

Border Patrol's fentanyl follies ■ The man behind the Mills Act ■ When Burrito met Philly



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LETTERS

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

Drinking and kids don't mix

Your cover story for April 8, "There are still tears," was offensive and racist. The cover depicted two brown children and a woman with her head deep in a giant wine glass. Latter in the article you display a picture of "Del Mar Tina" counting done the minutes to wine thirty. Del Mar Tina looks like she took the early flight to drunk city in the next photo.

If you are portraying a story about drunks please do not show children. Already wined up Tina looked white but the association with brown children made the story doubly bad. Next time you use children as story background use you own.

John Stump City Heights

Algorithmic foodies

Admittedly, I was a bit shocked reading how well established the ghost kitchen industry has become ("San Diego's ghost kitchens," Cover Stories, March 31). Its the ultimate drop shipping business. Perhaps it is turning food delivery into a commodity. Get a space, get your food handler certs and trust the algos.

I respect the entrepreneurs who have jumped in, pivoted and are making a go of it. Perfect for busy consumer or for the failed home chef. If only we knew the cooks, could trust that the kitchen is sanitary, that someone poured their hearts and souls into preparation and did their best to get it right. Wait, why do I go to restaurants again?

John Stack Vista

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

"San Diego's ghost kitchens" Cover Stories March 31

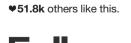
Personally, all I care about is the food. And don't forget, take out containers have to be dry and clean with no food waste in them. No greasy pizza boxes, no dregs of curry sauce, enchilada sauce etc

-danfogel

"Union-Tribune's new voice from the north is Soon-Shiong's daughter" News Ticker April 5

Don't you wonder about this dude? He comes to the US and soon accumulates wealth beyond the imagination of most of us, enough to overpay for the *Times* and other papers. (He shelled out a half billion bucks.)

And now he complains about racism in the US. If he actually experienced any such unfair treatment, it didn't prevent his becoming a billionaire. "[C] ompletely continued on page 4



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April 15, 2021



The comeback no one saw coming — page 14



Who doesn't hate SUPs? — page 36



Woody Allen returns — page 30

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Diego Reader April 15, 2021

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

PACIFIC BEACH

Can curfews curb crime? No more parking it overnight at these parks

A few more corners of the city will soon be off limits overnight to those without a place to sleep. An ordinance passed by the San Diego City Council on April 6 will make it illegal to be on the grounds of Fanuel Street Park and Pacific Beach Library Park from 10 pm to 5 am, or at Mission Bay Athletic Area from 11 pm to 6 am. San Diego now has 12 parks and one pedestrian bridge (on Spruce Street) with nighttime curfews, and the homeless, who have the right to sleep in public spaces if shelters aren't available, are feeling the squeeze. Over the past two years,



Kate Session Park is closed from 11 pm to 7 am year-round.

member of the Pacific Beach Town Council. Their proposal has been heard by park advisory boards, commissions, and community groups, and received unanimous votes in support each time. The Fanuel Street Park curfew must still be approved by the California Coastal Commission. Petitioners call Fanuel Park "felony park" for its "significant public safety concerns," from gangs to drug will at least help curtail some of these," said Vanessa Lovett in a comment to the city.

According to a staff report, crime mapping statistics do show a significant level of illegal activity in areas surrounding the three parks.

mary for Fanuel Park from January to November 2019 found alcohol and drugs the most common issue, with 24 incidents. This despite attempts by locals to reduce the number of liquor licenses in Pacific Beach — there were 232 active licenses as of last July. In 2020, as Covid-19 kept people home, San Diego's overall crime rate dropped 8 percent, mainly from fewer thefts and burglaries. But vehicle thefts soared, and Pacific Beach was a hotspot. Police attributed the changes to the pandemic. People weren't driving as much, and cars were easy targets. Current crime mapping statistics for the past month show that this pandemic trend continues to drag on: the main crime around Fanuel Park is still auto theft. A curfew will "provide a means for the San Diego Police Depart-

ment to remove patrons from these park areas in the late hours to minimize illegal use," the city says.

In possibly related news, crimes against the homeless in Pacific Beach have spiked in the past few years, according to homeless advocates. At least thirty victims have been tallied so far; crimes include pepper spray on a sleeping man, BB pellets, and objects thrown from cars.

SHEILA PELL

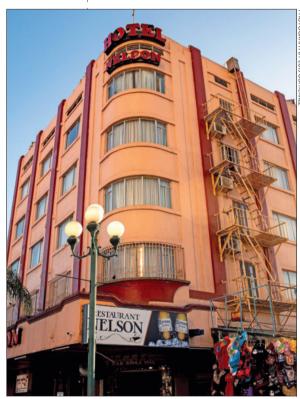
A San Diego Police Department crime sum-

TIIIIANA Admirable Nelson

Storied hotel's last chapter?

"After my death, I don't know what will happen with the business," Roberto Nelson says, regarding the future of the oldest bar in Tijuana. It's part of the first "skyscraper" in the city, the Hotel Nelson. The structure took four years to build during WWII. In 1947, it became a hotel — with six floors and the first elevator in northern Mexico.

Roberto Nelson's grandfather came from Syria and reached Tijuana when the city looked like the Wild West. He grew up with the first boom during Prohibition. His son -Roberto Nelson's father - came back after serving two years in the Korean War and began working in the hotel, which had been left to his brother because the grandfather died while he was fighting. In 1953, "after serving in the war, he had a shift as cashier in the hotel, and there, next to the lobby he set up a tiny table with five benches, that's how he started up [the bar]," Roberto explains. According to him, Tijuana has had peaks of development that matched the wars and



The Nelson had the first FM station in Mexico due to the location and height of the building.

crises in the U.S., some of which helped the hotel and bar grow.

During the last peak of tourism in Tijuana, Jose Antonio Vazquez, the current hotel manager, began to work at the hotel. "In my times, between 1960 and 1980, hotels were always packed; it was incredible. People had it to walk on the street because sidewalks were packed with U.S. tourists." According to Vazquez, rumors of Marilyn Monroe

continued on page 6

A curfew will "provide a means for the San Diego Police Department to remove patrons from these park areas in the late hours to minimize illegal use."

the city has doubled the number of parks with curfews.

The effort in Pacific Beach began in July 2019 with a petition launched by a group of residents that soon had over 500 signatures. The proposal "targets three specific highcrime parks" rather than a blanket curfew for all area parks, said Brian White, board use. Tourists are turned off, they say, and residents are afraid to walk their dogs. At Mission Bay Athletic Area on Grand Avenue (also known as Bob McEvoy Fields), parents say needles have been found in the T-ball fields, dug-outs, and bleachers, plus blood stains in the bathrooms and score booths. Storage lockers are broken into. "A curfew



Fiesta Island is closed from 10 pm to 4 am year-round.

What's the Matter with Lawson-Remer?

Dem Supervisor tries squelching competition to procure firm run by former Faulconer flunkie

Whether Democrat or Republican, San Diego politicos are infamous for taking care of each other at local taxpayers' expense. Freshman San Diego County supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, widely billed as a liberal Democrat, furnishes the latest example. Elected in November over incumbent Republican Kristin Gaspar, Lawson-Remer

wants her colleagues on the board of supervisors to spend \$85,000 of tax-payer funds to hire Matter Strategies, LLC to handle her public relations. According to the board's agenda for the meeting, the sole-source deal, which would last a year and includes a 12-month renewal clause, is set for a vote on Tuesday, April 6.

"Supervisor Terra Lawson Remer is requesting an exception to competitive procurement under Board of Supervisors Policy A-87 to contract with Matter Strategies, LLC. to provide communications support services," begins Lawson-Remer's pitch. "Matter Strategies, LLC is uniquely qualified to provide communications strategy, community engagement, and support



"Supervisor Terra Lawson Remer is requesting an exception to competitive procurement...."

considering their experience within the San Diego region and understanding of the work of the County of San Diego. Matter Strategies, LLC will provide supplemental communications services and provide mentorship to the emerging communications staff. The consultant shall facilitate and assist Supervisor Lawson-Remer's Office in developing overall communications practices for proactive engagement with constituents



Why is this man smiling? Because he's getting special treatment from the government!

and stakeholders gathering input from the community, structuring strong messages inclusive of their needs, building out social and traditional media channels." Matter Strategies, LLC is a strategic communications and public affairs firm focused on effective community engagement for individuals and organizations within the San Diego region. Its staff has extensive experience managing communications in legislative offices, executive offices, and public agencies, with recent and relevant experience in overseeing external communications related to the COVID-19 pandemic within the San Diego region."

Who is behind the firm? Though Remer's proposal doesn't mention it, it's none other

than Republican ex-Kevin Faulconer's former mayoral staffer Matt Awbrey. Records show that Matter Strategies LLC was set up on February 13 of last year. A February 20, 2020 filing shows Awbrey as company CEO. Last October 20, Awbrey announced the firm would be advising Faulconer, according to an account by *Politico.com*: "In the new role as CEO of the California-based firm, Awbrey will still be advising Faulconer and assisting him on his Building the Dream committee, in addition to other projects, Awbrey told Politico."

Even before leaving city employment as Faulconer's chief of staff for civicexternal affair on October 2 of last year, Awbrey worked as communications director for the Yes On E campaign, per

a September 22 account by SDNews.com. Heavily funded by multinational developer Brookfield Properties, Measure E abolished the 30-foot-height limit in the city's Midway and Sports Arena area, clearing the way for a forest of high-dollar residential and office towers. City campaign disclosure records show Matter ultimately got \$32,000 for the gig.

Matt Potter

UNDER THE RADAR

Border Patrol's fentanyl

follies The U. S. Border Patrol is sitting on a vast horde of deadly illegal drugs collected over two decades, creating significant risks to the safety and security of the agency's sprawling network of border storage vaults. So says a March 26 audit by the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Inspector General. "Each year, [Customs and Border Protection] seizes hundreds of thousands of pounds of illegal drugs entering the United States

and stores them in one of its 62 permanent seizure vaults," says the document. "Between fiscal years 2014 and 2019, marijuana seizures decreased while seizures for more toxic and hazardous drugs such as cocaine, methamphetamines, and fentanyl increased."

In a July 2019 report, auditors blasted Customs and Border Protection for "failure to protect its employees from possible fentanyl exposure." Though not explicitly mentioned

in that review, over 85 percent of total fentanyl seizures happened at San Diego border crossings. "In the report, we noted that as little as two milligrams of fentanyl could kill an individual," In the public version of the new report, the Inspector-General redacted Border Patrol and Customs checkpoints' names and vault locations where auditors monitored seizure operations. Before its release late last month, the entire report had been labeled Law Enforcement Sensitive. Despite the growing risks, Customs and Border Protection continues to stockpile dangerous drugs negligently, endangering workers and increasing costs. "In some instances, [Customs and Border

Protection] stored excess drugs for more than 20 years," per the document. "According to 1,184 case files we reviewed, between FYs 1984 and 2013, CBP's Office of Field Operations stored almost 13,000 pounds of drugs exceeding established threshold amounts in its vaults instead of destroying them."

Auditors reported that they discovered the agency "routinely circumvented its drug destruction process," increasing

"the risk of accidents, theft, and harmful drug exposure." Customs and Border Protection is also vulnerable to "additional personnel costs necessary to manage the excess stored drugs."

The federal agency vowed to make changes proposed by the audit. But a January 4 memo from official **Henry A. Moak, Jr.**, said the draft document did "not sufficiently recognize challenges" facing the agency. Among them he listed "budget constraints," "destruction facilities schedule/operations," and "staffing shortages."

Big Daddy Sempra Sempra Energy, whose subsidiary San Diego Gas & Electric is lobbying for a favorable extension to its exclusive city energy franchise, is a mainstay of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce. Per an online accounting posted by the utility giant, Sempra backed the chamber, a staunch SDG&E advocate, with a total of \$222,900 in 2020 membership fees. That put the San Diego chamber at number three on Sempra's 2020 business

membership list, under first place Chamber of Commerce of the United States at \$1,020,000, and second-place holder Business Roundtable, with \$600,000. In the fourth position was the American Petroleum Institute, at \$200,000. The oil and gas industry's largest trade group has historically opposed limits on carbon fuels to limit climate change. In early April, it agreed to support setting a price on carbon emissions in



the post-**Donald Trump** era.

Many anti-carbon advocates are skeptical. "This is an effort to get to the table, rather than be overlooked and run roughshod, but it's not very definite yet. I don't know what they're offering to really support," **David Doniger**, climate and clean energy program director at the Natural Resources Defense Council, told *CNBC.com*. Other local business interests supported by Sempra include Economic Development Corporation - San Diego County (\$87,500), San Diego Convention and Tourist Bureau (\$40,000), San Diego North Economic Development Council (\$37,500), Downtown San Diego Partnership (\$35,000),

San Diego Athena (\$35,000), San Diego County Taxpayers Association (\$33,500), San Diego Port Tenants Association (\$30,104), and the East County Economic Development Council (\$28,000)... As the effort to recall San Diego city council Democrat Jen Campbell announces it has already gathered 5000 signatures, a significant player in the so-called short-term rental market says it spent \$6548 lobbying against



A petition to recall Councilmember Jen Campbell has reached 5000 signatures.

a restrictive city ordinance. Airbnb, Inc. of San Rafael disclosed in an April 1 lobbying report filed by company attorney **Joel Aurora**, says the expenditure came in the final quarter of last year.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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ADVICE YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED

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Dear Hipster:

You want to know one thing you never hear about? Hipster mansions. If you picture the most hipster house you can imagine, you see a teeny tiny little cottage somewhere, or an itty bitty little studio apartment decorated with small, antique furniture. Why is the hipness of a dwelling inversely correlated with its size?

— NICOLE

On a more superficial level, most hipsters are pretty shrewd when you get right down to it, and they know that

living in some kind of crazy house isn't all it's cracked up to be. When you're a little kid, you watch cartoons, and you think it would be cool to live in a big mansion like Scrooge McDuck;



one with secret WWESP: where would Elliott Smith play? rooms and treasures hidden all over the place, and maybe random suits of armor standing around. In reality, what do you think you get when you have 2.7 hectares of roof? 2.7 hectares of leaks, that's what you get. It's hard to justify voluntarily taking on such problems, plus you have to deal with random spooky noises making you think it's The Purge basically every night of your life, and by the time you finish pushing the vacuum from one end of the house to the other, it somehow feels है like you need to go start over because it's already dirty back there somehow. You're a lot more likely to see the enter-prising hipster homeowner leaning in on a precious little Craftsman cottage

(garbage wiring and all!), or some kind of funky, converted industrial space (that might nonetheless end up as an EPA superfund site). If you're trying to decide whether a potential dwelling counts as the kind of place a hipster might want to live, ask yourself the following question:

if Elliott Smith came back from the dead next week, and he wanted to perform an intimate house show, would he feel comfortable crooning in your living room?

Practical problems of sprawling mansion-ownership aside, no self-respecting hipster aspires to end up like some Dickensian miser, slowly fading away in a dusty old house. No, sir. Hipsters prefer coziness, light, and succulent gardens over shadows, cobwebs, and the mouldering remnants of uneaten wedding cakes. This tracks with the existential outlook of your average hipster, who places a heck of a lot less importance on material wealth than on maddeningly intangible values such as "feeling artisti-

> cally fulfilled" or "being a generally good and socially relevant person."

Hipster:

Do you think we will figure out a use for old CDs that nobody wants to listen to anymore?

— DAVE G.

Look, anything's possible in this world. If you had asked the 2019 Hipster, "Do you think it would be possible to make a third Bill & Ted movie after a 29-year gap, release it during a crazy global pandemic, and have it actually be not that bad when you get right down to it?" the 2019 Hipster would have asked you to lay off the drugs for a bit and come back to reality. And yet, not only did that exact situation come to pass, the movie totally ripped off the idea for a time-travelling caveman drummer that some friends and I never got around to making into a musical sometime in the late-2000s.

—DJ Stevens

LETTERS

continued from page 1

disenchanted" is he? I'd say it's time for him to leave and find some country that isn't racist. Good luck with that.

—Visduh

He did not bring his wealth with him. I believe he was in his early 20's when came to LA to go to UCLA. Yeah, he made millions over about 20 years, but got his billions from selling 2 different drug companies that he started for about \$10 billion. That was about 10 or 12 years ago. So no, he didn't bring it with him; he made it here. Ah, the American dream!!! LOL —danfogel

"County taxpayers may foot bill for Lawson-Remer's ex-Faulconer aide" News Ticker

April 6

If the Council approves this, then San Diego needs to change it's name to: \$an Diego, where politicians (including their staff & buddies) all profit from the rest of us!

—Founder

"The reign of Dag Hammarskjöld" **Movie Reviews** January 2

The "Captain Ian Kerr" that couldn't be traced in the documentary is definitely my estranged father who returned to England in the early '60s. He told my mother about some of this and she told my sister although I don't think he was directly involved.

I can remember him blowing up after I noticed a picture of him in his white naval uniform and asked him about it. He's living in the Braunton area of North Devon, England. The UK gets a bum rap from the documentary, it was the only major power looking to do good in the post-colonial era and has been greatly praised by the UN for the mature and careful way it handled the long and difficult process of de-colonization, the direct opposite of France. If anyone can pass to Mads Brug-

"Stadium sayonara" **Golden Dreams** February 10

The Big 3 auto swap meet was the biggest in the west and drew thousands who use hotels and restaurants to San Diego. Never more. There is no suitable location for it to continue. Once your public servants give up public lands, they are gone forever. Of course, San Diegans never learn and keep electing corrupt people. Remember NTC?

Restaurants

Visited on Friday April 9. Receptionist said "there is no happy hour" due to Covid. Reader, you may want to take down this listing for Chart House Happy Hour.

"The Neat" Rock

song. Also was able to track down "In a Daydream" on the 91X compilation. But do you have any other recordings? Would love to hear more songs from The Neat! -Rodani

ger I'd be grateful.

