

Too bad we don't have an "Ask a Little Old Lady" column

S A N D I

VOL. 46 | NO. 1 | JANUARY 7, 2021

# Reader

*You don't  
take control of*  
**SOMEONE  
ELSE'S  
CRUISE**

Editor's picks from this  
week's free classified ads  
*More in the back of this issue*

BUYING US HELMETS, uniforms, insignia, camo, edged weapons from the Vietnam war and VN gear.  
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## LETTERS

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

### Homeless mote

Sitting at my breakfast table with a warm bowl of oatmeal, in my comfortable home, fortunate never to have had to live in an RV, I read with increasing fascination as “fairly well-paid nurse” Jane Underwood bitterly savaged Amber, an out-of-work mom reduced to living the “van life” on the streets of San Diego (“San Diego cracks down on anyone living in his car,” Cover Stories, December 16).

As I read Jane’s attack, I tried to imagine the deep unhappiness and hatred that would motivate an exhausting screed of hundreds of words and several pages devoted to a stranger’s life, but I couldn’t.

Though it was meant to incite me against Amber, the letter ended up telling me more about the person writing it. Such a small-minded, bitter person can’t be happy, and I hope, for the sake of herself and her patients, Nurse Underwood leaves off spotting the motes in others’ eyes and attends to the beams in her own.

In a world run by elites who disregard the well-being of most of us “little people”, it’s enough to make you despair that those who can’t afford homes are attacking each other. Save the vitriol for those who deserve it, Jane, and stop kicking people when they’re down. That’s the work of bullies, not nurses.

John E Harrington  
Escondido

### Endangered jaws

Posting that article about killing the 7 gill shark in OB is causing quite the uproar on social media and it’s not

looking good for *San Diego Reader* (“7-gill shark caught off OB Pier – the world’s record?” Neighborhood News, December 22). It’s romanticizing the slaughter of an already threatened species of shark and will only encourage more people to start hunting sharks.... which will destroy an already fragile ecosystem here in San Diego. Our shark numbers drastically dropped allowing invasive species to destroy our reefs. Please remove the article if you care at all about the shark population in California

Neill  
San Diego

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

**“Tying Bry to Trump cost donors more than \$1.3 million”**  
News Ticker  
December 14

“Neighbors for Housing Solutions Supporting Todd Gloria for San Diego Mayor 2020” is a horrendous mouthful. Just call it “You-Know-Who for Todd Gloria 2020” and that gets the message across, because we can guess who his backers are. Otherwise the groups need their own names like “The Clairemont Crew”, “Big Business Bōsōzoku”, “The Alpine Reich”, “Los Rejects de San Ysidro” and so on.

—Strelnikov

**“Recall pending, Faulconer pivots hard against Newsom”**  
News Ticker  
January 1

Kevin Faulconer was infamous for happy-talk while ignoring San Diego’s Hepatitis B-infected homeless population until the disease spread north to Orange County and Los Angeles. His term in office also included a few gruesome railroad-spike murders of hapless street-sleepers. Faulconer and a whatsisname businessman from Rancho Santa Fe want to recall and replace pandemic wildfire hero Governor Gavin Newsom? I’m betting on Gavin

continued on page 4

# San Diego Reader

SanDiegoReader.com  
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January 7, 2021



PHOTOGRAPH BY RON MORALES

Low and slow, baby — page 12



To-go bloody mary? Yes, please! — page 21



Adulation for Audrey — page 27

## ADVERTISING

### Display Ads

Automotive .....	31
Cannabis .....	35
Classifieds .....	29
Health and Beauty .....	16
Legal Solutions .....	11
Music .....	25
Research Studies .....	13
Restaurants .....	20

## NEWS & FEATURES

Letters .....	1
Neighborhood News	
Poison-free pest control: falcons for birds, dogs for varmints .....	2
News Ticker	
Faulconer stoops on Newsom .....	3
Under the Radar	
America’s nineteenth rattiest city .....	3
Ask a Hipster	
Too bad we don’t have an “Ask a Little Old Lady” column? .....	4
Golden Dreams	
Recall gruesome Newsom; A trip to Paris (Bakery) .....	8
You don’t try to control someone else’s cruise	
By Mike Madriaga .....	12
Puzzles .....	34

## CALENDAR

### Events

Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance,	
Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures,	
Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness .....	17

### Poetry

Two poems for January by John Updike .....	18
--	----

### Religion

“Devoutly trust the law of love.” The wisdom of Ippen .....	19
---	----

### Restaurants

Tin Fork: poutine routine .....	20
Feast: drive-thru brunch and bloody marys at Great Maple .....	21

### Music

Blurt: don’t shoot videos at the Salton Sea in July .....	23
Local Five: San Diego acts you ought to check out .....	24
Immortal Beauty: The music of triumph... or is it oppression? .....	25

### San Diego Booze News

Speak-easy flattens the three-tier system .....	26
---	----

### Movies

An Audrey Hepburn documentary unworthy of its subject .....	27
Movies at Home: The face of terror on display in <i>Them!</i> .....	28



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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers



"Grackles and starlings fly in and start picking the seeds out of the grapes."

## THE ORCHARDS

### Falcons are for the birds

Maybe use dogs to get rid of rabbits, raccoons, and squirrels

"San Diego County [has] the unofficial title of "Birdiest County" in the U.S.," says *INaturalist.org*. The region "has over 500 birds on the accepted American Birding Association list, and many other introduced species. Waters of the Pacific Ocean, mountains over a mile high, and deserts all within the boundaries of the county provide many varied habitats for a broad variety of birds." Good news for birders, but maybe not for some other people. "Regarding the pest control industry as a whole, we've seen a spike in calls and workload, particularly in residential areas," says Joshua Crowl of *SteadfastFalconry.com*. "It's because most of the people are at home, and they see more of those animals at their houses." Crowl, a falconer licensed by California Department of Fish and Wildlife, is not your average pest control business owner — starting with the fact that his co-worker flies over 150 miles per hour. "Everybody always thinks pest control is about mice and grass and stuff like that. My falconry services work on bird removal, like crows, grackles, blackbirds. They'll get rid of other bird species — except, at times, other predatory birds."

Many of the pest birds that Crowl's business



The 4x4 Crowl uses to transport his birds.

abates destroy crops, munch on fruit trees, attack humans and other animals, or defecate on fixtures and buildings, which can cost thousands of dollars in repair or lost revenue. Take, for example, the vineyards in Valley Center, Escondido, Julian, Ramona, and Valle De Guadalupe south of the border. "At times, they have grackles and starlings that fly in, and they start

hiring a falconry outfit such as Crowl's to abate the rabbits, rats, and squirrels devouring their hanging fruit and decimating their gardens in November and December. "I'd be interested," wrote Jessica M. "We have a two-acre grove up

"Owls work, but I don't find them too effective because when we work, we generally work in the daytime,"

picking the seeds out of the grapes," Crowl explains. "So when they pick grapes from the top of the bunch, the juices flow down and destroy that whole bunch, and each one of those bunches is a glass of wine."

On an Escondido and Valley Center online forum, residents talked about the notion of

the top of our property, and we don't poison the squirrels; if they (falconries) would be interested in hunting them, I'd be willing to throw in some [leftover] fruit from our trees. We would have [more] fruit if it weren't for them darned squirrels. We are out hundreds of persimmons and pomegranates this year, thanks to them." But while Crowl commends Jessica for not utilizing poison "because there is secondary poisoning that transfers to other animals," he reiterates that his trained raptors are used primarily for flying-feathered-foes. "Owls work, but I don't find them too effective because when we work, we generally work in the daytime, and if you see an owl out in the daytime, there's something wrong with it." When it comes to varmints, he says, "I'll use dogs. I have a friend that does tracking services. So if someone calls him with a seagull problem, he calls me, and if I see somebody with a raccoon problem, I call him. Our companies help each other out in these situations. The prices for me to use raptors or dogs will be the same. Some jobs can be like \$200, and I'll



He stoops to conquer

get some contracts that can go for \$100,000. It all depends on what's going on. I can do something for an hour, or maybe I have to hang around the property year-round."

Besides using owl houses, the Valley Center and Escondido dwellers suggested other cost-effective methods for protecting their fruits and gardens, including motion sensors connected to water sprinklers, inviting rabbit hunters, something called the Squirrelinator, chicken wire, and cats. Forum poster Peter, who lives by Lake Wohlford, has noticed an uptick in the number of varmints. "We see more of them out and about because of the pandemic. Since fewer vehicles are traveling, they are coming out of the woodwork. And since some of us lost our jobs, we can't afford pest control services, and they are multiplying," Crowl agrees, noting that "we aren't doing as much maintenance as we would normally do in some areas, and the pest population goes up quite a bit."

MIKE MADRIAGA

## CARLSBAD

### Flightless Mammoth

Will Advanced Air move forward with Palomar plan?

Yet another airline hoping to fly out of Carlsbad's McClellan-Palomar Airport may fail to even get off the ground. But this time, it's not due to lack of passengers or under-capitalization when it comes to serving new airline routes. Advanced Air, an extant FAA-licensed public charter airline, was scheduled to begin serving winter skiers with seasonal flights from Carlsbad, LAX/Hawthorne, and Burbank into Mammoth Lakes on December 14. The airline planned to use existing planes from Surf Air and Taos Air, which serve other destinations

*continued on page 6*



## Faulconer stoops on Newsom

But can he soar above the Republican field?

His putative runway to state power shortened by an accelerating movement among California conservatives to recall Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom, the formerly genial Kevin Faulconer is taking off the gloves — sort of — on

Twitter. “It took until the second-to-last day of the year for the governor to say he intends to help schools safely reopen, and he ‘pledges to advance’ a plan,” reads a December 30 tweet from the Republican ex-San Diego mayor. “Gov. Newsom, your homework is late — and it’s incomplete.”

But while Newsom is his ostensible political punching bag, Faulconer is now facing an unanticipated obstacle to his bid for Governor from a host of well-heeled hopefuls on his right, including Newsom’s previously vanquished GOP gubernatorial foe, Rancho Santa Fe denizen John Cox. A Covid-19 victim himself, Cox anted up \$50,000 on October 9 for a committee called California Patriot Coalition - Recall Governor Gavin Newsom. Other significant donations include \$60,000 from the California Revival PAC, chaired by Fox News columnist Tom Del Beccaro, and a total of \$30,000 from Susan and Howard Groff of Northridge Excavating. Pro gambler Richard Salomon of Las Vegas kicked in \$10,000. Another anti-Newsom effort, called Rescue California - to Support the Recall of Gavin Newsom, is also getting support from San Diegans. The Republican Party of San Diego



Maybe you don't recall John Cox, but he would love to recall Gavin Newsom.

gave \$5000 on December 9, and the Shinbashi Restaurant Group of Del Mar came up with \$20,000 on December 17. Saori Matsmoto of Carlsbad is listed on state filings as the restaurant group’s manager. The Rescue effort made news last week when a low-profile Irvine-based consulting firm called Prov 3:9, LLC gave \$500,000.

If the recall succeeds, Newsom would be forced back to the ballot for a statewide up or down vote as to whether he can fulfill his term. Further down that same ballot would be the names of possible successors, including, presumably, Faulconer. “Voters only need to gather the signatures of 12 percent of voter turnout in the 2018 election – in this case, 1,495,709 signatures,” Joshua Spivak, a senior fellow at Wagner College’s Hugh L. Carey Institute for Government Reform explained to *Politico* regarding the recall process. “California also grants 160 days to gather them. In other states, the signature percentage requirement is more than double and the time to gather is less than half.” Added *Politico*: “The requirements to get on the ballot for the recall would be 65 to 100

continued on page 4

## Neal Obermeyer



# UNDER THE RADAR

## America's 19th rattiest city

The shutdown of San Diego eateries to stem the ravages of Covid-19 may lead to at least one negative impact on health: a burgeoning rat population downtown and elsewhere. That rodents are increasingly being seen along the formerly tourist-populated waterfront, skittering across streets and sidewalks in the light of day, shouldn't be surprising,

based on national findings by the Center for Disease Control. But whether already-overwhelmed San Diego county health officials have time or the money to handle yet another pandemic-related emergency remains in question. “Jurisdictions have closed or limited service at restaurants and other commercial establishments to help limit the spread of COVID-19,” says a CDC alert regarding the growing national infestation. “Rodents rely on the food and waste generated by these establishments.”

Downtown food districts are especially vulnerable. In San Diego, rat sightings are a growing occurrence in the sprawling park surrounding the county administration building and along the nearby bayfront where the once-bustling Portside Pier is currently closed to on-premises dining. “Community-wide [restaurant] closures have led to a decrease in food available to rodents, especially in dense commercial areas. Some jurisdictions have reported an increase in rodent activity as rodents search for new sources of food.”

Traditional methods used for rat control may backfire during the present emergency, notes the agency. “Rodent bait stations may become a more attractive food source for rodents, so stations may need to be serviced more often. It is important to monitor rodent activity during this time and develop indicators to help inform rodent control strategies.”

Neglecting the rat surge can lead to other dangers, adds the notice to local health departments. “Fleas are common on rodents. In areas of heavy rodent infestations, workers should consider using a repellent registered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as effective against fleas to prevent flea bites and minimize exposure to flea borne disease.”

During the 12 months between September 2019 and this past August, San Diego jumped 13 places to the 19th spot on the Rattiest Cities List maintained by the Orkin pest control company, based on the volume of rodent treatments performed. Chicago was number one, with Los Angeles second, followed by New York City.

**Hunting Hantavirus** In San Diego’s backcountry, a growing number of wild mice are carrying hantavirus, which can cause deadly lung

disease when transmitted to humans. Though the virus is not spread from person to person like covid-19, “people can get infected by breathing in air contaminated after fresh rodent waste or nesting materials are stirred up,” says the Center for Disease Control. The first hantavirus-positive rodent of 2020 was a cactus mouse found on January 8 in Valley Center. The most recent, number 25, was



Kevin Faulconer — among the “lesser luminaries” hoping to replace Governor Gavin Newsom.

a western harvest mouse, discovered December 18 in San Diego, according to a tally posted online by the county’s Environmental Health department. Last year’s final count was 42, with 28 cases reported in 2018 and 12 the year before. In 2018, there were only 3... Avoiding any responsibility for San Diego’s municipal woes, ex-mayor **Kevin Faulconer** has hit the political road, showing up on Fox’s **Tucker Carlson** show, and in a Christmas Eve story in the *Washington Post*, which places him among “lesser luminaries” hoping to replace California Democratic governor **Gavin Newsom**.

## Dad's gift to San Diego

A new aide to incoming San Diego city councilwoman **Marni von Wilpert** has provided editorial comment to his financial disclosure statement filed December 28 with the city clerk’s office. According to his LinkedIn profile, council representative **Jack Hoeprich** is a “marketing and public affairs professional with two years of experience working for firms and political campaigns. I help build and oversee the execution of communications and marketing plans for political candidates, business coalitions and government agencies.” But there have been a few

rough spots along the way. Under an entry disclosing a \$1200 gift on November 30 from **Paul Daniel Hoeprich** is the description “Dad helping me stay afloat.”

Besides his father, Hoeprich lists one other income source, Santa Barbara’s Rincon, LLC, which this year paid him between \$10,000 and \$100,000 as a Public Affairs Client Services Manager. Rincon founder Republican **Chris Collier**’s clients have included the Western

States Petroleum Association, for which the firm has hosted online presentations, including an appearance on its Inside Corner podcast. “What are the unintended consequences of California’s energy policies? On this episode, **Bob Poole** of the Western States Petroleum Association discusses the role of oil and gas in our economy and how to keep our state moving.”

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)



A top aide to councilwoman Marni von Wilpert has some explaining to do.

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



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# Ask A HIPSTER

HIPSTER@SDREADER.COM



## Dear Hipster:

*I always wondered what happened to contract bridge, and it always surprises me that I haven't heard about a resurgence of bridge with hipsters. When I was growing up, it was almost a lifestyle for my parents: weekly bridge parties with lots of adult beverages and cigarette smoking. A game this arcane, complex, and decidedly social seems made for hipsters; but is there something about bridge that has made hipsters avoid it?*

— HEATHER

I almost made a joke about how it's too bad we don't have an "Ask a Little Old Lady" column for this one, but then I realized that's the answer. Bridge has an image problem, but it's nothing that can't be solved by the right high-profile exposure event. All it takes is one TV show set during "peak bridge," and you'll have hipsters lining up to learn the game according to Hoyle. If *Mad Men* managed to make sexism sexy again, getting cool kids to play bridge should be a cakewalk (but let's not make cakewalks cool again, thanks). Maybe somebody needs to shoot a bingeable documentary about the astonishing amount of high-level cheating that goes on in tournament-level contract bridge. That ought to inspire hipsters.

If any of our local hipsters feel the urge, I believe the San Diego Bridge Club will start having regular meetings on Adams Avenue whenever the coronavirus stops trying to kill us all. The club's usual meet-up time of 10:30 am on weekdays may seem at first blush designed to target retirees; but hipsters working unconventional careers



that come with odd hours might find the same schedule most accommodating.

## Dear Hipster:

*So, the jury's out on whether or not ear gauges worn by Americans consists of cultural appropriation, right? If it were cultural appropriation, which culture would it be appropriating? Also, have gauges become so mainstream that it is no longer hip to sport them? If so, then hipsters would remove them to remain hipper than others, right?*

— PROGRESSIVE GURU

The gauged ear has a strong connection with hipster appearances, but you correctly note it has fallen out of fashion in recent years. Although I'm no academic expert, I suspect cultural appropriation requires at least some knowledge of the appropriated culture, and a willingness to disregard the importance of whatever has been appropriated. Getting a tattoo is not *per se* cultural appropriation, because cultures worldwide have developed tattoo as a form of embellishing the human body for various reasons. But some random bro from Iowa getting Samoan *pe'a*-inspired imagery because he thinks it's cool and "tribal" is definitely crossing a line. Stick with the naked ladies and the

classic "mom heart," bro.

I haven't heard much about ear stretching as a form of cultural appropriation, but if it's true that numerous groups of people over the past 5000+ years have independently decided to stretch their ears without being exposed to each other, then it sure seems like no one culture can really claim ownership of stretched earlobes. The decline in popularity of ear gauging is probably not caused by a rise in general wokeness about appropriation. It's more likely a result of hipster fashion sensibilities changing over time, a gradual rejection of the hardcore punk-influenced look of the late 2000s hipsters in favor of the nerdy/normcore look that gradually evolved over the 2010s.

— DJ Stevens



**Mad Men managed to make sexism sexy again.**

## LETTERS

continued from page 1  
to prevail.

—monaghan

Anyone is better than Newsom, and I felt that way when I was a Democrat. He's been a disaster politician since he was mayor of SF. All he cares about is his own ego. Pandemic hero? We have the strictest lockdown of all the states, and the highest per capita number of covid-19 cases. Combined with what Newsom has done to the economy, he's a failure once again.

—Socks3742

## "TakeIn gets delivery mostly right"

### Feast! Restaurant Reviews

#### December 29

Shame on you Ian, ordering a hot dog (admirably good) and not Italian Beef. Nice article on the service, though.

—rpyrke

## "Sports Arena redevelopment delinquent on \$190 million loan"

### News Ticker November 16

In a dying galleria mall, the "new anchor" is one of the second-string chains, like Gold's Gym or Victoria's Secret, just talk to YouTube filmmaker Dan Bell (channel "This is Dan Bell") who walks through them at glacial speed. Locally, strip malls are being held together with Starbucks stores and Dollar Trees.

—Strelnikov

## "San Diego fruit growers use falcons as pest control"

### Neighborhood News December 29

Del Mar occasionally uses a similar method to scare off the gulls from the race track grandstand.

—aardvark

## "ICE's private prison in Calexico draws auditor's ire"

### News Ticker December 24

I'm not too concerned about

ICE detainees. If they're that worried about it, don't become an inmate. There are consequences.

—Socks3742

## "Un-Boll-Weevil-ble"

### Neighborhood News December 22

Way back in the day we used to go to the Boll Weevil on El Cajon Blvd. after we worked out at Vic Tanny's Gym. With burgers and beer we took care of any good we accomplished at the gym. Both are gone. Oh well, progress I guess.

