

SAN DIEGO

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Reader

2022

HOLIDAY
EVENTS
GUIDE

22



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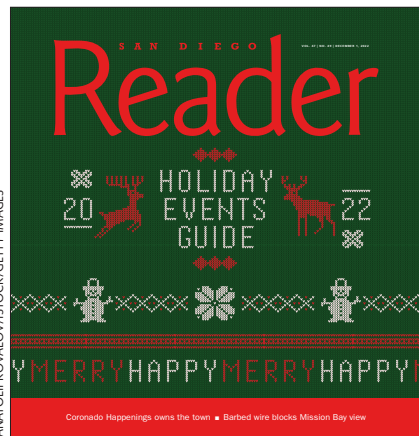
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December 1, 2022



ANATOLI KOVALOV/ISTOCK/CETTY IMAGES

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

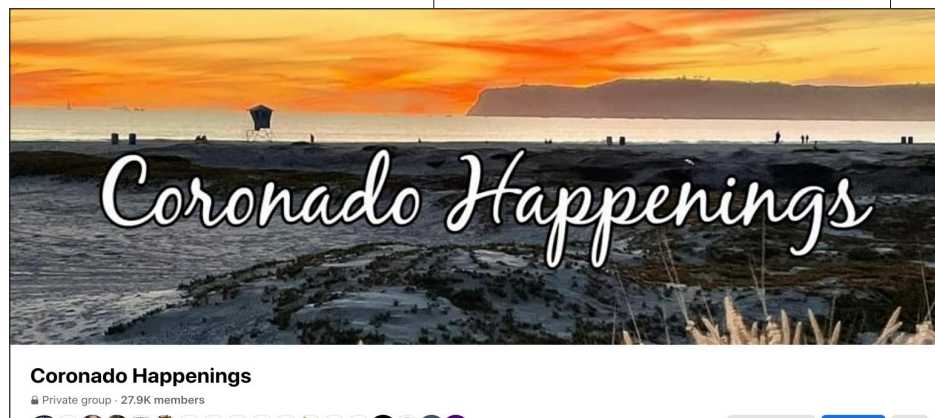
By Reader stringers

CORONADO

What Crehore created, he cannot destroy

Despite bans, his Facebook group keeps growing and spawning

When Richard Bailey was elected mayor of Coronado in November of 2016, Charles Crehore was delighted. So were most members of his Coronado Happenings Facebook group, which Crehore started in 2012. Previously, Crehore had posted an image of Bailey and himself climbing down a tall building in support of an Over the Edge fundraiser. And he had posted about Bailey's meet-and-greet



when Bailey opened the Coronado beaches early in the pandemic, a move that drew parties and the criminal element to the island, according to Crehore. The open beaches on the island drew national news, and with the influx of folks — some from Los Angeles — the Coronado Police Department staff was swamped. “We were having to pay overtime for an increased police presence,” read Crehore’s post. “Someone wants to tell me how that makes good fiscal sense? Bailey,

more vocal on Coronado Happenings page than they had been in previous years. The rules and regulations imposed and regulated by Crehore state, “No partisan politics: this applies to state and national elections, but local elections are definitely a ‘Coronado Happening.’” But people, including Biden supporters, kept posting political posts and memes. Crehore pulled them down. If they persisted, he banned them from the page. Crehore was called snowflake, a convict (because he had served a 20-year stint in federal prison “for marijuana conspiracy”), and other derogatory terms. He almost gave up the page, but found he couldn’t: when a Facebook group surpasses 10,000 members, the page’s founder cannot disband the group. Besides, the page raises money from its 27,000+ when there’s an emergency or folks are in need. Further, it’s a real community, with plenty of insightful dialogue about the island, and helpful self-promotion from Coronado-based small businesses.

Still, the political ugliness got to be exhausting. Eventually, Crehore posted: “Because of the recent unfortunate events, monitoring Coronado Happenings for inappropriate content and comments has become essentially a 24-hour-a-day job, and I am being overwhelmed with having to endlessly weed out the unnecessary vitriol and posts which violate the group’s rules. Coronado Happenings is now averaging over 200,000 posts, comments, and reactions every 28 days,

or over 7000 a day. The volume is enormous, but I don’t mind that. What I do mind is people who break the rules and exhibit rude behavior to other members. So I am asking everyone to step back, take a deep breath, and think before you post. There is simply no need for the garbage. If you don’t get that, you’ll leave me no other choice than to remove you.” Not everyone was pleased: one person wrote Crehore: “I find your postings on Coronado Happenings boring because it lacks a vibrant exchange of ideals and is a quintessential example of the cancel culture. It’s an exercise in groupthink, mindless and without merit.”

Many of those who were removed or banned from the circa-2012 Coro-

nado Happenings group — nearly 100 — started their own groups. One of those is Coronado Happenings 2.0, a private Facebook group that, according to its group description, “grew from the commonality of those who weren’t treated with respect in the original version. While the original version seemed to start on a good path, it has now become something most of us do not want to be associated with. However, we continue to wish them well and hope they, too, find peace and prosperity. We take the elevated path for our great city and respect each other for the love of our great country and community.”

For his part, Crehore has said that “if people get banned but then contact me and apologize or let me know they’re sorry and would like to rejoin the group, I almost always re-add them.” But that offer does not extend to Mayor Bailey; Crehore said Bailey could join “Coronado Happenings 2.0, and there’s another, Coronado Forever. I will not put [mayor] Richard back in our group. I would never give him that platform. He can go to KUSI if he wants; he doesn’t need my little Facebook group.”

MIKE MADRIAGA

“Coronado Happenings is now averaging over 200,000 posts, comments, and reactions every 28 days, or over 7000 a day. The volume is enormous.”

at McP’s Irish pub. And Bailey himself was a regular poster to the group. Then came covid and the lockdown. Coronado Happenings grew to more than 20,000 members, and somewhere along the way, Crehore began to see Bailey differently. “I thought he (Bailey) was a great guy,” he said in a recent *Reader* interview. “Now I think he was manipulating me to get my support. It was one of the biggest regrets of my life that I supported and endorsed him.”

On October 23, 2022, Crehore explained in a lengthy post to the group how his relationship with the mayor went sour. It began

who claims he’s all about the bottom line, cost our city taxpayers a lot of money with his antics.” Crehore also commented on Bailey’s statements about the mask mandates, Bailey’s religious associations, and his other political positions.

I reached out to Mayor Bailey for a statement via direct message on Facebook. Here was his reply: “I am I unaware of what Charles is posting on his page bc he removed me from the group, without explanation, after I posted an update from the San Diego county health officer in 2020.”

At that time, Trump supporters were



During Covid, the open beaches on the island drew national news.

THE COAST

Beholders beholden to Commission

Good fences make good neighbors, but they also make lousy views

The Coastal Commission has sided with neighbors who say the city’s plan to relocate a six-foot tall, 1000-foot long chain fence topped with barbed-wire would ruin one of the only uninterrupted water views at Kendall Frost Reserve. Most of the 20-acre marsh is already corralled by chain link fencing topped with barbed wire. In its current location, the fence in question is tucked away at the bottom of a slope, leaving a rare slice of sidewalk along Crown Point Drive from which the public can view Mission Bay and its wildlife without obstruction.

But the city proposed to tear down the old fence and put in a new one upslope. “That sounds like not only would it cut off any public access to the area, but would become an eyesore,” said local Crista Mathes. She was not alone in her opinion: more than 30 people signed a petition opposing the “prison-like” fence.

The city said the move was needed to allow for the expansion of saltmarsh habitat — part of a habitat enhancement project the city is mandated to complete as compensation for the discharge of untreated raw sewage into Tecolote Creek during heavy storms in 2016. Under a settlement agreement with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the city must restore 2.2 acres of disturbed habitat in Kendall Frost, including the entire

continued on page 3

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 2

slope along Crown Point Drive south of the Crown Point Villas Condominiums. In addition to moving the existing fence out of wetland habitat, the work involves removing debris and invasive species and planting native vegetation. According to city staff, the parks and recreation department is responsible for long-term management of the preserve.

The commission suggested the city consider a lower fence, like the one at the Tijuana River National Estuary, or consider relocating it halfway up the slope, so that the public could still see over it when looking out at Mission Bay. But the city said the six-foot fence, topped with a foot of barbed wire, is needed to keep out pedestrians, homeless camps, trash, and predators that threaten nesting birds. And

it argued that building it mid-slope would harm native plants and reduce the area being restored to the point where it would not meet the requirements of the settlement order.

The commission disagreed, saying a lower, visually permeable fence could protect both habitat and views, and still deter pedestrians from crossing down the steep slope into the marsh. The commission added that it has never been notified of homeless camps in the reserve or in Mission Bay Park. As for predators, the nesting platforms have covers that birds can enter but animals that prey on them cannot.

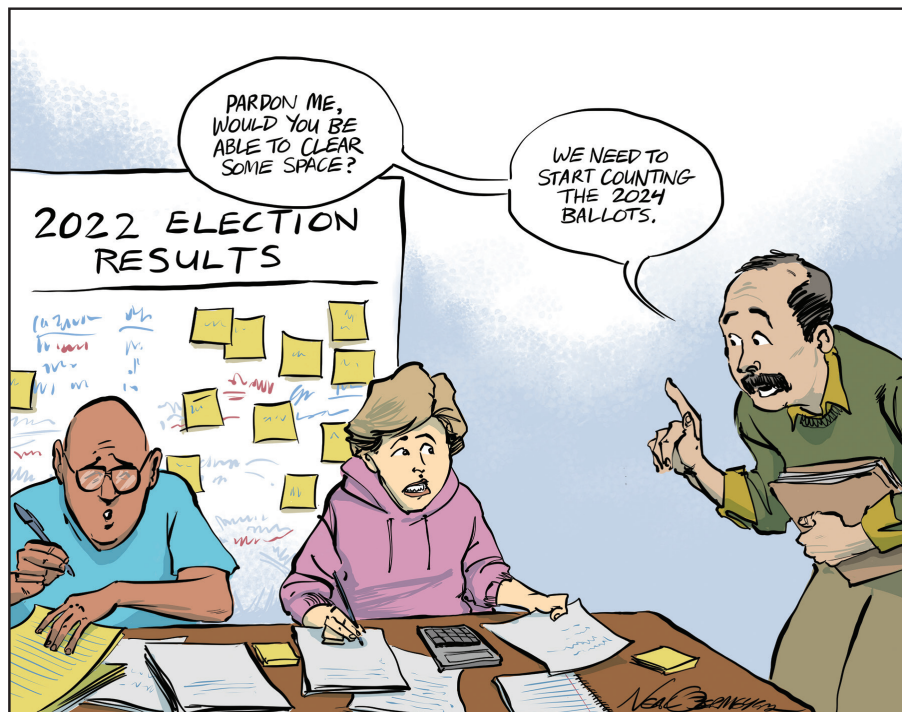
Approval of the coastal permit last week came with several special conditions to protect coastal waters and nesting birds during construction. The city agreed to submit a new final plan that replaces the six-foot fence for one no taller than four feet, with no barbed wire.

SHEILA PELL



Barbed wire not required, says Commission. Nobody's looking to make camp besides the birds.

Neal Obermeyer



UNDER THE RADAR

Buried in bureaucracy Unnamed UCSD professors have been improperly hoarding human remains and relics of Native American tribes for their personal use, says a new state audit of the University of California's compliance with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, otherwise known as NAGPRA. "Two of the campuses we reviewed — Riverside and San Diego — have recently discovered large portions of their NAGPRA collections," says the November 17 report by acting California State Auditor **Michael S. Tilden**. "These discoveries are associated with researchers who, in some cases, chose to retain the remains and cultural items to further their personal research instead of reporting them to campus officials for return to the tribes to which they belong." The audit lays much of the blame on similarly unnamed university administrators. "Following the passing of NAGPRA, campuses did not perform the actions necessary to ensure that they had completely inventoried and repatriated their collections of remains and cultural items." Per the report, "We reviewed the university's campuses at Berkeley, Riverside, Santa Barbara, and San Diego and found they continue to maintain large collections and that some have yet to completely review all the remains and cultural items in their control. Because of the size of some of these campuses' collections, they will likely not fully repatriate their collections for at least a decade. In fact, the university's Office of the President has not yet ensured that campuses have the guidance necessary to return their collections in a timely and consistent manner."

The document continues, "Because the Office of the President has not ensured consistency in how campuses respond to newly discovered collections, tribes have reported having different experiences when working with campuses to reclaim their ancestors, which created an unnecessary level of frustration and complexity for those tribes." According to Tilden's cover letter, "The Office of the President has not ensured that campuses prioritize completing their repatriation implementation plans. Since July 2020, the Office of the President has required campuses to create these plans, but it did not set a deadline for their completion. In the absence of a deadline, the four campuses we reviewed have yet to complete them as of mid-October 2022. Finally, campuses have not formally committed to providing long-term, sustainable fund-

ing for their repatriation-related activities. Nor has the Office of the President dedicated funds beyond fiscal year 2022–23 to support campuses' repatriation activities. Because of the uncertainty surrounding the funding necessary to support campuses' repatriation efforts, we believe this approach is shortsighted and may undermine recent efforts by the university to further repatriation."

Middle Eastern freebies

In September, two staffers from the office of South Bay House Democrat **Juan Vargas** raised eyebrows by going along on separate tours of Israel, paid for by the American Israel Education Foundation, an affiliate of the lobbying group American Israel Public Affairs Committee. Now comes **Amy Surber**, a Senior Policy Adviser to Congressional Republican **Darrell Issa**, with a disclosure report of her



Michael Tilden wants to bring the bones home.

own special interest-sponsored trip to Beirut, Lebanon, from October 23 to 28. Paid for by the American Task Force on Lebanon, transportation costs were \$1395.72, lodging ran \$660, and meals cost \$166.66, along with an \$88 visa processing charge. "Rep. Issa is the co-chair of the Congressional US-Lebanon Friendship Caucus and is a senior member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee," wrote Surber in the justification for going on the trip. "In my role as senior policy advisor with the foreign affairs committee assignment and defense portfolio, this trip will prove indispensably educational and broaden my understanding of the region as a whole." Surber's

profile on *Legistorm.com* says she has a "public relations and rhetorical advocacy" BA from Fordham University. Lodging was at the Sofitel Beirut Le Gabriel, described by Surber's disclosure as a "Comfortable, cost-friendly stay located centrally in the capital city of Beirut, where the majority of meetings will be held." Expedia describes the place as a "5-star luxury hotel located in Achrafieh."

In November of last year, Issa himself went to Beirut, thanks to a freebie from American Task Force on Lebanon. A self-made super-rich car alarm magnate, Issa's free travel cost the task force \$4766, with lodging running \$888 and meals at \$315. Said Issa's disclosure: "Traveler is a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and a member of the U.S.-Lebanon Friendship Caucus. The subject matter relates to his work on

continued on page 12



Amy Surber

Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA)

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Summary Salaries Trips

Biographical

Full Name: Amy L. Surber Gender: Female

Amy Surber: looking for a little learning in Lebanon.

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.

She speaks for the trees

I want to thank Sheila Pell for her article about the Encinitas Melba Forest. ("Canopy in crisis, Nov. 24, 2022.) We own 2 of the Cypress trees that were planted at the same time as the Heritage Tree. They are "boundary trees" with the developer and he has blocked the Heritage application.

I have been doing research on how other cities deal with developers and clear cutting. Encinitas had zero protection but the City has passed a Mature Tree Ordinance of 1:1 replacement. I am waiting for the particulars, as we know an 80-year old, 75-foot

Cypress valued at thousands of dollars cannot be replaced with a \$500 boxed tree.

Many cities put replacement value on trees removed in an effort to make developers save mature trees or replace them with trees of the same value. Thank you again for addressing our beautiful trees.

I have reminded our council that Encinitas means "Little Oak," so at the very least they should be protected. :)

Lori Forsythe
Encinitas

Reader romance

It was 1972 when *Reader* began. I was new to San Diego and took advantage of your Free Classifieds. My ad was: "Good people of San Diego, I need a friend. No lovelorns please. Orphan Annie 233-4456." I received hundreds of phone calls. Yes, even then, it wasn't supposed to be wise to give out phone numbers. But, all of the callers were terrific. This note to *Reader* is to let you know that one of those callers and I are celebrating

or 50th anniversary of the best friendship. Thank you, *Reader*!

Leslie Weidner
Golden Hill

Drawing a Blank

Obviously articles are printed without confirmation of accuracy. Howard Blank is a liar and imposter. He has never been or is part of the Outsiders.

He is currently still operating even under a cease and desist order which further describes his character. The Outsider drum head he displays is a direct copy of the real Outsider drum head displayed in the Rock and Rock Museum in Cleveland, which was designed by our original bass player, Mert Madsen.

The closest Howard Blank ever came to the Outsiders was playing in high school with who was to become the founder of the Outsiders, Tom King. But, Howard has been lying so long about his association with the Outsiders that he apparently believes his own lies. I was present when our manager's wife came up with the "Outsider" name, and when we were formed I never heard of Howard Blank until I saw his advertising in San Diego, inquired about him in Cleveland only to find he only knew of a few of the musicians who became the Outsiders, before the band was formed and named. Howard Blank is a liar and imposter, making a living using an identity he does not own or otherwise possess.

William Bruno
San Diego

Editor replies:

The Reader webpage link provided is not an article but rather a band page in the encyclopedic Local Music Database. The text of that band page has been revised to note the dispute regarding drummer Howard Blank's claim to latter-day stewardship of the band.

