

Mainly Mozart goes live at the fairgrounds

Censusing ain't easy ■ Wild gig stories ■ Suicidal hilarity

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 41 | OCTOBER 8, 2020

Reader

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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.

Growing heights of trash

I think that we really have to think about these things when we are looking to raise the height limit, the Prop E issue ("San Diego watersheds trashed by street sweeping negligence", News Ticker, September 24). I think it really has to be something that has to be dealt with. Because if they don't deal with this now its just going to get worse when we get more and more units compacting one area. If that trash is not handled, then were going to have overflow sewage like we've already had in the beaches for 34 years. We already have it in the other areas too, lots of trash, just floating around, and not just the sewers but on the sidewalks, in the streets, and a hazard to cars and people walking, pedestrians, and biking, I think we need to look into that.

Daniel Beeman
San Diego

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

"Gerry Braun gives to boss Mara Elliott"

News Under the Radar
September 30

Gerry Braun has a background in newspaper reporting and editing. He was well-thought-of at the You-Tee. Then a few years back he abruptly left that rag and went to work for the then-city attorney, Jan Goldsmith as his media mouthpiece. More than one former U-T types, including one who was a columnist for the Reader for a long time, regarded that as Braun's going "over to the

dark side." As far as I know Braun has no legal education or training. Howcum he's now the chief of staff to dear Mara? We laypersons have always assumed that legal work requires legal training. And yet it seems that a flack is now running the office of the city attorney. Then there's the matter of subordinates donating to the political campaigns of their bosses/employers. If that isn't illegal it should be. Ahh, but that would stifle free speech. I guess. If you are a SD resident and still wondering if Mara deserves reelection, this might help you to decide.

—Visduh

"\$50K from San Bernardino fuels San Diego tax hike bid"

News Ticker
October 2

An increase in property taxes until 2068 is absurd. Property taxes are high enough already.


—Socks3742

"Good-bye, easy walking to Del Mar beach"

Neighborhood News
September 28

Like just about every story on this issue this one does a very bad job of examin-

continued on page 4



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October 8, 2020



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PHILLIPICH

Let my people go to church — page 14



Count 'em, 23 layers — page 28



Feminist force! — page 33

ADVERTISING

Display Ads

Automotive	37
Cannabis	41
Classifieds	34
Health and Beauty	18
Legal Solutions	11
Massage	34
Music	32
Research Studies	16
Restaurants	27

NEWS & FEATURES

Letters	1
Neighborhood News	
Gynofiti and <i>mordida</i> machines in Tijuana; farm fight in Oceanside ...	2
Under the Radar	
Suicidal hilarity	3
News Ticker	
The 30th Street bike lane (non)project	3
Ask a Hipster	
Underwood ham devils and their fiery pitchforks	4
Golden Dreams	
Censusing ain't easy; deskercise	12
Unreal Estate	
Stunning cape cod in Olde Del Mar	13
You can't treat churches like hair salons, by Joe Deegan	
Local lawyer leads the fight against government overreach	14
News of the Weird	39
Puzzles	40

CALENDAR

Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance, Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures, Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness	22
--	----

Poetry

Three poems by Kenneth Koch.....	23
----------------------------------	----

Religion

Canyon Springs Church, Scripps Ranch.....	24
---	----

Restaurants

Tin Fork: people in Mozambique like it hot.....	27
Feast: cake pilgrimage to Oceanside.....	28

Pour over

House of Black acquires ballpark-adjacent Bean Bar.....	29
---	----

Music

Blurt: wild gig stories; Bucket o' Blood	30
Local Five: San Diego acts you ought to check out	31
Immortal Beauty: Mainly Mozart goes live at the fairgrounds	32

Movies

Sometimes eyegasmic memorableness is out of place	33
Movies at Home: Hitchcock's heart-stopping masterpiece	33

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIJUANA

Gynofiti

Culture of violence leads to violence against cultural center

On Tuesday, September 15, one day before the anniversary of Mexican Independence — or *El grito de independencia* (the cry for independence) — feminists organized *La anti-grita* in Tijuana. They held a demonstration against the government and the lack of punishment in female murder cases in Baja California. Though this type of protest is nothing new, and though this wasn't the first time they painted buildings with spray cans, the event was notable because it happened at the Tijuana Cultural Center (CECUT), one of the most iconic structures in the city.



Well behaved women rarely make history. Or the news.

lence took place on the *Procuraduria General de la Republica* (the federal prosecutor's office in charge of femicides). But that time, the protest didn't reach the media or make any echo in the public sphere. This time was different. The graffiti sparked a public debate between those who think "monuments don't have more value than lives" and those who say "this is not the right way to protest." Says Lucia, "It caused discontent among some

"We don't need to wait to live through the femicide of someone close to us to have empathy with the women who are exposed to this type of violence."

One of the feminists engaged in the protest, "Lucia", said that at first, the idea was to do the demonstration at city hall, but the authorities sent police to block the streets around it. "Because of this, at the end, it was decided to move it to the Cultural Center because of its location" on *Avenida de los Heroes*, the road in the Rio area that leads to I-5.

Last International Women's Day (March 8), another demonstration against male vio-

people because it happened in a public space with a lot of meaning, what they called a 'cultural heritage' zone. But how come when men commit these actions (graffiti), it doesn't have the same impact as when women do the same in protest?... Because the city is not used to seeing women taking action."

Phrases such as, "There's no independence as long there's patriarchy," "We're being killed in Mexico, what are you celebrating for?"



"Death to macho"

"We all did this," and "Until we find them" could be seen on the Center's exterior. Lucia stresses that there is a lack of empathy toward the relatives of the victims. "We don't need to wait to live through the femicide of someone close to us to have empathy with the women who are exposed to this type of violence."

The next day, the cultural center published a press release declaring its respect for the right of the demonstrators to protest, noting that, "following the line of respect for the right to protest, CECUT decided to leave the messages displayed in its facilities." But Lucia said, "I don't think they will leave them for long," and five days later, the paintings were erased or painted over by the cultural center's cleaning personnel.

IVÁN MOLINA

OCEANSIDE

The Fall(brook) of Cyclops Farms

Never mind farm-to-table, how about some farm-to-housing?

Anyone with a TV may get the impression Oceanside is more *Green Acres* than *Baywatch*, thanks to developer Integral Communities and the \$1.4 million it has spent on TV ads and other promotions to convince locals that a yes vote on Measure L will turn the city into a pastoral wonderland. But Oceanside's two most famous real-life farmers say the Yes on L television campaign is deceptive. Oceanside's Grammy-winning singer-songwriter-turned-farmer Jason Mraz says that L would pave over existing farmland to allow for the building of the North River Farms project and its 585 new homes. And Luke Girling, who founded the popular, organic Cyclops Farms five years ago, says he was actually asked by Integral to help them market North River Farms to the pub-

lic. "They were coming at me like they were trying to buy me out," Girling says, noting that he immediately rejected any overtures from the Newport Beach developer. "I've been against it the whole time."

Seven years ago Girling, an Oceanside born-and-raised surfer/skater, took a nine-month course in agro-ecology and sustainable food systems at UC Santa Cruz. Afterwards, he says he was immediately hired at a now-closed farm-to-table restaurant in Carlsbad that raised much of its own produce on site. But, he says, "I was so pissed at the whole farm-to-table thing. A lot of it was so fake. I wanted to start my own farm and be honest about it. I wanted to start something true. I wanted to sell real organic produce to restaurants and directly to the public."

Girling said he was driving around the Fire Mountain area of South Oceanside, "looking for an empty pool to skate in, when I found it" — a 2.5-acre undeveloped plot of land surrounded by upscale homes on Avocado Road. He said he eventually talked the Northern California-based landlady to let him use the property to launch the all-organic Cyclops Farms in 2015.



"Cyclops Farms was ground zero for the new wave of restaurants in Oceanside,"

"Cyclops Farms was ground zero for the new wave of restaurants in Oceanside," says Davin Waite of the vegan café The Plot. "He was right there as a key supplier for the first wave of Oceanside restaurants when the Fish Joint, Privateer, and Flying Pig started. Then he was a key player for the second wave when The Wrench and Rodent, Mission Avenue Bar and Grill, and Whet Noodle launched." Girling built a loyal following of locals who were eager to buy homegrown strawberries,

continued on page 6



Biking: a great way to get in shape and frustrate businesses.

Project No-Park tested

Is an A+ enough to pass?

When is a project not a project? That's what lawyers for the North Park dwellers who have sued to maintain access to their homes on 30th Street want to know. Maybe it's when you add a plus sign to the old title, like when plan Option A became Option A+. Or maybe it's when you break ground. Or maybe it's when the dust has settled. City employees swear under oath that the plan to remove parking on 30th Street in order to create bike lanes is not a project, at least not yet, and the judge decided he won't order them to stop working on their plans until after the court case is heard. By the city's logic, the removal of 450 parking spaces along 30th Street won't be a project until the construction is completed. And even then, it won't be a project that requires review under the California Environmental Quality Act. Repeated calls and emails to the city attorney did not elicit a response. However, city documents filed in the court case are publicly available.

The 30th Street bike lanes non-project idea was launched in November 2018 when Matt Stucky, an attorney and member of several North Park neighborhood groups, decided his 7-year-old daughter needed to be able to bicycle to get ice cream. Stucky, who numbers among his friends City Council District 3's policy director Kathleen Ferrier, first proposed the idea in November 2018 at a meeting of the city's defunct Bicycle Advisory Committee. Since the city was already tearing up 30th Street for pipeline replacement, he said, it seemed like a good time to reconfigure the street by adding bike lanes. The original planned route stretched from Juniper to Howard streets, creating Class IV cycle tracks and eliminating 420 parking spaces. The modified plan added another six tenths of a mile, all the way north to Adams, but promised to leave 100 of the 550 parking spaces along the 2.4 mile route, which is host to homes and apartments, businesses and restaurants.

Supporters say the city will create more parking on nearby streets, and continue to point to the pay-to-park parking garage on 29th Street and North Park Way as a solution to lost parking. But residents and businesses

say that they will be harmed by the loss of parking – including the blue handicapped parking spaces residents and businesses paid for, and which would be eliminated or moved blocks away. They've faced opposition from their own city council representative, Chris Ward, who at one point told a 30-year resident that if parking was important to her, she should live somewhere else. His staff said he later apologized. The plan went to the North Park Planning Committee in March 2019 for its first properly noticed presentation. Business groups along the route that had been working on the idea for several years, and had hired and then fired Ferrier over her insistence on removing as much parking as possible, despite their goal of balancing business, resident, and cyclist interests. In May 2019, Mayor Kevin Faulconer ordered the city to proceed with designing the project, called Option A. But the city now says that was scrapped for a new project on 30th, one running from Juniper to Adams, and called Option A+.

Everett Hauser, ranked as one of the San Diego County Bicycle Coalition's Top 10 riders this month, had also been hired by the city as its mobility program manager a month before the first discussion at the bicycle board and was present for the discussion heard by three of the board's 11 members. In a sworn declaration to the court, Hauser described himself as "the project manager for the proposed bicycle facility along the 30th street corridor." He promised that there are no engineering plans drawn up for Option A+. But, he swore, to delay the lanes until an environmental review could be done would cost the city an additional \$250,000.

Craig Sherman, who represents Save 30th Street Parking, argues that when Faulconer issued the May 16, 2019 memo ordering the city staff to design the 30th Street route, then set to run from Juniper to Howard street, he created a project, one which must be reviewed for its impacts. Changes to that original plan do not release the city from its legal obligation, he says. "This is all smoke and mirrors," he adds. "They said it's not a final design until it's built. But we know it can't go to final design until it's approved."

Marty Graham

UNDER THE RADAR

Suicidal hilarity A \$1.3 million, state-funded, online suicide prevention program commissioned by the San Diego County Office of Education and promoted by the *Union-Tribune* is too expensive for most California school districts, says an audit released September 29 by California State Auditor **Elaine Howle**. A vendor hired by San Diego "supplied its preexisting online training and agreed to provide it to a total of 66,000 school personnel and students," says the document. But auditors are skeptical about future use. "According to [California's Department of Education], the funding the Legislature appropriated could not meet the training needs of all middle and high school staff and students in California, but it is advocating for the State to continue funding the training program in subsequent years. We question whether this is a cost-effective approach to providing such training. At the rate the vendor charged for the licenses, it will cost more than \$13.5 million per year to provide this training to every [local educational agency] teacher and staff member throughout the State."



State auditor Elaine Howle: San Diego County education office's suicide prevention program is too expensive.

The problem of student suicide is growing, notes Howle's cover letter. "From 2009 through 2018, the annual number of suicides of youth ages 12 through 19 increased 15 percent, and incidents of self-harm increased 50 percent." Every one of the three school districts and three charter schools, including the San Francisco Unified School District, reviewed by Howle's office "failed to adopt policies and provide training" that met the suicide prevention requirements of 2016 legislation. "In the absence of adequate mental health professional staffing, the State's rates of youth suicide and self-harm have continued to climb."

San Diego's Office of Education website identifies the program's vendor as Canada-founded LivingWorks. A September video blog by the *Union-Tribune* said the newspaper was sponsoring an upcoming virtual youth summit by LivingWorks without mention of public costs and controversy. "On September 15, the LivingWorks Virtual Youth Summit will bring together a mix of performing artists, social media influencers, and motivational speakers to share a message of hope, resilience, and suicide prevention," according to a YouTube blurb. "Jarrod Hindman, vice president of community development at LivingWorks and **Monica Nepomuceno**, an education consultant at the California Department of Education, will join us for a preview of this unique and informative event."

Added *U-T* public relations director **Luis Cruz**: "TikTok star and comedian **Caitlin**

O'Reilly will be MCing the online streaming event. She is hilarious, so I can't wait to tune in."

In an emailed statement, **Music Watson**, chief of staff for the San Diego County Office of Education responded to the audit: "We concur with the California state auditor that schools should implement appropriate suicide prevention policies; train their faculty and staff to recognize and respond to youth who are at risk of suicide or self-harm; and employ an adequate number of professionals, such as school counselors, who can provide mental health services. That being said, we disagree with the audit's conclusion that few local education agencies will have access to the online suicide prevention training program being rolled out across California."

Termini family Gloria gifts

Well heeled San Diego candidates continue to come up with their own money to finance their campaigns. At the top rung is La Jolla city councilwoman **Barbara Bry**, running against fellow Democrat, Assemblyman **Todd Gloria** for mayor. She gave her campaign fund \$75,000 on September 28. Republican lawyer **Joe Leventhal**, running for the Fifth District council seat now held by termed-out ex-Republican **Mark Kersey**, wrote a check to his campaign for \$20,000 on September 19... In family matters, **Brad Termini**, chief executive of Encinitas-based real estate development group Zephyr Partners, and **Stefanie Termini** each kicked in a hefty \$50,000 last October to an independent political committee backing Gloria's race for mayor. Besides development activity in San Diego county, Termini has also been pitching a so-called canabis campus in Buffalo, New York. "Company officials told reporters they plan to invest \$200 million in private money to build the campus, which will not only be used as an incubator space and education for students at SUNY Erie, but also for commercial purposes," reported radio station WBEN in a February 2019 dispatch.



Real estate developer Brad Termini gave \$50,000 to a PAC backing Todd Gloria.

Brad and Stefanie also kicked in \$2300 each for Gloria's controlled campaign committee. September 19 Termini family Gloria givers, each at \$1150, were Bridget, Dominic, Rocco, and Shelby, all of Buffalo.

Complaint form malfeasance

Interim San Diego city auditor **Kyle Elser** is out with an audit questioning the job San Diego police are doing with complaint handling. "We found that SDPD's complaint process requires accepting, investigating, and reporting complaints, including

continued on page 18

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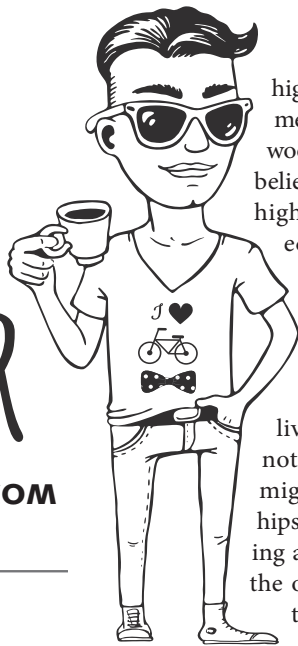
Dear Hipster:

Was wondering where hipsters stood on the subject of God and religion. The other day, a dude I know took to Facebook to complain about how a plumber in his house went on and on about how God saved him during a bike accident. I didn't care for his need to mock the guy. Live and let live and all. Let him have his story. But, later, I realized the same dude always talks about gin and his boring vinyl collection. So, is it hipster to be anti-higher power?

— CHERYL

I confess, I sat on this one for a bit. Partly, I felt a bit chicken. You start impugning people's gods, and the next thing you know the death threats come rolling in. Maybe that's an exaggeration. Maybe I get some angry emails, but it's not like heads of state will be calling for my execution, Salman Rushdie-style. Even so, playing around with religions is asking for trouble. Notwithstanding any reticence here, I also couldn't come up with the right answer.

Fortunately, old TV reruns came to my rescue. I was rewatching the first season of *Community*, and I came to the episode where all the characters cop to their various religions. In the episode, each character announces his or her religious bent, and then they come to the smug hipster character, Jeff, who proclaims his agnosticism, and is promptly bood for it. Even Chevy Chase's character, who is part of a weird cult where one can be reborn as a "level five laser lotus," catches less flack than the agnostic hipster.



