### The most hardcore Christmas hipster of all time

Wall of wine ■ Death by slipper ■ 3000-square-foot beer garden

# S A N VOL. 45 | NO. 49 | DECEMBER, 3, 2020

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More in the back of this issue

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#### **LETTERS**

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

#### Democracy disappeared

Other than the foolish youth not understanding where socialism will lead their enthusiasm, many in our local communities are familiar with, and even accustomed to having fraudulent elections that continue until the "counting comes out right" and the new president is a wellknown crime family figure ("Brunch becomes a celebration at Cocina de Barrio," Feast! Restaurant Reviews, November 9). Of course, in our case, the "new president had been announced", although the electors don't vote until December 8th, and the presumed election leader may then be inaugurated (but not elected). I once lived with my family in South America at a time just like this, and the smart thing everyone told you was to not talk in public, but merrily cheer the new leadership lest you lose your job, have vour business burned to the ground, or even have family members "disappear" into the dark night. If that's cheering on "democracy", well, as one who has seen this version first-hand, I can assure you, the residents are certainly going to get a belly full.

> Name withheld Poway

### Why did Bentley chase Cafferty down the road?

As a 55-year member of the working press, my critical eye noted some major issues with ("Emmanuel Cafferty is not a white supremtist, Cover story, November 26). 1. Did the writer or anyone else at the the *San Diego Reader* see the David

Bentley grab shot? If yes, it should have accompanied the story. If no, you're taking someone else's word, including the offended Cafferty. 2. Did Cafferty simply pass by the protest group or did he stop? If he didn't stop, Bentley would have been hard pressed to get his shot. 3. Why did Bentley chase Cafferty down the road if he already had an incriminating photo? 4. Why did SDG&E take Cafferty's truck, laptop and badge before interviewing him? 5. Why didn't the writer try to interview SDG&E or the holier-than-thou David Bentley about his post or his later disavowal? 6. The writer included many extraneous details (U-turn to get lunch, etc. etc.).

Let's hope you follow up with the outcome of this drama.

Dale Rodebaugh Kensington

#### Many points about Todd

I'm writing in chime in response to two *Reader* letters section entries, September 24 and October 29, 2020. Two separate letters editorially headlined "goading Gloria", about one of two "Democratic" applicants for continued on page 4



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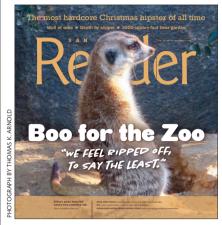
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## Reader

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December 3, 2020



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## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

NATIONAL CITY

#### **Societal ills**

#### Covid crisis contributes to crime

A mid-year crime report for National City included a new type of service call: since March, about 225 calls to police have been made under a new code for things like neighbors not wearing face masks and gatherings without social distancing. Police Chief Jose Tellez presented the numbers to the National City Community and Police Relations Commission on November 19, and said that there has been a lot of curiosity about the new category. "Many of these are related to gatherings, questions about masks, or reporting people not wearing masks or going into essential businesses not wearing a mask." An initial surge of such calls was followed by a slowdown that didn't last. In March, 44 calls. In April, 110. Then it dropped from 61 calls in



The long arm of the law, pointing the finger at the Great Unwashed. Er, unmasked.

assaults, which don't result in serious injury, and aggravated assaults in their numbers. Both were up. SANDAG doesn't count simple assaults in its calculations, Tellez said.

Even without them, the analysis for the entire region shows that domestic violence reports over the six-month period were 3 percent higher in 2020 than in 2019. "Domestic violence is a big concern on an ongoing basis; moreso now with covid." It's one of the city's top three crimes, he said. Calls are sorted into nine categories such as verbal, violent, and urgent welfare checks. Of these, a few went down, while domestic dispute reports jumped from two last year to 13 in 2020 — a 550 percent increase. "We were drastically higher each of the first six months compared

counselors, "and because children are not in school, we actually believe this number is higher," he said. "And if you connect these numbers to the domestic violence numbers, there is a likelihood that this number is really under-reported right now. We may not know the actual number of child abuse cases until children go back to school."

HEILA PEL

start in January, but it is almost December and they haven't sent [my ex-partner] any court notification about my lawsuit. And because I don't have custody of the children, he can take the kids, as he did once," she adds. The last time that happened, the father took the two kids to Mexico City for 20 days without her consent. When she went to report their disappearance to the general prosecutor's office, they told her there was no felony to pursue because her ex-partner was still the legal father. "I had it to go and get them in Mexico City," she said. "I looked for help with social services and with the prosecutor's office and they just opened a search archive but they did nothing, so I went by myself."

I found an elderly landlord who anonymously told me about his case. He is trying to evict the tenants renting his home — they have turned it into a rehab center and are now trying to keep the house. When he realized this, he sued them for breach of contract, but the lawsuit hasn't been pro-

"Domestic violence is a big concern on an ongoing basis; moreso now with covid." It's one of the city's top three crimes, he said.

May to only 10 in June. "But since June we're averaging about 33 calls per month."

That's not the only way the lockdown has changed the crime numbers this year. Police Chief Jose Tellez, starting with calls for service. When a call comes in, a dispatcher places it into a category of priority, setting the clock for a response. "We're pretty busy," he said. Especially compared to last year. Adding up all calls in 2019, from low to high priority, there were almost 28,000. In just six months of 2020, there have been 29,000 calls, and by the end of the calendar year, there will likely be 16,000 more —and each one requires an officer to respond or make contact with the caller.

Violent crimes — homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault — and property crimes make up most of the information collected by SANDAG in their mid-year report for the region. According to the agency's population-based formula, National City's violent crime rate was slightly lower this year than in 2019. But National City police received 24 more violent crime calls this year than last, an increase partly due to domestic violence, Tellez said. The city includes both simple

to last year," Tellez said. There were 339 actual cases in 2020 compared to 231 the year before. Authorities believe, anecdotally, that the pandemic is behind the changes. There's been a lot of stress on families. More people are staying home, people have lost jobs, and there's concern about children being out of school, trying to learn via virtual instruction.

One bonus to being housebound has been a drop in home burglaries. But the pandemic still cast shadows. As more businesses sat empty, commercial burglaries went up. Property crime rose six percent.

Then there was the uptick of mental health calls. These, placed in categories like threats or brandishing a weapon, don't always yield a police report. If the person may harm themselves or others, they are taken into protective custody or to a hospital or psychiatric facility. "Month after month, except for May, we've been exceeding our numbers from last year." There were 546 cases this year; 488 last year.

Child abuse was another area commissioners asked about. While the numbers aren't far off from last year, Tellez added a caution. Many of the cases that get reported to police come from teachers, school nurses,



Cleaning up the Tijuana courts takes time.

TIJUANA

#### The trial of no trial Covid clogs courts

On March 17, all civil and family courts in Baja California were closed due to covid-19. Baja California's judicial powers said they lacked money to sanitize their installations, and the high number of covid cases in the state kept courts closed until the government partially opened them on August 3. This has led to a large number of backlogged cases that could take at least a year to start their corresponding judicial process in court.

Shamanta Sesma Valdez finally started with her divorce, child support and custody lawsuit right when courts re-opened, but she was told that she must wait until all cases are heard before hers are solved. "We just know everything is stopped," Shamanta said about her case. "They said my case will

cessed since it was presented in September. His lawyer Ricardo Peñaloza estimates that the trial will not take place until April of next year. "But that doesn't mean it will be solved that year," said Peñaloza. "Being optimistic, if he wins... he'll take back his house in 2022 or even 2023."

Currently courts are working at 50 percent of their capacity. Lawsuits can be presented, but trials are not allowed due to covid-19. Therefore, defendants and plaintiffs cannot present any evidence to the judge, and cases are piling up. In Tijuana alone, every year, up to 3000 lawsuits are registered in each of the 14 civil and family courts. After nine months of no trials, there are around 31,500 cases like these, waiting to be processed into courts of the city.

IVÁN MOLINA continued on page 6

#### Mr. Dirty Birds' sloppy words

Sent to the wrong places, but at least they weren't too small

Stacey Fulhorst, the recently retired executive director of the city's ethics commission, ended her seventeen-year tenure in office with a whimper, in the form of a \$500 settlement with city council candidate Noli Zosa, a well-wired Republican restauranter who runs Dirty Birds. Zosa violated city ethics laws by hitting up a bevy of city hall employees, according to a stipulated agreement reached under Fulhorst's reign

and approved by the ethics commission on November 19. "At all times mentioned herein, Noli Zosa was a candidate for City Council District 7 in the March 2020 primary election, as well as the November 2020 general election," notes the document, which does not name those solicited.

The stipulation says that the Zosa for Council 2020 committee, which made the emailed pitches for money, was controlled by the candidate. "Between May 2019 and October 2019, the Committee sent 164 emails to City employees (at their sandiego. gov email addresses). The emails included invitations to fundraisers (some with minimum or suggested donation amounts), a link to the Committee's online donation page, and/or a link to a printable invitation, including a hard copy donation form," according to the document. "Of the 12 employees who received the emails, two donated to Respondent's campaign."

That Zosa agreed to return the contributions in question and "fully cooperated" with the commission investigation were cited as "Factors in Mitigation." He also agreed "to take necessary and prudent precautions to ensure compliance with all provisions of the **Election Campaign Control Ordinance in the** future." But the stipulation doesn't argue that Zosa was naive about local campaign law. In a hit piece he dispatched in October against Democratic rival Raul Campillo (the ultimate victor in the Seventh District council race), the Zosa campaign advised voters that Campillo "has been nailed for four ethics violations during his City Council campaign."

In January of this year, Campillo agreed in a stipulated agreement with the ethics commission to pay a \$1000 penalty to settle commission charges that printed material produced by his campaign didn't use appropriately sized type font, among other transgressions. "In February of 2019,



Life lesson? Raul Campillo paid twice as much as his opponent Noli Zosa in ethics fines, but he also won the election.

Respondent paid for 500 business cards that were subsequently distributed in support of his candidacy," says the Campillo stipulation. "Although the business cards included the requisite wording, the disclosure was printed in a 2.8-point typeface." Also, "In April of 2019, Respondent ordered 20 campaign signs that were subsequently displayed by volunteers at various events. Although the signs included the requisite wording, the disclosure was printed in a "typeface equal to 0.7% of the sign height. With respect to yard signs, the disclosure must be printed in a contrasting typeface at least 5% of the sign height," and typefaces must be "at least 10 points" in size. Two other counts included similar allegations.

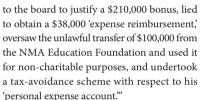
Campillo's campaign fired back at Zosa in text messages citing material obtained under the state public records act in October of last year. Among the documents were emails by the Zosa campaign to officials including Francis Barraza, Senior Director of Community Engagement for Mayor Kevin Faulconer, Michelle Porras, director of the mayor's scheduling, and Patrick Bouteller, Faulconer's Director of Government Relations. "On June 30, I am facing my first big campaign fundraising deadline," says a June 20 electronic missive. "It's very important for campaigns to show financial strength on this day, so I am emailing you to ask if you can help me reach my fundraising goal. Any amount will help — \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, or the maximum \$600 would be truly appreciated. I am excited to keep building momentum so we can win this seat in 2020! Thank vou again from the bottom of my heart!" And September 24 email from Zosa for Council 2020 tells the would-be city hall donors to contact Karolyn Dorsee, a longtime professional fundraiser for Republicans including Donald Trump, Pete Wilson, Faulconer, and the Lincoln Club, "for more information."

Matt Potter

#### UNDER THE RADAR

**Biden's bundlers** San Diego has four names on the **Joe Biden** presidential campaign's list of big-money bundlers, those super-fundraisers who gathered a total of \$100,000 or more in cash contributions from friends and associates and now may expect return favors. "The following individuals have raised at least \$100,000 for our campaign and affiliated joint fundraising committees," says Biden's campaign website over a list including Democratic state senate Pro Tem **Toni Atkins** and **Mark Arabo**.

He's the one-time head of the Neighborhood Market Association who in 2017 was ordered by a judge here to return \$248,000 in disputed bonuses and personal expenses after a bitter fight with association board members. "Arabo treated the NMA, a non-profit mutual benefit corporation, as his own personal bank account," wrote Superior Court Judge Richard E.L. Strauss in an opinion cited by the *Union-Tribune*. "He misused the NMA credit card, lied



Famous for his political fundraising prowess, Arabo was appointed to the California Workforce Development Board by Democratic Governor **Gavin Newsom** in November of last year.

Another local Biden bundler is La Jolla's **Lynn Schenk**, the longtime California politico currently on the board of the controversial effort to

build a bullet train in the Central Valley. Also among the bundlers is La Jollan **David Alberga**, an entrepreneur on the board of drone warfare contractor Citadel Defense Company, and chairman of the board of GovX, "the online shopping site exclusively for current and former military, law enforcement and first responders," says a company news release. According to the release, "Alberga's longest venture was with ACTIVE Network,

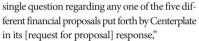
LLC, where he worked as chief executive for 13 years before serving as its executive chairman. Under his leadership, ACTIVE went public before it was acquired in 2014 for \$1 billion."

**Long road home** Jason Cabel Roe, once known as **Kevin Faulconer**'s political brain, who frequently tangled with the Chargers during the mayor's ill-starred efforts to keep the team from taking off for Los Angeles, has himself departed the San Diego scene for

friendlier Midwest hometown climes. "Putting the legal and ethical issues aside for a moment," wrote Chargers special counsel **Mark Fabiani** in a 2015 missive to Faulconer regarding Roe, "what sense does it make to have someone who is your chief advisor on political matters, and who advises a potential stadium vendor on business matters, play any sort of role with the 'independent' Task Force?"

After being Faulconer's key advisor during the 2014 mayoral campaign, Roe opened a lob-

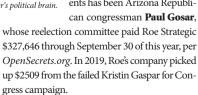
bying shop and in January 2015 became an influence peddler for food and beverage giant Delaware North's effort to win the lucrative catering contract at Qualcomm Stadium, then the home of the Chargers. With Roe's assistance Delaware North wrested the contract away from the incumbent vendor Centerplate, which then cried foul. "As you know, during the 90 minutes allotted to Centerplate for its presentation, not one member of the selection committee asked a



Centerplate chief legal and talent officer **Keith B.W. King** wrote city contracting official **Ronald Villa**. "Further troubling are the recent allegations raised about [Delaware North's] lobbyist and his apparent connection to the Mayor's office." With the subsequent collapse of Faulconer's drive to keep professional football at Qualcomm, the food contract quickly died, and Roe folded his San Diego lobbying operation in June of 2015. The latest address for Roe Strategic, Roe's latest political consulting venture, is in Bloomfield

Hills, Michigan.

A recent financial disclosure statement of incumbent GOP county supervisor **Kristin Gaspar**, badly beaten by Democrat **Terra Lawson-Remer** in last month's election, show Roe picked up \$19,205 in consulting fees between October 18 and November 20 of this year. Among the Western Michigan University alum's biggest clients has been Arizona Republican congressman **Paul Gosar**,



Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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



Mark Arabo's grinning because his

earned him some political favors.

fundraising efforts for Joe Biden likely

Jason Cabel Roe was once known as Kevin Faulconer's political brain.

#### **ADVICE YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED**

## ASK A HIPSTER

#### HIPSTER@SDREADER.COM



#### **Dear Hipster:**

Since life is still canceled, I have been thinking about doing some kind of old-school Christmas festivities this year. Got any suggestions for how to make the most commercialized holiday season in the history of commercialized holiday seasons into a more authentically hipster celebration for

— ANTHONY

You have to ask yourself, how retro do you really want to get? There are four levels

of retro hipster Christmas. Keep reading and figure out where you naturally fall on the scale.

Level 1. You watch Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer, but you make a point of lecturing your children (or someone else's children if you don't have your own) about how animal husbandry (reindeer or otherwise) is really a form of oppression. Congratulations, you're a Level

1 retro Christmas hipster. Don't let it go to your head.

Level 2. Christmas hipsters at level 2 focus on labor-intensive, old-school holiday traditions. They lovingly imbibe Christmas puddings with measured applications of rum and brandy starting the day after Thanksgiving. They drive to Canada to a cut their own scraggly evergreen trees. They have secret recipes for virtually every sugary alcoholic drink that has ever passed the lips of a holiday reveler, and if you visit them for Christmas they will make you 🕱 taste every one. They even knit their own gugly sweaters. In my opinion, this is the □ sweet spot for retro Christmas hipsterism.

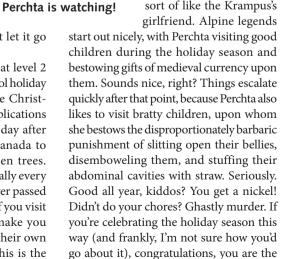
Level 3. As a Christmas hipster, you

ascend to this level when you start taking things just a *little* too far with aping other people's weird Christmas traditions. Maybe you start un-ironically wearing a Zwarte Piet costume in early December, and telling people it's "traditional" while all your former friends wince whenever you walk by. Or perhaps you consider the Level 2 hipster's obsessive Christmas pudding curation too pedestrian, so you create your own kiviak (a dish eaten during December in Greenland, consisting of ~500 tiny seabirds sewed inside

a dead seal and fermented under a rock for the duration of autumn) and deliver sermons about how Greenlandic culture is "so authentic" as you gag on a meal of briny bird slime. Sure, I'm impressed by you, but that's not necessarily a good thing. Lots of bad things are technically impressive, like Kanye West's ability to become a slightly more irritating person than he was last week.

Level 4. Only the most hardcore hipsters

can enjoy Level 4, which embraces the absolutely terrifying yuletide traditions of medieval Europe. Pre-Christian European folklore features some horrific figures, such as Perchta, an Alpine pagan goddess who started out as a kind of patron spirit of spinning. Perchta was gradually incorporated into the Yule season, and she is sort of like the Krampus's



most hardcore Christmas hipster of all time.



#### LETTERS

continued from page 1

city mayor.

The letters focused on possibly fascistic, graft, corruption malfeasance issues: Mr. Smiechowski points to Todd's record on unregulating motorized scooter traffic. And Mr. Robertson refers to extreme re-configuration changes to auto, truck and bus traffic space to bicvcle lanes.

This writer could also question Todd's part in the destruction of what in recent memory a San Diego retail/commercial jewel of private enterprise business, the now gone Horton Plaza, and adjacent park, of many years, converted into a semi-permanent eyesore rubble-pile.

Also, to tell of Todd's part for the continued California state Democrat effort to destroy and subvert the U.S.A. Constitution by efforts to end Second Amendment right of the people to have self-defense, for example acting the stop Del Mar gun show sales.

Meanwhile after positions on city council, and state assembly offices what positive accomplishment has Todd done to lead and represent to earn taxpayer funding pay? Does abronze plaque outside "central library" skyscraper count?

As reliable memory serves, Todd's first foot-inthe-political-door was about 2008 San Diego city council. An office gotten as only, one of one, candidate. Really, as weak as San Diego city per capita job market has tended, can anyone honestly believe that no one else local cared to even apply to have a high paid, no-heavy-lifting fast-track to extreme pay, fame and social influence position which only obvious qualification are showing up in a politician suit for five or so hours a day, three days or so a week?

Doesn't it appear that Todd's first placement was no democratic true election, rather a vested interest appointment - which some could call an anointing? One wonders too if it is reasonable to have reliable trust in November '20 election reported results here in California, a "golden state" widely believed to be the state-of-the-craft preeminent in U.S.A. election deceit and fraud malfeasance manipulation.

San Diego Voter Registrar bureaucracy reported that Todd got 56% of the vote, leading to candidate Barbara Bry's concession several days after the polls closed November third. One thinks that, either the reported results by local daily U.T., are bogus and fraud, or, that 56% of San Diego registered voters are more ill-will depraved and ignorant than this fellow would like to believe.

Todd has claimed to be "a person of color"; has he disclosed publicly to anyone what color he claims to be?

That Todd is scheduled to be city mayor December tenth, 2020 is alarming -and not the type of alarm that government labor association firefighters are apt to usefully help get right.

Bob E. Cristenson United States

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

#### "Garbage thinking with Ben Wheatley" **Golden Dreams** November 25

I live along a rural State Highway north of Yosemite. Every Sunday before dark is roadside cleanup. When they opened a McDonald's and Starbucks 18 miles down the hill the trash doubled. Damn Flatlanders!

—CaptainObvious

#### "SDG&E line man fired for white power sign" **Cover Stories** November 25

This is absurd. For SDG&E to fire a man who is "mostly Mexican decent" for white supremacy doesn't make any sense. His name is Emmanuel, not Bob or Joe. I hope he finds a job soon.

—Socks3742

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RAIA

#### The secret sharer

#### Who's the baddie — sucker-punching surfer or interloping Instagrammer?

On November 5, athlete and adventure film-maker Andrew Muse took to his Instagram account to claim that he had just been sucker-punched in the chin by a fellow American while in Baja. "At that point, [my cameraman] Liam and I brought him to the ground where not a single kick, punch, or otherwise physical harmful action was taken towards him," Muse continued. "Although I wanted to retaliate, I pulled myself away and instead picked up his bike and threw it towards the water."

Muse, whose converted and lifted Ford F550 truck was spotted at Dog Beach by OB locals earlier this month, had traveled from Massachusetts with his girlfriend Ashley and their dog Kicker to meet with Liam before crossing into Baja. They're currently documenting their trip, posting videos on their Tiny Home Adventure YouTube channel, which has about 26,900 subscribers, and uploading photos onto Muse's Instagram account for its 108,000 followers.

Muse told the *Reader* via email that he didn't "feel comfortable sharing all these details of our trip for the article," but Josiah Roe, a fellow filmmaker from San Francisco who knows both Muse and the alleged sucker puncher, told the paper, "I totally believe Andrew. Andrew isn't a bullshitter like that. And I can see that [sucker puncher] dude being a dick like that. I never had any issues



Baja beaches- maybe not as peaceful as Roe's photos make them look.