Should have rifled Google

Your article about the Cleveland School shooting is rather interesting in terms of its number-one error in the very beginning of the article where it stated that Brenda Spencer used a .52 rifle. That rifle was first used before the Civil War. The .52-caliber rifle was used in the Civil War and afterward for buffalo.

A very simple Google search would have revealed to the author that it was a .22 caliber Ruger rifle. As is typical for a lot of writers, they know nothing about firearms and shooting and very often times have extremely inaccurate information.

Anonymous

Editor replies:

Thanks for correction. That was an error in transcribing the interview. It should have been .22.

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

"North Park syringe swap site won't change soon"
Neighborhood News
October 26

Okay, first of all how did

you know the guy was a drug dealer; secondly the needle exchange is there for a good reason; if I'd had one in Texas I would not be positive. Overall 99.99% of the people that come to the syringe exchange actually get their syringes and leave, so it is not that horrible as this person is making it out to be.

—Michael Hales

I've been going to the North Park library for years now, and have driven past this RV dozens of times. I just learned today, with this article, that it is a needle swap. I had always thought it was some kind of underground food truck serving the hipsters.

I thought it odd that there was no signage on the RV, but hey, this is North Park and there are always some kind of super-secret, unless you know the website, event going on. I certainly would not have guessed from the look of the crowd that it was syringes being dispensed. I think it is a good location and the operators are providing an important service that benefits the health of the community. Actually, they should get more support.

Besides, most of the people bringing small kids to the events at the library are usually coming by car (little legs can't walk very far) and so they park in the library's lot which is on the other side of the library, away from and out of sight of the truck.

—Javajoe25

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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.cnrc.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
Attention: Code EV26.SVR
750 Pacific Highway, 12th Floor (Environmental)
San Diego, CA 92132

Unique points of view

Just Relax and I'll Get Dinner

I am stepping through the front door of Andronico's, my countenance set to grim purpose. Andronico's is a grocery store, the kind that doesn't carry 1 variety of pear, they carry 17. They don't stock 5 kinds of cheese, they stock 200. Andronico's sells every exotic piece of leaf, meat, cheese, fruit, and wine that a sensitive personhood could desire. The store gleams; the feel is oppressive cleanliness. Uniformed employees are always in motion. — Patrick Daugherty **AUG. 17, 1995**

I Became a Nut-Job

I purchased some junky graph paper, which I brought back to my dorm room and, for the next few days, worked over an amateurish puzzle. It wasn't brilliant, but I was proud enough of it to send it in an envelope with three greedily licked stamps to Will Shortz, the crossword editor at the *Times*. When I received a letter of acceptance and a check (\$75, for those who are interested), I was, of course, elated. — David Levinson Wilk **JULY. 5, 2001**

Do Not Sell Your Children to Monsters

"Don't take my word for it," I tell the Asian-American journalists who wake me up to ask what right I have to say what is and is not Chinese. "This is common Chinese culture.

You can find it for yourself in Chinatown." Whether or not Far Mulan, the girl warrior, is tattooed or the Kitchen God's wife is honored as the Kitchen Queen are not matters of my word against theirs. It's a matter of text. — Frank Chin **MAR. 23, 1995**

What's in a Lunchbox

I had been guilty of some infractions. I, too, had been seduced by the fruit chews, for one thing (they were made with some fruit juice, I reasoned). He also had a box of punch (real fruit juice, though), trail mix (sweet dried papaya, nuts, and raisins), chopped celery, and Fritos. In all, not bad, I thought, although I stopped buying the fruit chews and substituted the Fritos with natural corn chips. — Debra Ginsburg **MAY. 30, 2002**



I pick up another handful of glop from the stuffing bowl, force it into the dead turkey. This is revolting.

How to Read a Mug

Adolf Hitler's strained smile was frightful, it gave away too much, even embarrassed him, and he always brought a hand up like a claw to cover it. No one has an uglier smile than Hugh Hefner, rubber lips, with no upper teeth visible. Actress Ellen Corbin, who played the grandmother on *The Waltons*, had an awful, lying smile. So does Dan Rather. President Jimmy Carter sometimes smiled when he was ready to cry. — Alexander Theroux **JAN. 19, 1995**

Plays in Words

One evening I spotted Neil Simon among the crowd near the Globe box office. He was with some children and a woman I took to be his wife, standing with his hands in his pockets watching the performance. The sports shirt and sweater, the round glasses surrounded by round face, the Shakespearean pate — it was he, all right, the American middle-class stage comedy industrialist, going unrecognized. Didn't anybody know who this was? — Joe Applegate **APR. 26, 1990**

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Walter Mencken's

SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Placism!

Santee politician Randy Voepel protests against media's attempts to link him to his grandchild's alleged crimes

"When I saw the news, my first thought was for the victims," says Assemblyman Randy Voepel (R-Santee) of the Club Q shooting in Colorado Springs.

"My second thought was for my poor grandson, who may have done something really terrible. And my third thought was, 'Well, here they come.' And

sure enough, the next day's newspaper has a long piece about my right-wing views, so-called 'hateful rhetoric and lies about LGBTQ people,' and a link to an op-ed that calls my city 'Klantee.'

"Let me ask you something. There are a lot of gang murders in South Central LA, right? So when you meet a fellow from South Central LA, do you wonder if maybe he's a gang-banger? Or do you find that

morally abhorrent? Yet when you hear about somebody hailing from Santee, you feel totally comfortable lumping them in with some joker wearing a Klan hood with a Confederate flag on his truck. That's placism, pure and simple, and it's the kind of societal evil that keeps America torn asunder. Just like when I go to visit family in Missouri, and they ask me if I've turned gay yet from living in Southern California."



Circa 1954 map of East County San Diego, featuring the traditional warning for unintegrated territories.

Lasso-Faire?

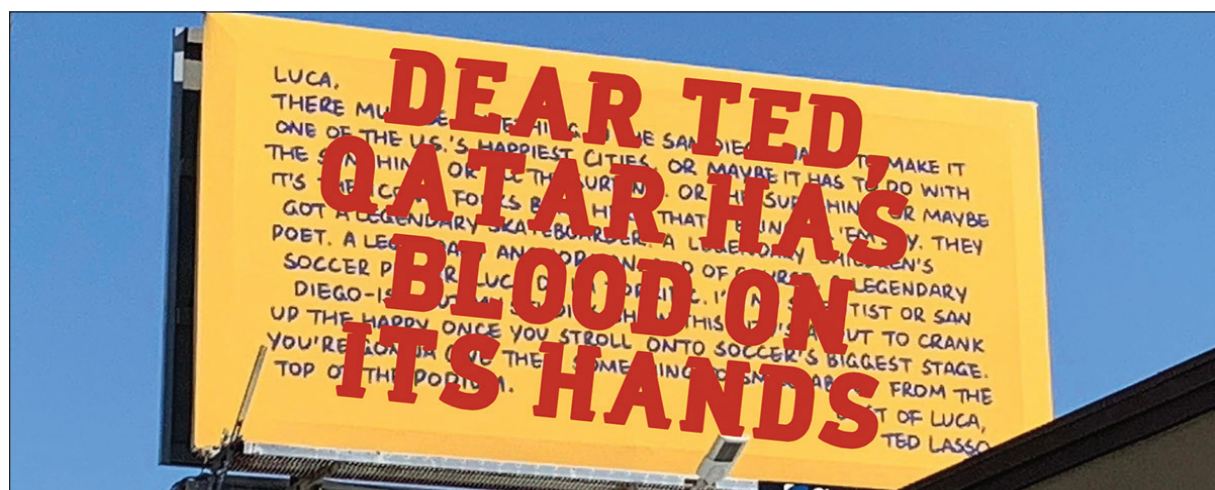
Heroic fictional soccer coach bumps up against real-world football villainy

A few years ago, Jason Sudeikis scored a surprise hit for Apple TV with his show *Ted Lasso*, the story of an American football coach possessed of a relentlessly cheerful disposition and an abiding sense of moral decency who journeys to England to take charge of a floundering soccer team. In short order, Lasso became America's Good Guy, a sort of secular patron saint of positivity in the face of daunting challenges. In one particularly inspiring episode from season two, one of his players publicly rejected the sponsorship of a company responsible for neglected oil spills in Nigeria — a story that has its roots in real-life case of Shell Oil vs. a tenacious group of Nigerian farmers. Lasso and the team's ownership were quick to support the player's decision.

So it was perhaps a touch surprising when billboards sprang up around the country prior to this year's World Cup soccer tournament, featuring

letters of encouragement from Lasso to members of the U.S. team — surprising because host nation Qatar has been credibly accused of horrific human rights violations with respect to the migrant workers hired to help that nation prepare for the 2022 event. (*The Guardian* estimated the migrant death toll to be over 6000.) And it was perhaps a touch *unsurprising* when those billboards were used to send a message back to Coach Lasso.

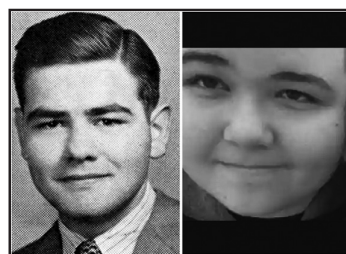
Reached for comment, Sudeikis was quick to condemn the billboard vandalism a "crude and morally simplistic rendering of a complex situation, and a total killjoy to boot." He then reminded the activists that whatever the real-life inspiration for the sponsorship storyline, Ted Lasso remains the made up coach of a made-up football club, while *Ted Lasso* is very much a real television show that needs real viewers, "so please don't screw this up for me."



Vandalized billboard in San Diego: In his public letter, Coach Lasso gave encouragement to local star Luca De La Torre before his "stroll onto soccer's biggest stage." Anonymous human rights activists then took the opportunity to do a little encouraging of their own.



CLUB Q SHOOTING



In *The Loved One*, manic depressive actor **Jonathan Winthers** played a criminal who wanted to shoot corpses into space.



Anderson Aldrich has a history of mental health treatment, and stands accused of shooting five people at Club Q in Colorado Springs.



On Turner Classic Movies, **Robert Osborne** helped connect modern audiences to stories from the distant past.



Local media used Aldrich's grandfather and Santee politician **Randy Voepel** to connect the Club Q shooting story to San Diego.



Comedian **Louis CK** was accused of damaging multiple victims with his sexual practices before he was stopped.



San Diego native **Richard Fierro** stopped the Club Q gunman before he could do more damage.

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Boxbringer

Confessions of an Amazon Flex driver

During Christmas of 2013, Amazon fired UPS as the courier of their packages, because UPS could not keep up with their volume. Soon after, Amazon decided to implement its own delivery infrastructure. It is estimated that Amazon will soon deliver more packages than UPS. As it is, Amazon ships 22% of packages in the U.S., while UPS ships 24%.

I began working for Amazon Flex as an independent contractor in January 2022, after a three-month stint working for UPS as a seasonal driver. (In both cases, I used my own vehicle and phone. UPS made a company-owned device available to its seasonal drivers,

but it was an old Samsung Galaxy that was slow and crashed after each delivery stop.) In my experience, Amazon had their shit together and offered a more efficient and careful delivery experience than UPS. The training at UPS consisted of about 45 minutes standing in a circle while another temporary worker gave eight of us instructions on the correct delivery codes we should use, how to hold a package safely (a weird way which you have never seen any professional do in real life), and other minutiae that had nothing to do with actually delivering packages to customers. Still, that training was 45 minutes more than what you receive as an Amazon



PHOTOGRAPH BY CROBERTSON/GETTY IMAGES

I once encountered a large sign on the front door of a single-family home in San Marcos that read in block letters: “DELIVERY DRIVER. KNOCK WHEN YOU DELIVER A PACKAGE. IS THAT TOO HARD TO UNDERSTAND!!!!!!!!!!!!” It was 4:15 in the morning when I read that message.

Flex driver. In either case, it seems understood that everyone will make a delivery mistake during their first days on the job. The only question is the magnitude of the error.

During the 2021 Christmas rush, I once de-

livered five large packages to the wrong address while gigging for UPS. There was a new apartment complex in Chula Vista that had the same address as a house across the street — the only difference was a dash between a couple of the numbers. I realized my error only when I received a call from UPS dispatch saying the house I reported delivering packages to claimed they did not receive any of the packages. People do sometimes lie about not receiving their packages, but the UPS dispatcher told me this particular person was a regular UPS driver. I went back to the place where I delivered the packages in error and knocked on the door. Then pounded on the door. No answer. I took a photo of the house and its number so the dispatcher could see the similar address. That way, the UPS driver could follow up directly with their neighbor.

That mistake would be harder to make as an Amazon driver. The Amazon app’s drop-off pin takes you right in front of the customer’s door, no matter if it’s a house or apartment. If you try to deliver the package just one

door down, you won’t be able to complete the delivery, as you will be outside the GPS’s geofence. (If you ever want to “get over” that fence, you usually need to call Driver’s Support and explain yourself.) And unlike UPS and FedEx, Amazon drivers take a photo of where the package was dropped off, so that both the customers and Amazon have evidence of the package’s delivery.

Amazon deliveries are handled by their logistics department, which is broken down into Amazon DSP and Amazon Flex. The major San Diego hub is in Rancho Bernardo. Unlike Amazon DSP (Delivery Service Partners), Amazon Flex drivers don’t drive Amazon-branded vans, but their own vehicles. They are independent contractors who pay for their own gas and maintenance. I’ve seen Amazon Flex drivers using everything from duct-taped beaters to new Teslas. (What are their stories?)

Amazon Flex drivers receive their work orders from an Amazon app. The work is available in what are called blocks, as in blocks of time, ranging

from two to five hours. A rule of thumb is that you are able to deliver 10 packages in one hour, give or take. If your delivery route is very compact and closer to Rancho Bernardo, you’ll be delivering more packages in that hour. If you get a rural route where you will be doing a lot of driving, you could do as little as 2 packages per hour. The only control you have with your route is the block of time you choose to reserve. You know where you’ll be delivering only when you’re physically in front of your cart of packages and looking at the shipping labels.

All drivers hate delivering to apartments and Downtown. Apartments because units can be difficult to find, often require dealing with access codes, and sometimes require a lot of walking. Downtown for its parking. One morning at 8:30 or so, a parking enforcement lady told me, “You Amazon guys just park wherever you feel like it. This is a no stopping lane. The ticket is \$55, You’re lucky you weren’t towed.” I protested that there was no signage where I parked and there were parking hashmarks on the street. “You’re welcome to see the judge,” she replied. Yes, Amazon Flex drivers park “where we want,” as there is no reserved parking for gig workers. And our personal vehicles don’t have commercial signage. Most of us do wear an Amazon vest, but some are dressed in your basic shorts, sandals, and T-shirt.

When I see Amazon Flex drivers doing their work in sandals, I flash back to stepping in a huge pile of dog shit Downtown at 5 am and not realizing it until I was in my car. The shit ran up the sides of my sneakers, and I decided the best plan was to just throw



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my rubber car mat in the trash. I spent 15 valuable minutes washing my shoe with water from my bottle as best I could. We have time commitments. We have deadlines to keep. If we don't finish within our block's schedule, we get the following email: "We've noticed that you've had a few late deliveries within the last week. Our customers love receiving their packages on time, so please attempt to deliver all packages assigned to your route by the time specified in the app or by the end of your scheduled block time, whichever is earlier..."

We are graded on a scale that runs from "you're about to lose your job" to "you're doing fantastic." The better your rating, the better perks you receive. I particularly like the cash back on gasoline purchases: if your rating is fantastic, you get 6% cash back. If your rating is great, you get 4%. If your rating is you're on the verge of losing your job, just be glad you're still driving for Amazon.

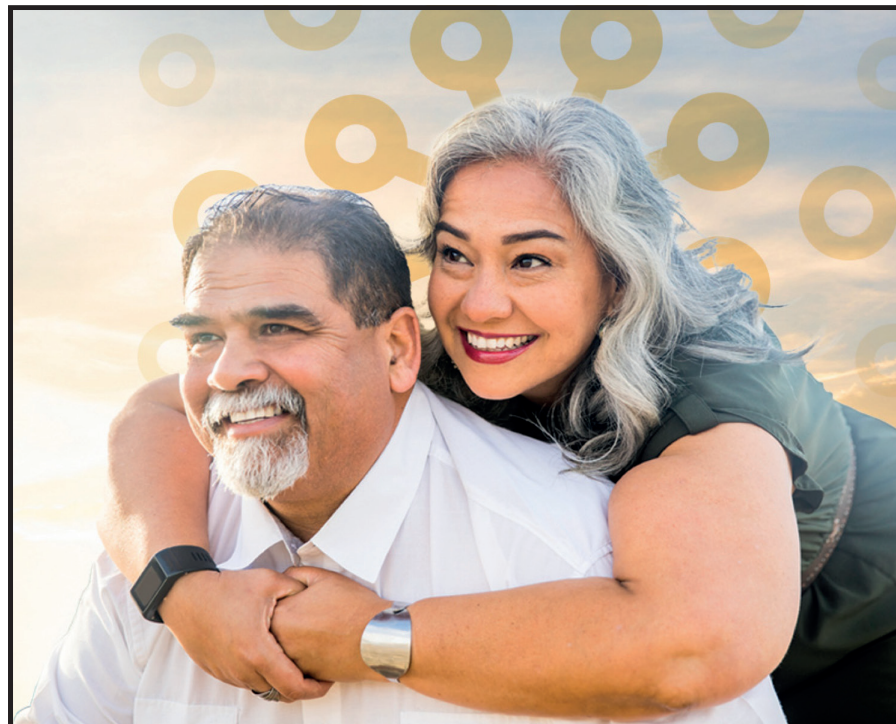
We are constantly looking at the clock. There are two great time sucks for a Flex driver: apartments and calling Amazon Driver Support. We

are constantly looking at the clock. When I first began delivering, one particular package took me 40 minutes to deliver. That meant I was 6.67 packages behind schedule. It's very difficult to make up that many packages in four hours or less, so as you get more seasoned at driving, you realize you cannot let that happen. You make adjustments; you compromise top quality delivery for the sake of efficiency. Now, I could deliver that package in less than three minutes. But back then? When I arrived at the Casa Mira View mega apartment complex in Mira Mesa at 4 am, I was hoping it would not be as bad as it looked. It was worse. The usually reliable Amazon GPS was taking me to an underground parking lot. I got out with my flashlight and walked. And walked. And walked. The place was huge, and no matter how much I walked, I could not locate the building number. I called Driver Support, and after even they could not help me locate the building, they told me to just mark it as undeliverable and go on to my next stop. Mercy.

