

Almost factual news about Kevin Faulconer's Thanksgiving dinner

Union-Tribune: kingmakers no longer ■ Best hot dog I've ever eaten

S A N D I E G O

VOL. 45 | NO. 50 | DECEMBER 10, 2020

Reader



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LETTERS

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

Oprah versus Socrates

I am deeply interested in education and appreciated very much your article on this ("What a teachers union has done to Gompers," Cover Stories, August 12). Was it Socrates who said; "What we teach to children we do to society"? and the word itself, "Education" is too often bandied about as the cure-all for everything, without ever giving it any definition. Everyone is involved in education. Ergo everyone should be. Awake and aware not woke. As I read your article I couldn't help but recall Mark Twain's assessment; "First, God made idiots. That was for practice, then, He made school boards. For years we drove from a very nice neighborhood to a redevelopment underprivileged zone to have all our children in a charter school. During that time, as volunteer coach at the school, I not only read your excellent article "Gompers Takes A Bow" by your Brother Grimm, but I got copies of it and passed it out to everyone our principal, AD, parents, teachers, coaches, players, students and, parents I believe that clearly education is comprised of at least four equally culpable parts, parents, students, teachers, administrators, and that blaming teachers for bad test scores is like blaming police for crime. Oh wait, wow, we're actually doing that now. The Irony Age. Everyone needs to read your articles and see the magnificent films about charter schools, *The Lottery*, and *Waiting for Superman*. Oprah said that Obama said he cried when he saw them. If true, he needed to. And


everyone should read our brilliant national treasure, Thomas Sowell's latest book *Charter Schools and their Enemies*. All of our social problems can be fixed. Now is the time. A pollster once went door to door asking Americans; "Is the biggest problem facing our nation ignorance or apathy?" Most responded; "I don't know, and I don't care." Remember Dickens' warnings about fearing the pathetic children named Ignorance and Want!

Jerry Gunn
Encinitas

'Tis the season for migratory layoffs

I was a seasonal employee of the fair for four years ("91 of 153 Del Mar fairgrounds employees laid off - some of them are talking", Neighborhood News, November 30) We always had to work overtime but were never paid "overtime" rates, like the rest of our citizens. There is apparently a loophole for them to not have to pay because we are considered seasonal agricultural, (migrant) workers. I had considered filing a claim but I was told it would be a waste of time. I worked in the same office as those "not-mentioned" in

continued on page 4



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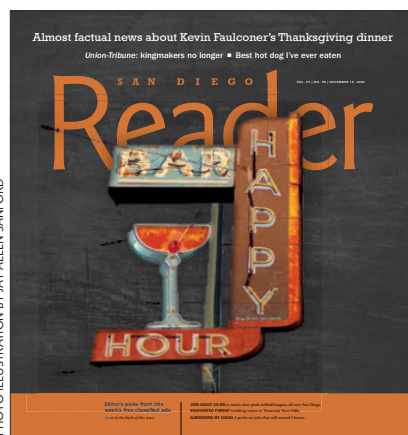


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Does Newsom allow happiness? — page 14



Spoil yourself with a vegan breakfast — page 29



Pain made Kane? — page 34

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BARRIO LOGAN

Truck ruckus around cement corporation

Environmental coalition wants concrete changes to business operations

A plan to build a massive new warehouse on the Tenth Avenue Marine Terminal has reignited the fight over truck pollution in Barrio Logan. If approved by port commissioners, the Mitsubishi Cement Corporation warehouse, located along San Diego Bay and adjacent to Barrio Logan, would begin operations in 2023. The state will require more than half of vehicles sold to be zero emissions by 2035 and all of them by 2045. But when the cement trucks start rolling in two years, 2000 more monthly diesel truck trips — a 50 percent increase — will add to



overcome, and “use of zero emission trucks is likely still infeasible.”

“Air pollution from diesel trucks is a very significant problem” in these portside communities, says Danny Serrano, a spokesman for Environmental Health Coalition, an advocacy group calling for a whole new zero emissions plan for the cement trucks. Cesar Chavez Park

“The city council passed a resolution...to divert trucks away from the neighborhood, but some drivers ignore it,”

poor air quality throughout Barrio Logan and west National City, neighborhoods already among the most polluted in the state. Will zero-emissions trucks spare the air? Not any time soon, a feasibility study has found. Heavy duty electric trucks capable of hauling cement “are not commercially available today.” By 2023, the outlook is better, but barriers such as range, vehicle cost and charging must be

and Pier are about 1500 feet to the southeast of the warehouse, and several schools are nearby. Serrano says children in Barrio Logan have 2-3 times more asthma than the county average. “These trucks will make it so much worse. The city council passed a resolution in 2018 to divert trucks away from the neighborhood, but some drivers ignore it, says the coalition. Currently the Port of San Diego, the San Diego



CETTY IMAGES

This diesel truck can haul 29 tons of material. The coalition asks that at least 30 percent of truck trips be electric when operations begin in 2021, but no such electric trucks exist at present.

It seems that the answer is no. Nobody will think of the children.

Association of Governments, and the California Department of Transportation are considering “Harbor Drive 2.0,” a new and improved haul road. Still, diverting trucks away from homes doesn’t stop the drift of exhaust. The solution sought by the Environmental Health Coalition is an overhaul of the proposed zero

increasing number of zero emissions heavy duty trucks, getting to 100 percent by 2030. They recommend that charging facilities be installed in 2021, at least 30 percent of truck trips be electric when operations begin, and that there be a 10 percent increase each year after until all trucks meet the goal.



Cesar Chavez, in Barrio Logan.

emissions vehicle strategy. “The only requirement proposed thus far is one demonstration electric truck” Serrano says.

The zero emissions feasibility study, conducted by two consultants hired by the port district, found that battery electric trucks currently have low feasibility for both the 130-mile and 300-mile range. But Serrano says the project’s average daily range is 124 miles, and there are several zero emissions trucks available now that can handle that without recharging. “This was backed up by the Port’s subsequent zero emissions vehicle feasibility study.” These trucks are available today, and many more options are expected by 2023, he adds. The group is urging Port staff to require a different plan that would call for an

The challenge is about logistics, not feasibility, Serrano says. It requires businesses to change their operations to accommodate electric trucks.

The Port’s response to the call for the cleanest possible trucks is that the mitigation measures proposed are more than sufficient. At least 90 percent of the trucks loading cement at the terminal must have an engine “that emits no more than would be expected of a 5-year-old truck during the entirety of project operations. These measures are well beyond the requirements of the District’s Clean Truck Program, as well as CARB’s drayage truck, and truck and bus rules.”

SHEILA PELL

continued on page 6

Gloria nabs gab gal

Faulconer flack finds new flock

Those looking forward to the end of the era of Republicans Jerry Sanders and Kevin Faulconer — whose lack of transparency is widely seen as responsible for a broad range of municipal malfeasance, from streetlight spycams to the 101 Ash Street debacle — may have a long wait in store. Judging by a host of recent appointments by soon-to-be Democratic mayor Todd Gloria, city hall’s secrecy business may go on as before.

There is Jen Lebron, Gloria’s newly minted communications director, an ex-*Union-Tribune* scribe who first signed aboard at the city as Faulconer’s press secretary in 2014. She made \$96,992 in pay and benefits as mayor representative 2 in 2016, according to *TransparentCalifornia.com*. In 2017, Lebron got a raise to \$110,250, then was jumped to \$112,758 as a Program Coordinator in 2018, having been elevated by Faulconer to director of public safety and neighborhoods services policy and LGBT liaison in 2016. By 2019, she was the city’s digital strategy manager. Last year, she pulled down the handsome sum of \$145,623 with the official title of program manager,

Lebron became noted for her February 2017 response to Reuters regarding the roll-out of a vast video surveillance network atop city streetlights. “It’s anonymous data with

no personal identifiers,” Lebron was quoted as saying. (A few months year earlier, street-light camera staffer Lorie Cosio-Azar said in a December 2017 internal white paper, “Video data from digital smart city infrastructure will make it easier to identify, and, therefore, arrest criminals.”) As first reported here, the real story was far different from the one Faulconer wanted portrayed, though the truth remained hidden until San Diego police finally fessed up and released a detailed surveillance policy in February 2019. That document, dated February 3, more than a month after a January 3 request by the *Reader* under the California Public Records Act for spycam records, showed the surveillance effort’s true nature. “The video and related images from the cameras onboard the City’s intelligent streetlight sensors may be accessed exclusively for law enforcement purposes with the Police Department as the custodian and departmental owner of these records,” said the policy. Audio from the City’s intelligent streetlight sensors may be accessed exclusively for law enforcement purposes with the Police Department as the custodian and departmental owner of these records.”

Lebron succeeds fellow *Union-Tribune* veteran Craig Gustafson as top media gatekeeper for the mayor.

Matt Potter

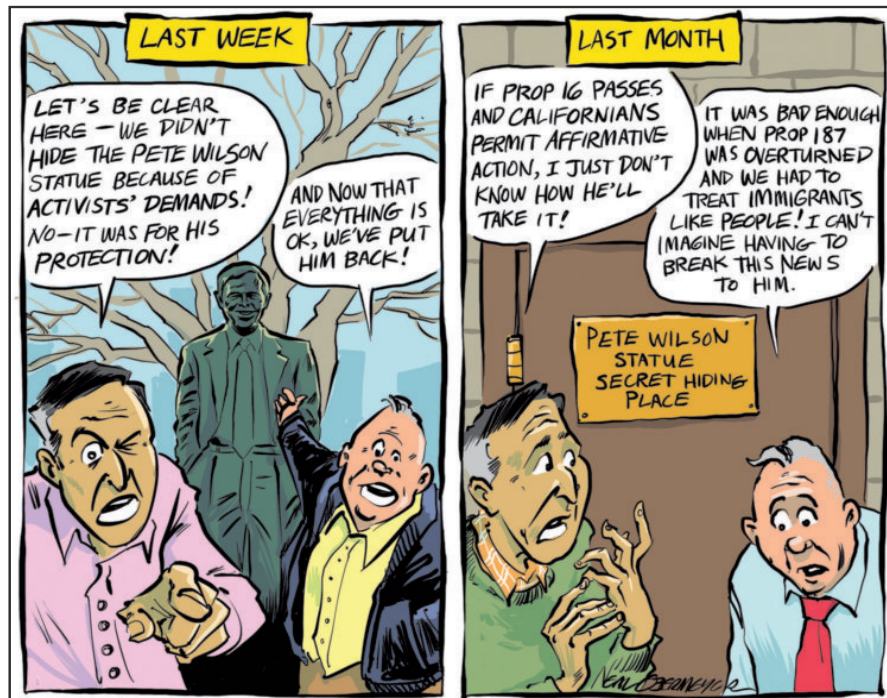


Some communications require more direction than others. That’s where communications director Lebron comes in.



Streetlight spycam

Neal Obermeyer



UNDER THE RADAR

Highs and low of health tourism

Hard hit by the covid-19 pandemic, the *Union-Tribune* is reaching out to Tijuana’s medical tourist trade for new advertising revenue in a deal with the website San Diego Red. “The collaboration will inform and educate readers about advantages and benefits of traveling south of the border for medical services,” says a *U-T* display ad. “Comparable treatments in the U.S. are usually 60 to 80 percent higher than in Mexico. That is partly because of higher overhead, salaries, and educational expenses in the United States, along with the high cost of malpractice insurance, not required in Mexico. The expenses of medical tourism destinations — travel, lodging, procedures, and a vacation-like experience — is often cheaper than the treatment alone in the United States.”

The pitch seems to some to ironically harken back to November 2017, when San Diego’s tax-financed tourism authority put up \$100,000 to promote DestinationCare San Diego, a promotion pitching the super-rich on the notion of coming to the region for state-of-the-art, high-dollar treatment. “Planning a visit to San Diego? Hit the beaches. Check. Spend a day at the zoo or a theme park. Check. Sample craft beer. Check. Book a stay at a local hospital for cutting-edge cardiac or cancer treatment?” asked a November 6, 2017, *U-T* dispatch.

“Medical tourism in a lot of people’s minds is where can I get inexpensive care. This isn’t about getting a new set of teeth for half price,” **Tom Gehring**, an ex-chief executive of the San Diego County Medical Society and interim executive director of DestinationCare, told the paper. “It’s about why should I go to San Diego for the best possible treatment on the West Coast?”

But not much happened after the flashy rollout. In December 2018, PR man **Peter MacCracken** told the *San Diego Business Journal*, “Short answer is that this is harder than we might have thought. Going forward, we are also looking at more aggressive marketing, though what (that) means is not yet determined.” These days, a link to the DestinationCare website touted by the *U-T* no longer works.

Herb Klein’s ghost Postmortems regarding the sweep of San Diego city races by an array of Democrats have avoided discussing one of the biggest reasons for the bloodbath Republicans suffered in November: the slow demise of the *Union-Tribune*. A prior

owner **Douglas Manchester**, a Republican stalwart, repeatedly bragged of using the paper on behalf of his political agenda. He imported take-no-prisoners reporter **Trent Seibert** and conservative columnist **Steve Greenhut** to go after Democrats. (Seibert returned to Dallas following the special election run-off of 2014, in which Republican **Kevin Faulconer** bested Democrat **David Alvarez** for mayor. The Texan died of heart disease in August 2018 at the age of 47. Hired by Manchester at the beginning



DestinationCare San Diego is a bust, but director Tom Gehring’s still smiling.

of the mayoral election season in July 2013, per his LinkedIn profile, Greenhut left the paper in February 2016 to become western regional director of R Street Institute, a self-styled libertarian think tank.

Three years before Manchester, there was the Copley Press, run by **Jim Copley** and his second wife Helen as the region’s GOP Central, where **Herb Klein**, a company scribe whose services Copley “lent” from time to time to **Richard Nixon**, served his last days as the editor in chief. “Ostensibly a working news reporter, Klein would be remembered for his...extraprofessional contribution to the campaign,” wrote Nixon biographer **Roger Morris** of Klein’s Nixonian role.

A last hurrah of sorts for the *U-T*’s down-ballot kingmaking came this August when GOP council candidate **Noli Zosa** claimed on his ballot statement that he had been endorsed by the paper. Zosa’s Democratic opponent **Raul Campillo** went to court, noting Zosa’s endorsement was only for the primary and that the newspaper had yet to express a general election preference. In the end, the *U-T* did pick



A *Union-Tribune* endorsement didn’t help council candidate Noli Zosa.

Zosa for the runoff, saying in an October 23 editorial that Campillo “seemed at times peevish and curt” during an interview with the opinion staff.

During the *U-T*’s golden years, such a personal swipe would likely have been enough to undermine a budding Democratic candidate. But in November, Campillo swept past Zosa to take the Seventh District seat, 40 to 33 percent.

Now Zosa, part-owner of the Dirty Birds bar and grill chain, has started a legal defense fund, which he registered with the city clerk’s office on November 30, in a bid for donors to cover the costs of his summer court battles.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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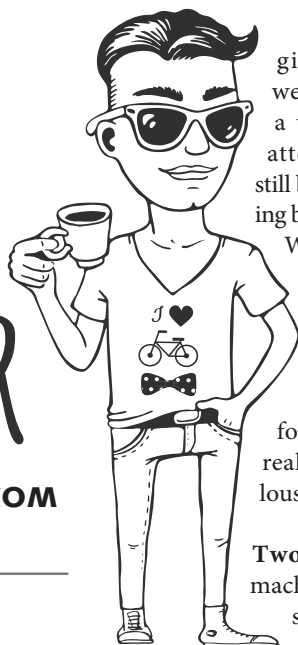
One thing this crappy year has got me thinking about is time travel. If time travel were indeed possible, we could go back in time and quarantine patient zero before the coronavirus pandemic, or skip straight ahead to the good parts in the future. Of course, that would be just the beginning of what you might accomplish with a functional time machine! What would be some good uses for a time machine?

— CODY

Although I'm quite sure pontifications on the vices and virtues of time travel have occupied greater minds than mine, I'd be lying if I told you I didn't have a few thoughts on the issue. If I'm being really honest, it's probably a lot more than a few thoughts. Ok, you want the whole truth? I could probably babble nonstop for a week about all the asinine uses I could dream up for a time machine, and I'd only be scratching the surface of the potential coolness that could arise from the ability to travel through time.

Fortunately for you, I'm a keen student of pop culture, from which I have gleaned a set of very rough guidelines on the usage of any time machine. I should also clarify these guidelines have nothing to do with the physics of actual time travel. There are rulesets for that, but these aren't them.

One. No trying to change the past, present, or future. This isn't even about paradoxes, it's more that there are an infinite number of better uses for a time machine than trying to prevent a breakup with a high-school



girlfriend. In a single weekend, a person with a time machine could attend Woodstock, and still be able to regret attending both Woodstock '94 and Woodstock '99. With all the cool stuff that has ever happened or ever will happen open to exploration, the use of a time machine for mucking about with reality seems like a frivolous waste.

Two: No using the time machine for get-rich quick schemes. This is not a moral concern. It's a highly practical one.

Everybody thinks they'd use the time machine to buy Apple stock in the late 1990s, or win a bunch of money *Back to the Future*-style by gambling on sporting events in the past. Wrong. You want to know what happens to people who try stuff like that? The SEC happens, that's what; or maybe a bookie gets wise to obvious cheating and has a few kneecaps strategically broken.



Put it down, McFly.

Three. No becoming a false messiah by wowing people with apocalypse tales. That's weak.

Four. Never go all the way native. You don't get to be a racist all of a sudden because you travel to 1938 and everyone

else is doing it. As an emissary of your present time, you must always model only the best behaviors of today.

Five. Always tip well. You never know when you'll need a bartender to smuggle you out of the timeline.

And, finally, the most important rule of all —

Six. Always accept any challenge in the form of a dance-off, karaoke contest, or other competition based on spontaneous amateur performance art. Not only are time travelers heavily favored to win these events, victory in such a contest makes one irresistible to chicks or dudes from the past or future, which is always a key plot point in your personal time traveling saga.

— DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

the main office. What they claim certainly seems true to me.

Name Withheld
San Diego

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

“Council sneaks in vote on 30th Street bike lanes at last minute”
Neighborhood News
November 23

Anyone familiar with this portion of 30th Street has seen the parking problem worsen over the years. Parking within a block of your destination was once possible but rarely anymore. Now there will be 500 fewer parking spaces? I'm very pro-environment, but this is putting the cart before the horse. Unlike some European cities, San Diego is very vast and most people (still) need cars. I'm sick and tired of the City Council voting against the will of the majority of citizens. I for one will never vote for any of them that have approved this. Thank you, Barbara Bry, for being the only member of the council to not vote for this awful plan.

—BLC

“Can Mitsubishi get enough electric trucks for cement warehouse?”
Neighborhood News
December 1

Is the product outgoing or incoming? A friend in the industry has told me of cement imported from China with high levels of chromium and other health hazards

—CaptainObvious

“Transparency not hallmark of Todd Gloria's top operators”
News Ticker
December 1

“The more things change, the more they remain the same.” How this new mayor came to carry her over from the Faulconer administration is a question he needs

to be asked and one he needs to answer. I doubt that most of his supporters voted for a continuation of the old policies of the outgoing mayor.

—Visduh

“Thrown-away fruit washes up in Imperial Beach”
Neighborhood News
December 1

Maybe it came from immigrant boats - from far away. Can't imagine coming to San Diego from Central America by boating up the coast, but it's probably common. Employers keep hiring, immigrants keep coming. There's no stopping them or forcing them into orderly lines at borders. The US and Canada are the best things going on the American continent when it comes to potential for improving living circumstances. Too bad the US can't help these immigrants from other nations to have better living conditions in their nations of origin. You'd think that issue would be a top priority for both the US and Canada.

—John Floyd

“SDG&E line man fired for white power sign”
Cover Stories
November 25

This is wokeness eating itself from the inside. Lawyers for SDG&E probably looked at Cafferty's employment application before firing him to see if he checked the Elizabeth Warren box. His case has legs if he did and don't if he didn't.

—ScottyBreauxman

“San Diego squeakers”
News Ticker
November 30

The Light News, aka *U-T*, has Anderson as the winner. It isn't obvious to me which one of them would take back-country fire prevention and mitigation as a high priority. After 2003 and 2007, the local voters should be taking it seriously, but most don't seem to care much at all. Jacob made noises from time to time, but as far as anything being done, she came up wanting. Let's see what happens now.

—Visduh

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IMPERIAL BEACH

Beach walk proves fruitful The sea gives up its produce

On November 21, Jennifer McDaniel and her dog Hilda noticed apples, oranges, bananas, limes, eggplants, mangos, avocados, and pineapples scattered along the shoreline “by the art installation.” She snapped a photo, then posted it onto Facebook asking, “Anybody know what it’s about?” “It was strange,” she told me later. “It almost seems like it could’ve been some kind of religious offering/homage from what I gathered from commenters’ experiences. There was also mention of similar arrangements the same night and early morning.”

McDaniel has lived in the southernmost city in California since 1982; this was her



PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER MCDANIEL

“I realized there were pineapples on the beach, and we don’t give out pineapples.”

commenters had suggested that deep-sea fishing boats might have dumped the food, but Pilgrim opined, “Fishing boats tend to run lean. With the amount of stuff I see, it makes me think it’s the cruise ships, especially since now they’re anchored offshore.”