From Roe's Tijuana-to-Cabo San Lucas footage.

leading to the altercation. "I saw [the] man barreling down on his bike towards me yelling, 'You can't do that here. Get the F outta here.' Apparently, we were not allowed to be filming, according to him. [Then] Liam ran over and told me he just ran over his brand

NORTH PARK

#### The fixie is in Council changes lanes without signalling properly

North Parkers concerned about the proposed 30th Street bike lanes found a buried meeting Change Order on the matter just one day before the vote. And despite the best efforts of Save 30th, the plan to remove more than 500 parking spaces — including 13 of the 17 spaces reserved for handicapped people — along a 1.5 mile stretch of 30th Street was approved by the city council on November 17. The vote was seven-to-one; Councilman Chris Ward was absent from the meeting.

The matter came to the council in the back pages of a pile of mundane matters to approve - "30th Street" did not appear on the meeting agenda index, nor on the more detailed listing. Instead, it was part of a larger matter called Approval of Construction Change Orders, only showing up after a second click-through to detailed documents. Save 30th rallied Monday to insist that the matter be heard by the council rather than shuffled through as part of the consent agenda. (A consent agenda consists of matters the council has to approve when the council staff expects no public comment, opposition or revisions to proposals. Items that are part of such an agenda are often approved without being listed.)

"The proposed bike lanes on 30th Street will be a detrimental change to the businesses that rely on deliveries and the patrons who do not live there," said Renay Johnson. She cited Councilmember Chris Ward's advice to a longtime resident that she could move if she needed parking – for which his staff says he later apologized. "Moving is not an option for many people, including myself." A group opposing the drastic parking loss is already

with him, but he also fits that burnout oldschool surfer vibe. He's just an ex-pat who had some relationship with the landowner and got to post up there. He's not a local, really."

(Other ex-pats agreed with Roe's assessment, but did not name the man.)

Roe sent me videos from his Granite and Light production company; one was of him and his friends caravanning down the Baja peninsula in four vans before Christmas of last year. He also re-shared Muse's original post on Facebook, along with a photo of Muse and Ashley, captioned, "Dude living near Alejandro's attacked a couple of kids surfing."

Alejandro's is a surf spot about 400 miles south of the border. According to surf websites, the surfer and kiteboarder destination has 5-7 foot waves on its better days. "[But] there were no waves [that day], and the wind was blowing hard," Muse recounted on his Instagram before explaining the events

"The tensions are higher than the surf these days, Respect secret spots; enjoy the surf with no recording. Our minds are adequate to hold the memories"

new camera. I sprinted toward the man as fast as I could. Eventually, I got my hands on him and threw him to the ground hard." Shortly after that, the man allegedly sucker-punched Muse, picked up his bike, and took off.

"The tensions are higher than the surf these days," commented John, an American living in Tijuana. "[Muse] should never have brought out a cam[era]. The fact we all know their vehicles, too, is asking for it. Respect secret spots; enjoy the surf with no recording. Our minds are adequate to hold the memories."

Roe disagrees. "[Muse] is not an influencer in that cheesedick way," he said. "He has a super kind heart, and it made me angry that the dude attacked him."

MIKE MADRIAGA

suing the city over the plan; in July, the city's Mobility Manager Everett Hauser signed an affidavit that said no final plans existed for the scenario they sued over, allowing the city to argue that since there was no project, there was no need for the city to review its environmental impacts. But it's clear that detailed drawings were underway when Hauser made his statement; a 51-page document of engineering drawings shows bike lanes with the final review approval date of October 20, but it appears to have been drawn by June 26, 2020, according to signatures on the document. And a month after the first round of signatures, Hauser swore under oath that the estimated cost of the striping for the 2.25 miles from Juniper Street to Adams Avenue would

continued on page 9



Josiah Roe's Facebook photo of Andrew Muse and girlfriend.

## Ceming Seen!



All of the winners and finalists in one place!

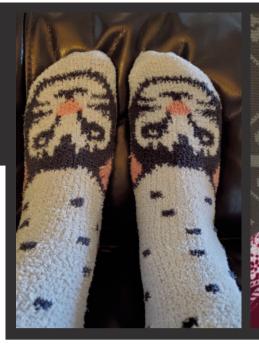
BestOf.SanDiegoReader.com

BY SAMANTHA ST. PIERRE

## Death by slipper

The cold weather is creeping in. After pulling on my favorite oversized socks one chilly morning, I group texted my friends to see if they, too, were already wearing their winter socks.

Marisa, 26, replied with a photo of her feet covered by ivory cable-knit ballerina slippers. "I've actually had these for a decade now! My mom, aka 'Santa,' used to love giving us different fuzzy socks in our stockings every Christmas. I love them, because they're really



DANIELA WARMS UP TO CATS IN CHENILLE SOCKS

MARISA'S BALLERINA SLIPPER SOCKS STRIKE THE RIGHT TEMP

soft and warm." They're also petite when compared to mine. "My ankles do get cold occasionally," explained Marisa, "but my body temperature runs hot, so it can be refreshing if I'm already dressed in a warm jacket and sweatpants."

Jennifer, 37, responded "I just got MUK LUKS in my FabFitFun box." (Socks \$25, yearly subscription \$179.99.) "They're lined with soft sherpa, like a fluffy cloud. My daughter almost stole them right off my feet!"

She snapped a pic of her new grey pom pom mukluks. "They have grippy dots on the bottom," she said, before joking, "Death by slipper would a perfect way to end 2020."

Chiming in, Daniela, 32, texted "How did you know?!" and attached an image of her cat-themed chenille socks. "My mom got me these, once I had a cat." I knew she really meant her husband's cat, so I asked if the socks had helped her warm up to felines. "That's what she seemed to think! I like to make them 'meow' at my husband and be annoying."

Heather, 31, joined the conversation with a photo of her bright red, snowflake-patterned socks. "My mom got me mine like six years ago when I was traveling to Scranton [Pennsylvania] a lot for work, because it was so damn cold there. I love them in the winter time,

continued on page 19

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#### 15815 LAS PLANIDERAS | RANCHO SANTA FE, 92067

BEDS: 6 | BATHS: 8 | CURRENT OWNER: 15815 Las Planideras LLC | LIST PRICE: \$12,995,000

## **U**NREAL **E**STATE

by Dave Rice

Behold the home billed as "Solace in the Sky," a newly constructed 8969-square-foot ultramodern glass cube at 15815 Las Planideras.

"No expense was spared in this six-bedroom modern construction in the Rancho Santa
Fe Covenant," boast listing remarks retrieved
from *Redfin.com*. "Living
across one level, luxury
exudes from every corner of this home, featuring chic contemporary
styling with Italian influence throughout."



People who live in glass houses should probably do so in a place like Rancho Santa Fe.

Huge squares of glass and stone dominate the space, from the glass-walled entry with staggered concrete slabs leading to the pivoting front door, clear through to the massive pocketed glass back wall that retracts to expose the zero-edge radius pool in the yard and panoramic eastward mountain views beyond.

The kitchen, "com-

plete with Miele appliances and a Sub-Zero fridge/ freezer," features not one but two massive center islands, each topped with thick, squared-off marble slabs that tumble down the counter sides to the floor. A sink peeking out from behind the third counter against the back wall suggests the presence of a "messy kitchen," a nod to the recent trend of wealthy entertainers so enamored with the spotless presentation of their gourmet chef's paradise that the real work of preparing and cooking food occurs in a much more pedestrian facility hidden from view.

Adjacent to the kitchen, a formal dining room "floats" over the water features lining the entryway and features a "beyond chic seamless glass temperature controlled wine storage" wall.

The great room, meanwhile, "is designed to impress, featuring 14' ceilings with intricate wood detailing and a custom one-of-a-kind fireplace with Floating Fire Tray"

that is both "the first of its kind" and also "the largest in all of San Diego."

Moving on to the owner's suite, "exquisite details abound, from an automated pocket door, LED-lit ceiling, and a slab-covered fireplace." The bathroom features Fantini luxury fixtures, smooth stone slabs for walls, automated window shades, and a freestanding cubic tub tucked into a corner of floor-to-ceiling windows. "The custom couture Italian-made closet is no exception" to the home's luxury, "being designed after fashion boutiques in Milan using custom Italian cabinetry and several glass LED display cases" with velvet-lined drawers to make getting dressed in the morning feel like you're visiting a high-end clothing store wearing only a towel.

continued on page 19

#### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS Continued from page 6

be \$250,000; but the approved change order approved asks for \$304,000 for the 1.5-mile stretch from Juniper to Polk, with no information on costs for the remaining .75 miles from Polk to Adams, or on the bollards and signs in the engineering.

decided project," said attorney Craig Sherman, who represents the 30th Street dissenters. "This is not a Transportation and Storm Drain project, as the city has prominently labeled it on its plans. This is a backroom, special-interest-promoted street change to accommodate a bike lane arrangement by Ward and the mayor on behalf of bike lane cronies."

On the 17th, the council approved a change order to pay the pipeline project contractor to

"This is a backroom, special-interest-promoted street change to accommodate a bike lane arrangement by Ward and the mayor on behalf of bike lane cronies."

The plan has been in the works since February 2019, producing contentious meetings whenever local residents had advance notice about meeting agendas, as required by California law. Supporters, including Councilmember Ward, say there has been extensive outreach — though they count meetings where city staff spoke about the bike lanes without letting the public know it was a topic they planned to cover. "The city has been playing a shell game, The only thing they have been doing for several months is engineering to the last inch. Nothing varies from the core of the year-plus, already-

paint the bike lanes on the newly slurried road. While it means the bike lanes will be created, the action was worded as a construction change order — a fiction even supporters had trouble maintaining. North Park Community Planning Group member Marissa Tucker Borquez, said she supports the bike lanes. "As a local resident I spend a good chunk of my free money in North Park businesses and I am proud to, but I strongly prefer to get to those businesses using my bike, scooter or [as a] pedestrian," Borquez said. "We're talking about a change order here, not necessarily bike lanes, but I know com-



30th Street north of El Cajon Boulevard, will be part of a new segment of the bike lanes that stretch from Howard to Adams.

munity members have decided to intertwine these. However I strongly applaud the city for putting in bike lanes." Another speaker, from Bike SD, tried to say he was calling to support bike lanes, but then corrected himself and said he supported the change order.

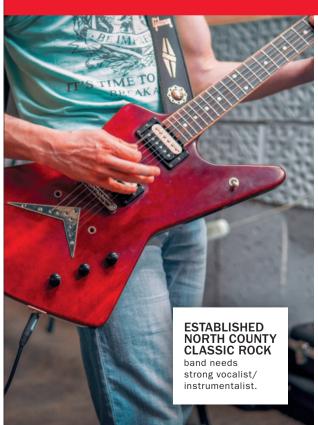
The owner of an 18-unit apartment building, Eugene Polley, said that his tenants who don't have onsite parking will suffer, and that there will be problems with deliveries and services at his building. He said that businesses will suffer, and noted that neither Ward nor

Mayor Kevin Faulconer would agree to meet with the community. Another business owner, who has a parking lot, said that he already has people who are not his customers using the lot. He worries that, with 500 lost spaces and 500 people competing for existing space nearby, and that his customers will be crowded out of the lot. None of those concerns were addressed by the council, which voted without comment. Councilmember Barbara Bry was the only no vote.

MARTY GRAHAM

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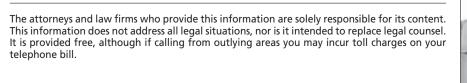


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San Diego *Reader* December 3, 2020



Open for business again

#### The *Midway*'s stalwarts

The *USS Midway* is open for business again. And down below in her bowels, lives are being lived and relived.

"The only comparison with the Battle of Midway in 1942," says this elderly gent sitting at a table right beside a prop-driven Avenger warplane, "is the Battle of Salamis in 480 BC. Because a very inferior fleet decimated a big one. Now, we found out that the Japanese were going to land a fleet on Midway. Admi-



This vet don't take no prisoners

ral Nimitz..."

The little cluster around him hasn't had to time read the literature on the table. They don't need to. He has their full attention.

"...The Japanese Admiral Nagumo had [his carriers] send out scouts. To find us. And their planes spread out over the Pacific like a paw." The commander splays out a hand.

"And the one scout that saw us? He had radio trouble." He laughs at how fickle fortune can change history. "No shit. Our carriers *Enterprise* and *Hornet* launched 36 dive-bombers each. Within minutes of getting there, they sank the first three [Japanese carriers], and the fourth one went down in the afternoon. We knew where they were. It was an absolute miracle that we found them, because they had found out about our fleet and we caught them [on deck] changing from bombs to torpedoes when we hit them."

Commander Hubbard sits at one of a bunch of way stations where you can stop and talk

to actual fliers and navy guys who have walked the walk. He is 94 years old.

But is he with it? As soon as I come, he looks at his watch and says, "You're late! You'll never get anywhere if you can't be on time." The guy takes no prisoners.

Which you have to respect, because he has flown everything from biplanes to jets, in wars from WW2 to Vietnam. He

flew an AJ-2 "Savage" bomber that always carried a nuclear device — meaning bomb — for a quick response. He had a priming "key" in his pocket, which he loaded inside the bomb before taking off for patrol say, 200 miles east of Okinawa. He'd come back and land that big, heavy (33,000lb) bomb-carrying bomber on the heaving decks of carriers such the *USS Bennington*. "So you did need to get your landings right," he says.

Five bells ring out, a bosun's pipe flares its



Don Hubbard, nuclear pilot

three-note whistle throughout the hangar deck.

It's impossible not to think of Tom Brokaw's phrase "Greatest generation" when you listen to the man talk. We're looking at a picture of a bomber he flew out of Gibraltar. It shows the plane against the colony's massive wall of rock. "The next flight after I left that plane, it was shot down."

The whole hangar deck has this quiet buzz of guys, mostly, talking to dads, mostly, and their wives, and their kids, in clusters in the Midway's gloomy below-deck, between planes. You see them point with red laser lights to aerial shots, flying shots, buddy shots, chopper shots. The words "Inchon," "Da Nang," 'Berlin," and Cdr Don's "Salamis" pop out of the buzz.

An Asian couple with a baby daughter comes up. "Where are you from?" says the commander.

They're from Seoul, South Korea.

"Here, come over here, little girl. Would you like to fly one of these?"

Don poses for a picture with them all. The wife, next to him, clutches a toy dog in a blanket and her purse. "Because she could," he says to her. "These days, she could have as good as life as I've had." He turns to the little girl.

"Now, which plane do you want to fly?"

#### Igloo dining: don't speak loudly

They look so glamorous: ransparent geodesic domes with tables for six inside, ruby-winking wine glasses, plates of food, beautiful people laughing and dining. And these "igloos" have been billed as safe, but also warm, outside dining experiences. Their big selling point is that they do not pick up viruses circulating in the general outside air. They have swept North America as a glamorous answer to the covid virus. And with these biting breezes hitting the county lately, people who don't want to be stuck at home are seeing a ray of hope for their social lives.

Meanwhile, restaurants have been having their own brilliant ideas. The streets of downtown are unprecedentedly full of life. Baja Betty's on University has set up a network of transparently walled table spaces on either side of the sidewalk. They have brought in ferns, palms, flowers, and a real feeling of cozy community. The space looks positively fashionable.

But is it just me? Everybody clustering around any small space must be pushing their luck in the time of covid.

CDC says the droplets people produce when they're talking and laughing, especially loudly, especially close to others, especially for a long period, and super-especially when the air of the location is confined, are dangerous.

So when one of the more popular middle class chains, the Brigantine, started constructing plastic and wood walls around the outside dining area they created in their parking lot in Coronado, I just had to pop in to see what was up.

"Not at all," says the general manager of this Brig, Ed Pecus, when I ask about enclosing the parking lot patio. "It's a windscreen. We don't see anything changing anytime soon covidwise, and with no indoor seating, you've got to make sure the guests are as protected as possible. We're not allowed to put a top on, but anything that can protect you from the wind is good. So we just pray for no rain. If we get rain, then we probably shut down."

He says they are lucky because they have their own parking lot. "And now, with winter, we were lucky to get our heaters early. Because now, you can't find them."

But I distinctly saw people dining indoors in the restaurant. That is banned, right?

"It's right by the windows, and the windows don't close, so you still have the fresh air that goes in and out. If you're within five feet of a window, and those windows can't close, [it's okay]. It's actually colder inside than it is out, because there are no heaters right next to [the tables]. But anything that employs one more server, who then doesn't lose out on a shift [is good]. We've already cut down 30 percent, staff wise."



Latest fad: publicity shot from Dinner With a View, bubble dining company



Brig's General Manager, Ed Pecus



New fencing to enclose parking lot patios: winter is coming!

## STUFFTH









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Mira Mesa Vons 8310 Mira Mesa Blvd.

**Oceanside Albertsons** 3450 Marron Rd. and 3925 Mission Ave.

Rancho Bernardo Vons 11986 Bernardo Plaza Dr.

San Carlos Albertsons 8650 Lake Murray Blvd.

**San Marcos Albertsons** 1571 San Elijo Rd. South

**Santee Vons** 9643 Mission Gorge Rd.

Serra Mesa Vons 3550 Murphy Canyon Rd.

**Spring Valley Albertsons** 543 Sweetwater Rd.

**University City Vons** 7788 Regents Rd.







#### Staying at home?

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sdmts.com/StufftheBus

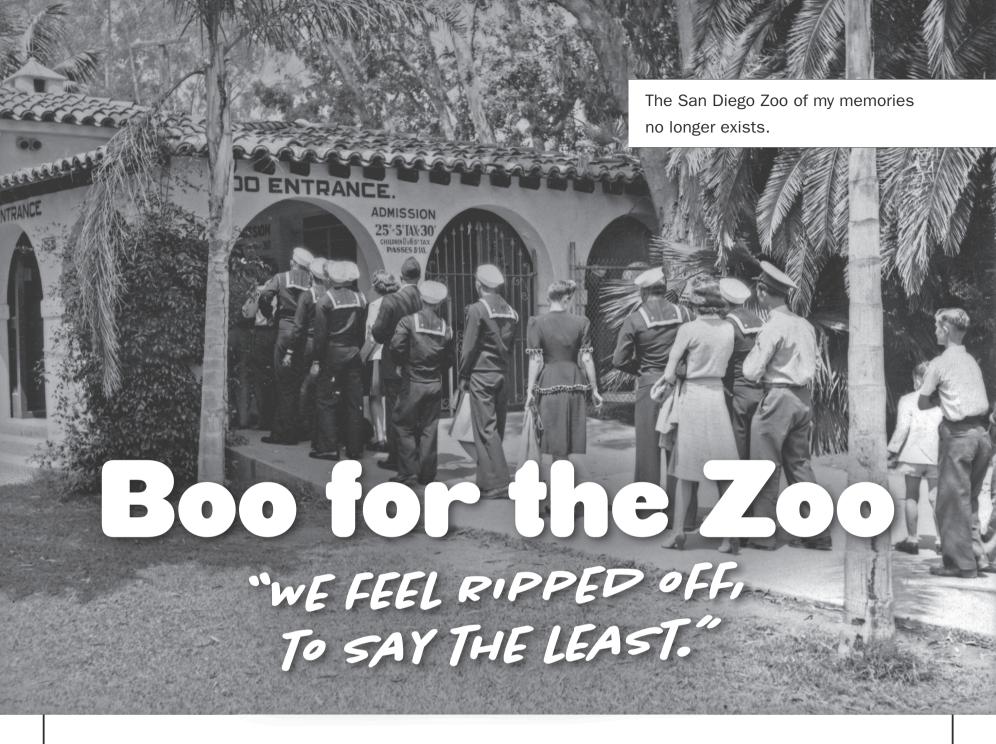












#### The zoo I remember is the zoo that I miss.

When I was a kid, my mom used to take me to the zoo every Saturday, after German school at the nearby Grace Lutheran church complex. We started with lunch: tacos, a variant of the kind served at Jack in the Box, just a lot more cheese. Then we'd be off to walk around the exhibits.

The Monkey Yard was one of my favorites. Monkeys were housed in 36 cages, arranged in clusters like small city walks to the right of the main promenade. I remember my mom taking great delight in the proboscis, or long-nosed, monkey, known as *bekantan* in its native Indonesia. "He looks just like Jimmy Durante," she'd say time and time again.

At the far end of the Monkey Yard, down a wide staircase, were the gorillas and chimpanzees. The apes were in outdoor grottos fronted by grassy knolls, separated from zoo guests by a moat — the same setup that's still in place at the San Diego Zoo's North County cousin, the Safari Park. Invariably, after a stare down with one or more gorillas, some wiseacre would throw something at the gorillas, maybe a slice of bread, a peanut, or a scrunched up hot dog wrapper. Invariably, the gorilla would throw something back, most often a chunk of shit.

Hoof Mesa was another favorite. We'd walk along meandering sidewalks on either side of a paved road reserved for buses, and gaze at the gazelles and ibexes, okapis and zebras, giraffes and elephants. The African Plains exhibit, a fixture since 1965, seemed to a young me like a real-life version of *Daktari*, one of my favorite TV shows, about veterinarians at an East African animal clinic. This is where I first started taking pictures, with my

Kodak 126 Instamatic black-and-white.

The Children's Zoo was our final stop. To me, it was paradise. I have so many fond memories of the Children's Zoo. Watching the mice carve tunnels in the oversized bread loaf in a glass aquarium. Feeding peanuts to the baby elephants. Encouraging the Mynah birds to talk. Getting up close to the spider monkey, who once grabbed my glasses. We had to find a zookeeper to get them back. The figure-eight enclosure where you could pick up and pet puppies and kittens. The chicken hatchery, where you could watch baby chicks emerge from the egg under a warming light and then grab them and hold them as soon as they ventured out from under the light into the perimeter, covered with cedar shavings. And, of course, the petting corral, with baby deer and baby sheep and old goats who always nibbled at

my mom's long sunflowerpatterned dress. We used to bring along a bag of dried bread to feed the critters, and I was always sad when we ran out.