—mrikerr

—CaptainObvious

"Chart House"

—BigWaveDave

Hey Neil. Love the video/



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Continued from page 2

staying in the hotel attracted people. The Nelson was a symbol of the city. It had the first FM station in Mexico due to the location and height of the building. But after 1976, the influence of central Mexico made U.S. businesses in Tijuana withdraw to the other side of the border. Plus, the city government tried to turn Tijuana into a colonial town. "That administration wanted to get rid of the Art Deco style buildings because Tijuana didn't look like Mexico. Bullshit. Tijuana is Tijuana," he adds. Then the age of rock revived downtown Tijuana, and the club scene exploded. In the 80s, the Mexican syndicate of song writers wanted to charge a fee to Tijuana places that were playing their songs. That's when Nelson decided to remove songs in Spanish. "It wasn't too hard to decide it, because I always loved and listened to rock in English, and my brother and I had a 600-record collection of classic rock," he says. John Demsey, 62, confirms, "This is the best jukebox anywhere; Led Zeppelin, Pink Floyd, The Who, Elton John, King Crimson. I used to come to the hotel and visit the bar. I don't speak any Spanish, but people here speak good English. I just fell in love with the bar. It reminds me of a pub in Ireland. In any bar in San Diego, people won't talk to you if you don't know them. I just love it here." Locals Raymundo Cocido, 54, comes to the bar for similar reasons. "I have been coming 35 years; people here are like a family."

Hotel manager Vazquez says, "We get offers to buy the building from local businessman and even from Mexico City. We always thought being an old-fashioned building was a disadvantage, but there are people, especially from the U.S., who love that." But just now, Nelson says he has no sons interested in taking care of the business. "One son of mine just ended his studies of medicine, and my daughter got married and now lives in Texas."

TIIIIANA

Vinvl Revolución Throwback sounds on throwback

format at music fair

On March 26-27, an estimated 20 San Diegans rendezvoused with about 3000 other record collectors and dealers at the Pasaje Rodríguez on Avenida Revolución in Tijuana for the Fifth Tijuana Vinyl Fair. "[I found] an extremely rare 'City of the Angels' single by Los Walker de Tijuana," said Lucio Soto, who has been stockpiling records at his Escondido home and storage lockers for the past 35 years. "I am what you call a severe hard-core vinyl junkie. I am about 50,000 records deep in my collection. "Currently, I exclusively look for Tijuana oldies bands from the '60s and '70s." He said he paid \$325 for the seven-inch single, "although I'm not too comfortable carrying much cash in Mexico." He then direct-messaged me a photo of himself holding a Feliz Navidad/Centro Musical De Tijuana, S.A. album that he purchased from Luis Enrique Acosta Jimenez for \$300 USD, adding, "Luis takes my PayPal debit card. He's a good guy: a straight shooter." Luis Enrique Acosta Jimenez owns La Rola Records on 5th Avenue by Ave-



nida Revolución; he's a co-founder of the Tijuana Vinyl Fair. "Our used vinyl prices on English [sung] rock and Mexican national music is more economical compared to the U.S. prices," he said, "although, on the new vinyl reissues, we are five percent more expensive here in Tijuana."

"About 20 record vendors sold at our



IVÁN MOLINA

"The vendors brought rare records of Mexican psychedelic rock, which ranged from 3,000-4,000 thousand pesos apiece.'



Record sales are being reported for Tijuana oldies on vinvl.

show," added Pedro Serrano, the fair's other co-founder. He's a second-generation record dealer who ships records to his clients within the U.S. via USPS media mail - about \$3 for one and about \$5 for a stack of five. "They

> came from other regions and cities in Mexico. They brought rare records of

"If I buy a bunch of records in Tijuana," I asked, "and bring them back to San Diego, how do I stash them in the car so they don't warp inside a hot interior or trunk while waiting in line in the summertime?"

"My guess is to keep them upright," suggested Soto.

"The best way to transport them is with

"Tijuana is considered the rock capital of Mexico." We had Dug Dug's, El Ritual, Peace and Love, Live Army, El Pájaro Alberto and Javier Batiz."

Mexican psychedelic rock, which ranged from 3000-

4000 thousand pesos (\$147- \$196 USD) apiece." During the rest of the year, "We sell our records to the whole world via eBay and to our customers on the store page." Armando Nava, guitar player and keyboardist of Dug Dug's, a 60's-70's psychedelic rock band, signed autographs at the record show. His group's albums — which contain early Mexican rock songs inspired and created in Tijuana, some sung in English — are fetching hundreds of dollars on U.S. eBay. Oddly, none of the record collectors or dealers I spoke with utilize Mercado Libre, a Latin-American version of eBay. There, I found Dug Dug's circa 1974 Cambia Cambia album selling for 1100 pesos (\$54 USD), a bargain, considering nobody on the U.S. eBay platform is selling it.

"Tijuana is considered the rock capital of Mexico," continued Serrano. "Playing at advanced levels, our groups played to mostly American audiences on Avenida Revolución back then. We had Dug Dug's, El Ritual, Peace and Love, Live Army, El Pájaro Alberto and Javier Batiz."

"Tijuana oldies are spiking up in prices," noted Soto, the Escondido collector, "it's trending now."

special heat-insulating suitcases that are kept in the shade inside the vehicle." Serrano said.

Acosta Jimenez said the next vinyl show is on June 26 and 27.

MIKE MADRIAGA



Lucio Soto of Escondido- "I am what you call severe hard-core vinyl junkie. I am about 50,000 records deep in my collection."



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Senator Mills's beloved creation, the San Diego Trolley

The man behind the Mills Act

(To the tune of 'Tiptoe Through the Tulips').

Bulldoze, through the redwoods

 $Through \ the \ big \ trees,$

And the old folks' home,

Come rampage through the redwoods with me On my new Caterpillar tractor...

This was James Mills' own fight song, over the half-century he fought Caltrans and other agencies and developers playing fast and loose with San Diego's sustainable future.

"That was the kind of song Dad kept on the down low, because that was not promoting cooperation between Caltrans and anybody else," says Mills's grown son Bill. "But we all sang it in the family."

And thank goodness! Just think what San Diego's James Mills, this conservation warrior, achieved. Because of him

we have: *The Star of India*, Old Town State Park, The San Diego Trolley, The Port District, and The Mills Act. And then there's Mills's book *The Gospel According to Pontius Pilate*, his imagined life of Pilate as politician facing the pressures that Mills, a consummate politician, knew so well.

On and on. He was a state senator, he turned railroad tracks into bike tracks, helped save Amtrak, and with the Mills Act, still saves countless historic houses from destruction.

Bill Mills's dad, former California State Senator James Mills, was a walking hurricane, even though what he most liked to do was ride bikes and catch trains. That's the thing about him. James Mills loved trains. "If there was a new train line, no matter where we were, like in Chicago for the Democratic Convention in 1968, he'd have to ride the new train lines before he even got to his hotel."

Because, says Bill, his dad was aware of the shenanigans that Detroit had gotten up



State Senator James Mills, father of the San Diego Trolley

to after WW2, to utterly destroy train and streetcar transportation. "There was an active, aggressive program to try to sell buses at the cost of killing streetcar systems. The Firestone Tire Company and GM Buses and Standard Oil went through different municipalities, selling buses to them, and they said, 'We'll make you a fantastic deal on these new buses. But what you have to do is get rid of your streetcar systems. And not just get rid of them; you have to pave over the tracks.' And then there was, 'Oh, and you also need to guarantee to buy Firestone bus tires for 30 years, and you've got to buy your oil from

Standard Oil. And we'll give you a great price. They were playing the long game to kill the streetcar systems.

"And they succeeded at it! And this is part of that passion that dad had about transit. He was, 'I want those streetcars to come back because they were better!' At one point, Bill says, quoting his dad, you could get around most parts of San Diego on streetcars. "They were electric, more sustainable. They took more people at less cost. We did it better,

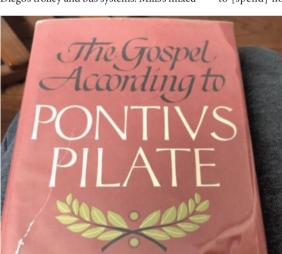
newly elected. "Jess Unruh told the freshmen (and they were all men), 'Look, there are lobbyists here and they have money, and they're going to spend it on you. And we don't make a lot. And if you cannot eat their food, drink their booze, screw their women, and then [still] vote against them, you've got no business being up here.' So they were still expecting that people were voting their conscience, and doing the right thing. And a lot of the things that got done during those

"You should only get into politics if you have problems you want to solve. If you don't have a goal, it's not pleasant."

and then the automobile screwed it all up."
This was the passion behind Mills's greatest creation, the San Diego Trolley.

And with automobiles now primary culprits in greenhouse gas emissions — another of Mills's passions — the ultimate justification for reviving light rail is nothing less than our very survival on earth.

James Mills was born in 1927. Half of his professional life was spent in the California State Senate, the other half, developing San Diego's trolley and bus systems. Mills's mixed



Renaissance Man: cover of Sen. Mills's novel of politics and religion

memories of building a career in the State Senate come out in another of his books, A Disorderly House: The Brown-Unruh years in Sacramento.

"Disorderly House' is also a euphemism for a whorehouse," says son Bill. "The mid-'80s is when things changed over to a lot more money-politics. Dad talked about it at the time, the polarization, the fringes starting to grab the party away from the center."

Bill quotes how James and [prominent Sacramento politician] Jesse "Big Daddy" Unruh met a group of freshmen coming into the assembly in 1961, six or eight of them,

years were because they were still working across the aisle. And people were playing that long game of 'How do I want things to look, 20, 30 years from now?"

Bill says one of the reasons we're seeing transit happen again today in different areas, (with places like LA taking a page from San Diego's book) is the state financing from the '70s, when there was a piece of legislation that carried a gas tax, for transit but specifically not highways. It wasn't enough for anybody to [spend] now, but different counties in

California could borrow against it. More than anything else, this slow-drip income, part of a state motor vehicle fuel tax, has made the long trip back to Mills's streetcar dream possible.

But James Mills didn't always win. Take the Fashion Valley trolley stop: At the time of construction, the shopping center folks didn't want to lose parking space. And they apparently believed they wouldn't get the kind of desirable customers they wanted via trolley. "They said 'Absolutely not," says Bill. "'We're not going to give you any of our parking

lot space.' And if you look today, Fashion Valley's trolley stop is still hemmed in by those parking lots. And that's one of the few places where you've got a trolley line that didn't cause development around it."

Bill, who works at Microsoft, says he is sometimes tempted by politics himself. Once, he approached his dad. "I said: 'Dad, should I think about getting into politics?' And he said 'I think you should only get into politics if you have problems that you want to solve. If you don't have a reason and a goal, it's not pleasant. It's not a good life, unless you have something to make it worthwhile."



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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Court Packing 'Em In

City officials beg courts to declare Measure C passed so that Convention Center can expand services to migrant minors.

"There's gold in them thar kids!"

San Diego's Measure C, which would have raised the city's hotel tax in an effort to secure funds for a Convention Center expansion, came tantalizingly close to obtaining the two-thirds majority required for passage. But supporters of the measure note that since its failure, appellate courts have ruled that at least two other tax hike ballot measures required only a simple majority for passage. City officials are therefore hoping that a some court, any court will rule that Measure C "Besides the money, there's also the health question," said Grubber. "Already, nearly 40 kids being

sheltered in the convention center have tested positive for covid. They need to be quarantined, and the kids that remain need sufficient space to maintain social distancing. Follow the science: if you don't pass Measure C, you are literally killing children.'

actually passed, so that expansion can commence ASAP. There is reason for the urgency: the Federal government is currently paying nearly \$800 a day to house and

> care for unaccompanied minors who have crossed the border during the recent surge. Already, nearly 1500 of those minors are living at the San Diego Convention Center. "You do the math," says Convention Center Expansion Manager Manny Grubber. "The more space we have, the more kids we can take. And more kids are coming all the time. But who knows how long this surge will last? The time to act is now! This crisis can't wait!"

Touched By An Angel

Tatis Ir. suffers "Jacob's joint" injury as punishment for his anointing as Padres' savior

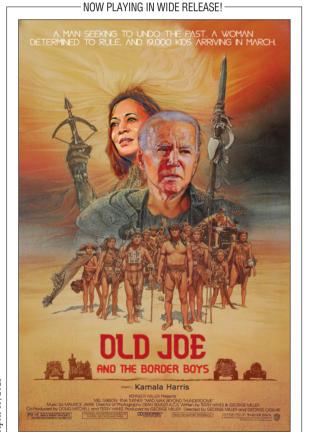
Yesterday, God Almighty called a press conference to announce that he was responsible for the shoulder injury suffered by Padres superstar Fernando Tatis, Jr., who tore his labrum at the end of a mighty swing during a game against the San Francisco Giants. "Look," said God, "I normally don't like to get involved with professional sports. Too many conflicting prayers, you know? But here you've got a team named after a group of Catholic priests. My Son founded that church;



Special "God's-eye" cam footage shows angel touching the slugger's shoulder at precise moment of his labrum tear.

what kind of Dad would I be if I didn't keep tabs? So they muddle along, stumbling and falling just like their namesake, and then bang, here comes Tatis. Suddenly, people are talking about a pennant, even a Series. Not because the Padres have repented and returned to me, no. Because of him. So looked back through my Book of Smiting, and came across the time when I sent my angel in the form of a man to wrestle with Jacob, way back in Genesis. 'When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob,

he touched his hop socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint.' Perfect. What's the old line from the Psalms? Ah yes: 'Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His shoulder giveth way, he falleth to the earth.' Something like that. Anyway, I'm thinking this should do the trick. [Padres General Manager AJ] Preller's already been on his knees for a good portion of every day, begging me to just fix this. And small wonder: \$340 million is a lot of money."



Press release from Progressive Pictures: "Old Joe and the Border Boys tells the thrilling story of 19,000 kids living in Central America who hear President Biden announce that he's going to stop deportations for the first 100 days of his presidency and cease expelling unaccompanied minors. They then decide to set off on a thrilling quest to reach the United States, braving many hardships along the way. But when arrive at the border, they find that getting there was only half the battle. Trapped in a plastic pod world with no end in sight, the kids learn their fate has been placed in the hands of Queen Kamala, a myster ous figure who never seems to appear, but who once promised to champion their cause. Will they mak it out of plastic pod world before succumbing to the plague that threatens them all? Will they find thei way to the dreamed-of paradise of Dacaville? You'll have to watch it to

PREDATOR PLACEMENT EDITION



The tagline for Jennifer Garner's

mom-revenge pic Peppermint was, "The system failed. She won't.

Mt. Helix mom Sarah Thompson says

she will fight to keep her neighborhood from becoming a dumping ground for sexually violent predators.



Bela Lugosi famously played Count Dracula, a monster who seduced the innocent and assaulted them with his pointy



The Dept. of State Hospitals recommended that Douglas

Badger, who preyed on young hitchhikers and abducted them at gunpoint, be placed near Thompson's home.



Actor Cuba Gooding, Jr. has been accused to both forcible touching and



The Dept. of State Hospitals is considering placing Merle Wakefield, who was convicted of a lewd act with a minor

and rape, in the same

home as Badger.

San Diego Reader April 15, 2021



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THERE'S SOMETHING FOR YOU ON VINYL

Ticholas Friesen is a 38-year-old native San N Diegan – he grew up in Southeast – who has been working in used record stores all his life. "I've got this 10,000-hour thing going for me," he says. "I started working at Music Trader in downtown when I was a senior in high school, and I've been loving it ever since. It's about the only thing I'm good at."

For years, the CD was the lifeblood of San Diego's independent record stores, but as digital downloading and then streaming caught on, CD sales shrank, as did the number of local record stores.

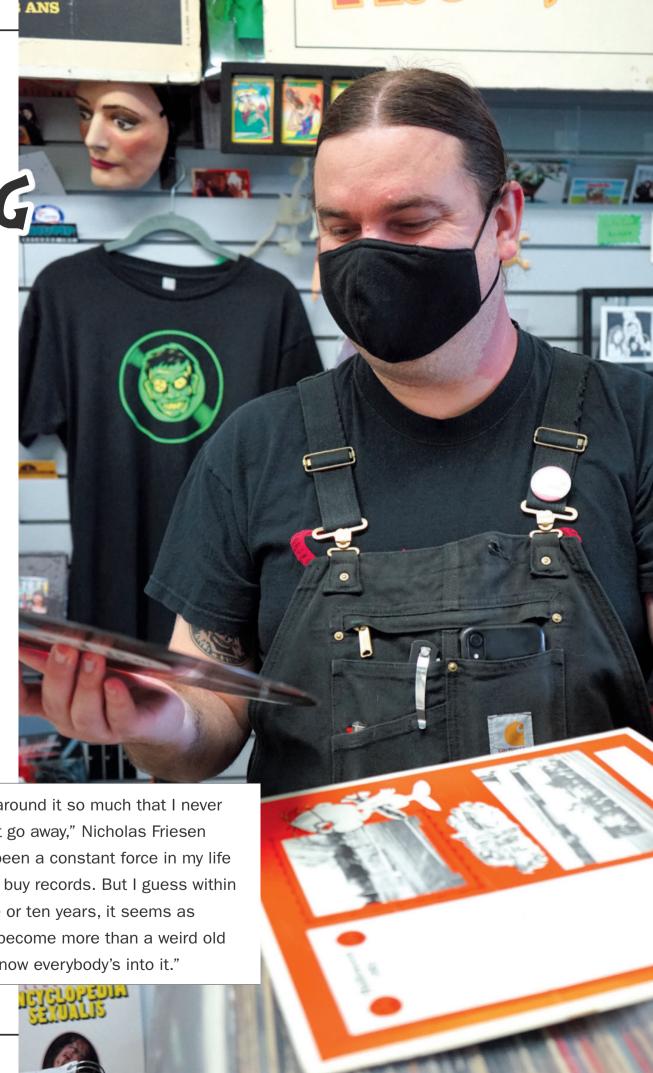
But then, about a decade ago, a funny thing happened. The 12-inch vinyl LP, snuffed out by the CD back in the middle 1980s, began a dramatic comeback. It was spurred by nostalgic Boomers who started collecting the albums they had discarded decades earlier, and by a new generation of music lovers who saw the vinyl LP as something cool.

"The first time I heard a record on a

turntable, at a friend's house, I was hooked," says Jacob Lange, a 19-yearold Carlsbad resident who received his first record player this past Christmas as a gift. "I was so used to hearing songs through my phone using Spotify that I could instantly hear the difference in sound quality and just the feel of the music."

Lange, who graduated last June from Carlsbad

"I've been around it so much that I never really saw it go away," Nicholas Friesen says. "It's been a constant force in my life that people buy records. But I guess within the last five or ten years, it seems as though it's become more than a weird old hobby, and now everybody's into it."