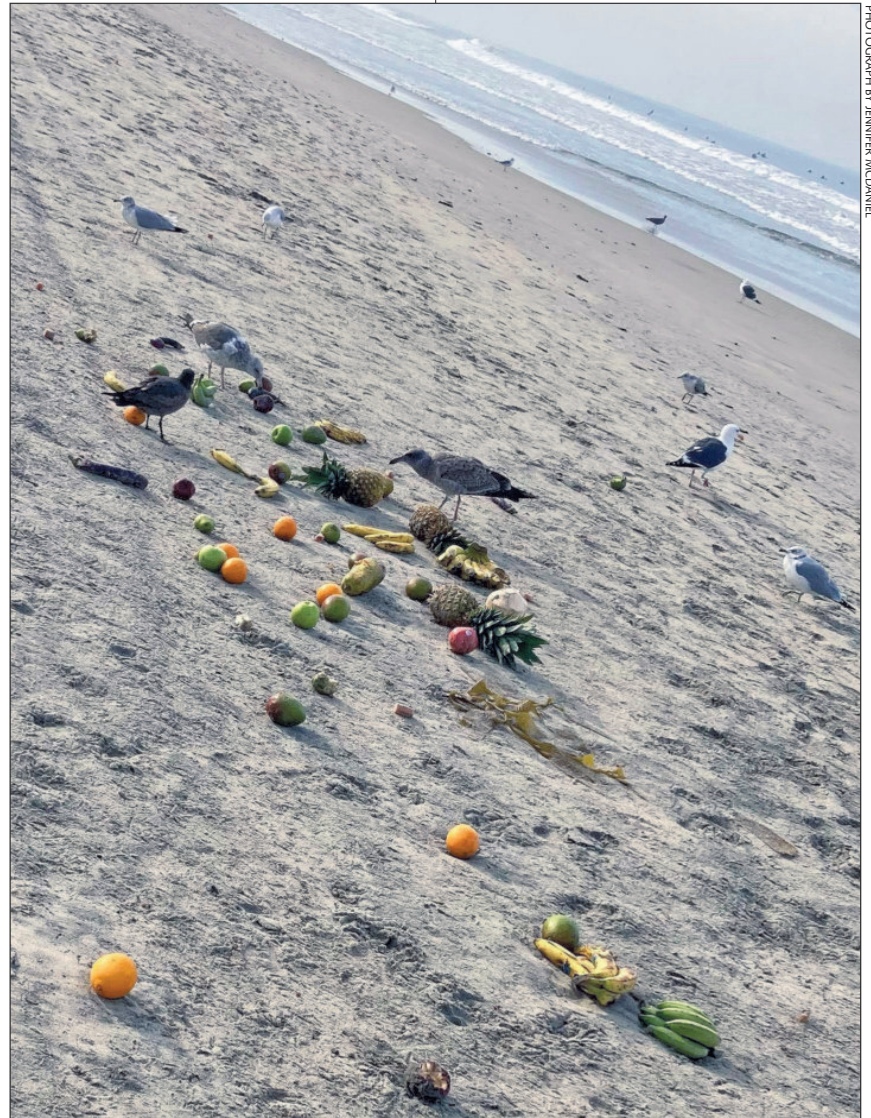
Multiple beach strollers and joggers corroborated this theory online, saying they’d witnessed increased fruits and veggies scattered or washed-up along the IB shoreline and beaches.

On Thanksgiving, Carolyn Flores saw one of the photos showing fruits and vegetables strewn along the beach just south of the Imperial Beach Pier. “I was outraged to see that somebody could throw away food when there are families that are in dire need,” she recalls. Flores is the founder of the Hope Project, “a drive-through food distribution services for families in need.” Since the shutdown in March, Flores has provided IB residents and visitors with boxes of vegetables and fruits, and canned goods from her IB home and the Cavalry IB chapel on Impe-

rial Beach Boulevard, two blocks east of the pier. Flores, her friends, and family connect recipients with food boxes every Monday and Thursday, with one stipulation:

“the amount of stuff I see, it makes me think it’s the cruise ships, especially since now they’re anchored offshore.”

“you need to be in a car to receive food; no walk-ups. Some of these people just lost their jobs, and their unemployment hasn’t kicked in; then there are homeless; some are working part-time and paid minimum wage because they lost their regular job. There’s a gentleman that drives a Tesla, and people ask me: ‘How can a guy with a Tesla go through?’ I explain to them that this guy lost his corporation. We also have families



PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER MCDANIEL

Dang it, it’s supposed to be fruited plains.

with little kids; they can’t return to work because there’s no daycare taking children.”

Upon seeing the photo, “I’m like, ‘Oh my goodness, everyone’s going to think the produce is from our food boxes.’ Then I realized there were pineapples on the beach, and we don’t give out pineapples.” Whatever the source, says Flores, “It breaks my heart to see this. The people throwing away the fruits and vegetables can reach out to us. Our chapel’s close to the beach.”

On Thanksgiving, Flores, her family, friends, and congregation blessed 20 families and individuals with turkey, stuffing, gravy, bread, cranberry sauce, and a pie. “Thanks to Vons for donating to our cause. One of the 20 turkey recipients was a 95-year-old man who could not have his family over because he’s in the high-risk covid age bracket.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

DEL MAR Fair Unfair?

Ex-employees say institutional sickness set in well before covid

Covid-triggered cancelations pushed the Del Mar Fairgrounds into a \$10 million deficit as of September, but two former fairground employees claim that that the fairgrounds governing board and its staff were headed for a fall even without the virus. They tell tales of free cars, drinking on the job, loosey-goosey accounting, and a system where friends of managers were rewarded while others were fired. They also say that although the Del Mar Fairgrounds operates with the supposed oversight of the governor, its free-wheeling management practices would never be tolerated in official California work environments. The two were employed by the 22nd District Agricultural Association, which had a full-time staff of 153 at the beginning of 2020. The crew ran the Fair and oversaw the year-round operations of the 370-acre fairgrounds. Last month, 91 of those employees were terminated. Many of them signed agreements promising not to talk about their termination.

continued on page 8



PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER MCDANIEL

Jennifer McDaniel: “It almost seems like it could’ve been some kind of religious offering.”

first time witnessing remnants of the “produce polluters.” But for Anne Pilgrim, the scattered produce isn’t such an anomaly. We spoke after she and her friend strolled the beach as a cool-down following a workout. “We usually see this; in fact, we laughed because the week before it was mostly vegetables. Usually, it’s spread out along the shoreline.” Pilgrim has lived in IB for 33 years. She sent me a photo that appears to depict the same fruits and veggies that McDaniel posted online. “I’ve been seeing them for ten years or more,” Pilgrim continued. “If you’ve been traveling in international waters and you dock in San Diego, or wherever, you have to go through customs. And just like at land and air crossings, you can’t bring certain foodstuffs into the U.S., no matter where you obtained it originally. So they dump it in the ocean.” Some online

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The two who are speaking up for this article agreed to do so did so on the condition their names not be used.

Both claim that general manager Tim Fennell was forced into an early retirement three years before he reached the 30-year mark. Employee A says Fennell got a gym built on the fairgrounds. "He was very cheap. He didn't want to pay to go to Frog's [a private Solana Beach gym], so he had a gym built at the west end of the grandstand. He'd go there every day. The rest of the staff could use it if they got a \$5 pass." The former staffer says certain vendors and contractors who got lucrative exclusive contracts to do business for the fair didn't have to follow the rules. "It was the same contractors year after year. If new contractors wanted to come in, the staff would tell the existing contractor what the bid was so they could beat it... And the general manager [Fennell] and the two deputy GMs were given cars. Why would they need cars when almost all the meetings were held on the Fairgrounds? Maybe it wasn't illegal, but it just didn't smell right." The Del Mar Fairgrounds general manager reports to a nine-member board; its members are appointed by the governor. "When [attorney] David Watson resigned from the board, he said he was leaving because of misappropriation of funds and bad management," says employee A about Watson's departure in April. "They are now saying everything is crashing because of covid. But it really started tanking four years ago. They kept seeing a decline in horse racing, which was no surprise, yet they kept borrowing money. That's when they started talking about making loans against existing bonds." Responding to one doomsday scenario, Employee A says, "I would hate to see

a developer get a hold of that property. My own thinking is that maybe the 22nd DAA should just go away and the fairgrounds should be run by the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club."

Employee B maintains that last month's employee bloodbath cut out some competent staff. "They got rid of all accounting people who actually knew what was going on." The former employee said honest account staffers were sometimes rebuffed by their superiors. "Managers would turn in falsified travel claims. They would use the same receipt that someone else had already used. We would bring it up and nothing would happen. Why isn't the state sending in people to do an audit so they can see what is actually being done? I know for a fact that people contacted Sacramento and nothing ever happened." The former staffer also maintains Tim Fennell's employment roster was huge. "They had 150-plus people. What did they need all those people for? Other fair districts have a fraction of what we had. A lot of them were paid really well, like \$60,000 to \$90,000... And when they started firing people, they didn't care about seniority. It should be last to be hired, first to be fired. But here, it was if you

"They are now saying everything is crashing because of covid. But it really started tanking four years ago."

were friends of the managers you got to stay." Employee B notes that when it became clear that revenue from the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club horse racing meets and the Surfside Race Place kept declining, the fair board opted to take out a \$15 million loan three years ago to refashion the Race Place into a 1900-capacity concert venue. "They kept digging deeper and

deeper in debt. Now what happens to all those bonds they took out?"

So if, as the ex-employees allege, the Del Mar Fair board is mired in bad business behavior, and if the governor's office is not motivated to intervene, who will fix the dysfunction? "Something has to give,"

says Solana Beach mayor-elect Lesa Heebner. She says it is important to think about new ways to oversee how the Fairgrounds are run, and that she wants to help create a new consortium of local leaders from the adjacent cities (San Diego, Del Mar, Solana Beach), incoming county supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, elected state officials, the governor's office, and the Del Mar Fair board. "Let's craft a new business plan and create a new business model as the governor has requested." Heebner says it is clear covid will not be over by the summer. "I think it's safe to say we will go another year without a fair as we used to know it. And we will not have horse racing with spectators anytime soon. How long can the fairgrounds survive in this manner?" Heebner says the Fairgrounds must always be available for evacuation. Besides that, she thinks everything else should be on the table as to how the Fairgrounds should be used going forward. "I really don't want to see it morph into one big concert venue. What does that have to do with agriculture?" Heebner says live music was increasingly added in the '90s to bring in more revenue. "I think we have to ask ourselves, 'Is that really what we want that property to be used for?'" The Fairgrounds is hoping to get millions in bail-out assistance from both the state and the federal government in the next few months.



Drive-in concerts have been scheduled for Iration December 5, former members of Oingo Boingo December 11, and The Nutcracker December 19.

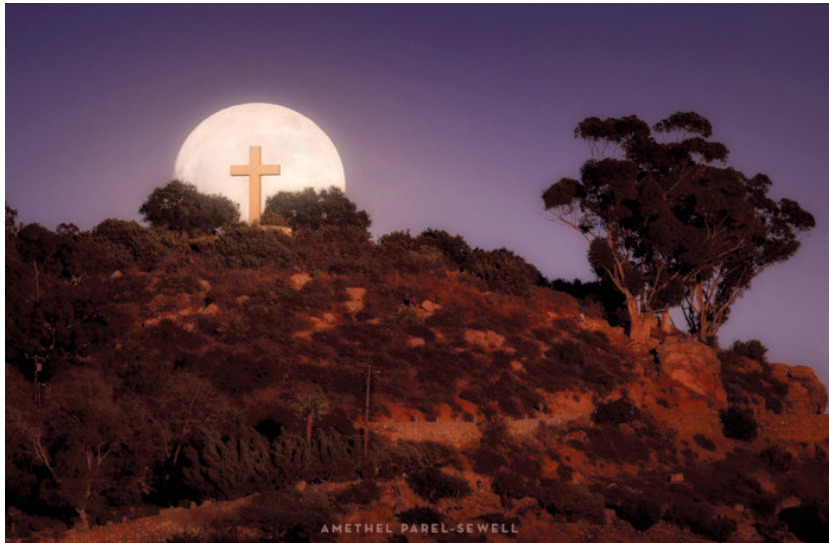
The fair board was rebuffed in June when it asked the Orange County fair board for a \$5 million loan. Meanwhile, "drive-in concerts" have been scheduled, including local reggae band Iration on December 5, former members of Oingo Boingo December 11, and *The Nutcracker*, staged by City Ballet of San Diego, December 19.

Replying to the former employees' claims, Del Mar Fairgrounds marketing director Jennifer Hellman says that the fair maintains a sponsorship agreement with Chevrolet that includes the use of six courtesy vehicles. "These vehicles are used for various purposes including use by the executive staff, educational program outreach staff, and sign shop staff." She says the Fairgrounds follow a competitive bidding process for its vendors and contractors. "In the case of an IFB (invitation for bid), the contract is awarded to the qualified bidder with the lowest responsive and responsible bid, or in the case of a two-tier RFP (request for proposal), the contract is awarded based on both an evaluation of the proposers technical ranking and lowest cost." Regarding the claims of fake travel reimbursements, Hellman responds: "Fairgrounds employees submit travel reimbursements using the Travel Claim form and following CalHR travel claim procedures." She says that employees were not "fired.... We did lay off 60% of our permanent staff as well as 99% of our seasonal/temporary staff for a total reduction of 85% of our total workforce. For these layoffs, the Fairgrounds strictly followed instructions provided in the Layoff Manual published by CalHR." Finally, she denies there were any "loans against bonds," adding: "The current existing debt includes a combination of investments in revenue-generating facility improvements, infrastructure maintenance and upkeep projects, and legally-mandated environmental improvement projects."

KEN LEIGHTON



Remember fairs?



“Five seconds later, it would have been off-center.”

Moon shot

The back of Amethel Parel-Sewell’s business card for Light Chasers (a learning community of photographers) lists 22 elements of a photograph, from Composition and Color to Tones and Texture, with stops at Emotion, Light, and Subject along the way. But she says that for her, “the most important is Moment. One of my personal heroes in photography is Henri Cartier-Bresson. He’s one of the founders of photojournalism, and he coined the idea of the decisive moment. Photography is capturing this fleeting fraction of a second in time so that it lives in eternity. All of the craft work that goes into making a photograph — the technical and creative process — is ultimately about capturing that moment the way you’ve envisioned it.”

On November 28th, I happened upon Parel-Sewell as she was doing just that: capturing the moment the moon rose behind the cross atop Mt. Helix. “That alignment happens only once every two years. I shot it two years ago, but the conditions were more difficult. I had to wait to get another shot at it. I see the cross from my house every day; it’s part of my environment. And every day, I would dream of that shot. Every time I see the moon rising, it kind of takes my breath away. I teach photography and judge at the Fair, but this I do for myself. It’s like therapy. I love it because it gives me this kind of transcendent feeling. To witness this cosmic connection” — the moon touching the earth — “makes me feel alive. It’s like a connection to the divine, if that makes any sense.”

I know whereof she speaks. That same weekend, my 11-year-old called the family outside to see the ring around the moon — a corona that seemed to open a hole in the sky, revealing a blacker blackness beyond the surrounding night. The kids compared it to the shadow of a descending saucer;

the wife said it looked like the opening act of judgment day. Everyone stayed standing outside, chilled but transfixed, jaws hanging, necks crimping. We picked up on the transcendence, but my photo...did not capture the moment.

“I like to shoot the moon interacting with the environment,” says Parel-Sewell. “I started

“All of the craft work that goes into making a photograph is ultimately about catching that moment the way you’ve envisioned it.”

as a photojournalist, and to me, authenticity is key. Often, people will just Photoshop a moon into a scene. But when the moon interacts with the buildings and landscape, you can’t fake that. The environment won’t take in the light in a natural way.” Authenticity, of



My corona pic. You kind of had to be there. Or at least be a better photographer.



“When the moon interacts with the buildings and landscape, you can’t fake that.”

course, is hard to come by; as she says, “this kind of photography is 80 percent planning.” First, there is the matter of equipment. “To achieve the ratio where you get a giant moon over a landscape, you have to have a long focal length, at least 500 millimeters, and

you have to shoot from a distance.” (Alpine Avenue is over a mile away from the cross.) Next is the matter of timing. “The moon rises so fast; if you’re trying to get an exact alignment, you have to be in the exact right place at the exact right time.” Happily, there’s

an app for that: PlanIt! for Photographers, which allowed her to pick the landmark she wanted to shoot (the cross), find the moment of moonrise, and then figure out the precise spot from which to shoot (a concrete slab jutting out from the road). “Five seconds later, and it would have been off center.”

But it’s the other 20 percent, after you’ve done your planning and picked your spot, that’s the tricky part. “You’re in a spiritual mode, but your technical ability has to be on in the moment. Every landscape is different. You have to shoot so the moon is in focus, and so that its highlights aren’t blown out in comparison to what is usually a darker scene. You have to consider ambient light.”

As noted, she didn’t always pursue such elevated material. “I’ve wanted to be a photographer since I was 10, and I got my training in photojournalism at Western Kentucky University.” There, “I fell in love with anthropology and folk studies, and so my interest was in documenting peoples and cultures, and landscapes and ways of life. I see myself as a lifelong learner, and photography was a conduit for that. I loved photojournalism, but I got burned out; it was exhausting. Since coming to San Diego in 2013, I’ve been able to get back into photography the way in which I intended.” Why? “I’ve traveled the world. The light here in San Diego is the most magical that I’ve ever experienced. My family came here on a visit from the Midwest, and as soon as I crossed the bridge from the airport to the parking lot, there was this breeze that came through, and the palm trees started dancing in this golden light. I looked at my husband and said, ‘This place is magical.’ Not just the light; the diversity of the landscapes. It’s unmatched.” ■

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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news



Bishop McElroy, addressing reporters in front of a recently vandalized Chaldean Catholic church in El Cajon. "The swastika is regrettable, of course, especially since my term 'collaborator' may cause some to think of those who chose to work with occupying Nazi forces during World War II rather than stand up and resist them. But I think we as a Church would be foolish to ignore such a clear expression of the sensum fidei, the sense of the faithful in our care. Clearly, the people wanted Biden, and what's more, they wanted the Church to want Biden. Hence the graffiti."

Don't Hate, Collaborate

Bishop McElroy stresses need for cooperation with Catholic president-elect, despite differences

The Catholic Church teaches that abortion is "gravely contrary to the moral law," that formal cooperation in an abortion results in excommunication, and that "the law must provide appropriate penal sanctions for every deliberate violation of the [unborn] child's rights." Catholic President-elect Joe Biden begs to differ, which is why San Diego's Bishop McElroy said that the Church in America needs "to be frank and forthright in its sharp disagreement with the President-elect's position." But he also highlighted areas where he hoped that fruit-

ful collaboration would be possible: climate change and "the searing questions of racial justice and division." The bishop said he expected some pushback on his comments, "just like when I partnered the diocese with Planned Parenthood as part of our outreach to women in crisis. Some people noted that Planned Parenthood is the largest single abortion provider in the nation, and that it passes out artificial contraception, which the Church also condemns. But you can't deny the value of the other medical services they provide, often free of charge, to the

women of our community. Or when we brought in Black Lives Matter representatives to help us understand systemic racism in our parishes. Sure, they explicitly seek to disrupt the nuclear family and they're founded by a trained Marxist. But you have to look at the whole picture. Otherwise, you're liable to end up praising Donald Trump for putting another pro-life Catholic on the Supreme Court. And besides, what else are we going to do? It's not like we have some kind of institutional authority over Biden or anything."



Mayor Faulconer, giving thanks for the craven stupidity of so many California Democrats. "My wife actually picked up that Provencal placemat at Cost Plus World Market," he recounted. "I got gravy on it and had to wash it after dinner, so I guess you could say I had my own little French Laundry experience. Ha, ha, that's a joke."

From Midway to Mishap

USS Bonhomme Richard to be repurposed as dive-in museum of recent Naval history

"People love visiting the Midway Museum, and why not?" asks Navy spokeswab James Portside. "It rightly celebrates our Navy's great achievements. But as the recent burning of the Bonhomme Richard makes clear, our recent past has been less than admiral-ble, ha ha. Deadly collisions between ships in 2017. The whole Spice drug epidemic. Overenthusiastic SEALs. The Fat Leonard bribery scandal. The fact that you're more likely to be sexually assaulted at a Navy installation than anywhere else in the military. Clearly, we're at a bit of a low point in our storied history. Which is why we thought it appropriate to put the Bonhomme Richard at a low point of its own, and set up an underwater



That sinking feeling: the warship will be placed directly below the famed USS Midway as a testament to the Navy's reputation over the past 20 years or so.

museum where intrepid explorers can learn more about how things went so very very wrong. We'll have educational installations, exciting interactive exhibits, and probably sharks. Come on down!"

Winner, winner, turkey dinner

Confirmed report of Mayor Faulconer eating solitary Thanksgiving meal propels him to front-runner status for California governor

"Honestly, it started as a joke," says Mayor Faulconer of his solitary, microwaved repast on Thanksgiving day. "After Governor Newsom went to that big party at the French Laundry, then fudged about it being an outside dinner when 'outside' just meant one open wall, I said to the wife, 'I bet there's gonna be more. And I bet that anyone with the self-control required to do the exact opposite, to sit at home and eat alone, is going to be the big winner here.' She dared me. And I took her up on it. God knows I needed something to take the spotlight off the Ash Street debacle. But I had no

idea how right I was. San Francisco Mayor London Breed went to a party at the same restaurant, the very next night! San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo broke state rules with his big Thanksgiving gathering. Some lady in LA voted to end outdoor dining and then went to dine outdoors! Not to mention the Democrat Mayor of Austin, who told people to stay home while he was vacationing in Cabo! I'm not saying it made my Thanksgiving dinner delicious, but even microwaved turkey is better than snow. This is one Faulconer who knows when it's time to stay in the nest. Sacramento, here I come!"

WHO PLAYS WHO

MAYOR-ELECT GLORIA'S TEAM



On *Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea*, **Robert Duvall** played Zar, a being from an earlier evolutionary cycle whose containment canister is unearthed and opened.

Interim chief operating officer **Jay Goldstone** served in the same role from 2007-2013.



In the film *Secret Agents*, **Monica Belluci** plays a political operative in a world full of duplicitous people willing to play both sides.

New chief of staff **Paola Avila** was deputy chief of staff under Republican mayor Dick Murphy.



On *Silicon Valley*, **Zachary Woods** played Jared, whose unwavering support for his boss was both hilarious and unsettling.

Deputy chief of staff **Nick Serrano** has been Gloria's staff assistant, community representative, communications director, and campaign manager.