The San Diego Zoo of my memories no longer exists. An ambitious transformation project that began in 1986 has seen most of the old zoo wiped out in favor of "bioclimate" zones, with multiple species sharing vast enclosures that resemble their natural habitats, often visible to zoo guests behind glass.

About all that's left from the zoo of my youth is Fern Canyon, a magical botanical garden of ferns from around the world that you walk through on a steep and narrow concrete and stone path.

Pretty much everything else is gone. The Monkey Yard was wrecked in 2001 to make way for the Heart of the Zoo III. By the time it opened four years later, it had been renamed Monkey Trails and Forest Tales, a three-acre, three-level, mesh-enclosed exhibit housing primates and other mammals.

The gorilla exhibit was leveled more than a decade earlier, in 1991, to make way for Gorilla Tropics, a 10,000-square-foot habitat with several glasswalled viewing areas for zoo visitors.

Horn & Hoof Mesa was razed for the May 2009 opening of the Elephant Odyssey, with a museum-like exhibit on the La Brea Tar Pits and an Elephant Care Center, where visitors can watch elephants getting their feet scrubbed.

And the Children's Zoo, the latest casualty of the old zoo, has been completely torn down as construction commences on the new Sanford Children's Zoo, named for billionaire businessman T. Denny Sanford, who chipped in \$30 million, nearly half the project's \$69 million cost. The new Children's Zoo, slated to open sometime next year, will highlight four distinct environments, according to the zoo's website: Desert Dunes, Wild Woods, Rain Forest, and Marsh Meadows. "Each area will incorporate play and learning opportunities for young guests," the zoo says. Attractions include a dung beetle globe fountain, a rope climb, and a 25-foothigh treehouse.

Dwight Scott, the director of the San Diego Zoo, told the *Reader* in an email that the zoo is simply evolving with its audience. "As a conservation organization, it is important for us to maintain our connection to the next generation," he said. "With the proliferation of technology, it has grown increasingly difficult to gets kids engaged in nature at a



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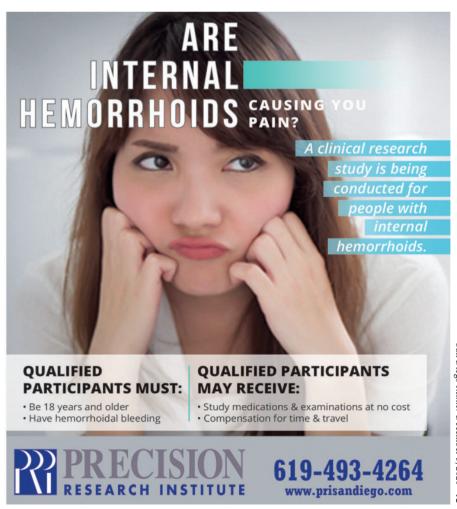
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I have so many fond memories of the Children's Zoo. Watching the mice carve tunnels in the oversized bread loaf in a glass aquarium. Feeding peanuts to the baby elephants. Encouraging the Mynah birds to talk.

young age. We decided to design the Children's Zoo to include spaces where each child gets the opportunity to learn about the environments, and possibly witness the world from the animal's perspective. Our aim is to build empathy for nature within young guests. In fact, we believe the development of empathy at an early age will positively impact children throughout their lives."

Couldn't the petting corral have been maintained? "To make sure we were

effectively designing an area that provided children with the best educational opportunities, we needed more space than what we had in our footprint," Scott said. "We encourage families to visit our other zoological sanctuary, the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, where children can still experience the contact yard."

A random sampling of San Diegans, solicited through my Facebook page, applauded the zoo's 30-plus-year makeover. "Animals should be free to roam and do their thing," said John Thill of Oceanside. "Would you enjoy being a human in a viewable enclosure?"

"It's all about the animals and their comfort," said Kerry Siekmann of Carlsbad. "The more comfortable they are, the better chances of reproduction — and that is the goal."

The zoo's Dwight Scott said simply, "It is important for people to think of species in terms of the other species they live with, and the ecosystems they inhabit. This allows our guests to better understand the need to protect the entire living system." As for more future changes, he merely said, "It is important that we always have plans to improve through development. We are committed to saving species around the world, and we are equally committed to ensuring that the wildlife at the Zoo continue to receive great care, and have wonderful habitats to exhibit their natural behaviors."

The zoo's transformation began with the 1986 drafting of a "Diamond Edge" plan, aimed at setting the zoo on a new path in time for its 75th birthday in 1991. Writing in the San Diego Union in April 1986, Gina Lubrano reported that the zoo's "climate-zone conversion will take at least 20 years to complete and cost an estimated \$100 million." The plan called for animals, previously grouped according to types, to be "bioclimatic — plants and animals found in particular climates, such as desert or tropics, will be grouped together," Lubrano wrote.

The first new exhibit



he understands that "the San Diego Zoo is a global leader in changing how zoos operate. It seems they want to go in the direction of less direct human interaction. They seem to want people to get the feeling they are viewing live animals in their natural habitat, and not a pet in a cage."

under the Diamond Edge plan was a \$1 million kopje exhibit that opened in June 1986. Richard Binford, deputy director of the zoological society, told the *Union* that "the kopje is a major test of the bioclimatic concept." He said visitor reaction to the kopje "will be watched carefully to measure likes and dislikes and to get ideas on what will work,"

according to the article. Dr. James Dolan, the society's curator of mammals, told the newspaper, "I'm really hot on the entire redevelopment plan.... It's a really exciting time for all of us to see the Zoo developing in a new direction, a very modern direction."

Design guidelines for the bioclimatic exhibits contained five goals, Lubrano wrote:

1) Recreate the drama of encountering animals in the wild by creating an illusion of wilderness. 2) Recreate the natural habitat as accurately as possible and populate it with animals that are found in the environment, 4) Immerse the visitor in the landscape by allowing him to wander around "sensing the feel, sight, smell and mood of that landscape before actually seeing the animals." Place the visitor in an unfamiliar world and make the animal dominate overall. "Arrange the exhibit so that the viewer unconsciously accepts the attitude of being at that moment subordinate to animals being viewed." 5) Eliminate distracting and incongruous objects and views, such as man-made

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The Monkey Yard was one of my favorites.

Monkeys were housed in 36 cages,
arranged in clusters like small city walks
to the right of the main promenade.

structures including barriers, feeding devices, access gates, reflections, buildings, and utilities.

After the kopje exhibit came the \$4 million trans-

formation of the old Cascade Canyon into the Kroc Family Tropical Rain Forest Exhibit, now known as Tiger River, which opened in March 1988. Three years

later, in March 1991, came Gorilla Tropics, which was followed in April 1993 by a 6000-square-foot naturalistic exhibit for chimpanzees and a cluster of 20 new aviaries called the Wings of Australasia.

May 1995 saw the opening of Hippo Beach, featuring a 110-foot long, 150,000-gallon pool with underwater viewing constructed on a three-acre site in Cascade Canyon, just past the rainforest. Four years later, after okapis, forest buffalo, river otters, guenons, turacos and peafowl were added, the entire complex was renamed Ituri Forest. Also in 1999, the original bird of prey aviary, which had been built in 1937, was transformed into the new Owens' Rainforest Aviary, housing more than 200 birds from Southeast Asia. The \$4 million renovation has more than 1000 feet of linear walkways.

During the four-yearlong Heart of the Zoo III project that began in 2001 with the leveling of the Monkey Yard, the Flamingo Lagoon also was reconfigured and incorporated into the Monkey Trails and Forest Tales.

The next big project was the Elephant Odyssey, followed in 2017 by Africa Rocks, built on eight acres previously known as Dog and Cat Canyon. The \$68 million undertaking, the zoo's biggest construction project yet, "relies on the newest thinking about zoos, which find themselves in an ongoing debate about the treatment of animals in captivity and are designing exhibits that are more naturalistic, more focused on conservation than entertainment," the San



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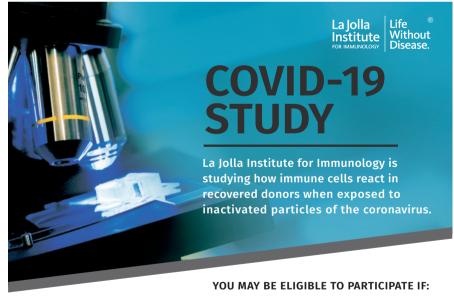




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May 1995 saw the opening of Hippo Beach, featuring a 110-foot long, 150,000-gallon pool with underwater viewing constructed on a three-acre site in Cascade Canyon, just past the rainforest.

Diego Union observed at the time. "That's why the space for the African penguins, an endangered species, includes giant artificial rocks like the granite ones found at Boulders

Beach in South Africa. It's why the 170-foot-long pool they swim in has a wave-making machine to mimic gentle surf rolling ashore. And it's why there are holes that lead to nesting caves carved into some of the rocks, a way of encouraging the penguins to breed.... Pedestrians will walk on a gently sloping, meandering pathway — built wide to accommodate strollers and the increased number and girth of visitors — past six distinct habitats housing flora and fauna from the African continent."

The Union report concluded, "It's more about immersion than staring."

But some longtime zoo-goers feel the zoo has gone too far in its transformation.

Christopher Barclay, 34 and a lifelong San Diegan, has been going to the zoo regularly his whole life and has had his own yearly pass for the last 20 years. He still enjoys the zoo, but misses the up close and personal engagements with the animals he remembers from his youth.

"It sucks that they are going the opposite route of letting people get close to the animals," he says. "I don't remember what came before the Elephant Odyssey, but those elephants are quite far away now. The fake tar pits are pretty lame and just, like, why? I do remember the gorillas being across a gorge at one point... I do like how the orangutans are set up. It feels like you can be right next to them. But the new baboons area — they are hardly ever within view, much less close enough to interact with."

Still, Barclay says he understands the reasoning behind the zoo's protracted bio-climate zone makeover. "The San Diego Zoo is a

The Children's Zoo makeover is particularly painful for Liz Abbott, publisher of the San Diego Troubadour, a local music magazine, because of the elimination of the petting corral, which in February 1966 was the setting for the Beach Boys "Pet Sounds" album cover shoot.

seem to want people to get the feeling they are viewing live animals in their natural habitat, and not a pet in a cage."

Dave Kusumoto, 61, says he misses the moats, "which paradoxically were meant to create the illusion of animals being free to roam without being behind bars."

"The bio-climate thing is a bit much," he says. "These changes in the visiting experience replace 'fun' in a disproportionate way with 'education,' wiping out the interactive elements of the zoo. However, this might be the view among older visitors vs. younger ones moving forward, who are not seeing the visiting experience being re-designed. Our generation is visibly irritated but we'll eventually be gone. After all, even Yellowstone National Park was once famous for letting visitors feed the bears from their cars...."

continued on page 42





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especially because our floors are mostly tile downstairs and they keep me warm!"

Since most of our socks were gifts, I asked if anyone (me) should be expecting a pair this Christmas. Heather answered, "I've considered buying a pair of those custom socks, where you can put your pet's face on them... I think that would be a funny gag gift for my dad."

Coincidentally, Daniela had the same idea last year. She purchased a pair for her husband after seeing a Facebook ad for DivvyUp socks. "They turned out great! But I think it was like \$30 for 1 pair. And socks don't last forever. But he loved them. I didn't regret it."

Seeing the murderous look on her step-cat's face made me laugh out loud. "I thought it was a picture that perfectly expressed her." ■



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## **U**NREAL

continued from page 8

Other "unique design elements" and features include "a game room with cornering glass to provide views," an office that continues the home's solid glass exterior wall trend, and a powder room "flooded with natural light through a skylight 12 feet above, complemented by a custom black slab sink." There's also a private gym, full smart home automation technology, and a 1000-square-foot guest house with full kitchen and its own laundry facilities.

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Public records indicate the Las Planideras property last sold for \$2.3 million in 2018, when it was home to a 2800-square-foot ranch style home built in 1957. The buyer was Anthony Dubreville, a construction tech executive who transferred the property to a limited liability company for the purpose of rebuilding.

With construction complete, the new Rancho Santa Fe estate was re-listed in early November for \$12,995,000, a price that remains unchanged to date. ■



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#### Calendar

## OUT VECOME TO FEEK



#### Friday | 4

#### **HOW NATURE LOVERS** SURVIVE COVID ON MT. WHOVILLE

Ernie Cowan is a noted photographer, lecturer, instructor and author. Together, Kati and Ernie transformed their 1.5-acre parcel into a nature sanctuary. They provided water and planted to foster a native chaparral environment, allowing wildlife to bloom. Covid lockdown allowed them to spend more time at home enjoying and observing visiting critters. Their photographic equipment includes game cameras and an intimate nest camera to see night visitors.

WHEN: Friday, December 4, 7 pm to

WHERE: sandiegosierraclub.org

#### Saturday | 5

#### **EVANESCENCE LIVE FROM ROCK FALCON STUDIO**

Evanescence will be hosting its first

public performance of the covid era with a livestream concert experience. The band, which postponed its international tour earlier this year, assembles from Nashville, Sacramento, and Germany to perform live renditions of songs from their upcoming album The Bitter Truth for the first time. Hosted at Rock Falcon Studio

in Nashville, where the band has been recording its new album. The livestream will be available through December 8.

WHEN: Saturday, December 5, 1 pm WHERE: evanescencelive.com



WHEN: Saturday, December 5, 10 am

WHERE: La Mesa Village, Spring Street at La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, lamesavillageassociation.org

ist Noel Paul Stookey (Peter, Paul and Mary), Latin Grammy-winning Brazilian musician Ivan Lins, and Afro-Brazilian star Fabiana Cozza.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 8, 4 pm WHERE: solsticeconcert.com



#### HOLIDAY MUSIC, CRAFTS, FOOD AND PHOTOS

In this modified Craft Market format, friends and family will have the chance to take part in holiday music, plus visit craft vendors, a food court, and a holiday photo station. Peruse handmade artisan goods from local makers, sample holiday treats from local vendors, enjoy seasonal tunes, and trot with the long-limbed Red Toy Soldier and reindeer.

#### Tuesday | 8

#### PAUL WINTER'S WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

Take in a retrospective from the first four decades of the event - pieces that have never been seen outside the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. In addition to the Paul Winter Consort,

the video will show Abdel Salaam's Forces of Nature Dance Theatre with their 25 dancers and drummers, plus Russia's 10-member Dmitri Pokrovsky Ensemble. Guest singers: Procol Harum's Gary Brooker, singer/ songwriter and activ-

#### Wednesday | 9

#### THE ART OF DR SEUSS **HOLIDAY EXHIBITION**

Enjoy artworks from *The Art of Dr*. Seuss, live appearances by The Grinch, and celebrity book readings. Explore The Art of Dr Seuss Merry Grinchmas. Attendance is complimentary, RSVPs suggested.

**WHEN:** Wednesdays, 10 am to 9 pm

Through December 30.

WHERE: Exclusive Collections Gallery, 212 South Cedros Avenue, Solana

Beach. ecgallery.com



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#### ANIMAL FRIENDS

#### Wild Winter Family Event

This festive event includes handson animal encounters, a cute craft for you to keep, a dash through the holiday hall, a sweet treat for all and a gift for the little ones. For safety purposes, the number of people attending this event at one time is limited. Registration is for a one-hour time slot with a group of up to six people, which must arrive together. Friday, December 4, 5pm; Saturday, December 5, 9am; Sunday, December 6, 9am; \$50. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

#### ART

**Arts District Liberty Station** Virtual First Friday With most activities happening on the hosted virtual platform called Airmeet, be inspired by this virtual lineup of talented local artists and creatives showcasing their craft to San Diego residents and beyond. Check out family music time with Songbirds Music, two new dance performances from Malashock Dance, and learn how to create beautiful bows with Karen Jones Fine Art. Enjoy a delicious meal delivered or to-go from The LOT, Chi Chocolat & Banyan Kitchen, Solare Ristorante and Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens. Friday, December 4; free. libertystation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT. (ONLINE)

Factory Friday Factory Friday is an open warehouse event with live art, makers, open art studios, drinks, music and more. This event is open to all ages and free to the public. Guests will be required to wear masks and practice social distancing to ensure a safe space for all. Friday, December 4, 5pm; free. San Diego Made Factory, 2031 Commercial Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

The Art Dr. Seuss Collection Holiday Exhibition Visitors will view holiday-themed and highly collectible works from Dr. Seuss's best-known children's books and explore The Art of Dr Seuss Merry Grinchmas. The exhibition opens on November 27 with a special reception beginning at noon and extends through December 31. Wednesdays, 10am; through Thursday, December 31, free. Exclusive Collections Gallery Solana Beach, 212 South Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

#### CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Holiday in the Village In a modified Craft Market format that has been approved by County and City officials, friends and family will have the chance to take part in the free festive fun with holiday music, craft vendors, a food court, and a holiday photo station. Holiday in the Village will take all precautions, under Health official advisement, to ensure this Holiday Market is a safe and cheerful experience for all. Temperature checks will be required upon entry and face coverings and social distancing will be required throughout. Directional arrows will guide your flow to aid in easy spacing amongst groups. Saturday, December 5, 10am; free. La Mesa Village, Spring Street at La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

#### Magical Nightly Snowfalls

The public is invited, and no reservations needed, for free magical snowfalls. The magical snowfalls, accompanied by choreographed music and lights can be viewed four nights each week. The addition of the 5pm show this year and the use of snowflake markers that are placed 8 feet apart, are all part of Village Walk's commitment to social distancing so attendees can continue to enjoy this unique snowfall experience. Children get free headbands and "magic" glasses to watch the snow falling in rainbow colors. Thur-Sun, 5pm; through December 20, free. Village Walk at EastLake, EastLake Parkway at Miller Drive. (EASTLAKE)

#### CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

#### **G.I.R.L.S. STEAM Conference**

Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math conference for 6th-12th young girls (boys are welcome too); Girls Inspiring Real Leadership in STEAM Conference. The purpose of this event is to inspire young women to pursue careers and leadership in STEAM. A selected group of professionals in STEAM fields and careers will talk about their experience and give advice. Saturday, December 5, 2pm; free. https://bit.ly/3o85YhG. (ONLINE)

#### Jewels of the Season Family Ornament-Making Workshop

The Timken Museum of Art is again offering its holiday art workshop, this time from the comfort of your own home, inspired by our annual "Jewels of the Season" installation. Grab the whole family for our family-friendly workshop, and tune into our virtual live interactive class guided by Timken teaching artist Elizabeth Washburn. Saturday, December 5, 10am; \$50-\$60. https://bit.ly/39tHBaa. (ONLINE)

#### Living with Memory Loss

This class is designed for people living with early-stage memory loss and their care partners. Learn strategies for adapting to daily

#### **Rhyme & Verse**

Four poems for December by Georg Trakl

#### December Sonnet

At evening jugglers travel through the forest
On quaint wagons, small steeds.
A golden stash seems locked in clouds.
In the dark plain villages are painted.
The red wind billows linen black and cold.
A dog rots, a shrub smokes blood-doused.
The reed is flown through by yellow horror
And placidly a funeral procession pilgrimages to the cemetery.
The old man's hut dwindles nearby in the gray,
In the pond a brilliance of old treasures glistens;
The farmers sit down in the tavern for wine.
A boy glides shyly to a woman.
A monk fades in the darkness soft and dark.
A bleak tree is a sleeper's sexton

#### **Evening Walk**

I go into the evening, The wind jogs along and sings: You are bewitched by every light, O feel, what struggles with you!

A dead woman's voice that I loved Speaks: poor is the fools' heart! Forget, forget what clouds the soul! The becoming shall be your pain!

#### Season

Ruby-veins crept into the foliage.
Then the pond was calm and wide.
By the forest's edge brightly scattered
Bluish speckles and brown dust lay.
A fisherman drew in his nets.
Then dusk came over the field.
But, a yard shined still palely illuminated
And maids brought fruit and wine.
Distantly a shepherd's song died after.

Then huts stood bleak and strange.
The forest in gray shroud
Evoked sad memory.
And overnight time became quiet
And an army of ravens flew
As if in black holes in the forest and moved
Toward the town's very distant ringing.

#### Winter Walk in A-Minor

Red spheres often emerge from branches, Snowed under softly and black by a long snowfall. The priest escorts the dead person. The nights are fulfilled by celebrations of masks. Then tousled crows glide over the village; In books fairy tales are written miraculously. At the window an old man's hair flutters. Demons go through the ill soul. The well freezes in the courtyard. Decayed stairs fall In the darkness and a wind blows Through old shafts which are buried. The palate tastes the frost's strong spices.



