

S A N D I E G O


VOL. 47 | NO. 50 | NOVEMBER 24, 2022

Reader

Ways of & Escape

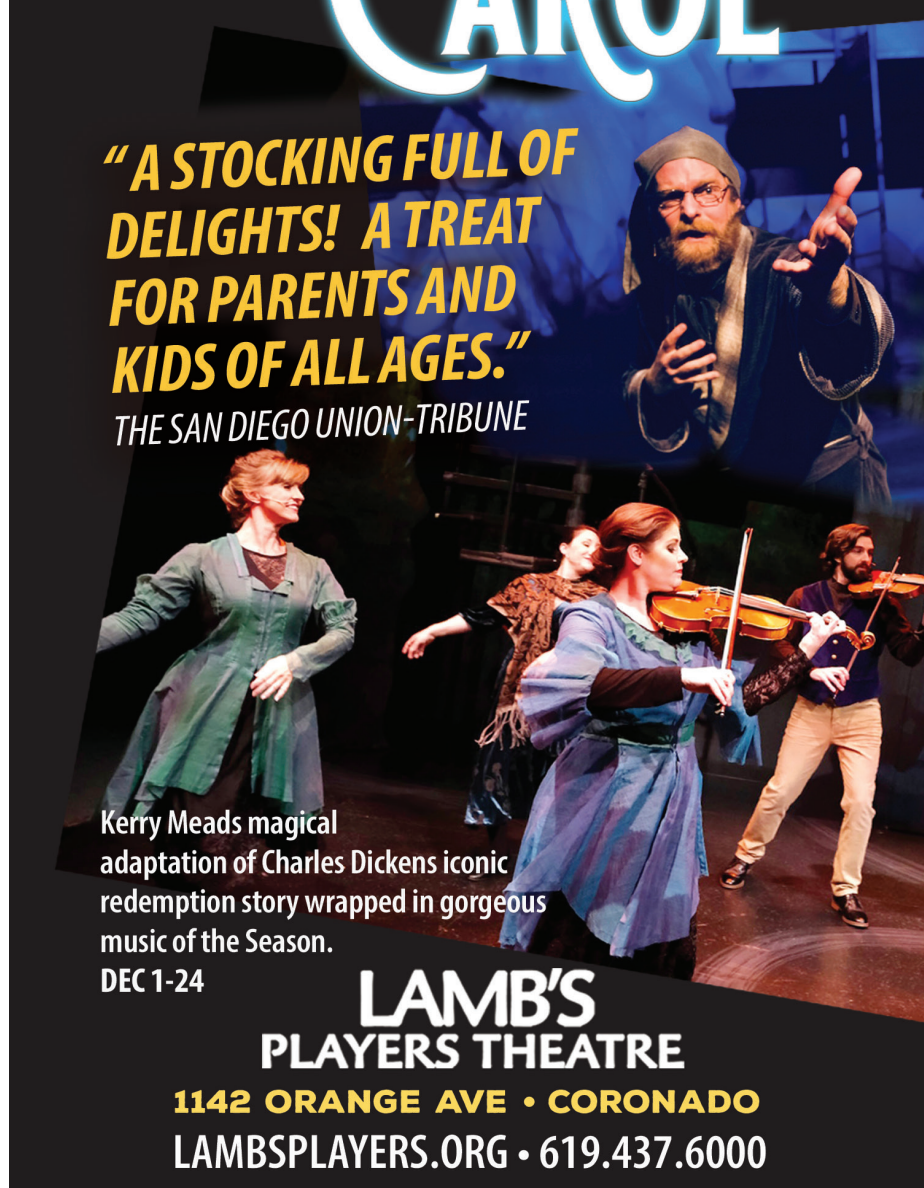
Mike Simpson,
the Cleveland
School Shooting,
and the possibility of
Brenda Spencer's parole

Buses, trolley hit cars ■ Can they save Encinitas' Melba Forest?



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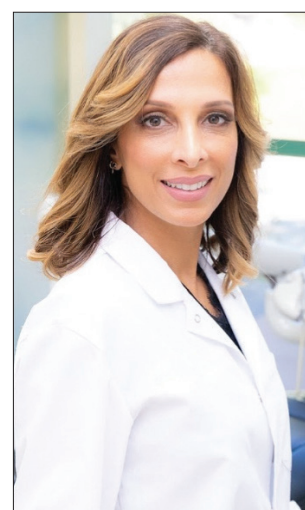
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November 24, 2022



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

LORAX LAND

Canopy in crisis

Will development and division doom the Melba Forest?

Encinitas needs a lot of new housing, and in some cases, a few old trees are in the way. At risk, residents say, is an evergreen canopy along Melba Road. Several of the adjoining roads once boasted similar shady tunnels formed by Monterey cypress and pines, but most of them have been lost to beetles, parking demands, over-pruning — and development.

“We want to honor the historic tree-lined state of this road, and the surviving trees, regardless of the varying ages and who planted them,”

Of the nine trees being eyed for protection, some are on a piece of private property that has become the proposed location for the Staver Torrey Crest development — 30 single family homes, 27 market rate and three affordable to very low income. According to neighbors, 175 full-size trees and 30 smaller trees and native shrubs currently growing on the six-acre site, located at 1220-1240 Melba Road and 1190 Island View Lane, will be cut down. The biggest threat is to the “Melba forest,” residents’ name for the mature city-owned trees lining the road, which creates a habitat for wildlife and gives the neighborhood its bucolic character. But when locals sought to nominate a number of the threatened trees as heritage trees — those having historic or community significance, which



When are trees a heritage, and when are they just a bunch of big plants?

cannot therefore be readily removed — they included four on the private property where the Torrey Crest development is proposed.

“I hope that the ability to weigh this application as a grouping of trees will be

confirmed,” said Jennifer Hewitson in comments to the city. “That is an important part of the nomination... We call this the Melba Forest for a reason.” Unfortunately for Hewitson, heritage nominations aren’t allowed for trees on private property unless the owner agrees — and the Torrey Pacific Corporation objected to the nomination of any of the trees on their land. Further, they said the granting of heritage status to several off-site trees could adversely impact their project. (Being in the public right of way makes protection far easier, due to an ordinance passed in 2017 that protects and regulates city trees, allowing some to be designated as heritage trees.) They also disputed whether some of the trees are city-owned.

In August, a Monterey Cypress near the

southwest corner of 1250 Melba Road did make it onto the city’s list of heritage trees. It was designated for two reasons, though only one was required: it was among the oldest and largest of its species in Encinitas, and also one of just 24 of its kind left in the city. Another application to nominate nine more

outstanding feature.

Neighbors said their research showed that the road’s canopy has existed since the late ’20s. “We want to honor the historic tree-lined state of this road, and the surviving trees, regardless of the varying ages and who planted them,” said Hewitson. But while the Urban Forest Advisory Committee, which reviewed the application in September, found the trees worthy of nomination, it granted that they don’t meet the criteria “with the way the current city ordinance is written.”

Committee Chair Jenne recommended the city’s heritage tree ordinance be updated to consider groups of trees, and encouraged submitting the application “if and when the ordinance is amended.” Although the individual Melba trees don’t meet heritage status, the committee agreed that as a group, “they likely meet the criteria of being a defining feature of a neighborhood.”

SHEILA PELL



Buses are big. You will lose. Pay attention.

Melba trees was withdrawn from a public hearing at last week’s planning commission meeting. Included in the application by Jeryl Anne Kessler were seven towering Torrey Pines, one Monterey Cypress, and one Coast Live Oak, trees found at 1202, 1220, and 1250 Melba Road. The planning commission was recommending denial.

Aside from the four trees on private property that were ineligible because they were nominated without the owner’s consent, and the Monterey Cypress that had already received heritage status in August, the remaining four fell short for lack of evidence, staff said. Each tree had to be shown to be one of the oldest and largest of its species in Encinitas, or of unique form or species. In addition, their historic significance wasn’t reviewed by a qualified historian, and no evidence was provided to prove that each tree is a defining landmark or significant

ON THE BUS

Crash, crash, crash went the trolley

Ridership is up, but be sure to pay attention

Good news! More people are using public transportation! In August of this year, the MTS website reported that “ridership on the Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) continues to climb, exceeding five million trips a month since March 2022. The latest Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) report revealed an increase in ridership of 52 percent for the trolley and 41 percent for the bus compared to FY21.”

Granted, a big part of the increase came because San Diego County was in lockdown the year before. Ridership numbers dropped during the pandemic, and naturally increased when San Diego opened back up again. But it wasn’t all just a matter of getting back to normal: in November 2021, MTS opened the 11-mile Mid-Coast Trol-

continued on page 35



A Monterey Cypress near the southwest corner of 1250 Melba Road made it onto the city’s list of heritage trees.

Progressives progress

Carlsbad Chickasaw contributed to LA comptroller campaign

Though the future of the *LA Times* and its sister *San Diego Union-Tribune* remains clouded by the announced closing of its longtime printing plant, the *Times* and owner Patrick Soon-Shiong, along with his daughter Nika, can now boast a big political win with the election of Kenneth Mejia to the office of LA controller. “Ricci Sergienko, a co-founder of the People’s City Council, a left-wing activist group that has supported Mejia, said it has high hopes for him,” notes a lengthy November 11 *Times* account of Mejia’s lopsided victory. “The group has gained a following for its progressive outlook, and it also routinely attacks City Hall politicians and the Los Angeles Police Department on Twitter. ‘The expectation is that Kenneth is going to go in and audit LAPD and continue to do the role of educating the public,’ Sergienko said. ‘If there’s any veering away from what our expectations are, we are not going to be afraid to call it out.’”

Mejia beat LA councilman Paul Koretz by 61%-to-39%, the account says, adding: “His victory is the latest win for LA leftist activists, a powerful force in local elections who have pushed for big changes to City Hall’s approach to policing and homelessness. Some, including [Paul] Koretz, have drawn attention to Mejia’s past inflammatory remarks and actions — such as holding an oversized, photoshopped image of Hillary Clinton behind bars wearing an orange prison jumpsuit — and called Mejia’s views on issues such as policing extreme.”

Though the *Times* story didn’t mention it, Democrat Koretz, who was Mejia’s opponent, accused the paper during the race of acting “as if it were run by the Mejia campaign itself,” per a quote that



Progressive proponent Adriel Hampton: “the skills of a Silicon Valley entrepreneur and the heart of a Berkeley activist.”

appeared in a September 18 dispatch by *Politico* highlighting Nika Soon-Shiong’s alleged influence over *Times* news and editorial stances. “People are just scratching their heads about their editorial board and how they can come to these decisions,” Koretz went on to tell *Politico*. “I have never seen an election where the newspaper is the story.” The account continued, “Though Nika Soon-Shiong in recent weeks publicly announced plans to leave Los Angeles to pursue a doctorate at Oxford University, questions persist over where the line should be drawn — if at all — between the Soon-Shiong family’s interests and the editorial product of the *Times*.”

Per the *Times* story, Mejia’s election is “especially a big milestone for Filipino Americans, the city’s largest Asian American community, who are also celebrating Atty. Gen. Rob Bonta’s election. Bonta was appointed in 2021 by Gov. Gavin Newsom and ran for his first full term in office this year.”

A few San Diego County residents contributed to Mejia’s campaign, notably Adriel Hampton of Carlsbad, with \$500 on October 27. Hampton runs a digital advertising agency “dedicated to supporting progressive causes,” according to his Wikipedia profile. “Adriel (he/him) has the skills of a Silicon Valley entrepreneur and the heart of a Berkeley activist,” reads Hampton’s profile on the company’s website. “He’s been a popular speaker and podcaster on ‘Gov 2.0,’ a pizza delivery man, a roofer, and still considers himself first a writer. Adriel has helped hundreds of campaigns with their technology needs, co-founded one of the left’s most popular Facebook pages, and has written more than a hundred thousand tweets. Adriel is a citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and an unofficial write-in candidate for Carlsbad Mayor.”

Matt Potter

UNDER THE RADAR

Tale of two papers News that the *LA Times* will be shuttering its Olympic Boulevard printing plant in a little over a year has triggered an avalanche of Angeleno angst, per a November 12 account by *Times* letters editor **Paul Thornton**. “More than a few journalists noticed pop star **Katy Perry**’s tweet last week saying one of her ‘favorite sounds ever is the sound of a crisp new newspaper being read over breakfast for an hour or so.’ Judging by readers’ approving reaction to a short letter on Monday imploring *The Times* to

keep printing newspapers long into the future, Perry is far from alone,” wrote Thornton. “The letter was reacting to news that *The Times* would leave its longtime printing plant south of downtown Los Angeles in 2024. The writer found this news concerning: ‘It was unclear in the article about the print plant shutting down as to whether you still will deliver a print version....Please keep the print paper coming. I would rather pay more than lose what has become an important part of my morning. Digital will not suffice for me.’ When this letter was published, I thought it would be a quick, one-off reaction. I was wrong — and I must admit, pleasantly so. Since Monday, many more readers have written to us expressing their appreciation for the print newspaper.”

Headlined “Opinion: Long live printed newspapers. Digital won’t work for these readers,” the story featured a torrent of pro-print pleas, including that of Ventura’s Regina Barnes. “I wholeheartedly agree with the letter writer who asked that the *LA Times* keep providing a print version of the paper. I abhor the digital version. The feel of the paper, turning the pages, focusing on each headline, brings such comfort. I, too, would be willing to pay more for the print version, which I think I do anyway. Please keep in mind that there are people who love the print version and would be heartsick if it was discontinued.” Wrote Linda Cooper of Studio City: “It’s not just because I’m set in my ways, but I feel that the printed version of a newspaper is much more interesting, enticing, and educational. The loss of the paper every morning would leave a huge deficit in my day.” Eileen Barish of Santa Monica opined: “Reading the news digitally takes away the contentment I feel holding the paper in my hand. I like the feel of the paper. I like turning the pages from article to article. Reading the news digitally feels like work, not pleasure. I am not sure if closing the print plant will affect the delivery of papers, but I, for one, vote to keep the print paper for subscribers. I’d be happy to pay more if that’s what it would take to keep receiving my paper every morning.”

Besides the *Times*, the doomed Los Angeles plant produces the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and a raft of county weeklies, also owned by *Times* owner **Patrick Soon-Shiong**. But displays of newspaper affection have gone uncelebrated by the *U-T*. Instead, *U-T* scribes and editor **Jeff Light** have been actively promoting the end of daily print in San Diego, leading to predictions that Soon-Shiong’s hometown *Times* will continue life on paper while the *U-T* won’t. “Many readers understood that a seven-



Katy Perry loves the sound of newsprint in the morning.

day-a-week printed newspaper will eventually end (but that is years away), given changing reader demographics and the expense of printing and delivery,” offered *U-T* Readers Representative **Adrian Vore** in a July 12 write-up before the Olympic plant closure was announced. “Several subscribers said they have already switched to the e-edition — and like it more than print.”

Jen’s Sempra romance San Diego City council Sempra-friendly Democrat **Jen Campbell**, who beat her Republican challenger **Linda Lukacs** despite the endorsement of Lukacs by the circulation-challenged *Union-Tribune*, collected plenty of big GOP and lobbyist money during the closing days of the campaign, disclosure records show. **Colton Sudberry**, president of Sudberry Properties — founded by his father, Republican heavy hitter and Mission Valley developer **Tom Sudberry** — kicked in \$650 on October 24. The next day, influence peddler **Adrian Kwiatkowski** gave \$650, and on October 31, lobbyist **Jim Bartell** gave the same. They are affiliated with Bartell & Kwiatkowski, LLC. On



Sempra semper fit? Jen Campbell sure hopes so!

October 28, Republican lobbyist **Ben Haddad** of California Strategies came up with \$325. Haddad’s associate at the firm, **Marshall Anderson**, gave \$650 on October 31. Builder **Jim Drogin** gave \$650 on November 2. \$200 each from Sempra Energy-related sources came on November 2 through SDG&E chairman and CEO **Bruce Folkmann**, SDG&E Vice President of Climate and Wildfire **Brian Dagostino**, and SDG&E accountant

Valerie Bille. Beyond the last-minute appearance of staff cash to Campbell’s campaign, Sempra played a key role in her ultimate November victory by financing hit pieces against Campbell’s June primary opponent, fellow Democrat **Lori Saldana**, who lost narrowly to Lukacs for second place. In late 2021, records show, Sempra gave \$2500 to a so-called independent committee called New San Diego, which dispatched hit pieces attacking Saldana, a former state

continued on page 4



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U.S. NAVY PUBLIC NOTICE Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Encroachments Along Miramar Pipeline at Naval Base Point Loma (Clairemont Mesa Area)

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the U.S. Navy has prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts associated with the realignment of two segments of the Navy's existing Miramar fuel pipeline in the Clairemont Mesa area of San Diego. The realignment would address two areas of the pipeline easement that have been encroached upon and have inspection, maintenance, and repair access issues that can affect operations. Current fueling operations do not pose a risk to public or environmental safety.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT:

Based on the analysis presented in the EA, the Navy has determined that implementation of its Preferred Alternative, Alternative 4, would not significantly impact the quality of the human or natural environment or generate significant controversy within the Clairemont Mesa community in the areas of the two encroachments. As a result, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

The Final EA and Finding of No Significant Impact documents can be downloaded from the project website at www.cnmc.navy.mil/NBPLMiramarPipeline. Printed copies of the documents are also available at the Balboa, Clairemont, or North Clairemont public libraries, or upon request by contacting: Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Southwest
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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.

Newbreak Coffee not roasters

This is regarding the letter published in your newspaper under the heading “Homeless Bootcamp at Ocean Beach,” Nov. 3.

A few corrections that your writer and readers should know: The name of my coffee shop is Newbreak Coffee and Cafe established in 1993 and the Abbott location since 1999. We are NOT Roasters.

Our large coffee at this time is \$2.95, the same as Starbucks. My current staff and I never heard of the song “Illegal Woman.” I am not a Latina; what difference does nationality make? I am Palestinian.

The painted eyelashes and “How are you?” are now offensive? Maybe if your writer is so concerned about the houseless situation he or she should address it with the local politicians rather than the business owners. Have a good day.

Norma Slaman
Ocean Beach

Pastor Karla on hell

I'd like to comment on the Sheep and Goats interview concerning St. Mark's Lutheran Church (*Reader* website, Oct. 14). In reading the church and denomination websites, I discovered that they undermine the authority of Scripture to embrace the unbiblical philosophies of men.

Pastor Karla seems to have some difficulty with hell, which Jesus spoke about extensively. God's justice and holiness require that we all be punished for our rebellion and wrongs (sins) in thought, words, and deeds against God.

The Lutheran Book of Concord-based upon God's inerrant Word states, “the punishment and penalty of original

sin which God has imposed upon children of Adam....are death, eternal damnation and also bodily and spiritual, temporal and eternal miseries...”

But the good news is Jesus took the punishment for our sins on the cross. As Romans 6:23 tells us, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” So, we must repent, trust, believe, and follow Jesus.

Mark A. Peter
Solana Beach

Decade delay on collab query

I really liked the article about the 3D version of the band's “Insects” music video. (Local 3D film production company helms Osaka Popstar video, September 2012) and I think it would be cool for us to collaborate.

Let me know what you think.

Regards, Rytis

Schad fan finds peer

Kudos to Ryan Brothers for his great article “ROAM” about his trek to Lawson Peak. (“Two hikers on the ascent to Lawson Peak and two on the way down,” Nov. 10)

I would surely take this hike if years hadn't taken a toll on the knees. But then this piece really takes you there step for step. I have, in the past, taken many “hikes” that were put to this forum by Jerry Schad — RIP. I hope to see many more articles like this here by Mr. Ryan.

Randall Mattes
OSide

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Assemblywoman, for junketing at lobbyists' expense. Other New San Diego donors included Had-dad of California Strategies and **Craig Benedetto** of the same firm, each with \$1250.

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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

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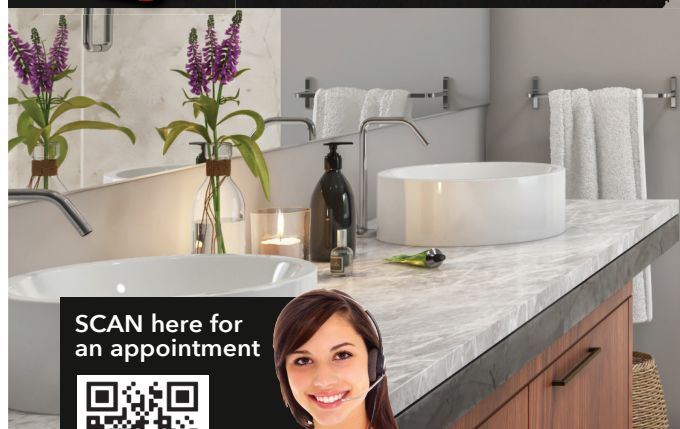
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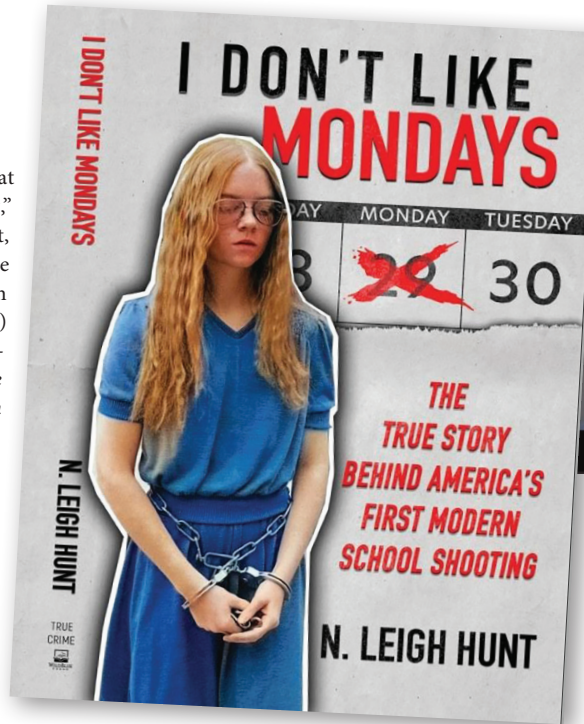
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The Grover Cleveland school shooting, revisited

I.