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DECEMBER 10 – 19

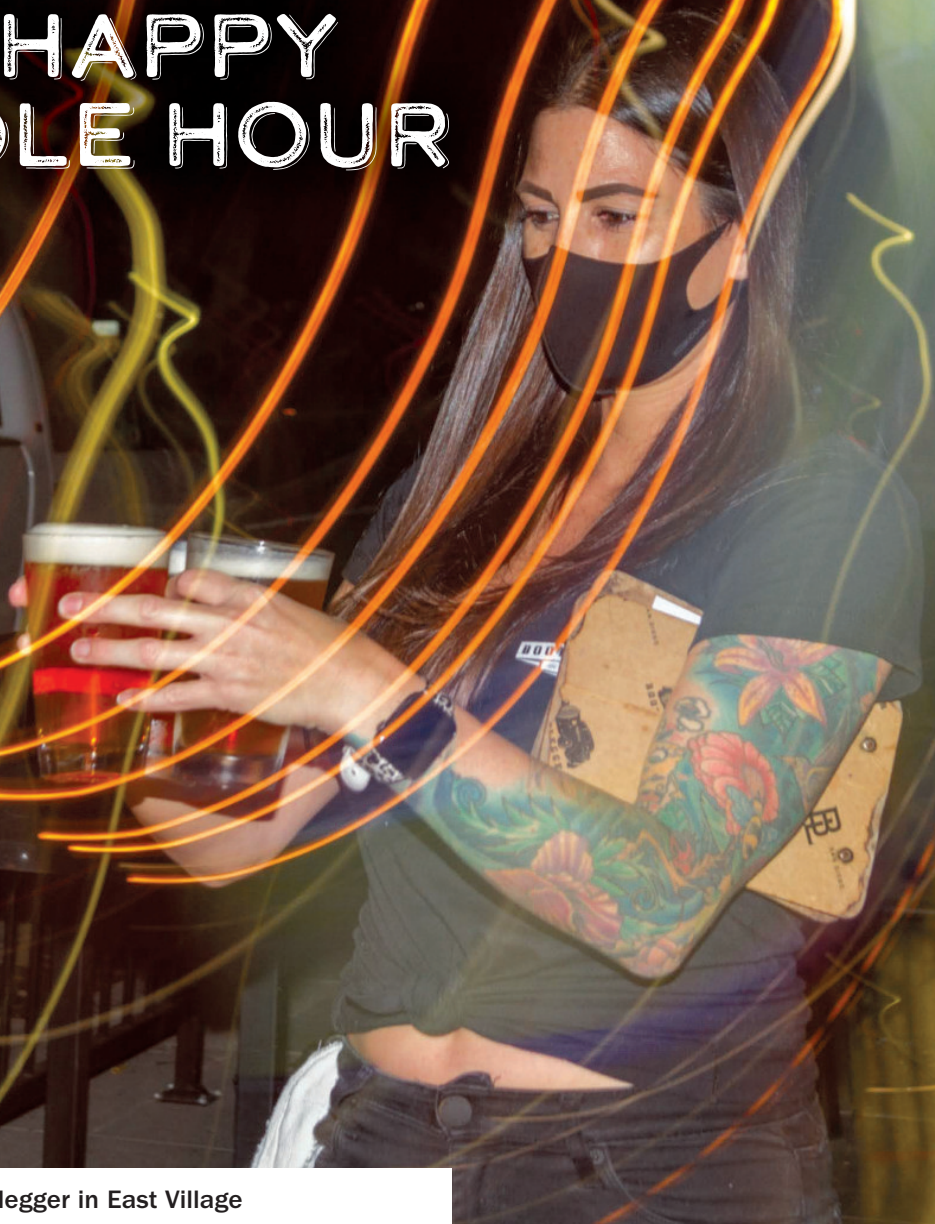
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| DEC 10 Ten Winners will receive an MTS cooler backpack and picnic blanket | DEC 15 Five Winners will receive a free Regional 30-Day Pass |
| DEC 11 Nine Winners will receive five (5) Day Passes | DEC 16 Four Winners will receive \$100 in Padres Friars Funds |
| DEC 12 Eight Winners will receive \$25 Starbucks gift card (<i>keep your lids on during the whole commute!</i>) | DEC 17 Three Winners will receive a set of Apple AirPods (<i>loud speakers/music was a top complaint in our recent rider etiquette survey</i>) |
| DEC 13 Seven Winners will receive \$50 Vons Gift Cards | DEC 18 Two Winners will receive a folding bike - great for multimodal commuters! |
| DEC 14 Six Winners will receive \$50 to SDSU Shops | DEC 19 One Winner will receive a free year of transit! |

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NOBODY'S HAPPY FOR A WHOLE HOUR ANYMORE



Serving up beers outside Bootlegger in East Village

THE DREADED PURPLE TIER WAS BACK.

This would be the final weekend before the most severe social distancing rules would again suspend indoor operations at restaurants and bars on November 14, potentially shutting down countless local happy hour specials. I hit the phones thinking I was simply building a database of drink specials still being offered despite the pandemic. Instead, I got a virtual tour of a bar-business battlefield.

We went into 2020 with over 400 happy hour specials listed on *SanDiegoReader.com*. You can imagine how much work it requires

to call hundreds of venues and confirm up-to-the-minute data. It used to be an all-week gig, completed top-to-bottom four times each year, and I'd come out of those phone sessions

My home office was so whisper quiet, you'd have thought I was phoning to offer condolences regarding deceased loved ones. In a sense, I was.

with a voice husky enough to pull a dog sled. Not so much from talking to that many people, over a short period, but from having to talk so *loudly*. Any place with a successful happy hour

is going to be noisy most any time you call. Before the pandemic, I had to pose happy hour queries over the phone at a volume usually only heard from ex-spouses, heavy metal singers, and hyperactive children. I was often forced to repeat each question multiple times, getting exponentially louder with each query. That didn't happen this last time. My home office was so whisper quiet, you'd have thought I was phoning to offer condolences regarding deceased loved ones. In a sense, I was.

When the first pandemic shutdown happened, we had to cut the 400-item happy hour

database back to around 140 specials. Those were a lot of grim phone calls. The happy hour tally was slowly starting to rise again when the restrictions were reinstated in San Diego, which left around 79 confirmed specials. The weekend of November 14, as our city prepared to slink back into the purple penalty box, ended with only 52 active happy hours.

In University Heights, Small Bar & Grill was still reeling from a week's closure due to an employee testing positive for covid-19 when the newest restrictions were announced. The bar, which has been in business a little over a decade, confirmed on November 12 that it would be closing.

Phil's BBQ is managing to keep several of its locales open, though the San Marcos branch announced on November 13 that it was shutting down. "I feel like the prudent thing to do is to step away and look for other opportunities in the North County area," said owner Phil Pace on Facebook (where he also admitted that locale's lease is almost up).

Winstons in OB



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

In University Heights, Small Bar & Grill was still reeling from a week's closure due to an employee testing positive for covid-19 when the newest restrictions were announced. The bar, which has been in business a little over a decade, confirmed on November 12 that it would be closing.

announced its impending closure, perhaps for good, just before the purple axe fell, and nearby Mother's had already been shuttered. Martinis Above Fourth in Hillcrest is now closed and reportedly seeking Chapter 7 bankruptcy protection.

North Park's Bar Pink tried but failed to hang in there with cocktails-to-go and concert livestreams staged in the mostly empty venue. That tack seems to work moderately well for the Belly Up in Solana Beach, which also offers home-

bound patrons a whole selection of previously archived livestreams. Nearby Tiger! Tiger! didn't quite make its ten year anniversary before shutting down.

Other venues that recently suspended their drink specials or appear to be shortening their hours or closing, at least temporarily, include Encinitas Ale House, Tin Roof, Pacific Beach Shore Club, Wonderland Ocean Pub, and Guava Beach Bar & Grill.

Many bars which previously offered happy

hour specials several nights each week have cut back to only a single day, usually their slowest, such as the Local Pacific Beach, where the sole discount is on Monday (half off appetizers). The Old Town Mexican

Café gets happy only on Tuesdays when their 50 percent discounts on well drinks and selected appetizers run all day.

Happy Hours are also scheduling much earlier, going from a pre-pandemic average of 7 to 10pm to specials that frequently end before sunset. "We close two hours earlier now" one server told me, "which means there's not enough time between getting off work and 6 o'clock to get totally wasted for happy hour. That makes the roads around here a lot safer at night, but we're pretty much emptied out after the dinner rush."

As the pandemic drags on, bars and restaurants are trying to jury-rig a failing life support system, and happy hours are the least of their worries. More than one audio interviewee became annoyed with me for pes-

tering them with apparent penny-pinching. One bartender complained the way someone usually does from the seated side of a bar rail, telling me "It's bad enough that the governor keeps dangling my job in front of me like a yoyo, but I actually voted for the guy."

I never could have imagined myself saying "I'm sorry" to so many people, so many times, over such a short space of time. During a previous happy hour purge, someone answering the phone at one bar flat out told me to "knock that shit off, nobody's happy for a whole hour anymore."

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, over 600,000 working U.S. bartenders were on the payroll at the beginning of 2020. Until recently, tending or owning a bar, with or without food service,

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Knotty Barrel downtown is one of the few bars whose discount specials have remained mostly unchanged for over a year, running Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 pm.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Bootlegger in East Village, offers one day for happy hour food (\$10 build-your-own-nachos and beer all day Tuesday) and a weekend bottomless mimosa special (\$25 per person).

must have seemed like one of the greatest jobs ever. A party every day, and eternally in demand. The world will always need someone to pour it a stiff drink, right?

Look what happened when they tried to ween America off the barley teat with Prohibition, when getting busted with a bottle of giggle juice was no laughing matter and could land you in prison. Not only did that not stop people from drinking, but a whole new underground subculture was created of liquored up lawbreakers.

Kind of like Covid Cocktail Parties. Oh sure, nobody calls them that. But when you see online posts or receive private messages with coded how-to-attend invitations to a formerly public venue, now privately hosting a “membership only” drink-athon replete with happy hour specials and live music, I know it makes me feel like ordering a month’s worth of groceries, locking the door, and filling the bathtub with hand sanitizer.

I found a married couple willing to tell

me about attending a private party at a North County bar that threw up so much subterfuge to deter all but the chosen that crime scene caution tape was used to block off both entrances visible from the street. The only way to secretly gain admittance was through the (closed) restaurant in an adjoining building, where one had to present a valid ID, a confirmed password, and 50 bucks non-refundable cash. That earned customers the right to saddle up to a bar full of disease vector daredevils doing approxi-

mately the same thing in the same bar that, back in February, wasn’t even asking a cover charge on live music nights.

“It’s impossible to keep anything a secret nowadays with social media,” says husband “Jack,” “so there were people trying to get in all night. They had it peaked out at 50 people [the venue capacity is over 200] but there wasn’t anything like spaces roped off between chairs and tables, and almost nobody was wearing a mask other than whoever worked there.”

Were all the employ-

ees wearing masks? “I think so, the bartenders definitely were, and all the bouncers had on hospital gloves.” I asked if that meant bouncers were daring to touch patrons, patting them down. “No, not at all, I think the gloves were because they were handling the cash too. I didn’t see anybody get searched or bounced.”

According to his wife “Jill,” “I saw a few people putting on masks and then taking them off or pulling them down to talk and drink, at least early on. I’d say, by ten

o’clock, the only people still wearing masks were the bartenders and security. It’s hard to fight peer pressure.”

When it comes to employees wearing masks, management doesn’t always provide a clear and guiding light. “Our staff all wears masks at all times,” one phone responder told me at the end of a long list of on-site happy hour safety protocols, adding, “Even though one of the owners believes that masks scare off the customers.” One longtime bartender friend of mine is so fed

Eczema Research Study

To qualify you must be:

- 18-70 years old living with moderate to severe eczema
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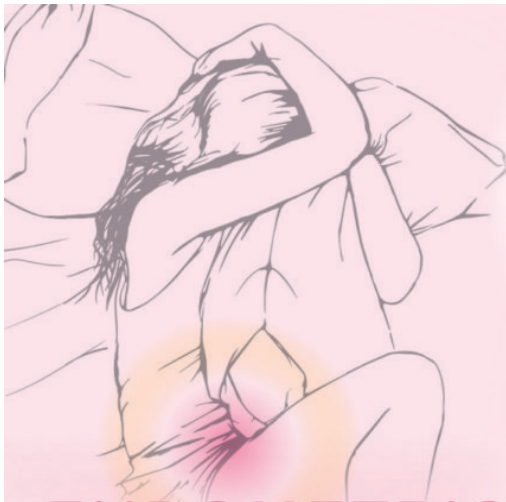
Call (858) 571-6800 or visit therapeuticsresearch.com

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Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study for people between the ages of 18 and 70 years old, suffering from moderate to severe Psoriasis.

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Missing work again...and girls' night...I just want my life back!

ENDOMETRIOSIS PAIN?

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You may qualify to participate in the Edelweiss study if you:

- Are 18 to 49 years old
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- Are not pregnant, breastfeeding, or planning to become pregnant
- Meet additional requirements as determined by a screening process

Endometriosis Pain Clinical Research Study

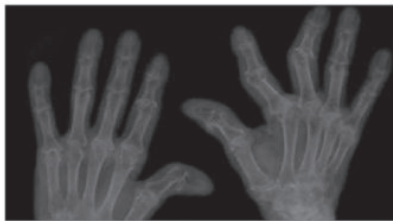
The Edelweiss study is for women living with moderate to severe pain associated with endometriosis. Dealing with symptoms that others might not understand can be frustrating, but you're not alone. About 450 women are expected to participate in the Edelweiss study.

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This research study will include 6 study center visits and subjects will be asked to use the device for 15 min/day over the 12-week study duration.

Up to \$400 will be provided for your time
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up with the ever-changing covid restrictions that he's ready find another line of work. He says he's lost count of how many customers have fought with him over masks or requests to physically distance. As for me, I lost track of how many people told me about angry bar patrons threatening to spit on them.

Of course, any job requiring contact with the public carries a high risk for infection. That probably explains the rising popularity of local-centric happy hours on Zoom, FaceTime, and Google Hangout.

Splash Wine Lounge & Bistro regularly has a virtual Play 'N' Sip wine lounge where you can pick up your drink flights and bingo grids ahead of time, and then enjoy your happy hour from home with an online group of likeminded wine loving

players. Wine Not, Wine Now offers online and in-home wine tasting via their *travelingvineyard.com* website, courtesy of a growing army of independent party hosts.

Local nonprofit Serving Seniors hosts a frequent Sips For Seniors virtual happy hour, a recurring online fundraising event which trades delivery and pickup cocktails for donations that support low-income and homeless seniors. Women in Bio ("Promoting diversity and inclusion for women in the life sciences") mounts Virtual Sip and Paint Nights on Zoom, during which local artist instructors help these science ladies with a painting project paired with a drink selection.

Knotty Barrel downtown is one of the few bars whose discount specials have remained mostly unchanged for over a year, with \$2 off craft beer and \$6 wells and wines running Monday through Friday from 4 to 7 pm. At Ambrogio15 in Pacific Beach, the longtime weekday wine specials are matched to a selec-

tion of appetizers at a \$19 per-person price from 3 until 5 pm.

Other venues have maintained happy hour specials on the same days as previously, but with heavily reduced windows of opportunity that make the term "happy hour" more literal than usual.

Mavericks Beach Club in PB is discounting drinks from 5 until 6 pm, and only on weekday afternoons, but with a generous variety of reduced price items such as \$4 beer, wine, and wells; and \$6 margaritas and mai tais. The Crossings at Carlsbad is offering their two-for-one discount on the Weekend Brunch Special (bottomless mimosas, Bloody Marys, and Sangria) for just a half hour each Saturday, between 8 and 8:30 am.

Hooleys offers a Friday food special, but the only liquor discounts are on slow Sunday mornings with \$4 Bloody Marys and \$5 Champagne. Ditto for Bootlegger in East Village: one day for happy hour food (\$10 build-your-own-nachos and beer all

day Tuesday) and a weekend bottomless mimosa special (\$25 per person).

You can find two hours' worth of weekday afternoon drink specials at most Cheesecake Factories (\$3.95-\$4.95 select beer bottles and drafts), as well as in Pacific Beach at Latitude 32 (\$3-\$5.50 wine and beers), Point Loma's The Wine Pub (\$5 craft drafts and select wines), Vintana in Escondido (\$8 martinis), and in Mission Valley with McGregor's Grill and Ale House (\$1 off beer and wines, \$5 off half-gallon pitchers), all running from 4 until 6 pm. North Park's Redwing Bar & Grill hosts a 3 to 6 pm happy hour Wednesday through Friday, with \$4.50 Tall Boys and another slightly different special each afternoon, mostly favoring domestic beers.

The majority of San Diego's other still-extant drink specials run three to four hours, with a handful offered all day, for example the noon until 6 pm selections at King and Queen Cantina in Little Italy with \$1 off drafts, \$4 beer bottles, and

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Consists of a brief health questionnaire and 1-2 study visits and will include 1-2 blood draws. Volunteers will be contributing to scientific research. Compensation up to \$125 for time and effort.

For more information or to get involved, visit lji.org/study, contact us @ donors@lji.org or call/text **(858) 255-0680**

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

RESEARCH STUDIES

SCHIZOPHRENIA RESEARCH STUDY

UC San Diego Researchers are looking for people with schizophrenia to take part in a research study investigating a medication called Cariprazine.

If you have been diagnosed with schizophrenia, are between 18-64 years old, and in generally good health, you may be eligible to participate.

Medical evaluations and study drug or placebo will be provided at no cost.

Eligible participants may also receive financial compensation for study related time and travel.

For more information, please call: **(619) 543-6107**
clinicaltrials.ucsd.edu/schizophrenia

\$7 wells and wines. The weekend discounts run from noon until 8 pm at downtown's Topsy Crow, where prices vary on individual drink exchanges.

A (very) few venues are offering live music again, albeit on a limited basis. Arrowood Golf Course in Oceanside has been hosting an occasional happy hour with Cowboy Jack Johnson, aka the Singing Cowboy of Rawhide Ranch, with rotating drink specials averaging a buck off. El Cajon's Bull & Bourbon has a live acoustic music happy hour on Friday and Saturday nights, but the only discounts are Wednesday's \$29.99 surf & turf special.

Panama 66 is also unsure of upcoming happy hour plans; their Gilbert Castellanos Supper Club Jazz shows will continue with outdoor performances, but they currently don't handle cash, only credit cards and virtual payments, in order to lessen the risk of virus exposure.

One bar I called is hosting a live music happy hour, though with the caveat that "Wearing masks is optional in the bar area, but mandatory in the piano lounge."

When I asked why, I was told, "Because the piano player doesn't want to die."

Back at the beginning of 2020, San Diegans

had no idea that it was the golden age of happy hours. In a city famed for craft beer and custom cocktails, everything from the barstool looked rosy. One hopes the local bar scene will someday at least resemble the way it was. This may be many days away, but bars will eventually need to lure back their old clientele. And don't forget, nearly a year's worth of Americans have reached legal drinking age during the pandemic. After all, nothing really goes away forever until its forgotten. And though we're in danger of forgetting what it's like to be happy, we won't forget happy hours

—Jay Allen Sanford

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Calendar

Your Week

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS COME TO IT



40 and traditional Mexican tunes, the band will perform a Christmas themed livestream, *Still Home for the Holidays*, featuring hits from their Christmas album and tunes from throughout their career.

WHEN: Friday, December 11, 7 pm

WHERE: bellyuplive.com/los-lobos



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16: BOTANIC WONDERLAND: ILLUMINATED PLANTS, MUSIC, FIRE PITS

PARQUET COURTS

Thursday | 10

PARQUET COURTS 10TH ANNIVERSARY LIVESTREAM

Parquet Courts presents *On Time*, a rock concert livestream and retrospective in celebration of the 10th anniversary of their first show, which took place at Monster Island on December 17, 2010. The show, filmed live at Brooklyn's Pioneer Works, will show rare archival footage, new interviews, and exclusive merch available only to ticket buyers.

WHEN: Thursday, December 10, 4 pm

WHERE: noonchorus.com/parquet-courts

Saturday | 12

SEAS 'N' GREETINGS



Take a holiday trip to the aquarium! Outdoors on Tidepool Plaza, guests can take in ocean views while touching juvenile Swell Sharks, Horn Sharks, and Round Rays in the aquarium's newest exhibit. On Smargon Courtyard, which is now tented in preparation for winter weather, there will be tropical cleaner shrimp, local Leopard Sharks and rays, baby animals from the nursery, and hands-on activities. In the Education Courtyard guests can explore *Oddities: Hidden Heroes* of the Scripps Collections exhibition. Photo opportunities abound.

WHEN: Saturdays, 9 am to 5 pm, Through Saturday, December 26.

WHERE: Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, aquarium.ucsd.edu

Sunday | 13

WILD WINTER FAMILY EVENT

Enjoy hands-on animal encounters, a craft for you to keep (or gift), a dash through the holiday hall, a sweet treat for all. Registration is for a one-hour time slot with a group of up to six people, all of whom must arrive together. Your group will be led through the activities by a member of the crew.

WHEN: Sunday, December 13, 9 am to 3 pm

WHERE: Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road, Rancho Santa Fe, animalcenter.org



WILD WINTER FAMILY EVENT

Wednesday | 16

BOTANIC WONDERLAND: ILLUMINATED PLANTS, MUSIC, FIRE PITS

Come take part in an outdoor holiday lighting experience, where visitors can stroll amidst festive holiday lights throughout San Diego Botanic Garden's 37 acres. Many garden areas are adorned with lights and holiday decorations: the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, Toni's Treehouse, the Rainforest and Waterfall, the Lawn Garden, Canary Islands/Cork Oak Grove, and Seeds of Wonder Children's Garden. Festive displays of lighted animals, laser lighting, fire pits, and an illuminated plant collection. Live music is offered nightly, hot beverages and food also available.

WHEN: Wednesday, December 16, 5 pm to 8:30 pm. Through December 30.

