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VOL. 46 | NO. 5 | FEBRUARY 4, 2021

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”La Jolla mega-mansion owner digs deep for Faulconer”

News Ticker

January 28

As I and some others have all ready said, Faulconer is being bought by the wealthy GOP greed heads as part of their plan to shift California from a Blue state to a Red state. The current CA Dem. leadership is making it easy for them by themselves already bought off by the Powerful Utilities and many others.

Note: One of them has just become VP and Todd G. is pushing housing for all to pay back greedy developers that want to densify San Diego to better enrich themselves and the City tax rolls so they can reward each other, as our cool Quality Of Life (QOL) becomes a thing of the past, ie 80's and 90's . I suggest state leadership change is more important than climate change, since we will not get one without the other despite all the slick promo's we are seeing. Wake up CA: Kevin (Trump II) Faulconer is being promoted by Big Money and Big Media to serve them not US, just like Ted Cruz...

—CaptD

”Pitfalls of San Diego's downtown jail – who wants 'em?”

News Ticker

January 27

Boo-Hoo to the Fibbies, they were too incompetent to control their prisoner, so

continued on page 4

San Diego Reader

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February 4, 2021



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Naked in Balboa Park ■ A perfectly arbitrary hipster dating litmus test

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A dark meat chicken sandwich — page 20



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIKTOK

App wraps

Quesadillas: melting cheese and making bank online

Starting the second week of January, San Diegans have noticed a shortage of giant-sized tortillas. The anomaly is partly due to the TikTok app's 3 billion and counting #tortillatrend hashtagged video views. It seems post-millennials and millennials, who make up more than 50 percent of the video-sharing app audience, are buying up the near 20-inch flour-and-lard tortillas, then grilling them with cheese and often leftovers.

"People are scooping them up because of the challenge," corroborated Rudy Serrano on January 25, "but I found some at Food Bowl Market and Deli." Serrano cooks at the Big Kitchen cafe on Grape Street in South Park, a half a mile north of the Food Bowl at Cedar and Fern. "We downloaded the app because my five-year-old daughter likes watching the



Some kinds of internet spam are much better than others.

dance videos. I think the tortilla trend is better than the dancing trends on TikTok. All you get from most of the trends is judgment. At least you get a meal out of this #tortillatrend. And if you don't ever cook, you're teaching yourself how to cook. You have to follow a process and gotta make sure whatever protein you cook is cooked." TikTok videos must be one minute or

tortilla wrap with *birria* meat, cabbage, cheese, and salsa, then grilled in my Panini press. I call it queso-birria."

Serrano has cooked at the cafe, known for its specialty omelets, for over 20 years. He's made the orders to-go since the shutdown. "It's different doing take-out for



Serrano's spam wrap.

"Some ingredients just don't make sense; I can tell they won't work. But I'll give 'em an 'A' for effort."

less, so many of the DIY tutorials are edited and emblazoned with text pop-ups and voiceovers to provide viewers with good cooking intel in a short timeframe. Often, licensed background music is added for ambience.

Some of the more popular #tortillatrend videos employ unorthodox quesadilla fillings, things like peanut dipping sauce and Nutella. "No mames güey [You gotta be kidding, bro]," said Jorge from Chula Vista, "IMHO, it's crazy what they are [stuffing] in their quesadillas. They're just trying to shock people for the likes." Plus, he says, "The word quesadilla translates to 'little cheesy thing' in English. These on TikTok are *grandote* [huge]."

Serrano agrees: "Some ingredients just don't make sense; I can tell they won't work. But I'll give 'em an 'A' for effort." And the effort is key. "The way people are making them on TikTok is a shorthand tutorial on how to cook, because you only have like a minute to show how to make this. And the kids or young adults are like: 'I can do that, I wanna try that.' The thing is, you probably had all the ingredients in the refrigerator, and these video challenges are motivations for the viewers to make quesadillas. And when they post about it, people are like, 'That looks so good.' Two things get fed: your stomach and your ego. I know I'm guilty of it. Recently, I made a

breakfast, where breakfast is usually better eaten hot on the spot. You can't enjoy it as much without [owner] Judy's smile. That's what hurt us. Yeah, the food speaks for itself, but you miss out on the atmosphere and us employees. People went there for the bonus of getting a hug from a stranger or a random conversation. It's hard to get that in a to-go container."

That lack of contact may be part of what fuels the interest in social media cuisine, "especially since the shutdowns. People are anxious. People are trying to find the next high; they log into TikTok to stimulate the brain and get excited about food or whatever piques their interest. And when you get likes, that makes you feel relevant, wanted, appreciated — things many people can't get right now because everyone's at home."

On a search for quesadillas on the Facebook Market page, I found over a dozen San Diego dwellers offering quesadillas, starting from basic cheese variations at \$4 apiece to \$12 deluxe quesadillas filled with goat or lamb meat and a side of veggies. Hundreds of Instagrammers worldwide have followed the TikTokers' #tortillatrend, including salsa and tortilla companies. "I've been doing it," Serrano said, "not deliveries, but for pickup. I'll reach out to my friends about making a big pot of *birria* or *mole*. There's only three of us in our house, and I'll sell the rest. We'll get like 10-15 orders. It's a reasonable price with no delivery fees. People get a home-cooked meal."

I asked Serrano what he was making that evening for the #tortillachallenge. "Spam!" he replied. Later that night, he posted a video on his TikTok, backed with the country

song "Spam" by Muddy Boots and the Porch Pounders. He captioned it, "SPAM WRAP IS HERE!!!! Fried spam, onion rings, egg fried rice, sesame seeds, jack cheese, and spicy mayo inside and outside for that perfect sear." He immediately received three orders.

MIKE MADRIAGA

KENSINGTON

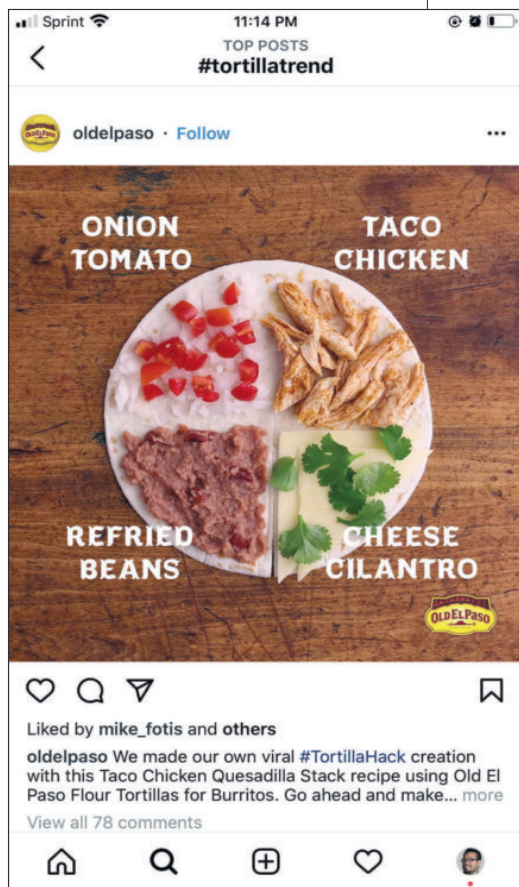
Lady Lorax

Maggie McCann speaks for the trees

A battle to save 35 stately old pepper trees, the last still framing the streets of Kensington, is far from over. The latest skirmish erupted in September when the city announced that the four trees would be removed due to decay and other structural defects. First to go was Karla, a centurion located at 4190 Monroe Street — until she was toppled on January 22. Karla had an overhanging branch in need of trimming, but by noon, a city crew had carted away every last one of her shade-bearing limbs, leaving only a stump. Residents were told by crew workers that the city would be back Monday for the three more pepper trees across from the Kensington Community Church on Marlborough Drive.

Karla's overhang had been an issue for some time. "On October 17, 2019, a public request came in through 'Get it Done' to review the Monroe Avenue pepper trees for safety between Edgeware Road and 42nd Street," according to city forester Brian Widener. He evaluated the big tree and decided it had reached its end, "as it is no longer a viable tree and suffers from significant decay and structural defects throughout all the stems. One of the 21-inch diameter limbs has at least 13 inches hollow." Pepper tree longevity is anywhere from 50 to 150 years, Widener wrote. "This tree can no longer be saved." Other public requests and an assessment extended to the trees on Marlborough, which he said "pose a significant risk to our community in the right of way."

continued on page 6



Hundreds of Instagrammers worldwide followed #tortillatrend, including salsa and tortilla companies.



Why settle for a decent place to live when you could have a Deason place to live?

Faulconer feathers his nest

Newsom's nemesis readies for recall

Ex-San Diego mayor Kevin Faulconer, facing a daunting array of well-heeled Republican challengers to his bid to become governor in the face of a possible recall of Democratic incumbent Gavin Newsom, has hit the money circuit. State disclosure records show that Faulconer's just-created gubernatorial exploratory campaign committee raised a total of \$501,200 from January 12 to January 27 of this year, with many of the donors hailing from the super-rich reaches of La Jolla and Rancho Santa Fe.

Kelly Burt, chairman and CEO of Price Self Storage, a real estate mogul who took part in the closed-door meeting of kingmakers that picked Faulconer to run for mayor after a scandal caused the fall of Democrat Bob Filner in 2013, gave his longtime ally \$64,800 on January 21. Burt's wife Laurie did the same. When he helped engineer Faulconer's rise to mayor, Burt was head of a political committee calling itself New Majority San Diego. "We don't address the social issues," he told the *Voice of San Diego* in October 2013.

Doug Barnhart, a Rancho Santa Fe contractor who has long been a major GOP donor, and his wife Nancy, kicked in a total of \$64,800 to the ex-mayor's cause, as did Dallas, Texas computer billionaire Darwin Deason and latest wife Kimberly. In November 2009, Deason and a prior spouse, Katerina Panos, bought the La Jolla oceanfront estate owned by developer Doug Manchester and first wife Betsy — then divorcing — for \$18.15 million, substantially less than the \$33 million asking price. Three years later, Deason forked over \$3284 to La Jolla lobbyist Matthew Peterson to make sure permits for an over-the-top Baroque makeover of the Spindrift Drive property made it through the Faulconer administration's development department. As for prior money-giving, in 2015, Deason funded a super PAC, backing then-Texas governor Rick Perry's presidential aspirations to the tune of \$5 million. But a year later, he switched his financial support to Donald Trump.

Deason's son Doug, also a staunch Trump backer, has been behind a bid to take control of San Diego-based One America News Network, which the ex-president has lately preferred

over Fox News. Together with his father, Doug Deason is on the Deason Foundation board, which gave \$5000 to Faulconer's now-defunct One San Diego charity to fund the then-mayor's Thanksgiving turkey handouts in the city's more impoverished neighborhoods.

Phil Oates, chairman of the Buzz Oates Group, son of late developer Marvin "Buzz" Oates, and a partner in the Sacramento Kings basketball team with the sons of Qualcomm billionaire Irwin Jacobs, gave Faulconer's committee \$50,000, filings show. And Los Angeles mega-landlord Gerald Marcil, who manages more than 3300 apartments per a November 2017 account by *Los Angeles Times* columnist Steve Lopez, along with his wife, gave Faulconer's committee \$68,400. Marcil told Lopez that "lots of communities oppose new construction anywhere near their neighborhoods. That, along with rising construction costs, has pumped up rents, especially in job centers where there are more people making good money." Continued Lopez, "Marcil said he thinks the state's large population of immigrants in the country illegally is a factor, too. He said they're good for his business because they increase the housing demand, but that drives rents higher for everyone."

Matt Potter

Highway Lobby

Who would have thought an outfit named Platinum would be expensive?

Having been given new social justice marching orders, two lobbying firms for San Diego are set to be re-upped at a hefty six-figure cost to taxpayers by new Democratic Mayor Todd Gloria and his city council allies. "Funding for this Agreement will come from the General Fund, Municipal Wastewater Fund, Development Services Fund, and the Environmental Services Fund," according to the item on the council's January 26 consent agenda. "These contracts were previously authorized, and this action extends authorization to the Mayor, or their designees, to execute the two additional one-year periods."

In January 2019, Sacramento-based Platinum Advisors, LLC and Washington, D.C.'s Squire Patton Boggs both got an initial three-

continued on page 33

UNDER THE RADAR

Jesus is boss South Bay political powerhouse **Jesus Cardenas** came under fire in 2019 by then-county supervisor candidate and state senator **Ben Hueso** for "gaming" the San Diego Democratic Party central committee, resulting in the endorsement of Hueso's foe, **Nora Vargas**. She ultimately won the election. Now Cardenas, the new chief of staff for San Diego city council-

man **Stephen Whitburn**, has filed his legally required statement of economic interests for last year, revealing that his Chula Vista-based political consulting outfit Grassroots Resources is valued between \$100,000 and \$1 million and grossed between \$10,000 and \$100,000. During the period, Cardenas borrowed between \$10,000 and \$100,000 from the company, per the filing. Single income sources over \$10,000 to the firm included Whitburn for

City Council, Nora Vargas for County Supervisor, the San Diego County Democratic Party, and the Association of Cannabis Professionals. The only losing client listed as paying Grassroots greater than \$10,000 was **Kelvin Barrios**, forced out of a San Diego city council race due to an ethics scandal. Laborers Local 89, a union where Barrios works, also provided Grassroots more than \$10,000. Additionally, Cardenas received between \$10,000 and \$100,000 in salary from **Mike Bloomberg's** ultimately failed Democratic presidential campaign.

Whitburn's deputy chief of staff **Codi Vierra** also hails from local Democratic politics. Last year, she picked up between \$10,000 and \$100,000 as campaign manager for La Jolla congressman **Scott Peters's** reelection drive, her January 11 disclosure filing shows. Meanwhile, **Juan Reyes**, Democratic Mayor **Todd Gloria's** state and local government affairs manager, reports he received between \$1000 and \$10,000 in the form of a "win bonus" last year from Gloria's mayoral campaign.

Turkeys and diapers San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria's 2020 Assembly reelection campaign fund, which drew a 2019 lawsuit after it became apparent he wasn't running for the Assembly but instead campaigning for mayor, had a \$68,276 cash balance on the final day of 2020. According to a January 21 disclosure report, during the last two months of the year Gloria used the fund to provide \$171 worth of unspecified "items for Asm [Lorena] Gonzalez Turkey/Diaper drive," and \$262 for "items for Assembly Staff Dinner via Zoom (8 total)." A judge dismissed the lawsuit, but the state's Fair Political Practices Commission subsequently fined the then-mayoral candidate \$200 for what Gloria said was an inadvertent late filing. Gloria critic **Mat Wahlstrom** of Hillcrest has called

the commission a "sham and a fraud."

Stuck in the bucks A housing project that promises to transform San Diego's Carmel Mountain Ranch is barreling through city hall in what may be the first test of the city council's new Democratic majority regarding how it treats newly minted political benefactors. "It's a

development that's in the wrong place at the wrong time," **Troy Daum**, the Founder of Carmel Mountain United, told TV station KGTV last month about the proposed 1200-unit development by New Urban West, Inc. of Santa Monica. Called the Trails at Carmel Mountain West, the project seeks to redevelop the old Carmel Mountain Ranch Country Club golf course, shuttered since July 2018. "We aren't against development," Daum told the *Union-Tribune*. "We understand we need affordable places for people to live. But we believe the idea of changing golf course property over to dense urban projects is not really a smart way to develop."

New Urban West is no stranger to handling such controversial makeovers, having stepped into the old Escondido Country Club redevelopment following years of bitter warfare between the local citizenry and the original sponsor. That was an outfit called Stuck in the Rough, run by Republican donor **Michael Schlesinger** of Beverly

Hills. A major donor disclosure report, filed with the City Clerk's office on January 22, shows that New Urban West spent \$47,950 on political causes in California during 2020, including \$10,000, its single most significant expenditure, for the San Diego County Democratic Party, which in turn successfully backed the election of the present council majority...The Committee to Recall **Jennifer Campbell** is officially registered with the City Clerk as of January

20, with **John Thickstun** as its principal officer. The La Jolla attorney has been at the head of the battle against short term vacation rentals. "John was the glue that held us together," **Sue Hopkins**, a UC San Diego professor, told the *Union-Tribune* columnist **Logan Jenkins** in July 2018 regarding Thickstun's role in Save San Diego Neighborhoods, a group battling Airbnb and similar operations. Campbell has proposed new regulations, but the plan "does not have an enforcement mechanism that will keep platforms from engaging in bad behavior," Mission Beach Town Council past president **Gary Wonacott** recently opined.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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Ben Hueso lost the support of the local Democratic party overlords, and then lost his election for supervisor.



Mat Wahlstrom: California's Fair Political Practices Commission is "a sham and a fraud."

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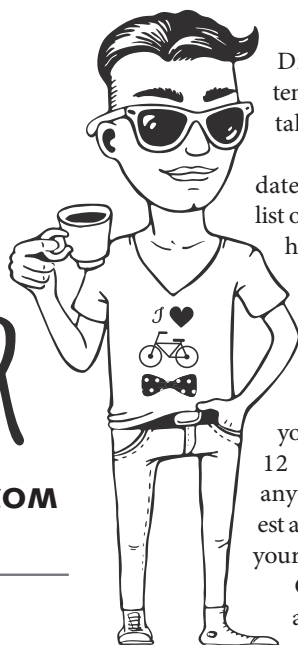
Dear Hipster:

After a long, dreadfully lonely 2020 in which I managed to contract, and recover from, a mild case of coronavirus despite remaining in near-total isolation, I'm super low-key dating again because, well, eff it, right? Perhaps it's the general lack of opportunity, or perhaps it has more to do with the sobering human tragedies of the past year, but my life and time seem super valuable to me right now. Wasting even a few hours on a dead end date might not have bothered me in, say, 2018, but it strikes me as a much bigger waste of time today. I know this sounds superficial, but I'm really looking for some ways to just write people off over nothing. I used to have some rules (e.g., walk out on anyone who asks that stupid question, "Which historical figure would you have dinner with?"), but I'm open to suggestions for creatively arbitrary reasons to terminate a weak date.

— Emma

I could probably suggest a thousand things that would work as a perfectly arbitrary hipster dating litmus test, but a lot of them are too easy (bail on anyone who unironically praises Michael Bay movies) or peculiar to only the quirkiest hipsters (consider proposing to anyone who can list a favorite composer of secular Renaissance choral music). You need things that will work for a broad range of people in a broad range of scenarios.

Try dropping a piece of made-up trivia, or faking an interest in a nonexistent writer.



Ditch anyone who pretends to know what you're talking about.

Before going on your date, memorize a laundry list of facts about something heinously boring but obviously important in a practical sense, like the properties of different varieties of cement, and lecture your date on it for a good 12 to 15 minutes. Ditch anyone who feigns interest as a means of getting into your good graces.

Give your potential date an easy choice between two equal options (something seriously

easy like "Ice cream or frozen yogurt?"), and ditch anyone who can't pick one, and instead tries to get you to pick rather than muster up an actual opinion. You don't have time to be making up someone else's mind.

If none of those work, the following test is guaranteed to suss out the substance of any potential mate: Now that outdoor dining is back in action, hit a restaurant and order wings, because the way a person eats wings tells you a lot. If your date asks about ordering boneless wings instead of real wings, you can say something like, "You mean chicken fingers? I didn't realize I was going out with a fourth grader." If he or she looks offended, smash your beer and

bounce. But if you get a laugh, then at least there's a sense of humor there. If, on the other hand, the person you're seeing gets all excited about ordering wings, but then nibbles only the easiest bites of meat rather than properly skeletonizing the wing like a ravenous jackal, then you have a real problem. You should probably fake an imminent bowel movement and leave through the back door. Don't feel bad about leaving that monster with the check. It's totally warranted on these facts.

Come to think of it, this one doesn't really work if you're dating a vegetarian. There's not much to learn from someone's approach to buffalo cauliflower.

— DJ Stevens



PHOTOGRAPH BY PHOTOGRAPHY

A golden, crispy litmus test.

LETTERS

continued from page 1

they lost her and she walked into a crowd protesting something else.

Both agents should have lost their badges and been force-drafted into the remaining US forces in Afghanistan to be slowly soldiered to death with insufficient rations, bad weapons, no allowance to use vehicles so they had to march everywhere. The terrain and the high altitude would have killed them in a year if the conditions were right. But nope, blame our substandard jail, built by our substandard city government.

—Strelnikov

Correction: That jail was built by the substandard county government. Place blame where it belongs.

Ain't it great to see the chief of the local PD, which is called in some circles the "world's largest hick town PD" wearing four stars on his collar? That is equivalent to the rank insignia of only about two dozen top military commanders in duty at any one time.

It places him on the same perceived level as folks such as John Pershing, George Patton, Matt Ridgeway, Curtis LeMay, and Norman Schwarzkopf. The current slimy sheriff of LA county wears FIVE stars, same as Nimitz, Eisenhower, MacArthur, and Arnold in WWII. That joke of a cop in solberin' LA allows his subordinates to wear four stars. But then, all the chiefs of police in SD county wear those four stars, as thought they commanded millions of subordinates, when they usually have a few hundred. What a crock!