"Everyone around San Diego at that time has a memory of the shooting," Nicholas Leigh Hunt tells me. Hunt, to whom I spoke remotely at his home in Buckinghamshire, grew up in San Diego ("paradise for British people") and is the author of the recently published *I Don't Like Mondays: The True Story Behind America's First Modern School Shooting*. He says "it was the first time anything like this had happened, especially in a small town. San Diego was a small town then — it was a shock."

The bullets Brenda Spencer fired at Grover Cleveland Elementary killed two adults at the school, wounded eight children and a police officer, and left psychological scars on countless others. "Since the moment she picked up a rifle," says Hunt, "America has had a phenomenon of school shootings — so many, so often, that it's not considered that unusual when you read about them in the newspaper." To approach this story, then, is to approach the beginning of those intermittent horrors that punctuate our news cycle — most



the phone. She seems to have stopped her shooting in order to answer the call.

The Cleveland Elementary tragedy began Hunt's "lifelong obsession" with true crime, an obsession he has pursued avocationally, but with passion and consistency, while laboring in other fields. (He worked in radio in San

"Since the moment she picked up a rifle, America has had a phenomenon of school shootings."

recently in Uvalde, Texas.

As a 10 year-old child, Hunt not only heard and saw what was on the news, but also got perspective from his father, Bernard Hunt, then Assistant City Editor for the *Tribune*, who told him that people in the newspaper office had spoken directly to the killer over

Francisco, owned a few bars in London, and now works in IT for the railway.) He has spent much of his research time on a different sort of crime material: "I studied serial killers and the geography of dump sites. I know this sounds creepy, but I toured all around the United States and a lot of Britain, looking



Nicholas Leigh Hunt, true crime writer and former San Diegan.



Brenda Spencer, then and now.

at places where criminals would dump their victims".

He didn't really want "to go the school shooting route as a writer," he says, but when he was about 50 years old, he said to himself, "No one's really written a book about Brenda, or about why she did it or what she did, and it had a real impact on my life and family". His daughter was turning 16, the age that Spencer was at the time of her shooting, which added an element of vividness for him when considering the young shooter. Hunt wrote to Spencer as he was beginning the project, and she wrote back. "We struck up a — I wouldn't say a friendship — but we do communicate every few weeks by email." She talks to him about Top Ramen and the commissary, balloons and animals and aspects of her life in prison. After the book came out and he sent her a copy, she told him that the only thing he got wrong was the location of the bedrooms in her house.

He felt good about that, and he also felt good when all of the police officers he spoke to validated the accuracy of his account. That mattered to Hunt, especially when dealing with an event that has had many legendary accretions and much gossip attached to it. He says they told him, "Good job Nick; you've told it as it is."

II.

Given its subject, no reader would be surprised to find *I Don't Like Mondays* disturbing. I certainly did. But for me, the disturbance arose in some unexpected ways. As Hunt's account progresses from the shooting and rescue efforts, to the arrest, to the aftermath and legal dimensions of the case, I found myself struck along the way by the misery of the stories adjacent to Spencer's. How she was not the first adolescent killer in her neighborhood at the time, and also not the first killer in the '70s named Brenda Spencer. How her path crossed those of other murderous women infamous in California history (Betty Broderick and members of the Manson family). The

nauseating trajectory of her father's relationship with her former juvenile hall cellmate. The numbing array of bad decisions, divorces, drugs, and deaths that popped up throughout the story all around the main narrative.

After the crime, there are the expectable but still unsavory dimensions of a "trial by media" and the notoriety that comes with it. That notoriety led to, and then kept growing with, the Boomtown Rats' song "I Don't Like Mondays," which by now may be more famous than the story that inspired it. Then there's the panoply of proposed psychological and neurological causes that wind up casting

little light on the crime. Considerations of epilepsy, schizoaffective disorder and other psychiatric diagnoses, drugs, abuse, neglect, mysterious biorhythms, and Alice Cooper were not, for me, ultimately illuminating.

And the psychological material is only part of what remains opaque in the story.



Memorial at the site of the Cleveland school shooting.

(The opaqueness is not Hunt's fault; he tries to be both thorough and clear in his account. It's just the way this is.) Spencer, "an empty shell all her life," according to her own lawyer, feels impossible to grasp as a character in this tragedy. She also does not seem clear or consistent herself about her motives, about which she has spoken in various ways at various times. Beyond that, she even seems at one point to have a badly distorted sense of what actually happened in the shooting. Years after the event, she proposed a conspiratorial version of the event that put the blame for some of the bullets that struck the victims on the police.

Perhaps most disturbing of all, there is the sad truth that, in Hunt's words, "we are no closer to understanding why she did it" 43 years after the fact. ■

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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

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Del Mar was a stand-out luxury outpost even before the *hoi polloi*



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were effectively priced out of virtually every SoCal beach town, and it remains one of the most exclusive — and expensive — addresses along

the coast. So it's maybe a surprise to find that it's been nearly six months since we've stopped in to gawk at a local seaside mansion. Let's rectify

that now.

Built in 1995, the 4600-square-foot residence at 117 6th Street boasts "over 160 feet of ocean frontage on

an extra wide lot with breathtaking 180 degree views from La Jolla to San Clemente," according to the opening salvo from Zillow's listing remarks, making for "the ultimate indoor/outdoor lifestyle." We're then told that the "award winning property has been recognized for its noteworthy craftsmanship and use of material," though we're not told by whom. I think we should take a look and see if we can recognize it for ourselves.

The first photo on our tour shows primarily water and sky. A swimming pool (which, along with its jacuzzi, is said to wrap around a detached office and/or guest bedroom) runs along a patio to a glass wall. There are a few plants on the other side of that wall, but after that, we've got a clear

view of the Pacific running to the edge of the earth, with the sun just beginning its nightly dive into the sea. There are certainly worse ways to start off a tour.

Our next shots are of a dining room, which is separated by a dual-sided fireplace from a living area. There are of course plenty of west-facing windows, and some of the contrasting materials on the walls — along with the fireplace and what the listing calls "a copper-clad arch" that "rests partly inside and partly outside of this special home" — do a lot to break up the space and avoid the monotony of design I sometimes complain about with newer homes. But because this home is 27 years old, instead of walls of glass

continued on page 15

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Ways of Escape



Mike Simpson remembers the shooting at Grover Cleveland Elementary School with his wife, Cristin.

Mike Simpson,
the Cleveland
School Shooting,
and the possibility of
Brenda Spencer's parole

Simpson surveys surroundings

It takes Mike Simpson 25 steps to reach his parked car from the emergency exit at work. Once in the car, he can maneuver his way out of the parking lot, around the bend and onto Fletcher Parkway in 13 seconds flat. He knows. He has counted the steps, timed the drive. Simpson is perpetually aware of his surroundings, in no small part because he is one of the oldest student witnesses to the first elementary school shooting in American history.

He was nine years old when he saw his classmates at Grover Cleveland Elementary School being pelted with bullets on January 29th of 1979 in the sleepy neighborhood of San Carlos, situated on the eastern edge of San Diego. The shots rang out

just before 8:30 am; the shooter was a 16-year-old girl equipped with a .52 rifle named Brenda Spencer, who lived in a run-down house directly across the street. From her vantage point, she had a clear shot at the kids who were waiting outside for the morning bell to ring. In total, she shot 36 rounds into the schoolyard. Simpson was directly in the line of fire.

Today, he says, “When we go out to eat, I need to see the front door. I have to have a visual on it. I always know how I will escape if I need to.” We are sitting in the dining room of his home in El Cajon. His wife Cristin is seated next to him. She nods her head and says, “He always backs into parking spots.”

“Cristin always asks, ‘Why do you back into spots?’ Well, it takes you longer to back out.”

Family photographs adorn the walls behind him. Mostly, they’re of his two sons, plus a few of him and his wife, smiling for the camera. The pair were high school sweethearts; both attended Patrick Henry High School. Mike is now in his early fifties. He wears a ball cap over his brown hair. He has pale blue eyes and an athletic build. He is gruff and a little bit persnickety.

Simpson has attempted to put that day in 1979 behind him, to keep the memories tucked away. Even so, he says, “It’s so clear in my mind, like it happened yesterday” — the sway of the branches on the tree in front of the school, the blur of his schoolmates as they ran, the terrible sound of the gunshots. There are tears in his eyes as he recounts this. It may be that the memories and emotions are fresher



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATTHEW SUÁREZ

Ted Kasinak was not trained in how to respond to school shootings. Looking back, he wonders if that may have worked to his advantage.

than normal, because the shooter, Brenda Spencer, has a parole hearing in two days, on August 18.

The morning of the shooting was typical, until it wasn’t. Young Simpson walked the short four blocks to school with his neighbor friends. The

older kids, the fourth and fifth graders, always met out front near the flagpole to run around and goof off until school started. That day was no different. Simpson headed for the front of the school while his little sister ran to the kindergarten playground around back.

“I heard a pop,” he recalls, “and I thought, *Someone brought firecrackers to school!*” For a moment, the idea was exciting, but then Simpson looked over his shoulder and saw fellow fourth grader Cam Miller lying on the ground. What fol-

lowed was a hectic and confusing several minutes wherein Simpson’s nine-year-old brain attempted to process the unfolding scene. “I could hear Cam groaning. He was saying, ‘Oh, my stomach!’ I was standing next to Crystal [Hardy], and she started really crying. She was holding her wrist, and I saw blood. Then, I felt a bullet go by my head. I turned around and I saw all these kids running. It was kind of chaotic.”

Simpson ran too, but in the opposite direction, towards the school office. There was a brick

wall about 20 feet away. If he could get behind that, he thought, he would be shielded from the gunfire. He ran past a window, “and it went *clink*. I looked up and the window had a bullet hole in it, and was cracked.” When he reached the wall, he took cover and scanned the front of the school, trying to figure out where the shots were coming from. “I kept looking out because I was scared. I saw the principal come out of the office and run towards the kids that were still on the ground. I saw him take a bullet. I watched him get shot. I was freaking out. There were a lot of emotions. I was really scared.”

Simpson doesn’t know how long he remained behind that brick wall. It could have been minutes or hours. Time froze. It seemed like a lifetime. When the bullets finally stopped and the campus was still, he put his head between his legs and sobbed. Not long after, a policeman spotted him, motioned for him to stay down, then scooped him up and ran him through the kindergarten playground and into the auditorium, where all the

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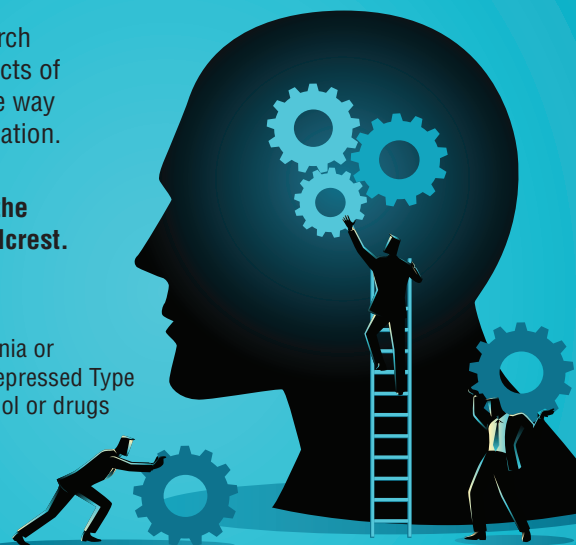
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other kids had been barricaded inside for safety.

Two people were killed that day: school principal Burton Wragg and the school custodian Michael Suchar, both of whom were bravely attempting to rescue children from the scene. In addition, eight students were injured, and police officer Robert Robb was shot in the neck. Because of his injury, Robb spent the rest of his career on light desk duty. Simpson tries not to get choked up as he remembers Principal Wragg. "He was awesome. He talked baseball with me all the time. All the time! I don't even know if he was a big baseball fan, but he knew I was."

Over the years, he has often wondered about the officer who rushed him to safety that day. "I have tried to figure out who he was, but I never have. I'd love to know, just to say thank you." His voice is thick with emotion.

Cop drives trash truck

Retired police officer Ted Kasinak is certain he was not the one who grabbed Simpson. He would've remembered. He was, however, the officer who

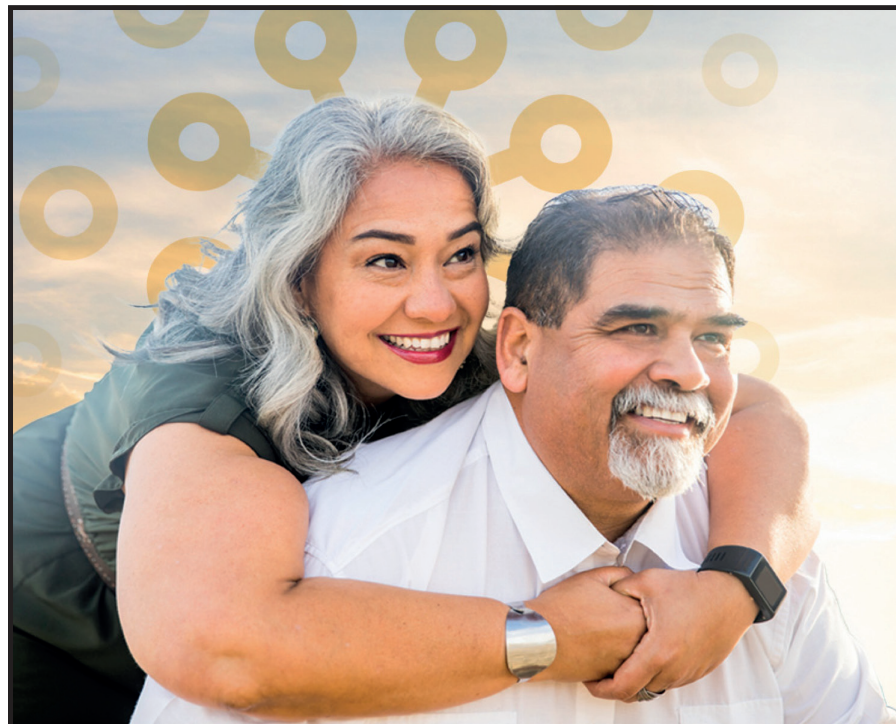
managed to block Brenda Spencer's bullets by parking a garbage truck in front of her line of fire. Like Simpson, Kasinak's first thought upon hearing of the event was that it was a firecracker. "When the call came in, I thought, *That has to be an error*. But as more reports came in, I realized it was a little more serious."

School shootings were rarer in those days; Kasinak was not trained in how to respond. Looking back, he wonders if that may have worked to his advantage. "When I first got there, I came up on the backside of Lake Arrowhead Drive. As soon as I got out of the car, I could hear gunshots. That's when I heard on the radio, 'We are getting shot at! We need cover now.'" He got back in his squad car and drove around to the other side of the school. "As soon as I got around the corner, a big sanitation trash truck came pulling up. I stopped him, because I didn't want him to keep driving towards the school. Then I thought, *This is a lot bigger than the size of a police car*. I had a little Ford Torino. So I got in the driver's seat

and tried to figure it out. I pushed a yellow button, and it released the brakes. I started driving [back to the school]."

An oversized RV was parked near the school's one-way entrance; Kasinak narrowly avoided it. He could hear gunfire, and he could make out the shapes of bodies lying on the ground in front of the school. He steered the trash truck across the lot and stopped such that "the trash truck basically shielded that whole front part of the school from the bullets. I got out and started getting the custodian and the principal out of there. We got gurneys in to get them loaded up to go to the hospital. Unfortunately, the principal had already died. The custodian was still alive, but he passed away either at the hospital or on the way. As far as the kids, a lot of the kids got transferred out of there somewhere between me getting there or shortly after. Officer Robert Robb didn't even know he had been shot in the neck until he was at the hospital and noticed blood on his collar."

Kasinak recalls shaking his head in disbelief when



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he discovered who was responsible for that day's tragic events. "You are talking about a girl who was only about five foot tall and 100 pounds soaking wet. It was amazing to me when I saw who it was doing the shooting. I just thought, *Wow, she is just a kid!* It was shocking." When hostage negotiators managed to convince Spencer to surrender at around 2:30 pm, Kasinak remembers, "One of my captains said, 'Take her down to homicide with Patty [Bernathy]'. So we put her in the backseat. I had my rearview mirror up. It was kind of a spooky feeling looking back at her. She didn't say one word, just glared at that rearview the whole ride down there. I just remember seeing her long red hair, that blue ski hat, and those avatar sunglasses and thinking, *She is such a young gal, why would she do something like that?*"

When asked how he feels about Brenda Spencer's possible parole, Kasinak is diplomatic, "I don't know," he shrugs. "I know she claimed to be under the influence that day. I don't know if she ever claimed to be remorseful. Would she be safe coming out? I don't know. When you see people getting paroled like that, I just wonder, have they really learned? Will they re-offend? I kind of worry about that. She has been in prison all this time. Was she getting proper treatment?"

Shot kids, strong feelings

Back in Mike Simpson's dining room, I am hesitant to mention Brenda Spencer at all. But her upcoming parole hearing is why I'm here talking to him, why I'm asking him to remember. His face twists into a gri-

mace over the idea of her release. He says, "Nothing will surprise me anymore, with the way our country is! But it will be hugely detrimental to all victims of school shootings if they allow her to be free. It will be a slap in the face to anybody that has experienced that. I will be angry!"

Cristin lets out a heavy sigh and says, matter-of-factly, "In your lifetime, she'll probably get out."

Simpson fumes, and shouts "Why? She was given 25 years to LIFE!" Two terms of 25 years to life, in fact.

Cristin remains calm and adds, with a shake of her head, "Because she served her time."

Simpson shakes his head in disgust before adding, "I don't care how old she is. She better not come around here."

His anger is understandable. He remembers what it was like entering the school auditorium that day. The kids who had been shot were all in there. He saw Cam Miller on a gurney and Crystal Hardy with her arm wrapped up. He remembers many kids acting like it was just a normal day, incapable of fully grasping the severity and danger of their situation. Simpson also vividly recalls being led with the other kids outside and across the schoolyard. "We had to walk what seemed like a mile to get to the buses that were on the backside of the street. We walked up the playground and down the backside, way far — I mean, our playground was huge! At least when I was in elementary school, I thought that. It seemed like a mile to get to the buses to take us to Pershing [Middle School]." Once they were all on the buses,

the teachers sang songs to calm the kids as they left campus.

Mary Clark was on the bus with Simpson. He remembers how she was slumped over in her seat. "At this point, she had not told anyone she was shot. I think she was in shock. I don't think she knew. When we got to Pershing, and started getting off the bus, that is when Mary was like, 'My stomach hurts.' She lifted up her jacket and she was bleeding. I just remember all the kids peering down, looking over their seats at her. They rushed her to the hospital."

When the school opened back up weeks later, parents and kids gathered to walk there together. "It was like we were in parade walking there," Simpson recalls. "There was a memorial—flowers and candles by the flagpole. The flag was flying at half-mast. I remember that. That was the first time I learned what that meant. I was like, 'Why is the flag only halfway up?' I used to be one of the kids that put the flag up in the morning, so I was like, 'Ugh, I gotta fix that!' I had no idea."

Not much to hear at the hearing

Brenda Spencer's August 18 parole hearing is virtual. There are only a handful of attendees. Among them, only one victim, Cam Miller. When his face appears on my computer screen in its tiny box, I picture him the way Mike described him, as a little boy running around the flagpole at Grover Cleveland elementary. Miller has gray hair now. He wears a crisp white button-down shirt with a scarlet tie.

Parole commissioner David Ndudim, who is




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overseeing the hearing, instructs everyone on the call to state their full names and occupations for Spencer before commencing the meeting. Spencer nods after each introduction. She is sitting in a wheelchair in a brightly lit room at The California Institute for Women in Chino. Only half her body is visible. The prison's computer camera is situated so that her left side is cut off from view. Her red hair looks dull under the harsh fluorescent lighting. Her face is round and ruddy. She wears prison blues and eyeglasses. Her mouth and nose are covered by a white surgical mask. She speaks when spoken to, and offers only short responses. Her body language does not give away any emotion; I cannot tell if she is scared or remorseful.