WHERE: San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. sdbgarden.org/botanicwonderland.htm

Friday | 11

BELLY UP LIVESTREAM: LOS LOBOS CHRISTMAS

The journey of Los Lobos began in 1973, when David Hidalgo, Louie Perez, Cesar Rosas, and Conrad Lozano played revved-up folk music in restaurants and at parties. Now known for their rock-influenced covers of top



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ANIMAL FRIENDS

Christmas With the Animals

Lions Tigers & Bears invites you and your family to spend a Christmas inspired day with the animals. Watch the animals open their Christmas gifts and support Lions Tigers & Bears' ongoing efforts to rescue and provide a lifetime home to these majestic animals. These activities are limited capacity, and the sanctuary requires visitors to reserve their space in advance. All proceeds benefit the rescued animals, providing food, enrichment, habitat maintenance, veterinary care and more. Saturday, December 12, 12pm; \$15-\$60. Lions Tigers & Bears Big Cat Rescue, 24402 Martin Way. (ALPINE)

Wild Winter Family Event

This festive event includes hands-on 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 11, 5pm; Saturday, December 12, 9am; Sunday, December 13, 9am; \$50. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

ART

Holiday Arts & Crafts Pop Up Shop

Bring your mask and enjoy arts and crafts from some amazing local artists! All items are made by Studio ACE artists and community members and they are donating 25% of proceeds to Studio ACE which will go to help our student scholarships and art kits. Thur-Fri,

Dec 10-11, 2pm; Sat, Dec 12, 10am; Studio Ace, 3861 Mission Avenue #B3. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Made Holiday Market

Locally-curated makers market will feature a socially-distanced outdoor shopping experience with handmade goods by roughly 60 local vendors. Sat-Sun, Dec 12-13, 10am; free. Grossmont Center, 5500 Grossmont Center Drive. (LA MESA)

Seal Society Docents: Pinnipeds Q&A

Sierra Club Seal Society Docents host a question and answer table about the Harbor Seals and California Sea Lions of La Jolla. Saturday, December 12, 11am; free. Mangelsen Images of Nature Gallery, 7916 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

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

Drive Through Nativity

Enjoy the evening driving through our live nativity from the comfort and warmth of your own car. You will enjoy fun, bright light displays, live music, goodie bags for kids, and experience the hope that Jesus brings at Christmas. Saturday, December 12, 5pm; free. Bailey Bees Theater at Community Lutheran Church, 3575 East Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

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

Rhyme & Verse

Four poems by Barbara Guest

The Past

The form of the poem subsided, it enters another poem. A witness was found for the markings inscribed upside-down. It might have been a celebration, so strong the presence of the poem. The sky sinks slowly inside the past.

A Reason

That is why I am here not among the ibises. Why the permanent city parasol covers even me.

It was the rains in the occult season. It was the snows on the lower slopes. It was water and cold in my mouth.

A lack of shoes on what appeared to be cobbles which were still antique

Well wild wild whatever in wild more silent blue

the vase grips the stems petals fall the chrysanthemum darkens

Sometimes this mustard feeling clutches me also. My sleep is reckoned in straws

Yet I wake up and am followed into the street.

Words

The simple contact with a wooden spoon and the word recovered itself, began to spread as grass, forced as it lay sprawling to consider the monument where patience looked at grief, where warfare ceased eyes curled outside themes to search the paper now gleaming and potent, wise and resilient, word entered its continent eager to find another as

capable as a thorn. The nearest possession would house them both, they being then two might glide into this house and presently create a rather larger mansion filled with spoons and condiments, gracious as a newly laid table where related objects might gather to enjoy the interplay of gravity upon facetious hints, the chocolate dish presuming an endowment, the ladle of galactic rhythm primed as a relish dish, curved knives, finger bowls, morsel carriages words might choose and savor before swallowing so much was the sumptuousness and substance of a rented house where words placed dressing gowns as rosemary entered their scent percipient as elder branches in the night where words gathered, warped, then straightened, marking new wands.

Echoes

Once more riding down to Venice on borrowed horses:

the air free of misdemeanor, at rest in the inns of our fathers.

Once again whiteness like the white chandelier.

Echoes of other poems...



Barbara Guest (1920-2006) was an American poet and a member of the New York School of poetry – part of the larger New York School of arts and literature that emerged in the early 1950s and continued to promote an avant-garde and surreal approach to the arts throughout the 1960s. Having written 15 books of poetry, she was awarded the 1999 Frost Medal for Lifetime

Achievement by the Poetry Society of America. She also wrote a critically acclaimed biography of the poet H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), *Herself Defined: The Poet H.D. and Her World* (1984). Guest was also an artist and worked as an editor for *ARTnews* from 1951-1959, during her time of association with the New York School. Guest's poetry is marked by an abstract approach to her subject matter playing against her use of vivid language. She saw composition as a matter of spontaneous interplay between imagination and the act of writing.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Body-Heart-Mind Meditation

Enlighten the Body-Mind through Heart practices rooted in meditation, mindfulness and martial arts. Learn how to recognize your Heart's capacity to offer clarity and discernment to living your highest and brightest in the world today. Sunday, December 13, 11am; free. 18 and up. dharma-center.com/. (ONLINE)

Dance & Adaptive Fitness Classes

Wheelchair Dancers Organization provides inclusive dance classes to all abilities, ages, and all levels of experience. Fridays, 4:30pm; Saturdays, 9:30am; through Friday, December 18, free. wheelchairdancers.org/. (ONLINE)

Learn to Diffuse Tension

In Buddha's teachings we can find tools to help us create harmony within our family, workplace and community. A livestreamed public talk hosted by Kadampa Meditation Center San Diego. Friday,

December 11, 6pm; \$15-\$20. meditateinsandiego.org/kadam_lucy_2020/. (ONLINE)

Lip Balm Making Class

Lip Balms and Intensive Oil Treatments Lip Balm Making Class focuses on simple lip balm making procedures for consistent and effective lip products, including lip tubes and balms in pot style jars. Lecture information includes vegan alternatives to bees wax, natural ingredients to make a shiny lip gloss, and oil phase vitamins and nutrients for lips and skin. Attend in person. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours: 2.5 hours. Class fee: \$39. Materials fee: \$18. Saturday, December 12, 1pm; \$57. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Make-up Essentials 2-Part Course

These in depth classes with Meagan Brown will include make-up application, more details on Holiday and Zoom makeup and additional tips and product recommendations. Meagan Brown has been a professional makeup Artist in the Southern California area going on 10+ years now. To regis-

ter, please visit: ljcommunitycenter.org/series. Wednesday, December 16, 1pm; \$15-\$25. (ONLINE)

Meditation & Mindfulness on the Spiritual Path

This class meets regularly on Saturday mornings and consists of seated meditation and a Dharma talk that speaks to integrating ancient Buddhist teachings into our 21st Century lives. Turiya, Spiritual Director of DharmaCenter leads this class. Saturday, December 12, 11am; free. 18 and up. dharma-center.com/. (ONLINE)

Meditation Practice for All Levels

Join Nandi from Dharma Center for seated meditation and discussion. All are welcome; no experience is needed. Monday, December 14, 7pm; free. 18 and up. dharma-center.com/. (ONLINE)

Middle-Eastern Drumming Class

Middle-Eastern Drumming with Frank Lazzaro, all levels welcome. Class is indoors, social distancing and mask required. Extra drums available. 760-703-1487 for info Mondays, 6pm; through Monday, December 14, \$15. WorldBeat

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SHEEP and GOATS

Mongaku

Needless to say, Buddhism, like other religions, helps to extirpate evil and to bring good fortune. Throughout its history in three countries, there are records of answers to prayer and of benefits received. If Your Highness will first pay strict attention to your own conduct and then proceed to put your administration in order, then when you offer prayer, an answer will come just as surely as sound follows when a word is spoken. There will be no failure. In these days, however, all religious works and rituals sponsored by the great are merely for the eye and are only an expense to the country and a burden to the people. Buddha and the deities do not accept them at all. Those who pray should know that Buddha and the deities accept only virtue and faith; material treasures have no appeal for them. It is with this in mind that Your Highness, at the head of your war-

riors, should guard the Emperor and become the mainstay of the whole nation. . . . It would be possible for me, without going into detailed reasons and unmindful of Buddha and the deities, to reply favorably to Your Highness and offer up prayers. But that would mean wasting the land's substance without benefiting anyone and only harming Your Highness. I myself would have to pay the penalty also. How can I permit Your Highness to carry out a project so injurious to yourself? I say again that the Goddess of Ise and Hachiman and the other deities will never consent to be indulgent because of material offerings, they extend their hands only to those whose heart is pure and whose conduct is proper. The Bodhisattva Hachiman said, according to the oracle, "Even if I should have to drink molten copper, I would not accept offerings from those whose hearts are tainted." He said again, according to another oracle, "Day and night I stand guard over the land If the

ruler is evil, he will be displeasing to the Three Treasures and to all the Devas. Such a thing would be most lamentable, most deplorable."

Mongaku (1139-1203) was a Japanese Buddhist monk. Early on in life he learned about the emptiness of human selfishness. Mongaku was a strident defender of Esoteric Shingon Buddhism – which believe that enlightenment was obtainable by all, not just by the select few – but required true piety, as testified by his berating of the Shogun (who were military defenders of the emperor – and de facto rulers of Japan). The Shingon system also placed a premium on training under the guidance of earthly mentors and spiritual models. As part of this training, initiates are blindfolded before tossing a flower upon the Womb Realm mandala; the location of the flower upon landing determines which Buddhist figure pictured in the mandala will become a spiritual model for the initiate.



Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship

Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Urban Farming Composting

Join Solana Center for this 1-hour webinar where you will learn the basics of composting plant and animal waste in an urban setting. Using trial-tested advice and demonstrations, our expert educators will teach you all you need to know to get started producing safe, nutrient-rich compost to help make your veggies vibrant, tasty and nutritious. This webinar will be held using Zoom, so please note that you will need to have the Zoom application installed on your device to attend and participate. Wednesday, December 16, 10am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/2VHw13a>. (ONLINE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Biking as a Solution to the Climate Crisis

You're invited to the quarterly Climate Hub event. Learn from climate transportation advocates about the important role biking plays in stopping the climate crisis. The free virtual event includes presenters from Bike San Diego, Climate Action Campaign, SanDiego350 and Sierra Club San Diego. Thursday, December 10, 6pm; **free**. Please RSVP at: hammondclimatesolutions.com/climate-hub (ONLINE)

Celebrate Sustainably: Food & Festivities

Did you know that Americans send on average 25% more to the landfill between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day than at any other time of the year? Focus on ways to reduce the amount of waste we produce in our kitchens around big holiday meals. Tuesday, December 15, 11am; **free**. Register at: <https://bit.ly/3mSGpAY>. (ONLINE)

Celebrate Sustainably: Gifts & Glitz

Discuss how to maintain a low-waste lifestyle while navigating

the gift giving, wrapping, and décor of the holiday season. Participate in a live furoshiki demonstration, learn how to properly dispose of your Christmas tree, and leave with low- or no-waste gift ideas to waste less throughout this season and beyond. Saturday, December 12, 10am; **free**. Register at: <https://bit.ly/2VHWH3V>. (ONLINE)

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 provide a trained advocate for every child who needs one. Tuesday, December 15, 6pm; **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: December 16: Christmas Story, December 23: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, December 30: It's a Wonderful Life. Reservations required. Please arrive by 7:45pm at the latest. Wednesdays 8pm; \$50-\$75. Charles + Dinorah, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

FOR KIDS

Holiday Giving Parade

Carmel Mountain Preschool will hold a Holiday Giving Drive-by Parade to benefit Promises2Kids. Participants are invited to drop off a new, unwrapped gift for a child in need for the annual toy drive. Santa will be there to take photos as families drive through this lovely winter wonderland. Saturday, December 12, 9am; **free**. Carmel Mountain Preschool, 9510 Carmel Mountain Road. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

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-Wed, 4pm; through December 26, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

LECTURES

Day in the Life of a Renaissance Physician

The making of modern man was also the making of modern medicine. Join Dr. Philip Goscienski as he gives an overview of the Renaissance with particular emphasis on medical practices of the day and how they influenced today's physicians. This event will be held on Zoom and is limited to 100 attendees. Thursday, December 10, 5:30pm; sandiegoarchaeology.org/renaissance/. (ONLINE)

Native Masterpiece Baskets: Weavers, Art, & Technology

A discussion of basketry collectors, masterpiece baskets, and native basket weavers. Topics covered will include art, technology, and religious metaphor behind the designs found in world-class Native California baskets. Friday, December 11, 2pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/33OugFE>. (ONLINE)

Parenting: Compassionate Discipline Through Play

Compassionate Discipline through Play: Join the Museum's Director of Education, Whitney Raser, as she speaks with Wendy Snyder, a Certified Family Life Coach and Educator about the practice of compassionate discipline through play. You'll learn what compassionate discipline is and how play can be used to help discipline and redirect your child. Tuesday, December 15, 10am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/3oytpBb>. (ONLINE)

NATURE

Be a Tidepool Ambassador

Nature Collective Hosts Virtual Connections + Tidepool Ambassador Experiences. Experience December's king tide events at the lowest tide. Not only do naturally occurring king tides bring extreme high-water levels, we also get very low tides. About 7 hours after the peak high tide, beach goers can get a closer look at critters in this amazing part of our coast that is typically hidden underwater. Experience the wonders of tidepools and learn how to become a Nature Collective Tidepool Ambassador. Thu, Dec 10, 4:30pm; Mon, Dec 14, 3:15pm; Tue, Dec 15, 5pm; **free**. Swami's Beach, 1298 S. Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

OUTDOORS

Poinsettias, a favorite of backyard gardeners, are now exhibiting their scarlet, petal-like bracts, just in time for the holidays. The onset of 14-hour-long nights triggers their behavior: In San Diego this condition is met just before the date of winter solstice — Monday, December 21.

Exceptionally High and Low Tides are set to occur on several

days in mid-December. These tides approximately coincide with the winter solstice — two factors that influence tide-level extremities. On Sunday, December 13, a peak high tide of +7.5 feet occurs at 7:37 a.m. Monday's high tide of +7.62 peaks at 8:18 a.m. Tuesday's high tide of +7.51 feet peaks at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday's high tide of +7.18 feet crests at 9:42 a.m. There are at least two consequences of such high tides. If any strong winter storm happens to arrive from the west during these peak tides, some flooding of low-lying coastal areas around San Diego is likely. On the brighter side, birdwatchers have an opportunity to spot species of rare shorebirds that get pushed to the edges of local bays and coastal marshes by the high water. Several exceptionally low tides will also occur within the same string of mid-December dates. On Sunday, December 13, the tide falls to -1.71 feet at 2:42 p.m. On Monday, the tide drops to -1.89 feet (almost as low as it can possibly go) at 3:28 p.m. On Tuesday, a low tide level of -1.81 feet occurs at 4:14 p.m. On Wednesday, the tides drops to -1.51 feet at 5:00 p.m. (very near the time of sunset). Any of these lowtide occasions are perfect for exploring marine life in the tidepool areas along San Diego County's coastline.

Ripening Palm Fruit, hanging in great clusters on California's native fan palms (*Washingtonia filifera*), can be seen (and tasted) this month. The black, pea-sized fruit consists of a deliciously sweet but almost paper-thin skin surrounding a hard seed. (These are not "California dates" — the fruit of cultivated palms introduced into California's deserts from northern Africa.) Our native fan palms can be seen in their natural habitat in about two dozen canyons within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. They have also been planted widely elsewhere in California, including along the main streets of Palm Springs.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Second Saturday Free Product Giveaway

On the second Saturday of the month, San Pasqual Valley Soils offers a single product of their choosing free to the public. Load up whatever amount you need for your own benefit. Free if self-loaded, loaded for \$10 per vehicle. All guests must comply with our SPVS Public Event Safety Guidelines listed at website link. Saturday, December 12, 7am; San Pasqual Valley Soils, 16111 Old Milky Way. (ESCONDIDO)

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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, McCormick 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 Tippy 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 El 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.

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,*

BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

Brewery taprooms don't stay closed for long

Sorrento Valley barrel aged sour beer maker **California Wild Ales** announced last week it will be opening a taproom in Ocean Beach. Actually, it's taking over the same Newport Avenue taproom originally opened by **Helm's Brewing** and eventually purchased by cannabis beer brand **Two Roots Brewing Co.**

Wild Ales cofounder Bill DeWitt, who lives in Ocean Beach, took note when Two Roots closed its taproom last month, and reached out to its ownership to inquire about the space. He says, "We feel that our style of beer will fit right in with the vibe of Ocean Beach, San Diego's funkier neighborhood."

Cofounder Zack Brager notes they wasted no time locking down the venue, "Our leasing agent is in the same building as the property manager, so it worked out perfectly," he says. "We were able to start talks and scheduled a walk-through before the space even hit the market."

Turns out, one beer company moving in to take over another's former taproom space has not been uncommon in 2020. In fact, the same thing just happened a hundred yards away. A half-block up Newport, the OB taproom of Solana Beach-based **Culture Brewing Co.** closed in April, only to reopen in October as **Nova Easy Kombucha.**

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: 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



Burgeon Beer Company added an outdoor drinking location: the former site of Escondido Brewing Company, now dubbed The Oasis.

Nova Easy is the kombucha brand launched by Chula Vista beermaker Novo Brazil Brewing. Novo brought the location a vibrant, Brazilian-inspired paint job and added coolers to sell its canned product to go. Though the venue takes its name from Novo's hard and soft kombucha lines, it serves everything under the Novo brand, from beer to hard seltzer.

Both Two Roots and Culture will continue on as beer companies, just not with a presence in Ocean Beach. The fact that their beer businesses are being replaced by beer businesses suggests location wasn't so much the problem as the arrival of covid-19.

That said, the pandemic's impact on the local beer industry has not been uniform. While several breweries have been forced to close or make cutbacks, others have successfully managed to pivot their businesses toward pandemic-friendly models, whether by increasing canned distribution, adding food service, expanding outdoor

drinking options, or, in some cases, all three.

Burgeon Beer Company, for example. In a constant state of growth since its inception in 2016, Burgeon hasn't stopped for 2020. It's expanded the footprint of its Carlsbad brewery, taking over additional warehouse and parking lot space to keep up on-premise service, while enlisting on-site food vendors to remain compliant with current county regulations.

And, in late November, it took over the former home of **Escondido Brewing Company**. One of San Diego's tiniest breweries, Escondido Brewing closed permanently early in the pandemic. Burgeon has adopted Escondido's mostly outdoor drinking venue and rebranded it as **The Oasis** beer garden, serving fifteen taps of Burgeon beer, including limited amounts brewed on a small pilot system.

"The opportunity to open a tasting room in the previous Escondido Brewing facility came from an existing friendship with the

owners," says cofounder Matthew Zirpolo. "We are honored to carry on their legacy by bringing high-quality craft beer to the people of Escondido."

In another case of taproom swaps, the former Bay Park home of **Benchmark Brewing** will become a new outpost of Scripps Ranch-based **Harland Brewing Co.** While Benchmark never had a chance to invest in its beer garden vision for the venue, the well-capitalized Harland is in a position to wring the most out of the space, during the pandemic and beyond.

With new shutdowns of drinking establishments likely happening through the end of the year, at least, it's too early to say that the local beer industry has survived this pandemic mostly intact. But, so far, it doesn't look as though we're going to lose too many beer drinking locations.

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

NORTH PARK

Redwing Bar & Grill: *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 bottles.

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

Ambrogio 15: *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: *Mon-*

day, 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 El Jimador. *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: *Tuesday-Sunday, 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.

Shop Adams Avenue This Holiday Season!



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Eat the Kraken!

Maybe it's the beer, but for a moment I turn into a wild and crazy guy.

Let's go fishing! I'm at the South Embarcadero. You can rent poles for \$5 and buy bait and eat hot dogs and watch Huey sink into the West, all at the same time!"

"Where are you?" Annie asked.

"Near the new symphony sound shell. Stop when you see the poem."

"What poem, you *sassenach*?"

I've learned *sassenach* is a Scots term for the English. Came from the word "Saxon." Not the greatest complement, but non-Scottish folks kinda like it anyway.

"Just look for it on the sandwich board. Says 'Take a short walk to the pier/And enjoy Burgers,

mill around. I'm amazed, because this isn't exactly on the road to anywhere, except the fishing pier, ten yards further. Turns out most of the customers are guys from the construction site.

Ooh. For starters, beer. Plenty of local-ish craft brews. And I see they have Lagunitas. I like Lagunitas, honestly, because of the address they put on their labels.

"Petaluma Calif., Chicago Ill.,

USofa, Earth, Sol. Milky Way, Local Group, Virgo Supercluster, Space."

Pretty good IPA too. Not sure where in the Supercluster they found it. Costs \$7.50. A blue-and-white wall slides between us and the rest of

the world. Wow. *G. Poseidon*. It's a huge car-transportation ship sliding out towards the harbor entrance, just yards away.

Of course you've got to order food with your *ceveza*. Not a *probbo* for me. This is breakfast. It looks like most items are hot dogs and burgers. Also tacos (the *carnitas* costs \$5.75, the shrimp tacos are \$6.25), *ceviche tostada's* \$7.25. A TJ hot dog's \$7.25. Cheapest is the Ball Park dog, \$3.50. Grilled cheese sandwich is \$6.25.

"What's most popular?" I ask Esmeralda. "Dogs? Kraken," she says. "Burgers? The Pastrami. It has beef and pastrami, and it will fill you up."

Hmm. But now I am definitely thinking dog. The Kraken is an "all-beef sausage with grilled shrimp, caramelized onions, corn and black bean salsa, creamy chipotle dressing, and red cabbage in a gourmet bun." Costs — wow! — \$13.50. "It's a monster," says Esmeralda. "And the sausage is handmade, in our kitchen."

Maybe it's the beer, but for a moment I turn into a wild and crazy guy. "I'll take it!" I say. "And a fishing pole." I intend to catch something big as I chew before Annie turns up.

"Got four hands?" says Esmeralda.

"Will in a little while," I say. Of course I have to buy some bait. (Anchovies cost \$6.) And until Annie arrives, Esmeralda's right, I can't do it all at once. Natch, I ain't gonna release the Kraken. I'm going to eat it.