—Visduh

"The struggle to become CEO of the World" Ask a Hipster January 27

Having used chemicals to enhance my comprehension, after learning from Robin Williams in *Bicentennial*

Man that immortality is a false goal, I must continue to worship your insight. However that comprehension includes knowing that God was created in man's image. Please comprehend that my worship is limited to the continued reading of your articles. This paragraph is just the equivalent to the custom of greeting the pastor upon exiting the sanctuary.

—Frederick Simson

"San Diego Unified revokes then reinstates benefits for Gompers Prep founders" Neighborhood News January 18

Forgive me, monaghan, if I'm a bit skeptical about Gompers. Over the years we heard wonderful things about it from time to time that were pure fabrications. During the "busing for racial balance" days, it was a magnet school for the white kids from north of I-8, and they were physically separated from the local kids who had not chosen to be bused to white neighborhoods. If it is as good as you—and it—proclaim, that would be a near miracle. But what is so bad about having a union there? Are you anti-union?

—Visduh

Read what I said. This is about school board president Richard Barrera trying to decapitate Gompers Preparatory School by breaking a "lifetime" salary guarantee from the school district to Vince Riveroll, the school's charismatic founder and principal. Riveroll and the community built this 20-year-old Gompers charter from the shambles of its former incarnation into arguably the most academically aspirational secondary school in southeast San Diego. I believe Gompers recently may have voted to unionize. Teachers' unions, which once approved public charters, lately target them for vendetta. Sabotaging Riveroll's salary would have been quite a coup toward that end. Good thing the shameful attempt failed

—monaghan

EDITOR

Jim Holman

NEWS & FEATURES EDITOR

Ernie Grimm

SENIOR EDITORS

Matt Potter, Matthew Lickona

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Chris Woo

CONTRIBUTORS

Ian Anderson, Thomas K. Arnold, Ed Bedford, Robert Bush, Joe Deegan, Dave Good, Moss Gropen, Dryw Keltz, Thomas Larson, Ken Leighton, Mike Madriaga, Bill Manson, Derek Pike, Ian Pike, Elizabeth Salaam, Jay Allen Sanford

CHIEF REVENUE OFFICER

Stephen Hatch

SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Eduardo Bravo, Brett Flynn, Holly Micelli, David Phillipich, Randy Rice, Graeme Storey, Todd Westfall

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Tiffany Ferren-Cirino

SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST

Veronica Garcia-Gomez

AD/MARKETING COORDINATOR

Alyssa Prestidge

DIGITAL AGENCY MANAGER

Daniela Penkova

DIGITAL AGENCY COORDINATORS

Matthew Dodd, Veronica Garcia-Gomez

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Amanda Stevens

ADVERTISING SUPPORT STAFF

Amanda Tascher

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Mike Brown

ART DIRECTOR

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ACCOUNTING & HR MANAGER

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STAFF ACCOUNTANTS

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Kensington resident Maggie McCann disputes the city forester's health report. She now has two active lawsuits against the city, one for skipping the environmental review process for undergrounding in her area despite having done it elsewhere in Kensington, and another for the stealth removal of two other trees. Says McCann, "In January 2019, without warning, the city removed a pepper tree one block away from me, and then I got a knock on the door a few days later from a contractor, telling me they were going to take out my tree, too." McCann had spent a year fighting to protect Kensington's 110-year-old pepper trees through an attempt to get them listed as heritage trees — a status they are eligible for under city policy since they are more than 50 years old. She and other advocates submitted a Conserve-a-Tree nomination in 2018 for all the neighborhood's remaining historic pepper trees. The nomination goes to the city arborist — currently Widener — who forwards it to the Community Forest Advisory Board to make the decision. When the conservationists heard back months later, they were told the

Edgeware Road. She then hired Chula Vista city forester Sam Oludunfe to assess its health. "He also looked at the Monroe tree that was removed, and the three trees on Marlborough that were also tagged for removal." The consulting arborist performed a basic tree assessment, finding the one at 4748 Marlborough Drive was afflicted with fungal rot and in need of removal. But the Monroe tree named Karla and the other two on Marlborough "are stable, had moderate to full canopies with strongly attached branches and good foliage." He recommended an advanced tree assessment to determine the structural soundness of the outwardly healthy trees. It wasn't the only independent assessment Karla received. Dan Lembo, who lives at 4190 Monroe Avenue, hired a certified arborist to evaluate his tree. The arborist concluded that the tree was healthy and posed no danger.

McCann says she checked the city's Get It Done app and found a complaint had been



The city has picked a pack of pretty peppers, much to the dismay of some Kensingtonians.

But the Monroe tree named Karla and the other two on Marlborough "are stable, had moderate to full canopies with strongly attached branches and good foliage."

nomination would not be forwarded and that pepper trees are not normally given protected status, "due to the growth form and characteristics of this tree including roots that can cause significant damage to city infrastructure including sidewalks and curbs." There was no reference to any such city policy.

McCann's attorney filed a temporary restraining order to try and save her tree on

made that someone couldn't park next to the tree. She says that "Dan removed all of the new overgrowth from the base of the tree," eliminating the problem, and adds that they still don't know why the trees are being cut down. "When they removed the first tree a year ago, they said it was because they couldn't replace the sidewalk without removing the tree. However, six months prior to cutting the tree

down, they replaced the sidewalk, pruned the tree roots, and left cutouts in the sidewalk to accommodate the tree."

In court documents, Widener said the trees are not being removed as part of the city's utility undergrounding program, but as part of the sidewalk replacement project. "In accordance with public safety and requests made by the public, some pepper trees in the Kensington community have been and are scheduled to be removed." The city says they will replace removed street trees, but not with pepper trees.

SHEILA PELL

THE BORDER Bad dad at the City Junior You say kidnapping, I say negotiation tactic

Martin Ramirez was born on Thanksgiving Day, 1975 in Mexico, which he eventually left for the U.S. There, he married Rosa, and in 2004, when he was 28, his wife gave him a daughter.

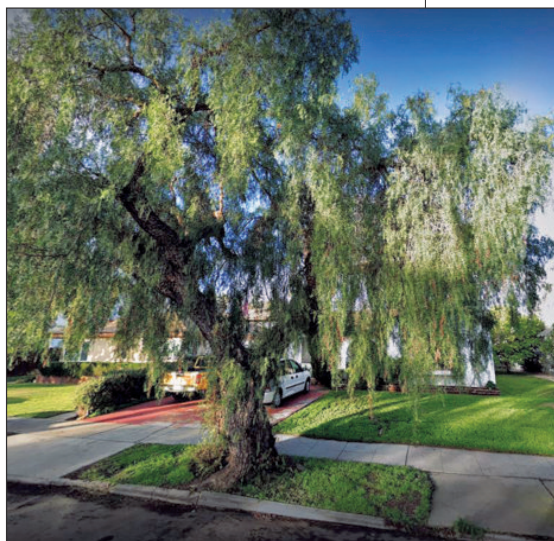
They had another daughter in 2008, and a third in 2013. The parents bought a home in Clark County, Nevada. But Ramirez struggled. He never became fluent in English. He did not become an American citizen. There are court records from Nevada describing an incident in which Ramirez allegedly went into the bedroom of one child and screamed at her that he had a gun "with 17 bullets, all for you!" Then he showed Rosa a holstered gun, reportedly. A restraining order was issued in that case.

In 2016, the couple divorced. Ramirez was 40 years old then, and his three girls were aged 12, 8, and 3. The house in Nevada was sold. Each parent expected to receive \$33,000 from the house sale, according to records, but then there was another court hearing, and Ramirez's share was directed into a fund intended for future child support. Rosa gathered up her three girls and they moved to Oceanside. She had family there; her brother Oscar was especially helpful. She had been granted sole custody of the children by the courts in Nevada. Ramirez was allowed to visit his children only with approval from their mother. Rosa did allow him to see his daughters maybe once or twice a year; those contacts and arrangements were always made through her brother Oscar.

In the fall of 2018, Ramirez made arrangements with his brother-in-law Oscar to have lunch with his three girls and then go to a movie. It was hot that Friday — October 12, 2018. Oscar dropped off his three nieces to meet their dad at the Pit Stop Diner on Mission Avenue in Oceanside, and went on with his day. But after a while, he realized he had not heard from the eldest daughter, even though she was supposed to call. Oscar had loaded a tracking app onto her cell phone so that he could check her location, but it didn't seem to be working.

It took him several tries, but eventually Oscar was able to speak with Ramirez by phone.

continued on page 9



PHOTOGRAPH BY MAGGIE MCCANN

"When they removed the first tree a year ago, they said it was because they couldn't replace the sidewalk without removing the tree. However, six months prior to cutting the tree down, they replaced the sidewalk, pruned the tree roots, and left cutouts in the sidewalk to accommodate the tree."

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“Alas, poor Yorick!” Drehner performs to his audience of one

Naked in Balboa Park

“See you at the Nudist Colony,” says John. This rainy Saturday afternoon happened in the last days of the lockdown. Still no gatherings allowed. John Drehner and I were so bored, we came up with this brilliant idea: “Let’s do Shakespeare in the Park!” I suggested. He’d do the acting, I’d be his audience of one. The governor couldn’t object to a crowd of one.

Drehner’s a retired mail carrier whom friends know for playing bit parts in a ton of Shakespeare plays right here in Balboa Park, ever since the 1990s. His more famous portrayals include the gravedigger in Hamlet and the porter in Macbeth, small but funny roles to relieve the tensions of the plots.

“I started off being hired as a spear-carrier, but if you hang around long enough, you can end up being a star,” says John, “just because other actors don’t turn up.”

So here we are where he acted, in the sunken dell behind the Fleet Science Center in a deserted Balboa Park. Today, it looks unused, but intact, like a classical Greek stage in the round, with galleries climbing up towards the Prado.

But our crazy Shakespeare idea also reveals another secret of the park to me. It turns out this was also, in its day, a full-fledged — unfledged? — naturist demonstration park. “The garden got its name during the 1935-36 International Exposition when it housed a nudist colony exhibit called “Zoro Gardens,” explains a sign erected by Friends of Balboa Park. “Several times a day, the mostly female troupe conducted rituals to the Sun God. To enter, visitors were charged 25 cents, later raised to 75 cents, for unlimited observation time.”

Today, the only audience apart from me is

a four-strong wedding party trying to set up a canopy to hold a ceremony, not strictly legit under lockdown rules, but who’s noticing? That doesn’t bother John either. He stands right in the middle, and takes a deep breath. His normally hard-to-hear voice booms up out of the dell. “Come out, damned spot! I command you!” he booms, playing Lady Macbeth. “The Thane of Fife had a wife, where is she now? What? Will my hands never be clean?”

Now, he’s Hamlet: “Alas! Poor Yorick! I knew him well. A fellow of infinite jest!”

Somehow, John gains power from the isolation of the stage. He transforms into Richard III. “A horse! A horse! My kingdom for a horse!” Then ends up the porter in Macbeth. “What three things does drink especially provoke? Lechery, sir, it provokes, and unprovokes. It provokes the desire, but takes away the performance.”

It’s quite a performance in itself. Two in the wedding party join me in enthusiastic clapping. But now I want to know more about what happened down here in 1935. “Between shows,” says the sign, “the nudists played games, read, cooked, and lounged amidst lush vegetation and a running brook.... A small Maya-style building provided a kitchen and bathroom. Animal skin rugs and a fire pit were used for chilly evenings. Conveniently-placed knot-holes in a wooden fence surrounding the upper rim of the garden provided a free peek inside. Despite several public attempts to close it down, the nudist attraction was hugely popular, and kept long hours during the exposition. According to historians of the naturist movement, Zoro Gardens was the only known nudist colony in the world to sell tickets to spectators.”

Right next to the zoo: coincidence?



Drehner’s Macbeth copy to help him remember his lines

Lab-grown seafood

Q: What do Lou Cooperhouse and Winston Churchill have in common?

A: They both believe in growing only the part of the chicken or fish or beef you actually want to eat.

Amazingly, Churchill had this idea 90 years ago. “We shall escape the absurdity of growing a whole chicken, in order to eat a breast or a wing, by growing these parts separately, under a suitable medium,” the Great Man wrote in 1931.

“I was saying, ‘Yes, Impossible Burgers, but why is nobody working on seafood?! That’s the biggest opportunity!’”

A century later, here in San Diego, Lou Cooperhouse looks like he’s making that exact miracle happen, except with fish. He has found out how to create “whole-muscle, cell-based seafood products, in which living cells are isolated from fish tissue, placed into culture media for proliferation, and then assembled into great-tasting fresh and frozen seafood products.”

Now he’s creating a 40,000-square-foot San Diego facility to actually make this happen. “We will be able to create real seafood, but without mercury, without micro plastics, or environmental pollutants, simply fish cells multiplying in stainless steel containers like beer vats until they can be combined and shaped into the bits of fish we’d recognize.” And because it’s still an expensive process,



Cell-based yellowtail medallions

Cooperhouse’s company, BlueNalu (“Nalu” is Hawaiian for “ocean waves,” and “go mindfully with the flow”), is starting with recreating about the most expensive fish in the Pacific, the blue fin tuna. One sold for \$1.8 million the other day in Tokyo. “But with our system, blue fin costs the same to produce as pollack. So we may start with mahi mahi, then it might be bluefin tuna, then a red snapper, then a mahi mahi that’s targeted for use in poke or ceviche, maybe in the form of a cube, or a filet, and your bluefin tuna might be in the form of a sashimi-grade strip. So we’re targeting products we can literally manufacture based

on consumer demand.”

He admits costs right now are “extremely expensive,” but will become “clearly affordable over time, because for the first time we’re demonstrating large-scale production and bringing the economies of scale into this industry. And while our prices will come down, with the increasing shortage of ocean fish stock, the price of traditional fish can only go up. But [with cellular aquaculture] we could keep more fish in the ocean, and really help take the pressure off the [natural] system.”

Cooperhouse believes he’s got a tiger by the tail, on the scale of, say, inventing the PC, or the World Wide Web. Why set up in San Diego? “It’s all about the San Diego workforce, and the tremendous talent we have here.” And



Lou Cooperhouse

appropriate talent. “Tissue engineering, cell biology, bio-pharma processing, on and on. And also a deep San Diego heritage in the seafood industry.”

Cooperhouse remembers how he came to his aha! moment. “I had spent 35 years in the food industry, but I was increasingly out there giving a lot of speeches about food trends and consumers’ interest in sustainability. Initially, plant-based foods were the focus. And then in the early 2010s, the proof-of-concept happened with cell-based [food]. At the Hawaii Agricultural Foundation, I was saying, ‘Yes, Impossible Burgers, but why’s nobody working on seafood?! That’s the biggest opportunity!’”

“Sure enough there was a person in the audience from a venture-capital firm. He said, ‘We’ve got to talk. You’ve just made the case for a very disruptive company.’”

A few months later, in 2017, Blue Nalu launched. “Now we have \$84.5 million in funding, and commitments worldwide.” ■

The father said they were not going to the movies; instead, he was doing a chore, delivering a utility trailer somewhere. It was not clear to Oscar, but it seemed they had left Oceanside and were headed in the direction of downtown San Diego. At some point the eldest daughter was able to connect with her Uncle Oscar. She was distressed. She believed they were headed for Mexico. She saw guards and signs in Spanish. A license plate reader at the border recorded Ramirez's red 2001 Pontiac minivan crossing into Mexico.

Ramirez phoned Oscar. "The conversation was hostile," Oscar later said. He described Ramirez's demeanor as angry, and said he used a lot of profanity. Ramirez expressed anger about the sale of his home in Nevada, and he demanded a lot of money to return the girls back to the U.S. The number he wanted fluctuated between forty and fifty thousand dollars, according to Oscar, who said Ramirez "was hard to negotiate with." Oscar suspected that his brother-in-law was probably in a hotel in Tijuana. He decided that he would cross the border and look around for the red minivan. He thought maybe he could spot Ramirez, or even find the girls.

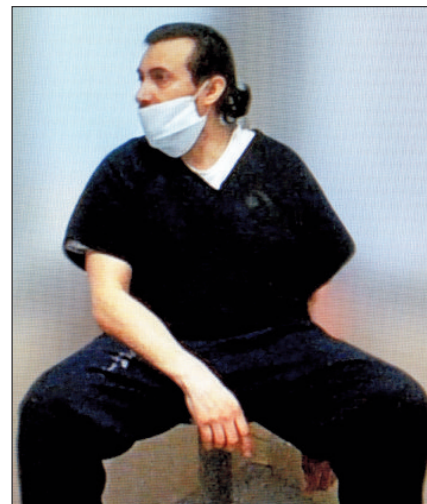
The negotiations to return the girls went on through the weekend. Eventually, Rosa managed to get an \$18,000 loan from the Navy Federal Credit Union, and her family was able to scratch together another \$500. Oscar was able to negotiate that \$18,500 dollars would be deposited into an account for Ramirez, and then a balance of \$20,000 would be paid later, after the girls were returned. Ramirez would not reveal the location of the hotel until the money was deposited. He sent information for a Bank of America account which had his brother's name on it: Jose Ramirez. Rosa deposited the money into the account her ex-husband specified, took a photo of the deposit receipt, and texted that to Oscar, who sent it on to Ramirez. Ramirez eventually texted back his location in Tijuana: the City Junior Hotel. Oscar went immediately; the three children were inside the front lobby. Oscar never did see his brother-in-law or his vehicle.

The two eldest girls were interviewed by police after they had returned. The eldest said their father sometimes took the SIM card out of their phones. Both girls said that each time their father had to leave the room, he took their phones, and sometimes he took the littlest girl with him. As the days passed, sometimes they watched TV, and sometimes they went around town, but when their father saw Mexican authorities, he got agitated and sped up and said the police better not try to come and get him. They

said they were aware their father was demanding money from their mom to return them to the U.S. He told the girls that she owed him money from the divorce, and they were not going back to the U.S. until that money was deposited into the account.

In the town of Paulsbo, Washington, Ramirez tried to access the money. He used an ATM in a convenience store there, trying to get into the Bank of America account in his brother's name. When Ramirez discovered that the bank account was frozen, he phoned Oscar. Oscar says Ramirez was agitated, "You guys are liars! I knew you called the police!" And he allegedly threatened the family: "You know what is going to happen!" The two started to argue, and then Ramirez hung up the phone.

Ramirez was held for some months in Washington State, then he was extradited into California. He was booked into jail in San Diego County in June, 2019. He appeared in a San Diego courtroom in the spring of 2020. His defense attorney asserted that Rosa "did not ever tell Martin that he could not take the girls to Tijuana." And the father never threatened to use force or harm, neither against his daughters, nor against the person from whom he demanded money. And the money he requested from his ex-wife was not ransom money, Ramirez's attorney said; it was proceeds from the sale of their home — money due to



PHOTOGRAPH BY EVA KNOTT

Clearly a criminal — just look at the way his mask doesn't cover his nose

him. She insisted Ramirez did not intend to kidnap his own daughters.

At the end of a two-hour pre-trial hearing, Judge Brad Weinreb ordered Ramirez to face charges at trial. The defendant pleaded not guilty to four felonies, three kidnappings, and one extortion. At his most recent hearing, on January 19, through an interpreter, Ramirez demanded to represent himself. He intends to act as his own attorney at his next court date, February 17, currently set for jury trial.

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Beast mode: A pair of pelted patriots prompt pusillanimous pol to pivot.

Recall Stall

Governor replaces Stay-at-Home order with Stay-in-Office order

Last Monday, California Governor Gavin Newsom surprised many by lifting the stay-at-home order that had shuttered many restaurants and restricted other business and activity throughout much of the state. "Yessir, it's Newsom's new deal," said the visibly sweating governor before going on to explain the science behind his baffling backtrack. "It's all about projections. Our projections are that Southern California will enjoy increased ICU capacity within the next four weeks. So really, what looks like a policy reversal is just

good science. And there was another projection: that if I didn't cave on this point right quick, the increasingly mainstream Recall Newsom movement would gain enough momentum to give [ex-mayor of San Diego Kevin] Faulconer a real shot at my job. And if that happens, I'm not likely to get many reservations at The French Laundry's private banquet garage, lockdown or no lockdown. So yes, it turns out there are some things worse than covid, and unemployment - for me - is one of them. Who loves you, California?"

Don't Vaccinate — Blaccinate!

City Health Department addresses vaccine hesitancy among black community with cool representative superhero

"It worked for Marvel!"

Recent surveys have indicated that while roughly 20% of the White, Hispanic, and Asian communities would not take the covid-19 vaccine even if it were available to them, nearly 40% of the Black community would skip out on the opportunity. Dr. Ronnie Wood, chairman of the city's Got Shot? campaign, has been tasked with overcoming this systemic hesitancy, and he has this to offer: "Blacks have historically been treated badly by the United States' healthcare system. Perhaps the most famous example of this is the infamous Tuskegee Study of Syphilis in the Untreated Negro Male, in which Black Americans were deceived into thinking they were receiving treatment for syphilis when in fact they were not. Over 125 men lost their

lives, when a simple dose of penicillin would have saved them. And this was a collaboration between the US Public Health Service and the CDC. It's both shocking and shameful, and it goes a long way toward explaining why Blacks might be suspicious about the government coming around and sticking a needle in their arm 'for their own good.'"