When you say "anti-higher power," that makes me think of a dyed-in-the-wool atheist. Someone who believes in the absence of a higher power with fervor equal to, perhaps even surpassing, that of sincerely religious people. Someone truly *anti*. And that's fine. Live and let live, as you say. But it's not the hipster way. You might better describe the hipster option as "anti having an opinion one way or the other about the whole thing." This approach has two upsides, and a

major downside. Obvious advantages include being free from religious hatred, which is a real one-up on the atheists, who are pretty much consumed with hating everyone all the time. The other big plus is not having to suffer any existential dread over your cosmic fate. That frees up a huge amount of time to worry about bespoke gin and vinyl LP collecting.

The downside is if it turns out that any of the bonafide religious dogmas turns out to be the right one, you can

pretty much guarantee the agnostic hipsters are going to whatever vision of heck ultimately prevails. Maybe if you believe in the wrong religion, the right religion's god grants you a pass. For example, I can totally see Jewish God being generally cool with Presbyterians, Scientists, and mensch Hindus alike. He would recognize their honest mistake, award an A for effort, and not deny them the opportunity to nosh heavenly bagels with Jesus, Warren Zevon, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Not so for the agnostic hipsters who couldn't even bother to pick a side. There's no way anybody's god spares agnostic hipsters an eternity of torment at the hands of merciless little Underwood Ham devils and their fiery pitchforks.

I guess when you're a religious person, the only thing more annoying than someone with a different religion is someone who can't be bothered to have a religion in the first place.

— DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

ing the risks posed by the tracks. The NCTD numbers, which this reporter takes verbatim, fails to separate suicides from accidents. The vast majority of deaths are suicides and fencing will not stop that. I've been crossing the tracks and walking the bluffs for 40 years and somehow I've survived. Not a single surfer has ever been killed. And Visduh's long winded "history" misses the point. NCTD should not have the right to wall off the beach. And I would encourage reporters in the future to examine the number the agency cites. They have been lying for years and the media just sucks it up.

—1DelMartian

This piece does a good job of summing up the picture of the rails, the eroding bluffs, and the situation that Del Mar residents have in wanting to get down to the beach. The present conditions are most unsafe, but in recent years the city has excoriated NCTD from enforcing the no trespassing laws. Seems that those uber-affluent Del Martians just want to risk life and limb to access the beach with no repercussions. Never mind that Del Mar sprang up from a station stop on the Santa Fe "surf line" into San Diego from the north. That came around 1880-90, and since then the rails have been atop the unstable and rapidly eroding bluffs. To let that area collapse and block the line would be utterly unacceptable. That single track accommodates 12 Amtrak trains a day in each direction, a large number of Coaster runs, and several freights that serve the port and Tijuana. Something has gotta give for sure, but that doesn't mean that a \$5 billion tunnel can appear overnight and enable track relocation. (Nobody has the means to finance that sort of public works project.) Del Mar has for years

decided to treat the track as some sort of illegitimate occupant of its coastline. (Never mind that the rails were there first.) And so, it refuses to do anything to coexist with the railroad. Over the years since about 1970, when the traffic really started to grow, Del Mar had the ability and opportunity to construct pedestrian overpasses. In the early days those could have been built cheaply and could still serve well. But the deep-pockets crowd in Del Mar didn't want to spend anything that "helped" the railroad, and they didn't lift a finger to make pedestrian crossings safer. No, it was 'way more fun to allow the surf rats to play chicken with the many high-speed trains. And so, there are the many fatalities cited.

—Visduh

"Cyclops Farms pulls up stakes in Oceanside" Neighborhood News September 30

From the description of those against Girling, and in how Girling has described what others have done: This newsstory is another case of the TRADITIONAL narcissistic behavior of San Diego County. A longtime, ongoing attitude, that never seems to end.

—ised

"No delay for deletion of parking on 30th Street" Neighborhood News September 28

"If parking was important to her, she should live somewhere else" A politician should never be so blunt. And yet he is correct. Nobody with a car lives on 42nd St in NYC. It's either bicycles, taxis or mass transportation. Inner city San Diego will have to adapt as well. I live in an old bldg in Hillcrest with indoor parking for my car and my motorcycle. This is extremely rare and will become more so. Autonomous rideshare vehicles will probably make vehicle ownership even less desirable in the future.

—swell

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cucumbers, zucchini, tomatoes, melons, chard, and kale from his Avocado Road farm stand. “We used to have a line of 75 to 100 lining up waiting to get in when we opened,” says Girling. But that five-year tradition ended last Saturday, and Cyclops will exit the property by month’s end. “I’m so tired,” explains Girling. “And I got hit real hard with this Covid.”

He says that when Covid first hit, his Saturday roadside business actually picked up for a while. “The stores were running out of stuff. The demand got so big and I didn’t want to turn people away. So I started to [harvest] food prematurely just to meet the demand. When I started to limit what I would sell, people would get pissed at that.” He notes that quality food buyers aren’t always quality people. “A lot of people who do care about quality of food are douchebags... Then came Black Lives Matter, and everyone started getting real sensitive about everything. People



CREDIT: COLIN LEBOLD

Plant some houses, and watch the money grow!

that. I’m the only one who stayed open. All the others went to delivery boxes.”

The Plot’s Waite says that another factor always working against Cyclops was the price of water. “Oceanside has one of the highest

1448 Avocado Road.”

But what are the odds of that? Girling says that six to eight new homes could be built on that 2.5 acres, and “a house right next door just sold for \$1.5 million.”

KEN LEIGHTON

“I was so pissed at the whole farm-to-table thing. A lot of it was so fake. I wanted to start my own farm and be honest about it. I wanted to start something true.”

just seemed like they were always on edge. They would get mad at me if other customers would get within six feet of them.” He adds that some of the other organic farms in North County switched to delivery. “I refused to do

rates for water of anywhere in the county.” Girling says that in order to pay for his \$1000-plus water bills, he started hosting monthly “water bill dinners” where guest chefs would serve a four-course dinner. Guests paying up to \$100 each would be treated to a live band and have access to beer or wine. He says the water bill dinners brought a positive cash flow, at least in the beginning. “We’d usually have 60 or 70 people. One time we had 160.” He paid the chefs about \$1000, along with over \$2000 in fees for one-day alcohol licenses. But he says the water bill dinners ended in 2018 when insurance fees made the events into money-losers.

CREDIT: BECCA VANCE



Lovely, aren’t they?

The good news, Girling says, is that the farm’s success allowed him, along with his wife Frances, to qualify to buy a new home with adjoining farmland in Fallbrook. Now he grows flowers, cherry tomatoes, and bell peppers that he sells at area farmers markets, and at stores including Jimbos, Frazier Farms, and Major Market. “My kids are home-schooled, so this is where I need to be right now. And you never know, in a year, if it isn’t developed, I may come back to

within the city immediately.”

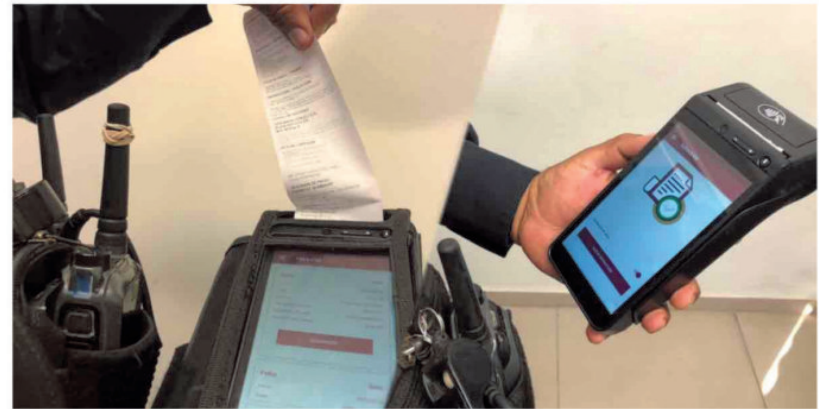
“Yep, no more paper pads for citations. The idea is to make it easier to pay your ticket and curb the *mordida* (bribe),” said Tijuana’s Pedro Vargas regarding the upgrade, which cost a reported 23 million pesos (about \$1.02 million). “Tijuana cops will carry an electronic device now, kind of like an iPad, linked to the U.S. information archives for vehicles. You will be able to pay on the spot with a credit or debit card and get a discount. But I don’t know how much less. They will crack down on the United States-plated cars, known as chocolates, driven by Mexican nationals, and confiscate the vehicles if not legally imported to the country.”

Vargas is founder of the annual San Pedro Mártir Hill Climb in Ensenada, the “longest uphill climb race in the world.” Many of the event’s racers trek in from all parts of the U.S. and travel through San Diego and Tijuana. Vargas took note of the fines for safety infractions, including a seatbelt and non-functional light/lamp violations that’ll cost 2606 pesos (\$116)

continued on page 8

Este es el nuevo tabulador de infracciones electrónicas para Tijuana

Redacción Hace 3 días 454 Menos de un minuto



“Can’t we take care of this right here?” Well, sure, but there’s still gonna be a record.

TIJUANA

Taking the bite out of crime Fines fine for Americans, but what about the locals?

On September 7, a technological upgrade for the Tijuana police force’s traffic enforcement division went live. “The city of Tijuana approved the acquisition of 100 electronic devices,” *El Imparcial* reported on September 26, “and modified the fines paid by the [violators].” *TJ Noticias* then posted photos of the devices in their article, “The new electronic infractions tabulator for Tijuana.” The article quoted Luis Antonio Quezada Salas, councilor of Tijuana’s city hall, as saying, “One of the objectives of this measure is to charge Americans who violate the regulations

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per citation. “We all have to be vigilant and stick to the law.”

Meanwhile, Tijuana dwellers lamented online about the 8688 peso (\$388) speeding violation and the 7819 peso (\$349 US) fine for parking in a handicapped spot. But Randy from Imperial Beach disagreed. “Artículo 107 is still a bargain compared to this side of this border,” he said, referring to the driving while intoxicated infraction, which carries a 5213-peso (\$232) multa (fine). Still, “It is one thing when infringed on, and that is fine, but for them to set U.S. resident prices on us [locals], it is not worth it,” opined L. Piña. “The constitution says that no worker [of Mexican nationality] should pay more than one day of his salary for a fine, and the judge is obliged to lower the fine if it is proven that you are employed.” Vargas noted that the 8,688 peso/\$388 speeding ticket amounted to “about a month’s worth salary for a minimum wagger here. The Tijuana mayor is adamant about cleaning up the house.”



Razor wire — Del Mar’s way of saying, “Welcome to the beach! Mind the trains!”

MIKE MADRIAGA

DEL MAR

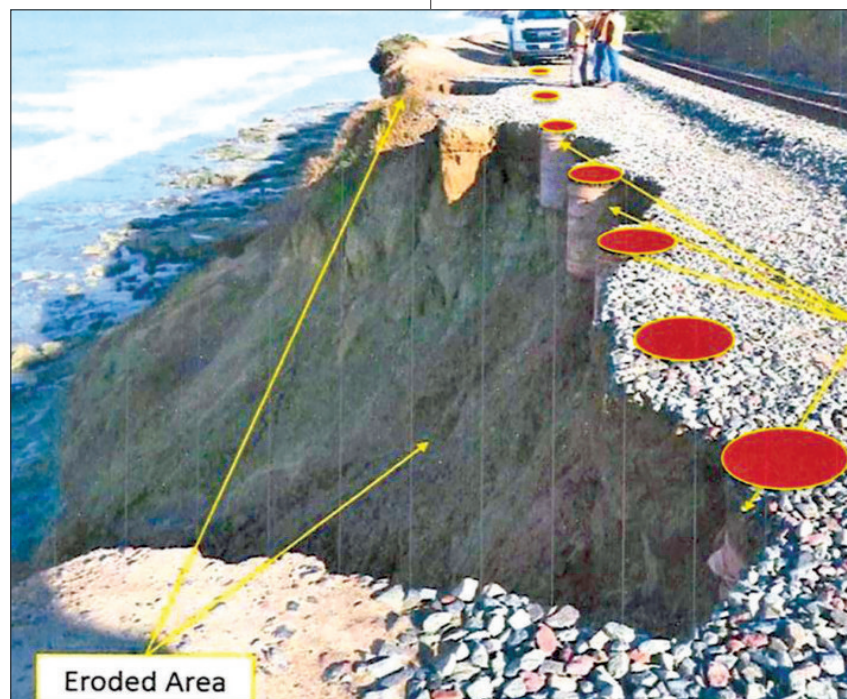
Don’t fence me out Transit district makes its move

Right now, there’s only one place where you can cross the railway legally to get to the beach in Del Mar. But instead of adding more safe crossings, transit officials want

“This will be a great loss for the entire community — cutting off beach access for thousands of people...”

Other infractions to watch for: San Diegans driving and simultaneously texting or posting photos of their recent visit can be hit with a 3910-peso (\$175) fine, and motorists cutting someone off in line before crossing back into San Diego can receive a 2606-peso (\$116) hit.

to add 1.4 miles of fencing along the bluffs, starting this fall. And that means making sure the city of Del Mar and the California Coastal Commission stay out of the way. The fencing plan was shot down by the city council in November 2018 over concerns about public access, and the North County



Emergency storm repairs on bluffs, December, 2019.



Repairs in process.

providing uninterrupted service. Fencing projects in Encinitas and Oceanside have also been recommended by the agency. Trespassers are common in the right-of-way along the bluffs, and they have resulted in accidents. According to the agency, there have been 174 injuries on the coaster commuter rail line since 2010. In Del Mar alone, there have been 14 injuries since 2014. Overall, the county is in ninth place for the highest number of rail injuries in the country. The Federal Railroad Administration attributes this mainly to the convenience involved in trespassing and lack of fencing or enforcement.

Behind the fence fight looms a battle over the bluffs. According to the San Diego Association of Governments, the Del Mar bluffs average about six

inches of erosion per year, due to storm and irrigation runoff and sea rise. As a result, Del Mar wants the priority concern to be moving the rail inland. Last November, emergency stabilization of the bluffs was required after collapses due to heavy rains. The city jumped in, seeking review by the Coastal Commission, which the transit district says “would impose sweeping mitigation requirements on NCTD and the eventual relocation of the existing railroad line, and potentially the construction of a multi-billion dollar underground tunnel.” Adding to the tension, the agency is planning two more major bluff stabilization projects in Del Mar in the near-term. These and other crucial maintenance projects, they say, “will be challenged under the Coastal Act or local coastal laws by Del Mar or the Commission.”

The city has until October 5 to reply to the petition and submit comments to the Surface Transportation Board.

SHEILA PELL

Transit District fears more opposition. So the agency, which owns the railroad and adjacent right-of-way, has requested a federal “declaratory order” that would remove local control of the bluff and tracks. The petition, filed August 28, names the city of Del Mar and the Coastal Commission as parties. It would give the transit district veto authority over objections to its work on the coaster commuter rail line that runs north and south along the coast between Oceanside and San Diego.

“This will be a great loss for the entire community — cutting off beach access for thousands of people, ruining the landscape, and creating safety risk for anyone caught inside the fence,” says a *change.org* petition started by a Del Mar resident. The petition cites the city council’s rejection of safety fencing: “NCTD justifiably is concerned that a similar federal consistency review or Coastal Act challenge to this fencing project is forthcoming.” But transit officials say it’s essential for both public safety and

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We meet on Logan Avenue in Barrio Logan, eight o'clock at night. "Derek" has that blue, white, and black "United States Census Bureau" bag slung over his shoulder. This is why he can't give his real name. I want to know what it's like to actually knock on strangers' doors and start asking personal questions, day in, night out.

"Well, for instance, yesterday I was in a converted Victorian house. Three apartments. I had to interview the back unit upstairs. It was dark. It was a young girl living with her boyfriend. She was reluctant at first, but I explained what the census was about, in Spanish. She understood, she agreed, she shared the information about the people in her apartment, and we were about three-quarters of the way through the interview when this Caucasian couple start coming up the stairs towards us. I don't like to stereotype, but no masks, lots of tattoos, angry people. And they demanded with a lot of cuss words who the f... let me in? 'This is private property and you need to leave immediately.'

"I said 'Well, I'm with the Census Bureau. Legally I have a right, because it's a law, that we can collect data on who lives in the country. It's built into the U.S. Constitution. Been there for 200 years. When I'm done, I will leave.'

"You've got to leave right now!" "I said 'I will leave when I'm done.'" Derek held his ground, despite the threats, because he's used to this situation, among rich, poor, those living rough.

"That evening, we also had to go to a remote encampment underneath a freeway pass by a river, in southeastern San Diego. The supervisors were worried about our safety, so they decided we just needed to count, not interview. There was a hole in a chain link fence leading towards the river. And these guys from a

wrecking yard saw us coming, with our flashlights and reflective vests, onto their property. They wanted to know what was going on. And we told them. And this one guy said 'I don't know if I would go back there.'

"And I said, 'Well, are there people there?' "Oh yeah."

"And so I said, 'Then we have to go back there.' Some people in my group were not happy. We had nothing but weak, government-issue flashlights. So we followed this narrow track through the bushes, through trash, shopping carts, debris in the riverbed. I mean, I've hiked in Alaska with grizzlies. I'm an outside sort of guy. But this was creepy. We got to the edge of the encampment. We could hear voices. They became angry. 'Who the f...?' 'Get the f... outa here!' I wasn't going to walk in and shine my light in their faces, so we agreed on roughly the number in that camp — we guessed less than a dozen but more than three — and decided to beat a wise and hasty retreat. That's the life of a census counter. Did I get a perfectly accurate census count on that particular encampment? We got an approximation. You do the best you can."

Deskercise

"No-one should have to feel sore at the end of the day working at a computer," says Tiffany Caddell. She is the power behind what may be the first-ever sit-down fitness program for computer nerds and office workers.