Georg Trakl (1887-1914) was an Austrian poet, and one of the most important proponents of the Expressionist movement in poetry, which sought to present art and literature from a subjective viewpoint in order to evoke a particular mood rather than overall meaning. Trakl suffered from depression and became a pharmacist to gain easy access to drugs (particularly cocaine) as a

way to alleviate his malady. As his poetry began to gain attention, he was befriended by some prominent members of the German and Austrian literati, including philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein, who provided anonymous financial support to the poet. Trakl's poetic output reflected his state of mind, as many of his poems were set in the evening and the autumn and winter, and often took up silence and death as recurring themes.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

challenges, enhancing health and well-being, and planning for the future. This webinar is open to all attendees, and pre-registration is required. Tuesday, December 8, lpm; free. alzsd.org/services/education/. (ONLINE)

#### COMEDY

**Nate Bargatze** Sunday, December 6, 7pm; CSU San Marcos, 333 S. Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

#### DISCUSSION GROUPS

Voices for Children CASA Volunteer Information Session Now, more than ever, youth in foster care need someone in their corner. For these vulnerable youth, the holiday season can be an especially difficult time. They are often separated from their siblings or other family members, and, in the midst of merriment may feel isolated and alone. By providing a trained advocate, we are able to remind the youth that they are not alone and ensure that their needs

are not overlooked. Help us pro-

vide a trained advocate for every child who needs one. Saturday, December 5, 10am; free. 21 and up. speakupnow.org/volunteer-2/information-sessions/. (ONLINE)

#### FILM

Holiday Dinner & a Movie Series Dinner & a Movie is an elevated movie-and-poolside dining experience with tables spaced for social distancing. All month long, catch classic holiday flicks sure to get you in the spirit of the season while enjoying a three-course menu by Chef Peter Ziegler with themed cocktails inspired by the evening's featured film: Dec 9: Elf, Dec 16: Christmas Story, Dec 23: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, Dec 30: It's a Wonderful Life. Reservations required. Please arrive by 7:45pm at the latest. Wednesday, December 9, 8pm; \$50-\$75. Charles + Dinorah, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

#### **FOR KIDS**

Holidays In Your Car is a unique drive-thru holiday lights spectacular, offering a riveting symphony of sight and sound. Over one million lights, holograms and projections provide a family friendly and audience-safe holiday experience. Sat/Sun/Mon/Tue/Wed, 4pm; through December 26, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)



n Diego *Reader* December 3, 2020 🏼

#### SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

#### **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

Contact: 3598 Talbot Street, San Diego 619-223-

3193 www.westminstersd.org

Membership: 100 Pastor: Megan Cochran Neighborhood: Point Loma

Age: 34

Born: Albert Lea, MN

Formation: Macalester College, St. Paul, MN; Mc-

 $Cormick\ Theological\ Seminary,\ Chicago$ 

Years Ordained: 7

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

**Pastor Megan Cochran:** God is bigger and more creative and more loving than we can ever imagine. We are being called to be loving and creative people in the world. That

message is always relevant. At Westminster, we talk about how we can help God to co-create a world that if filled with justice and joy for everyone, especially those the world harms.

SDR: Why Presbyterian?
PC: I always talk about the Presbyterian Church by saying it is a church of grace, gratitude, and grit. Grace is a free gift before anything else. In life we are loved by God, and there's this gritty aspect where we are committed to social justice and fighting for creating a world that Jesus was trying to create. Also, in gratitude, our whole lives are an incredible response to this gift from God.... I can't

imagine being anything but

"Presby" now. This is my place; these are my people. SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PC: At Westminster, we're the place where art, faith and nature meet. We are seekers creating a just and joyful community where all have a place at God's table. We are the first "More Light" Presbyterian church in San Diego. That means we are open, affirming and inviting to the LGBTQ community. We have a thriving theater community here; we have a pre-school; we have four acres of land in Point Loma. So we have a playground, a community garden, and a park. It is really this totally incredible place where we

are creatively trying to live into the future of what it can mean to be the church.

**SDR**: What one book has had the most impact on your ministry?

PC: I love art. Madeleine L'Engle has this book called Walking on Water, which talks about the connections between art and faith. That has profoundly impacted my journey as a pastor. In addition to literature, artwork for me - of all kinds - is informative for me as a pastor. Georgia O'Keefe is one of my favorites. Anytime people are being creative, the church can learn something from that. Because we believe in a creative God, we are all called to be creative beings



Megan Cochrai

in the world. L'Engle gives permission to all of us to consider ourselves artists. Art can look different for everyone; for some it might be a painting; for some it might be an Excel spreadsheet. Whatever way you are creating and bringing about connections in the world, that is you being an artist. For L'Engle and for me, that is a faithful process.

 $\textbf{SDR} \hbox{:}\ Where\ do\ you\ go\ when$ 

you die?

PC: I don't know where we go when we die. But what I do know and deeply believe is that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God. This wild mystery that holds us in life will surely hold us in death also. I am so grateful for the bigness and graciousness of God. If you're asking me personally, do I believe in hell...probably not. But there is a lot I don't know about the world, and this is one of those moments where I think, "Thank God that God is God and I am not."

- Joseph O'Brien

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

#### 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)

Virtual Roots: Egypt Tune in live on the San Diego Children's Discovery Museum Facebook page to enjoy a traditional dance performance, bilingual storytime in Arabic and English, and other cultural activities. Check the page for the Roots: Egypt video and give us a follow to be notified when it

goes live. Activity kits are available while supplies last. Tuesday, December 8, 4pm; **free**. https://bit.ly/3ljMMMf. (ONLINE)

#### **LECTURES**

ArtTalk with Ariel Quartet: Celebrating Beethoven Join members of Ariel String Quartet in conversation as we celebrate the 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth. The quartet will share stories of how they approach the composer's music and why it is still as vital today as it was two centuries ago. This event is free with registration. Saturday, December 5, 10am; free. artpower.ucsd.edu/event/ariel-arttalk/. (ONLINE)

Endangered Orcas: The Story of the Southern Residents These urban orcas, a Pacific Northwest icon, are at the center of human politics as we attempt to learn from the past and find a sustainable future. This presentation is free and open to the public. Wednesday, December 9, 7pm; free. acssandiego.org/upcomingspeaker.php. (ONLINE)

**How Nature Lovers Survive** COVID on Mt. Whoville Kati and Ernie transformed their 1.5acre parcel into a nature sanctuary. They provided water and planted friendly plants that interface with the native chaparral environment, allowing wildlife to bloom. COVID lockdown has allowed them to spend more time at home enjoying and observing visitors. Their photography includes game cameras and an intimate nest camera to see night visitors. Friday, December 4, 7pm; free. https:// bit.ly/3qdYyvp. (ONLINE)

How Not to Destroy the World with AI The third annual lecture of the Institute for Practical Ethics at UC San Diego, featuring a presentation by Dr. Stuart Russell: Dr. Stuart Russell, professor of computer science at UC Berkeley, is a global expert in artificial intelligence. While some developments in AI are enormously positive, others, such as autonomous weapons and the replacement of humans in many real-world, decision-making scenarios, may be negative. Should this be a cause for concern, as Elon Musk, Stephen Hawking and others have suggested? Prof. Russell will argue that the problem is real, and the technical aspects are solvable, IF we replace current definitions of AI with a version based on real benefit to humans. Thursday, December 3, 4pm; free. https://bit. ly/33rC4gp. (ONLINE)

Living Room Lecture: Avian Remains from the Presidio

Very little is known about chicken husbandry in colonial America, which makes this study the first comprehensive analysis of chicken remains in North America, Chickens are scarcely mentioned in historical accounts describing early California, and information on their sex, age, or management is rare. Small-scale poultry production, likely managed by women and children, provided California presidios with a form of subsistence independence. This virtual event will be held on Zoom. Thursday, December 3, 5:30pm; free. https://bit.ly/39ru2Iw. (ONLINE)

Saidiya Hartman Guest Lecture University of California San Diego presents Saidiya Hartman, a scholar of African American literature and cultural history whose works explore the afterlife of slavery in modern American society and bear witness to lives, traumas, and fleeting moments of beauty that historical archives have omitted or obscured. She weaves findings from her meticulous historical research into narratives that retrieve from oblivion stories of

nameless and sparsely documented historical actors, such as female captives on slave ships and the inhabitants of slums at the turn of the twentieth century. Friday, December 4, 12pm; free. https://bit.ly/3ljhLbj. (ONLINE)

#### MARKETS

San Diego Vintage Collective Market Outdoor holiday market with San Diego's finest vintage vendors and local makers. Shop 1000s of products from 80+ vendors, clothing, home goods, art, jewelry, accessories, etc. San Diego Vintage Collective is an outdoor market within walking distance to SD's best restaurants, shops, and hotels. This event follows cdc social distancing guidelines and masks are required for entry. Sunday, December 6, 10am; free. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road, (LIBERTY STATION)

#### **SPOKEN WORD**

2020 Virtual Memoir Showcase Ten winning stories will be performed by professional actors and actresses and livestreamed on Facebook, with the 2020 Theme: That's a Terrible Idea, What Time? From wearing a Glinda the Goodwitch Costume to a Wedding, Braving a Jungle filled with Howler Monkeys, to having lunch with your husband's lover, this year's showcase will also feature a presentation by The Ajumma Experience, a local Korean flash mob dance group. Saturday, December 5, 7pm; free. 18 and up. facebook. com/sandiegowritersfestival/ live. (ONLINE)

#### PARENTS, CAREGIVERS, AND YOUTH 12 AND OLDER, PLEASE JOIN US TO SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES AND IDEAS!

## Virtual Community Listening Session December 12, 2020 • 11am to 12:30pm

Join us for an important conversation about the impacts of the pandemic and recent events on behavioral health.

Youth can earn two hours of community service for attending.

Visit www.ListenToSanDiego.org for more details and to register.







Institute for Public Health

Each year, the County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services collects feedback about the behavioral health of San Diegans through a variety of activities including public community listening sessions, focus groups, and interviews. Feedback is used to inform program planning, and results are published annually in the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan and Annual Updates.

## HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at SDReader.com/drinks

#### ALLIED GARDENS

McGregor's Grill and Ale House: Monday, Thursday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers. Tuesday, 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers, \$5 Pacifico pints and Margaritas. Wednesday, 4-6pm: \$1 off all pints, wells, house wines, \$5 off half gallon pitchers, \$5 whiskey cocktails and shots, half price bottles of wine.

#### DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

**Gaslamp Fish House:** *Daily*, 3:30-6:00pm: \$4 Fireball shot, Mc-Cormick bourbon, shot of Torado Silver tequila, \$5 craft beer on tap, vodka soda, select wine by the glass, \$7 skinny margarita, select signature cocktails.

**Gaslamp Tavern:** *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$2 off drafts, wine, specialty cocktails, \$5 wells.

Maryjane's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 wells drinks, beer, \$6 wine.

Rockin' Baja Lobster — Gaslamp: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4.50 any 14-oz. draft, well drinks, fireball shot; \$5.50 Jameson shot, house margaritas; \$6.50 wine by the glass, Jack Daniels, Grey Goose.

**The Tipsy Crow:** *Monday-Thursday*, 3-8pm: Drink exchange (prices vary). *Friday-Saturday*, Noon-8pm: Drink exchange (prices vary).

Werewolf American Pub: Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts, house wines, and wells.

Whiskey Girl: Monday, 7-9pm: \$3 off drafts, \$4 wells, \$4 Stella, \$5 select wine, \$6 Don Julio Tequila. Tuesday, 7-9pm: \$3 off drafts, \$4 wells, \$4 Dox XX, \$5 select wine, \$6 EI Jimador Tequila. Wednesday, 7-9pm: \$3 off drafts, \$4 wells, \$4 Firestone Walker 805, \$5 select wine, \$6 Sailor Jerry. Thursday, 7-9pm: \$3 off drafts, \$3 Truly Hard Seltzer, \$4 wells, \$5 select wine, \$5 Patron Tequila.

The Whiskey House: Wednesday-Sunday, 4-7pm: \$4 French pale lager, \$5 Moscow mule, whiskey sour, Daiquiri, house wines (red, white, sparkling), \$9 Carsberg Danish pilsner (1 liter can). Add a shot of house whiskey to any beer for \$1.

#### BOOZE NEWS

#### 32 flavors

Miramar brewery 32 North quietly closed this summer. With the pandemic continually redefining how beer companies can do business, the brewhouse and frequent wedding venue was sold to a symbiotic pair of startups covering a range of brewed beverages, not just beer. The weekend before Thanksgiving, New Motion Beverages and Embolden Beer Co. held their dual grand opening at the renovated space (8655 Production Avenue, Suite A, Miramar).

New Motion Beverages has been in the works for roughly four years, originally chalked up as a hard kombucha business by home booch brewers and former college roommates and Andy Sist and Kyle Pool. However, by the time it debuted in mid-November, New Motion was also producing hard seltzer and a newer emerging beverage dubbed hard tea. In this case, the 5.5-percent alcohol tea is brewed from the same sugar wash as the hard seltzer. It's then blended with either green or white tea to create a more complex — and caffeinated — beverage.

Sometime during the process of developing New Motion, Kyle tapped another friend, Cody Morris, as a consultant to get their brewing operation going. A veteran brewer who spent several years at **Mission Brewery** in East Village, Morris started evaluating turnkey opportunities for the project in February. The pandemic was well under way by summer, when an equipment broker let him know 32 North was seeking a buyer.

The price was good, but the 20-barrel brewhouse was a little big for an alt-beverage startup. "We got a bigger footprint than we originally intended," says Morris, but Pool had a solution: "He asked if we wanted to do a brewery." They did. So, while quite a few local beer businesses have added hard seltzer and kombucha to their portfolios in recent years, this may be the first time we've seen it the other way around.

Morris launched Embolden Beer Co. with his cousin, Andrew Kelly. Morris and Kelly started home brewing together nine years ago, and by 2015, both were in the industry. Kelly spent several years brewing at **Coronado Brewing Company** before heading over to Mission Brewery himself, last year.

"Andrew and I had talked about long term goals to kinda, hopefully, someday open a brewery," recalls Morris, "but we weren't sure how we would make that happen." A few months after jumping on the turnkey opportunity, Embolden Beer was being poured: a handful of IPAs leading a variety of styles including kolsch, pilsner, golden stout, and pastry stout. Morris says the



Cans of New Motion hard seltzer and hard tea alongside cans of Embolden Beer Co. Both now brewed in Miramar.

goal is for half the brewery's 32 taps to pour Embolden product, the other half New Motion.

Kelly serves as head brewer for both brands, with Morris as director of operations. Principal owners Pool and Sist operate as chief executive and chief marketing officer, respectively. Morris notes they managed to retain to beertenders from 32 North, plus one brewer.

As for the brewery itself, they overhauled it with equipment upgrades and a fresh look, adding a lot of greenery. With pandemic regulations in effect, they partnered up with the **Pizza Trol**-

**ley** food truck and reclaimed a thousand square feet of parking lot to build a 3000-square-foot outdoor beer garden.

Meanwhile, the brewery purchase included

a canning line, helping the two new brands jump immediately into retail. "We're exploring distribution right away," says Morris, "not waiting to pull the trigger," as they might have under normal circumstances. He says initial distribution will favor Embolden Beer, as the New Motion portfolio continues to develop.

That said, cans of hard tea sold out during the venue's opening weekend, and distributors have already expressed interest in the brand's concoctions, which include Pomegran-

ate Unicorn, made with green tea, pomegranate, blackberry, and cinnamon; and Apricot Bliss, a white tea beverage flavored with apricot, strawberry, and orange zest.

New Motion also serves nonalcoholic versions of its teas and kombuchas, and it isn't done adding new hard beverages to San Diego's menu. Currently in development is a line of hard ginger beer.

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

#### EAST VILLAGE

**Bootlegger:** *Tuesday*, 11am-1:30pm: \$2 tacos. *Sunday*, 9am-1pm: \$14.95 bottomless mimosas.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday, 7-9pm: \$6 signature cocktails. Friday-Saturday, 5-9pm: \$6 signature cocktails.

#### LA MESA

**Brigantine La Mesa:** *Daily*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$1 off well drinks, drafts, featured wines, \$4 glass sparkling wine, \$5.75 margaritas, \$6 happy hour red wine, happy hour white wine

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa: Friday, All day: Clam chowder \$5 cup, \$7 bowl. After 4pm:

chowder \$5 cup, \$7 bowl. After 4pn Prime rib \$24. *Sunday*, 11am-2pm: \$5 Bloody Marys, \$10 Champagne bottles.

#### LITTLE ITALY

**Carruth Cellars Wine Garden:** *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$3 off glasses, \$5 off bottles of wine.

King and Queen Cantina: Daily, Noon-6pm: \$1 off drafts, \$4 beer bottles, \$7 well drinks, wine, sangria, \$8 margaritas. Appetizers \$5 to \$9.

#### MISSION BEACH

Coaster Saloon: Monday, 3pm-6pm: \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, \$5 well drinks. Tuesday, 3pm-6pm: \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft and El Jimador shots, \$5 well drinks, house margarita. Wednesday, 3pm-6pm: \$1 off all IPA, \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft and Fireball shots, \$5 well drinks. Thursday, 3pm-6pm: \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, Mission Blonde draft, Polish Pie shots, \$5 well drinks. Friday, 3pm-6pm: \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$4 select Bud draft, \$5 well drinks, Captain Morgan, Jack Daniels, Jager shots. Saturday, All day: \$15 Champagne bottles. Sunday, All day: \$3 Jager shot with any beer purchase, \$12 Champagne

#### MISSION VALLEY

Lazy Dog: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm and 9pm-close: \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini. Friday, 3-6pm: \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini. Sunday, 9pm-close: \$3-\$8: Housemade sangrias, well drinks, drafts, house wine, Asian pear martini.

**North Italia Fashion Valley:** *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 glasses

*Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 glasses red wine, white wine, sangria, beers, \$16 wine bottles and beer pitchers.

#### **NORTH PARK**

Redwing Bar & Grill: Thursday, 3pm-6pm: \$4.50 24 oz. Tall Boys, \$12.50 burger and Tall Boy. Friday, 3pm-6pm: \$1.50 domestic drafts, \$3.50 domestic bottles, \$4.50 wells. Saturday, 3pm-6pm: \$3.50 domestic beers, \$4.50 wells.

#### OLD TOWN

Home & Away: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3–6pm: \$1 off glass of wine, draft and bottled beer, well drinks, \$3 to \$6 off specialty cocktails. \$2.75 tacos. *Tuesday*, 3–6pm: Taco Tuesday specials, see server.

**Old Town Mexican Café:** *Tuesday*, Half off well drinks and selected appetizers all day.

#### PACIFIC BEACH

Ambrogio15: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$19 per person biodynamic (organic) wine flight with three selected biodynamic wines (two ounce pour) and focaccia bread, olives, artichokes. **Latitude 32:** Wednesday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$3-\$5.50 beer and wines.

**The Local Pacific Beach:** *Monday*, 4-7pm: Half off appetizers.

#### Mavericks Beach Club: Monday, 5-6pm: \$4 beer, wine, and

wells, \$6 margaritas and mai tais. \$2 off snacks. 3-10pm: Half off one pound orders of all wings, no limit. Tuesday, 5-6pm; \$4 beer, wine, and wells, \$6 margaritas and mai tais. \$2 off snacks. 5-10pm: \$10 all you can eat taco bar. 5pm-2am: \$4 all Mexican beers, \$4 Margaritas, \$4 shots of Eljimador. Wednesday, Friday, 5-6pm: \$4 beer, wine, and wells, \$6 margaritas and mai tais. \$2 off snacks. Thursday, 5-6pm: \$4 beer, wine, and wells, \$6 margaritas and mai tais. \$2 off snacks. 9pm-2am: \$3 Natural Lite seltzers and Naturdays, \$4 shots of Jameson, Altos, Absolut, Malibu, Jagermeister.

The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5-9pm: Bottles cocktails to go.

#### **POINT LOMA**

**The Pearl:** Monday-Tuesday, 4-6pm: \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty cocktails. Wednesday, 4-6pm: \$4-6pm: \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty drinks. *Thursday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$4 select beers, \$5 well drinks, \$6 house wine, half off specialty drinks.

**The Wine Pub:** Daily, 4-6pm: \$5 craft beers on draft, \$5 select red and white wines.

#### RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill Rancho San Diego: Friday, All day: Clam chowder \$5 cup, \$7 bowl. After 4pm: Prime rib \$24.

#### SAN MARCOS

#### Churchill's Pub and Grill:

*Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells. *Sunday*, All day: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells.

#### **SOLANA BEACH**

**Carruth Cellars:** *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$3 off glasses, \$5 off bottles of wine.

#### **UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS**

#### Et Voilà French Bistro:

Tuesday-Sunday, 4:30-7pm: \$7 cocktails, glass of house made sangria (\$14 pitcher), draft Iron Fist Counter Strike IPA, and draft 1664, \$5-\$9 wines by the glass. Discounted food menu.



#### \$2 Off Wine & Appetizers \$1 Off Beer

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#### \$2 Domestics All Day 6am-9pm Monday & Friday

Everybody's welcome at Dock's! Open 7 days a week 6am-2am at night. Casual & Cozy, with big screens showing sports, one pool table, dartboard, computer jukebox, and bar games. Karaoke on weekends.



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## G

#### Buy One Drink, Get One On Us!

Daily from 4pm-8pm Plus \$5 appetizers



Tropical Savor Bar & Grill 729 Fourth Ave • Gaslamp District (619) 228-9385 TropicalSavorBarandGrill.com San Diego Reader December 3, 2020 23

#### **Rock the Plank**

#### "Doesn't get more covid-free than here."

ey," says Kim. "How come they can serve meals inside here? They grandfathered in?"

"Make that 'great-grandfathered," I say. I happen to know. This place has been in business since

1886, not that I was there for the grand opening.

"Wow. This bar?" says Kim. Okay, it started off as a stable and a grocery store. "But history has nothing to do with it, dude," I say. "We're going in because

I'm pointing beyond a life-size sculpture of a surfer to the ocean that's crashing in, accompanied by an onshore breeze.

"Oxygen, my friend. Doesn't get more covidfree than here."

I called ahead and the gal said yes, the inside's open, and they do have hot food. Inside, pics of the two great "kings" — winter king tides that sent this guy, the manager, Marty. "There was \$2500 worth. We used it for a food drive, because people were really hurting back then."

One puffer fish is lit up from the inside. "Uh, keep your mask on, and you need to

> order some food before I can give you a drink," says Eric.

> "How do you manage to have inside eating?"

"I'll show you," lady named Esmeralda says. We walk up a couple of steps and into an enclosed but open(!) patio. Like an atrium.