Happily, says Dr. Wood, the San Diego Department of Well-Meaning Gestures has come up with a way to address this suspicion. "The covid-19 pandemic is a disaster of global proportions, and if the past ten years have taught us anything, it's that global threats demand superheroes to save the day. *Black Panther* was a monster hit for Marvel,



Bucky Black, The Blaccinator, and his trusty Hyper-Hypo. Coming soon to a neighborhood clinic near you!

and what was the lesson of *Black Panther*? That a Black community thrives when its blessed with a bit of magical stuff called vibranium falling from heaven, and a black superhero is born when he eats an herb affected by that vibranium. So it was just a matter of getting Black people to see the vaccine as their very own version of vibranium: a piece of technology that could render them impervious to the threat posed by this deadly enemy. And what better way to get them thinking in superhero terms than by creating a custom superhero? Thus was born The Blaccinator — the awesome alter-ego of Bucky Black, a mild mannered hospital janitor who is transformed into a crusader against covid after he is injected with an experimental...oh. Wait a minute. Let me get back to you on this."

Semper Fine

First batch of female Marine recruits arrive at Camp Pendleton for training



Just kidding. These are actually all trans women, eager to take advantage of President Biden's reversal of Trump's transgender ban for the military. Just kidding. These are all cis het drag queens, eager to take part in Hamburger Mary's Oo-rah-rah Marine Scene Extravaganza.

WHO PLAYS WHO

GROCERY GROPER EDITION



On *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, **Rachel Bloom** plays a woman who moves across the country to "bump into" her former boyfriend.

Racheal Medelin says that Ji Hoon Yong moved across a store aisle to bump into her in an amorous fashion.



Amber Heard has accused her ex-husband, actor **Johnny Depp**, of physical abuse.

Ji Hoon Yong faces multiple sexual battery charges after allegedly bumping up against many women's backsides while aroused.



On *The West Wing*, **Allison Janney** played C.J. Cregg, a press secretary who was not afraid to speak out on behalf of women.

City Attorney **Mara Elliott** is encouraging other women who have encountered Ji Hoon Yong to speak out and not be afraid.



TO BUY OR NOT TO BUY

During morning walks around my neighborhood, I like to window shop for real estate. One day, curiosity made me stop to scan the QR code on a 'For Sale' sign outside of a charming gray craftsman that I often

stroll past. The two-bedroom, one-bath room standalone in the heart of Normal Heights was going for \$685K. Considering what I'd heard about San Diego prices, it wasn't quite as bad as I feared.

I started to think of the possibilities, then quickly stopped when I remembered the lack of money in my savings. But as I kept walking, I wondered whether it was really that crazy. Could I afford a house in San Diego? Would I ever own a home? I turned to a pool of 30-some-things to learn how

The Pearsons have been in the market for several months. "It's been tough. There's somehow a ton of money, and a ton of people looking to buy right now. And there aren't that many homes for sale."

they were handling one of life's most daunting crossroads.

Ileana & Jared

Ileana Saldaña is a 29-year-old office assistant for Dietz & Watson. With her husband Jared, 30, and two daughters ages 7 and 4, she rents a three-bed, two-bath house in Vista for \$1400 per month. Saldaña is expecting a baby boy at the time I'm speaking to her, so buying a house is understandably not at the top of her to-do list.

"If I lived in the apartment we used to live in with the kids, and had a third one on the way, I wouldn't be as happy as I am. But because this is a house, I don't mind if I'm renting it or buying it because I already have what I want. We're comfortable, we're content."

They haven't given up, but are shelving the idea for now. "It was always a dream of ours — it's still a dream of ours — to own something that you can pass down to your kids. But as of right now, it's not possible."

In 2014, the Saldañas laid some of the groundwork. "We thought about it, and we actually did some planning. We were taking the steps to buy a home and seeing how much they really cost, and how much we could get from a loan, and looking at our credit. And we knew we could not afford a house at that moment. And then we just kept renting and renting and time flew by."

Two years ago, they left a small apartment and moved into the house. "We kind of just stopped looking for a home to buy



The two-bedroom, one-bathroom standalone in the heart of Normal Heights was going for \$685K. Considering what I'd heard about San Diego prices, it wasn't quite as bad as I feared.

because rent is affordable here and buying a home is really pricey."

Saldaña notes one perk of renting. "I like that I'm not the owner of a house, because there's way more responsibility. So if pipes burst or the toilet was overflowing, the owner of the house would have to take care of that. I'm just the renter — so that's something that they have to pay for, that they have to fix."

Still, buying a home could one day provide a safety net for their children. "That is something

cool — if me and Jared owned a house, then our kids have something to fall back on if times are even more rough in the future and they can't afford a house for whatever reason. They could always live where we lived and not even worry about paying a mortgage."

The Saldañas pay no mind to the so-called norm. "Society definitely does put pressure on people our age. It's very old-school like, 'You have to get married, have kids, buy a house.' And you don't really have to

do any of those things." She postulates, "You pretty much are paying off a house for 30 years, that's like 'the standard.' So if you think about it, when you buy it at 30, you're done by 60. And then you retire at 65. But people these days are not retiring at 65, so why can't you buy a house at 40?"

When it comes down to it, Saldaña says it's a matter of money. "It's going to be years for us to even try to buy. And you just need so much money down first. You need a chunk of money and then you need

a stable income. And it's just not working for us. It hasn't been.... With finding new jobs and getting a job and going on maternity leave. And then Jared's back was injured for a while... if something were to happen and one of us did not have an income, then we would be in the crapper, because we would not be able to afford it. If an emergency happened, we would have to lose the house."

Until they gain better financial footing, the Saldañas have no immediate plans to purchase. "In the next five years, we are sticking to what we are doing, living in this home, renting. And raising our kids, paying off the car, paying off debt. Then hopefully, after that, start saving and working towards it. I'll be 34 and Jared will be 35, and maybe we can actually start getting serious."

Saldaña is already painting a picture in her head. "Three bedrooms, two bathrooms is a must — I'm not sharing with kids. And a backyard would be nice."

She wants an open kitchen, "a place for friends and family to gather. It makes everything more homey when you can see everybody and hang out. But the size, I'm not too picky about. As long as we all have our separate space, so we're not down each other's throats."

Miles and Linda

Nearby in Oceanside, Miles Cook, a 30-year-old music director for an elementary school, rents an apartment with his wife Linda, 29, and two kids ages 11 and 13. They're in the middle of packing everything up to move back in with his parents.

Cook explains the situation, "They're rais-

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

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ing our rent again. So I said ‘No, we’re not doing that anymore. It’s time.’ We’ve been working with a realtor for like two years on how to fix our credit, because our credit was terrible, and just basically how to get on the right track to buying a house. So we’re going to temporarily move in with my parents while we’re hunting for something in our price range. But right now, there’s not much in that category. Hopefully we don’t have to live with them for too long. I know my mom loves it but... um... you know.”

Cook says their \$1900-a-month, two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment feels very small. “We’ve been here five years. They raised the rent every year. We used to pay \$1500 when we moved in. But nothing

new has happened, they haven’t updated anything. It’s the same exact apartment, just costs more.” Technically, the complex has a newly remodeled gym, which he has only used once. “I swear that’s where our rent money is going.”

Despite the time spent living at their apartment, the family has never considered it home. “It just feels like staying at a hotel. We live here, but we don’t actually own it. We’re using these rooms, but they’re not ours. I’d rather be putting my money into something that I would own eventually.”

They began to make their dream a reality. “When we started, it was kind of like, ‘Well, that’s what you do.’ You do some renting for a little bit and then you go out

and you find your white picket fence. But it was never financially an option for us. It was like ‘the kids need clothes, they gotta go on a field trip,’ and all these little things add up and make you feel like, ‘We’re never getting out of this, we’re just stuck.’”

It was his mother who pushed them to finally consult someone about options. “You may find that you’re actually pretty well established already! There’s no hurt in just talking to somebody. I don’t know if that’s a millennial thing or not, but we just don’t want to talk to people.”

The Cooks were told, “‘You’re probably not ready to start the process but here’s some things you should do to get you on the right path.’ It was basically fixing our cred-

it. And that helped! Just hearing ‘You’re not there yet, but you can be there. It just takes some effort. It’s something people don’t talk about...’ Nobody ever talks about what you have to do to get there. Or that you can even do something about it.”

Before, it seemed like just a pipe dream. “I was not convinced that we were going to be able to do it. I was going along with it for Linda. Because she would not stop pestering me about it. Two years after that first conversation, and now that we finally have a number, I feel like it’s actually going to happen.”

One of his takeaways is that “having bad credit isn’t the end of the world. You can fix it. And that’s why we’re in the spot that we are, because we were able to fix those

things and get back into the good graces of... whoever is in charge of that. For me, it always felt insurmountable.”

With some wiggle room in their \$380K budget, the Cooks feel optimistic about getting their foot in the door on San Diego’s housing market. “We’re not going to find ‘the’ house that we’re going to spend the rest of our lives in. Right now, we’re just trying to find ‘a’ house that’s not falling apart and that will last for however long we need,” he says. “What we’re seeing is a lot of the 3 bedroom houses are in the low \$400Ks, so we’re trying to wait it out and see what happens to the market. Right now, nobody really knows what 2021 is going to look like. But it could be good for us.”

Sam and Ryan
Another couple in Pacific Beach is also actively looking to buy their first house. They’re fortunate to have some know-how.

Ryan Pearson, 33, created *PacificBeachHomes.com* and has nine years’ experience in the business, but calls himself a “part time realtor” since shifting his career to marketing. This is not his first time buying. “I got lucky and I got into real estate really early. And I put like \$32K down on a condo and stayed there for a few years. And basically held onto that thing for a really long time. Just a couple months ago, we sold that.”

Ryan and his wife Samantha, 32, are ready to upgrade after welcoming a new baby boy. “We’re using the proceeds from that condo

RESEARCH STUDIES

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(bought for \$260K, sold for \$515K), plus the townhouse that we're living in — that my dad owns and we're selling (listed for \$695K) — and we're house shopping right now."

The Pearsons have been in the market for several months. "It's been tough. There's somehow a ton of money, and a ton of people looking to buy right now. And there aren't that many homes for sale. We looked at a house last weekend that was listed at \$999K... and then we called the agent and they had an offer over \$1.1 million. So stuff is selling on the first weekend, he said they got nine offers in one day of showing."

Samantha comments on how the pandemic is affecting the search. "All the showings are booked to the max for each day. That one we just went to, we waited in line for 30 minutes to get in because with covid, you can only do one party at a time."

She sounds flabbergasted by seeing the lines of people form. "That was a million-dollar house! I would think with the \$700-900k range, that's

probably even more competitive, just because it's more competitively priced."

Despite low interest rates, Ryan acknowledges that it's currently a seller's market. "Because inventory is so low. The number of homes for sale in each zip code is drastically smaller than it was last year. And I think there are probably a lot of people who are scared to let people into their house," he speculates. "So a lot of people are putting it on hold, if they can, and trying to wait for the vaccine to roll out."

The Pearsons also wonder whether the housing market will crash. "We haven't really seen a hit to the market like I was expecting. I think a lot of people are wondering what will happen. When we look at the future, it's a big question mark — what is going to happen when tenants can be evicted? Or when homeowners have to pay their mortgage? I don't know if there's going to be a big change. It makes me wonder... maybe we never really see a big dip in the real estate market?"



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUAREZ

Aaron says, "When we walked out to the backyard, they had really done a beautiful job of landscaping it. We kind of went, 'Whoa! This is a real gem of a property.' Because there aren't many places that have this much space and we just really loved the outdoor area."

Which is surprising to me, but a lot of economists are expecting home prices to continue to go up in 2021 due to limited inventory and low interest rates."

Ryan doesn't believe in playing the wait-and-see game. "I think a lot of people try to time the market, or the whole concept of the word 'when.' Like, when is it going to get better? Should we wait? Should we do it now? More impor-

tant than trying to buy at the right time, it's a question of what makes sense for your life right now. There's lots of worry about what could happen and the whole 'when' question, but at the end of the day, it's 'What makes sense?' It has to make sense for your situation and your family."

Samantha says, "With the baby, we don't really have the luxury of waiting and seeing where the market goes. He's crawling, he's on the move! Whatever the market does... he needs a backyard, he needs a little space. Whether the market is up or down... do what's best for your family and then figure it

out later."

Though aiming for a three-bedroom house, they're keeping all options open. "We've looked at everything between \$650K up to \$1.2M," Ryan responds, but Samantha interjects, "I don't want to go that high. I think we can get more of a starter home for under a million. That's my goal."

Samantha gives me a quick overview of the neighborhoods where they're searching. "San Carlos and Del Cerro and around San Diego State have more one-level, 3 bedroom starter homes, which would be really good for a small family. Then you get into San Marcos and Carlsbad, and

the houses are bigger and more expensive — those would be more 'forever homes,' if we wanted to pull the trigger on something more expensive."

One requirement for the Pearsons' new home is a good elementary school. "That's been a priority for us. Otherwise, we're going to have to move again once our son gets older. And the cost of moving, and the cost of selling and re-buying another home is substantial. So finding something with a good school district can make it a better long term investment."

Samantha's house-searching philosophy: "You can't be cheap. You have to spend money to live in the best place," she declares. "And you have to move fast when it comes to buying a house. You can't go home and think about it for a week. If we like a place, we're putting in an offer the hour we get home. And if that makes you feel uncomfortable, moving that fast, you're going to miss out on a lot of housing opportunities."

Ryan has something of a *carpe diem* approach: "You're going to be happy. There's a lot of people who build wealth through real estate, and taking that first leap can really change your life. It seems like such a stressful pro-

continued on page 33

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Calendar

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 4

PRETTY AS A PICTURE



ELIZABETH LITTLE

Hear Los Angeles author Elizabeth Little discuss her new book, *Pretty as a Picture*. Protagonist Marissa Dahl is at a personal and professional crossroads when she receives an intriguing new job offer. Hired sight unseen, she is flown to a remote island off the coast of Delaware to work with legendary director Tony Rees on what turns out to be an especially challenging and secretive shoot.

WHEN: Thursday, February 4, 4 pm to 5 pm

WHERE: [facebook.com/warwicksbooks/live](https://www.facebook.com/warwicksbooks/live)

with the band playing *The Better Life* in its entirety for the first time, plus premiering three new songs.

WHEN: Fridays: February 5, 19, and March 5, 6 pm

WHERE: [boxoffice.mandolin.com](https://www.boxoffice.mandolin.com)

Saturday | 6

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN FREE TOUR

The Water Conservation Garden occupies nearly six acres and features three themed gardens. There are native plant gardens, vegetable gardens, and how-to displays, including mulch and irrigation exhibits. Also check out the native butterfly pavilion that is open in spring and summer each year. Enjoy a free tour led by a docent with purchase of admission ticket. Hear backstories, learn garden history, compare plants, and see pollinators in action.



WHEN: Saturday, February 6, 9 am to 10 am

WHERE: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, [thegarden.org](https://www.thegarden.org)

Friday | 5

3 DOORS DOWN 3XLIVE

Mississippi rock band 3 Doors Down is celebrating the 20th Anniversary of their debut album *The Better Life*. Check out three virtual opportunities to watch them performing live from Nashville, TN. The series kicks off



Sunday | 7

BATH BOMB CLASS

Bath bombs, bath fizzies, and bath salts: learn how to create active treats for the tub. While most easy recipes show the simple process of creating bath fizzies by using saturated fats as a sealer to prevent reaction to air, this bath bomb class shows the advanced

technique necessary to create bath fizzies without oils, so they won't leave a dangerously greasy bathtub. Learn the chemistry behind the bath bomb reaction so that you can make these no-

fail bath bombs. In order to formulate and make no-fail bath bombs, this new course has an explanation of the chemistry of the bath bomb reaction. Students take home bath treats made

in class. Attend in person or online.

WHEN: Sunday, February 7, 12 pm to 4 pm

WHERE: Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount

Vernon Street, Lemon Grove.
[soapmakingstudio.com](https://www.soapmakingstudio.com)

Wednesday | 10

FLEET FOXES' ROBIN PECKNOLD IN-STORE PERFORMANCE



FLEET FOXES' ROBIN PECKNOLD SHORE VIRTUAL IN-STORE MINI SOLO SET - FEB 10, 2021

Fleet Foxes' Robin Pecknold will commemorate the release of *Shore* on vinyl and CD at independent record stores with a virtual in-store performance, streaming at NoonChorus. Fans can get access to the solo set by pre-ordering the album now at their local indie retailer, or by purchasing in the store or curbside on the weekend of its release, February 5.

WHEN: Wednesday, February 10, 6 pm

WHERE: [store.fleetfoxes.com](https://www.store.fleetfoxes.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 sdrreader.com/events/submit.

ANIMAL FRIENDS

February Critter Camp Kids in San Diego can spend ski week/Presidents' week with amazing animals in a safe environment. Campers will interact with a variety of species each day as well as create crafts, play games and participate in awesome activities. Sign up for multiple days or come to just one. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

You Can Be a Veterinarian Camp (Full Day) A rare opportunity for kids in San Diego to practice veterinary skills, interact with animals, and gain experience with equipment they might use in the future! Saturday, February 6, 9am; \$155. 9 and up. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

You Can Be a Veterinarian Camp (Half Day) A rare opportunity for kids in San Diego to practice veterinary skills, interact with animals, and gain experience with equipment they might use in the future! Saturday, February 6, 1:30pm; \$80. 9 and up. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

ART

Arts District Liberty Station Virtual First Friday Be inspired by this virtual lineup of talented local artists and creatives showcasing their craft to San Diego residents and beyond. Some of the best local artists and creatives are coming together for one night on the hosted virtual platform called Airmeet. Friday, February 5; **free**. liberstation.com/events/First-Friday-ARTS-DISTRICT. (ONLINE)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Warwick's Author Livestream: Abby Schneiderman & Adam Seifer Warwick's will host Abby Schneiderman and Adam Seifer as they discuss their new book, In Case You Get Hit by a Bus: How to Organize Your Life Now for When You're Not Around Later. Wednesday, February 10, 4pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/schneiderman-and-seifer-2021. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Elizabeth Little Warwick's presents Elizabeth Little in conversation with Steph Cha: Elizabeth Little is the author of Dear Daughter, which won the Strand Critics Award for Best First Novel, and two works of nonfiction, Biting the Wax Tadpole and Trip of the Tongue. She lives in Los Angeles with her family. Thursday, February 4, 4pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/little-2021. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Katherine Seligman Warwick's will host Katherine Seligman as she discusses her new book, At the Edge of the Haight, in conversation. Tuesday, February 9, 6pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/seligman-2021. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Sarah Pearse This Couch Surfing Book Tour event features Sarah Pearse as she discusses her new book, The Sanatorium, in conversation with Liz Fenton and Lisa Steinke. Tuesday, February 9, 4pm; **free**. warwicks.com/event/pearse-2021. (ONLINE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Bath Bomb Class Bath Bombs, Bath Fizzies, and Bath Salts: Learn how to create active treats for the tub. Students learn the secrets of making exceptional bath bombs, bath fizzy tablets, and bath salts. Students take home bath treats made in class. Attend in person or online. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours: 4 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Class fee: \$69. Materials fee: \$24 Sunday, February 7, 12pm; \$93. Soapmaking

Rhyme & Verse Self-Criticism in February Robinson Jeffers

The bay is not blue but sombre yellow
With wrack from the battered valley, it is speckled with violent foam-heads
And tiger-striped with long lovely storm-shadow.
You love this better than the other mask; better eyes than yours
Would feel the equal beauty in the blue.
It is certain you have loved the beauty of storm disproportionately.
But the present time is not pastoral, but founded
On violence, pointed for more massive violence: perhaps it is not
Perversity but need that perceives the storm-beauty.
Well, bite on this: your poems are too full of ghosts and demons,
And people like phantoms how often life's are
And passion so strained that the clay mouths go praying for destruction
Alas, it is not unusual in life;
To every soul at some time. But why insist on it? And now
For the worst fault: you have never mistaken
Demon nor passion nor idealism for the real God.
Then what is most disliked in those verses
Remains most true. Unfortunately. If only you could sing
That God is love, or perhaps that social
Justice will soon prevail. I can tell lies in prose.