Not all apartments are

a drain on your time (and sanity). Deliveries outside big city centers are usually relatively easy to complete. Sure, I will complain about delivering to North County, but at least it won't be like San Diego's city center. I now find Casa Mira View easy, because I know they have very large and lighted numbers at the corners of their buildings, with stairs adjacent. The numbering of doors makes sense and the halls are easy to navigate — no corners or curves. However, there are unpleasant exceptions. UTC, you suck. Villages, you suck. And density is increasing. When I visited Chula Vista in the 1990s, it was mainly wilderness, some factories, car junk yards, warehouses, and farms. Now there are apartment complexes with parking woes that rival Downtown.

A driver can also tell they will have trouble if the delivery notes look like a magnum opus. We start delivering as early as 3:30 am; at that hour, more than three lines of delivery instructions is beyond what the brain can absorb. I just skim the delivery notes and then figure them out once I'm at the location. Sometimes, the notes



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References: Belongia EA, Simpson MD, King JP, et al. Variable influenza vaccine effectiveness by subtype: a systematic review and meta-analysis of test-negative design studies. *Lancet Infect Dis.* 2016;16(8):942-951. doi:10.1016/S1473-3099(16)00129-8
Rockman S, Laurie KL, Parkes S, Wheatley A, Barr IG. New technologies for influenza vaccines. *Microorganisms.* 2020;8(11):1745.

make it clear that people don't know that we deliver from 3:30 am to midnight, seven days a week. "Oh, just call us when you're here and we'll open the gate." "Please knock hard as the doorbell doesn't work." And too often: "the leasing office will let you in." The leasing office people have life easy. The early ones start at 9 am, but 10 is more common. By 9 am, I'm at home, people.

I also know a delivery will be trouble if I see a note that says, "Do not package dump." "Package dump" means drivers just throw packages to the ground in a designated spot: a room, package lockers, a reception area, a lobby, etc. Package dumping is a clear indication that someone hasn't organized a way to get packages to residences easily and efficiently. Reasons why drivers package dump: no clear directional signage as to where the building unit or apartment is located; no access to the elevator or gate due to need of a fob or code, no access to locker code. (Although the lockers might be Amazon lockers, Amazon Flex drivers can't access those lockers unless a code is provided by the resident). If it's a helluva confusing stop, and I have to spend 15 minutes trying to deliver your package, I'm in trouble. Better to package dump. (I recall one Amazon consumer who shared with me the "trick" to access her unit for next time. But unlike UPS drivers, who have regular routes, I will probably not be sent to her complex again for several months.)

I remember being overwhelmed my first few times delivering for Amazon Flex. I remember a three-hour block in 92108 that took me five hours to complete, simply because I tried to get the packages to

the customers' front doors after discovering that I could not deliver packages to the package lockers because I didn't have the access codes. I walked for miles through the winding corridors of modern apartments in Mission Valley, thinking all the while of Dorothy and all the adventures she had on the yellow brick road. I spent so much time walking and on the phone with Driver Support that my phone died. I went to Taco Bell and ate while waiting for my phone to get back up to 20%.

As I said, although it's called Driver Support, drivers try to avoid it unless absolutely necessary, because it's such a time suck. The most common reason to call is because you have access problems at the location. This is especially true with the morning shift (called "Breakfast" by Amazon), which starts at 3:30 am and ends at 8 am. If it's a gated community and you don't have a gate code or fob on your phone, your best bet is to follow someone in who has access. But not many people are arriving in the wee hours. Sometimes, people are leaving, but you can't always sneak in through the out door, due to tire spikes.

Here's a conversation with Driver Support:

"Hello, thank you for calling Driver Support. Are you safely pulled over and in a safe location?"

I explain that I'm unable to deliver the package, and Driver Support asks if I mind staying on the line while they call the customer. Although I have already called and texted the customer before calling Driver Support, they are still required to call the customer twice. I have just burned five minutes. Ten packages an hour. Five packages per half hour. Two and a half packages every fifteen

minutes. I should be at .83 packages by now. I'm starting to slip into a time hole.

"I'm sorry to keep you waiting. Yes, so I tried to call the customer, but no answer. I will try again. Do you mind holding?"

"Do I have a choice?"

"I'm sorry?"

I ask her to continue the routine.

"Hello, driver? I'm sorry to keep you waiting but I was unsuccessful at reaching the customer. I will ask you to continue your route and if you have time, return and attempt again."

When I inform Driver Support that I will be across town and can't return, she says ok, then just mark it as not able to deliver. I fell for this trick the first couple of times. What happens is this: after I deliver my last package, I find that the app will not let me mark the earlier package as "undeliverable due to access issue" because I'm nowhere near the delivery location. And when I call Driver Support to please mark the package as undeliverable, they insist that I return to the location, even though my block of time is about to end. The next time I was in a similar scenario, the Driver Support person insisted that Driver Support would never ask me to return to the location to close out the delivery. When I told her this had happened to me already, she insisted it had not.

Some customers leave rude notes or messages for drivers. Why? I once encountered a large sign on the front door of a single-family home in San Marcos that read in block letters: "DELIVERY DRIVER. KNOCK WHEN YOU DELIVER A PACKAGE. IS THAT TOO HARD TO UNDERSTAND!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" It was 4:15 in the morning when I read that mes-

sage. There were no lights on in the house, and I'm sure they were asleep. And I'm sure that when they inked that sign and placed on their front door, they did not know that Amazon Flex delivers long before the rooster starts its song. I rang the doorbell incessantly until I saw a light turn on, and then ran to my vehicle. I haven't been back there since, so I'm not sure if that sign is still there.

Another sign, this one in the backcountry, read: "Drivers: are you stupid? Toss the package over the fence so it's not stolen." I had to drive up a dirt road in almost pitch darkness to be greeted by this? What a waste of time. I couldn't locate their package in my vehicle. No package for you today, dummy.

Ah, the backcountry. When you receive just 13 packages for a 3.5 hour block, it probably means you're driving somewhere like Jamul or Dulzura. While there's less labor involved, it means more gas and mileage on your vehicle. I drive an SUV, but I do not know how sedans make it on some of the dirt and broken roads found on some of the backcountry trips, particularly on wet

days. And as with apartment units, some locations are hard to find — homes are often not visible from the road. I understand why people might want a certain degree of anonymity and isolation, and maybe that's why they live out there. But if you want your package delivered, maybe post a clear house number by the road.

I used to think people who lived out in the sticks would take the trouble to get to know their neighbors, just in case they needed each other in an emergency. Now I'm not so sure. I was in Dulzura, delivering a package just inside the gate of a home, as the delivery note instructed. The woman who had just driven through the gate asked who the package was for. When I told her the name, her expression became one of anger and bewilderment.

"I don't know who that lady is but you guys keep delivering her packages here."

I told her this was the spot where the GPS indicated the delivery address, and asked her to confirm the address number. She said that wasn't the correct number — I was two digits off. I asked if she knew

where that house was. She replied, "I don't know where that address is, and if you leave that package here, my dogs will shred it to pieces. I'm holding three packages for that lady and I already called the post office. I don't have time for this, because I'm already late for my son's school."

I left a detailed message for the woman whose packages were being held by her neighbor. I asked her to leave a more specific note in the Delivery Notes section so future packages could get to her, and wrote that her neighbor was holding three of her packages. I also indicated that since her address was difficult to find, she might want to get her packages delivered to an Amazon hub station — they're located all over the county — where she could pick them up during normal business hours. My messages to Amazon customers are often like this, full of detail and laced with a hint of condescension. If someone left me messages the way I leave messages, I would wonder, "Is he being helpful or just an asshole?"

I often talk to myself when delivering — loudly, in hopes that I'm over-

At Risk for Alzheimer's?

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As we age, it helps to assess our risk for Alzheimer's.

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TRAILBLAZER-ALZ 3

Lilly

heard saying passive-aggressive things like, "Guidance in the delivery notes would be goddamn helpful right about now!" as I look around for the right direction to an apartment unit. Usually, people don't hear me, as I'm usually delivering packages before sunrise. If they do hear me, it may be because they've been woken up by a dog who is barking at me. Once, I used the f-word like a gangster rapper upon not finding a house number: "Ok, we have 7123 here, and 7127 there, so where in the FUCK is 7125?" Whereupon, someone at 7123 said, "Oh, I believe that address is in the alley." I could not see the gentleman who provided me this guidance, but I was grateful and slightly embarrassed.

I've discovered that people appreciate receiving their packages; no matter how inconsiderate or even

rude I am, my work is appreciated. I have also discovered a sadistic quality I did not know I possessed: I find I like waking people up early in the morning. The earlier the better. No gate code at 4:45 am? Let me call the customer to get that. But even after almost 6000 packages delivered, not one soul has expressed annoyance at my waking them up.

Fortunately, there are many more considerate and kind people in San Diego than angry ones. People who leave water and snacks on the porch for drivers. I make sure their packages are placed down a little more carefully, out of street view. This cuts down on the risk of stolen packages. No one likes when package theft happens: not the people ordering, not Amazon, and not the drivers. Amazon drivers get their rating downgraded each time a package

is not located by the customer. Here's what Amazon sends: "A customer recently reported not receiving a package you marked as delivered on 08/20/2022. It's important to take steps to ensure customers can find the packages you delivered. To make sure customers get their packages, always double check the delivery address and place packages in a safe location that can't be seen from the street. Taking photos of where you left packages also helps customers find them. If you can't find a safe place to leave a package, call Support. We understand such events are sometimes beyond your control. *Repeated instances of this type of event may impact your eligibility to participate in Amazon Flex.*" Emphasis mine.

Penalizing drivers for something not fully in their control does not make sense. The driver

is not the criminal, even though it would be easy for a driver to take a photo of the delivered package but then pick it up and steal it. Or to have an accomplice follow them on their route, swiping packages along the way. Most experienced drivers will place the package away from street view by placing it behind a column or plant or other large object on the porch. But I've also encountered drivers who leave packages in plain view, so it's a good idea to remind drivers to avoid that in the Delivery Notes. Personally, I've placed a large wooden planter on my porch so that packages can be placed easily out of sight.

— Raul Rodrigues

Under the radar

continued from page 3

the Committee and the Caucus." The American Task Force on Lebanon is led by ex U.S. ambassador to Morocco from 1997 to 2001 **Edward Gabriel**, who has of late been lobbying for the United States to help topple the current Hezbollah-linked government in upcoming presidential elections. "The Hezbollah-allied coalition has its own client candidate — or candidates — lined up," writes Gabriel in a September 7 op-ed piece for *The Hill*. "Unfortunately, the reformist opposition coalition is less centralized and has yet to agree on its preferred candidates. It is imperative that this coalition try to agree on an effective strategy and identify presidential candidates to leverage votes in parliament and block

the election of another Hezbollah client. The election of an independent, reform-minded president could help turn the country's fortunes around."

So far, though, per a November 11 Associated Press report, stalemate has resulted. "Lebanon's parliament failed to elect a new president in five attempts after the term of President Michel Aoun, a strong ally of Hezbollah, ended on Oct. 31. That left Lebanon in a political vacuum with a caretaker government that does not have full powers as the country is roiling in the worst economic and financial crisis in its modern history."

— 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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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 1

THUY

Vietnamese-American singer/songwriter Thuy is a San Francisco-based R&B/soul artist who cites Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera as pop influences. Her breakout single "All Night Long" was followed by "Hands



THUY

On Me," a collaboration with rapper DCMBR called "Chances," and her current release, "Playing Tricks." The bill includes August 08 and Ashley Mehta.

WHEN: Thursday, December 1, 7:30 pm

WHERE: Soma, 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District. somasandiego.com

Friday | 2

WINTER WONDERLAND FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

The Arc of San Diego hosts a runway show presented by style personality Leonard Simpson. The event is chaired by Maria Stanley and her daughter

Cici Drummond. Doors open with registration, a vendor boutique of seasonal trends for shopping, and a silent auction, followed by the luncheon and runway show. Proceeds help The Arc of San Diego continue providing training, employment, and residential living services to more than 2000 children and adults with disabilities.

WHEN: Friday, December 2, 10 am to 2 pm

WHERE: U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway, Downtown. arc-sd.com/winterwonderland

ON THE TRAIL OF DER BLAUE REITER

Dagmar Galleithner-Steiner's landscape paintings are an homage to Expressionism, and more specifically to The Blue Rider (*Der Blaue Reiter*) movement, which emphasized the emotionally transformative power of color and abstract form in art. The dozen paintings chosen for this show will highlight recognizable landmarks in San Diego. Free event with small bites and live music. Once Upon A Frame is a full service, custom



frame shop and an art gallery bringing together local North County artists and San Diego residents.

WHEN: Friday, December 2, 5 pm to 9 pm

WHERE: Once Upon A Frame Gallery, 132 E. Cliff St., Solana Beach. onceuponafame.com

Saturday | 3

FESTIVE COMMUNITY CAROLING

Carolers will perform under the lighted holiday arch near the Village Walk Koi Pond. Listen and donate to Pack 5 Scouts, AMP Vocal Fusion & Ukulele/Guitar



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3: HOLIDAY IN THE VILLAGE

group, Southwestern College Jazz Vocal Ensemble, Scout Troop 6139, Scout Troop 66891, Bonita High School Concert Choir, Scout Troop 6034, St. Rose of Lima Glee Club, St. Mark's Youth, and Serenity Sisters.

WHEN: Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 6 pm to 6:30 pm. Through December 18

WHERE: Village Walk at EastLake. EastLake Parkway at Miller Drive, Chula Vista. shopvillagewalk.com

HOLIDAY IN THE VILLAGE

Come enjoy live music, fire pits, craft vendors, food, holiday photo opportunities, a kids' area, carnival games, carolers, food and drinks from local eateries, and live entertainment provided by local schools and clubs.

WHEN: Saturday, December 3, 12 pm to 9 pm

WHERE: La Mesa Village, Spring Street at La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa. lamesavillageassociation.org



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

ANIMAL FRIENDS

Pawliday Market “Seize a Pint, Save a Pup” brewery is hosting its inaugural Pawliday Market. The dog-friendly event is free to attend and features beer specials, dog adoptions from Second Chance Dog Rescue, holiday card photo ops with Erin Wiese Photo and Puppy Picnic Co, and pop-up shopping with more than a dozen local dog-themed small business vendors. Sunday, December 4, 1pm; **free**-\$150. Second Chance Beer Co., 15378 Avenue of Science #222. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

ART

Makers Arcade Holiday Fair More than 100 makers, holiday cocktails, beer by Sierra Nevada, gourmet food trucks, live music performances, photo trailers, styled lounges, a kids craft area, and more. The first 100 people to arrive each day will get a swag bag filled with handmade items. Kids under 10 are free. Saturday, December 3, 10am; Sunday, December 4, 10am; **free**-\$6. Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier, 1000 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

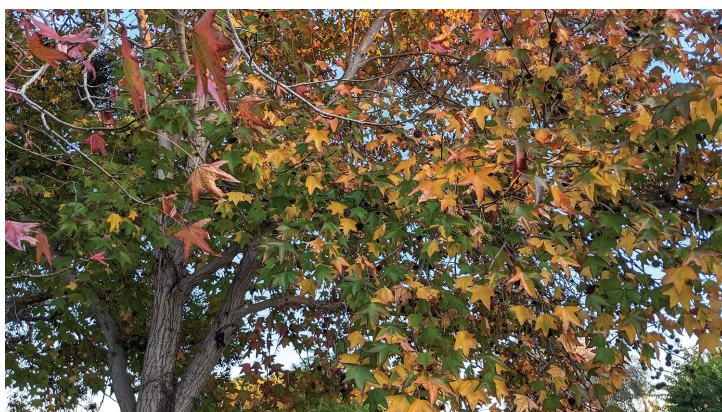
BOOK SIGNINGS

Children’s Holiday Book Fair: Wild About Reading! San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance Press and Warwick’s are presenting a Children’s Holiday Book Fair: Wild About Reading! Saturday, December 3, 10am; \$30. Merrill Lynch Building Courtyard

OUTDOORS

Earliest Sunset, Liquidambar Trees, Mars is Closest until 2033

San Diego’s Earliest Sunset (4:42 pm) Occurs Sunday, December 4, a date that is not coincident with the shortest day (winter solstice – December 21) because of factors relating to the non-circular shape of Earth’s orbit around the sun and the tilt of Earth’s rotational axis. Because of the elliptical orbit of the earth, when the earth is closer to the sun, its orbit is quicker. Because of the rotational axis of the earth, a solstice occurs when one of the poles is leaning towards the sun, while an equinox occurs when neither pole is leaning towards the sun. Our clocks are set so that every day is exactly 86,400 seconds, but in reality, the solar day can be up to 22 seconds shorter or 29 seconds longer



LIQUIDAMBAR PUT ON A SHOW FROM FALL INTO WINTER, TURNING FROM GREEN TO PURPLE TO RED.