—AlexClarke

## "Patching San Diego curbs is only a patch job"

But what about the faded green street signs all over the county? Some are unreadable now thanks to sun bleaching.

—Strelnikov

## NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

**nomination signatures and a filing fee of \$4,194.94, or 7,000 signatures in lieu of the filing fee. Those minimal requirements have essentially not changed since the recall of Gov. Gray Davis in 2003; back then, 135 candidates made the ballot."**

**Thus Faulconer, who until the advent of Covid-19 was making a circuit of Republican chicken dinners and other GOP insider gatherings, may find himself buried in a rush of higher-profile contenders, including political outsiders modeled on the example of Arnold Schwarzenegger, who became governor as a result of the Davis recall.**

**Early this year, Faulconer set up a so-called ballot measure committee, which he calls Rebuilding the California Dream, ostensibly to pitch the mayor's homelessness plans, but widely seen as a funding vehicle for his political staff and travel costs. State records show the group raised a relatively paltry total of \$120,900 through the middle of the year, with the next disclosure due January 31.**

Matt Potter

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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

in the southwest through Advanced Air operations. Mammoth Lakes voters decided years ago to tax themselves, and visitors, in order to attract airline service by subsidizing fares, so tickets were set to cost as little as \$160 one way.

But on December 5, Governor Gavin Newsom issued his covid-19 stay-at-home orders, to be implemented based on the number of ICU hospital beds available in the state's five geographic areas. By mid-December, Southern California was homebound. And on December 28, Newsom announced that the shutdown would likely be extended another four weeks. The shutdown has crippled the town of Mammoth Lakes. While the Mammoth Mountain ski resort remains open (outdoor recreation, with social distancing, is not yet restricted by the governor), hotels and lodging operators were forced to cancel reservations. Unless one has a home in Mammoth, or a couch to crash on, or the wherewithal to sleep in a vehicle, the town is closed to visitors. If Advanced Air were to fly there, passengers would have no place to



Advanced Air was scheduled to begin serving winter skiers with seasonal flights from Carlsbad, LAX/Hawthorne, and Burbank into Mammoth Lakes on December 14.

Vegas. Cal Jet started daily service to Las Vegas in September 2017, selling \$69 one-way tickets, but suspended operations in April 2018. And 97-year-old Rancho Santa Fe millionaire Ted Vallas spent seven years and an estimated \$12 million of his own money trying to hub

EL CAJON

## Dense population, denser skulls?

City council holds onto filthy lucre, rejects purified air

How to fight the virus in the year ahead? A post-holiday surge of cases is expected, and getting most people vaccinated will take more than a few months. As El Cajon city councilmember Steve Goble saw it, any tool that might help slow the spread in the hardest hit areas was worth looking into. But last week, his proposal for a pilot program that would give air purifiers to low-income residents was turned down by the city council.

Five percent of El Cajon has already tested positive for covid, far more than the county rate of 3.3 percent. Of the county's 18 cities, El Cajon and National City are "kind of going back and forth with the first and second highest rate," said Goble, who wanted to use \$50,000 in grant funding for the project. Talking to a hospice nurse and first responders working in El Cajon convinced him that the experiment was worth the investment. "The calls they're responding to right now, especially in apartment complexes — they use the words 'Infection is on fire.' We've got density, we've got household infection, we've got low income. We also have a lot of residents who don't have the luxury of working from home."

Goble said that the county "is not telling us statistics for covid by census tract, so we can't know for sure if low income areas are disproportionately higher. But what we do know from county data is that in the first two weeks of December, 39 percent of those who tested positive for covid said a member of their household had it." And El Cajon packs in 7103 people per square mile, compared to San Diego's 4441 people per square mile.

"In a high-density situation, there's really no way to isolate like you can in a 2,800- or a 2,000-square-foot home," Goble said. (The proposed project would have applied to apartments and houses up to 1000 square feet.)

Goble says the county doesn't support the idea because they don't want people to get a false sense of security. Still, he says, "I'm disappointed that they don't include that as a recommendation, especially with the number of cases being caught from a household member. What is there to lose?" Especially since the city has \$200,000 left from the first round of pandemic funds for low-income rental assistance, over \$600,000 in unallocated relief funds, and more on the way.

Both the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency say certain air purifiers can help reduce transmission, along with masks and handwashing. Several different products were considered, with the most likely option costing \$520 and covering 1500 square feet. Eighty-eight households had qualified for the program, which was to be administered and monitored by Homestart. But council



"Here's an idea; why don't we use our excess funds to try to help the poor and vulnerable?"

members were skeptical. "What would keep the recipients from selling the units?" asked councilmember Michelle Metschel. "If you've got to pay rent or buy groceries, a \$500 unit will buy a lot of groceries." And city manager Graham Mitchell said staff was unable to find any other cities using air filtration to reduce the virus. Then again, not many cities have the kind of high concentration of cases El Cajon is experiencing. "So we would be on the cutting edge of utilizing these funds."

SHEILA PELL

THE BORDER

## From heedless to headless Border crasher kills two before decapitation

"I was working as usual and then I heard screams," said Javier, a souvenir seller at the San Ysidro Port of Entry. "I looked around and saw the car running over people and those vendor's carts. Then he speeded up until we all heard the crash; it was in seconds."

The driver of the gray sedan caused fatal injuries: a 70-year-old man and a 49-year-old woman in a wheelchair, who died at the Rosarito's General Hospital a few hours later.

continued on page 33

## While the Mammoth Mountain ski resort remains open, hotels and lodging operators were forced to cancel reservations

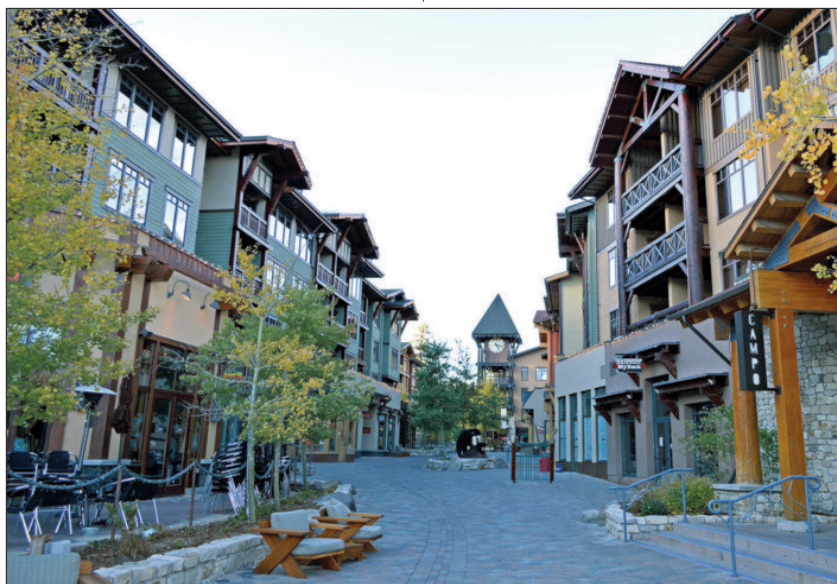
stay once they landed.

Carlsbad's passenger terminal, which received a \$29 million remodel in 2009, has seen little use since United Airlines ceased operations in May of 2015. The terminal is currently closed to the public. Over the last six years, several attempts by other airlines to fly to destinations out of Carlsbad have failed. JetX Suites, a membership concierge airline, was short lived. BizAir Shuttle lasted two months trying flights to LAX and Las

a regional airline, California Pacific Airlines, at Palomar. The airline finally got "wheels up" in November 2018, only to cease operations in January 2019.

According to the company's website, Advanced Air is now scheduled to fly into the Eastern Sierra resort starting January 14. But with the governor's extended Covid orders, the company has yet to set up gates in the public passenger terminal at Palomar.

KEN HARRISON



Unless one has a home in Mammoth or a couch to crash on, the town is shut down to visitors.





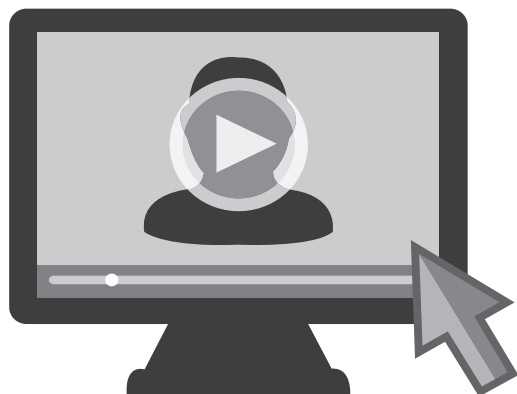
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Signer Joe checks the details

### Gruesome Newsom

She's standing on the street corner at Isabella and Orange in downtown Coronado. It's a sunny morning. Helen Locker's dressed in red, white, and blue — flag cap, flag top, red sweater, and she's holding a clip board.

"Gruesome Newsom's got to go!" she says, to no-one in particular.

"I finally decided I had to do something, rather than just sitting on the sidelines and complaining," she tells me. "This guy was born with a silver spoon in his mouth, in San

CALIFORNIA TAXPAYERS 81 MILLION DOLLARS!.. It is being pushed by political extremists supporting President Trump's hateful attacks on California..."

The Governor goes on to highlight five issues he's addressing, from homelessness to wildfires. "Our budget is balanced, our economy and employment are historically strong."

No specific mention in either argument about pandemic.

So is this challenge serious for Newsom? I call my politically savvy friend, "James." ("No

"He doesn't know how small businesses are suffering He's killing this state!"

Francisco. Pelosi's relative," she says to Joe, a citizen who has stopped to sign.

"He doesn't know how small businesses are suffering. He's killing this state!" Locker says. "I just couldn't take it any more. I've been standing round grinding my teeth as Gruesome Newsom closed down, opened up, closed down again. Does he realize what that does to small businesses? The problem is, he keeps kicking us out of work, and not providing us with a livable wage."

Meanwhile, Joe the petition-signer nods. He's reading the small print. It seems to talk about everything but the covid restrictions.

"TO THE HONORABLE GAVIN NEWSOM..." it says in caps, "we intend to seek your recall and removal from office of Governor. The grounds for this recall are as Follows... Laws he endorsed favor Foreign Nationals... people in this state suffer the highest taxes in the nation...and the lowest quality of life as a result...he overruled the will of the people regarding the death penalty...prop 13... water-rationing... restricting parental rights... Having no other recourse, we the people..."

But there's also Newsom's response, his right by law. "WARNING: THIS UNWARRANTED RECALL EFFORT WILL COST

real names!" He screams down the line.) "Yes," he finally says, "it does have a shot of getting on the ballot, there's big money backing it, but no, I don't think he will be recalled. He's just too popular. I think the guy is an ass, but guess what? I absolutely still support him. He's much, much better than a Republican-type phony."

Election over. Dissection not.

"Hi, Helen," says a passer-by hauling along a mutt. "What are you doing?"

"Getting rid of Newsom. Nice dog!"

Actually, the main reason I'm hanging around is the sun. It's warming my back up beautifully. I've been chilled all morning.

I try to think of another question to ask.

### Paris is open

Covid has hit people different ways. For Khanh and her mother Hong, it spiked something they had been waiting to do for a lifetime. "We were going to take my two daughters back to see Vietnam for the very first time," says Khanh.

Khanh came over from Ho Chi Minh City/Saigon when she was 18. Her whole family started off up in the biggest Vietnamese colony, in Westminster in Orange County. "But the competition was too intense up there," she

says. So they came down to the heart of San Diego's Little Saigon, around Fairmount and El Cajon, and took over this Paris Bakery.

The name betrays a sentimental feeling the Vietnamese have about the French. The colonizers came uninvited to Vietnam in the 1800s, and were often despotic rulers. But they did leave a legacy that sometimes married the two very ancient cultures.

Now, it's Vietnamese coming to America, and exerting their influence on us. So much so, the San Diego City Council has put a plaque of appreciation, not far from the Paris Bakery. "The City Council of San Diego established the Little Saigon District June 4, 2013. Following the Fall of Saigon in 1975, an influx of Vietnamese refugees left their home country to build a new life here. Their presence has contributed greatly to the growth and success of El Cajon Boulevard."

The surprising thing is how intact, and still-Vietnamese, 45 years later, the community and its culture are. This early morning is typical: Paris Bakery opens at 5 am.

I'm here to buy a baguette for breakfast, because I hear they make their French breads Vietnamese-style. Friends of mine have sworn that Hong's and Khanh's family have beat the French at their own game. That they bake baguettes that are crisp-crusted, but lighter, more airy, than typical

loaves," Khanh says. "And we bake lots of bolillos for po' boys, Louisiana-style. And customers say the flavors are not soaked up by the bread, like more dense, buttery baguettes."

You can't help loving the fact that this bakery, which is in a fairly scuzzy strip mall, looks and smells exactly how long-lost French *boulangeries* looked and smelled, before France went slick on us.

In this family, work is everything. Khanh and her mom are here every morning at five o'clock. This is nothing new for Hong. "I used to work at the Ben Thanh ("Harbor Citadel") Market in Saigon, in the famous fabric section by the South Gate," she says. She had to give that up when she came here, but is happy that her family is intact and all working in one business together.

I notice that the store is decorated in red fire-



Green coloring's natural, too



San Diego's dominant baguette makers at 3500 per day.

French baguettes.

"When the French came, they taught us their style of baking. But we made our own differences," says Khanh. "Butter was expensive in Vietnam, so we used oil."

And, she says, they use a bread flour which results in a lighter and stretchier dough. They fling it around more too.

They must be doing something right. "Each day my brother bakes around 3500 baguette

works. Ah. *Tet*, I'm guessing. *Tet* is the festival of the first morning of the first day." This year it starts February 12th. The Vietnamese have a strong romantic side. Except when *Tet* came in 1968, it turned into one of the biggest and most ghastly uprisings of the Vietnam War.

But that was then. When I leave, nibbling on my still-warm baguette, I know that everything they say about the Vietnamese baguette is true. ■



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Highland Avenue in National City has been a major hub for cruisers since the 1970s.

# *You don't take control of* **SOMEONE ELSE'S CRUISE**

**O**n December 12, Charger Steve jumped into his lifted Toyota, flipped on the under-chassis neon lights, and drove to meet his buddies at D's Ribs & Wings a block west of Highway 67 in Santee to grab a bite. "We've been visiting areas with our vehicles to bring some much-needed foot traffic and a huge morale booster — not just for the car people, but the local merchants and restaurateurs."

About 20 vehicles pulled up — hot rods,

classics, lowriders, and a 2020 Corvette. "While the official permitted car shows we all have grown accustomed to are gone, for now, these new unofficial versions are popping up in creative ways to help San Diego County and still work within the guidelines provided to us."

Before sunset, the group jumped back into their rides and cruised the nearby neighborhoods to scope out the Christmas light displays.

"Setting up cruises is very difficult," Steve

continued, "harder than car shows, in my opinion, because everyone gets separated by lights and traffic. So it's a big challenge, but I printed maps for anyone who got left behind, and I think overall it went well."

From 2006 till 2020, Charger Steve organized the El Cajon Classic Cruise, where hundreds of auto enthusiasts rendezvoused and cruised downtown El Cajon. The "Charger" in his stylized name, is based on his other ride, a



Dodge Charger that appeared in the 1970-1980s *Dukes of Hazzard* series.

“So while we canceled the 2020 cruises due to the pandemic, a lot of car folks are still visiting downtown El Cajon with their cars on Wednesday evenings to show their support to the community and small business owners. So, it’s not an ‘event’ but just to create a boost in revenue, so anyone is welcome to join in, bring a ride, or just look at cars and grab a drink or dinner.”

Steve was careful with his phrasing when we direct messaged one another. “The county has discontinued issuing permits temporarily due to the pandemic, so events on public property that require a permit were postponed.”

Rafael Perez is a pro-

fessor at Cuyamaca College about five miles south of downtown El Cajon. He lives in Sherman Heights and cruises a clean ’51 Chevy Styleline Deluxe.

Back on August 30, about 6:30 am, Perez wiped down his ride, slid into its white-and-gray bench seat, and mashed the gas pedal. “I cruised down the 805 around 7:30 am, arrived at the venue, and just before 8:30 was the first car to go in.”

Perez rolled into the Cruise for the Cause event at the Otay Ranch Towne Center mall in Chula Vista. Unlike the 17-car show-and-cruise benefits before, “this 2020 cruise hit differently.... There was a photo booth to drive up to and have photos taken, and everyone in the interview area was wearing



From 2006 till 2020, Charger Steve organized the El Cajon Classic Cruise, where hundreds of auto enthusiasts rendezvoused and cruised downtown El Cajon.

a mask and respecting social distancing.”

Magic 92.5 streamed a Facebook Live video of the event; Xavier The X-Man, midday host of the radio station, interviewed the vehi-

cle owners.

Perez pulled up into the frame; the design on his face mask is as menacing as the chrome grill on his ride that he salvaged from a 1953 Corvette.

“Would you consider this a bomb, a lowrider, or just a classic car?” Xavier asked Perez; “all of the above,” Perez responded. “I’ve been into lowriding since I was a kid; I started with a low-

rider bike.”

Xavier, a lowrider owner and avid cruiser himself, is the founder of the annual cruise that raises money for the Emilio Nares Foundation, a San Diego-based non-profit that hooks up kids battling cancer and their families.

“Is there anything special about the car that you love,” Xavier asked Perez; “I love that it has a [Toyota] Prius bottom color, and Lamborghini [colored] top?”

As Perez rolled out of the shot, the metallic paint job glistened with a rainbow effect as the sunlight refracted off the pearl in the clear coat.

I talked with Perez after his interview with Xavier. “After the Facebook Live interview, did you park with the other vehicles, or did you

PHOTOGRAPH BY MERCEDES ROSE

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jam back to your pad?" I asked.

"I left. I knew that the intent was to clear the area and to keep it moving. I took a long way home, though, and put the car away. That's the irony with Cruise for the Cause this year: the cars are running and in motion, instead of parked on display."

At Xavier's past events, hundreds of car owners linked up at the same spot he and Perez interviewed in the Eastlake part of Chula Vista. They would meet at the SDCCU Stadium parking lot, which some cruisers still refer to as "Jack Murphy Stadium" — then they'd hit the road and cruise in large caravans throughout the county. "I started with 25 cars," Xavier says, "and it's gone up to 650 cars. When I changed [venues] to Qualcomm it went crazy."

"I saw you were rolling your '61 vert through our Cherokee Point neighborhood a couple of years ago," I told the X-Man. "I was trying to holler at you, but you gassed it and were out."



PHOTOGRAPH BY RAFAEL PEREZ

Rafael Perez is a professor at Cuyamaca College about five miles south of downtown El Cajon. He resides in Sherman Heights and cruises a clean '51 Chevy Styleline Deluxe.

Xavier laughed. "You have two choices to go to Costco: You can take your Toyota daily driver, or your lowrider. I'm going to take the lowrider to Costco. I've even taken it to work a couple of times recently."

Xavier owns a 1961 Chevrolet Impala, which he named "Doing It To Death." It's a black-and-red convertible that sits on 14-inch TrueSpokes wire wheels and can be lifted and dropped to the pavement via a flip of four switches that

activate the custom hydraulic system mounted in the trunk. My favorite accents on X's whip are the shifter, which resembles an old school microphone, and the Dia De Los Muertos skulls airbrushed on the trunk lid.

"Aren't you worried about getting your car dinged in the Costco parking lot?"

"I used to worry about that when I was younger," he responded, "this whole pandemic makes you re-think life and how we are sup-

posed to enjoy life. Cars are meant to be driven. Some people are like, 'You know I built this car, and it took me X amount of years and with X amount of dollars, and that's why you build a car, to enjoy it and say 'I'm going to enjoy as much as I can to the fullest.' You probably wouldn't realize that as much if you didn't go through this pandemic, and you wouldn't fully realize the value of family and the appreciating of life itself."