Robinson Jeffers (1887-1962) was an American poet renowned for his celebration in verse of the central California coast. While most of his poetry was written in the epic and narrative modes, he also wrote a number of shorter poems. Many consider him an early proponent of the environmental movement, as his poetry dealt largely with the natural world and a concern for its conservation. His poetry was informed by a focus on "inhumanism," a belief that human concerns ought to be considered only in the larger context of the universe — which included the natural world and the needs and concerns of nature. He lived his life as he wrote his poetry: involved intimately with the outdoors and nature, he spent most of his life in the remote regions of Carmel, where he built his famous Tor House, a residence built of rock atop one of the Carmel coastline's "tors" — craggy outcrops of rock.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Coping with Personality & Behavior Changes Learn why people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias experience behavior and personality changes, what those changes mean and how to cope with them. This is part 1 of a 3-part Caregiving Skills series, including Communication Skills and Managing Resistance. Each webinar may be taken separately, or in sequence. This webinar will be held using Zoom, and participation is free and easy. If you need help setting up Zoom or any other technology, a Volunteer Tech Team can talk you through it. 858.492.4400 Wednesday, February 10, 10am; **free**. alzsd.org/services/education/. (ONLINE)

Middle-Eastern Drumming Class Frank Lazzaro teaches Doumbek/Darbuka Middle-Eastern drumming on Facebook Live by donation. Mondays, 6pm; through Wednesday, March 31, \$5-\$15. www.facebook.com/frank.lazzaro. (ONLINE)

Rekindle the Joy in Your Relationships Online event by The Transformational Authors San Diego: Enjoy a Free interactive evening of inspiring ways to awaken

delight and fun in your close relationships. You will learn how to revitalize your connection through innocence, spontaneity and playfulness. Attendees will receive a copy of the newest article: Nurturing Intimacy in Relationships. Thursday, February 4, 6pm; **free**. 18 and up. <https://bit.ly/3ozCGZj>. (ONLINE)

Sustainable Landscaping Webinar Whether your gardening thumb is as green as grass or is more of a blackish-gray color, sustainable landscaping can be an intimidating undertaking. This month, we are breaking it down. Learn planting best-practices, ways that we can control erosion within our own backyards, and gardening habits that we can avoid or adopt to ensure we are not accidentally contributing to the pollution of our waterways! Please register to receive the link to join. Tuesday, February 9, 4pm; **free**. <https://bit.ly/2YtGZY>. (ONLINE)

Women's Financial Fitness: Tax Planning New tax laws and strategies for your investments: Tax Planning: New tax laws and strategies for your investments features guest speaker Jennifer Glaser, a Tax Partner and CPA with Lavine Lofgren Morris & Engelberg! Thursday, February 4, 5pm; **free**. gaylordhansen.com/events/2021-tax-planning. (ONLINE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Conscious Closets Did you know the average American throws away 82 pounds of textile waste every year? Join I Love A Clean San Diego for a free webinar all about creating an environmentally conscious closet! Learn about textile recycling and how to mindfully clean out your closet. Saturday, February 6, 10am; **free**. <https://bit.ly/2MnUtp>. (ONLINE)

Finding Compassion for Self & Others Discover the Compassion Practice, a transformative

mindfulness practice designed to help you nurture care and understanding, starting with yourself and extending out to others. Cultivate your capacity for compassion — even for those who are difficult to love — with this weekly Compassion Practice group led by trained Compassion Practice facilitators. All registrants will receive access to the Zoom link. Register online. Tuesdays, 7pm; through Tuesday, February 23, **free**. 18 and up. belovedsandiego.org/compassion-practice-group.html. (ONLINE)

Smart Recovery Meeting: Poway/RB/Peñasquitos For Zoom meeting ID and password contact Dave H. (facilitator) 858-205-5828 davehoward63@outlook.com. Smart Recovery® is a free alternative to 12-step programs, using a science-based approach. Mondays, 7pm; through Monday, May 31, **free**. 18 and up. (ONLINE)

FOR KIDS

Sesame Street Parade of Lights Drive-Thru Drive under SeaWorld's Skytower lights and through tunnels while enjoying the Sesame Street Parade of Lights, featuring friendly furry monsters dancing to a lively soundtrack. Drive under the illuminated Skytower and through two different tunnels of lights before cruising through the Sesame Street Village. Snacks, hot chocolate and cotton candy available for purchase. Ticket prices start at \$49.99 per vehicle. Fridays, 6pm; Saturdays, 6pm; Sundays, 6pm; through Sunday, February 14, SeaWorld, 500 Sea World Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

NATURE

1st Saturday Free Tour Free with Garden admission ticket: Tour led by an experienced Docents. Hear backstories, learn Garden history, compare plants, see pol-

linators in action. Bring your own face mask (required for entry into The Garden). Limited space, six people maximum or two households Space preference given based on time of registration/arrival, but we can most likely accommodate. Saturday, February 6, 9am; **free**. \$10. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

SPOKEN WORD

Storytelling Love Sweet Love is the virtual story arts program we need right about now. In your abode, be beguiled by members of Storytellers of San Diego, who are inspired by the myriad faces of that old go to, love. They tell it like it was. Thursday, February 4, 7pm; **free**. 18 and up. storytellersofsandiego.org/events.html. (ONLINE)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Finding Yourself Though Meditation & Mindfulness Who am I really? Explore the possibilities through Meditation and Mindfulness practices with Terra of Dharma Center. Monday, February 8, 5pm; **free**. 18 and up. dharma-center.com/. (ONLINE)

Walk The Block: Barrio Logan "Walk The Block" is a community initiative that was created in July 2020 to help struggling small businesses in Barrio Logan. Shop owners and local vendors set up their outdoor booths all along Logan Avenue. Food, Drinks, Clothing, & Gifts all available with a chican@twist. Every Saturday in Barrio Logan on Logan Avenue from Chicano Park to 26th Street. Masks Required Social Distancing Enforced Saturdays, 12pm; through Monday, May 31, **free**. Chicano Park, Between National and Logan Avenues under the Coronado Bridge. (BARRIO LOGAN)

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Don't forget Tet

Paris Bakery is the place to be this time of year

Just been hearing about the baguettes of the Paris Bakery. ("Golden Dreams" 1/7/21) And when I coupled that with Reader reader Wink Sajak hauling me over the coals about the cost of some of the TF's recent meals ("Let's call it 'Platinum Spork!'" he wrote), I knew I had to do something.

So here I am, 6:30 am, in Talmadge, at this early paradise, Paris Bakery, casting my bleary eye over the trays and trays of electric green buns, orange sticky-rice balls, and tapioca treats. "Everything here, like this green stain, is natural," says Khanh, the lady who opens every morning at 5. "People like to know where their coloring comes from."

Hmm. The green buns have a mild, pastel



Noodle and sausage breakfast next to rice dish. Three dollars each!

flavor with a slight kick from the sesame seeds. These would be filling enough for breakfast. And what I love is that the shocking green is from a natural plant dye. And, right next to that is a collection of \$3 noodle and sausage and onion breakfasts that have surprising flavors and hot flavor spots coming onstream as soon as you bite in. Heck, each is only a five-square inch tray, but they make for a plenty fulsome breakfast. Just add coffee! "Of course, if you are doing hard physical work, you usually choose one of these," says Khanh. "These are what we are famous for."

She points to racks of *banh mi*, French bread sandwiches with Vietnamese flavors and lots of meat. "You see the layers of chicken-liver pate and *cha lua* — the white Vietnamese pork roll with aioli? And then the *jambon* — ham, French-style? We make them all in-house. That's why our *banh mi* is different."

It costs \$5 for almost a foot-long.

Also wrapped in this single traditional *banh mi* are the flavors that make it taste Vietnamese: pickles, carrots, daikon, cilantro, and jalapeño.

"And we bake the bread here, overnight," she says. "If you closed your eyes and took a bite, you wouldn't know you were not in Saigon."

I believe her.

Now she's pointing to the luminous-green oval tapioca buns, Vietnamese breakfast snacks that people pick up on their way to work. Then she points to rows of orange sticky rice. "We use the Gac fruit to color the sticky rice orange," she says.

"These are for special occasions. They must be used by every guest at a wedding, and also taken to a first birthday celebration. But you can use them for an everyday snack. I pick these Gac fruit from our garden."

Man. Never even heard of "gac" fruit. They look like small prickly melons, or jackfruit.

I'm remembering: Vietnamese food is mostly incredibly healthy, as well as cheap. Like, this pack of three fresh spring rolls (\$5) that Khanh starts in on. "Mmm," she says, "salad, shrimp, grilled pork roll, lettuce, pickles, radish, shredded carrot, Japanese rice cake, peanut and Hoisin dipping sauce, mochi, sweet rice flour," she takes a breath. "Fillings of mung beans and shrimp and black ground shrimp sautéed with onions."

Lordy! All in these spring rolls?

And fruitwise, we are just beginning. We could start with the huge prickly jackfruit, which could probably keep you alive for a week on a desert island. Yellow! Sweet! Full o' flavor! A cross between pineapple and

banana!

And, (listening, Wink?) three bucks for

most of these, too. Where have I been all this time?

"And right now we have specials for Tet, the Vietnamese lunar new year," says Khanh. "It's the feast of the first morning of the first day."

She says you can tell at Tet celebrations if someone is from the north or south. "Northern people traditionally see the earth as a square and Southern people see it as a roll. So that is how they make their cakes. Square and flat — *banh chung*, the northern cake — or as a roll, rounded, and richer with added coconut milk, from the tropical south, *banh tet*. My grandparents are from the north, so they can't take the rich coconut milk in the cake. They prefer their own. I like the *banh chung* better, too, because I grew up with it."

She has rows of sticky rice breakfasts, some stained green from the pandanus plant, some purple, from the magenta plant. Mostly dominated by sticky rice, and costing, yes, three bucks each. Maybe most interesting is the *khuck*, which is noodles with mung beans, roasted peanuts, yellow



Khanh holds the Banh Tet. They must boil in water for 7 hours

onion, and sausage (\$4.50), or the Chinese sweet rice with *cha lua* (\$3).

Khanh says we must come back for Vietnam's lunar new year. Tet. "It's February 12. Lots of music. Lots of firecrackers! We work hard to make everything so when Tet comes, we have finished all our work and can rest for the day and visit relatives. All work must be done!"

She signals me to come behind the counter, to a giant steaming saucepan. "This is *banh Tet*: It's one of the traditions. Sticky rice with mung bean and pork belly in the middle. And it's shaped like a tube, the southern 'world' It is one of the traditions during Tet."

So two *banh Tet* would cost \$15, a little more expensive because they're big, and they take a lot of work.

For a start, you must cook them for seven hours, constantly boiling. "And then once that's done, you have to take them out, wash them, rinse them,



Little Saigon sign near Paris Bakery

dry them, make them look pretty. Because that *banh Tet* goes onto the altar. Everything has to be nice-looking."

You also have to decide if you want to eat northern-fashion, as in North Vietnam, or southern. North will mean savory, south will mean sweet.

If you're just here for the *banh mi*, expect a little craziness. Tet's coming up. ■

The Place: Paris Bakery, 4616 El Cajon Boulevard, Talmadge, 619-280-8808

Prices: Traditional *Banh Mi*, \$5; home-made chicken liver pate, pork roll, \$5; *lap xuong* (sausage and egg *banh mi*), \$5; grilled chicken *banh mi*, \$5; *bi* (pork skin) *banh mi*, \$5; fresh spring rolls with shrimp, 3 for \$5; ham and cheese croissant, \$2.50; plain croissant, \$1.50; chocolate croissant, \$2; coconut raisin croissant, \$2; sticky rice with *cha lua* (Vietnamese sausage), \$3; noodle and sausage and onion breakfasts, \$3

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Hot thighs

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

Main Chicken shows up hot and fast

Main Chick; 4705 Clairemont Drive, Clairemont. Scores of San Diego restaurants have closed permanently during the pandemic, but there's at



An all dark meat Nashville hot chicken sandwich.

least one subset of eateries that only seem to be growing stronger: those serving Nashville hot chicken.

I've tried so much of spicy fried chicken this

year, my heat tolerance has leveled up a notch or two — which, as spice addicts know, only makes you want it more. I've started adding sriracha to my soup, Cholula to my eggs, and jalapeño to my burgers.

It's never enough, though, so as new hot chicken joints keep opening, eventually I feel the need to pay them a visit, if only to hit my weekly chili pepper quota.

And so I wound up driving into Clairemont in search of Main Chick.

The fast-growing Los Angeles chain apparently has big plans for San Diego, which seems to be the case with most L.A. fried chicken spots (though not the king of them all yet. Howlin' Ray's, what's it going to take?).

I'm not sure what I expected, but what I found is a small counter shop in the Clairemont Town Square, which is home to the likes of Big Lots, Domino's Pizza, and Ross Dress For Less. My search for a trendy food spot dropped me in the middle of chain store country.

The Main Chick menu is pretty simple, mostly following the hot chicken standards. That means choosing between chicken tenders (\$4.50) and chicken sandwiches (\$5.50), then deciding whether you want it mild or extra spicy, and whether you want sides



of crinkle cut fries, coleslaw, or mac and cheese.

Where Main Chick got me excited was offering a second sandwich choice featuring all dark meat. Most fried chicken sandwiches involve white meat, which is fine for fried chicken. But chicken thighs are just better, so that little switch-up told me somebody out there is listening to hot chicken reason.

For the most part, everything tasted all right. The hottest spice didn't taste all that hot, but I'll allow that may be due to the extremes I've been experiencing from competitors such as Dave's Hot Chicken and its outlandishly spicy "reaper."

Where the chicken of any spice let me down was in its granular textures. Rather than hot chili paste or sauce, the seasoning here seems

The spicy, yet not as hot as some would like, chicken tender at Main Chick.

to be powdered on, resulting in otherwise sumptuous battered bites having a dry and dusty edge.

When I think about it, despite the long, slow lines Howlin' Ray's has become famous for, the hot chicken genre does seem ripe for adaptation in a fast-food model. As I looked around at the Krispy Kreme, Taco Bell, and Jack in the Box populating the shopping center, it occurred to me: Nashville hot chicken is just mainstream enough to fit right in with drive thrus and value menus. Choose your spice wisely.

by Ian Anderson

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ALLIED GARDENS

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

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.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

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

The Topsy 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

Breweries sue for the same covid rules as wineries

Like most San Diego breweries, **Deft Brewing** resumed drink service last week, when the three-week stay-at-home order issued in early December finally lifted (after seven weeks). The Morena neighborhood beer-maker offers a shaded patio, and hosts a resident pizza counter — both crucial to covid-era business. Under current purple tier restrictions, only outdoor service is allowed. And thanks to a California rule issued last summer, on-premise beers may only be served to customers also ordering a meal.

Though Deft is equipped to handle such restrictions, it continues to lose business on a daily basis. Customers routinely show up wanting to drink beer, then walk away when told they must order food to do so. Best case scenario, they visit Deft's neighbor, the **Lost Cause Meadery** next door. The meadery operates under a wine license, and unlike

breweries, wineries are *not* required to serve food with drink orders.

The California Department of Public Health has explained this distinction by stating breweries are “social hubs and meeting locations for different households,” while wineries are “generally not.” Which might be subject to debate were it not for a simple fact: Deft shares its patio seating with Lost Cause. Whether ordering beer with food, or mead without it, customers drink their beverages in the exact same space.

The uneven application of rules between the two businesses aptly illustrates why the California Craft Brewers Association — on behalf of the state's 1000+ breweries — filed a lawsuit last month against state public health officer Sandra Shewry and governor Gavin Newsom. Citing the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment, the suit contends the unequal treatment of breweries versus wineries is unconstitutional.

With breweries and wineries throughout the state allowed to resume service for the first time in 2021, the CCBA has now filed for injunctive relief. In March, it will go before a judge hoping he or she will block the food requirement, in the same way a notorious November ruling briefly allowed a local strip club to reopen.

Last week, that injunction was overruled on appeal. But a more enduring precedent still stands. In the spring, Napa's **Caymus Winery** filed a similar suit against an earlier version of the state rule that required food service from wineries, too. Within a month, that suit was dropped, and the state amended its rules to relieve its 4000+ wineries of the food service burden.

Leia Bailey, associate executive director of the CCBA, says the trade association hoped drawing

up the lawsuit on behalf of breweries would likewise be enough. “We were hopeful to not have to pursue legal remedies,” she says, “We were hopeful we could have a conversation.” But ultimately



Deft Brewing shares a patio with Lost Cause Meadery, yet only one of the businesses must serve food with its drinks.

the state held firm, and the CCBA concluded it had “exhausted all avenues for resolving this issue through settlement negotiations.”

Six breweries from throughout the state are named as co-plaintiffs in the suit, including San Diego's own **Second Chance Beer Company**. However, Second Chance cofounder Virginia Morrison, herself an attorney, notes that CCBA actually represents most of the breweries in California, it's just too costly and complicated to add a thousand co-parties to a lawsuit.

Rather, Second Chance and its five co-plaintiffs represent breweries of different sizes and locations, which will each offer evidence their business has been irreparably harmed by uneven application of food requirements. For example,

Ventura's **Topa Topa Brewing Company** also shares tasting room space with a winery.

Second Chance represents small packaging breweries that do not serve food. It relies on a mix of 35-percent distribution and 65-percent taproom sales. With the pandemic, Morrison says, “Now we're pretty much flip flopped. Which sounds great, because we had a 98 percent increase in can sales. But cans are the least profitable way that we sell beer.”

For every dollar made selling beer in a can, she says the brewery would have earned \$7.29 selling the same amount of beer in its taproom. Which makes every on-premise beer served more valuable than a six-pack sold by a grocer. Yet despite this favorable math, Morrison says, “Our tasting rooms have just been losing money all year.”

The triple whammy of recurring shutdowns, social distancing requirements, and outdoor dining has already brought local breweries irreparable harm. Whether a California judge determines that the unequal burden of meal service does too could make the difference whether some breweries manage to stay afloat through the end of the pandemic.

“Going into the summer,” adds Morrison, “the breweries that are still in business, will one hundred percent need people not just outside, but inside their tasting rooms too.”

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

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

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The Topsy 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.

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.

EASTLAKE

The Cheesecake Factory Eastlake: *Monday-Friday, 4-6pm:* \$3.95 select beer bottles, \$4.95 select beer drafts, \$7.95 Mojito, Long Island ice tea, Margarita, JW's Pink Lemonade, Cosmopolitan, select well drinks and wines by the glass.

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.

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.

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.

PACIFIC BEACH

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

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

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

POINT LOMA

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

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

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Hooley's 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.

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blurt the inside track

Che's glory days "I really thought I'd build a simple archive and hoped that a few of the old crowd would turn up to participate, but within a year, we'd located most everyone involved," says Matthew Rothenberg, co-founder of the *Che Underground* blog archive. Subtitled *The Secret History of San Diego's '80s*

Tobiason, Toby Gibson [Personal Conflict], Dave Rinck [Wallflowers], Bart Mendoza [Manual Scan], Paul Kaufman [Lemons Are Yellow], and the late author Cyndie Jaynes, to name just a few."

The Che Underground site spent over a decade archiving hundreds of audio files, around a thousand



"I very much enjoyed when Billy Zoom of X showed up."

Music Scene, the website collects stories, images, music, video footage, and visitor comments focused on local groups such as Hair Theatre, Noise 292, the Tell-Tale Hearts, and the original local Wallflowers. "The epicenter is an eclectic group of bands that emerged from San Diego punk and collaborated intensely, including putting on some pioneering rock 'n' roll shows at UCSD's Che Café."

The original site was launched in 2008. "It was a way to collect material I hadn't seen or heard in 25 years, raise our historical profile on the web, and most importantly, catch up with the people who made our little group so memorable. In short order, I got design help from Dave Ellison of the Rockin' Dogs, multimedia support from Dave Fleminger of the Answers, technical help from [emcee and flyer artist] Jerry Cornelius, and written contributions and donated artifacts from Ray Brandes [Tell-Tale Hearts], graphic artist and photographer Kristen

photos and images of flyers and other ephemera, a couple hundred articles, and more than a thousand comments before it became evident that their web host was no longer suitable. "Over the 13 years it had existed on the original hosting platform, the code had gotten tangled up with some other material, the design was incompatible with modern versions of WordPress, and we'd already experienced some terrible crashes that lost comments and other irreplaceable pieces."

The entire archive had to be rebuilt elsewhere. "Not switching wasn't really an option. Not unless we wanted to lose something that had given everyone a lot of pleasure over the years. Jerry Cornelius spent about six months cutting the knots out of the Che Underground database so he could migrate it to a fast new host with all the latest versions of WordPress and supporting software. He put a new design on it that evokes Dave Ellison's original work. It's much faster and more responsive now, and this

build should be rock-solid for many years."

Working on the site continues to reap unexpected dividends. "First of all, the sheer volume of people amazed me. At our busiest, we were getting more than 16,000 visitors a month, way more than the original scene. I really enjoyed the arrival of European fans of the bands. Some of our friends are especially big in Spain, but folks from all over have contributed. I very much enjoyed when Billy Zoom of X showed up to appreciate a series of Chuck Norris-style accolades for his guitar playing, such as

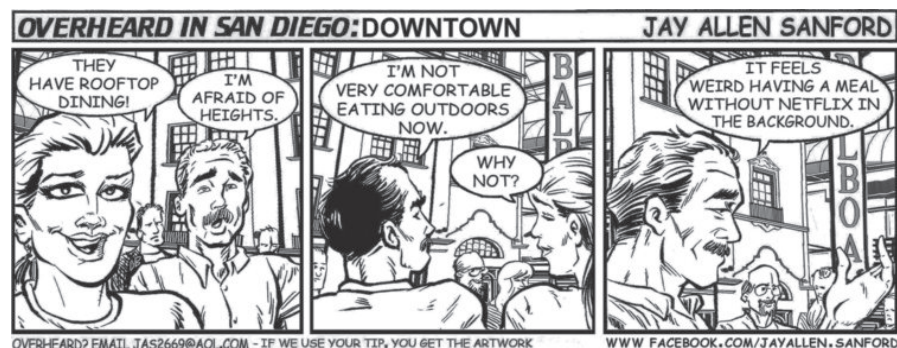
"Billy Zoom doesn't have to turn his tuning pegs: He holds one and lets the earth revolve around him."