Enclosed, but with clear sky in the middle. Tables are strung around under the roofs. They have built curved, varnished wood booths. Some serious craft work's been going on here, and it all looks fresh. At one end, there's a kind of cupboard with doors ajar. The grill. Just fits.

"This is where the magic happens," says Adrian. He's the cook, a cheery, lanky guy in an

> O'Neill tee shirt and a Screwball Peanut Butter Whiskey facescarf. Actually, the choice is pretty simple today: hot dog or burger. But unbelievable prices! Burger's \$4, hot dog, \$2. Also, Marty says, in the mornings from 6-10, they have 25-cent coffees. "This is IB. Think of us as a Midwest town. We look after each other."

> Usually, if you include daily specials, there's more. Six wings cost \$4, hot and spicy or honey BBQ. Smoked pork belly or brisket nachos, \$5. Smoked chicken nachos, \$5. Smoked shrimp nachos, \$6. Or smoked

sausage bacon wrap, \$3. BBQ chicken (or pork) on a skewer with pancit (noodles) and rice and 3 pieces of lumpia (spring rolls) cost \$10. Adobo (marinated) chicken, same sides, \$10. A baconwrapped hot dog is \$4, and Ye Plank Fries (with a pork or chicken BBQ skewer, "smothered in cheese on top of fries") is \$9. The Friday Special, BBQ ribs with potato salad, BBQ beans, and roll, goes for \$10. Also on Friday, chicken or pulled pork sliders are \$6. The Monday Special is charbroiled burger (and you can see Adrian charbroiling those pink patties right now) \$6 with fries. Tuesdays are tacos, of course (\$3).

Every day you can get nachos for \$4, with chili for \$6, or their "famous chili with cornbread," \$6.

Kim's getting twitchy. Can't tell if it's for lunch, or a cerveza. We both go for a \$4 cheeseburger. "Limited menu right now," says Adrian. "Never sure when they're going to shut us down. Look what happened in LA."

Still, he takes a lot of trouble. Nice fresh lettuce, and his slices of tomato are generous. He lays two squares of cheese over each sizzling patty. The stiff cheese relaxes all over the meat, then starts oozing down, bubbling, even. No fries. Packs of Heinz mustard, Hunt's ketchup. That's it.



Manager Marty (left) with regulars Bob and Bill



Open for indoor-outdoor dining!

surges sluicing right through this building. In the '80s. "Now, we've built a seawall," says Eric the barkeep. "We should be good for a few years."

Besides the seawall and a sizable enclosed deck, the joint is also protected by the big statue of Dempsey Holder, the local hero who first conquered the big waves of the Tijuana Sloughs, way back in 1937.

So inside, tiki bar! With puffer fish and coconut faces, red and green navigation lights, flotation corks, scads of nets, and lots and lots of dollar bills tucked into the palapa. "At lockdown, March 16th, day before St. Paddy's Day, we cleaned it out," says



A statue of Dempsey Holder, who surfed the Sloughs in 1937, guards the Plank

But now we can go get our beers. Kim goes for AleSmith's Tony Gwinn honorific, .394 Pale Ale. Costs \$6. I'm trying the Elysian Space Dust, the one with the hoppy-looking green planet spurting, well, space dust (\$7.50).

"Cash only," say a whole bunch of signs. But they do have an ATM. We head out to the patio. To the corner seat. Because you can see the ocean and the sunset from there. Maybe it's the salt air: the burger is dee-lish. The patty has got some luscious sort of marinade, I swear. Lettuce nice and crunchy, tomato fresh-cut, what's not to like? And just to think: back in the day, this'd be the stable. We'd be surrounded by the horses they kept to tow logs from the sloughs when the sloughs were bog

As the sun hits the ocean and flares under the clouds, the statue gets a life of its own.



Super-honest cheeseburger, a steal at \$4

"That's your famous pioneer surfer," says this guy over at the next table. Bill. From Canada. Snowbird. Comes every year. Sitting with Bob. Local. "I'm here several times a day, from coffee on," says Bill. "Feels aboat like home." ■

The Place: Ye Olde Plank, 24 Palm Avenue (at Seacoast Drive), Imperial Beach, 619-423-5976 **Hours:** 10am-10pm daily (coffee from 6am)

**Prices:** Morning coffee, 25 cents; cheeseburger, \$4; hot dog, \$2; six wings, \$4 (hot and spicy or honey BBQ); smoked pork belly or brisket nachos, \$5; smoked chicken nachos, \$5; smoked shrimp nachos, \$6; smoked sausage bacon wrap, \$3; BBQ chicken (or pork) on a skewer with pancit (noodles) and rice and 3 pieces of lumpia (spring rolls), \$10; adobo (marinated) chicken, same sides, \$10; bacon-wrapped hot dog, \$4; Ye Plank Fries (with pork or chicken BBQ skewer, "smothered in cheese"), \$9; Friday Special BBQ ribs, potato salad, BBQ beans, roll, \$10; chicken or pulled pork sliders are \$6 (Fridays); Tuesday tacos, \$3; nachos, \$4; nachos with chili, \$6; chili with cornbread, \$6

Buses: 33, 34

Nearest Bus Stops: Palm and Seacoast



### **Photogenic buns**

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

#### The two Harumamas

able trademark of Har-

umama Noodles &

Buns, a local family

of restaurants with

locations in Little

Italy, La Jolla, and

Carlsbad. Make

Harumana Noodles & Buns and Harumama Terivaki & Bao; 2958 Madison Street, Carlsbad. As I stare down at my plate, a pair of doughy

eves stare back at me. Steamed dough eyes, to be exact. Part of a steamed bun shaped and

colored to look like a Holstein cow, bulgogi beef folded within. Dressing such bao buns and dumplings to resemble animal characters is an adorthat two locations in Carlsbad Village, where the original was recently joined by a new tweak on the concept, dubbed Teriyaki & Bao.

It's located two doors down, which created some initial confusion for yours truly. I wound up at the Noodles & Buns location, where ramen and udon dishes balance a selection of traditional bao (the kind you fold) and

> character bao (stuffed dumplings that resemble animals). Sold by the pair (\$8) the char-

acters are decided by the protein stuffing the idle of these dumplings: chicken dumplings resemble chicken, pork dumplings resemble pigs, etc.

> Bulgogi beef bao from Harumama Teriyaki & Bao.



The covered patio of Harumama Noodles & Buns Carlsbad: indoor or outdoor?

The fully covered patio at Noodles & Buns looks like indoor dining, but apparently gets to pass as outdoor dining these days. I elected to take my order on

rant's

sidewalk tables, where it was treated as a take-out order, meaning disposable packaging and no table service. I'd rather have been able to mix and match the characters than eat

two each the restau-A spicy fried chicken báo (folded) from Harumama Teriyaki & Bao.

Koala bao (dumplings) filled with strawberries and cream.

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Banh Mi Hoi An's signature Hoi An Special, featuring pork loaf, pork belly, jambon, braised pork, and pate

pork and beef buns. They tasted fine, but neither was so good I needed to eat two: leary. I was really more in it for the photos. outdid

Dessert, on the other hand, worked out, courtesy of a pair of koala shaped *bao*: colored light gray with black triangle noses and pink hearts on their cheeks, these *bao* were stuffed with strawberry and cream, which to me made a better match for the sweetness of the steamed buns.

Things operate similarly down the block, except the folded buns of Teriyaki & Bao are sold individually, mostly at \$4 apiece. The corner property offers truly open outdoor seating — better for the covidleary. Here, my *bulgogi* beef *bao* (with lettuce and onions) outdid soft shell crab (\$5) and spicy fried chicken options. The latter was more orange chicken than spice, but like all the rest, cute as can be.

Rather than ramen, at Teriyaki & Bao that means teriyaki skillets — touted as have-it-your-way meals, which basically let you choose your protein, and opt for unsweetened teriyaki. Or, if you're tired of the bao, there are a couple of trendy options, whether the photogenic tornado omelet

(a swirling cyclone of egg served over fried rice), or creamy *udon* noodles, which include a bizarre yet somewhat creamy *matcha udon*, a sort of green tea curry served over fat noodles with a smattering of vegetables.

Whichever Harumama location you choose, the truism seems to be that you can't get away from ordering Instagram-friendly dishes on your first visit, but it's actually the straightforward noodle and rice dishes that will bring you back.

by Ian Anderson



The vermicelli noodle salad, bun, with pork skewers and egg rolls (lettuce not pictured)

#### Beyond sandwiches at Banh Mi Hoi An

Banh Mi Hoi An; 3145 Rosecrans Street, Suite A, Point Loma. Used to be, whenever I found myself hungry for lunch in the Sports Arena/Loma Portal area, I'd wind up enduring the lines of either In-N-Out Burger or Phil's BBQ. That changed for the better a couple years ago, when Bánh Mì Hội An opened on Rosecrans Street. Its delicious, crusty sandwiches have become my go-to grab-and-go since the summer of 2018.

In fact, it's Hội An special bánh mì (\$6.50) — the meaty signature sandwiches made

with Vietnamese pork loaf, pork belly, *jambon*, braised pork, and pate — has proven so satisfying, I rarely consider anything else.

But it was about time I did. Truth is, despite its name, Bánh Mì Hội An is much more than just a bánh mì shop. It offers plenty of hot and cold Vietnamese dishes, ranging from phổ noodle soups (\$9-12) and rice plates to summer rolls (\$5.50) and bun (pronounced boon), also known as vermicelli noodle salad (\$9-12, including options for lemongrass beef, marinated tofu, and glazed salmon).

As San Diego has entered the purple tier, putting indoor dining on ice for a while, I did something I haven't done before. I put in an order for take-out at Bánh Mì Hội An, not for lunch, but for dinner. I still picked up a Hội An special sandwich — a couple actually — because it's really built to please, any time of day. I got a sumptuous order of pork skewer and egg roll bun. But the focus of my meal was an altogether different dish: bo kho (\$9.95).

It's a Vietnamese stew, built around braised beef and carrots. Which sounds a lot like a French stew, sure. But much like banh mi draws upon Vietnamese ingredients and traditions to distinguish itself from French use of baguettes to make sandwiches, bo kho manages to be as comforting as Continental stews, while retaining a sense of Southeast Asian character.

And so I found myself ushering forkfuls of familiar tomato-based beef stew, while marveling over its distinctions. Is that fish sauce? I wondered. That must be lemon grass?

True to stew form, you may order it with a side of baguettes for dipping, or as I did, with rice. On a chilly night, the warming dish satisfied every bit as much as the sandwich I ate beside it.

Bánh Mì Hội An offers limited outdoor seating, but I can't think of a better take-out option in the area, whether for lunch or dinner, winter or summer, pandemic or whatever it is that comes after.

by Ian Anderson

#### All thumbs up for Massachusetts Mike's

Massachusetts Mike's Pizzeria; 435 University Avenue, Hillcrest. I'm used to having leftovers. As someone who writes about food, I've long been in the habit of ordering more food than I can eat. And as a bachelor, I could always count on all the extra food still being in the fridge the next day.

But I recently married into a young family, and though I'm still ordering more food than necessary, those leftovers now have a way of disappearing. At least, the good ones do. The bad meals tend to linger.

When a new pizza spot opened in Hillcrest, it could have gone either way. On the one hand, the kids love pizza. On the other, they're kind of picky about it. As an adult, I might try to tell them Neapolitan pizza is just as good or better than the Domino's they've being eating all their life, but that hardly means they're convinced.



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A meat lovers pie from Massachusetts Mike's, with pepperoni, sausage, and Canadian bacon instead of meatball.

It took me some time to figure out how to order from Massachusetts Mike's Pizzeria. Google searches kept leading me to a closed San Marcos location. Its website links to online ordering that seems to work for locations in Portland, Chicago, and New York, but the supposed San Diego spot gives a Venice Beach address.

I didn't fare much better ordering by phone. Due to a typo on the Hillcrest shop's menu and website, I initially

kept dialing a disconnected line. The number is written as 619-299-MIKE(6354), and it took a few tries before I realized the numbers that spell MIKE, on the telephone pad, are actually 6453.

That number got me through right away, and I ordered a couple of pies for take-out. Delivery would have been easier than trying to find a parking spot in the thick of Hillcrest (University Avenue between Fourth and Fifth Streets), but I found the little counter shop feeling festive, with decorations, and walk-in customers ordering pizza by the slice.

First up when I got home was a custom red pie: pepperoni, sausage, and Canadian bacon with fresh mozzarella (\$14.50 small, \$20.75 large). It seemed to be a New England-style pie, a little thicker and (pleasantly) greasier than New York pizza, with tomato sauce more herbal and savory than the sweeter New York red sauce.



A new pizza counter in Hillcrest..

Massachusetts Mike's also touts white pies, made with a garlic and olive oil sauce, so I picked up one of those topped with chicken, tomato, and a pesto drizzle (\$15.99 small, \$20.99 large). The chicken consisted of little shreds, which I liked much better than the cubed chicken that typically prevents me from ordering it as a topping. Conversely, each slice of the pie featured its own big, round, thin slice of tomato.

I took my time trying a few

bites of one, and a few bites of another. Meanwhile, my family was busy devouring both pies. Everybody ate a slice or two more than they usually do, including my wife, who usually professes not to like pizza all that much. Just like that, I was robbed of any leftover slices I'd looked forward to the next day. But, I found a local pizza spot everybody agrees upon. Something I didn't even realize I needed.

by Ian Anderson

#### **FOOD & DRINK EVENTS**

Gelson's Tasting: Justin Vineyards & Winery Gelson's invites you to an online tasting with Justin Vineyards & Winery with Founder Justin Baldwin. This virtual event will feature two wines to buy instore including the Justin Rosé (\$14.99) and JUSTIFICATION (\$56.99). Wine will be paired with Gelson's Custom Cheese & Charcuterie Plate for \$23.99 (serves two). Thursday, December 3, 6pm; \$23-\$95. 21 and up. gelsons.com/ justin (ONLINE)



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## the inside track

Scratch and sniff "I was at an Alex Cline concert when the air-conditioning suddenly came on and immediately the whole vibe changed. That got me to thinking about how the other senses might influence the way we perceive a live concert. It might enhance

studio and scent was one of the controlling structures, how might we respond and how might that influence the music? I started composing, and I shared the structure and the texture with the scent and multi-media artist Sean Raspet. Then he would try to

UCSD trumpet professor Steph Richards explores the connection between smell and music in her album Supersense.

our emotional connection to the performance," says UCSD trumpet professor Steph Richards regarding her new album Supersense, which features a "scratch-and-sniff" card of custom-tailored scents meant to accompany the performance and present the listener with a different stream of information.

find a scent that might act as a counterpoint to what's happening musically, or perhaps enhance the feeling behind the music. My only rule when working with Sean was to make scents that were totally abstract. Not something that you could define or articulate, because I was afraid of distracting the musicians if it were something familiar. I

wanted him to develop scents that were more like a color or a texture."

So how did this manifest itself in practical terms?

"I brought the musicians into the studio," Richards said. "Each one had a bunch of numbered boxes. And while they were reading the score at certain points it would indicate to open box number 2, for instance, and they would have to respond. It was different on everyone's chart, so we were all smelling different things at different times."

> And how should the listener experience this?

"Well, that's the way it went down in the studio. People at home can listen to the music and then scratch the scent card that comes with the CD or LP so they can smell the same things we were smelling when we were recording. Ideally,

I'm hoping that it will enhance the feeling for the listener as well."

Do you have a theory as to what connects scent with music?

"I know that those two senses are really closely interwoven in the brain in early human evolution. The auditory and the olfactory. I think the biggest thing I learned

"If I have musicians in the from this project is that a scent FOR RECORDS CD's, DVD's & CLOTHES ASK ABOUT THE HIDDEN RECORD SHOP Contact **JEFF** at 858-382-7396 Open-Minded On What You Have



What has been the initial response?

"Pretty good," says Richards. "There has been a lot of curiosity. So there's been a ton of people buying the record just to see what it smells like. What's really interesting about this project coming out during the covid-19 pandemic is that my whole hope was to bring people closer to the music. And so in a time when we can't be together in concert halls to feel that closeness and intimacy, maybe this will mitigate that.

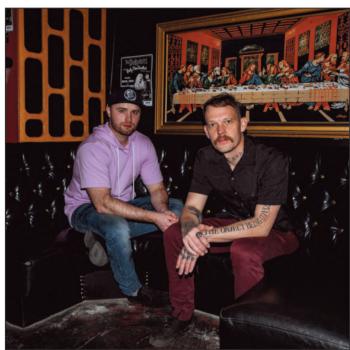
"But yeah, the reception... I was worried that a lot of critics would say 'it stinks'. But so far the reviews have been very positive. I think people are really interested and excited, because it's so different from what I usually do. Everyone plays outside of their comfort zone."

Supersense features Jason Moran on piano, Stomo Takeshi on bass, and Kenny Wollesen on drums.

— Robert Bush

**Leaf-songs** "The worst experience we've had playing a show was also one of the best," says Jonathon Bruhin, half of San Diego's Body Salt. "It was our very first performance at a large private gathering in Big Bear. We weren't sure what to expect as it was touted as a 'mini festival'.

It pretty much ended up being a lavish party in the woods. No one knew who we were and it felt like we were back in an awkward social situation in high school and



Body Salt: "We promote harder than anyone we know."

we were not part of the clique.

"We were supposed to play the first night we were there at 10 pm, but the guy who was bringing the PA system was drunk and ended up being like three hours late. We didn't go on until like 1 am, and it was about 30 degrees out. Our hands were numb, my keyboard broke, the PA system had no bass... Meanwhile everyone was either wasted or high on psychedelics, and making absurd comments about our set... It was pretty painful in the moment, but it ended up making us that much stronger as performers."

But a year after that, adds the band's other half, Ezekiel Morphis, "One of our favorite memories was the first time we were booked playing the Casbah. Tim Pyles had recently reached out to us and asked us if we wanted to do a feature on 91X, which felt like being nominated for a Grammy at that point. We were so grateful.

"It culminated in him building out a show for us on a Wednesday night. We promote harder than anyone we know, and we were determined for a good turnout even on a Wednesday night. We ended up packing the place out and throwing down so hard. It was a magical experience and one we will never forget. We are thankful to have

Tim in San Diego!

Music came naturally to the twosome. "I constantly write," says Morphis. "Being a songwriter is like being a little deciduous tree in the soil of your life experience. You create leaf-songs that fall to the earth, and then you instinctively need to generate more, and the process never stops.... It's connected to our minds, bodies, and spirits."

The two met over darts and beer at the Triple Crown Pub on Adams Avenue in Normal Heights, and soon it was off to Bruhin's basement studio, for what Morphis terms "A whirlwind of burritos, beer, shisha, and some left-field musical ideas." The new single "Please Avoid Your Grave" hit the web a few weeks back, and the next step is to wait for the venues to open again.

"We desire for our music to bring hope and the ability for people to be ok with being human in all its absurdity, to allow others to truly feel how and when they need to in a pure way," finishes Morphis.

"We're so grateful for everything we have accomplished, and it inspires us to spread Body Salt to everyone we can."

— Andrew Hamlin

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#### CONTRIBUTORS

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

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#### **HEMISPHERE**

San Diego Music Awards nominee for Album of the Year, Hemisphere draws on rock, pop, jazz, fusion, and metal for inspiration. Their new album *American Dreams* includes guest players such as Grammy winning percussionist Tommy Aros (Fattburger), singer Rebecca Jade (2020 SDMA Artist of the Year), singer-trumpeter Leonard Patton, trumpeter Derek Cannon, and guitar soloist Patrick Yandall. "If you listen to the end of the opening track 'America,' you get the sense of unity, diversity, and equality that we are hoping to convey on the album," says band founder Rob Shinno. "From there, you get right into the track 'Dance Club,' which speaks to

diversity and inclusion for marginalized groups. We all have someplace we go to feel comfortable and relaxed, regardless of our views or differences." The first single "Transmission" concerns the influence of social media. "If you really break it down, there is a different dynamic to stating an opinion online and having a real conversation with someone. Whether it's about a specific topic, or in some relationship, it's so much healthier to have the conversation than a oneway communication. We can all get along if we are willing to communicate." A collectors CD edition is available with a 16 page pamphlet of liner notes, images, and lyrics.



#### **DARIUS DEGHER**

Before co-founding the Sham Saints, Darius Degher fronted the psychedelic 1980s San Diego band Darius and the Magnets, which released an EP and then a single on Big Time Records of Australia. He went on to play and record with Warren Zevon (Sentimental Hygiene, Bad Karma, etc.), before embarking on a solo career and releasing several CDs, beginning with Cardboard Confessional. "The Reader very aptly called me a postmodern eclectic," he says. "Well, I'm working on an album right now that goes farther afield than ever before, even for me. It's an instrumental lounge-surf-chill project. A cross between the Sandals, Antonio Carlos

Jobim, Martin Denny, the Aqua Velvets, and the guitar work of Eric Gale and Cornell Dupree on CTI-era Stanley Turrentine, maybe also Wes Montgomery. The melodies are inspired by Jobim, Burt Bacharach, and early instrumental Santana. It should be released probably early in 2021. At the moment, I'm just trying to decide whether I want to release it using my own name, or whether I should devise yet another 'nom du song' in order to make it even more ridiculously impossible for people to track down my music. Just wanted you to know that the bounds of my eclecticism are being expanded yet further."



#### **DEAD ROCK WEST**

Singer-guitarist Frank Lee Drennen and singer Cindy Wasserman have a new single and video for "Revolution in the Garden," produced by band bassist David J Carpenter. Guests include Matt Lynott of the White Buffalo on lead drums, indie artist Patrick Dennis (lead percussion), and the Section Quartet (strings). The politically charged song ("The voice in our head/The voice on the tube/The voice tellin' us/We're all gonna lose") was written 30 years ago by Drennen and Patrick Dennis when they played in a Leucadia duo called the Homer Gunns. "A simple direct to DAT recording

was produced by Dave Sharp from the Alarm but never released," says Drennen. "It was written in response to the Bob Dylan song 'When the Ship Comes In,' except ours was a rolling 6/8 folk punk reaction to what the future looked like through our 20-something eyes...we wanted something that sounded epic. Big as life. A sound that reflects the urgency of the lyrics. We wanted a big rock 'n roll sound. We wanted to destroy the idea that Dead Rock West is merely a neat little Americana group from the West Coast."