On June 6, when graduation ceremonies were deemed illegal throughout our county, Mar Vista High students' parents and guardians took it upon themselves to celebrate their teen-

agers' milestones. But instead of hijacking the school's football field and having their kids walk the line discreetly, they formed a caravan and cruised around Imperial Beach while the locals came out and cheered for the 2020 graduating class.

An 11-minute YouTube video of the IB graduation cruise surfaced. The YouTuber filmed the cruise on Seacoast Drive across the street from the Surf-henge art installation at Portwood Pier Plaza, the entrance to the city's fishing pier. The caravan was lead by a red diesel truck with the driver blaring its airhorns.

According to the California Vehicle Code, "cruising" is defined to mean the driving of a motor vehicle two (2) or more times within a four (4) hour period, in a particular direction...."

Had signs been stating "no cruising" along Seacoast Drive, and the graduates and their chaperones returned past the same spot at about noon to stroll on the pier they could've been cited. But the beachfront city supports car culture.

About ten years ago, I.B. dwellers introduced an idea of implementing an image of a woody — an older station wagon with wood

panel accents — within the city's street signs. Then-Mayor Jim Janney reportedly said he "liked the idea" in a 2011 *Patch* article headlined: "New Imperial Beach Streets Signs May Carry Woody Logo." "I believe when you are advertising or promoting a community, you keep hitting the same thing over and over again," Janney said in the article, "in this case, it has been the woody logo. I think it is something that brings a sense of your place to Imperial Beach."

Almost nine years later, the City of Imperial Beach signs still depict a woody with surfboard protruding from its rear door.

"When the City of IB had a sandcastle event, they came to our club and requested six VW Buses, so Mayor Dedina and all the city's people could cruise the buses in the parade," said Mario Peña Machado.

Peña Machado founded the San Diego Air Cooled Car Club and organized the Fiesta En La Playa car show. In June, I visited him at his garage, which faces Palm Avenue, about a half-mile northeast of the pier. Peña Machado was tinkering with his 1956 VW Bug.

"Vrooom," rumbled a pack of old school mo-

## 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

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PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY NATIONAL CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

According to the California Vehicle Code, “Cruising” is defined to mean the driving of a motor vehicle two (2) or more times within a four (4) hour period, in a particular direction, past a traffic control point

torcycles that passed us. “Yeah, man, since our shutdown, I’ve seen more cruisers roll through. Check out that lowrider.”

A ’50s bomb that resembled Perez’s ’51 Chevy crept by us; the driver hit the hydraulic switch to acknowledge my thumbs-up gesture. “Were those your VWs at the graduation cruise?” I asked him, “no, that was the Wolfpack Car Club.”

By coincidence, a matte black VW Bug rolled past us. The driver, threw a rev, and then waved at us. “That’s the president of the Wolfpack. He was a member of our San Diego Air Cooled Club, and all of a sudden; he started his crew.”

“What happened?” I asked.

“So I was cruising in my VW Bug, and I stopped by his house. A bunch of the guys from our SDAC club were there, and they were having some drinks — then he got in my face telling me that he and the dudes that were behind him were splitting from

our club.”

Peña Machado understands the car club scene and its logistics

and drama. He was a kid when he started cruising at Playas de Tijuana in the mid-1970s sitting shotgun with his uncle Eddie from Kronos, a Tijuana-based car club. In 2002 Machado began Tijuana Aircooled, a club of vintage VW owners based across the border. In 2005, he moved the club to IB and changed the name.

“So back to the Wolfpack, are you guys cool now?” I asked.

“Yeah, we squashed it, and as you can see, we say wassup,” he responded.

Sierra Hubbard is a 23-year old tattoo artist from IB. “When covid-19 hit, I was no longer able to tattoo during the pandemic,” she said.

To pass the time during our county shutdown, she tinkered with her project: a 1968 Chevy

## RESEARCH STUDIES

### SUBJECTS NEEDED FOR UC SAN DIEGO RESEARCH STUDY

Dr. William Perry and his associates at UCSD are conducting a research study on how chronic cannabis use affects thinking and behavior. We are seeking adults ages 18-50 who either use cannabis at least 4 times a week or don’t use cannabis at all, with a history of Bipolar Disorder or with no psychiatric conditions.

You must have no serious medical or neurological conditions, including heart problems, seizures, or significant head trauma.

#### Study Procedures

- One visit lasting about 6 hours
- Saliva, blood, and urine tests
- Computer and paper and pencil tests
- Wear a device that measures the movements of your body
- Participants reimbursed \$20 per hour for study participation
- Located at the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest

#### For More Information

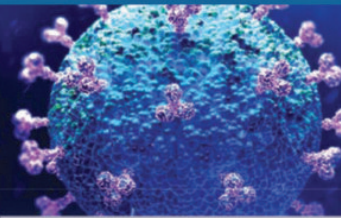
Call us at the UCSD Psychiatry Department

(619) 543-6575

UC San Diego

## Join the Fight Against COVID-19

LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS VACCINE CLINICAL TRIAL



Introducing a clinical trial testing whether this investigational vaccine will prevent COVID-19. You may be eligible to participate in this COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial if you are 18 years or older. We are specifically interested in those who:

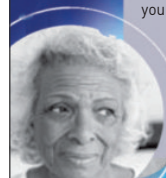
- Represent a racial and ethnic group that has been greatly impacted by the pandemic (such as African American, Latinx, Native American, or Asian American)
- Have a high risk of exposure through work (such as first responder, healthcare professional, or delivery person)
- Have an underlying medical condition (such as diabetes or obesity)
- Live or work in an elder-care facility
- Are retired or active military

Other criteria will need to be met to confirm your eligibility for this study. If you qualify and choose to join the study, you may be compensated for your participation.

To learn more, please contact a member of our study team.

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La Jolla Institute for Immunology is studying how immune cells react in vaccinated donors.

Are you planning on receiving the COVID-19 vaccine?

#### You may be eligible to participate if:

- You are a generally healthy male or female over 18 years of age.
- You are planning on receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

#### Participation:

- Consists of a brief health questionnaire and up to 6 study visits which will include blood draws. Volunteers will be contributing to scientific research.
- Compensation up to \$600 for time and effort
- Vaccination not provided

For more information or to get involved, visit [lji.org/study](https://lji.org/study) or contact us at [donors@lji.org](mailto:donors@lji.org) or call/text (858)-255-0680

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Approved for use until: 3/9/2023  
Protocol # VD-214-0320 A16

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Nova with the original in-line six motor topped with a single-barrel carburetor. “I just added a Flowmaster 10 series muffler, and a nice and shiny exhaust pipe with a pencil tip.”

Hubbard has attended car shows and cruised as a co-pilot since the early millennium. In May, she wanted to level-up her love for the gear head culture and set up a car cruise. “I made an online post and sent it out to all my lowrider and classic car friends and family, and it got a lot of attention. So much attention that I got called by San Diego Sheriffs telling me that people did not want me cruising through Imperial Beach. But they couldn’t do anything about it because I posted covid guidelines and implemented them.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY RON MORALES

**Xavier The X-Man: “You have two choices to go to Costco: You can take your Toyota daily driver, or your lowrider. I’m going to take the lowrider to Costco. I’ve even taken it to work a couple of times recently.”**

By happenstance, Hubbard found another auto customizer from the Rollerz Only Club that was throwing a cruise on the same May 23 date she planned hers on. “His name is Josh, and he

has a beautiful G body with lovely pinstripes on it. We joined our cruises together, matched our routes, and he helped me run it the way we needed it to.”

Come May 23, about

50 cars showed up to Hubbard and Josh’s cruise launching from J Street in Chula Vista. Their route was from J Street to Imperial Beach, then back up to Chula Vista, and on to Highland, the park chill at the Price Breakers parking lot on the corner of Highland and Plaza — the same spot cruisers parked and chilled over 40 years ago.

“Another group that set their cruise on the same day saw that their cruise was small [in numbers], and saw that mine was a big hit,” Hubbard explained. “So

[the organizer of the smaller cruise] had his people meet up with us at Highland and tried taking over my show. Josh and I both made it clear that if I say we roll, we roll. So [the other cruise group] got mad and left, but that’s the name of the game: you don’t take control of someone else’s cruise. That’s a big no-no.

“I wanted to share that with others and show people you could be a girl and still do shit like this. At first, it was a worry in the back of my head that I was a girl setting up a car show and cruise. But the cruisers all proved my fears wrong.”

Highland Avenue in National City has been a major hub for the cruisers since the 1970s. Just as Hubbard faced a confrontation from an opposing cruise organizer in 2020, similar beefs brewed on the 1.7-mile cruise strip that runs north-south between Interstates 5 and 805, north of Highway 54.

“We’d hear gunshots,” said Fred P., a local chef and cruiser now in his 40s, “that’s why the city of National

City made it illegal to cruise here in 1992, but we didn’t care so much about the cops and the fighting, well we did, but we were always distracted looking for girls.”

“They didn’t have this center divider [island] back then, so when we would see someone we liked, if it was later in the night or further down the strip with fewer cars, we’d flip a u-turn [to pursue] them, or if it were packed, we’d switch passengers.”

The custom of switching passengers would start with two cars; one had a pair of gals and the other, a couple of dudes. The passengers would switch cars with one another, cruise the boulevard, and the pairs would get to know one another.

Fred used to roll a brown Buick Regal from the early 1980s that he purchased for \$500; he ended up dropping “thousands of dollars” into the mid-size sedan shortly after. “I had a diamond tuck interior and a hydraulic system with two pumps and six batteries.”

Fred and I drove on

*continued on page 35*

## HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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# Calendar

# Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

## Friday | 8

### AQUASCAPING, MURALS, PHOTOGRAPHY



Virtual lineup of local artists and creatives. Get a step-by-step demo on some simple fundamentals of aquascaping from Hakkai Aquascape Design Gallery. Artist James Armenta discusses Installation at the Station, a mural between Moniker and The Presley. Lauren LeVieux gives a behind-the-scenes look at her studio plus a look at her latest work and some ideas about what contemporary art might look like in your home. Live dance photography session with Canela Photography, an online art exhibition juried by artist Laurin McCracken, and San Diego Dance Theater presents "A Tribute to Jean Isaacs" honoring the artistic director.

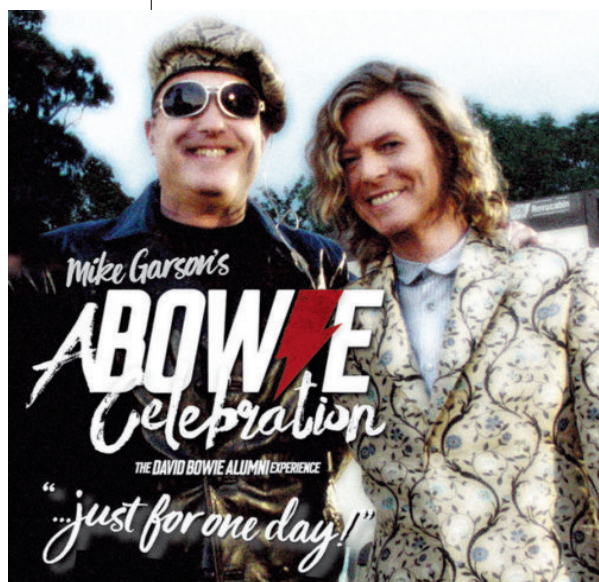
**WHEN:** Friday, January 8.

**WHERE:**

[libertystation.com](http://libertystation.com)

### A BOWIE CELEBRATION: JUST FOR ONE DAY

Organized by Bowie pianist Mike Garson, a David Bowie livestream tribute concert will take place on what would have been the late rocker's 74th birthday.



Special guests and performances from Trent Reznor, Perry Farrell, Joe Elliott of Def Leppard, Ian Astbury of the Cult, Billy Corgan, and Gavin Rossdale of Bush. The backing group consists of Bowie band alumni spanning his career from his 1969 self-titled album to 2016's *Blackstar* and his complete final touring band.

**WHEN:** Friday, January 8, 6 pm

**WHERE:** [rollinglivestudios.com](http://rollinglivestudios.com)

## Saturday | 9

### KEEP IT CLEAN: HOW OUR POLLUTANTS TRAVEL



Join I Love A Clean San Diego in partnership with the County of San Diego for this interactive webinar to help you to better understand what common pollutants to look out for in your

community, how pollutant migration happens, and how to help prevent them from entering our ocean and other waterways.

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 9, 10:30 am

**WHERE:** [ilacsd.org/event/keep-it-clean/](http://ilacsd.org/event/keep-it-clean/).

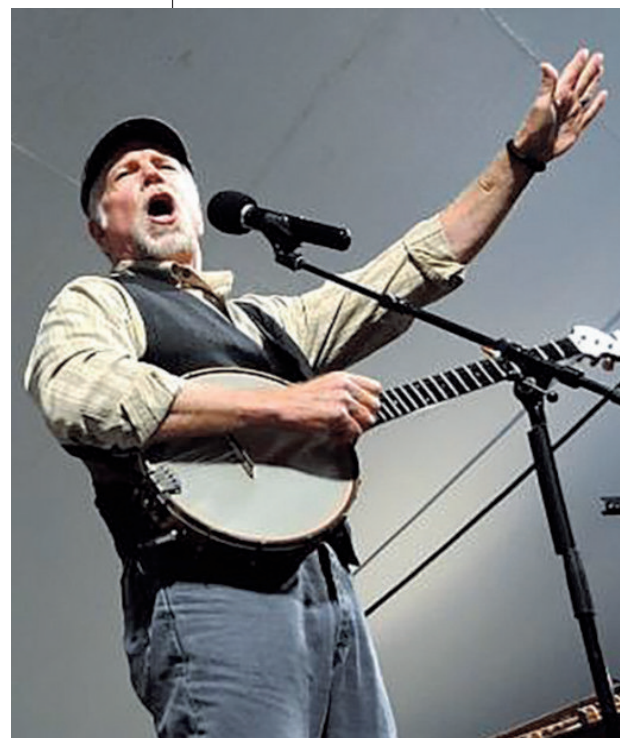
### JOHN MCCUTCHEON VIRTUAL TOUR

Folk music veteran John McCutcheon writes political

songs for adult audiences. He's been a fixture on the scene for nearly 50 years; he's released over three dozen albums since the 1970s. He is master of the hammered dulcimer and plays guitar, banjo, autoharp, and fiddle. His newest was released in 2019, *To Everyone in All the World: A Celebration of Pete Seeger*.

**WHEN:** Saturday, January 9 and Saturday, January 16, 4 pm

**WHERE:** [folkmusic.com](http://folkmusic.com)



JOHN MCCUTCHEON

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10: CHRISTOPHER POLENTZ: THE PROMISED LAND

## Sunday | 10

### CHRISTOPHER POLENTZ: THE PROMISED LAND

Inspired by the golden age of the traveling carnival (1870-1930) and its social outcasts, Christopher Polentz has endeavored to re-represent the unwanted slice of society through the innocence of children.

**WHEN:** Ongoing until Sunday, February 14.

**WHERE:** Sparks Gallery, 530 Sixth Avenue, Downtown. [sparksgallery.com](http://sparksgallery.com)



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

## ART

**Arts District Liberty Station Virtual First Friday** With most activities happening on the hosted virtual platform called Airmeet, be inspired by this virtual lineup of talented local artists and creatives showcasing their craft to San Diego residents and beyond. Friday, January 8; **free**. [libertystation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT](http://libertystation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT). (ONLINE)

**Gem Faire** Fine jewelry, precious & semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, gold & silver, minerals & much more at manufacturer's prices. Buy direct from the importers & wholesalers. Jewelry repair & cleaning while you shop. COVID-19 safety protocols are implemented. Friday, January 8, 12pm; Saturday, January 9, 10am; Sunday, January 10, 10am; \$7. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

## CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

**Advanced Shmues** During these six weeks, you will practice to describe and argue your point of view about a variety of topics, and listen to audio materials (poems, interviews, speeches, and the like). With Sasha Hoffman. Tuesday, January 12, 10am; **free**-\$60. <https://bit.ly/2JGkLSn>. (ONLINE)

**American Buddhist Meditation & Healing Practices** Sit with Varada in meditation and practice various methods to alleviate your suffering and the suffering of others. Tuesday, January 12, 6pm; **free**. 18 and up. [dharmacenter.com/](http://dharmacenter.com/). (ONLINE)

**Beginning Cold Process Soapmaking Class** Soapmaking 101 is a beginning-level soapmaking class

designed to teach students to make soap by hand at home. The main focus of this class is the "cold process" soapmaking method although the class does briefly describe "melt and pour" soap crafting. Students make cold process soap during the class session and take home a bar. Attend in person. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours: 4.5 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Sunday, January 10, 12pm; \$99. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

**Beginning Cold Process Soapmaking Class** Online Soapmaking 101 is an online interactive video and audio feed of the live Soapmaking 101 class at the Soapmaking Studio via Google+ Hangouts. Online attendance includes access to an online workbook only during the time of the class via an email hyperlink to Google Drive. A hardcopy of the Soapmaking 101: Beginning Cold Process Soapmaking (Workbook) or from our Books in stock. Attend online. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours: 4.75 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Sunday, January 10, 11:45am; \$99. <https://bit.ly/3ndPgN0>. (ONLINE)

**Exploring the Spiritual Path & Meditation** 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, January 9, 11am; **free**. 18 and up. [dharmacenter.com/](http://dharmacenter.com/). (ONLINE)

**Intergenerational Fun with Yiddish** In this new class series, Yiddish teacher and native speaker Naomi Miller will teach Yiddish conversational skills through songs, storytelling, word games, and skits. Sunday, January 10, 10am; **free**-\$50. <https://bit.ly/3h5e4oX>. (ONLINE)

**Intermediate Shmues** Beshas di zeks vokhn vet ir farbreynern ayer aktivn vokabular, praktitsirn shmuesn vegn togetglekhe temes, un tshuern tsu audio-materialen (lider, intervyyen, dramatishe shtik, un dos glaykh). During these six weeks, you will expand your active vocabulary, practice talking about everyday topics and listen to audio

## Rhyme & Verse

*Two poems for January by John Updike*

### January

The days are short,  
The sun a spark,  
Hung thin between  
The dark and dark.

Fat snowy footsteps  
Track the floor.  
Milk bottles burst  
Outside the door.

The river is  
A frozen place  
Held still beneath  
The trees of lace.

The sky is low.  
The wind is gray.  
The radiator  
Purrs all day.

### Penumbrae

The shadows have their seasons, too.  
The feathery web the budding maples  
cast down upon the sullen lawn

bears but a faint relation to  
high summer's umbrageous weight  
and tunnellite continuum—

black leached from green, deep pools  
wherein a globe of gnats revolves  
as airy as an astrolabe.

The thinning shade of autumn is  
an inherited Oriental,  
red worn to pink, nap worn to thread.

Shadows on snow look blue. The skier,  
exultant at the summit, sees his poles  
elongate toward the valley: thus

each blade of grass projects another  
opposite the sun, and in marshes  
the mesh is infinite,

as the winged eclipse an eagle in flight  
drags across the desert floor  
is infinitesimal.

And shadows on water!—  
the beech bough bent to the speckled lake  
where silt motes flicker gold,

or the steel dock underslung  
with a submarine that trembles,  
its ladder stiffened by air.

And loveliest, because least looked-for,  
gray on gray, the stripes  
the pearl-white winter sun

hung low beneath the leafless wood  
draws out from trunk to trunk across the road  
like a stairway that does not rise.



John Updike (1932-2009) was an American novelist, short-story writer, and poet who was generally best known in that order of avocations. His fiction earned him several awards, including twice being awarded the Pulitzer Prize; he is well known as one of the mainstays of short fiction and poetry in *The New Yorker*. With more than 20 novels to his name — Updike wrote on

average, one book a year — he is considered one of the premiere American writers of this time. He also published eight books of poetry — including his first published book, *The Carpentered Hen* (1958). Although he began writing poetry in a lighter vein, the whimsical elements were carried over into his more serious verse as his talent developed. His poetry is marked by both a precision of language and metaphysical depth, both harkening to the likes of such 17th-century poets as John Donne and George Herbert.