With the downturn in CDs, Friesen turned to online sales, buying and selling albums he picked up at swap meets and estate sales. He took a side job as a surgical assistant at Scripps Memorial Hospital in La Jolla. But as the vinyl resurgence grew and his online sales shifted more and more toward the vinyl LP, he hung up his scrubs and in June 2017 took out a lease on a La Mesa Boulevard storefront in the heart of La Mesa Village and opened

Reanimated Records.

The store is focused on used vinvl — as well as posters, DVDs, and random paraphernalia from horror movies, Friesen's other big love. And from the start, the store has been doing well enough to support Friesen, his wife and two sons, the voungest named Henry Lee after the Nick Cave ballad.

Even during the pandemic, when Friesen cut back store hours to once again focus on Internet sales, he's been bringing in enough money to cover his bills.

"I've been around it so much that I never really saw it go away," he says. "It's been a constant force in my life that people buy records. But I guess within the last five or ten years, it seems as though it's become more than a weird old hobby, and now everybody's into it."

The vinyl resurgence of the last few years is well documented. The Recording Industry Association of America says consumers bought more vinvl records in 2020 than CDs for first time since the 1980s. And that's just for new records. Discogs, the big online marketplace for used records, says it facilitated sales of nearly 12 million records in 2020, up more than 40 percent from 2019.

Reanimated Records is one of more than a dozen independent record stores that have sprung up in San Diego County over the last several years. It joins a handful of hardy survivors such as Spin Records up in Carlsbad, which has been open since 1993; Lou's in Encinitas, established in 1980; and the granddaddy Paid Advertisement

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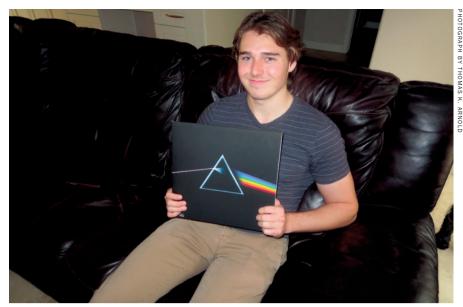
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E-Mo Biology, Inc.

of them all, Folk Arts Records, which was initially opened in Little Italy way back in 1967 by the late Lou Curtiss, who also produced live music events ranging from free banjo and fiddle contests in Balboa Park to the San Diego Folk Festival.

Curtiss sold Folk Arts in July 2014 after years of keeping the store alive through the income of his wife, Virginia, a biochemist. He moved the store several times, and by the time present owner Brendan Boyle acquired the business, "the property was in serious disrepair and the landlord didn't want to make any improvements." So Boyle moved the inventory to a new location on El Cajon Boulevard, and opened for business in September 2020.

Boyle, now 39, studied



"The first time I heard a record on a turntable, at a friend's house, I was hooked," says Jacob Lange, a 19-year-old Carlsbad resident who received his first record player this past Christmas as a gift.

at the University of California, Davis from 2002 to 2009. He deejayed for the school radio station, KVDS, which is known for its large record and CD collection.

"Technically, my major was history, but my real degree is records," he says.

After college, Boyle married a teacher and moved several times around the Midwest as his wife took teaching gigs. He worked in community radio and sold records and CDs over the Internet. After his wife found steady work in San Diego as

RESEARCH STUDIES

SUBJECTS NEEDED FOR UC SAN DIEGO RESEARCH STUDY

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

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

Study Procedures

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

For More Information
Call us at the UCSD Psychiatry Department

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UC San Diego



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The CLEAR-1 Study is a clinical trial to evaluate an investigational medication for adults with Otomycosis.

Participants may qualify for this study if they:

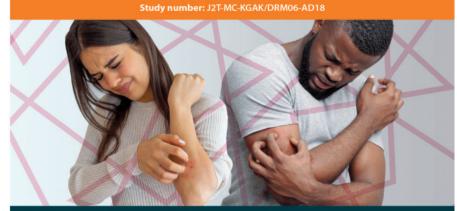
- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have NOT used any topical anti-fungal treatments for the ear in the past 2 weeks
- **Have NOT used** antimicrobial or antifungal therapy for an infection within the last 30 days
- · Are NOT diagnosed with uncontrolled diabetes mellitus

All study-related visits, tests, and drugs will be provided at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for study-related travel may be available.

Form more information, contact our site at 619-552-3744.



Clinical Research Center www.biosolutionsresearch.com



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With atopic dermatitis, itching isn't even the worst part.

You may qualify to participate in the ADopt-VA study for an

To be eligible for the ADopt-VA study, you must:

- Be between the ages of 18 and 55 years old
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- Have not recently received the Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria,

This is not a complete list of study review all requirements with you.

To learn more about the ADopt-VA study, contact:

(858) 365-5326

Ask your doctor if you are eligible for this clinical research study.



Contact us today! (858) 365-5326

patients@acrcstudies.com 15725 Pomerado Rd Suite 108, Poway, CA 92064 This study is funded by Eli Lilly & Company



Fatty liver disease is a common, but 'silent' disease, which means that most people are completely unaware that they have it.2

If fat continues to build up in the liver, it can lead to a more advanced form of fatty liver disease that causes inflammation and damage, this is known as nonalcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH).2 If left untreated, NASH can lead to cirrhosis (scarring of the liver), liver cancer, the need for liver transplantation and even death.1

MIRNA is a clinical research study investigating the potential benefits of two different study drugs for the treatment of NASH with liver fibrosis. Would you be able to take part?

The MIRNA study may be an option if you are aged 18-75 and have at least two of the following conditions:

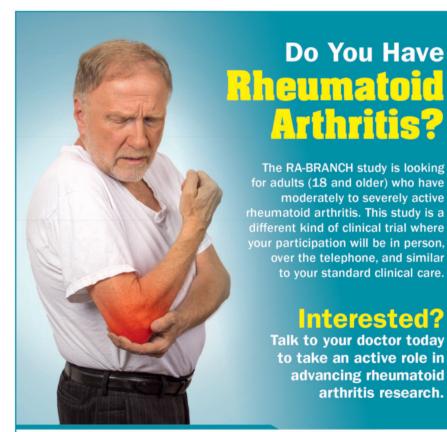
- · Overweight or obesity
- . Type 2 diabetes
- · High cholesterol
- . High triglycerides (a type of fat in the blood)
- · High blood pressure

If you would like to know more, please contact us at: You could also visit www.MIRNAstudy.com



619-493-4264

www.prisandiego.com



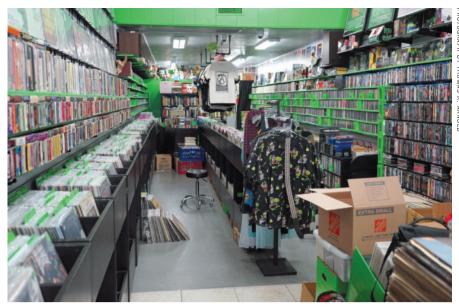
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This study is funded by Eli Lilly & Company

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www.biosolutionsresearch.com



Reanimated Records is focused on used vinyl — as well as posters, DVDs, and random paraphernalia from horror movies, Friesen's other big love.

a high school teacher, Boyle says he started frequenting local record stores with the goal of learning as much as he could about the business. A record collector himself, he became a regular customer at Folk Arts and struck up a friendship with Curtiss that eventually led to him buying the business. "Lou was a big part of my education," Boyle says.

Since buying Folk Arts, Boyle has moved two more times, settling into his store's present location at 3610 University Avenue in 2020. He vastly expanded the store's inventory from its core folk and blues focus, and now has tens of thousands of vinyl LPs in stock, including a big selection of classic rock, jazz and even classical.

"We've still got the largest selection of American roots music you're going to find in Southern California — that's always been a given," Boyle says. "And then as we've grown over the last six years, we also have a lot of rock, soul, jazz, electronic, and goth."

Folk Arts has mostly used records, but also carries new vinyl, both reissues and new music. "The new stuff we order tends to be in the underground spectrum, not in the mainstream," he says. As for reissues, "as you get your feet wet in the business, you kind of learn what labels do reissues well and what labels don't, so you tend to order reissues from labels that have high quality audio, that do a good job on mastering



What's behind the LP's comeback? "Everyone has their own theories,"
Brendan Boyle says. "Probably, if I had to take a guess, it's the
omnipresence of our Internet culture, which is so dominant and so extreme
that people are actively seeking alternatives to clear their heads."

and using original tapes."

Business, Boyle says, has been good: he opened the store at the right time, as vinyl was beginning its resurgence.

What's behind the LP's comeback? "Everyone has their own theories," Boyle says. "Probably, if I had to take a guess, it's the omnipresence of our Internet culture, which is so dominant and so extreme that people are actively seeking alternatives to clear their heads."

His clientele, he says, is equal parts older record collectors and younger people discovering vinyl LPs for the first time. "There's a huge interest among young people,"

he says. "They're really gravitating toward records these days."

30,000 LPs

Both Boyle and Friesen, the owner of Reanimated Records in La Mesa, spend a good chunk of their time buying used records. Swap meets, estate sales, and even thrift shops are good sources. They buy records from people who bring their old albums into their stores to sell. And they're always open to buying collections.

"I buy collections and pride myself on paying very good prices and very fair prices," Boyle says. "A big part of my business is buying large collections, 1000 LPs on up, as large as 30,000."

Boyle buys primarily local, often from people who have inherited big record libraries. "If they hang on to those records out of love and passion for the music, that's a good thing," he says. "But oftentimes people don't know what they're sitting on, and that's where someone like myself comes in. First and foremost, I provide the service of consulting people, especially if there's been a recent death, just to be sincere and sensitive to the situation. I let them know what they have and what it's worth, and then if they want to do business with me, we go

RESEARCH STUDIES





Folk Arts Records, initially opened in Little Italy way back in 1967 by the late Lou Curtiss, who also produced live music events ranging from free banjo and fiddle contests in Balboa Park to the San Diego Folk Festival.

from there."

Friesen bought a huge rec ord collection, consisting of more than 10,000 LPs, in Alabama in 2017, just after he opened his store. "A friend of mine had a distant cousin who passed, and he was the next of kin," Friesen recalls. "A shop out there was giving him a real lowball offer, so he hired me to fly out there and appraise it. It was just kind of serendipitous. In the meantime, I had signed the lease and opened the store, so I ended up buying the collection instead of

appraising it. It was in this huge four-bedroom house overflowing with rad things. I rented a moving truck and drove it all the way back here."

Since then, Friesen said, he's "cooled it on going out and seeking product," because "now, with the store, people bring it to us." He's also had his share of disappointments, driving up to a house, "expecting this amazing collection, only to find a bunch of soggy cardboard with mold on it in the garage."

But every so often,

he says, there's a real find - like the time two years ago he drove up to Buena Park, in Orange County, for an estate sale and found himself buying records and classic horror movie posters from none other than Merle Allin, the older brother of the late punk icon GG Allin. The two had played together in the Murder Junkies before GG Allin's 1993 death of a heroin overdose.

"Those two big Texas Chainsaw Massacre posters hanging in the store, they came from him," Friesen says. "He tried to sell me a painting his brother made out of his own shit. I passed on that one."

Bernie Fishman, who opened Beat Box Records in Barrio Logan in late 2014, might be even more passionate than Boyle or Friesen when it comes to buying records. That's because Beat Box's inventory consists almost entirely of used records. "It's 95 percent old stuff, because that's what I love."

"When I started collecting records as a teenager in the late 1990s, the people who schooled me on records back then were like, 'No, you want the original pressing – you don't want these reissues," Fishman says. This was before companies like Sundaze made reissuing vintage LPs a big business, he notes, and before the Internet made buying new vinyl as simple as clicking a button on Amazon. At the time, he said, the few reissues that came out "might be crappy pressings, or would be remastered differently. I learned to put the time into the hunt and go out and find the originals. And just as a side note, today, reissues often cost \$30 at retail, whereas the original pressing might only be \$15."

Fishman also makes lots of house calls, buying collections he learns of "just by being out and about and talking to different people. I also get people bringing in stuff to the shop. I'm always open to buying records that people bring in."

Fishman, 38, is a native of Columbus, Ohio, He moved to San Diego in 2010. He's held various jobs over the years, from working in a pizza restaurant to deejaying and selling music lessons over the phone. All the while, he's supplemented his income by selling records on eBay, "doing OK, but not great."

Seven years ago, he attended an art show at a collective on Logan Avenue. "I started talking to one of the organizers and he told me they had a room they weren't using much and if I wanted to open a record store, I could," Fishman recalls. "He offered me the room for free for eight months, and I accepted – at the time, I didn't have a lot of money and I was paying about \$80 a month for storage. So I moved my records into the shop and did so well that eight months later, when I had to leave that space, I moved into a storefront

continued on page 40

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



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BUSINESS HOURS: TUESDAY - FRIDAY 9 AM - 7 PM

Calendar

YOUR VELCOME TO IT EK

Thursday | 15

CHARLOTTE LAWRENCE LIVE FROM THE BEEHIVE

Singer/songwriter
Charlotte Lawrence
is known for hits such
as "Just The Same"
and "Sleep Talking."
She will present a
livestream performance
celebrating the release
of her EP *Charlotte*. The
intimate show will see
her perform the EP in
its entirety for the first
time from the Beehive in
Los Angeles.

WHEN: Thursday, April 15, 8 pm **WHERE:** momenthouse.com/charlottelawrence

CHARLOTTE

LAWRENCE

THE GREATEST SHOWMAN AT ROOFTOP CINEMA CLUB

In the spirit of P.T. Barnum and company, Rooftop Cinema Club is decking out the venue in "three-ring circus" decor for their themed-night screening of *The Greatest Showman*. The Club is an outdoor cinema with table games, food and drinks, lounge

chairs, and headphones.

Concessions are contactless order and pick-up.

WHEN: Thursday, April 15, 6:30 pm to 11 pm WHERE: Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place, Downtown, rooftopcinemaclub.com



SHARON VAN ETTEN: *EPIC TEN* LIVESTREAM

Sharon Van Etten's *Epic Ten*

(due April 16) is an anniversary double album showcasing covers of songs by Fiona Apple, Lucinda Williams, Big Red Machine, Courtney

Barnett & Vagabon, IDLES, Shamir, and St. Panther. Van Etten and band will perform the entire album from Zebulon LA. A short documentary on the making of the album and about





Zebulon will precede the concert.

WHEN: Friday, April 16, and Saturday, April 17, 7 pm

WHERE: nocapshows.com

HOPS ON THE HARBOR: PIZZA PORT BREWING COMPANY

Each month, Flagship welcomes a different San Diego brewery aboard its Friday night dinner cruises. Throughout the month

of April, Flagship is collaborating with Pizza Port Brewing Company.

In March of 1987, siblings Gina and Vince Marsaglia bought a struggling pizza place in Solana Beach. Pizza Port offered its first craft-brewed beers in 1992, and quickly gained a reputation in San Diego's growing craft beer scene.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 14, 10 am

WHERE: Flagship Cruises & Events, 990 N. Harbor Drive, Downtown. *flagshipsd.com*

Saturday | 17

MORNING GLORY BRUNCH FROG RACE

St. Madeleine Sophie's Center will host a Morning Glory Brunch Frog Race — virtually. Purchase a rubber frog to be entered in the race. Volunteer "Frogettes" will splash from the end of the pool deck, without touching the frogs, to assist them in reaching the finish line. A maximum of 625 rubber frogs will be entered in the race. Frogs will be launched in the Aquatics Center pool beginning at 12 pm. Winners of the frog race will be announced during a



live streaming event. The winning frogs will be the first five frogs to cross the finish line and will be declared the cash prize winners of \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500, \$250, and \$100.

WHEN: Saturday, April 17, 12 pm **WHERE:** *stmsc.org*



HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Spring Critter Camp Your child's appreciation for all animals will flourish as they interact with cute critters, create crafts, play games and more. Contact us at education@animalcenter.org or (858) 756-4117 x 318. Thur-Fri, April 15-16, 9am; \$65-885. Helen Woodward Animal Center, 6461 El Apajo Road. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

ART

Art Making Classes for Adults

Art making classes for adults and mature adults. Small groups, minimum 3 to maximum 6 participants. Everything needed for the class is provided. Fridays, 2pm; through Friday, Dec. 31, \$30-\$60. 18 and up. The Golden Moth Creative Lounge, 439 South Cedros Avenue Suite 201. (SOLANA BEACH)

Art of Elan & Kontras Quartet

Art of Elanand Lux Art Institute combine music and art performing works by Jessie Montgomery and Dmitri Shostakovich, as well as the world premiere of "Hidden Mothers," a powerful new string quartet written by Steven Snowden. Thursday, April 15, 7pm; Lux Art Institute, 1550 S. El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

BEER

Trivia Night Sunset Trivia is coming back with the No Leftovers food truck, team sports, and social distancing. Wednesdays, 7pm; through April 28, **free**. 21 and up. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Warwick's Author Livestream: Kimberly Ann Johnson Warwick's will host Kimberly Ann Johnson as she discusses her new book, Call of the Wild: How We Heal Trauma, Awaken Our Own Power, and Use It for Good. Thursday, April 15, 4pm; free. warwicks. com/event/johnson-2021. (ONLINE)

Warwick's Author Livestream: Kristy Woodson Harvey This Couch Surfing Book Tour event features Kristy Woodson Harvey as she discusses her new book, Under the Southern Sky. Tuesday, April 20, 4pm; free. warwicks.com/event/ harvey-2021. (ONLINE)

CANNIBAS

4/20 Party Celebrate the big day with some dank tunes, dank 420 IPA on tap, and a tap list TBA. Hop Buds Joint Rolling Competition all-day, if yours beats out the current winner in grams, you get a \$1 pint. The Chef'em Mariscos Food Truck will have tacos, burritos, tortas, quesadillas, hot dogs. Tuesday, April 20, 12pm; **free**. 21 and up. Duck Foot Brewing Company, 8920 Kenamar Drive. (MIRAMAR)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Beginning Cold Process Soapmaking Class Soapmaking 101 is a beginning-level soapmaking class designed to teach students to make soap by hand at home. The main focus of this class is the "cold process" soapmaking method although the class does briefly describe "melt and pour" soap crafting. Attend in person. Classroom hours: 4.5 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Saturday, April 17, 12pm; \$119. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Bilingual Cooking Class: Seasonal Soup & Crackers Learn the basics of making a deliciously seasonal soup from start to finish. Make a classic white bean & kale soup with some seasonal garden twists. The class will be in English and simultaneous Spanish translation will be available. Thursday, April 15, 5pm; \$10-\$40. Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, 2525 N Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

Bokashi & Composting Workshop Join Solana Center at this free webinar for an introduction to bokashi, a fermentation method that will enable you to compost all your food waste, including meat, dairy, and liquids. Tuesday, April 20, 6pm; free. solanacenter.org/free-compost-workshops. (ONLINE)

CCS Prevents: SAAM Workshops Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Virtual Prevention Workshops: CCS will host a series of virtual prevention and education workshops on Wednesdays in April. Wednesdays, 4pm; through Wednesday, April 28, free. https://bit.ly/2Py8an6. (ONLINE)

Family Master Composter Course The Family Master Composter course will cover everything you need to compost with confidence, all presented in a way that's fun and intuitive for kids. Virtual Course Format: 1-hour weekly meetings via Zoom will include live lessons from educators, Q&A time, mini quizzes, videos, and more. Saturdays, 10am; through Saturday, May 1, free-\$25. solanacenter.org/free-compostworkshops. (ONLINE)

Intro to Sketching: 4 Week Virtual Class La Jolla Communuty Center presents: Learn about renowned artist Minnie Valero's artistic process in sketching.