Susan L. Shirk: Overreach: How China Derailed Its Peaceful Rise Warwick’s will host Susan L. Shirk as she discusses and signs her new book, *Overreach: How China Derailed Its Peaceful Rise*. This event is free and limited open seating first-come, first-served until we reach capacity. Reserve seating by pre-ordering one book per seat through warwicks.com/event/shirk-2022. Thursday, December 1, 7:30pm; **free**-\$29. Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Fire Operations in Wildland Urban Interface Workshop The Fire Safe Council of San Diego County, in partnership with San Diego County Fire/CAL Fire, is taking fire safety training to local communities that are at high-risk for wildfires. Free to local residents, the half-day, in-depth course also teaches fire behavior prediction and how to apply this knowledge to the

community’s topography, fuels, weather, and the fire-safe condition of homes. Saturday, December 3, 9am; **free**. San Diego Fire Station #40, 31577 CA-94. (CAMPO)

Winter Wellness: DIY Elderberry Syrup Learn how to make elderberry syrup. Sunday, December 4, 10am; \$55. Wild Willow Farm and Education Center, 2550 Sunset Avenue. (NESTOR)

COMEDY

Adam Sandler Sunday, December 4, 8pm; \$39-\$275. Viejas Arena, 5500 Canyon Crest Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Chris Rock and Dave Chappelle Thursday, December 1, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 3, 7:30pm; Viejas Arena, 5500 Canyon Crest Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

K. Trevor Wilson AS SEEN ON: Squirrelly Dan in the Crave/Hulu comedy Letterkenny, Roast Battles Canada, Comedy Central Roast Battles, Jimmy Kimmel Live, and more! Thursday, December 1, 8pm; Friday, December 2, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 3, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



THE CABRILLO LIGHTHOUSE AT SUNSET.

than 24 hours. Early December is a good time to view the setting sun from the spectacular vantage point of Cabrillo National Monument at the tip of Point Loma. During most of the year, you can’t do that, since sunset occurs well after the park’s closing time of 5 pm.

Liquidambar Trees, or Sweet Gums, the colorfully deciduous trees gracing front yards, parks, and campuses throughout the San Diego area, have been putting on a good show for the past month. The maplelike leaves of some varieties have turned from green to purple to red; the leaves of other varieties have faded to a golden yellow. Still other varieties will hold on to their leaves until the New Year. Most will regain their foliage by late February.

Mars is Closest to Earth Exactly at 6 pm on November 30, its closest until 2033. But for all practical purposes, it’s just as close for at least a week before and after. Rounded to the nearest tenth of an arcsecond, Mars stays 17.2 arcseconds in diameter from November 28th through December 4th.

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. Planet information from SkyandTelescope.org.

NATURE

Birding & Biking Eco Tour Bike along the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge while learning about native and migratory bird species as well as local ecology and conservation efforts. All equipment is provided: bikes, helmets, binoculars, and field guides. All proceeds support nonprofit environmental education programs for underserved youth. Saturday, December 3, 9am; \$35-\$55. San Diego Bay Refuge, 535 Florence Street. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

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, December 3, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Stars at Lake Kumeyaay Join members from the San Diego Astronomy Association at the far end of the Kumeyaay Lake Campground’s Day Use Parking Lot to view the nighttime sky through telescopes. Tonight, most bright planets are visible. Mars will be, bright and

show surface detail. Rain or cloudy skies cancel event. Sunset 4:41 pm Friday, December 2, 4:40pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTÉE)

SPECIAL EVENTS

First Fridays On the first Friday of each month, the Gaslamp Quarter will transform into a celebration of arts, culture, food, and community. Taking over the streets of 5th Ave., each week will have a specific theme with participants tailored to match the concept. Friday, December 2, 5pm; **free**. Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

La Mesa Fair Trade Gift Faire Shop for handmade, one of a kind gifts from local stores. Meet Dress-senber, founder Blythe Hill celebrating a 10 year anniversary with a documentary at 11am. Also, enjoy shopping for Equal Exchange coffee, chocolate and tea. There will be a pancake breakfast hosted by Troop 51, handmade quilts, Christmas ornaments, cards and bake sale in addition to fair trade products. Sunday, December 4, 8am; **free**. St. Martin of Tours, 7710 El Cajon Bl. (LA MESA)

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2022 HOLIDAY EVENTS GUIDE

Petco Park turns into a winter wonderland.

PHOTOGRAPH BY ALEC BASANEC, PETCO PARK EVENTS

DECEMBER NIGHTS

BALBOA PARK

Join your fellow citizens on December 2 and 3 for the City of San Diego's largest free holiday festival in beautiful Balboa Park. The family friendly event brings San Diegans together to enjoy the lights, the sounds, the attractions and of course, the amazing food.

HOLIDAY IN THE VILLAGE

LA MESA Boulevard

LA MESA

On December 3rd, the 7th annual La Mesa Holiday in the Village will once again be ringing in holiday cheer for everyone far and near! La Mesa Village friends and family will have the chance to take part in free festive fun with live music, cozy fires, craft vendors, food, holiday photo opportunities including selfies with Santa, and a kids' area bigger than Santa's Toy Shop!

CHRISTMAS PARADE

170 Eucalyptus Avenue

VISTA

Join the Vista Chamber of Commerce at the 64th Annual Vista Christmas Parade on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 1-2:30 pm. The theme this year is "A Toy Stories Christmas," with our Grand Marshal being the Toy Man of Vista! Grab your family and friends and join us for all the local festive fun. Santa is always the grand finale.

WINTER WONDERLAND FESTIVAL

340 N Escondido Boulevard

ESCONDIDO

Escondido gets even more post-worthy this December 3rd, with real snow, live reindeer, glittering lights, and festive installations. Plus, there will be food and drink options to warm

your belly and heart, so come hungry. Haven't you completed your shopping list? Don't fret! There will be dozens of local vendors offering art and crafts from which to shop.

STARLIGHT NIGHTS

373 Park Way

CHULA VISTA

The City of Chula Vista and Downtown Chula Vista invite you to join us on Sunday, December 4th from 3:30 pm-7:30 pm for a holly, jolly holiday celebration you won't want to miss! Ring in the holidays in style this year as you hop on Santa's Holiday Train and ride through Downtown Chula Vista, shop from unique local businesses at the Holiday Market curated by the Third Avenue Village Market and Las Jefas Market, enjoy live music from the main stage at Memorial Park, and take your official holiday family photo with



PHOTOGRAPH BY LET'S FROLIC TOGETHER

The wonders of winter: Makers Arcade Holiday Fair

Santa himself for free! The holidays wouldn't be complete without an official tree lighting ceremony and this year's is sure to put a twinkle in your eye as the City of Chula Vista and the Downtown Chula Vista Association inaugurate the new one-of-a-kind and custom Prisma Tree created by international lighting artist, Joshua Hubert. Made with the glimmer and sparkle reminiscent of the magic the community of Chula Vista creates, this new tree is also a nod to the future of the neighborhood. The tree lighting ceremony will begin promptly at 5:45 pm.

CHRISTMAS IN THE VALLEY

15954 Woods Valley Road

VALLEY CENTER

On Friday, December 9, and Saturday, December 10, from 9 am to 3 pm, visit Bates Nut Farm for a magical event is for all ages to enjoy! Bring out the whole family to enjoy Santa arriving, a Polar Express ride to visit with Santa, crafts, carols, and holiday fun. FREE crafts and activities for the kids, donated by local clubs, churches and organizations. Finish your Christmas shopping for Arts n' Crafts at the craft market, open both Friday and Saturday.

PARADE OF LIGHTS

SAN DIEGO BAY

The San Diego Bay Parade of Lights is a time-honored holiday tradition brought to San Diego by the local boating community. Continuing its longstanding San Diego tradition, the 52nd annual San Diego Bay Parade of Lights promises to dazzle and entertain bayfront crowds during 2 evenings on December 11 and December 18. Participants in this year's highly anticipated holiday boat parade will decorate their boats to fit this year's theme: FantaSEA on the Bay.



A real-life winter wonderland: Snow 'N Glow in Del Mar

The Parade brings more than 100,000 San Diego residents and visitors to the shores of San Diego Bay each year. The procession of approximately 80 lavishly decorated boats has become one of the most iconic events in the region. This year, for the sixth time, the parade will proceed to the pier at Cesar Chavez Park before making the turn to Coronado, giving spectators another area to view the passing spectacle.

SNOW 'N GLOW

2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard

DEL MAR

Activities include: snow

tubing for all ages with fresh snow made daily, walking through a holiday light display with over one million lights, igloo private rental, and building your own snowman. Unlimited Century wheel rides, unlimited visits with Santa and friends, and live entertainment. Tickets \$49.98 per person.

BELMONT PARK'S WINTER WONDERLAND

3146 Mission Boulevard

MISSION BEACH

Belmont Park is bringing families and friends together for the holiday season with its fourth

annual Winter Wonder holiday spectacular. Enjoy festive rides and attractions including the iconic Giant Dipper Roller Coaster, take in your favorite oversized sculptures, or sip on holiday-inspired drinks while you stroll through the Midway under a million lights! Day passes \$55-\$60.

MIRACLE ON 30TH STREET

4696 30th Street

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Sitting on the corner of Adams and 30th street in North Park, Polite Provisions is happy to up the

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A winter wonderland of ice skating at Liberty Station

festive vibes by hosting Miracle on 30th Street through the month of December. With kitschy holiday décor, professionally-developed cocktails, and the nostalgic energy of the best office party you've ever been to, Miracle on 30th is sure to get even the grouchi-

est Grinch in the holiday spirit. Polite Provisions' Miracle cocktail list includes the Christmapolitan with vodka, elderflower, absinthe, spiced cranberry, dry vermouth and lime; Snowball Old Fashioned with rye whiskey, gingerbread, aromatic bitters,

and orange essence; and Santa's Little Helper with gin, spiced caraway, eucalyptus, lime, and soda.

ICE SKATING

875 Dewey Road and 1500 Orange Avenue

LIBERTY STATION AND CORONADO

Skate outdoors at Liberty



Las Posadas in Old Town

Station, where your \$20 ticket goes to benefit the after-cancer program at the Packham Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Rady's Children's Hospital. Or skate by the sea at the Hotel Del, where your \$40 ticket benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation San Diego. At the latter, guests can also reserve spots rinkside or oceanside at the Frostbite Lounge with plush seating, roaring fire pits, holiday-themed libations, and delectable bites.

LAS POSADAS

2454 Heritage Park Row

OLD TOWN

Join neighbors and friends for the 64th Annual Las Posadas event in Heritage County Park on Friday, December 9, 2022 at 7 pm! Las Posadas ("the lodgings") is a centuries-old Mexican celebration representing the several nights that Mary and Joseph, accompanied by a flock of shepherds and angels, sought shelter at different inns in Bethlehem.

THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG

868 Fourth Avenue

DOWNTOWN

Sing your way into the

season with joyful holiday favorites. Take part in a fun-filled sing-along with orchestra and choir for a wonderful way to celebrate the holidays with those you love! "Jingle Bells," "Deck the Halls," "I'll be Home for Christmas," "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer," "White Christmas," "Silent Night," "Ding Dong Merrily on High," and many more will ring through the theatre as orchestra, choir and audience join forces in a delightful afternoon to celebrate the holidays. A festive event for the entire family! With Emmy-nominated conductor Charles Fernandez, the Sound of Christmas Chamber Players and Choir, and narrator Sheelagh Cullen.

NUTCRACKER TEA PARTY WITH THE SAN DIEGO BALLET

2600 Lansing Road

LIBERTY STATION

The Nutcracker Tea Party returns to Liberty Station on December 18th. Enjoy the magic of the holiday season with holiday treats, a performance by San Diego Ballet, a visit from Santa, and more! There are two showtimes available: 11 am and

3 pm. Tickets can be purchased at libertystation.tix.com

LAMB'S FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS: A CHRISTMAS CAROL

1142 Orange Avenue

CORONADO

Kerry Mead's adaptation of Charles Dickens' iconic redemption story, wrapped in the gorgeous music of the season. Lamb's Players Theatre presented A Christmas Carol last December to great acclaim and sold-out shows. Then the Omicron surge swept through our fully vaccinated cast, and we were forced to cancel the final five performances. So we decided to bring it back for 2022.

WINTER EXPRESS EXPERIENCE

1649 El Prado

BALBOA PARK

This ticketed before-hours event at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum will immerse children with special holiday activities around the museum, running Christmas trains (including one YOU help make!), and storytime with St. Nick himself. After

Enchanted Village
at Noah Homes

Experience a Festival of Trees and Lights this Holiday Season!

December 16-22, 5-8pm at Noah Homes
12526 Campo Road, Spring Valley, CA 91978

Enjoy brilliantly-lit trees, photos with Santa, magical cottages, light tunnels, live entertainers, hundreds of giant candy canes, more than 1 million lights, interactive displays, and other festive decorations!

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750ml**

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Bourbon 750ml**

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14 Hands Rose

\$8⁹⁹



**Evan Williams
Bourbon 750ml**

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**The Rady Shell
at Jacobs Park**
SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

You Belong HEAR This Holiday Season!

Friday, December 9 at 7PM
Saturday, December 10 at 7PM
Sunday, December 11 at 5PM
The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park™

Christopher Dragon, conductor
San Diego Master Chorale
Dr. John K. Russell, Music Director
San Diego Children's Choir
Ruthie Millgard, Artistic Director
San Diego Symphony Orchestra

Directed by **Jonathan Gilmer**

Script by **Mabelle Reynoso**
Projection Design by **Mike Tutaj**
Lighting Design by **Jason Rothberg**
Casting by **Jacole Kitchen**



Audiences will experience an all-new holiday story and script, full of cozy holiday moments, favorite tunes, and jolly spirit at the San Diego Symphony's Noel Noel, San Diego's favorite annual holiday music tradition. All are invited to come to The Rady Shell early for holiday activations throughout the park, including themed food and beverage delights.

FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA



Saturday, December 17 at 6PM
The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park™

Thiago Tiberio, conductor
San Diego Symphony Orchestra

Discover the Magic of the Mean One
this holiday season.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas is a celebration of the holiday spirit no home should be without! Why is the Grinch such a grouch? No one seems to know, until little Cindy Lou Who takes matters into her own hands and turns both Whoville and the Grinch's world upside down, inside out and funny side up in her search for the true meaning of Christmas.

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FILM WITH LIVE ORCHESTRA



Wednesday, December 21 at 7PM
The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park™

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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loveactually

Buy Today! TheShell.org

All artists, dates, programs and pricing subject to change.



PHOTOGRAPH BY MARY SLOBEN

San Diego Bay Parade of Lights

Santa goes back to the North Pole, enjoy a day of museum admission.

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER

5300 Grand Del Mar Court

DEL MAR

Enjoy a Grand Feast this

Christmas Eve at Fairmont Grand Del Mar. Executive Chef Bryn McArthur has concocted a lavish Christmas Eve four-course dinner menu at Amaya with a festive flair you are sure to remember.

THE NIGHT BEFORE AT ROOFTOP CINEMA CLUB

1 Market Place

MARINA

For National Ugly Sweater Day this year, we're bringing you a double-dose of comedies that celebrate this beloved piece of holiday attire, with National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation and The Night Before. Pick your film, and then make sure to wear your best ugly sweater to the show, because we'll be having a pre-screening contest!

UGLY SWEATER HOLIDAY CRAWL

401 G Street (and others)

DOWNTOWN

Check out this hosted pub crawl through some of the most vibrant bars in the Gaslamp District of San Diego. Includes VIP entry to 4 bars, drink spe-



Winter wetterland: The Red Nose Run on Del Mar Beach

cials at each location, no cover charges, a walking tour through downtown San Diego, dancing, and overall good times.

LIVING ORNAMENTS WORKSHOP

302 Hollister Street

CHULA VISTA

Come craft beautiful Festive Wreath Ornaments at Terra Bella Nursery. Every ticket includes all materials to create THREE Festive Wreaths. This DIY class is intermediate level and open to all ages!

HOLIDAY MARKET AT PETCO

840 K Street

DOWNTOWN

Petco Park turns into a winter wonderland, featuring local and European artisan shops, magical lighting displays, a carousel, a 30-foot Christmas tree, seasonal European food and beverage, Santa, the Grinch and other holiday characters. Plus: live entertainment at the Sycuan Stage on select nights.

HOLIDAY BOOKSTORE

1008 Wall Street

LA JOLLA

Get a gift for a friend or yourself at the Athenaeum's Annual Holiday Bookstore in the La Jolla Art Studio! As usual, we

will have a large selection of gently used books, CDs, vinyl LPs, and sheet music. Find a great gift for yourself or a friend!

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MARKET

1640 Camino Del Rio N

MISSION VALLEY

Visit a curated market of talented vendors sharing the passion of their artistry. Looking for unique gift ideas for someone special? We've got you covered!