*Find more poetry online at [SDreader.com/poetry](http://SDreader.com/poetry)*

materials (songs, interviews, plays, and the like). With Sasha Hoffman. Thursday, January 7, 11am; **free**-\$60. <https://bit.ly/3rMOAlf>. (ONLINE)

**Let's Learn the Yiddish Alphabet Together** Start with vowels and add on consonants each week. By the end of the first class, the student will be able to read a number of words and phrases in Yiddish. Each week, our knowledge will build upon the previous week's material, to reinforce our learn-

ing and build confidence. Sunday, January 10, 11am; \$15-\$75. <https://bit.ly/3mzhi5u>. (ONLINE)

**Meditation for All Levels** Join Nandi from Dharma Center for seated meditation, discussion and Q&A. No prior experience needed. All are welcome. Thursday, January 7, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. [dharma-center.com/](http://dharma-center.com/). (ONLINE)

**Shmues for Beginners** Discuss topics such as family, professions, and weather. Students will improve their speaking skills and understanding of oral Yiddish speech. Sunday, January 10, 10am; \$15-\$80. <https://bit.ly/3hG4OIw>. (ONLINE)

**YAAANA's Advanced Yiddish Class Series** In this new 6 class series, a native Yiddish speaker and a Holocaust survivor Yakob Basner will guide us through what a Yiddish poet, writer, and editor Avrom Reyzen (1876 - 1953) wrote about socialism. This class is designed for advanced students. Wednesday, January 13, 5pm; \$25-\$150. <https://bit.ly/353qwRo>. (ONLINE)

**Yiddish Beginners Reading Circle** Reading together the book *Yiddishe Kinder Alef*, which follows the life of fictitious school-age children Motl, Gitl, and Faygl. Read, interpret, and unpack it all

together, learning as things come up in the story. Wednesday, January 6 & 13, 2pm; \$15-\$60. <https://bit.ly/389F2Jx>. (ONLINE)

**Yiddish Class Series for Beginners** By the end of this program, students will have a better understanding of how the Yiddish language works, creating a foundation for continued education. We will learn through a mixture of sources, including textbooks, poetry, humor, and of course, The Simpsons. Wednesday, January 6 & 13, 11:30am; \$18-\$75. <https://bit.ly/3pJJuVp>. (ONLINE)

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

**Parenting on the Go: Episode 3** San Diego Children's Discovery Museum presents Parenting on the Go, Episode 3: Gaming - How Play Helps Grown-Ups Learn about Kids. Playing house, shooting hoops, and building tall towers play a pivotal role in the way children learn and understand the world around them. In fact, playing games with your child can provide critical insight into the way they learn and enhances skills necessary

for their development. Tuesday, January 12, 10am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/38cQV1i>. (ONLINE)

## FARMERS' MARKETS

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

## FOOD & DRINK

**Gluten-Friendly Meals Discount** On National Gluten-Free Day, Rubio's Coastal Grill locations across California, Arizona and Nevada, will offer a discount on any gluten-friendly meal on the menu, with the coupon, or use code GLUTENFREE at checkout when you order ahead in the app or online. Wednesday, January 13, 10am; Rubio's - East Mission Bay



SHEEP and GOATS

Ippen

Devoutly adore the glory of God,  
Do not Ignore the original one’s virtue.

Devoutly revere the Buddha, the Law, and the Priesthood,  
Do not forget the power of communion.

Devoutly practice the invocation,  
Do not engage in superfluous disciplines.

Devoutly trust the law of love,  
Do not denounce the creeds of outliers.

Devoutly promote the sense of equality,  
Do not arouse discriminatory feelings.

Devoutly awaken the sense of compassion,  
Do not forget the sufferings of others.

Devoutly cultivate an amicable disposition,  
Do not display an angry countenance.

Devoutly preserve a humble manner,  
Do not arouse the spirit of arrogance.

Devoutly visualize the sources of defilement,  
Do not develop a sense of attachment.

Devoutly study the law of evanescence,  
Do not arouse the sense of greed.

Devoutly examine your own faults,  
Do not make comment on the faults of others.

Devoutly go on trying to influence others,  
Do not forget your own proper business.

Devoutly beware of the three evil ways [lust, greed, and anger],  
Do not indulge in wanton acts.

Devoutly yearn for the bliss of the happy land,  
Do not forget the tortures of Hell.

Devoutly persevere in the aim of rebirth,  
Do not neglect the practice of the invocation.

Devoutly concentrate on the vision of the West,  
Do not let your attention stray to the nine regions.

Devoutly follow the path of enlightenment,  
Do not mix with pleasure seekers.

Devoutly follow the teacher’s guidance,  
Do not indulge your own desires.  
— “Precepts for Followers of the Timely Teaching” by Ippen



*Ippen (1234-1289) was a Japanese Buddhist theologian and religious leader who founded Ji-shu, a branch of Buddhism which holds that true enlightenment comes through devotion to Amitabha, a divinized form of the Buddha who resides in a heavenly reality outside of time. The three basic elements of this doctrine are discernment, pure perception and recognition that all phenomena are resolved in emptiness. Essential to the practice of Ji-shu, as revealed to Ippen in a mystic experience during a pilgrimage, is the recitation of Amitabha’s name. Ippen led his disciples in a constant journey throughout Japan to proselytize in the name of Amitabha. Like the country-style of preaching popular among rural regions in the U.S., Ippen’s approach to religion appealed especially to the common folk of Japan.*

Find more excerpts online at [SDReader.com/worship](http://SDReader.com/worship)

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(PACIFIC BEACH)

**Holiday Weekend Brunch Special** Plated Brunch Menu at the clubhouse with sweeping views of the Pacific ocean, golf course and Carlsbad hillsides. Bottomless Mimosas, Bloody Mary’s and Sangria for \$18. All reservations between 8:00-8:30am will receive a 2-for-1 discount on bottomless mimosas. Saturdays, 8am; Sundays, 8am; through Sunday, December 19, \$11-\$40. Crossings at Carlsbad, 5800 The Crossings Drive.  
(CARLSBAD)

FOR KIDS

**Jurassic Quest Drive Thru Experience** The nation’s best touring dinosaur exhibit will transform the outdoor parking area of Del Mar Fairgrounds into an interactive drive-thru experience, featuring over 70 moving and life-like dinosaurs, as well as our 50 foot-long Megalodon! The drive-thru experience has seen over 250,000 cars and 1,000,000 people in attendance since launching the national tour in mid-July. Although the drive-thru experience means visitors will stay safe inside their vehicle, you’ll still need to avoid the swinging tail of our 80 foot-long Spinosaurus. The Jurassic Quest Drive Thru is the only place to encounter some of the largest dinosaurs to ever roam the earth, and some of the eeriest marine creatures to ever lurk the

ocean’s depths, from the safety of your family vehicle. Thursday, January 7, 9am; Friday, January 8, 9am; Saturday, January 9, 9am; Sunday, January 10, 9am; \$49-\$80. [jurassicquest.com/events/drive-thru-san-diego-ca](http://jurassicquest.com/events/drive-thru-san-diego-ca). Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

LECTURES

**Keep It Clean: How Our Pollutants Travel** If you live in San Diego – whether it is along the coast or further inland – your community’s pollutants are headed towards the ocean. Once there, they can have negative effects on San Diego’s residents, animals, communities, and ecosystems. This interactive webinar will help you to better understand what common pollutants to look out for in your community, how pollutant migration happens, and how to help prevent them from entering our ocean and other waterways. Saturday, January 9, 10:30am; **free**. [ilacsd.org/event/keep-it-clean/](http://ilacsd.org/event/keep-it-clean/). (ONLINE)

OUTDOORS

**Very Low Tides** early next week will provide opportunities for observing sea life in the lower intertidal zones. On Monday, January 11, the tide dips to -1.66 feet at 2:27 p.m. Tuesday’s low tide of -1.78 feet occurs at 3:09 p.m. Wednes-

day’s low tide of -1.67 feet happens at 3:50 p.m.

**Recent Chilly Days and Nights** confirm that San Diego’s lowest temperatures (according to more than a century of weather records) tend to occur during the month of January. January’s mean temperature at Lindbergh Field is about 55 degrees Fahrenheit. (July’s mean is a balmy 70 degrees.) To experience much colder temperatures, journey to the Cuyamacas; -1 and -4 degree readings were once recorded there — the two lowest temperatures ever recorded in the county.

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 into your vehicle using your tools. All guests must comply with our SPVS Public Event Safety Guidelines listed at website link. Saturday, January 9, 7am; San Pasqual Valley Soils, 16111 Old Milky Way. (ESCONDIDO)

**Winter Festival To-Go** Although Winter Festival has been put on hold until 2022, the community can still bring the magic of Winter Festival home with Winter Festival To-Go! Each Winter Festival To-Go bag contains goodies to

make your own “snow,” design a one-of-a-kind beaded snowflake, decorate a pair of paper ice skates, put together a poppin’ do-it-yourself penguin popper game, enjoy a tasty s’more and hot chocolate, as well as a special Frozen sticker! All materials are included except scissors, glue/tape, and water. Reserve your bag today online. Saturday, January 9, 9am; \$5. Poway Community Park and Auditorium, 13094 Civic Center Drive. (POWAY)



SPOKEN WORD

**Storytelling: The Way We Were** Indulge in nostalgia galore with Storytellers of San Diego, virtually. The Way We Were will evoke memories and laughter. Stories in support of Eclipse Chocolate Bar and Bistro. Thursday, January 7, 7am; **free**. 18 and up. [storytellersofsandiego.org/events.html](http://storytellersofsandiego.org/events.html). (ONLINE)

SPORTS & FITNESS

**Sun Deck Sweat Session** The workout includes 3 separate sweat sessions for the ultimate burn: 20 Minute Bootcamp with Keara Christine, 20 Minute Cardio Dance with Nicole, and a 1 Mile Jog with RunWESTIN. Saturday, January 9, 9am; \$25. Westin Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle. (ONLINE)

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# Poutine routine

*"It's our protest patio," says Jess.*

**I**t's pandemic Armageddon, downtown," says Jess. She's the general manager here. She's just brought out my poutine. "We're hanging on by our fingernails."

Armageddon? She's talking about the number of homeless people who come by, in a time when customers have to be outside. Jess feels for them, but, specially with new kinds of covid flying around, they make it difficult to take your mask off while you eat.

Because this is the lone spot open, from what I can see, in this north-of-Broadway section of downtown. The fact it's open is a little miracle.

I heard them before I saw them. Cheerful ladies behind the bar, joshing away as they serve up beer and food. With the sun slanting strong down 4th Avenue, it was hard to see what was going on inside. But with all the laughs, I was already getting a good vibe. Here, outside on their



Pre-lunch beers on the "protest patio." The table was made from building's century-old rafters



Chicken enchiladas, \$15.

patio, opposite the U.S. Grant Hotel's Grant Grill (shuttered, natch), three or four people sit up to tall tables on the sidewalk patio, and sip ales. This is on the "uncool" side of Broadway, up where the trolley is. Although, maybe it's cooler than the Gaslamp side right now. I haven't been across, but I'm guessing they're hurting as much as anybody. With the conventioners so absent it's like "What if they had a war and nobody came?"

So the fact these guys are open, I mean I'm guessing, but what with "no restaurant dining" orders still up (at least this time last week), for places who are serving food anyway, we're looking at "Don't ask, don't tell," right?

"It's our protest patio," says Jess. "Our peace-

ful protest patio. We have lost 80 percent of our business. All the offices we used to depend on, empty! We have 16 TVs, we're a [Green Bay] Packer bar. None of that is happening. We have to do business to stay open."

The deal is they sell you an order of food, and if you happen to start eating it at a table on the sidewalk outside, they're not going to object.

"We came over from Little Italy to support these guys," says Kate. She's sipping a beer with her

buddies Laura and Megan. They're sitting out in the sun, waiting for their orders.

I hear a lot of that, people coming to help keep struggling establishments afloat.

I see Jess, always with a weather eye on passing foot traffic. She quietly sends off a couple of guys with supermarket trolleys.

"We've been here 18 years," she says. "Since the pandemic, the homeless problem's way worse. But we do have the Downtown Partnership's 'Clean and Safe' people. They patrol downtown on their bikes. They're always around to move people on if they have to."

I decide I'd better make this brunch, if only because there ain't great choice besides 7-Elevens out there anyway. And you can see, these guys are really trying.

So I get a Bud Light draft (\$7), and start looking at the chalk wall menu. Prices are pretty typical pub. Like, just be prepared to pay \$15 for anything. Okay, staples like buffalo cauliflower (meatless florets with buffalo wing sauce, blue cheese crumbles, and blue cheese dressing) go for \$12,

pretzel balls with a kind of fondue melted-cheese dipper, \$13. But a rosemary mac'n cheese with bacon crumbles runs \$15, ahi poke bowl with rice is \$14, "Big Ass" Nachos, with black beans, guac, sour cream, run \$14. If you want to pay \$4 more, they'll add chicken, brisket, or skirt steak.

Jess brings out the food for the ladies at the table next door. Laura gets the chicken enchiladas (\$15), Kate's got fish tacos (tempura-fried mahi mahi, \$14), and Megan's trying the blackened shrimp burrito (with jalapeño white sauce, cheese, black beans, rice. Looks delish. Costs \$14).

On the other hand, that Canadian favorite, poutine, is maybe the best deal at \$11. (Or add skirt steak for \$4.) I mean, fries in gravy, can't go wrong.

That's what I go for. For starters, it brings back memories of a crazy Stanley Cup Final night at Stout, the hockey fanatics' pub one block east. I guess because poutine's a Canadian thing, everybody, even the Russians and Icelanders and Norwegians and Finns who were there that night, were eating it between gulps of Molson or Bella Ciao Devil's Hole, a Quebec beer.

Have to say, I love this stuff, the way you love mashed potato. And the brisket is truly tender.

I mean, okay, you don't hear a lot about



Poutine, fries, gravy, curds, with \$4 brisket add. (Worth it)

Canadian cuisine. Up there, they just want chow that thaws you out as the ice falls off your eyebrows. But poutine does have its secret weapon: real cheese curds.

They add a salty, lemony, maybe yogurty thing to the mix of gravy and fries. Curds are just young cheddar that hasn't been aged. Up in Manitoba, it's definitely a thing, and these definitely make for good, hot nosh on such a cold San Diego day.

I look around. This is a historic building. They have exposed the century-old wooden skeleton of the building. "When we took out the ceiling rafters, we turned them into these tables and stools," Jess says.

Huh. Tables from the gables!

"Are you going to make it through all this?" I ask her. Because seeing her on the covid front line like this, you worry.

"If we do, it will be because of our local customers," she says. "They make sure they come for takeout. They are wonderful. We've had the same owners for 18 years. Same with our cooks, Rico



Jess Cox, the manager holding it together in these hardest times, with my poutine

Martinez and Carlos Ramirez. They have been with us since the start. They're the heroes."

Beer's great, but next time, think I'll try the stouts they brew from their own brewery right here. Resident Brewing. Dark beer for a cold season.

And next time, I'll come earlier, while the sun's still slanting down 4th. ■

**The Place:** *The Local*, 1065 4th Avenue, downtown, 619-231-4447

**Prices:** Buffalo cauliflower (meatless florets with buffalo wing sauce, blue cheese crumbles, and blue cheese dressing), \$12; pretzel balls and beer cheese, \$13; rosemary mac'n cheese, \$15; ahi poke bowl with rice, \$14; Big Ass Nachos (with black beans, guac, sour cream), \$14; add chicken, brisket, or skirt steak, \$4; chicken enchiladas, \$15; fish tacos (tempura-fried mahi mahi), \$14; blackened shrimp burrito (with jalapeño white sauce, cheese, black beans, rice.), \$14; poutine, \$11 (add skirt steak for \$4)

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# Drive-thru brunch

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## Drive-thru brunch at Great Maple

Great Maple; 1451 Washington Street, University Heights. Great Maple has just about done it all this pandemic. It socially distanced its dining room. It expanded its outdoor seating. It expanded its outdoor seating again, erecting tents in its parking lot and filling them with tables and patio heaters.

The

all-day eatery even put out little, ornamented Christmas trees to give its asphalt dining room a festive feel.

All that became obsolete when the latest stay-at-home order put the kibosh on outdoor dining. However, the Hillcrest

A bloody mary in a sealed take-out cup.



Silver dollar pancakes with whipped butter, chocolate syrup, maple syrup, and powdered sugar.

Smoked bacon with a side of salted caramel sauce.



The drive-thru set up at Great Maple in Hillcrest.

restaurant appears undaunted and has implemented yet another conversion to help carry it through the closed-up holiday season: its parking lot is now a drive-thru.

As in, last Sunday, I drove my car up to the entrance of the Great Maple parking lot, ordered brunch, and drove home with pancakes, bacon, sausage, and a breakfast cocktail.

I'm not going to pretend the experience lives up to what Great Maple offers during normal times, when brunchtime typically finds the mid-century-styled restaurant filled with fashionable revelers, lingering over large plates of smoked meats, griddle cakes, and fancy donuts, while sip-

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Chicken apple sausages.



A Chicago hot dog from Lefty's, with pepperoncini, cucumber, relish, tomatoes, mustard, and celery salt, on a poppy seed bun.

ping bloody marys dressed with absurdly large, edible garnishes ranging from whole pickles to octopus tentacles.

However, while the see-and-be-seen vibe doesn't travel in take-out containers, the food and cocktails can. Some of them, anyway. Though my favorite Great Maple snack — sugar dusted beignets — aren't available from the drive-thru, its celebrated maple bacon donut is (\$14). And though you can't get the bloody mary with the tentacle, you can order the Pickle Mary (\$14), as well as a bevy of other cocktails, from mimosas to mules (\$10-15).

The brunch menu offers Great Maple favorites, including breakfast sandwiches (\$17),

breakfast pot pie (\$19), or smoked brisket hash (\$21, or a vegan option for \$16). You may get a pizza box filled with Johnny's silver dollar pancakes. The cluster of small pancakes may be picked out in regular buttermilk flavor, or fruity pebbles, peanut butter fried banana, or chocolate bacon, which comes with plastic ramakins of whipped butter, maple syrup, chocolate syrup, and powdered sugar.

I nabbed a la carte orders of the restaurant's chicken apple sausages (\$6) and salted caramel bacon (\$8), which turned out to be the smoked bacon (\$6) with a ramakin of salted caramel dipping sauce. The sugar content (and prices) can

obviously be over the top, as much of the menu here tends to be.

The drive-thru experience itself was relatively breezy. I worried I would have needed to call ahead with my order, but that's not the case. I simply drove up, ordered, and paid with a masked staffer positioned at the entrance. Then pulled ahead and enjoyed a soundtrack of lounge and jazz covers of Christmas tunes for a few minutes until another staffer passed the packaged food through my passenger window.

Lunch and dinner are offered via drive-thru while the stay-at-home order remains in effect, but what I particularly enjoyed about drive-thru brunch — and

maybe this is just me — was the opportunity fill up on pancakes and meat and breakfast cocktails at home, then seamlessly switch to nap mode.

by Ian Anderson

### TakeIn gets delivery mostly right

Delivery apps are great, but they also suck. Great because they deliver virtually every restaurant to your doorstep — an especially handy service during a shutdown. Terrible because they charge money coming and going: customers pay exorbitant delivery fees, while restaurants are forced to pay exorbitant commissions. Terrible because, despite this,

their drivers are underpaid.

So, great because restaurants get extra business, couch potatoes get fed, and independent contractors get work, but at the end of the day, nobody actually feels good about it, except the app's shareholders. So not great at all.

Except for one app, maybe. TakeIn, otherwise known as *TakeIn.com*, promises only to take its delivery fee. Restaurants on the platform get full price for their food. Drivers get their full tips. And customers get to order food to our doorsteps without the frustration and guilt of knowing we paid more, only for the restaurant to make less.

It sounds amazing. It almost sounds too good to be true. And when I first heard about it last spring, that seemed to be the case. I tried, repeatedly, to order food using the app, only to run into glitches, poor navigation, and the inability to complete an order. I pegged it as a failing effort.