#### SANDOLLAR

Based in PB and OB, reggae rockers Sandollar evolved from daily jam sessions in a high school woodshop class, transitioning into a five-member band in 2006. Their debut *Plane Rides and Hillsides* (which reached number 7 on the iTunes Reggae Charts) was followed by a self-titled album sporting a cover photo showing the band leaning on their car known as the Beast, a beat-up 1986 Suburban that carried them on countless road trips. They were singled out as San Diego's best unsigned band in 2013 by the web series *Indie Across America*, which hosted them for a performance. Their song

"Up Up" from the 2013 album *Rollercoaster Ride* recently took on a second life of sorts, being heard approximately 11 minutes into the first episode of the new Netflix series *Outer Banks* and thus becoming somewhat of an online sensation. They recently played an hour-long Backyard Session for Bryan Prusiensky's YouTube channel *Tape Heads TV*, and their own videos can also be streamed, including one for their track "Pouring Down." A new single was just released by local Pacific Records, "So Dangerous."



#### **ADAM GNADE**

The music made by Adam Gnade is deconstructed from old talking blues (Woody Guthrie, etc.) rather than spoken word or rap, with lyrics molded as prose, not poetry, which he describes as the "conversational flow of America." Think folky Americana gone through the wrong side of a looking glass, a Smothers Brother on a bum acid trip. "Music writers sometimes call it spoken word," he says, "but I hate spoken word. I'm just into nontraditional vocals." A former editor for Fahrenheit magazine, Gnade published his debut book, Hymn California, in 2010. His 2016 novel Locust House features a (fictional) set of characters en route to a (very

real) San Diego house show to see their favorite bands (the Locust, Blood Brothers, etc.) play the housemates' eviction party. Gnade's new pocket-size novel *Float Me Away, Floodwaters* is a documentation of the modern American West, of life on the margins of society, in the places forgotten by the city: the honkytonks and interstate campgrounds, the ghosts of cattle-towns, and the desolate strip malls. According to Gnade, "It's about ripping all the bullshit from your life and looking for things that make living worthwhile in the midst of poverty, political divisiveness, and a dying empire."

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

#### **Del Mar Fairgrounds:**

Saturday, 8pm — Iration: Coastin' at the Drive-In.

#### Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 12pm & 6pm — Colin James Worldwide Livestream.

Thursday, 4pm — Lucinda Williams: Lu's Jukebox. Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, 6pm — The Hold Steady Livestream, \$15. Friday, 3pm — Atreyu: Carry the Fire Livestream. Friday, 7pm — Belly Up Livestream: Queen Nation. \$15. Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 4pm — Hanson Live at Cain's

Ballroom. Saturday, 1pm — Evanescence Live From Rock Falcon Studio. Saturday, 9pm — Eve Selis Livestream.

Saturday, 6pm — Levitation Sessions: Frankie & the Witch

Sunday, 6pm — Allison Adams Tucker.

Sunday, 12pm — Jessie J: Live In LA. \$18.

Sunday, 2pm — Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free.

Monday, 5pm — Matt Sucich Live from Rockwood Music Hall.

Tuesday, 4pm — Paul Winter's Winter Solstice Celebration. *Wednesday*, 4pm — Dolly Parton: The Library That Dolly Built. Free.

#### **CLASSICAL** MUSIC

#### San Diego Master Chorale:

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San Diego Opera: All is Calm - The Christmas Truce of 1914 The story of the WWI Christmas Truce as told through trench songs, patriotic tunes, and Christmas carols returns in an uplifting performance of hope, humanity, and unity. Fri-Sat, Dec 4-5, 7pm; Sun, Dec 6, 1pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth

#### **UPCOMING SHOWS**

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

Sunday, Jan. 10 — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers.

#### **Brick by Brick:**

Monday, Dec. 14 — The Cybertronic Spree. \$18.

Saturday, Dec. 12 — Fu Manchu. \$15-\$18.

#### **IMMORTAL BEAUTY**

**Baroque loud and soft** 

The San Diego Symphony streamed their second concert on Friday, November 20. This concert was performed in Symphony Hall. It is available in its entirety on YouTube.

This is exactly the type of concert the San Diego Symphony needs to be doing via streaming. I'm not sure how the attendance would have been based on the repertoire, but online, attendance isn't an issue. Views are nice to have online and a concert such as this one is going to

All three sections of the orchestra — brass, strings, and winds — had their own sections of the concert while the entire orchestra performed a little known symphony from the French Classical Period.

The program started with brass pieces from the Baroque period, I would have loved to have been able to attend this concert and experience the solemn grandeur of Giovanni Gabrieli's Sonata pian'e forte (Loud and Soft Sonata) with the brass split right and left. For Giovanni Battista Buonamente's Sonata from Sonatas and Conzones. Book 6. the brass was positioned throughout the house.

The effect in the hall must have been magnificent. Baroque music is underrepresented in the concert offerings of most civic orchestras. The Baroque is quite often the territory of smaller specialized ensembles. I, for one, love Baroque music played on modern instruments, and these two opening pieces were brilliant.

Following the Baroque was the Classical period in the form of Symphony No. 1 by Chevalier St. Georges. This was a timely inclusion and shows that the symphony has the ability to stay up to date with current trends in the broader classical music world.

BY GARRETT HARRIS

St. Georges has been getting some press of late. He was educated in Paris but was born in the French colony of Guadaloupe in the Caribbean. His father was French and his mother was an African slave.

St. Georges was adept at several skills, including violin and fencing. He was as the commander of a legion during the French Revolution. As was usually the case, the Revolution swallowed him up, and he spent 18 months in prison for nonrevolutionary activities such as concertizing.

His Symphony No. 1 is delightful, and was well performed by the socially distanced orchestra. The San Diego Symphony continues to play idiomatically in the classical style under music director Rafael Payare.

The next piece was by Venezuelan composer Aldemaro Romero, entitled Fuga con pajarillo from Suite for Strings No. 1. I enjoyed this energetic music and even went back and listened to it a second time.

The concert finale was Dvorak's Serenade in D

The Symphony: still playing idiomatically under music director Rafael Payare minor, Opus 44. The serenade was performed by the symphony's wind section. What can I say? Dvorak was a master, and this music has that charming touch of melancholy that we all

love so much about the

Czech composer.

These first two concerts have been exceptional, not just in the performances but also in the repertoire chosen. It is encouraging to see and hear the symphony continuing to influence the musical life of San Diego and



#### **Del Mar Fairgrounds:**

Friday, Dec. 11 — Oingo Boingo Former Members Tour.

#### **House of Blues:**

Monday, Dec. 14 — Sebastian Bach Saturday, Dec. 19 — Azizi Gibson.

#### North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Thursday, Jan. 7 — Deadmau5 Chula Vista Drive-In Series Friday, Jan. 8 — Deadmau5 Chula Vista Drive-In Series.

#### **Online Internet Events:**

Thursday, Dec. 10 — Parquet Courts 10th Anniversary Livestream.

Thursday, Dec. 10 - Peter Sprague, Leonard Patton & Tripp Sprague. Free.

Thursday, Dec. 10 — Bird Calls: CÓVID 19 Musicians' Emergency Fund Benefit. Free. Friday, Dec. 11 — M. Ward: Think of Spring. Friday, Dec. 11 — Belly Up Livestream: Los Lobos Cĥristmas. \$20. Saturday, Dec. 12 — Engelbert Humperdinck Christmas Special. Saturday, Dec. 12 — Goo Goo Dolls: It's Christmas All Over. Saturday, Dec. 12 - Fov Vance:

Hope in the Highlands Concert Film. \$15. Saturday, Dec. 12 — Lindsey Stirling: Home for the Holidays

Livestream. Sunday, Dec. 13 - Laurie Berkner Holiday Party. Sunday, Dec. 13 - Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free. Sunday, Dec. 13 — Laurie Berkner Holiday Party. Sunday, Dec. 13 — John Henry's Friends Benefit Concert For

Wednesday, Dec. 16 — LEVL UP

Fest: Festival of Music & Stories

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - John Doe Livestream Series: Show #2. \$29-\$20.

Thursday, Dec. 17 — Lucinda Williams: Lu's Jukebox. Thursday, Dec. 17 — Allie X: Cape God Digital Concert. *Friday, Dec. 18* — Trans-Siberian Orchestra: Christmas Eve & Other Stories, \$30. Friday, Dec. 18 — We Banjo 3: Winter Wonderful. \$20. Friday, Dec. 18 - Belly Up Livestream: Abbey Road Christmas. \$12. Friday, Dec. 18 - Hollywood Undead House Party. Saturday, Dec. 19 — Josh Groban Livestream. Saturday, Dec. 19 — Boy George & Culture Club: Rainbow in the Dark, \$21-\$228. Saturday, Dec. 19 — Osees: Livestream At Big Sur. Saturday, Dec. 19 - The Orb: This Is Not Here Livestream.

Saturday, Dec. 19 — Belly Up Livestream: Metalachi Christmas. Sunday, Dec. 20 - Rufus, Martha & Lucy Wainwright: A Not So

Silent Night. Sunday, Dec. 20 — Jim Brickman Comfort & Joy at Home Tour. \$40-\$125

Organ Webcasts. Free. Sunday, Dec. 27 — Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free. Thursday, Dec. 31 — Lucinda Williams: Lu's Jukebox. Thursday, Dec. 31 — KISS 2020 Goodbye.

Sunday, Dec. 20 — Spreckels

 $\dot{Friday}$ ,  $\dot{Jan}$ . 8 — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom. Friday, Jan. 8 — Mike Garson's Bowie Celebration. Saturday, Jan. 9 — Avatar

Ages: An Impossible Concert Experience-.

Saturday, Jan. 9 — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom.

#### Tony Pepperoni Pizzeria:

Friday, Dec. 18 — Tim Yancey.

#### **Tower Bar:**

Saturday, Jan. 2 — The Picturebooks.

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DEL MAR FAIRGROUNDS

You can submit a listing, download mti3s watch videos subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music.

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

#### Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Saturday, 8pm — Iration: Coastin' at the Drive-In.

#### **Online Internet Events:**

Thursday, 12pm & 6pm — Colin James Worldwide Livestream.

*Thursday*, 4pm — Lucinda Williams: Lu's Jukebox. Thursday, Friday, & Saturday, 6pm — The Hold Steady Livestream, \$15. Friday, 3pm — Atreyu: Carry the Fire Livestream. Friday, 7pm — Belly Up Livestream: Queen Nation. \$15. Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 4pm - Hanson Live at Cain's

Saturday, 1pm — Evanescence

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Ballroom.

Live From Rock Falcon Studio. Saturday, 9pm — Eve Selis Livestream

Saturday, 6pm — Levitation Sessions: Frankie & the Witch Fingers.

Sunday, 6pm — Allison Adams Tucker.

Sunday, 12pm — Jessie J: Live In IA \$18

Sunday, 2pm — Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free.

Monday, 5pm — Matt Sucich Live from Rockwood Music Hall.

Tuesday, 4pm — Paul Winter's Winter Solstice Celebration. Wednesday, 4pm — Dolly Parton: The Library That Dolly Built. Free.

#### **CLASSICAL** MUSIC

San Diego Master Chorale: Messiah Sing Handel is the greatest composer that ever lived. Our holiday tradition continues in a non-traditional way: via

videoconference! Sing along with members of the SD Master Chorale, Sunday, December 6, 2pm; Online Internet Events, All over the world from.

San Diego Opera: All is Calm - The Christmas Truce of 1914 The story of the WWI

Christmas Truce as told through trench songs, patriotic tunes, and Christmas carols returns in an uplifting performance of hope, humanity, and unity. Fri-Sat, Dec 4-5, 7pm; Sun, Dec 6, 1pm; Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue.

#### SHOWS

#### Belly Up Tavern:

Sunday, Jan. 10 — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers.

#### **Brick by Brick:**

Monday, Dec. 14 - The

#### **UPCOMING**

Cybertronic Spree. \$18.



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#### Casbah:

Gibson

Saturday, Dec. 12 — Fu Manchu. \$15-\$18.

#### Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Friday, Dec. 11 — Oingo Boingo Former Members Tour

#### House of Blues:

Monday, Dec. 14 — Sebastian Bach Saturday, Dec. 19 — Azizi

#### North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Thursday, Jan. 7 — Deadmau5 Chula Vista Drive-In Series. Friday, Ian. 8 — Deadmau5 Chula Vista Drive-In Series.

#### **Online Internet Events:**

Thursday, Dec. 10 — Parquet Courts 10th Anniversary Livestream.

Thursday, Dec. 10 — Peter Sprague, Leonard Patton & Tripp Sprague. Free.

Thursday, Dec. 10 — Bird Calls: COVID 19 Musicians' Emergency Fund Benefit. Free. Friday, Dec. 11 - M. Ward:

Think of Spring. Friday, Dec. 11 — Belly Up Livestream: Los Lobos Christmas, \$20.

Saturday, Dec. 12 — Engelbert Humperdinck Christmas Special. Saturday, Dec. 12 — Goo Goo Dolls: It's Christmas All Over. Saturday, Dec. 12 - Foy Vance: Hope in the Highlands Concert

Film. \$15. Saturday, Dec. 12 — Lindsev Stirling: Home for the Holidays Livestream.

Sunday, Dec. 13 - Laurie Berkner Holiday Party. Sunday, Dec. 13 - Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free. Sunday, Dec. 13 - Laurie Berkner Holiday Party. Sunday, Dec. 13 — John Henry's Friends Benefit Concert For

Autism. Wednesday, Dec. 16 — LEVL UP Fest: Festival of Music & Stories.

Wednesday, Dec. 16 - John Doe Livestream Series: Show #2. \$29-\$20

Thursday, Dec. 17 — Lucinda Williams: Lu's Jukebox. Thursday, Dec. 17 — Allie X: Cape God Digital Concert. Friday, Dec. 18 — Trans-Siberian Orchestra: Christmas Eve & Other Stories. \$30. *Friday, Dec. 18* — We Banjo 3:

Winter Wonderful. \$20. Friday, Dec. 18 — Belly Up Livestream: Abbey Road Christmas. \$12.

Friday, Dec. 18 — Hollywood Undead House Party. Saturday, Dec. 19 - Josh Groban Livestream.

Saturday, Dec. 19 — Boy George & Culture Club: Rainbow in the Dark. \$21-\$228.

Saturday, Dec. 19 — Osees: Livestream At Big Sur. Saturday, Dec. 19 — The Orb: This Is Not Here Livestream. Saturday, Dec. 19 - Belly Up

Livestream: Metalachi Christmas. Sunday, Dec. 20 - Rufus, Martha & Lucy Wainwright: A Not So Silent Night.

#### Tony Pepperoni Pizzeria:

Friday, Dec. 18 — Tim Yancey. Free.

#### Tower Bar:

Saturday, Jan. 2 - The Picturebooks.

MOVIES

ow would we have survived this far into a pandemic without the ever-present Bella Thorne there to help take the edge off? In the third of four 2020 releases reviewed in these pages — the sequel to 2017's *The Babysitter* will have to wait — the reigning Queen of Whoopass stars as a Girl With No Name (or *Girl* for short) who returns home deadly determined to hack to pieces

the abusive father she hasn't seen in almost 20 years. She wants to

ensure her Mama (Elizabeth Saunders, an effective substitute for Margo Martindale) the lifetime of restful slumber that only the death of the vengeful slob who broke her back could provide, so imagine Girl's disappointment when she arrives on scene to find her old man hanging by his arms in the tool shed. Who beat her to the punch?

Golden is a fancied town situated in the Pacific Northwest (read: Canada), but it has an authentic-sounding ring to it. Dogs, both two- and four-legged, run the dangerously deserted streets — none more forbidding than Sheriff (Mickey Rourke), whose duties as head lawman include riding herd on a band of male siblings imaginatively dubbed "The Brothers." (The film's biggest mystery lies in the question, "How does one afford that much plastic surgery on a sheriff's meager salary!")

Much of what the run-down backwoods community has to offer oozes familiarity. One might say that's part of the charm of its generic underpinnings. The Chamber of Commerce cancelled the town's daily delivery of sunshine around the time neo-noir was christened, and a ray hasn't cracked the clouds since. Barkeep (Glen Gould) is a dependable type, quick to make with the good advice when The Brothers are out of earshot. And stationed at a table sits faded B-girl Betty (Lanette Ware). The way Girl makes men slobber, Bette has no choice but to view the younger woman as a threat to her vocation. (Betty is also the only character in Golden whose name is not a symbolic reflection of an individual trait.) While I'm on the subject of welcome signature items: were theatres up and running, there would no doubt be a line of Bella's Belly-Shirts and horseshoe-through-the-septum nose jewelry on sale in the lobby.

Not wanting to return home without first uncovering the identity of her father's butcher, and eager to rinse away any inculpatory blood stains accrued while unhooking pop,

Girl visits a laundromat to wash half the clothes she carries on her back. Charmer (Chad Faust, debuting as writer and director) is the Brother assigned the task of burying Girl's father, but first he decides to make a pit stop at the launderette. The lad asks more questions than a four-year-old at a circus. It's hard to imagine a character as focused as Girl giving slick-hick Charmer the time of day, but true to

> his name, the talkative lothario scores points by offering her the loan

of an unlaundered tee. The preliminary-round pissing contest that follows ends with her hatchet landing dead on target, while Charmer's clumsy handling of a baby Bowie almost costs him a finger. A subsequent face-off round of ring-around-the-washers-and-dryers stokes the film's high-as-is energy quotient with an unexpected burst of action in the unlikeliest of places.

But as fate (and the screenwriter's pen) would have it, it's more than mere sex appeal that catches the collective attention of this fancy gang of miscreants. Unbeknownst to Girl, dear dead Daddy (John Clifford Talbot) stashed a sizable chunk of cash with her name on it. Gee, maybe the old guy wasn't so bad after all. And what was in the mysterious letter pater mailed Mama? Good cinema need not answer to great art. In the absence of multiplexes, and with screens never more conveniently consumable, there's ample room and time for both. Thorne's "Don't F With Me!" demeanor, Rourke's suave sadism, and a satisfactory twist tacked onto the end combine to make this tough Girl one worth tangling with. ★★★

-Scott Marks

#### Video on Demand New Release Roundup

Hillbilly Elegy — Growing up Opie, the closest Ron Howard came to an addictive personality was town drunk Otis Campbell. Considering the amount of time Howard spent in Mayberry — and with almost three-dozen benignant features to his credit — one would be wrong to expect more spit and less polish in this tale of the yokel who went to Yale. At its best, The Andy Griffith Show tackled issues with warmth, humor, and a kind of downhome logic that drew tourists to the fictional North Carolina utopia. Opie on the opioid crisis can lead only to good acting that's made even better when two actresses, with a combined 13 Oscar® nominations, go head-tohead as a mismatched set of back-



Girl: Bella Thorne took an ax/ and gave the Maytag 40 whacks.

country mother/daughter gladiators. Once upon a time, daughter Bev (Amy Adams) was a nurse; an addiction that began by pocketing pills from patients' plastic medicine cups soon landed her on the unemployment line. Mamaw (Glenn Close) once set fire to a man for drinking. (Close plays Mamaw as a German expressionist painting of Mrs. Doubtfire come to life.) Gussied-up in their Walmart best, the two vie for the love of son, grandson, and author J.D. Vance (played at various stages of his life by Owen Asztalos and Richie Cunningham clone Gabriel Basso). Vance used his best-selling memoir as the basis for his screenplay. Told in flashback, we observe J.D. as he grapples with a choice between leaving town for what could be a life-changing job interview or hanging around Kentucky to look after a mother fresh off a heroin overdose. This isn't an elegy as much as it is a condescending yet well intentioned "just say no" public service announcement. Listen carefully to hear a deafening awards buzz. 2020 — S.M.  $\bigstar$ 

**Spring Tide** — Three generations of Chinese women residing under one roof: crusading reporter Jianbo (Lei Hao), her huffy mother Minglan (Elaine Jin Yan-ling), and a 9-year-old daughter, Wanting (Qu Junxi), who, in spite of all odds, appears destined to escape with her spirit intact. Jianbo is the type who is quick to relinquish her seat on the train to a parent with a baby in need of nursing, but reluctant to give her own mother the time of day. She arrives home in time to catch the tail-end of mom's prayer group and for no other reason than to piss her off, stands in the kitchen and fires up a cigarette. As we'll soon discover, living with Minglan might well be enough to

justify a two-pack-a-day habit, but then again, she's a survivor who's earned her battle scars. Wanting lives full-time with grandma, while Jianbo, unable to tolerate her mother for more than a few days at a stretch, has two other spots on which to lay her weary bones: a bunk in the dorm and in the arms of

a speechless, yet seemingly satisfying lover. Writer-director Yang Lina's arduously exacting moral fable charts a family dynamic and cultural flow that leads to new beginnings in one of this year's most unforgettable journeys. Now playing on a premium video-on-demand outlet near you. 2019 — S.M. \*\*\*



Dozens of episodes of Jack Webb's *Dragnet* await you

on Hulu. More on Webb on the web at sandieg-oreader.com.