"Contrary to the old saying 'No pain, no gain,' which I feel is not an ideal, soreness is not really reflective of a job well done. There is another way," she says.

And that's what this UC San Diego fitness theoretician is seeking to create: A program for all us sedentary screen workers to get fit even though we barely get out of our chairs.

It's called "Get Up Tritons!" And it's primarily aimed at UCSD students. But because it was a free subscription program, it leaked out to folks like me who just wanted to keep their bodies from atrophying before their very eyes. So I have become hooked on daily doses of videoed exercises at a rate of say 1-2 minutes per session. Some gal or guy comes on your iPad two or three times a day to show you do-it-now exercises like (seriously) wrist stretches, neck and shoulder release, reverse lunge, hip

inspired to go into an industry where I could help make an impact on people's well-being, and to promote longevity," she says.

One thing that was important was to create a fitness program that would not intimidate students, or outsiders. "We want people to drop in every day, just for a minute or so, because we really want to offer things that are simple. The goal isn't necessarily to get people to sweat, just help them incorporate some healthy movement into their life and routine. That's why all

"My family ran a convalescent home, so I experienced firsthand the negative impact of unhealthy lifestyle choices."

abductions, exercises in which you lean against the wall, others where you hold the back of your office chair.

"We really want to think about how the body feels when it sits for a long time, says Caddell, whose title is Fit Life Mobile and Operational Coordinator at UCSD Recreation, "not just providing movements and exercises, but reversing the effects of sitting for long periods of time."

"Get Up Tritons!" was created in 2018. It's free to anyone who wants to subscribe.

Caddell grew up in San Diego, did a lot of running. One thing that drove her was what she experienced at her parents' business. "My family ran a convalescent home, so I experienced firsthand the negative impact of unhealthy lifestyle choices. I was really

the exercises that we offer are equipment-free. They are all things people can do with just their body, in their office, at their desk, and don't really require a whole lot of space. We wanted it to be accessible to everyone."

So far, she has 1500 members, with maybe 25 percent coming from outside the UCSD campus.

Especially in this time of covid, she says, it is really important to keep your body ticking over, looking forward to manageable daily stimulus. And because every day her crew offers a different exercise, there's no dunning routine to fall into.

Also, there's something about checking in each day that helps combat the other covid fallout: loneliness. "We're starting to get a real sense of togetherness," she says. ■

GETUP TRITONS

learn@lunch: What's New on the Playground?



Get Up Tritons! In this video, UC San Diego Recreation Associate Director of FitLife, Terri Dowie, teaches you how to warm up for a 5k run!

Get Up Tritons, whose program for computer-bound students is catching on beyond the UCSD campus.

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

This week, we visit a “stunning Cape Cod style home nestled in the trees of Olde Del Mar,” billed in listing materials retrieved from *realtor.com* as “a true masterpiece by John O’Brien of Flag Coastal Homes,” a Coronado based developer responsible for luxury coastal estates all along the county’s western edge.

The home stands at 1205 Cuchara Drive on a 0.4-acre lot just a half mile east of Powerhouse Park and Beach, north of Del Mar Heights. Newly constructed in 2017, the



Want a patio that maximizes sunset views? Just place it on the third floor!

home’s living area spans just over 5000 square feet and features six bedrooms with four full and two half baths.

Prospective buyers

are invited to “enjoy timeless architecture coupled with board-and-batten wainscoting, DuChateau European oak hardwood floors, Calcutta honed

porcelain counters” and a “vintage oak island” in the open kitchen that also features “two Thermador dishwashers, double ovens, a warming drawer,

wine fridge, and backsplash subway tile by AnnSacks Made Elements.”

Wide bull-nosed wooden stairs and a private elevator provide passage between the levels, while a complete home automation system from Savant allows for smartphone control of everything from the interior climate to the security system.

This “entertainers’ delight” starts off on the bottom level that “impresses with a grand scale family entertainment room complete with a bar, wine cellar, gym, and bedroom with en-suite bath.”

The home’s middle level has its own entrance and is occupied by two more en-suite guest bedrooms and a laundry room. The third floor hosts the owner’s suite along with the kitchen, open air living room, and an “expansive

wrap-around porch/patio with firepit and spa all positioned on the upper level maximizing ocean breezes and sunset views.”

The patio is “generously equipped with a Lynx grill, drink drawers, radiant outdoor ceiling heaters and an El Dorado Infinite Gas Fire Bowl.”

The deck also features a sunken black-bottom spa and outer rails made of glass so as not to disturb the sit-down ocean views. The lower level opens to a grassy yard, afforded privacy by surrounding stone walls.

“Other premium amenities include a whole-house water filtration system, LED vantage lighting, two tankless recirculating hot water heaters, four security cameras, and I-core irrigation system,” the listing continues.

continued on page 21

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Outdoor Sunday services at Horizon Church in Rancho Santa Fe.

LOCAL LAWYER LEADS THE FIGHT AGAINST GOVERNMENT OVERREACH

RANCHO SANTA FE ATTORNEY PAUL JONNA maintains that Governor Gavin Newsom and county governments around California favored Black Lives Matter protests over churches when it came to how each of them was allowed to assemble. They allowed protesters to gather without a requirement of social distancing or wearing masks. But at the same time, they forbade churches to meet in their sanctuaries. Highlighting that “favoritism,” thought Jonna, might help win a

legal battle for a 2500-member church in Los Angeles. Jonna has been in and out of court since the middle of August, defending the right of the church to meet in its sanctuary during the coronavirus pandemic.

Business law stands out as a special interest for Jonna. According to his bio on the website of LiMandri and Jonna, he's been successful in such areas as securities and investment, insurance, consumer class actions, real estate, and malpractice.

So what lured Jonna to a different kind of case? "It's the constitutional issue," he says. "The government has no right to tell people how they can practice their faith." Section 4 of the California state Constitution asserts: "Free exercise and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference are guaranteed." The words reflect those of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution forbidding Congress to prohibit "the free exercise" of religion.

On July 13 and 14, 2020, as the numbers of coronavirus cases were spiking, the County and City of Los Angeles, as well as the State of California, ordered all churches to stop holding worship services indoors. One of many churches in the county that chafed at the new restriction was Grace Community Church of the Valley. In a declaration filed in court, Pastor John MacArthur cooperated with the order until he felt the negative effects on his congregants were too great.

On Roscoe Boulevard in the Sun Valley section of Los Angeles, Grace Community Church has eight buildings, which includes the Master's Seminary for preachers. According to the website Habit Stack-



"The government has no right to tell people how they can practice their faith," says Rancho Santa Fe attorney Paul Jonna.

er, John MacArthur is a "famous Calvinist" and a renowned preacher. "He appeared on the *Larry King Live* show many times as an evangelical Christian," adds the site. "His net worth is over \$14 million."

On August 12, 2020, the Chicago-based Pastor Thomas More Society brought a lawsuit in Superior Court on behalf of Grace Community to force the county to lift its order to meet only outside. The Society advertises itself as litigating to ensure "the free expression of religion in the public square." For this suit, it hired Paul Jonna as special counsel.

Many feel that since businesses have to sub-

mit, churches should, too. But the Constitution, Jonna tells me, gives churches "heightened protection." Said Judge James Chalfant, who heard the first phase of argument, "You cannot treat them as a hair salon."

The lawsuit unleashed a minor flurry of legal hearings. It was filed on a Wednesday. The next day, August 13, Los Angeles County filed its own motion to have the court stop the church from holding worship inside. Then, on Friday, Judge Chalfant, sitting in for Judge Mitchell Beckloff, took up both arguments and gave the church the permission it wanted un-

til September 4, when the dispute would be heard for a ruling. He stipulated that, in the meantime, congregants maintain six feet of social distance from each other during the services, and wear masks. The church

promised to cooperate. But on Saturday evening, August 15, at the urging of the county, the State Appeals Court instead required the church to conduct its services outside until the September 4 hearing.

The next morning, the church still met inside its sanctuary.

At the start of the legal maneuvering, Reverend MacArthur, in a declaration to the court, outlined his concerns. The "worship-bans" the church received, he wrote, require that members of the congregation meet "in parking lots, in parks, or beaches but never in any church ... [and] we view it as a direct ban on engaging in the worship which our faith requires. The size of our congregation means that there is no place for it to meet outdoors...."

The sanctuary, Ma-

Arthur maintained, is "a spiritual refuge for our congregants."

The county and state prohibitions, he said, amounted to "criminalizing activity directly required by our faith. As a church, we have a moral and religious obligation to continue allowing our congregants to gather in our sanctuary to worship the Lord.... The utter unnecessary deprivation of all our people by completely shutting down the mutual love and care that sustains our people in all the exigencies, pressures and challenges of life, was cruel.... [And] when no one is sick. Our leaders and congregation see no real health threat to warrant such restraint."

Jonna tells me that he challenged the county's expert doctor to prove that Grace Community meeting inside its sanctuary is danger-

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ous. “Our expert witness, Dr. George Delgado, paints quite a different picture,” says Jonna.

“Arbitrarily imposing restrictions on religious services,” Delgado wrote, “carries with it certain profound spiritual and psychological risks that, ironically, could ... lead to an increase in mortality from covid-19 by negatively impacting immune function and by destabilizing the support systems of vulnerable people.”

The complaint Grace Community filed with the court specifically highlighted Delgado’s claim that “the ‘suicide pandemic’ is greater than the covid-19 pandemic. Suicides and drug deaths are exceeding those from the coronavirus.” Other sources have echoed the claim. San Diego

television station KUSI reported on August 27, that for San Diego County at least, “fentanyl overdose deaths are increasing ... during the covid-19 pandemic, with cases near triple the number compared with this time last year...” The report cited San Diego County’s Health and Human Services Agency as its source.

Could that mean churches should be placed in the category of “essential” services, every bit as much as food provision, construction, and other activities the state has so declared to prevent them from being locked down? “California has no ... power to determine whether churches are essential,” argues Grace Community’s complaint. “[Our church] provides a spir-



The U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that South Bay United Pentecostal Church in Chula Vista could not meet in its sanctuary after San Diego County demanded that it stay out.

itual service to the Los Angeles community that its congregation and its members rightly believe is essential.”

The complaint adds:

“With deaths from the ‘Covid-19 suicide pandemic’ exceeding those from the actual coronavirus pandemic, Grace Community Church decided it would no longer sit by and watch its mem-

bers and their children suffer from an absence of essential religious worship and instruction.”

Which brings us back to the issue of the government’s alleged favoritism. During the

second day in court, as the government defended its demand that Grace Community not meet indoors, Jonna countered, “Where was the County when [the] protests were occurring? Why didn’t the county come in and seek injunctive relief to prevent these protests from taking place? There’s 100,000 people protesting side by side with no masks, [and] they didn’t do a thing. Instead, what they were doing was ... participating in the protests themselves — the Board of Supervisors, the mayor — encouraging people to participate....”

“When many went to the streets to engage in ‘political’ or ‘peaceful’ protests purportedly against racism and police brutality, the protesters refused to comply with the pandemic restrictions. Instead of enforcing the public health orders, public officials were all too eager to grant a *de facto* exception for the favored protesters.

“The same public officials even encouraged these protesters to ‘express’ their ‘rage’ so the public could ‘hear it ...’ And whereas the general public was required to wear masks whenever they went out in public, protesters and rioters were often given a pass by officials.”

But Amnon Siegel, the county’s attorney, maintained that police did their best to control the Black Lives Matter protests.

Transcripts of courtroom discussion seem to show Judge Chalfant reasoning back and forth out loud to reach a decision. On the one hand, “it gives me pause that 2500 people are sitting [in church] shoulder to

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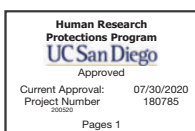


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shoulder without masks and singing hymns.”

Then, in the next moment, “I’d be more interested with respect to the Black Lives Matter issue as to whether these were permitted protests, protests authorized by the County or City of Los Angeles, or were they simply spontaneous. It’s pretty hard to control a spontaneous protest. On the other hand, if [the protesters] had a permit, that’s a problem for the county. If so, what were the conditions of the permit?”

September 4 came and went without a decision. Paul Jonna felt the hearing went well but was “very long.” The appeals court had said the case needed a thorough discussion since there were “complex legal issues” involved. Judge Mitchell Beckloff, who by now had returned to

the bench, said he’d have a decision sometime the following week.

Meanwhile, it came to my attention that, in a seemingly relevant case, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that South Bay United Pentecostal Church in Chula Vista could not meet in its sanctuary after San Diego County demanded that it stay out. Chief Justice John Roberts, on May 29, wrote the court’s majority opinion.

In part, the opinion reads: “Our Constitution principally entrusts ‘the safety and health of the people’ to the politically accountable officials of the States”

Regarding the specific restriction San Diego County placed on the Chula Vista church, Roberts wrote: “The notion that it’s ‘indisputably clear’ that the Government’s limitations are unconstitutional seems quite improbable.”

“Wouldn’t that control the decision in Grace Community’s lawsuit?” I asked Jonna. “I worked on that [Chula Vista] case, too,” he told me. “But it involved an emergency injunction. So the legal issues were not the same as in the current case.”

Finally, on August 10, Judge Beckloff issued a preliminary injunction forbidding Grace Community Church to hold services inside its sanctuary. “The function of a preliminary injunction,” wrote Beckloff, “is the preservation of the status quo [in this case, the county’s original order not to meet inside] until a final determination of the merits.”

So a final resolution still awaits, although the preliminary injunction is sure to carry weight. In explanation of his

decision, Beckloff appealed to the reasoning of Chief Justice Roberts in the South Bay Pentecostal Church case. Public health officials, concluded Roberts, must have broad latitude “when confronting situations involving scientific uncertainty.”

Beckloff addressed potential objections to his decision based on the California State Constitution, which contains, in addition to its reference to the “free exercise and enjoyment of religion” a contiguous statement that: “This liberty of conscience does not excuse acts that are licentious or inconsistent with the peace or safety of the State.”

Additionally, Beckloff cast doubt on Grace Community Church’s providing an “essential service” by asserting that its expert witnesses did not identify sources for a “suicide pandemic” that is greater than that of covid-19.

And the judge made virtually no reference to the government favoring Black Lives Matter protesters over churches.

The decisive issue for Beckloff appears in a section of his opinion he titles “Balance of Harms.” “The County Health Order allows worship to occur outdoors.... This feature of the [order] mitigates — but certainly does not eliminate — the harm that will be suffered by the Church’s congregants through restricting their indoor worship.

“The court finds the balance of harms tips in favor of the County. The potential consequences of community spread of covid-19 and concomitant risk of death to members of the community — associated

and unassociated with the Church — outweighs the harm that flows from the restriction on indoor worship caused by the County Health Order.”

The following Sunday, Paul Jonna tells me, Pastor MacArthur gathered his flock in the church sanctuary. In response, Los Angeles County tried to hold him in contempt. But the court denied the motion. “We believe that the preliminary injunction was unconstitutional,” says Jonna, “and the court deferred hearing the issue until November 13. Once it’s decided, the court can rule on the county’s attempt to hold MacArthur in contempt. There will be no decision until early next year.”

— Joe Deegan

Under the radar

continued from page 3

anonymous and third-party complaints,” says the September 28 report. “However, we found that SDPD’s complaint forms are not as readily accessible as Best Practices require, and the Community Review Board on Police Practices’ online complaint form embedded on SDPD’s website includes statements and requirements that may inadvertently discourage the submission of anonymous or third-party complaints.”

Continues the audit: “Additionally, there is an inherent risk that sergeants may not always follow procedure, and we found this risk is increased for the complaint process due to several recent changes to the complaints procedure and practices. This could result in some complaints being incorrectly classified and documented, preventing SDPD and the public from identifying and addressing potential misconduct.”

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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THROUGH the EMOTIONAL PERISCOPE

The viral disaster which has smothered the planet in a shroud of uncertainty since March 2020 has driven a six-foot wedge between us. We millennials, born on the doorstep of the internet, are figuring out what do to next from the safety of our smart phones.

Online dating has become more popular than ever. It offers the emotional periscope many folks are looking for. I signed up for Tinder, Grindr, and Hinge in order to measure San Diego's fears, principles, and loves, given the discouraging hand covid has dealt us.

Swiping right until I am forbidden from doing so for 24 hours yielded matches and conversations with young adults regarding their 2020 dating strategies.

Neil, 23 and from Ramona, described a sort of long con. He's "looking for friends, dates, and partners" and "building connections for when [he] can eventually meet them." He has faith in the dating apps to do the heavy lifting and facilitate that attachment, though he hasn't given Hinge's "Date from Home" video feature a shot yet.

Kaison, 20, had just clocked out of work when we spoke. He seemed to share the same hesitations about face-to-face interactions as Neil, but he's actually elected to try a few dates out, less confident that a virtual-only experience will suffice. "I wouldn't

say [I'm] upset, but more like confused. It's just, like – when I meet someone on dating apps, I want to meet them in person to get a sense of who they are," he said. "I'm not mad that I can't meet up with people. I just feel weird about getting attached to someone, since I won't know the next time I can actually meet up with them."

The fear of the unknown is an ever-present issue in online dating (go watch *Catfish*), and that anxiety is only augmented by the hazy due date for the covid vaccine. Despite the numerous

Tori, 21, is willing to go out, but can't help but wonder at the pointlessness of it all.

verified accounts of *World of Warcraft* romances ending happily ever after, it is important to remember that not everyone is who they seem to be online, in either identity or personality. Tori, 21, is willing to go out, but can't help but wonder at the pointlessness of it all. She had a date a little bit ago, and it reeked of coronavirus depression, and not just because the guy was "really weird." She and Weirido went out to a scenic viewpoint, a good distance from the masses, "We talked about how all our plans were canceled, and how we were sad," she lamented.