Except TakeIn stuck around, started working better, and started adding a wider range of restaurants. Last week, I was able to order from neighborhood favorites including Lefty's Chicago Pizza and Mama's Bakery & Deli. I paid full price for the food, plus tax and tip. But I only paid six bucks each for the actual delivery.

Okay, six bucks will sound like too much for many of us, but it's a relatively fair rate considering the usual suspect apps — whether DoorDash, GrubHub, UberEats, or Postmates — typically charge closer to ten bucks by plying a murky combination of taxes, delivery fees, and service fees. And before tips.

Basically, TakeIn offers more

appealing terms to independently owned restaurants, and doesn't rip off consumers in the process. So what's not to love?

Really just the one thing: it's still way behind the competition in terms of user experience. While I encourage anyone reading to try it out based on the above context, if your experience goes anything like mine, it won't be easy. First, the ability to find all the restaurants serving your delivery area proves maddeningly inconsistent. Second, ordering functionality still glitches.

So while I was able to find and order from Lefty's the first time, my order wound up failing due to some backend error. Then, when I was sent back to the home page, I could no longer find Lefty's as an option. Eventually, after a lot of failed searches clicking around, I found the restaurant's menu again and placed a successful order. Within a half hour, I was eating a Chicago hot dog, alongside thin crust pizza topped by pepperoni and Italian beef.

This was a thrilling development, because Lefty's delivery was never available, for years, and I'd much rather order from a place that doesn't rip off the family-owned business. Ultimately, that point keeps me interested in TakeIn — it may not be as slick as the big boys in the game, but in a sense that only proves it's not ripping off its clients to pay for a more seamless shopping experience. By a year from now, it could very well become the best delivery option in town.

by Ian Anderson



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# the inside track blurt

**Pop psychedelia** Based in La Jolla, Plunderbund (defined in the dictionary as “a league of commercial, political, or financial interests that exploits the public”) is a power trio playing alternative and power pop tunes, often with a sarcastic and comedic bent. “We like to present our songs as upbeat, danceable, melodic pop rock,” says singer-guitarist Daniel

relationship with reality... We would have liked to have included a few models in lingerie for that.”

The band just released a new video follow-up to “Matter of Fact” called “Home,” which was started in July 2019 and is described by Westrick as “a towering testament both to world-class, epic procrastination and to negligent self-care.” “Home” is built around a

City. We compensated them for allowing us to shoot by giving them a bottle of whiskey and a bag of ice. Because it was so hot, only two caretakers were holding down the fort.”

The video is now online, but some of their plans to promote it have been thwarted by automated robotic sentries. “After I posted the video, I tried to place a Facebook ad, but it was rejected because of political content. From what I can tell, Facebook algorithms are reading the slogans on the wall of old TVs at East Jesus and finding them controversial.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

## Paris headspin

Breakdancing was in the news on December 8 when the International Olympic Committee announced breaking would debut as a sport at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Breaking started as one of the four original elements of hip-hop; MCing (rap-ping), graffiti, and DJing are the other three.

Since the early '70s, it has evolved into a blend of dance movements. Toprockin' and uprockin', are primary steps performed on both feet; generally, a warmup or stylistic series of foot-shuffling and hand gestures, to taunt or rile up the purveyors. Footwork is a series of six steps during which the dancer has transitioned onto the floor and is supporting and pivoting their weight onto their hands while shuffling the legs in a circling motion. Power moves are various high-speed maneuvers in which the dancers propel themselves on their backs, shoulders, hands, or heads. A freeze, as it sounds, is an abrupt end to the series of movements during which the dancer suddenly stops and holds an often-grandiloquent and seconds-long pose. Flips and floor exercises borrowed from gymnastics and martial arts, and styling cues from other dance forms are frequently blended into breakers' repertoires. Although, not all of us breakers follow the

Foghat-style blues riff, with their female bassist-singer Lisa Brackmann confessing how she “overstay[s] my welcome and never make the bed,” building up a nice head of steam until going off the rails with a surprisingly scorching guitar solo.

“The songs are both from our 2019 EP,” says Westrick. “After the ‘Matter of Fact’ video was released, I was all pumped up and wanted to do another one quickly. I planned to shoot scenes in Slab City near the Salton Sea and didn’t want to wait, so we went out in 115 degree heat in July. My wife nearly passed out helping us. So I guess my inspiration kind of got melted from the heat. The footage sat on the shelf until almost exactly a year later, when we shot more scenes at Fiesta Island. Then more procrastination until now. Lisa Brackmann, our bass player and the star of “Home” is leaving San Diego next month, so I wanted to get this done before then.”

“We shot a lot of it at the East Jesus art colony in Slab



Plunderbund describes their own video as “a towering testament to both world-class, epic procrastination and to negligent self-care.”

Westrick. “That way, you’re totally taken by surprise when you realize just how dark some of the lyrics really are. It’s sneaky, you almost don’t notice.”

In addition to performing occasional driveway livestreams, Westrick and Plunderbund drummer-singer Mike Reedy recently guested on a new album by Claire Walding, and he worked on more of their imaginative, shoestring-budget video, for which they’ve become known. “New Age Parody” kicks off the hilarity with its opening line “Come out of that basement, ‘cause way down there, you’ll lose your hair,” following up with a rising chorus of Beatlesque harmonies that, though somewhat crudely recorded, clearly show a love and command of the sort of pop psychedelia trafficked by likeminded, and far more well-funded, ensembles such as Tears For Fears and XTC.

Their 2019 video for “Matter of Fact,” according to Westrick, “Humorously explores our country’s difficult



elements mentioned earlier in any particular order.

“There is something very particular in breaking styles,” explained David González from Tijuana. “For example, in Mexico, it is difficult to find smooth and agreeable floor surfaces for the body; this leads our dancers to do more aerial and acrobatic movements where we are deployed off the ground. And in San Diego, we practice the art of being stuck to the floor, such as performing spins and footwork, because it is easier to find floors in good condition there.”

I agree. B-boy-ing — another term for breakdancing — in the Philippines in the 1980s was similar for my Floor Masters crewmates and me. But this situation forced us to develop our style elements outside of the proverbial high-speed “breakdance” power moves that we copped from watching Lionel Richie’s breakers in the ’84 Olympics on our parents’ Betamax and TV sets.

Like myself, González began breaking in his pre-teens. Now 30, he reps Sopitas Con Huevo, a national dance crew battling and performing throughout Mexico. We spoke in Spanish on December 30, the same day *Breakin’* lead actor Shabba Doo reportedly died.

“The name of my crew translates to “soup with egg,” and it’s a funny name we came up with when we were kids, but with time, it became serious when we started winning professional events.”

At last year’s Freestyle Session World Finals held at our WorldBeat Cultural Center and Sycuan Heritage Events Center, González said his crew-mates advanced to the top 32 finalists’ bracket.

“How’d the Tijuana b-boys

and b-girls react to breaking making the Olympics?” I asked.

“There are many dancers and crews in the Baja area, and each one has different philosophies. Some are seeing an opportunity to have a sporting career. Others simply follow the traditional way of living the culture by practicing dance in their environment and nothing more. I’m neutral in the face of these differences, but it too is a highly debated issue within our culture.”

Back in ’84, when we break-danced to “Olympic Rap” by 4-Play, our elementary and middle school crew mates wishfully speculated about our dance making the ’88 Olympics. We dreamt of training with Kurt Thomas, a then-Olympic gymnastics champ who influenced some of us breakers with his flairs. He also inspired us to attempt

velocity, balance, agility, and style that we ‘old heads’ can hardly fathom, much less mimic.

“Breaking has changed styles from time to time, but the traditional style of the ’70s is the one that many of us practice in the San Diego and Tijuana area. I practice uprock and footwork a lot, and one of my favorite moves is the combination of windmills and halos, where you are spinning on the floor at high speeds.”

“Is your government supportive since breaking is now a bona fide Olympic event?” I inquired.

“The government helps in small projects with a budget to cover expenses, but at large festivals, we do not receive support, because it is a dance that does not come from Mexican roots — at least that is what they have told us when they deny our large projects.



Tijuanaense David González breakdancing in Costa Rica.

the “Thomas World.” That’s what we called his maneuver in which Thomas’ legs would hover and spin around him as he held up his body with each hand and arm alternating the support of his body weight.

Fast forward to 2021, where breaking has evolved to a mind-boggling level of intricacy, upper body strength,

But in recent years, national festivals have grown, by investments from private sectors such as energy drinks and clothing brands.”

— Mike Madriaga

Find Blurt online at [SDReader.com/blurt](http://SDReader.com/blurt)

## CONTRIBUTORS

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





## BELLADON “HAISA”

Despite the pandemic lockdown, locals have managed to shoot and release some terrific music videos this year, and Belladon is responsible for one of them. Their performance video for “Haisa” was taped August 2 as part of a two-song Halfway Home session that can be viewed online. The slowed down version of their EP track features the members seen individually in black-and-white clips, the keyboardist masked, and the dual female vocalists singing in opposing locales: one indoors, rain fogging up the windows behind her,

while the other stands in an open doorway, a forest visible just outside her doorstep. Both harmonize beautifully as they plaintively sing “How am I staying alive, trapped in my soul, not my body?” Even the band seems momentarily taken aback at the end, as you can hear someone say at the close “That felt nice, I’m happy with that.” The second song of their Halfway Home performance “Shoot,” from their *Dreading* EP, takes what was already a rocking anthem and blows it up into full-on jam band mode.

## A STRAY CATALYST “SOLITAIRE FOR TWO”

Linda Vista-based Saki integrates poetry, music, choreography, videography, and mixed media arts to create a contemporary classical-new music endeavor called A Stray Catalyst. “I really like showing up to open mics with an autoharp or an accordion instead of a guitar, because it exposes people to sounds they may not have considered functional outside of, say, polka music,” says Saki. “I can incidentally do the splits while playing accordion, but this party trick hasn’t found its way into my act yet.” The video for the title track of this year’s *Solitaire For Two* album features Saki at the piano

while a Harley Quinn-esque mime performs. Saki describes it as “Kind of a queer romance between two characters who presumably represent the heart and the mind. The lyrics go ‘The head beats the heart every time they play a game of checkers,’ and one of my friends, Scarlet Checkers, is a clowntortionist, and I thought she’d be perfect for this video... the hardest part was finding a venue to record at during lockdown, and what ended up happening was I built the set in my living room from stuff I bought at Home Depot. It’s crazy what can be done with a small budget.”



## PRAYERS “CHOLOANI”

Leafar Seyer and Dave Parley, aka dusty monochrome rockers Prayers, released a video for their track “Choloani” that qualifies as an historical film. Shot in high desert of central Tseewahktehlahn, spoken word segments feature Teypohs’weepeeh (Iron Jacket), a member of the Chichimeca tribe who shares the history of modern day cholo subculture. Says Seyer, “The *yauh’kweehkahtseehntleeh* or sacred opposition song that Teypohs’weepeeh sings is over 30,000 years old and has not been heard for 300 years by anyone outside of the few remaining, language speaking, traditional Cheecheemehkah who have still kept this tradition and custom.” The warrior society went underground after the scalplock bans of the 16th century and then became the choloani of

the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. “This diaspora’s descendants of hostiles and renegades, of *cholahahneeh* or *cholah*, raised and tempered in the colonial penal systems of New Spain, which would later become the penal systems of Mexico, and which would become the prison and jail systems of the united states in 1848, is what created and cultivated the *cholahahneeh* or *cholah* culture still present in prisons systems of Califas and the southwest. [It’s] still present in the oldest remaining still hostile *varrios* and neighborhoods throughout Califas and the Southwest where still lives on the very last remnants, lineages, traditions, and customs of our people’s ancient warrior societies and warrior culture. This is what it means to be a cholo.”



## DRUG HUNT “LIVE FROM THE QUARANTINE”

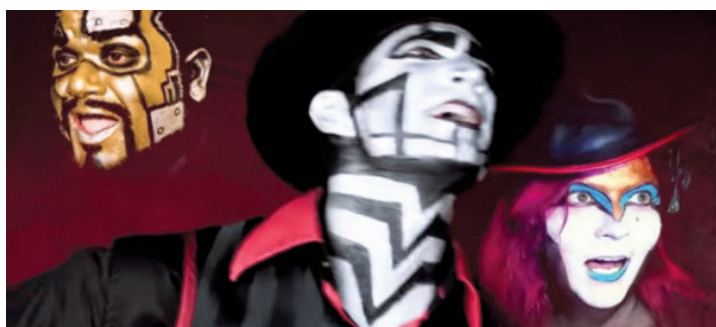
Alt-country blues rockers Drug Hunt used the pandemic lockdown as both subject and setting for their “Live from the Quarantine” video, which opens with audio recordings of early TV news announcements about the growing virus threat. Clocking in at nearly 15 minutes, the clip features the band wearing quarantine scrubs for a raucous indoor performance staged within a tiny plastic-lined safe room. “As artists, it is our duty to synthesize the current state of humanity and present our interpretations in the form of an expression worthy of inspiration,” says guitarist Rory

Morison. “This live performance is our artistic response to the grief, anger, fear, and confusion caused by the global pandemic, the senseless assassination of George Floyd, and the activism necessary to bring equality and justice to people of color. For too long, rampant corruption and unchecked police brutality has taken the lives of countless innocent people. We stand proudly alongside our brothers and sisters, speaking out against the deeply entrenched overt and systemic racism that so blatantly infests our everyday lives.”

## STEAM POWERED GIRAFFE “HOT ON THE TRAIL”

Local costumed bands (Tragic Tantrum, the Locust, Holy Molar, Geezer, etc) tend to make engaging music videos. The trio composing Steam Powered Giraffe dress up as musical steampunk robots whose elaborate fictional backstory unfolds over the course of their videos, including a jaw-dropping clip for their acoustic rendition of “Hot on the Trail,” from their current album 1896. Already one of the strongest gospel-tinged tunes they’ve recorded, the acoustic arrangement showcases David Michael Bennett’s vocal chops right from the plaintive opening line, commanding attention and demanding an instant replay as soon as the final note fades. The video is

the sort of evergreen that could both make and define this band, possibly introducing and endearing them to the same supportive audience that favors likeminded theatrical rockers such as Gogol Bordello, Lana Del Rey, Queen, and Evanescence. There’s essentially a whole separate album of acoustic 1896 arrangements, all of them individualized so the strength of the songwriting paired with the shimmering vocal harmonies isn’t so much unplugging as it is upgrading. Crosby, Stills, and Nash would change the oil in Neil Young’s pickup truck for a year to sparkle this brightly at the mic again.





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

## THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

### North Island Credit Union Amphitheatre:

Thursday & Friday, 7pm — Deadmau5 Chula Vista Drive-In Series.

### Online Internet Events:

Friday, 6pm — A Bowie Celebration: Just For One Day.  
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 4pm — Hanson Live at Cain's Ballroom.  
Friday, 2pm — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Saturday, 3pm — Avatar Ages: An Impossible Concert Experience.  
Saturday, 4pm — John McCutcheon Virtual Tour.  
Saturday, 9pm — Sleaford Mods: The Demise of Planet X.  
Sunday, 8pm — Charlie Parr & Friends Sunday Residency. **Free**.  
Sunday, 4pm — Mutlu: Live at Rockwood Music Hall. \$5.  
Sunday, 1pm — The Jayhawks: The Cover Show. \$20-\$75.  
Monday, 7pm — Athenaeum Live: Peter Erskine, Alan Pasqua, Darek Oles.  
Monday, 5pm — Marble Eyes Mondays. **Free**.

## UPCOMING SHOWS

### Belly Up Tavern:

Saturday, Jan. 16 — Mustache Harbor.  
Friday, Jan. 22 — The Paladins and the Tail Gators.  
Saturday, Jan. 23 — Queen Nation.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 — Tainted Love.  
Friday, Feb. 12 — Super Diamond.

### Loft:

Wednesday, Feb. 3 — Dom Flemons: The American Songster. \$9-\$39.

### Online Internet Events:

Friday, Jan. 15 — Tunes with Tim: Album Release Concert. \$20.  
Friday, Jan. 15 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Friday, Jan. 15 — Jimmy Eat World Phoenix Sessions.  
Saturday, Jan. 16 — Avatar

# IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

## Beethoven proves triumph of individual

Over the holidays, I had what I'll call a spirited conversation regarding objective truth versus subjective truth. Since neither myself nor the other participants are professionals in the cognitive disciplines, the conversation lacked a certain elegance. We spent a lot of time on whether or not a tree falling in a forest makes a sound if there's no one there to hear it.

What can I say? It was the holidays, and the TV wasn't on, and our phones were out of sight, so we entertained ourselves for hours regarding a question that has no good answer.

Once we left the hypothetical forest, the question of truth and music came up. If there is any subject that is, well, subjective, it's music. While I do not degrade my opinion of others based on their musical tastes, I certainly upgrade my opinion of others if they can talk about music written before 1945. If an individual can talk music, I don't care

if their political, religious, or economic opinions are contrary to mine.

After the night of philosophical revelry had ended, I decided to Google myself into a better understanding of objective and subjective. I quickly realized that I had a good grasp of the terms "objective" and "subjective."

The true issue, so to speak, was the word "truth."

Years ago, in this very column, I confessed that I had no interest in being objective when it came to musical reviews, because I thought it to be impossible and dishonest to deny my personal feelings, tastes, and experiences. I would express my truth but always with the caveat that it was my truth.

That is, after all, what a column is. It's one person's response to a specific event, occurrence, or subject. Ideally, the author of a column has extensive experience with the subject of the column.

Although it pains me to say this, there is no truth

in classical music that can be objectively expressed. There are infinite perspectives to be considered, and there is no standard unit of measurement, even though there are several measures of music. Several might be an understatement.

Even though there is no objective truth to classical music that does not mean that there aren't perspectives that are more beneficial than others. Allow me one example.

The perspective that classical music was and is propaganda for colonialism and the supremacy of "white culture" is less beneficial than the perspective that classical music is the soundtrack to the triumph of the individual over the tyranny of the European caste system.

Neither position can be proven objectively. But, if I subscribe to the concept of classical music as propaganda, what comes next? I guess I stop listening to classical music and encour-



Creators of beauty, or instruments of oppression?

age others to stop because it is a tool of oppression. Whether or not this reduces oppression in our current society is doubtful simply because such a low percentage of people listen to classical music.

If I subscribe to the concept of classical music as a triumph of the individual, I can listen to it with an ear toward freeing myself from the tyranny of my habitual mediocrity. A great example of this is the second movement of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 4*. It was part of a live presentation I used to give before the quarantine. In this music, the strings represent my worrisome

thoughts that lead to worrisome emotions that lead to worrisome behaviors. The piano represents the calm, internal voice that understands that everything is going to be okay.

I can listen to this music and begin to create some freedom from the specters of worry and doubt. If I am able to listen to classical music and create an ability to respond to situations instead of merely reacting, then it is a benefit to both myself and society.

Of course, this is not objectively true but it is a perspective that has subjective benefits beyond a vague sense of self-piety.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at [SDReader.com/classical](http://SDReader.com/classical)

Ages: An Impossible Concert Experience.  
Saturday, Jan. 16 — John McCutcheon Virtual Tour.  
Sunday, Jan. 17 — Charlie Parr & Friends Sunday Residency. **Free**.  
Monday, Jan. 18 — Marble Eyes Mondays. **Free**.  
Wednesday, Jan. 20 — Wolfheart Studio Stream. \$9.  
Friday, Jan. 22 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Saturday, Jan. 23 — Avatar Ages: An Impossible Concert Experience.  
Sunday, Jan. 24 — Liquid Blue Live From the Whiskey.  
Sunday, Jan. 24 — Charlie Parr & Friends Sunday Residency. **Free**.