Rhyme & Verse

Two poems by Elizabeth Bishop

One Art

The art of losing isn't hard to master; so many things seem filled with the intent to be lost that their loss is no disaster,

Lose something every day. Accept the fluster of lost door keys, the hour badly spent. The art of losing isn't hard to master.

Then practice losing farther, losing faster: places, and names, and where it was you meant to travel. None of these will bring disaster.

I lost my mother's watch. And look! my last, or next-to-last, of three loved houses went. The art of losing isn't hard to master.

I lost two cities, lovely ones. And, vaster, some realms I owned, two rivers, a continent. I miss them, but it wasn't a disaster.

- Even losing you (the joking voice, a gesture I love) I shan't have lied. It's evident the art of losing's not too hard to master though it may look like (Write it!) like disaster.

Sestina

September rain falls on the house. In the failing light, the old grandmother sits in the kitchen with the child beside the Little Marvel Stove, reading the jokes from the almanac, laughing and talking to hide her tears.

She thinks that her equinoctial tears and the rain that beats on the roof of the house were both foretold by the almanac, but only known to a grandmother.

The iron kettle sings on the stove.

She cuts some bread and says to the child,

It's time for tea now; but the child is watching the teakettle's small hard tears dance like mad on the hot black stove, the way the rain must dance on the house. Tidying up, the old grandmother hangs up the clever almanac

on its string. Birdlike, the almanac hovers half open above the child, hovers above the old grandmother and her teacup full of dark brown tears. She shivers and says she thinks the house feels chilly, and puts more wood in the stove.

It was to be, says the Marvel Stove. I know what I know, says the almanac. With crayons the child draws a rigid house and a winding pathway. Then the child puts in a man with buttons like tears and shows it proudly to the grandmother.

But secretly, while the grandmother busies herself about the stove, the little moons fall down like tears from between the pages of the almanac into the flower bed the child has carefully placed in the front of the house.

Time to plant tears, says the almanac. The grandmother sings to the marvelous stove and the child draws another inscrutable house.



Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979) was an American poet who grew in prominence during the so-called "Confessional" period in poetry of the 1950s-1960s, which saw such poets as Robert Lowell (1917-1977) and Sylvia Plath (1932-1963) using their personal lives as the subject of their poems; but Bishop, who was close friends with Lowell, wrote poems marked by a fine eye for

detailing the physical world and relied more on objective exposition – distancing herself from her material even when it was personal through the use of the third person narrator – than on subjective introspection. Bishop won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1956 and the National Book Award for poetry in 1970. Despite being a woman and a lesbian, Bishop eschewed the feminist indulgence in the identity politics of the time, refusing to allow her work to be published in all-female anthologies and, according to some feminist critics, may have even been hostile to the feminist movement in general. However, Bishop argued that she wished to be judged on the basis of her talent, not the fact that she was a woman.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

Thursday, April 15, 10am; \$49-\$59. ljcommunitycenter.org/ series. (ONLINE)

Photo Organizing at Home Learn easy ways to organize the boxes of photos and albums laying around your home. Learn how you can scan your own photos or about our photo scanning services to preserve and cherish your photos for a lifetime...and the generations to come. Wednesday, April 21, 10am; free. Ijcommunitycenter. org/wc. (ONLINE)

Retro Tapestry Weaving Class Practice plain weave, twills, tapestry, sumac, fringe making and more. Weave traditionally and create four 1960s and 70s inspired, richly textured and tactile samplers of fiber art. Please register in advance. \$156 Bravo member, \$180 non-member + \$29 Supplies fee. Sunday, April 18, 10am; \$185-\$209. Bravo School of Art South Park, 2963 Beech Street. bravoschoolofart.squarespace. com (SOUTH PARK)

Scrub Making Class In this Scrub Making Class, understand

the difference between salt scrubs and sugar scrubs. Learn how to add beneficial vitamins and learn why preservatives should be used in oil based products. Learn how to create oil-free scrubs. Students take home three types of scrubs. Attend in person or online. Prerequisite: None. Classroom hours:

4 hours, includes one 15-minute break. Class fee: \$69. Materials fee: \$21. Sunday, April 18, 12pm; \$90. Soapmaking Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Sha un shtil! A New Yiddish Theater Experiment Join our experimental Yiddish course featuring Itzik Manger's "Megile Lider." Our innovative format will include elements of leyen-krayz and shmues, and special guests. This will be the first in a series of exciting Yiddish Theatre workshops offered by the Yiddish Theater Academy. Thursday, April 15, 11am; Tuesday, April



n Diego Reader April 15, 2021

SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

Park Hill Church

Contact: 2875 Dewey Road, San Diego, parkhillsd.

Membership: 500

Neighborhood: Point Loma

Pastor: Evan Wickham

Born: San Diego

Formation: Trinity College of the Bible, IN; Western

Seminary, Portland, OR

Years Ordained: 20

San Diego Reader: What is the mission of

vour church?

Pastor Evan Wickham: Our vision is, "In San Diego, as it is in heaven" — which comes from Jesus' prayer, "Our father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven." So we

apply that to our city. We want to see God's good rule, his good, life-giving reign, more and more in our city where lives are restored and injustice is eliminated. So that's our vision; how we accomplish that — our mission — is that we are practicing the way of Jesus in San Diego. We do this in three ways: by being with Jesus, becoming like Jesus, and doing what Jesus did by the power of the spirit. We gather on Sunday and scatter throughout the week in communities in houses. Those are the two rhythms in our church — Sunday morning worship and house communities where people are free to deepen relationships and discuss teachings

and share a meal. Gather and scatter — that's our rhythm. SDR: What one book has had the greatest impact on your ministry?

PW: The most recent book I found incredible in articulating my own faith journey — and my journey with doubt, honestly — is After Doubt by A.J. Swoboda, which just came out. A.J. has become a friend of mine, and the subtitle of his book is "How to Question Your Faith without Losing It." It's given me words for my psychosis — my own journey with doubt and knowing the place of doubt. Doubt belongs in the journey of faith, just as hunger belongs in your pursuit of food; doubt leads you to truth just as hunger pains lead you to a good meal. Healthy doubt, I should say, belongs in an authentic journey of faith... That distinction between healthy and unhealthy doubt has helped me in so many conversations with young people today. Healthy doubt looks for answers, while unhealthy doubt looks for exits. That is the difference between honest and dishonest questions. As a teacher, you learn not just to answer your students' questions, but also to answer the heart behind their questions. SDR: Where do you go when

PW: Jesus Christ welcomes all who call upon his name into his eternal family forever. That family will be raised from the



Evan Wickham

dead on the last, will enjoy a new heaven and new earth with Jesus, and will live alongside him. Those who do not acknowledge the goodness and authority of Jesus will not take part in that forever family, which is one of the hardest and most tragic things to think about. If you have a heart at all, you hate thinking

about that... When we are outside the kingdom of God, when we die rejecting Jesus Christ and we say no to his goodness, we find ourselves outside the kingdom. You can call that hell if you want, but the point is that the gates are locked from the inside, not the outside. When you reject Jesus, you close the door on yourself, and God is weeping all the way to the end because of that. So in that sense, there is a final eternal destiny for all human beings, and it all hinges on what we do with the authority of Jesus.

- Joseph O'Brien

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

20, 11am; \$15-\$120. https://bit. ly/3rvXDpl. (ONLINE)

Support Global Worming 3-part Family Fun Series In

"Support Global Worming" your family will learn how fun and easy it is to compost at home with red wiggler composting worms — the best pets you will ever have! Monday, April 19, 5pm; Wednesday, April 21, 5pm; free. https://bit. ly/3g1cruf. (ONLINE)

Traditional Composting Workshop Series Hone your composting skills, or to get started for the first time. Each part of the 4-part webinar series builds upon the previous offering, covering how to build your own backyard composting bin, what to add for optimal decomposition, utilizing the bokashi method, and how to harvest and use your finished product. Tuesdays, 6pm; through Tuesday, April 27, free. solanacenter.org/free-compost-workshops. (ONLINE)

MORE CHANCES TO WIN! Win an on-demand rental of Nobody. WIN A Deadline to Enter: **MOVIF** Monday, April 19 at 1pm Win a 2-night stay at CasaGogo **WIN A** in Joshua Tree. **GETAWAY** Deadline to Enter: Tuesday, April 20 at 1pm Win a \$100 gift card to Giardino WIN in Lemon Grove. **DINNER** Deadline to Enter: Friday, May 7 at 1pm Enter to win at sandiegoreader.com/contests

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Councilwoman Monica Montgomery Steppe: Racial Equity Topics for discussion may include police bias, accountability and reform; inequities in health care, particularly related to COVID-19; tax expenditure apportionment among the city's districts; and housing, homelessness, and job opportunity inequities. Thursday, April 15, 6:30pm; free. https://bit. ly/2OCVLha. (ONLINE)

FOR KIDS

Free Diaper Drive-Through **Distributions** Miracle Babies will be hosting its first diaper drivethrough distributions of 2021 in March. Free diapers will be available on a first come first registration basis to all San Diego families in need during this difficult time. Diapers will be loaded directly into the families' vehicle for a safe, nocontact experience. To register for an upcoming diaper distribution or donate, visit online. Saturday, April 17, 9am; free. National City Library, 1401 National City Boulevard. (NATIONAL CITY)

LECTURES

Garrett Bradley Guest Lecture

UCSD Presents: Garrett Bradley was born and raised in New York City. She works across narrative, documentary, and experimental modes of filmmaking to address themes such as race, class, familial relationships, social justice, Southern culture, and the history of film in the United States. Friday, April 16, 5pm; free. https:// bit.ly/2OFfGw5. (ONLINE)

Spotlight on Women's Health Research Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute: If you are a woman, you are at greater risk of many serious health conditions. Join our top scientists as they share their latest research on diseases that uniquely affect women more than men. A Q&A session will follow the presentation and will give you an opportunity to personally connect with scientists and have your questions answered. Tuesday, April 20, 1pm; free. https://bit.ly/3fZmrUz. (ONLINE)

The Magical World of Seeds The San Diego Floral Association presents Brijette Peña, founder and owner of San Diego Seed Company. Brijette will talk about seeds: the different types of seeds, the history of the seed industry, why seed saving and local seed production is so

important, and how seed can be saved. Wednesday, April 21, 2pm; free. sdfloral.org/. (ONLINE)

OUTDOORS

Mustard, a nonnative plant more like a weed than a wildflower, is blooming profusely on grassy slopes all along the coastline of San Diego County. An old story, probably apocryphal, tells of the padres scattering mustard seed along the El Camino Real so that the bright, yellow mustard blossoms would help them find their way in future spring seasons. More likely, the plant was introduced to western North America in the form of seeds carried in the hay used to feed livestock brought in by the early settlers.

Fremont Cottonwoods along the San Diego River in Mission Gorge will show off their best iridescent green foliage this month.

The Old Mission Dam parking area on Father Juñipero Serra Trail, off Mission Gorge Road (west of Santee), is a good place to begin a stroll on trails near the riverbed. Be careful - rattlesnakes may be out and about this time of year.

The Tall Locust Trees planted years ago along Julian's narrow streets are once again brightening this backcountry (and former goldrush) town with blossoms of white, pink, and lavender. Introduced into the West by 19th century emigrants, locust trees have become almost a trademark of California's gold country, from the Mother Lode south to Julian.

The Black Oak, San Diego County's most handsome native deciduous tree, is sending out new leaves this week, painting the mountain slopes with shades of red, brown, and bright green. The newly emergent leaves are reddish brown in color, creating a pseudo-autumn color in the forest. After a week or two the unfolding leaves acquire a light green tint; after a month they're dark green. Black oaks are commonly found in the upper elevations of the county in areas such as the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains.

Snakes, encouraged by recent warm temperatures, have already emerged from burrows and rock crevices to hunt for prey throughout the county's lower elevation hillsides and canvons. Gopher snakes, garter snakes, king snakes, rosy boas (all harmless), and three varieties of rattlesnakes - red diamond, speckled, and Southern Pacific rattlesnakes (all poisonous) - have been sighted. Close encounters with rattlesnakes are not uncommon wherever residential properties abut undeveloped land — a common situation throughout San Diego County.

When burrito met Philly

"You've never had better meat in a burrito."

elieve me!" says my new friend Timothy. "It's like 'When burrito met Philly.' It's just meat, Philly cheesesteak carne asada, onions, bell peppers, and Monterey Jack cheese, melted. But that's all you need! Slices of beef wrapped

in a flour taco instead of a hoagie. Angus beef! You've never had better meat in a burrito. They know what I want as soon as I walk in the door. It's 'Hey, Timoteo! Usual?!"

Hmm. Burrito charro, they call it. But Philly cheesesteak in a burrito? Can't wrap my head around that. Only thing to do is head on out to Lemon Grove and acquire me one.

So I turn up at El Pollo Grill. Name sounds like a big chain franchise. But it's just a mom and pop chicken joint that grew. "In 1987, Rafael and Constanza Lopez took over a small hole-in-thewall restaurant in downtown Lemon Grove," says

Home of the #spanostaco

No love lost for Spanos family and how they pulled Chargers out of town

the menu's blurb. They called it "Pollo Charro." Then they expanded down the street to this spot in 2002. and now have another place in Bonita and a third in Otay Ranch. And even though chicken has always been their thing, there's plenty of carne alternatives, from beef to chorizo.

For sure, a lot of people confuse it with El Pollo Loco. That chain now has around 500 franchises in six states. But Timothy says these guys have their own dedicated following.

"Here's the thing," he says. "The burrito charro doesn't have a lot of extra stuff. Just asada meat, bell peppers and plenty of melted Monterey Jack cheese. And the thing is, the flour tortilla isn't a big thick wad. You don't have to fight through it to get to the meat and the flavors. It's thin and you're into the meat instantly. And it's marinated!"

Timothy says yes, he has a bias. He has been eating at El Pollo Grill long enough.

Whatever, I haul off the Orange Line and fifty yards up Broadway. The first thing you notice inside is the covid-emptied seating area facing a giant kitchen, and three cooks having at it with all

sorts of chicken, plus meats such as chorizo and beef smoking and sizzling on the hot plates.

I take my place in a little line. Gives me time to see what's on the wall menu. First thing I notice is this sign advertising a "Spanostaco"

> giveaway. "It's the owner's way of saying what he thinks about Mr. Spanos taking his Chargers and abandoning San Diego the way they did," says the guy ahead of me. "So after each game that the Chargers lose, he offers a free 'Spanostaco' to customers who

want to celebrate."

Huh. Who knew? But now it's my turn. So lessee: Salads, which I should have, start at \$3.99 (for a side) and go up to \$13.99 for a shrimp salad. Bunch of breakfast plates go for \$10.99. Dinner plates like chicken fajitas, \$13.99, with guac, frijoles, rice, tortillas. But my main hunt is

> for burritos. Amazingly, I haven't had one for months and months. Had a couple of experiences of mealy-mouthed ones elsewhere last year that seemed like they were all doughy tortilla and no filling. But it's been long enough.

> Besides, I'm interested as to what's hot in burritoland these days. I know Rule #1: you've got to be hungry. And Rule #2: don't be squeamish about meat. Yes, you can get bean and cheese, and they're usually the cheapest option, but honestly, they're space fillers for your collapsing gut.

So I'm interested in Timothy's passion for this hybrid Philly cheesesteak-carne asada burrito. The standard issue carne asada burrito runs \$9.99, which tells you

there's gonna be plenty of meat in there. But they have lots of varieties: chile con carne, shredded chicken, and a, uh, "619 Mysterio Burrito," which is — spoiler alert! — shrimp, $carne\ asada$, polloasado, guac, cheese, sour cream, for \$12.99.

And, ah! Holding fast at \$9.99, Timoteo's Burrito charro. It's a Philly cheesesteak of carne asada or pollo asado, with grilled onions, bell peppers, and Monterey jack cheese, and a fountain Coca Cola (\$2.69). I go for the beef.

I take it all outside to the two tables they have going on their little streetside balcony. I unwrap the foil and man, this is going to be a steaming mishmash. But what Tim said is true: the meat is marinated slices and chunks, munchy, and made lush by the onions and big melt of cheese. Above all, tender. I guess what they say about Angus beef must be true.

I'm a complete mess, of course. But so worth it. I had forgotten about the simple pleasures of burritos. No extras to worry about. The Philly's magic comes from laying melted cheese all over sautéed meat. As simple as that. "Philly cheesesteak is a sandwich made from thinly-



And there's still that feel here, the

mom-and-pop thing. "Mama Lopez's beans are the best!" says the menu. An extra of rice and beans costs \$2.