While there is something to be said for going on a date solely for sanity's sake, the unpredictable nature of the virus as it pertains to human responsibility clouds the minds of many 20-somethings and corrals them into a cell of loneliness. For every person doing their best to stay at home, there is another individual out there picking their battles a bit differently. Big has his own ideologies (he also labeled himself with an emoji I cannot express

here), and is validated in his safety as an emergency room nurse with "proper PPE" — personal protective equipment — and frequent testing. This assurance has given him the peace of mind to hook up with online dates "on more than one or five or ten occasions" since the height of the outbreak. Despite the high-contact nature of his job, Big maintains that one is more likely to contract the virus at Vons or Starbucks, "where they don't change gloves and come in[to] contact with hundred[s] of people and don't change PPE."

Many bolder Grinders feel similarly when it comes to large groups vs. individuals: as an airborne threat, the risk of transmission is exponentially greater in populated spaces than it is during a house call. Big is hedging his bets accordingly; he knows the risk and warrants he will be fine if he "avoid[s] kissing."

Richard entered the online dating scene as a total newbie in May, looking to get back on his game after some time out. "I used to ask girls out in bookstores," he mused.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

While there is something to be said for going on a date solely for sanity's sake, the unpredictable nature of the virus as it pertains to human responsibility clouds the minds of many 20-somethings and corrals them into a cell of loneliness.

He expressed uncertainty with the concept of semi-anonymous swiping, coupled with a dislike of the constant bombardment of updates the applications send: matches, messages, Secret Crushes, unmatches, even pointless advertisements. "It's overwhelming; the messages and notifications," he said of both Hinge and Bumble. Nevertheless, Rich was determined to meet some new folk, and he did, through a variety of methods. Coffee

in Encinitas is nice, and Facetime dates are easy, but according to Rich, mucking out a few fetid horse stables took the ribbon for Most Interesting Date. For him, it was hard to say how many people with whom he had chatted with over a six-week endeavor, but he met up with four in person.

Until he got coronavirus in June.

It left him bedridden for a few days and chapped his throat. But the symptoms were enough to settle him into Lockdown Mode. "[I] had to quarantine for three weeks in my bedroom. I couldn't go into my kitchen for ten days."

Richard had a generous roommate who

"would cook for him three times a day," and a certain Lexie to make a prompt chicken soup delivery a couple times a week. "Lexie and I started to be together when I tested positive for covid-19," he recalled. "Her mom accused me of making out with too many people."

Rich decided he had a good thing going there, and, as I write this, is still happily kicking it with Lexie. His self-diagnosis of "being naively healthy" when it came to the virus turned out relatively accurate.

Some I spoke to value their own safety or feel a certain responsibility to society that's keeping them from dating in per-

son. Others put their lives on the line for — dare we say — the instinctual urge to mate and produce offspring. Recall Big, who said, "There's a risk, but I'm staying away from my folks."

Alternatively, the want for physical love doesn't pull at Neil as strongly. He was just out there looking for some great banter. "I've also come to realize that genuine conversations are few and far between," he said. "I don't find many people who enjoy just talking. Not about sex 100 percent."

Libido is a critically defining variable in one's online dating principles. And sometimes, one just needs excellent company. As Tori put it, "It would be nice to find someone to have next to you when it feels like the world is ending. I guess it's all about wanting to feel safe."

When nature (and mankind, admittedly) turbulently upsets the status quo, will online dating be sophisticated enough to act as a virtual, temporary replacement for a strictly physical concept? Based on what I've seen, I have to say, I am impressed. My age occupies the same timeline as most of the fine people I questioned, so I'm not quite old enough to have been active on websites such *Match.com*

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and eHarmony in their “prime” during the late 90s-early 00s (PSA: Wikipedia claims *Kiss.com* was the first dating site, but I’m 98 percent certain my computer received a shiny new virus upon typing that in the search bar). However, I remember being old enough to laugh at the absurdity of the concept, and harbored some of that contempt until smartphones became a borderline necessity and dating apps grabbed the baton in 2010. I had mixed success with Tinder in college, so I stopped hating. During my time on the apps over these past few months, what surprised me the most was the frankness and openness. Everyone is on there, they all have their extraordinarily specific needs that must be met, and they’re flaunting it like a three-minute-30-second movie trailer that spoils the plot. The Stranger Danger instilled in our generation has taken a different, more abstract form, with new variables to consider. Yet some are still desperate for someone new. Anything but more isolation.

It’s got to be said: I might be the only person on Tinder trying to interview people. I’ve been in a committed relationship since before the outbreak, long enough to go on a few spectacular dates that I can remember. The weekends almost always involved finding new places to eat and appreciate the atmosphere, and if we didn’t have particular plans, it was perfectly acceptable to wander around some busy street in hopes of discovering a new thrift store. As we judge it, now, these activities overstep the boundaries we are comfortable with. The Stay At Home orders instituted over this

summer kept date night at home as well, and strike me pink if it doesn’t feel like a glimpse into a discouraging future of a lethargic couple resigning themselves to whatever’s on Netflix, snoring by 9:00. Falling into this pit is the easy route, all it takes is a little giving up.

So we did our best not to: my girlfriend and I realized no good food arrives in a Postmates bag; instead, we take on the task of doing it ourselves. “Congratulations,” we hear you say, “you’ve joined the rest of the world that doesn’t eat out every weekend.” It isn’t about not wanting to cook, it’s about cheffing up dishes you figured only the restaurant had the recipe for. The exchange of delighted eyes upon the first bite of honey-pomegranate glazed chicken — knowing that your time spent

in the kitchen was beyond worth it — may even surpass the simple pleasure of having a restaurant take care of it for you.

And we hiked. For a few weekends in a row, we explored San Diego’s arid wilderness. We completed a quest to find a pond in Mission Trails, dove from the rocks of Cedar Creek Falls against our better judgment, and came up short on wildlife spotting at Daley Ranch (but it was gorgeous day, so it didn’t matter). A few miles inland, and we can be more-or-less alone in places where we can close our eyes, breathe deeply, and know that the air hasn’t been recycled ten times over. We’ve discovered places that normally we wouldn’t have checked out in the days when we were preoccupied with coastal San Diego, like everyone else.

— Derek Pike



A vintage oak island in the midst of all that Vitaman Sea.

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 13

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P.S. Don't worry, Mom knows us.
She called the office yesterday and said "it's OK!"

feelbeautiful.com

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest

Earthen Art as Viewed from Above



Harry Casey, Anne Morgan

Thursday | 8

LIVING ROOM LECTURE: ANCIENT GEOGLYPHS

The deserts of the Southwest contain one of the largest concentrations of geoglyphs outside of Peru's Nazca Lines. These ancient Native American works of earthen art can be up to hundreds of feet long, and are often invisible until viewed from above. Before drones, GPS, or Google Maps, photographer Harry Casey spent thirty-five years documenting the region's geoglyphs before natural erosion and human intervention could destroy these fragile sites. He was armed with nothing more than topographic maps, 35mm film cameras, and his beloved Piper J3 Cub aircraft. A newly published book collects Casey's photographs into the first visual record of these features.

WHEN: Sunday, October 4 through Thursday, October 8, 4 pm to 7 pm

WHERE: sandiegoarchaeology.org/geoglyphs

TASTE OF LITTLE ITALY: TAKE OUT EDITION

Taste of Little Italy is back and redesigned to

bring the community a curated *pre-fixe* meal experience over a weeklong period. Each night, six restaurants will be highlighted to create a multi-course tasting menu. Attendees can enjoy seafood, pasta, pizza, desserts, and beverages from over 30 restaurants. Each night, there will be a maximum of 300 tickets sold, with ticketholders being given a time window to check in at the Piazza della Famiglia. Upon arrival, participants will receive an insulated tote bag for the occasion.

WHEN: Sunday through Thursday, October 4 through 8, 12 pm to 6 pm

WHERE: Piazza della Famiglia, 523 West Date Street, Little Italy. littleitalysd.com

Friday | 9

HANSON LIVE AT CAIN'S BALLROOM

Pop-rock trio Hanson will perform their first livestream concert sets: three shows, with a different musical theme each month, now through January. October highlights the 15th anniversary of the band's live album *The Best of Hanson, Live and Electric*.

WHEN: Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, October 9 through 11, 4 pm

WHERE: hanson.net



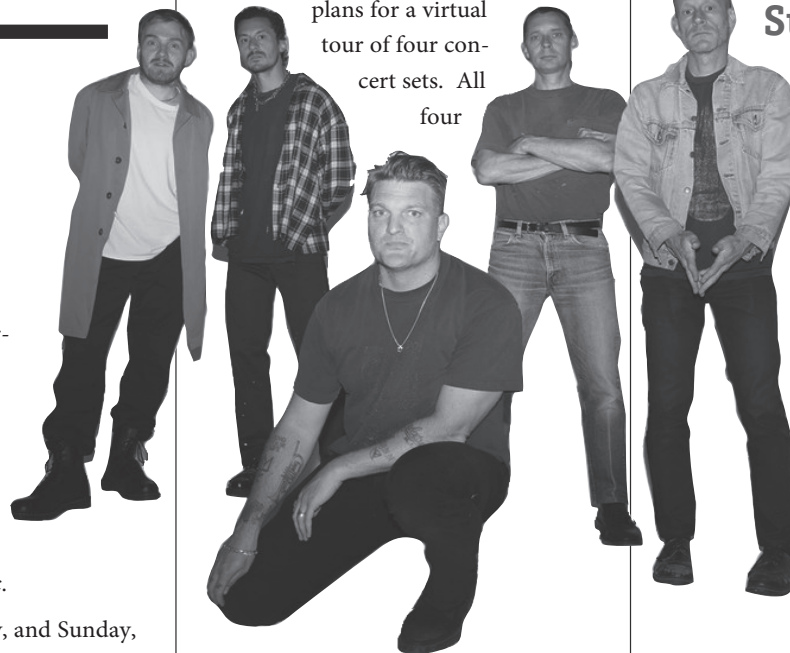
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8: TASTE OF LITTLE ITALY: TAKE OUT EDITION

Saturday | 10

COLD WAR KIDS VIRTUAL TOUR

Cold War Kids have unveiled

plans for a virtual tour of four concert sets. All four



shows on the virtual tour will be archived though Sunday, November 29. The first, on October 10, will show the band celebrating the 14th anniversary of their full-length *Robbers & Cowards* by playing the entire album for the first time in a concert setting.

WHEN: Sundays through November 22, 6 pm

WHERE: nocapshows.com

Sunday | 11

FALL FESTIVAL OF GEMS

This family-friendly street fair showcases gems, minerals, fossils, finished jewelry, geodes, and garden rock. Volunteers will be onsite to answer any geology questions. This is an outdoor event; social distancing and masks required.

WHEN: Sunday, October 11, 9 am to 4 pm

WHERE: Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum, 123 West Alvarado Street, Fallbrook. fgms.org



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

ART

Virtual 40th International Exhibition The exhibition represents the very best of watermedia art from around the world. Only 100 paintings were selected from almost 900 entries from 21 countries. Please visit the Website starting to view and purchase the paintings. Through Saturday, October 31, **free**. sdws.org. (ONLINE)

BEER

Taste of Little Italy: Take-Out Edition This year, instead of one-night, this experience will be extended over a weeklong period from October 4th – 8th. Each night, six restaurants will be highlighted to create an elevated multi-course tasting menu. In order to ensure proper social distancing, there will be a maximum of 300 tickets sold with ticketholders being given a time window to check in. Tickets are available for purchase online. littleitalysd.com/events/taste-of-little-italy. Sun-Wed, October 4-8, 4pm; \$50-\$80. 21 and up. Piazza della Famiglia, 523 West Date Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Art For Kids Each week students will be introduced to different artists and art history movements as they experiment with their own creative and playful ways to use watercolor, acrylic paint, and screen printing, through both 2-D and 3-D projects. Materials included. Ages: 5 - 7. Wednesday, October 14, 4pm; \$185-\$195. Lux Art Institute, 1550 S. El Camino Real. luxartinstitute.org/classes (ENCINITAS)

Built to Last Skyscrapers Using Lego Ages 5-7 Teacher will read a story about skyscraper and kids will create their tallest skyscraper. Students will start with a general build, and use the Engineering Design Process to continue to build upon their original design. Tuesday, October 13, 4pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/33u8lE8>. (ONLINE)

Camp Millionaire: Budgeting & Saving Ages 8-12 In this introductory class, explore the concepts of earning a paycheck, paying taxes and expenses, and reconciling a bank account. After registering, you will receive an email with instructions on how to join the class. Thursday, October 8, 4pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/3nrEV1w>. (ONLINE)

DIY Sleeping Beauty Fairy Variation Ages 3-9 During this class taught by Ms Nika, students will learn about the story ballet Sleeping Beauty and create their very own Fairy Variations! Students will learn about the history of the ballet, including how the libretto(story), costumes, sets, choreography, and music came together to create an original 3 act production that ballet companies still perform today. After registering, you will receive an email with instructions on how to join the class. Friday, October 9, 4pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/2SsRWCF>. (ONLINE)

Fly Control for Livestock Owners Join Solana Center for this 1-hour webinar to learn strategies for combating pesky flies around livestock, with a focus on effective manure management. Guest speaker, Nancy Reigler, owner of Ramona's Oasis Camel Dairy, who will explain her approach to reducing flies among her camels and other livestock. This webinar will be held using Zoom, so you will need to have the Zoom application installed on your device to attend and participate. You will receive an email with the link and password to join on the day before the webinar occurs. Thursday, October 8, 11am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/34mR7Ia>. (ONLINE)

Following the Path of the Heart Meditation Join Michael from Dharma Center for a 30 minute seated meditation with an open mind and heart and experience bliss. Wednesday, October 7, 4pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

Healing Practices for Meditation & Mindfulness Sit with Varada from Dharma Center on Monday evenings and learn about meditation practices to help alleviate your suffering and the suffering of others. Mondays, 6pm; through Monday, October 26, **free**. 18 and up. dharmacenter.com. (ONLINE)

Legal & Financial Basics Learn from local estate planning and elder law experts from the San Diego Elder Law Center about getting key legal documents in place, and how to plan for the costs of future care needs. This webinar will be held using Zoom, and participation is free and easy. If you need help setting up Zoom or any other technology, our Volunteer Tech Team can talk you through it. Call 858.492.4400 to get started. Wednesday, October 14, 10am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/3jvtyDh>. (ONLINE)

Managing Resistance If you're struggling with someone who refuses help, join us to explore what causes resistance. You'll also develop new caregiving strategies to strengthen relationships, build trust, and preserve dignity. This webinar will be held using Zoom, and participation is free and easy. If you need help setting up Zoom or any other technology, our Volunteer Tech Team can talk you through it. Call 858.492.4400 to get started. Thursday, October 8, 1pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/3npljLx>. (ONLINE)

Middle-Eastern Drumming Class Middle-Eastern Drumming with Frank Lazzaro, all levels wel-

Rhyme & Verse

Three poems by Kenneth Koch

Variations on a Theme by William Carlos Williams

1
I chopped down the house that you had been saving to live in next summer.
I am sorry, but it was morning, and I had nothing to do and its wooden beams were so inviting.

2
We laughed at the hollyhocks together and then I sprayed them with lye.
Forgive me. I simply do not know what I am doing.

3
I gave away the money that you had been saving to live on for the next ten years.
The man who asked for it was shabby and the firm March wind on the porch was so juicy and cold.

4
Last evening we went dancing and I broke your leg.
Forgive me. I was clumsy and I wanted you here in the wards, where I am the doctor!

Mountain

Nothing's moving I don't see anybody
And I know that it's not a trick
There really is nothing moving there
And there aren't any people. It is the very utmost top
Where, as is not unusual,
There is snow, lying like the hair on a white-haired person's head
Combed sideways and backward and forward to cover as much of the top
As possible, for the snow is thinning, it's September
Although a few months from now there will be a new crop
Probably, though this no one KNOWS (so neither do we)
But every other year it has happened by November
Except for one year that's known about, nineteen twenty-three
When the top was more and more uncovered until December fifteenth

When finally it snowed and snowed
I love seeing this mountain like a mouse
Attached to the tail of another mouse, and to another and to another
In total mountain silence
There is no way to get up there, and no means to stay.
It is uninhabitable. No roads and no possibility
Of roads. You don't have a history
Do you, mountain top? This doesn't make you either a mystery
Or a dull person and you're certainly not a truck stop.
No industry can exploit you
No developer can divide you into estates or lots
No dazzling disquieting woman can tie your heart in knots.
I could never lead my life on one of those spots
You leave uncovered up there. No way to be there
But I'm moved.

Poem for My Twentieth Birthday

Passing the American graveyard, for my birthday
the crosses stuttering, white on tropical green,
the years' quick focus of faces I do not remember . . .

The palm trees stalking like deliberate giants
for my birthday, and all the hot adolescent memories
seen through a screen of water . . .

For my birthday thrust into the adult and actual:
expected to perform the action, not to ponder
the reality beyond the fact,
the man standing upright in the dream.