Now 58, Spencer was recently inducted into the Golden Girls, a perk program given to older prisoners. As a result, she has a front-line pass for meals and medications. She is now allotted two pillows, three blankets, two mattresses, and the coveted bottom bunk spot. I wonder if, like



A plaque in memory of principal Burton Wragg and custodian Mike Suchar stands at the former school site.

Mike Simpson, she knows how many steps it takes to exit the dining hall and get back to her cell if shit goes down.

Commissioner Ndudim asks Brenda a series of basic questions, questions I imagine are asked during every parole hearing. Brenda answers each one, her tone steady and self-assured. When Commissioner Ndudim is done addressing Brenda, he

addresses Spencer's lawyer, saying, "Counselor, you indicated that your client would like to make a request to the panel this morning. Proceed."

Spencer's lawyer responds: "Yes, we are requesting a three-year stipulation so that my client may continue to develop and firm up parole plans and be prepared for the hearing."

Ndudim addresses

Spencer formally, asking: "Ms. Spencer, your attorney has made the request and communicated that you want to have a three-year stipulation. Is that correct?"

Spencer nods and politely answers: "Yes, it is, sir."

Ndudim: "Do you, Miss Spencer, understand that you do have a right to a hearing today?"

Spencer: "Yes."

Ndudim: "You understand that you are giving up that right?"

Spencer: "Yes"

And with that, the hearing recesses while they discuss the stay. I remain on the call. Brenda and her lawyer's cameras remain on. That's when I get a tiny glimpse of Brenda's personality. Her lawyer is sitting in what appears to be a home office. Behind her is a cage with a colorful bird inside. The lawyer motions toward her bird and mentions that normally, under different circumstances, the bird would be out of its cage. This seems

like a twisted metaphor.

"It would've said hello to you," the lawyer says with a bright smile.

Even though there is a mask over her face, I can tell by the soft wrinkles around Spencer's eyes that she is smiling, too. She lets out a small child-like laugh and her body relaxes. But it's only for a second, because then her lawyer announces, "Oh, they are back." Brenda stiffens and looks into the camera while the hearing proceeds.

Commissioner Ndudim announces, "The panel does accept the stipulation for three years. You do understand that you do have a right to a hearing today, correct?"

Spencer's tone is even when she responds, "Correct."

Ndudim asks: "You are making this request freely?"

Spencer: "Yes."

Ndudim adds, "Mr. Miller, do you want to make a victim impact statement, or wait until the next panel?"

Miller looks at the camera and says, "I will wait, sir."

With that, the hearing is adjourned. Brenda Spencer will get another chance for freedom in three years.

Then and now

When I ask Ted Kasinak if he thinks modern training and updated equipment would've made a difference on that day back in 1979, he shakes his head. "I went into SWAT shortly after the incident. What I learned on SWAT was, a lot of times you just have to improvise. If you get into a situation of this kind — I mean, who would have known that that trash truck would come along? Regardless, I would have tried to help one way or another, but seeing that truck, I just thought, *What could be better?* It was the perfect cover. Those are the things you have to do. I mean, when you look at other shootings — things happen so quick. A lot of times, you aren't there right on time. It's trying to get in there and do what you can as fast as you can."

Kasinak tries not to get bogged down by reading up on all the recent school shootings. "Coming from SWAT, I have seen things; it has affected me to some extent, but I try not take it home and have it bury me. But in the back of your mind, it's always there. Throughout the years, I worried about school shootings. I had two boys. I never wanted to see that happen to them. This one that happened in Texas was really sad. I don't want to Monday morning quarterback, because I wasn't there, but the things I have heard and seen on that shooting — my God, I can't imagine! Officers

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lined up in the hallways and no one is moving. Meanwhile, you've got shots being fired down in the classroom. There were a lot of things that probably should've been done. I just kind of shake my head. You ask any officer, and they are thinking, 'You didn't go in and at least do something?' They could have tried many different tactics. At least try! It was disappointing to see coming from law enforcement."

Mike Simpson was also shocked by Uvalde. "I don't get triggered by school shootings, but I do get sad. This last one, Uvalde, I indulged myself too far into it. I got really angry. When I found out what the police did not do, I was enraged! I cannot imagine standing around for 45 minutes doing absolutely nothing, watching and knowing kids are dying!

I legitimately cannot fathom how any human being with a heartbeat could've let that happen. That infuriated me to no end because I can visualize it; I have been there. How can somebody that is a sworn officer allow something like that to happen!"

Cristin Simpson is a teacher, and their oldest son, Tyler, is in the process of becoming a police officer. Simpson worries about them both. "I went to Cristin's classroom last week to check it out. I'll tell you this, she will not be able to go out of a window! There are only two ways out of her classroom, one door on one side and a door on the other side. There is a fire extinguisher by one door but not the other door. The windows are very high, so she can duck down and be safe, but they can't get out. They are sitting ducks

in there."

Adds Cristin, "It's stressful, because now, not only am I responsible for teaching, I am expected to take a bullet for my students. And, they want to give me a gun. That is even funnier!"

Without skipping a beat, Simpson says, "I think she should have a gun, and I think she needs to go shoot a gun."

Cristin shakes her head over the thought as Simpson continues, "I have always been apprehensive about guns. I was never excited about my kids playing with guns when they were little. They had nerf guns, that's it. But a buddy of mine recently took me shooting up at Palomar Mountain. I felt the power you feel when holding a gun. It was empowering! I was always afraid of guns, but now I am not afraid."

— Siobhan Braun



Because nothing says "cozy sleeping space" like a long stone bench! Nice views, though.

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 7

that completely retract and disappear, we've got to settle for an older design, in which plates of glass simply pivot on an axis to open the home to the outside, one three- or four-foot section at a time. How old-fashioned. Still, once the plates are pivoted, you still get excellent airflow, which is a real consolation.

Now we're headed to a bedroom that features plenty of windows and its own patio door, but is outfitted with a ceiling fan that looks far too small to be useful in a space this large. There's also an imposing stone bench that protrudes from two of the walls, taking up space where I might put a dresser and looking too much like, well, a stone bench to make me want to sit down and relax. The listing says there are three en-suite bedrooms upstairs in addition to the main suite, but it looks like we're still on the lower level, so maybe this is just a guest room. Once we get upstairs, we

see some bedroom shots that look similar to — if not as large as — the first. One of them boasts a chunk of that copper arch running through the wall, rising up from where it disappeared into the vaulted ceiling of the living room.

We then head back outside and get a different view of the pool, such that we can see it partially surrounding the detached room we were told about earlier. This would certainly lend the occupants of that room a unique feeling, as if they're surrounded by a moat. But I can't see how the pool is very practical for recreational purposes. Moving on: some backyard shots show us a grassy lawn flanked by meticulously-maintained flower and succulent gardens, along with a pair of towering palms. We see the yard first at night, then during the day, then at night again, but this time with at least a hundred lights ablaze.

And now we're done. That seemed to go fast: we never saw the "spectacular entry with soaring ceilings and doors," and we don't

see a single bathroom, or even get to peek at the kitchen. One of the first things we're told as young agents is how important the bathrooms and kitchen are to selling a home, so this omission is particularly confusing to me. Are these spaces just horribly outdated, even though the rest of the home seems very well-kept? Is there flooding or a fire going on? The choice to only use two dozen photos when listing services today will allow many more is a bit concerning.

Anyway, the listing also notes that the home includes a two-car garage and a massive solar system with not one but two backup batteries, and that it's close to Del Mar's ritzy entertainment district. Public records list a Mercaldo family trust as the current owner; patriarch Edward was an investment banker who passed away in 2013. The 6th Street property was first listed in mid-August and briefly went offline before being offered again in mid-November. The original asking price of \$19,950,000 has been reduced to \$16,900,000. ■



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Thursday | 24

O'SIDE TURKEY TROT

Traverse five-mile and 5K courses along over two miles of ocean views, with a finish line near the Oceanside Pier. Free digital photos, medals, shirts, and live results to all registered participants. Thanksgiving-themed costume contest, live course entertainment, commemorative T-shirts, and finisher medals for all participants. This annual event has raised over \$420,000 for non-profits serving O'side residents.

WHEN: Thursday, November 24, 7 am to 11:30 am

WHERE: Oceanside Civic Center, 300 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. osideturkeytrot.com

SD JAZZFEST AND SWING EXTRAVAGANZA

Traditional jazz and swing bands will

WHEN: Wednesday, November 23 through Sunday, November 27

WHERE: Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley, sdjazzfest.org

Friday | 25

THANKSGIVING TURKEY FEAST FOR BEASTS

Watch rescued big cats and bears enjoy their Thanksgiving feast. While you're here, visit 93 acres on the edge of the Cleveland National Forest, located on what was once a stage coach stop. Check out the still-standing historical adobe structure. And maybe take the two-hour guided visit of the sanctuary to learn about rescued lions, tigers, bears, bobcats, leopards, African servals, and mountain lions. Finally, help keepers feed a lion, tiger, or bear of your choice, all while learning about their rescue stories.

WHEN: Friday, November 25 and Saturday November 26, 10 am

WHERE: Lions Tigers & Bears Big Cat Rescue, 24402 Martin Way, Alpine. lionstigersandbears.org

Saturday | 26

JULIAN COUNTRY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

This year, the country Christmas tree



FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25: THANKSGIVING TURKEY FEAST FOR BEASTS

lighting will feature music, a Christmas market, and holiday performances throughout the afternoon. Santa will arrive and greet the kids. VIP tickets

include reserved seating under tent, hot chocolate, charcuterie snack box, and a Julian gift bag.

WHEN:

Saturday, November 26, 12 pm

WHERE:

Julian Town Square. 2712 Washington Street, Julian. visitjulian.com



Sunday | 27

EBENEZER SCROOGE'S BIG SAN DIEGO CHRISTMAS SHOW

All the traditional elements of Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* are intact— including the ghosts of Christmases Past, Present, and Future— but with a local twist. All ages will can enjoy this retelling set in “wintery” San Diego.

WHEN: Friday, November 18 through Saturday, December 24, 2 pm and 7 pm

WHERE: The Old Globe, Sheryl & Harvey White Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way, Balboa Park. theoldglobe.org



EBENEZER SCROOGE'S BIG SAN DIEGO CHRISTMAS SHOW



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 sreader.com/events/submit.

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Yappy Hour Bring your furry friend to enjoy a special treat menu as you sip cocktails featuring Tito's Vodka. With every specialty cocktail enjoyed, \$1 will be donated to Surfers for Strays, a non-profit organization that reduces the number of stray animals in Mexico. Fridays, 4pm; through Thursday, December 1, **free**. 21 and up. Seabird, 101 Ocean Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

ART

Black Friday Performance Art Weekend A live performance art show on Black Friday, 11/25/22, 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm (only!) by internationally renowned artist Hugo Rivera. Hugo will create one of his large-scale paintings from start to finish in a mesmerizing outdoor creative performance of four hours or less. Live music and refreshments. Friday, November 25, 12pm; Saturday, November 26, 11am; Sunday, November 27, 11am; **free**. Art Scene West Gallery, 312 South Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

San Dieguito Art Guild Holiday Bazaar Saturday, November 26, 10am; **free**. Encinitas Community and Senior Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Small Business Saturday Pop-up market that will be showcasing 35+ women-owned businesses, crafters and artist. Saturday, November 26, 4pm; **free**. TJ Burrito Co, 4070 Bonita Road. (BONITA)

BEER

Keep the Glass Limited-Edition 4-Part Series: Presenting the final limited-edition glasses of 2022. This 4-glass seasonal series will be released one at a time. Tuesday, November 29, 3pm; Pure Project Vista, 1305 Hot Spring Way. (VISTA)

BOOK SIGNINGS

Andrew Morton: The Queen Warwick's & University of San Diego's College of Arts and Sciences present Andrew Morton discussing in conversation *The Queen: Her Life*. Tuesday, November 29, 7pm; \$30-\$40. Joan B. Kroc Insti-

OUTDOORS

Temperature Inversions create Marine Layer, Tarantulas Roaming

Low-lying Temperature Inversions Commonly Occur in San Diego as winter approaches. During the night and morning hours, a meteorological condition often occurs in which the “normal” higher-you-go-the-colder-it-gets trend is reversed. At such times, cold marine air lies below a stable layer of warmer air originating from inland locales. Whenever moist air is trapped below a low-lying inversion layer, dense fog forms on or near the ground, and San Diego International Airport is sometimes forced to suspend operations.

Roaming Tarantula Spiders Are Occasionally Seen This Time of Year crossing rural roads or drifting through San Diego County's backcountry-bordering neighborhoods. Doggedly searching for



CALIFORNIA EBONY TARANTULAS ARE ONE OF THE TWO TARANTULAS NATIVE TO SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

tute for Peace and Justice, USD, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Support Small Business Saturday This Small Business Saturday, come by Warwick's for a special meet-and-greet author signing event with two exceptional local talents, Jesse Leon and Linda Moore! Admission is free for this in-store event. *I'm Not Broken and Attribution* will be available for purchase and personalization! Saturday, November 26, 1pm; **free**. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas! *Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* is a wonderful, whimsical musical based upon the classic Dr. Seuss book. Back for another incredible year, the family favorite features the songs “Santa for a Day,” “You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch,” and “Welcome, Christmas (Fah Who Doraze),” the delightful carol from the popular animated version. M-F, 7pm; through Saturday, December 31, \$32-\$96. Old Globe - Donald & Darlene Shiley Stage, 1363 Old Globe Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show It's back! San Diego has another show in its Christmas stocking with this fast, funny, and highly theatrical reimagining of one of the most beloved holiday stories ever told. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 2pm and 7pm; Sundays, 2pm and 7pm; Tuesdays, 7pm; Wednesdays, 7pm; through Saturday, December 24, \$45-\$95. Old Globe - Sheryl & Harvey White Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Julian Country Christmas Tree Lighting This year Country Christmas Tree Lighting will be on the corner of Main Street and Washington with music, a Christmas market, and holiday performances throughout the afternoon. Santa will arrive and greet the kids. Saturday, November 26, 12pm; **free**. Julian Town Square, 2712 Washington Street. (JULIAN)

Lightscape Lightscape will transform the 37-acre Botanic Garden with an artistic installation from international artists. This immersive experience at the garden will guide visitors through a world of wonder with over one million twinkling lights in various attractions that come alive at night with color, imagination and sound. This after dark experience is set along an illuminated walking trail custom-designed for San Diego. Lightscape ticketholders will walk a

one-mile-long path with suspended strands and tunnels of light, a fire garden, lantern trees and other artistic installations, while toasting marshmallows over a fire and drinking hot chocolate and other seasonal refreshments along the trail. Fridays, 5pm; Saturdays, 5pm; Sundays, 5pm; Mondays, 5pm; Tuesdays, 5pm; Wednesdays, 5pm; through Sunday, January 1, \$18-\$29. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Tree Lighting Ceremony Kick off your holiday celebrations at Liberty Station's annual tree lighting event. Part of Liberty Station's

Salute the Season holiday events, attendees can enjoy a free evening of lighting Liberty Station's iconic 88-foot Norfolk pine tree as well as live entertainment, festive firetruck rides, free photos with Santa and an outdoor holiday movie showing. Friday, November 25, 5pm; **free**. Arts District Liberty Station, North Promenade, 2875 Dewey Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Very Hellish Holiday Featuring 10 Krampus & Holiday inspired cocktails and 4 mocktails. Friday, November 25, 4pm; **free**. 21 and up. Til-Two Club, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Gourd Lantern Carving Transform a dry cured gourd into a lantern. Saturday, November 26, 10am; \$65. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

Library NeXT: Internet Programming & Web Design Students will learn how to design and build their own websites using HTML and CSS. They will use templates to build a website to high-



A TYPICAL MARINE LAYER SITS OFF THE COAST OF PACIFIC BEACH.

a mate, a male will try to hold its course despite your best effort to deflect or hinder him. Docile in temperament, most tarantulas will tolerate gentle handling; they may bite, however, if provoked. Despite their fearsome reputation, tarantula venom is less powerful than a bee's.

Atmospheric Ice-crystal Effects Are Often Observed, starting about this time of year, because of the frequent appearance of high clouds made of tiny bits of ice. The most familiar of these optical effects is the 22°-radius halo, or ring, around the sun or the moon. Less often seen is a “corona,” a colored disk around the sun or moon — not the same as the solar corona seen during total eclipse; “sundogs,” colored arcs left and right of the sun; the sun pillar, a vertical column of light above the rising or setting sun; and a host of other rare and inconspicuous optical phenomena. All of these optical effects are a consequence of sunlight or moonlight refracting through or reflecting from the tiny facets of ice crystals in cirrus and other types of high clouds.

The above comes from the Outdoors listings in the Reader compiled by Jerry Schad, author of *Afoot & Afield* in San Diego County. Schad died in 2011.



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SHEEP AND GOATS

I ANSWERED THE CALL

First Christian Church of Ramona

Contact: 1970 Vermont St., Ramona 760-789-2371
www.fccoframona.org

Membership: 45-50

Pastor: Johnny Diaz

Age: 38

Born: Santa Ana

Formation: Vanguard University, Costa Mesa

Years Ordained: 5

San Diego Reader: How long do you spend preparing your sermon?

Pastor Johnny Diaz: My sermons lean more on the exegetical side, and I take roughly three or four days compiling them.

SDR: What's your favorite subject on which to preach?

PD: Anything from the Gospel of Mark. I had a

professor who was really into that gospel, and he opened up a lot of information on the gospel for me, so I gravitated in that direction. I particularly love Mark's style of writing, which is very much to the point, with no fluff. He reveals a very human side of Jesus—he gets frustrated or angry, he has compassion and gets overwhelmed by the people suffering in front of him.

SDR: Why nondenominational?

PD: Our church has its roots in the Christian Church Movement which was trying to unify the church. No more denominations – let's just be one giant body. My coming to this church was due to being in a position where I wanted

to see what God wanted next in my life. I was working previously in a church as a pastoral assistant. This was the door that opened for me and as soon as I jumped in I looked at the church's history and thought it was an awesome movement.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?

PD: To make disciples of Jesus, and I clarify that by saying “resilient disciples.” Normally when a church says they're making disciples, it means they want people to believe in Jesus. But we're trying to teach people to read the Bible on their own, pray, and hear and obey God's voice on their own, to work out the struggles of faith and doubts

wherever they're at. So, it's not a dependency on a pastor or a church. You are following Jesus on your own two feet. We are right now going through a season of Jesus' teachings and how he expects us to interact with the kingdom of God on a daily basis. We also offer Bible studies where we focus more on the ins and outs of practical living as a Christian. It's wonderful to know information about the Bible, but another thing to apply it. We want people to have the applicable side of the Bible in their hands so they can know how they can live out the faith every day of their lives.

SDR: Where's the strangest place you found God?



Johnny Diaz

PD: Delivering packages for Amazon. It was during a time in my life when I had gone through a divorce, and I thought God was done with me being a pastor. I embraced that idea, but it was a lie. I started experiencing people who weren't believers, regular people working with me at Amazon. They started asking

me about Jesus, prayer, and what the Bible says about this or that. So, God wasn't done with me — he was showing me he wasn't done with me.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?

PD: Where you go after you die is determined by whom you trust. If you trust that Jesus' sacrifice was enough for you and his love for you is real and true, then you spend eternity in heaven. If you have chosen to trust anything other than Jesus, then your eternity is spent in hell, in which everyone will live forever — but not happily ever after.