Next time, and there will be one, I hope to actually taste the pollo that's their main thing. I mean, when a whole roasted chicken costs only \$19.99 with tortillas (\$9.99 for half, \$6.99 for a quarter), and 50 pieces of chicken plus four quarts of beans or rice, and tortillas, chips and salsa costs \$149.99, I can see a feast coming with ten of my best friends. Timothy, you're invited! ■

Simple, but simply delicious: Philly Cheesesteak Burrito

The Place: El Pollo Grill, 7836 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-697-7153

Hours: 10am-8pm daily (till 7pm Monday; 9am-5pm, Sunday)

Prices: Breakfast grande burrito (with eggs and ham or bacon), \$8.99; chorizo and eggs breakfast plate, \$10.99; salads, from \$3.99 (side) to \$13.99 (for shrimp salad); shredded chicken bowl, with cheese, rice, beans, guac, \$10.99, w/free drink; chicken fajitas, \$13.99 (guac, frijoles, rice, tortillas); carne asada burrito, \$9.99; chile con carne burrito, \$9.99; shredded chicken, \$9.99; "619 Mysterio Burrito," \$12.99; fountain Coca Cola, \$2.69 Buses: 856, 936

Nearest Bus Stop: Broadway and Grove Street

Trollev: Orange Line

Nearest Trolley Stop: Lemon Grove Depot, Lemon Grove Avenue and Broadway



Delightful dumplings

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

Dining out in Dumpling Inn

Dumpling Inn & Shanghai Saloon; 4625 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa. What I learned this week is that soup dumplings will get me out of the house. For months, I've been eating mostly at home, opting for take-out and a little bit of outdoor dining. But, once my parents were fully vaccinated, and my wife and I started getting our shots,

returning to restaurant dining started to feel like a good idea again. When a couple of friends asked us to meet at an old favorite spot on Convoy, we hopped into the car and drove. Fast, as it turns out.

Dumpling Inn has been at it since the mid-90s, attracting long lines to a tiny dumpling shop for a while before expanding into a larger space that used to be a small grocery store. It's large enough that part of the dining room is designed to resemble the courtyard of a Chinese village. And yes, I appreciated the twist of irony that my first indoor dining room in months was made to create the impression of dining outdoors.

The Dumpling Inn space is large enough it even houses a full-service bar with its own name: the Shanghai Saloon. Had it

not been lunchtime, I might have started my meal with one of the bar's craft cocktails, or sampled from its Japanese whis-

kies. Instead, I settled for a double dry hopped pale ale being poured from one of its 30 taps. I say "settled," but "Foreign Pale Ale," a Burgeon Beer and Fall Brewing collaboration using southern hemisphere hops, proved exactly

And so did the xiao long bao. Also known as soup dumplings, xiao long bao rival street tacos and sushi as the world's greatest bite-

what the occasion called for.

This Dumpling Inn dining room is made to look like the outdoors. soup dumplings don't travel well. You want them fresh out of the steam tray, the pork meatballs within swimming in the hot liquid that give them their name. So hot, you will probably singe your tongue on the first bite because

Lamb chow mein, made with the wide

you weren't patient enough to let it cool. Dumpling Inn made its name hand-wrap-

ping these bundles of pure joy, and at ten for \$9,

I wasted zero time ordering some for the table.



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A messy pile of octopus and melted cheese pours forth from the Ay-Ay Burger.

but they are not alone. I usually like to pair them with another set of dumplings — potstickers or boiled pork dumplings and this time I went for deep fried beef curry dumplings. Definitely enjoyable enough to order again.

Frankly, I could have eaten dumplings all day, but Dumpling Inn also makes its own noodles. It's not well advertised on the menu, but if you order one of the restaurant's \$10-13 chow meins, lo meins. or noodle soups, you can get these house noodles for an additional \$2. And so, rather than skinny, spaghetti-like egg noodles, my lamb chow mein (\$12.25) was made with wide ribbons of chewy goodness.

More to the point, it was lovely to sit around a table to drink beer, slurp noodles, and chat with friends again. To be fair, we could have done so outside - Dumpling Inn maintains outdoor seating under a large tent in the parking lot, and we saw several parties eating there. But we enjoyed the sense of near-normalcy that come from dining on indoor furniture.

by Ian Anderson

Baja Fish Taco & Burgers adds octopus between the buns

I'd gotten word about a spot in Chula Vista where food trucks gather daily outside a third-party DMV registration shop. And, sure enough, one day I found myself just a couple blocks away from the 71 Broadway Food Court, right around lunchtime. It looked like a handful of trucks call the place home at certain times of the week, including a street taco truck, and one that creates a dozen different takes on lumpia.

I will definitely be checking out that lumpia truck, but this day I had something else in my sights. Baja Fish Taco & Burgers offers a menu that matches its name, plus ceviche, burritos, and aguachile.

Its Baja-style tacos include fried fish (\$2.50) or shrimp (\$3.50), smoked tuna "marlin" tacos (\$5), the gobernador garlic shrimp (\$5), surf and turf (\$5), and octopus enchiladas (\$6). I tried a few of them, and any one might contribute to a decent meal, though none particularly stood out. The same could be said about the burgers and their greasy sides of fries. It's standard food truck fare.

However... I suppose there's something to be said about a truck equipped to serve both Mariscos and hamburgers. And that something is this: look to the House Burgers menu.

That's where I found the 10-dollar Ay-Ay burger. Basically, the House Burgers menu features quarter-pound beef patties stacked on the bun with a pile of seafood. The Chakali burger is topped with shrimp, the Lula burger with Calamari, and the Ay-Ay with octopus.

I'm not sure what I expected the thing to look like. Maybe like a regular hamburger with a small octopus squeezed beneath the top bun, tentacles poking out from the sides? It's probably for the best that the octopus is actually chopped up into small cubes that are spread out across the patty. But that doesn't mean it looks great. I'll admit, there was a moment, looking at that burger in front of me, that I wondered what I had gotten myself into.

The octopus spilled out of the burger in a mess of marinated mollusk, made goopy with melted Monterey jack cheese. I would require plenty of napkins, and a fork to shove the seafood back onto the burger. But without a doubt, that octopus made the burger better.

I shouldn't be too surprised. Among all seafood, octopus comes the closest to tasting like beef. Rather, despite being a lean sea creature, parts of its tentacles have some similarity to beef fat. That vague overlap creates a context for the two flavors to mesh beautifully. Adding octopus made the ho hum cheeseburger something memorable, and though it filled me too much to finish the chipotle and grilled fish taco I'd ordered on the side, I did finish the burger.

I'm not sure a picture could ever do it justice — this won't likely be a case where internet users pass around a sumptuous photo to inspire a "get in my belly" commentary. But, for the rest of my life, whenever I hear the words octopus burger, I'm going to bite.

by Ian Anderson

Tequila Tasting Virtual Cutwater Spirits Sensory Experience by Gwen Conley, Director of Quality + Innovation, Zoom instructions will be included in the kit. CA residents can purchase Sensory Kits for pickup or delivery (\$25 each + \$5.99 for shipping) while supplies last. Pickup available for local participants at the Cutwater Tasting Room. Once you've received your kit, place the canned cocktails in the refrigerator and refrain from eating anything until the pairing begins. Give yourself some time before the event starts to reference the placesetting guide to prepare for your sensory journey. Friday, April 16, 7pm; free-\$25. 21 and up. cutwaterspirits-virtual-events.myshopify. com/. (ONLINE)

Baja Fish Taco & Burgers is at its best when seafood meets cheeseburger.

Flamingo Fridays Live music and \$2 off canned Cutwater cocktails. Dog friendly patio, face masks and social distancing will be enforced. Fridays, 4pm; through Friday, April 30, free. Graze by Sam, 555 West Date Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Flamingo Fridays Live music and \$2 off canned Cutwater cocktails. Dog friendly patio, face masks and social distancing will be enforced. Fridays, 4pm; through Friday, April 30, free. Eats by Sam, 807 W Harbor Dr. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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

Low & Slow Ox Barbecue Saturdays New bi-weekly Ox Barbecue series: Pit Master Ryan Sharpe will be dishing out pounds or half pounds of meats straight from the smoker along with house made sides and sauces. Available until they are sold out. All orders come with a side of pickles, pickled onions, and bread. Meats are priced from \$14-22 per pound. Sausages are \$5 per link and sides are \$6 each. Saturday, April 17, 11am; \$14-\$30. Wise Ox, 2855 El Cajon Boulevard #1. (NORTH PARK)

San Diego Restaurant Week In its first ever vernal season debut, SDRW will return to San Diego in alignment with a celebratory Spring Harvest theme for San Diego diners. During SDRW, participating restaurants will offer three-course prix-fixe dinner menus for \$20, \$30, \$40, \$50 or \$60 per person and/or two-course prix-fixe lunch menus for \$10, \$15, \$20 or \$25 per person. Sunday, April 11; Monday, April 12; Tuesday, April 13; Wednesday, April 14; \$10-\$60. Various locales

Street Food Enjoy a weekly street food collaboration featuring new food trucks each week including Tijuana's Torta Wash Mobile, Grater Grilled Cheese, Super Tacos, and more. Saturdays, 4:30pm; Wednesdays, 4:30pm; through Saturday, May 29, Grant's Coffee Room, 2953 Beech Street. (SOUTH PARK)



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HAPPY HOUR

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

CITY HEIGHTS

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

CORONADO

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

Nicky Rottens: Monday, 3-6pm: \$8 select mules all night. Tuesday, 3-6pm: \$4 any canned beer. Wednesday, 3-6pm: \$5 draft pints. Thursday, 3-6pm: 22 ounce draft for pint price. Friday, 3-6pm: \$6 mimosas and Bloody Marys. Saturday, 3pm-6pm: \$5 drafts, well cocktails, house wines, \$5 pretzels & beer cheese, side of fries, tots, \$6 buffalo wings, \$7 house nachos, \$8 chicken fritters & fries, \$10 chicken lettuce cup.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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

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

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

Knotty Barrel: Monday, Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 off craft beer, \$6 premium wells, house red and white wines. Tuesday, 4-7pm: \$2 off craft beer, \$6 premium wells, house red and white wines. Half off craft beer all day. Wednesday, 4-7pm: \$2 off craft beer, \$6 premium wells, house red and white wines, half off wine bottle all day. Thursday, 4-7pm: \$2 off craft beer, \$6 premium wells, house red and white wines, half off wine bottles all day.

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

Rockin' Baia Lobster -Gaslamp: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4.50 any 14-oz. draft, well drinks, fireball shot; \$5.50



Nostalgia Coffee wants to get the bag

Taylor Fields started small in 2018, parking her compact Nostalgia Coffee trailer at weekly outdoor markets and corporate campuses, selling coffee by the cup.

The former accountant says she "decided to leave the audit world" to pursue a growing obsession with specialty coffee, the sort of single-origin, directtrade brews she would drink in third-wave coffee shops while studying for accounting exams. Even the name of her business reflects the lightbulb moments most coffee aficionados fondly reminisce over. "I'm so nostalgic for that moment when I fell in love with coffee," she says. "And when I talk to other folks, they all have that story."

Inside the trailer, there's barely enough room for a water filter, brewing equipment, and an espresso machine. But she's found ways to make the cart inviting: by playing music, framing its service window with potted plants, and putting out a large welcome mat. That sense of welcome is paramount to what she's trying to accomplish. Nostalgia might serve high quality coffee, but it's trying to do so without the specialty coffee attitude that can intimidate potential customers.

"At most third-wave coffee shops, if you're not a coffee snob, you can feel alienated," she says. Even asking for cream and sugar might earn a barista's scorn. Whichever plot of land her little cart found itself parked upon, she didn't want that to be the case. "If a customer wants an ice caramel macchiato," she insists, "it's no problem!"

The approach seems to be working. In the weekly market setting, The Nostalgia cart would outperform other mobile coffee shops. And when she took it to the local offices of financial company **Intuit** — her former workplace — workers there would line up to pay for Nostalgia coffee, even though they could get cups of coffee for less than half the price at the subsidized company café.

As spring 2020 approached, Intuit invited Nostalgia to show up five days a week. Fields managed to buy and squeeze in a larger espresso machine to handle a rise in volume.

Of course, we all know why that didn't end up working out.

Nostalgia secured government loans and grants to help the business overcome the shutdown, but by July, Fields had started to brainstorm new revenue sources. The first: accelerating her plan to turn Nostalgia into a roasting company. She lured friend Brandt Rakowski away from his job roasting for Bird Rock Coffee Roasters, and bought a small arc roaster



The Nostalgia Coffee Roasters coffee cart set up to serve at the Ocean Beach Farmers Market

for him to cook beans in, a pound at a time.

They tasted through a multitude of beans to assemble a medium roast blend of Brazilian and Guatemalan, dubbed it Memory Lane, and quickly received a 92-point score — putting it in the top tier of blends judged by coffee rating site CoffeeReview.com. Their next efforts scored 93 and 94 points. They started selling beans directly to customers online, and, as things started to open back up, out of the trailer, which is now back to operating seven days a week, including at farmers' markets, UCSD, and on weekends, at the REI in Kearny Mesa.

But Nostalgia's biggest move is yet to come. Fields and her growing team (up to four people now), have been developing a product that will allow customers to brew a single, nine-ounce serving of Memory Lane much like they would a cup of tea. "We're taking our roasted coffee and placing it in tea bags," says Fields. "Add hot water and a mug, and you've got a 92-point cup of coffee."

The burgeoning market for this type of product is dominated by a Northern California company called Steeped Coffee, which packs its coffee brew bags by partnering with coffee roasters across the country, including San Diego's Dark Horse Coffee Roasters.

Fields is banking on Nostalgia's established

quality to gain a foothold in the category, and has plans to develop brew bags with dark roast, single origin, and even decaf coffees. But for now, she's invested in the first batch of 1000 ten-bag packs to establish proof of concept.

Nostalgia will debut the brew bags within the next few weeks, and launch a half-million-dollar Wefunder campaign to bankroll expanded capacity. Then the 28-year-old former bean counter hopes to pursue a series A round of venture capital to take the product national. All while the little coffee trailer she spent a year building continues its circuit of San Diego outdoor venues, bit by bit building a corporate culture hoping to make an impact while promoting values that include sustainability and paying a living wage.

"We're a woman-owned, gay-owned coffee company," she says, "making waves." ■

Jameson shot, house margaritas: \$6.50 wine by the glass, Jack Daniels, Grey Goose.

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

Werewolf American Pub: Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 drafts,

house wines, and wells.

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

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

EAST VILLAGE

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

Duck Foot East Village Taproom: Tuesday, \$5 pints glutenreduced beers on tap all night

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:

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

ENCINITAS

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$3 well cocktails, house wine, domestic

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

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

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.

OLD TOWN

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

Old Town Mexican Café:

PACIFIC BEACH

selected appetizers all day.

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

Tuesday, Half off well drinks and

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 RANCHO SAN DIEGO

off specialty drinks.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill

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

SAN MARCOS

Churchill's Pub and Grill:

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

SOLANA BEACH

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

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Et Voilà French Bistro:

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



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the inside track

First vinyl, now tape

Shoptalk buzzing throughout San Diego County record shops and swap meets is that vintage cassette tapes sell fast in 2021, particularly '80s rock music cassettes by Motley Crue, Whitesnake, Poison, Ratt, REO Speedwagon, Jourcassette sales were trending back up to 74,000, according to Nielsen Music, partly because Chinese manufacturers cranked out new boomboxes and cassette players. More YouTubers that created do-it-yourself "how to fix cassette player" tutorials helped in Facebook Marketplace, and Kobey's Swap Meet since the pandemic started. "All that music on *Cobra Kai* and the old *Karate Kid* movies sells fast — including Mötley Crüe, Speedwagon, Poison, Bananarama, Journey, and Whitesnake."

Luis Enrique Acosta Jimenez from La Rola records in Tijuana noticed the increase in used cassette sales in 2020. Customers ask him for Ratt's *Invasion of Your Privacy* and Twisted Sister's *Stay Hungry* albums, both 80s classics con-





Vintage cassettes are flying off the shelf at La Rola Records in Tijuana

ney, and Twisted Sister.

Let me rewind a little bit so you can see how cassette tapes disappeared as their sales plummeted and auto-reversed back into our online shopping carts during the pandemic.

Cassettes were 86ed from our retail stores in the 2000s because of CDs were more affordable to manufacture, and produced a better sound quality format. The invention of the MP3 player followed by the iPod in 2001 further edged out the cassette from the music sales' market share pie. Per Billboard, domestic cassette sales dropped from about 2.67 million to about 1.23 million in 2006; in 2008, cassette sales fell to about 82,000. The numbers bottomed out to a reported 21,000 in 2010 — as rubber bands that drove the mechanisms within the boomboxes, car stereos, Walkmans, and cassette players from the 1970s-1990s — disintegrated within the analog apparatuses worldwide. In 2015, domestic

the cassette revival movement. By 2018, cassette sales in the U.S. reached 219,000, trending upwards from 174,000 the year before, says *GloriousNoise.* com. Keep in mind the aforementioned cassette numbers are on newly released albums and singles and re-releases.

In 2018, local record shops and swap meet dealers noticed a surge in used 80s cassette sales. By then, Amazon dealers were importing new boomboxes and cassette players by the boatloads.

"A lot of that surge was also because of Netflix's *Cobra Kai*, the post millennial's version of our *Karate Kid*," explained Johnny P. from Chula Vista. "Teens and young adults love that 80's music, especially lately because they're totally relating with Daniel Larusso's and Johnny Lawrence's kids in the show, who kick ass and take names to 80's rock music."

Johnny and his buddy sold over a hundred used 80s rock tapes on eBay, Etsy, taining songs featured in the *Cobra Kai* series. "Those 80s cassettes sell very fast here too; I regularly sell them for about 100 pesos, \$5."

"Our tapes sell quickly,"
Johnny continued, "my customers say because parents and kids rock out to it together, and they work out and train to it."

On Amazon, cassette-playing boomboxes start at \$29.95.

— Mike Madriaga

Consumable merch "I'm a musician and entrepreneur who believes in the power

a musician and entrepreneur who believes in the power of music," says Curbside Vinyl bassist M. Florentino Buenaventura, of the new ConcertsCafe website he helped launch from Miramar this month. "Our live streaming concert studio is bringing talent from all over the world into San Diego, parallel with local talent. We have shows with locals like Lele Rose and Kimba Light, plus the Myron McKinley Trio from L.A. We've brought down Steve

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: POWAY





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VERHEARD? EMAIL JAS2669@AOL.COM - IF WE USE YOUR TIP, YOU GET THE ARTWO

Ferrone from Tom Petty and George Harrison's band, and used San Diego musicians as his backup band. We're bringing back Radio Bandiego and preparing it for local TV broadcast. We shot the pilot already."