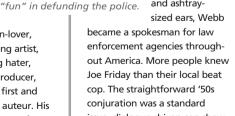
— Scott Marks

DRAGNET
Jack Webb
was many

things — director, actor, writer, gun-lover, John Bircher, recording artist, right-wing Viet Cong hater, two-fisted drinker, producer, chain smoker — but first and foremost, he was an auteur. His could be the most literary form of cinema known to humankind. Webb's imprint is instantly recognizable: spare, clean, well-lit frames, choking close-ups, and deeply mesmerizing editing patterns. (Webb cuts on peri-

ods, not commas.) As if to add another opiate to the already somnolent mix, the arch, energy-efficient Webb never swings his arms when he walks. One of Webb's earliest roles was as a crime lab technician in Anthony Mann's taut noir *He Walked by Night*. The film's pseudo-documentary approach

to criminal investigation appealed to Webb, and he used it as his basis for *Dragnet*. With his Fred Flintstone haircut and ashtraysized ears, Webb



Joe Friday than their local beat cop. The straightforward '50s conjuration was a standard issue, dialogue-driven cop show, more distinctive than most, but too starchy, and void of the unplanned laughs that made the color installments from the '60s and '70s so hilariously memorable.

San Diego Reader December 3, 2020

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Dragnet: Jack Webb puts the

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BIRTHDAY Scoe Dawg, I want to wish you a Happy Birthday. Let's party. I got your six. It ain't a puzzle. Double Five Double Deuce. GMan

CARLOS thank you for caring for my sister. Thank you for all of the good deeds, everything you have provided. You are a good man. Our family appreciates you. Take care, you're good.

ED & RUBY GIN Miss seeing you at the movies. Hope all is well, stay healthy. Bruce & Brian

GIVE ME something to believe in. Give me one reason. I KNOW

HAROLD ZIMNICK Hope you are okay, stay healthy. Brian B

JET you're a good woman, I want to come visit you in Baja. We all, including myself, love you. My sister speaks of you and a couple of my brothers. Love you Jet.

JOE LA CAVA IN #1 and Raul Campillo in #7 congratulations & good luck in your term. Brian B

PAT GRIFFITH OF EL CAJON & Mernie A of Morena, Looking

forward to the time we can get

PIERETTE FEATHERBY Hope all is well & you are doing fine. Brian B

TERRY & ANITA GEE Hope you are wel. Enjoy the holidays. Brian B

**TODD GLORIA** Congratulations on the election. Good luck in your term. Brian B

WALT WEISMAN & DARREL PUGH Have a good birthday & stay healthy. Brian B

AGENDA 2030-NWO It's not about the virus, it's about control. Stop the New World Order-The Great Reset-Agenda 2030.

**NEED A MIRACLE?** Pray the Saint Jude Novena: https://saintjudethaddeus.com (No donations accepted.) Thank you Jesus, St. Mary and St. Jude, for two life-saving miracles.

COVID 19 VACCINE As a senior locked in my room for 9 months: give us back our way of life and reedom and let us have the vaccine now; it is 90% effective. Stop the delay and the excuses and save lives. Holding it back is wrong. More die every day.

GOD'S FAILURE All the gods in this world have failed in this covid-19 virus. No god has

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

stopped it from happening, so

why is that? Is there really a god? If so, why destroy us?

#### **NOTICES**

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TO HELP DEAL WITH THIS Covid situation, why do some public transit riders no wear

**FOUND RING** Found a ring in parking lot on Glover and C across from Chula Vista DMV. On Friday, Nov 27, 2020. Call with description. (760) 893-6675 / susanbradford.turner58@gmail.

SEMINOLE AUDUBON SOCIETY The Mission of the Seminole Audubon Society is to promote awareness and protection of the plants and animals in the St. Johns River basin in order to sustain the beneficial coexistence of nature and humans, https://www. meetup.com/SeminoleAudubon-com seminoleaudubon@gmail.

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BAY PARK, \$745 Very large ad on back room, all furnished with tv, refrigerator, microwave, all utilities and WIFI included, for quiet single person only. Located on cul de sac close to bus station. Security deposit \$745. (858) 272-1594

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PACIFIC BEACH, \$1950.

2BD+1.5BA; remodeled downstairs unit in quiet triplex in North PB behind 1859; new in North Pib Denind 1859; new kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; parking; coin laundry; no pets; available now; 1861 Chalcedony Street (behind 1859). Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

**HILLCREST, \$1825.** 1BD+1BA 900sqft. vintage 100 year old upstairs unit in 4 plex on remodeled kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; beautiful wood floors; coin laundry; garage fit for a horse and buggy; cat OK with extra deposit; available now; 1632 Upas Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1625.

HACIFIC BEACH, \$1625.

1BD+1BA; Crown Point area; all utilities paid; huge kitchen w/ stove, refrigerator, garage, lawn area, middle unit in quiet triplex behind 1934; small pet ok w/ extra deposit; available now. 1936 Reed Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1575. 1BD+1BA large upstairs unit in Crown Point area; stove,

in Crown Point area; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; coin laundry; parking; cat OK with extra deposit; available 12/15/20; 1448 Thomas Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1625. 1BD+1BA; upstairs west-facing unit in North PB; updated unit in North Hb; updated kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; sparkling pool; 2 blocks to Tourmaline Surf Park; available 12/15/20; 812 Tourmaline Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2300. 2BD+1.5BA; close to bay with private patio; washer/dryer hookups in unit; parking; a little rough around the edges but a great location and the price is right; available now. 1311 La Palma. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com, 858-270-2071

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Street, Agent: (619) 298-7724 www.allpointsrealestate.com

**COUPLE NEEDS COTTAGE** Hispanic couple needs small cottage in Encinitas. They r low income. Will do gardening in exchange for rent. (626) 712-0303

MISSION HILLS, \$1325-1550. STUDIO+1BA and 1BD+1BA. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 W. Washington. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

Cozy studio near Adams, upstairs corner unit, newly remodeled, new kitchen cabinets, new

NORMAL HEIGHTS \$1375

new kitchen cabinets, new appliances, new bath with new tub, tile and lighting, wood-like flooring, on-site laundry, water, trash and gas included. Great location with easy freeway access. No pets. 3355 Madison Avenue. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1495. Spacious 1 bedroom upstairs. Fireplace, A/C and balcony. Off-street assigned parking, laundry on site. Easy freeway access. Beautiful inside and out. Great location! No pets. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

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

PACIFIC BEACH \$2950 Pacific Beach Crown Point, close to Bay. Remodeled 3 bedroom-2 bath apartment, with 2 assigned parking spaces, and laundry room onsite. Water included in monthly rent. (619) 987-0071 / jstoll1949@gmail.com

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2450 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath town house with patio available now. Assigned parking space, no pets, no smoking, new laminate flooring. (858) 274-6422. LA MESA, \$1749-2149.

3BD+2BA (\$2149) and 2BD+1BA (\$1749) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1749-2149. 3BD+2BA (\$2149) and 2BD+1BA (\$1749) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

WANTED WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RENTAL Studio, ADU, room addition. Excellent reputation and rental history. Single occupant. Any situation appreciated. Ron (619) 435-5501

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

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

NEED AN APARTMENT SHORT TERM? Make your reservations now and Get \$200 reservations now and cet \$200
OFF every month. Studio+1BA
available. Call for Monthly,
Weekly and daily specials,
up to 15% OFF. Includes:
weekly cleaning service, daily
continental breakfast, all utilities,
selbs (IIDO) beated acal/wires, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional

charge. (\*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858) 799-0219. www. californiasuiteshotel.com

### **REAL ESTATE**



LAND BY PUERTO NUEVO \$23K \$23,000- Four lots for sale with beautiful ocean views in front of Puerto Nuevo with an area of ,Ää,Ää192 m2 each. Each lot has all the services of water. electricity, and drainage.
WhatsApp (664) 120-5286



**ROSARITO HOME \$119,000** 3bd/2bath, five minutes from Puerto Nuevo and Popotla, a panoramic view of the beach, and direct deal with the owner. The area is ,Ää,Ää120 m2, with 200 m2 of construction. +52 (664) 421-7836.

PROPERTY WITH \$50K IN PLANS Get this gorgeous 2 acre, shovel ready lot in Fallbrook to include all certified engineering plans (architectural plan, septic layout plan, and grading plan)! Electricity and water on the property and it has already been assigned a physical address. (760) 474-0180 / buynow@freedomfastronperties com freedomfastproperties.com

HELP WANTED







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

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

**Call Heather Today!** 858-694-0120 MentorsWanted.com San Diego Reader December 3, 2020

FUPHONIUM-PREMIERE SILVER PLATED three valve horn in totally new condition. New \$2000, a steal at \$600. Call for more details (619) 264-3686.



ADULT BTS FANS So any fans, over the age of 23, please feel free to join! Due to the pandemic, all meetups will occur over Zoom. www.meetup.com/Adult-BTS-Fans-of-Chicago/ AdultBTSFans@gmail.com

NEED CLASSIC ROCK VOCALIST Established North County classic rock band needs strong vocalist/instrumentalist - 3 part vocals, sing lead/harmonies. Strong rhythm or lead player. Excellent musicianship, 2-4 shows per month, professional, stable. Vista area. Please send links. dave@bigfins.com

CONN 10H TROMBONE Rare

INSTRUMENTS Many electric and acoustic guitars. Pearly drum kit with cymbals, free wurlitzer organ, model 4080. Please call for information (619) 448-1826

THE MIDNIGHT SPECIAL BOX SET Complete 9 DVD Box Set \$85. The Midnight Special Friday night Pop Rock variety show on NBC TV running weekly (1973-1980). All live performances - absolutely no lip syncing. Perfect condition. Hours of entertainment. Makes an awesome gift. (858) 531-3153 / roccja@gmail.com

MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, (858) 522-9505. www. adderstudios com

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

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

### **PETS**

LOST POMERANIAN IN OAK PARK Lost Pomeranian in the Oak Park area. He left the yard on Easy St. His name is Jojo. Colors: gray brown-black (619) 750-2462

MINI POODLE PUPPIES Beautiful mini poodle puppies ready for their forever home. Rehoming fee applies. 1 male 1 female (619) 339-1592 / a.genisis@icloud.com



HANDSOME SAINT BERNARD PUPPY HI! We have this super sweet and handsome Saint Bernard puppy, He's an amazing dog, loves to cuddle, amazing on walks and partially potty trained. Would make a great addition to any family. He does well with kids and search the saint and t and great with other animals. (917) 268-0515 / laurabeveg@

PUPPIES POODLE/ TERRIER born 10/19/2020 white/beige 4 males & 2 females, \$200. Contact Gloria (619) 470-0733

CHRISTMAS SPHYNX KITTENS Available and ready now.
Blue eyes, super cute babies.
Two males, one female. TICA
registered and on shots. Females
(\$900) and males (\$800).... #(239) 420-4066 / ange@ f028.33mail.com

AQUARIUM AND SUPPLIES AGUARIOM AND SUPPLIES 180-gallon fish tank bought brand new, set up, and then cracked after running for an hour. Aqua Clear filter 90 (neg) Aquatop Forza filter 100 (neg) and more. (858) 784-1648 LOST PET BIRD IN OCEANSIDE

She's been missing since Sept 4/2020 from the Tri-City area of Oceanside, but can fly so could be just about anywhere. Please call (760) 626-5784, if you have any information. Reward is \$1,000

MANDARIN DUCK A white mandarin duck that needs a good new home. Check out Instagram to see other birds that we have https://www.instagram.com/ asimplertimexotics/

SEEKING REPTILES Rehome your turtles, tortoises, and lizards (858) 924-2105

VICTOR SADDLE W /silver. Solid. \$300.00 (619) 438-4567

CHARRO SADDLE Big seat, very safe and solid saddle, complete. \$200 firm, text. (619) 438-4567

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

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

### **SPORTS**



FILIPINO MARTIAL ARTS Meet other locals who are interested in Filipino martial arts such as Modern Arnis, Kali, and Escrima! https://www.meetup.com/san-diego-kali-arnis-escrima-club/ (760) 715-1825



SDBCC BADMINTON For San Diego badminton players: http://sdbccinc.com/ (858) 673-1711

### **BICYCLES**



LIKE NEW HYBRID BIKE Sweet Schwinn Trailways hybrid bike size medium. Custom seat and shock absorbers for and snock absorbers for comfortable ride. Water bottle holder. Lightly used and in great shape. I'll even throw in trunk bike rack. \$200 all in. npeterson110@gmail.com

### **MOTORCYCLES**

**CASH FOR YOUR KAWASAKI** Cash collector looking for old, Z1 900 KZ1000R, Z2 750RS KZ900, KZ1000A Z1R 1000, MK2 1000 TRIPLE H1 500 OR H2 750 Kawasakis (818) 618-2141

MOTORCYCLE WANTED 3 wheel trike, Harley Davidson, Honda, Kawasaki, Volkswagen, special. Must be excellent condition, licensed, registered, everything must work. Call (760) 420-3641.

### **AUTOMOTIVE**



1993 INFINITI J30 A Jananese Jaguar XJ-6, Runs great, always Jaguar AJ-6, Huns great, always garaged, second owner, v-6 auto, cool air, sunroof, leather, good tires, red, stack of records, clean title, sept 2021 tags, good reliable car. \$2300 OBO (760) 274-5058 La Costa



1994 BUICK LESABRE LeSabre Limited, 222,500 miles, LeSabre Limited. 222,500 miles. Leather, mags, gauges, sound pkg, etc. Needs new headliner. Slight clicking from engine when accelerating. Runs good. \$3,000 cash. Title in hand. South Carlsbad. Roomy, nice ride. Clearcoat fading in spots. Good MPG. safranalain1@gmail.com

2007 SILVER FORD FOCUS model SES, one owner, loaded, 160k miles, runs great, Peter (802) 236-5604. \$1,775.

1965 FORD THUNDERBIRD

clean title and located in Otav on the USA side. (664) 198-3696

2009 MERCEDES-BENZ M-CLASS 2009 Mercedes-Benz M-class ML 350, sport utility vehicle with 4doors-\$5,950. (619) 816-5732

2013 DODGE CHALLENGER \$15,995 2013 Dodge Challenger for \$15,995. The car has 106,927 miles on its 3.6L and 6 cylinder engine. (619) 434-2985



2012 MERCEDES-BENZ \$7995 2012 MERCEDES-BERD X 5/995 2012 Mercedes-Benz C-Class C 300 4MATIC Sport Sedan with 4 doors — \$7,995. The car has 136,351 miles, exterior color is white, interior color is black, with 17.0 MPG city and 24.0 MPG highway. (702) 831-3451



PAINTLESS DENT REPAIR IF you are looking for paintless dent removal services in San Diego, make sure to call the experts of PCH Dent Repair today on (760) 522-3101! https://www. pchdentrepair.com (760) 259-2129 / pchdentrepair1@gmail.com

2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU 2015 Chevrolet Malibu LT sedan, 4 doors, 130,000 miles, \$5950. (619) 816-5732

HONDA CIVIC HYBRID 2006 Honda Civic hybrid sedan with 4doors and 125,000 miles — \$4,800 (202) 894-1880

2009 TOYOTA CAMRY LE garage kept, less than 15k miles, economical 4 cylinder, original owner. \$10,700 call or text (619) 464-6255

1975 SUPER BEETLE CONVERTIBLE original owner, garaged entire life. All mechanics professionally maintain. Everything original. All paperwork and receipts. No rust. Beautiful. Poway, California. Linda (858) 748-6235

FIBERGLASS CAMPER SHELL White. For small short bed truck. \$100. Text me. (619) 438-4567

1995 GMC BANDURA 2500 high top conversion van, TV, stereo, needs oil pump, sell as is. Has rust, new \$500 tires, gold, \$1,000 OBO. (619) 408-9517

### **HELP WANTED**

**DELIVERY DRIVER JOBS** Earn up to \$22 / Hour. Must use your own Mini-Van or Cargo Van. Pass Drug, Background Check. PT / FT avail. 858-444-2350.

COME JOIN OUR TEAM We are the largest privately owned tree care company in San Diego. Come join our team. We need experienced climbers. Call us at (619) 463-1707 or visit atlastree. com (619) 463-1707 / maria@

IHHS REGISTERED IHHS REGISTERED
CAREGIVER NEEDED with car, in San Diego. 8:30 AM to 1:30, 26 hours per week, 105 hours per month. Be flexible. Includes cooking, cleaning, shopping and medication for elderly woman.
Call Mary at (619) 488-0822, no tooks.

SERVICE ATTENDANT Seeking ON-CALL & FULL-TIME position to fill propane cylinders at 2 locations, 5596 Kearny Mesa Rd. & 3650 Kettner Blvd. Will Train. Available to work Tues-Sat 8:30am-5pm. Apply within or call Steve, (949) 326-3400.



CAREGIVER WANTED FOR MALE, 57 Wanted caregiver to work near Rancho Bernardo High School for a physically challenged man to help him with his daily tasks. Duties would include food preparation, some cooking, bathroom supply preparation, grocery shopping, writing letters, picking (858) 487-1225 / anexussystems@gmail.com

ARTIST NEEDED faux marble and correcting wallpaper destroyed by plumbing. Text (619) 244-1141

CARPET CLEANER- WILL TRAIN Carpet cleaning tech needed for East County. Vehicle required. Paid training. (619) 322-3673 / jsimica@yahoo.

INTERNSHIP AVAILABLE for two alert college students. Newish nonprofit company placing young homeless vets into housing and college. Promotional work. (858) 220-6332

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA) Bella Vista Health Center is hiring for full and part time positions. New higher pay scale. Experienced CNA's and new grads welcome. Bella Vista is a Covid-free facility. Go

10% OFF

**GIFT CARDS!** 

# WINTER SMOG AC TOP UP SPECIAL\*49 Includes 12oz R134 Freor, check system and test for leaks. CHECK SPECIAL

AUTOMOTIVE

+ \$8.25 cert

Smog Test Or STAR Certified All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through March 31, 2021.

STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$4175 + \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.

**OIL CHANGE** & OIL FILTER

Up to 5 qts. oil.

Most vehicles to

1995. Limited time offer.

FREE BRAKE ENGINE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE STEAM **FREE EXHAUST** 

INSPECTION

& ESTIMATE

CLEAN \$69<sup>95</sup> Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

30.000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL

from \$17995 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

Service includes: • Maintenance tune-up Oil and filter change • Lube chassis Radiator coolant change Air filter replacement • Fuel injection cleaning Check brakes, suspension

NEW CV AXLE from \$15995

SAN DIEGO SMOG &

nly at San Diego Smog We Repair & Certify Gross Polluters

TIMING BELT SPECIAL 550 off quoted price hicles. Limited time offer.

Recommended at 60K **CLIFF BROWN** 

AUTOMOTIVE

4664 Park Blvd. (at Adams Ave.)
4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe)
619-543-4828 • Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-3:30 pm
619-297-4204 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm www.cliffbrownautomotive.com

www.sdsmogandrepair.com Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.

TO SERVE YOU

**Qwik Auto Center** 

2707 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach 92109

Tint removal from \$29.

**FREE BRAKE** 

**INSPECTION** 

\$50 Off

Complete

Brake Job.

Mon-Sat 9am-6pm \*Must present ad prior to purchase. Installation required

BUY 2,

GET 2

FREE

**Most Cars** 

BCM, ECM, PCM, TCM.

COMPUTER Any shade, up to 5 rear windows.

**ELECTRICAL** 

REPAIR

Power windows, door

locks, automotive

control modules:

858-256-7977 QuickAutoCenter.....

Pictures are for illustration only. Some cars require extra parts and labor at additional cost. Must present coupon at participating locations. Most cars, Prices subject to change without notice

KYK WHONROEW

**FREE SHOCKS** 

& STRUTS

to https://bit.lv/2KoMgzP to apply or more info. Also can apply in person at Bella Vista Health center, 7922 Palm Street Lemon Grove 91945. Bellavistahealth.

LICENSED VOCATIONAL

NURSE (LVN) Bella Vista Health Center is hiring for full-time positions. New higher pay scale. Experienced LVNS and new Experienced LVNS and new grads welcome. Bella Vista is a Covid-free facility. Go to https://bit.ly/2KoMgzP to apply or more info. Also can apply in person at Bella Vista Health center, 7922 Palm Street Lemon Grove 91945 Bellavistahealth.com

REGISTERED NURSE (RN)
Bella Vista Health Center is hiring for full-time positions. New higher pay scale. Experienced RN's and new grads welcome. Bella Vista is a Covid-free facility. Go to https:// bit.ly/2KoMgzP to apply or more info. Also can apply in person at Bella Vista Health center, 7922 Palm Street Lemon Grove 91945

NEED IHSS CAREGIVER for disabled 63 year old male. 150 hours per month, computer skills. car. reliable, punctual, open, friendly, no drama. (619) 218-9869

POOL ROUTE \$7400/mo. gross. Carlsbad-Oceanside areas. Jeff (760) 685-8186

ASAP IHSS REGISTERED
CAREGIVER needed with car in
Mission Valley. 7:30 am-12:30 pm,
25 hours per week, 105 hours per
month. Monday-Friday. Includes
cooking, cleaning, shopping,
medications for sweet lady.
(619) 260-3434 (619) 269-3434

IHSS PROVIDER NEEDED 5.5 hrs/wk for 71 yr old male. I'm Bill. I need you for ambulation cleaning, shopping. Spring Valley. (619) 439-4651. Schedule is very

CAREGIVER WANTED

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

REGISTERED CAREGIVERS

Immediate work. Hourly/live-in available. Must have reliable transportation. Assertive Care at Home, 8893 La Mesa Blvd., Ste B, La Mesa. (619) 466-6890.

**HANDY PERSON WANTED** 

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

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

### **JOBS WANTED**

HOUSECLEANING/CAREGIVER looking for a house cleaning job

any repair (\$100 min)

Auto Electric / Complete Mechanical "Check Engine Light" (scan) \$35 \*(in shop)

Mobile Service available.