— Joseph O'Brien

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

light a topic of their choice such as a favorite hobby, a blog or DIY projects. Students will also learn how to change the look and feel of their website using Cascading Style Sheets. By the end of class, each student will have created their own web page. Registration is required. Allowed Grades: 9th Grade to 12th Grade Saturday, November 26, 4pm; **free.** College-Rolando Library, 6600 Montezuma Road. (COLLEGE AREA)

Manage Your Future This series is designed for high school students who are excited to learn about logistics and coordination of activities in a business setting. Business management encompasses logistics and coordination of activities in an organizational enterprise. Saturdays, 1pm; through Friday, December 30, **free.** Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street. (VALENCIA PARK)

Meditation Tri kaya Buddhist Healing Practices & Meditation with Varada Sunday, November 27, 11am; **free.** 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Meditation Tales of Power - Meditation with Kauyumari Tonglen Monday, November 28, 6pm; **free.** 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Meditation The Truth of Finding Yourself - Meditation with Lalita Wednesday, November 30, 6pm; **free.** 18 and up. Dharma Center, 5059 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

Shampoo Bars & Conditioner Bars Class This presentation focuses on hard scientific facts, not subjective perspectives or opinions. After the scientific comparison lecture, watch as both a shampoo bar recipe and a conditioner bar recipe are formulated and made. Students take home handouts with the recipe, a shampoo bar, and a conditioner bar. Prerequisite: None. Sunday, November 27, 12pm; \$95. Soap-

making Studio, 7301 Mount Vernon Street. (LEMON GROVE)

Tango Dancing Beginner Class Learn how to dance Argentine Tango with a native instructor. No previous experience or partner needed. Friendly and fun environment, amply parking, air conditioner, beautiful studio. Tuesdays, 6:30pm; through Tuesday, November 29, \$15-\$20. Starlight Dance Studio, 6506 El Cajon Boulevard. (COLLEGE AREA)

Watercolor with Wine Tuesdays 4 Week Course. All levels welcome. Instructor: Minnie Valero. Tuesdays, November 29, 3pm; \$79-\$99. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

COMEDY

Baked Goods Comedy Presents: Daniel Donohue AS SEEN ON: TikTok and co-host of the Basket of Cats Podcast! Join us, at Baked Goods Comedy, for a night of great drinks, better laughs, and free goodies! The #1 Cannabis themed comedy show in San Diego! Sunday, November 27, 8pm; \$5. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Jamie Lissow AS SEEN ON: The Greg Gutfeld Show on Fox, The Tonight Show, The Late Late Show, Last Comic Standing, Comedy Central & more! Friday, November 25, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, November 26, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Nigel NG Friday, November 25, 7:30pm; \$25-\$35. 14 and up. House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Unscripted Comedy Show The NCT cast creates the entire

show based completely on audience suggestions. Fridays, 7:30pm; Saturdays, 7:30pm; through Friday, December 30, \$15-\$20. National Comedy Theatre, 3717 India Street. (MISSION HILLS)

WWC Comedy Uncensored standup comedy Tuesdays, 7pm; through Tuesday, December 27, \$20. 21 and up. Negociant Hillcrest Urban Winery, 1263 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

All We Can Save Sustainability Circle Book Club About the book: *All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solutions for the Climate Crisis* is an anthology of writings by 60 women at the forefront of the climate movement who are harnessing truth, courage, and solutions to lead humanity forward. Tuesdays, 6pm; through Friday, December 30, \$50-\$80. Solana Center for Environmental Innovation, 137 North El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Story of Little Italy Guided Historical Tour Experience the story of Little Italy, San Diego - a neighborhood with an Italian presence since 1871. Saturdays, 9am; through Saturday, December 17, \$29. Café Zuccherò, 1731 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

FOOD & DRINK

Very Hellish Holiday Featuring 10 Krampus & Holiday inspired cocktails and 4 mocktails. Friday, November 25, 4pm; **free.** 21 and up. Til-Two Club, 4746 El Cajon Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

FOR KIDS

Jurassic World: The Exhibition a family-friendly immersive 20,000-square-foot experience. Visitors walk through the world-famous “Jurassic World” gates, explore richly themed environments and encounter life-sized Velociraptors, a Brachiosaurus, and the most fearsome dinosaur of all, the mighty Tyrannosaurus rex. Monday-Sunday, 11am; through Sunday, April 16, Westfield Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North. (MISSION VALLEY)

Trail Tykes Created for children 2 to 5 years of age, Trail Tykes takes place at 10AM every second and fourth Sunday and Monday of the month. The free program includes a read-aloud story, and a craft/activity or a short walk with MTRP Foundation staff and volunteers. Please register to reserve your space @ eventbrite.com/e/trail-tykes-a-program-for-little-explorers-tickets-407025192307. Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor Center - 10am - 11am Monday, November 27 & 28, 10am; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

NATURE

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the plants, animals, geology, history, and ecology of the park along a scenic trail. Walks start from the Visitor Center, are free and open to the public, with no reservations required. Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday & Sunday, November 26 & 27, 9:30am; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Guided Nature Walk Join a MTRP Trail Guide on a guided nature walk and learn about the riparian habitat of the Kumeyaay Lake shoreline overlook. Walks start from the Kumeyaay Lake Campground Entry Station (Two Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, CA 92119). Walks are canceled if raining. Saturday, November 26, 8:30am; **free.** Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Penguin Feeding & Penguin 101 Immerse yourself in the world of Little Blue Penguins by finding out what makes this species of penguins so unique during a 15 minute Penguin 101 talk. Learn all about our colony and how our husbandry team cares for them during this daily presentation led by an aquarium educator daily at 3pm Advanced reservations are required for aquarium admission. Monday-Sunday, 10am; through Wednesday, November 30, \$19-\$24. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friendship Pop Up Market Pop-up vendor, small home-based business market with vendors, including those making homemade crafts, home decor, soaps, candles, crystals, jewelry, baked goods, and more. Sunday, November 27, 11am; **free.** Chula Vista Friendship Park, Fourth Avenue & F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Small Business Weekend Purchase a \$5 unique Loteria playing card and receive 10% off participating businesses. Friday, November 25, 12pm; Saturday, November 26, 12pm; Sunday, November 27, 12pm; **free.** Barrio Logan, along Logan Avenue.

SPORTS & FITNESS

Glice Skating Join recreational skating on an eco-friendly Glice rink. Rental skates are available, or you can bring your own, but recreational shoes are not permitted. Saturdays, 12pm; Sundays, 12pm; through Friday, December 30, \$38. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

O'side Turkey Trot The O'side Turkey Trot features Fast 5 Mile and 5K courses with over two miles of ocean views and finishing near the Oceanside Pier steps from the sand. Additional fun includes a Thanksgiving-themed costume contest, live course entertainment, commemorative t-shirts, and finisher medals for all participants. Thursday, November 24, 7am; \$25-\$50. Oceanside Civic Center, 300 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

US Soccer US vs England Watch Party Watch the game on 10' HD projection screens with plenty of ice cold drinks and food for everyone. Friday, November 25, 11am; **free.** Guava Beach Bar & Grill, 3714 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

US Soccer US vs Iran Watch Party Watch the game on 10' HD projection screens with plenty of ice cold drinks and food for everyone. Tuesday, November 29, 11am; **free.** Guava Beach Bar & Grill, 3714 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

World Cup Viewing Party Gaslamp Quarter World Cup Viewing Party Friday, November 25, 7am; Saturday, November 26, 7am; Sunday, November 27, 7am; **free.** Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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ROAM

I was stalling. I had driven out to the trailhead in Alpine and parked 10 minutes earlier, then set my watch to record my hike time and stretched my legs thoroughly. Now I was fumbling through my backpack for the third time, making sure my keys were still in the upper pocket (unfortunately, they were). I sighed anxiously, aware that I had run out of excuses, then closed my car door and crossed the lonely parking lot toward the trailhead. I had made the decision to hike up Viejas Mountain from the south approach, to test myself. Since the pandemic, I had grown accustomed to short comfortable hikes close to home and I wanted to see whether I still had my trail legs.

As I reached the trailhead, I looked up at the side of the steep hill. Before me was a 2000' climb over 2.3 miles. I felt daunted, not just from the steep incline, but from the fear that in these last couple of years, I had become a shadow of my former hiking self. I tried to reassure myself, but couldn't find any comfort in my thoughts, so I took a breath and plunged onto the path.

The dirt was brownish-red and covered in loose rocks. Within a hundred paces the trail curved sharply upwards, and after a few minutes I was already breathing heavily. The warm air had found me and I could hear the whoosh of



Top of Viejas looking at Cuyamaca peak.

cars on the freeway behind me. As I pressed on, I began to feel myself slipping into what I call the void — a cozy silence in which my thoughts fade and my body flows along the earth.

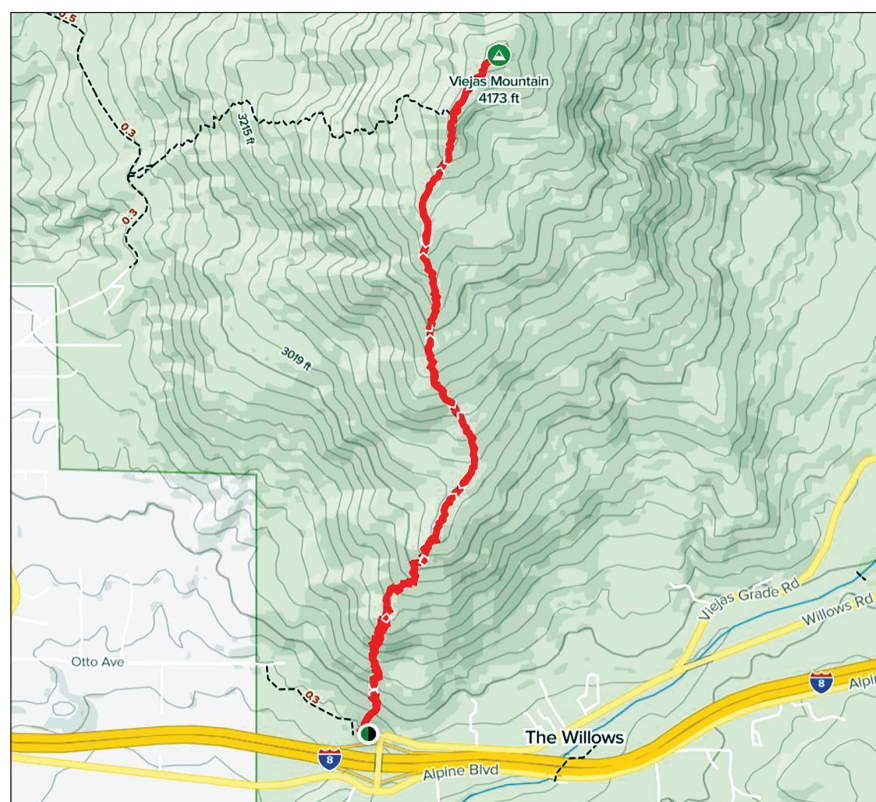
An hour later, I was standing on the peak. Evidently my trail legs had returned, though my cap and shirt were damp with sweat from the effort. My lungs burned slightly and I rubbed the salt crystals from my eyelids as I looked around.

VIEJAS MOUNTAIN SOUTH APPROACH FROM WILLOWS ROAD

Located in Alpine, Viejas Mountain is a challenging hike and long pants are recommended. With a length of 4.6 miles and an elevation gain of 2000+ feet, the hike will take most people between 2 and 4 hours to reach the summit and descend. Dogs are allowed, but not recommended for this approach.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 32 miles

Hike length: 4.6 miles • **Difficulty:** Strenuous • **Season:** October - April



U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

You can navigate to the trailhead by searching "Viejas Mountain Trailhead" on Google Maps.

The top was long and flat, and I was standing alone in between several rock windbreaks that had been assembled like the foundations of an old cabin. In the center of them, on a stone, were three metal tea canisters. Although they were dented and covered in stickers, the canisters softly shined in the late morning sun; I opened one to find a summit log containing scraps of paper. I fingered through them and pulled out a blue-tinted polaroid of a young couple. It showed them standing on the peak with weary smiles. I tucked it back in then read through a few of the notes. I won't disclose what they said as it doesn't seem proper, so you'll just have to make the climb yourself if you're curious.

With the canisters put away, I took in the panoramic display surrounding me. Viejas Mountain is perhaps as central a view as one can get of the inland peaks and distant mountains. To the north was the long, hunched ridge of the Palomar Mountain range, with San Geronio and San Jacinto lurking behind it. The low-slung top of Cuyamaca Peak squatted in the east, atop which I could see two vast radio towers. To the south, I had a rare view of Lawson and Gaskill Peaks, with Tecate Peak far away near the border. And to the west, I saw several familiar mountains, including El Cajon Mountain, Iron Mountain, Mount Woodson, and even Black Mountain and the five peaks of Mission Trails.

The sun watched me as I gazed at the mountains, and feeling its heat on my skin, I slung my pack on my shoulder and started back. The way down was much more enjoyable, as I stopped to identify plants and take photos. You see, there are two ways to journey along a trail. The first is to walk along it leisurely; stopping often to take in the rich sights and sounds surrounding you. On a very pleasant and solitary walk, you might even begin to hum absentmindedly while looking at a plant. The second way is to hike it. That is, to heave yourself along the trail, keeping your eyes just ahead of your boots as you try to keep a swift pace just short of fainting. The aim isn't to race to the end, but to use your body with succinct precision, such that each step forward is one measured step closer to the goal. I myself prefer to hike uphill to satisfy my legs and then walk downhill to satisfy my curiosity. Thus, it was only in retracing my steps that I began to notice my surroundings.

Starting from the peak, there were several markers to follow back down. The first was an Instaworthy metal post with a sign that read '4189 Elev. Viejas Mtn.' It was bolted atop a large boulder, one of many that I had to scramble over and press against to keep on the trail. After a hundred or so paces, the path split, with the main path veering down to the west while the south path continued along the ridgeline. After following the latter for a while, the trail spilled down from the crest where I overlooked a gorgeous sea of silver-green chaparral that receded into a dark-green shadow. Further in the distance, the dark emerald hills behind Alpine seemed to rise and swell like ocean waves. The trail here was narrow and easy to follow, though I found it difficult to take my eyes off the view.

From there, the south approach alternated between steep slopes and gradual plateaus, almost like traveling along very tall and wide steps. The trail was easy to follow during the gradual portions, but for the steeper sections, it often splintered into two or three paths before reuniting further ahead. I never felt lost, but I often found myself cutting through agave and golden-floreted rabbitbrush to get back on the main path. One reliable marker for determining whether I was on the right track was to look for small, dried out stumps. These typically indicated where the brush had been cleared to build a path.

Continuing down the hillside, I saw Viejas Casino to the east and the concrete artery of I-8 disappearing into the mountains. Along it, distant cars seemed to crawl like tiny ants. As I reached the final descent, the trail connected with a drainage for runoff water. The dirt was dry but eroding and I trod carefully to keep from falling off the hillside. The section loses about 1000' of elevation in a little under a mile and I found my knees beginning to ache slightly from the amount of bracing I had to do to keep my footing.

As I neared the bottom, the brush-and-dirt path faded into asphalt and I could hear the hiss of cars on the freeway again as I stepped over shreds of sun-worn trash. The return to civilization was jarring, like being roused from a dream; and I found myself not wanting to wake, but to drift off and return to the vast views atop Viejas Mountain.

— Ryan Brothers

ON STAGE IN SAN DIEGO

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Matthew Lickona unless otherwise noted. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

A Christmas Carol

Cygnets' holiday smash hit is back for its eighth season! Enjoy the holiday classic adapted from Charles Dickens' timeless tale of hope and redemption. This imaginative production features original music, creative stagecraft and puppetry, and live sound effects. Step into a Victorian Christmas card for a unique storytelling experience that is sure to delight the entire family! Cygnets' long-running Scrooge has hung up his night cap and taking on the role this year is Artistic Director Sean Murray.

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS.

A Christmas Story

Filled with quirky and lovable characters, this nostalgic musical is as delightful as the biggest, shiniest present under the tree on Christmas morning.

SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE, 4652 MERCURY ST., CLAIREMONT. 858-560-5740. 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS.

As You Like It

Featuring a cast of trans, non-binary and Queer performers, Christopher Ashley and Will Davis's re-imagined As You Like It is a celebration of the limitless possibilities of love and humanity. In Shakespeare's classic romantic comedy, Rosalind and Orlando meet by chance in court and have an immediate connection. When they are both banished, fate brings them together again in the Forest of Arden.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

The Children by Lucy Kirkwood

A stretch of English coastline has been decimated by a nuclear accident, but Lucy Kirkwood's play aims to tackle something even more toxic and enduring than fallout: aging boomers. We open on Rose as she nurses a bloody nose; it seems she paid a surprise visit to the cottage of fellow former nuclear physicists Robin and Hazel, and Hazel, who had heard Rose was dead, and who has complicated feelings about her old colleague besides, had a rather violent reaction. Oops, but not really — that rather sets the tone for the polite/prickly conversation that follows. The tension increases once hubby Robin shows up — he's been



Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas! Not so much a live-action cartoon as a cartoon come to life.

off tending irradiated cows, because what else is there to do once you've ruined the world? — and starts pouring homebrew. Kirkwood's chain reaction builds slowly, patiently — gradually revealing character and consequence, and Moxie's cast has her creation well in hand. The two-word adverb-adjective for this one? Quietly savage. (And not unfunny!) Moxie Theatre, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, ROLANDO. 858-598-7620. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

You all know the story, the sweet simple plot/ Of how the old Grinch learns what Christmas is not/ For twenty five years now, this show has been playing/ So surely there's nothing new that's worth saying!/ It's fun for the kiddies, the sets are outstanding/ And yet, something's odd in the Whoville-type branding...

Ok, enough of that — though it's worth noting that the Old Globe's adaptation of this Christmas classic plays fast and loose with the rhythm of Seuss when it suits. But the point stands: after you hear the Who kiddies scream "Mine!" as they fight over their toys, and see the Who grownups sing about how it's the thought that counts even as they chase madly after every on-sale gift item, you may be tempted to conclude that the Grinch has a point in his hatred of Christmas. You may even start to like the old Grinchy rotter (played as a cross between Jim Carrey and Tim Curry by Andrew Polec, resplendently made up and costumed, and nailing it in the facial expressions department). And if that happens, well, it sort of takes the wind out of the dramatic sails.

Still, At least his conversion at play's end still makes sense. For their part, the Whos could use a come-to-Jesus (well, come-to-Cindy Lou Who) moment to explain their astonishing response to losing everything they've worked so hard to achieve. They assure us in song that Whos like Christmas, but maybe

that's just their jam? The planning, the presents, the party? That's what they tell us, anyway. But even as I type this, I can hear the "Bah, hum-bugs" echoing in my brain, warning me against dimming the Christmas cheer and urging me to laugh and sing along. (The sing-a-long is a great touch, by the by. *You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch...*)

OLD GLOBE - DONALD & DARLENE SHILEY STAGE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 10:30AM, 2PM, & 5PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

Ebenezer Scrooge's BIG San Diego Christmas Show

What's a modern theatrical production to do with a story most everybody knows by heart? Playwrights Steve Rosen and Gordon Greenberg have decided that if some familiarity is good, then more is better, and set Scrooge's story right where the theater stands today. They keep the setting in olden-days 1919, the better to preserve the mutton-chop facial hair, the top hats, and the lack of furnace heating. But they're happy to go present-day for the sake of a joke. They're happy to go all sorts of places: meta, silly, clever, even weird. But while you can play Tiny Tim for laughs by making him a puppet with a live, adult human head — just one clever bit of prop work in a production that makes the absolute most of a few crates, chairs, ladders, and window casings — there's only so much humor a show, even a feel-good show, can get from the plight of a dying child. Or, for that matter, from the haunting of an old man's loveless heart. It's to the cast's great credit that they are able to execute the massive shifts in tone when the rim-shot rat-a-tat of jokes must give way to the story's pure feeling without giving the audience emotional whiplash.

OLD GLOBE - SHERYL & HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

The City and its characters, Willy, the newspaper boy and your guide through the story, and Soapy, a homeless character with a mighty sense of humor. The Gifts of the Magi remind us what makes a special gift is, that it comes from the heart. LAMPLIGHTERS COMMUNITY THEATRE, 5915 SEVERIN DR., LA MESA. 619-303-5092. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

LOVE/SICK by John Cariani

LOVE/SICK by John Cariani is a collection of eight slightly twisted and completely hilarious short plays. Set on a Friday night in an alternate suburban reality. This 80-minute romp explores the pain and the joy that comes with being in love. Starring: Kim Breslin, Gunnar Ramstrum, Walter Ruskin, Carly Salway, Kathryn Schellinger, Kara Tuckfield, Tyler VanCamp. Directed by David Sein. POINT LOMA PLAYHOUSE, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-800-5497. 8PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY, NOV. 27.

The October Night of Johnny Zero

Backyard Renaissance presents a World Premiere... The October Night of Johnny Zero by Francis Gercke directed by Richard Baird. Cast: Marcel Ferrin, Geoffrey Geissinger and Jessica John On a dark and stormy night, all Johnny wants to do is get home. But when his mom doesn't arrive at his usual pick-up time and her work phone number

refuses to connect, Johnny ends up somewhere he never imagined... At the Pinnolini's. In the early 1980s of a late October afternoon, local legend and high school superstar Johnny Grimes is on a mission — to get back to his house, finish his book report, and compete in the Conference Basketball Finals the following day. Schoolmate Franky Pinnolini has a similar ambition — to make it all happen. Armed with a relentless adoration for Johnny and a BMX bike with a basket, Franky takes Johnny on a journey through the strange and peculiar backdrop of a place called home. Set in the wilds of Delaware Valley in the mid-Atlantic region of the eastern seaboard, The October Night of Johnny Zero is a world premiere based on events — both real and imaginary. Part true crime, part science fiction, the play slips down the rabbit hole of small-town suburban life and comes face to face with the myths and monsters that might lurk just below the surface.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS.

To Kill A Mockingbird

Academy Award winner Aaron Sorkin's adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize winning masterwork, with direction by Tony Award winner Bartlett Sher.

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7PM TUESDAY, NOV. 29.

