe Marszalkowski, who found the prosthetic in his soybean field. Marckres said the leg suffered a few scratches but was otherwise unharmed. "We kind of take for granted sometimes how many truly good people there still are in the world," he mused.

The Street Where You Live

— Concerned friends of Hartford, Connecticut, retiree Victor King contacted police on July 26 when they couldn't reach King, who had recently reported being threatened with a samurai sword by a man he rented a room to, according to an arrest warrant. *The Hartford Courant* reported that first responders arriving at the house on Asylum Avenue found King's body, badly slashed and decapitated. Police began a search for the renter, Jerry David Thompson, who was soon found and arrested, but refused to cooperate with detectives, referring them instead to paperwork in his car indicating he believes himself to be a sovereign citizen and therefore not subject to the law. He was arraigned on July 28 and held on \$2 million bail.

Bright Ideas

— Farm families in Botswana living beside the Chobe River have long battled herds of elephants that often pass through their fields at night, trampling crops as they move toward the river. Barking dogs and fences have failed to stop the elephants, the BBC reported on July 7, but farmers are having remarkable success with a new weapon: disco lights. Scientists from Elephants Without Borders placed solar-powered strobe lights that flash color patterns along the sides of fields elephants are known to walk through, frightening the elephants away. One farmer reported that before he had lights, "I had more elephants raid ... but in these two seasons with lights I have harvested successfully."

Predictable

— A \$64,000 glass replica of a Disney castle on display at the Shanghai Museum of Glass in China was shattered in July after two kids "hit the exhibit counter when they were chasing each other," a museum spokesperson posted on Weibo. *The Today Show* reported Spanish glassblower Miguel Arribas spent 500 hours creating 'The Fantasy Castle' in 2016, but "luckily it's not destroyed," said Arribas Brothers company spokesman Rudy Arribas. When COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, Miguel will go to Shanghai to repair the castle. "We're used to kids and this kind of stuff happening," said Rudy. "Glass breaks."

Awesome!

— A Gwinnett County (Georgia) Sheriff's deputy is recovering at home thanks to

three inmates who came to his rescue. The unnamed inmates noticed the deputy didn't seem well as he conducted security checks, the sheriff's office said in a July 28 statement, and then saw him lose consciousness and fall to the floor, "splitting his head open." The inmates began shouting and banging on their doors, which roused the deputy enough that he "thought an inmate needed help and somehow managed to rise to his feet and press the control panel to open cell doors." The inmates rushed out and called for assistance as the deputy lost consciousness again, the *Gwinnett Daily Post* reported. "These inmates had no obligation whatsoever to render aid to a bleeding, vulnerable deputy, but they didn't hesitate," the sheriff's office said. "We're proud of them."

The Foreign Press

— The Associated Press reported that an unnamed man in Vienna, Austria, was hit with a 500 euro (\$565) fine for "offending public decency" when he broke wind following an encounter with police on June 5. Authorities said that "of course no one is reported for accidentally 'letting one go,'" but after behaving "provocatively and uncooperatively," the man rose from a bench and "let go a massive intestinal wind apparently with full intent. And our colleagues don't like to be farted at so much."

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

to approve dispensaries, in time for the November election. He pointed out that Vista's six legal dispensaries are helping to keep minors from getting marijuana, and suggested Oceanside should be getting some of that pot tax that is enriching Vista. The council declined.

Oceanside city council candidate Amber Newman and her husband David have long supported legalized cannabis in Oceanside. The Newmans own A Soothing Seed, which has been making door-to-door deliveries to individuals for years. David Newman told me in April that they plan to continue operating A Soothing Seed.

When asked by email if he meant to call a fellow candidate a thug, Rodriguez responded: "Those that sell and illegally profit from minors are thugs. If the Newmans illegally sell to minors, then yes, they fit my statement." Amber Newman

did not respond to a request for comment.

The Oceanside Police does not actively pursue illegal marijuana delivery services. OPD Lt. Matt Cole has said there is no noticeable crime activity connected with the deliveries. City attorney John Mullen declined to comment on Oceanside's decision to make illegal delivery services a low priority. And while three members of the legal cannabis industry in North County wish there was more enforcement against illegal deliveries, they do not all agree with Rodriguez's "thug" slur.

Mike Mellano owns Coastal Wellness in Vista and would like to eventually open a similar shop in Oceanside. He says it is not fair that he will be paying the new \$28,000 Vista fee as well as an additional \$40,000 a year in annual license fees to the state Bureau of Cannabis Control while those who drop weed off at houses pay nothing. "I don't know if I would have used [thug]. But it is absolutely unlawful what [illegal delivery services] are doing. What do you

call a person who is committing a crime?"