4150 University Ave. • San Diego 92105

619-600-5260 • elnanche.com

\*Offers good with this ad. Expires 12/31/20

or a care giver job. Clairemont or Point Loma area. Nancy (858) 505-0685

CAREGIVER will work in an elderly woman's home in exchange for room and board. 35 years experience with elderly people I clean excellent cook laundry, and companionship. Must be near public transportation in the Vista area. (442) 320-3483 call me any time.

HOUSECLEANING, DOG SITTING/DOG WALKING

(Love all breeds) AKA: the dog woman. Reasonable rates Linda (619) 380-4861.

GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER/ PERSONAL ASSISTANT companion, will drive to

doctors appointment, grocery shop, prepare meals, light house keeping. Call Carol at (858) 525-1154

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

### **WANTED / TRADE**

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS is my two front teeth! Sponsorship/help needed for cosmetic dental work. (619) 551-6368

CASH FOR DIABETIC STRIPS

We buy diabetic strips. Local cash pick-up. Sealed, unexpired boxed only. Call or text (619) 535-1848. We buy Onetouch Ultra, Freestyle Lite, Accu Check, Aviva Plus, Contour.

CASH FOR GOLD I will buy your old scrap gold jewelry, broken jewelry, gold coins, silver. Safe and local buyer. Fair offers. Meet in a safe location of your choice. (619) 915-8552. Nick

LOOKING FOR AVIATION MAGAZINES called Wings and Air Power, and BMX Bicycle magazines. My phone number is (760) 912-1775.

LOOKING FOR OLD TUBE STEREOS I am an electronics hobbyist, and I am looking for

1960's vintage, tube-type stereo components to refurbish, such as fisher, Scott, Marantz, Dynaco & more. Maybe it is stashed away in the attic or garage. I pay cash, so please call jack 619-296-3100. (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net



I BUY 1980S JUNK Do you have stuff laying around from the 1980s? I buy records, tapes toys, clothing, yearbooks, radios and comics. Send me photos or a list. the1pjjohn@yahoo.com

SLOT CARS Got any? I pay cash, cell/text (619) 279-7833.

> FISHING TACKLE wanted to buy. Top dollar paid for old, new, used fishing tackle. (619) 916-8307



VINTAGE/DESIGNER CLOTHING Seeking good condition vintage clothing from the 20s to 00s. Designer vintage such as Jean Paul Gaultier, John such as Jean Paul Gaulier, John Galliano, Vivienne Westwood and Commes Des Garcons. I want those items you no longer wear or have stashed away. Please text (858) 900-4701 / alhamraniahmed@gmail.com

WANTED FREE STATIONARY BIKE would need delivered please, no calls, text only (619) 631-9258.

WANTED TO BUY cargo van. Basic small unit with rear glass, smog and can pass inspection.
No rust, \$1,000 range. Peter (802) 236-5604

**BUYING JUNKED CARS** Buying junked cars for cash. (619) 310-8171

I BUY OLD 1980S-1990S I BUY OLD 1980S-1990S toy TOYS I buy 1980s-1990S toy collections. Email me photos of your toy collection for a fast quote. the1pjjohn@yahoo.com

I BUY OLD DRUM SETS and cymbals. (619) 280-2075

TWO PERSON GARDEN SWING Wanted free. Would need delivered if needs paint that is fine as long frame is not broke please text (619) 631-9258.

SEEKING BUYER FOR STOVE Wanted, need to find buyer for florence gas stove, sold in early 50's. Not wanting to sell now, but want contacts. Text

(619) 631-9258

TRADE TWO ANTIQUE ELECTROLUX vacs need repair but are otherwise in good shape. Trade for weed hula hoe and leaf rake. Text only please (619) 631-9258.

I BUY GUITARS AND **AMPLIFIERS** (619) 806-6703

I BUY USED GOLF CLUBS (619) 806-6703

WANTED: OLD VW BUG. BUS Clean out your yard and garage. I buy parts too. Cell/text# (619) 279-7833.

**OLD STEREO EQUIPMENT** Working or not ok. Amplifier, receiver, tuner, turntable, speaker, microphone, preamp, or? Call or text (619) 279-7833.

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

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

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

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

STEREO GEAR/LP RECORDS Cash paid! Vintage/ newer. Old amps, tuners, speakers, turntables. McIntosh, JBL,

Marantz, etc. Prerecorded reel tapes, jazz/ rock records. John, (619) 889-5237.

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

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

### GARAGE SALES



ESTATE SALE IN OCEANSIDE A lot of new and used items, including collectibles, tools, instruments, and more! Call for info. (760) 330-1060

HILLCREST GARAGE SALE Lots of stuff for sale. Attached are some of the many items for sale. (619) 822-6419



VISTA GARAGE SALE Sale by appointment. Everything is \$5 or less and most items under \$1.

### **FOR SALE**

I SEE YOU WANT TO BUY PLANTS Mammillaria and many more at wholesale. Lalo Of Vista Energizes. (760) 945-7892 for appointment. Xmas gifts!

AUTOCOURSE ANNUALS from Hazelton Publishing, UK for sale, 1990, '91, '92 '93, '94, unopened, in original cellophane, golden age of F1, all for \$150, call (760) 274-5264.

BED HEADBOARD AND FOOTBOARD headboard, footboard rails and slats. not sure of the size of the bed or whether

### AUTOMOTIVE

SMOG CHECK

Most cars. Vans, trucks, & European cars

\$10 extra. 2000 & up **OIL CHANGE** 

& FILTER

10 point checkout.

Up to 5 ats new filter.

COMPUTER

**DIAGNOSIS** 

MUFFLER

starting, running rough, poor gas mileage, dead battery...

**11**75 + \$8.25 Cert

Most cars.

FREE Shuttle Service

TIMING **295** BELT

+\$1.00 Starting price, Waste Fee. Labor + Parts.

\$30 **SPECIAL** Most vehicles & light trucks. Service engine soon light, check engine light, hesitation, hard Includes Parts &

Labor

\$gg

<sup>\$</sup>50

**PREMIUM SHOCKS** 

**PREMIUM STRUTS** Monroe or KYB + Labor

per pair

STARTERS OR **ALTERNATOR** 

\$95

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

Brandon Auto

6670 Miramar Rd. # C, San Diego, CA 92121-2559 858-452-9999



fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl. most cars **SMOG CHECK** edan only. SUV and Trucks extra. NON STAR CERTIFIED SMOG IG + \$825 cert ⊦ \$150 DMV transfer fee INSPECTION ONLY. Smog only for 2000 and newer vehicle. BRAKES **\$49** Front or rear Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model. 30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services **\$45** RADIATOR or Transmission Services TIMING BELT Parts & Labor STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS Plus labor. FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT 96 and up We'll beat any written estimate! **DENTS, DINGS, SCRATCHES?** Now offering bodywork .T. Auto Wrench 8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C • 1-858-565-4634

Reader December 3,

it is an antique. \$100. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

**BOOGIE BOARDS** 2 boogie boards \$20 each. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

CASSETTE TAPES recordable cassette tapes 10 cents each. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

GOOD QUALITY ART PRINTS wildlife art prints (36 X44) and (28x16) - matted framed and with glass \$75 for both - cash only (Mira Mesa) favod@hotmail.com

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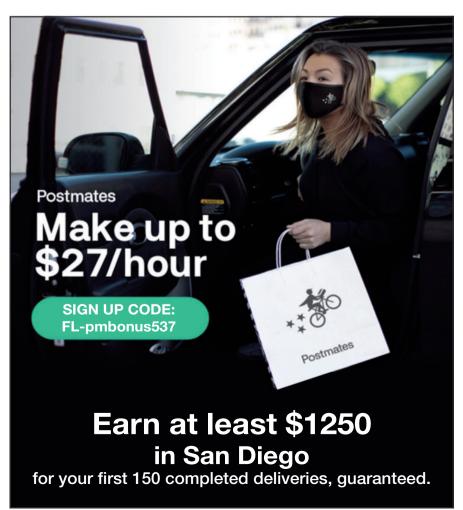
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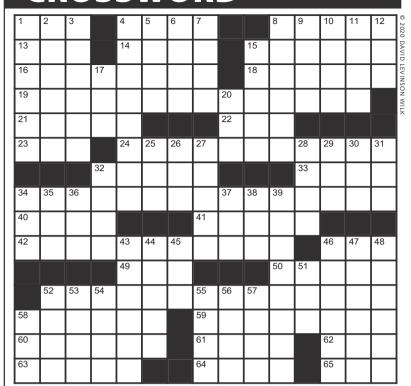
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# **CROSSWORD**



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<b>WEEK'S PUZZLE</b>	Т	Е	Ν	Α	Ν	Т			Е	D	0	U	Α	R	D	
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7	S	Т	Α		J	Т	Т	L	Е		В	0	R	Α	Т	
2	Α	Τ	R	D	Α	Т	Е			S	Е	Ν	Т	Т	0	
Ξ		F	Ι	R	Ι	Ν	G	0	F	F	Е	Ν	S	Е		
9	R	U	Ν	Е				R	Ε	Р	R					
5	Α	L	G		Н	Е	Α	Т	Е	D	С	R	Τ	М	Е	
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### RULES OF THE GAME

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

# Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

### Across

- 1. Co. led by Baryshnikov in the 1980s
- **4.** Order in the court
- **8.** Nonmainstream
- 13. Sigma follower
- **14.** Misfortunes
- 15. Consecrate
- **16.** Come to
- **18.** Like Shakespeare's sonnets
- **19.** Lu\_\_\_\_
- **21.** Instruct
- **22.** Toilette water
- **23.** Punk rock offshoot
- **24.** Scy\_
- **32.** Part of an Asian capital's
- 33. Jane who falls for Edward Rochester
- **34.** A
- **40.** Not much, as of lotion
- **41.** Big name in kitchen wrap
- **42.** A ist **46.** JPEG alternative
- **49.** Novelist McEwan
- **50.** Course you hardly have to study for
- **52.** Hint that, taken literally, will help you solve 19-, 24-, 34- and 42-Across
- 58. "The Bathers" **Impressionist**

- **59.** Tasty ones?
- **60.** HBÓ title role for Robert Wuhl
- **61.** At all
- **62.** Kybrick opys?
- **63.** Grind, as teeth
- **64.** Monopoly card
- **65.** Lawn makeup

### **Down**

- 1. One little bite
- 2. The "Ba" of BaSO4
- **3.** Ask, as for assistance
- **4.** Huck Finn, for one
- **5.** "The Sopranos" actor Robert
- **6.** Many an Eastern European
- 7. It is, en español
- 8. Snug bug's place
- 9. Hideo who threw nohitters in both the American and National Leagues
- **10.** "I call that!"
- **11.** "Last one \_\_\_\_ a rotten egg!"
- **12.** List-ending abbr.
- **15.** Quinn of "Elementary"
- 17. "Where did wrong?"
- **20.** Verdi's "\_\_\_\_ giardin del hello"
- 25. Pilot's approx.
- 26. 2015 Verizon acquisition

- 27. It's not poetry
- 28. Many a TikTok user
- **29.** Santana's "\_\_\_ Como Va" **30.** Middle Earth monster
- **31.** Jeans label
- **32.** Lettuce variety
- **34.** Recyclable item
- **35.** Kerfuffle
- **36.** Scathing review
- **37.** Most preferred, in texts
- **38.** Sr.'s hurdle
- **39.** Quite an oddity
- **43.** First singer born in the 21st century to have a #1 sona
- **44.** Places for bears or villains
- **45.** Place to stay
- **46.** Source of the line "The Lord is thy keeper"
- **47.** Slacker's opposite
- **48.** Bouncer's confiscation
- aboard!"
- **52.** "Charlotte's Web" girl
- **53.** Visiting Hollywood, say
- **54.** Lane of DC Comics
- 55. "Decorated" on Halloween, informally
- **56.** Own

Meghan Gunther, Encinitas, 1.

- **57.** Dueling sword
- **58.** Sponge alternative

### THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

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

# **SUDOKU**

### **EVIL:**

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

# Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

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- 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 5) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible

### THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption

James Ohare, San Diego, 1.

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

### **EVIL:**

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

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

### Awesome!

→ Architect Nick Drummond loves to renovate old houses. He was told the century-old home he purchased last year in Ames, New York had been built by a German baron who turned to bootlegging in the 1920s, but he was still surprised to find evidence within the walls on Oct. 9: dozens of bottles labeled Old Smuggler Gaelic Whisky. "We discovered multiple false walls and secret compartments under the floor in our mudroom," he told Lite 98.7. "The foundation walls and floors in the mudroom are lined with intact cases of 1920s whiskey." he said. Drummond said auction houses and collectors have contacted him, speculating that the value on the some of the bottles might range between \$500 and \$1,200.

### The Meth Made Me Do It

— Traffic slowed to a crawl and people got out of their cars on a busy roadway in Chongqing, China, on Oct. 17, hoping to collect banknotes that were raining down from the sky. As it turned out, the money wasn't coming from heaven, but from an unnamed 29-year-old man who was tripping on methamphetamine in his 30-storyhigh apartment overlooking the street. As he showered passersby with money, police arrived and took him into custody, and he was receiving treatment, according to *The Guardian*.

### Florida

A woman who would not leave a St.
 Petersburg, Florida, Mobil gas station was arrested for trespassing on Oct. 14, The

Smoking Gun reported. But that's not the weird part. Melinda Lynn Guerrero, 33, was also charged with providing a false name to law enforcement after she repeatedly said her name was "My butt just farted." Officers were familiar with Guerrero from a series of arrests over several years, and her last name is tattooed on her back, so ... They noted she may have been under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

### **Man's Best Friend**

— On the Italian island of Sardinia, farmer Cristian Mallocci welcomed a litter of five dogs on Oct. 9, Fox News reported. Among them was a special pup -- one with green fur, which Mallocci immediately named Pistachio. The other four dogs had white fur, like their mom. Green puppies are rare, but not unheard-of; scientists think it happens when the puppy makes contact with a green pigment in the womb. Pistachio's color has faded since his birth, but he'll keep his name, and Mallocci will keep him to help look after sheep on the farm.

### **Over the Top**

- Superfan Luis Nostromo, 43, of Barcelona, Spain, has spent the last three years turning his apartment there into a stunning replica of the set of *Alien*, the 1979 Ridley Scott film starring Sigourney Weaver. His locations include the laboratory where the face-hugging monster attached to actor John Hurt was first examined; the spaceship's corridors; and the pod that Weaver escapes in. *Oddity Central* reported that

Nostromo hopes to finish his "Alien Museum" project by the end of the year and is already accepting visits from other fans.

### **Least Competent Criminals**

- Alice Lavern Henry, 47, of Lake Wales, Florida, told a clerk at Griner's Jewelry in Winter Haven that she had found the ring she brought in to sell while treasure-hunting on a beach. The clerk became suspicious when she noticed the ring, valued at more than \$1,000, had no damage, and investigators later determined it was part of a collection that had been stolen from the store in a July burglary, according to the Winter Haven Police Department. The Ledger reported that police also learned Henry had visited another jewelry store on several occasions in September, attempting to sell other rings from Griner's collection. She was arrested Oct. 4 on charges of felony grand theft.

### **Smooth Reaction**

■ A 78-year-old Spanaway, Washington, woman was alerted by her barking dog on Sept. 20, and opened her door to find "a man," she told KIRO, standing in front of her. As "he turned and started to leave," the woman, identified as Sandy, said, "Oh, no, you don't," and picked up her shotgun and cocked it. The alleged intruder plopped down on her porch steps and the two waited for police to arrive. "You know, I've got grandchildren your age!" Sandy told him. Pierce County Sheriff's deputies took the man into custody, but Sandy didn't press charges.

### **Rise of the Machines**

— Craig Hershoff of Miami has invented a robot to help people like himself who may have difficulty using the special contact lenses they wear for vision problems that can't be helped with regular contacts. The Cliara Lens Robot can insert and remove the lenses by voice activation. "It really helps with dexterity," Hershoff told WPLG, especially for elderly or disabled people. The robot is being tested in a clinical trial in Boston, and he hopes to have FDA clearance on it early next year.

### **Bright Ideas**

■ The Finnish airline Finnair began selling its business-class airplane food in supermarkets on Oct. 13, in an effort to keep its catering staff employed as well as offer a taste of nostalgia to travelers grounded by the CO-VID-19 pandemic. The ready-made "Taste of Finnair" dishes include reindeer meatballs, Artic char and Japanese-style teriyaki beef and cost about \$12, The Associated Press reported. Marika Nieminen, vice president of Finnair Kitchen, said the idea allows the airline to "create new work and employment for our people."

Send your weird news items to WeirdNewsTips@ amuniversal.com.





continued from page 18

The zoo's efforts, Kusumoto says, "are, in my view, a temporary accommodation to reduce the target on its back to eliminate zoos broadly and their manmade displays of animals in 'captivity'. Zoos are so controversial that you can draw direct lines to Sea World's troubles (which I expect will lead to the eventual closing of all of its parks) and the death of the Ringling Bros. circus. All zoologists can see that. And I anticipate that despite 'remedial' efforts now, there will be continued efforts to legislate them out of existence."

He pauses. "I remember being in a store in [San Francisco International Airport] some years back, and the bored clerk chatted me up and we had a nice conversation. But then she asked where I lived. When I told her, her face fell and she said, 'Oh, you live in



Construction shot of Africa Rocks in 2016, which would open a year later in what used to be Dog and Cat Canyon.

that horrible city that supports that horrible zoo.' Her expression turned to one of disgust. End of friendly banter."

Kusumoto says he believes that despite the Zoological Society's various research efforts on behalf of animals and conservation, "efforts to address its 'displays' in relation to how animal rights activists perceive its care of creatures in captivity won't be enough as people continue debating the value, or non-value, of zoos."

On Yelp, the San Diego Zoo has an average rating of 4.5 stars (out of five), from 4514 reviews that have been posted since the crowd-sourced review site was launched in 2005. The majority, 2980, give the zoo five stars. But 141 zoo visitors have given the zoo a one-star rating, and the lack of visibility of the

animals is frequently cited as a top complaint.

Alyssa K., from Los Angeles, wrote in December 2019, "There are barely any animals in the zoo.... Good place if you want to go hike and see birds but other than that, don't waste your money. We only saw like five elephants and two lions and a few dears [sic] and just a few number of every type of animals."

Angel Y. from Fremont in August 2019 wrote, "Waaaay overrated!... It was more of a walk through the forest type of thing. For how much it costs (\$56 per adult) we feel ripped off to say the least. You're better off watching You-Tube animals."

After visiting the zoo at night, Joseph D. from Elk Grove wrote that half the animals "were in water or behind glass which we needed a flashlight to see."

Kevin T. from Lebanon, Ohio complained, "You cannot see over half of the animals. The cages/pens are set up so the animals can hide, and you never see them. Want to go to a great zoo, go to Cleveland, Ohio. Crummy town, way better zoo."

And Marilyn G. from Hialeah, Florida, wrote, "It amazes me how everyone calls it the best zoo in the world. CLEARLY they haven't traveled much if at all. I have traveled around the United States and it has to be one of my least favorite zoos. It takes FOREVER to get to anything. You literally have to walk up these steep slopes to get anywhere. There's A LOT of open space with no animals in the super long walks you have to take to get to the next animal area. ... This is one of the biggest zoos I've been to and yet it's the one I've seen the least amount of animals in."

The Children's Zoo





Dave Kusumoto, 61, says, "These changes in the visiting experience replace 'fun' in a disproportionate way with 'education,' wiping out the interactive elements of the zoo."

makeover is particularly painful for Liz Abbott, publisher of the San Diego Troubadour, a local music magazine, because of the elimination of the petting corral, which in February 1966 was the setting for the Beach Boys' Pet Sounds album cover shoot. "I'm always sad to see history

go," she says. "I think there should be a monument or a plaque, for music fans at least. I know we're all getting older and the younger generation, I don't know how much into the Beach Boys they are, but they are such an iconic band. And the history of the petting zoo and the fact that it was on the cover of one of their albums.... Maybe there could be a little monument with a record cover."

That's not going to happen, zoo director Scott says. "The San Diego Zoo is rich with history," he told the Reader. "In more than 100 years we have hosted hundreds of dignitaries, thousands of celebrities, and millions of guests from around the world, including families living right next door. Each of these visits resulted in an emotional souvenir of a special day at the zoo. In the case of the Beach Boys visit in February 1966, there is no



The space for the African penguins, an endangered species, includes giant artificial rocks like the granite ones found at Boulders Beach in South Africa.

better commemorative artifact than having the San Diego Zoo's animals featured on the cover of Pet Sounds. The brilliant recordings engineered by Brian Wilson, among the most influential recordings in music history, and the serendipitous photo taken at the Children's Zoo have made it San Diego Zoo history."

Critic George Varga wrote about the Beach Boys' photo shoot in a June 2016 article in the San Diego Union-Tri-

bune. One of the band's members, Al Jardine, told him the idea for the shoot came from the art department at the band's record company Capitol Records, which hadn't yet heard the music but, from the title, assumed the songs were about animals. "The animals we posed with at the zoo had at us, because they were used to people feeding them," Jardine told Varga. "The goats were the most aggressive and that's why that big white goat in the cover photo was in my face while I was feeding it. We were thrown into the thing, pretty much."

Beach Boys leader Brian Wilson told Varga the five band members wound up feeding the animals apples. "We held them out and they took them out of our hands," Wilson said.

Another Beach Boy, Bruce Johnston, told an interviewer, "The goats were horrible! They [would] jump all over you and bite. One of them ate my radio. The zoo said we were torturing the animals, but they should have seen what we had to go through. We were doing all the suffering."

— Thomas K. Arnold

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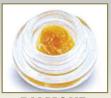
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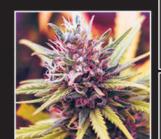
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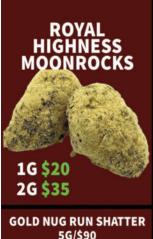
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