Upcoming livestream events on the website include the debut of a Virtual Happy Hour Jazz Night on Sunday. April 18, featuring Tom Browne, David P. Stevens, Will Donato, and Sharon Marie Cline, with host Jammin' Jay Lamon inviting viewers at home to interact with the musicians between numbers. Reggae star Garth Dennis (formerly Black Uhuru) & Blaze Mob present a 420 Blaze Sesh live in the program studio on April 20, and the Myron McKinley Trio, featuring the music director and keyboardist for Earth Wind and Fire, will

livestream a tribute to recently passed fusion jazz pianist Chick Corea on April 24 (a session taped at the Miramar ConcertsCafe studio over Easter weekend). A free all-day Jazz Fest on April 30 will include clips from previous show performances, running from noon until 9pm, in celebration of International Jazz Day.

"Our plan is to mix it up a bit and provide artists a revenue channel whether we are in Covid or not," says show producer Buenaventura. "Part of this is creating merch opportunities with consumables like coffee to drive a regular product income."

An example of those merchandise tie-ins can be found in the website listing for local jazz and R&B singersaxophonist Darryl Fitzgerald Walker, a session and touring musician known for recording with Luis Miguel and composing commercial jingles for clients such as Pringles, Dole, Toyota, and Honey Nut Cheerios. In addition to a physical DVD of his concert performance Celebrating the Music of Al Jarreau, site visitors can also purchase Walkerbranded organic coffee. There's also Rebecca Jade Puerto Rico Organic Coffee, Paris Escovedo Mexican Organic Berillo SHG Coffee, Howard Johnson Dark Roast, Ellis Hall Rich Soul Coffee, and around a dozen other branded beans.

"We have the new EFNOTE 5 eDrum Set from Artesia Pro as part of our house backline, and we're booking up May," says Buenaventura, who feels the San Diego company is "making a difference in the music industry locally and beyond. We see ourselves as a modern day record label, part-

M. Florentino Buenaventura: "Our plan is to mix it up and provide artists a revenue channel."

nering with music artists to distribute their music through video. We multitrack the performance, so they leave with a record. Tim Norton launched an EP from his concert with us. And they get a video to support and ticket sale revenue and consumable merch with the coffee. We really want to let musicians and fans there's a great solution for high quality concerts and a tangible way

to support the artists without having it to be donations only."

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

WAY BACK

IN B.C. - BEFORE

IT'S HARD TO

BELIEVE PEOPLE USED TO NEED MAPS AND PHONE BOOTHS TO TRAVEL.

The site also includes a replay "on demand" selection offering taped concert events going back to shows like the November 2020 album release party for Shuffle & Bang, a birthday livestream featuring local jazz star Joshua White, and San Diego saxophonist Charlie Arbelaez playing two set with different styles of jazz, accompanied by two different groups of musicians per show.

Buenaventura, a filmmaker who has shot music videos with locals Falling Doves and others, was formerly with The Changing Stage Radio Show at WSRadio Internet Talk. Back in 2015, he helped start up a new chapter of the National Music Industy MeetUp group called Balanced Breakfast. Livestreaming concert events took off last

year when broadcasting full band concerts from the locked-down stage at Queen Bee's, as well as organizing November's Songs For Shelter benefit livestream concert with Rebecca Jade, Cedrice Ce & Lyrical Groove, and Jason Mraz collaborating with Renee Dominique.

"It all evolved from doing interviews with EnterTalk Radio, we still have all our episodes on the website. With that, we

ended up with a multi-camera live broadcasting solution that we use for concerts and clinics. We haven't been involved with the local scene as much as we used to, [so ConcertsCafe] is the ideal way to expand."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

LOCAL Live

Find LIVE FIVE online at sandiegoreader.com/music



JOSH ROSENBLUM

It's been around two years since Josh Rosenblum released his album *Move Yourself*. "The album is labeled as pop rock, but our jazz, funk, and blues roots always find a way into our music in one way or another," he says of the entirely self-produced and independently released LP. Backup players included Cedric Jones (drums, cajon) and Andrew Melendez (bass). "It's designed to get you up and moving. I wrote the album as motivational encouragement to 'move on' from negativity, while still maintaining the realist perspective that everything in life takes work to accomplish. It's also an homage to my relocation to Southern California [in sum-

mer 2018]...I spent my entire life living in my hometown of Modesto performing music full time with the weddings, bars, private events, never truly knowing what other opportunities could be out there waiting. So my wife and I decided to take our little dog and cat and just take the chance and move." The Josh Rosenblum Band will debut their new album *Green Eyed* on April 30, via local label Pacific Records. The first single "Drive" features Philly trombonist Richie "LaBamba" Rosenberg and trumpeter-singer Mark Pender, both of the Miami Horns and Conan O'Brien's television band.



WAVVES

Founded in 2008, Wavves started out as a one-man band brainstormed by Nathan Williams (Fantastic Magic), a former Music Trader manager who had dropped out of college, lost his job, and was living in his parents' house. His debut lo-fi album as Wavves was recorded on a laptop computer in the garage, on a trial version of Garage Band with a Macbook routed through an internal mic. At age 22, Williams became a record label signee in 2009, earning much internet buzz, as well as multiple slots at that year's SXSW music festival in Austin, Texas. The self-titled Wavves album on Fat Possum Records earned an 8.1 rating at hipness arbiter *Pitchfork.com*, and

they've now put out six studio full-lengths, including an Emo Christmas EP in 2018. Their first new release since then is now available. "'Sinking Feeling' is a song about a wave of depression that keeps coming back," says Williams. "It's that sinking feeling that drags you down and no matter what you do or where you go it follows you." It's the band's first new music since re-signing to their former label, Fat Possum Records. An accompanying Jesse Lirola -directed video features Williams driving around and sleeping in his car in remote desert locales.



SEEYOUSPACECOWBOY

Theatrical post-hardcore/screamo band SeeYouSpaceCowboy features former members of René Descartes, alongside players from Letters To Catalonia. A four-song debut EP was released in 2016, *Demo*, issued on cassette via Structures/Agony and on CD from React With Protest Records. The following year saw the release of a six-song 7-inch EP, *Fashion Statements of the Socially Aware*. The band made national headlines in July 2017 when their equipment van was stolen off SE Hawthorne Boulevard in Portland, costing them gear and personal belongings including mics, drums, pedals, and amplifiers. While the group works on their sophomore album, they have a split-EP with If I Die First dropping May

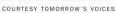
14 via Pure Noise. If I Die First is a new metalcore band with emo-trap artist Lil Lotus and From First To Last members Travis Richter and Derek Bloom, alongside fellow emo-trap artists Nedarb and Zubin. Titled A Sure Disaster, the split-EP features two songs by each band, with SeeYouSpaceCowboy contributing "A Clear Picture from an Unreliable Narrator" and "Modernizing the Myth of Sisyphus." Both bands can be heard on a fifth collaborative track, "Bloodstainedeyes," also streaming as a Cameron Nunez-directed video featuring both bands playing together in a room which is painted half white and half red.



BATHWATER BABIES

Punk rockers Bathwater Babies released the first single off their debut *Cult Muzic Records* album, "Doesn't Matter," in April 2019, playing their first show the same month. The record, along with their raucous stage act and popular songs like "Hobo Sexual," earned enough local praise to land them subsequent gigs at Art Around Adams, the Casbah, Soda Bar, and the Merrow (clips from the latter gig are streaming on the band's Facebook page). Last year's *Tunes From the Tub* session is streaming on YouTube, where you can also

find band videos such as "The Imajinary Friends." They finally finished a collaboration tune begun last year and now available on Spotify. "So about a year ago, back when all of this Covid quarantine business first began, the Bathwater Babies and J. Andrew teamed up to record a track called 'Subterranean Quarantine Blues,'" says the band. "This past year has been a little fucked up, but this song still has me smiling despite the mandatory masks and social distancing we've all had to endure."



Tomorrow

JEWEL

Socially conscious singer-songwriter Jewel is featured in a *Today All Day* streaming special, "Tomorrow's Voices," hosted by Hoda Kotb and aimed at creating a platform for deserving teens across the country. The stream includes Jewel as well as entrepreneur Mark Cuban, animator Frank Abney, Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms, and chef Andrew Zimmerman. The show also spotlights five students who were surprised by *Today* anchors with the chance to interview one of their heroes and collaborate or tackle a project that gives back to their communities. Carson Daly connects Philadelphia teen Jasmine Chesbro with her songwriting hero Jewel. The young

singer and songwriter, who uses music to help her cope with ADHD, is given the opportunity to collaborate on a song with one of her biggest inspirations. Jewel celebrated the 25th anniversary of her 12x platinum-selling debut album *Pieces* of *You* in November with a limited edition box-set released by Craft Records, a four-disc set full of unreleased recordings, including a Pacific Beach performance at Inner Change Coffeehouse. The online release concert featured her "You Were Meant For Me" co-writer, local singer-songwriter (and occasional Rugburn) Steve Poltz. Earlier this month, she appeared on *American Idol* as a surprise duet partner.

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**

Online Internet Events:

Thursday, 8pm — Charlotte Lawrence Live From The Beehive.

Friday & Saturday, 7pm — Sharon Van Etten: Epic Ten Livestream

Saturday & Sunday, 6pm – Barenaked Ladies: Flip N' Hits With BNL.

Saturday, 5pm — Puscifer: Billy D & the Hall Of Feathered Serpents.

Sunday, 5pm — The Decemberists 20th Anniversary Celebration, \$25-\$195. Tuesday, 6pm — Isolation: Concerts For No One 2. \$10-\$30. Tuesday, 5pm — Joseph Arthur Live From City Winery. Tuesday, 6:30pm — Shwayze &

UCSD Price Center:

Cisco Ádler.

Friday, 8pm — San Salvador. \$9-\$28.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Art of Elan & Kontras

Quartet Art of Elan is thrilled to partner once again with Lux Art Institute to combine music and art in a unique setting. This evocative program features the Ensemble-in-Residence Kontras Quartet performing works by Jessie Montgomery and Dmitri Shostakovich, as well as the world premiere of "Hidden Mothers," a powerful new string quartet written by Steven Snowden and commissioned by Art of Elan. Montgomery is an award-winning composer and violinist in the Catalyst Quartet, known for her commitment to promoting diversity, education and advocacy work. Thursday, April 15, 7pm; Lux Art Institute, 1550 S. El Ĉamino Real.

Camarada: In the Key of

Life The 26th Season features a dynamic line up of six unique concert experiences presented in 2 ways: Limited In Person concert attendance or New LiveStream programming. Friday, April 16, 7pm; camarada. org/

Mainly Mozart: Festival of Orchestras Members of two great orchestras, together on one stage. In February, the Mainly Mozart Festival of Orchestras is pairing members of the Los Angeles Philharmonic and the San Francisco Symphony. Conducted by Met Opera Orchestra Concertmaster and Festival of Orchestras Artistic Partner, David Chan. In April, members of New York's MET Orchestra perform with D.C.'s National Symphony Orchestra. Orchestral works conducted by Concertmaster of the MET Orchestra and Mainly Mozart Artistic Partner, David Chan. Thur-Sun, April 15-18, 7pm; \$49-\$100. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard.

IMMORTAL BEAU

Faith without works

In its most recent online streaming concert, the San Diego Symphony showed off the string section with a concert entitled "A Shimmer of Strings." This is the way I will now refer to all gatherings of stringed instruments. There is now "a school of fish," "a murder of crows," and "a shimmer of strings."

The concert is available by subscription only through the San Diego Symphony website. Mozart has played a prominent role so far in the digital livestreams for the Symphony. This most recent concert was no different. The strings of the orchestra presented Mozart's Divertimento in B-flat Major K.

Over the years, Mozart has not been one of the featured composers at Symphony Hall. We might get a concerto or two and a symphony or choral work. but by and large, the 19th and 20th-century composers have been more prominent.

Music Director Rafael Payare appears to be focusing the orchestra's attention on Mozart, and we, the audience, are the beneficiaries, because the orchestra is starting to play Mozart with the attention to detail that makes his music appealing. Without the proper phrasing and musical emphasis. Mozart's music can feel quite tedious.

Following Mozart was Polish composer Krzysztof Penderecki's "Adagio for Strings," from his Symphony No. 3. Before the performance, Maestro Payare shared some of his personal relationship with Penderecki. One thing, in particular,

caught my interest.

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Payare explained that he had received a new piece of music by Penderecki that was to be prepared for a conducting competition. He said that when he first studied the score, it didn't speak to him, but over time, it opened up — and he was able to go on and win the competition.

This has been my experience with being in operas such as Nixon in China and Murder in the Cathedral. In the early rehearsals, the music didn't do much for me, but after a month of musical rehearsals along with staging, I came to love these operas as a performer.

Unfortunately, the audience doesn't have the time to spend with new music in order for it to open up.

When Payare first studied the new piece of music by Penderecki, it didn't speak to him; but over time it opened up.

We get the performance and that's about it. With that in mind, I listened to this performance of Penderecki three times and was surprised to find myself enioving both it and the performance. Would I have done that without Maestro Pavare's comment? No.

The Dvorak Serenade for Strings was the final piece of the concert. As with the Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings from last month, there is really nothing more to ask of Payare and the

strings. It was ideal.

Payare appears to be that rare conductor who doesn't just know what to say about music. he knows how to get the orchestra to do it. Almost any conductor knows what to say about music and how it should sound when performed well. Few know how to make it happen. In other words, faith without works is dead.

Payare and the San Diego Symphony are very much alive.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

UPCOMING SHOWS

Arrowood Golf Course:

Friday, May 7 — Cowboy Jack.

Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, Apr. 22 — A.I.M: An Untitled Love. \$9-\$51

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Friday, Apr. 30 — Monster Energy Outbreak Tour.

Casbah:

Saturday, May 1 — Manic Hispanic and Low Volts. \$18-

Casino Inn Bar and Grill: Saturday, Apr. 24 — The 8 East

Band. Free.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Sunday, Apr. 25 — Courtyard Concerts: Christian Sands. \$70-

\$80

Sunday, Apr. 25 — Courtyard Concerts: Christian Sands. \$70-

Coyote Bar & Grill:

Thursday, Apr. 29 — Miss Demeanor.

El Cajon Harley-Davidson: Saturday, May 1 — West of 5.

Free.

Kensington Club:

Friday, May 21 - Planet of Zeus and Fatso Jetson, \$15.

Music Rox:

Saturday, May 22 - Peach Pit and Haley Blais.

Soma:

Thursday, May 20 — TV Girl. \$18

Spreckels Theatre:

Saturday, May 15 — Adam Ant.

Thornton Winery: Friday, Apr. 23 — Brothers

Igniting a Groove.

UCSD Price Center:

Friday, May 14 — Aynur. \$9-\$28.









Rifkin riffs on the greats

MOV

allace Shawn's first Woody Allen film was also his first screen appearance. His cameo in *Manhattan* amounted to little more than a brilliant punchline. One doesn't easily associate the terms "oversexed" and "brilliant kind of animal" with the outwardly

demure actor cast to play Diane Keaton's ex-husband. When

she and new romantic interest Allen bump into Shawn while shopping, the latter is shocked to see a Casanova in "homunculus" clothing. *Rifkin's Festival* is Shawn's sixth film for Allen and, after *My Dinner With Andre*, the closest he's come to carrying a film.

Allen learned early on to hire the best cinematographers in the business to help plaster the cracks of his visual limitations. Joining the exalted likes of Gordon Willis, Carlos Di Palma, Vilmos Zsigmond, Sven Nykvist, etc. is Vittorio Storaro (*Last Tango in Paris, Apocalypse Now, Reds*), arguably the greatest working DP. He joined team

Woody in 2016 with *Café Society*, making this their fourth golden-hued collaboration.

We open on a bookending device: a psychiatrist's office where Rifkin (Shawn) does what so many of Allen's creations are wont to do: deliver exposition. He's accompanying his wife Sue

> (Gina Gershon) to the San Sebastian Film Festival, where she's to

represent her client, this year's Best Director-winner — and potential cuckolder — Philippe (Louis Garrel). Rifkin attends not so much for the art, but to see if his suspicions about his "fraying marriage" are true. Storaro tells all by miraculously composing a dinner conversation between the three as if Rifkin wasn't at the table.

The first obvious point of reference would be Stardust Memories, the career-derailing capper to a financially successful run that saw such hits as Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex and Annie Hall. Set in large part at a Felliniesque film festival, it



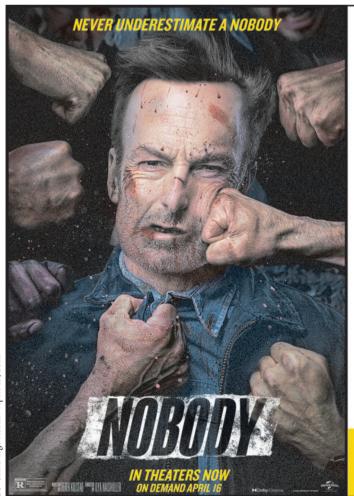
Rifkin's Festival: Homunculus makes good! Wallace Shawn (L) with Gina Gershon and Louis Garell.

was the first time Allen argued against autobiography, claiming the director in the film — an arrogant auteur who placed his audience beneath contempt — was based on schtick and in no way a reflection of his true feelings. Rifkin recognizes that film festivals are no longer what they once were.

Leggy bimbos are plucked by producers to play Hannah Arendt in the latest Eichmann biopic, and that evening's main event is a long lost director's cut of a *Three Stooges* two-reeler. As if such a thing existed. Had Allen done his homework, he'd have realized there are no outtakes on Stooges shorts. Every

scrap of film, no matter how amateurishly inserted, made its way into the finished product, even if it meant borrowing footage from another picture.