Kenneth Koch (1925-2002) was an American poet and playwright, and a prominent member of the New York School, an arts and literary collective active during the 1950s and 1960s. Members of the School used the spontaneous, the surreal and the avant-garde to give expression to their craft. The poets in the New York School drew inspiration in particular from their experiences in travel as well as from other mediums, including painting and music. Koch, considered the humorist of the group, often wrote in a seemingly light style, although it was undergirded by serious themes. Often, he followed a grave line of verse with a silly line, and he enjoyed parodying other, more "serious" poets.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

come. Outdoor covered area, social distancing and mask required. Extra drums available. 760-703-1487 for info Mondays, 6pm; through Monday, December 14, \$15. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Mondo.NYC 2020 Festival & Conference Mondo.NYC global business conference, showcase music festival, and community of music and tech industry insiders and innovators, emerging artists and their fans celebrates its fifth anniversary as a four-day virtual interactive meeting and livestream – a vital pipeline of information, connectivity, and curation of great new music and cutting-edge technology. Tue-Wed, Oct 13-14, 10am; mondo.nyc/. (ONLINE)

Raku Workshop Bring your bisqueware and join us for an exciting Raku workshop! Glazes included! Raku is an ancient Japanese technique that dates back to the 16th century. Intermediate level required. Saturday, October 10, 10am; \$70-\$80. 18 and up. Lux Art Institute, 1550 S. El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Virtual Paint & Sip "Motorcycle Ethan" will guide guests in a one-of-a-kind avian surrealist painting. Your ticket purchase supports Free Flight's finest feathered friends. Ethan Wayne is a locally based artist, motorcycle enthusiast, and lifelong lover of birds. Friday, October 9, 17:30; \$20-\$40. <https://bit.ly/36y6ccu>. (ONLINE)

Write That Novel This eight-week online novel writing workshop will walk you through the process step by step. Each week, we will cover some technical aspect of novel writing — from premise to point of view, plot & structure to methods of characterization. In addition to the weekly lesson, there will be readings and assignments

which you may post for feedback. You will be emailed the Zoom link 24 hours before the start of class. If you sign up less than 24 hours before the start of the class, please email Kristen at programs@sandiegowriters.org for your link. Fridays, 2pm; through Friday, October 23, \$200-\$250. 18 and up. <https://bit.ly/3lVfJLd>. (ONLINE)

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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Canyon Springs Church

Contact: 9700 Avenue of Nations, Scripps Ranch, 858-746-9775, www.canyonsprings.org

Membership: 500

Pastor: Jack Hawkins

Neighborhood: Scripps Ranch

Age: 57

Born: Newport Beach

Formation: Biola University, Talbot School of Theology-Biola University, La Mirada

Years Ordained: 30

San Diego Reader: *What's the mission of your church?*

Pastor Jack Hawkins: It's four words: "It's about the One." I'll unpack it a little bit. I don't believe you'll find peace or purpose until you're in a relationship with the One,

who is Jesus Christ. Once you're in that relationship, you need to be connected with other Ones to grow. But then it's not done—it's about the next Ones. Once you're in this relationship with the One, he wants you to come and grow and reach the next One, who might be your neighbor, other soccer moms, or a person in Haiti. One way we as a church have tried to make a difference in people's lives is through a weekly podcast called "10 Steps Further." People always are asking questions about their faith such as "How do I pray?" or "How do I read the Bible?" We did these ten podcasts to help people in their faith.

One-hundred-and-fifty podcasts and three years later, we're still doing it. We're in 50 countries with a few thousand listeners a month. **SDR:** *Where is the strangest place you found God?*

PH: I'm at home, it's a Sunday afternoon, and I just gave two messages at church. My daughter comes in to tell me there's someone out in front of the house who wants to talk to me. It was a mom and her teenage son, and they're in their car. I know them, and I greet them. "My son and I were sitting in our house," the mom says. "He said to me, 'I want to give my life to Jesus.' So I said, 'Let's see what Pastor Jack's doing.'" They never

got out of the car, but for the next five minutes I was able to talk to this young man about what it means to have a relationship with Jesus Christ, and he made the decision to follow Christ with his life, right there in the car. So I jokingly tell my congregation that we provide drive-thru. It was one of those moments where I realized, "Wow, I couldn't have orchestrated this."

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

PH: I believe that when we die, God has prepared a place for us – heaven. The best image I can give you of heaven is the earth put right – the earth without smog, without natural disasters. Our bodies are



Jack Hawkins

also put right. We were never intended to age, and yet I'm 57 and I get less beautiful every year. That's what I believe heaven will look like – everything put right. And my view of hell is this: there are people throughout the world who are racing away from God. They don't want anything to do with him. They've heard about him

but want nothing to do with him. Hell will be giving them what they have always wanted – a world without God. The Bible describes that place as fire, and my understanding is that the best description of hell is fire because it's a fire that can never burn out and is never satisfied. We have all these burnings inside ourselves; we want relationships, connection, peace. The way to find those is in this relationship with God, but hell is that place where you have all these desires but they're never fully satisfied.

– Joseph O'Brien

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

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Affordable Housing & Community Development Conference
Bringing more than 600 industry professionals and community

and business leaders together, the annual conference will cover topics ranging from financing strategies to supportive housing options. Mon-Wed, Oct 7-9, 8am; \$50-\$200. 18 and up. <https://bit.ly/3c1f7ZV>. (ONLINE)

Fall Festival of Gems At this family friendly street fair, every-

one can discover gems, minerals, fossils and other treasures. Free parking and admission. Vendors will feature rough stones to finished jewelry and everything in-between. Raffle tickets are available with thousands of dollars in prizes. This is an outdoor only event. Masks must be worn at all times. Please

practice social distancing. Information 760-728-1130 or info@fgms.org; **free.** Fallbrook Gem & Mineral Museum, 123 West Alvarado Street. (FALLBROOK)

San Diego DEAFestival Virtual Edition For the first time, the DEAFestival will be virtual. Be prepared for non-stop action from over 55 DEAF performers on three separate channels, hundreds of exhibitors, two hosts, and one-stop entertainment for you and your family. See Facebook Event Page, Instagram Page, Webpage, or send inquiries to SDDFChair@gmail.com; deafcommunityservices.org/. (ONLINE)

Southern California Soap Makers Luncheon Southern California soap makers gather for inspiration and to discuss popular holiday specialty soaps, such as soap made with beer and canned pumpkin for autumn and "plum pudding" soap and the popular "candy cane swirl" soap for winter. Please bring a bar of your best soap to show to the other attendees and to trade in exchange for a different soapmaker's soap to take home. Remember to bring business cards. There is no registration fee to attend the Soap Makers Luncheons, simply pay for your own meal. Sunday, October 11, 2pm; **free.** Marie Callender's, 6950 Alvarado Road. (COLLEGE AREA)

Coronavirus, we have rearranged our seating for your comfort and safety. Everyone must wear a facial mask when entering and exiting the theater and maintain a 6 feet distance, until seated. Once you are seated, you may remove your masks. Come early to avoid a line. For more information, call 619-295-4221, or go to the website (www.topsresents.com) Friday, October 9, 8pm; Saturday, October 10, 8pm; Sunday, October 11, 7pm; \$17-\$20. Cinema Under the Stars, 4040 Goldfinch Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Outdoor Film Screening: Kiss The Ground Premiering globally on Netflix on September 22, Kiss The Ground reveals that, by regenerating the world's soils, we can completely and rapidly stabilize Earth's climate, restore lost ecosystems and create abundant food supplies. Following social distancing rules, the organizers request that you buy tickets in groups of 2 to 6 if possible in order to best accommodate attendees. Your ticket includes an appetizer platter from The Plot restaurant and nonalcoholic refreshments. The event is BYOB (wine and beer only). Monday, October 12, 7pm; \$25. The Plot, 1733 South Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

Howl-O-Ween Harvest Family Festival Gather up your little ghouls and goblins for some festive fun. This family event includes hands-on animal encounters, trick or treat stations, a cute craft, a journey through the perilous path, and a mini pumpkin patch for you to pick one out to bring home. Walk-up registration is not permitted this year. Saturday, October 10, 9am; \$48. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Musical Theatre Day Camps STAR Repertory Theatre is offering Live In-Person Theatre Day Camp Programs weekly with three different age groups between 5 to 16 Monday-Friday. Each camp is 1 week featuring shows such as: Beetlejuice, Hamilton, Hairspray, Backstage Tech, SIX, Matilda, Grease, 13, Heroes/Villains, Improv, Wicked, Annie, Frozen, Seussical, Disney. Twelve campers only per camp due to COVID-19 restrictions. Mondays, 1pm; through Friday, December 18, \$195-\$550. Star Repertory Theatre, 329 East Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

FUNDRAISERS

BIG Kahuna FUNdraiser The BIG Kahuna will be a FUNdraiser for our nonprofit which raises money for beach beautification, improvements and maintenance for sports equipment, landscaping, bathrooms, parking lots that everyone uses when they go to the beach. Donate and earmark which project you'd like to support and then stop by our booth at the beach to get a lunch by The Lunch Guru, Perfect Hydration Water and Snow Monkey Ice Cream. If you can't make it to the beach this year, then we will still send you some goodies in the mail just for donating. Saturday,

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FILM

Cinema Under The Stars: Sabrina "SABRINA" - (1954) Cinema Under The Stars is an intimate outdoor movie theater in Mission Hills, behind Tops Salon, with single and double zero-gravity reclining lounge chairs, and cabana loveseats. Heaters, pillows and blankets are provided. Due to the current Health Guidelines for

FOR KIDS

Drive-Thru Scream Zone Mask up and buckle up for "Road Kill," a wild ride of Halloween terror at the Drive-Thru Scream Zone. Experience history being made at the drive-thru Haunted Attraction at the Del Mar Scaregrounds. Stay in the "dis-comfort" of your own car and get a "revved up" Halloween experience. Wed-Sun, 7pm; \$55-\$70. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

October 10, 9am; free-\$100. South Mission Beach Sports Park, 1 North Jetty. (MISSION BEACH)

LECTURES

Disinformation & Democracy: Social Media & Elections The panel discussion aims to: provide the historical context and political analysis of propaganda in the age of social media; discuss how social media is weaponized by disinformation campaigns; examine the role of social media companies and governments in promoting and combatting disinformation; and equip participants with media literacy tools. Monday, October 12, 17:30; free. <https://bit.ly/30ALbdw>. (ONLINE)

Living Room Lecture: Ancient Geoglyphs The deserts of the American southwest contain one of the largest concentrations of geoglyphs outside of Peru's Nazca Lines. These ancient Native American works of earthen art can be up to hundreds of feet long, and yet are often invisible until viewed from above. A newly published book, *Geoglyphs of the Desert Southwest: Earthen Art as Viewed from Above*, authored by Harry Casey and Anne Morgan, collects Casey's photographs into the first visual record of these beautiful and mysterious features. This virtual event is limited to 100 participants. Cost is pay what you wish. Ticket purchases of \$35 and over will receive a signed copy of *Geoglyphs of the Desert*

Southwest: *Earthen Art as Viewed from Above* by Harry Casey and Anne Morgan. Thursday, October 8, 17:30; <https://sandiegoarchaeology.org/geoglyphs/>. (ONLINE)

MUSIC

Jazz Vespers Each Jazz Vespers service begins with a 30-minute set of live jazz, blues, and gospel, featuring the Archie Thompson & the Archtones and guest musicians. Saturdays, 16:30; through Wednesday, December 30, free. First Presbyterian Church Chapel, 1740 4th Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

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. Instructor: Andrew Cretella (andrew@cretella.com). Saturday, October 10, 8am; \$95. 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. Designed to be more effective and more fun than just playing tennis, the class includes some instruction of traditional ten-

nis plus special games designed to accelerate learning skills and techniques. Games include 4-Square, Olympics, and Offense/Defense. Bring a tennis racket, water, hat or visor and sunscreen. Saturday, October 10, 11am; \$95. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Introduction to Tantric Buddhism Starting from the view that transformation and enlightenment are possible for each person, Tantric Buddhism presents a radical path for transforming suffering to wisdom in the midst of everyday life. Over four weekly sessions (10/14-11/4), this class presents the view and foundational meditations of Tantra's "resultant" path from the living wisdom lineage of Tantric Buddhist Master Traktung Khepa. In accord with San Diego County's COVID requirements, class size is limited to 10 for distancing, and masks are required. Registration is required, single registration covers all sessions. Suggested donation \$20 for entire class. Wednesday, October 14, 7pm; free. TriPower Yoga, 2183 Bacon Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

Phamatech Pop-up COVID-19 Testing Phamatech Laboratory and Diagnostics, Inc. Drive-thru, Walk-in COVID-19 PCR Testing. No appointment needed. Individuals do not need an appointment or a prescription from a physician to test for the coronavirus. Testing will be available on a first-come-first-serve basis, and they will accept walk-ups. Individuals will be required to fill out a registra-

tion form and pay in cash on-site. Medicare and Medicaid insurance holders qualify for free testing. Sample collection procedures take about 15 minutes and test results will be shared within 48 hours. For more information about the pop-up location and the testing service, call 877-635-5840. Sunday, October 11, 8am-2pm; \$100. Colonial Corner Medical Group Inc, 4440 Euclid Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

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, October 10, 9:30am; \$95. Westview High School, 13500 Camino del Sur. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

WORSHIP

Christian Worship Experience Sonlight Church meets every Sunday. Come and worship with us. We love Jesus and seek to glorify God through worship music, scriptural teaching and fellowship. Rooted in and faithful to the Word of God, we are a community of believers who want to grow God's kingdom. Jesus came to seek and save the lost, and so we do as well. All are welcome. God bless you. See you Sunday. Sundays, 10am; through Wednesday, December 30, free. San Diego Southern Baptist Association, 4608 Gardena Avenue. (CLAIREMONT)



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- Dance Spirit Magazine



Photo Credit: Dena Bloom Meeder

Real stew, false bananas

“People in Mozambique love things hot.”

Want to try a real Mozambique stew?” says this guy with his dreads gathered in a crocheted rastacap.

Mozambique? Oh yeah. Africa. Coast. Southeast.

“Capital’s Maputo, right?”

“Right!” he says. “Nobody knows our capital.”

Even I don’t know how that floated to the top of my brain.

“And thank you for not calling

it ‘Lourenço Marques.’ That was the colonial name the Portuguese gave it. We were a colony of the Portuguese for 500 years.”

This is late afternoon, PB farmers market. On the street of pop-up tents. Everything from giant cucumbers to dairy-free ice cream to Kombucha On Tap. All this time, I’ve been looking at four chafing dishes, steaming away with different stews behind wood-framed glass panels. They’re right under a sign that says “Sabor Piri-Piri Kitchen, Mozambique Inspired Comfort Food.” Next to



The heart of Mozambican food: fiery *piri-piri* sauce, Candido’s own version



Mozambican comfort combo: spicy *piri-piri* chicken stew, rice, black-eyed peas, kale

the stews, they have a chalkboard menu. “Sabor Bowls,” it says. “All items served over rice.” It features chicken peanut curry (\$11), and Spicy *Piri Piri* Chicken Stew, marinated in garlic and spicy *Piri Piri* hot sauce (also \$11). “*Piri-piri* just means ‘spicy spicy,’” says the guy, Candido. “So, ‘spicy *Piri-Piri* hot sauce’ just means ‘spicy, spicy-spicy, spicy sauce.’ Just in case people don’t get that it’s, uh, spicy.”

Whatever, Candido says *piri-piri* is a very Mozambique thing. He even makes it and bottles it here. (He sells it for \$7.)

“*Piri-piri* is like Chile Pequin,” he says. “Pequin peppers come from the state of Tabasco

in Mexico. People in Mozambique also love things hot. Almost as much as they love their false bananas.”

Uh, false bananas?

He doesn’t have any here, but it seems they’re cousins of our standard bananas. Trouble is, their fruit are so full of seeds you can’t eat them, so you eat other parts, like the “pseudo trunk,” which is soft and tasty, and the root.

So lemme think: Mozambique. Just north of South Africa, right?

Candido says it’s a coastal country full of fruit, berries and root plants, plus endless beaches, and specially, tons of seafood. “Some say it has the best shrimp and prawns in the world.”

Only fly in this ointment is the horror of the wars that followed the struggle for independence from Portugal.

“My family had to leave,” says Candido. “I was one year old. We went to Malawi.”

He was able to make the jump to San Diego because his stepdad is American. But Candido brought his Mozambican cooking with him. “We were like every Mozambican family. Lots of kids, lots of food to cook every day. There, everyone’s in the kitchen. My grandmother made me her assistant. We were always doing stews.”

That’s what these two dishes are. Also on the menu: two vegan bowls. Broccoli sweet potato with peanut curry (\$10), and black-eyed peas and kale in coconut curry (\$9).

“We can do a combo for \$13,” says Kuzonsi. Today’s her first day working here for Candido. She was a social worker until the pandemic.

Me, I’m staring at the stews. “Which are the two most Mozambican?” I ask.

“*Piri-piri* chicken, and the black-eyed peas and kale stew,” says Candido. Seems most of the food in Mozambique that isn’t Portuguese is vegan or chicken. With this combo, I get both.

“But the most Mozambican thing is *xima*,” says Kuzonsi. “It’s from maize. Sometimes called *fufu* in West Africa. You mash it like potato till it becomes tight, solid, and you roll it into hard balls. Then you just dip into sauces. Delicious snack!”

But no *xima* here, so I go for that combo of *piri-piri* chicken stew and the peas and kale. Only problem? Can’t eat them here in the market. “Probably best just to go to the beach,” says Kuzonsi. She has this incredible topknot of hair woven tight above her head. “And while you’re there, check out Candido on YouTube. He’s a great reggae musician!”

I also get one of their strawberry-lemon drinks (\$4), and head off towards PB’s beach. Bars are starting to open, and on the beachfront near the cottages on the pier, everyone’s on their daily walkabout, running, rolling, letting their dogs tow them on their skateboards.

I find a bench.

Whew. Take my mask off, draw long and



PB market: Healthy all the way

strong from the strawberry-lemon. Open the box. Reddish pile of *piri-piri* chicken stew and greeny-creamy black-eyed peas and kale, separated by a white river of rice down the middle.