MAKERS ARCADE HOLIDAY FAIR

1000 N. Harbor Drive

Marina

Visit the Makers Arcade Holiday Fair Saturday, December 3 and Sunday, December 4 from 10 am to 5 pm at the Broadway Pier in Downtown San Diego. This exciting event will feature more than 100 makers, holiday cocktails, beer by Sierra Nevada, gourmet food trucks, live music performances, photo trailers, styled lounges, a kids craft area, and more!

UNLEASH THE HOLIDAY CHEER

2455 Cushing Road

LIBERTY STATION

Bring Fido to San Diego's largest and most fun Pet

& Military Appreciation event of the year! Enjoy photos with Santa for children and pets, gifts from Santa, Holiday vendor village shopping, take-home craft activities, scavenger hunt with the chance to win prizes (11 am - 1:45 pm), pet parade and pet costume contest with prizes (additional \$5 pet costume contest ticket required; 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm), gifts for military and veterans and dependents in attendance (with ID), special guests and judges to be announced, and much more! Please note that all pets must be on a leash (no retractable leashes, please) and cleaned up after.

THE RED NOSE RUN

1658 Coast Boulevard

DEL MAR

A fun run-and-walk on beautiful Del Mar beach that is family- and dog-friendly. Choose your distance: we offer 3K and 5K distance (note: distances may be altered depending on beach conditions that day). MORE FUN AFTER THE RUN: Your celebration is just beginning after the finish line. Plan to stick around after your run and enjoy your friends old and new in holiday cheer with heavy appetizers provided by Poseidon Restaurant and the holiday spirit of their cash bar.

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HOLIDAYS AT LEGOLAND

One Legoland Drive

CARLSBAD

Your favorite holiday characters, Santa and the Toy Soldier, are back, along with the Gingerbread Man! They're all ready for holiday hugs, pictures, and selfies. Head over to Fun Town, where there's a 30-foot, fully decorated, Lego Christmas tree with over 400 Lego ornaments. And as the day winds down, the tree gets a-twinklin to holiday tunes at the Holiday Light Show, featuring falling "snow." And check out our delightfully dazzling holiday shows (Santa approved, of course), throughout the park all season long!

SEAWORLD CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

500 SeaWorld Drive

MISSION BAY

The holidays are meant to be merry and bright, and that's exactly what you'll find as this beloved event returns with more wondrous moments than ever. See dazzling new Christmas shows or meet Santa and Rudolph. Feel the snow falling and watch the sky light up with holiday fireworks. Find photo-perfect moments across acres of beautiful decorations, including a towering 30-foot, twinkling Christmas tree and a music-activated tunnel of lights. All the while, savor delicious candy-topped hot chocolate and other treats for all ages. Where else can you say "Merry Christmas" to a sea otter?

JUNGLE BELLS

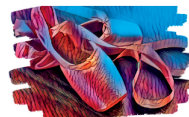
2920 Zoo Drive

BALBOA PARK

The magic and the spirit of the holiday season return! The Zoo lights up the night until 8 pm

(except December 24), with amazing entertainment featuring the spectacular show, Aurora. Also featured: Dr. Zoolittle's animal-themed version of "Twas the Night Before Christmas," the Northern Frontier Holiday Forest, aglow with specially decorated and lighted trees, and the toog tree on Front Street, which doesn't just light up, it appears to come to life, "dancing" to sounds of the season. Guests can visit Santa at Gingerbread Landing, see some of Santa's elves as they keep things hopping with their energetic trampoline performance at the "Toy Shop Hop," enjoy a jazzy carol session and strolling musicians, join in the Reindeer Games on the main plaza and meet larger-than-life friendly Zoo characters like Dr. Harry Lion, Churchill Polar Bear, Sydney Koala and their friends. ■

Coming to Oceanside Theatre Company



Artist Open House

Dec. 2, 6 pm

Free gallery event showcasing dance-themed art, an artist at work, live music, theater tours. All welcome.



Poetry Reading

Dec. 10, 10 am

Poetry reading featuring black poets from Kenya to California. Coffee and treats at 10 am, reading at 11 am.



Improv Comedy

Dec. 15, 6 pm

Irreverent Improv brings characters to life on the spot based on audience input in this zany comedy show.



Not Your Normal Nutcracker

Dec. 16-18

Modern jazz theater twist offers a humorous spin on Tchaikovsky's classic ballet.



A Winter's Eve Concert

Dec. 21, 7:30 pm

David Arkenstone and Friends perform holiday classics and original neo-classical crossovers.



Nerd Comedy New Year's Eve

Dec. 31, 7 pm

In this stand up comedy event, scientist turned comedian Tim Lee hosts clever comedy with several top nerd comics.

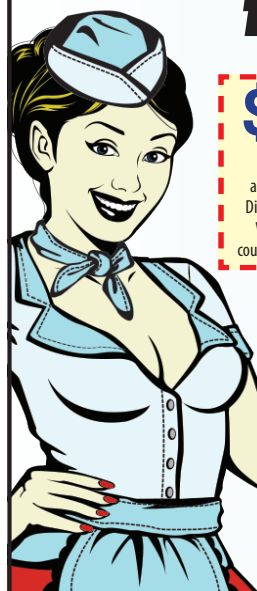
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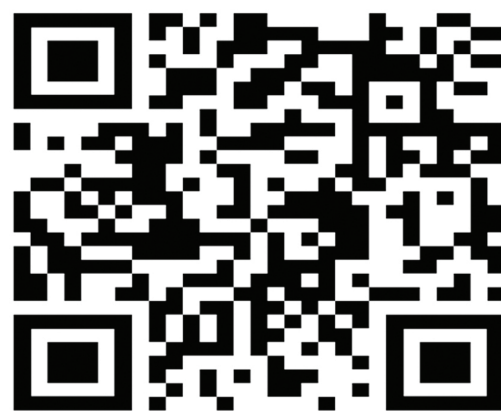


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EVENTS

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. CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

A Christmas Carol 2022

Christmas Eve in London, England, 1850. Based on Charles Dickens' most popular novel, this beloved tale of redemption, the damaging effects of isolation, and the importance of love and compassion are displayed through Ebenezer Scrooge's transformation from a miserly, greedy, and lonely man into an empathetic and kind individual. This story is told spectacularly by some of Broadway's greatest composers (Disney's Beauty and the Beast, Disney's The Little Mermaid, Little Shop of Horrors, Ragtime, Seussical & Once on This Island). Join us for this festive and glorious Holiday Tradition! Book by Lynn Ahrens & Mike Ockrent. Music and Lyrics by Alan Menken & Lynn Ahrens.

OLD TOWN TEMECULA COMMUNITY THEATER, 42051 MAIN ST., TEMECULA. 866-653-8696. CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

As You Like It

Christopher Ashley and Will Davis's re-imagined *As You Like It* bills itself as "a celebration of the limitless possibilities of love and humanity." In Shakespeare's comedy, Rosalind and Orlando meet by chance in court and feel an immediate connection. When they are both banished, fate brings them together again in the Forest of Arden. That's when Rosalind disguises herself as the boy Ganymede and, upon meeting her beloved, proposes to pretend that he is himself Rosalind so that Orlando can practice his wooing. A complicated and highly comedic business, here complicated further by the casting of non-binary actor Esco Jouley as Orlando and transgender actor Peter Smith as Rosalind. Or perhaps, in the view of the co-directors, the opposite is true: if the forest is a place of naturalist self-discovery outside the regulated world of the city — if gender is just a construct imposed from without — then the corkscrew



PHOTOGRAPH BY DAREN SCOTT

— with a cord and cracked handset and a finicky way of not working when it's needed. It's damaged, this phone: the duct tape is enough to tell you that, along with the fact that it's propped on the floor, not far from the stainless steel bowl that's been set out to catch the drips during the thunderstorm that has brought high school basketball star Johnny Grimes into the Pinnolini home. It seems Franky P. is his biggest fan — pictures on the wall and everything — so he's happy to let Johnny make a call, as long as mother Barbara doesn't catch them spending a quarter to call information. Make that three quarters... and down comes Barbara, wondering what's the fuss and where's the Chablis.

Gerke has written a gangbuster part for his wife Jessica John, and she throws herself into it like a dog chewing at its leash, all frustration and funny, frenetic energy. Barbara is trapped trapped trapped: by her past, by her pain, by her poverty, by her motherhood, and oh yes, by that Phone, the one she's been stuck waiting for...well, let's not spoil things.

And happily, it's not just the Barbara Show: if she's a dog on a leash, bad penny Franky is a puppy trying not to drown before it makes it back to the bank. He ain't right, but he's not wrong, either. And Johnny isn't just the normie audience's introduction to this domestic prison, nor even merely the catalyst for conflict. There's a reason he can't bring himself to just leave, even if the house is haunted. Maybe fun isn't the precise word here, but there's an undeniable element of entertainment in amid the pathos and pain.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS CENTER, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-920-8503. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS, 7PM MONDAYS.

Prairie Lights

Between 1854 and 1929, so-called orphan trains ran regularly from the cities of the East Coast to the farmlands of the Midwest, carrying thousands of abandoned children whose fates would be determined by luck or chance. Would they be adopted by a kind and loving family, or would they face a childhood and adolescence of hard labor and servitude? *Prairie Lights* tells the story of a Jewish brother and sister who journey west on an Orphan Train in 1905. Arriving with other homeless youths in a tiny Nebraska town just before the holidays, Benjamin and Rose are adopted by Well-spring's only Jewish couple. Devout 12-year-old Benjamin clashes with Abe, a successful shopkeeper who has abandoned his religion. Meanwhile, 15-year-old Rose falls secretly in love with a fellow orphan, thus upsetting Sophie's marriage plans for the girl. Townsfolk are further divided by the fearful banker, Maxwell Ryder, who wants to send all of the orphans back to New York. As the town prepares for Christmas and Hanukkah approaches, Benjamin finds himself enlisting the young people—orphans and local kids alike—on a quest to reunite Wellspring.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE THEATRE, 116 S. KALMIA ST., ESCONDIDO. 7PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS.

The October Night of Johnny Zero: A stormy port in a storm.

the "Bah, humbugs" echoing in my brain, warning me against dimming the Christmas cheer and urging me to laugh and sing along. (The sing-along 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. CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

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 TUES-

DAYS & WEDNESDAYS.

The Gifts of the Magi

This musical performance takes you to the early 1900's in New York City. You meet Della and Jim Dillingham who struggle with unemployment and poverty, which is especially harsh when you are trying to buy a special Christmas gift for the one you love. The ensemble includes 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 SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY.

The October Night of Johnny Zero

Oh, what fun: Backyard Renaissance artistic director Francis Gerke has given us a brand new play that looks back at the '80s the way the '80s might have looked back at the '40s. You couldn't set this story in the present, because then you'd lose The Phone: a tan plastic wall-mounted job — well, it used to be mounted

courtship can be read as much more straightforward. And the comedy comes, not from the hidden truth about Rosalind/Ganymede, but from the transformation of traditional understandings. It's a bold venture, aided by the obvious talent of the cast, and perhaps undermined by the occasional whiff of camp. (If a person was not entirely on board with the ideology, they would find ample opportunity to laugh.) Or perhaps, in the view of the co-directors, the opposite is true.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. CALL FOR SHOWTIMES

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 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 whole Whoville 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

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.

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. (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)



Violent Night: You better watch out...

Gremlins — Nobody is taken very much aback on meeting a pointy-eared furry little beast who speaks and sings in English, in a voice like Disney's Chip 'n' Dale. But after all, in this "typical" American small town (so beloved of executive producer Steven Spielberg), school is still in session on Christmas Eve Day and a subtitled Cocteau film is broadcast on local TV that night, and the grasp on character and

psychology is more or less the exact equal of Dr. Seuss (e.g., the Widow Scrooge who vows to capture a troublesome mutt and put him in her spin-dryer). But it's rather as if Dr. Seuss had decided to supplement his reputable pediatric practice and peddle mind-altering, brain-damaging substances to the older kids on the school playground: the animated stuffed animal, when gotten wet, spawns egg-sized fur

balls that grow up to be sharp-toothed batlike hellions who like to smoke, drink, break-dance, throw open the classic trenchcoat and expose themselves to females, and much, much worse. To find, or to imagine, the ideal customer for this concoction is a chore. The problem, in part, would be to find someone young enough not to be bothered by the cuteness and not to notice the total insincer-

ity. (The horror element, much diluted by the two aforementioned qualities, would not be part of the problem for the indicated age group, though a number of presumably grown-up critics professed, or pretended, to be bothered by it.) Such restrictions, of course, would not leave anyone around who could appreciate the cinematic in-jokes, but those are inappreciable anyway. With Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton, and Frances Lee McCain; directed by Joe Dante. 1984. — D.S. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE)

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)

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)

Violent Night — When a team of mercenaries breaks into a wealthy family compound on Christmas Eve, taking everyone inside hostage, the team isn't prepared for a surprise combatant: Santa Claus (David Harbour) is on the grounds, and he's about to show why this Nick is no saint. Directed by Norwegian director Tommy Wirkola. 2022. Sgt. Tiki (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Love never stops surprising you. Even when you know how it ends.

Jim Parsons Ben Aldridge and Sally Field

Spoiler Alert

From the Director of The Big Sick

FOCUS FEATURES PRESENTS A THAT'S WONDERFUL AND SEMI-FORMAL PRODUCTION A FILM BY MICHAEL SHOWALTER
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IN THEATERS DECEMBER 9

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the inside track blurt

The Amalgamated: ska, stability, sobriety

Some bands can count their lineup shifts on one finger, like ZZ Top or R.E.M. (one each). Then there's San Diego skamaniacs The Amalgamated. "About ten years ago," explains guitarist/singer Reggie Costa, "I made a list

also wrote the band's original tunes. As Costa recalls, "We formed when the Hi-Lites broke up. There was a big parking lot fight, and half of the band quit. We got some players to fill out the new group from other bands that we knew. We thought of this as an Amalgamation. There



The Amalgamated: weathering the storm, dialing in the sound.

of every horn player, bass player, drummer, etc., that has played in our band, and it was over 100 players. I am the only original member left. I must be difficult to be in a band with."

But, he adds, "in the last five years, we have had very few lineup changes. The band now is more stable and better than ever." This stabilized roster is also fully integrated, both racially and gender-wise. Costa is a San Diego native who grew up in Ramona before moving near UCSD, then to La Mesa, and settling finally in Lemon Grove. He names his formative musical influences as "Chuck Berry's album *The Great Twenty-Eight*, Pantera's *Cowboys From Hell*, Sublime's *Sublime*, No Doubt's *Tragic Kingdom*, and The Aggrolites' *The Aggrolites*. [Also] MTV when they played music videos. Green Day had the best videos."

The band was founded in 2007, after five members of the Hi-Lites — an eight-piece ska band — left that group due to a falling out with bassist James Trent, who

was also a record label in Jamaica called Amalgamated Records. We ultimately decided on 'The Amalgamated,' because we figured it would be hard to spell and impossible to remember."

Costa says he always wanted to play ska, but the band stayed instrumental for its first two years. According to Costa, the group was trying "to be as much like The Skatalites as we could." Then, circa 2009, fate brought singer Raphael "Rip" Peña a-calling. "I was in a band called The Scotch Bonnets," says Peña, "which went on to become The Night Doctors. The band was just getting started and had a bunch of shows booked. Right afterward, I went on a bender that ended up with me checking myself into rehab. I felt really bad that I let down the guys, but it was the best decision I could have made. I have remained friends with The Night Doctors and we have played lots of shows with them over the years. I've been sober for fourteen years now, playing with The Amalgamated for

the last thirteen years. Lots of the songs I write are about overcoming adversity and going through heartaches."

The Amalgamated cut their new album, *True Tone*, at Ramona's After Hours Studios — owned and operated by Jon Hasz — in the back of the Ramona Music Center shop. Hasz, who also recorded the band's first two releases, was assisted on this one by Brian "Dub Robot" Wallace. "We recorded the album in August 2021," says Peña, "during a monsoon and a freak tornado that hit Ramona. It was a tiny one, but it still counts."

According to Peña, "For this album, we really wanted to push ourselves. We wanted to add some elements of reggae and dial in our sound. Reggie [Costa] and I admire Brian Wallace's work with See Spot — *The Robbery* is one of the best ska albums ever produced — and the Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra.

Brian was also the saxophone player on Sublime's *40oz. to Freedom*. Jon and Brian are actually friends, and Jon stayed to help us get all the equipment ready."

Peña says his favorite selection from the new set is called "Can't Hold You Down." It's "about a boxer; it's a groovy reggae tune. One of the major themes in rocksteady and reggae during the 1960s was boxing, so this tune pays homage to that." Another new tune, "You Don't Have To Do It," isn't quite so cheerful. Peña set that one down "after my friend that I got sober with killed himself. It was tragic. The dude just couldn't stay stopped. He was Native American and a really gifted artist. It hit me hard, so I wrote a song about being there for your friends and choosing to ask for help instead of suffering alone."

— Andrew Hamlin

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Robert Bush, Andrew Hamlin, Dryw Keltz, Jay Allen Sanford, Spike Steffenhagen

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

Athenaeum Art Center School of the Arts:

Friday, 7:30pm — San Diego New Music: The Holy Ghost. \$12-\$30.

Balboa Theatre:

Friday, 8pm — Mariachi Sol de Mexico: Merry-Achi Christmas. \$50-\$70.

Beach House Grill:

Saturday, 8pm — Channel Tres and Rochelle Jordan.