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CURRENT MOVIES

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

Aftersun — Sophie reflects on the shared joy and private melancholy of a holiday she took with her father twenty years earlier. Memories real and imagined fill the gaps between miniDV footage as she tries to reconcile the father she knew with the man she didn't. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Amsterdam — Director David O. Russell returns from an extended absence (after the oddflop *Joy*) with an extended... well, it's hard to say what, exactly. A spoof on the hard-boiled works of Humphrey Bogart? That would explain the *Maltese Falcon* voiceover, the *Big Sleep* meetup with the rich family trying to control its wild daughter, and of course, the strange *Casablanca* triangle of dear friends overseas, two white (Christian Bale, Margot Robbie) and one black (John David Washington). Bale works pretty well as an anti-Bogey: a half-Catholic, half-Jewish doctor with a glass eye, a back brace, and a pain pill problem thanks to the Great War who is nevertheless unembittered and a regular champion of kindness and decency. He'll stick his neck out for any-

body, if he can manage to stand up. And a spoof would explain the weirdly weightless character of the drama, which ought to feel more dramatic, given the film's urgent warning against anti-democratic forces at work right here in the good old USA, even as it bares its teeth at American businessmen who are willing to profit off fascism. Those who refuse to learn from history, etc. And it would explain the almost embarrassing sincerity of sentiment and high-inhuman displays of virtue. ("Whoever is shooting at me right now is a coward!") But a spoof could never be this indulgent of its whimsy, this sloppy about its story, this careless with its characters. Pity, that 2022. — M.L. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA)

Armageddon Time — Filmmaker James Gray unfolds a deeply personal story on the strength of family, the complexity of friendship, and the generational pursuit of the American Dream. The film features Anthony Hopkins, Anne Hathaway, and Jeremy Strong. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (AMC LA JOLLA; ANGELIKA FILM CENTER AND CAFÉ)

The Banshees of Inisherin — Set on a remote island off the west coast of Ireland, lifelong friends Pádraic (Colin Farrell) and Colm (Brendan Gleeson) find themselves at an impasse when Colm unexpectedly puts an end to their friendship. A stunned Pádraic, aided by his sister Siobhán (Kerry Condon) and troubled young islander Dominic (Barry Keoghan), endeavours to repair the relationship, refusing to take no for an answer. But Pádraic's repeated efforts only

strengthen his former friend's resolve and when Colm delivers a desperate ultimatum, events swiftly escalate, with shocking consequences. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Barbarian — Traveling to Detroit for a job interview, a young woman books an Airbnb rental home. When she arrives, she discovers that the house she rented is not what it seems, and a strange man is already staying there. Against her better judgement, she decides to spend the evening, but soon discovers that there's a lot more to fear than just an unexpected house guest. Filmed in Bulgaria and starring Georgina Campbell, Bill Skarsgård, and Justin Long. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (SANTEE DRIVE-IN)

Bardo, False Chronicle of a Handful of Truths — The story of Silverio, a Mexican journalist and documentary filmmaker living in Los Angeles, who, after being named the recipient of a prestigious international award, is compelled to return to his native country, unaware that this simple trip will push him to an existential limit. The folly of his memories and fears have decided to pierce through the present, filling his everyday life with a sense of bewilderment and wonder. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Black Adam — Nearly 5000 years after he was bestowed with the almighty powers of the ancient gods—and imprisoned just as quickly—Black Adam (Johnson) is freed from his earthly tomb, ready to unleash his unique form of justice on the

modern world. Dwayne Johnson stars alongside Pierce Brosnan as Dr. Fate. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Black Panther: Wakanda Forever — "I am the queen of the most powerful nation in the world. And my entire family is gone! Have I not given everything?!" A Marvel sequel minus the late star of the original. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Bones and All — A story of first love between Maren (Taylor Russell), a young woman learning how to survive on the margins of society, and Lee (Timothée Chalamet), an intense and disenfranchised drifter, as they meet and join together for a thousand-mile odyssey which takes them through the back roads, hidden passages and trap doors of Ronald Reagan's America. But despite their best efforts, all roads lead back to their terrifying pasts and to a final stand that will determine whether their love can survive their otherness. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

The Chosen Season 3: Episodes 1 & 2 — After Jesus completes a sermon that turns the world upside down, all 12 disciples (including newcomer Judas) are ready to follow him to the ends of the earth. But problems remain. Matthew wrestles with estrangement from his family. Andrew visits an imprisoned John the Baptist. Mary and the women must find a source of income. Simon and Eden face the costs of following Jesus. Most importantly, the disciples face their biggest challenge yet when Jesus sends them

out, two by two, to preach and perform miracles without him. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Devotion — JD Dillard directs an aerial war epic based on the bestselling book of the same name by Adam Makos, telling the harrowing true story of two elite US Navy fighter pilots during the Korean War. Their heroic sacrifices would ultimately make them the Navy's most celebrated wingmen. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Don't Worry Darling — Alice (Florence Pugh) and Jack (Harry Styles) are lucky to be living in the idealized community of Victory, the experimental company town housing the men who work for the top-secret Victory Project and their families. The 1950's societal optimism espoused by their CEO, Frank (Pine)—equal parts corporate visionary and motivational life coach—anchors every aspect of daily life in the tight-knit desert utopia. But when cracks in their idyllic life begin to appear, exposing flashes of something much more sinister lurking beneath the attractive façade, Alice can't help questioning exactly what they're doing in Victory, and why. Just how much is Alice willing to lose to expose what's really going on in this paradise? Directed by Olivia Wilde. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (AMC FASHION VALLEY; SANTEE DRIVE-IN)

The Fabelmans — Directed by Steven Spielberg, this surreal comedy stars Gabriel LaBelle as 16-year-old aspiring filmmaker Sammy Fabelman, Michelle Williams as his artistic mother, Paul



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ONLY IN THEATERS DECEMBER 2

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CURRENT MOVIES

Dano as his successful scientific father, Seth Rogen as honorary “uncle” to the Fabelman children, and Judd Hirsch as Mitzi’s Uncle Boris. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Facing Monsters — Documentary about West Australian slab wave surfer Kerby Brown, a man whose connection with the ocean runs as deep as his love for his family. Kerby is joined by his family on his quest to ride a ferocious slab wave in the deep southern ocean that no one on the planet has surfed before. It’s a film about fear, addictions, and family bonds that drive Kerby, what anchors him, and why he’s obsessed with pitting himself against one of nature’s most intimidating forces. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (LA PALOMA)

Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery — In the follow-up to Rian Johnson’s *Knives Out*, Detective Benoit Blanc travels to Greece to peel back the layers of a mystery involving a new cast of colorful suspects. Starring Daniel Craig, Edward Norton, Janelle Monáe, Kathryn Hahn, Leslie Odom Jr., Jessica Henwick, Madelyn Cline, Kate Hudson, and Dave Bautista. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Gratitude Revealed — Louie Schwartzberg, the director of cult hit *Fantastic Fungi*, takes us on a transformational, cinematic experience of how to live a more meaningful life full of gratitude through his intimate conversations with everyday people, thought leaders, and personalities revealing Gratitude is a proven pathway back from the disconnection we feel in our lives; disconnection from ourselves, our planet, and each other. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (LA PALOMA)

Guillermo del Toro’s Pinocchio — People are sometimes afraid of what they don’t know... From the mind of Academy Award®-winning filmmaker Guillermo del Toro and award-winning stop-motion legend Mark Gustafson, it’s a story you think you may know... but you don’t. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Knives Out — Writer-director Rian Johnson sure is having fun these days. They let him into the Star Wars sandbox, and he built a monument to feminine genius that enraged a measurable portion of the fanbase and still managed to make over a billion dollars. (Sure, it was half of what J.J. Abrams managed with his reboot/remake, but it weren’t no fan service, that’s for sure.) Now he’s pulling a reverse Netflix — slapping a TV-style Family Mansion Murder Mystery, the sort so ably handled by our British cousins, up there on the big screen —and turning it into a critique of American anti-immigration sentiment. The immigrant in question —actually, it’s her mother who is undocumented — is Marta (Ana de Armas) the caregiver for a fabulously successful mystery author (Christopher Plummer). An author who, as it happens, is also the victim. The presumptive heirs — a splendid collection of wretches, none of whom can remember exactly what country Marta hails from — were already gathered for Dad’s 85 birthday, so they stick around for the reading of the will, and also the investigation spearheaded by Daniel Craig in full Southern accent, for some reason. The goal here, besides solving the mystery in suitably clever fashion, seems to be to provide families gathered for Thanksgiving with both a rollicking good time and something to argue



Bones and All: “You know ‘I could just eat you up with a spoon’ is just an expression, right? Right?”

about at table. (A measurable portion of old white relatives may be enraged.) You can practically see Johnson’s mischievous grin in every frame. 2019. — M.L. ★★ (EDWARDS MIRA MESA; REGAL CARLSBAD 12; REGAL SAN MARCOS)

Love Jones — Say hello to Darius Lovehall (Larenz Tate) and Nina Mosley (Nia Long), two confused lovebirds who discover that you can never underestimate the power of a love jones. Lovehall is a young black poet in Chicago who starts dating Moseley, a beautiful and talented photographer. While trying to figure out if they’ve got a “love thing” or are just “kicking it,” they hang out with their friend, talking about love and sex. Then one tests the strength of the others’ feelings and sets a chain of romantic complications into motion. 1997. Sgt. Tiki (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Meet Me in the Bathroom — An immersive archival journey through the explosive New York music scene of the early 2000s. Set against the backdrop of 9/11 and a world unaware of the seismic political, technological and cultural shifts about to occur, *Meet Me in the Bathroom*, tells the story of the last great romantic age of Rock ‘n’ Roll through the prism of a handful of era defining bands. Inspired by Lizzy Goodman’s bestselling book, directed by Dylan Southern and Will Lovelace. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The Menu — A couple (Anya Taylor-Joy and Nicholas Hoult) travels to a coastal island to eat at an exclusive restaurant where the chef (Ralph Fiennes) has prepared a lavish menu, with some shocking surprises. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Moonage Daydream — The latest documentary film about English singer-songwriter David Bowie utilizes previously unreleased footage from Bowie’s personal archives, including live concert footage. Written, directed, produced and edited by Brett Morgen. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (LA PALOMA)

Prey for the Devil — In response to a global rise in demonic possessions, the Catholic Church reopens exorcism schools to train priests in the Rite of Exorcism. On this spiritual battlefield, an unlikely warrior rises: a young nun, Sister Ann (Jacqueline Byers). Although nuns are forbidden to perform exorcisms, a professor (Colin Salmon) recognizes Sister Ann’s gifts and agrees to train her. Thrust onto the spiritual frontline with fellow student Father Dante (Christian Navarro), Sister Ann finds herself in a battle for the soul of a young girl (who Sister Ann believes is possessed by the same demon that tormented her own mother years ago), and soon realizes the Devil has her right where he wants her, and it wants in. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Retrograde — The final nine months of America’s 20-year war in Afghanistan are examined from multiple perspectives: one of the last U.S. Special Forces units deployed there, a young Afghan general and his corps fighting to defend their homeland against all odds, and the civilians desperately attempting to flee as the country collapses and the Taliban take over. From rarely seen operational control rooms to the frontlines of battle to the chaotic Kabul airport during the final U.S. withdrawal, Oscar-nominated and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Matthew Heineman’s latest film offers a cinematic and historic window onto the end of America’s longest war, and the costs endured for those most intimately involved. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (AMC MISSION VALLEY)

Salvatore: Shoemaker of Dreams — Growing up poor in Bonito, Italy, Salvatore Ferragamo began his career as a shoemaker before he was barely a teenager. Immigrating to America in 1915 at the age of 16, his work would soon help invent the glamour of Hollywood’s silent era as he created shoes for iconic films. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (ANGELIKA FILM CENTER AND CAFÉ)

She Said — Carey Mulligan and Emmy nominee Zoe Kazan star as *New York Times* reporters Megan Twohey and Jodi Kantor, who together broke one of the most important stories in a generation, a story that shattered decades of silence around the subject of sexual assault in Hollywood and impelled a shift in American culture that continues to this day. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Strange World — Inspired by classic adventure stories, a famous family of explorers, the Clades, attempt to navigate an uncharted, treacherous land alongside a motley crew that includes a mischievous blob, a three-legged dog, and a slew of ravenous creatures. The voice cast includes Jake Gyllenhaal as Searcher Clade, a family man who finds himself out of his element on an unpredictable mission; Dennis Quaid as Searcher’s larger-than-life explorer father, Jaeger; Jaboukie Young-White as Searcher’s 16-year-old son, Ethan, who longs for adventure; Gabrielle Union as Meridian Clade, an accomplished pilot and Searcher’s partner in all things; and Lucy Liu as Callisto Mal, Avalonia’s fearless leader who spearheads the exploration into the strange world. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Tár — From producer-writer-director Todd Field comes *TÁR*, starring Cate Blanchett as the iconic musician Lydia Tár. If you want to dance the mask, you must service the composer. *TÁR* examines the changing nature of power, its impact and durability in our modern world. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (AMC FASHION VALLEY; AMC LA JOLLA; AMC MISSION VALLEY)

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PHOTOGRAPH BY ERICA JOAN



CHEST FEVER

Chest Fever (members of Mrs. Henry) will be performing *The Last Waltz*, an ode to The Band's iconic 1976 concert performance, on November 26 at The Magnolia in El Cajon. Also appearing will be Scarlet Rivera (Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Revue), Grammy Award winning guitarist Albert Lee, Marc Ford (The Black Crowes), and Eagles songwriter Jack Tempchin.



THE HOLY GHOST

The Holy Ghost is an improvisational production directed by Zane Alexander and interpreted by an ensemble of fourteen San Diego musicians of all ages and musical backgrounds. On December 2 at the Athenaeum Art Center School of the Arts, Alexander will be joined by soprano sax soloist Ryan Ebaugh to guide the band through a multi-movement structured improvisation.



CRUCIAL BLEND

Based in Ocean Beach, Crucial Blend plays reggae with ska-punk roots and hip-hop flavor. Their recent *Cruel World* EP was nominated for a San Diego Music Award, their third SDMA nomination. They'll play Winstons November 30 on a bill that includes Safety Orange, whose recent single "Get Outta My Way" came with a sleeve illustrated by Dead & Company gig poster artist Mark Sgarbossa.



SEEU SPACE COWBOY

Screamo metalcore band SeeYouSpaceCowboy features former members of René Descartes, alongside members of Letters To Catalonia. Their recent sophomore album *The Romance of Affliction* features singer Keith Buckley (Every Time I Die), singer Aaron Gillespie (Underoath), rapper SHAOLIN G, and members of If I Die First, who released a split-EP with the band earlier this year. They'll play Brick By Brick on November 29.

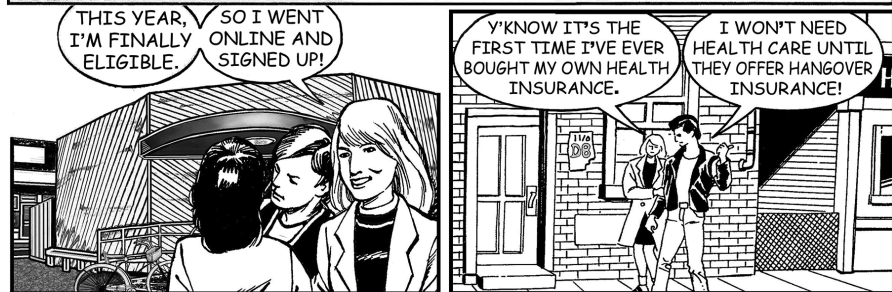
PHOTOGRAPH BY GABRIELA KOWALKOWSKI



SPRAY ALLEN

Spray Allen is an alternative rock band with a "new psychedelic" blend of '70s and '90s influences, brought together by skateboard icon Danny Way. The group was founded by drummer Wade Youman (Unwritten Law, Demasiado) and bassist Eric Wilson (Sublime, Long Beach Dub Allstars). Their debut album sessions included guests such as keyboardist and horn player Gabriel McNair (No Doubt) and Stu Brooks (Dub Trio). They'll play Sunday, November 27 at Soda Bar in City Heights.

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FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA



Wednesday, December 21 at 7PM
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Thiago Tiberio, conductor
San Diego Symphony Orchestra

Spend the evening with your favorite holiday "rom-com" characters and get swept up in the magic of one of the most iconic Christmas Movie soundtracks of all time. The Orchestra performs the now-classic Craig Armstrong score Live to Film. *Love Actually* is written and directed by Richard Curtis.

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THE GONZO REPORT

Punk's not dead, it's just getting older

Black Flag keeps waving nearly 50 years later

On October 28, there was a punk rock revival at the San Diego House of Blues, with Total Chaos opening for Black Flag. This article about that show may not be for the faint of heart. If you're sensitive to vulgarity or violence, now is the time to stop reading.

Black Flag, the hardcore punk band that started the SoCal hardcore movement, formed in 1976 in Hermosa Beach. Guitarist Greg Ginn is a founding — and the only original and constant — member of the band. There have been five singers: fellow founder Keith Morris, who went on to start the Circle Jerks; Ron Reyes, who walked off stage mid-performance during a May 23, 1980, show at the Fleetwood in Redondo Beach because he couldn't handle the violence any more; Dez Cadena, who later became the band's rhythm guitarist; Henry Rollins, whose stage presence was enough to make him something of a movie/television star; and pro skateboarder Mike Vallely. Vallely is friends with Ginn, and once took the mic from Reyes in 2003 after Reyes was ousted by the band mid-set. He became their official lead singer in 2014.

I recall discovering the hardcore scene when I was a teenager in the mid-'80s. I was intrigued yet frightened: I liked the music, but the people were a different animal. Spiked hair, Mohawks and skinheads. They wore dirty, torn

clothes, jackets sporting patches from bands like the Exploited, Misfits, and Subhumans. They lived in squalor, in their cars or in a closet somewhere. Besides the usual excessive amount of alcohol consumption, there was the snorting and shooting up of crystal meth and heroin. And the violence at the shows was just as much a part of the entertainment as the music. The girls were naughty, dirty, and down for a gang bang. That's how I remember it, anyway. To get a fuller picture, maybe go onto Netflix or YouTube and watch *The Decline of Western Civilization* or *Suburbia*.

Fast forward to October 28. My friend and I got dumped off by our Lyft in front of the venue. We were hungry, and decided to grab a quick bite in the House of Blues Restaurant. A beer, a glass of Chardonnay, and a tri-tip sandwich cost us \$30. The bartender was friendly and attentive. He let us know when the first band, Total Chaos, was starting. That was my cue to pay the bill and head next door to the concert hall. Once inside, the first thing I noticed was a bar to the right and a seated section overlooking the stage. We walked down three flights of stairs decorated with murals to the packed dungeon below. The place was perfect for a punk rock show: dark, cold, and cemented. Total Chaos was on the stage playing at a loud pace. The mosh pit below was filled with youngsters doing their best to uphold punk's legacy by roughing each other up for fun. I headed to the bar in back where it was safe; a 24 oz. can of Pabst Blue Ribbon was the cheapest beer there at \$12. That's fucking punk rock. Drinking Chardonnay out of a can (\$15 for 12 oz.) is even more punk rock. I saw people throwing their empty beer cans — at least I hope they were empty — into the pit, and joined in the fun. Total Chaos finished their set, which made



Mohawks, spikes, and patches: the best things in life stay that way.

for a suitable time to do some people watching. (Hip Hop music grooved in the background in between sets — at a punk show? How times have changed.) I still saw Mohawks, skinheads, longhairs, Doc Martens, and punk band T-shirts. But people were polite: gentle taps on the shoulder and “excuse me.” Earlier that week, I had gone to see Bob Weir & Wolf Bros. at Humphreys by the Bay. The people were ruder at that one. There was more pushing, no “excuse me,” and people trying to steal people's seat spots. At least there were no personal dancing spaces at the Black Flag show. Etiquette becomes less of an issue in the pit; somebody's always

dude and knocked off my feet. As I flew toward the crowd, he caught me mid-air and placed me gently back on the floor. He was like 6 foot 4. In this pit, it was the *girls* who were being aggressive, throwing elbows and punches. A little skinny girl with grey tank top was trying to knock me around. First, she threw elbows at me and knocked my hat off. Then she came back around and socked me in my lip. I thought, *I have been in a few pits in my life before this girl was born*. She came at me again, but this time I was waiting. I elbowed her in her face, knocked her into the crowd, and hopefully knocked her the fuck out. That's punk rock for you. ■

GABRIEL GARCIA

ready to cry “Fuck your dancing space!” and wreck you.

Greg Ginn was first on the stage. Singer Mike Vallely was the last. He started banging his head, and as the beat went from melodic to frenetic, so did the headbanging. The band started off with “Can't Decide,” and played a lot of their classics: “Nervous Breakdown,” “Annihilate This Week” (per Setlist.fm, it was first time since 2014 for that one), “Gimmie, Gimmie, Gimmie,” “Loose Nut,” “Six Pack,” a nice long version of “Slip it In,” their MTV classic “TV Party,” and finally, “Louie Louie.” As they held down the rhythm section, drummer Isaia Gil and bass player Joseph Noval sounded more professional than punk. Singer Vallely has his own lyrical style, but still sounded like past singers Keith Morris on “Nervous Breakdown” and Henry Rollins on “Louie Louie.” I cannot discount Greg Ginn's interwoven riffs layering through the many measured beats.

I went into the pit for the last song, “Louie Louie.” It may have been a tamer pit than the ones I remembered from the '80s, but I still got blasted in the ribs by some

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Sunday, 12pm — Nathan & Jessie.