I pour the little pot of red *piri-piri* sauce over it all. Take a chance on the heat. And have at it. Wow. Hoo hoo! Yes, a little *picante*. Good news is, it lets the flavors through. Black-eyed peas are fine, with a nice coconut curry sauce, paprika, bit of coriander, and of course *piri-piri*. But you can’t beat the spicy chicken dish.

Candido said it has the *piri-piri*, plus tomatoes, paprika, red and green peppers, coriander, and garlic, match. Oh, and yellow curry. Kuzonsi says a lot of Indian immigrants live in Mozambique. They must influence Mozambicans’ cooking.

Down the cliff, beach is at its sunset best. Surfers paddling into nice long rides. Bet the view over the Mozambican coast ain’t much different. My buddy Pete did a worldwide surfing year once,



Kuzonsi, Candido

and he said Mozambique had some of the most magnificent surfing beaches.

I decide to check out Candido’s YouTube music tracks while I chew. Calls himself “Candreado.” I hear a track called “I Would’ve Loved You.” He’s the featured singer with San Diego rapper Trevy James. They’re good. I chew a chunk of chicken, and imagine what it’d be like if I had my own reggae band, my own crocheted rastacap, and — why not? — a handful of those *xima* balls. ■

The Place: Sabor Piri-Piri Kitchen, 8360 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, 619-694-0704; at Tuesday Pacific Beach Farmers’ Market, Bayard and Garnet (also at Farmers’ Markets in Little Italy, and North Park)

PB Farmers Market Hours: 3-7pm, Tuesdays

Prices (including rice): Chicken Peanut Curry, \$11; spicy *Piri Piri* chicken stew, \$11; broccoli sweet potato with peanut curry, \$10; black-eyed peas, kale, coconut curry, \$9; combo of two \$13; menu varies daily

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Cake pilgrimages

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Carte Blanche and the 23-layer crepe cake

Carte Blanche Bistro & Bar; 339 North Cleveland Street, Oceanside. I had my eye on this cake all summer. Friends kept heading into Oceanside to get a piece of it, their every photo set to stun. A 23-layer cake, really a tower of crepes, stacked one on top of the other, held together with a sweet mortar of hazelnut spread and chocolate cream.

Yes to all of it, I thought, following the dessert like a guiding star to Carte Blanche Bistro & Bar. The Oceanside restaurant had the misfortune to open just before the world went sideways. It sits two blocks from the pier in a building so new Google Maps doesn't know it's there yet, blessed with an open dining room and large enough patio to feel safe in spite of covid concerns.

Behind the cooking of chef Alex Carballo, best known as the longtime executive chef of Stone Brewing World Bistro in Escondido, Carte

Blanche brings together French and Mexican cuisines. It's the sort of fusion that serves octopus and chorizo hash during brunch service (\$15); Or pairs duck confit and *mole negro* in a trio of beautiful tacos, finished with duck skin *chicharrones*, smoked cotija cheese, and edible flowers (\$13).

Considering the elevated concept, established local chef, summery outdoor space, and a stellar cocktail program, Carte Blanche has plenty of appeal to go around without needing a showstopper dessert to lure customers.

But in times like these, every bit helps, and if you're looking for an excuse to dine out, this cake is it. Carballo tells me he conceived it and several menu items with that intent: to offer customers something unlikely to prepare for themselves at home.

To wit, the two-day process behind this cake starts with having to make 23 crepes. The cooled crepes then have to be stacked, each layer held together with a hazelnut spread, similar to Nutella, but made with 70 percent Mexico-sourced chocolate, plus cinnamon and chili spice. Crushed hazelnuts are added between layers, as is a chocolate-infused whipped crême. The constructed cake



Close to the pier in Oceanside.

FEAST!



Duck confit mole tacos.



Margarita Ooh La La, with cointreau, guava foam and black sea salt.

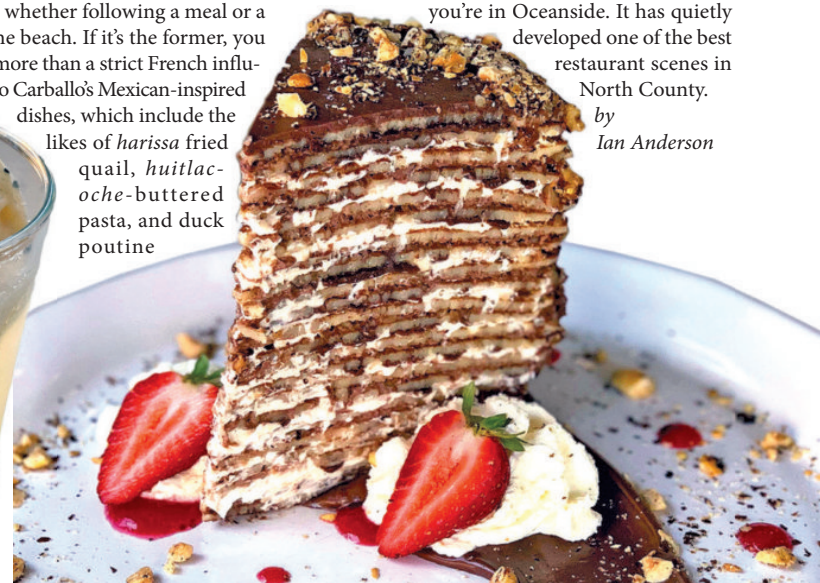
sets overnight, with a top layer finished by more nuts, encrusting a chocolate ganache.

The \$13 slice of cake is heavy enough that it should be shared, whether following a meal or a couple hours at the beach. If it's the former, you can really expect more than a strict French influence to Carballo's Mexican-inspired dishes, which include the likes of *harissa* fried quail, *huitlacoche*-battered pasta, and duck poutine

served over a mix of plantains and potatoes.

And even if you mostly go for the beaches, consider stopping to dine somewhere next time you're in Oceanside. It has quietly developed one of the best restaurant scenes in North County.

by
Ian Anderson



A cake of 23 crepes with chocolate hazelnut spread, chocolate whipped cream, and hazelnuts.

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American Pizza Mfg has La Jolla taking and baking

American Pizza Manufacturing, 7402 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla. I picked up a couple of take-out pizzas from coastal La Jolla a few years back, and though they were cooked at high heat with stellar ingredients, it felt like a race to get back home. When you've got hot food in the car, red lights and backed up freeways engender a whole new level of frustration.

My latest La Jolla pizza drive proved a relative breeze, and not because the pandemic has eased traffic congestion (though it helps). This drive lacked stress because my pizzas weren't cooked yet.

I picked them up from American Pizza Manufacturing, a recently opened business on the site of an old taco shop near Windansea. American Pizza Mfg., as its storefront reads, specializes in take-and-bake pizzas, meaning you pick them up cold, then pop them in the oven at 425 degrees once you get home. Or a day or two after you get home, should that be your preference.

Best to put them in sooner than later though, to take advantage of both the quality of ingredients going into them, and their freshness. The shop's pizza dough, and hand-made pastas, are made from scratch using King Arthur Flour, a purveyor founded in New England more than two centuries ago. Its blend of cheeses hails from Wisconsin, and its sauce starts with California's renowned Stanislaus roma tomatoes.

I picked up a basic pepperoni (pizzas run \$13-23 apiece), which showed off the simple yet effective combination. But it was the locally sourced toppings on a vegan pie that really made the point. Built around oyster, cremini, and portobello mushrooms,

POUR OVER

BY IAN ANDERSON

House of Black acquires ballpark-adjacent Bean Bar

Nearly six years ago, coffee enthusiasts Jason and Sandra Scheller were among the first to bring third wave coffee to East Village with their shop, Bean Bar. In late September, after six months of pandemic downturn, the married couple announced they were moving on from the shop, which sits just a block from Petco Park.

However, Bean Bar will continue to do business. The Schellers sold to a North County coffee business — The House of Black Coffee Company, a.k.a. HOB Coffee — which reopened the shop a week after the Scheller's departure, dubbing it Hob Coffee at Bean Bar. Regular customers will notice a few changes to the café, the most significant

being a fresh set of beans. The Schellers always sourced their coffee from Canadian coffee roaster 49th Parallel. Hob Coffee roasts them itself.

Back in early 2017, coffee hobbyists Andy Itaya, Travis Ford, and Jim Sanford started selling home-roasted coffee beans at the Scripps Ranch Farmers Market. A year later, they took over a juice shop on Poway Road, formalizing their business around the idea that fresh, carefully sourced coffee is best appreciated when taken black, without creamer or sweetener.

Hob Coffee does furnish both for guests, of course, and serves specialty drinks, ranging from an agave cinnamon espresso to a vanilla raspberry latte. But its three founders — a CPA, an carpenter, and an IT specialist by day — aim to plant the seed for non-hipster coffee drinkers to take a chance with the unadulterated sweetness of light and medium roast beans. "To be able to taste that is a game changer," says cofounder Itaya, "especially for somebody coming from being a Coffee Bean or Starbucks customer."

A solid place to start during our ongoing spate of heat waves is with Hob's nitro cold brew.



Bean Bar looks the same, but new owner HOB Coffee brings its own beans, plus a nifty new nitro cold brew tap.

Both its shops feature gadgety nitro taps that operate without tanks; they pull nitrogen out of the air to infuse the brew with fine bubbles, which open up cold brew's rounded and less acidic coffee flavors, while lending a fuller-bodied, creamy texture.

Hob Coffee's crew embraces even shinier technology in their choice of coffee roaster. They use a Bellwether Roaster, a fully automated electric roasting machine that yields zero emissions, and may be operated with an iPad. Bellwether

even offers curated roasting profiles that may be fine-tuned on site to produce consistent results with every batch, regardless of who's cooking.

"We're roasting around the clock," says Hob cofounder Itaya. "Our shift managers and head baristas are also roasting, when it gets slow."

Slow business has confounded this section of East Village of late — especially painful in a year when a playoff-bound Padres team would have attracted unprecedented crowds. But Itaya remains optimistic things will turn around in the neighborhood. Right away, Hob coffee decided to keep Bean Bar open seven days a week — it's primarily been open weekdays only during the pandemic. And it's offering branded t-shirts in traditional Padres colors.

"Downtown will come back," he says. "The Padres will come back. I think the spot's in a great location, and hopefully we'll return to normalcy." He even suggests that their refrigerator-sized coffee roaster can produce enough beans to support a third shop, likely somewhere uptown, potentially in 2021.

the pizza features artichoke and heirloom grape tomatoes, while successfully replacing cheese with spinach of all things. I'm not saying the spinach tastes like mozzarella or anything, but it's wet and elastic against the tomato sauce, offering a reasonable textural substitution.

My chief complaint is that American Pizza's directions for cooking at home include placing the pizza directly in the oven atop the provided parchment paper. All fine and good, but I'd suggest putting it on a flat baking pan or pizza stone anyway, because when I placed my veggie pie on my oven grate, a part of the doughy crust fell through the gap.

Minor issue aside, take-and-bake pizza turns out to be a pretty terrific pandemic alternative to dining out. And kid-size "cutie pies" add to their fun by allowing them

to add their own toppings. But even though American Pizza Mfg. opened with the pandemic in full swing, this model wasn't a response to it — the little shop was always going to produce pizza in this way. And pasta — I can vouch for an incredibly cheesy macaroni, but my next slow drive home will likely involve the indulgent \$28 lasagna.

by Ian Anderson

FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

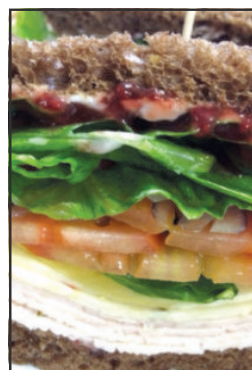
Fall Tasting Menu Experience

Chef Brad Wise of Fort Oak restaurant in Mission Hills unveiled plans to relaunch the award-winning restaurant's popular tasting menu experience perfectly timed to coincide with the changing of the season. Only offered on Wednesdays, the fall-focused menu will be paired with wine and cocktails by wine director Ben Zuba and bar manager Jessica Stewart. The price is \$150

per person for the 8+ course tasting and beverage pairings. There are two seating times available at 5:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. Reservations are required. Visit www.fortoaksd.com to reserve a table and party-size offerings via Tock. Wednesdays, 17:15; Wednesdays, 17:15; through Wednesday, October 14, free. 21 and up. Fort Oak Restaurant, 1011 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION HILLS)

Gelson Margerum Wine Tasting Event Gelson's invites you to an online tasting with Margerum Wine Company with the owner, Doug Margerum, and winemaker

Michael Miroballi. This virtual event will feature two wines to buy in-store including the Margerum Blanc and Margerum M5. Wine will be paired with Gelson's Custom Cheese & Charcuterie Plate for \$23.99 (serves two) which includes St. Andre Triple Cream Brie, Beecher's Just Jack, Cinco Lanzas Gran Reserva, Kalbach Cave Aged Gruyere, Creminelli Varzi Salami, and quince paste. Guests can RSVP and pre-pay for the cheese and charcuterie plate at gelsons.com/margerum. Thursday, October 8, 6pm; \$23-\$59. 21 and up. (ONLINE)



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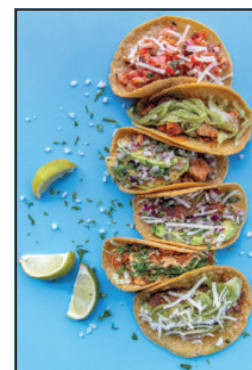
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blurt the inside track

Rock bands' wild-gig stories often involve violence, mayhem, destruction, and the scream of police sirens. For San Diego's (intentionally non-capitalized) almost monday, nuptials tripped them up. "The worst story we have," relates singer Dawson Daugherty, "was definitely playing a weird wedding in the middle of

up in San Marcos," explains Daugherty. "[Bassist] Luke [Fabry], grew up in Escondido, and Cole in Encinitas. I think we all initially bonded over surfing, so Luke and I would drive frequently to Encinitas to surf. "When we all moved away for college Luke and I attended Point Loma Nazarene, and Cole went to UCSD. It was cool for



PHOTOGRAPH BY ELIAN MISKEVICH

The intentionally non-capitalized almost monday.

a park. We thought we were just playing music during the reception, but I somehow became the MC of the wedding. I remember the bride's dad asking me to basically run the night, and I had no idea what I was doing. "Anyway, after we finished we were driving away and somebody in the car in front of us flashed us. Moral of the story, it was a very strange show."

Guitarist Cole Clisby recalls misadventures out in the big bad world. "Probably the worst story from playing outside of California was from this January with AJR. We flew to Buffalo in the middle of a big snowstorm the day after we played in Chicago, and it was the scariest flight I've been on.

"AJR's bus broke down in the snowstorm on the way to Buffalo, and they barely made it in time to set up and play, so unfortunately there was no time for an opener. We ended up just hanging out and eating wings in Buffalo for the day in the dead of winter."

Unlike many San Diego acts, the almost monday fellows, all hail from the area. "I grew

up to all experience a different side of San Diego."

Clisby elaborates, "We all learned to surf fairly young and still often do when we're home. My dad was a pro surfer in the '80s, so I've always been encouraged to surf a lot with him and stood up on my first wave when I was six years old.

"I live walking distance to Grandview beach, so we'll usually meet up and surf there. I lived right above Black's Beach in La Jolla when I was going to UCSD, so I'd get lots of good waves there. I've also spent a solid amount of time surfing Seaside Reef and DMJs on base at Camp Pendleton. To get the best waves I usually go on a surf trip with my dad down to Baja."

Fabry recalls early impressions of the others. "My first impression of Dawson was a kid who had endless amounts of energy and a desire to be the life of the party. My first impression of Cole was a calm, cool, and collected type who was way too good at guitar."

Daugherty reflects, "As a band we were influenced by artists like David Bowie, Prince,

U2, and The Beatles. I think not only the music, but the culture of these artists, contributed to us as a collective coming together and wanting to create. I grew up on U2 records and I remember watching the U2 *Rattle and Hum* live dvd and idolizing how they walked on stage, what they wore, and how they moved."

Sans a manager, at first, they took to booking their own gigs. "Cold calls!" Daugherty laughs. "We just looked up bookers' emails and sent out messages to every venue from SD to LA. Sometimes they would respond and help us get on a show, but most of the time we wouldn't hear back."

The group's also noted for its bright-hued videos. "For our videos," says Daugherty, "we asked our talented friends to help us make them. We really love shooting in film when we can. Shooting film is such a cool process,

because you really have to nail your shots, which makes you get creative and intentional with the scenes you shoot."

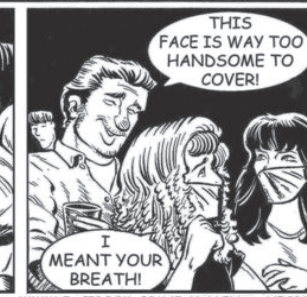
— Andrew Hamlin

Look out! "It was years in the making, a true labor of love," says Andy Rasmussen of the new compilation CD he curated, *Look Out! The San Diego Scene 1958-1973 - Rock & Roll, Garage, Psych, and Soul From America's Finest City*. The 33 tracks represent as many musical styles as any city has ever produced. "Never in the shadows of Los Angeles or San Francisco, the San Diego scene was doing its own thing," says Rasmussen.

"San Diego was not as well-known, but very diverse musically. We had so many cultures and backgrounds crisscrossing, with the military and large manufacturing components in play. San Diego bands combined those elements and made it work." Rasmus-

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: PB BAR

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sen — who fronts Action Andy & the Hi-Tones — is a music historian who worked closely with many of the performers on the compilation. Much time and effort was spent securing rights, data, photos, and rare recordings representing both important and nearly forgotten local artists, with research tactics that included combing high school yearbooks and visiting area cemeteries in search of family leads connected to deceased performers.