He says the biggest reward of running the archive has been the way the blog catalyzed new creativity among the people it featured. "In 2009, we had a two-day reunion show at the Casbah with eight of the

original bands, and we've done a lot more events. People have started new collaborations, and romantic relationships, and a couple of our scattered crew even moved back to San Diego in the wake of all the excitement. In fact, our most recent Che Underground gig involving three bands' worth of old friends played February 29, less than two weeks before the pandemic shut the clubs."

Like many website operators with frequently refreshed interactive online content, Rothenberg is finding that the pandemic lockdown appears to have boosted site traffic. "As participants become more concerned about the privacy and ownership of their data on Facebook and other big social media platforms, we're seeing renewed interest in the blog as a safe harbor where they retain control of their material and identities. I've got a lot of new contributions lined up, and I'm determined to update at least weekly."

"While I'm still focused on the connection to our shared history, I'm very excited to cover more of the fresh



projects our members have done, especially in the face of Covid-19."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Folk Uke "We like to huff on gas lamps. It's addictive. No one talks about it."

Amy Nelson's account of her love for the Gaslamp Quarter, might seem slightly suspicious. But it's a splendid introduction to the humor of Folk Uke, the duo Nelson runs with her longtime friend from the Quarter, Cathy Guthrie.

Favorite things about the Quarter for the two included the architecture. Amy always wanted to live in the apartments above Fifth Street.

The worst part was the crack situation. But at the corner of 5th and F they

through and continued to practice very little."

Collectively, they've lived in Del Mar, Encinitas, North Park, University City, University Heights, Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, and somewhere in the SDSU area. Amy Nelson lived downtown for one night but that's a long story. Favorite hang-outs included Enviro-gentle, Ki's, Jaunitas Tacos in Leucadia, Don Carlos, El Zarape, Twiggs, and Satellite Amplifiers.

They used to watch bands at The Casbah, although they never played there aside from the time that Ms. Nelson got up on stage drunk with the Supersuckers, "and super sucked. They were great, though, as always."

Nelson, at least, felt a need

about having a big one.

Quoth Nelson: "I wrote the hook line about five years ago, and then I stopped writing it because there was no one that I could think of who deserved to be the subject of it. Also because it could be taken to heart by the wrong people and misunderstood.

"So I put it down for years. For the record, size does not matter because it is all relative."

And for the immediate future, then after the virus, whenever that may be? "We are making a 'Small One' video. That should be completed soon. And we're about to put together some handmade 45s and give the proceeds to Grassroots Leadership [in Austin, Texas].



"At first, Folk Uke weren't very good. But that didn't stop us."

met several of their all time favorite humans, including each other. "We both worked at Croce's," recalls Nelson. "I thought Cathy was funny at first, but it turned out she was fucking hilarious."

At first, she adds, Folk Uke "weren't very good. But that didn't stop us. We just pushed

to move on. "I moved to Dad's house in Abbott, Texas," she explains, "so I could get away from all my great friends and have some solitude to write with."

The single "Small One," is dedicated, mostly, to someone you can probably guess; someone who goes on a great deal

"After COVID, we're going to hug everyone we know and eat at restaurants every day."

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

LOCAL *five*

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Find LIVE FIVE online at sandiegoreader.com/music



BE MINE PHANTOM VALENTINE

According to alternative-indie rocker Be Mine Phantom Valentine, “BMPV incorporates post-punk guitars with a full range of synths and haunting organs. The name was inspired by phantom valentines who perform anonymous acts of kindness.” A nine-song album called *End State* was released in December. “It was a strange year, and to help cope and push beyond 2020, I felt an urge to find an additional avenue to push for change. I work in education, where supporting positive change for children is the main goal, but I felt a need to find an additional avenue. That’s when I converted my garage into a recording room

and started *End State* during the summer of 2020...it couldn’t have sounded that bad since, when I reached out to Doviak, guitar player for Johnny Marr’s band, he was quick to respond after hearing a few tracks. He was quite busy since he was working with Johnny on their fourth studio album, but he was very encouraging and supportive throughout the project. I got my first electric guitar when I was 14 and learned guitar by playing along to some of the bands from the ‘80s and ‘90s Manchester era, so it was huge plus to be able to collaborate with Doviak.”



CATTLE DECAPITATION

Hardcore vegetarian metal band Cattle Decapitation released a video for their song “Finish Them,” from their latest album *Death Atlas*. Singer Travis Ryan says, “When traveling to Australia to embark on our Australia, New Zealand, and Japan tour in early 2020, we wondered what would await us on their soil, as bushfires were raging, claiming the lives of millions of wild animals, altering the lives of many of our fans and citizens of Australia. What we didn’t expect was record turnouts with seriously rabid fans that I think just wanted to take their minds off the current state of affairs and do their best to have a good time,

given the utterly shit circumstances they were experiencing. We quickly organized meet and greets at the last minute and were able to raise well over \$25,000 AUD for the Cobargo Wildlife Sanctuary, who had pretty much lost everything in the fires. Thanks to the incredible support from our fans down under and through other folks ready to help, they were able to rebuild. We really felt like we had been given a gift by the fans, so we wanted to give back to these people who came out and raged with us by releasing our final music video for *Death Atlas*, which showcases how sick the shows were.”



THEE SACRED SOULS

Soulful trio Thee Sacred Souls (their name inspired by Chicano rock heroes Thee Midnites) was founded in 2017. After their first club date, they were signed by Daptone Records producer and co-founder Bosco Mann (Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings) to his newest label. Their debut single “Can I Call You Rose,” the first release from Mann’s Penrose Records, topped a million online views. In addition, Austin psychedelic soul band the Black Pumas recently cited Thee Sacred Souls’ single “Give Us Justice” in a *Rolling Stone* poll as “The song that will define 2020 for me.” The tune was written in response to the death

of George Floyd, with proceeds donated to organizations promoting rights for black people. Thee Sacred Souls have a new single via Penrose especially themed for Valentine’s Day, “It’s Our Love,” with an accompanying video now streaming. “We wanted to capture candid moments of our time at the Penrose studio and hanging with our crew around San Diego for the video,” says the band. “We reached out to our friend David Lampley, who specializes in Super 8 analog film. His experimental shooting style, along with the visual quality of Super 8 film, fit the laid back and dreamy mood we envisioned.”

PHOTOGRAPH BY TYLER GIBSON & IVONNE GARCIA



QUINCE & 9TH

“We’re a couple of friends from middle school reunited years later through the power of music,” according to guitarist Marcos Orozco Jr. of Quince & 9th, which performs songs in Spanish as well as English. An album called *Clover Drive* was released last year, and a new single called “Bad Ones” is due February 19. “It was definitely recorded during Covid lockdown, we took all possible precautions in order for the recording experience to be as smooth as possible. It was difficult at times wearing a mask when you’re

in the studio for eight hours a day and getting the song perfect, but it was a fun and great experience nonetheless. Because of the lockdown, social media is going to be a major part in us promoting it. Websites, podcasts, online magazines, anything and everything is always a great way to promote. We don’t have an album planned at the moment, an EP would probably be more likely at this time, but this coming summer sounds like a good time for another single.”



JONNY VIAU

Sax player Jonny Viau (King Biscuit Blues Band, Sue Palmer’s Motel Swing Orchestra, Rhumboogies) has been battling cancer for two years, undergoing seven surgeries plus radiation to fight aggressive squamous cell carcinoma that keeps recurring. The cancer has spread to his lymph nodes and lungs, and he’s currently undergoing one year of immunotherapy, with another surgery scheduled over the next few months. “We, his closest friends, finally convinced Jonny and his wife Kym that it’s high time to reach out to those who have had the pleasure of hearing Jonny play,” says Sally Montiano, who set up a GoFundMe campaign

for Viau. “Jonny has always paid it forward, performing at dozens of fundraisers for other musicians in need...our goal is to pay off medical debt from 2019, 2020, and raise enough to pay the 2021 treatment and surgery expenses. Between the high deductible, co-payments, and medications, the out-of-pocket costs add up to \$20,000-plus annually. Kym has also been hit hard by the pandemic, her income depending primarily on public events which are no longer happening. Jonny and Kym have exhausted their personal resources. Jonny is considering selling instruments to partially fund current expenses.”

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Landings at Carlsbad:

Saturday, 6pm — West of 5. Free.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 5pm — Beau: Live from Baby's All Right. \$5.
Thursday, 1:30pm — Chris Barron: Thirsty Thursday Happy Hour. Free.

Thursday, 11:30am & 5:30pm — Logan Mize: Live from McPherson Opera House. \$10-\$35.

Thursday, 6pm — Trampled By Turtles Live From First Avenue. \$15-\$20.

Friday, 6pm — 3 Doors Down 3XLive.

Friday, 5pm — Dozzy Daniel Presents Evolver: A Journey Concert Series. \$15-\$55.

Friday, 7pm, Saturday, 4pm — Ovation Theatre: All Shook Up.
Friday, 2pm — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.

Friday, 12pm — Tombs Virtual Concert.

Saturday, 5pm — Pigeons Playing Ping Pong: Live from Brooklyn Bowl. Free.

Saturday, 8pm — Queen Iminah: Live From Great American Music Hall. \$15.

Sunday, 5pm — BoomBox: Ghost Notes Solo Acoustic Set. Free.

Sunday, 5pm — Steve Wynn & Linda Pitmon Impossible Tour. \$5.

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

Monday, 5pm — Marble Eyes Mondays. Free.

Monday, 8am — Poway OnStage: Jazzy Ash. Free.

Tuesday, 3pm — Creekside Music Hall Show with Scott Guberman. Free.

Wednesday, 6pm — Fleet Foxes' Robin Pecknold Virtual In-Store Performance.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream On the heels of his second Grammy Award nomination — Best

IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

The gaps in my Vaughan Williams

Recently, I realized I had some holes in my listening habits for one of my favorite composers, Ralph Vaughan Williams.

I have listened to some of Vaughan Williams's most popular pieces to death. These would include *The Lark Ascending*, *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*, *Songs of Travel*, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, *Hodie*, *A Sea Symphony*, and *Symphonies No. 2, 5, and 7*.

All along, I've been aware of other pieces by Vaughan Williams such as *Norfolk Rhapsody No. 1*, *In the Fen Country*, *Overture to the Wasps*, *Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus*, and *Serenade to Music*. We'll take a brief survey of them here.

The Norfolk Rhapsody No. 1 is an early composition from 1905-1906. There were three rhapsodies, but the first is the only one to have survived in its entirety. *Nor-*

folk Rhapsody No. 2 exists in a version that has been completed by lesser composers. *Norfolk Rhapsody No. 3* is completely lost.

Vaughan Williams himself went to Norfolk and gathered folk tunes that he incorporated into his rhapsodies. When I heard the energetic sea shanty tune mid-way through *Norfolk Rhapsody No. 1*, all I could think was that NFL films copied that music note for note and some point.

Right next to Norfolk is The Fen Lands or Fen Country. This marshy land has been inhabited since at least the bronze age. A Roman causeway linking The Fens with central England still exists. For the most part, The Fens have been drained, creating dry grassland and open spaces.

The composition by Vaughan Williams was written in 1904 and later revised

in 1905 and 1907. It received its premiere in 1909 under the baton of Sir Thomas Beecham. *In the Fen Country* is the earliest composition by Vaughan Williams that he allowed to remain in his oeuvre.

Musically somewhat reminiscent of Borodin's *In the Steppes of Central Asia* by Borodin, *In the Fen Country* invokes that same feeling of open sky and grassland, but it has an English lushness that is missing from Borodin's more arid composition.

Vaughan Williams wrote *The Wasps* as incidental music for the Aristophanes play of the same title. Written in 1909, it is another relatively early composition. *The Overture to the Wasps* is performed most often, just like Beethoven's overtures to incidental music for *Egmont* and *Coriolan* and Mendelssohn's *Midsummer's Night Dream*.



So moved was Rachmaninoff by the beauty of Vaughan Williams's music that he openly wept during the performance.

When listening to this music, I couldn't help but think that the composer of Pixar's *A Bug's Life* must have been familiar with this music. The tunes are too alike.

If you have consistently attended an Anglican, Episcopal, United Church of Christ, or Catholic Church, then you may be familiar with *Five Variants of Dives and Lazarus*. The tune has been set to several different hymn texts that are used throughout the liturgical year.

In 1938, Vaughan Williams

wrote his *Serenade to Music* to honor the 50th anniversary of conductor Henry Wood's first concert. The text is taken from the fifth act of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*.

Sergei Rachmaninoff, having played the solo in his *Piano Concerto No. 2* in the first half of the concert, was in the audience for the premiere. So moved was the great Russian by the beauty of Vaughan Williams' music that he openly wept during the performance.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Traditional Pop Vocal Album for *Unfollow The Rules* — singer-songwriter Rufus Wainwright announces Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective! 2021 the virtual livestream tour through all nine of his studio albums. The tour will see the albums performed in chronological order with one album side performed for each date. Wainwright shares the dates for the last four albums, starting on Friday, January 8 with Wainwright performing the first side of *Release the Stars*. Tickets for individual shows are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 day of show, and 4 show bundles are also available. Bundles come with the opportunity for fans to participate in intimate Q&A's with Wainwright and other surprises. Friday, February 5, 2pm; \$20-

\$25. Online Internet Events, All over the world from.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Belly Up Tavern:

Sunday, Mar. 7 — Monophonic and Alanna Royale.

Casbah:

Tuesday, Mar. 9 — The Secret Sisters and Leslie Stevens. \$20-\$25.

Loft:

Wednesday, Mar. 3 — Gretchen Parlato. \$9-\$39.

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, Feb. 11 — Chris Barron: Thirsty Thursday Happy Hour. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 11 — Trampled By Turtles Live From First Avenue. \$15-\$220.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream.

\$20-\$25.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Jimmy Eat World Phoenix Sessions.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Dozzy Daniel Presents Evolver: A Journey Concert Series. \$15-\$55.

Friday, Feb. 12 — Michael McDonald Home Alone 2 Birthday Bash.

Saturday, Feb. 13 — Gaerea: Limbo Livestream. \$10.

Saturday, Feb. 13 — Dust Bowl Faeries: Wish You Were Hear.
Saturday, Feb. 13 — Slaughter Beach, Dog: At The Moonbase Livestream.

Saturday, Feb. 13 — Laura Stevenson: Sit Resist Livestream.
Sunday, Feb. 14 — Laurie Berkner's Valentine's Day Party.

Sunday, Feb. 14 — Chris Garneau: The Kind Album Release. \$22.

Sunday, Feb. 14 — Laurie Berkner's Valentine's Day Party.
Sunday, Feb. 14 — Slaughter Beach, Dog: At The Moonbase Livestream.

Monday, Feb. 15 — Poway

OnStage: Jazzy Ash. Free.

Monday, Feb. 15 — Marble Eyes Mondays. Free.

Tuesday, Feb. 16 — Creekside Music Hall Show with Scott Guberman. Free.

Wednesday, Feb. 17 — Tibet House US Benefit Concert. \$25-\$250.

Thursday, Feb. 18 — Chris Barron: Thirsty Thursday Happy Hour. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 18 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.
Thursday, Feb. 18 — Trampled By Turtles Live From First Avenue. \$15-\$220.

Friday, Feb. 19 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.

Friday, Feb. 19 — New Faces of Country Music. \$49.

Friday, Feb. 19 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.
Friday, Feb. 19 — 3 Doors Down 3XLive.

Friday, Feb. 19 — Belly Up Livestream: Steve Poltz Birthday Bash.

Saturday, Feb. 20 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.
Saturday, Feb. 20 — Dead Meadow Live From The Pillars of God.

Sunday, Feb. 21 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.

Monday, Feb. 22 — Poway OnStage: Jazzy Ash. Free.

Tuesday, Feb. 23 — Creekside Music Hall Show with Scott Guberman. Free.

Tuesday, Feb. 23 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.

Wednesday, Feb. 24 — Billy Strings: The Déjà Vu Experiment.

Thursday, Feb. 25 — Chris Barron: Thirsty Thursday Happy Hour. Free.

Thursday, Feb. 25 — Trampled By Turtles Live From First Avenue. \$15-\$220.

Friday, Feb. 26 — Rufus-Retro-Wainwright-Spective Livestream. \$20-\$25.
Friday, Feb. 26 — Belly Up Livestream: Sara Petite Album Release.



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Faith, footwork, freedom

Another week, another film festival — this time, the 30th Annual San Diego International Jewish Film Festival, which runs February 11-21. For a complete lineup of features and virtual discussion groups, visit www.lfjcc.org/cjc/sdijff.aspx. Here are two must-sees and one... well, I suffered, why shouldn't you?

MOVIES

Tango Shalom (2021)

It's not often one thinks of rabbis and their wives as amorous entities, but that's the first thing you'll notice when Moshe Yehuda (Jos Laniado) and his spouse Shira (Justine Laniado) are introduced in mid-passionate embrace. (Jos co-wrote the script with brother/co-star Claudio Laniado and co-star Joseph Bologna.) It's important to establish a strong, faith-based romantic relationship between the two, because it's about to be put to the test. With the wolf barking at the door of Moshe's Hebrew school, the Hasidic rabbi takes to the pavement in search of an alternative way to feed a family of five. Dance instructor Viviana Nieves (Karina Smirnoff) knows that with the right partner — perhaps a Grand Rabbi that has her by a good 20 years and who, by Talmudic law, is not allowed to touch any woman other than his wife — they'd stand a good chance of winning cash prizes on Dance-TV's first-ever Tango Contest. (Duck! Here comes another trope: her share of the loot would fund an operation for her sick daughter.) Servant of God that he is, Yehuda will stop at nothing to get the answer to his prayers that he wants to hear, and that includes visits to a Catholic priest (that's Bologna beneath the white Panama), a Muslim imam (Carlos Barrionuevo), and a traveling Sikh mystic (Hamza Zaman) for advice. Rather than risk becoming the topic of Crown Heights chit-chat, Yehuda's prayers to HaShem are answered in the form of a red balloon used to prevent the dancers from ever touching. He soon becomes a *shanda*, the eyes of God (and internet subscribers) waiting for him to do anything even remotely "unholy." The opening nasal salvos lobbed between Moshe's blubbery mother Deborah (Renée Taylor) and her equally adenoidal in-law-to-be Leah (Lainie Kazan) were pushing things in the direction of Sitcom City, but once the characters took hold and the direction picked up its pace, there

was a good, non-denominational time to be had by all. This was to be the last collaboration between a prolific husband and wife quadruple-threat duo: the writing, acting, producing, and directing team of Renée Taylor and Joseph Bologna (*Lovers and Other Strangers, Made for Each Other*). Mr.

Bologna passed away in the Autumn of 2017 at the age of 82. The director is another Bologna: Joe and Renée's son Gabriel. 2021. S.M. ★★★

Shared Legacies (2020)

"It's not about comparing scars," says Rabbi Capers Funnye, his thought completed moments later by Dr. Michael Berenbaum's, "It doesn't mean the Holocaust doesn't have something to say about slavery and slavery doesn't have something to say about the Holocaust. Both of them have something to say about suffering." You couldn't prove it by my Hebrew school teacher, Rabbi Sol Lerner, who, in 1966, escorted his class to Chicago's Roosevelt Theatre — a downtown picture palace that took up an entire city block — to attend a performance of the 10-year anniversary reissue of DeMille's *The Ten Commandments*. As early as age 11, my mind associated the term slavery with African-Americans, but it wasn't until that Passover week matinee when I began to realize that Jews were once considered human chattel. "Were Jewish slaves like black slaves?" I asked Rabbi Lerner while waiting for the northbound Howard "L" train to arrive. "No!" he answered in tones that incited an instant change of subject. "We had it worse." It had been a long time since this "L" platform pissing contest returned to mind; it might never have come back were it not for Peter Yarrow's *aide-memoire*, "Pharaoh enslaved the Jews." Writer-director Shari Rogers' documentary takes us through a concise history of the century-old coming together of African-American and Jewish communities. The coalition came of age during the Civil Rights Movement, as many witnesses will attest, but the relationship has remained stagnant over the past 30 years. The film's prevailing voice of reason, the one that stayed with me after the film ended, belongs to Yavilah McCoy, an African-American advocate for Jews of color. "Jews believe in meritocracy," she asserts — the notion that people get ahead in life through



Tango Shalom: Lainie Kazan and Renée Taylor co-star in a picture playing at this year's San Diego Jewish Film Festival that has "audience favorite" written all over it.

demonstrated abilities and merit." She continues, "There is no narrative that advances the story of Civil Rights... Blacks and Jews, now more than ever, need to carry each other's story in mind, heart, and spirit." This powerful tale acts as a reminder of a friendship that, now more than ever, must endure. ★★★

The Crossing (2020)

The reason Daniel (Samson Steine) and younger sister Sarah (Bianca Ghilardi-Hellsten) are seeking shelter in the home of Gerda (Anna Sofie Skarholt) and Otto's (Bo Lindquist-Ellingsen) parents is dispensed with before the opening credits close: it wasn't safe for Jews of any age to be living in occupied Norway in 1942. As explained in director Johanne Helgeland's maiden feature, mean old Mr. Hitler and the Nazis punished people for no reason, so in the time it took for the adults to plan their escape route to Sweden, Daniel and Sarah took up residence within the walls of the gentile family's cellar. And when the Jewish-sympathizing parents are arrested, Gerda takes it upon herself to escort the children to safety. She is reluctantly joined by sloe-eyed (and even slower-witted) Otto (think Larry Mondello of *Leave it to Beaver* fame), who just that afternoon attended his first Hitler Youth rally. If it all sounds a tad remedial, it should: this is a G-rated family picture aimed at introducing the concept of Nazi atrocities to impressionable minds. It's what a live-action Nazi adventure for the entire family would have felt like if, in the early '60s, Disney had had the audacity to tackle the incredible journey. (The quartet looking on as children are forcibly taken from their mothers' arms is about as brutal as it gets.) When Otto questions the benefit of giving aid to

Jews, even the least hip toddler in the bunch is bound to smart when hit with the ear-cud-chewed-thoroughly reply, "They're people. We're people. People help people." And don't Hitler's henchmen have better ways to spend their time than being outfoxed by a band of kids? Two German Shepherds overseen

by five uniformed Nazis and one 4K camera drone, and still they can't bring four refugee children to their knees? Beware: your children may question why mommy and daddy were snickering during this variation on *A Child's Berchtesgaden of Verses*. ★

—Scott Marks

MOVIES@HOME

What do this week's films have in common? Both were found in Chula Vista, on the shelves of the Desert Thrift Store, waiting patiently for me to take them home. To read more about *The Wrecking Crew* (and *44 Inch Chest*), visit us online.