"Calling anybody out like that is unprofessional, and will not get us where we got to go," says Flora Verde's Christman. "I'm opposed to the black market as much as anybody out there. They are getting an unfair competitive advantage. It's not a level playing field. However, I don't blame the black market, because the barrier to even enter the market from the financial and regulatory standpoint is asinine."

"I feel there are better terminologies [than thug]," says Gracie Morgan of Medleaf, Oceanside's first and only dispensary. Medleaf is delivery-only, which means it will be competing legally against A Soothing Seed and all the other delivery services which aren't licensed. She says illegal storefronts get immediate attention by law enforcement, but that delivery services just don't get the same attention. "We haven't seen pressure applied to all of the illicit market."

KEN LEIGHTON

Gompers

continued from page 15

ful in clearing up some issues. For instance, I wanted to know what the new union's name is. "Gompers Preparatory Academy/San Diego Education Association," she said. [The association is a subsidiary of the California Teachers Union.] "Sometimes the membership at the campus refers to themselves as the Gompers Teachers Association," indicating that it is a subsidiary of the SDEA. When teachers become members of GTA, they will eventually pay union dues to SDEA. "But while the first contract negotiations are still ongoing, the SDEA is not yet collecting dues," said Coney.

Coney was helpful, too, in clarifying the unfair labor practice charges against their opponents that the union

took to the Public Employee Relations Board. Spencer Mills filed the first one, complaining that the school engaged in "retaliation" against him as a union activist in reassigning him to teach seventh grade. A second one involved Mills as well. It was retaliatory, the charge said, that the school singled him out for not having his badge on when a number of others also were guilty.

The 29 teacher layoffs Gompers announced on June 1 were cited as a third unfair labor practice, although that became moot after the school reversed itself on July 6.

Union members are complaining, too, that their first contract negotiations are going much slower than they should be. "The amount of time it's taking is mind-boggling," said Mills. "It's

like a chess game or *Game of Thrones*." Coney notes that a Board judge has warned Gompers that it has to bargain in good faith.

From the union opponents' point of view, the unfair labor practice charges have functioned a little too efficiently to block their petition to decertify the union. So far, the Public Employee Relations Board has not seen fit to adjudicate them and move on to the decertification's demand for a vote by all teachers on whether there should be a union at Gompers in the first place. Some are suggesting that mediation might be considered by both sides. "I believe that the issues and differences we have at Gompers can be worked out over time," suggested Chollas View's Azucena Garcia.

— Joe Deegan

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

rarely seen by longtime political observers. Anita Busquets, listed as a biotechnology management consultant from San Diego, lent \$10,000 to Success San Diego on February 25. Repaid \$5000 during the period, Busquets was still owed \$5000 on June 30 with the total due at the end of this year. Gwen Rosenberg, a corporate communication consultant for Integrated DNA Technologies, according to the filing, lent the committee \$5000 on February 25, with the balance due December 31. Similarly, Bry's daughter, La Jolla real estate developer Sarah Kruer Jager, lent \$5000 to the committee on February 25, due at the end of 2020. According to the disclosure, the committee spent \$65,717 on a pro-Bry mail piece on the day of the loans.

Gloria's combined donation haul of \$280,244

narrowly beat Bry's total contributions as of June 30, virtually all collected before the pandemic set in. An independent expenditure committee calling itself the San Diego Small Business Coalition Supporting Todd Gloria for Mayor 2020 got \$27,500 on February 21 from the Republican-leaning San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee.

Another ostensibly independent pro-Gloria group, San Diegans from Every Community in Support of Todd Gloria, picked up \$5000 from the San Diego Police Officers Association PAC on January 21; \$25,000 came from the American Federation of Teachers union on February 10; and AMR Holdco, Inc., trying to hold onto its city ambulance contract, gave \$5000 on February 17.

Fundraising by all city-registered committees in the final three months of the reporting period was well

below the average of recent political years, reflecting the coronavirus pandemic's toll. But in an uncertain political year, the mayoral funding race remains fluid, as exemplified by the July 20 filing of a new pro-Gloria independent expenditure committee calling itself Neighbors for Housing Solutions Supporting Todd Gloria for San Diego Mayor 2020. Failed city attorney candidate Gil Cabrera, per the document, is treasurer. The assistant treasurer is consultant Shawnda Deane of Sacramento's Deane & Company. Deane is also treasurer for another pro-Gloria independent expenditure committee calling itself United San Diego, a Coalition of Citizens Supporting Todd Gloria for San Diego Mayor 2020. The committee raised nothing from February 16 through June 30, ending with a cash balance of \$84.62 and debts of \$6732.

Matt Potter

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