Among the featured locals are pianist, arranger, and composer Ervin Groves Jr., aka Big Boy Groves, a black entrepreneur who attended the La Jolla Art Institute and San Diego City College. In the '60s, he started his own Musette label, as well as GME (Groves Music Enterprises) Records, with both based in the Groves' home at 4675 Logan Avenue, where recording sessions took place in a back room. The 1962 track featured on *Look Out*, "Bucket

section doing choreographed stage moves. Known mostly for their single "Ooh Poo Pah Doo," they released several other 45s on small labels like Prelude Records, including their own songs like "Icky Poo," "Last Summer Day" (considered an early psychedelic gem with spacey sax played by Lew Fay), and the 1963 track featured on *Look Out*, "Let's Do the Freeze."

Lew Fay (a 1959 Lincoln High grad) recently released his own CD, a concert recording of the Nomads' 1998 Old Mission Bay Athletic Club Coming Out Party, mostly featuring vintage covers alongside four original Nomad songs.

Nomads horn player Doug Meyers later left the band and joined the Accents, soon to become Sandi and the Accents, a group without which no San Diego musical overview would be complete. Fronted by former Valiants vocalist Sandi Rouse, the band traveled to a top L.A. studio to record their

Singles such as "What Do You Want to Do" and "On the Run" charted among the top 20 singles in Southern California. The compilation includes their 1964 track "Tell Me."

The Orfuns played garage punk in the mid-'60s, with original songs inspired by the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. The South Bay-based members were between 16 and 18 when they signed a management deal with Chula Vista's Patty Doig label, with early performances at the Catamaran and the San Diego Teenage Fair, as well as the Chula Vista High Howdy Dance (where guitarist Skip Rudolph was still a student at the time). They recorded the first of at least four demos in L.A. for Liberty Records in 1965 and scored an option contract with L.A.'s White Whale Records. However, the demos were rejected, their contract option dropped, and the band split in 1967 with only one single to their name, "Getting'

It On" b/w "Put You Down." The compilation includes their recently rediscovered unreleased single "The Animal In Me" (1965).

Look Out! The San Diego Scene 1958-1973 features tracks from Gene Lamarr & His Blue Flames, the Imperialites, Joel Scott Hill & the Invaders, the Lyrics, the Inmates, the Survivors, the Cascades, the Outcasts, the Contrasts, Five # Grin, the Brain

Police, Glory, Jamul, and the original Misfits, who opened for the Rolling Stones at Balboa Park Bowl in November 1964.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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



Andy Rasmussen describes the effort to compile a 33-song collection of San Diego music as "a true labor of love."

O' Blood" is one of Groves' partly spoken-word songs, which many credit as one of the earliest rap efforts.

The Nomads began as a late '50s/early '60s doo-wop and dance band playing every summer Wednesday night at the La Mesa Youth Center, featuring multiple singers and a full horn

first single, "Better Watch Out Boy," which climbed to the top 10 in San Diego and top 20 in L.A. and a other major cities. They followed with "I've Got Better Things To Do" in 1964,

written for Accents by the team of PF Sloan and Steve Barri, the composers of "Eve of Destruction" and "Secret Agent Man."

LOCAL *five*

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

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MANUOK

Pronounced “man-you-okay,” Manuok is essentially the one-man-band project of Scottish-born Scott Mercado of Via Satellite and Lost Pets. Mercado toured as a member of the Black Heart Procession, but did not formally join that group, and he’s also performed with The Album Leaf and Tristeza. When Via Satellite’s singer and drummer joined The Album Leaf, Mercado started Manuok to keep busy (along with forming Mr. Tube and the Flying Objects). While touring as Manuok, he’s usually accompanied by backup players. A new single just dropped, “If I Could

Dance.” “I’m always working on new music,” he says. “That’s both good and bad, as I have a lot of unreleased material that’s weighing on me. I often joke that every song is a new mouth to feed. ‘If I Could Dance’ was written and recorded during this lockdown, and I just felt like releasing it as is, right now, alone. The song is about the struggle to keep it together, to make things work when everything internally and externally seems to be fighting against you. It just seems like there might be some people out there who can relate to that feeling right now.”



SIMEON FLICK

Named after an Indian boy that his father treated at a domestic psych ward during the Vietnam War, Simeon Flick writes folksy, jazzy, alternative, R&B, alt-country, and pop-rock music. He has a bachelor’s degree in classical guitar performance from the University of Redlands, and he also took a master guitar class from Segovia protege Christopher Parkening. Flick has two different album releases this year, one just out this week and the other due next month. The first, *Scarlatti’s Greatest Hits For Classical Guitar*, tackles the work of Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757), an Italian Baroque composer known mainly for his keyboard

sonatas, which helped revolutionize the harpsichord. Recorded at Flick’s own Blue Chair Studio, the album features twelve self-produced, transcribed, performed, recorded, and mastered arrangements of Scarlatti keyboard sonatas for classical guitar. The second release, *Gung Ho Hum*, is an alternative R&B pop rock project due November 17. Tracked at Blue Chair, the album was written, produced, performed, and recorded by Flick, who describes it as “A groove-based dance party album of alternative R&B protest songs and raps with topical, poignant, poetic, erudite lyrics delivered in a soulful vintage tenor.”



ABNER

Based in Imperial Beach, Abner features guitarist Adam Baez, who was still a teen when recruited for the band Fuzz-Huzzi. When that group splintered in late 2012, Baez at first joined with several other ex-members to form Freak the Mighty. In 2014, he was studying Recording Arts at Mira Costa College in Oceanside when he became friends with bass player Ian Blaemire and drummer Kyle Hansen. Baez used his resources at Mira Costa to record demos of the songs he had written, now accompanied by a bassist and drummer, launching Abner the band in spring 2015. After performing

their first show in February 2016 at Lestat’s, Abner entered Kings Ransom Studios in Lakeside to record their debut three song EP, which dropped later that year. “Abner has been in the studio and will be releasing a music video soon; we’re one of the many bands getting material together during the pandemic,” says Baez. The video for “Amore I” is a bass-heavy, disco-colored 8-track flashback that approaches a goth sound, with low Sisters Of Mercy-style vocals. The band is seen miming the track in colorful but moodily lit shots that bring to mind vintage Cure and Joy Division videos.



JIM RYAN PROJECT

Though only extant for a few years in the late ‘70s, the Cardiac Kidz were an influential punk band whose vinyl records now fetch big money among garage and punk rock collectors. One of their earliest TV appearances was on the San Diego morning show *Sun Up San Diego* with host Jerry Bishop, aka the original Svengoolie. Singer/guitarist Jim Ryan says they were playing every week at long-gone venues such as the Spirit, the Skeleton Club, the North Park Lions Club, the Roxy Theater in PB., and SDSU’s Backdoor. The Kidz have reunited several times, with various rosters, while the Jim Ryan Project was formed in 2012. His upcoming 14-track JRP album *Sampler* is

due from local Blindspot Records at the end of October, featuring a cover photo of Ryan standing and performing on guitar for a seated dog who seems inordinately interested in whatever he’s playing. “The CD will include never-released remakes of a few Cardiac Kidz tracks,” says Ryan, “along with instrumentals, indie pop, and also some acoustic tracks, a sampling from past and current works.” The recordings are from the JRP vault, some over 30 years old and others recorded this year. Guests include David George (who played in Eddie Vedder’s San Diego band Bad Radio), as well as occasional Cardiac Kidz Bill Lubbers and Tom Roach.



NICEY NICE WORLD

Specializing in experimental improv rock, the current incarnation of Nicey Nice World features founders Marcelo Radulovich (Playground Slap, Me Me the Moth) and James Call (the Penetrators, Sensational Big M.R.), backed by frequent collaborators including bassist Barney Firks (Taz Taylor Band, OjoMalo) and drummer Dylan Lee Brown (Vaginals, Chinese Rocks), who also happens to be the son of Alan Brown of the Bed Breakers and the Eleven Sons. Among the band’s unusual instruments are a hurdy gurdy, as made famous by sixties folk icon Donovan in “Hurdy Gurdy Man,” and an electronic Theremin, popular in

science fiction film soundtracks. The new Nicey Nice world album *Obelisks and Asterisks* features, according to Radulovich, “Eight new songs born from improvisations recorded in 2015. Prog-rock, poetry, psychedelic funk, noise, history lessons, chaotic sonic expression, old and young, sad and happy, funky, sloppy and spastic, I’m really happy with how this mess turned out.” Band co-founder James Call also hosts the online Anchor FM show *Punk Lives*, where he chats with musicians, fans, and artists for whom punk was, and continues to be, a defining feature in their lives.

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Friday, 8 p.m. — Concerts In Your Car: Chris Janson.
Saturday, 8 p.m. — Concerts In Your Car: Slightly Stoopid.

Off Broadway Live:

Thursday, 6 p.m., Friday, 6 p.m. — Encore Tribute: America & Bread.

Online Internet Events:

Wednesday, 6 p.m., Thursday, 6 p.m. — Suzanne Vega Live From the Blue Note Jazz Club.
Thursday, 6:30 p.m. — Lydia Loveless. \$10-\$25.
Friday, noon — The Welcome Back Virtual Festival.
Friday, 4 p.m. — Ad Infinitum Virtual Concert Stream.
Friday, 4 p.m. — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom.
Friday, 6 p.m. — Belly Up Livestream: Atomic Groove.
Saturday, noon — The Welcome Back Virtual Festival.
Saturday, 4 p.m. — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom.
Saturday, 4 p.m. — ProgStock Virtual Festival.
Saturday, 6 p.m. — Cold War Kids Virtual Tour.
Sunday, 4 a.m. — Voyager Online Concert.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — The Welcome Back Virtual Festival.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — OutMusik Fest. Free.
Sunday, 2 p.m. — Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free.
Sunday, 4 p.m. — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom.
Sunday, 4 p.m. — ProgStock Virtual Festival.
Sunday, 4:30 p.m. — Allison Adams Tucker.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Rare chance for live classical music

Mainly Mozart is putting on a full-scale orchestra-based festival from October 17 - 24 and you can attend it live, no streaming required. The concerts will be staged in a drive-up format at the Del Mar Fairgrounds.

When I think of an outdoor orchestral concert, I picture a summer pops concert. But this is straight-up classical fare. For instance, the first concert includes Vivaldi's evergreen masterpiece, *The Four Seasons*.

The next classical concert, on Tuesday, October 20, has Prokofiev's *Symphony No. 1 Classical*, Mozart's *Horn Concerto No. 3*, and Beethoven's *Symphony No. 8*. A few years back, the festival orchestra turned in a performance of Prokofiev's *Classical Symphony* that I deemed to be unsurpassable. Still, I'll be keen to hear it again.

Later that week, Mozart's *Symphony No. 41: Jupiter* and Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5: Emperor* come together on Thursday, October 22. It doesn't get any more classical than that.

The final concert, Saturday, October 24, has Salieri, Mozart, and Mendelssohn. I've never heard a live performance of any of Salieri's music. The Mozart is his famous *Sinfonia Concertante* and Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 4: Italian* concludes the festival.

The orchestral players will all be tested for covid prior to rehearsals starting. I spoke with Jun Iwasaki, who is the concertmaster of the Nashville Symphony and principal second violin for Mainly Mozart. Iwasaki thinks the orchestra's ability to listen to each other will be the main challenge in these concerts.

Iwasaki explained that normally, the



Jun Iwasaki, concertmaster of the Nashville Symphony, thinks the orchestra's ability to listen to each other will be the main challenge.

orchestra is packed in close together. One of the reasons for this is that it allows the orchestra members to listen to each other. A covid-era orchestra will be an entirely different experience for the players.

"I think it will be very interesting having everyone on their own stands, socially distanced, and outside. I look forward to the challenge, because I know all these musicians are going to overcome it. We can still do this."

Speaking of the orchestra, the roster is loaded with top players from across the country. The concertmasters of the LA Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, Metropolitan Opera, Atlanta Symphony, Nashville Symphony, San Diego Symphony, Florida Orchestra, Sarasota Orchestra, Phoenix Symphony, and St. Paul Chamber Orchestra will all be playing in the violin section.

Members of the Boston Symphony, San Francisco Symphony, and others will fill out the rest of the orchestra. This is a best-of-the-best orchestra, and it is performing *live*.

Tickets for the festival start at \$45 per car. Find more information at the Mainly Mozart website.

UPCOMING SHOWS

The Casbah:

October 23 — Diet Cig

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

October 16 — Concerts In Your Car: Third Eye Blind

The Estate:

October 17 — The Original Starfires Album Release

Lux Art Institute:

October 16 — Lux After Dark: A New Territory

The Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

October 16 — Wardruna

Off Broadway Live:

October 16, October 17, October 23, October 24, October 25 — Encore Tribute: Frankie Valli

Open Air Theatre:

October 15 — Maren Morris
October 16 — Juanes

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Gloria be

It's been a good summer at the movies for biopics of second-wave feminists. Helen Reddy passed away late last month, but not before *I Am Woman* introduced her to a new generation. We end the season with *The Glorias*, an epic journey on the road with a generation's spokeswoman for the American feminist movement: Gloria Steinem.

True to *My Life on the Road*, the 2015 autobiography that director Julie Taymor uses

MOVIES

for inspiration, a good portion of the film takes place in Greyhounds and train cars, their wheels a rolling throughline linking past with present. It's not uncommon to find two performers cast as the same character at various stages of life; here, the plurality of the title refers to the quartet (Ryan Kiera Armstrong, Lulu Wilson, Alicia Vikander, and Julianne Moore) engaged to play the author, activist, and co-founder of *Ms.* magazine. This may sound a tad excessive, until one recalls the six varieties of Bob Dylan on hand to shore up *I'm Not There*, seven James Bonds at Casino Royale, and eight actors to personify Aviva in *Palindromes*. The four variations frequently cross paths with Taymor, offering the character the unique ability to literally question her past and future. Then there's that chilling shift in tone when a thirtysomething Gloria (played by 9-year-old Armstrong) is trapped in the backseat of a car surrounded by anti-abortion protesters chanting "baby killer."

Taymor's directorial sleight-of-hand is so gracefully executed that it helps to take one's mind off the occasional lack of common sense required to justify character behavior. When Ruby Brown (Olivia Jordan), a young African-American passerby, asks why Ms. Steinem (Wilson) is practicing tap-dancing on the concrete sidewalk outside her house, the latter chalks it up to a lack of linoleum. One cut later whisks us inside Olivia's father's barbershop where, much to the delight of the customers, the two girls are dancing up a storm. The staging is electrifying — the camera sashays around mirrored columns with such swooping precision that no matter how hard you watch for it, a camera reflection is nowhere to be found. It's only when the police respond to a frantic missing persons call from Ms. Steinem's mother that one begins to question how they

tracked the young woman to an all-black clipper's.

The infrequent fits of surrealism — those patentable bursts of oversaturated Technicolor phantasma that contributed to the eye-gasmic memorableness of Taymor's *Titus and Frida* — here seem out of place. Cinematographer Rodrigo Prieto (*Babel*, *The Wolf of Wall Street*) is decidedly up for the challenge, but

Ms. Steinem comes off as a person too grounded in principles to fan fumes of fancy. We end in the back of the bus; a long slow pullback reveals the quartet of *Glorias* mixing with other cast members as they all appear to enjoy a rolling wrap party. The shot ends on Ms. Steinem who, instead of occupying the front seat, should have been at the wheel. ★★★

—Scott Marks

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

The Curse of Audrey Earnshaw — We begin in 1956, 83 years after families from the Church of Ireland found a home for themselves in North America. The pious villagers live in poverty, save for Agatha Earnshaw (Catherine Walker), the one prosperous landowner of the lot. (Is that Agatha's signature scrawled across the bottom of a devil's pact?) Since birth, she has kept her bewitching 17-year-old daughter Audrey (Jessica Reynolds) a secret, fearing the male predator who might one day make off with her. Through the cracks of the wooden box used to transport the young woman, Audrey spies an altercation between mom and one of the community's more hostile menfolk. Realizing just how weak Agatha is when it comes to safeguarding the nest egg, telepathic temptress Audrey kicks out the crummy slats out of her crate and emerges as The Daughter Who Would Not Take It Anymore. For his second feature, writer-director Thomas Robert Lee emphasizes style over gore; the more left to the viewer's mind, the better. The production design and cast of relatively unfamiliar faces provide the atmospheric immediacy needed to juice the tension. But while the setup is sublime, the open-ended resolution comes as a bit of a head scratcher; don't expect an explicative ribbon to braid the loose ends. If none of the above-mentioned makes sense, think *Bad Boy Bubby* meets *Cries and Whispers*, with more coughed-up blood than a caboodle of



The Glorias: Alicia Vikander, Lulu Wilson, Ryan Kiera Armstrong, and Julianne Moore.