Winstons Beach Club:

Friday, 9pm — Rafa Ponde Band. \$15.

Saturday, 4pm — Frequency 1 and The Experiments. Free.

Saturday, 9pm — Sandollar.

Wednesday, 8:30pm — Safety

Orange and Crucial Blend. \$10.

UPCOMING SHOWS

Alpine VFW Post 9578:

Saturday, Dec. 10 — 8 East Band. Free.

Athenaeum Art Center School of the Arts:

Friday, Dec. 2 — San Diego New Music: The Holy Ghost. \$12-\$30.

Balboa Theatre:

Friday, Dec. 2 — Mariachi Sol de Mexico: Merry-Achi Christmas. \$50-\$70.

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Gordon Lightfoot.

Bang Bang:

Saturday, Dec. 31 — Carl Craig & Layton Giordani.

Beach House Grill:

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Channel Tres and Rochelle Jordan.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Lee Fields and Molly Lewis.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Loretta Lynn

Revue.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Built To Spill.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Common Sense.

Saturday, Dec. 10 — The New

Pornographers.

Sunday, Dec. 11 — The New

Pornographers.

Brew Coffee Spot:

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Java Jazz Quartet. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Undeath and 200 Stab Wounds. \$18-\$20.

Friday, Dec. 2 — Pallbearer and Stygian Bough. \$20-\$25.

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Katatonia, The Ocean, Cellar Darling. \$30-\$35.

Saturday, Dec. 10 — Shred For Dime Tribute Show. \$10.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Holiday In: Jazz at the Ballroom Holiday

Revue. \$35-\$50.

Casbah:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Jesse Daniel Edwards.

Friday, Dec. 2 — Miniature Tigers and Katzu Oso.

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Mattson 2.

Sunday, Dec. 4 — The Downhill Jam.

Monday, Dec. 5 — Free Paintings and Scoobert Doobert.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Wild Child.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Jerry Joseph.

Thursday, Dec. 8 — The Sheepdogs.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Schizophonics Soul Revue and Clown Sounds.

Saturday, Dec. 10 — The Woggles and The Loons.

Sunday, Dec. 11 — Dead Horses.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Isabel Leonard and Pablo Sáinz-Villegas. \$44-\$115.

Sunday, Dec. 11 — Holiday Sing-Along. Free.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — Deadheads Night.

Grossmont College:

Monday, Dec. 5 — Musics of the Middle East: Concert for Iran.

Free.

House of Blues:

Thursday, Dec. 1 — The Lemonheads.

Friday, Dec. 2 — The Rare Occasions.

Saturday, Dec. 3 — Russell Dickerson.

Sunday, Dec. 4 — Me First and The Gimme Gimmes.

Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Zoe.

Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Ramirez.

Thursday, Dec. 8 — Kalan FrFr.

Thursday, Dec. 8 — Hembree.

Friday, Dec. 9 — Emo Night Brooklyn. \$15.

Saturday, Dec. 10 — KSON's 6 Man Jam.

Sunday, Dec. 11 — The Slackers.

Josie's Hideout:

Saturday, Dec. 3 — I Know Jack. Free.

Kit Carson Park:

Saturday, Dec. 10 — El Alebrije. Free.

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Saturday, Dec. 3 — Andrea
 Loraine Jazz Band.
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Richard
 James Jazz Trio.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Amistad
 Cubano.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
Sunday, Dec. 4 — La Oreja de
 Van Gogh.
Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Beach House.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Sonic Tonic.

Martini's San Diego:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Jonathan
 Karrant.

Mesa College:
Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Jaeryoung
 Lee. **Free.**
Friday, Dec. 9 — Fall Concert:
 Jazz & Classical. **Free.**

Moonshine Beach:
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Young Guns.

Motorcycle Monkey:
Saturday, Dec. 15 — Sonic
 Tonic.

Mountain View Community Church:
Friday, Dec. 2 — North County
 Wind Ensemble. **\$20.**

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — Jukebox
 Junkies.
Friday, Dec. 2 — CircaSonic.
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Custard Pie.
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Daddy Needs
 a Drink.
Friday, Dec. 9 — 2lil2late.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — The Edge.

Music Box:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — Lucius and
 Sarah Kinsley.
Friday, Dec. 2 — Britney Party.
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Psychedelic
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IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Trombone vs. horn at the Shell

The San Diego Symphony concert on Friday, November 11 at The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park featured a boat horn — though not intentionally. For whatever reason, a boat was crisscrossing the harbor, blowing its horn at very regular intervals. As majestic as the concert was, this wandering interruption is what almost everyone will remember.

Will we remember the U.S. premiere of a new piece entitled *Time, Three Movements for Orchestra* by Thomas Larcher? We might, since the boat horn wasn't quite in full effect during this part of the performance. I will remember it because I found myself immersed in classical music in the middle movement. At that point in the composition, Larcher wasn't hitting us in the face with

the fact that this was new music. I must admit, it was a moment of revelation: I realized that the vast majority of new compositions are constantly reminding the audience they are modern. Modern, modern, modern. How refreshing to hear, at least for a few minutes, a new piece that wasn't completely obsessed with its own modernity. Bravo, Larcher.

Will we remember Emanuel Ax performing Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 2*? We will, because the whimsical Ax matched the pitch of the boat horn with the piano between the first and second movement, and observed that we were "in the wrong key." All good-natured quips aside, the performance was stellar. Beethoven's second concerto is an interesting piece,

because the orchestra sounds like Mozart, while the piano sounds like Beethoven. Ax made Beethoven's piano part live and breathe with pure musicality.

I wasn't that familiar with Dimitri Shostakovich's *Symphony No. 12*, so I gave it a listen on YouTube before the concert, and I wasn't impressed. I wasn't feeling the sardonic fury that informs Shostakovich's most significant works. However, about five minutes into the performance, I was thoroughly impressed and immersed in a titanic soundscape that defied the limitations of the symphonic repertoire. Shostakovich can whip the orchestra up into a storm with the best of them, and conductor Rafael Payare rode this storm as the lord of thunder.



Boat horn leaves Shell shocked.

I feel it necessary to mention the well-executed trombone solo performed by principal trombonist Kyle Covington. It was easily the most expansive trombone solo I've ever heard, and Covington had it covered. Unfortunately, the boat horn rode out the storm as well, and continued its inane odyssey throughout

the performance. On the fortunate side, Shostakovich concluded his symphony with all the sound an orchestra can possibly muster. At that point, the boat horn bent the knee to the Shostakovich, the symphonic king. Yet as the music concluded and the audience dispersed, the horn played on.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

Friday, Dec. 9 — The Winehouse Experience. **\$22-\$82.**

Nate's Garden Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 17 —
 Tinkersmith. **Free.**

Observatory North Park:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — Turnover.
Friday, Dec. 2 — Modest Mouse.
Monday, Dec. 5 — Social
 Distortion. **\$135-\$199.**
Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Social

Distortion. **\$135-\$199.**
Wednesday, Dec. 7 — The
 Menzingers.
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Sunny Day
 Real Estate.

Old Town Temecula Community Theater:
Sunday, Dec. 4 — Southwest
 Women's Chorus: Christmas in
 the Air. **\$15-\$20.**

Panama 66:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Uptown
 Rhythm Makers. **Free.**

Pechanga Arena San Diego:
Friday, Dec. 30 — OMFG NYE.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — OMFG
 NYE.

Petco Park:
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Proper NYE:
 Sofi Tukker, more.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:
Sunday, Dec. 4 — Big Bad
 Voodoo Daddy Holiday Party.

Poway's Irish Pub:
Saturday, Dec. 10 — West of 5.
Free.

Rady Shell at Jacobs Park:
Saturday, Dec. 17 — How The
 Grinch Stole Christmas In
 Concert.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Saturday, Dec. 3 — The Dickies.
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Geoff Tate's
 Big Rock Show Hits.

Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church:
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Together
 Again for Christmas Concert.
\$25.

San Diego Model Railroad Museum:
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Ales N' Rails
 2022. **\$35-\$45.**

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library:

Sunday, Dec. 11 — Fred
 Benedetti. **Free.**

Seven Grand:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — Sunking.

Shelter Encinitas - 540 S. Coast Hwy, Encinitas, CA. :
Thursday, Dec. 1 — It's Just
 Noize Takeover. **Free.**

Soda Bar:
Friday, Dec. 2 — Playboy
 Manbaby and Buddha Trixie.
Sunday, Dec. 4 — Birdzilla and
 Ruben Lady.
Monday, Dec. 5 — Strawberry
 Girls and The Color 8.
Tuesday, Dec. 6 — Drugdealer.
Wednesday, Dec. 7 —
 Drugdealer.
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Loma Prieta
 and Slow Fire Pistol.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Blue Hawaii.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Sleep Signals
 and QUOR.
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Wild Pink
 and Trace Mountains.

Soma:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — THUY.
Friday, Dec. 2 — Yung Gravy and
 bbno\$.
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Peach Pit.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Álvaro Díaz.

Spin Nightclub:
Friday, Dec. 9 — DJ Seinfeld.

Sunshine Brooks Theatre:
Wednesday, Dec. 21 — David
 Arkenstone & Friends. **\$25-\$45.**

Til-Two Club:
Thursday, Dec. 1 — Granite
 Mask and Adios Mundo Cruel.
Friday, Dec. 2 — DJ Mike
 Delgado.
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Crown City
 Bombers.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Tiltwheel and
 Shehehe.

Tower Bar:
Friday, Dec. 9 — Scout Gillett.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Scout
 Gillett.

University of San Diego:
Saturday, Dec. 3 — Lessons &
 Carols. **Free.**
Sunday, Dec. 4 — Lessons &
 Carols. **Free.**

Unknown Showroom:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Sundiver CA
 and Yungatita & Mind's Eye.

Viejas Arena:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Trinity of
 Terror Tour.

Winstons Beach Club:
Friday, Dec. 2 — Half Hour Late,
 Chandler Leighton, Olivia Henry.
\$12-\$15.
Wednesday, Dec. 7 — Twisted
 Relatives and DJ E-DUB. **\$10.**
Friday, Dec. 9 — Cycles Band.
\$15.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Anson
 Funderburg & Eric Lindell. **\$35.**
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Kim Wilson's
 Blues All-Stars. **\$20-\$25.**

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White Rice Bodega raises silog to Normal Heights

White Rice Bodega; 3586 Adams Ave Suite 100, Normal Heights. There's a term particular to The Philippines, *bayanihan*, which describes the spirit of a community working together for the common good. It springs from a centuries-old practice of an entire village showing up to physically move a family home. This would be a *bahay kubo*, a traditional house raised up on stilts, often made of bamboo, with a rooftop of thatched mangrove palms. Something light enough that a large group of men could lift and relocate the entire structure, perhaps away from landscape damaged by one of the eight or nine tropical cyclones that typically hit the Philippines archipelago each year.



Lechon Kawali
silog bowl: crispy pork belly
and fried egg over garlic fried rice.

The term was taught to me by Chef Phillip Esteban, who launched his restaurant White Rice amid a different sort of natural disaster: the covid pandemic. He'd been operating a lunch catering service, delivering employee meals to corporate clients, generally California cuisine. That demand dried up once those employees were sent home to shelter in place. Esteban quickly pivoted to home meal deliveries, spreading the word — and taking orders through — social media, with much success.

Having learned the *bayanihan* concept from his grandfather, Esteban applied this spirit to White Rice, which established a one-for-one model: for every meal sold, a meal would be donated to someone in need. When I spoke to him at the time, he was delivering meals to nursing homes in his home community of National City.

In the years since, Esteban has expanded the concept to include physical locations, most recently with the opening of White Rice Bodega in Normal Heights. It's a small building with an outdoor service counter and dining area, adorned with affirmations such as "All the good things [sic]" and "Salamat yo!" (*salamat* meaning *thank you*). Admirably, the one-for-one concept remains intact.

Meanwhile, riding along with this sense of

altruism is another positive attribute: the arrival of Filipino food in the uptown area. Pillaring the White Rice menu are variations of the Filipino breakfast dish, *silog*, which is built on the foundation of garlic fried rice (*sinangag*) and egg (*itlog*).

Truly, the *silog* bowls made by White Rice are good for any time of day, featuring rice and fried egg topped by the likes of grilled chicken, the mildly sweet *longanisa* sausage, and an eggless, vegan *sisig* featuring mushroom and tofu. At \$13.50, any of these will prove filling and satisfying, whether or not you're already acquainted with Filipino cuisine. If you're remotely hesitant, start with the \$14.50 bowl of *lechon kawali*, more readily understood as crispy pork belly.

Hopefully, we're all past any hesitation. I'm not alone among local food writers who've tried to point out the merits of the Spain-meets-Pacific Island cuisine for years, citing the entrenched Filipino population that has endowed our city with an abundance of kitchens and bakeries. But these options have rarely ventured into uptown neighborhoods, so just in case, let's just say this crunchy and succulent pork belly will knock your socks off, in the way a only a casual recipe created by a cook who cut his teeth in fine dining can.

At this stage in his career, Esteban is a locally famous chef with an emerging national profile, and without doubt the dude has many irons in the proverbial fire. So it's clear that, by planting White Rice locations on Adams Avenue and in Liberty Station, he's bringing his familial cuisine into the San Diego mainstream, offering comfort dishes both accessible and intriguing to the curious diner.

Whichever rice bowls you try, and whichever lumpia you order (veggie for \$7.50, or pork and shrimp for \$8.50), I'd recommend tacking on an order of *ube pandesal* (\$8.50). Here, both dinner rolls and butter are rendered deep purple by *ube*, the purple sweet potato indigenous to the Philippines. It doubles as a salty-sweet treat and visual reminder of a faraway culture that maintains a deep and enduring presence in our community; and which may be able to teach us a "ting" or two about what it means to really be a part of one.

by Ian Anderson

THANKSGIVING DINING

Bayside Thanksgiving Day Dining Make this holiday one to remember with an expertly crafted brunch or dinner at the Bahia Resort Hotel. Reserve your table for the Thanksgiving Champagne Brunch and be treated to stunning Mission Bay vistas along with an extensive buffet with options to satisfy all preferences. For evening celebrations, the Bahia's talented chefs are also curating a three-course dinner featuring holiday-inspired dishes. Thursday, November 24, 11am and 5:30pm; \$50-\$110. Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

Chef's Champagne Thanksgiving Buffet Enjoy a buffet plus a special appearance by the Poinsettia Princess. The resort's culinary team has prepared holiday favorites including a fresh seafood bar, carving stations, desserts and a children's buffet. Thursday, November



Filipino food now being served on Adams Avenue.

24, 10am; free-\$140. Omni La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

Thanksgiving Dining on Mission Bay This Thanksgiving, reserve a table for your dining companions and experience a memorable champagne brunch or opt for a three-course dinner to delight the senses. No matter what time of day you celebrate, you'll be treated to mouthwatering curated menus with holiday favorites the whole family will love. Thursday, November 24, 11am and 5:30pm; \$50-\$120. Oceana Coastal Kitchen, 3999 Mission Boulevard. (MISSION BEACH)

Thanksgiving Dinner Specials Menu featuring Slow roasted Turkey Breast, Slow Roasted Prime Rib and all your favorite comfort food side dishes. Thursday, November 24, 4pm; Sandpiper Wood Fired Grill & Oysters, 2259 Avenida De La Playa. (LA JOLLA)

Thanksgiving Dinner Specials Prix Fixe 3-Course Holiday Dinner in Ocean View Room and Turkey special along with regular menu at Ocean Terrace and Level2. Prix Fixe Menu includes Roasted Turkey Breast, Sausage and Chestnut-Stuffed Leg, Potato Pure with Turkey Gravy, Mushroom Stuffing, Roasted Brussels Sprouts and Pecan Pie. Thursday, November 24, 11am; \$32-\$85. George's at the Cove Ocean Terrace, 1250 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Thanksgiving Dinner Specials Executive Chef Bryn McArthur has concocted a three-course menu at Amaya and a family style menu at the Manchester Salon featuring fall flavors. Thursday, November 24, 12pm; \$98-\$240. Fairmont Grand Del Mar, 5300 Grand Del Mar Court. (CARMEL VALLEY)

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CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY 1998

A grade changed to B grade, correct this. Classroom taken during protest for 24 hour restroom.

IN MY BACKPACK STOLEN

1991 my yellow quartz necklace, dainty clasp, sentimental value, return this. (858) 568-8648

MILITARY DIRECTOR JIM HIGGINS

What's going on outside at the admiral Baker's filthy bath-rooms at the gold course #126? Ladies room is locked up for one month.

THANK YOU to all my faithful and loyal friends for coming to see me, regularly, at Bullies in Mission Valley! I appreciate you... Rachel

TO LIL AND DAMION Happy Thanksgiving from Tina Marie. Stay tuned!

DEAR KATHERINE Dearest Katherine, I've been at the Trailways bus stop in Dateland waiting for your arrival for quite some time. Have you been detained at customs again with that 'fishy' passport you continue to use. Hope to see you soon. Love, Frank

DRIVEWAY SOCIETY it has come to our attention at the Driveway Society that many fel-

Dove Canyon Apartments, a 120-unit affordable apartment community in San Diego, is opening its waitlist for a limited time! This property is located near schools, grocery-anchored shopping and parks, and offers 1, 2, and 3-bdr apartments. The community includes laundry facilities, a swimming pool, computer lab, tot lot, BBQ and picnic area. **Pre-applications for the waitlist will be made available and also accepted starting Mon. November 21, 2022 at 9:00AM via 1) https://bridgehousing.com/properties/dove-canyon/ or 2) Contactless pick-up at the property.**

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low citizens have failed to keep their sidewalks swept daily, not complying with city code #4829. Please be advised that we will be taking names. Thank you once again.

LOOKING FOR LONG LOST

SISTER Hello Sandy this is your sister Carol we were separated at birth. I've gotten word you might be in clairmont working at a sprouts. Please contact me immediately I think we'd have a good connection. Take care love Mrs. Crabit. (619) 787-2486

FOOL ME ONCE, shame on you, fool me twice, shame on me. I have to know better...

SERVERJESSICA Thank you for the beautiful memories and hilarious stories. I love you very much and if you ever need my help, I'll always be there for you... love Ernestina.

TO LOVE, HONOR AND OBEY GOD and... Jesus is the way and the truth and the life.

DOWNTOWN STALKER

2017. My jacket stolen Horton Park, DMV print out, social security card, wallet, cash, money order, storage receipts, downtown stalker, domestic terrorism, 10 years violence.

5-DAY NOVENA to St. Therese of Lisieux. Say 5 hail Marys, 5 our Fathers, and 5 glory be's.

LOOKING FOR ARTIST NEAL, roommate John, Fred, Doug Sweda, Pacific Beach, house on alley between Thomas and Reed-1977. Also, Jackie Feitler. (619) 917-6975

ST. JUDE NOVENA may the sacred heart of Jesus be adored, glorified and preserved now and forever, sacred heart of Jesus pray for us. St. Jude worker of miracles pray for us.

THE FIRST THING THAT EXISTED had no beginning or created itself from nothing or Jesus said "I am the beginning..." Revelation 22:13

SEEKING WEALTHY MENTOR I'm a senior gentleman looking for a wealthy mentor. If interested, call Gary, (858) 262-1171. Leave message and phone number.

FRIENDS OF JAMES HARPER (JIM) Please call Jim's family. Ann, Jennifer, Jamie, thank you. (619) 917-6975

NOTICES

THEFT ATTEMPT large stone rock smashed on skull, blue eyed violator, theft/murder attempt. University and 5th

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YOUR OPINION Taxes! As a tax payer, which would you choose? Money for homelessness, or money for wildlife habitat acquisition? The Center for Applied Critical Thinking CACT, (619) 428-1274.

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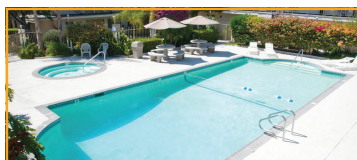
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CANNONDALE F1000SL MOINTAIN Bike, ultra aluminum steering fork, orange-yellow color, purchased new-very little use, \$450., (760) 746-7209

CRUISER STYLE One men's, one women's, both for \$50. Includes blue helmet. Text only (619) 872-8250.

MOTORCYCLES

KAWASAKI KZ 200/A1 1978 4 stroke ohc, single cylinder. Electric and kick start, 5 speed, like new, less than 3000 miles. In clairmont \$3000. (207) 265-6640.

'86 KAWASAKI NINJA 1000R 1986 Kawasaki Ninja 1000R (Red). Purchased at auction. Gas tank removed to drain gas, and battery removed. Don't have the time to get it running. No paperwork. Comes with Clymers Manual. \$1000 Send Txt to (619) 981-9688 for pics and further details.

2020 HARLEY DAVIDSON XL 1200, black. Cash price \$12,000. Too many extras to list. (619) 233-8300.

AUTOMOTIVE



1997 SUBARU WRX STI Made famous by the world rally championship. This very rare. Version III. JDMSpec. 1997 Subaru Impreza STI 2.0 WRX 4WD has a horizontal opposite 4 cylinder DOHC engine, a premium gasoline engine EJ20. It is a track car. Race car inspired. (518) 491-0017

WE BUY ALL TYPE OF CARS! We buy all type of cars running or not. Same day pickup, same day cash. No title, no tires, no keys, engine not working, check engine light on, running or not. 1. Call/text (619) 484-4032, 2. Get a quote, 3. Get your cash.