Belly Up Tavern:

Thursday, 8pm — Lee Fields and Molly Lewis. \$25.
Tuesday, 8pm — Loretta Lynn Revue.
Wednesday, 8pm — Built To Spill. \$35.

Brew Coffee Spot:

Saturday, 9am — Java Jazz Quartet. Free.

Brick by Brick:

Thursday, 6:30pm — Undeath and 200 Stab Wounds. \$18-\$20.
Friday, 8pm — Pallbearer and Stygian Bough. \$20-\$25.
Saturday, 7pm — Katatonia, The Ocean, Cellar Darling. \$30-\$35.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:

Thursday, 8pm — Holiday In: Jazz at the Ballroom Holiday Revue. \$35-\$50.

Casbah:

Thursday, 8pm — Jesse Daniel Edwards. \$15.
Friday, 8pm — Miniature Tigers and Katzu Oso. \$25-\$29.
Saturday, 8pm — Mattson 2. \$18.
Sunday, 8pm — The Downhill Jam. \$20.
Monday, 8pm — Free Paintings and Scoobert Doobert. \$7.
Tuesday, 8pm — Wild Child. \$20-\$22.
Wednesday, 8pm — Jerry Joseph. \$15.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Isabel Leonard and Pablo Sáinz-Villegas. \$44-\$115.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:

Thursday, 7pm — Deadheads Night.

Grossmont College:

Monday, 7:30pm — Musics of the Middle East: Concert for Iran. Free.

House of Blues:

Thursday, 7pm — Azizi Gibson. \$18-\$50.
Thursday, 7:30pm — The Lemonheads. \$29-\$75.
Friday, 7:30pm — The Rare Occasions. \$62-\$67.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Russell Dickerson. \$87-\$264.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Me First and The Gimme Gimmes. \$26-\$75.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Zoe. \$67-\$102.
Wednesday, 7pm — Militarie Gun and Anxious. \$16.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Ramirez. \$25-\$70.

Josie's Hideout:

Saturday, 11:30am — I Know Jack. Free.

Kilowatt Brewing OB:

Saturday, 4:30pm — OB Christmas Parade Parking Lot Party. Free.

Kookslams Hard Seltzer Brewery:

Saturday, 9pm — Red & Ted. Free.

Madam Bonnie's:

Thursday, 7pm — SD Jazz Trio.
Saturday, 7pm — Andrea Loraine Jazz Band.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:

Sunday, 7:30pm — La Oreja de Van Gogh. \$29-\$1524.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Beach House. \$121-\$537.

Mainstream Bar and Grill:

Saturday, 7:30pm — Sonic Tonic.

Mesa College:

Wednesday, 3pm — Jaeryoung Lee. Free.

Moonshine Beach:

Saturday, 8pm — Young Guns.

Mountain View Community Church:

Friday, 7pm — North County Wind Ensemble. \$20.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:

Thursday, 9pm — Jukebox Junkies.
Friday, 9pm — CircaSonic.
Saturday, 9pm — Custard Pie.

Music Box:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Lucius and Sarah Kinsley. \$35.
Friday, 8pm — Britney Party. \$7-\$15.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Psychedelic Furs. \$77.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Twin Tribes and Harsh Symmetry. \$22.
Monday, 7:30pm — Barteas Strange and Pom Pom Squad. \$21.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Weyes Blood. \$25.

Observatory North Park:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Turnover. \$25.

Friday, 7:30pm — Modest Mouse. \$249-\$314.

Monday & Tuesday, 7:30pm — Social Distortion. \$90-\$215.
Wednesday, 6:30pm — The Menzingers. \$35.

Old Town Temecula Community Theater:

Sunday, 2pm — Southwest Women's Chorus: Christmas in the Air. \$15-\$20.

Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church:

Sunday, 5pm & 7pm — Christmas Concert for the Community. Free.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts:

Sunday, 4pm — Big Bad Voodoo Daddy Holiday Party.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:

Saturday, 7pm — The Dickies. \$25-\$275.

Seven Grand:

Thursday, 8pm — Sunking.

Shelter Encinitas - 540 S. Coast Hwy, Encinitas, CA. :

Thursday, 9:30pm — It's Just Noize Takeover. Free.

Soda Bar:

Friday, 7:30pm — Playboy Manbaby and Buddha Trixie. \$20.

Sunday, 8pm — Birdzilla and Ruben Lady. \$10.
Monday, 7:30pm — Strawberry Girls amd The Color 8. \$22.
Tuesday & Wednesday, 8pm — Drugdealer. \$31.

Soma:

Thursday, 7:30pm — THUY. \$22-\$27.
Friday, 7pm — Yung Gravy and bbno\$.
Saturday, 7pm — Peach Pit.

Til-Two Club:

Thursday, 8pm — Granite Mask and Adios Mundo Cruel.
Friday, 8pm — DJ Mike Delgado.
Saturday, 8pm — Crown City Bombers.

Tower Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Fear of Noise Show 2.
Saturday, 8pm — The Executives and Social Spit.
Wednesday, 8pm — Scout Gillett.

University of San Diego:

Saturday, 7:30pm, Sunday, 2pm — Lessons & Carols. Free.

Winstons Beach Club:

Friday, 8:30pm — Half Hour Late, Chandler Leighton, Olivia Henry. \$12-\$15.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Twisted Relatives and DJ E-DUB. \$10.

UPCOMING SHOWS

411 Market Street San Diego, CA 92101. :

Thursday, Dec. 22 — Andrea Loraine Jazz Trio.

Alpine VFW Post 9578:

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

Balboa Theatre:

Thursday, Dec. 15 — Dave Koz and Friends' 25th anniversary Christmas Tour.
Sunday, Dec. 18 — The Sound of Christmas Sing-along.
Tuesday, Dec. 20 — Mindi Abair: I Can't Wait For Christmas.



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

Beach House Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 17 — SantaCon.

Beaumont's:
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Classless Act.

Belly Up Tavern:
Friday, Dec. 9 — Common Sense.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — The New Pornographers.
Sunday, Dec. 11 — The New Pornographers.
Tuesday, Dec. 13 — The Venice Christmas Show.
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Walter Trout.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Squirrel Nut Zippers and Christopher Wonder.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Earthless and Birth.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Fear.
Sunday, Dec. 18 — Eric Rachmany.
Monday, Dec. 19 — X and Los Straitjackets.
Tuesday, Dec. 20 — X and Los Straitjackets.
Wednesday, Dec. 21 — Abbey Road Christmas.
Thursday, Dec. 22 — Betamaxx.
Friday, Dec. 23 — Cash'd Out.
Tuesday, Dec. 27 — Donavon Frankenreiter.
Wednesday, Dec. 28 — Yachtley Crew.
Friday, Dec. 30 — Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue.
Friday, Jan. 6 — The California Honeydrops.
Saturday, Jan. 7 — The California Honeydrops.

Bloom Nightclub:
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Bob Moses.

Brick by Brick:
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Shred For Dime Tribute Show. \$10.
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Exhumed. \$20-\$22.

Friday, Dec. 16 — 10th Annual Slabby Holiday Show. \$20-\$25.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Soen. \$25-\$30.

Casbah:
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.
Monday, Dec. 12 — Doah's Daydream and Nubella Honey.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Courtney Marie Andrews.
Monday, Dec. 19 — The Zach Gutierrez Trio and Greg Griffi.
Tuesday, Dec. 20 — Joshua Taylor & The Unscene and Jeff Berkley.
Wednesday, Dec. 21 — The Inflorescence and Doll Riot.
Saturday, Dec. 24 — Exile on Kettner Blvd.
Wednesday, Dec. 28 — Starcrawler.
Thursday, Dec. 29 — The Greyboy Allstars.
Friday, Dec. 30 — The Greyboy Allstars.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — The Greyboy Allstars.

Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Holiday Sing-Along. **Free.**
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Poncho Sanchez. \$42-\$82.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Alfredo Rodriguez. \$55-\$75.

Duck Foot Brewing Company:
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Deadheads Night.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Clapton Tribute Night: Strange Crew.
Tuesday, Dec. 27 — SD Jazz Collective.

House of Blues:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Hembree.
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Kalan FrFr.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Emo Night Brooklyn. \$15.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — KSON's 6 Man Jam.

Sunday, Dec. 11 — The Slackers.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Rome & Duddy.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Secrets, Palisades, Archetypes Collide.
Thursday, Dec. 22 — Machine Head.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Friday, Dec. 23 — Billy Joel Holiday Show by Billy Nation. \$15-\$35.

JAI at the Conrad:
Saturday, Dec. 17 — La Jolla Music Society: Camarada - Charlie Brown Jingles.

Kit Carson Park:
Saturday, Dec. 10 — El Alebrije. **Free.**

La Jolla United Methodist Church:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Christmas Concert: Let the Stable Still Astonish. **Free.**

Madam Bonnie's:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Richard James Jazz Trio.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Amistad Cubano.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Andrea Loraine Jazz Band.
Friday, Dec. 16 — SD Jazz Trio.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Jenifer Krimel Ensemble.
Friday, Dec. 23 — Guapacha Latin Duo & Band.
Thursday, Dec. 29 — SD Jazz Trio.
Friday, Dec. 30 — Guapacha Latin Duo & Band.

Magnolia Performing Arts Center:
Sunday, Dec. 18 — Dionne Warwick.

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

Mesa College:
Friday, Dec. 9 — Fall Concert: Jazz & Classical. **Free.**
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Jazz & Classical Applied Music Students. **Free.**

LOCAL five

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JESSE DANIEL EDWARDS

"As a child, I loved hearing my gradad sing songs from *The Sound of Music* while strumming his old cracked ukulele," says Jesse Daniel Edwards. "I grew up in Julian and currently live in Nashville, doing the music thang. I'm returning with my friend Landon Pigg to play Casbah December 1 on a short tour. I haven't been back home in ages."



TAZ TAYLOR BAND

U.K. guitarist Taz Taylor, who moved to San Diego in 1997, was born in Birmingham, England, the same musically fertile town that bred Black Sabbath and Judas Priest. On the heels of the new Taz Taylor Band album *Nocturnal*, a video was just released featuring their first live performance of "Blue," shot July 15 at Escondido's Ritz Theater. The band appears December 17 at Ramona Mainstage.



SWIVE

Swive is an alt-rock band with harmony-filled female and male vocals, founded in 2021 by members who've played with Lighting Starts Fire, Weenie Roast, Throw Like a Girl, The Nephews, Scary Pierre, and Lucy's Fur Coat. Their *Earthling Sessions* EP, released in June, was recorded by Mike Kamoo at his Earthling Studios. They'll perform Sunday, December 4, at Navajo Live on a bill that includes Super Buffett and Scott Samuels.



SARA PETITE

Sara Petite was born and raised in the countryside of Sumner, Washington, later relocating to San Diego. The winner of 2022 San Diego Music Awards for Best Country or Americana Album and Best Country or Americana Artist will lead the Loretta Lynn Revue on December 6 at the Belly Up. The country tribute features an all-star backing band that includes singer-guitarists Steve Peavey, Shawn Rolfe, and Jeff Berkley, as well as Bobby Furgo on fiddle, drummer Mike Kastner, and Chris "Sully" Sullivan on bass.



ROGER!

"We have the luxury of a home studio, so there was no rush whatsoever," says Roger! singer-guitarist-keyboardist Ernie Garcia of recording the art-folk rockers' newest album, *Patterns*, mixed and mastered by Rolling Stones producer Alan Sander-son. A video for "Fire," a song said to have been written in a half hour, was shot at Subharmonic City Productions, based in Garcia's hometown of El Paso, Texas.

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CAROLINE RHEA
(The Tonight Show, HBO)
James P. Connelly
Fri, 12/9 @6:30pm & 8:30pm
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Motorcycle Monkey:
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Sonic Tonic.

Mr. Peabody's Bar & Grill:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Daddy Needs a Drink.
Friday, Dec. 9 — 2lil2late.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — The Edge.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — All Strung Out.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Deluded Blues Band.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Tube Amp'd.
Thursday, Dec. 22 — Blame Betty.
Friday, Dec. 30 — The Oneders.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — PRL.
Friday, Jan. 6 — Thea the Band. Free.

Music Box:
Friday, Dec. 9 — The Winehouse Experience. \$22-\$82.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Lyrics Born.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Baby Bushka.
Sunday, Dec. 18 — Graceband.
Monday, Dec. 19 — Momma.
Wednesday, Dec. 21 — Berkley Hart Christmas.
Friday, Dec. 23 — Infected Mushroom.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Beats Antique and Red Giant Project.

Nate's Garden Grill:
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Tinkersmith. Free.
Nova SD:
Friday, Dec. 30 — Green Velvet.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — DJ Zedd.
Saturday, Jan. 7 — Night Trip.

Observatory North Park:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Sunny Day Real Estate.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Thee Sacred Souls.
Friday, Dec. 16 — The White Buffalo.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Thee Sacred Souls.
Sunday, Dec. 18 — Fishbone.

Pala Events Center:
Thursday, Dec. 22 — LeAnn Rimes.

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IMMORTAL BEAUTY

BY GARRETT HARRIS

Excellence in Escondido

The best concert I've been to in a while took place on Friday, November 18 at The California Center for the Arts Escondido. Rafael Payare proved, yet again, that the San Diego Symphony is a force to be reckoned with — at least when he's on the podium.

The concert began with the "Prelude and *Liebestod*" from Richard Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*. Wagner himself approved this concert version. The performance was all anyone could hope for. When a legendary piece of music receives a competent performance, it can be magical. When the performance itself borders on legendary, then the goosebumps begin to appear. Such was the case on that evening.

Unfortunately, the performance was marred by the most aggressive speaker feedback I've ever heard. One might even say that it was Wagnerian in

nature. The body language of the orchestra confirmed their disappointment. They knew they were making a spectacular statement as an ensemble, and an unforced technical error had interrupted that. Why the speakers were on at all is beyond my comprehension. I understand the microphones being on for a recording, but the house speakers were not needed for that.

Still, the performance carried on, and suffered little from the circumstances. The conclusion carried the full force of Wagner's five-hour exploration of day and night distilled into about 20 minutes. Credit must be given to the musicians for delivering this masterpiece in the face of adversity.

Wagner's great friend Franz Liszt was up next with his *Piano Concerto No. 2*. There is a chasm between Liszt and Wagner when it comes to writing orchestral music, but the piano part

was another matter. The raw athleticism associated with Liszt was absent in the opening section, being replaced by a lyricism that pianist Marc-André Hamelin expressed admirably. And when it came time to flex the pianistic muscles, Hamelin was up to that task as well.

The final piece of music was Johannes Brahms's *Symphony No. 1*. Brahms had previously made several attempts at writing a symphony, one of which became his *Piano Concerto No. 1*. What held Brahms back was the sound of Beethoven's giant footsteps. He once claimed, "I shall never write a symphony! You can't have any idea what it's like always to hear such a giant marching behind you!" The symphony literally starts with the ominous footsteps being pounded out of the timpani. After the Liszt piano concerto, the imposing structure of Brahms's symphonic



Johannes Brahms, listening anxiously for Beethoven's giant footsteps.

writing was all the more obvious. The feeling was like standing at the base of the Empire State Building for the first time. Payare and his San Diegans were up to the task of scaling Brahms's symphonic argument, which opposed the overt emotionalism of Wagner's *Tristan*. I found it to be a masterful stroke of programming.

Maestro Payare gave the orchestra everything he had,

and they reciprocated. There were a few dodgy moments from the brass, but they were there to deliver the victory when it mattered most in the closing bars. It looked as if Payare was going to begin levitating on the stand as he rampaged to the conclusion, leaving the audience overwhelmed by a concert that delivered the goods from start to finish.

Classical Music this week

Benjamin Alard: The Well Tempered Clavier The San Diego Early Music Society presents award-winning French keyboardist Benjamin Alard in a series of two all-Bach recitals. The first one, on harpsichord, will be the complete first book of the *Well Tempered Clavier*. Samuel M. Ciccati Theatre. Sunday, December 4, 3pm; \$10-\$40. Cuyamaca College, 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway.

Christmas Spirit includes Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite, Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Greensleeves, and William Gomez's Ave Maria. Indoor and outdoor seating. Registered audience receive directions to free parking. Admission is free-will donation at the door. Sunday, December 4, 3pm; free. All Saints' Episcopal Church Hillcrest, 625 Pennsylvania Avenue.

Coronado Philharmonia Orchestra: Holiday at Coronado featuring over 50 musicians, choir, and dancers interpreting classic holiday themes. Saturday, December 3, 7:30pm; \$10-\$35. Coronado High School, 650 D Avenue.

Isabel Leonard and Pablo Sáinz-Villegas the co-presentation of mezzo-soprano Isabel Leonard and guitarist Pablo

Sáinz-Villegas in concert at the Baker-Baum Concert Hall. Thursday, December 1, 7pm; Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive.

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus: Passionate Voices Guest conductor Jefferey Malecki, The Chairman Dances by Adams will open December's program. Sang Song, will

premiere a brand-new work, afterwards chorus will join to present Rossini's Stabat Mater. Saturday, December 3, 7:30pm; Sunday, December 4, 2pm; \$19-\$41. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive.

Randall Goosby & Zhu Wang Sunday, December 4, 3pm; \$43. Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, 7600 Fay Avenue.

See more CLASSICAL MUSIC at SDReader.com/classical

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.
Sunday, Jan. 1 — Proper NYE: Sofi Tukker, more.