Monday, Jan. 25 — Marble Eyes Mondays. **Free**.  
Friday, Jan. 29 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Friday, Jan. 29 — Jimmy Eat World Phoenix Sessions.  
Friday, Jan. 29 — Ovation Theatre: All Shook Up.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 — Avatar Ages: An Impossible Concert Experience.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 — Ovation Theatre: All Shook Up.  
Saturday, Jan. 30 — Cage The Elephant: Bread & Roses Winter Benefit.  
Sunday, Jan. 31 — Charlie Parr & Friends Sunday Residency. **Free**.  
Monday, Feb. 1 — Athenaeum Live: Gerald Clayton & Gilbert

Castellanos.  
Friday, Feb. 5 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Friday, Feb. 5 — Ovation Theatre: All Shook Up.  
Saturday, Feb. 6 — Ovation Theatre: All Shook Up.  
Friday, Feb. 12 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.  
Friday, Feb. 12 — Jimmy Eat World Phoenix Sessions.  
**Soda Bar:**  
Thursday, Feb. 11 — The Dears.  
Sunday, Feb. 14 — Kevin Krauter and Boy Scouts.  
**South Bay Drive-In:**  
Thursday, Jan. 14 — Casbah Day Presents: *Fanboy* World Premier. \$10.

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# HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at [SDReader.com/drinks](http://SDReader.com/drinks)

## BAY PARK

**Off Shore Tavern:** *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: All beer \$1 off, \$4 house wine, \$4.25 well drinks. *Saturday*, 9pm-close: All beer \$1 off, \$4 house wine, \$4.25 well drinks.

## CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

**Chart House:** *Monday-Friday*, 3-6:30pm: \$4 import & specialty draft beers, well spirits, \$6 wine by the glass, \$7 cocktails.

## CARLSBAD

**Chandler's:** *Wednesday-Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off wines by the glass, draught beers, and signature cocktails. \$3 off appetizers.

## CITY HEIGHTS

**Alcove Wine & Beer:** *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off beer, \$2 off wine & appetizers.

## CORONADO

**Brigantine Coronado:** *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off all draft beer, well drinks, and featured wine by the glass, \$4 sparkling wine glass.

## DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

**Asti Ristorante:** *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$5 beers, \$7 house wine and cocktails, bites from \$5.

**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.

**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.

## BOOZE NEWS

BY IAN ANDERSON

### Speakeasy flattens the three-tier system

If you go to the web site for East Village booze maker **Old Harbor Distilling Co.** these days, the shop link will take you to a product page featuring the brand's assorted craft spirits, including Barrelflag "navy strength rum," or its "southwestern gin, San Miguel, so called for a botanical infusion including cucumber, sage, and cilantro. You can order a couple bottles, and within days have them shipped to your home.

By now, we all know the drill — we can order just about anything online. But in the case of craft spirits, it actually took a lot of behind the scenes work. The sort of work done by the San Diego company, **Speakeasy**.

Unlike most online retail, hard liquor distribution is

complicated by laws dating back to the end of Prohibition. Specifically the three-tier system, which restricts a spirit maker from selling directly to the consumer, or even directly to a liquor store. Instead, the first-tier producer must sell to a second-tier distributor, which sells to the third-tier retailer.

So while the Old Harbor web shop appears to offer direct to consumer shipping, on the back end, Speakeasy's order and fulfillment system manages the financials of the producer to distributor to retailer transaction. So on paper everything is three-tier compliant, while for all practical purposes Old Harbor can drive its own consumer ordering.

Five years ago, Speakeasy cofounder Josh Jacobs was operating a subscription box business built around cocktail recipes, and it was his efforts to feature craft spirits in the boxes that showed him the need for this sort of white label ordering system. "It was the distillers who initially educated us," says Jacobs, "on the challenges of the three-tier system."

Part of the challenge is distributors who only nominally rep their craft spirit clients. Larger and better-known brands provide the bulk of their sales and receive the bulk of their attention. The three-tier system might force small spirit producers to strive for such a distribution deal, despite knowing it would effectively cede control of their own fates.

Jacobs and cofounder Michael Bowen spent

many years and plenty of legal fees setting up the Speakeasy platform, which launched in February 2018. Still, "the biggest hurdle," says Jacobs, "has been finding partners that are open



Craft spirit brands offering direct to consumer sales with the help of the Speakeasy platform

to collaboration and innovation in an industry that has seen little disruption over the past 87 years since Prohibition."

Speakeasy's role adds a new wrinkle to the traditional three-tier transaction. It operates the tech and fulfillment, and owns the relationships allowing its spirit brand clients to maneuver through its distribution and retailer tiers. But ultimately, Speakeasy's part of the action doesn't even require a license. Rather, "We are the ecosystem," Jacobs explains, "bringing all of the

licenses together."

The platform saw solid growth through 2019, working with about 40 spirit brands. But since the pandemic hit, craft distillers' need for direct-to-consumer sales has grown. By the end of 2020, Speakeasy was working with more than 180 alcohol producers nationwide.

Though the business still faces obstacles due to varying state-by-state regulations and corresponding interstate shipping issues, its clients' ability to self-market spirits is evolving. Case in point: Tesla Tequila. The hyped limited release añejo by Orange County agave spirit brand **Nosotros Tequila** quickly sold out through its Speakeasy-

backed web store.

"Looking ahead," Jacobs says, "we'd like to do similar kinds of 'celebrity partnerships.'" He envisions Speakeasy's platform providing greater autonomy for the spate of celebrity backed tequila brands that have seen the likes of George Clooney and Ryan Reynolds hashtag their way to nine-figure buy-outs.

For more craft booze news, see [sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news](http://sandiegoreader.com/news/booze-news)

## EAST VILLAGE

**Bootlegger:** *Tuesday*, \$10 build-your-own-nachos and beer all day. *Saturday-Sunday*, 9am-1pm: \$25 per person bottomless mimosas.

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

## ENCINITAS

**Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:** *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$3 well cocktails, house wine, domestic draft.

## ESCONDIDO

**Brigantine Escondido:** *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, well drinks, featured wine, \$5.75 house margarita.

**Vintana Wine + Dine:** *Daily*, 3-5pm: \$8 martinis and appetizers.

## LA MESA

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

\$6 happy hour red wine, happy hour white wine.

**Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill La Mesa:** *Friday*, All day: Clam chowder \$5 cup, \$7 bowl. After 4pm: Prime rib \$24. *Sunday*, 11am-2pm: \$4 Bloody Marys, \$5 Champagne.

## LAKESIDE

**Eastbound Bar & Grill:** *Tuesday-Friday*, 2-5pm: \$2 off all house cocktails, \$3 domestic bottles, \$4 micro drafts.

## LEMON GROVE

**Dirk's Niteclub:** *Daily*, 4pm-7pm: \$3 shot of select liquor with your first drink. 4-7pm: \$1 off domestic beer, 50 cents off cocktails.

## 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 HILLS

**Shakespeare Pub & Grille:** *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: All draught pints (excluding cask, \$6 Anytime, and Black Velvet) and bottled beer \$1 off. well liquor \$4.50, \$5 house wine, appetizers \$5.95-\$7.95.

## MISSION VALLEY

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

## NORTH PARK

**Redwing Bar & Grill:** *Wednesday-Friday*, 3pm-6pm: \$4.50 24 oz. Tall Boys.

## OCEANSIDE

**Rockin' Baja Lobster — Oceanside:** *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.

## OLD TOWN

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

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

## PACIFIC BEACH

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

**Latitude 32:** *Wednesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$3-\$5.50 beer and wines.

## POINT LOMA

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

off specialty drinks.

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

## RANCHO SAN DIEGO

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

## SAN MARCOS

**Churchill's Pub and Grill:** *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells. *Sunday*, All day: \$1 off appetizers, drafts, wells.

## SOLANA BEACH

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

## UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

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



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# Our fair lady

To paraphrase critic Molly Haskell, Audrey Hepburn awakened love in all who watched her. Why it took this long for someone to make a feature-length documentary about one of the world's most adored and influential actresses and humanitarians is anybody's guess. *Audrey* is as far from perfection as its subject is close, but one thing's for certain: there has never been a movie star more beloved by her public than she.

Audrey was a flower born from otherwise thorny nobility. Her father was a diplomat of dubious distinction (his background is described as "very fuzzy"), her mother a baroness. Both parents were virulent antisemites who, in 1935, visited Germany and cheered on the marching Nazis. Dad skipped out in 1935, moving to England and joining the British fascist party. He made a brief return to the Netherlands in 1939 to sign divorce papers and — in what would amount to his penultimate glimpse of his daughter — place Audrey on a plane to London.

Decades later, and with the help of a private investigator, Audrey traced his whereabouts to Dublin, where the two spent a day together. He continued to turn a cold-eye to his daughter in spite of her forgiveness and the financial support she provided him during his remaining years. Many credit a lack of paternal love for inspiring her longing for a father figure in the men she chose.

Her entree into the world of entertainment came via a pair of ballet slippers and a tutu, a fact that documentarian Helena Coan hammers to death. There is no mention of *Charade*, *Robin and Marian*, or her performance in a film that many consider her shining hour, *Two for the Road*. Perhaps these exclusions had more to do with budgetary limitations than disdain for the projects. Many of the clips from her films are from public domain trailers, which avoid the cost-prohibitive fees attached to licensing clips from the finished products. We are instead treated to what amounts to five agonizing minutes of three ballerinas,

## MOVIES



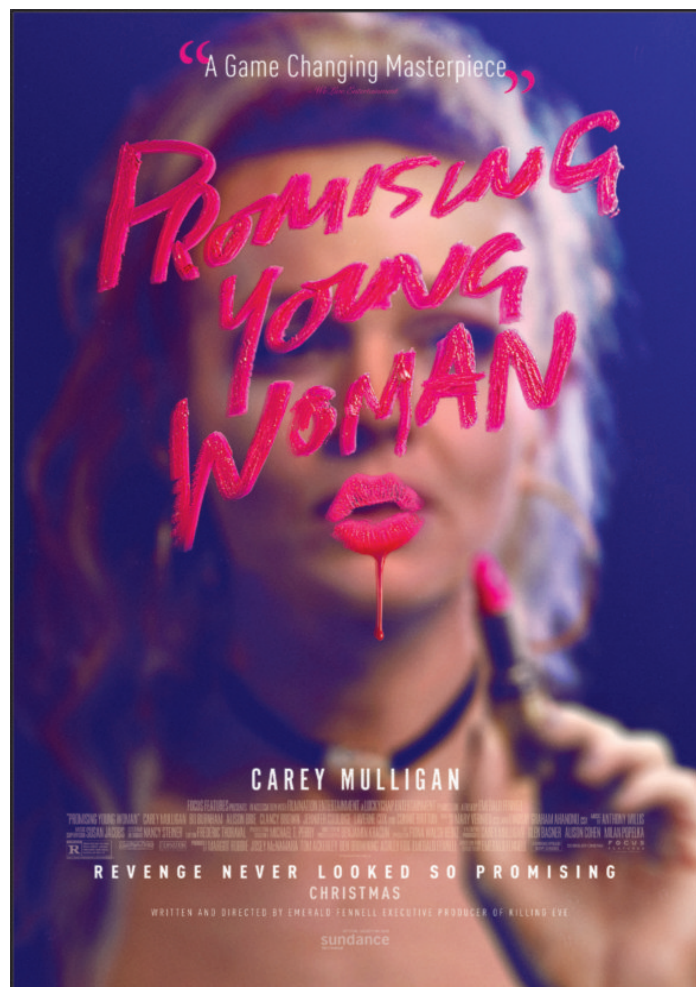
**Audrey: a celebratory documentary that somehow neglects to mention her role in *Two for the Road*.**

all playing Audrey at various ages, dramatizing her life through dance. The bogus recreations have no place in a film about someone as genuine as Audrey Hepburn.

Audrey is remembered today more for her role as fashion's iconic Queen of Gamin than for many of her performances. Sheets, handbags,

t-shirts: you name it, and almost 30 years after her passing, Audrey's licensed likeness still generates sales. When first they met, Audrey's future full-time fashionista Hubert de Givenchy was expecting to see Katharine Hepburn stroll through the doors of the designer's Grand Salon. In walked Audrey, a clothes

hanger compared to the more full-bodied actresses of the day like Marilyn Monroe or Sophia Loren. It was Givenchy who introduced Audrey to the world of *haute couture* and together they collaborated on many of her most striking creations to form what her granddaughter called, "a perfectly curated image."



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The closest Audrey came to achieving pariah status was when Jack Warner personally selected her to play Eliza Doolittle in the big screen adaptation of *My Fair Lady*. Outrage reigned supreme: how dare she dare horn in by stealing Julie Andrews' signature character! Her singing voice was dubbed by Marni Nixon, even though Audrey clearly proved her ability to carry a tune in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*.

Coan confirms that the actress had her choice of projects, which makes it even harder to believe that she signed on board with slasher slop like *Wait Until Dark* — who wants to watch Audrey Hepburn cast in a one-set affair as a helpless blind woman being systematically tormented by a trinity of heroin-sniffing felons? This was followed by a ten-year vacation from acting, a decade during which she opted instead to focus on raising her children. *Robin and Marian* marked her return in 1976, followed by a career low point: picking up a paycheck as a pharmaceutical heiress targeted for death in the all-encompassingly generic Sidney Sheldon's *Bloodline*. It was here that she began a romance with Ben Gazzara that lasted through the filming of her last gasp of grandeur in Peter Bogdanovich's Lubitschian romantic comedy, *They All Laughed*.

Her reputation remained sterling until late last year, when Emma Thompson began spouting off in the trades. "I find Audrey Hepburn fantastically twee. Twee is whimsy without wit," Thompson noted. "It's mimsy-mumsy sweetness without any kind of bite. And that's not for me. She can't sing and she can't really act, I'm afraid. I'm sure she was a delightful woman — and perhaps if I had known her I would have enjoyed her acting more, but I don't and I didn't, so that's all there is to it, really." This coming from an actress who has spent the last decade drawing from her own acting process to appear in sequels to *Harry Potter*, *Nanny McPhee*, *Johnny English*, and *Men in Black* as well as *Beautiful Creatures* (aka the YA franchise that never was), *Bridget Jones's Baby*, and the unnecessary live-action remake of *Beauty and the Beast*. And let's not forget her giving voice to such animated touchstones as *Brave* and *Dolittle*. Thompson's a fine one to shoot spitballs at Audrey's reputation. In Hollywood's golden era, the characters we saw on screen were "very much like the characters they played," said Peter Bogdanovich, "that was the point." The climatic scene in *Breakfast at Tiffany's* show-



Since outdoor activities seem to pose little threat, why not throw a picnic? I'll bring the ants.

— Scott Marks

#### THEM! (1954)

The opening scene packs a horrifying wallop not generally associated with monster movies from the '50s. An aerial shot follows a pigtailed youngster (Sandy Descher), a doll with half its plastic skull ripped away clutched in her arm, as she drudges aimlessly across a huge expanse of desert. The jittery camera adds distress, not gimmickry, while her zombified gaze induces anything but audience sentiment. Hers is the face of terror, the look a child might have after witnessing her parents savagely done in by a colony of giant radioactive ants. Many movies feature a moment in which a character is called upon to speak the film's title. This one's a doozy. Descher, the spitting image of a young Natalie Wood, is being interrogated by the miraculous Edmund Gwynn, a myrmecologist who passes a beaker of formic acid — the same ant venom that claimed her parents — beneath her nose. With a blink, her catatonic gaze is replaced by a look of contorted dread as she calls out her parent's killers by name. Director Gordon Douglas — schooled with the likes of *Our Gang* and *Laurel and Hardy* — brings an unexpected comic touch to an otherwise harrowing sci-fi classic that places it far ahead of its contemporaries.

cases Audrey at her best.

The one topic that is not given short shrift is Audrey's role as a UNICEF ambassador. The majority of ego-driven celebrities connected to charitable work only agree to align with a cause if their name is prominently attached. (Sorry, Jerry.) Not

#### THE NAKED JUNGLE (1954)

It starts with a long stretch of routine romance before the social insects enter and begin chewing at the scenery. Christopher Leiningen (a more somber than usual Charlton Heston) was 19 years old in 1901 when he first broke ground on his vast cocoa plantation. After 15 years of hard work by a crew of natives who much admire the owner, his South



*Them!* Sandy Descher shows the face of terror.

American jungleland is at last ready for a woman's finishing touch. Inexperienced in the ways of women, the uncultured landowner (he buys books by the pound) recruits help from his much-mentioned, but never seen, brother to cut a mail-order filly from the herd to act as "Leiningen's woman."

Joanna Leiningen's (Eleanor Parker) beauty is only exceeded by her deep understanding of the male animal and she has every intention of fulfilling her marital obligations. Much to Christopher's chagrin, this is not Joanna's first time at the altar. Hubby #1's death from drink a year earlier paves the way for a few moments of unbridled hilarity. Long before James Caan's "second-hand don't appeal to me" rant in Howard Hawks' *Red Line 7000*, Heston, "too

proud to take another man's leavings," can be heard comparing his bride by proxy to a piano that's never been played. Christopher's analogous dictum, "Keep it dusted and see that the termites don't get at it," applies to both Steinway and his little woman. That is, until Joanna counters with, "A good piano's better when it's played."

This was the second teaming of director Byron Haskin and producer, purveyor of Puppertoons, and visual effects guru George Pal. Pal not only put the "special" in SFX, rousing audience eyeballs with his state-of-the-art '50s visual effects in the Haskin-helmed *The War of the Worlds*, he also collaborated with the Paramount sound department

to create the unmistakable aural extravagance of the film's spaceship and its emerald green skeleton beam. (According to Wikipedia, the latter was "created by striking a high tension cable with a hammer.") But mimicking the sounds of a spaceship seems relatively simple compared to duplicating the footsteps of billions of ants. The sound, according to IMDB, "was created by swirling a straw in a glass of water with crushed ice, which was then amplified."

The 20 minute march of the soldier-ants, during which Christopher is called upon to save civilization as he knows it, is worth all the preceding clumsy character clashes. Critics found much of the carnage too much to bear, but audiences thought otherwise, making it one of Paramount's top-grossers for 1954.

Find more *Movies@Home* reviews at [SDReader.com/movies-at-home](http://SDReader.com/movies-at-home)

#### Video on Demand New Release Roundup

**Blizzard of Souls** — Fact-based historical drama as seen through the eyes of 16-year-old Arturs Vanags (Oto Brantevics), a fresh-faced Latvian teen who, along with his father, is spurred into battle after

a Jerry shoots dead his mother and the family dog. (Shades of *Inglourious Basterds*: just moments prior to her demise — and seen from Arturs' POV as he hides under the bed — mom offers her executioner a glass of milk.) It houses many of the stereotypes inextricably linked to Hollywood service pictures: upgrading threadbare combat boots with a pair found on a dead German; Arturs' first kill; learning the language of love in the arms of an enemy *frau-lein*; substituting the girl he left behind for the nurse who mended the first of his four wounds, and what war film would be complete without the old helmet-on-the-bayonet bit to indicate the source of sniper's bullets? Director Dzintars Dreiberis skillfully argues that battle scenes can be equally effective when shot in cloudless blue daylight as under overcast skies, but it's under the snow-blanketed cover of darkness that the film best achieves its goal of depicting the facelessness and sudden horrors of war. Ultimately, this amounts to a well-mounted Latvian recruitment film. 2020 — S.M. ★★

**News of the World** — The year is 1870. Civil War veteran Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd (Tom Hanks) is a news-reader, a nascent member of the broadcast news media, traveling from town to town with a stack of newspapers in his valise, looking to keep American abreast of current events at a dime a head. Not unlike John Wayne's journeys in John Ford's *The Searchers* or Henry Hathaway's *True Grit* (with a little of Truffaut's *The Wild Child* thrown in for good measure), Kidd's journey involves the task of escorting a young girl (Helena Zengel), kidnapped and held captive by the Kiowa, back to what may or may not be her home. She's been gone so long that Kiowa has become her native tongue, a move that forces our reader to do double-duty as the film's narrator. Given the star's general avoidance of dark, potentially uncomfortable material, it felt strange in these surroundings to introduce the concept of evil-doers trying to kidnap the child for the purpose of sexual exploitation. The rest is pretty much what one might expect of a vehicle starring America's favorite movie star: good performances, solid production values, and more than a touch of stodginess. Directed by Paul Greengrass and co-starring Mare Winningham, Elizabeth Marvel (living up to her last name), and Thomas Francis Murphy in a role once reserved for John McIntire (2020) — S.M. ★★



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## PERSONALS

**CAMPO INDIAN RESERVATION** the new year brings new hope to our community. We have become closer and will stop this turbine nightmare.