Doc Holiday's used handkerchiefs. 2020 — S.M. ★★★

Lost Girls & Love Hotels — The talented Alexandra Daddario has tried her hand at roles in genre pictures — the replacement squeeze in Joe Dante's singular misfire *Burying the Ex*, The Rock's daughter in *San Andreas*, outrageously miscast as the (relatively speaking) "plain Jane" in *Baywatch*, and the one bright ray in the otherwise dim *We Summon the Darkness* — but nothing, save those placidly clear baby blues, seems to stick in viewers' minds. *Lost Girls & Love Hotels* is a Japan-set variation on *Looking for Mr. Goodbar*. By day, Margaret (Daddario) teaches proper American pronunciation to budding flight attendants. By night, she's a sub, her sights set on searching the sidewalks and subways for a dom to escort to the titular chain of mini-brothels known for luxurious rooms that rent by the hour. "You remind me of me," her sympathetic boss Mari (Mariko Tsutsui) confesses after enduring weeks of Margaret's chronic tardiness and frequently disheveled classroom demeanor. Their brief scenes together stand out amidst the formulaic encounters between Margaret and the soon-to-be wed yakuza (Takehiro Hira) she falls for. Daddario is fine, but even she can't summon the inner grease-monkey needed to stop the plot from constantly stalling. William Olsson directs. 2020 — S.M. ★

LX 2048 — His doctor assures Adam (James D'Arcy) that he's not dying, at least not yet, although his ticker does appear to be on the fritz. Looking to ensure a bright future for his family, Adam prepares to get his affairs in order. If this dystopian portrait of the future looks particularly dim, blame the sun and

the enormous toxicity levels that force people to spend their days indoors. With his wife and children hooked on virtual reality, isolated Adam begins a v-world affair of his own. (Better one's hand than a sex doll that resembles a hobby horse with a blonde Khloe Kardashian ponytail.) Chalk up the film's sluggish start to budgetary limitations;

this slow-burning satire keeps percolating as it progresses, leading to a droll third act payoff. Writer-director Guy Moshe's portrait of a society coming together to conform to a new definition of the real world is notably prescient, given our current state of humankind. With: Delroy Lindo as the father of cloning. 2020 — S.M. ★★★

MOVIES@HOME

Hitchcock-tober returns to the Angelika Film Center this month with five of the Master's finest. Here are a few words on *Rear Window*, aka arguably the most entertaining movie ever made. For more, visit us online and see if you can help answer a question about *Vertigo*.



Rear Window: Evidence or marriage offer? One shot says it all in Alfred Hitchcock's unstopably heart-stopping masterwork.

REAR WINDOW (1954)

The rights to Cornell Woolrich's short story "Murder from a Fixed Viewpoint" were purchased by Hitch and James Stewart in 1953 and transformed into *Rear Window*. Their wise investment yielded an entertainment bonanza, with the most compact and rewatchable picture in Hitchcock's canon. "Confined spaces" pictures are not uncommon — Andrzej Wajda's ten-

one-set masterwork. The entire film takes place inside Stewart's apartment and, with the exception of a couple of shots towards the end, exclusively from Stewart's POV. Just imagine that every window in the courtyard — Hal Pereira's set alone demands the big screen treatment — is a movie screen, and you'll begin to understand the voyeuristic delights contained within.

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

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PERSONALS

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION- FAITH "For by (God's) grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast." CMR

HANDSOME COWBOY smiles fill my days, heavy sighs and blissful nights. Happy birthday you wonderful man! Mister Martin.

HAPPY 16TH ANNIVERSARY to my handsome love of a man B.S.Jensen. Loved then love now the future is held tight with hearts beating strong. GBKJP

I JUST WANT TO GIVE A SHOUTOUT to Daniel Woodsand. I would also like to know something myself. Do u love me?

TO MY POOH BEAR Hang in there my love times will get better soon! I promise. I love you to infinity and way beyond for life. Your Hubby

COVID 19 Wear no mask you may end up in a flask/ Stay your

distance, or lose your existence/ Hand wash or its your loss/ Stay healthy you will become wealthy.

WE HAVE FAILED Fighting the virus just doing 3 simple things; most countries in Asia have succeeded. Now under control, but we with our superior complex, no. We're just plain stupid; before anyone enters a building they should have a temperature check. Easy.



LAKE MIRAMAR We passed each other twice today while we were running. I remember a few things about you: an orange collar and the cutest smile. Hope you see this! Let's chat

ELISSA L Hope you have a good and healthy year to come. Brian B.

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION- JESUS "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ (Jesus) died for us" & "that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

GOOD LUCK IN 2020 to president Trump.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to Jamie Lee and Traci Sloan from your friends Cindy and John, we love you.

MERNIE Start the car. Hope all is well. Brian B.

RFK BUNG OR CORN... It's all holo. The games were almost as grueling as the pushup penance. Sunday was another testament to passing along aged wisdom to the youngsters, only lacking a 'pretty hair' comment from Brian. Looking forward to November, Hibachi?

FELIZ CUMPLEANOS, HERMOSA Te deseo lo mejor hoy, manana, y siempre. No encuentro las palabras perfectas para decirte lo mucho que me importas y lo mucho que te quiero. Solo se que fuiste amor a primera vista, eres, y lo sera siempre. Muahh! Samy and Doobie also love you.

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countries and governments going broke around the world- the new world order.

GINSBURG- WHO SHE WAS Not what the media said. She held on to her bench for one reason only- did not want Trump to name her replacement. She hoped to stay on this earth until after the election. She made known her dislike of him so it was political, not acting in justice.

JT PRODUCTIONS YOUTUBE "10 pm", "chasing the dope dragon", "mambo de momento", "not here for you", "here comes the sun", "perro gigante". (619) 528-0907

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DOG GROOMER NEEDED Our small salon in Escondido is looking for an experienced dog groomer to join our team, part time. The salon has been owned by Estela for over 25 years and has many long standing clients. Experience is required. We'd love for you to join our team. carlimurillo1@gmail.com

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Awesome!

— Florida real estate agent Kristen Kearney was inundated with interest in a condo she listed in Lake Worth after photos of the \$100,000 property and its Budweiser beer can decor went viral. The former owner, now deceased, made it "his life's mission to wallpaper his home in beer cans, and he did it," Kearney said. "He even created a crown molding look with the cans." United Press International reported every wall and ceiling in the condo is covered with actual beer cans, except the bathroom. Kearney said the property is under contract with a backup offer.

The Passing Parade

— Windermere, Florida, fifth-grader Ian Golba, 11, visited the principal's office on Sept. 15 after his teacher asked him to remove his Hooters face mask. "She said it was not appropriate for school and I asked her why and she said if you really want to know why go ask the principal," Ian told WESH. The principal at Sunset Park Elementary School backed up the teacher, asking Ian three times to remove the mask, which he did. But Greg Golba, Ian's dad, wants to know what the problem was. "I don't think it's offensive at all. It's just a restaurant," Greg said.

Fashion of the Times

— In response to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, French fashion house Louis Vuitton announced it will release a protective visor Oct. 30 in its stores worldwide that

Vogue reports is "the most luxurious take on a plastic face shield that we've seen to date." The LV Shield is trimmed with the designer's signature monogram and gold studs engraved with the company's logo. It doubles as a sun visor, changing from clear to tinted when exposed to sunlight, and also can be flipped up and worn as more of a cap. Although a price for the shield has not been set, Vogue estimates it to be somewhere between the cost of a typical Vuitton hat, \$700, and sunglasses, \$800.

Bright Idea

— A commuter boarded a bus between Swinton and Manchester, England, on Sept. 14 sporting what one fellow passenger thought was a "funky mask" until it started to move. The face mask turned out to be a live snake, wrapped around the man's neck and over his nose and mouth, the BBC reported. Another passenger took photos and posted them on Twitter, commenting "each to their own and all that." "No one batted an eyelid," another rider said. Transport for Greater Manchester, however, said in a statement that "snakeskin -- especially when still attached to the snake" is not suitable for masks.

Duuuude

— Colin Sullivan, who grows cannabis plants outside his home in New Brunswick, Canada, caught a little thief in his garden on Sept. 8, the *Daily Mail* reported. Sullivan took four photos of a mouse nibbling on the stems of the plants -- then found the

little rodent passed out in a pile of leaves. "He's missing an ear so it may be self-medication for his PTSD but I still think it's time for an intervention," Sullivan posted on Facebook. Sullivan re-homed the mouse to a cage, where he was weaned to just one medium leaf per day. "It's been a couple of rough days for our little baked buddy here and despite a belly ache and a wicked bad case of the munchies I think he'll make a full recovery," Sullivan wrote.

Bright Ideas

— Conducting choir practice indoors was out of the question for Mark Potvin, instructor of music at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, given the school's COVID-19 protocols, and finding a space outside posed a challenge until, "I was driving past the city pool," Potvin told KCRG, and "noticed they were draining the pool." Officials at Decorah Park and Rec gave their blessing, and now choir members rehearse while standing in the empty pool, socially distanced and masked. Luther College has five choirs and one of the nation's largest collegiate music programs.

Ewwwww

— Doctors at a hospital in Dagestan, Russia, were shocked to discover the source of a woman's stomach distress was a 4-foot-long snake that had apparently slithered into her mouth as she slept outside her home in Levashi village. In a video of the procedure, a doctor is heard to say, "Let's see what this is," *Yahoo News Australia* re-

ported, as a tube is inserted down the anesthetized woman's throat. Local residents say such incidents are not unheard of in the mountainous area.

Overreaction

— A 34-year-old Wichita, Kansas, man died after a disagreement over leftover barbecue beans escalated, KWCH reported. On Aug. 2, Ryan Speight returned to the home he shared with his uncle, David Staley, 57, and went to the kitchen, where Staley questioned him about eating the beans, according to an arrest affidavit. Staley told police Speight became upset, pushing and punching Staley, who, in response, picked up a knife from the counter and "jabbed Ryan one time in the chest." Staley was charged with voluntary manslaughter.

Chutzpah

— Daniel Albert Neja, 39, is a homeless man who resides in St. Petersburg, Florida. For nearly two weeks, however, Neja lived in relative luxury, the *Tampa Bay Times* reported. Neja was arrested on Aug. 9 after a cleaning crew found razors, shaving cream containers and blankets in a seldom-cleaned suite at Al Lang Stadium, where the Tampa Bay Rowdies soccer team plays. Neja had been helping himself to food and Rowdies clothing valued at more than \$1,000. He had also consumed \$250 worth of drinks.

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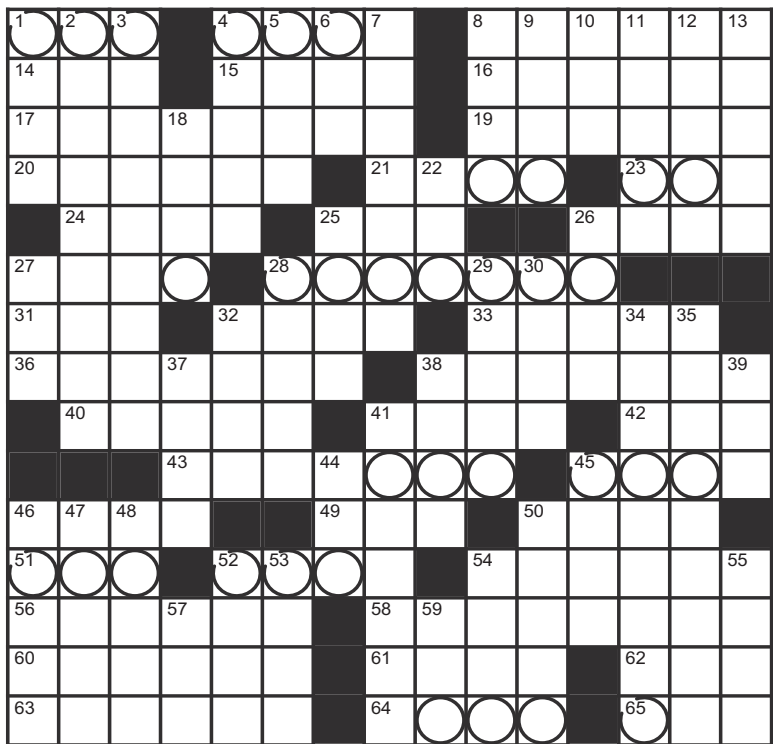
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Across

1. "A good bowl of ____ will always make me happy": Anthony Bourdain
4. Clark Kent's father, in 1950s TV
8. Plate appearances
14. Dinghy thingy
15. "Join us!"
16. Whack-a-mole implement
17. Grab hold of
19. Unlike a couch potato
20. In olden times
21. Scary St. Bernard of fiction
23. Pupil's place
24. Per person
25. Turndowns
26. Scott Turow memoir about law school
27. Civil rights org. formed after the Montgomery bus boycott
28. Comedian who wrote the book "Are You There, Vodka? It's Me, Chelsea"
31. Roth ____ (investment)
32. Many corp. hirees have them
33. Shout of pain
36. With 38-Across, how some secrets are kept ... or how this puzzle's circled letters are divided
38. See 36-Across
40. Asian antelope seen on the "Grasslands" episode of BBC's "Planet Earth"
41. Sacagawea dollar, e.g.
42. Toll
43. Southeast Florida city

Down

1. ____ stick
2. They're 21,780 square feet
3. Only U.S. state motto in Spanish
4. Villainous conglomerate on "Mr. Robot"
5. Paleontologist's find
6. CPR pro
7. People who've moved from left to right
8. Key of Mozart's clarinet concerto: Abbr.
9. Chipotle order
10. Diner order
11. Otherworldly
12. "If I Were a Rich Man" singer

13. Gird (oneself)

18. Acronym for a class taught over the Internet
22. Amer. currency
25. Bread served with saag aloo weekend: Abbr.
26. "... ____ can do it the hard way"
27. Bro or sis
28. Letter-shaped girder
29. Song snippet
30. Irish-born children's book author Colfer
32. Huge opening?
34. Weakens
35. Flower in a "Sound of Music" song title
37. Something to keep about you
38. Fire extinguisher output
39. Mo. with Talk Like a Pirate Day
41. Straining to see
44. Lawyers' org.
45. News anchor Lester
46. Using WhatsApp, say
47. Lady Montague's son
48. Work, as dough
50. Olympic pool divisions
52. What may come to mind
53. Ace or deuce
54. "Hello ____" (cellphone ad catchphrase)
55. 12-time Grammy winner Winans
57. 4G ____ (standard for mobile devices)
59. ____ es Salaam

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

RULES OF THE GAME

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

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

Paula Henderson, La Jolla, 6.

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:

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

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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

Carolyn Grandall, Lakeside, 1.

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

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

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3 400MG **\$75**

Moonrocks
7G **\$80**

MoonRocks
Pre Rolls
10 for **\$120**



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Refer
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**10%
OFF**

Dime Carts
2 for **\$110**

Future 2020 Carts
2 for **\$110**

Moonrocks Carts
3 for **\$99**

3 Standrd
1000mg **\$99**

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Gram of Your Choice!

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Hours 10am-10pm

Must Show Ad for Discounts

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Free Delivery Throughout San Diego w/minimum donation

Ounce
Specials
**\$60 to
\$300**

10% Off
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\$100
Cannot combine w/
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6 for \$99
All **\$20**
Shatter
Crumble

5 for \$99
Brass Knuckles,
Heavy Hitters,
King Pen, Dank,
Pure One, Raw
Garden, Moonrock,
Cookies

Buy 3
Cartridges
Get 1
FREE

8g
Shatter/
Crumble
for **\$99**

Kushy Punch
**11 for
\$99**

5g
Moonrocks
for **\$50**

10g
Exotic
\$99

12g
Exclusive
\$99

14g
Private
Reserve
\$60

\$20 Off
28g
Exclusive
Exotic

\$15 Off
28g
Private
Reserve

Lights
Pre-roll
8 for \$50

10 Moonrock
Pre-rolls
\$99

Buy 3
Edibles,
Get 1
FREE

1000mg
Chips/
Brownie
3 for \$60

Lemonade
125mg
2 for \$25

FTP Get
FREE
Gram/Edible/
Pre-roll

Refer
a Friend,
Get a Gram/
Edible/
Pre-roll



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BABYLONS GARDEN CRUMBLE \$ HASH
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DANK WOODS BLUNTS \$25 EA!

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7G/\$70
14G/\$140
28G/\$275

PRIVATE RESERVE SHELF
3.5G/\$25
7G/\$50
14G/\$90
28G/\$180
20Z/\$325

TOP SHELF
5G/\$25
10G/\$50
14G/\$70
28G/\$140
20Z/\$260
40Z/\$500

BUDGET SHELF
7G/\$35
14G/\$60
28G/\$99
20Z/\$180
40Z/\$350

STONER PATCH \$10 EA.

BUY 5 GET ONE FREE

HONEY STICKS 25MG \$5
G-2 MEDICATED DRINKS \$15

SELECT VAPE CARTRIDGE SALE
5G/\$90!

\$50!

FIRST TIME PATIENTS RECEIVE FREE 1/8th! (MUST MENTION AD)

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Valid for patients with \$120 min. donation OR if you refer a friend! Must mention ad.

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5 EXCLUSIVE INDOOR PRE-ROLLS \$25

STIIIZY \$20

EARTH DEMON \$35 /OZ

HEAVY HITTERS 2 FOR \$45

MOONROCK CARTS 2 FOR \$45

\$30 1/8THS (3.5 grams of flower)

BRASS MONKEY SHATTER 5G \$75

CARTS 3 FOR \$50 (Mix & Match several options)

CRUMBLE 3G \$40

PRIVATE RESERVE \$100 /OZ

TOP SHELF \$35 /OZ

KIEF 2G \$10

GUMMIES 5 FOR \$35 (500mg)

GOLD SHATTER \$15

EXCLUSIVE INDOOR SHAKE \$50 /OZ

TOP SHELF SHAKE \$25 /OZ

KushyPunch (100mg) 5 FOR \$50

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

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

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

\$10 OFF ALL OUNCES!
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Must mention ad.

BLACKOUT PRE-ROLLS 2 FOR \$15

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

KushyPunch WAX SPECIALS

4 for \$45

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

BUY 3 VOLCANIC PRODUCTS, GET 1 FREE!
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* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 11-9-20 ** No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anesthesia may still be required. ***Not all patients qualify for same day implants. Questions can not be answered over phone. Implant consult appointment is required. CT x-ray and bone graft not included.



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