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:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Geoff Tate's Big Rock Show Hits.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Gary Hoey's Rockin' Holiday Show.

Rancho Bernardo Library:
Saturday, Dec. 10 — The Swingin' with Dean Show. Free.

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

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Tuesday, Jan. 3 — Ain't Too Proud: Life and Times of the Temptations.
Wednesday, Jan. 4 — Ain't Too Proud: Life and Times of the Temptations.
Thursday, Jan. 5 — Ain't Too Proud: Life and Times of the Temptations.

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

San Diego Wine and Culinary Center:
Sunday, Dec. 18 — Left Coast Quintet Holiday Concert. Free.

Sandbox:
Friday, Dec. 9 — KMusic Night. Free.

Scripps Miramar Ranch Library:
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Fred Benedetti. Free.

Soda Bar:
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.
Monday, Dec. 12 — Modern Color and Gleemer.
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Palm.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Siouxsie and The Banshees Night.
Saturday, Dec. 17 — Lead Pony and The Volcays.
Friday, Dec. 23 — Noche de Verano Sin Ti.
Wednesday, Dec. 28 — Victims Family and Gibby Haynes.
Thursday, Dec. 29 — Glass Spells and De Lux.

Friday, Dec. 30 — L'Eclair and Pearl & the Oysters.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Swami John Reis and Mrs Magician.

Soma:
Friday, Dec. 9 — Álvaro Díaz.
Friday, Dec. 16 — Amon Amarth and Cattle Decapitation.
Thursday, Dec. 29 — Pierce the Veil and Dragged Under.
Friday, Dec. 30 — Pierce the Veil and Dragged Under.
Saturday, Dec. 31 — Pierce the Veil and Dragged Under.

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

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

Til-Two Club:
Friday, Dec. 9 — Tiltwheel and Shehehe.

Tio Leo's:
Sunday, Dec. 18 — San Diego Troubadour Annual Fundraiser.

Tower Bar:
Thursday, Dec. 8 — Billy Druid and Ravagers.
Friday, Dec. 9 — Venomous Pinks and Dead 77.
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — Armed for Apocalypse.

U-31:
Thursday, Dec. 15 — Kogniak Album Release.

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. 9 — Cycles Band. \$15.
Saturday, Dec. 10 — Anson Funderburg & Eric Lindell. \$35.
Sunday, Dec. 11 — Kim Wilson's Blues All-Stars. \$20-\$25.
Wednesday, Dec. 14 — The Resinators. \$10-\$15.
Friday, Dec. 23 — Barbara Wire, Kimmi Bitter, Sleepy Pearls. \$8-\$10.

THE GONZO REPORT

Master of Mondays

Visiting the Acid Vault at Amplified Ale House

I step into the frigid November air, bundled up in sweaters, gloves, and a knit cap, rushing to meet the Uber that is to escort me to down the hill to East Village. It's my first post-time-change evening out, and even though it feels like midnight, my watch reads a quarter to eight. The driver arrives rocking a brand-new Tesla, and I feel like the village idiot because I can't figure out how to open the door.

Ten minutes later, we're pulling up to the Amplified Ale House at the corner of 14th Street and Island. It's a split-level design, with the top floor holding dozens of youngish patrons getting their drink and food on. I, however, am looking to get downstairs, there to check out the Monday night music scene, curated by guitarist and impresario Louis Valenzuela. A friendly bartender exacts

my five-dollar cover charge and personally escorts me down a long staircase into a long rectangular room, where I'll be setting up my mobile office for the night. Valenzuela arrived several hours earlier to set up his equipment. He's got a multimedia thing happening called Electric LouieLand, and on this November night, he's hosting a show featuring Karlos Paez, founder of the B-Side Players. Paez sings and plays guitar, and his band features Emmanuel Alarcon on lead guitar and vocals, Abraham Lacer on percussion, and Stephen Gentillalli on bass.

I settle into a seat in the second row, just behind local watercolor artist Brian Meyer, who has already set up his paints and easel. Chances are, if you've been to a jazz show, you know that Meyer is a familiar fixture. The band hasn't quite arrived, so I check in with Louie V. He'll be in constant motion throughout the night, but always returning to his cubicle off to the side, where's got a small mixing board and a laptop monitoring the video feed from four digital cameras placed around the stage. He's livestreaming tonight's set in multiple formats on several platforms, including YouTube, Facebook, and Twitch.

Glancing down, I find it easy to understand where the "Acid Vault" moniker came from. The floor is made of decorative concrete, displaying alternating strokes of pastel brushwork. Also, there



Amplified's Acid Vault: an Enchanted Forest-meets-Kid-Charlemagne vibe.

are two large faux trees sitting atop split-barrel oak kegs. The room was designed by artist Aubree Miller, who carved the dual tree trunks during the pandemic. The painted upper structure of the trees reaches out into the ceiling, and the whole place has kind of an Enchanted Forest meets Kid Charlemagne feel to it. There's an overhead projector connected to another laptop which is sending trippy images careening around the room, and once the music begins, I find I wouldn't be shocked if one of the trees started dancing. "What Aubree created is amazing," says Meyer, clearly appreciating the work of another artist.

Around 30 people have arrived by the time the band begins to play. I'd estimate that 80 percent of them might need to show identification to verify

legal drinking status. The band morphs from Mexican grooves into Jamaican sounds and other quasi-Latin feels, but they are also competing with the ambient noise of the crowd. At times, it's tough to say who's winning. Happily, by the time Paez steers the band into Bob Marley's "Them Belly Full," the audience seems to have shifted their attention from the drone of multiple inebriated conversations to what's happening onstage. Oddly enough, I notice at this point that the crowd has grown to about 50 patrons, which is just about capacity. For the rest of the evening, the sound from the stage is louder than that of the crowd. For his part, Paez navigates the noisy assemblage with an easy rapport. At one point, he gleefully announces, "I love Mondays, unlike the Bangles," a reference to that band's 1986 radio hit "Manic Monday."

Paez has a strong, powerful voice, and his dialogue with Alarcon's lead guitar makes for consistent highlights throughout the night — although Gentillalli's bass solos almost steal the show on more than one occasion. Special kudos go out to Valenzuela, who wears many hats from start to finish, from curator to videographer to soundman and social-media master. There's a different band every week down here, and after the first set, it opens up for a jam session featuring some of San Diego's heavy hitters. Not much competition from other venues on Mondays, and the vibe at the Acid Vault is singular. ■

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| <p>FRI. DEC. 2</p> <p>PALLBEARER Stygian Bough, Abyssal</p> | <p>WED. DEC. 14</p> <p>EXHUMED Vitriol, Escuela Grind, Castrator</p> |
| <p>SAT. DEC. 3</p> <p>KATATONIA The Ocean, Cellar Darling</p> | <p>FRI. DEC. 16</p> <p>GOOD RIDDANCE Pulley, Ignite, Fourth in Line</p> |
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Rabbit redux

I felt bad for the rabbit, but grateful for the bird.

It took me years to realize that Welsh rarebit wasn't eating about bunnies at all. A little while after I learned the truth, I was up in Oceanside — Mission San Luis Rey — at dusk, and saw that its fields were hopping with rabbits. Beautiful sight, but it got me wondering if anyone in San Diego actually serves rabbit on a plate. Because it seems to me that everybody says rabbit is pretty much the healthiest meat you can eat: the highest percentage of protein, the lowest percentage of fat, and the fewest calories per pound. In places like Italy, Spain, China, and France, rabbit is just about a



Rabbit food? Actually it's the G.O.A.T. Salad, with goat cheese, candied walnuts, strawbs



Best place to eat your rabbit: sunny back patio

once-a-week meat choice. But in places like the U.S. and, UK, it seems like there's a certain yuk factor. Rabbit has broken out of our food chain. It's not just the "What's Up Doc?!" lovable rabbit thing, or even the rabbits-as-cuddly-pets thing. In our minds, we think of them as fellow-creatures, like dogs and cats, mammals not meant for the dinner table. Plus, there's a cultural hangover, the idea that rabbit is only for when you're desperate, since rabbit stew kept Americans from starving during the Great Depression. But never mind. Today, I'm determined to give rabbit a fair trial. They say that if you're catching them in the wild, only hunt them in the months with an "R" in them: September to March, in other words. The cold of the winter months kills parasites in the rabbits' guts. Me? I'm hunting in the menus.

So here we go. It's half-twelve and I'm half starved. No brekky yet. But hey, we're right on time for lunch. And here's this place I've been hearing about, The Rabbit Hole, a kinda workaday pub with bench seating outside, but the main action inside, around a big U-Bar. I plonk myself down in front of a trophy of a jack rabbit with — huh? — horns? "Norman the Jackalope," says Josh. Manager. "Part jackrabbit, part antelope."

And yes, they do have rabbit on the menu, in the form of a "Norman Burger," natch. Only problem? It costs \$17. But they also have two sliders, a "Slider Duet," for \$12.50. First slider's beef and the other is rabbit, cut with pork. "We do that to take any rabbit gaminess out of the flavor," says Liz, who's the barkeep and server. I mean, they have a ton of other good bar stuff, like Impossible vegan tacos, two for \$13.50; butter prawn tacos (\$9); a Cubano sandwich — pulled pork and smoked ham, plus Swiss cheese — for \$15; or blackened salmon...talking \$20 there.

I go for the sliders. "Any other nibbles?" asks Liz. Hey, we're still talking rabbit here, and it does put me in mind of maybe a salad to counter all this protein and carbs. I almost go for The Wedge (\$12.50), but then I see the G.O.A.T. Salad, same price. (What's that stand for? Goats On A Trampoline?) Whatever, it promises lots of goat cheese, which sounds good with rabbit.

While I'm waiting, can't resist ordering a beer. They have a nice long list of drafts with lots of black beer for the Black Friday season. Love dark beer. Go for the Eppig 6th Anniversary Imperial Schwarzbier, partly because it's Eppig. Eppig family brewers have been six years here in 'Diego, but they go back 150 years in Brooklyn,

New York. They survived Prohibition and hit the refresh button out West, here in San Diego. Mmm. This Schwarzbier is chocolatey, malty. And it pretty much works when the goat cheese salad arrives, because there's surprising substance to the G.O.A.T., what with its candied walnuts, nice fresh strawberries, and oodles of goat cheese.

But my Schwarzbier *really* works when the sliders arrive. Their sweetness just kicks up the beer. The crispy, blackened, caramelized onions go perfectly with it too, but Nirvana arrives when I bite into the rabbit-and-pork slider, with its sautéed blond-but-black-burned chunks of the meat mixing with the crispy bun, and underneath, the mango chutney. Wicked.

Oh man. Then I have another thought. I suddenly remember the only other rabbit I ever



Here's your rabbit, in a slider; c/w a beef slider, in case you're not totally convinced

ate. It was in Qatar — Persian Gulf, where the World Cup is going on just now. My friend Mr. Hamad invited me to go falconing. He was a school teacher who had this kinda wild side, and he owned and trained a fierce-looking falcon. We drove out into the Qatari desert in the late afternoon, as the heat settled and the light faded. Mr. Hamad steered his Range Rover with his free hand, and held his gauntlet hand out the window, while the falcon on his glove scanned the horizon with his superior eyes.

All I remember next is Mr. Hamad releasing the bird into the air. It shot up high, disappeared, then rocketed down to earth, far away. In the silence, we could hear the scream of the rabbit, then nothing. Ten minutes later, we were making a fire. Mr. Hamad skinned the rabbit, and we had one of the most delicious meals of my life. We sat there, huddled by the fire in the cold night, chewing away at the hot, fresh meat as the darkness set in. "This bird," said Mr. Hamad as he stroked the



Manager Josh Blanton with Liz the server: Normal Heights folks are in every day



Norman the Jackalope is the pub's mascot: part jack rabbit, part antelope

hooded falcon, "has become my life."

I'm thinking of that now as I take my final mouthful. I still have the beef slider to finish, but this rabbit is the meat of the moment. Back in the desert, I felt bad for the rabbit, but grateful for the bird. I've never had such fresh, tender meat. Or a feeling of such awe.

This rabbit slider runs out too fast. Next time, I'll have the Norman Burger for the full-on rabbit-pork patty experience. It sure beats Welsh Rarebit. ■

The Place: The Rabbit Hole, 3377 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-255-4653

Hours: Sunday, 9am-10pm; Monday, 7:30am-10pm; Tuesday, Wednesday, 7:30am-12am; Thursday, closed; Friday, Saturday, 7:30am-1am

Prices: Norman Burger, with rabbit and pork patty, \$17; Slider Duet, (beef patty and rabbit/pork patty), \$12.50; Impossible vegan tacos, two for \$13.50; butter prawn tacos, \$9; Cubano sandwich (pulled pork, smoked ham, Swiss cheese), \$15; blackened salmon, \$20; The Wedge salad, \$12.50; G.O.A.T. salad, \$12.50; Lola's fried chicken, \$20; fish and chips, \$18

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PERSONALS

DEAR KATHERINE, may I be Frank with you....if only for a short time. Signed Frank wannabe.

HEY JOE you're forever on my mind. You are one of the kind I love you. God bless

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S MORE RIDICULOUS; the driveway society making up laws about keeping sidewalks swept, or the fact that they're taking names. Comical...

THANK YOU EVERYONE who has done nice things for me, or given things to me while I've been homeless. Timothy

VIOLENCE MUST STOP. August 18 bus slams brakes avoids car rip, violently crashed into aisle, fractured shoulder bone, fractured collarbone. Coincidence or not? Violence must stop. Needs court evaluation.

WATCH The True Christian History of America on Tubi

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE between antifa and the driveway society? There is none...

HELLO LOU if you are reading this, hello.

DRIVEWAY SOCIETY with the holidays upon us, let us take a few moments and reflect on things that make us happy whatever they may be. we will be reminding our neighbors to enjoy this beautiful area we live in and to smile at least 4 times a day

KATHERINE Z. Dearest, once again our connection wasn't successful much to my chagrin. I'm going to get myself up to Anaheim and visit Disney's California Adventure. meet me at the Car Land at 13:27 on Tuesday the 22nd. I'll be wearing a top hat and tails. Frank

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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

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

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

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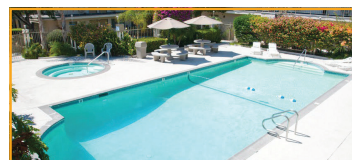
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What Burn Ban?

— Things got a little heated – which is to say, 73 vehicles were utterly consumed by raging flames – at the annual fall festival at the Robinson Family Farm in Temple, Texas on Oct. 15, an event that features a pumpkin patch, hayrides, live music, kids' games and more. The Bell County Fire Marshall's Office is seeking information about an attendee who, according to witnesses reporting on social media, flicked a cigarette butt in the grassy parking lot, which, combined with the gusty winds and dry conditions that had already prompted the county to issue a burn ban, most likely started the blaze. "I have to say that is the most exciting and expensive pumpkin patch we've been to," one attendee posted on Facebook after the disaster claimed their family van.

Unsportsmanlike

— David Alan Taylor, 41, of Pensacola, Florida, did not follow the guidelines for safe tackling recommended by the various youth, college and professional football organizations when he charged onto the practice field on Sept. 20, donned a helmet, got into a football stance and charged his target, burying his helmet in said target's chest before grabbing him by the arms and pushing him to the ground. But it wasn't Taylor's form that got him in trouble; it was the fact that his victim was nine years old. The *Pensacola News Journal* reported that shortly before demonstrating his rusty football skills, Taylor had become enraged upon seeing his son being overpowered by the victim during

a one-on-one tackling drill. The tackled youth was not seriously hurt, and Taylor was booked to the Escambia County jail on a first-degree felony count of aggravated child abuse and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct.

Awesome!

— When your horse runs off with a herd of wild mustangs, let him go, because man, he's gone. That was the reality Shane Adams of Fielding, Utah, had to accept when his 10-year-old horse, Mongo, joined a passing herd in the middle of the night during a camping trip eight years ago. Adams reported his horse missing and searched the area regularly for years, to no avail. But *Yahoo Insider* reported that the Bureau of Land Management recently contacted Adams with incredible news: Mongo had been found. The horse is seriously underweight due to the scarcity of food in the region where he and the herd were roaming, but Adams said Mongo is in good health and has not forgotten his training. Adams said his life had taken a downward turn in the years since Mongo disappeared; he and his wife divorced, and an auto accident in 2021 left him disabled. However, he now feels things are looking up: "My life is like down in the dumps, like the car accident. I lost my house, I lost everything. I got my horse back, though."

But Is It Art?

— The city of Cheadle, Alberta, Canada, is the temporary home of a newly revealed shrine to

snacking. A 17-foot-tall statue commissioned by Frito-Lay was unveiled in early October. The work memorializes the signature Cheetos experience: three fingers holding up one of the crunchy snacks, their tips covered in the powdery orange residue the brand has christened "Cheetle." "We're excited to be celebrating Cheetle and Canadians' cheesy, Cheetle-dusted fingertips on such a grand scale and in such a uniquely mischievous way," said Lisa Allie, senior marketing director at PepsiCo Foods Canada. CNN reports that the Cheetle Hand Statue will be on display in Cheadle until Nov. 4, when it embarks on a tour of Canada.

Ewwwwww

— WRGB in Albany reported the arrests of Chrystal Thomas, 33, on Oct. 4, and Austin Smith, 20, on Oct. 15, for the duo's part in the illegal tattooing of a 10-year-old boy. Thomas, the boy's mother, claimed she was not in the room when Smith permanently inked the child's name on his arm "in full-size block letters." Authorities were made aware of the situation when the boy asked a school nurse for Vaseline to apply to the tattoo. Both Thomas and Smith were charged with endangering the welfare of a child, and Smith was additionally charged with second-degree unlawfully dealing with a child.