Former film professor Rifkin does his best work on his back sound asleep, dreaming in black-and-white and in the context of the European Masters





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NobodyMovie

(and Claude Lelouch), about whom he has based his class. Both director and cinematographer feast on affectionate recreations of the genius of Godard, Buñuel, Renoir, Truffaut (and Claude Lelouch). When it comes to Bergman, I'm not sure whether Woody is spoofing Persona or his own Interiors. Rifkin's Festival marks the first time in a Woody Allen film that a character actually looks forward to visiting a doctor, in this case, Dr. Jo Rojas (Elena Anaya). His concerns over losing his wife result in chest pains, and he's instantly smitten by the comely cardiologist with an equally troubled marriage — so much so that he passes up a chance to see Godard pick up a lifetime achievement award, just to be in Dr. Jo's company. It's been a lot of movies ago since Allen's level of wit has connected to produce this many laughs. (When choosing between testaments, he argues, "In the New Testament, at least the Messiah shows up.") Rifkin's numerous runs for the doctor's office and the zipless romance that follows help to make this Allen's finest and funniest since *Midnight in Paris*. ★★★ -Scott Marks

Video on Demand New Release Roundup

Malni — Towards the Ocean, Towards the Shore — After ten short documentaries predicated on indigenous languages and Native American heritage, Portland-based filmmaker Sky Hopinka's feature debut left me flummoxed. It's hard to recall the last time a film made such a disconnect. Hopinka's camera follows friends Sweetwater Sahme and Jordan Mercier as they rove through the backwoods of the Pacific Northwest and each other's lives. The filmmaker's clash between intent and execution does not work in our favor. Two minutes spent shooting out the back window of a moving car or staring into a firepit for so long you'd swear you were watching a Christmas Yule Log video contribute to an overall sense of florid self-indulgence. When asked why he wears his hair long, Jordan goes full talking head, linking his locks to his heritage (though never saying why) and referencing the feelings of Samson-like strength it provides. Dick Clark gleaned more from grilling teenagers on Bandstand. When Sweetwater speaks English, Chinuk Wawa subtitles flash across the bottom of the screen. Asking audiences to ponder which is her native tongue might not have come across so gimmicky had every Englishspeaking participant in the film been closed-captioned. And while I'm all for experimental filmmaking, there are long passages contained herein



This week brings a pair of first rate action thrillers from the mind of Luc Resson, a creative force in French cinema who makes a much better writer-producer than he does a director. For the second entry, visit us online.

Scott Marks

DISTRICT B13 (2004)

Has it really been almost 20 years since director Pierre Morel's debut sent David Belle and Cyril Raffaelli spinning like peas on a ball-track that hit the roulette wheel with enough non-stop bounce to propel a dozen actionthrillers? District B13

introduced American audiences to parkour (the art of moving), an energetic style of physical discipline (originated by Belle) that incorporates running, jumping, vaulting, and climbing in a manner reminiscent of the Jackie Chan school of martial arts. There's a moment when Officer Damien (Raffaelli), too busy being chased to bother opening a car door, whisks cleanly through the open window. A pair of golf balls in the spin cycle are no match for these two bounders.

Screenwriters Luc Besson and Bibi Naceri borrowed a cup of inspiration from John Carpenter's, Escape From New York, the futuristic sci-fi adventure that finds Manhattan transformed into a maximum security prison. Here, rather than honor the poor people of Paris with a patch of prime real estate, the government relocated what in their estimation were two million examples of the worst humanity had to offer and awarded them a walled suburban ghetto all their own, complete with checkpoints, guard towers, and a razor wire perimeter.

Banlieue 13 is the last stop between barbarity and civilization. Once inside, jerk-zooms that pulse to the rhythm of Da Octopuss' surging techno score finally



District B13: follow the bouncing Frenchman (David Belle).

come to rest in Leïto's washroom, where our good-guy-on-the-wrongside-of-the-law is hurriedly giving 20 kilos of cocaine a bath before mob enforcer K2 (Tony D'Amario) and his gang break down the door. (How do we know he flies under the handle K2? He tipped his barber extra to carve a monogram just above the nape.) Reporting back to bossman Taha (cowriter Naceri), a flummoxed K2 likens the elusive Leïto to a bar of soap. So the fast-thinking K2 comes up with the idea of kidnapping Leïto's sister to draw him out. Instead of Little Nell tied to the train tracks, it's feisty little sister Lola (Dany Verissimo) who winds up cuffed to a bomb.

It's easier to get out

of prison than it is to enter District B-13 — unless vou're connected, feared, or both. Security guys don't just look the other way, they hold open the door for the K2 and his deplorables like they were Capitol insurrectionists. Happily, as before graduating from the School of Hard Knocks, Leïto majored in the art of elusivity. The tattooed lad can slip through transoms with the ease of a Vaseline-coated fly. And, as with all great actors/ daredevils - Keaton, Lloyd,

> Chan, Knoxville — Belle and Raffaelli do all their own stunts. They make scaling a building look easier than taking an elevator.

> Damien is a good cop who is about to learn the error of his ways. A student of criminology, he'll spend

weeks if not months working to crack a case. The government planted a neutron bomb with a ticking timer in the burrough. Damien is not a good fit when it comes to short notice jobs like tracking and defusing a bomb that in three hours has the capability of leveling everything within a 5-mile radius. My Holocaust-Sentimentalizing detector is always set on high — the shot of Ruth Gordon's wrist-tattoo in Harold and Maude is a deal-killer. This time? "The government wouldn't sacrifice two million people to solve a problem," argues Damien. "No?" replies Leïto. "They murdered six million because none of them were blonde with blue eyes." Way to smuggle, Besson!

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

that feel like home movies. Watching this made me feel like a character in a Bunuel film. Rather than being unable to leave the party, I stood on the porch, watching through the living room window, never once gaining entry. 2020 — S.M. ★

This Is Not a Burial, It's a Res**urrection** — On a map, the mountainous South African enclave is des-

ignated Nasaretha, but 80-year-old Mantoa (Mary Twala) and the other villagers coolly call it The Plains of Weeping. During the black plague, travelers from distant shores would pass through Nasaretha while transporting their sick to healing centers. Those who didn't outlive the journey were buried in the valley, leaving their survivors ample space in which to settle. In a more metropolitan part of

town, our narrator (Jerry Mofokeng) sits waxing philosophical while accompanying himself on a lesiba — a wind instrument with strings attached that, when blown into, reproduces a tone just slightly less unnerving than the tip of a shovel being dragged across concrete. Alone, having buried all of her loved ones, Mantoa longs for the release death will bring. Before going to bed, she summons the Grim

Reaper, only to awaken each morning. Day after day, she sits glued to her transistor radio, listening as the necrology is read, half hoping to hear her name listed among the dead. (She paid \$2000 to have a grave dug.) As the title indicates, God has other plans for our feisty lead. It is with a stone face and strong heart that she leads a rebellion that pits townsfolk against a government-planned flooding of the village and nearby cemetery that houses the remains of Mantoa's family as well as the plot with her name on it. Other directors would take a dozen cuts to achieve what Lemohang Jeremiah Mosese does with one slight turn of the focal ring. Every color of the rainbow is called into service, infusing the boundless depth and rounded corners of the 4x3 image with a ViewMaster vividness. For a film whose rallying cry is "Nothing will endure!" one exits overburdened with feelings of hope. 2021 — S.M. ****

Thunder Force — When it comes to establishing a basic comic book universe, writer-director Ben Falcone can't even manage to get the small details right, things like establishing an unfeigned menace from the get-go. With all the talk of legions of "Miscreants" overtaking Chicago, we never see more than three or four super-villains populating the midnight sky. Hell, this thing is so ineptly put together, we miss out on bits of essential information like what exactly caused the two childhood friends Lydia (Melissa McCarthy) and Emily (Octavia Spencer) to fall out of contact in the first place. Flashforward to find forklift driver Lydia paying a visit to scientist Emily's office. "Don't touch anything," Emily insists before leaving Lydia alone just long enough for her to accidentally touch the wrong thingamajig, which results in both women being transformed into costumed superheroes. What sets Lydia apart from the rest of the comic creations in McCarthy's bag of tricks? Having Ms. Spencer to play off of, for one, followed by a better hairstylist. She's also the first superhero powered in part by the Old Style brewery. Credit the PG-leaning PG-13 rating to the bright relationship between Emily and her teenage daughter Tracy (Taylor Mosby). Mc-Carthy's incessant talking approach to comedy seeks its own level; Spencer knows precisely when to shut up, making her McCarthy's strongest April have been many). Considering it's 5 both a comic book movie and Melissa 💍 McCarthy comedy, my expectations were surpassed. 2021. — S.M. ★

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PERSONALS

CARL LANCE your friends and family miss you, and you're in the hearts of all who have known you, love you brother.

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

MISS GLMA You called me two weeks ago about my Reader ad but I could not understand the last 4 numbers of your phone number. Please call me again, (858) 263-6295. Leave a message, Mark.

POOH, I LOVE YOU SO MUCH I hope you feel better. Always & forever your hubby. KK

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR BLESSINGS Lord "so grate

TOMMY M. Hey just saying hi again. Thinking of you always. Patti D

WE MISS YOU EVERYDAY MAMA JUDY I know you're with our Lord and all is well. Love you more. Sarah & Kelly

MARVIN Thanks for being my best friend for 65 years. I will always remember the good times. You will never be forgotten. Your

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

JERRY VARON Hope you've had a good Pesach. Brian B

KKAATU peace, JAR-TAK

LINDA - YOU WERE WITH RAY. If you are divorced from Ray, I'm divorced also! Call me at (760) 212-1453, David! Let's two step together again?

THERE IS ONE WORD which may serve as a rule of practice for all of one's life-reciprocity.

LANETTE (COUNTRY) JOHNSON please call me I need you in my life! Gary (281) 865-5613.

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PIONEERS MOTORCYCLE **CLUB** Pioneers Motorcycle Club has filed a fictitious Display The American State of the State of County. Questions? (442) 232-7150 / jriinglett@gmail.

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Been sitting outside so a little
dirty. Please text to pick up (619) 631-9258.

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CHULA VISTA, \$700. One room for rent in condo, shared living room and kitchen. Male preferred. No pets. Deposit \$300. Available now, any questions call (619) 869-5814.

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Clean rooms, very comfortable

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RENTALS

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California

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County. https://www.facebook.
com/alltowingandstorage/ (909) 815-0447

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ESBASE DEVELOPER
(VAStek, Inc. has an opening in San Diego, CA) Essbase Developer: Design, develop, maintain & support Financial Reporting Apps. Will work in unanticipated locations. Req. MS in Comp Sci, Engr (any), or Engr Mngmt & 4 yrs exp. Send resume to attn: Daniella Loza, VAStek, Inc. 1230 Columbia Street, Suite 1180, San Diego, CA 92101.

NETWORK ENGINEER

Dassault Systèmes Americas Corp.– San Diego, CA. Network Engineer. Pvd proactive support. for all relative network infrastructure components. Submit resume to: nam. recruitment@3ds.com. Ref # 2978218.

FENCE MANUFACTURER Fencing Company Yard-Maintenance, Service, Repair, Painting and Installation. Must be Reliable and Honest. CA Driver's License Required. Will train. (619) 749-1494 Ask for Brad dan.

ca@cox.net **WELDER** Piece work fabrication from approved Shop Drawings. W.I. Iron Hand Rails, Fence, Gates. Work your own hours at our location. Experienced only. (619) 499-7799 Ask for Aaron dan.ca@cox.net

EMBROIDERY TECHNICIAN WANTED Looking for an experienced embroidery technician who is familiar with Barudan embroidery machines.

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

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

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caregivers wanted throughout San Diego County. All shifts available. We can work around your schedule. We pay mileage and put employees first! Apply https://safeharborhc.com/careers/ or email careers@safeharborhc. com or (858) 634-1012 / careers@safeharborHC.com

FENCE INSTALLATIONS Top \$ paid for experienced, skilled, and motivated fence erector. You must be trustworthy, reliable, and honest. Must have valid CA Drivers License. We have work, and if you qualify you may start immediately. (619) 499-7799 Ask for Aaron dan.ca@cox.net

FULL TIME LIVE IN NANNY for adorable 8 yr old boy. Rent free, kind, sweet, happy, clean, positive, no pets, retired moms only. Clairemont (858) 750-9567

IHSS CAREGIVERS 75 year old lady needs 2 caregivers that are IHSS certified. One for the 7-4pm shift and one for the 4-11pm shift. Only serious inquiries need apply. Must be certified by the county or IHSS. Call (619) 297-3382 or leave message

REGISTERED PROVIDER FOR IHSS WANTED for zip 92115, prefer AM's, 13 hours/week. Lady recipient, maybe more hours in bldg. (619) 303-5695

WELDER WANTED WELDER-Fabricator. W.I. Iron Hand Rails, Fence, Gates. Equipment, material supplied. Work your own hours at our location. Experienced only. Ask for Aaron. (619) 749-1494 / dan.ca@cox.net CAREGIVER, NON-MEDICAL Homecare, respite care and more! Help seniors and disabled remain independent disabled remain independent at home. Experienced and new caregivers welcome. We help you succeed. Call today! 1-877-903-JOBS (5627). Est. 1984 (877) 903-5627 / homecarejobs@ atyourhomefamilycare.com

HAIR SALON BOOTH **RENTALS** East Mission Valley established salon, great location. We are looking for stylists to join us. Call (619) 944-9966 or (619) 886-0603 / sheltononlinetravel@cox.net

INTERNET SALES SPECIALIST We opened a new location in CA, San Diego! We're looking for a new Internet Sales Specialist employee. Panuto Leasing is the #1 car broker company in South Florida. https://www. facebook.com/PANAUTOMIAMI (754) 701-7117

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER Healthcare aid needed in home in Ocean Beach, CA. \$2320/ month + rent(room) provided. Great opportunity for someone who needs work and a place to live. Call Jim. No experience necessary. Start immediately! (619) 307-0544 / 70yoyoz@gmail

CAREGIVERS NEEDED for individual with dementia Dressing, hygiene, running errands, companionship, meal prep and housekeeping. Monday-Wednesday 12-7pm. Previous experience with dementia care preferred. Reliable person, good references and own transportation needed. Clairemont area. Contact rayzambo@gmail.com

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90

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conducting a research study on how cannabis affects thinking and behavior. We are seeking adults ages 18-50 who either use cannabis at least 4 times a week or do not use cannabis at all, with a history of Bipolar Disorder or with no psychiatric conditions. You must have no serious medical or neurological conditions, including heart problems, seizures, or significant head trauma. Study Procedures: One visit lasting about 6 hours: saliva, blood, and urine tests; computer and paper and pencil tests; wear a device that measures the movements of your body. Participants reimbursed up to \$20 per hour for study participation. Located at the UCSD Medical Center in Hillcrest. For More Information, call us at the UCSD Psychiatry Department

ASAP MISSION VALLEY registered IHSS caregiver needed. You pick any 5 days a week, from 8am-1pm. 25 hours per week, 105 hours per month. Must have a car, includes cooking, cleaning, shopping, Call and leave message (619) 269-3434.

CAREGIVER/COMPANION WANTED Dependable, experienced, for 24 hour shifts. \$120 cash paid at end of shifts. No alcohol, hangovers, smoking, drugs, pets, children. mysandiegocarl@yahoo.com

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

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.

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Active Quadriplegic male seeking PT caregiver in East County area (Santee/Lakeside La Mesa/El Cajon). Must have reliable transportation and be dependable, energetic, enthusiastic, compassionate. Experience preferred but will train right person. Must pass fingerprint and background check. Duties include: personal care, transferring, dressing, bathing, grooming, cooking cleaning, shopping. Please send resume or brief description of why you are an excellent sbcglobal.net or leave message at (619) 596-9343.

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.

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

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HANDYMAN WANTED

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

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JOBS WANTED

HELP! Unemployed massage therapist here running out of unemployment very soon. Looking for employment as cashier, prep-cook, busser, leasing agent, reception.
Any shift would be greatly appreciated. 1-(805) 843-2515.
Thank you. ghf92565@gmail.com

PREP-COOK/DISHWASHER FOR HIRE Hi, Im looking for a P/T or F/T Prep-cook/dishwasher position, any shift, preferably in the mid-city area. Experienced. Call or text. Many yrs. exp. (805) 843-2515 / ghf92565@ gmail.com

JACK OF ALL TRADES SEEKS SHELTER Mature male with experience in all phases of construction, remodeling seeks room, shed, yard to live in. Can pay partial rent and work for rest. jwdooleysd@gmail.com

DO YOU NEED A CAREGIVER? In home companion -aide: for details call Lisa 1-(619) 246-8219

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, Solana Beach, North County. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973

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BUYING OLD CAR BATTERIES Bring us your old 12V car, computer, boat, motorcycle, 6V golf, RV batteries and we pay cash. (619) 448-5323.

LOOKING FOR a free but nice round brown dinning table with four chairs: can deliver to my address. (858) 505-0685.

BUY GARBAGE PAIL KIDS STICKER CARDS Looking to buy vintage 1985-1986 Garbage Pail Kids sticker cards and associated items. Primarily looking for stickers with numbers 1-83, both a & b. Other older sets and full boxes. Cash paid. Thanks. San Deigo Local (832) 651-8302 / ashscoot@aol. com

CASH FOR OLD BASEBALL CARDS Looking to buy your old pre 1980 baseball cards (football, haskethall hockey all sports and non sports too). Also more recent value cards in all sports. Garbage Pail, comic books, autographed items. All sports collectibles. San Diego local (832) 651-8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

LOOKING FOR a 59 Ford Galaxy, decent shape or 61 to 64 Falcon. Trying to find one \$500 or less please text. (619) 631-9258



JOHN DEERE 750 OR 650 TRACTORS Looking for a John Deere 750 model tractor or the 650. They must have a front loader and have a rear box scraper. 2wd or 4wd is ok. In running condition or needing some work is fine. Send me

some pics and info. (619) 888-0443

WANTED TWO PERSON SWING need delivered. If frame needs paint and cushions that is fine, just no cracks in swing & frame intact. Text (619) 631-9258.

WANTED FREE ACOUSTIC GUITAR I can work for an electric acoustic guitar with amp. I can do most things. I can do auto repair or most things around the house (619) 902-7658 / raymondsawyer7@gmail.com

BUYING OLD CAR BATTERIES

Please give us a call at (619) 484-0767. Hablamos español or come visit us at Alpha battery. We are located 929 B South 29th Street San Diego California 92113 right off the freeway next to Jack In The Box Thank vou for vour time.

BUYING/SELLING BABY ITEMS www.mnkpbaby.com (619) 333-6653. 1123 Highland Ave. National City (Across from Walmart, next to Panda side entrance). Hours: Mon-Sat 10am-6pm & Sun 12pm-5pm.

LOCAL ANIMAL RESCUE conservation, education and

wellness center needs donation of a car, SUV, pickup or van urgently to run small rescues pick up volunteers, pick up feed, and for out of town volunteers to run into town for groceries. It must have good tags, smog and in good working condition, including heat and A/C. Happy to give a donation receipt. Please text or call (760) 898-3927.