— Scott Marks



The Wrecking Crew: Tommy Tedesco, dean of the studio guitarists and the architect of wreck.

THE WRECKING CREW (2008)

"What is their name?" asks Tommy Tedesco, legendary dean of the studio guitarists. "Willie Vanilli, or what the hell their shit is? They had nothing on us. We did that all the time." Who ever thought we'd live to see the day when someone likened The Beach Boys to Milli Vanilli? But in this instance, the comparison

is a fair one. With the exception of Brian Wilson, not one band member played so much as a lick on the Boys' legendary *Pet Sounds* album. That honor went to an elite corps of studio musicians, known collectively as The Wrecking Crew, that performed on virtually every hit song over a period that extended from the late '50s through the early '70s. Members not only performed

the charts, in many instances, they produced and arranged the music as well. According to Tedesco, composers "put notes on paper, but that's not music." The

documentary was a 14-year labor of love by Tommy's son Denny Tedesco. More than just a kid's attempt to garner posthumous recognition for his old man, *The Wrecking Crew* is a remarkable chronicle of an illusion-rich period in music history that, prior to its release, was one of the best kept secrets in the business.

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PERSONALS

GOD'S LOVE (CON'T) For God did not send His Son (Jesus) into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. CMR

MARY MUNK of La Jolla, glad to see that no one was hurt when the tree fell. Brian B.

MIMI, ANGELINE of Allied Gardens, hope the garden is alright after the wind & rain. Brian B.

PAT GRIFFITH of El Cajon, hope the animals are okay and the winds did no more damage. Brian B.

TOM BLAIR you were a good writer and editor as well as a good person, you will be missed. Brian B.

TO ME, MAKING IT is being the one you tell this to for reasons still unclear but very obvious. That goes for not just anybody.

TO YOUR SELF Made it? What is it? Depends on what making it is. Theres plenty more things to make. Two for all.

GOT THE VACCINE, NO PROBLEM no way like the media is saying it: very well organized. The vaccine injection was easy, no pain or other issue. I am 71 with Medical. The main media was trying to scare me. Lying news networks.

ANAGRAM OF THE WEEK:
Corona virus= carnivorous!

WHATEVER YOU ARE NOT CHANGING you are choosing. Read that again.

COOP C Sorry for your loss. Patti was a great woman. Her absence will be a loss for all of us who knew her. Brian B.

GOD'S LOVE "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son (Jesus), that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." CMR

IS IT February 5th yet?

MERNIE Don't forget to turn over the care. Stay dry, Brian B.

MOM MOM MOM, I love you. From your daughter, Stella.

TOMMY M Just saying hello I am still free. Thinking of you. I love you. Patti D.

BECKY AND JAN, You better have a plan to take down my Dawg and me....Pinochle on a Friday night, championship in sight.Jan, Shuffle Up and Deal... Love you both for real...Double Five Double Deuce...It aint no puzzle.Gman

BECKY LYNN Hope your birthday was as great as you.... Love you lil Sis....Now give me a hug and a kiss...Your brother, ME....

MADISON T. Good luck on your fast pitch softball career. No. 9 in your program, No 1 in your heart, your going to break records...It ain't no puzzle...Stay focused and give all you got... Now, Us lucky Ones Have You To Watch....Gman

BIRTHDAY Jan and Becky - I love you both with all my heart, but me and Scoe will teach you how to play pinochle, all in fun, but gonna kick your buns. Happy birthday Becky Lynn. GMan and Nancy....

JAN I had so much fun the other night....You beat me and Patti and that's a feat, but no more table talking (I know it wasn't much) but you will be disqualified if you must chat, chat, chat. Me and Becky Lynn are in it to win. Love ya Girlfriend. G

KERIANNE You did a fantastic job on me and Nancy.... You're the best. We love you, girlfriend.....Gary and Nancy. Happy Valentines Day Girlfriend.

LETTER READER VACCINE TRASHER writer H.Applebaun was totally correct in what he wrote about the treatment of the seniors and vaccine treatment; it is not good cant blame the staff at Petco. for 5 days;website stating. NO appointments.OH Note there are no bathroom anywhere.

SCOE DAWG.... Pinochle is my game, and you better not play really lame...We have the potential to be world class, please don't choke and make us look sick....Dawg, we got this... It ain't a puzzle. Double Five Double Deuce.Gman

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 Ann.

NOTICES

FREE DIRT IN BAGS It's heavy so be prepared to have two people to load. 2657 corona st lemon grove, please come to door first.

FREE TOILET Older style. No cracks in tank or bowl. Been sitting in yard, so needs leaves cleaned out, no other dirt. Was working fine when removed, please text (619) 631-9258.

HERDING TRIALS THIS WEEKEND Come out 06/7 Feb from 7:am to 2:pm or so for a fun, free, socially distant time. Kids will love it. See dogs of all types and all skill levels herd ducks in the early morning and sheep the rest of the day. 15671 Old Milky Way, Escondido, CA 92027. slkilgore111@gmail.com

SEEKING ALL TREASURE HUNTERS Original, unique, challenging, educational and fun. How well do you know the place that many of us call home? Be the first to find the valuable hidden treasures. Join San Diego County's Ultimate Treasure Hunt at iTreasureSanDiego.Com. msteben66@gmail.com



POWER OF PRAYER Agape In Action wants you to know you are not alone. If you would like a prayer please scan QR code. Blessings, AIA

JT PRODUCTIONS YOUTUBE "Fly", "Willie Lynch", "Beefheart", "Karmapa", "Uncle Tom", "Manos", "Michael Brown", "Un Chien", "Folk Song", "Platypuss", "Phyllis Pryor", "Mickey Mouse". sangpoincorporated@gmail.com

BE KIND TO THEM AT PETCO was there watching the hard working staff giving vaccine they work long hrs so be nice. as they open 7am to 7pm on their feet. I will bring a small coffee gift token card just to say thanks for

working so hard, I hope the city treats them right.

NEW COVID 19 VARIANT IS COMING if this takes hold here we are in big Trouble look what is going on in England and Ireland it is spreading like wildfire we must now take steps to control movement of people more testing everywhere otherwise a lot worse is coming. all close down

TOTAL VACCINES ADMINISTERED up to 200k by 21. Jan. total shipped to us 442k fully vaccinated 31k we are now are moving to win this fight to recover but we need lots more covid 19 vaccine sites set up NOW in every part of the city use church parking lots where open space

VACCINE MISSING INFO if you want to find out how many covid 19 vaccine shipped to San Diego, check (covid-19 vaccine dashboard). SDcountry web site you will find the big difference between amounts and doses administered; and what was shipped there is a question here.

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

FREE TO OXYGEN USERS Phillips Simply Go Portable O2.Concentrator. Goes to 4 Liters. On wheels, Pull up handle. Battery cable charger, Car charge. Call (513) 885-0118 or (513) 885-1037 Annie or Kate.

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, Xlbris and Barnesandnoble.com!!

CLASSES / LESSONS

EXCELLENT ENGLISH TUTOR Zoom, skype, possible in person. First lesson free. Call Sue (858) 740-7264, suetaylor0825@gmail.com.

PIANO INSTRUCTION Credentialed, experienced teacher. Mesa College area. Reasonable rates. Children and adults welcome. (858) 571-3360

CAPOEIRA VIA ZOOM Capoeira is a Brazilian art that combines elements of dance, acrobatics, martial arts, and music. Signups are here: https://capoeira.tokyo/

DOWNTOWN \$550-880



GREAT LOCATION! Renovated, furnished rooms for rent. Elevator. Close to Seaport Village, Gaslamp Quarter, restaurants, shops, laundry. Cable and utilities included. **720 4th Ave. • 619-233-7594**



KNITTING IN SAN DIEGO We are a group of people who like to crochet and/or knit and enjoy sharing our projects and new discoveries and relaxing and exchanging stories. The group includes many levels of experience, (858) 693-0333

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/ WhatsApp 1-(587) 338-3133 for details

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

LEARN 5RHYTHMS ON ZOOM Hop onto Zoom and dance, shake loose and get sweaty via a guided 5Rhythms wave. heart@sarahdaviess.org

NASDAQ/NYSE DATA ANALYSIS The purpose of this group is to locate the best method for financial trade in terms of the tech aspect. https://vrquest.org/

PAINTING AND DRAWING LESSONS Painting and drawing courses on ZOOM. Log on to www.SeanaMallen.com to sign up.

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.toma-j.com/ toma.j@yahoo.com

ONLINE SPANISH CLASSES Hola, muchachos! -SDSU Instructor. -\$25 per hour. -Materials included. -Online Spanish Classes. For more info, please contact me at thi-west@hotmail.com. Muchas gracias! thi-west@hotmail.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

YOGA WITH SHAWNA Donation-Based Outdoor (Covid

DOWNTOWN \$573-825



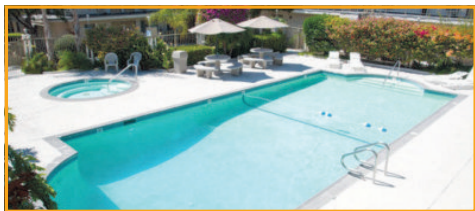
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TAI CHI AND QI GONG CLASSES, Meditation In Movement. First class is free. Classes are outside and at a safe social distance. Taoist Sanctuary of San Diego, (619) 692-1155 or www.taoistsanctuary.org.

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

ROOMMATES

OTAY MESA working male, furnish room, private bath. No drugs/smoking, pets. Kitchen, laundry, close to trolley, COVID-19 tested, credit check. Number is (619) 808-1068

PACIFIC BEACH Share house, private bedroom and bath. No smoking or pets, must be ok with 2 small dogs on property. All utilities, wifi, laundry, off-street parking - \$1,500 per month. aspearman@twc.com

UTC PRIVATE ROOM FOR RENT \$900 Shared bath, kitchen, common area. Available immediately. (619) 818-9789

SANTEE ROOM FOR RENT 900 \$1,300 a month Master Suite with own private shower female preferred (619) 850-3264.

NATIONAL CITY, \$575. 1BD+shared bath including utilities. \$275 deposit, no smoking indoors, drugs or pets. No visitors after 9:30pm. Single occupancy only. Call Quiten (619) 993-1671.

ROOMMATE SAN MARCOS large home San Marcos upgraded. Bedroom, bath, all amenities. Senior preferred. Off-street parking, furnished. Call for details (760) 727-4393.

LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT \$350-\$600 per month, private room, female preferred, (619) 665-2856, Mark.

SHARE HOME room for rent. Near downtown, walk to shopping, dining, bus stops. \$550 per month. Call now (619) 394-3868.

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

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

RENTALS

OCEAN BEACH, \$2800. 2BD+1BA; vintage house in Temecula Heights area; stove, refrigerator; washer/dryer in unit; beautiful hardwood floors; fenced front and back yards; attached garage with electric opener plus driveway parking; small pet with extra deposit; available 2/10/21;

4303 Montalvo Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2072.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1950. 2BD+1BA; large upstairs unit with tons of storage; stove, refrigerator; 2 single garages; coin laundry; cat OK with extra deposit; available 2/10/21; 1667 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2072.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1825. 1BD+1BA duplex; remodeled; hardwood floors; appliances; coin laundry; small fenced yard area; 3 blocks to ocean; available now; 4417 Dawes Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1975. 2BD+2BA; twin master suites; stove, refrigerator; coin laundry; parking; cat OK with extra deposit; available now; 1448 Thomas Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

BANKERS HILL, \$1195. STUDIO+1BA. Downstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, plank floors, laundry room. No pets (service animals not considered pets). Near Balboa Park, 2254 5th Avenue #3. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

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

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

LA MESA, \$1595. 2BD+1.5BA apartment in La Mesa/Lake Murray. Small, quiet complex. Stove, refrigerator, A/C, dishwasher, sun deck, laundry, parking. Near lake. No pets (service animals not considered pets). 7490 Collins Avenue #10. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

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, \$1295. 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.

NORTH PARK, \$1895. 2BD+2BA upstairs apartment. Stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, plank flooring, washer/dryer, A/C, parking space, balcony, fireplace. No pets. (Service animals are not considered pets.) 3751 31st Street #4. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1995. 2BD+1BA upstairs unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, plank flooring, parking, laundry room, balcony. No pets (service animals not considered pets). 1735 Reed Avenue #9. Add Realty, (619) 232-6811.

TALMADGE, \$1395. 1BD+1BA 600 sq ft, wood-like flooring throughout. Upstairs unit. Fireplace. Private balcony. Water and trash included. No pets. 4416 47th St. Agent, (619) 298-7724. www.allpointsrealestate.com



LONGTERM RV SPACE RENT Trailers, RV or Park Models from \$500 with water, sewage and trash included. Electric billed. Pools, General Store and laundry on site. Desert community 45 min from Julian. www.butterfieldcommunity.com (760) 765-1463 / info@butterfieldcommunity.com

MISSION HILLS, \$1595 1 BD/1 BA. Quiet garden apartment off the I-5 and Washington St. We're looking for a responsible tenant with outstanding credit. Private washer/dryer. Call Kara at (619) 781-7257.

LA MESA, \$1750-2249. 3BD+2BA (\$2249) and 2BD+1BA (\$1750) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1750-2249. 3BD+2BA (\$2249) and 2BD+1BA (\$1750) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable. Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. (619) 646-8670.

BANKERS HILL 1,650 MO plus deposit. View of downtown, 1 bedroom/1 bath. A highly desired location. Freshly painted, NW appliances, upstairs, by Little Italy. (619) 887-8786

NORTH PARK, \$1,825 Excellent location, 3738, 31 st #F. \$1,825 deposit, 2bed/1 bath, upstairs. Carmen (619) 887-8786.

STORAGE SPACE for truck, van, motorhome. Call (619) 394-3868.

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

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

NEED AN APARTMENT SHORT TERM? Make your reservations now and Get \$200 OFF every month. Studio+1BA available. Call for Monthly, Weekly and daily specials, up to 15% OFF. Includes: weekly cleaning service, daily continental breakfast, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (858) 799-0219. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

REAL ESTATE

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



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

BASS TROMBONE - CONN 110H as new, 10 inch gold brass bell, smooth slide, original perfect case, not often found for sale. \$1095. More info (619) 264-3686

GUITARS, GUITARS, GUITARS electric and acoustic. \$150 and up. Must reduce collection. (619) 448-1826.



3 PIECE DRUM SET \$450 Custom made 3pc drum set. 12x10", 16x14", 22"x22". Maple, good rem heads. OCPD Suspension Mounts for both toms. (619) 317-6727

I'LL BUY YOUR RECORD COLLECTION Interested in all genres of music - rock, reggae, hip hop, funk, etc. cash paid. (714) 805-7794

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

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



DJEMBES Toca multi-colored djembes, about 60 available. \$30 each, or 5 for \$125. Other sizes and models are available. (619) 990-8864



NORTEÑO GROUP FOR HIRE Toro Pesado, the #1 Norteño group for hire in San Diego (619) 827-4748

BACH 36 TROMBONE w/F, fastest slide in the west, rare find at a low price, \$695. Call for info, (619) 264-3686.

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

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

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

PETS

DOG AND CAT CAKES The perfect treat to celebrate with your dog and cat. All the ingredients are pet friendly. (619) 721-1822



STANDARD POODLE PUPPIES SOCIAL 2nd brood of 6 Standard Poodle puppies from Dam and Sire pair in Southern California who were introduced to each other on our beautiful country side home 2 years ago, available after 4/2021. Visit www.countrypoodle.com for contract & pricing.

WANT SMALL DOG Chihuahua preferred 1-2yrs, text or call- (619) 246-8219.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES Hi, I have beautiful golden retriever puppies for sale.https://goldenretrieverpuppies4sale.com +1 (707) 679-0014

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPS Golden retriever, Meet our fluffy and playful Golden Retriever puppies. They are excited to meet their new forever families! Raised with lots of love and care, they will make the perfect pups with their new family, send a text. (305) 834-7737 / borisroy3327@gmail.com

HEART MELTING YORKSHIRE PUPS Heart melting Yorkshire Terrier puppies for adoption. If you call and no answer then leave a message or send a text. (305) 834-7737 / borisroy3327@gmail.com

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PRECIOUS CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES Registered, Current vaccinations, Veterinarian examination, Health certificate, Health guaranteed precious Chihuahua puppies. They are the perfect companion. If you call and no answer then leave a message or send a text. (305) 834-7737

BULLDOG PUPPIES AKC bulldog puppies \$1350 CMSEALS1973@GMAIL.COM

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

ROTTIE-LAB MIX 9 weeks, female. To loving home, great with other pets. \$150. CMSEALS1973@GMAIL.COM

ISO MALE CHIHUAHUA I'm in search of a white purebred teacup chihuahua to breed with my female teacup, she is all black very smart. Please contact via email. We prefer all white but any color is fine as long as he's purebred and healthy. Can't wait to meet! tomimicnt92@gmail.com

BEAUTIFUL POMSKY PUPPIES. Beautiful, happy, playful, and full of life! These adorable, friendly pups are family raised with lots of TLC and are very well socialized with children. Up to date with shots and dewormer and have been vet checked. The mother is a family pet dchney@gmail.com

WANT SMALL DOG or puppy, text (619) 438-4567.

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

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

HORSE PIPE CORRAL \$200 text (619) 438-4567.

SPORTS

JUNIOR SEAU JERSEY San Diego Charger Junior Seau number 55 white jersey, official NFL Russell Athlete, new condition, size extra large 52, \$149. Contact number (858) 231-6235.

TOMLINSON CHARGERS JERSEYS Mitchell/Ness 2006 NFL Tomlinson San Diego Chargers jersey like new \$49, Reebok Tomlinson San Diego Chargers jersey NFL. New, like new 36 small \$24. Linda (858) 748-6235



ANTIQUE GOLF PUTTER It has a wood shaft, leather grip, and brass head. It's been reconditioned so it's ready to use or to be hung on a wall. Great collectible for that avid golfer. \$75 (619) 672-0526



BASEBALL TRAINER Never used baseball target/rebound trainer. Retail for \$80 but the box has been damaged/opened from storage so selling for \$35. (858) 736-1887



BOCCE BALLS AND BAG Here is a bocce eight ball set in very good pre-owned condition. These are heavy, plastic balls. Comes with a convenient carry/

storage drawstring bag. The original polino ball in with this set, \$10 (760) 746-5422

TENNIS BALL MACHINE Tennis Tutor model 2 tennis ball machine with new batteries. Up to 4 hours on a charge. Holds 120 balls, shoots up to 85 mph. \$645 (602) 989-9893

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



TOTAL GYM EXTRA PARTS \$100 for Total Gym professional equipment parts, such as the jump trainer. These parts are worth well over \$2,000. (858) 693-6945

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

TENNIS MACHINE RENTAL WITH OPE Hi there, I have a spinshot machine and feel people may want to get a great workout and lots of tennis practice! This machine shoots balls at variable speeds, heights, angles, directions...amazing, fun workout. I am superchill and friendly. Fozetail@yahoo.com

TRAMPOLINE 13 ft. trampoline for sale (619) 840-2943 / rhuffman@voitco.com

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

BICYCLES

SHJIMANO WH-R500 700MM WHEELS Shimano racing bike wheels with tires \$120. Approximately 1100 miles use. Text Dave at (619) 341-1762 to receive pictures. shores207@hotmail.com

2 CRUISER TYPE BIKES Male and female styles. Good shape. \$100 both. Firm. Text. (619) 438-4567

ELECTRIC BIKES Looking for the ultimate electric beach cruiser with unmatched warranties, style, comfort, and accessories? Text to set up an appointment: (760) 717-8150

HIGH WHEEL BIKE Selling a high wheel Penny Farthing reproduction bicycle for \$4,300. If you've wanted a high wheel bicycle to ride, use for advertisement or decor, ride in parades, here is your opportunity to own an extremely well-handcrafted copy! (760) 473-6201

VINTAGE 3-WHEELER Selling a vintage 3-wheeler bike for \$120. It's a project bike that needs restoration. Brand: Bill Mathews Size: 24" (619) 799-7537

VINTAGE SCHWINN TANDEM Selling a 1980s built Schwinn 5 speed tandem bike for \$750. Immaculate museum quality bike. Very low miles Looks like it has been garaged its whole life. Atom rear drum brake. Shifts smooth. Everything works. (760) 583-4073

MOTORCYCLES

SOLO MOTORCYCLE SEAT perfect for a chopper or bobber build, only \$40, perfect condition, was \$280 new (619) 464-6255.