1987 TOYOTA PICK UP two door, four cylinder, four speed standard, AC. Good condition, nice tires, below average wear and tear, all paperwork in order good condition (619) 576-8196. The price is \$3,900.

CAR BATTERY Toyota Prius battery used good condition \$65 (619) 576-8196.

2014 FORD COOP MUSTANG available, 59,000 miles, light transmission maintenance needed only, very good condition otherwise. \$11,500 is the asking price, the price of the car is

valued at \$18,000. Call (619) 415-7064, ask for GP

2016 MAZDA CX5 GRAND TOURING: Automatic, AWD, 2.5L, 4 cylinder engine, 4 door, red metallic color, black leather seats, 94,700 miles, original owner, well cared for and maintained by a nurse, the reason for selling-the car was replaced by a new Tesla, \$19,500, call (760) 746-7209.

4 BF GOODRICH ALLTER-RAIN TIRES mounted on 8 lug aluminum wheels, balanced, LT265/75R-16, M+S, load range E, about 80% tread left on tires, \$300., (760) 746-7209.

1992 BUICK LE SABRE MANUALS GM Owners manual, GM service manual, GM electrical systems manual, Haynes repair manual, Chilton's repair manual, all 5 for \$100., (760) 746-7209

4 BIG O BIGFOOT A-T TIRES Big Foot all terrain tires, M+S, LT245/75R16, mounted on 6 lug aluminum wheels, balanced, they are Sprinter wheels, used, \$225., (760) 746-7209.

1971 VOLKSWAGEN CONVERTIBLE make/style/body, yellow/black/convertible top. Excellent condition, 2023 plates, \$10,000. (760) 420-3641

2003 BMW M3 convertible black/black smg. Needs TLC. 130,000 miles. \$5000 or? (760) 840-7198.

12 PASSENGER VAN for rent \$100 a day \$600 a week churches get 10% discount mentioned the reader and get one day free with one weekly rental (619) 233-8300.

\$99 A WEEK Toyota Corolla Pay cash get one extra day (619) 233-8300.

RENTAL CAR starting from \$17.95 per day \$99 a week 350 a month 3006 Barnett Ave. point Loma open seven days a week trucks for rent \$300 a week Toyota four runner also minivans \$400 a week 15 passenger vans \$500 a week. (619) 233-8300

RENTAL CAR AVAILABLE also rent to own programs thousand dollars down \$500 a week in-house financing rent to own (619) 233-8300.

RENT TO OWN Thousand dollars down direct payments no credit check 3006 Barnett Avenue Open seven days a week from 9 to 7 (619) 233-8300.

TOYOTA CAMRY for rent \$99 a week 350 a month pay cash get one day free (619) 233-8300.

TOYOTA FORERUNNER for rent \$300 a week rent to own program available (619) 233-8300.

TOYOTA TRUCK for rent \$300 a week rent to own program available (619) 233-8300.

1999 TOYOTA AVALON White. Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$2900 (619) 233-8300.

2000 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS Super clean, rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$3900. (619) 233-8300.

2000 TOYOTA AVALON GOLD Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$2900. (619) 233-8300.

2001 TOYOTA CAMRY Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$3900. (619) 233-8300.

2005 TOYOTA TUNDRA TRUCK Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$8900. (619) 233-8300.

2006 TOYOTA COROLLA Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$6900. (619) 233-8300.

2007 TOYOTA 4RUNNER White. Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$9800. (619) 233-8300.

2009 MERCEDES E350W Black. Super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash Price \$6,900. (619) 233-8300.

2011 CHEVY CAMARO Black. super clean. Rent to own or for sale. Cash price \$17000. (619) 233-8300.

LOOKING FOR 1990 OR OLDER Ford cargo van, fgross0421, Aa@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED

BODY DESIGN LEAD ARRK N.A., Inc. has an opening for a Body Design Lead in San Diego, CA - position eligible for telecommute. Resumes can be sent to Attn: Brenda (Job#BDL), ARRK N.A., Inc. 4660 La Jolla Dr, Ste 100 & 200, San Diego, CA 92122.

BOUNCERS NEEDED for nightclub in Mission Valley 9pm-4am Friday-Sunday. Guard Card

OIL CHANGE Additional 55 cartridge fee. Plus tax, haz waste, & engine cover shield removal fee. Up to 5 qts. 10w30 oil. Special only for 4cyl vehicle. 6-8cyl vehicle does not apply.	\$24⁹⁵ most cars
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BRAKES Front or rear *Plus Labor. Prices may vary depending on make and model.	From \$49 most cars
30K 60K 90K Scheduled Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$65 most cars
RADIATOR or Transmission Services *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$45 most cars 4-cyl.
TIMING BELT Parts & Labor *Prices may vary depending on make and model.	\$75 most cars 4-cyl.
STARTERS, RADIATORS, OR ALTERNATORS Plus labor.	\$95 most cars 4-cyl.
FREE CHECK ENGINE LIGHT 96 and up.	
We'll beat any written estimate! Dents, dings, scratches? Now offering bodywork. B.T. Auto Wrench Walk ins welcome. No appointment necessary! 8027 BALBOA AVE. #B&C 858-533-8120	

required or must be able to obtain one. English-Spanish bilingual preferred. \$17+/hour. East-Tech Private Security. E-mail resume to easttech2171@aol.com. San Diego: (619) 282-1933;. Oceanside: (619) 459-0991.

ENGR II - DIGITAL DESIGN Microchip seeks an Engr II - Digital Design (EDD-YL): Validate RF mixed-signal Ultra-Low-Power chips using validation methodology on actual silicon chips. MS degree req'd. Mail resumes to Microchip Technology, Attn: Noelle Hodac, 15822 Bernardo Center Dr, Ste B, San Diego, CA 92127. Must ref title & code.

GORILA/SEGURIDAD para club nocturno en Mission Valley. Se requiere Tarjeta de Guardia. español-inglés Bilingüe preferido. \$17+/hora. 9pm-4am Viernes-Domingo. Seguridad Privada East-Tech. Env'e su curriculum por correo electrónico a easttech2171@aol.com. San Diego: (619) 282-1933; Oceanside: (619) 459-0991.

LOOKING FOR IHSS CERTIFIED CAREGIVER for long term. I have part-time and full-time openings. You can make your own schedule. Please have a vehicle be respectable and reliable. I'm a very down to earth middle aged woman in Allied Gardens. I am willing to help out with gas and buying your lunch. Please leave a message only by calling (619) 269-3434. Renee.

MLOPS ENGINEER (Req# IIC1404) Work with data scientists, engns, analysts, info arch & enterprise analytics teams to assess new solutions, designs & models. Advise service users on most appr ML learning methods & infrastructure. Telecommuting Permitted. MS+1yr rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

SCIENTIST (Req# IIC1403) Design & dvp new & existing materials & deposition methods for Illumina's sequencing & sample prep platforms. MS+3yrs rtd exp or PhD. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.

SR. SCIENTIST (Req# IIC1402) Plan, execute & analyze various lab experiments to engr & characterize novel enzymes for NGS, with defined goals & time frames. PhD+3 or MS+5yrs rtd exp. Send resumes to Illumina, Attn: SD122440, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & Req#.



CAREGIVER \$20/HR 15HR PER WK We are looking for a female caregiver to support a 72-year-old man. He has partially lost mobility after neck surgery. Light assistance with daily duties. We'll help to get IHSS registration. Mileage reimbursement. *Rancho Bernardo (858) 360-0388.

IHSS CAREGIVER WANTED: SDSU area. Flexible schedule ok. For more details: (619) 501-1057 or (619) 831-3000 mobile to call or text or leave a message.

LIVE IN HELPER WANTED Part-time helper for senior woman in the College area. Helper will have own room, kitchenette, private entrance in large Del Cerro home in part exchange for

GOOD PRICE IN TOWN!

OIL CHANGE 4-cyl., most cars. Up to 5 qts. 10w 30	\$25	USED ENGINES & TRANSMISSION + From Labor Most 4 cyl cars.	\$899*
Low Prices On Body & Frame Work, Paint, Mufflers & Cat		SMOG CHECK Most cars, plus \$8.25 cert. Fast & convenient. *Not a star station. From 2000 & up	\$26⁷⁵

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HEAD GASKET 4-cyl. & most cars & machine extra.	\$799	AC SERVICE Most cars.	\$95

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

REPAINT BUMPER OR FENDER from each. Most cars.	\$295	30K SERVICE 4-cyl., most cars.	\$195
TIMING BELT 4-cyl., most cars.	\$195	AXLE SHAFT 4-cyl., most cars. plus labor	\$99 each

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FREE BRAKE INSPECTION & ESTIMATE	SMOG CHECK SPECIAL ★ STAR Certified Smog Test or All Cars 2000 and Up Same Price. Good through December 30, 2022. \$317⁵* +\$8.25 cert
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housekeeping, cooking, errands, and driving (required). Flexible if you have other jobs. (619) 279-6178 / kencooffeeo@yahoo.com

STARTING \$20.93 AT BONA FIDE People with disabilities needed for janitorial and grounds maintenance. Varied San Diego locations. A Federal background check is required; we fully assist applicants and also offer training. Contact us at: (619) 509-6334 or Nathan@bonafidecglm.org. / Nathan@BonaFidecglm.org

PAID RESEARCH STUDIES Healthy volunteers needed for paid research studies. Compensation for time and travel is available to those who qualify. Contact us to learn more - (855) 367-8834. Current studies: opioid use, memory screens, depression, chronic pain, Schizophrenia, vaccine. / recruitment@artemis-research.com

VOLUNTEER DRONE PILOT 4 FARM Are you a drone hobbyist that flies early AM, when no wind? I'm looking for a volunteer operator to shoot my garden this weekend. I can offer you Sunday champagne brunch & organic veggies for a few minutes of your time/shots. YouGoFarmGal@gmail.com

GIG DELIVERY DRIVERS Earn up to \$1 per mile into your retirement account by switching over to this electric cargo vehicle. Text "gig" for details (916) 880-2252.

KAYAK/PADDLE BOARD DELIVERY MANAGER in PB. Seeking outgoing person with truck who lives in Pacific Beach to deliver/retrieve SUPs and Kayaks M-F. Great, cash pay. Fun outside job, will learn new business ownership skills. Call (541) 517-0057.

SEEKING ATTORNEY/PARALEGAL Facing parental alienation. Having difficult time representing myself prose in "Divorce Corp" Google it. No charlatans/legal pretenders Have Some moo!ah. sangpoincorporated@gmail.com

SEEK ORGANIC FARM VOLUNTEERS Join us in weeding, planting, collecting seeds, wheelbarrowing, communing in nature & potentially make new friends at my South Bay Farm. Spend at least 3 hours helping & pick veggies you'd like to take with you. Reply to YouGoFarmGal@gmail.com.

CAREGIVER Looking for a caregiver for my elderly mom. She needs to be fed, turned and bedding changed etc. Light housework, laundry, meals, dishes etc. Please have a cell phone and a vehicle. Need help Wednesday 4

pm to 11 pm. Krissy: (619) 536-7727

CERTIFIED AOD COUNSELORS Drug and alcohol counselors working with participants in groups and individual sessions. Including intake documents for admission into the program. Must have good communication skills, basic knowledge of computers and able to work independently. (619) 602-9405 / stayssafe1@aol.com

CARPENTER NEEDED Looking for a carpenter/property maintenance technician. Must have your own vehicle and basic tools. East County company working in all of San Diego County. Send your resume/work experience to brickconstructionsd.com. (619) 303-7491 / brickconstructionsd@gmail.com

PAID OPIOID USE STUDY Volunteers needed for a paid opioid use disorder study. No insurance is required and all information is kept confidential. Contact us to learn more. (855) 367-8834 / recruitment@artemis-research.com

PAID SLEEP APNEA STUDIES If you are overweight and have sleep apnea you may qualify for a paid research study. Compensation and transportation is available to those who qualify. No insurance is required. Contact us to learn more: (855) 367-8834 / recruitment@artemis-research.com

PAID FLU VACCINE STUDIES Healthy adults 50 or older needed for a flu vaccine study. Compensation for your time. No health insurance needed. (833) 601-8929 / recruitment@artemis-research.com

SMOKER PAID RESEARCH STUDY We are a research group looking for biological males age 55+ to donate a sample toward our research study to understand how smoking affects men throughout the life course. If interested email smoking.sandiego@gmail.com. You will be compensated \$40.

RESEARCH STUDY AVAILABLE IN OCEANSIDE looking for schizophrenia patients only, 18-65 years old. Compensation will be paid to qualified participants, transportation will also be provided. Call Travis (619) 706-7529. Referral number only

WANT TO HIRE VOLKSWAGEN MECHANIC 1960-70s Volkswagen mechanic. Must have electrical experience, own tools, your tools, at my garage, San Marcos. Must have experience, retired. (760) 420-3641.

CAREGIVER, RANCHO BERNARDO Monday and Tuesday afternoons. Help physically challenged man. Enrolled in IHSS or willing to enroll. Vaccinated and boosted, leave number. (858) 487-1225

LOOKING FOR PERSON WHO KNOWS COMPUTERS pay, plus housing. (619) 773-6485

DRIVER Drive your own minivan or SUV. \$23-\$28/ hour when factoring in mileage reimbursement + benefits! Essential and stable employment. Full- & part-time shifts. Immediate openings. (858) 444-2350, or apply in person: 9710 Distribution Ave. SD, 92121.

CAREGIVER (EAST COUNTY). 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. Proof of COVID-19 vaccination required. Duties include: personal care, transferring, dressing, bathing, grooming, cooking, cleaning, shopping. Please send resume or brief description of why you are an excellent candidate to agarciajr14@sbcglobal.net or leave message at (619) 596-9343.

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

JOBS WANTED

FULL TIME/PART-TIME POSITION Preferably remote work from home job, day shift, entry level customer service position. Email to jennifer112878@gmail.com. Resume upon request. (760) 705-8457

APPLYING FOR DISHWASHER. Lots of experience, Relief, P/T or F/T. Greg (858) 282-5937.

FULL TIME JOB WANTED by High school/College graduate healthy 64 male southern Californian vaccinated, with reliable transportation. Seeking steady full-time employment in Miramar, La Jolla, Solana Beach, Carlsbad, north county. Dale Hauskins (858) 401-2973.

GREAT GUY FOR ENTRY LEVEL POSITION Available for F/T, P/T or Temporary employment. Greg (858) 282-5937.

GREAT GUY FOR ENTRY LEVEL POSITION: Available for F/T, P/T or temporary employment. All days. Call, text or leave voice message for Greg @ (858) 282-5937.

WANTED / TRADE

LOOKING FOR OLD TUBE STEREO I am looking for that old Tube Stereo System that your Grandpa used to play. These Stereo Components were made in America, in the early 1960's, by such Companies as Fisher, Scott, McIntosh, Dynaco & more. I pay cash, so please call Jack (619) 296-3100. / jack22@cox.net

BUYING GARBAGE PAIL KIDS CARDS Cash for 1st and 2nd series Garbage Pail Kids (1-83 a & b) and full sets, unopened boxes. San Diego local. (832) 651-8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

BUYING OLD BASEBALL CARDS Buying old baseball and other sports/non-sports cards. Pre-1980 preferred but buying more modern stars and rookies. Cash paid. San Diego local. Comics, autographs, memorabilia

too. (832) 651-8302 / ashscoot@aol.com

WANTED: NEAR COASTAL FARMLAND Senior farm gal growing organic pick-your-own nutrient rich veggies for those in need, seeks minimum 1/4 to 10 acres of near coastal farmland W/ water to install edible labyrinth for the community to enjoy & benefit from. Reply: YouGoFarmGal@gmail.com

4 INCH STEEL PIPE WANTED: I'm looking for 4 inch I.D. thick wall steel pipe that is 10 feet long or longer. If you have pipe that is reasonably priced or if it is old I will pick it up and haul it away for free. (760) 746-7209 the phone is a landline, no texting.

SOLAR PANELS WANTED: I'm looking for solar panels that are reasonably priced or if they are old I will haul them away for free. I'm setting up an off grid system not connected to the electric grid. Let me know what you have, (760) 746-7209

WANTED RV SPACE TO RENT plus cars. Retiree quiet \$550 per month cash incl electric. (619) 244-5902.

I BUY OLD GUITARS AND guitar amps. Working or not. Call me (619) 279-7833.

NEED MONEY? I pay cash for comic books and come to you, (619) 933-6275.

NEED PLACE TO LIVE I have been a caregiver for years. I'm an excellent cook, I'm clean, I am drug free. In need of immediate housing, I would like a room if available. If you are serious I'm interested. Please call (619) 629-0249.

WE BUY SILVER AND GOLD coins and bars. Call me (619) 279-7833.

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES: Rock & roll I buy 1950's-1980's concert posters, flyers, handbills, used-unused tickets, programs. Pls call (619) 313-1580 private party.

WANTED: OLD SLOT CARS. Or old toys. Cell/text #619-279-7833.

GOT ANY OLD SURFBOARDS? I pay cash. I come to you. Cell/text (619) 806-6703

SEWING MACHINES I Buy singer 221 sewing machines. Featherweight. Working or not ok. Cell/text (619) 806-6703

I BUY VINYL RECORDS all types, great prices paid. We don't just buy 2-3 records, we buy your whole collection. Call (619) 250-3088.

I BUY SAXOPHONES trumpets, trombone, tuba, flute, clarinet. Or? Or any old band instruments. Call (619) 279-7833.

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

OLD DRUM SETS AND CYMBALS Cash paid. Call (619) 280-2075.

I BUY OLDER STEREO GEAR Working or not ok. Pioneer, Sansui, Klipsch, JBL, Fisher, Yamaha, Dynaco, McIntosh, Tannoy. What do you have? I got cash and I'll drive to you. Call or text me for pictures (619) 279-7833.

WILL PAY CASH... For records, CDs, DVDs, and clothes. Professional Singing Lessons available. Musicians Wanted. Call Jeff Clark, (858) 382-7396.

GARAGE SALES

MIRA MESA GARAGE SALE Women's sweaters, men's sports hats, men's t shirts, various sci-fi convention souvenir books and posters, knick-knack's. By appointment only. Call (858) 693-3409, evenings.

FOR SALE

1970'S ALUMINUM CHRISTMAS TREE with silver lame cover silver Christmas bulbs and color wheel \$50. (619) 457-2316

BEAUTIFUL GLASS TABLE LAMP This classic table lamp with brass trim base & cream pleated shade is very pretty and in excellent condition. 26.5" tall overall, body 16" high, base 6.5" across, shade 7" (top), 18" (bottom) & 12.5" (side). \$35. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

BRAND NEW IN BOX hand rail bar for bathroom \$40. Call (619) 601-3591.

WOOD PLANKS FROM BOOKSHELF The nicely stained solid wood planks are from a hand built bookshelf (31"x 9.5"x 80") using 2"x 10" lumber 2 long side pieces (9.25"x 80") and 7 short pieces (9.25"x 28") for shelves. Can help with rebuilding. \$75. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pic.

JETSON KIDS LED LIGHTS SCOOTER This Jupiter cool kids kick scooter (non-motorized) has blinking LED lights on both wheels. Batteries included. Deck: 17"x 3.75", handlebar: 11". Overall height: 29.5". Fully functional and in good condition. \$15. Text (619) 796-5510 for more info/pics.

SHARP PG-B10S VIDEO PROJECTOR Sharp NoteVision PG-B10S SVGA video projector. Very good condition with 94% lamp life (3800 hours) left. Has NTSC composite, S-video and SVGA video inputs. Includes wall mount screen. Selling for \$150. Call (858) 472-0132 or email johns9764@yahoo.com

2 DOG CARRIER CASES wire, 40 pound max. 2 for \$40 or best offer. Call (619) 601-3591.

CDS, DVDS, CASSETTES, ETC. CDs, DVDs, cassettes, a few LPs; classic books dating back to the early 1900s, including some classic children's books; classic magazines — sports music, etc. E-mail me for lists at donnamacersie@att.net. (161) 942-4613

DRIVE WALKER brand new, used one. 500 pounds max, \$100. Call (619) 601-3591

PROJECTOR AND AUTO JACK STANDS Slide projector 2 1/4 inch by 2 1/4 inch, with extras, \$100. Auto jack stands, steel, set of 4, \$50. (760) 757-5445

WOOD JEWELRY BOX W/ GLASS LID This beautiful solid wood jewelry box (10.5"x 6.5" x 3" high) has 6 top compartments and an open bottom storage. The lid looks very nice with clear glass framed by wood molding. Very good condition. \$25. Text (619) 800-5568 for more info or pictures.

WWII GUN RIFLE BOX Excellent condition, original lining and wax paper, \$75 or best offer. Call (619) 601-3591.