Esmeralda takes the order out to Adrian the cook standing beside the food trailer. And guess what? This combo in a folded-out hot dog bun is outstanding. And monster? I have to use the plastic knife and fork to cut it down to size. I'm doing this at the little patio they have. The sautéed shrimp are too wicked. Chipotle dressing's salmon pink and a nice mild add to the peppery rich dark sausage. Add the garlicky shrimp and I swear it's the perfect mouthful. This is one of the best hot dogs I can remember.

Sigh. Sloping sun bounces right off the Bay. In



And flowers: Esmeralda takes a lot of trouble



Adrian the chef and my Kraken

Bait, and Beer.' A poem!"

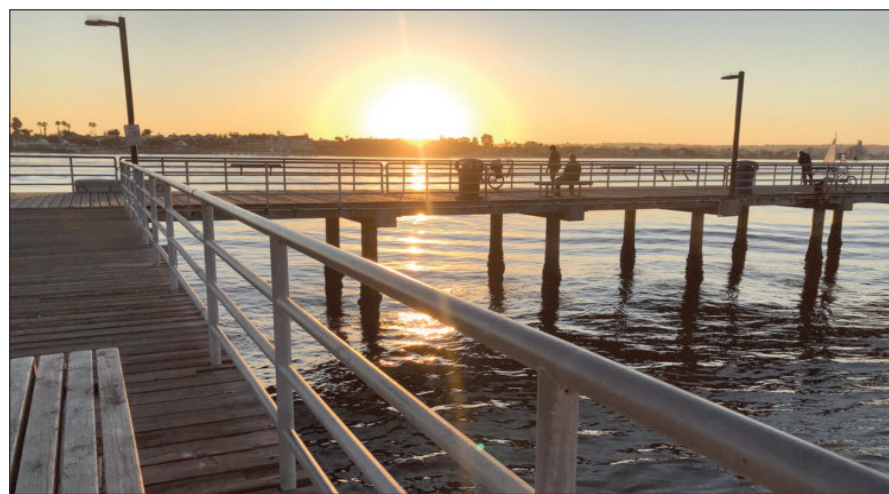
But does it mean it? I've already walked out past the Crab Shack and towards the Symphony's almost-ready sound shell by the bay.

"You start," says Annie. "I'm already eating."

All this fresh air, sunshine, water, trees, and space sharpen the hunger. And who isn't looking for eateries that cut down the covid risk? Pier, beer, and it's right here!

The sign's on a sandwich board that's been propped up where the cement trucks turn in to the construction site.

I come up past a kind of food trailer, to a patio with tables and chairs, and two five-sided store-rooms, except one's fitted out as a small cafe. And here, waiting behind a counter, stands Esmeralda, waiting to take orders. Plenty of other customers



Beat this for a patio

the last of the warmth, I'm suddenly feeling nice and drowsy. If Annie wants to go fishing, she'd better move it. Or, maybe we'll do the fishing next time. If Esmeralda will let me return the bait.

In the end, Annie never does turn up. But I do. The dog was so good, I call back the next afternoon. I want to try that pastrami burger, because it's not just the salty brined beef, it's mixed with regular sirloin beef.

I call just in time. "We close at 4:30," says Esmeralda, "because that's when it starts getting dark. So really, we stop at four. Give me your order on the phone, and I'll have it ready when you come."

Can't argue with that. When I arrive the sky's already a rich orange over Coronado. Esmeralda collects the silver foil-wrapped pastrami burger from Adrian at the kitchen trailer, and I pay for it (\$12.50) and a St. Archer Hazy IPA (\$7.50). Oh, dang. Super good. Juicy, and not too pastrami-salty. Onions, tomato, lettuce, Swiss cheese, thousand island. So-oo good. And so totally filling. I swear, these two days have been some of the best eats in a while. Plus some of the best seats too, to catch the daily sunset



Beat this for a pastrami burger

show. All we need is the music to start from that new sound shell.

One of the hard hat guys comes for a beer and a snack. He looks back at the sound shell. It's glowing green in the dusk. "We built it, but we won't ever see it happening," he says. "Kind of concerts they're planning, not our scene."

Man. That's sad. Someone should talk to the symphony boss. Like, how about some blues in the green shell under the orange sky? ■

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Izola lowers a breadbasket in East Village

On Thursday night, a few minutes before sunset, I found a parking spot at 13th and G Streets in East Village, and called upstairs to let them know I had arrived. From the sidewalk I could see a rope and pulley system rigged outside a third story window, with a basket attached. Within moments, a masked figure appeared in the window to place a pair of cardboard boxes in the basket, then lower it to the street.

FEAST!

As the basket descended, I could start to make out the sign fastened to it: Izola. When it reaches me, I pick out my boxes, which contain croissants and a loaf of sourdough bread.

Izola Bakery is the work of Jeffrey Lamont Brown, a local photographer who for the past couple decades has pieced together a notable career in fashion photography, photojournalism, videography, and portraiture. Most of those years, he's lived and worked out of his Studio 710, a loft right here on the third floor of 710 13th Street.

When the pandemic disrupted his photography business, Brown decided to pursue another interest to make ends meet: baking. When San Diego shutdown in March, he was traveling in Paris, cruising boulangeries in search of his ideal croissant. When he returned to San

Diego, he quickly applied for a cottage kitchen license, and within a few weeks had his loft kitchen up, and he was running a home bakery. Since late spring, Izola — named after Brown's grandmother — has found customers largely by word of mouth, and with street-level sandwich board



A pair of flaky chocolate croissants.



A toasted sesame sourdough loaf made in the home kitchen of a photographer's loft in East Village.



Sidewalk signs for Izola Bakery are a clue to look up for the basket hanging out a third story window.

signs courting walk-in traffic up to his studio. However, the need for curbside pickup option led to the pulley and rope system. Customers order and pay for their baked goods online, which are ready to lower by basket about a half hour later. Unlike most bakeries, which open in the early morning, Izola operates afternoons only: Wednesday through Friday from 3-6 pm. Brown spends his days baking a variety of rustic loaves from the same sourdough

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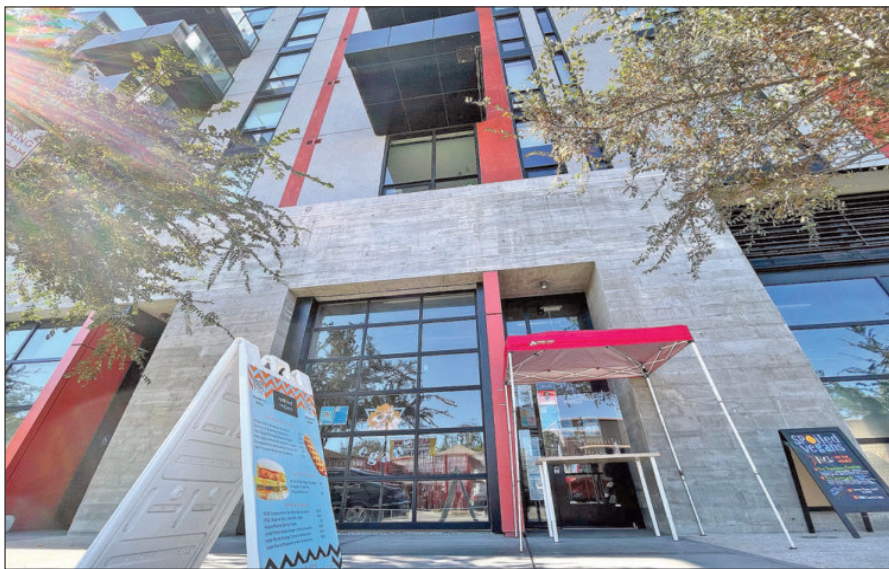
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Spoiled Vegans Cafe, configured for pandemic-safe take out, makes the pop-up's East Village address permanent.

starters. Options — which happen to be vegan — may include olive loaf (\$11), cranberry black walnut (\$12), and my choice, a simple toasted sesame (\$11). All have the name Izola baked into their sides.

In his little



Spoiled Vegan waffle dog.

prep room, Brown prepares the sour-dough at higher temperatures, then lowers the temperature intermittently to prepare ultra-buttery croissants. Available plain (\$5), or with a chocolate center (\$6), these things boast crispy crusts with soft, flaky layers within.

In other words, there's more to recommend these baked goods than the fact they drop from the sky.

by Ian Anderson

Spoiled Vegans Cafe, on the cusp of everything

Spoiled Vegans Cafe; 440 16th St., East Village. It wasn't long before the pandemic started that I first heard of Spoiled Vegans. At the time, the small business had been a pop-up business, serving plant-based breakfast sandwiches and waffles within an East Village coffee shop on weekends. A late morning attempt to try it left me empty handed, because the vegan fare had sold out. *How often does that happen?* I remember thinking,

Before I could return to find out what the buzz was about, the pop-up ended, the coffee shop closed, and then the whole city shut down.

Spoiled Vegans would show up on my radar again in June, when the Black Lives Matter protests were surging nationwide, and it appeared on lists

of black-owned local restaurants. The business had kept going as a pop-up and bridged some of this pandemic year as a sort of ghost kitchen, selling pre-ordered vegan breakfasts for pick-up. And still likely to sell out.

Apparently, ties to its original pop-up location in East Village would remain — though the coffee shop is long gone, a Spoiled Vegans Cafe now operates a permanent storefront at the same address (440 16th Street). It's take-out only

at the moment and still sticking to its Monday-through-Sunday business hours. But, it wasn't sold out this time, so I finally had a chance to try the vegan world's answer to Egg McMuffins, ordered and paid for online, through Spoiled Vegans' web site.

Now if you've been to this stretch of 16th Street, East Village, south of Market Street, you already know: it's

colored, luxury apartment tower, erected a couple years back as part of a broader East Village redevelopment plan. If a black-owned business selling vegan breakfast sandwiches from the base of a luxury high-rise surrounded by shopping cart-pushing homeless people doesn't perfectly encapsulate the conflicting political realities of 2020, then I don't know what does.

With indoor dining shut down, the power of Spoiled Vegans — and surrounding food and beverage businesses — to revitalize this area will suffer a bit. But, in the meantime, the vegan café has a smooth, contact free take-out operation going for it. A small table, plexiglass shield, and shade structure are set up outside its front door. All I had to do was walk up and give my name, and a bag containing my order was handed over to me.

In other words, if you

feel any distress about picking up food at this location, you probably needn't worry. The entire stop took less than three minutes, and that included time for me to snap a few photos.

Some of the food I took home did closely resemble a fast food breakfast. The café's signature Spoil Yourself breakfast sandwich (\$10) features vegan sausage, egg, and cheese, plus an air-fried hashbrown, served on a sourdough English muffin. That's served with the house maple mustard sauce, or maple chipotle.



A vegan breakfast sandwich, with plant based eggs, sausage, and cheese, plus air-fired hash browns and maple chipotle sauce.

I went for the latter, and the chipotle adds another dimension of flavor to a thick breakfast sandwich incorporating many, seeming to include sweet, sour, savory, bitter, and spice notes. Other breakfast sandwiches — such as those including vegan buffalo chicken patties, or black forest ham alternatives — go for something similar.

With the stack of animal protein substitutes and starch accumulated on such a plant-based breakfast sandwich, the flavor-forward recipes help distract from veganism's textural challenges. Really, it keeps the thing from tasting like a stack of potatoes and bread.

The Spoiled Vegans menu looks more streamlined than when I first heard about a pop up slinging waffle sandwiches. Hopefully once the pandemic subsides, the cafe will branch



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A drive-thru donut and coffee shop inside an abandoned Wiener Schnitzel.



The Copper Top donut: maple, salted caramel, and espresso dust.



The Dirt Pile on this donut consists of crumbled Oreos.

out once again for more wide-ranging vegan breakfast and lunch fare. But in the meantime, it does offer the unique Let Go of My Diego: sort of like a corn dog, but with vegan apple sage sausage in a waffle wrapper (\$7).

I picked up one of these hashmarked sausages on a stick with a side of the maple mustard. The clash of savory, sweet, and bitter flavors proved memorable, and coupled with a cup of coffee would make an ideal breakfast on the go, say for someone walking to work. Now if only any of us had any place left to go....

by Ian Anderson

Persistent donut cravings lead to Copper Top

Copper Top Coffee and Donuts; 101 West Washington Street, Mission Hills. It was just one of those mornings everybody and their brother wanted donuts. Out on an early morning errand, I knew I would pass the bustling Solomon Bagels & Donuts on the way home. I even thought to call in an order ahead of time, but couldn't get through. When I arrived, I saw why: the line went out the door.

Okay, no problem. There are other donut shops in the world. A little farther west, I approached the Dunkin Donuts drive-thru in Hill-

crest. But the drive-thru was so backed up I couldn't even get into the parking lot. It's located across from a hospital between one-way streets, in the thick of Hillcrest traffic, so cars tend to back up down the block in the name of a sugar fix.

No big deal. Dunkin's donuts aren't good enough to warrant a sig alert. And I knew I could head a little farther west to reach another drive-thru donut opportunity in Mission Hills.

Copper Top Coffee and Donuts sits in the style of A-frame shack favored by fast-food hot dog chain Wiener Schnitzel. After that fast-food chain cleared out a few years back, this stand-alone coffee and donut shop took over its tiny kitchen, maintaining both the drive-thru and walk-up ordering windows.

Both especially handy features these days. Solomon is great, but its mask-wearing customers stand in lines that wind around the interior of the shop, and when hungry groups show up, most abandon any pretense of social distancing and try to cram themselves inside anyway. Dunkin, meanwhile, has had to build an ad hoc external shelter to control the flow of walk-in customers to its small operation.

Though Copper Top proves easier to access, don't expect the drive-thru line to move quickly. This isn't fast food. Rather than trays of ready-made donuts sitting behind glass, it serves freshly baked cake donuts, each one glazed and otherwise dressed based on your order.

So if you ask for the signa-

ture Copper Top donut, for example, moments later it will be drizzled in salted caramel, slathered in maple cream, and dusted with espresso powder. Meanwhile, the better-than-it-sounds Dirt Pile will be frosted then dusted with a generous pile of Oreo cookie crumbles.

Now, these aren't the fluffy, raised donuts that get the most attention at Dunkin. Rather, they are cake donuts, baked and then frosted, which essentially means they're little, round cakes selling for two bucks apiece. They're a slightly different experience, and they look it. Especially the Everything Nice donut, which stacks slices of banana on top of nutella, then sprinkles it with granola.

Others are inspired by anything from bear claws to peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. My

personal favorite would be the s'mores inspired Camp Fire: spread with a layer of marshmallow fluff, drizzled with chocolate syrup, and dusted with graham cracker crumbs.

by Ian Anderson

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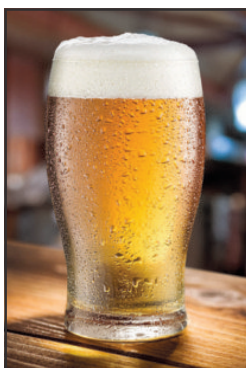


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blurt the inside track



Ron Steven Houston has more hand tattoos than most people.

PHOTOGRAPH BY KIRK HOUSTON

I'm not the driver

Originally from West Monroe, Louisiana, Ron Steven Houston is best known from his time playing with the Sickstring Outlaws, whose album *Johnny Drank Jack* was nominated Best Local Recording at the 2013 San Diego Music Awards. He was diagnosed with covid-19 at the end of October. "I suffered severe symptoms for almost two weeks: fever, chills, body aches, no taste or smell, and hallucinations from the daily fevers. I don't remember much about that two weeks of being insanely sick. My lungs are not the same, but seem to be slowly getting better. The coughing is not as bad as last week, but deep breaths are not easy. My smell and taste are not back all the way, but better than when they first went away."

Fatigue remains a major issue. "Doing simple things takes a lot out of me. Brain fog is another symptom that I'm battling. It's very frustrating to not feel like I'm in reality. I'm having short term memory problems, and I've had two very scary incidents while driving on the freeway, actually hitting a center divider because I was in a dream state and only snapped out of it when I hit the divider. The brain fog is the weirdest and scariest thing I've ever dealt with. That being said, I'm so

grateful to have survived the severe symptoms, but I'm definitely not the same person I was before getting covid-19. I have no idea how long these lingering symptoms will last, or what if any damage to my lungs, heart, or brain the virus may have caused. Only time will tell. I'm fighting every day."

Houston says he holds no ill will toward whoever gave him the virus. "I've been playing the risk game and it caught me... I tried my best to be safe but, as a singer, was not able to wear a mask while singing. I blame nobody for this. I know I got the virus playing out. I love trying to give my friends and family time away from whatever problems they may be experiencing in their lives by playing music for them. I knew there were risks, but was willing to take those risks to put smiles on my friends' faces. I assume all responsibility for catching this very real and very damaging virus."

Houston has released several albums with the Sickstring Outlaws, as well as contributing music for *Buckshot: The Movie*, which includes a Sickstring original as well as Houston singing a song written by director Josh Smith. They also collaborated with Liberty Call Distilling to produce their own brand of liquor called Electric Moonshine, which is sold online, in

stores, and at shows.

His upcoming solo album is called *A Long Road Home*. "It's my first ever solo CD. I've been sober for over a year now, for the first time since I was 14, and started writing songs to keep my mind busy. I kept wondering how my fans who know me from the Sickstring Outlaws would take my new musical direction, which is more like John Prine and Ryan Bingham. One day on my walk, I had almost talked myself out of doing a solo CD, and I turned onto a street and there was a car with the license plate that read 'Ballads.' I knew that was a

sign and I had to do it. The CD is my own personal and spiritual release of things deep inside me."

The album's first single "Take a Walk With Me" is inspired by the protests over the death of George Floyd at the hands of police. "I've been called a sellout for writing the song because I was, and I quote, 'sticking up for the blacks.' I knew right then I had hit a nerve and the song had to be heard."

According to Houston, "When people ask me what made me finally want to do a solo CD, I tell them I don't really know. I'm not the driver on this journey anymore. I'm the passenger. I'm going wherever it takes me."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Señor Snoop *Ven aquí, ay, mami /Holla at me*. So begins Snoop Dogg's verse in "Qué Maldición," a banda-rap meld that Banda MS and the Long Beach rapper dropped in May.

"Snoop Dogg loves *corridos*, *güey*, especially from Culichi (Culiacan)," commented Angel from Chula Vista.

A *corrido* is a Mexican ballad whose lyrics recount a historical event or courageous deed, often associated with drug smuggling.

"When I visited Mazatlán, they played that song a lot,"



Angel recounted, "and 'MS' stands for Mazatlán, Sinaloa."

"Snoop's 'Ay mami ven aquí' sounds *medio-corny*, but I see he's practicing his Español. 'Sta chingon.' (It's bad-ass).

The 49-year-old rapper turned actor demonstrated appreciation for the regional Mexican genre of music on Instagram. One post shows him groovin' to "Juicio Final (El Regreso De La Última Sombra)" by Bukanas de Culiacan, then says: "That shit's jamming like a mother f*cker." In a video he posted in October of 2016, he's depicted listening to "Tengo Que Colgar" (I Have to Hang Up) by Banda MS, and said: "Sad day for the Dodgers, I wanna dedicate this song to all of the Dodger fans in the house."

"That took everyone by surprise," Oswald Silvas from Banda MS said in an interview with *Grammy.com*. "We laughed thinking it was a meme, but no, he confirmed with another video that he really liked Banda MS's music. He's also said in interviews many times that he likes regional Mexican music."

"I've always been a fan of banda music, and the collab just felt right with Banda MS," Snoop said in a *Billboard* interview.

"Que Maldición" is a fusion of polka-influenced instrumentals played by the dozen or so Banda MS members — including clarinetists, trumpet players, trombonists, a tuba player, a snare drummer, and a Tambora drummer, mixed with G-funk bass drops

overlaid with Snoop's smooth-Spanglish raps and Spanish vocals from Alan Ramírez and-Oswaldo Silvas.

The 178-beats-per-minute *rollo* debuted at number four on the Billboard's Hot Latin Songs list and played on our countywide hip-hop and Spanish music radio stations.

"I trip out when I hear Snoop's Spanish flow on the car radio," Ron Morales said, "then I realize my dial's on the EXA 91.7 station when the Spanish advertisements cut in. I hear the song's popular in Tijuana as well."

Morales, the founder of now-defunct *Real Legit Magazine*, a print publication on the hip-hop industry, fashion, and celebrity events — photographed and interviewed the rapper at the Athletes vs. Cancer Celebrity Flag Football

lab to begin filming the "Qué Maldición" music video in Los Angeles. "And now they're going to tap into the younger demographic when that video goes live, and the kids will probably make a Tik-Tok out of it."

In my circle, Snoop's name came up a few times last week. For Thanksgiving, my family uncorked a bottle of Snoop's 19 Crimes Snoop Cali red blend wine, and during dinner, we spoke of his "Ain't No Jive Herbed" turkey and gravy recipe, and him kickin' it with Martha Stewart. A couple of days later, we were eating leftover turkey sandwiches while watching the Mike Tyson vs. Roy Jones Jr. fight and heard Snoop's commentating at ringside. "You can dress it up any way you like," Morales continued, "Snoop



Who knew Snoop Dogg was a fan of Mexican ballads?

Game in 2013.

"Covering Snoop Dogg at charity events, private events, and concerts, I've noticed his public persona crosses markets and platforms with ease."

On November 12, mainstream news reported 23-year-old pop-star Becky G. joined the banda-hip-hop col-

lapses any industry, and the viewers believe in him because he appears genuine, even in Spanglish."

— Mike Madriaga

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

PHOTOGRAPH BY RON MORALES

LOCAL *five*

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Find LIVE FIVE online at sandiegoreader.com/music

PHOTOGRAPH BY JESSE SUTTON PHOTOGRAPHY



HEATHER NATION

Indie electronic pop-rock singer-guitarist Heather Nation was already writing songs for bands while still a teenager, with her first recording studio session taking place while still in high school. She's a founding member of synth-pop band Belladonna, who were nominated Best New Artist at the San Diego Music Awards. She's also been known to play with prog-leaning groove rockers Meadow, formed in 2017 with Jon Hasz (of Aja Alycean's band), Erdis Maxhelaku (from Gayle Skidmore's group), and Josh Frontiero. Her new solo single "Selene" drops December 11, with a pre-recorded live performance

video debuting the same day on the website for Solana Beach music media group Halfway Home. The single was recorded and co-produced by Trevor LeVieux, and mixed and mastered by Mike Butler, whose credits include Ray LaMontagne, the Shins, the Pretenders, and Norah Jones. Nation also teaches classes in guitar, vocals, and songwriting, and she's been one of the few local musicians to maintain somewhat of a gig schedule through the pandemic. She's currently performing on Thursday evenings through December at Nick and G's in Rancho Santa Fe, including a New Year's Eve show.