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

**MIMI/ANGELINE** of Allied Gardens, thanks for the sudoku and Yiddish books. Have a healthy year ahead, Brian B.

**PAT GRIFFITH** of El Cajon, your xmas bears are looking for you, Brian B.

**TO HELL KEEP** I'm sorry to hear that you haven't been yourself lately. And boy, relaxing can be hard on some individuals. I guess living in the moment is just plain out of the question.

**YOU DIDN'T SPECIFY** Chopped chicken, beef, goose, or duck liver. All of them are delicious, Brian.

**THANK YOU ST JUDE** for all the blessings!

**THE COMING \$600** I would give back the \$600 if they would give me a covid 19 vaccine within 10 days. The reason is as a senior over 70 in confinement. All I want is to enjoy life again and get out for the last years of my life; is that to much to ask the powers to be?

**NEED A CONFIDENCE BOOSTER?** Realize that you are better than most at some things and better than some at most things. So cheer up!

**ARIANA** It's great that you are working at a restaurant, good for you girl, proud of you. From your auntie, lots of love.

**BRIAN** what am I, chopped liver?

**ESTELA** You are the spine of this family, without you we would have crumbled, you are a powerful mom, from your daughter Stella Donolly.

**FALLING SHORT OF GOD'S GLORY** "for all have sinned (missed the mark) and fall short of the glory of God" & "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." CMR

**MOM** I love you, keep up the good work, continue studying God's love letter to you (the Bible). From your daughter, Stella.

**TOMMY M** we met in the 4th grade. You once came to my restaurant. We last spoke in 2008. I think of you every day. Patti D

**SWEET LYNN, I LOVE YOU** Your passing broke my heart after 47 years together. I will miss you for the rest of my days. Love, Bill.

**LOOKING FOR MY HUSBAND** Michael Flitterman, please call me at (619) 530-3169. This is your wife, Helena Leguna. I want a divorce.

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

## NOTICES

**TOTAL DISASTER** the covid 19 vaccine to give to people here is A Disgrace they was suppose to be 20mil vaccines not even 5mil was available a disaster waiting to happen, more die every day. and no one cares we are all lied to and given excuses by POLITICIANS

**FREE DRIVE THRU FOOD BOXES** Free drive-thru food boxes every Monday and Thursday, with one stipulation: you need to be in a car to receive food; no walk-ups. 485 Imperial Beach Blvd. Imperial Beach, CA 91932 (619) 271-0717

**NEW COVID STRAIN** In November 11 issue of the Reader. I published about the new strain of the Covid 19 virus coming it has been around since September? But no one in power took any notice and did anything to control it. Now it's too late; again we f\*\*\*\*\* up the end.

**THE RE-EDUCATING STARTS** Starting now our new beloved leader comrade Todd orders all peoples must now be re-educated to obey my commands. or be dealt with in a people's court of my followers. Business owners are our first, we will look and see who and what they are.

**VACCINES IN STORAGE WHY** Only 2.1 million people in USA as of 31dec got the vaccine NOT 20million as they promise. so where is the other 18mil vaccines all in storage WHY? call GOV NeWSes ask him where is the vaccine he promised. more Die every hour, does he care. ASK

**2 HIKES** Holiday lights- 6pm:Grape & FernSouth Park. Prior-Bird Park, thru SwitzerCyn-Hike, to Burlingame Lights:2pm. (858) 571-6058. Text only; on bus. #7FootAparHikes 1 hr meal break!

**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

**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

**2 WEEK YOGA CHALLENGE** 2021 \$75 2-week challenge all virtual pre-recorded classes to do on your own time 1 class per

day! Classes are 1 hour- 1 hour 15. \$75 [lutschYoga@gmail.com](mailto:lutschYoga@gmail.com)

**STUCK AT HOME? LEARN SPANISH!** We believe that in order to speak a language, you must actually SPEAK the language. Join our community today for SPANISH conversation immersion classes in a fun, relaxed, non-intimidating environment in the heart of North Park and ONLINE (right now, only online). Learn from a caring native speaker. Make friends and have fun! PuraBuenaOnda.com. (619) 916-8339. ImmerseYourself@PuraBuenaOnda.com

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**LEARN TO BOLLYWOOD DANCE** We are planning to go Zoom for a virtual Bollywood dance party (for all age groups) every Sunday. [www.meetup.com/virtual-zoom-bollywood-dance-party/](http://www.meetup.com/virtual-zoom-bollywood-dance-party/) WhatsApp 1-(587) 338-3133 for details

**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 details @ [mosaicforms@gmail.com](mailto:mosaicforms@gmail.com)

**MUSHROOM HUNTER CLASSES** Want to get into mushroom hunting, identification, or growing? This is the group for you! Rogue Valley Mushroom Enthusiasts [www.meetup.com/rogue-valley-mushroom-enthusiasts/](http://www.meetup.com/rogue-valley-mushroom-enthusiasts/) Rachel.Werling@oregonstate.edu

**SHAMANIC SUNDAYS ON ZOOM** Meet the ancestors this Sunday. Join in for an hour-long shamanic journey circle. [www.meetup.com/Zoom-Shamanic-Sunday/](http://www.meetup.com/Zoom-Shamanic-Sunday/) (239) 658-4144

**UKULELE ON ZOOM** Tiki Dave is a highly regarded ukulele instructor sharing his love for all things tropical and sunny. For more info: <https://www.facebook.com/TikiDaveMusic> (808) 321-5515 / [tikidavemusic@gmail.com](mailto:tikidavemusic@gmail.com)

**VINYASA YOGA CLASS ON ZOOM** Vinyasa yoga class with Toma, via Zoom. Train your mind & body to induce a mode of consciousness to reach inner peace. We will move our bodies and flow into poses using movement with breath sequence with mixed vinyasa flows. <https://www.tomaj.com> [toma.j@yahoo.com](mailto:toma.j@yahoo.com)

**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](http://www.taoistsanctuary.org).

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and performing. E-mail: Lee@LeeGalloway.com or call: (619) 281-8118. See [www.LeeGalloway.com](http://www.LeeGalloway.com).

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**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](http://www.allpointsrealestate.com)

**MISSION HILLS, \$1425-1550.** 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.

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1BD+1BA; large updated unit on second floor; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; pool and elevator; coin laundry; no pets and no parking; available now; 1433 Oliver Ave. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). (858) 270-2072.

### PACIFIC BEACH, \$1975.

2BD+1BA; upstairs unit with small private balcony; stove, refrigerator, microwave; coin laundry; 1 space in shared garage; 2-1/2 blocks to Tourmaline Surf Park; no pets; available now; 830 Sapphire St. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). (858) 270-2071.

### PACIFIC BEACH, \$2100.

2BD+1BA; upstairs unit with small private patio; private one-car garage; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher; no laundry; cat OK with extra deposit; available 1/18/21; 1854 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. [www.delsolpm.com](http://www.delsolpm.com). (858) 270-2071.

### PACIFIC BEACH, \$2300.

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as soon as possible. Therefore I am looking for a small studio or room with own bathroom for rent. Possible even for rent from out of country? I am 33 years, social worker. [schmouko@yahoo.com](mailto:schmouko@yahoo.com)

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**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](http://www.jspropertymanagement.com).

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## REAL ESTATE



**LAS VEGAS RAIDERS HOUSE \$45K** Beautifully remodeled double wide in 55 and over Las Vegas community. \$45,000. Perfect for that LV Raiders season ticket holder. 2 bedroom 2 bathrooms with a den. Fully renovated. Painted inside and outside. Brand new waterproof vinyl laminate flooring (702) 818-6111

**BEAUTIFUL HOME WITH LAND** This home is at the end of quiet street with only 1 house next door. Wonderful large garage plus attached 2

car garage. Great yard for kids and adults. Chets kitchen and pellet fireplace. (619) 840-8231 / [pedersen01@cox.net](mailto:pedersen01@cox.net)

**HOME WITH VIEWS AND LAND** Great property with room for toys, trucks or trailers! Kitchen with lots of cabinets and a room that could be a media room. 4 bedroom 4 bath (619) 840-8231 / [donnapedersen01@cox.net](mailto:donnapedersen01@cox.net)

**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

## MUSIC

**TROMBONE-1956 KING 3B** W/F. Classic horn in top condition, excellent slide, sonorous sound. Original factory case. \$695, (619) 264-3686.

**DUAL TURNTABLE** Dual turntable \$20. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

**MARCHING VALVE TROMBONE** F.E. Olds. Compact, dent free and great player. \$395 with case. (619) 264-3686

**GUITARS** electric and acoustic, custom one of a kind. Must reduce collection. Call for info (619) 448-1826.

**BASS GUITAR \$1100** 1989 "Signature" jazz bass, maple neck, ash body, audere preamp, glassy highs, excellent condition \$1100. (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, \$2,000. (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](http://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

## PETS

**DOG WANTED** Small bichon-type female dog, for older loving couple with good home who's 15 year old bichon just passed. (619) 321-7734

**CANE CORSO ITALIAN MASTIFFS** I have 6 gorgeous pups for sale. Three months of age, tail docked, ears undocked. 3 males 3 females, calls only please (619) 614-9640

**WANT SMALL DOG** Prefer chihuahua, text (619) 438-4567.

**CHICKS/HENS EGG LAYERS** Will be quite great brown egg layers. Text or call (858) 775-9928

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

## SPORTS

**BADMINTON RACQUETS AND BIRDIES** Badminton racket set - 4 high tempered steel shaft rackets with carrying case and a set of birdies \$14 set of 4 rackets + case, birdies. (760) 518-7075



**CATCHER'S MASKS** Selling young adult size catcher's masks by United Athletic and Wilson. Call or text for info: (619) 322-4654



**LOS ANGELES LAKERS SIGN** Los Angeles Lakers plexiglass and lighted sign. Shoot some nerf hoops in your office or sports room. Play bar games with your friends. \$50 (760) 707-8531



**OLYMPIC SIZE WEIGHT PLATES** Olympic size weight plates, kettlebells, and dumbbells. Text for info: (619) 995-5352. A great solution for our closed gyms.



**SURFBOARD RACK \$100** Very nice shape and holds 5-6 surfboards. \$100 in San Marcos (760) 681-4030

**GOLF EQUIPMENT \$195** Selling new golf equipment including 300 golf balls, 8 golf gloves, TaylorMade wrenches, 100's of golf tees and ball markers, golf shoe spikes with wrenches, digital score counter, golf scope, misc. (619) 672-0526

**SCHMELKE POOL CUE** Schmelke pool cue that is 20 oz. in weight, 58" length, and has a

13 mm. tip. It's in good shape, but the shaft isn't straight. The case is included. \$125 (619) 424-9208

**SNOWBOARDS AND GEAR** Used snowboards, boots, jackets, goggles, gloves, and helmets. Call, email, or text to set up a time to see the gear. (619) 929-0601

**SPORTS FACE MASKS** Padres, Dodgers, Lakers, Raiders, Giants, Steelers, Rams, KC, 49ERS, Chargers, fabric face masks. Adjustable ear loops, comfortable, washable, reusable. 3 layers 100% cotton. (619) 793-9103

**TENNIS BALL LAUNCHER** Metaltek electric tennis ball launcher that works. \$100. (619) 887-8020

**TEST DRIVE THE ONEWHEEL XR** Try the Onewheel XR or Pint before you buy it. Weekday (Mon-Thurs). \$49 for a half-day (4 hours). \$69 for a full day (8 hours). \$59 Multi-day (Per 24 hours). \$275 Weekly (619) 786-2614 / [sdonewheel@gmail.com](mailto:sdonewheel@gmail.com)

**VINTAGE ISLE SURFBOARD** Selling a vintage Isle surfboard that's 73.5" in size for \$200. It needs some TLC and comes with a strap. (760) 224-0512

## MOTORCYCLES

**GAS POWERED BIKE** for sale. PHATMOTO 26 inch very beach cruiser. 79 CC four stroke motor. Like new, several upgrades, three year warranty. \$600, OB (619) 972-8591.

**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

**2010 HONDA INSIGHT HYBRID** has sun roof, one owner, security. All records available, kept in garage. Silver, 130,000 miles, runs and looks great. \$6100. Email sakima9@hotmail.com.

**MERCEDES SLK230** 1999 Mercedes SLK230. Very good condition, 127,300 miles. 5 speed (619) 583-1465



**1990 FORD BRONCO** Blue 1991. 351 engine size; automatic, roll cage, rights 35" tires, lifted body. \$2500 or OBO. Leave message, (619) 548-7062 / [randy.arpia@outlook.com](mailto:randy.arpia@outlook.com)



**2005 FORD SUPER DUTY F-450 DRW** Selling a 2005 Ford Super Duty F-450 DRW with a V8 turbo diesel motor for \$8995. This is a strong utility truck. Call for a test drive and see for yourself. (909) 990-3311

**2008 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED X** Selling a 2008 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited X Sport Utility 4D with 180,942 miles with an automatic transmission. The exterior color is blue and the interior color is grey. \$10,995 (702) 831-3451

**2010 MINI COOPER** clubman, 4 cylinder, AC, 80,000 miles, one owner, lot's of extras, leather, cruise, bluetooth, expensive stereo, like new, gas saver, 34 mpg, clean title. Email micaroh3000@yahoo.com.

**2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO** 2017 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 — \$21,800. 66,000 miles on a 6 cyl. 4.3 motor. (760) 234-4998

**2019 TOYOTA TACOMA** 2019 Toyota Tacoma \$33,999 with 4X4, 3-foot lift, off-road 35" tires, Abs, 4-Wheel braking assist options (858) 285-9159



**2013 CHEVY CAMARO** This convertible Camaro comes with 124k miles. Call or text at (619) 564-0904 to schedule a test drive today.

**CHEVY 2015 SPARK** 4 cylinder, 4 door, AC, 74,000 miles. one owner, fully loaded with lot's of extras, like new, gas saver, 39 mpg, clean title, ready to go. \$6,450 obo, (808) 398-8568.

**2010 HONDA INSIGHT HYBRID** 1-owner, sunroof, security, all records, kept in garage. (858) 837-0713 / [sakima9@hotmail.com](mailto:sakima9@hotmail.com)

**2004 INFINITI G35 \$2,550** Runs and drives but idles a little rough. It has plenty of power and handles like a luxury car. \$490 due on registration which I'll split it with you. \$2550 obo. (619) 497-9716.



**TOYOTA COROLLA \$4,495** 2009 Toyota Corolla LE Sedan 4D for \$4,495. It's fully loaded with a clean title, no accidents, very economic, a keyless entry alarm, CD, and new Michelin tires. (619) 388-9634

**CHEAP AUTOMOBILE AUCTIONS** Completely free entry at 17770 Valley Blvd., Bloomington, CA. There are more than 100 cars available here @ All Towing & Storage Public Auction, north of San Diego County. <https://www.facebook.com/alltowingandstorage/> (909) 815-0447

**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

**ENGINEERING** Broadcom Corporation in San Diego, CA has openings for: R&D Engineer IC Design 3 (Ref:5245207) to work closely with systems, devices, modeling and EM team to develop optimized solutions. Reference job code & mail resume to: Attn: J.O., 1320 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95131.

**STAFF IT ENGINEER** (Req# IIC1321) Dvlp scalable & modular sw components that meet high standards of quality & architecture. BS followed by 5 yrs prog rlt'd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

**SUBJECTS NEEDED FOR UC SAN DIEGO RESEARCH STUDY** Dr. William Perry and his associates at UCSD are conducting a research study on how cannabis affects thinking and behavior. We are seeking adults ages 18-50 who either use cannabis at least 4 times a week or do not use cannabis at all, with a history of Bipolar Disorder or with no psychiatric conditions. You must have no

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serious medical or neurological conditions, including heart problems, seizures, or significant head trauma. Study Procedures: One visit lasting about 6 hours; saliva, blood, and urine tests; computer and paper and pencil tests; wear a device that measures the movements of your body. Participants reimbursed up to \$20 per hour for study participation. Located at the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest. For More Information, call us at the UCSD Psychiatry Department. Research Study, (619) 543-6575.

**ROBERTO'S COOKS AND CASHIERS** Roberto's Taco Shop in Solana beach is seeking cooks and cashiers for hire. Call (858) 704-4075 for more info.

**MECHANIC** Hybrid- Ford, help me with 2008 Escape- steering shut it down, text only (619) 254-5991.

**PLUMBER/HANDYMAN** have about 3 weeks work: plumbing, carpentry, painting, landscape. Text only please (619) 254-5991.

**IHHS REGISTERED CAREGIVER NEEDED** with car, in San Diego. 8:00 AM to 1:00, 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

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

**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

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

**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 north city worker wanted for home repairs and cleanup. \$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](http://www.MentorsWanted.com). (858) 694-0120.

## JOBS WANTED

**LOOKING FOR A JOB** I am looking for job cleaning houses or taking care of elderly people. I speak Spanish as well. (619) 874-6326 Elizabeth.

**GARDENING BY DAVID** Hi, I am offering garden work, raking, trimming, mowing, etc. I prefer 3 hours per day max. I don't have a set rate, so make me an offer. Please text, call or email. Telephone (619) 592-0882. Thank you, David (619) 592-0882 / [GHF92565@gmail.com](mailto:GHF92565@gmail.com)

**P/T F/T PREP-COOK/ DISHWASHER** Hi, I have 15 years kitchen experience. Never late never sick. Get along well with others. Please text, call or email me. Telephone number (619) 592-0882. Thank you! (619) 592-0882 / [GHF92565@gmail.com](mailto:GHF92565@gmail.com)

**LOOKING FOR** a care giver or house cleaning job in Clairemont or Point Loma area (858) 505-0685.

**GERIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER** will shop for groceries, prepare meals, light housekeeping, drive to doctors/hospital appointments, companionship. 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

**TRADE TWO ELECTROLUX** tank style vacuums from early 50's, for coal shovel or leaf rake. Vacs need work but complete, minus hoses. Text (619) 631-9258

**LOOKING TO SELL SPORTS CARDS?** We want to buy your old baseball, football, basketball, or hockey cards and memorabilia for cash now. We're fair, easy to work with, and can get that memorabilia off your hands quickly. Call or text us at (315) 760-6806 / [Membership@CollectingAll.com](mailto:Membership@CollectingAll.com)

**WANTED US VIETNAM WAR ITEMS** Buying US helmets, uniforms, insignia, camo, edged weapons from the Vietnam war and VNI near (858) 335-9963, (858) 335-9963 / [chase3@cox.net](mailto:chase3@cox.net)

**I BUY BOSE STEREO SPEAKERS** (619) 279-7833.

**WANT FREE MOPED** looking for quick trip to store, so does not need to be perfect. As long it runs. Need delivered. Text (619) 631-9258

**LOOKING FOR DAD'S OLD STEREO** I am an Electronics Hobbyist, and I am looking for 1960's vintage, Tube Type Stereo Components to

refurbish, such as Fisher, Scott, Marantz, Dynaco & More. Maybe it is stored away in the attic or garage. I pay cash, so please call Jack 619-296-3100 or please call Jack 619-296-3100 / [jack22@cox.net](mailto:jack22@cox.net)

**WE BUY CARS** Buying cars with check engine light on salvage title, title from another state, all years and models, non-running. I can drive to the car, truck or van and I'll pay you instantly!! (858) 302-9708

**I BUY GOLD AND SILVER** (619) 280-2075

**OLDER DODGE OR CHEVY VAN** Wanted. Running, registered, smogged, decent condition. No major problems. Text info/desired price to (931) 637-8568. Will pay cash!

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

**OLD FREE SKATEBOARDS** Wanted a few old free skateboards, do not care shape main thing I want is wheels. Need delivered. Please text (619) 631-9258

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

**SEEKING BUYER FOR STOVE** Wanted, need to find buyer for florence gas stove, sold in early 50's. Not wanting to sell now, but want contacts. Text (619) 631-9258

**TRADE TWO ANTIQUE ELECTROLUX** vacs 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 TO BUY A RUNNING TRUCK** under \$400. Datsun 63 to 70 or early year Chevy Luv. Please text (619) 631-9258.