Court Jester

— A municipal judge in Cleveland, Ohio, was ordered to be removed from the bench on indefinite suspension on Oct. 18 and will undergo evaluations for her physical and mental health

after a long series of bizarre incidents and behavior, the *Columbus Dispatch* reported. The Ohio Supreme Court took action after Judge Pinkey S. Carr wore sneakers, spandex shorts, T-shirts and even tank tops while sitting the bench -- a bench that had become littered with so many cups, dolls and novelty items that Carr's own attorney described it as "resembling a flea market." The 58-page complaint filed by the Ohio Supreme Court states that, among many other incidents, Carr repeatedly discussed the television show *P-Valley* and joked about giving lenient sentences and accepting kickbacks with attorneys and defendants while court was in session. When a prosecuting attorney had not yet arrived for a hearing, Carr is quoted as having stated, "The prosecutor's not here. Let's see how much we can get away with." A temporary replacement for Carr will be appointed by Governor Mike DeWine and will sit the bench until voters elect a new judge in a future election.

Smelly Situations

— An overturned semi on I-95 in Cumberland County, North Carolina, on Oct. 18 gave commuters more than the usual traffic accident inconvenience. That's because when 22,000 pounds of catfish and 150 gallons of diesel fuel hits the road ... it stinks. State troopers told WBTV-13 that the semi driver was unhurt in the crash, which was caused by another driver pulling in front of him.

Send your weird news items to WeirdNewsTips@amuniversal.com.

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Bluefin still holding out, Yellowtail missing at Coronados

Dock Totals 11/13 – 11/26: 2424 anglers aboard 126 half-day to 3-day trips out of San Diego landings over the past two weeks caught 1571 bluefin tuna (to 140 pounds), 2 blue perch, 12 bocaccio, 360 bonito, 87 calico bass, 19 lingcod, 23 rock crab, 3,687 rockfish, 1 rock sole, 249 sand bass, 74 sand dabs, 967 sculpin, 216 sheephead, 1 Spanish jack, 1 spider crab, 124 spiny lobster (140 released), 1599 whitefish, and 5 yellowfin tuna.

Saltwater: As the season turns to a more normal winter-style fishing for San Diego anglers, bluefin tuna continue to put a strain on the gear and backs of those making it out to San Clemente Island. After the last front, the bite only got better, and the counts for the last two weeks nearly doubled from the two weeks previous. That said, this is the first time I can remember with not one yellowtail in a weekly report, much less over two weeks. Granted, not all boats report their catch, and I total only those that fish up to three-day trips, but still, not one yellowtail over a two-week period is a rarity, even in the winter.

Yellowtail were going off at the Coronado Islands just before that first rainy front in early November, biting well on surface irons and fly-lined bait. Then, as the boats made it back out after the blow and rain, nada. The bite went away and seemed to reappear off the coast of San Quintin. Even the Ensenada fleet reports went from a solid yellowtail bite to mostly rockfish and lingcod at the end of the first week in November. The turn in conditions has been rapid this year, considering the standout late summer/fall action that saw dorado being caught in huge numbers north of the border, with some even making it as far north as the albacore grounds 60 miles off the Oregon coast in September and October.

Other than the bluefin bite off San Clemente, the pelagics have basically vanished to points south. Along with the missing yellowtail in the counts, not one dorado and only a handful of yellowfin tuna were reported caught by the short-to-mid-range fleet over the past two weeks. Inshore, the calico bite has slowed with the cooling water, while sand bass are starting to heat up off the flats off Imperial Beach. Sheephead, rockfish, and sculpin are making up the bulk of the catch for half-day boats when they aren't targeting sand bass.

On the beach, surf anglers are finding barred surf perch willing to bite on grubs and bait, while those anglers working the cuts and rip edges with crankbaits and spoons are catching occasional legal-sized halibut. Like bluefin, halibut seem to be able to show whenever they feel like it. California halibut can be hard to figure, and as batch spawners that normally spawn between April and July in our area, they can have a two-week spawn any time of the year. Sliding up and down the beach at various depths, halibut are opportunistic feeders that can be hard to get to go on one day, and wide open the next. The edges of reefs, channels, and holes are likely spots to find halibut lying in wait.

I tend to have my best halibut days during the slower part of a dropping tide in bays and channels, and either the bottom or top of the tide when targeting them in the surf, depending on the slope and style of beach. Where there are deeper shore breaks or alongshore cuts that fill in, high tide and the following hour or two are best, and on flatter beaches with the break further out, low tides can be good as you can reach holes you cannot fish on high tides. Other than spawning, a lot of bait in the surf will draw halibut into the shallows, as is often witnessed



CREDIT: OLIVER PEET

The fishing photo contest winner of two Half-Day passes is Oliver Peet from Ocean Beach! "Me and my mom go fishing a lot and this is the biggest fish I've ever caught. It's an 85 pound bluefin tuna and about 4 feet long. I caught it on the *Old Glory* sportfishing boat out of H&M Landing. It was caught on a flat fall jig, a custom rod, and a Daiwa reel. It was hard work landing the fish and the reel came off while I was reeling the fish in, my mom and the captain screwed it back in, then we landed it."

bluefin tuna.

11/20 – 50 bluefin tuna were caught by the 27 anglers aboard the *Legend* 1.5-Day trip, while 29 anglers aboard the *Pacific Islander* 1.5-Day trip caught 58 bluefin tuna.

11/22 – 9 hoop-netters aboard the *Alicia Twilight* trip kept 17 spiny lobsters along with 3 rock crab and 1 sand bass. 11 anglers aboard the *Fortune* 3-Day trip caught limits of 66 bluefin tuna.

11/25 – The *Chubasco II* fishing out of Oceanside on a ¾ Day trip with 20 anglers aboard called in with 150 rockfish, 25 whitefish, and 5 sculpin in the gunny sacks.

Fish Plants: 12/2 - Santee Lakes, lakes 4 & 6, trout (1500)

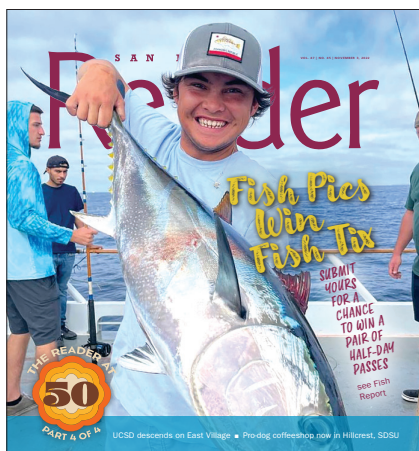
DANIEL POWELL

Fish Pix Win Fish Tix!

Send your fish photo to: photos@sandiegoreader.com

Submit your best fishing photo and every 2 weeks we'll pick our favorite and run it in this column. Winner will also receive 2 half-day passes, including rod rentals (\$65–\$75 value each) for a sport fishing trip courtesy of the San Diego Sportfishing Council. With photo submission please include the type of fish, fish length and weight, where it was caught, what gear/lure/bait was used, and your first and last name. All ages can enter and win, but at least one 18+ adult must participate in trip. California Fishing License required for trip and available for purchase. Tackle rental also available for \$17–\$25.

All photos must be original work, taken by the entrants. No third party may own or control any materials the photo contains, and the photo must not infringe upon the trademark, copyright, moral rights, intellectual rights, or rights of privacy of any entity or person. The photo must be in its original state and cannot be altered in any way, including but not limited to removing, adding, reversing, or distorting subjects within the frame. Entries will be judged by the *Reader*. By entering the contest, entrants agree that photos submitted can be used by the *Reader* for advertising purposes. The prize must be collected by the winner and is nontransferable. The winner will be contacted via the email address provided during entry. If no response is received after five business days, a new winner will be selected and the previous winner will forfeit all rights to the prize.



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EXERCISE BICYCLE like new, still in box w/floor mat. \$100 firm. Ph. (760) 848-3234

MISC FOR SALE I am selling the following items: a couple of brand new clocks, fancy candle holder folding laundry basket blue v-tech house phone all these items you must buy for 40.00 obo any very much interested candidate ask for James @ (619) 450-7914. /j.fifield31@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.

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

PORTABLE LAP DESK holds up to 17 inch laptop. Light weight, portable, new in opened box, make nice gift, \$20 1-858-484-4483.

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

CORDED ELECTRIC STRING TRIMMER This 4.6 amp 13" weed wacker / weedeater comes with almost a full spool of heavy duty 0.065" line. It has auto feed, adjustable D-grip, telescopic shaft & plant protection guard. Clean and in good condition. \$25. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

OSCILLOSCOPES Hickok model 5002A, three used oscilloscopes 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.

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 mount 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.

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.

4 BEAUTIFUL NEW INTERIOR DOORS Premium knotty alder, solid wood, mfg. by Craftsmen 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.

4-SHELF BOOKSHELF / BOOK-CASE This sturdy and good looking book shelf / book case (31.75" x 11" x 41.75 tall) has 3 adjustable shelves. It is in good condition with some minor wear and scratches. \$35. Text (619) 796-5680 for more information and/or pictures.

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. Very good 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 counter-tops, purchased new for \$5,000., it was used once-like new condition, selling for \$2,900., (760) 746-7209.

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.

3 WHEEL RUGGED RACERS SCOOTER This scooter with adjustable height, anti-slip deck & flashing LED wheel lights is for toddlers or young kids. It has a flip-out seat and foot pad which allows your child to scoot sitting or standing up. \$15. Text (619) 800-5568 for more info/pics.

5 QT. CROCK POT SLOW COOKER This 180-250 watts Rival crockpot has a removable stoneware pot & plastic lid. There are some stains inside the base under the pot & the plastic lid is no longer clear but the crock pot is in good condition. \$15. 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.

VINTAGE SOLID WOOD MIRROR This mirror (31-3/4"x 16"x 11") 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) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS Hand made \$75 and up. margarit_bustamante@yahoo.com

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. \$25. Text (619) 796-5510 for more info/pics.



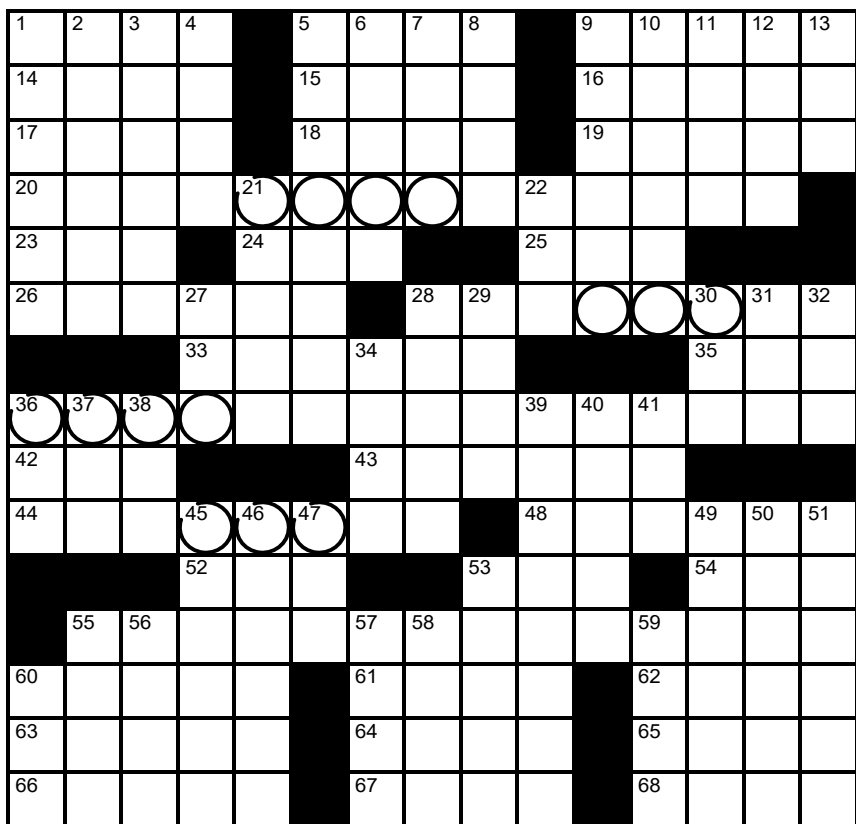
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Across

1. Desert crossed by the ancient Silk Road
5. Killer of the Night King on "Game of Thrones"
9. Hidden drawback
14. Height: Prefix
15. G
16. Actor Davis who says "Always do the right thing" in "Do the Right Thing"
17. Ask for Friskies, maybe
18. Sondheim's "Sweeney _____"
19. Hurdles for aspiring D.A.s
20. Tropical cocktail

23. End of a co. name

24. Chill
25. Unconfident utterances
26. "This being the case ..."
28. Plush fabric
33. Org. with ties to Sinn Fein
35. Batteries for some flashlights
36. "My pleasure!"
42. Peace activist Yoko
43. Jogging wear
44. Almond confection
48. Sounding sheepish?
52. "Force Behind the Forces" grp.
53. Belarus, once: Abbr.

54. Sky safety org.

55. Driving condition in a blizzard (or what this puzzle's circles offer)
60. Snake venom, e.g.
61. Liu who plays the superhero Shang-Chi
62. One-named Somali-American model
63. Put up
64. "Like _____ not ..."
65. Opposite of bueno
66. Cheesy chip
67. Like some numbers?
68. Watchful person

Down

1. Smallest country in mainland Africa
2. Hurricanes form over them
3. Some rodeo rides
4. "Field of Dreams" state
5. Stuck on
6. _____ Island
7. "Anger, fear, aggression: the dark side of the Force are they" speaker
8. Car with a four-ring logo
9. Op-ed offering
10. Town with the Basilica of St. Francis
11. Ivan the Terrible, for one
12. New York's _____ Field

13. "For _____ a jolly ..."

21. Hardly mainstream
22. Hernando's "Huh?"
27. Rocky Mountains tribe
28. Dentist's insertion
29. Abhor
30. Calif. NHL team, on scoreboards
31. On the _____ (fleeing)
32. Direction opposite WNW
34. "_____ jungle out there"
36. Chance at an award, for short
37. Words with tear or dare
38. Neither's partner
39. Dynasty that was the driving force behind the Austro-Hungarian Empire

40. "Space Invaders" maker

41. Org. tracking metadata
45. Largest city in Switzerland
46. Doesn't get fooled by
47. First-person or third-person, briefly
49. "Please allow me ..."
50. Christmas in Rome
51. "I Will Survive" singer
53. _____ Says (kids game)
55. First name in the Harlem Renaissance
56. Wall St. figure
57. Egyptian fertility goddess
58. In _____ (as found)
59. Pad Thai garnish
60. Midmorning hour

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

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

SUDOKU

MEDIUM:

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

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLE:

HARD:

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



BLACK WARMWAVE PORTABLE HEATER This 1500 watts electric ceramic heater has easy dial control for thermostat, 2 heat levels & oscillation + auto shutoff for tip-over. Excellent condition. 2 heaters are available for \$25 each or \$45 for both. Text (619) 796-5680 for more info/pics.

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

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.

HEATER \$25 Radiant heater with controls. Contains fluid that heats up and radiates heat. Works well. Upgraded the plug. Thank you for looking if you have any questions, let me know. Bob Aztec81@outlook.com

ROTOTILLER: TROY BUILT COLT FT Rototiller, model 21B 34M8711, it was purchased new a few years ago, it was never used, selling for only \$575., (760) 746-7209.

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.

SAMSUNG GALAXY NOTE FE-SILVER Rare fan edition, like new. 518 PPI high-res

display! S pen digital stylus. Android 9.0 Pie. Perfect condition (no scratches or dents). GSM unlocked. Headphone jack! microSDXC card slot. Original box, headphones, charger, manuals, 3 cases. \$250 obo. (760) 458-7446 / lrlento@gmail.com

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

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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.

BRAND NEW RED TRICYCLE for sale \$250. For photo, text (858) 733-0770.

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.

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

HOT WHEEL CARS some misc good stuff. Also slot cards and old baseball cards. Call for more info and pricing, (619) 791-0278.

AUTO GPS vehicle GPS device by Garmin, \$175 OBO. (619) 282-5105

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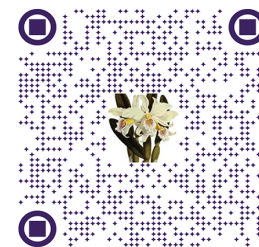
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C10-0000213-LIC



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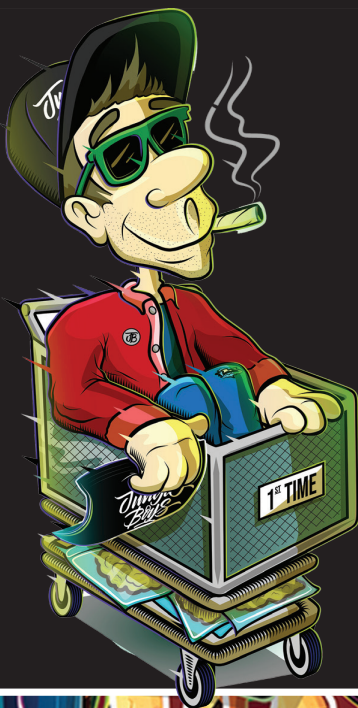
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DECEMBER 1 - 28



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