LOOKING FOR OLD TUBE STEREOS I am looking for that old Stereo System that your Father used to play. These Stereo components were built in America in the early 1960's, by such manufacturers as Fisher Scott, Marantz, Dynaco, and more. I pay cash, so Please Call Jack. (619) 296-3100 / jack22@cox.net

WANTED FREE ELECTRIC WEED EATER shape not picky as long as it works. Would need delivered. Text (619) 631-9258.

CASH PAID for gold and silver. call# (619) 280-2075

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

WANTED AIR CONDITIONER

I want to buy a used window (room) air conditioner which is in good working order. (619) 379-9151 mysandiegocarl@ yahóo.com

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

I BUY OLDER STEREO GEAR Pioneer, Sansui, Klipsch, JBL, Fisher, Yamaha, Dynaco, Mcintosh, Tannoy. Working or not ok. What do you have? Call or text pictures, (619) 279-7833.

WE WANT TO BUY YOUR OLD baseball, football, basketball or hockey cards and memorabilia



I BUY ROLEX WATCHES

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

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

I BUY BAND INSTRUMENTS (619) 280-2075

I BUY USED GOLF CLUBS (619) 806-6703.

WANTED TO BUY A RUNNING **TRUCK** looking for pre 75 Chevy, Toyota or GMC truck, old Datsun truck 63 to 70, for \$400.00 or less, want it running does not have to be perfect. Text

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

ADULT TRI WHEEL BIKE Not selling. Wanted. Need bike delivered, budget \$50 or less. Please text info and pictures. (619) 631-9258 Please serious

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.

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

GARAGE SALES

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LA COSTA ESTATE SALE For more information please visit : www.EstateSales.Net/ SoCalEstateSaleServices. info@ socalestatesaleservices.com



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FOR SALE

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ELECTRIC HOTPLATE electric hotplate \$20. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

KING SIZED MATTRESS In fair condition to be given away free. Interested? Email me at winweb007@yahoo.com.

MISC FOR SALE Bakelite chandelier, \$100. Art deco table, \$100. Both 60s/70s ruby ring, \$80. Irene (619) 807-4409

MOVING? Three new wardrobe boxes, and 16 new 18" x 12" x 12" x torage boxes. All for \$55. Call (760) 274-5264.

PORTABLE CD PLAYER portable cd player \$40. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

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DAY BED W/TRUNDLE Day DAY BED W/THUNDLE Day bed with pull out trundle bed. New product less than a year ago. Excellent shape. Paid \$1000 -Must sell quickly. \$400 firm. A steal at this price. Kenny @ (912) 275-4411. Ilmayer@hotmail.



ESTATE SALE SIGNS Estate sale signs. Call (808) 385-4346 for details.

MISC FOR SALE small child scooter: \$25. Gray boogie board with a dragon on it: \$25 Long board \$30. Seven ballet hangers for ballet outfits: \$5 each. (858) 505-0685



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SURF DIEGO

Stand-up paddleboarders can be tiresome

SIOBHAN BRAUN

"I'M NOT GOING TO TRY TO **DROP IN ON SOMEONE"**

Julie Schuman, a Cardiff native, admits that stand-up paddleboarders can be tiresome, due to their tendency to drop in on other people's waves.

"I know that the rules are out there," Schuman says. "I don't get yelled at in the water because I'm not going to try to drop in on someone. I know when it is my turn, but I will definitely go and drop in on somebody if they think they can take every wave out there '



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BUNK BED Gently used, just like new, bunk bed. Both new mattresses included. \$199. Kenny @ (912) 275-4411.

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SOLAR PANEL GROUND MOUNT Universal mount holds 10 large solar panels, used for charging electric vehicle batteries or if roof isn't suitable for panels, excellent, \$2,600., (760) 746-7209

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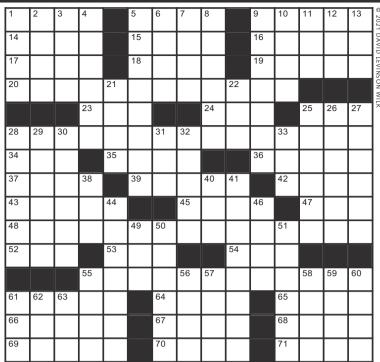
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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE	Р	R	0	В		S	L	С		Т	Α	М	Α	R	Α	
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RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with

your name.

3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102: or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period. And now for the really small print:

1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces

- provided

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- 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

Across

- 1. Amoeba's shape
- **5.** Fire extinguisher's output
- **9.** Icon of the small screen?
- 14. Doctor Zhivago, in "Doctor Zhivago"
- **15.** Diva's delivery
- **16.** "Star Wars" home of Jar Jar Binks
- 17. Cassini who created the socalled "Jackie look"
- **18.** Queen Bey: Beyonce :: ____: Rihanna
- **19.** Established fact
- **20.** Ditch the others on your sports
- lack thereof"
- **24.** ____ Lingus
- **25.** Sound on a goat farm
- 28. Really wacky types go around with Super Soakers?
- **34.** Countless years
- **35.** Bond
- **36.** Break up
- **37.** Slugger with 2,086 career RBIs
- **39.** Down for a pillow
- **42.** Accompanying
- **43.** It takes a bow
- **45.** Mother Earth, to Greeks
- 47. Org. for which Jason Bourne works in "The Bourne Identity"
- **48.** Return and show support at an alumni game?
- **52.** Uno + due
- 53. Bauxite, e.g.
- 54._ smear

- **55.** Enclosures with résumés ... | **25.** Doc or a three-word direction that | **26.** "The way things stand ..." will help you see the answers to 27. Furthermore 20-, 28- and 48-Across
- **61.** Enliven
- 64. Choice Awards
- **65.** What bodybuilders pump
- **66.** Big name in arcade games
- **67.** Fashion designer Tahari
- **68.** Miguel in "Coco," por eiemplo
- **69.** Leave alone
- **70.** Way to go
- **71.** Chew (on)

Down

- 1. Abbr. about alcohol on a party invitation
- **2.** Downtime
- **3.** Black-and-white treat
- 4. "Well, la-di-frickin'-da!"
- **5.** Pasta that means "butterflies" in Italian
- 6. "... refuse thy name; _ thou wilt not ...": Juliet
- **7.** Snobs put them on
- **8.** Cocktail with a rhyming name
- 9. "Prepare to duel!"
- **10.** Seriously wound
- 11. "Heads" side of a coin: Abbr.
- **12.** MSNBC's "Morning
- **13.** Charged particle
- **21.** Not a dup.
- 22. Fish that's not kosher

- **28.** It led to a 1773 protest
- **29.** "It" or "Us" genre
- **30.** It's huge in France
- **31.** You could get one if you're over .08%
- **32.** Simple doorstop
- **33.** Opposite of ESE
- 38. Bambi's mother, e.g.
- **40.** Cook's encouragement
- **41.** Got back to business. perhaps
- **44.** ____ pie
- **46.** "I smell
- **49.** One of the Wright brothers, for short
- **50.** Sign-bearer in an airport,
- **51.** Goina (for)
- **55.** Park place?
- **56.** Move, in real estate jargon
- **57.** Princess who asks "Aren't vou a little short for a
- stormtrooper?" **58.** Sportscaster Andrews
- 59. "Mazes and Monsters" writer Jaffe
- 60. Winter coat? **61.** Gadot of "Wonder Woman
- **62.** Suffix with Manhattan or Brooklyn
- **63.** Rébellion leader Turner

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

Dennis Butterworth, San Diego, 12.

Name:			
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Email:	Phone #	<u> </u>	

____ Zip Code: ___

Phone #

SUDOKU

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EVIL:

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RULES OF THE GAME 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest. Your submission will only

Win a Reader hat or t-shirt

- be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
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 3) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, 2323 Broadway Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92102; or scanned and emailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed. One win per person within a 4 week period.

State:

- And now for the really small print:

 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.

City:

Email:

- 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 3) We will draw 1 name from weekly puzzle submissions.
- 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 5) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible

THIS WEEK'S WINNER:

Winners will be contacted for prize redemption.

Elliot Rosenberg, La Jolla, 13.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

6 5 7 2 4 8 3 1 9

EVIL:

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

San Diego Reader April 15,

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April Fools

An April Fools' Day prank went wrong in Wichita, Kansas, on ... April 1, KWCH-TV reported, when Arnthia Willis, 58, called her daughter that morning and said she'd been shot. The Wichita Police and Fire departments and Sedgwick County EMS responded to the address given, but discovered no one was there. They later found Arnthia in suburban Derby and arrested her for an unlawful request for emergency service assistance.

- Michael Boatman, 41, discovered by two sheriff's deputies wandering down the street at 1 am in Spartanburg, South Carolina, wearing only a "clear bag over his genitals" on April 1, told the officers he was doing a "walk of shame" in penance for cheating on his wife, according to an incident report. The Smoking Gun reported Boatman, who was smoking marijuana, according to the report, also allegedly told officers he had taken methamphetamine earlier. Boatman briefly tried to run away from officers, police said, but was captured and arrested for indecent exposure, among other offenses.

Everyone's a Critic

- Jason Harvey, 50, of Romford, England, has been fined about \$3,800 after his east London town council received 150 complaints from neighbors about his Saturday-night karaoke parties. "It has been a nightmare," said one neighbor. "It was so loud, and his singing was

terrible." Noise officers told the *Evening Standard* they received specific complaints about Harvey's covers of Dire Straits' "Sultans of Swing" and Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton's "Islands in the Stream." Harvey, who said he would appeal the fine, defended his voice: "I admit I'm no singer, but I have a go. I would have a couple of people over and they loved all that."

Don't Eat That!

- Among the treasures discovered at Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk, England, is a 121-year-old chocolate bar, still in its tin, commissioned by Queen Victoria for troops fighting in the Second Boer War in South Africa, Reuters reported on March 31. Oxburgh was the ancestral home of the Bedingfeld family for 500 years, and one of them, Sir Henry Edward Paston-Bedingfeld, fought in that war; the chocolate bar was discovered in his helmet case. "Although you wouldn't want it as your Easter treat," mused Anna Forrest, cultural heritage curator at Britain's National Trust, "it is still complete and a remarkable find." On the lid, a message is inscribed in Queen Victoria's handwriting: "I wish you a happy new

Animal Antics

— The Anchorage, Alaska, *Daily News* reported on March 26 that customers at a local Costco store are routinely robbed of large cuts of meat as they transfer their groceries to their cars ... by ravens. More than a year ago, Olani Saunoa was buckling her toddler into a car seat when a ra-

ven swooped in and grabbed a package of short ribs from her car. "He had picked up the entire package," she said. And this year it happened to her again -- a bird snatched a pack of pork ribs. Other customers are reporting similar incidents on social media. Rick Sinnott, a former wildlife biologist, isn't surprised: Ravens "much prefer ... a package of short ribs from Costco to half of a hamburger bun from McDonald's."

Overreaction

 Thomas McCann, 49, of Stockport, England, was sentenced to prison for life on March 30 for the brutal murder of his wife, Yvonne, 46, in May 2020, following an argument over a bag of french fries left out of the freezer, according to court documents. The Guardian reported McCann strangled his wife in the bathroom, then dismembered her body and disposed of some of the parts in Reddish Vale Country Park, where dog walkers discovered her remains; other parts were taken to a recycling center. During this time, McCann texted their children, saying Yvonne had walked out on him. He was later spotted on video footage carrying trash bags to his car and while walking toward the park, and confessed the killing to police.

Compelling Explanation

Deputies in Brevard County, Florida, clocked Charles Thomas, 65, of Malabar, going over 100 mph on his motorcycle and weaving in and out of traffic on March 31, according to an arrest report. When they finally caught up with him, Thomas reassured them by saying "he is trained to drive like that," WKMG-TV reported. He was charged with reckless driving.

Cliche Come to Life

- Around 4:15 a.m. on March 24, an unidentified resident of Laurium, Michigan, woke to find a gun pointed at his head, WLUC-TV reported. Laurium Police said Warren Meyers, 52, of Calumet, Michigan, allegedly demanded the homeowner give him his two cats. The "cat burglar" left with one cat and was later apprehended, along with the gun he used, said authorities. He was arraigned on March 29 in Houghton County Court; the fate of the stolen cat is unknown.

More Animal Antics

— Neighbors in Northampton, England, have been annoyed by a swan that has been knocking on their doors, sometimes for hours at a time, for five years, Fox News reported on March 24. "He starts by rattling the letterbox then bashes the metal with its beak quite loudly," said resident Stephen Legg. "The racket reverberates through the whole house." The bird targets houses only on one particular block, according to local media, but no one seems to know why.

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Bernie Fishman, owner of Beat Box Records in Barrio Logan, makes lots of house calls, buying collections he learns of "just by being out and about and talking to different people. I also get people bringing in stuff to the shop. I'm always open to buying records that people bring in."

continued from page 19 across the street, where I am now."

How's business? "We've been here for six and a half years and business is great," Fishman says. "The great thing about

records is that no matter what you are into, there's something for you."

Like the other record store owners, Fishman says his customers range from older collectors to young adults and even teens. "No matter what you're into, if you're really into music as more than just background, there's something for you on vinyl, from the older music you remember from when you were a kid

Lou Russell is a bit of an outlier. Lou's Records, the record store he opened in Cardiff in February 1980, is celebrating its thirtieth year in its present location on the old Coast Highway in Leucadia. But unlike his fellow record store owners, Russell, 68, has no aversion to new vinyl reissues of classic rock albums.

to new music that's also coming out on vinyl again. We get a lot of younger kids who are starting their own collections and want classic rock, as well as older folks who are rediscovering vinyl as well as serious collectors who are past the mainstream stuff and looking for more specific things."

Fishman says playing vinyl LPs "is just a different

way of listening to music. Records have certainly been romanticized in modern culture, and if you read interviews with a lot of these young musicians you find a lot

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of them listen to records and love records. It's more personal; it reminds us of how life used to be. And for the young kids, records are just cooler than CDs and downloading stuff."

Another plus to vinyl LPs, particularly the older ones, is that in the days before downloading and CDs, crafting an album was an art. LPs hold only about 35 to 40 minutes of music, and the selection of songs, and the order of those songs, was carefully curated by the musicians. So when you play those old original albums, Fishman says, "you're hearing what the artist intended to put out."

Many of these classic albums have been reissued on CD, generally with alternate tracks or bonus songs added in. "Artists are getting older, and labels are looking to cash in, so they keep repackaging the same stuff and they have to give you a reason to buy it again, so they add new stuff," Fishman says. "But these are classic albums they're tampering with, and they're classics for a reason – so leave them alone."

It's soulful

Lou Russell is a bit of an outlier. Lou's Records, the record store he opened in Cardiff in February 1980, is celebrating its thirtieth year in its present location on the old Coast Highway in Leucadia. But unlike his fellow record store owners, Russell, 68, has no aversion to new vinyl reissues of classic rock albums.

"We're actually mostly new vinyl now, and that's because I just don't have time to process used vinyl," he says. "It's very labor intensive – you've got to clean them, check them, make sure they play OK, grade them, and price them. And, besides, people are buying so much classic rock that we just don't have the used inventory. People want Fleetwood Mac's Rumours and you don't get that many traded in, so you don't always have a used one. So you've got to have the new ones in stock - and people keep buying them. It's the same with Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon and all those other classic albums."

Russell has seen the ups and downs of the business. When he started in 1980, he was selling new and used vinyl LPs, cassettes, and even VHS music videos. Then came the CD explosion. In those pre-Internet days, Lou's was known for its broad selection that went beyond the limited inventory of chain stores like Licorice Pizza – where Russell

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Russell says his store attracts a wide range of customers. "It's everybody," he says. "A lot of kids, a lot of Boomers, and a lot of people in between. Kids are discovering their parents' vinyl in the garage and pulling it out and getting excited. They're buying Pink Floyd and Fleetwood Mac and the Eagles, plus new stuff like Mac DeMarco."

briefly worked before opening his own store – and The Wherehouse.

"We were very competitive with Tower," he says, referring to the network of record superstores whose San Diego flagship was located across from the San Diego Sports Arena in what is now a thrift store.

When Lou's moved to its present location

in 1991, Russell initially leased two buildings, one for new LPs, CDs and cassettes and the other for used merchandise. A few years later, with the launch of DVD, he

opened a third store in the same little roadside complex, which he dubbed "Lou Land."

But in the 2000s, CD sales began to wind down, as downloading songs over the Internet, and then streaming, became popular. Then came the recession. And then came Netflix, drawing in movie fans with a \$10 all-you-can watch option.

"In 2010 we consolidated all the retail into the one store we have, and the video store is now our office and mini-warehouse," Russell says. "The other store, where we used to sell new CDs, is now an animal hospital.

"It was rough, but we cut staff and tried to make it work. And now we are bouncing back, thanks to the resurgence of vinyl."

Like the other record store owners, Russell says his store attracts a wide range of customers. "It's everybody," he says. "A lot of kids, a lot of Boomers, and a lot of people in between. Kids are discovering their parents' vinyl in the garage and pulling it out and getting excited. They're buying Pink Floyd and Fleetwood Mac and the Eagles, plus new stuff like Mac DeMarco. Classic rock, though, does particularly well on vinyl.

"Part of it is nostalgia, part of it is people think it sounds better, and part of it is just, it's comfortable to hold a record in the hand and look at the artwork, the liner notes...compared to a much-smaller CD, or a download, which you can't hold at all – it's just a piece of air."

Ironically, when CDs first came out, the little five-inch discs sold for about \$12, twice as much as LPs. Now, it's the other way around. "For example, Fleetwood Mac's

Rumours is \$24 on vinyl and \$12 on CD," Russell says. "Vinyl has always been very strong for us, even in the late 1990s and early 2000s, when the record companies weren't making much. Now, we're not only selling more vinyl units, but vinyl is more expensive."

Will it last? "Hopefully, vinyl will sustain," Russell says. "And by selling so much new vinyl, we're creating a supply of used vinyl, down the road."

He pauses, then adds, "I think records are going to be the last one standing, because they have undefined quality about them that nothing else does. It's just the vibe of a record and the act of putting a record on a turntable and putting the needle in the groove. It's very basic, it's very old-school, and I just think it's endearing. It's soulful."

-Thomas K. Arnold



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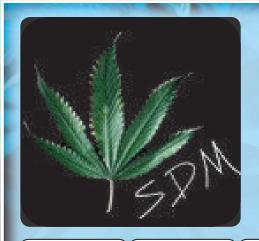
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