**WANTED FREE DULCIMER** Better known name as autoharp or lapharp its what mother Maybel of Carter family played. Please text. (619) 631-9258

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

**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.

**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

**I BUY GARAGE SALES** or garage sale leftovers for \$20 or more. Give me a call, Cobain (619) 301-6616



**75 YEARS OF ANTIQUES** Selling family antiques collected over 75 years. All items are located in one place at Escondido in an office. (619) 888-0877



**ESCONDIDO DESIGNER YARD SALE** Luis Vuitton authentic

black women boots in new condition. Size 8, \$500. 25 purses, shoulder bags, wallets, brand, leather, including Coach, Michael Kors, Dooney & Bourky, Jcrew, and much more. Many items for sale. (718) 581-2163



**ESCONDIDO YARD SALE** Escondido yard sale with lots of miscellaneous items! (760) 888-7375

**PQ SALE, ALL MUST GO** Misc items, all dirt cheap. Need them gone. Call or text (619) 587-5585.

## FOR SALE



**SUNDAY FARM STAND** Our humble but heartfelt farm stand is filled with fresh vegetables, fruits, herbs, flowers, seeds and plants ready to go home with you! These plants aren't just photosynthetic wonders, providing beauty, food, teas, and remedies for insect bites. (760) 224-4069 / [farm@plantspeoplecommunity.org](mailto:farm@plantspeoplecommunity.org)

**40 IN. GLOBE** long board \$50 (281) 865-5613

**55 INCH VIZIO TV** flat screen, like new, got a bigger one for Christmas. \$200 firm, (760) 420-3641, San Marcos.

**BRAND NEW** Durlast battery charger/air compressor. Paid \$110 asking \$50. 10 ft. Jumper cables \$10. (281) 865-5613.

**CD PLAYER** mini personal cd player. still in box \$40. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

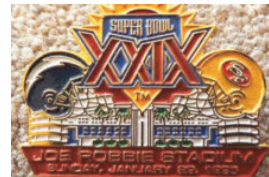
**DOG BED** New, \$5 Top Paw dog bed. Sells for \$22 on sale at Pet Smart. Says "woof" on it. 35 x 48 inches. Diane, (804) 519-8175, Sports Arena area.

**ELECTRONICS** RCA digital converter, \$15. Philips HDTV compact size, powerful performance, indoor antenna VHF : UHF / FM/ HDTV, \$20. (858) 505-0685

**JOYO GUITAR PHASE PETAL** \$26. Mark, (760) 738-8059, Escondido.

**MEN'S SKI CLOTHING** turtle necks, large \$2. Descente 1 piece and 2 piece ski suits, \$100-\$150. Multi colored sweaters medium to large, \$25. Hats and socks \$2-\$5 (619) 218-4031.

**ROKA WETSUIT** Top of the line Roka wetsuit, blk/red, small/tall, worn twice, MSRP \$595, now \$260, (760) 274-5264



**SAN DIEGO CHARGERS MEMORABILIA** Re-live many

## AUTOMOTIVE

**OIL CHANGE** \$14<sup>95</sup>  
Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5qts 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl. most cars

**SMOG CHECK** \$11<sup>75</sup>  
Sedan only. SUV and Trucks extra. NON STAR CERTIFIED SMOG +\$8<sup>25</sup> cert INSPECTION ONLY. Smog only for 2000 and newer vehicle. +\$1<sup>50</sup> DMV transfer fee

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

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

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

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

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

**FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT** 96 and up.

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**WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL**

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

**SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$41<sup>75</sup>**

+ \$8.25 cert. Most vehicles. Trucks, vans & European cars extra. Must bring DMV renewal notice Limited time offer. Cars 1999 and older.

**AC TOP UP SPECIAL \$49**

Includes 12oz R134 Freon, check system and test for leaks.

**\$21<sup>75</sup>\***

+ \$8.25 cert

**OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER**

from **\$24<sup>95</sup>**

Up to 5 qts. oil. Most vehicles to 1995. Limited time offer.

**FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE** (both locations)

**FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE** (Cliff Brown location)

**ENGINE STEAM CLEAN**

**\$69<sup>95</sup>**

Most vehicles. With ad. Limited time offer.

**30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL**

from **\$179<sup>95</sup>** 4-cyl. Most vehicles.

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

**NEW CV AXLE** from **\$159<sup>95</sup>** Parts & Labor

**TIMING BELT SPECIAL** \$50 off quoted price Recommended at 60K miles. Most vehicles. Limited time offer.

**SAN DIEGO SMOG & AUTO REPAIR CENTER**

4664 Park Blvd. (at Adams Ave.) 619-543-4828 Mon.-Fri. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sat. 8 am-3:30 pm [www.sdsmogandrepair.com](http://www.sdsmogandrepair.com)

**CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE**

4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe) 619-297-4201 Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm [www.cliffbrownautomotive.com](http://www.cliffbrownautomotive.com)

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wonderful periods of Chargers history with terrific articles from the Union Tribune, Sports Illustrated, Time, Super Bowl programs & souvenirs. Email me for a full description of all the items & more pics. \$40. Shipping from Colorado. Buckingham. [mike@gmail.com](mailto:mike@gmail.com)

**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.

**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 seperately, Escondido, (760) 746-7209

**WAYFAIR TV STAND** with electric fireplace. Fits up to 65" TV. Was \$469 unassembled and before shipping. Have had it for less than a year. Have warranty for this unit. Going for \$450. (760) 590-2230



**2021 NEW YEAR'S TAMALES** Make your orders for tasty and fresh chicken and pork tamales at (619) 453-4507. Located at 1956 54th Street in San Diego

**SMALL BLACK MICROWAVE** Magic Chef \$25. (858) 505-0685

**SMALL CHILD'S RAZOR SCOOTER** \$25. (858) 505-0685

**BEAUTIFUL GEMSTONE AND BIWA PEARL BRACELET** white pearl, blue, yellow,

green and purple gem stones. Amethyst, blue topaz, citron etc. Set in sterling silver. \$300 value, only \$120. Please call (858) 243-1533.

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



**CUSTOM CREPE CAKES** Only for pickup services at 608 Meadowbrook Dr. 92114. Call and order today at (619) 530-7350.



**GIGANTIC BADAS BURGERS** For pick up orders, check our website at Badasburgers.com. You can also call (619) 499-4798 ahead to place your order.

**CAMPING CHAIR** small, red fold up camping chair: \$10. (858) 505-0685

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

**ENGINE FOR SALE** Out of a 1999 Chevy Blazer V6. Ran great when removed, lot's of extra parts included. \$350. Hearing impaired, text best: (619) 928-8220.



**LUMPIAS AND PANCIT FOR FAMILY** \$22 half tray pancit & 7pc lumpia. \$30 half tray pancit & 14pc lumpia. \$36 half tray pancit and 21pc lumpia. \$41 half tray pancit and 28pc lumpia. [deliciouslumpias@gmail.com](mailto:deliciouslumpias@gmail.com)



**NEW YEARS ENCHILADA SALE** We have cheese with onion or chicken enchiladas. We start at 9 am until we finish. You can call me at (619) 807-5790 or (619) 415-1254. Located at 3170 National Ave.

**GATE: CHAIN LINK AND PIPE** 2 sections each 5'9" wide, 6'4" long, \$100. Text only, (619) 438-4567.

**REPO PICTURE** famous, barefoot girl. \$30 (858) 505-0685

**SANTA SUIT** complete santa suit. \$20. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

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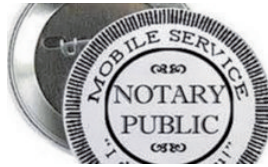
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# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

Another witness said that vendors tried to stop the driver, so he drove in between the lanes where vendors display their products. After running over two people and destroying two carts, the driver opened his way through the traffic and got to lane 28, which was closed and so offered no obstacles. Javier notes that from this point on (around 300 yards away from the borderline), he did not stop accelerating.

“I also knew the seller killed last year; now, even waiting in the lane to go to the U.S. is getting dangerous.”

Information from the U.S. Customs and Border Protection states that around 2 pm on December 22, a 27-year-old driver died when he collided with a metal arm gate at a high rate of speed. Later on, the California Highway Patrol confirmed that the man who died in the wreck was an American citizen who lived in Santa Ana. Local media specified that the man was decapitated by the gate and died instantaneously. In a video rolled out on social media, viewers can see how the man drove through the traffic on the Mexican side of the

border, and also — thanks to CBP’s security camera footage — the exact moment of the fatal collision.

María González, a binational citizen, had frequently bought candies from Cecilia, the vendor who was killed. “That’s how she was earning a living. I have been crossing the border for five years, and she was always here,” she said. “I also knew the seller killed last year; now, even waiting in the lane to go to the U.S. is getting dangerous.”

Recently, the Tijuana Police Department bragged that the area was one of the safest in the

city, even as several auto thefts from bi-national citizens and two murders were registered. One was a driver waiting in the line to cross to the U.S.; the other, a man in front of a curio shop next to the Ready Lane.

For Silvestre, who works selling blankets, the carnage was not surprising, he remembers the shooting that happened one year ago, when a man died trying to get into the U.S. “This was nothing, the shooting last year — that was intense.”

IVÁN MOLINA



The driver had somewhere to be: the afterlife.



Cement pole on Mexican side hit by the driver.

PHOTOGRAPH BY LUIS CUTIÉREZ

PHOTOGRAPH BY LUIS CUTIÉREZ

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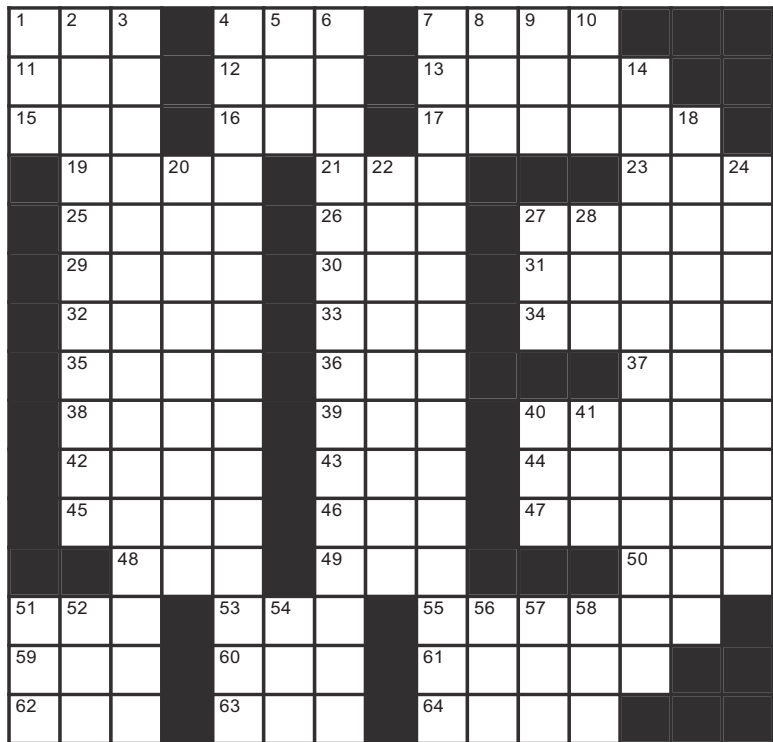
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# CROSSWORD



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## Across

1. Beanball, on many diamond scoresheets
4. "Monsters, \_\_\_\_"
7. Civil rights org. whose leaders included John Lewis and Stokely Carmichael
11. Slippery sea creature
12. "The Matrix" hero
13. What you may "drop" on Valentine's Day, with "the"
15. Goat's cry
16. Reason for seasonal shots
17. The "O" of AOC
19. Tickle Me Elmo toymaker
21. Opposite of SSE
23. National econ. stat
25. Glassmaker's oven
26. Smidge
27. Israel's Meir
29. Mild Dutch cheese
30. DDE's WWII command
31. Goody-two-shoes
32. Foal's mother
33. Like some sugar
34. Programmed to, as a thermostat
35. On the same side
36. 1979 Sigourney Weaver film
37. Demolition material
38. Say \_\_\_\_ (refuse)

39. Hosp. heart ward
40. Squiggly mark in "piñata"
42. \_\_\_\_ to one's ears
43. Highest-rated
44. 17th-century Dutch painter Jan
45. Hindu god of fire
46. Dockworkers' org.
47. Ceramists' needs
48. \_\_\_\_ Francisco
49. Part of DMV: Abbr.
50. Ending with fluor-
51. "Thank you, Captain Obvious!"
53. Curling surface
55. Draws out
59. Support gp. founded under FDR
60. The NBA's Magic, on scoreboards
61. Patty and Selma, to Bart, Lisa and Maggie
62. Cave dweller
63. Rival of BAL and BOS
64. Rx writers

4. Knowledgeable viewpoint
5. First word of Dante's "Inferno"
6. In a way that produces the opposite effect
7. What "Pay Toll 1 Mile" implies
8. "The Good Place" network
9. Mover's form for the USPS
10. There are 2.54 in an in.
14. HBO series represented by some of the black (and two white) squares in this puzzle's grid
18. Miscellany
20. National Radio Hall of Fame inductee who was born Art Ferguson
22. 2009 Grammy winner for her "Still Unforgettable" album
24. History is written in it
27. Lyft drivers consult it
28. Hematite, for one
40. "Have you no shame!"
41. "That's \_\_\_\_ quit!"
51. Do some voice work
52. \_\_\_\_ Today
54. Weep
56. Daft Punk, for one
57. Chapel Hill sch.
58. The "75" of \$1.75: Abbr.

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

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

## RULES OF THE GAME

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

# Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

## THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

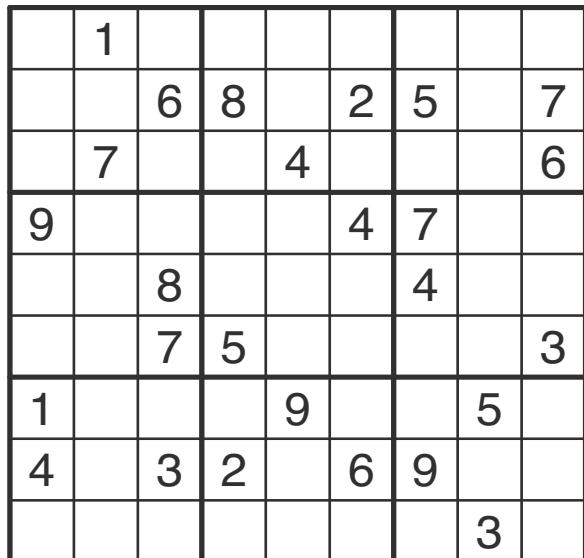
Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

**Fabianna Barrett, San Diego, 1.**

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

# SUDOKU

## EVIL:



## RULES OF THE GAME

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## THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

**Johnathan Pudas, San Marcos, 0.**

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

## SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

## EVIL:

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



continued from page 16

Highland Avenue in June to see if there was anybody cruising.

"Back then I bumped 'Back to the Hotel' (by N2Deep) on my system, we had super loud systems back then," Eddy said.

"Where was the starting point of the cruise strip again?" I asked.

"Right here on 2nd and Highland Avenue by the car wash," he said, "by 7 pm, it was already bumper to bumper here, and the *pinche gruas* (fucking tow trucks) would line up right here on the side."

"How'd you get busted cruising back then?" I asked.

"When the policeman stopped us, they'd say, 'I saw you a couple of times, and if we see you cruising here again [tonight], we will give you a ticket and im-

pound your car."

We drove south-bound on Highland Avenue. "This was another *chingon* (bad-ass) spot, this carwash (on 5th) was always *bien lleno* (very full), and we'd park here too."

As we stopped at the corner of 8th and Highland, Eddy pointed at the 7-Eleven to the left and laughed. "The manager there would always call the cops on us if we were there too long, in fact, there was a tow truck waiting there too. He was like, 'Our customers need to park there.'"

We proceeded past E. Plaza Boulevard, and on the left side lay the Price Breakers parking lot that Hubbard and her fellow cruisers rendezvoused at about two weeks prior. "They didn't have that Panda Express back then," Eddy said. "Around here, I hit

the three-wheel motion, and I accidentally hit a dude's car."

Three-wheel motion is when the driver of a vehicle with a custom hydraulic suspension, dumps the rear corner pump and simultaneously lifts the opposite front corner pump to make the car roll on three wheels, as the suspended wheel continues spinning in mid-air.

"During that time, we didn't have cell phones, so I went inside there, it used to be a Hollywood Video, and used their phone to call the police. We exchanged numbers, but the guy never called me."

We approached Sweetwater High on the right side on 30th and Highland, which is about 1.7 miles from the beginning of the cruise strip, "this is where we'd make a u-turn and head back

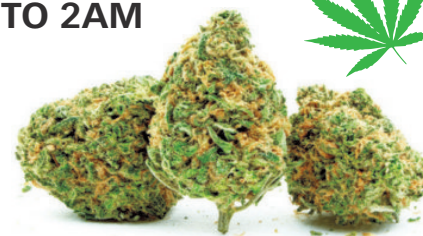
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PHOTOGRAPH BY MIKE MADRIAGA

Mario Peña Machado founded the San Diego Air Cooled car club and organized the Fiesta En La Playa car show.

on Highland, or grab a *carne asada* burrito at the El Cotijan right there, back in the '90s burritos were like \$4."

"And if you go that way [westbound on 30th] then turn right on D Avenue, that's where some of the cars on 'time out' would cruise,"

"Time out? I asked. "After the police warned us, we'd cruise there because there were no "no cruising" signs, and some of us would park there at Kimball Park and hang out."

On August 28, I reached out to the National City Police De-

partment about the legality of cruising in their city.

"The City has a city-wide municipal code for cruising NCMC 11.68.050 / CVC 21100(K)," responded Captain Graham Young, "however, one organization (SD Low Rider Association) went in front



PHOTOGRAPH BY MONA AT NINERGRUPHOTOGRAPHY

To pass the time during our countywide shutdown, Sierra Hubbard tinkered with her project: a 1968 Chevy Nova with the original in-line six motor topped with a single-barrel carburetor.

of City Council for special events permit to allow cruising on a limited time after a charity fundraising event in Kimball Park on September 21, 2019."

La Vuelta Barrio Logan is another popular cruise affected by the pandemic. In July, the

organization canceled its 2020 summer event. "La Vuelta is an open street, and you cruise what you got," explained Perez, the professor with '51 Chevy Styleline Deluxe. "The cruise strip here is from Chicano Park to just past Lucky's where Logan Av-

enue curves. Cars were meant to be driven, and La Vuelta allows that to happen, to see the art in motion. And now, it's a compromise format due to covid-19, but goes back to the roots of cruising — wheels in motion."

—Mike Madriaga

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<b>All \$15 Prerolls</b> <b>4/\$45</b>	<b>Dabwiser Shatter</b> <b>1G \$20 or 5G/\$89</b> <b>Dabwiser Crumble</b> <b>1G \$20 or 5G/\$89</b> <b>Lifted Sugar or Crumble</b> <b>\$30/G or 4/\$99</b> <b>Volcanic Crumble</b> <b>\$20 or 5G/\$89</b>	<b>FTPS:</b> <b>5g free</b> <b>Flower + Goodie Bag</b>	<b>Cookies Prepackaged</b> <b>1/8th</b> <b>\$60 or</b> <b>2/\$110</b>	<small>Refer a friend and receive 100mg edible &amp; preroll!</small> <b>Dankwoods/Packwoods Blunts</b> <b>4/\$99</b>	<b>Happy Hour Daily</b> <b>8pm-12am</b> <b>FREE 7G Shake</b>



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- \$220** Exclusive

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(12PM-3PM) (8PM-10PM)

### FLOWER

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- \$15/G** VIP Shelf for ... **\$12**
- 5 Grams** of Exotic for .. **\$40**

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- Kushy Punch 4** for ..... **\$45**

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