ANOUSHKA SHANKAR

Ravi Shankar was considered the master of the sitar, a 19-stringed instrument made of gourd and teak. Having performed at the Monterey Pop Festival (1967), Woodstock (1969), and the 1971 Concert for Bangladesh with former Beatle and sitar pupil George Harrison, Shankar and his family moved to Encinitas in the early 1990s, though they also maintained a residence in India. His daughter Anoushka grew up in San Diego; and the 1999 honor graduate of San Dieguito Academy in Encinitas who also plays the sitar. Her 2012 full-length *Traveller*, which fuses Spanish flamenco with Indian classical music, was nominated for a 2013

Grammy Award as Best World Music Album (as was her late father Ravi Shankar's album *The Living Rooms Sessions, Part 1*). She earned another Grammy nomination in the same category the following year with her seventh album *Traces Of You*, which featured her half-sister Norah Jones on several songs, as well as in a video for the title track directed by Shankar's husband, filmmaker Joe Wright (*Pride & Prejudice, Atonement, Anna Karenina*). In her seventh Grammy nod, the British-Indian sitar player and composer has been nominated for Best Global Music Album for her newest full-length *Love Letters*.



SECRETS

Post-hardcore band Secrets released their debut full length *The Ascent* in 2012. Produced by Tom Denney, formerly of A Day to Remember, it debuted at number three on the Billboard Heatseekers Chart and became the first Velocity Records release to appear on the Billboard Top 200. After their vocalist quit in 2013, their sophomore release *Fragile Figures* showcased new singer Aaron Melzer, formerly of local group Author & Finisher. However, Melzer left Secrets in 2015, announcing that "the touring lifestyle is no longer for me. I have different goals for my life now...This was a decision I made to better my life. I wasn't happy so I made

the decision to change it." According to a band statement released November 24, "Today we lost our brother, our friend, and our family with the passing of Aaron Melzer. Aaron's passing came much too soon in his life and in ours. Words cannot express how devastating and painful this is for all of us to hear and believe. We will miss Aaron every day. Every day we will remember his presence, his laughter, the joy he could bring to a room, the light he brought with him to the stage, his smiles, his heart, and every memory we were able to share with him. For now we ask that you please respect the privacy of the family and loved ones as we take this time to reflect and grieve."



THE NAKED I

Back in 2010, three members of The Naked I were already stirring up trouble with a garage band that played so loud, cops were called to shut them down. That event was recently recalled by the band with an online photo post showing the cop who responded that night, posing with the young band and holding two thumbs-up. "He loved our music and was happy to take a picture to commemorate the milestone... [this is] the ten year anniversary of the first time we ever got the cops called on us for rocking too hard." Founded in 2013, the Naked I released their *Chance Encounters* EP

three years later and have become regulars on local stages such as Lestat's, Tin Roof, the Holding Company, House of Blues, Tio Leo's, and the Gator by the Bay music festival. Their second EP drops in mid-December, with a livestreamed EP release party planned for January. A music video is streaming online for their recent track "Further From Freedom," a "Jailhouse Rock"-inspired production featuring the band dressed as prisoners and performing on a set adorned with little more than prison bars, bunks, and a toilet.



BILLY WATSON

Bluesman Billy Watson is often accompanied by the International Silver String Submarine Band, an improvisational, all-star rotating cast of musicians, hand-picked from the California music scene. Since all members also work with their own bands, the lineup changes often, with both established local players and new musicians joining in. In addition to hosting open mic blues nights and recording albums with his own bands, his songs appear on a number of compilations, including a United by Music blues collection, *That Ain't*

It, which also features local star players such as Jonny Viau, Laura Chavez, Sue Palmer, Paul Fasulo, Harm Van Sleen, and others. Watson has also held long-running residencies at various local venues. On December 26, Old Town Blues Club in Temecula will host The Return of Billy Watson and his International Silver String Submarine Band Post Christmas Extravaganza. All distance safety precautions will be observed for the event, which takes place in an outdoor performance area.

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

A pillar of San Diego's cultural Parthenon

The La Jolla Symphony recently released a performance of Sibelius's *Symphony No. 5* from their performance vault. I gave it a listen and have concluded that it is a marvelous performance.

For those who are not familiar with The La Jolla Symphony, it is an amateur orchestra that is associated with UC San Diego. They have a tradition of presenting large-scale masterpieces such as Mahler's *Fifth Symphony*, Verdi's *Requiem*, Benjamin Britten's *War Requiem*, Berlioz's *Requiem*, and *Dona Nobis Pacem* by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Prior to this video presentation of Sibelius, La Jolla Symphony music director Steven Schick described the symphony in poetic terms and tied it into the season of late November. Schick explored the cycle of the seasons and the day-lengthening journey from autumn

to spring.

Following Maestro Schick's lead, I find this performance to be idiomatic to the season of Advent as we move toward the rebirth of the sun — Sol Invictus. Sibelius's symphony is very much a journey from darkness to light.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the three-note *ostinato* figure that starts in the brass at the 36:36 mark of the video and continues to develop until the symphony concludes with five strokes of Thor's hammer. This is one of the greatest moments in the symphonic repertoire, and the La Jollans executed it magnificently.

I've not been to every single La Jolla Symphony concert, but the ones I've been able to attend have been sturdy events of rigorous music-making. Maestro Schick has developed a group of students, doctors,



Maestro Schick has developed a group of students, doctors, lawyers, and engineers into a pillar of San Diego's cultural Parthenon.

lawyers, and engineers into a pillar of San Diego's cultural Parthenon.

The 2020-2021 Season is still breathing in La Jolla, with concerts scheduled to start in February. They are offering several modern and contemporary compositions, but a few items stand out. In April, there is a concert juxtaposing the works of J.S. Bach and Oliver Messiaen that should be interesting. But there is a massive shadow being cast over the entire season.

That shadow belongs to Gustav Mahler's *Symphony*

No. 2: Resurrection. It is scheduled for June, and the idea of hearing that gargantuan symphony within the somewhat intimate confines of Mandeville Auditorium is beyond exciting.

This might be the only chance some of us will ever have to hear this symphony live in San Diego. The San Diego Symphony performed it a few decades ago, but there is no telling when or if it will come around again.

My new Christmas wish is to hear *Mahler Two* at the La Jolla Symphony. I hope Santa is listening.

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Bay Bridge Brewing:

Saturday, 6pm — Fleetwood Bigmak. Free.

Del Mar Fairgrounds:

Friday, 8pm — Oingo Boingo Former Members Tour.

Landings at Carlsbad:

Saturday, 6pm — West of 5. Free.

Lorimar Vineyards Wine Country:

Friday, 6pm — West of 5. Free.

Nick & G's:

Thursday, 6pm, Friday, 12pm — Heather Nation.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 8pm — Bird Calls: COVID 19 Musicians' Emergency Fund Benefit. Free. Thursday, 4pm — Parquet Courts 10th Anniversary Livestream.

Thursday, 6pm — Peter Sprague, Leonard Patton & Tripp Sprague. Free.

Friday, 7pm — Belly Up Livestream: Los Lobos Christmas. \$20.

Friday, 6pm — M. Ward: Think of Spring.

Saturday, 2pm — Bad Religion: Decades.

Saturday, 12pm — Engelbert Humperdinck Christmas Special.

Saturday, 6pm — Foy Vance: Hope in the Highlands Concert Film. \$15.

Saturday, 4pm — Goo Goo Dolls: It's Christmas All Over.

Saturday, 8pm — Lindsey Stirling: Home for the Holidays Livestream.

Sunday, 3pm — Allison Adams Tucker.

Sunday, 12pm — G. Love & the Juice Livestream. \$10-\$50.

Sunday, 4:30pm — John Henry's Friends Benefit Concert For Autism.

Sunday, 9am & 2pm — Laurie Berkner Holiday Party.

Sunday, 2pm — Spreckels Organ Webcasts. Free.

Sunday, 5pm — The Infamous Stringdusters's Holiday Celebration. Free.

Monday, 5pm — Della Mae Monday Night Hoedown. Free.

Monday, 5pm — Grace McLean Live from Rockwood Music Hall. \$15.

Tuesday, 4:30pm — An Upbeat Holiday Seasonal Songfest. Free.

Tuesday, 6pm — Cat Clyde Live From Velvet Underground. \$15.

Tuesday, 7pm — Daring Greatly. Free.

Wednesday, 6pm — John Doe Livestream Series: Show #2.

\$29-\$20.

Wednesday, 5:30pm — LEVL UP Fest: Festival of Music & Stories. Free.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Aquarius Bar & Grille:

Sunday, Dec. 20 — Fleetwood Bigmak. Free.

Belly Up Tavern:

Sunday, Jan. 10 — Tommy Castro & the Painkillers. Saturday, Jan. 16 — Mustache Harbor.

House of Blues:

Saturday, Dec. 19 — Azizi Gibson.

Nick & G's:

Thursday, Dec. 17 — Heather Nation.

Thursday, Dec. 24 — Heather

Nation.

Thursday, Dec. 31 — Heather Nation.

North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

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

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

South Bay Drive-In:

Thursday, Jan. 14 — Casbah Day Presents: *Fanboy* World Premier. \$10.

Tony Pepperoni Pizzeria:

Friday, Dec. 18 — Tim Yancey. Free.

Tower Bar:

Saturday, Jan. 2 — The Picturebooks.

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San Diego Reader December 10, 2020 33

Was Mank shanked?

No matter how lofty one's stature as an artist or how impeccable one's list of accomplishments, there will always be someone out there sporting a pair of steel-toed loafers for the soul (and sole) purpose of booting a deity from the Pantheon. 'Tippi' Hedren built a career off of bad-mouthing Alfred Hitchcock. Reviews of Jerry Lewis' movies

read like critical contract killings. But not even the *National Enquirer* could have concocted a slam as spurious and mean-spirited as the one Pauline Kael leveled against Orson Welles. And David Fincher's *Mank* picks up where Kael left off.

The title is short for Herman J. Mankiewicz, a prolific screenwriter who, in addition to having a hand in writing *Citizen Kane*, gifted audiences with untold hours spent pleasurably in the dark (*Dinner at Eight*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Christmas Holiday*). The script, written by the director's late father Jack Fincher, uses as its base of operation,

amid the myriad of *Kane*-inspired flashbacks, a Victorville Hotel. It was there that Mankiewicz, incapacitated after a car accident left him nursing a broken leg, dictated the script to secretary Rita Alexander (Lily Collins). In his attempt to assign sole authorship to his subject, Fincher forgets to mention

a version of the script Welles was simultaneously working on back in Beverly Hills.

Fincher takes delight in recreating Hollywood's golden era, maneuvering his camera through a backlot surging with a sea of full-dress extras. Inside the walls, the story conference participants seated in David O. Selznick's office read like a *Who's Who?* of screenwriting bluebloods. Joining Mankiewicz are George S. Kaufman, S.J. Perelman, Charles McArthur, Ben Hecht, etc. The round-the-horn story improv ends with the new kid on the block — in this case, Charles Lederer (Joseph Cross) — being asked, "Why don't you tell him how it ends?"

MOVIES



Mank: Sole author or just another citizen in Welles' army?

Kael's decision to target the film of films as a means to elevate her solidly-established anti-auteur profile defies reason. Welles joins D.W. Griffith, Tex Avery, and Jean-Luc Godard as one of the rare few who can lay claim to forever changing the face of cinema. Was it his arrogance, his youth, or both that aroused envy? During the days of the studio system, film production was an old man's game. Where does a 24-year-old pisher get off co-writing and directing what many consider to be the one film deserving the title of all-time greatest? Any film critic-historian (Robert L. Carringer, Andrew

Sarris, Peter Bogdanovich, Joseph McBride, Jonathan Rosenbaum, etc.) worth their salt rose to Welles' defense by acknowledging his contributions to the script. As for Fincher, I can appreciate a son wanting to honor his dad, just not when Pop has lies to peddle.

Told in flashback, Fincher borrows heavily from *Kane*'s labyrinthian structure and baroque opulence, right down to the melting ice sculpture replicating the ones found at its subject's birthday party. But it's impossible to believe that the destruction of the second Mrs. Kane's bedroom was penned just moments after a visit to Victorville

finds Welles shattering Mankiewicz's liquor cabinet. And was the drive through the desert to the hotel meant to be an homage to the second unit ride to the Mirador Motel in *Touch of Evil*?

Thankfully, Fincher doesn't confine himself solely to the chapter of Mankiewicz's life dealing with Mr. Welles. His battle against Louis B. Mayer (Arlliss Howard) and Irving Thalberg (Ferdinand Kingsley) over a fictionalized newsreel the two whipped up to quash the political aspirations of socialist Upton Sinclair is far more interesting than the story of an inveter-



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ON PVD DECEMBER 18

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ate alcoholic who stays focused long enough to write the great American screenplay, only to have it snatched from him by a satanic upstart. Allegedly. I would prefer a film about Mankiewicz's much-warranted disgust with MGM's boy wonder Thalberg to a continuation of Kael's fairy tale. ★★
—Scott Marks

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

Black Bear — No one can tolerate Allison's (Aubrey Plaza) on-set behavior, so the actress sets her sights on another form of torture: directing. Creative juices all but parched, Allison opts to spend a little emotional tuneup time at a woodsy bed and breakfast owned and operated by an unhappily married couple: musician Gabe (Christopher Abbott) and pregnant wife Blair (Sarah Gadon). In the time it takes to carry her bags to the house, Allison's host has already hit on his paying customer. After dinner, and with the lugubriously lubricating aid of a bottle of wine, Allison watches as the couple act out their rage in a manner that makes Albee's George and Martha look like Blondie and Dagwood. So far, nothing we've seen rings even remotely true, starting with the premise. A retreat epitomizes alone time, not a place one goes when in need of a bout of relationship counseling with the hired help. This all changes when, halfway through the film, roles reverse and we leave our one-act play for a film-within-a-film about the making of the one-act play. At one point, Allison is described as "hard to read," an insight that applies to the actress as well. Plaza has built a career leaving audiences trying to outguess her every move. If you're a Plaza-watcher waiting for her ship to come in, the Queen Mary just docked. She's never been better. Too bad the performance is housed in a technical exercise gone awry. Directed by Lawrence Michael Levine. 2020 —S.M. ★★

Freaky — The superimposed text reads "Wednesday the 11th," but its purpose is not to establish time, place, or even herald a film-within-a-film parody. For all the good it does, the latest Blumhouse Production might just as well greet us with: Warning: Secondhand Horror Comedy Ahead. Not that the idea of spinning a horror-reversal on the Disney family comedy *Freaky Friday* is a bad one, but must everything play out in such a familiar manner? Vince Vaughn doesn't get the recognition he deserves; there aren't too many comedians currently at work who possess the actor's sly slobbery and innate ability to use it to occasion laughter. Watching him



This week we go West, Mae West, for a pair of saucy comedies: one's pre-code, the other isn't.

— Scott Marks

SHE DONE HIM WRONG (1933)

Across town at 20th Century Fox, it was child superstar Shirley Temple keeping the studio in the black, while Paramount used pre-code sex to foot the bill. At a time when monogamy governed Hollywood, Mae West had more lovers in a single picture than most did in a lifetime. Based on West's scandalous stage play *Diamond Lil*, this was to be her second feature and first starring role. For two years, West and screenwriters Harvey Thew and John Bright grappled with a way to get it past the censors. Within months of its release, the Catholic Legion of Decency was formed, largely in response to the perceived threat West posed to the male libido.

The film is set in the 1890s — a period in the not-so distant past that West felt most comfortable in. Apart from a nude painting strung up over the bar just that morning, we don't get to see Lady Lou (West) in the flesh until 10 minutes into a picture that runs a scant 66 minutes. Similar to a slice of Universal horror, the opening passage is spent establishing local color as well as determining the opposition; all the word of mouth gives extra drama to the monster's big unveiling. (Ladies of the

Bowery plug their noses the moment her horse-drawn carriage nears; menfolk doff their hats, craning forward for a look.)

West's approach to the opposite sex was simple: married or single, it's a man's game. Lou "happens to be smart enough to play it their way." Apart from Cary Grant (and W.C. Fields), West's lineup of leading man were fully operational targets, set in line for West to knock down. Other slabs of meat on the menu, just waiting for West to butcher them, included David Landau, Noah Beery, Sr., and the pristine and pre-eminently arrogant Gilbert Roland. With a load of lumber like this to play off, is it any wonder that Grant's next-door missionary turns out to be an undercover cop for West to fall for at picture's fade? The cheapest cut of ham is Owen Moore as Lou's locked-up ex, Chick Clark. Hardcore romanticist Chick expresses his love for Lou by threatening to kill her if she so much as looks at another man. Judging by his muddle-headed performance, Moore's "method" is allowing the liquor to do the acting. But Lou's visit to prison, complete with a sashay through the cell block like it's old home week, is a highpoint second only to a hair-pulling match between Lou and Russian Rita (Rafaela Ottiano, reprising her role from *Diamond Lil*.)

The film was directed by Lowell Sherman, a man Andrew Sarris said was "gifted with the ability to express the poignancy of male lech-



She Done Him Wrong: Mae West's career died for your sins.

ery when confronted with female longing." Much of what made it on the stage wasn't suited for mass consumption at the movies; still, what's here is probably the closest to undiluted West as the Golden Age of Hollywood would allow.

BELLE OF THE NINETIES (1934)

Paramount in the '30s, the right place and right time for Leo McCarey, the only director fortunate enough to work with the studio's behemoths of comedy, that triple-helping of absurdity The Marx Bros., W.C. Fields, and Mae West. (And he did them all in a row, too, from *Duck Soup* to *Six of a Kind* to *Belle of the Nineties*.) For the first time in her career, West received sole screenwriting credit, and it was she, not McCarey, calling the shots.

Unlike her slow rollout in *She Done Him Wrong*, West's quick-to-arrive first musical number is a gawker's paradise. "My American Beauty" amounts to little more than an immobile West positioned center frame, hands planted firmly on hips that can't stop gyrating, performing from within a quintet of costu-

mier Travis Banton's tightest — legend has it West had to be sewn into her costumes — and most outlandish creations. She doesn't even sing. (That chore goes to one of her stud muffins.)

This isn't a musical as much as it is a series of stage performances by West interspersed between bits

of melodrama. The one deviation occurs when she steps out on the balcony for a smoke and observes an all-black revival meeting being held practically in her backyard. These numbers were quite popular in the day, but there is something particularly off-putting about this stereotypical mix of fire and brimstone and bayou hoo-doo. It was enough to make Jean-Pierre Coursodon call the sequence "an immensely tasteless" number in which West sings along with a "black chorus going through grotesque contortions in a repulsively Hollywood display of religious ecstasy."

And what better way to end the film that introduced the world to jazz standard "My Old Flame" — Duke Ellington and his orchestra are on hand to accompany West — than by having a flicked butt, tossed by careless smoker West, miss the fireplace and literally bring the house down? West appeared in but a dozen features, and I suggest you see them all, including *Myra Breckinridge*. Make that especially *Myra Breckinridge*!

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unleash his inner teenage girl justifies the download, just be prepared to endure the malevolent reprisal of his junior counterpart (Kathryn Newton) as she mows down the cardboard enemies that were determined before the transformation. Directed and co-written by *Paranormal Activity 2-4* scribe Christopher Landon. 2020 —S.M. ★

The Twentieth Century — It's rare to find female characters behind more convincing mustaches than

their male counterparts, but then again, it's even more uncommon for a film to come along that defies classification. How else does one account for a subject as potentially lethal as the fall and rise to power of Canadian Prime Minister W.L. Mackenzie King (Dan Beirne) being transformed into visual perfection? Like being hit with a warm sock filled with splendor, writer-director Matthew Rankin's debut feature portrays real life as a kaleidoscopic, fantasy-filled ride

through Canadian history. (Imagine how much more colorful and commanding high school history classes would have been had our teachers shared imaginations similar to that of Rankin.) The lightbox composition at once calls to mind such seemingly diverse temperaments as Powell and Pressburger and David Lynch. Two complaints, starting with Rankin's maddeningly maddened ripoff of fellow Canadian Guy Maddin. Both appeal to one's primitive instincts with

their uncanny ability to fictionalize in historical context, but Maddin's fingerprints are all over his. And even this indefatigable connoisseur of bodily functions humor inside me was more than a bit rankled over the profusion of sudorific giggles, most notably the ejaculating cactus. Don't let that dissuade you. The third act drags, but nothing we've seen this year can match this *Century's* visual wit and splendor. 2019 —S.M. ★★

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PERSONALS

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My mother in law who is in a nursing fac caught Covid. PLEASE pray for her. Mama Judy

ELISSA LANDSMAN Hope you have a good Hanukkah. Have a healthy year to come. Brian & Bruce.

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MERNIE A OF MORENO & Pat G of El Cajon. Have a merry Christmas and a happy new year. Brian B.

THANK YOU St Jude so much!

TO MY WIFE Please know I'm here for you and with all these prayers, Mom will pull through. I LOVE YOU TO INFINITY & WAY BEYOND!

USELESS GOVERNMENT
They have always been slow to act quickly, i.e. handling the virus outbreak and now letting us hold the virus 95% safe vaccine—having it back so more of them can have an opinion and excuse, while more die and suffer each day the British took action.

ROCKSTAR I ran into Mick at the pub. He said that Rocky is his girl. He is coming by just to say hi... Don't be shy... Hope you rock his world. Call me. Gman

ROCKY Is Scoe Dawg behaving? I'm coming by to eat some pie. Too high to hide my disguise. Dawg's bday is almost here. 2 beer Scoe and the rest you know. Gman

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TO THE FDA. let us have the vaccine now. There is no good reason to holding it back; how many more do you want to die?