MOTORCYCLE WANTED 3 wheel trike, any kind, must be ready for a long trip, excellent condition, current license, clear title, send picture. Call (760) 420-3641, San Marcos, CA.

AUTOMOTIVE

2010 HONDA INSIGHT HYBRID Silver, sunroof, 1-owner, 130K, all records, Security system, clear title, stored in garage, runs as good as it looks. sakima9@hotmail.com



2010 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 2010 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 work truck pickup 2D 8 ft. \$8,800. 117,828 miles. (619) 205-9530

2020 NISSAN 370Z 2020 Nissan 370Z. Black on black, only 14k miles, custom dual exhaust, and Bluetooth. (702) 722-7037

3 MINI COOPER HEADRESTS Great shape, from my totaled 2013 Mini. fits most Minis. Call Fredz (619) 223-9236.

1990 DODGE VAN Selling a 1990 Dodge D-150 van for \$6,480. The van has a manual transmission. Only 20 made for speed with a six-cylinder in line engine that has 38,000 original miles. Original white pearl paint and interior are immaculate. (657) 363-9836

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

1990 TRUCK RV \$3000 Interior complete and nice, equipped with led lights, stove works, can sleep 4 people, has a stereo cassette, water system, water

heater, microwave, and fridge. Everything works. \$3000 OBO. Includes the truck but will not pass smog. (858) 286-8676

2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4.0L V6 2002 Ford Explorer XLT 4.0L V6 with a clean title. It is gold color with 184,000 miles, smogged, and a clean Carfax. \$4495 (619) 383-1368

2016 DODGE RAM 1500 I'm selling a 2016 Dodge Ram 1500 for \$26,995 in Vista. Its color is black and it only has 45,000 miles! (858) 285-9458

2016 HONDA PILOT \$21,995 I'm selling a 2016 Honda Pilot for \$21,995. It's white in color with only 72,000 miles. (858) 285-9458

2018 KIA RIO \$7250 Selling a 2018 Kia Rio S Hatchback 4D for \$7,250. Driven 56,000 miles with an automatic transmission. The exterior color is blue and the interior color is black. 4/5 overall NHTSA safety rating (619) 882-4616

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

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

PROJECT MANAGER DNV GL ENERGY USA, Inc. has multiple openings in San Diego, CA. for a Project Manager- Wind Independent Engineering to perform engineering duties in furtherance of technical due diligence reviews supporting the construction of wind projects in North America. Related education and/or experience and/or skills required. The position requires up to 10% domestic travel. EEO/M/F/D/V. Apply online at https://www.dnvgl.com/careers/.

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

SR. BUSINESS SYSTEMS ANALYST (Req# IIC1322) Design, dvlp & implement Teamcenter solutions to address complex business issues & provide tech leadership within IT dept. BS followed by 5 yrs prog rtd exp. Send resumes to illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

STOP COCAINE Would you like to call it quits? Maybe we can help.... You may be eligible to participate in our confidential 18-week research trial. This confidential study involves: bi-weekly visits to our medical office, taking a study medication, meeting with a counselor. Qualified participants will: be 18-65 years old and have a desire to seek treatment for your cocaine use. Qualified participants will be compensated. Pacific Treatment and Research Center, (858) 246-4673. www.pac-tarc.org.

VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT seeks therapist (619) 586-7087.

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.

SR. ENGINEER, DEVELOPMENT (Req# IIC1328) Design, dvlp & implement nanoscale wafer fab tech to dvlp novel consumable devices. MS+2yrs rtd exp or PhD. Send resumes to illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

75 YEAR OLD LADY who is an invalid needs help from 4pm-11pm on a daily basis. All interested parties please apply. Only principals need apply, \$14.50/hour, no children. (619) 297-3382

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 LVNS and new grads welcome. Bella Vista is a Covid-free facility. Go to https://bit.ly/2KoMgzP to apply or more info. Also can apply in person at Bella Vista Health center, 7922 Palm Street Lemon Grove 91945. Bellavistahealth.com

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

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

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

HANDY PERSON WANTED Dependable, able-bodied energetic, experienced 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. (858) 694-0120.

JOBS WANTED

DO YOU NEED A CARE GIVER? In home- companion aide? Will work pt. time. M, TH, F-for details ask for Lisa (619) 246-8219.

MARINE MECHANIC inboard outboard, no job too small, dockside services, mechanical, electrical, full services, old boat disposal, free pickup, contact Bill (619) 931-4674.

EXPERIENCED CAREGIVER Hi, I'm looking for a live-in caregiver position. I have 10 years experience. I cook, clean, laundry, etc... Please text or call. Thank You (619) 592-0882 / GHF92565@gmail.com

GARDENING BY KEVIN Hi, I am doing p/t gardening work. Mowing, trimming, etc... I have no set rate and will only

AUTOMOTIVE

WINTER SMOG CHECK SPECIAL AC TOP UP SPECIAL*49 Includes 12oz R134 Freon, check system and test for leaks. \$2175* + \$8.25 cert

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

STAR Certified SMOG CHECK | TEST ONLY \$4175

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

OIL CHANGE & OIL FILTER from \$24.95

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

FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (both locations)

FREE EXHAUST INSPECTION & ESTIMATE (Cliff Brown location)

ENGINE STEAM CLEAN \$69.95

Most vehicles. With add. Limited time offer.

30,000-MILE SERVICE SPECIAL from \$179.95 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 \$159.95

Parts & Labor

TIMING BELT SPECIAL \$50 off quoted price

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

STAR Only at San Diego Smog We Repair & Certify Gross Polluters
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

2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

CLIFF BROWN AUTOMOTIVE
4491 Park Blvd. (Park & Monroe)
619-297-4204 • Mon.-Sat. 8 am-5:30 pm, Sun. 9 am-2 pm
www.cliffbrownautomotive.com

Coupons must be presented prior to service. Senior discounts available.

work 3 hrs. max per day. So make me an offer, I accept cash or card. A days notice is appreciated. Please text or call (619) 592-0882 / GHF92565@gmail.com

P/T F/T PREP-COOK/ DISHWASHER Hi, I am looking for a p/t or f/t position in the mid-city, mission valley area. I have 10 years kitchen experience. Never late, never sick. Please text or call, you can also email. Thank you. (619) 592-0882 / 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

454 MOTOR WANTED I need a good running 454 motor for a Chevy pickup truck (619) 586-0131

I BUY OLD PIONEER AND SANSUI STEREO'S Working or not ok. Call me. (619) 279-7834

WANTED 9' MARKET UMBRELLAS Reasonably priced, call Gary, leave message and phone number. (858) 262-1171

JEEP TOP Need roof + hardware 4 - 1991 jeep wrangler yj. jeaninemccarthy619@gmail.com (619) 381-8959 / jeaninemccarthy619@gmail.com

SILVER COINS AND BARS Flatware. Silverware cash paid. (619) 286-0365

WOMEN'S CLOTHING DONATION NEED A local woman recently lost all of her belongings leaving an abusive situation. She needs help getting back on her feet with the most basic of necessities such as clothes. If you can help us gather some things for her we'd more than appreciate it. labixxy@gmail.com

LOOKING FOR DAD'S OLD STEREO I am an Electronics Hobbyist, and I am searching 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 (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

BUYING OLD BASEBALL CARDS Looking to buy your old pre 1980 baseball cards (football, basketball, hockey, all sports and non sports too). Also more recent value cards in all sports. Garbage Pail, comic books, autographed items. All sports collectibles. What do you have? (832) 651-8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

I BUY ROLEX WATCHES (619) 280-2075

WANTED TEETER INVERSION TABLE Trying to find one inexpensive or free. Would need delivered. My back thanks you please text (619) 631-9258.

WILL PAY \$50 to rent a small basket lift for couple of hours,

need delivered. Text info and picture (619) 631-9258.

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

WANT FREE RUNNING MOPED looking for quick trip to store. so does not need to be perfect. As long it runs. Would prefer one that has permanent plate, so do not have to license. Nothing fancy. Need delivered. Text (619) 631-9258

I BUY GOLD AND SILVER (619) 280-2075

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

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

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 USED GOLF CLUBS (619) 806-6703.

ADULT TRI WHEEL BIKE Not selling. Wanted. Need bike delivered, budget \$50 or less. If more, not interested. Please text. (619) 631-9258 Please serious only.

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.

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 WILL BUY YOUR GARAGE SALE LEFTOVERS or your whole garage sale if it's reasonable, I paid \$20 or more for the leftovers and more for the whole garage sale, let me know what you got I don't like furniture or any large items. Cobain (619) 301-6616.



HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN ITEMS Many misc. household and kitchen items in excellent condition. (619) 347-0736



MOVING SALE Moving sale. This will be canceled if it rains and high gale winds. Text to see if it's still happening. (707) 328-1960



SELLING IT ALL Everything must go including a brand new stroller and more. (310) 857-0455

MOVING SALE VISTA All quality items. Can't take them with me. - Posturepedic queen mattress/boxspring/frame \$200. - drawer dresser chest \$150. - TV stand, up to 60" flatscreen \$75. - component shelf \$25. - office chair, office desk, Blue-Ray

player, shredder, 19-pc t-Farletto (442) 224-0528

PALLETS OF MERCHANDISE Pallets of merchandise for sale (714) 610-3527

FOR SALE

BRAND NEW TOP RATED crypto books, 50% off. Word search books, 50% off. (909) 631-9064

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

FRUIT FOR SALE Lemons, 2 for \$1. Tangelos, 3 for \$1. kumquats, 10 for \$1. (619) 448-2163

HAMMER DRILL package Milwaukee corded hammer drill, lot number 537802. Bits included and case. \$100, best. (760) 632-7116

LANDSCAPE SPECIMENS of Euphorbia obovalifolia for sale along with many iconic genera. ONLY from Lalo Of Vista Energizes(760) 945-7892 for appointment with Mr Jimmy

MISC. ITEMS misc. items all new. electric alarm clock \$5, radio shcac amplifier/speaker \$5, portable cd player \$40. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

VINTAGE SEWING MACHINE I have a vintage early 1900s single treadle sewing machine. In great working condition. The cabinet needs a little work. Needs a new home. (619) 462-8126

AUTOMOTIVE

SMOG CHECK \$19.95

Year 2000 and newer. Plus \$8.25 certificate. By appt only. Vans and trucks extra. Free retest when we do the repair.

OIL CHANGE

up to 4 quarts & oil filter
Most 4 cylinder cars,
Trucks extra.

\$16.95
+tax

+ \$5 hazardous materials fee

PREMIUM BRAKES

- Front or Rear Axle
- Parts & Labor
- Turn Rotors / Drums
- Premium Pads
- Most 4 cylinder Cars + tax

\$129
Free Inspection

NEW TIRES

From
\$59



30K/60K/90K/120K mile SERVICE SPECIAL

Includes: New spark plugs, engine oil, oil filter, air filter, 1 gallon antifreeze, suspension lubrication, tire rotation, 24 pt vehicle inspection from

\$149

Plus tax & hazardous waste fee. 4 cylinder, most cars, regularly \$200 prices may vary depending on make & model.

TUNE-UP & OIL CHANGE

- Drain and replace up to 4 quarts of oil
- New oil filter
- New spark plugs
- Visual inspection
- 4-cyl. Most cars

\$54.95

+ \$5 hazardous materials fee
Prices may vary depending on make & model.

CHECK ENGINE LIGHT

Most cars



\$34.95

ALIGNMENT

4 wheel, toe adjustment only, most cars.

\$39

ELECTRICAL PROBLEMS?

We can diagnose and repair any electrical issue.

AC SERVICE

\$29

Most cars, freon extra

12,000 mile,
1 year
warranty

1616 Precision Park Lane, San Diego, 92173 • (619) 430-4369

Just off the 905 freeway • Se habla español
Must present ad prior to service. Expires 3-8-21



MEDLINE TRANSPORT CHAIR \$60 The Medline 300 lb weight capacity ultralight transport chair. This durable transport chair weighs less than 15 lbs., simple-folding design is great for travel! 8 inch rear wheels for easy forward and reverse 16 inch seat depth, 19 inch seat width (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

9' PLATINUM SHUFFLEBOARD TABLE The classic game of shuffleboard in a 9' table. Fits in any space. Poly-coated playing surface offers smooth, fast puck action. Pedestal legs with levelers provide optimum stability and level play. abacus-style scoring. \$400 O.B.O (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

DAIWA FELICITY FOOT VIBRATION The FootVibe Pro is a powerful tool that combines three types of treatments in one to soothe pain, boost circulation, and speed healing. Infrared light treatment works as a blood circulation massager, increasing circulation to areas that are sore. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com



MAHOGANY HUTCH Antique mahogany hutch, dovetail joints in drawers. 33 in wide, 79 in tall. \$350 or best offer. (858) 302-6376 / dustbutcher1026@gmail.com

MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following items: a couple of brand new clocks, good condition suitcase, fancy candle holder, folding laundry basket. all these items You must buy for 40.00 obo any very much interested candidate ask for james @ (619) 450-7914 / j.fiffield31@gmail.com



OUTDOOR DECK PLANTS Have about 20 plants ready to go; some succulents, some tropical; all in excellent condition. Email for a quote; only a few pics available here. (760) 944-1200 / jeffanshel@gmail.com



RUGS Several rugs for sale- all excellent condition; one round (66"); one rectangle (96"x66"); \$85 obo. (760) 944-1200 / jeffanshel@gmail.com

MOTORIZED BIKE PEDAL OR ENGINE Brand new (619) 850-3264 150 miles per gallon motorized bicycle (619) 850-3264.

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

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

HOOVER VACUUM CLEANER two extra bags, \$40. (760) 632-7116



LESLEY GORE Very collectible. Lesley Gore. It's my party and I'll cry if I want to. 5 cd boxed set. New. Would make a great gift. \$40. Check eBay prices. (619) 822-6419

2 BRITAX MARATHON CAR SEATS clean, safe, (619) 743-6900 text offer.

ALASKA ART BY LYMAN Professionally framed/matted (619) 743-6900 limited.

USA AMERICAN FLAGS FOR SALE USA American flags for sale @ www.facebook.com/AbandonStuff (951) 314-3482

WOMEN'S CLOTHING SALE I have hundreds of pieces of clothing for sale. I fluctuate between sizes 6 to 12 which are small to X-Large, There is plenty to choose from in all sizes. (949) 466-0828

GROW LIGHTS LOWE ELECTRIC BILL Grow light 619 85032 six four I have two lights for the price of one \$300 (619) 850-3264.

MISC FOR SALE small black chief microwave: \$25, small red fold up camping chair: \$10. (858) 505-0685

MISC. ITEMS misc. items for sale. electric alarm clock \$5, radio shack speaker/amplifier \$5, portable cassette recorder \$10, portable cd player \$40. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

OIL CHANGE \$14.95 Additional \$5 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5 qts. 10w30 oil. 4 cyl. prices slightly higher on 6 & 8 cyl.

SMOG CHECK \$11.75 Sedan only. NON STAR Smog inspection for 2000 & up only. SUV and Trucks extra. +18¢ cert +11¢ DMV transfer fee.

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

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

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

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

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

FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT 96 and up.

We'll beat any written estimate!
Dents, dings, scratches? Now offering bodywork.
B.T. Auto Wrench
Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary!
8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C
1-858-565-4634

RECLINER COUCH gray, reclines for two people. Paid \$549, selling for \$299 OBO. Good condition but just can't use. (619) 534-2771

SCHULTZFORM SLOTFORMER SF12 For Cabinet Makers, used to bend laminates for countertops, purchased new for \$5,000., it was only used one time, selling for \$2,900., (760) 746-7209

TURQUOISE WOMEN'S RING Set in sterling silver. Large inlaid stone. Very nice. \$100, Text (619) 438-4567.



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



IT'S FLAUTAS FOR DINNER Flautas at Casa Victoria Restaurant at only \$ 6.99 includes beans. All week we're open with different specials in addition to our new express menu. — 1187 Broadway Chula Vista 91911 (619) 271-3000

NEW SMALL KITCHEN APPLIANCES New Campbells sandwich maker in box 20.00. New Mr Coffee iced t maker 15.00. New Salton cappuccino maker in box 20.00 (619) 822-6419



TOILETS FOR CHEAP We got tons of toilets and we have checked them, they are complete and not broken. They are anywhere from \$50 up to \$100 or you can buy the pallet with six champion toilets on them, all brand new for \$600. www.facebook.com/AbandonStuff (951) 314-3482

VICTORIA'S SECRET brand new bras, 38D and 36D for sale, \$5 each (619) 416-4327.



10 FOOT INFLATABLE GRINCHES 10 foot inflatable The Grinch displays for sale. Licensed from Dr. Seuss. Call for details. (714) 610-3527

BEEF STEW IS THE SPECIAL Today's special at Casa Victoria Restaurant is caldo de res. You

can call (619) 271-3000 to order, pick up at 1187 Broadway Chula Vista 91911, or Uber Eats.



CANOPIES, TARPS AND TUBES Canopy supplies for sale., including tarps, tubes, connectors, and bungees. (619) 483-5500



PEE CHEE FOLDER HOODIES Hoodies small-3x. Pick up or order @ www.61nineculture.com

WHITE ACID WASH 6 piece bedroom set for \$350. One drawer missing from dresser. Mirror and light in headboard and dresser. (619) 381-9609

GRADCO LIGHT TABLE Gradco light table EN1825AT. Precision graphic arts/ design/ or photography light table. 17.75 inch x 25 inch viewing area, adjustable tilt. Excellent condition, \$60 or best offer. (858) 539-0064 / zone7studio@gmail.com

CHAIN LINK SLIDING GATE 6'x15' long with green slats \$100. Text only (619) 838-3491.

LITTLE KID SCOOTER \$30, (858) 505-0685.

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.

SNEAKER HEADS AND FASHIONISTAS Thinking of a smart way to Invest? I sell bundle lots of mixed shoes that vary in sizes. All shoes are of recognized brands and original: Adidas, Sketchers, Baby Phat, DC, Lacoste, Puma, Lucita, Lugz, Peak, Aveo, and more. (619) 386-2380

VERSACE SUNGLASSES \$200 Selling white/gold Versace sunglasses for \$200 (657) 363-9836

COUCH, CHAIRS AND LAMPS Selling a couch, chairs, shelves, and lamps in Chula Vista (619) 653-6490

DISCOUNT FLOORING We do \$10 a box usually on any of our tile or flooring. For vinyl or wood, it's usually \$15-\$20 a box. We get this kind of stuff all the time so please come up here and take a look. www.facebook.com/AbandonStuff (951) 314-3482

ECUATORIAL GUINEA FACEMASKS These are lined, washable and cotton fabrics, all imported from Ecuatorial Guinea. Selling backpacks, hand-purses, small change-wallets, and facemasks. www.instagram.com/montsengomobride/ (702) 812-9882

VALENTINES TREATS Selling valentines and dessert arrangements. These yummy chocolate treats are the best for any occasion. leslie_gomez94@hotmail.com

VINTAGE VIDEO GAMES Legends ultimate standup video game system with Asteroids, Missile Command, Space Invaders, and more! \$500 (951) 314-3482

BLUETOOTH SPEAKERS \$30 NEW Bluetooth speakers loud bass brand new \$30 (619) 850-3264.

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

DOG BEDS \$50 WASHABLE Stuff with cedar chips dogs love smell stuff with polyfill fleas hate them \$50 (619) 850-3264.

DRONES ALL TYPE All type drones cameras and video from \$11 to \$60 (619) 850-3264.

GROW LIGHTS LOWE ELECTRIC BILL Two lights for the price of one \$300 low electricity bill new technology (619) 850-3264.

MOTORIZED BIKE PEDAL OR ENGINE (619) 850-3264.

SINGER SEWING MACHINE \$70 Sewing machine and serger \$70 each (619) 850-3264.