SOLID WOOD SWIVEL BAR STOOL This counter (25.5") bar stool w/ armrests is very sturdy and well built. It has 3" vinyl foam pad, rattan wicker back & bronze protector on footrests. \$45 or \$65 for 2 matching (2nd one with some wear on seat). Text (619) 796-5510 for more info/pics.

DARK BROWN LEATHER OTTOMAN This comfortable pin cushion square leather ottoman (34.5"x 34.5" x 18" high) has sturdy wooden legs. It is in very good condition with no rips or tears. \$60. Text (619) 796-5680 for more information and/or pictures.

MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following items: a couple of brand new clocks fancy candle holder blue v-tech house phone folding laundry basket ALL these items you MUST buy for 40.00 obo any very much interested candidate ask for james @ (619) 450-7914. / j.fified31@gmail.com

MONGOOSE STANCE PRO SCOOTER This freestyle non-motorized scooter is the perfect way to show off your skills. Overall size: 32.25" x 18.5" x 26". Handle height: 32". Deck: 20" x 3.75". 4" wheels. All in good working condition. \$20. Please text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pictures.



2 DUTCH OVENS - 5 QT. & 6.5 QT These classic black Dutch ovens / stock pots with glass lid are in excellent condition with no scratches on the nonstick coating. They come with 2 heat resistant handles which remain cool while cooking. \$35. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pictures.

SOLID WOOD COUNTER HGHT CHAIR This white counter height bar stool / chair is 24.5" high with foot & back rests. It is very sturdy and well constructed. Overall size is 16"x 16" x 34.5" high. Seat width is 16" (front). Excellent condition. \$25. Text (619) 800-5568 for more info/pics.

WHITE FARMHOUSE KITCHEN SINK This single bowl farmhouse sink (25"x 27.25"x 8") comes with pre-installed single-handle pull-down faucet in excellent condition incl. hot & cold water supply lines. Sink is clean and has only minor wear. \$175. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

7 SAMSUNG-TRACFONES \$150G Seven new phones sealed in original packaging, selling all seven phones for only \$95., not selling them separately, call (760) 746-7209.

BEAUTIFUL SOLID WOOD BOX This vintage box (5.5"x 3.5" x 2" high) with a hinged lid is nicely stained and varnished. It can be a wonderful storage place for jewelry, tarot, oils, art & sewing supplies, and other lovely things. \$15. Text (619) 796-5510 for more info or pictures.

BEAUTIFUL WHITE VINTAGE MIRROR This lovely mirror with white wooden frame can be used as a dresser mirror or hung on a wall. Hanging hardware is not included. Overall measurements including frame: 30.5" x 43.5". Excellent Condition. \$25. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info or pictures.

CANON EOS C100 MARK II We have the latest models of Canon, Sony, Nikon, Fujifilm, Panasonic, Olympus Cameras at a very good price!! All Our products are new and original with manufacturers warranty!! Please contact us directly and feel free to ask us any models you are. nelsoncamerasstore@gmail.com

DUMBK DRUM 21 inch tall dumbek drum with wooden base

in excellent condition \$250 or best offer. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

ELECTRIC HOTPLATE still in the box \$20. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

MASSAGE OR PERMANENT MAKEUP ARTIST BED burgundy, high quality, new condition, \$299. (619) 466-8663

MISC FOR SALE Go green w/ a push lawnmower, \$30. Can crusher, \$10. Push cart 6 wheels, 2 ft-5 ft long, \$30. (619) 542-0472 no text landline.

NEW COMBO WHEELCHAIR/ WALKER with brakes, padded seat, storage compartment, \$35. Two walkers with brakes, \$20 each. (619) 534-0280 please leave name, number, and message.

OSCILLOSCOPES Hickok model 5002A, three used osciloscopes for only \$150., I don't have probes, call (760) 746-7209

PEXTO SHEAR MODEL 269A Pexto Trim Tab Shear, 4 inch wide cutting blade, 16 inch depth, 20 gauge maximum thickness of material being sheared, it was used to shear small pieces of aluminum, mounted on heavy duty stand, \$375., call (760) 746-7209.

PORTABLE CD PLAYER still in the box. Comes with headphones and charger \$40. contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

SHOPSMITH MARK V MULTI-TOOL: Includes table saw, band saw, scroll saw, lathe, belt sander, jointer, dust collector, many extra parts & accessories, plus a separate mounting table for storing the accessories, excellent condition, \$975., (760) 746-7209.

SOLAR PANEL GROUND MOUNT Universal model holds 10 large solar panels, can be used when roofs are not suitable for mounting solar panels, can be used to power an off grid EV charging station, excellent, \$2,600., (760) 746-7209.

STUFF I WON, GREAT GIFTS CHEAP Kitchen stuff luggage ice chest, lot's more, new in boxes, buy more, save more. (760) 747-1013

VTECH LANDLINE PHONE with built in answering machine \$20. Contact Paul (619) 222-0278.

4 BEAUTIFUL INTERIOR DOORS NEW Premium knotty alder, solid wood, mfg. by Craftsman in Wood in Arizona, 1-3/4" x 3' x 8', no hinges or handles, they are extra doors from my remodel, I paid \$1,500. each, selling for \$750. each, (760) 746-7209.

BLACK & DECKER ELECTRIC EDGER This corded electric edger has a high-torque motor and an edge guide that converts the edger to a trencher. It features a 7-1/2" blade with 3/16" thickness with adjustable depth. Excellent condition. \$35. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info and/or pics.

BOOK COLLECTION, 570 BOOKS 238 hardcover & 67 softcover, about 264 cookbooks, some hardcover & some softcover, selling all for \$390., no haggle price, (760) 746-7209.

SCHULTZFORM SLOTFORMER SF12: For Cabinet makers, used to bend laminates for countertops, purchased new for \$5,000., it was used once-like new condition, selling for \$2,900., (760) 746-7209.

VINTAGE PA SPEAKERS (2) Fender 1275X. (2) Yamaha speakers (very heavy). Untested. One of the fender speaker knobs continually turns, so they may need some repair. Sold as is.

\$250 txt (619) 981-9688 for further details.

2 IN 1 QUAD AND INLINE SKATES This roller derby skates combo adjusts up to 3 Sizes with the push of a button. Quickly interchangeable chassis allow you to switch from quad roller skates to inlines and back with ease. Excellent condition. \$25. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

BLACK SPORTS/ GYM/ DUFFEL BAG Marksign bag (17"x 14"x 11") is good looking, versatile, and very durable. It has zippers on top and all around with 2 side pockets. Mesh materials for maximum ventilation. Never used in excellent condition. \$15. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

HOME ENT. CEN. 3 piece Tustin oak entertainment center. \$600 John (858) 952-4605.

KING HEADBOARD BRIDGE UNIT King with bridge, mirrors, end units, lites. Oak \$100 John (858) 952-4605.

WEIGHT STATION Weight station w/leg press, bench, lat pull. \$50 John (858) 952-4605.

TABLE LAMP METAL CYLINDER BODY The body of this unique table lamp is 4.5" in diameter and 12" tall. The cream soft deep drum linen shade is 10.75" in top & bottom diameter & 9.25" on the side. Modern and good looking. Very good condition. \$25. Text (619) 800-5568 for more info/pics.

VINTAGE SOLID WOOD MIRROR This mirror (31-3/4"x 16"x 1-7/8") w/ 3/8" wood frame weighs 18.5 lb.. Hanging hardware not incl. The glass is 1/2" thick & has some dark spots, scratches and discoloration which reflect its vintage nature. \$25. Text (619) 796-5510 for more info/pics.

ANTMINER KA3 166TH KDA MINER New stock. Manufacturer : Bitmain. Model : Antminer KA3 (166Th). Size 195 x 290 x 400mm. Weight : 14000g. Noise level: 80db. Fan(s) : 4. Power : 3154W. Send a direct message for Inquiry. Whatsapp : +33 7 58 56 21 59 (620) 591-4262 / contact@c2tpremium.com

BRAND NEW red adult tricycle 4 sale. Text to (858) 733-0770 for pix.

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PAPER SHREDDER W/ WASTE BASKET This Aurora 5-sheet stripcut paper shredder (9" wide shred slot) has an adjustable latch to fit bigger waste basket up to 15.5" wide. It has settings for auto, reverse & off. Clean & in excellent condition. \$15. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

PRO RHINO SET GOLF CLUBS bag and balls \$220 sell \$85. Women's Nike cleated golf shoes \$20 (619) 534-0208 leave name, phone number.

VINTAGE TABLE LAMP BRASS BODY This 29" lamp is quite beautiful with a soft pleated linen

shade (7.5" top, 17.5" bottom & 11.5" side). It has some fabric tears on the back. The body has some discoloration which reflects its vintage nature. \$35. Text (619) 796-5510 for more info/pics

VITAMIX PROFESSIONAL SERIES 750 blender with instruction booklet. Kept in storage, never used once. \$629 value will sell \$300.(760)472-9127

CRUTCHES FOR ADULTS 5'10"-6'6" Designed for people with mobility impairments, Guardian aluminum push button crutches are for tall adults up to 300 lbs. The crutch pads, hand grips and crutch rubber tips are all in excellent condition. \$15. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

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BEIGE CAR SEAT for 2001 Toyota Sienna in good condition. \$28 Call or text (619) 200-1254.

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MISC FOR SALE XL birdcage dark blue, will hold up to 10 birds, comes with cover and accessories, \$150. Women's plus size winter clothes and accessories, \$6. Brand new breathing machine, will show you how it works, \$60. Floor heavy duty heater, \$40. Large sturdy walker with seat and pouch, \$150. Plus more, please call (619) 488-0822.

MISC JAZZIZ MAGAZINES 69 issues with 221 jazz cds, \$120. Downbeat magazines, 186 issues, \$45. Spanish/English dictionaries, vocab cards, verbs, grammar, new, \$125. (619) 218-4031

BIKE HOOKS/PUMP Heavy duty extra large bike hooks, 4 pack, never used, \$10. Telescoping bike pump, quick inflation with gauge, used once, \$10. Contact (619) 380-4861.

PAINT SPRAYER Graco Magnum X5 airless paint sprayer for sale, \$100, needs spray hose and gun. Call (619) 735-1181.

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CHRISTMAS TREE green, artificial, 5 ft tall, comes with stand, \$10, beat the rush. (858) 484-4483

CHRISTMAS METAL TREE STAND for fresh tree, holds

water, large to XL, used one time only, like new, \$7. (858) 484-4483

DINNERWARE 20 piece china set, like new, dishwasher and microwave safe, animal pattern, \$25 for set. (619) 282-5105

LAUNDRY HAMPER New. Must sell. Cylindrical (round) off-white cream color hamper is 21 inches high, 12 1/2 inches in diameter. It has a lid on it. For more info call (858) 693-3409, evenings.

ASSORTMENT OF WOMEN'S SWEATERS for the winter. Brand new. Sizes small to medium, solid as well as stripes, some with pockets and can be worn as jacket. Please call (858) 693-3409 for more details.

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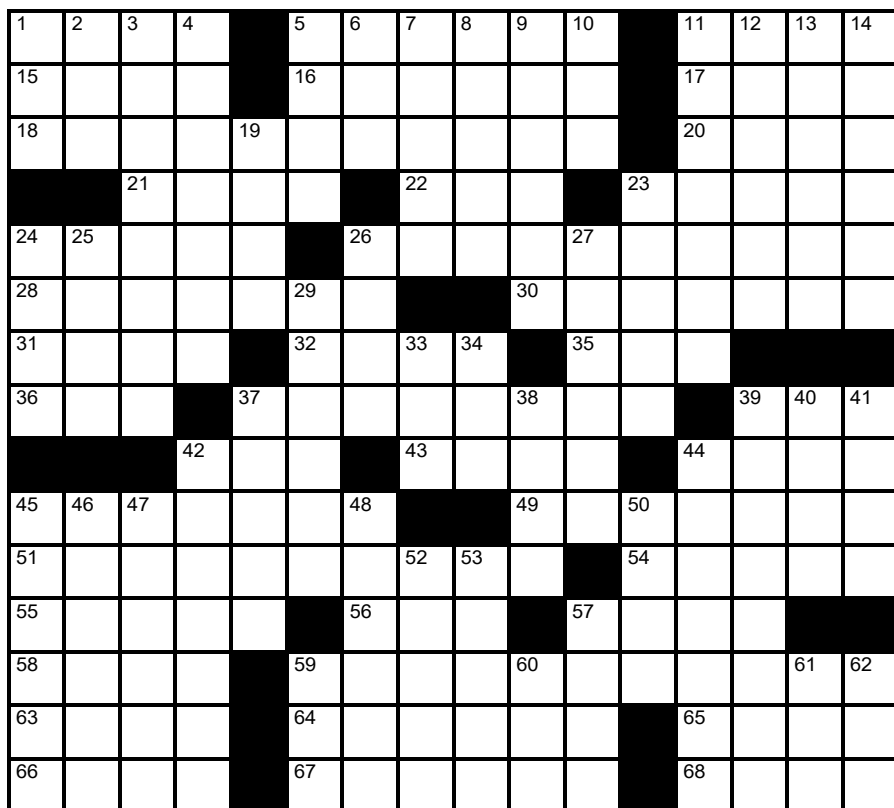
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YOU OWN COASTAL ACREAGE... I'll bring sweat equity & funding to the table to build a unique venue that helps those in need, while educating & entertaining at an art filled, creative, culinary organic farm B&B. If you own San Diego property, let's chat. YouGofFarmGal@gmail.com

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CROSSWORD



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The solving of the puzzles will no longer put you in contention for a Reader T-shirt and hat.

We hope that the puzzles themselves will be enough of a pleasure.

Thanks to all our winners so far and to those who will keep with us.

Reader T-shirts and hats are available at sandiegoreaderstore.com/

Across

1. Latch (onto)
5. 1997 movie with the tagline "He Sits. He Stays. He Shoots. He Scores"
11. Roadie's vanload
15. Desierto's lack
16. Sleazeball
17. Uncommon
18. 1974 kidnap victim
20. "East of Eden" twin
21. "Have it your way"
22. Rapper Kool Moe _____
23. Seafood staple of New England
24. Michael of "Dirty Rotten Scoundrels"
26. Minor shoplifting crime,

Down

28. One who's blessed
30. Rascal
31. Just hanging around
32. Most important
35. G.I.'s field ration, for short
36. Airport code for Australia's largest city
37. Pulsating sound, informally
39. Down Under critter
42. "_____ voyage!"
43. Clothing line?
44. Took one's turn
45. Sent with a click
49. It can spice things up
51. One using crude language

Down

1. Thing to mind between the train and platform
2. JFK alternative
3. Where most hits wind up
4. Something never seen at night
5. Yearn (for)
6. Red state?
7. Aptly named novelist Charles
8. Floppy top
9. Some March Madness madness
10. Period
11. Athena turned her into a spider
12. Scratched, say
13. Checks for mistakes

14. Phrase on a mailing label
19. Santa _____ Valley (winegrowing region)
23. "Don't _____ with me!"
24. Forensic analysts, briefly
25. Name on Woody's shoe in "Toy Story"
26. Nitwit, to a Brit
27. Kind of joke
29. "The _____ Show" (best-selling album of 2002)
33. Part of FWIW
34. The Planetary Society CEO Bill
37. Sea anemone, e.g.
38. Hiking route
39. Settles conclusively
40. Bygone way to store data

54. Wear away

55. Like some online purchases
56. Opposite of SSW
57. "Let me see ..."
58. Delevingne of "Carnival Row"
59. Tools for filling in holes in the wall
63. "The Kite Runner" protagonist
64. Rubbernecker
65. Maintained
66. What might collect a lot of checks
67. Fictional writer of "The World According to Bensenhaver"
68. Jacob's twin, in the Bible

41. Member of the Siouan family
42. Cameo role
44. Bellicose
45. Like DeMille films
46. Friendly French term of address
47. Classic consoles
48. Hole foods?
50. "How've you _____?"
52. Remove one's name from, as on Facebook
53. Four: Prefix
57. 1970s-'80s sitcom station
59. West Coast winter hrs.
60. "Quit _____ bellyachin'!"
61. Clean Water Act org.
62. Disco _____ ("The Simpsons" character)

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

HARD:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

EVIL:

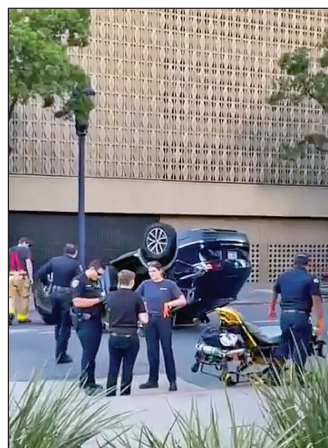
4	2	9	7	6	5	3	8	1
8	3	5	2	4	1	6	9	7
6	1	7	3	8	9	5	4	2
9	8	6	1	2	3	4	7	5
3	7	2	4	5	8	1	6	9
5	4	1	6	9	7	2	3	8
7	9	4	5	1	6	8	2	3
1	6	8	9	3	2	7	5	4
2	5	3	8	7	4	9	1	6

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

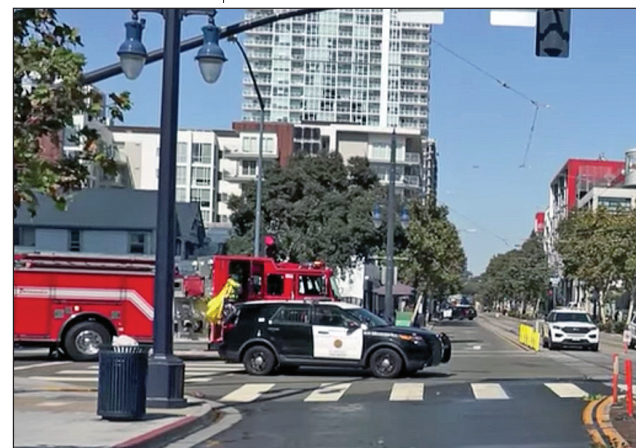
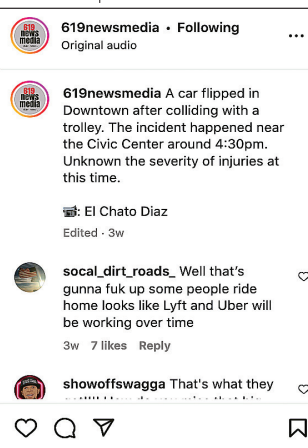
Continued from page 6

ley extension: the UC San Diego Blue Line, which ends at UTC. On this line, ridership increased “by 66 percent, jumping from 10.4 million rides the prior fiscal year to 17.4 million,” according to the MTS site. “This allowed for the largest increase in ridership in one year for any line in the history of MTS.” And of course, the price of gas was likely also a factor.

But it's not *all* good news for public transit proponents. Last month, drivers for the MTS witnessed two accidents on their bus and trolley routes. On October 19, at about 4:30 pm, a black vehicle collided with the trolley. Then the car flipped over, and lay on its roofline by 3rd and C downtown, reported *619NewsMedia* on Instagram. And on October 14 at Park Boulevard and University Avenue in Hillcrest, an “MTS bus driver stopped to let a rider off of the bus,” according to *911 VIDEO NEWS*. The “driver did not pull over to the curb at the bus stop, but stopped in the bike lane about eight feet from the curb. As the bus rider got off the bus, the male driver of [a Honda] came speeding between the curb and the bus, according to the witnesses. He may have been trying to make the green light.



On October 19, a black car collided with the trolley and flipped over at 3rd and C, Downtown.



Poor placement: next to the trolley tracks on G Street and Park Boulevard, a Mitsubishi collided with a Ford Explorer.

The male victim was hit and suffered injuries. The driver of the Honda stayed at the scene and cooperated with the police.”

In a November 14 interview, public transport patron Ricky Dixon said that had seen more close calls this year than in years previous. “I take the bus and the green line, orange line, and the blue line trolley when I’m in South Bay,” said Dixon. “I have seen people [on foot] almost get hit when they’re not watching where they’re going.” On September 13, an 18-year-old female was hit by an MTS bus on Dorian and South Woodman close to the Paradise Hills Skate

Park, says the *619NewsMedia* page. “She flew approximately 5-6 feet and landed on the street. She was transported to a local hospital with a broken wrist.” In May, *911 VIDEO NEWS* reported a male walking eastbound on the trolley tracks at Imperial Avenue in Encanto pushing a cart. “The trolley driver didn’t see the victim and hit him,” reads the report. “The male was pronounced deceased at the scene.”

Dixon, who’s been riding the trolley and buses since the 1980s, said it’s not just the pedestrians — many who are on their phones — who are not paying attention.

“Our bus drivers almost get hit by cars which cut them off.” In August, an MTS bus and a car collided in Chula Vista. In May, *911 VIDEO NEWS* posted a video of a purple-compact vehicle that collided with a trolley car downtown. The month before, *911 VIDEO NEWS* captured video of an MTS bus that collided with a Jeep SUV in the Altadena neighborhood. In March, NBC 7 news published a story headlined “Car, Trolley Collide in Downtown San Diego.” And back in January, an MTS bus T-boned a truck in Chula Vista.

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LICENSE # C10-0000384-LIC

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NOVEMBER 25

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**CYBER
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NOVEMBER 28



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