WE THE PEOPLE We the people - hereby proclaim, Donald J. Trump, you're fired. James M 32588

AUDAMUS JURA nostra defender.

LIARS CAN FIGURE and figure's can Lie. Third eye opened.

ONE SHOULD READILY and gladly give and graciously accept, nothing more nor less than anyone should normally expect, merely common courtesy and only due respect. D.E.J.

SOCIALISM COMING Under the beds of the Democrat party is the left-wing socialist gang waiting to move in. That day is coming very soon; they have a agenda and your freedom is no longer in service. Get ready to say good bye.

STUPIDITY I am patient with stupidity But not with those who are many at this time, who are proud of it.

DEAREST BENJAMIN Happy Birthday my best buddy. I love you so bad. That will never change. Your butler Daniel.

A LIE DOESN'T BECOME TRUTH Wrong doesn't become good just because it's accepted by a majority.

GOD'S ASSURANCE OF SALVATION "that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." CMR

INTEGRITY is choosing your thoughts and actions based on values rather than personal gain. FITRO.

THOMAS MOORE Tom, Thank you for helping on the property. You devoted yourself to this family over several weeks. We appreciate all of your hard energy, you are dependable, you are a good guy. Surfs up, from the Donnalys.

HELP DELIVER FOOD Get a free ride and free lunch to help deliver lunches around San Diego male or female 11am/3pm. My car, single person preferred. (714) 457-7658 / tracycollins116@aol.com

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

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

NOTICES

#7FOOTAPARTHIKES 6pm Saturday Dec 26th. South Park; holiday lights 2-walkabout. Start Fern & Grape (858) 571-6058 text only.

MIRA MESA EYECARE For over 20 years, Mira Mesa Eyecare has served Mira Mesa and its surrounding area with quality vision care for the whole family. "We are open during Covid-19 and practices all safety precautions. https://www.miramesaeyecare.com (858) 535-8282 / contact@miramesaeyecare.com



ECOLOGICAL SERVANTS PROJECT Hey San Diego we just wanted to get you involved. Check us out at ecoservantsproject.org We're here in San Diego and we're making a difference. Join us in our effort to make a Litter Free SD (619) 862-7652 / jason@ecoservantsproject.org

TO DO A leader knows what's best to do. A manager knows merely how best to do it. Look around you now and you will see.



GRAND OPENING OF WOODY RESIN Grand Opening of Woody Resin Surf Shop in Oceanside at 603 Garrison Street Unit A on Saturday, December 12th from 9am-4pm. Surf swap party with live music where you can meet famous surfers. Woody Resin sells surf boards, body boards, stand-up paddle (760) 696-3393 / woody.resin.surf.shop@gmail.com

NONPROFIT MONTHLY MEETING of Science of Space Institute, second Tuesday, December 8 at 10 AM at 3545 Midway Dr. Suite P San Diego.

THE 94% VACCINE WE have a pandemic now, we also have a vaccine that is 94% safe (we paid for); now the powers who control

this will not let us have it. They keep making excuses while they try to make up their minds. Lots more will die every day. Someone do something.

YOUR EYES Your eyes can betray what your tongue is saying.

COME WORSHIP GOD WITH US 2002 Granger Ave; National City, Calif 91950. Sunday 11:00am Worship Service. Come as you are/all are welcome. National City Church of Christ

TO HELP DEAL WITH THIS Covid situation, why do some public transit riders not wear masks?

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.com

QUOTES WEBSITE a website with good quotes www.davidalmada.com (619) 363-4943 / mail@davidalmada.com

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.com

LOOKING FOR SERGIO NUTES LUCAS In order to serve him divorce papers after 2.5 years of searching for him via family and last known address. Please contact me if you have any idea where he is or how I can reach him so we can move forward and finally be granted a divorce. (619) 915-1298

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

RESEARCH STUDIES AVAILABLE in Oceanside. Transportation is provided compensation is provided for qualified participants. Depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder. Call Travis (619) 706-7529, referral number only.

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

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

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

CLASSES / LESSONS

PARKWEST CREATIVE SOLUTIONS Our marketing agency was founded with the sole purpose of maintaining traditional business practices. This includes the simple bond of relationships, genuine ethical value, and above all, the determination and knowledge of supporting businesses. (619) 647-8800 / info@parkwest.solutions

BASIC PERMANENT MAKEUP COURSE Become a certified PMU artist just in 5 days and start earning up to \$85k per the first year. (619) 298-7777

LINE DANCE LESSONS Learn to slide, glide, shuffle & hustle. There are many fun line dances from the south that is growing in popularity and we meet once a week to first learn at a slow pace and then practice them. https://www.meetup.com/LineDanceSanDiego/steppingoutLK@aol.com

AFRICAN DANCE AT HOME Join the family at Zoom, vibrating to the rhythm of live percussion, along with two percussionists and Professor Miriamba, afroalamuta@gmail.com

ANGELS & ASCENDED MASTERS If you are interested in growing and increasing your spirituality, vibration, and consciousness, and opening to receiving the love, comfort, and support of the Angels and Ascended Masters — join us. MarciaHebrank@yahoo.com



FORKLIFT TRAINING Learn a new trade for a new pay. Forklift training and Osha Certification for only \$50 This will include the hands-on training, Forklift License, and Osha certification. Call the Coast to Coast Forklift Training office today to schedule. (562) 229-1908



MOSAIC CLASSES This workshop is for beginners and also suited for levels 1 a 2 as teaching will be scaffolded throughout the session for all attending. Message for details @ https://www.mosaicforms.com/ mosaicforms@gmail.com

BEGINNER 2-STEP DANCER Country Dance Online is offering beginner two-step dance steps as it helps beginners to start-up with their dancing carrier in an interesting way. Our dance professionals will teach you special moves and tips for dancing. So visit our website. (502) 377-4859



LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR Hi, I'm Michael from Michael Pearce Music. I'm a professional guitar instructor with over 20 years of teaching experience. I will custom tailor your lesson experience so you get the most out of it while having maximum fun. (619) 551-6990 / zuribass@hotmail.com

BACHATA CLASSES VIA ZOOM Learn this beautiful Latin dance style with origins from the Dominican Republic and a newer style that evolved in Spain. Bachata Sensual. https://www.hookedondance.com.au/ hookedondancemelb@gmail.com

BOLLYWOOD STYLE DANCE LESSONS We are planning to go Zoom for a virtual Bollywood dance party for all-age groups every Sunday. WhatsApp for details (587) 338-3133

FROGGERS KNITTING AND CROCHET "Frogging" is the term used to describe the act of UNknitting or UNcrocheting your project (or a portion). The term was created because you may say "Rip It, Rip It" (ribbit, ribbit) as you undo your work. https://www.meetup.com/froggers/

LEARN SHAKESPEARE To continue to get a bit of Shakespeare in your life, sign up to get irregular

email posts with fun tidbits and, for a while, short quizzes to play with: www.iReadShakespeare.org. (505) 424-7926 / robin@iReadShakespeare.org

MUSHROOM HUNTERS Welcome, all mushroom hunters and growers! This group is for amateurs and professionals alike. Want to get into mushroom hunting, identification, or growing? This is the group for you. https://www.meetup.com/rogue-valley-mushroom-enthusiasts/

TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Classes are outside and at a safe social distance. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

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

ROOMMATES

SANTEE, \$675 2/2 home w/ homeowner, dog. Same price furnished/unfurnished. No kids under 18. Pools, spas, clubhouse, tennis. AC & heat, kitchen, W/D. No tobacco, or add'l pets. Share util. (619) 499-9663, phone calls preferred.

SHARE HOUSE bedroom for rent near downtown, walking distance to shopping, dining, bus stops. \$600 per month. Call now (619) 394-3868.

ROOM WANTED FOR MALE AND DOG \$500 or a cheaper room wanted north of the eight freeway no smoke no drugs. 1-(714) 457-7658 can pay two months rent and deposit.

SANTEE ROOM FOR RENT \$900 NEW Also Master Suite available in new home \$1,300 a month (619) 850-3264 female preferred (619) 850-3264.

ROOM FOR RENT Kearney Mesa, furnished, clean room. \$650, \$250 deposit. Available now. (858) 302-6252.

OTAY RANCH, \$1,100 Room for rent, furnished, AC, tv, internet, amenities, utilities included, non smoker, no drugs, no pets. \$1,100/month, \$300 deposit. Carlos (858) 999-7980.

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

SENIOR LADY SEEKING furnished room and bath. I am quiet, considerate, keep to myself and enjoy books and movies. (619) 980-8498.

MIDTOWN \$550 separate living room/kitchen space. 200 square ft., furnished, cable, 420 friendly. No drugs, alcohol, tobacco, drama. First/last. Senior/disabled/retired/student. (619) 528-0907

ROOM WANTED 62 yr. old young single no family, Virgo, healthy, never married, non-smoker, non-drinker, clean SoCal native low income male, high school/college graduate. Seeking any somber tiny room please in house Solana Beach, Cardiff, Leucadia, Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Clemente. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

RENTALS

BAY PARK, \$1895. 2BD+1BA large upstairs apartment near bay. New plank flooring. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room. Water and trash paid. No pets. (Assistance animals not considered pets.) 4344 Ingulf Street #4. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

RENTALS

DOWNTOWN *550-880



GREAT LOCATION!

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

720 4th Ave. • 619-233-7594

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

COLLEGE AREA, \$1600. 2BD+2BA apartments. New vinyl flooring. Garage parking with additional rent. Gated. On-site laundry. Elevator. Centrally located, easy freeway access. No pets. Water and trash included. Move-in special: 1/2 off 1st month with 1-year lease. 4828 Art Street. Agent: (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com

HILLCREST, \$1825. 1BD+1BA 900sqft. vintage 100 year old upstairs unit in 4 plex on the park; formal dining room; 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.

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.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1375. Cozy studio near Adams, upstairs corner unit, newly remodeled, 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. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, assigned off-street parking for one car. Water and trash paid. 3753 Cherokee Ave #8. Agent, (619) 298-7724.

NORTH PARK/NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1650 2 bathrooms, 1 bath. Two parking spaces, unit upstairs, new windows, available now one, block from public transportation. The address is 4352 Cherokee Avenue and my telephone is (619) 887-8786

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1575. 1BD+1BA large upstairs unit 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, \$1595. 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, \$1895. 2BD+1BA cottage in 4-plex; North PB; remodeled kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; parking; washer/dryer in unit; small pet OK with extra deposit; available 12/15/20; 1780 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. (858) 270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1950. 2BD+1.5BA; remodeled downstairs unit in quiet triplex in North PB behind 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.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2300. 2BD+1.5BA; close to bay with private patio; washer/dryer hookups in unit; parking; seconds to the bay on Faniel Street Park; month-to-month lease; available now.

1311 La Palma. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. (858) 270-2071.



STUDIO, UTC, UTILITIES, 1-1-21 Nice 450 sq ft studio in the Golden Triangle Area, all utilities included, Available 1-1-21. Must have employment and credit score 700 or above. Single occupancy only. \$25 extra/mo if working from home. Call or text to see (858) 405-5917 / gimmydust@yahoo.com



DUPLEX 2BR -AC- WASHER/ DRYER This 2br 1ba duplex was originally built as a single family home with an attached 1 br unit for the owners mother and is located in a nice single family area in La Mesa. Your only neighbor is a 1 br unit, so you have privacy. \$1795/mo. 1 yr lease. cadway@cox.net

NORTH PARK/NORMAL HEIGHTS \$ 1,650, 2Br 1Ba, 2 assigned parking, upstairs, new windows, fourplex, available now, by public transportation, 4352 Cherokee Ave (619) 887-8786.

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

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. Lavandería. 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. Lavandería. 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.jspropertymanagement.com.

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

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

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

REAL ESTATE

BAJA SEA OF CORTEZ beach house, 2 story on bluff overlooking Ocean. KM 35 south of San Felipe. Furnished, private party. \$85,000. Details (760) 598-2305

GORGEOUS 2/2 NEAR USD - \$399K Fantastic Location! Minutes from USD, Mission Valley shopping, beaches and easy freeway access. Granite counters in kitchen and bathrooms, SS appl,fireplace, Laundry in unit. Peaceful views with lots of natural light. Phone agent (619) 384-7330 / helensrealtor@gmail.com

LAS VEGAS RAIDER FANS \$313,500. 3 bedroom/2 bath home with a pool, over 1400 sq/ft of living space. Features stone floors, stainless steel appliances, and an original fireplace complete with the open concept kitchen and family room. (702) 403-8535



LA MESA, TIJUANA I'm selling a property in the La Mesa area of Tijuana. The address is Calle Santa Rosa #13771 Fracc. The top floor has 2 bedrooms, a full bathroom, and a terrace. The lower, 2 bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, kitchen, dining, and laundry room WhatsApp (664) 270-0135

LAND BY PUERTO NUEVO \$23K \$23,000- Four lots for sale with beautiful ocean views in front of Puerto Nuevo with an area of .Aa.Aa192 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 .Aa.Aa120 m2, with 200 m2 of construction. +52 (664) 421-7836.

MUSIC



RARE 1988 EPIPHONE LES PAUL3 The Les Paul 3 is a hybrid Les Paul/Strat combination with 3 pickups & kill switches. Comes in a case. (619) 995-7058 / 257@gmx.com

70S ERA MUSIC PLAYER PIANO With bench and rolls of music, works but needs work. Make offer. Contact (619) 987-5682

EUPHONIUM-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

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

BASS GUITAR \$1100 1989 "Signature" jazz bass, ash body, maple neck & fretboard, audeer preamp, glassy highs, gig bag, mint condition (619) 980-6008.

BASS GUITAR \$2000 1989 "Signature" jazz bass, red burst body, figured maple neck, chrome hardware, sadowky preamp, MEC gold pickups, mint condition (619) 980-6008

BASS GUITAR \$900 1990's Schaller Rockoon(Kawai), maple neck, rosewood finger board, perfect red body paint, red EMG pickups, active, 4string, Excellent condition, no marks or scratches with coffin bag. (619) 980-6008

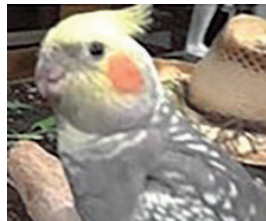
MUSIC REHEARSAL STUDIO Upscale facility, Kearny Mesa. All rooms have individual air conditioning, high ceilings and 24- hour access. Monthly rooms available. Adder Studios, (858) 522-9505. www.adderstudios.com.

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

GAITED HORSE I want to buy sound, gaited trail horse. Text (619) 438-4567



MISSING COCKATIEL Missing Cockatiel, North County San Diego but could be just about anywhere. Grey and white with yellow comb and orange cheeks. Reward \$1,000. (760) 626-5784 / mbouceno@yahoo.com

MINI POODLE PUPPIES Beautiful mini poodle puppies ready for their forever home. Re-homing 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 great with other animals. (917) 268-0515 / laurabeveg@gmail.com

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

SPORTS

BUBBLE BALLS, TIC-TAC-TOE Come experience fitness re-imagined! This is not a boot camp. I create ways to push you mentally and physically without you even knowing it. www.instagram.com/aSYNERGYaffair/



CO-ED SOFTBALL LEAGUE Join one of our adult co-ed or men's slow pitch softball leagues located all over San Diego. Be part of the action on and off the field with perks from our sponsors. http://sandiegosocialleagues.com/ softball-leagues/ (619) 517-5791 / jon@sandiegosocialleagues.com



INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL This group is dedicated to making friends and sharing our love of volleyball. Welcoming all players who are at least at an intermediate level. https://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Volleyball-For-Charity/ MichaelSmith99@gmail.com

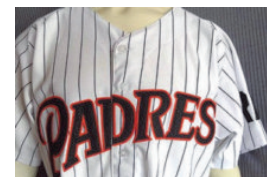


NETTLES SGA JERSEY Selling a brown 1984 (replica) San Diego Padres jersey for \$25. Call: (619) 361-8776.



SAN DIEGO GOLF MEETUP This group is for beginning to intermediate golfers who have the time and flexibility to play late morning and afternoon weekday golf throughout San Diego. www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Weekday-Golf-Meetup-Group/ (658) 487-0120

THINKING ADULT KICKBALL? Our kickball group is for you. We are a seasoned group with over 200 Meetups under our belt. Want to play? Message us at www.instagram.com/socalkickball/



TONY GWYNN JERSEY Selling a pinstripe 1987 San Diego Padres jersey for \$75 (619) 381-8776

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.org/ (858) 673-1711

BICYCLES

LIKE NEW HYBRID BIKE Sweet Schwinn Trailways hybrid bike

RENTALS

Need an Apartment Short Term?
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Weekly starts @ \$400
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Sorry we do not accept pets.
Monthly rental maximum 2 people including children.
*Some hotel amenities included.
Please call for details.

Free Continental Breakfast

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- Laundry facilities
- Free parking
- Microwave
- Refrigerator
- Easy freeway access
- Centrally located
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5415 Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
(just west of the 805) San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 799-0219



size medium. Custom seat and shock absorbers for comfortable ride. Water bottle holder. Lightly used and in great shape. I'll even throw in trunk bike rack. \$200 all in. nepeterson110@gmail.com

VINTAGE BMX PARTS Schwinn Sting Ray parts, Redline hot wheels etc. Call for information, prices (619) 586-2814.

MOTORCYCLES



2004 HONDA CBR 600RR - \$3,000 Selling a 2004 Honda CBR 600RR for \$3,000. No body damage other than a tear on the seat. There are some minor scratches/scrapes around the body but no dents. (619) 301-1597.

2007 SUZUKI GSXR 600 \$5,000 2007 Suzuki GSXR 600 for \$5,000. It runs great, with no leaks, 18,755 miles and a clean title. (760) 405-3269.



BONANZA SCOUT MINI BIKE Selling a Bonanza Scout mini bike for \$2,500. (408) 839-9028



CUSTOM MOTORCYCLE 2008 custom build with lots of billet, 2-up seating with a pad. Recently had the carb cleaned and rebuilt, new front tire, fluids changed. Ultimate 110" motor! Fast, loud, and fun. Text (732) 948-6372 for questions

WANTED: DEAD KAWASAKIS Wanted: dead or alive Kawasaki bikes. Buying Z1 900, Z2 750 RS, Triples H1/H2, and more. (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

AUTOMOTIVE TIRES FOR SALE 3 used tires, 50% tread, 235/75R15. Price is \$55 total, (619) 576-8196.



2003 FOCUS HATCHBACK Auto, cold AC, 2021 registered, title. Only 132K miles. Little 4 cylinder gas sipper. Clean and dependable. Call or text (619) 318-9651, owner. (619) 318-9651

I BUY JUNKED CARS Do you have a junked car? Call or message us today at (619) 372-5827 we have fast service. Free quote, free towing. What are you waiting for? Get cash now for your junked car.



CONVERTIBLE CAMARO Selling a 2018 Chevrolet Camaro that drives like a dream. It has a power convertible top, back up camera, touch screen, Bluetooth, keyless entry, and push-start ignition. (816) 646-8271



SOCCER DADS Haul your soccer team in style. We're selling a 2012 Nissan Quest S Minivan 4D for \$6,650. The trunk has lots of additional space for sports equipment. (619) 816-5732



THE BEST CHRISTMAS GIFTS! Buy your loved one the best Christmas gift ever — a nice shiny slightly used vehicle. Call (858) 302-9278 for pricing and make/model availability.

2000 FORD F350 XLT crew cab, 8' bed, DRW, 7.3L diesel with 4-speed automatic. Original owner, 141,000 miles. Above average to excellent cosmetic condition, new tires and water pump. Asking \$9,000 or OBO. Call (858) 272-2656 or email hilaupt1033@aatt.com.

1994 BUICK LESABRE 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. safaranalain1@aatt.com

2012 MERCEDES-BENZ \$7995 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

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.

MEXICAN CHEF not a cook. Part time. Opening 10 restaurants 2021. Send resume with salary history, email lorrichusa@aol.com

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SENIOR CONSULTANT I, Teradata Operations, Inc., San Diego, CA: Discuss with new and existing customers how specific products or services can meet their needs. Emphasize product features based on analyses of customers' needs and on technical knowledge of product capabilities and limitations. Bach or foreign equiv. degree in comp. sci., info sys. or a rel. field and 5 yrs. post-bach. progressive rel. exp. In the alternative, employer will accept a master's degree or foreign equiv. in comp. sci., info sys. or a rel. field and 3 years rel. exp. Travel req. up to 50%. Any suitable combination of education, training, or experience is acceptable. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number - 208749)

READY TO QUIT SMOKING? Diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder or Schizophrenia? The Pacific Treatment and Research Center is looking for people who are ready to put out that cigarette! Eligible participants will be 18-70 years old, have a strong desire to quit smoking, and be in good overall health. Call (858) 246-4673. www.pac-tarc.org

SENIOR CREATIVE DESIGN MANAGER Mercedes-Benz Research & Development North America, Inc. has the following position available in Carlsbad, CA: Senior Creative Design Manager (MBAC2) Visualize ideas and concepts in 2-D form through sketches, renderings, and tape drawings. Requires 15% domestic/international travel. To apply, mail resume: Attn: HR Dept, 309 N Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94085. Must reference job title and job code.

SENIOR PRE-SALES CONSULTANT, Teradata Operations, Inc. San Diego, CA. Leverage knowledge and understanding of data analytics and methodologies to develop and interpret analytic output in order to assist client management with decision making, policy formulation, or other management functions including selection of Teradata products and services. Bach. degree or foreign equiv. in Analytics, Eco., Statistics, Comp. Sci. or related field and 8 years of related experience. In lieu of a Bachelor's degree the employer will accept 2 additional years of professional experience. Travel required up to 50%. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. TO APPLY: Please apply by email to STAFF.TDPM@Teradata.com (Job Number— 208171)

SENIOR SEO SPECIALIST (#SSS). Position in San Diego, CA. Mail resume with job # to Attn: Stacy (Job #SSS), American Addiction Centers, Inc., 1200 Fourth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101.