TV SMART BOX EVERY CHANNEL TV Smart Box every channel on the planet pay-per-view Sports local channels TV shows movies and more nothing blocked (619) 850-3264 no cable bills (619) 850-3264.

FIVE METAL SHEDS in good condition. Best offer, Todd (619) 313-0705.

ROUTER FOR WIFI U-verse ATT. Used for short while only. Bargain, buy now. \$30. Rancho Penasquitos area, 1-(858) 484-4483.

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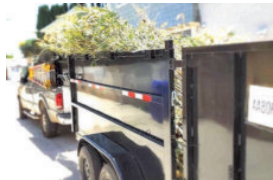
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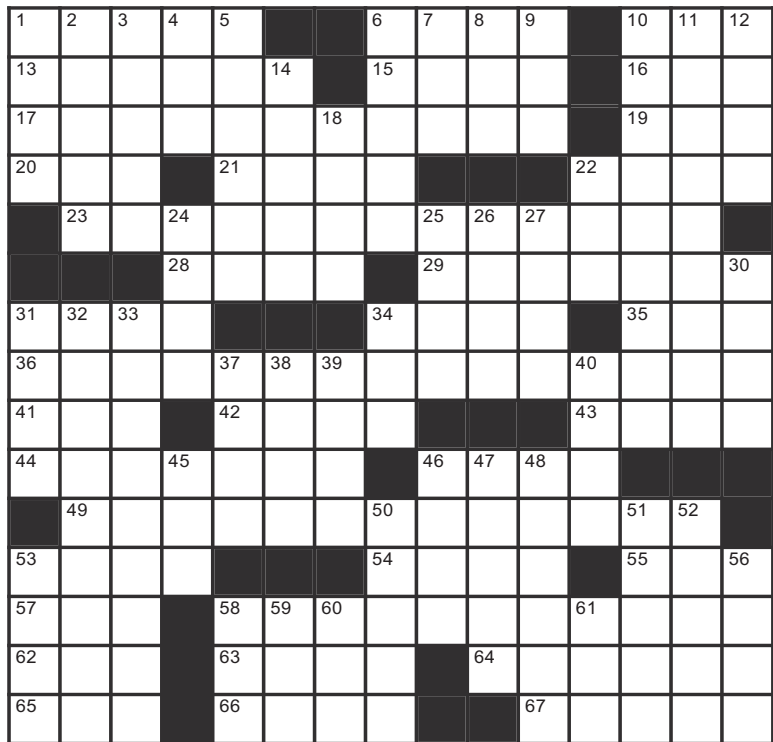
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CROSSWORD



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Across

1. ____ Ababa, Ethiopia
6. "The disease of kings"
10. Crosswalk user, briefly
13. Nutritious breakfast cereal
15. Mrs. Krabappel on "The Simpsons"
16. Cheer for Real Madrid
17. 1939, to cinephiles?
19. Part of w.p.m.: Abbr.
20. The bus stops here: Abbr.
21. Carson's predecessor on "The Tonight Show"
22. Vichyssoise vegetable
23. Two short of six dozen tailors?
28. "Slow Churned" ice cream brand
29. They're found among the reeds
31. Latin 101 word
34. ____ surgeon
35. 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup champs
36. Advice on how to solve 17-, 23-, 49- and 58-Across
41. Objective
42. Fizzless, as a Coke
43. ____ Reader (quarterly magazine)
44. Stay-at-home workers?
46. Newswoman Paula
49. Makes casual comments like "Hey youse, I like dat sand castle"?

53. The stuff of legends
54. E pluribus ____
55. Quick turnaround?
57. "____ been thinking ..."
58. Music shop that only sells works by singer-songwriter Scaggs?
62. Part of w.p.m.
63. Kaffiyeh wearer
64. December birthstone
65. Places where people wear masks, for short
66. Like child's play
67. Superbright colors

Down

1. Schumer and Poehler
2. Airs from pairs
3. Silas of the Continental Congress
4. Leb. neighbor
5. Like a mansard roof
6. Architect Frank
7. Dedicatory lines
8. Game with a spinoff called DOS
9. Looney Tunes devil, for short
10. '80s work wear with shoulder pads
11. Primogeniture beneficiary
12. Classroom fixture
14. "... assuming there's even one"
18. Ink
22. Aloha State souvenir
24. HBO comedy series with the tagline "This land is her land"
25. Needing a massage
26. Vowel-shaped beam
27. Émile who wrote "J'accuse"
30. Compos mentis
31. Red-haired biblical twin
32. Reviews hastily
33. Ones with coy smiles
34. Province west of Que.
37. ____-Cuban (music genre)
38. Campbell who sang "By the Time I Get to Phoenix"
39. Three o'clock, so to speak
40. Hobbes's favorite food in "Calvin and Hobbes"
45. Suffix with winter
46. Greek philosopher of paradox fame
47. Like hives
48. Confines
50. One of a hitched pair
51. Kaley of "The Big Bang Theory"
52. "Great blue" bird
53. Start to suction?
56. Urges
58. Main squeeze, in modern lingo
59. Lyricist Gershwin
60. Laughing matter?
61. Numero di colori on the Italian flag

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

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@sreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw **1** name from weekly puzzle submissions.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

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THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

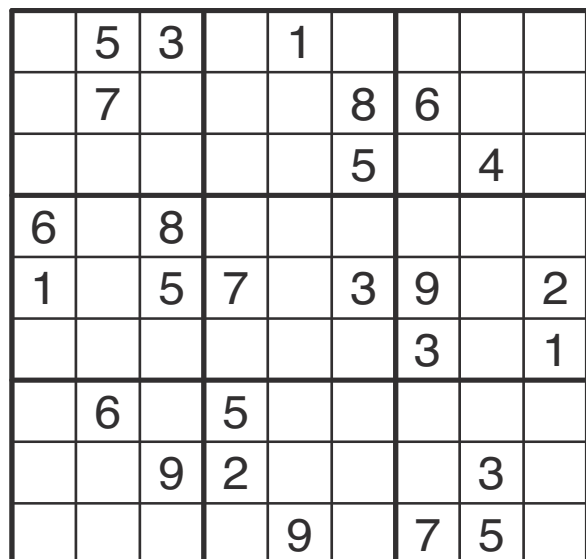
Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Mary Arana, Encinitas, 15.**

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

SUDOKU

EVIL:



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.
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Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

☛ **Ed Parrish, La Jolla, 6.**

Name: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
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Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

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

continued from page 16

cess, but it can create so much reward. If you have the opportunity, take it. Enjoy your life.”

Aaron and Holly

Aaron (not his real name), a 37-year-old insurance adjuster, had his first dance with real estate when he bought a condo for \$300K in 2016. “I have since sold. But when I was buying, I went through insanity trying to actually have an offer accepted. I made offers sight unseen, well over asking, and was outbid multiple times by all cash offers.” He came out on top when he sold for \$357K in 2018. “On the flip side, I got to entertain multiple over-asking offers when I sold it, so that was satisfying at least.”

That was before meeting his girlfriend Holly, 38, with whom he now co-owns a home in Encinitas. About two-and-a-half years ago, the couple bought their three-bedroom, two-bathroom, 1500-square-foot house for \$845K. “When we first bought the house, our mortgage payment was \$3500 a month,” says Holly before letting me in on one of their financial tricks: “We’ve refinanced three times now, to bring it down to \$2950.” Aaron says it’s more than simply setting the intention to buy. “It’s really about assessing your financial position. We have both been very diligent savers throughout our lives, and I think that just comes with a lifestyle. But someone doesn’t all of a sudden just save \$100,000.” He also cautions, “Just because you have 20 percent down, doesn’t mean you should blow your whole savings. Because what if something else happens? Lose your

job, medical emergencies, things like that.

“Before we bought here in Encinitas, we actually looked far and wide at areas where we would consider living.” Looking back on their days of searching, he says, “We had been interested in finding a different house in a different area, in a market that might have been a bit more affordable. In a state that maybe didn’t have state income taxes — more money in our pocket.”

They visited open houses in both Seattle, Washington and Austin, Texas. “Those two areas are completely saturated and blown up now, too. But at the time, you could find houses that were cheaper, with more room and more land.”

The couple eventually decided against moving out-of-state. “Seattle — besides the weather — the houses we were looking at were comparable in price and they were really old. So we anticipated there would be a lot more maintenance. And in Austin, we could’ve easily come in under the amount we would’ve paid here. But the areas where they were really affordable were neighborhoods that were just springing up overnight and there was no town around them. Looking at those places just reaffirmed that we wanted to live here.”

As fate would have it, they ended up getting the first house they put an offer on. “We looked around the house and we thought there was a lot of potential. We could see what the layout would be like. We’d play that game in every house. But when we walked out to the backyard, they had really done a beautiful job of landscaping it. We kind of went, ‘Whoa!

This is a real gem of a property.’ Because there aren’t many places that have this much space, and we just really loved the outdoor area. So we thought we could make improvements on the inside to make it more our style. It was the first house where we both said, ‘Let’s just put in an offer!’ And we didn’t expect to get it at all.”

Aaron tells me another part of what won them over. “The house spoke to us because it had a dog door already built in.” They had talked for a long time about getting a dog. “So, it was just meant to be.”

After celebrating, the couple went to work on roughly \$200K worth of renovations. “We lived here the whole time. There’s one room that we didn’t touch at all. We moved our bed into that room. We had couches all around the perimeter. We had our coffee table stacked on a couch, which was then serving as our headboard. It was about 200 square feet.” They lived with no lights or kitchen, but a toilet, and a sink faucet to wash their hands. “And we lived there for four months. And it was the first time we ever lived together.”

With the remodel complete, Aaron loves the new kitchen, but the garage holds a special place in Holly’s heart. “It’s so funny, but the garage is the one room of the house where we did the work ourselves. Whenever I go out there, I’m proud of us for having done the floors.”

She’s on the other side of it now, but Holly still remembers home buying being nerve-wracking. “That was the first offer I had ever put in on a house. I didn’t know what

the process would be like. But when you’re actually interested in the house, it seems like it’s so much more high-stakes. Every wait was agonizing. And then, even when they accept your offer, there’s still a lot of things that have to fall into place.”

She recalls the emotional ups-and-downs, “There’s a negotiation period, where you feel like it can fall through at any moment. And the farther into the process you get, the more invested you are in the outcome, and the more you worry that it won’t happen.”

Aaron went in hoping for the best, but was prepared for the worst. “Things don’t always work out... set your expectations, know what you can afford,” he advises. “You’re never going to get everything you want in a house that you can afford — no one will ever get everything, unless you’re a billionaire. You will make concessions.”

For many years, Holly believed she would never own a home. To those still looking, she counsels “feeling okay with wherever you are in life. If you’re renting or trying to buy, or have already bought and looking for a different kind of property. Every place you live teaches you something about where you’ll go next. So don’t be worried if you’re not exactly where you want to be yet. I think that’s what I would tell my younger self.”

They’re ready to start the process all over again after recently closing on a cabin in Idyllwild. The plan is to turn it into a family vacation house that they can also rent out on Airbnb once they fix it up. “I guess we weren’t totally scared off of real estate after all that!”

— Amanda Tascher

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 3

year term and two additional one-year options “at a not to exceed rate of \$168,000 per year,” according to a December 30 report to the council by government affairs director Adrian Granda. Total costs of keeping both lobbying outfits on for another two years would be \$672,000. When extended, the contracts’ total not-to-exceed costs would amount to \$840,000 for each lobbyist’s five-year term, per the agreements, raising questions of whether the pandemic-squeezed city could have gotten a better deal.

Council approval of the extensions is now required because “the original resolutions approving both contracts did not include the required budgetary actions and authorizations to allow the Mayor, or their designee to execute the two one-year option years.” As reported by the *Union-Tribune* January 22, the new council majority recently added a component to the city’s “guiding principles for lobbying,” mandating that the activity “promote social justice, equity and inclusive economic development.”

The city’s high-dollar lobbyists have drawn questions and criticism over the years, a trend which peaked in January 2013 when then-mayor Bob Filner fired Patton Boggs and the city’s then-Sacramento lobbyist Sloat Higgins Jensen & Associates. “The job is not being done by our lobbyists, either in Washington or Sacramento,” Filner was quoted as saying. “There’s no proactive policy. There’s no accountability. There’s no report. I got an invoice for \$15,000 and there was no report attached or anything that they did for that money.” But following Filner’s resignation in the wake of a sexual harassment scandal, then-interim Mayor Gloria hastily restored the two lobbying deals, saying, “We need to make sure someone is advocating for San Diego’s interests on the national and state levels.”

Platinum Affairs chief Darius Anderson, a contro-

versial lobbyist for Pacific Gas & Electric, has drawn scrutiny for his ties to Rebuild North Bay, a San Francisco Bay Area non-profit that critics say has engaged in influence peddling for business interests. “It’s not even a close call; it’s blatant lobbying,” Loyola Law School professor Ellen Aprill told *Raw Story* in December 2019. “The foundation is primarily a lobbyist, not a charity.” According to the site, “The day after Christmas 2017, PG&E cut Rebuild North Bay a check for \$2 million; the utility’s largesse accounted for 75 percent of the foundation’s contributions in the ensuing months.”

For its part, Squire Patton Boggs, the city’s D.C. influence peddler, has been in the news for backing Republicans tied to ex-President Donald Trump. “It has donated to Paul Gosar, a House member from Arizona who helped promote the January 6 rally that turned violent,” according to a January 12 *New York Times* account. The firm subsequently “paused” contributions by its political action committee in the Capitol riot’s wake. There is history there: “The Squire Patton Boggs PAC’s contributions to federal candidates in the 2019-2020 cycle leaned Republican, according to data from the Center for Responsive Politics, which said the PAC gave 34% to Democrats versus 66% to Republicans,” per a January 12 report by *Bloomberg Law*. In addition, Squire Patton Boggs once maintained a secretive professional relationship with ex-Trump aide and convicted felon Michael Cohen, which ended after the FBI raided Cohen’s offices in April 2018. “The firm’s arrangement with Mr. Cohen reached its conclusion, mutually and in accordance with the terms of the agreement,” the company said in a cryptic statement cited by *Law.Com*. “We have been in contact with federal authorities regarding their execution of a warrant relating to Mr. Cohen. These activities do not relate to the firm and we are in full cooperation.”

Matt Potter

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\$60 12 grams special \$100 oz special \$150 oz special Happy Hour 3-6pm	5% off complete order *Visit our website for more deals and specials*

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BOSS Shelf 7gs for \$100	VIP Shelf 5gs for \$60	Exclusive 7gs for \$60
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WAX DEALS:

\$25 wax..... 4 for \$80
Golden Glass..... 2 for \$30
\$30 wax..... 4 for \$100
\$20 wax..... 4 for \$70

EDIBLES:

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

**BUY 2 DRINKS
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OZ SPECIALS

\$35 Purple OG	\$50 Gorilla Glue	\$160 V.I.P. Shake
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HAPPY HOURS (12pm-3pm & 8pm-10pm)

BOSS Shelf
\$17/g

V.I.P.
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1/8THS
5G!

Dabwiser
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ALL BOMBAY
CONCENTRATES
**BUY 3 GET 1
FREE!**

FREE
GOODIE BAG
TO ALL FTP!



BRASS MONKEY

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PLUG Play

pure vapes

STIIZY

STNDRD THE ULTIMATE STNDRD

Bombay Fire



CandyCart

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Kushy Punch

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Special or
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Specials
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\$90 for
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/ DabWood
Carts

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Punch

11 for \$90
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(400mg)

3 for \$99
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Babylon
1000mg

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House Shatter/
Badder/
Crumble

7 for \$99
Cookies Shatter
or
Volcanic Crumble

5G/\$50
Dr. Zodiacs
MoonRocks

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and Get 1
FREE

Refer a Friend
Get FREE
Gram & Joint
& 100 mg
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24/7

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GOODIE
BAG**

with
Purchase of
\$30 or More.

OZ SPECIALS

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- \$50 Gorilla Glue
- \$160 VIP Shake
- \$200 (Small Nugs Indoor)
- \$220 Exclusive

HAPPY HOUR

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

FLOWER

- \$20/G Boss Shelf for..... \$17
- \$15/G VIP Shelf for \$12
- 5 Grams of Exotic for ... \$40

EDIBLES

- Buy 2 Drinks get 1 FREE
- STNDRD 6 for \$100
- Kushy Punch 4 for..... \$45

WAX

- \$20 Wax or 4 for \$70
- \$25 Wax or 4 for \$80
- Jeff Session Shatter.
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Everyday Specials

- BIRTHDAY SPECIAL: ANY \$10 EDIBLE
- CALI FIRE PREROLLS 10 FOR..... \$100
- CALI FIRE BATTER 1G FOR..... \$20
- 6 FOR..... \$110
- CALI FIRE CRUMBLE 1G FOR..... \$20
- 6 FOR..... \$110
- CALI FIRE SHATTER 1G FOR..... \$20
- 6 FOR..... \$100

EDIBLES

- CALIFORNIA FIRE..... 1000MG/\$40 | 2/\$70
- CALIFORNIA FIRE..... 350MG/\$15 | 5/\$70
- STONER PATCH ... 500MG/\$15 | 5 FOR \$70
- KUSHY PUNCH5/\$55

PRE-ROLLS

- BOMBAY 1/\$15
- 5/\$60
- CALI FIRE BLUNTS..... 1/\$25
- 3/\$65
- CALI FIRE..... 1/\$15
- 5/\$65
- MOONROCK 1G/\$20
- 5/\$80

CARTRIDGES

- RAW GARDENS..... 1G/\$30 | 2/\$55
- BRASS KNUCKLES 1G/\$30 | 3/\$80
- CALI FIRE..... 1G/\$30 | 4/\$100
- STIIIZY 1G/\$60 2/\$110

DISPOSABLES

- CALIFORNIA FIRE..... 1/2G/\$25
- DIME DISPOSABLE..... 1/2G/\$40
- BOMBAY DISPOSABLE..... 1G/\$30

FLOWER

- MONSTER COOKIES 7G/\$60
- OG KUSH..... 3.5G \$40
- 14G/\$130
- DEATH STAR 28G/\$120
- GOD FATHER 28G/\$90
- TANGI FRUIT 7G/\$60
- 28G \$160
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- 28G/\$340
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- 7G/\$100
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<p>All \$15 Prerolls 4/\$45</p>	<p>Dabwiser Shatter 1G \$20 or 5G/\$89 Dabwiser Crumble 1G \$20 or 5G/\$89 Lifted Sugar or Crumble \$30/G or 4/\$99 Volcanic Crumble \$20 or 5G/\$89</p>	<p>FTPS: 5g free Flower + Goodie Bag</p>	<p>Cookies Prepackaged 1/8th \$60 or 2/\$110</p>	<p>Refer a friend and receive 100mg edible & preroll! Dankwoods/ Packwoods Blunts 4/\$99</p>	<p>Happy Hour Daily 8pm-12am FREE 7G Shake</p>



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MONKEY

PARIS

PLUG
Play

pure
vape



STNDRD
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Bombay
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CandyCare

Cookies

Goodie
Bag



Kushy
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ROVE

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1G **\$20**
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FTP 4G
FREE
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Goodie Bag

Refer a
Friend, Get 1G
FREE
Pre-roll

Shung OG
\$75 oz

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Bombay
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28G \$80 Oz

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14G \$70

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28G \$160
14G \$90

Exclusive
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14G \$99

VIP
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10G \$120

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PRE ROLL
10 for
\$99

Moon Rocks
Cartridges
3G
\$99

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Cartridges
2G
\$110

Future 2020
2G
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Stndrd
1000 MG 3 for
\$99

Stndrd
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\$99

House Carts
8G
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All \$20
Shatter, Crumble,
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Kushy
Punch
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Exotic
Shake
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and match
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Shatter
6G
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Blackout
Brownie/
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VIP
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House
Crumble/Batter
7g \$99
3g \$49

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6g \$99

Diamonds 2g \$80
Live Resin 2g \$70
Batter \$70

CARTS

BUY 3 GET 1 - NO LIMIT.

Dime, Stiizy, Stiizy Live Resin, Cali Fire, HH,
Brass Knuckles, Bloom, Cookies, Raw Garden
Bloom Live Resin, West Coast Cure

EDIBLES

3x1000mg/ \$80
3 Green Magic/ \$50
Kushy Punch/
Punch Bars
Buy 3 get 1

Spend

\$99+
\$149+
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Get for FREE

1g PR
2g PR
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Must mention ad

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BLACKOUT PRE-ROLLS
2 FOR \$15

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



4 for \$45

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

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All 1/8ths are always 5 grams!
Starting as low as **\$35!**

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5 EXCLUSIVE INDOOR PRE-ROLLS

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GOLD SHATTER

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Mix & Match several options

STIIIZY

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* Treatment plans vary case by case, restrictions may apply. Call office for details. Offers cannot be combined. Offers for cash patients only. For insurance patients, insurance fees apply. Offers good through 3-8-21. **No-Needle system cannot be used on all cases. Use of conventional anaesthesia may still be required. ***Not all patients qualify for same day implants. Questions can not be answered over phone. Implant consult appointment is required. CT x-ray and bone graft not included.



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