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.



SOCIAL JUSTICE + RADIO Are you interested in social justice? Are you interested in radio? Non profit,

all volunteer KNSJ 89.1 FM is seeking volunteers for on air talent and support. We have news, views and music. See KNSJ.org for info. Contact Tim.Taylor@KNSJ.org Tim.Taylor@KNSJ.org

UBER SAN DIEGO VIVES EN TJ solicitamos choferes con veh'culo, transportar personas del aeropuerto de San Diego a Zona Rio Tijuana; pago por viaje; oficina RJ (664) 231-0209, oficina SD (619) 405-4034 texto/WhatsApp (619) 205-9991.

TELEVISION HOST San Diego lifestyle TV show auditioning men women age 35 to 60. Email short video answering why you love San Diego. jim@sdlabrats.org by Sat dec 5. (760) 452-8181 / Jim@sdlabrats.org

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@atlastree.com

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 texts

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

CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT (CNA) Bella Vista Health Center is hiring for full and part time positions. New higher pay scale. Experienced CNAs 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

LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE (LVN) Bella Vista Health Center is hiring for full-time positions. New higher pay scale. 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. Bellavistahealth.com

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 phone only.

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 flexible.

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

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

JOBS WANTED

P/T F/T PREP-COOK/ DISHWASHER Hi, I have 15 years kitchen experience being a prep-cook/dishwasher. Never sick, never late. Get along well with others. Please call (619) 592-0882. Thank you (619) 592-0882 / GzHF92565@gmail.com

HOUSECLEANING, DOG SITTING/DOG WALKING (Love all breeds) AKA: the dog woman. Reasonable rates Linda (619) 380-4861.

GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER will shop for groceries, prepare meals, light housekeeping, drive to doctors, personal assistant, companion. Call Carol @ (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

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



I BUY BAGS OF 805-90S TOYS Send me a list or text photos of what you have for sale. I buy old toys for cash! Buying old action figures, Hot Wheels, robots, dolls, etc. (619) 755-1390

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS is my two front teeth! Sponsorship/ help needed for cosmetic dental work. (619) 551-6388

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 STEREO'S 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. the1pjohnn@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

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

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family
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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.

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Today!
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MentorsWanted.com

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 floorance gas stove, sold in early 50's. Not wanting to sell now, but want contacts. Text (619) 631-9258

TRADE TWO ANTIQUE ELECTROLUX vacs Coors lite or regular millers beer lighted sign vacs need work but are complete. 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 LAWMOWER 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 party.

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

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

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

WANTED: 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

HUGE GARAGE SALE, HILLCREST 30 years of tools, automotive stuff, electronics, boat parts and more, all must go. 12/12, Saturday, 8:00, 3967 Centre St (alley in back)

YARD SALE AT 4162 POWDERHORN Saturday, 12/12/20, 9 a.m. - 12 noon at 4162 Powderhorn Drive, San Diego. Many items for sale: Flavor wave, toaster oven, dishes, cook/bakeware, bed linen, kitchen items, bath items, household items and many miscellaneous items. (619) 690-2589 / Ann101342@cox.net

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. (760) 298-9635

FOR SALE

540 BOOK COLLECTION 238 hardcover, 37 softcover & about 264 hardcover & softcover cookbooks. Selling all the books for \$390., no haggle price, Escondido, (760) 746-7209

BED HEADBOARD AND FOOTBOARD bed headboard, footboard rails and slats. not sure of the bed size or whether it is an antique. \$100. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

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

CARDON CACTUS for sale along with Alluadia, Beaucarnea, Calibanus, Dasyliroon, Euphorbia Ammak Variegated. Great Christmas gifts! Lalo Of Vista Energizes! Call (760) 945-7892 for appointment.

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

COMMUNITY GARDEN in south San Diego selling fruit saplings, edible cactus/succulents, clippings, seeds, and worm casting for planting! Text or email: (857) 236-7794 / junebloom42@gmail.com.

DRONES: CAMERA & QUADCOPTERS Drones for all skill levels... camera drones & quadcopters: brand new from manufacturer...categories: consumer, professional, enterprise, agricultural. Buy direct online & save: http://personalsubs.weebly.com (Yes we also deal in submarines too.) stewartalan250@gmail.com

NEW TRACFONES SAMSUNG S150G Seven new phones in sealed original packaging, selling all seven phones for only \$95. total price, I'm not selling them separately, Escondido, (760) 746-7209

RECLINER two years old, heater, lift, leather, dark brown, perfect condition. Paid \$1,200 two years ago, \$300 OBO. (760) 745-6656

RIGID HAND PIPE THREADER 1/2 inch, 3/4 inch and 1 inch with handle and metal case. \$50 or best. (619) 987-5682

MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following items: a couple of brand new clocks good condition suitcase fancy candle holder folding laundry basket. all these items you must buy for 40.00 obo any very much interested candidate ask for james @ (619) 450-7914 thank

you. (619) 450-7914 / j.fiffeld31@gmail.com

MOREL MUSHROOMS I have been in love with Morels and decided to grow them. Yesterday was my first harvest and will like to sell to anyone interested. Text/Call (214) 659-1176 / janekaint@gmail.com

CABLES, SPEAKERS, STANDS + ETC Any questions, call me - Ken (619) 933-5246. We have many things we want to move. - filing cabinets. - storage cabinet. - refurbished printers. - ipad cases. - woofers (Edison Professionals). - dual system player (Edison Professionals). - mic. - batterie

T-SHIRTS for sale, good condition, size men's or boys, five dollars each, call Ernie (760) 532-3601 or text.

WHITE BABY BATHTUB \$5 (858) 505-0685.

65 INCH SMART TV 3 year warranty, \$400 or best offer, serious inquiries only call (619) 755-2459.



ARTISAN HANDMADE EARRINGS We're selling artisan embroidered earrings for 70 pesos. We are by the Church of Guadalupe and the Mikasa restaurant in Tijuana. WhatsApp (664) 626-1974 for info; we're here from 9-7 from Monday to Saturday.

BIKE RACK for 2 bicycles Allen XR200 \$70. Hooks to trailer hitch for car/truck. Irwin: (619) 321-7734



BLUE DINIMIGI BOOTS \$20 Selling a brand new pair of girl's Dinimigi boots in size 6 US/36 Europe for \$20. Email juliebrowall73@gmail.com for more info. juliebrowall73@gmail.com



MARISCOS AND A FREE SODA If you give us a comment on Yelp, and when you show it in your order, we will give you a soda. We sell tostadas, seafood tacos, ceviche, 7 mares soups. (619) 787-4276



MAYAN MOTIF STOOL We're selling a vintage low stool made of leather. It has a Central American Mayan motif. Email juliebrowall73@gmail.com for more info. juliebrowall73@gmail.com

MISC FOR SALE Halloween music cd \$5. Skillet, two pans with tops \$30. (858) 505-0685



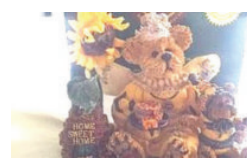
NEC TV MOVIE HDMI PROJECTOR \$225. You can hook up the projector to xbox, ps5, laptops, cable box, and/or chromecast. Call or text me to pick up today. (757) 605-8308 / jwing003@odu.edu



ROLL OF NEW ARTIFICIAL TURF Call Justin to order. 12x50 foot roll (600 sq ft). \$894 before tax. The turf can be delivered in 2 days. (757) 605-8308 / jwing003@odu.edu

WARM UP WITH BIRRIA Menu: birria soup \$2; tacos de birria \$2; torta de birria \$5; quessabirria \$2.50. Located at 4154 Gamma St. San Diego, 92113. (619) 577-9220. 10am-8pm.

BRAND NEW SLAM-IT RIM Slam-It rim, spring-back action, double compression springs, net included. Call or text Andy @ (619) 597-3653 / andrewsecrest@gmail.com



DOG BEDS HARNESSES CUTE Dog bed stuffed with polyfill and cedar chips to repel fleas and mosquitoes (619) 850-3264 come with zippers washable.

DRONES ALL TYPES \$35 NEW All type drones from \$11 to \$60 (619) 850-3264.

GROW LIGHT BRAND NEW 2 Two for the price of one low electricity bill \$300 for both (619) 850-3264.

METAL HEADBOARD AND FRAME Very good condition. Cal King, nickel finish, \$50. Call (619) 203-2147 / shryl.dots@yahoo.com



PRINCESS HOUSE CRYSTAL GLASSES Princess House crystal glasses. Set of four in box. Call or text Andy @ (619) 597-3653 / andrewsecrest@gmail.com

SPEAKERS BLUETOOTH LOUD (619) 850-3264.

STUN GUN FLASHLIGHT COMBO \$20 models and \$30 models available (619) 850-3264 pick one up today come with strobe light and super bright light and shocker (619) 850-3264.

THE BOYDS COLLECTION The Boyds Collection Limited Edition 1999. 1. Gary, Tina, Matt and Bailey From Our Home to Yours. 2. Ms. Libearty. 3. Victoria Regina BuzzBruin So Many Flowers So Little Time. 4. Catherine and Caitlin Berrweather Fine Cup Of Tea. All Original Boxes (619) 597-3653 / andrewsecrest@gmail.com

TV SMARTBOX every channel on the planet guaranteed satisfaction or your money back (619) 850-3264 all new and old movies TV shows all sports local channels everything included no cable bill every channel on the planet \$300 plug in and play you must have internet (619) 850-3264.

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 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

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4-cyl. & most cars & machine extra.

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

REPAINT BUMPER OR FENDER from \$195
each. Most cars.

30K SERVICE \$75
4-cyl., most cars.

TIMING BELT \$95
4-cyl., most cars.

AXLE SHAFT \$99
4-cyl., most cars. plus labor each

WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL \$2175*
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Includes 12oz R134 Freon, check system and test for leaks.
+ \$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 from \$24.95
Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.

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ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$69.95
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30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL from \$179.95 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

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

NEW CV AXLE from \$159.95
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TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price
Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

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(By 1-15 off Miramar Rd. next to Holiday Inn)
858-586-6666

glass \$75 for both - cash only (Mira Mesa) favod@hotmail.com

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE Philips HDTV: compact size, indoor antenna, VHF / UHF/ FM/ HDTV: \$20. FCA Digital TV converter \$15. Wooden phone holder with old fashion amplifier (speaker) brand new still in the box: \$25. (858) 505-0685

MISC FOR SALE Books, records, book shelves, painting, music magazines 1993-2014, National Geographic 1970-2001. Text for details (858) 750-8903

NEW AIR GUNS with tip but no package. Have two \$200 each. Live near South Bay Swapmeet. (619) 874-9982

SILVER RINGS for Men, Women and kids (619) 874-9982.

SINGLE FOLD OUT BED \$50 debragirl@gmail.com.

SMALL ROLL WALNUT TOP DESK two drawers outside and inside 32 in wide, 52 in high, and 24 in depth \$235 call or text (619) 200-1254.

SNOOPY AND WOODSTOCK both 6 ft tall plush animals. Asking \$450 each or \$850 for both. (619) 741-4741

TWO BURGUNDY CHAIRS good condition \$50 debragirl@gmail.com.

TWO SOFA SET free debragirl@gmail.com.

VCR PLAYER VCR player still in box \$20, contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

WOMEN'S 505 LEVIS women's straight leg jeans, like new, in-seam 29, waist 36, mid-blue., \$32. Ellen (619) 479-3412 / ellenshively@sbcglobal.net

LITTLE GIANT JUMBO STEP Aluminum foldable step stool ladder. Made by Little Giant, the Jumbo Step ladder offers a sturdy platform that is also light weight and folds for easy storage. livebyfaith74@live.com

ART WORK FOR SALE Beautiful framed artwork 50" x 63". Originals and professionally done prints. May barter. For more info. Please call Mike. Serious buyers only. (619) 599-3000

BEAUTIFUL FIREPLACE SCREEN Scrolled metal fireplace screen for sale. Bronze finish. Brand new in excellent condition, very clean. Get ready for the upcoming cooler weather, and staying close to home during COVID! \$125 cash. Oceanside/Rancho Del Oro area. par21459@msn.com

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR Good working condition original price \$2800, asking \$500 OBO. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

ESTILO GUADALAJARA SOUP I'm making and selling "carnes en su jugo - estilo Guadalupe." They are the best in all SD. Attached is a picture of the menu and pictures to get your taste buds going. I will be selling on weekdays only! (323) 640-3395

WASHERS AND DRYERS \$180 Prices start at \$180 per machine, including new stock: front and top loader washers, combo units, stackers and single units, gas propane and electric dryers, fridges, freezers. Warranty on all sales and delivery and install available (619) 500-6680

MOTORIZED BIKE 150 MPG \$500 firm (619) 850-3264 brand new motorized bike (619) 850-3264.

MISC FOR SALE Samsung 19" TV/monitor, \$40 firm; new Skyway 21" luggage, \$30 firm. Call Alex in Encinitas at (941) 320-3018.

CURTIS MATHIS walnut cabinet has am/fm radio and turntable, tv was removed nice shape. \$40 please text (619) 631-9258.

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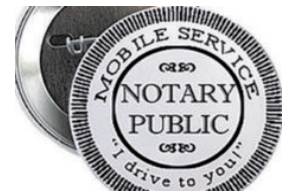
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Desperate Times

— Passers-by were reported to be incredulous at signs posted since mid-September outside Trillade elementary school in Avignon, France, asking parents to refrain from throwing their children over the locked gate when they are late to school. "Parents who arrived after the ringtone literally threw their children away," Principal Sanaa Meziane told *La Provence* with a nervous laugh. "It hasn't happened that many times ... but we preferred to take the lead." While there were no injuries, the practice alarmed school officials enough to create the signs, which feature an adult stick figure tossing a child-sized stick figure over the gate.

Government in Action

— Indonesia has the highest death toll from COVID-19 in Southeast Asia, and officials there are getting creative with punishments in addition to fines for not complying with mask laws. *Metro News* reported on Nov. 11 that regional governments are forcing scofflaws to do pushups, pull weeds, clean riverbeds and dig graves for coronavirus victims. Coffee-shop owner Evani Jesselyn of Jakarta said she was given a choice of paying a fine or cleaning public toilets after she was caught not wearing a mask in her car.

Oops!

— The mayor of Oudenburg, Belgium, said it was not the city's intention that new Christmas decorations it installed resemble an iconic part of the male anatomy. City officials

had set out to create lighted columns that looked like candles, the *Daily Mail* reported, but decided to do something different and placed blue spheres on top instead of flames. "I only realized (they looked phallic) when they were illuminated," Mayor Anthony Dumarey said. "I see the funny side of it myself (and) I see no reason to remove or replace them ... we will have the country's most talked-about Christmas lights this year."

Bad Behavior

— Police in Middlesbrough, England, are asking for the public's help in locating those involved in an apparent egg fight at a local Tesco supermarket during the two minutes of silence meant to honor fallen servicemembers on Nov. 8. Most shoppers at the store on Remembrance Sunday stood still and quiet for the observance, but one customer continued shopping and talking, reported *Metro News*, and objected when asked to be quiet. "We were all stood still, observing the two minutes' silence when we heard lots of screaming and shouting," one witness said. Police noted "a man allegedly assaulted two women ... following a verbal altercation."

Finders Keepers

— Douglas Allen Hatley, 71, of Lakeland, Florida, was arrested on Nov. 16 after the Florida Highway Patrol said he found a metal light pole by the side of the road in Tampa and tried to sell it to Eagle Metals Recycling. The *Tampa Bay Times* reported the recycling center turned him away because he didn't have documentation for the pole,

and officers responding to reports of a 1997 Camry with a pole twice its length strapped to the top pulled him over soon afterward. Hatley told troopers a highway maintenance worker "gave it to me." He was charged with third-degree grand theft.

Awesome!

— Mayor Yutaka Umeda of the Japanese town of Yamato was puzzled when his name started trending on social media after the U.S. presidential election, but he is now hoping his newfound fame will help him "promote the town," *United Press International* reported. The extra attention online came because the Chinese kanji characters used to spell Umeda's name can also be pronounced "Jo Biden" -- strikingly similar to U.S. President-elect Joe Biden. "Although there are differences in the positions of a U.S. presidential candidate and the mayor of Yamato ... our passion is the same," Umeda said.

Bright Idea

— Two recent graduates of the Sydney Grammar School in Australia hatched a plan to skirt COVID-19 restrictions on large gatherings to host a graduation party while their parents were out of town. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 30 people, and indoor events are capped at 10, the *Daily Mail* reported, but up to 150 guests can attend weddings if they follow social distancing protocols. On Nov. 12, the unnamed best friends "married" in a backyard ceremony and planned a 150-person party to follow,

until their parents caught wind of the event online and returned to put an end to it: "We shut down the planned private celebratory event as soon as we found out about it, and thankfully, nobody was put at risk," one of the lads' dad said.

Uniform Complaints

— San Juan, Puerto Rico, police officer Fernando Leon Berdecia, 46, is accused of stealing \$1,300 worth of merchandise from a Home Depot on Nov. 16 while wearing his uniform. The Associated Press reported Puerto Rico Police Chief Henry Escalera said Leon has been suspended from the department, and a court date has been set for Dec. 2.

Schemes

— Two men have been arrested on suspicion of conning an unnamed doctor in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh into paying \$41,600 for an "Aladdin's lamp" that the sellers promised would bring him "wealth, health and good fortune." The two con artists even conspired to conjure a genie from the lamp, which turned out to be one of the men, to convince the doctor of its authenticity, the BBC reported. According to local police, the con men had duped other families in the same way.

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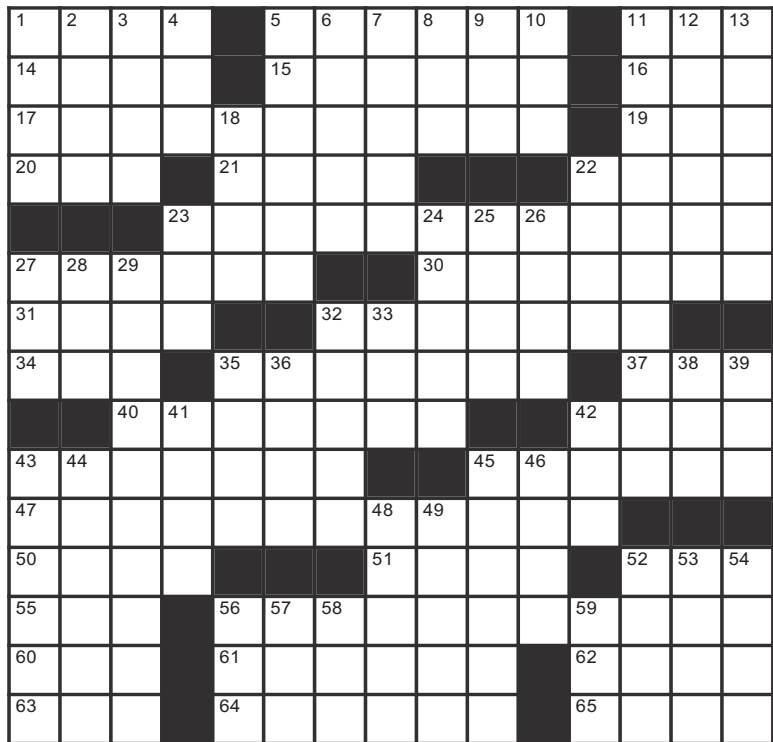
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Across

1. 1% alternative
5. Arizona ballplayers, for short
11. Peter Pan rival
14. White House worker
15. Keys on a piano
16. Declaration made with a card in hand
17. Someone who's crazy about pasta sauce?
19. Org. with the Suns and the Heat
20. Reggae kin
21. Limo window feature
22. Stiletto, e.g.
23. When some people have sex?
27. Apply liberally, as makeup
30. Leashed
31. Saberhagen with two Cy Young Awards
32. Heading on a personal bio
34. "Comprende?"
35. Staged attention-getter ... or this puzzle's theme
37. Zip
40. Develop
42. They're loaded with cash
43. Satisfactory
45. Tony winner Phylicia
47. Outfit made from a nutty confection?
50. Country star McEntire
51. Top-quality

52. Quit stalling
55. Punch lines?
56. Explanation for an inflated balloon's undoing?
60. ____ Paulo, Brazil
61. Costar of Ford and Hamill
62. Move like molasses
63. Directional suffix
64. Chevy model since 1966
65. 1974 Elliott Gould/Donald Sutherland comedy

Down

1. Gullible sorts
2. Captain born 3/22/2233
3. What comes to mind
4. Sister of Beth, Jo and Amy
5. Possessed child in "The Omen"
6. Sauvignon ____
7. "____ a stinker?" (Bugs Bunny catchphrase)
8. One-fifth of MV
9. Korean export
10. Cul-de-____
11. Portmanteau holiday also called Emancipation Day
12. Still being tested
13. Gave birth in a stable
18. Other, in Oaxaca
22. Steering position
23. Stroke
24. Die, as a light
25. Faulkner's "Requiem for ____"

26. "Infestation" heavy metal band
27. "Young Sheldon" network
28. "All bets ____ off"
29. Watch closely
32. "That's ____ subject"
33. A/C measure
35. Big ____ (BoSox legend)
36. Actor Gosling
38. "____ bit confused ..."
39. Drug used in microdosing therapies
41. She said "Little boy, gonna make you a man," in a Kinks song
42. Saddlebag carrier
43. Rebelled
44. Like apartments built in the 1930s
45. Brad of "The Client"
46. Not on land
48. Novo-Ogaryovo is the official one of the Russian president
49. Guinness world record holder for longest live weather report
52. On
53. Like a warm bed on a winter night
54. Half of seis
56. Rank below cpl.
57. Fjord relative
58. School of thought
59. NYSE listings

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

RULES OF THE GAME

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

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Arie Passchier, San Diego, 13.**

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:

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

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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **David Gleason, San Diego, 1.**

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Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

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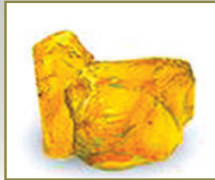
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